



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

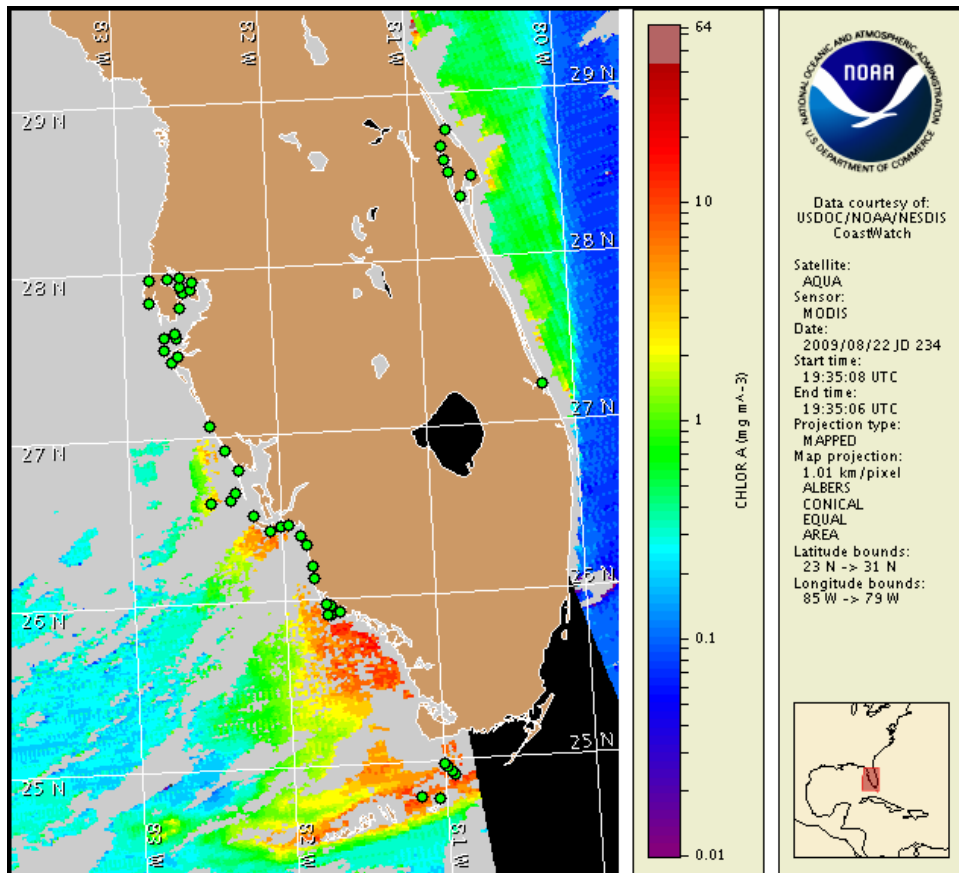
24 August 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: August 17, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 14 to 20 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, August 30. Discolored water in the northwestern region of Tampa Bay 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 bloom in southwest Florida. The most recent samples from alongshore Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier and Monroe counties and offshore Lee County and north of Marathon in the Florida Keys all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present (SCHD 8/17; MML 8/14; FWRI 8/16-20).

MODIS satellite imagery from the past few days is obscured by clouds; however, an elevated chlorophyll feature ($2\text{--}5 \mu\text{g/L}$) has become visible north of the Florida Keys. It extends from $24^{\circ}47'21''\text{N } 82^{\circ}8'49''\text{W}$ northeastward to $25^{\circ}1'25''\text{N } 81^{\circ}18'44''\text{W}$. This feature is likely due to a non-harmful bloom.

SeaWiFS satellite imagery (8/23; not shown) indicates elevated levels of chlorophyll ($>6 \mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore Sarasota County and high levels of chlorophyll ($>10 \mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore Charlotte, and northern Lee counties. Additionally high chlorophyll features alongshore and offshore Collier and Monroe counties remain visible. These features are likely due to non-harmful blooms of various algal species that continue to be detected alongshore southwest Florida (FWRI 8/16-20).

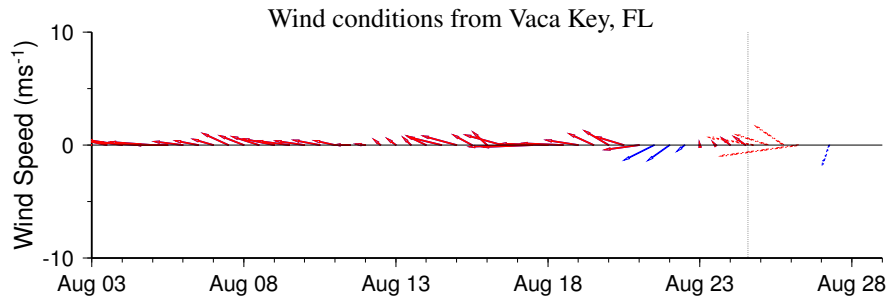
Upwelling favorable winds are forecasted today through Friday. Conditions are favorable for harmful algal bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida this week.

Due to technical difficulties SeaWiFS imagery is currently unavailable. MODIS imagery is displayed on this bulletin.

