



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

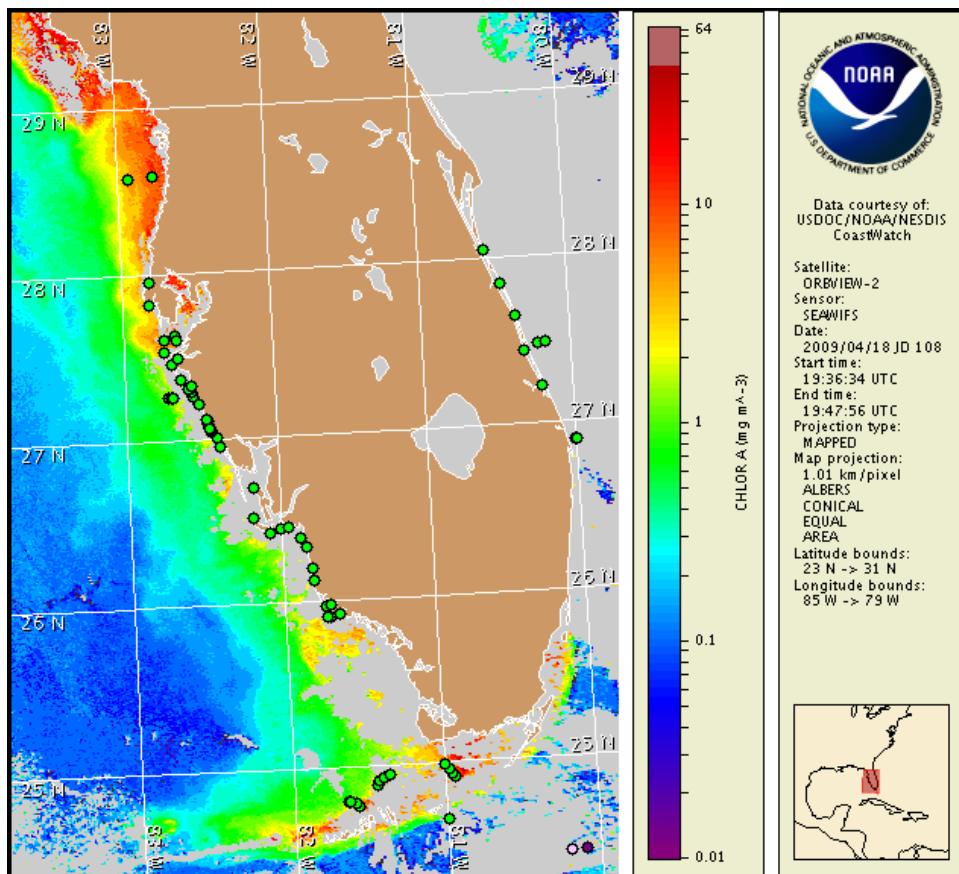
20 April 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: April 13, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from April 10 to 16 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, April 26.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples collected last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Charlotte and Collier Counties (4/8-17; FWRI, SCHD, MML). Background concentrations (not shown) were identified onshore of Lee County (4/14; FWRI). Background to very low concentrations were identified onshore and southeast of Monroe County (4/12-15; FWRI). No elevated chlorophyll features are currently visible in the proximity of the confirmed very low *K. brevis* concentration over the last several days of imagery. Reporting will continue as new sampling information becomes available or as requested.

The resuspension event has mostly dissipated, with patches of elevated chlorophyll visible along the coast in imagery as of 4/16 and are likely attributable to this event and the confirmed presence of various non-harmful algae species (FWRI, 4/13-15).

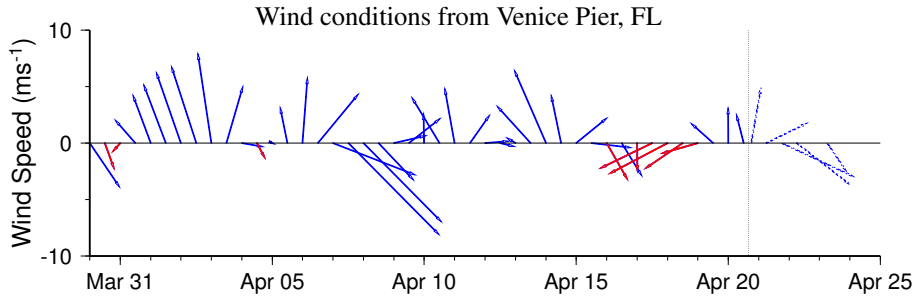
An elevated chlorophyll feature ($2\text{-}5\mu\text{g/L}$) continues to appear in imagery near shore and offshore Cape Romano, southern Collier County and remains partially visible offshore amongst clouds (centerpoint $25^{\circ}39'55''\text{N } 81^{\circ}50'43''\text{W}$). Elevated chlorophyll features in this region may not be indicative of the presence of harmful algae, however sampling is recommended in this identified area due to the feature's more unusual offshore appearance and extent over the past few weeks. Elevated concentrations of non-harmful algae have been confirmed alongshore Collier County in the past week (FWRI, 4/13).

Harmful bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, April 26.

