



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

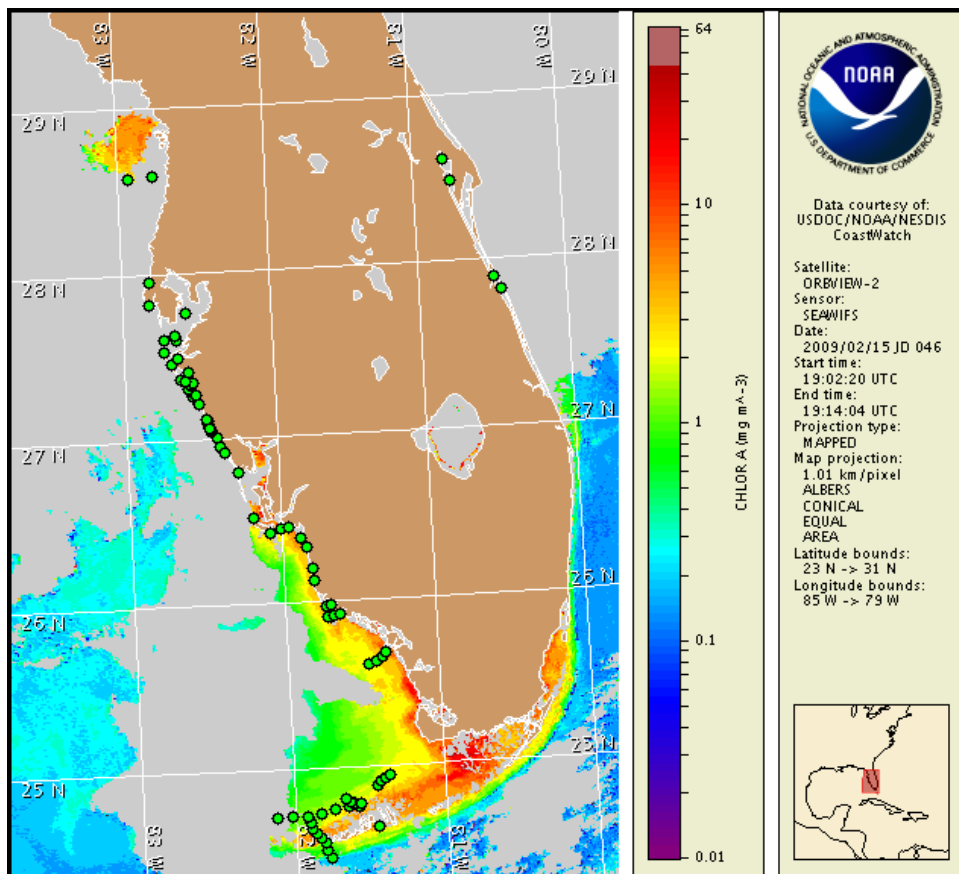
17 February 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: February 12, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 7 to 13 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 including the Florida Keys. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, February 22.

Analysis

** Note: As of today, February 17, bulletins will be issued once per week on Mondays due to harmful algal bloom inactivity. Bulletins will be issued twice per week when conditions warrant. **

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the lower Florida Keys. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples taken last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Lee Counties (FWRI, 2/7-12). Additionally, samples taken from southwest to north of the lower Florida Keys all indicated that *K. brevis* is not present (MML 2/11-13).

Satellite imagery (Feb. 15) indicates that the small patches of elevated chlorophyll features identified in the previous bulletin and located northwest, southwest and south of the lower Florida Keys have dissipated. Due to cloud cover, the feature located 6 to 25 miles directly west of the Marquesas Keys is not currently visible; however a previous image (Feb. 12) indicated that the feature was still present at that location and at a similar extent and intensity (<1 $\mu\text{g/L}$). Reporting on this feature will cease as it continues to move away from the Florida Keys.

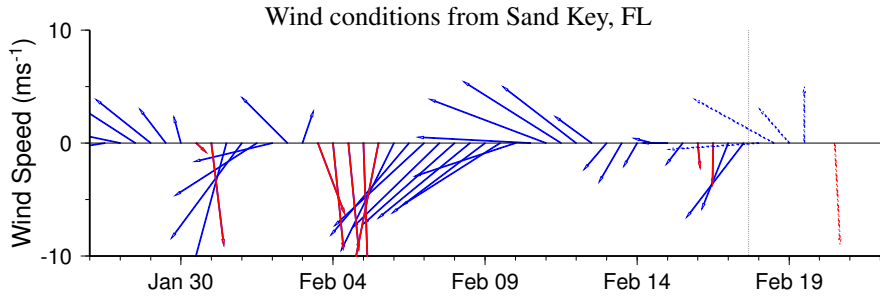
Bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, Feb. 22.

