

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: South Florida

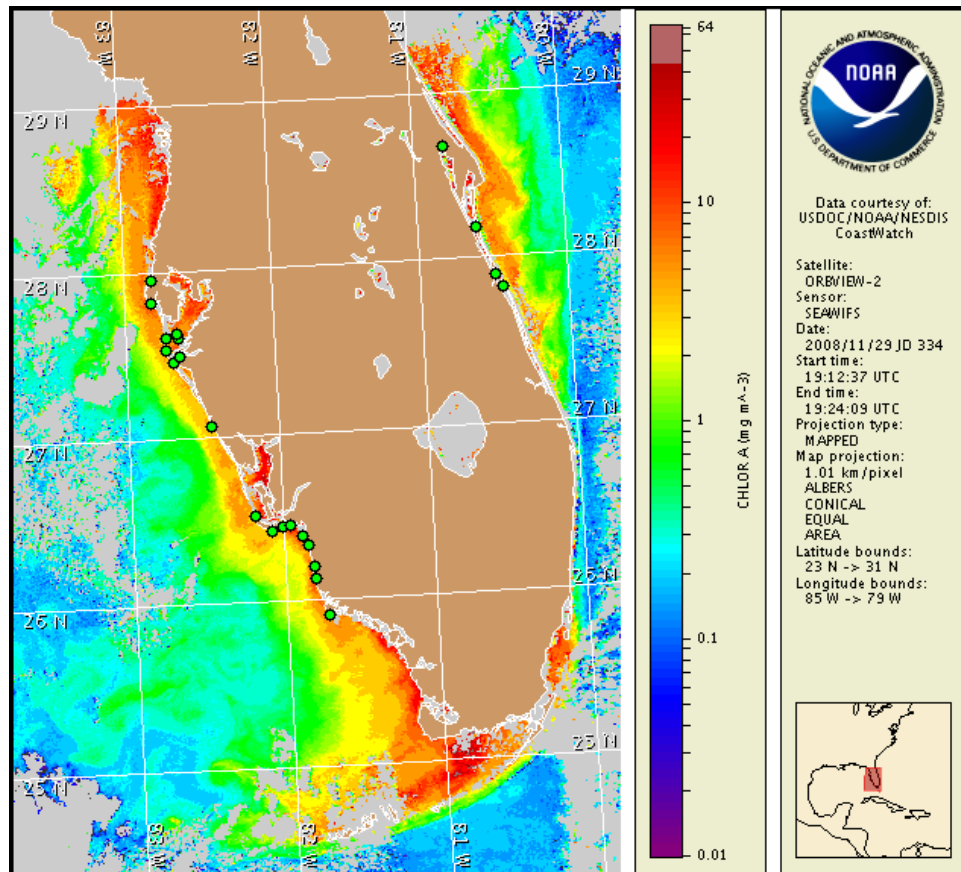
1 December 2008

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: November 28, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 24 to 25 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Monday, December 8.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No *Karenia brevis* has been identified at the coast since 11/18 (Manasota Beach, Sarasota County; SCHD). In general, chlorophyll levels alongshore southwest Florida have continued to dissipate as of 11/29; however chlorophyll levels appear to have intensified slightly in small patches located alongshore in southern Lee County near Bonita Beach at 26°25'45"N, 81°58'1"W (up to 11 µg/L) and near Naples in Collier County at 26°5'41"N, 81°49'25"W (up to 9 µg/L). Both regions were sampled on 11/24, just prior to the appearance of these features in imagery, and contained no *K. brevis*. An elevated chlorophyll feature is also continually visible north of the Florida Keys. No significant change in this feature's location or intensity is visible via SeaWiFS imagery since last reported on 11/28.

In southwest Florida strong onshore winds today are expected to shift alongshore to offshore for the remainder of the week. Conditions will be favorable for bloom formation at the coast through Friday, December 5. In the Florida Keys, onshore winds are expected today through Friday. Southward to westward transport of the identified feature in this region is possible.

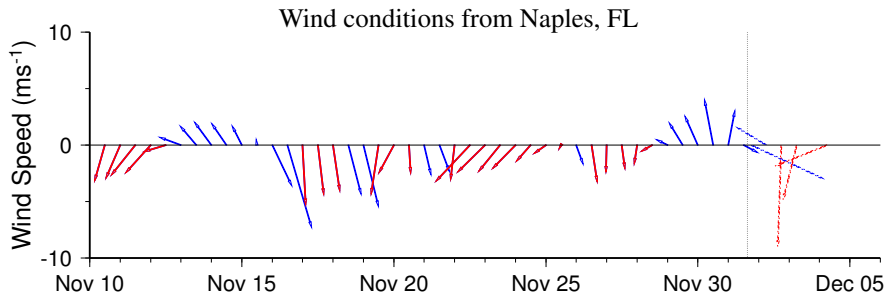
* Note: As of today, December 1, southwest Florida bulletins will be issued once weekly on Mondays due to current harmful algal bloom inactivity at the coast. Twice weekly bulletins will resume as conditions warrant. *

