



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

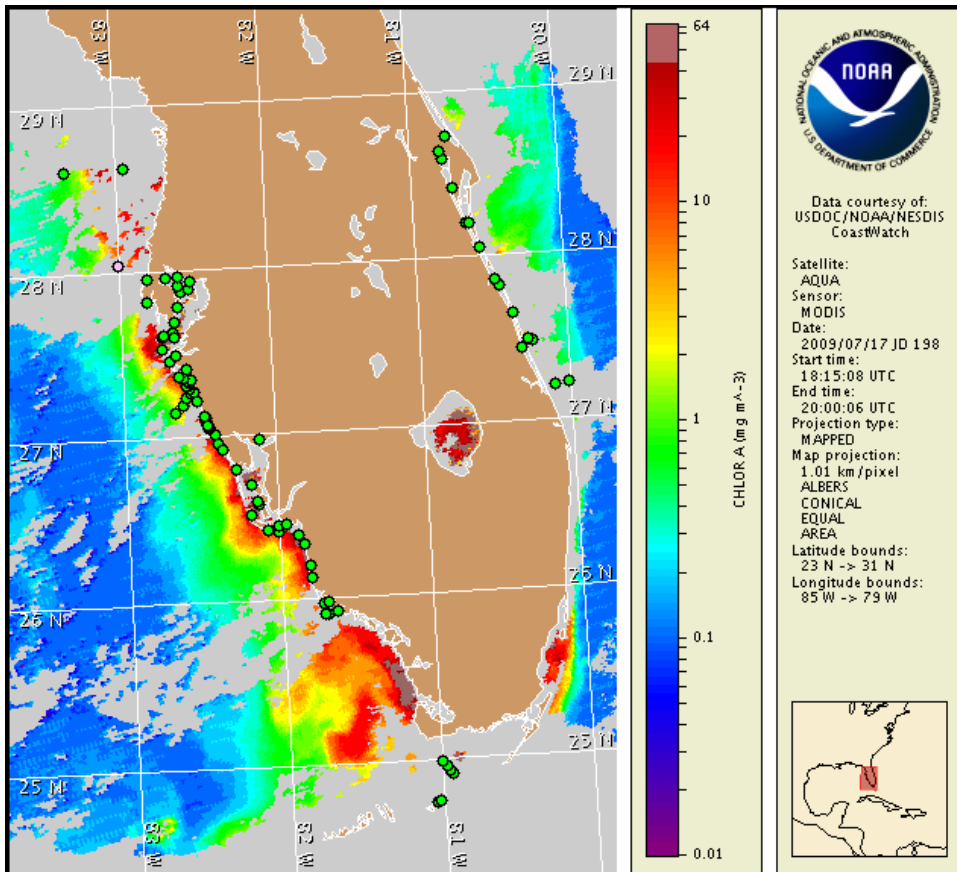
20 July 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: July 13, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from July 10 to 15 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, July 26. Discolored water has been reported in the northwestern region of Tampa Bay over the last week. This discoloration is attributed to a bloom of the algae *Pyrodinium bahamense* which does not produce respiratory irritation impacts associated with the Florida red tide caused by *Karenia brevis*.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. Background concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were identified 12 miles offshore of Pinellas County on 7/11 (FWRI). *K. brevis* was not identified in any other samples collected alongshore southwest Florida in the past week (FWRI, SCHD, MML; 7/11-17).

MODIS imagery (7/17) indicates that chlorophyll remains elevated to high alongshore and offshore southern Lee County (southern Sanibel Island region), and offshore southern Collier and Monroe Counties. Elevated chlorophyll levels were visible on 7/16 onshore and offshore Pinellas County near where the background concentration sample was collected. Non-harmful blooms continue to be reported along much of the southwest Florida coastline. Elevated to high chlorophyll associated with these non-harmful blooms is also visible in recent imagery.

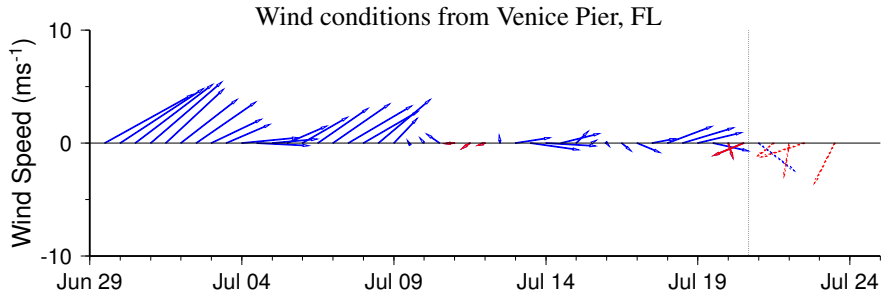
Harmful algal bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, July 26.

