Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

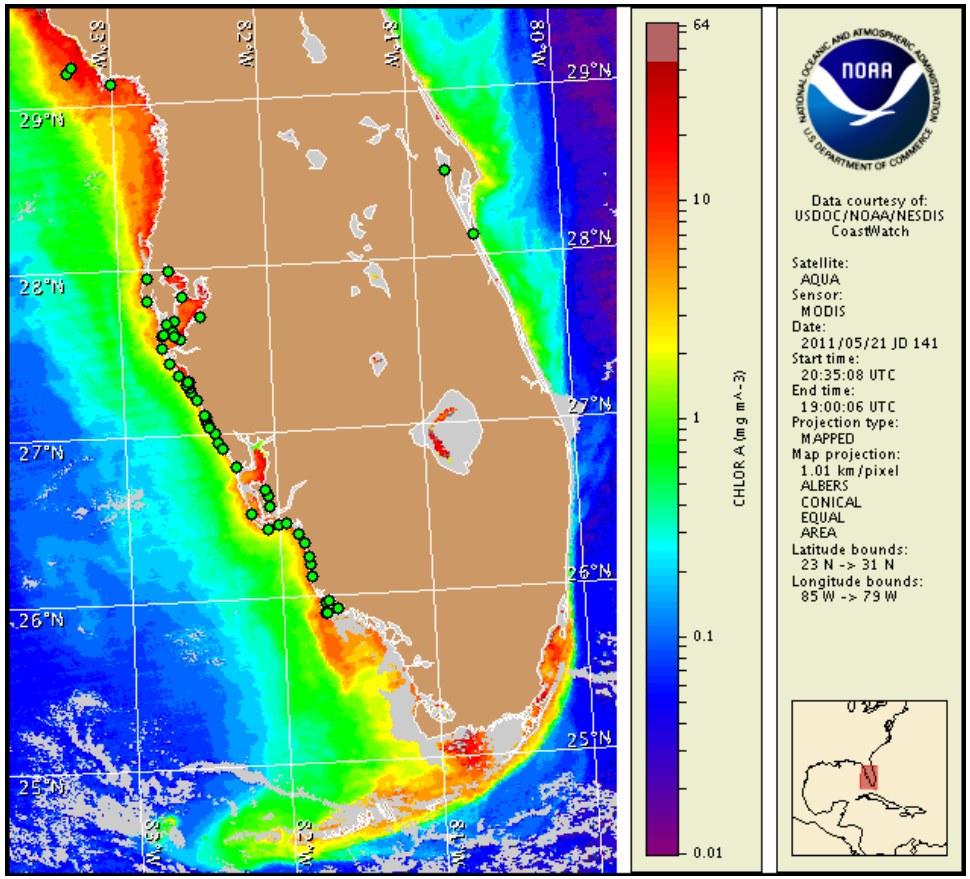
Monday, 23 May 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, May 16, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from May 13 to 19 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 HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

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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

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, May 29.

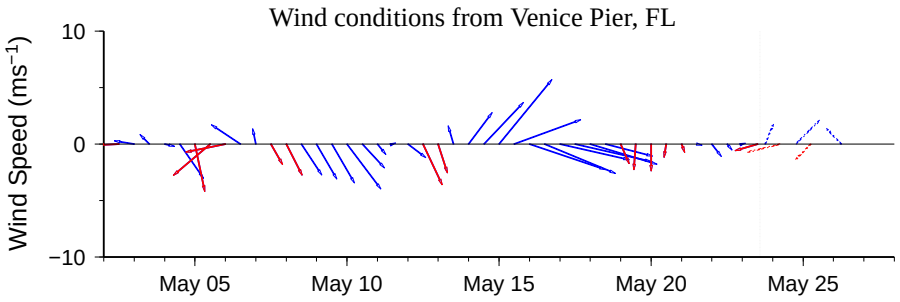
Analysis

Due to the upcoming Federal Holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, May 31.

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast along southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. Last week, 'very low a' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were identified in one sample taken at Bay Dock in Sarasota County (MML 5/19). *K. brevis* was not identified in samples collected elsewhere alongshore Pinellas to Collier counties (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 5/16-18). MODIS satellite imagery indicates that over the past week, chlorophyll levels have been consistently elevated (2-10 μg/L) at the coast throughout southwest Florida including the Florida Keys. Elevated chlorophyll levels at the coast are likely the result of non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported along much of southwest Florida. Also over the past week, a large patch of elevated chlorophyll levels has been visible offshore central Collier County. The patch extends from 25° 56.4' N 81° 51.1' W southward to 25° 28.4' N 81° 34.6' W. This patch is also likely the result of non-toxic algal blooms. Reports of discolored water have been received from southern Lee County (FWRI 5/18).

