



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

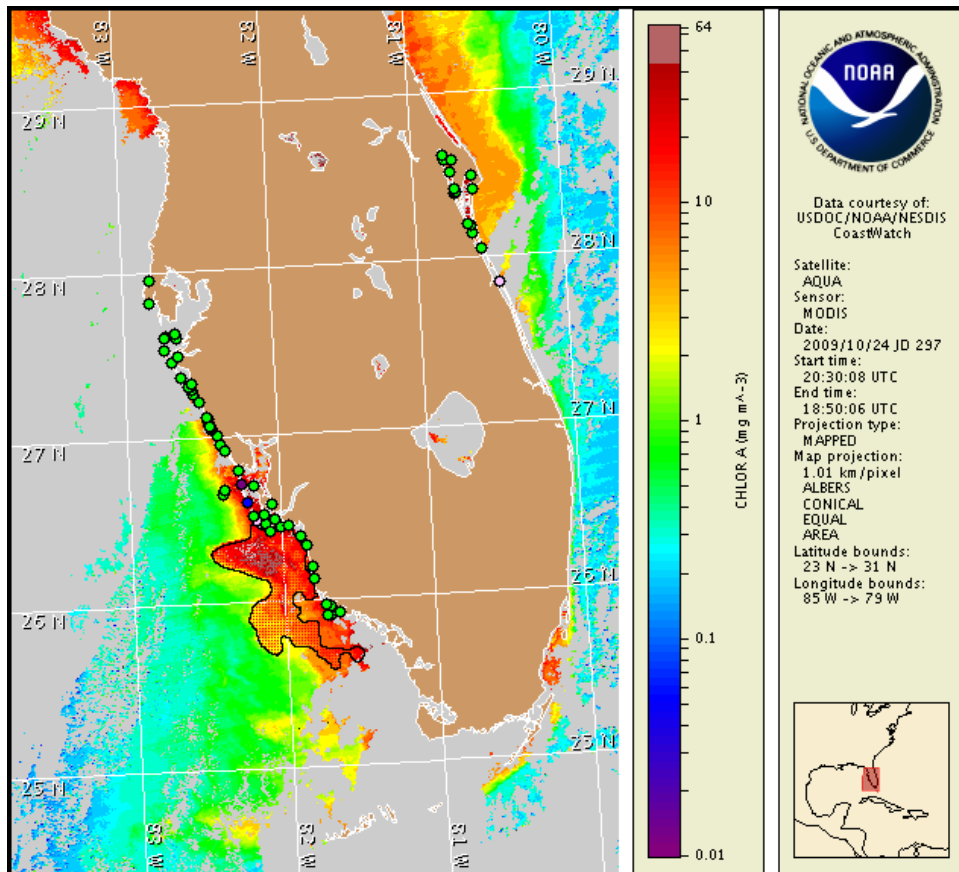
26 October 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: October 22, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 16 to 22 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

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in northern Lee County. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, October 28.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in northern Lee County. Recent samples collected alongshore southern Lee County, in the Pine Island Sound and 7.2-8.4 nm offshore Cayo Costa State Park in northern Lee County all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present (FWRI 10/21). Additional samples taken alongshore Pinellas County also indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI 10/21).

The most recent MODIS image (10/24) is obscured by clouds from Pinellas to central Sarasota County. Alongshore cloud cover in southern Sarasota and Charlotte counties makes it difficult to determine the chlorophyll levels at the coast; however, approximately 3 nm offshore the chlorophyll levels are elevated (3-8 $\mu\text{g/L}$). From the Charlotte/Lee County border southward to central Collier County, high chlorophyll levels (>10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are visible from the coast out to at least 5 nm offshore. The highest levels of chlorophyll are visible in a patch associated with the bloom centered at approximately 26°15'16"N 82°7'43"W. Continued sampling is recommended.

