



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

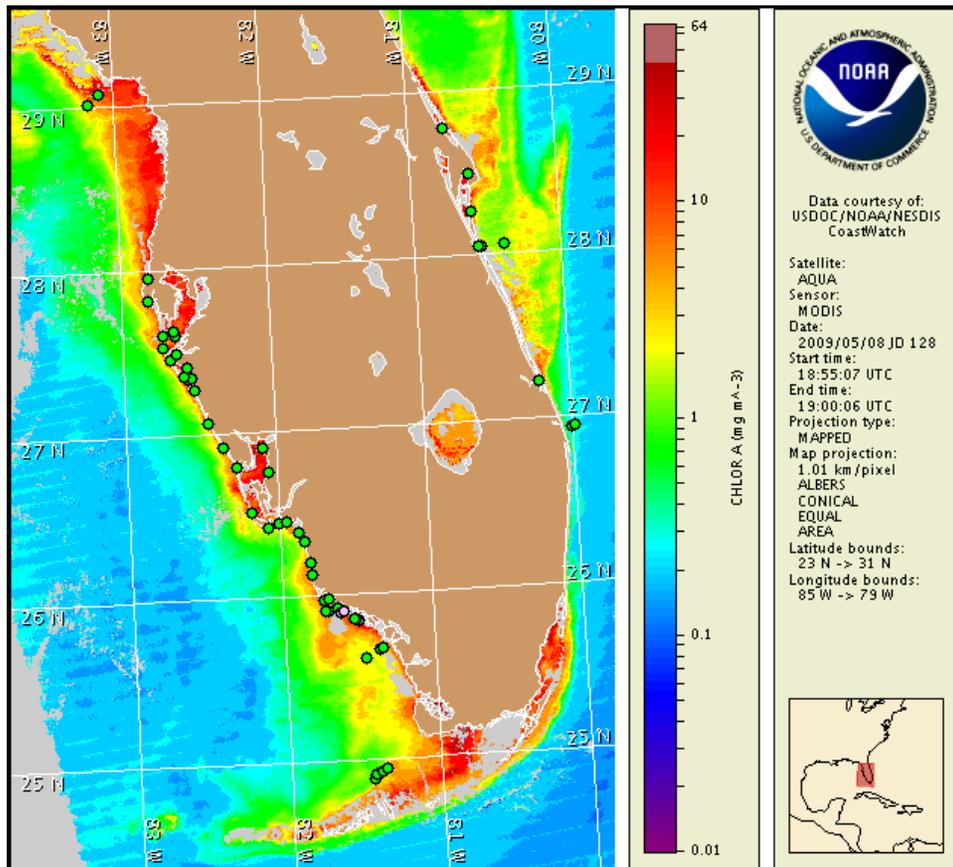
11 May 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: May 4, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from May 1 to 7 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, May 17.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. Background concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were identified in samples collected last week alongshore Sarasota County (New Pass) and offshore southern Collier County in the Ten Thousand Islands region. No additional *K. brevis* was reported alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe Counties (5/4-5/8; FWRI, SCHD, MML).

Patches of elevated to high chlorophyll continue to be visible in recent MODIS imagery (5/8) offshore southern Collier and Monroe Counties, and recently became visible alongshore from Naples Pier to just south of Pavilion Key (3 to $>10\mu\text{g/L}$). Two larger offshore patches within this feature were located at $25^{\circ}42'28''\text{N } 81^{\circ}43'28''\text{W}$ ($\sim 5\mu\text{g/L}$) and at $25^{\circ}24'11''\text{N } 81^{\circ}26'25''\text{W}$ ($\sim 3\mu\text{g/L}$). Chlorophyll levels within these patches appeared to decrease slightly last week. Although background concentrations of *K. brevis* were reported last week in the Ten Thousand Islands region, elevated chlorophyll features in this region are common and are not necessarily indicative of a harmful algal bloom. Elevated concentrations of non-harmful algae continued to be reported last week in the Pavilion Key region and alongshore northern to central Collier County (FWRI, MML; 5/4-5/6).

Elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to $>10\mu\text{g/L}$) also remains visible alongshore Charlotte and northern Lee Counties and in a patch offshore Sanibel Island at approximately $26^{\circ}25'59''\text{N } 82^{\circ}15'38''\text{W}$. Chlorophyll levels offshore Sanibel Island intensified slightly last week.

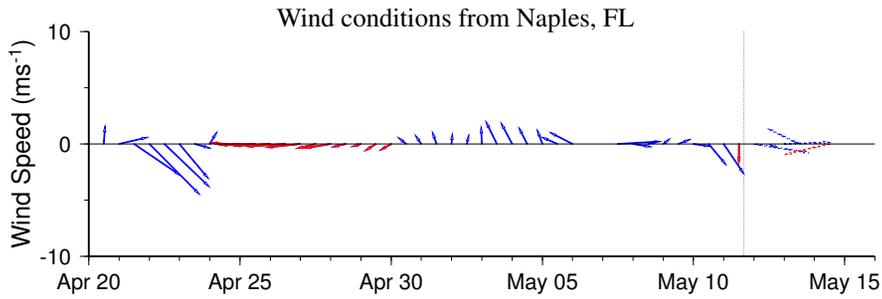
Harmful algal bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, May 17.

Due to technical difficulties SeaWiFS imagery is presently unavailable. MODIS imagery has been used for bloom analysis and display on this bulletin.

