Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

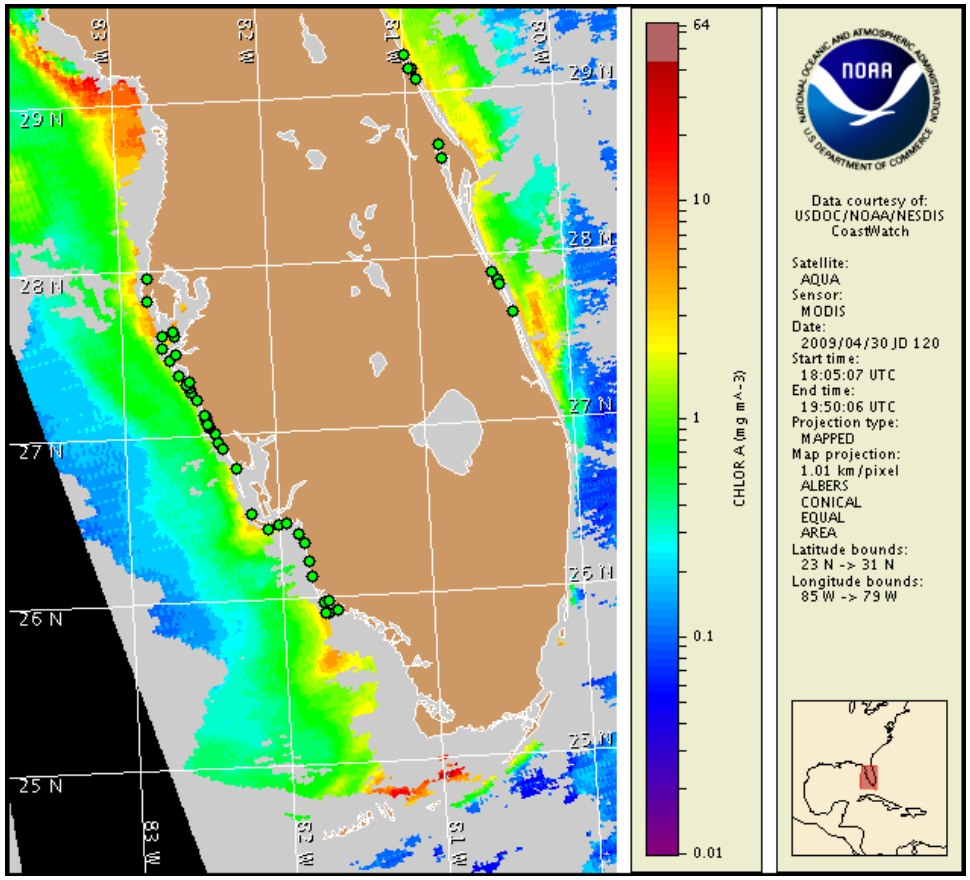
4 May 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: April 27, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from April 27 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

---

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, May 10.

Analysis

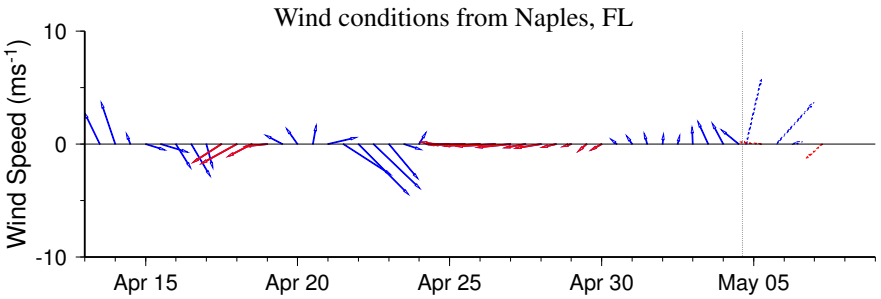
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the Florida Keys. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples collected last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier Counties (FWRI, SCHD, MML 4/27-29).

Satellite imagery indicates the continued presence of an elevated chlorophyll patch (up to 4 μg/L) located offshore Collier and Monroe Counties (centered at 25°38'5''N 81°43'7''W). This feature appears to have decreased in size and intensity over the past week. Samples collected onshore Collier County indicate that *K. brevis* is not present and continues to confirm the presence of numerous species of non-harmful algae at various concentrations (FWRI 4/27).