~Fisher, Gan

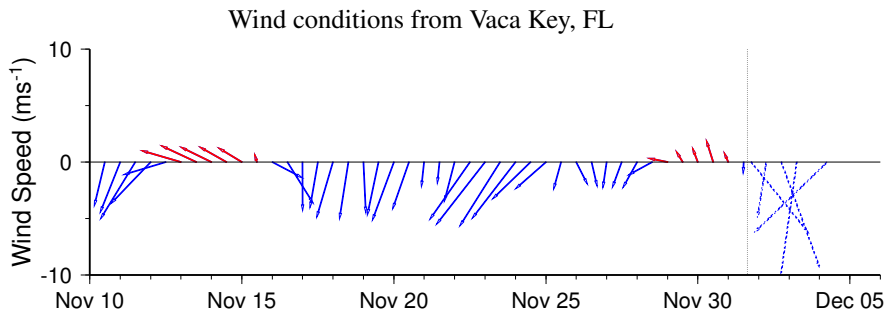
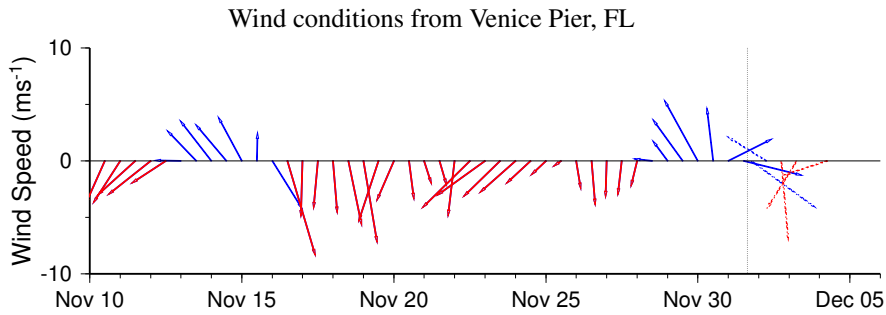
Wind Analysis

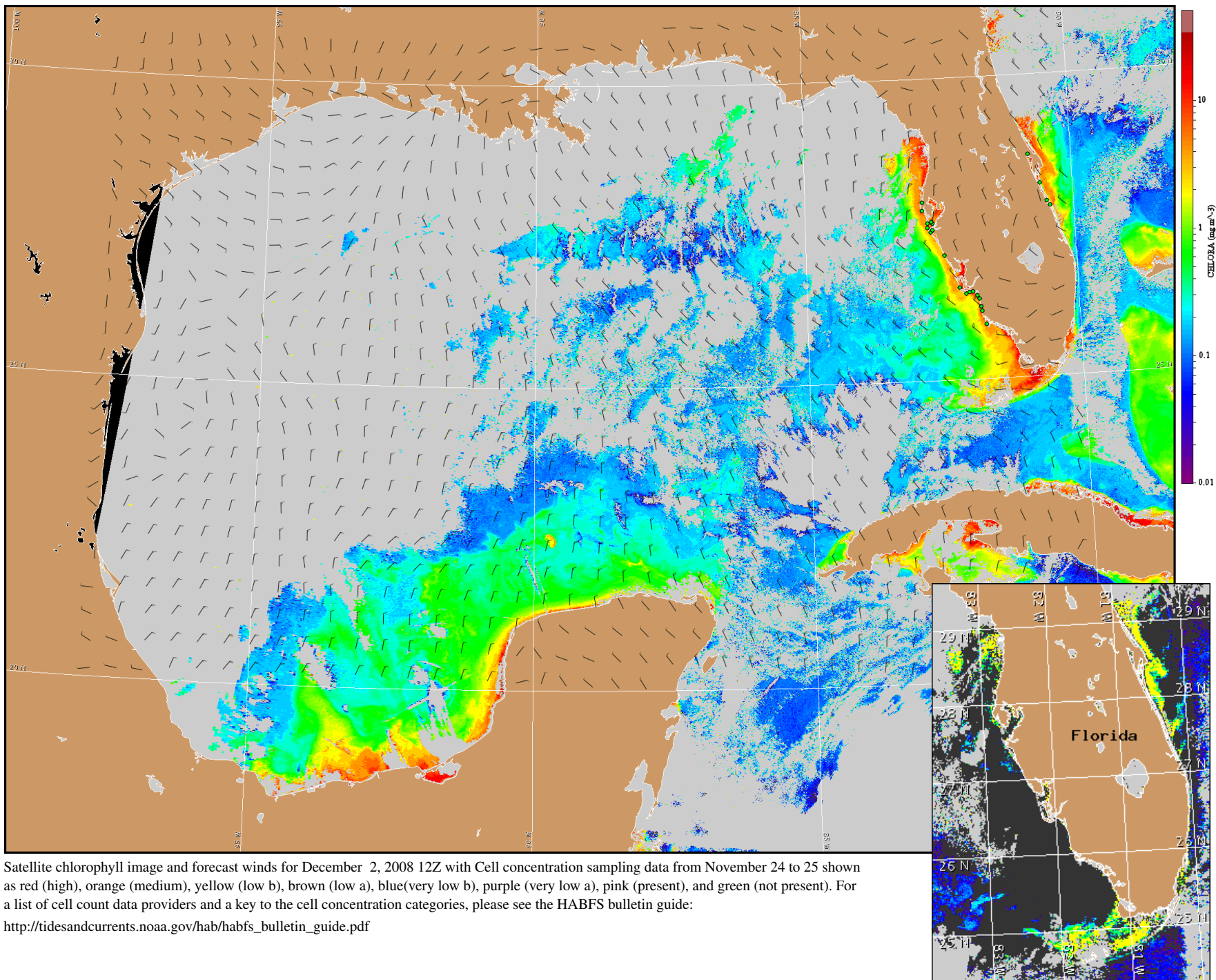
SW Florida: West winds at 15-20kn (8-10m/s) today, shifting northwest tonight and increasing to 20-25kn (10-13m/s) tonight. North winds Tuesday (15-20kn). Northeast winds Tuesday night (10kn, 5m/s). East winds Wednesday (10kn). Northeast winds Thursday and Friday (10kn and 15kn, respectively).

Florida Keys: Northwest to north winds today and Tuesday (15-20kn, 8-10m/s). Northeast winds Wednesday (15kn, 8m/s). Northeast to east winds Thursday (10-15kn, 5-8m/s). North to northeast winds Friday (10-15kn).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 2, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from November 24 to 25 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).