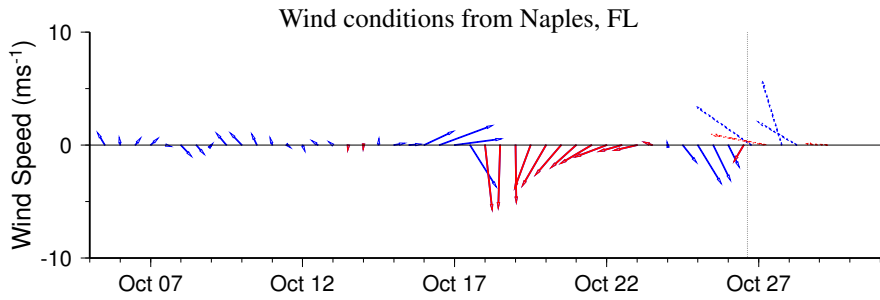
Southward alongshore transport of the bloom is not expected today through Wednesday due to forecasted wind conditions. The potential for further bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida today and through Wednesday is minimal due to forecasted winds.

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

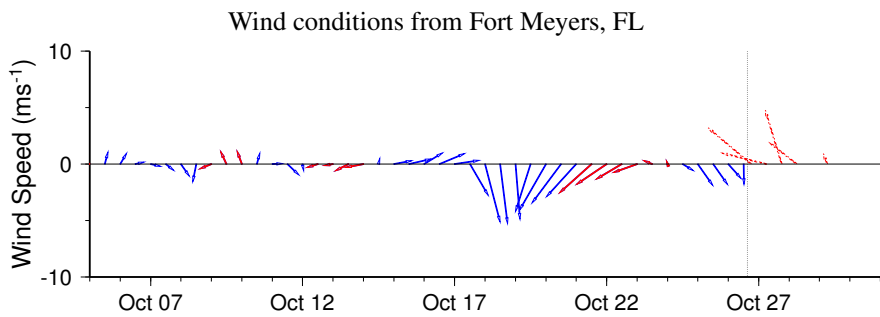
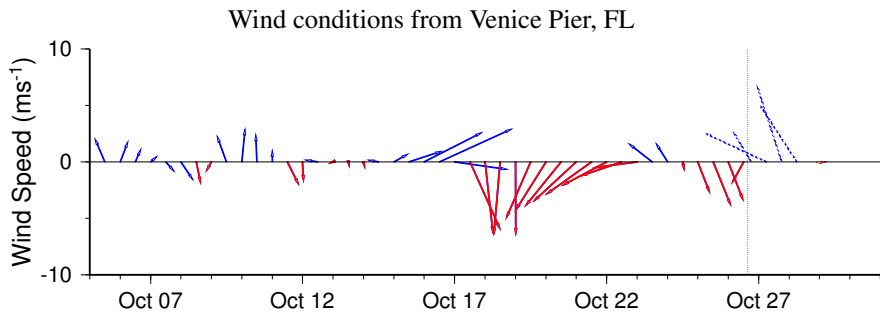
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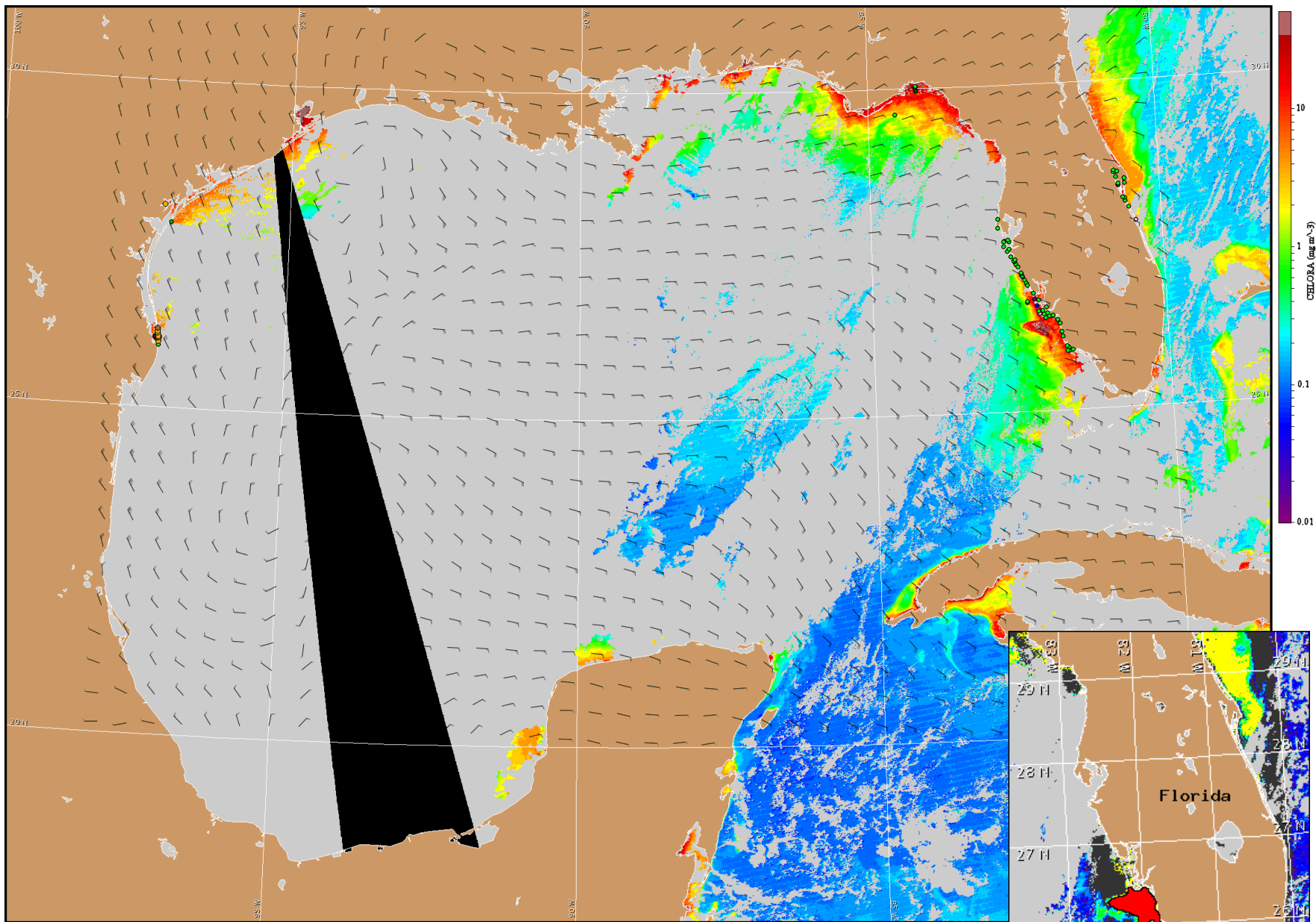
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Southeasterly winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) today through Wednesday.
Easterly winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) Wednesday night.



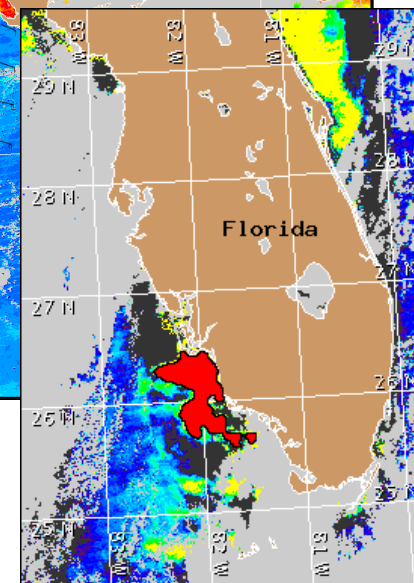
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 27, 2009 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 16 to 22 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).