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

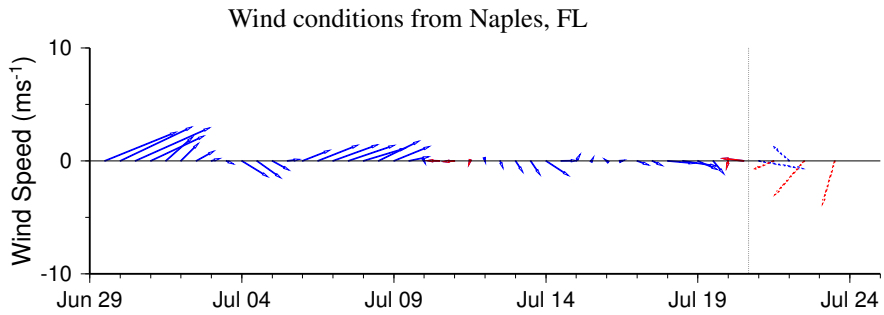
-Lindley, Fisher

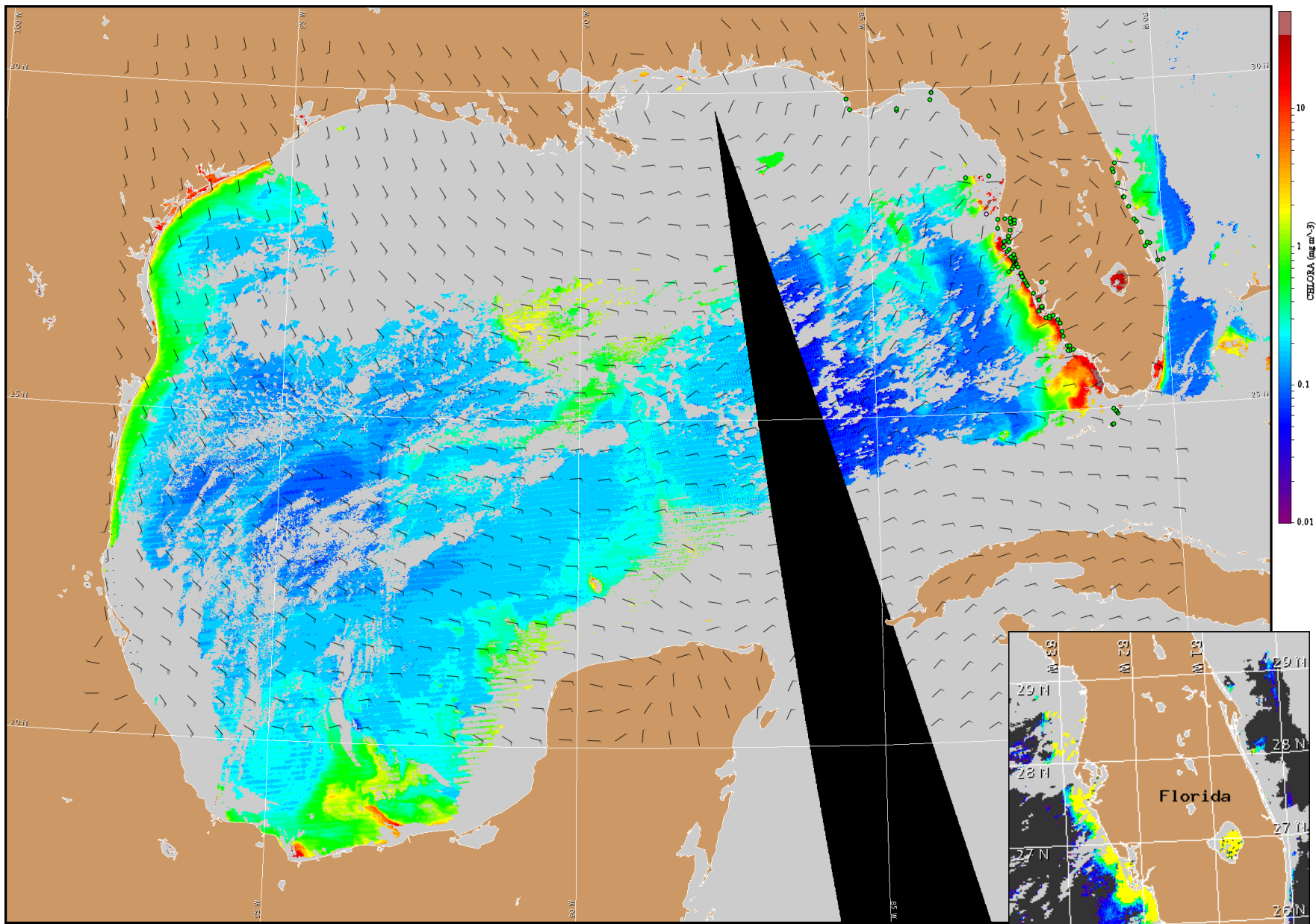
Wind Analysis

Northeast winds today becoming northwest this afternoon and east tonight (5 kn, 3 m/s). East winds Tuesday (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) becoming onshore in the afternoon. Northeast winds Wednesday becoming onshore in the afternoon and easterly Wednesday night (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s). Northeast winds Thursday becoming northwest, then easterly Thursday night (5 kn, 3 m/s). Southeast winds Friday becoming northwest (5 kn, 3 m/s).



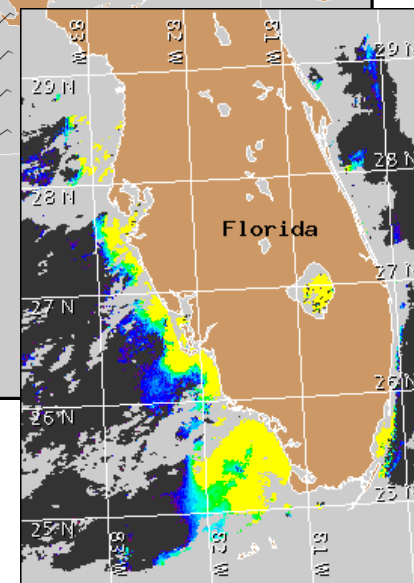
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for July 21, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from July 10 to 15 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).