

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

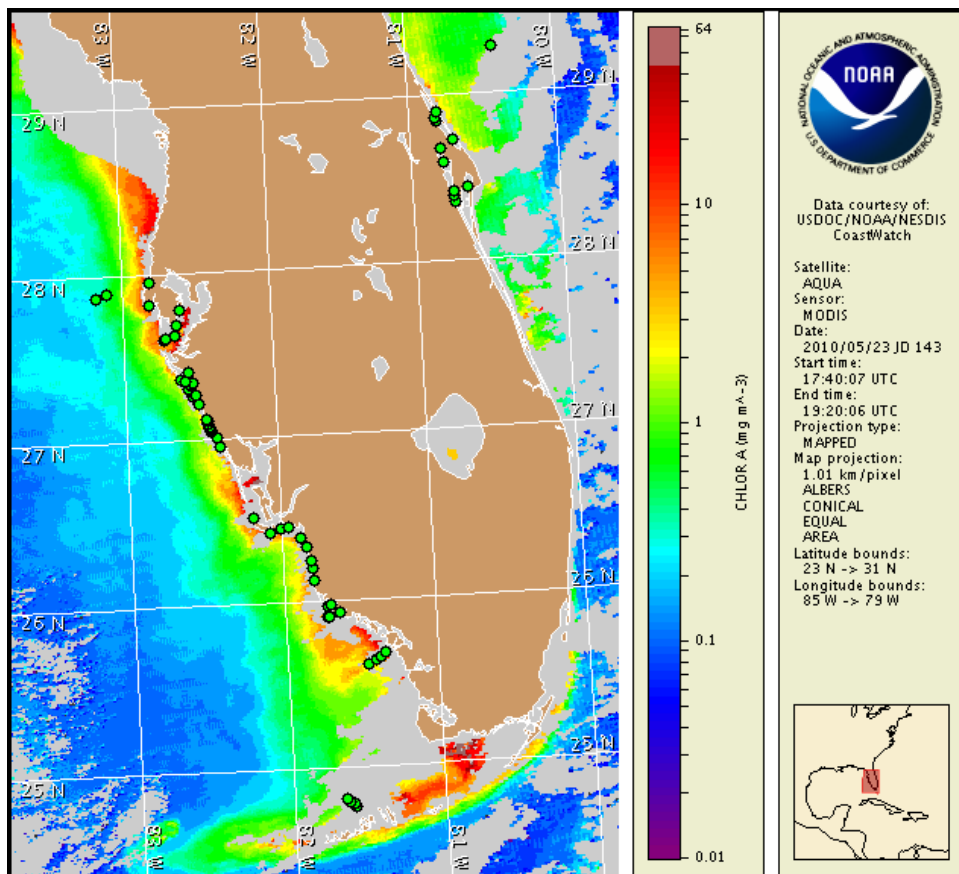
24 May 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: May 17, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from May 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 Monday, May 31.

Analysis

Due to the Federal Holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, June 1, 2010

Florida Keys: There are currently no reports of harmful algae in the Florida Keys. Recent sample results taken approximately 2.3 to 7.3 mi northwest of Sawyer Key all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present (MML 5/20). No additional samples were received for this region. Satellite imagery is obscured by clouds north of the lower Florida Keys; however, south of the lower Florida Keys chlorophyll levels are elevated (>1 µg/L). Also, west of the keys, there is an elevated to high (>6 µg/L) chlorophyll patch partially obscured by clouds. Visible portions of this patch are centered at approximately 24°33'47"N 81°58'9"W. This patch is unlikely to be a *K. brevis* bloom as indicated by samples taken over the past month.

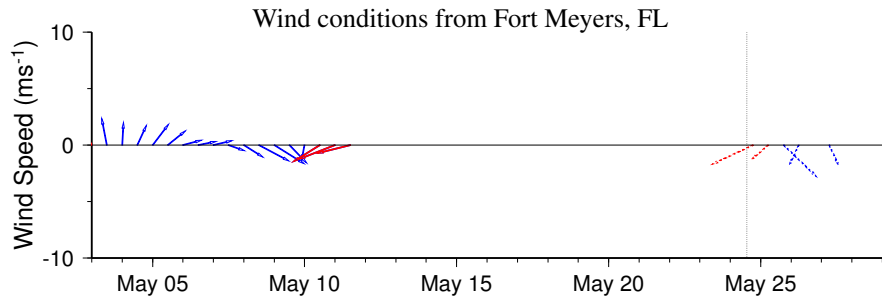
Southwest Florida: There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida. Two samples collected last week alongshore Sarasota and Charlotte counties had background concentrations of *K. brevis* (FWRI 5/17 & 5/18); while all remaining samples taken from offshore and onshore Pinellas and Monroe counties and onshore Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties all indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 5/15, 5/17-20). Satellite imagery indicates elevated to high chlorophyll levels (>3 µg/L) alongshore Pinellas, Manatee and Lee counties; although, it is obscured by clouds alongshore Sarasota and Collier counties. Elevated chlorophyll levels visible along much of the southwest Florida coastline are likely a result of mixed diatom blooms that continue to be reported in many southwest Florida counties. Harmful algal bloom formation is not expected at the coast through Monday, May 31.

SeaWiFS imagery is not currently being displayed on the bulletin. MODIS imagery is shown at left and on page 3.

