



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

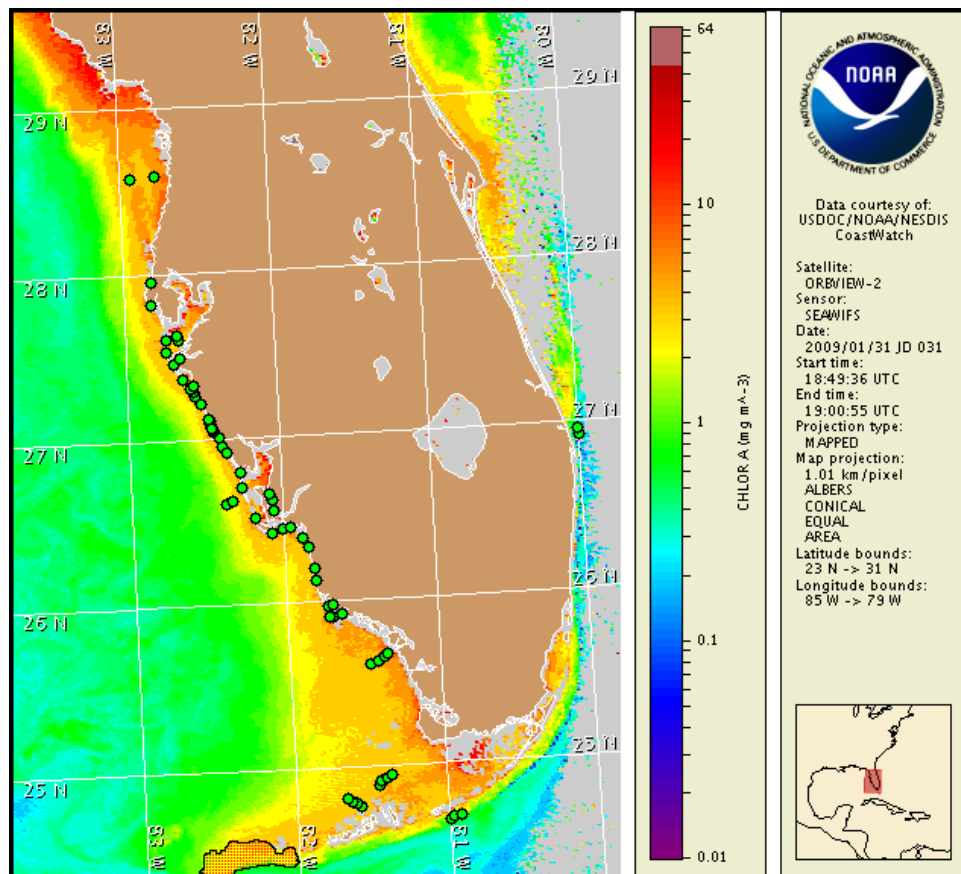
2 February 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 29, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 23 to 29 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 report of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the Florida Keys. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, February 4.

Analysis

There is currently no report of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the lower Florida Keys. No *Karenia brevis* has been identified alongshore southwest Florida over the past several days with the exception of a background concentration at New Pass in Sarasota County (FWRI, MML, SCHD, 1/26-1/30). A feature remains visible 10 miles west of Key West, stretching from 24° 29' 46" N 81° 56' 35" W to 24° 32' 45" N 82° 41' 43" W (based on Feb 1 SeaWiFS image; not shown). Recent SeaWiFS satellite imagery shows that the extent of the feature has decreased since January 31. Chlorophyll levels at this location remain elevated (up to 5 $\mu\text{g/L}$). Sampling is recommended in this region.

An elevated chlorophyll feature is also visible in recent SeaWiFS imagery (1/31, see page 3) approximately 76 miles west of Cedar Key, Levy County and approximately 35 miles south of Franklin County. This feature is associated with normal central Gulf of Mexico processes, in which the highest chlorophyll levels are common in winter due to diatom blooms.

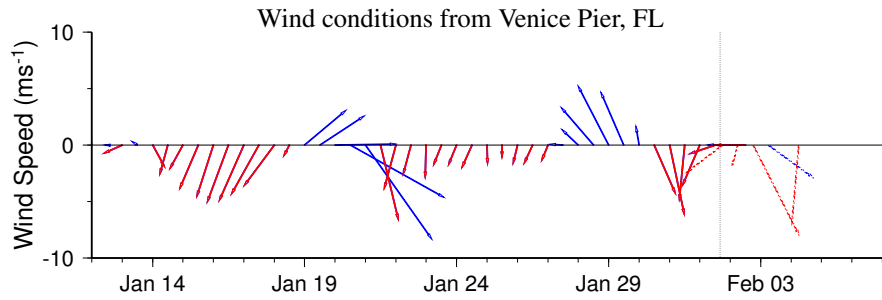
Winds are expected to be variable through Wednesday. Minimal west to southwest transport of the lower Florida Keys feature is possible.

