Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

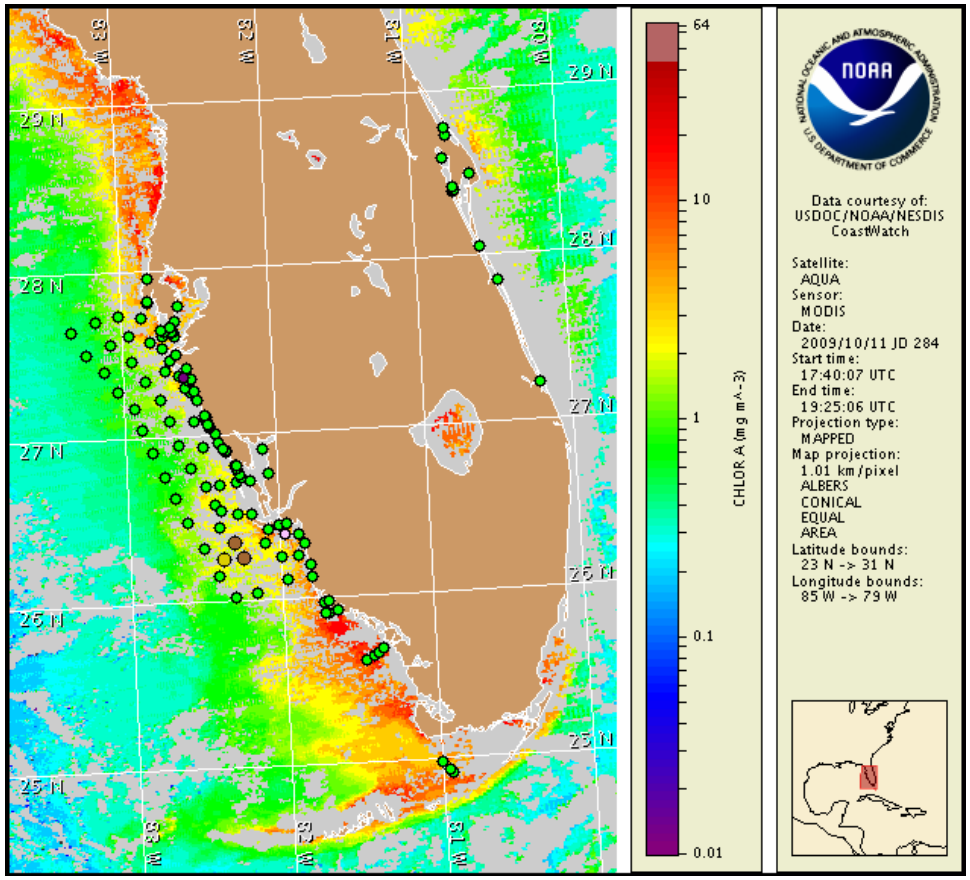
13 October 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: October 5, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 3 to 12 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

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Conditions Report

Harmful algae have been identified at the coast in Pinellas and Sarasota Counties. No impacts are expected at the coast today through Wednesday, October 14.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom due to *Karenia brevis* has been identified approximately 30 miles offshore Lee and northern Collier Counties (FWRI, 10/4-9). Very Lowa concentrations of *K. brevis* have been identified alongshore Pinellas, Sarasota, and Charlotte Counties (FWRI, 10/5-6). A Very Lowa concentration has also been identified approximately 15 miles offshore Manatee County (FWRI, 10/6). Additional samples taken alongshore Hillsborough County, southern Sarasota County, southern Collier County, and Monroe County indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, 10/5-12).

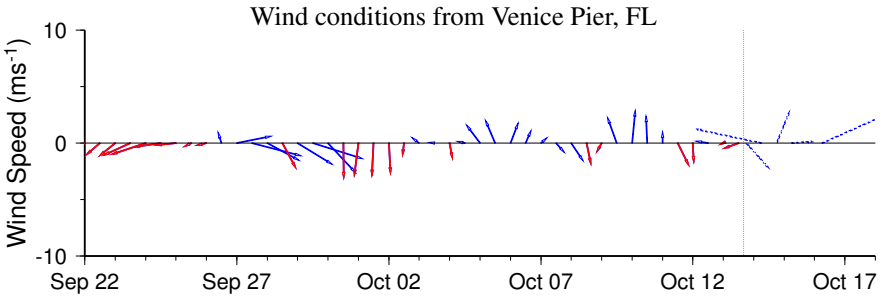
MODIS imagery is cloudy along the coast and limits analysis. Imagery (10/8, not shown) indicates that chlorophyll remains high (>10 μg/L) alongshore of Pinellas County. One Very Lowa sample was identified in this region among several not present samples (FWRI, 10/5-7). Thus, this feature is likely due to non-harmful blooms of various algal species that continue to be detected alongshore southwest Florida. Imagery (10/8, not shown) shows a chlorophyll feature approximately 20 miles offshore Lee and northern Collier Counties with high levels of chlorophyll (>10 μg/L). This chlorophyll feature is likely associated with the bloom identified offshore Lee and northern Collier Counties. Overall chlorophyll levels along the coast appear to have decreased.

Due to variable wind conditions, the identified bloom is likely to remain in its present location.

