



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

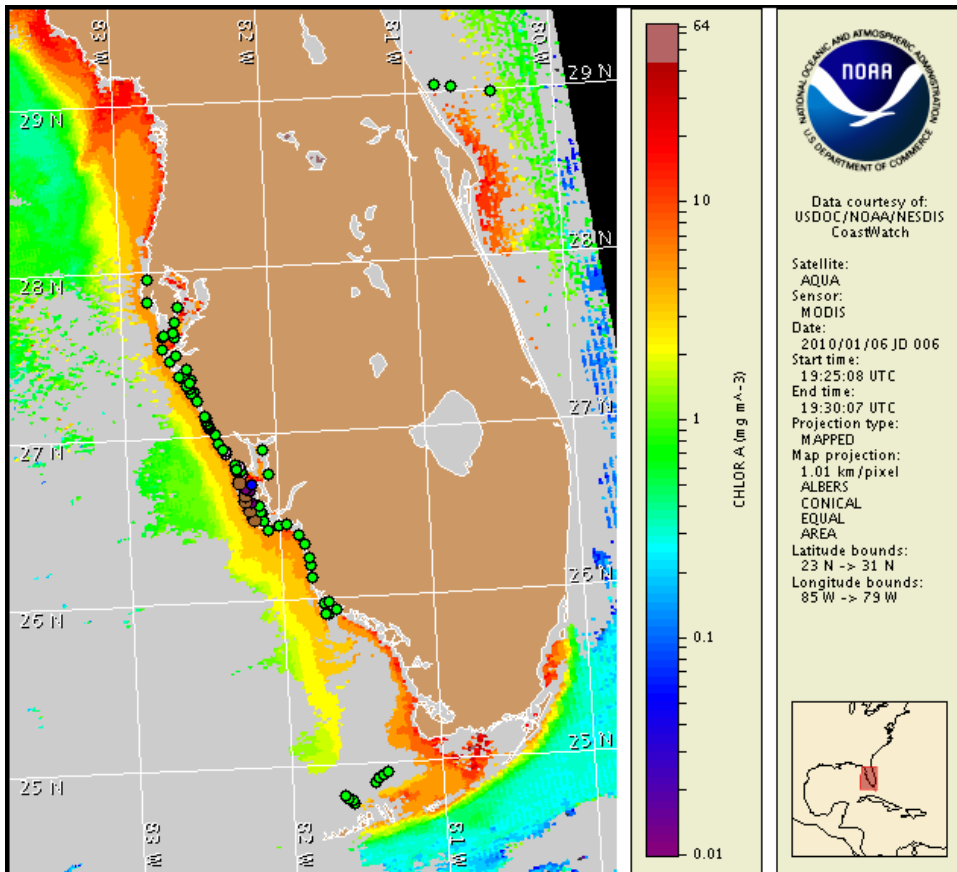
7 January 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 4, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from December 28 to January 6 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 patches alongshore Sarasota, Charlotte, and northern and central Lee County and in the Pine Island region of Lee County. Today through Sunday, patchy low impacts are possible in northern and central Lee County including the Pine Island Sound region. Today and Friday, patchy very low impacts are possible in Sarasota and Charlotte counties and no impacts are expected on Saturday and Sunday. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday January 10.

Analysis

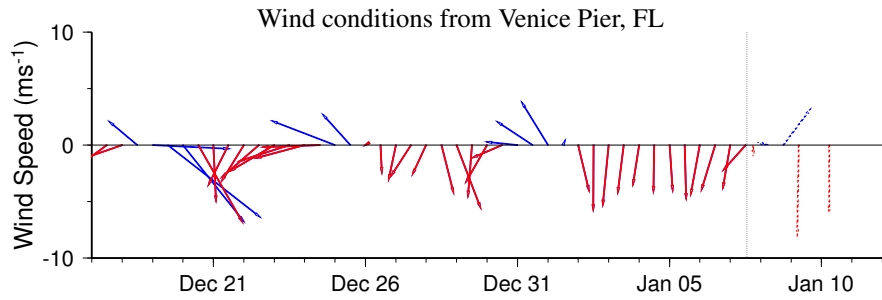
The harmful algal bloom in southwest Florida persists in patches from Sarasota to central Lee County including the Gasparilla Sound region and the Pine Island Sound region of Lee County. The most recent sample results indicate 'Low a' *Karenia brevis* concentrations in Redfish Pass and Buck Key in central Lee County (FWRI 1/4). Additionally, samples indicate up to 'Low a' concentrations in the Pine Island Sound (FWRI 1/4). Alongshore Sarasota County and in the Charlotte Harbor, samples indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (SCHD 1/4; FWRI 1/4-5). Recent satellite imagery indicates that chlorophyll levels persist alongshore Sarasota and Charlotte counties (4-5 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and have dissipated slightly alongshore northern and central Lee County (3-4 $\mu\text{g/L}$). Reports of dead fish in northern Pinellas County have been received; however, they are most likely not a result of a harmful algal bloom.

Satellite imagery indicates that the previously identified patches of chlorophyll offshore Sarasota and northern Lee counties have attenuated. Reporting on the patches of the blooms last identified offshore Sarasota County on 12/14-12/15 (FWRI, MML), offshore northern Lee on 12/21-12/24, and offshore northern Monroe County on 12/22 (MML) will cease until new information becomes available.