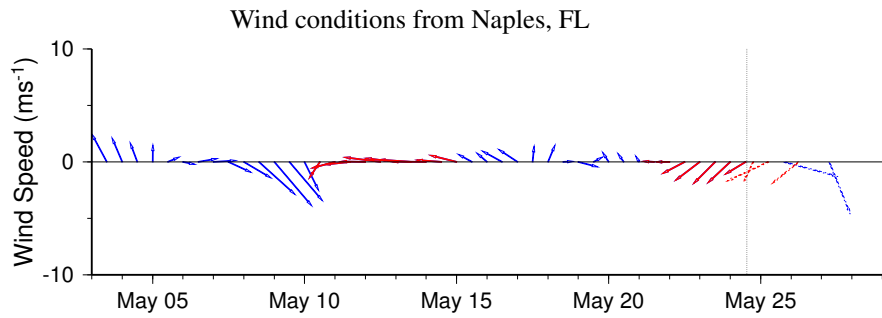
Urizar, Fenstermacher, Burrows

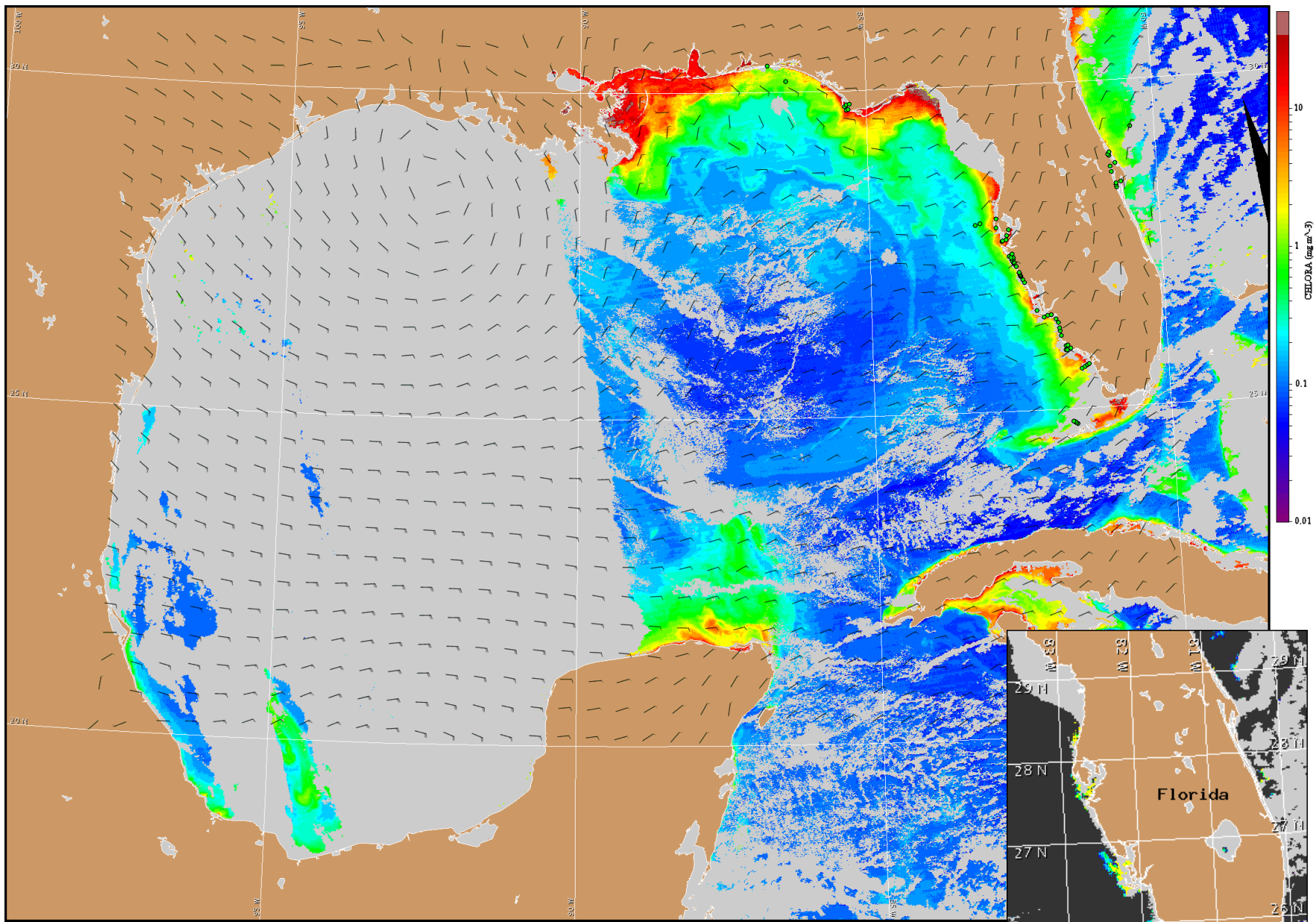
Wind Analysis

SW Florida: Easterly winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) today and Tuesday. Northeasterly winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) Tuesday night. Northwestern winds (10 kn) Wednesday. Northerly winds (10 kn) Wednesday night. Northwestern winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) Thursday and Friday.



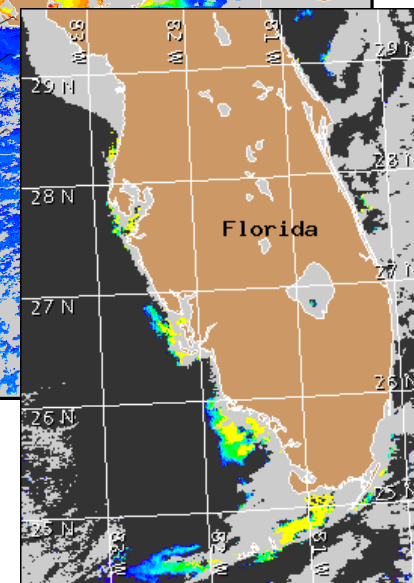
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 25, 2010 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from May 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).