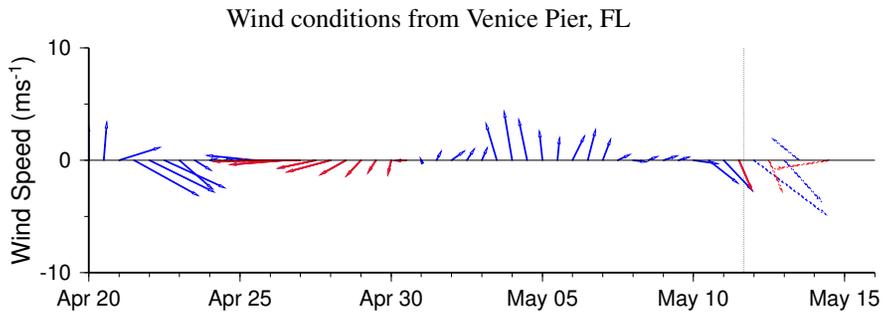
-Fisher, Fenstermacher, Derner

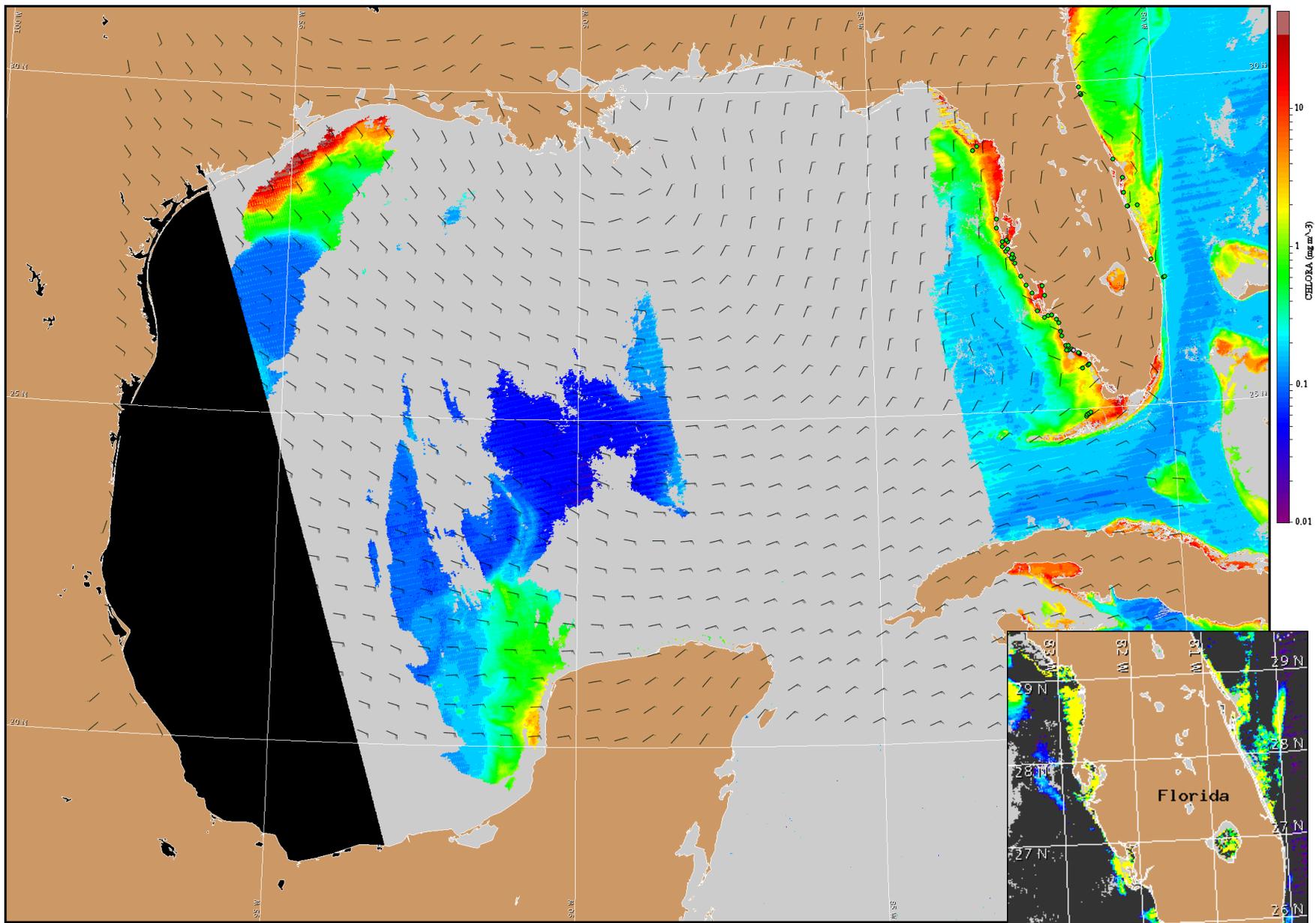
Wind Analysis

North to west winds today, shifting east tonight (5-15kn, 3-8m/s). South winds Tuesday (5-10kn) in Collier and Monroe Counties. North to west winds Tuesday (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) from Pinellas to Lee County. East winds Tuesday night through Friday (5-15kn).



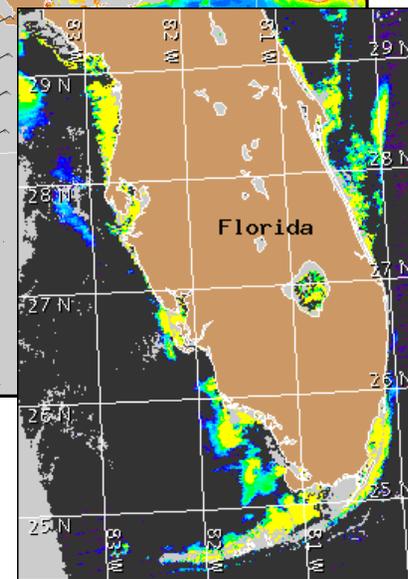
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 12, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from May 1 to 7 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).