Harmful algal bloom formation is not expected at the coast today through Sunday, May 29.

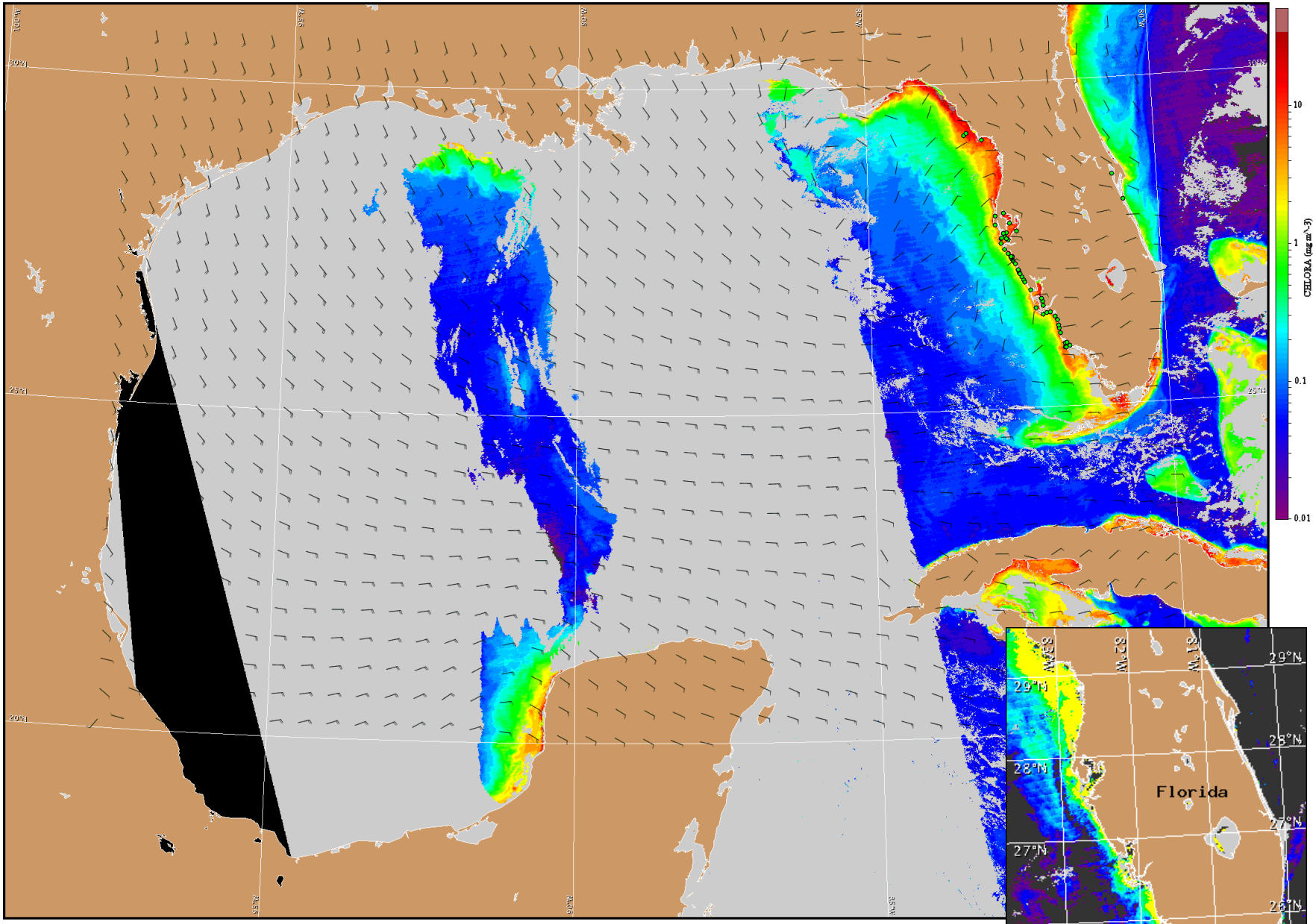
Urizar, Burrows



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: Southerly winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) today and westerly to northwesterly winds this afternoon and evening. Southeasterly winds (10 kn) tomorrow and westerly to northwesterly winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) tomorrow afternoon and evening. Southerly winds (10 kn) Wednesday and westerly to northwesterly winds (5 kn) Wednesday afternoon and evening. Southeasterly winds (10 kn) Thursday and westerly to northwesterly winds (10 kn) Thursday afternoon and evening. Southerly winds (10 kn) Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 24, 2011 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from May 13 to 19 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 HAB-OFS 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).