Chlorophyll also continues to be elevated (up to 1-3 μg/L) in satellite imagery, centered at 26°25'20''N 82°13'15''W, alongshore southern Charlotte and northern Lee Counties due to non-harmful algae (FWRI 4/28).

Harmful algal bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, May 10.

-Lindley, Fisher

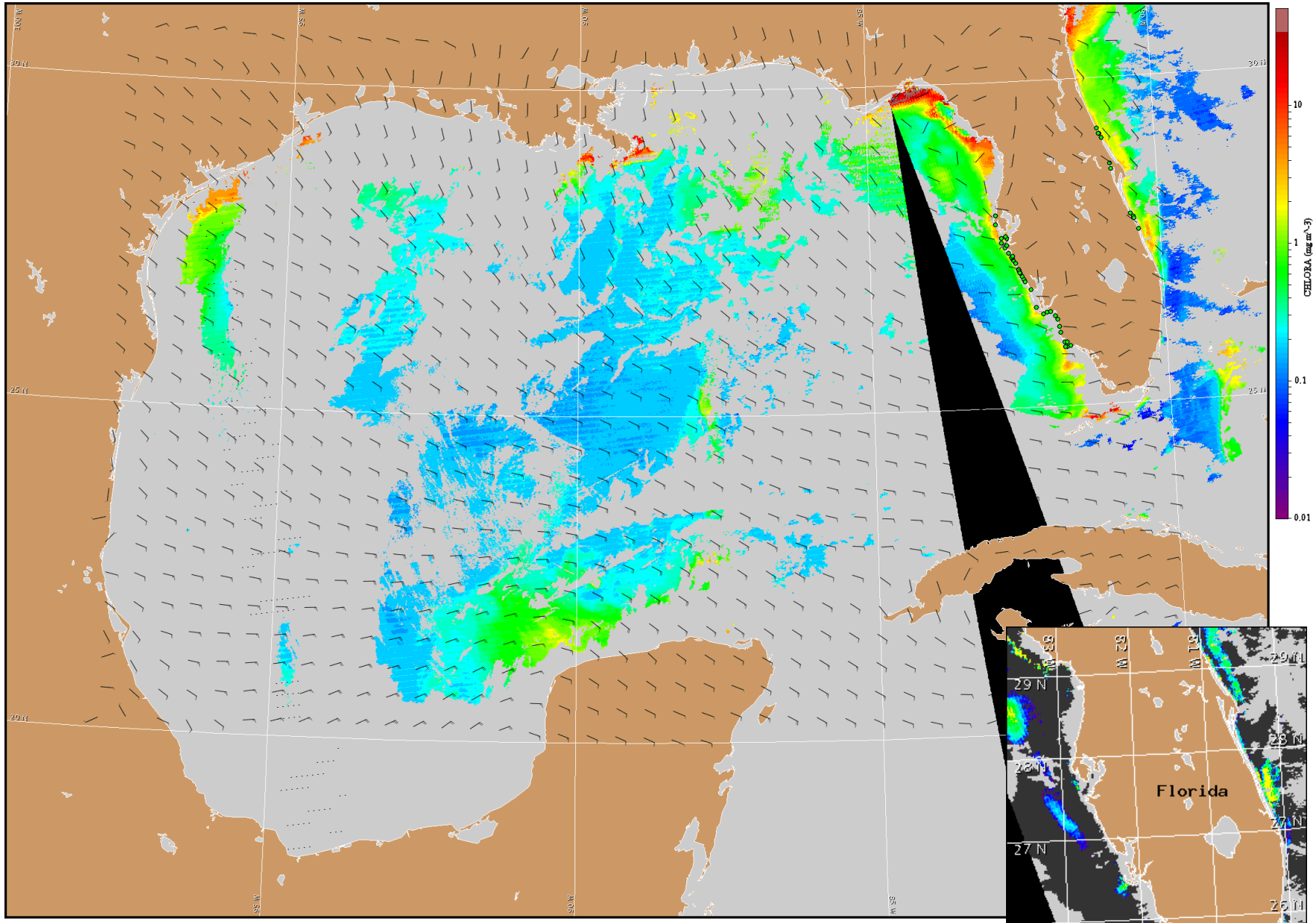


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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

Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: South winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) today becoming southeast winds tonight (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s). South winds Tuesday (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) becoming east winds Tuesday night (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s). Daytime southeast winds Wednesday through Friday (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) with southwesterly winds in the evenings (5 kn, 3 m/s).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 5, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from April 27 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

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