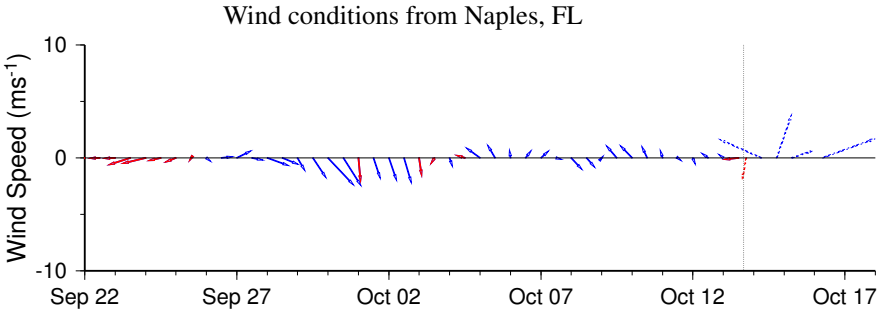
Due to technical difficulties SeaWifs imagery is currently unavailable. MODIS imagery is displayed.

As of today, October 13, southwest Florida bulletins will be issued twice weekly on Mondays and Thursdays due to identification of a harmful algal bloom.

-Lindley, Fenstermacher



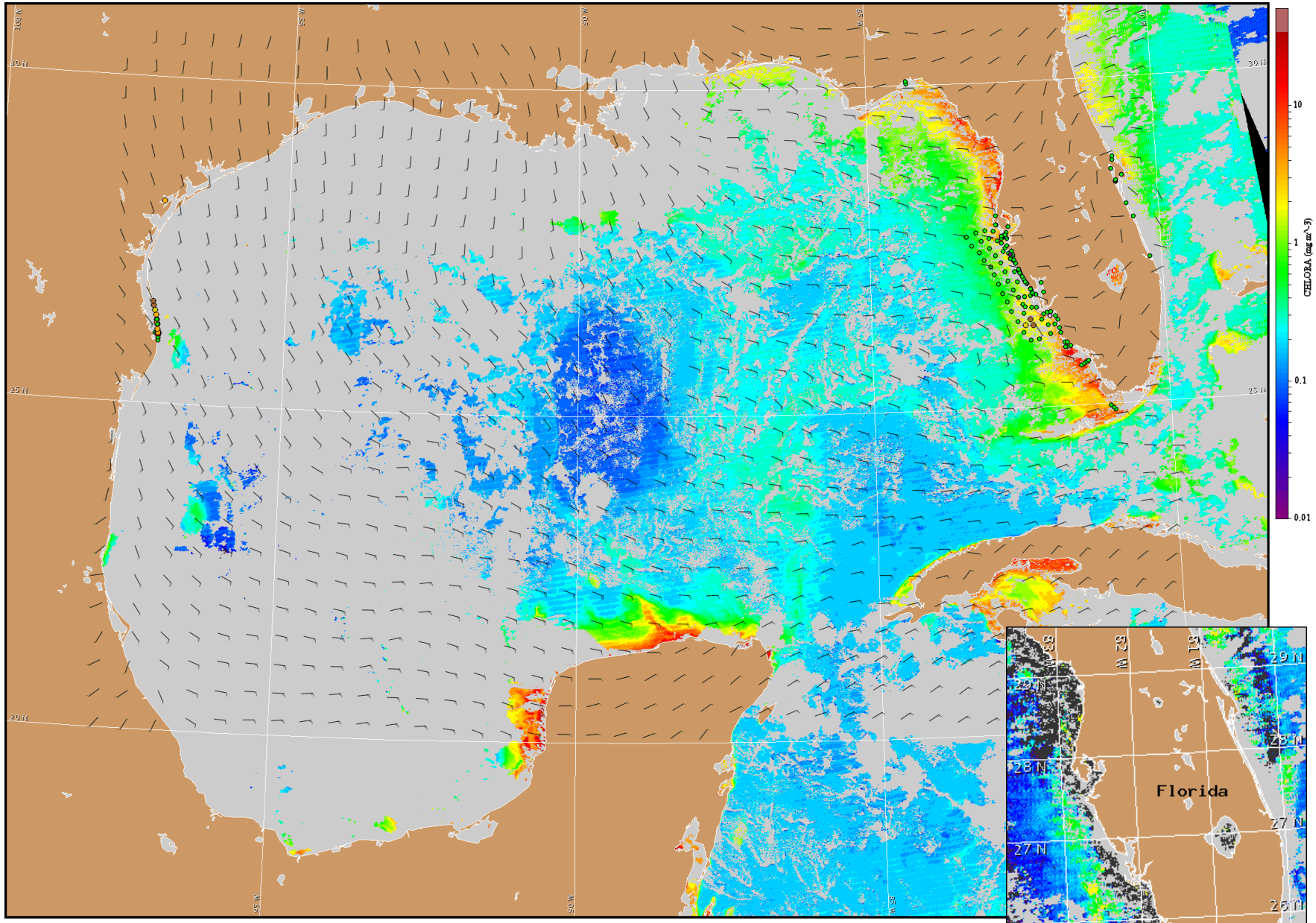
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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



Wind Analysis

Northeast winds today (5 kn, 3 m/s) becoming North winds tonight (10 kn, 5 m/s). South winds becoming Westerly on Wednesday (10 kn, 5 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 October 14, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 3 to 12 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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Verifi ed and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).