- Gan, Fisher

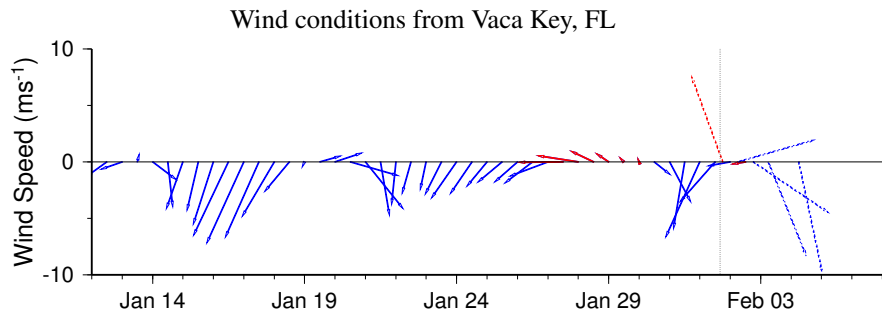
Wind Analysis

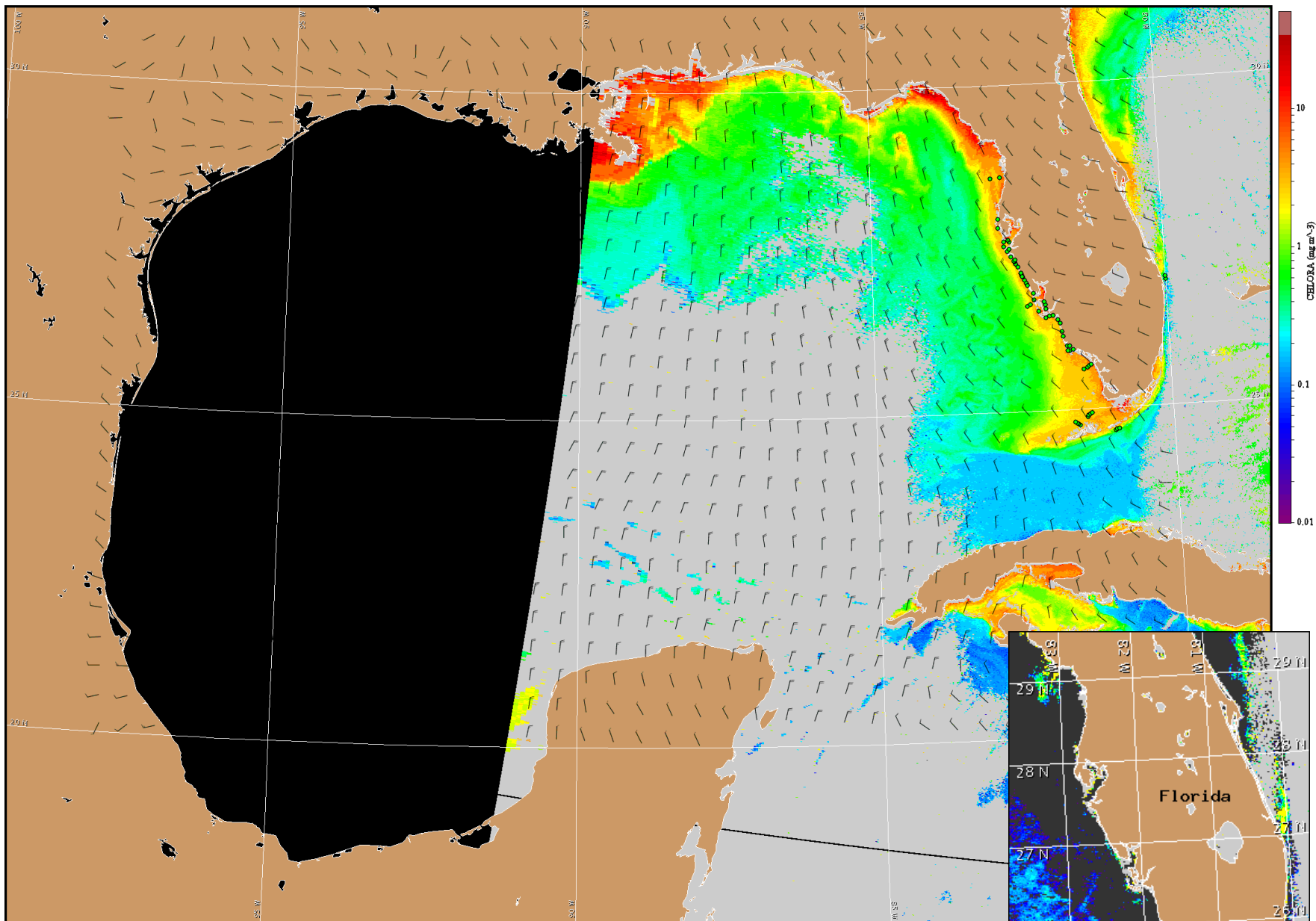
SW Florida: Southeast winds today (10-15kn, 5-8m/s). Northwest winds tonight and Tuesday (20-25kn, 10-13m/s). North winds Wednesday (20-25kn).

Florida Keys: Southwest to south winds today (15-20kn, 8-10m/s). Northwest to north winds Tuesday (20kn). North to northeast winds Wednesday (15-20kn).



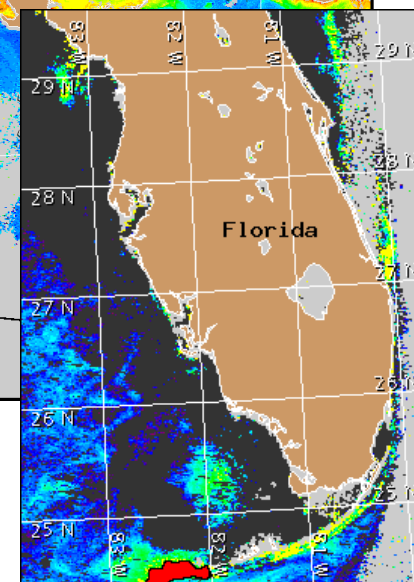
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 3, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from January 23 to 29 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).