Bloom intensification at the coast is unlikely today through Sunday.

Due to technical difficulties SeaWiFS imagery is currently unavailable for display. MODIS imagery is shown on this bulletin.

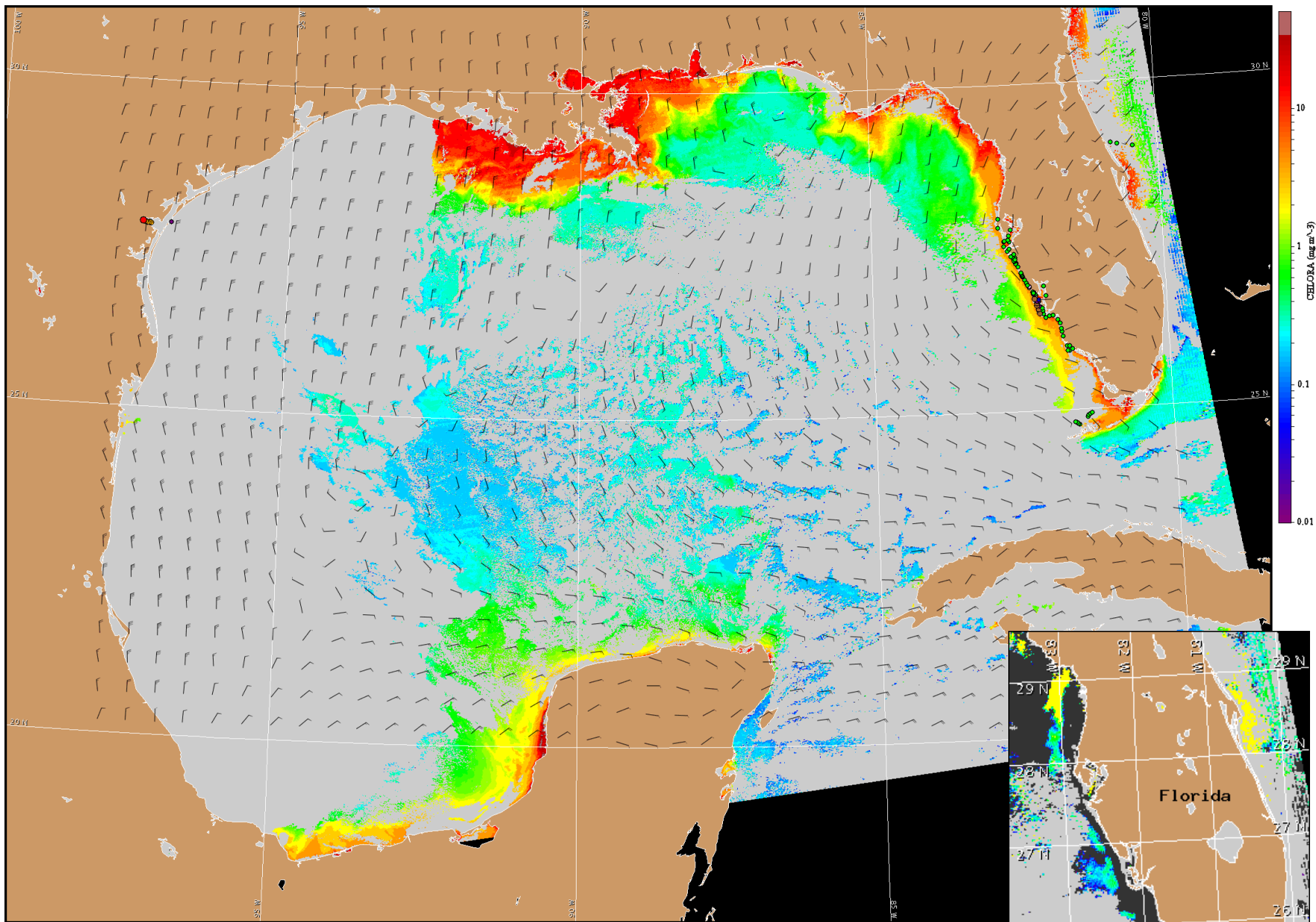
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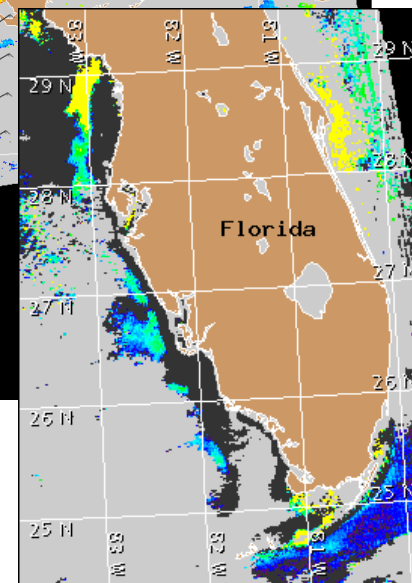
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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

Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Southeasterly to southerly winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) today. Westerly to northerly winds Friday (20 kn, 10 m/s). Northerly winds (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s) Saturday and Sunday becoming northeasterly Sunday night.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for January 8, 2010 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from December 28 to January 6 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



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).