Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

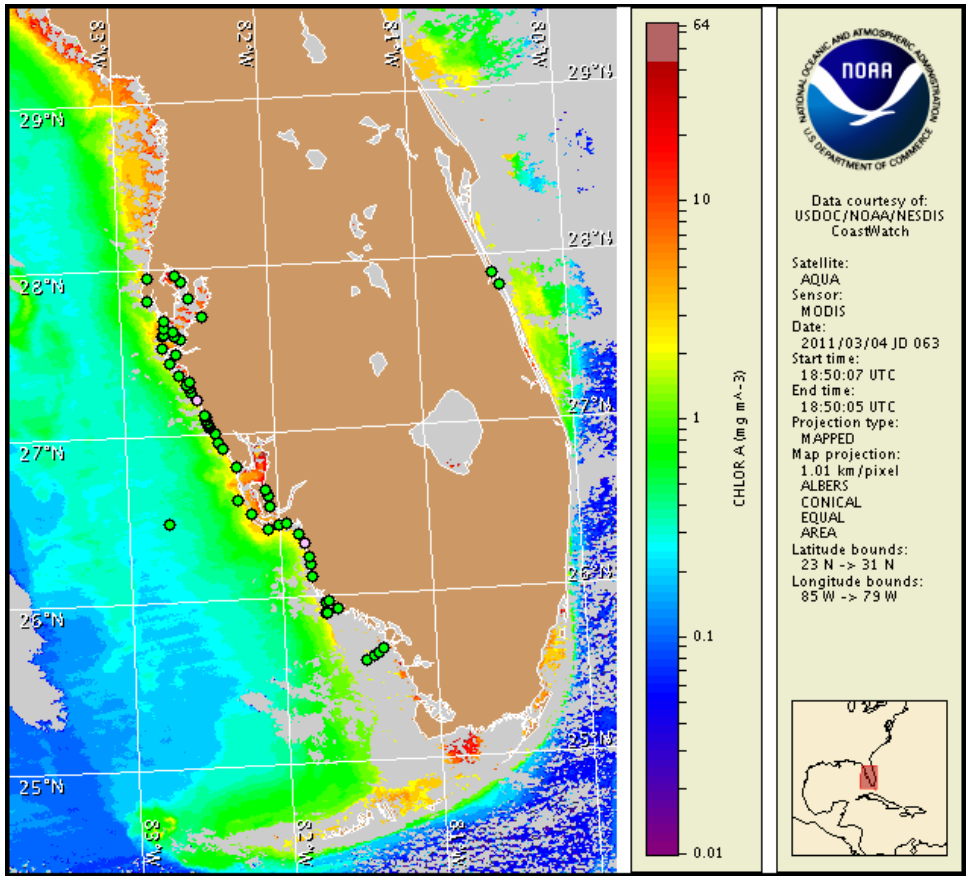
7 March 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: February 28, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 27 to March 3 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

Conditions Report

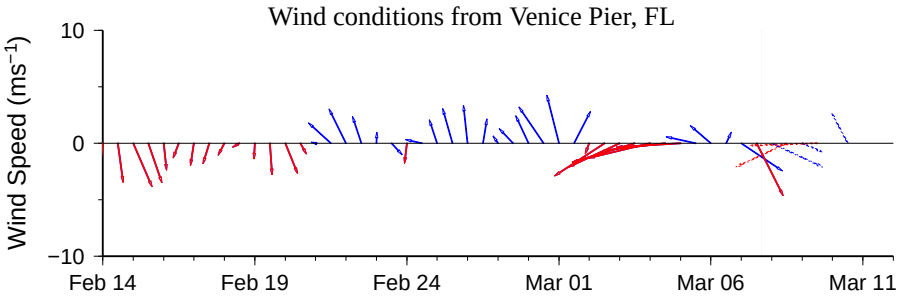
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, March 13.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. *Karenia brevis* was not identified in samples collected last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to northern Monroe County and the Florida Keys or offshore of Lee and Monroe counties (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 2/28-3/4). Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified in 2 samples collected alongshore Sarasota and Lee counties (SCHD, FWRI; 2/28, 3/2).

Chlorophyll levels continue to be slightly elevated (up to 4 μ/L) along the southwest Florida coastline from Pinellas to northern Collier County. Elevated chlorophyll at the coast is likely the result of non-toxic diatom blooms that continue to be reported along southwest Florida. Imagery in the Florida Keys continues to be cloud-covered, limiting analysis; however, recent samples indicate no *K. brevis* is present. Conditions are not favorable for bloom formation this week.