Urizar, Fenstermacher

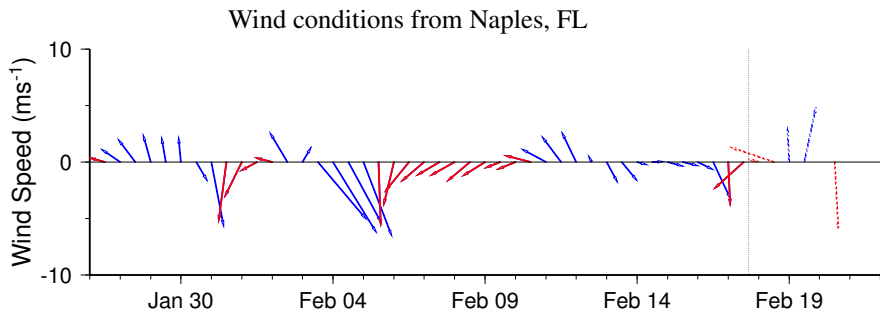
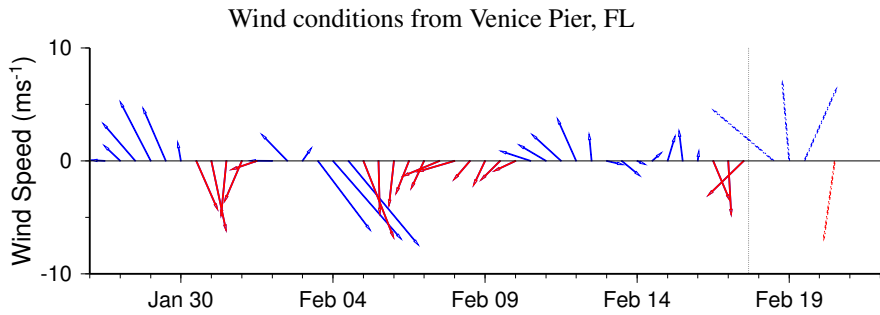
Wind Analysis

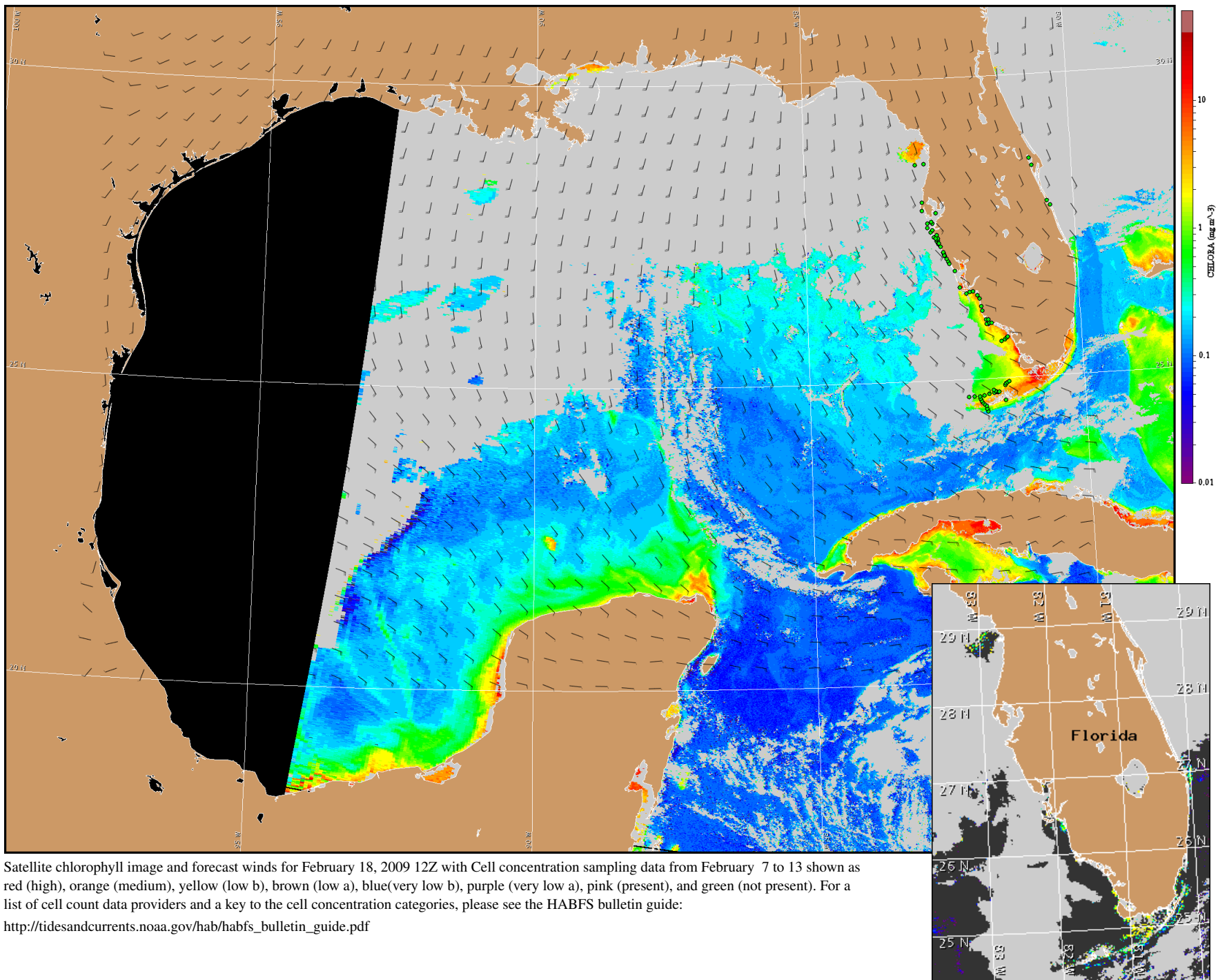
Florida Keys: Northeasterly to easterly winds today (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s). Southeasterly winds Wednesday (15 knots). Southerly to southwesterly winds Thursday (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) becoming northwesterly to northerly Thursday night (15-20 kn). Northerly winds Friday (15-20 kn). Northerly to northeasterly winds Saturday (15 kn).

Southwest Florida: Easterly to southeasterly winds today (10-15 kn). Southerly winds (15 kn) Wednesday becoming southwesterly (15-20 kn) Wednesday night. Westerly to northwesterly winds (15-20 kn) Thursday becoming northerly (20 kn) Thursday night. Northwesterly to northeasterly winds Friday (15 kn). Easterly winds Saturday (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s).



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 18, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 7 to 13 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).