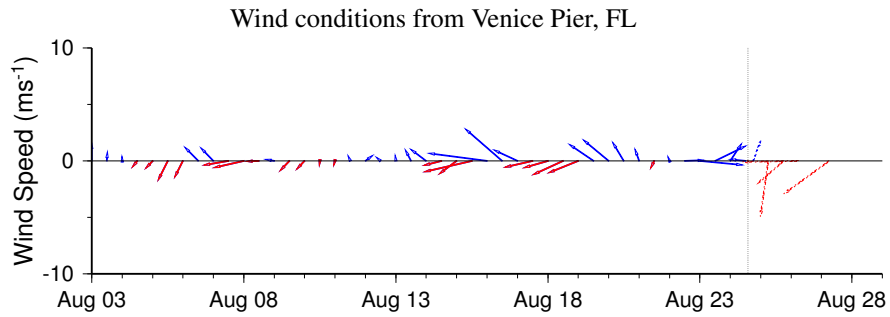
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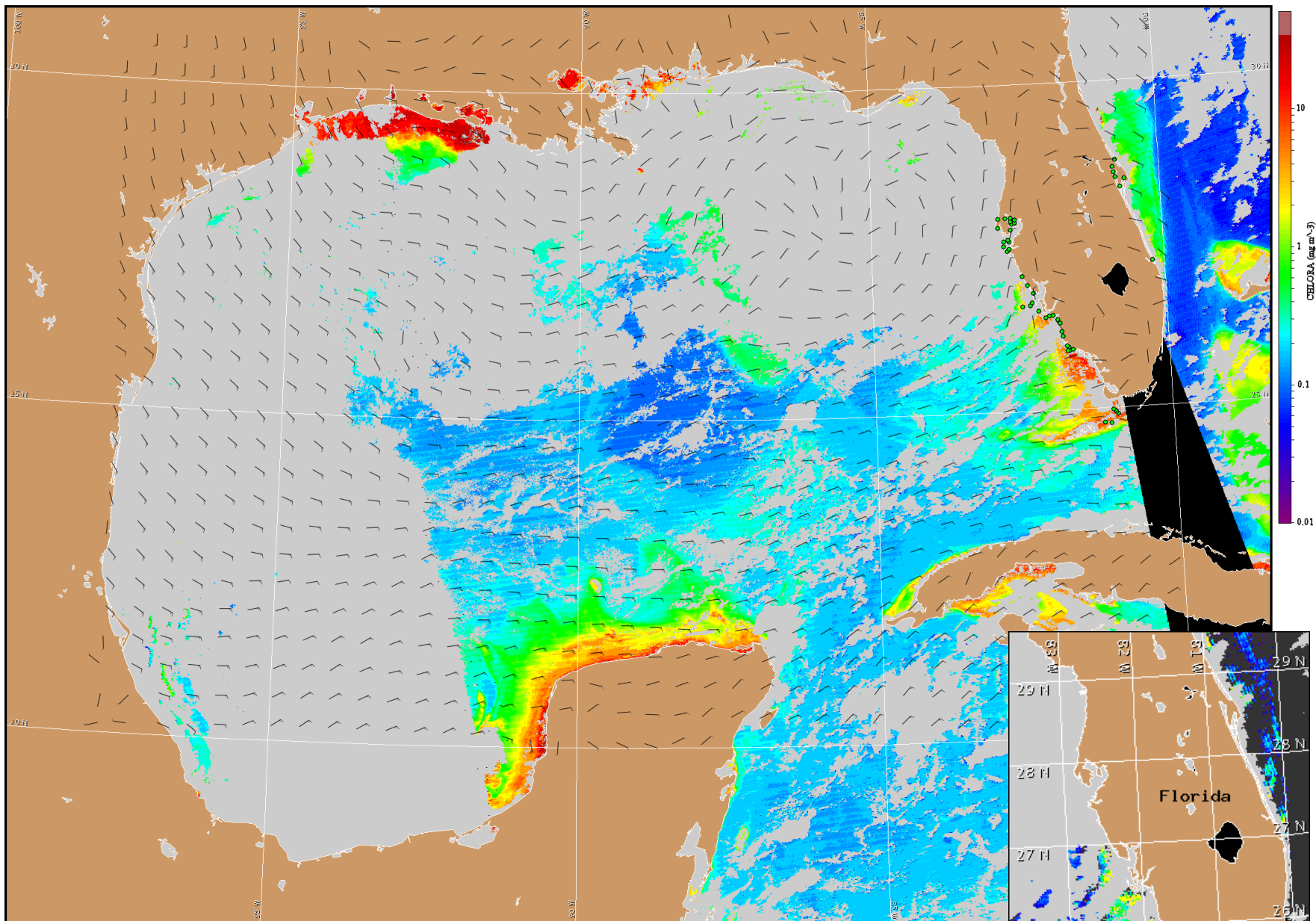
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Northeasterly winds today (5 kn, 3 m/s). Easterly winds tonight (10 kn, 5 m/s) and Tuesday. Northeasterly winds (10 kn) Wednesday. Easterly winds (10 kn) Thursday. Northeasterly winds (5 kn) Friday.



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 August 25, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from August 14 to 20 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).