

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

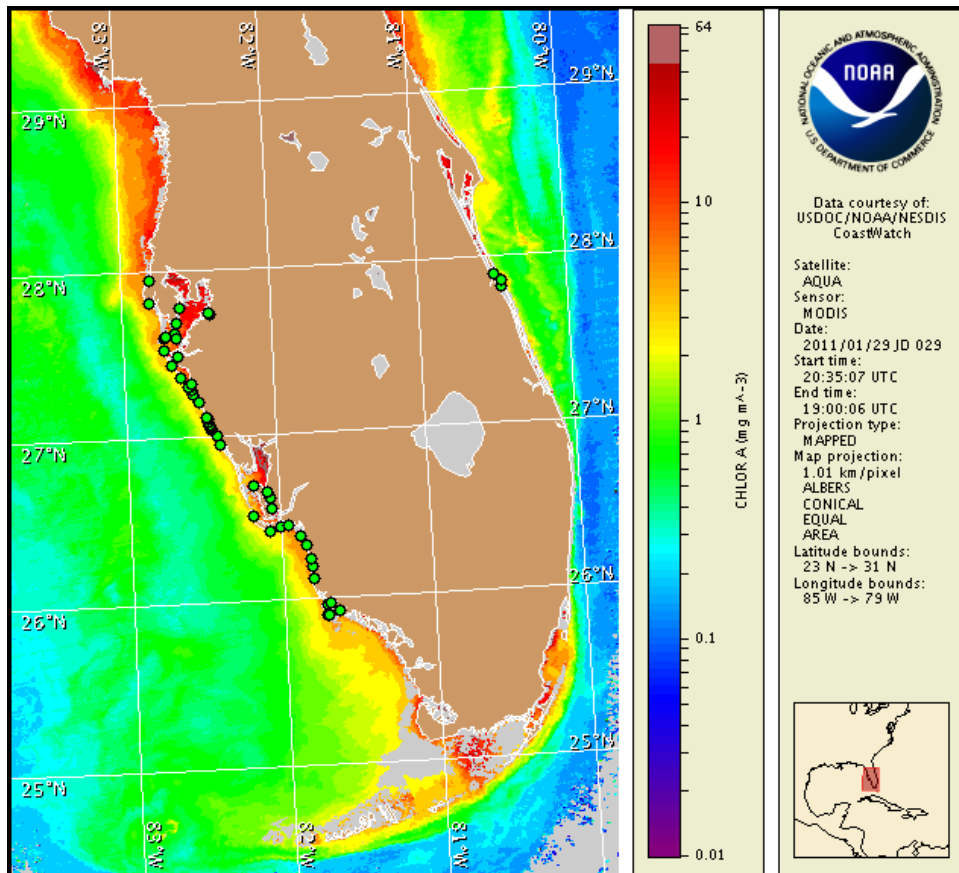
31 January 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: January 24, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from January 24 to 27 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 Sunday, February 6.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. *Karenia brevis* was not identified in water samples collected last week alongshore Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties (CCPCPD, FWRI, MML, SCHD; 1/24-28).

An elevated chlorophyll feature ($3\text{-}5\ \mu\text{g/L}$) became visible in MODIS imagery on 1/29 (shown left) approximately 1-15 miles offshore southern Lee and northern Collier County. This feature touches the coast just south of the Lee and Collier County border and extends mainly offshore to the south as far as $26^{\circ}12'27''\text{N}$ $81^{\circ}53'54''\text{W}$. Discolored blue/gray water and red drift algae were reported by LCEL at the coast near the northern tip of this feature on 1/26, while non-toxic algal blooms were reported to be at or below 'low' concentrations alongshore Collier County earlier last week (FWRI, 1/24). Sampling is recommended. Non-toxic algal blooms also continued to be reported last week in northern Pinellas, southern Sarasota, and Manatee counties, in addition to the southern Charlotte Harbor, Matlacha Pass and Sanibel Island regions of northern to central Lee County, the Mira Bay region of Hillsborough County, and in Tampa Bay regions of south-eastern Pinellas County. Elevated chlorophyll levels visible along much of the coast and within the bay and sound regions is likely a result of these non-toxic blooms.

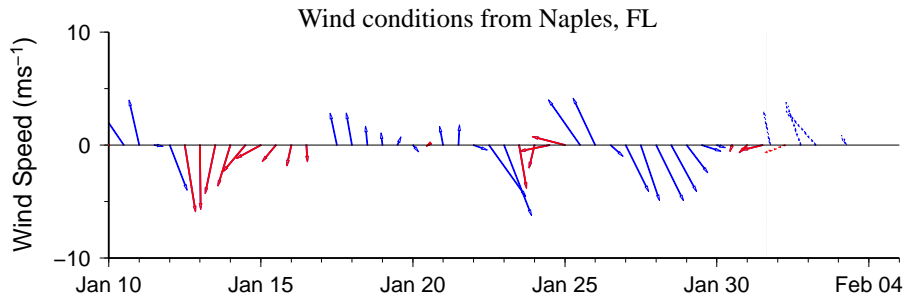
Variable east to south winds expected throughout the week will minimize the potential for bloom formation this week.

Note: SeaWiFS imagery is presently unavailable for analysis, MODIS imagery is shown at left and on page 3.