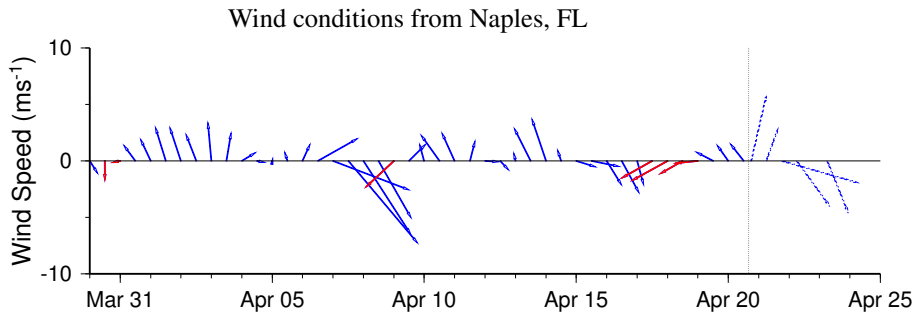
~Fenstermacher, Urizar

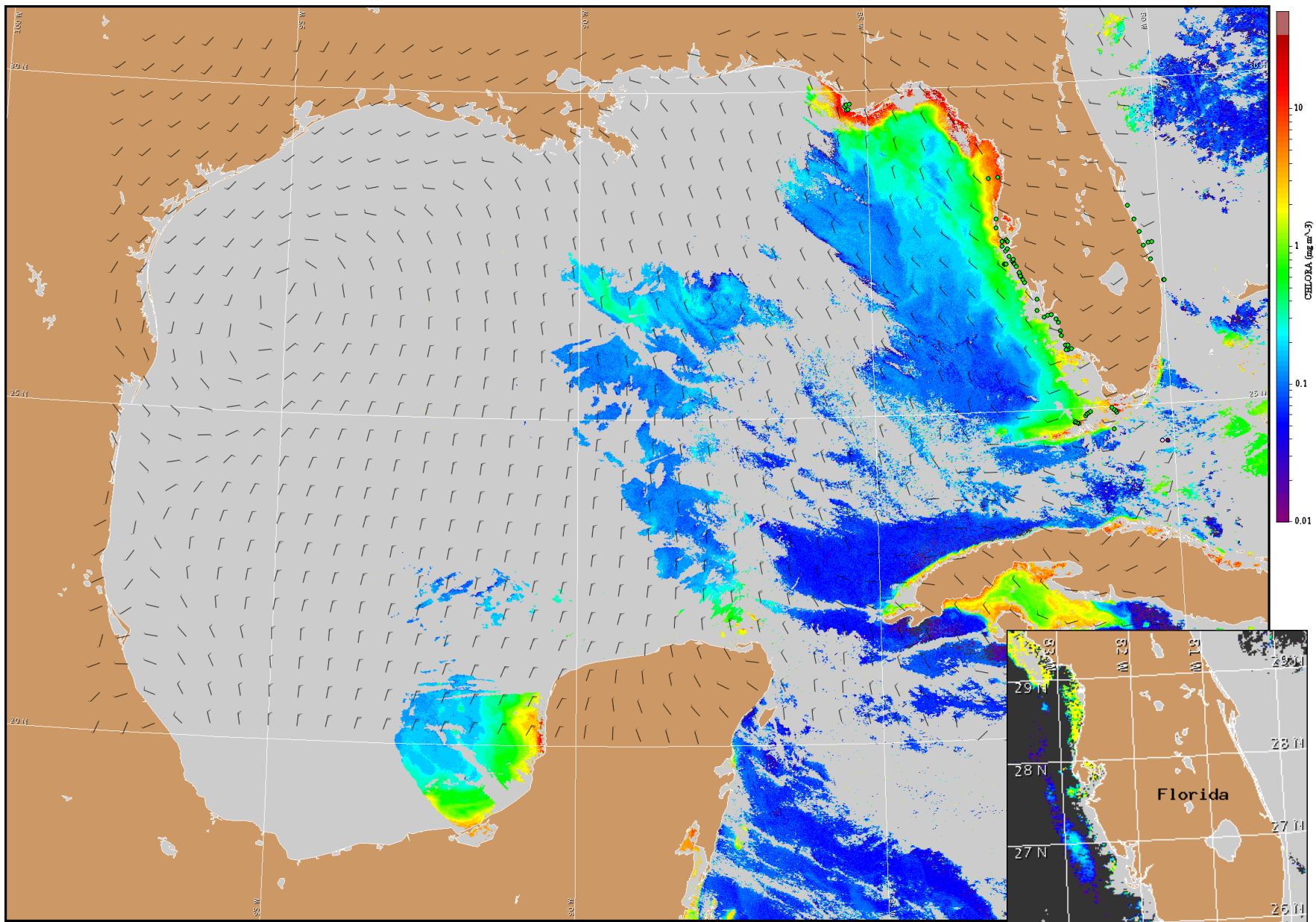
Wind Analysis

SW Florida: Southwesterlies today (10-15 kn; 5-8 m/s). North to northwesterlies tonight through Thursday (10-15 kn). Northeasterlies Thursday night and Friday (10 kn).



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 April 21, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from April 10 to 16 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).