Burrows, Fisher

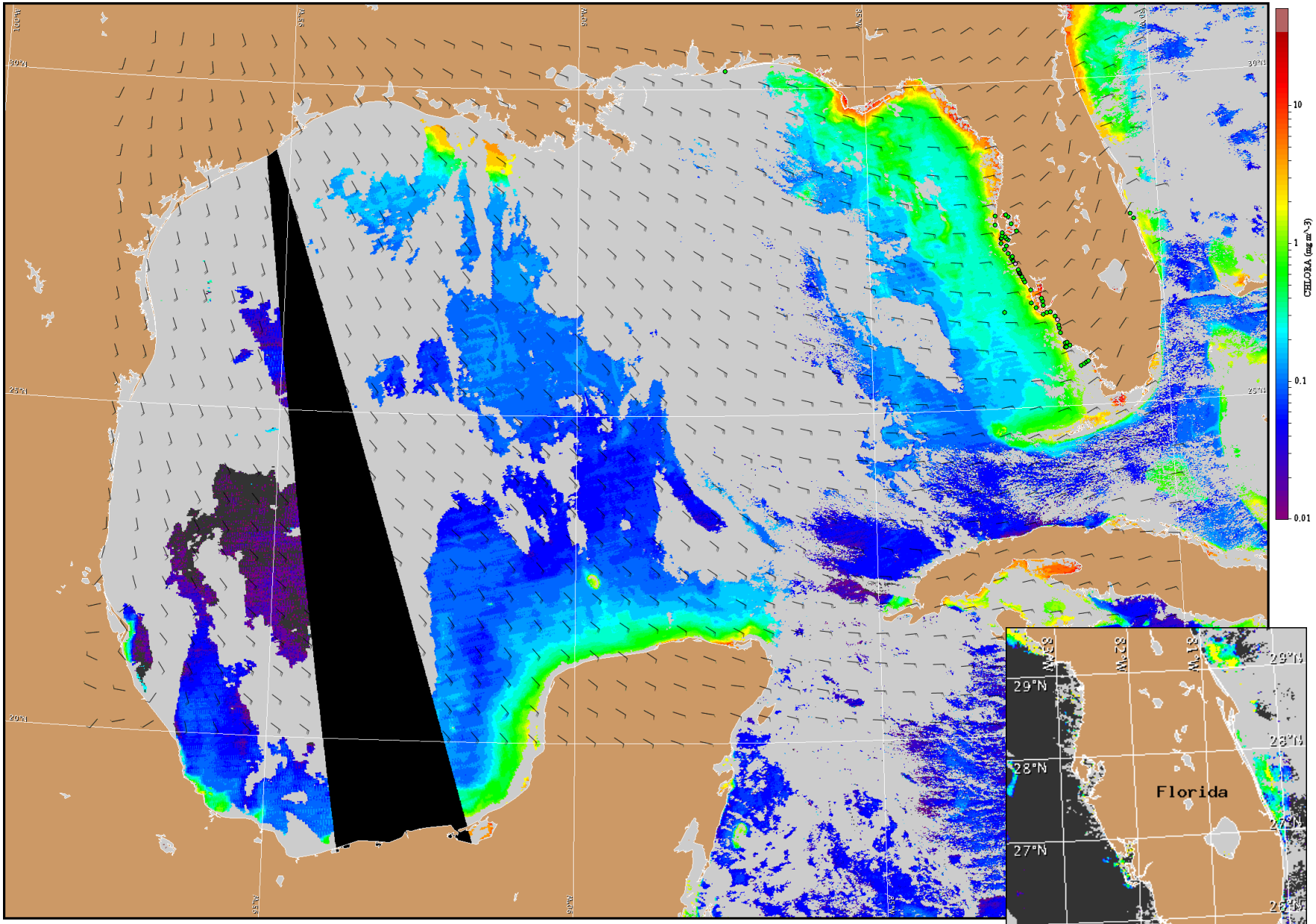


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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

Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: North winds becoming northeast this afternoon (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s). Tuesday east winds (10-15 kn) becoming north in the afternoon and east winds Tuesday night (15 kn, 8 m/s). Southeast winds (15 kn) Wednesday shifting southwest Wednesday night. Thursday northwest winds (20 kn, 10 m/s) becoming northerly Thursday night (10-20 kn, 5-10 m/s) through Friday (15 kn).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 8, 2011 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 27 to March 3 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).