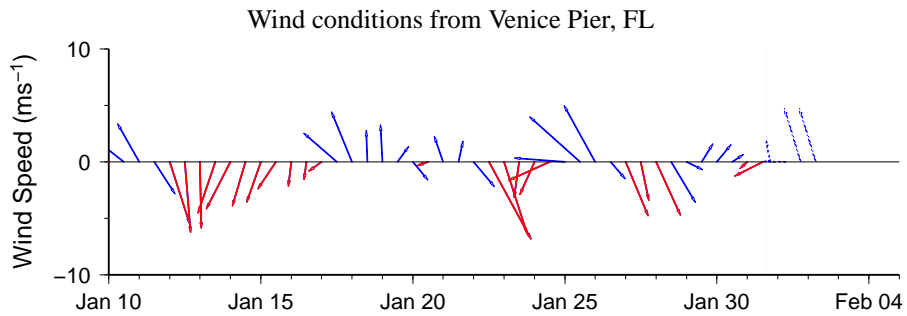
-Fisher, Yang, Kavanaugh

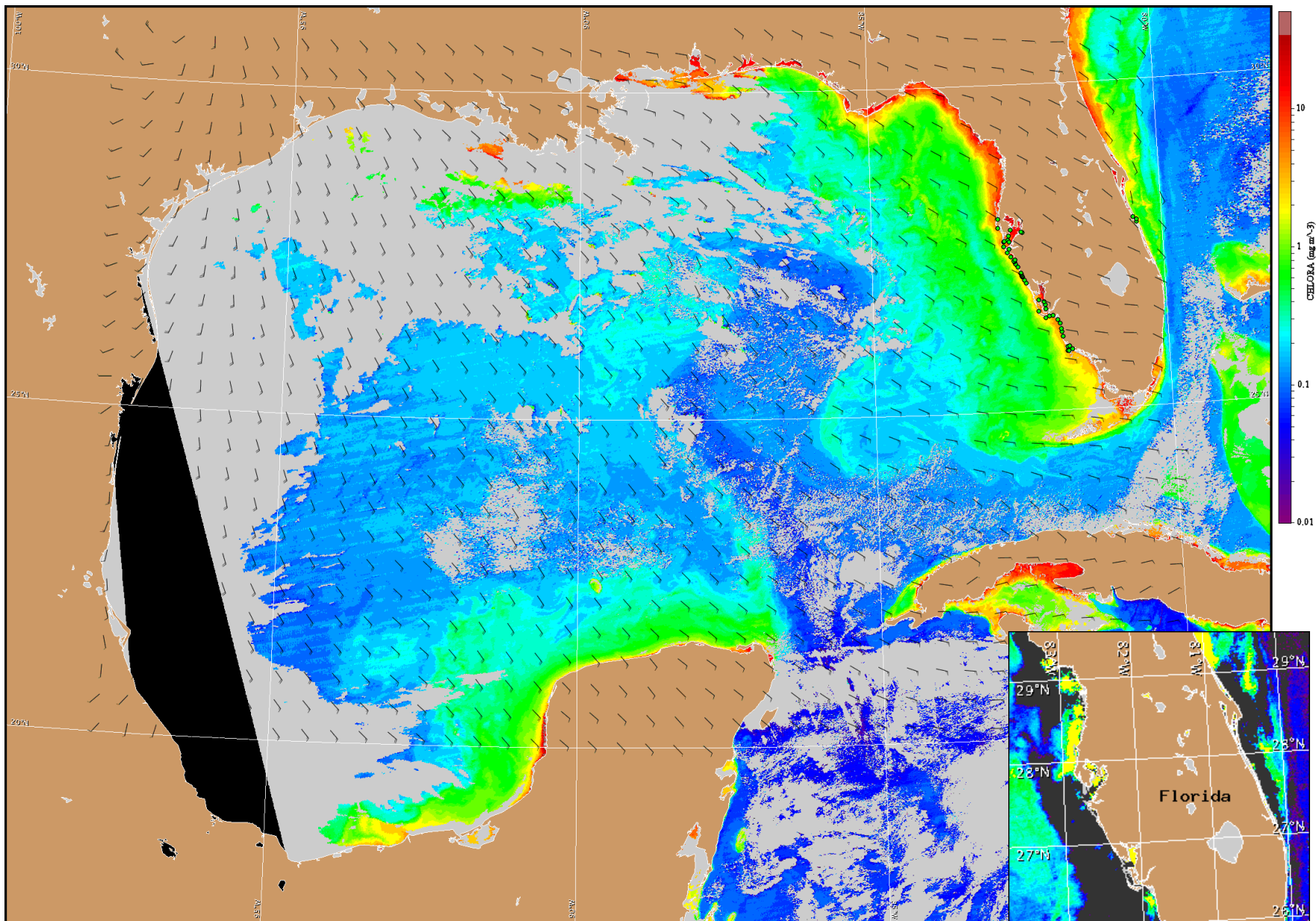
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: East to southeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) today and tonight. Southeast winds (15kn, 8m/s) Tuesday, becoming south Tuesday night. South to west winds (15kn) Wednesday, becoming north to northeast Wednesday night. East to northeast winds (15kn) Thursday, becoming east Thursday night. South to southeast winds (15kn) 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 February 1, 2011 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from January 24 to 27 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).