



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

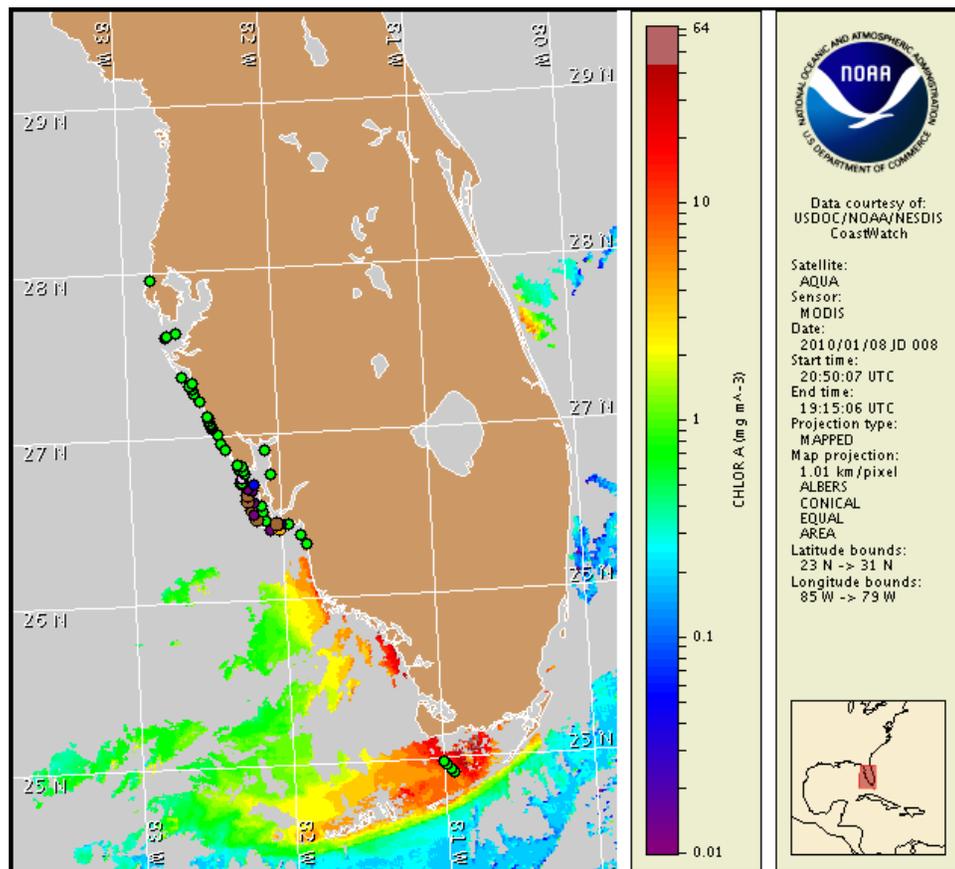
11 January 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 7, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 4 to 8 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 continues to be present in patches in northern and central Lee County and in the Pine Island Sound region of Lee County. Today through Wednesday, patchy low impacts are possible in northern and central Lee County including the Pine Island Sound region. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, January 13.

Analysis

Samples indicate that the harmful algal bloom continues to persist from northern to central Lee County including the Pine Island Sound region of Lee County. The most recent samples collected alongshore of Lee County and inside the Pine Island Sound region indicate *K. brevis* concentrations ranging from not present to 'low a' (FWRI; 1/4) in patches throughout the region. Two new samples collected on 1/6 indicate 'very low b' and 'very low a' concentrations at Tarpon Road Beach and Captiva, respectively, where *K. brevis* was previously not present on 12/28-29 (FWRI).

The most recent sample results also indicate that the harmful algal bloom previously reported in patches alongshore Sarasota and Charlotte counties, including Charlotte Harbor, has dissipated. No additional sample results for Sarasota County have been received since the last bulletin. Samples collected last week alongshore Sarasota County indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 1/4-1/5). The most recent sample results reported alongshore Pinellas, Manatee, Charlotte, and Collier counties and offshore the Florida Keys also indicate that *K. brevis* is not present.

Satellite imagery is obscured by clouds over southwest Florida, limiting analysis. As of late last week (1/6), MODIS imagery indicated that chlorophyll levels have dissipated slightly alongshore northern and central Lee counties (3-4 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and previously identified patches of chlorophyll offshore Sarasota and Lee counties have attenuated. Further chlorophyll analysis is not available at this time.

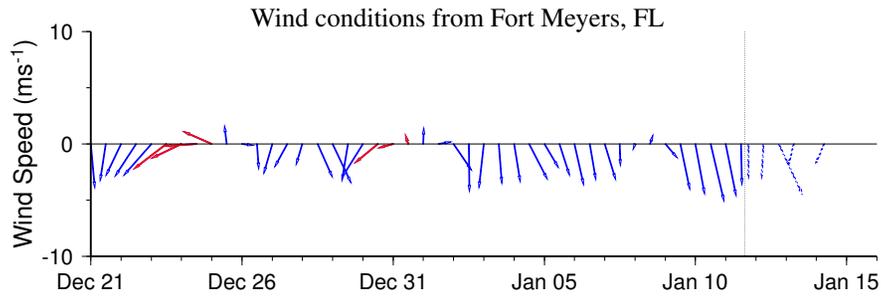
Bloom intensification at the coast is unlikely today through Wednesday. Northerly winds over the next several days may promote further southward bloom transport or expansion.

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

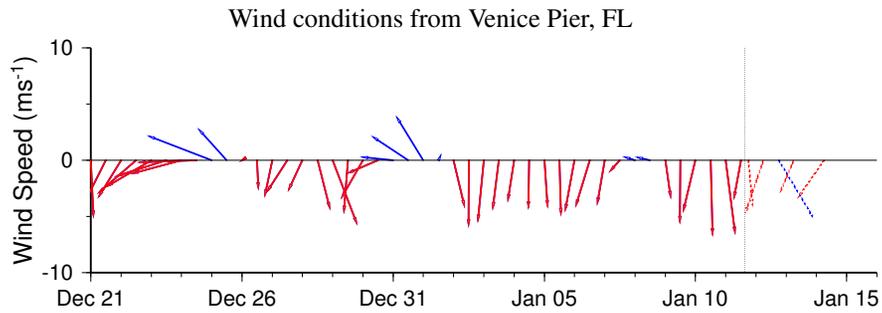
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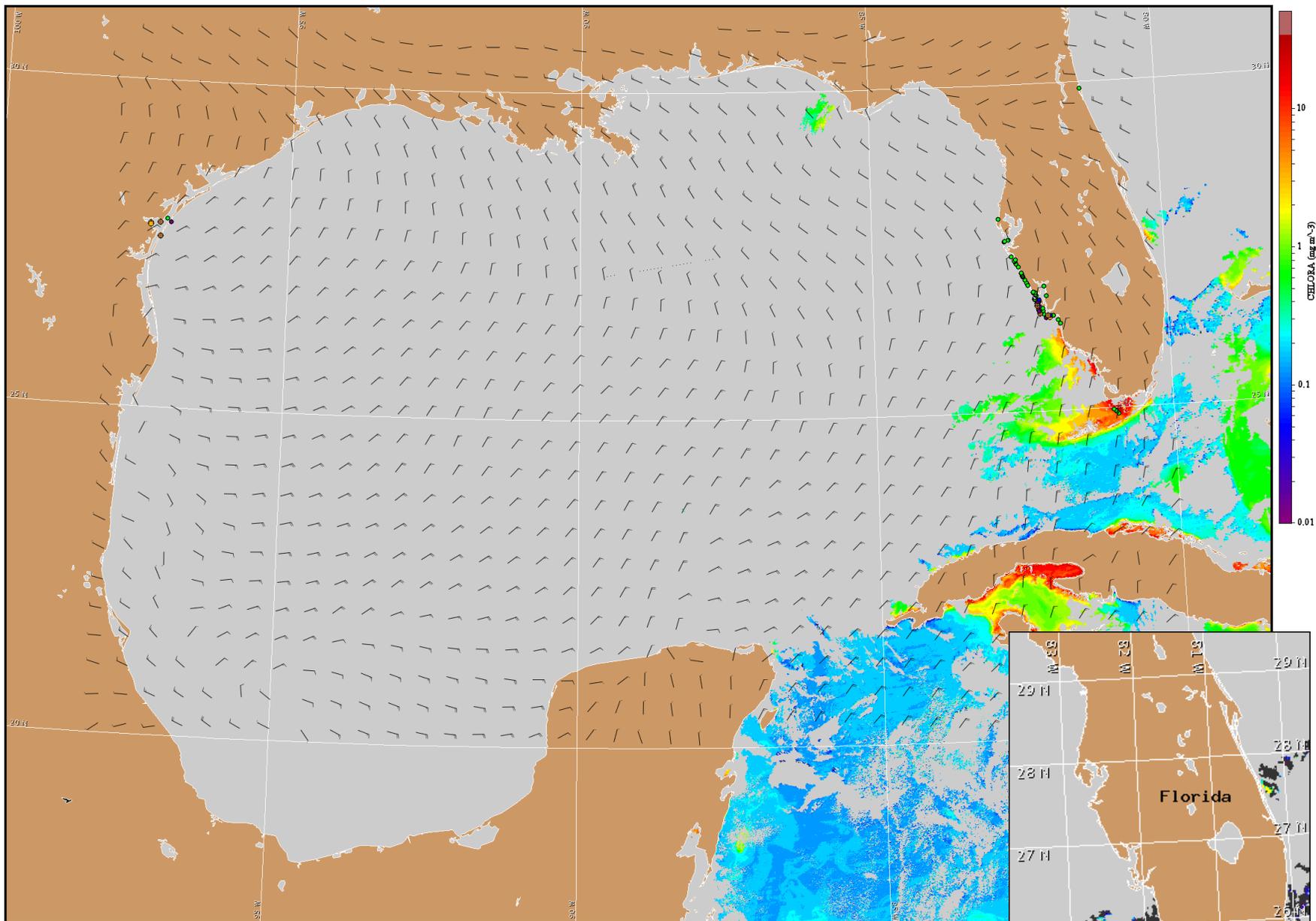
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: North winds today and tonight (10kn, 5m/s). Northwest to north winds Tuesday (10-15kn, 5-8m/s). North to northeast winds Wednesday (10kn).



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 January 12, 2010 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from January 4 to 8 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).