Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

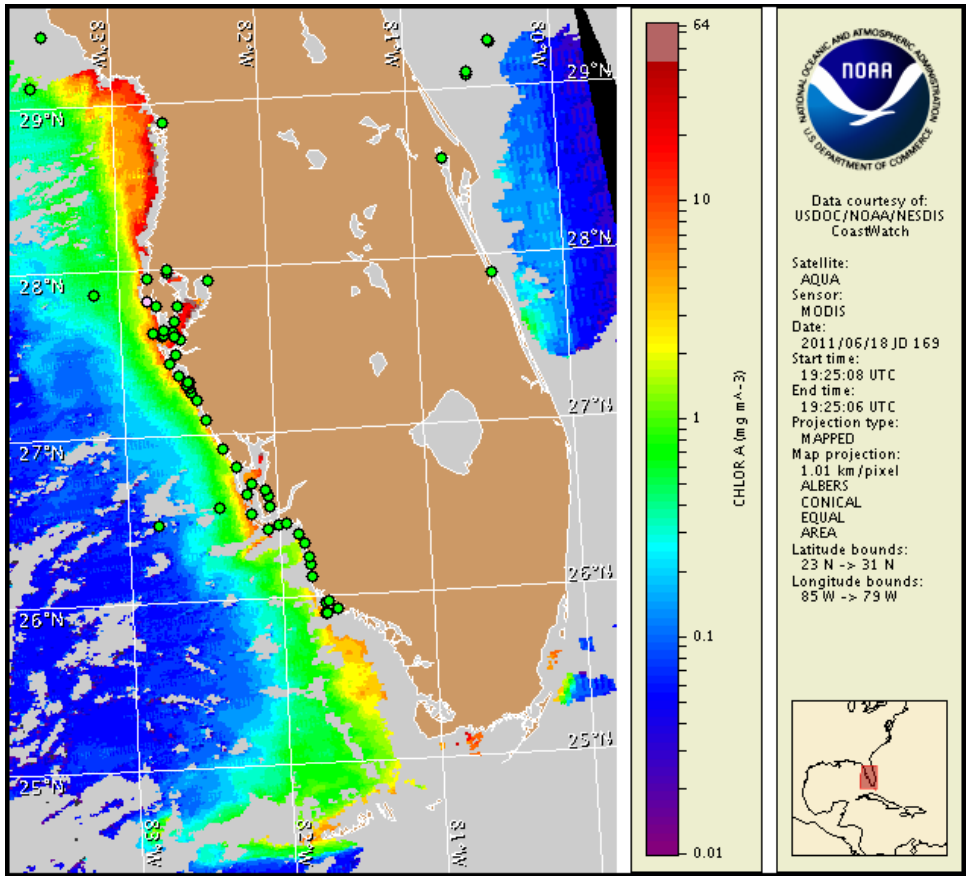
Monday, 20 June 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, June 13, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from June 10 to 16 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

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, June 26.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a *Karenia brevis* bloom in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified alongshore of central Sarasota and offshore and alongshore of central Pinellas counties (FWRI, MML; 6/13-6/16). *K. brevis* was not detected elsewhere in southwest Florida. Recent MODIS imagery continues to show elevated chlorophyll levels along much of the southwest Florida coastline, including alongshore of Manatee and Pinellas counties and Sanibel Island, Lee County. Elevated chlorophyll levels at the coast are likely the result of non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported in patches along southwest Florida (FWRI, 6/11-16).

Lee County Health Department has also issued warnings to avoid contact with the Caloosahatchee River and other fresh water systems due to the presence of potentially harmful Cyanobacteria concentrations (LCHD, 6/20).

Harmful algal bloom formation is not expected at the coast through Sunday, June 26.

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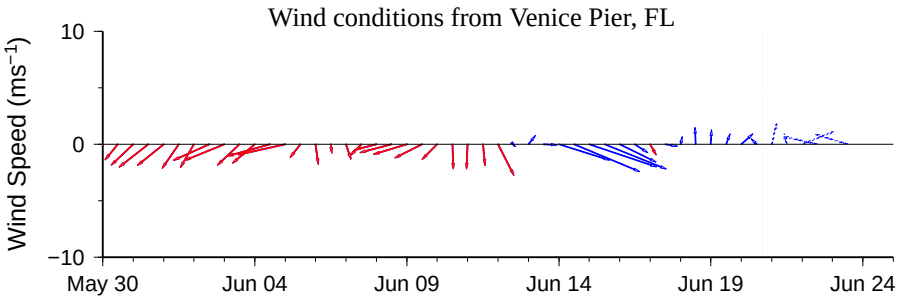
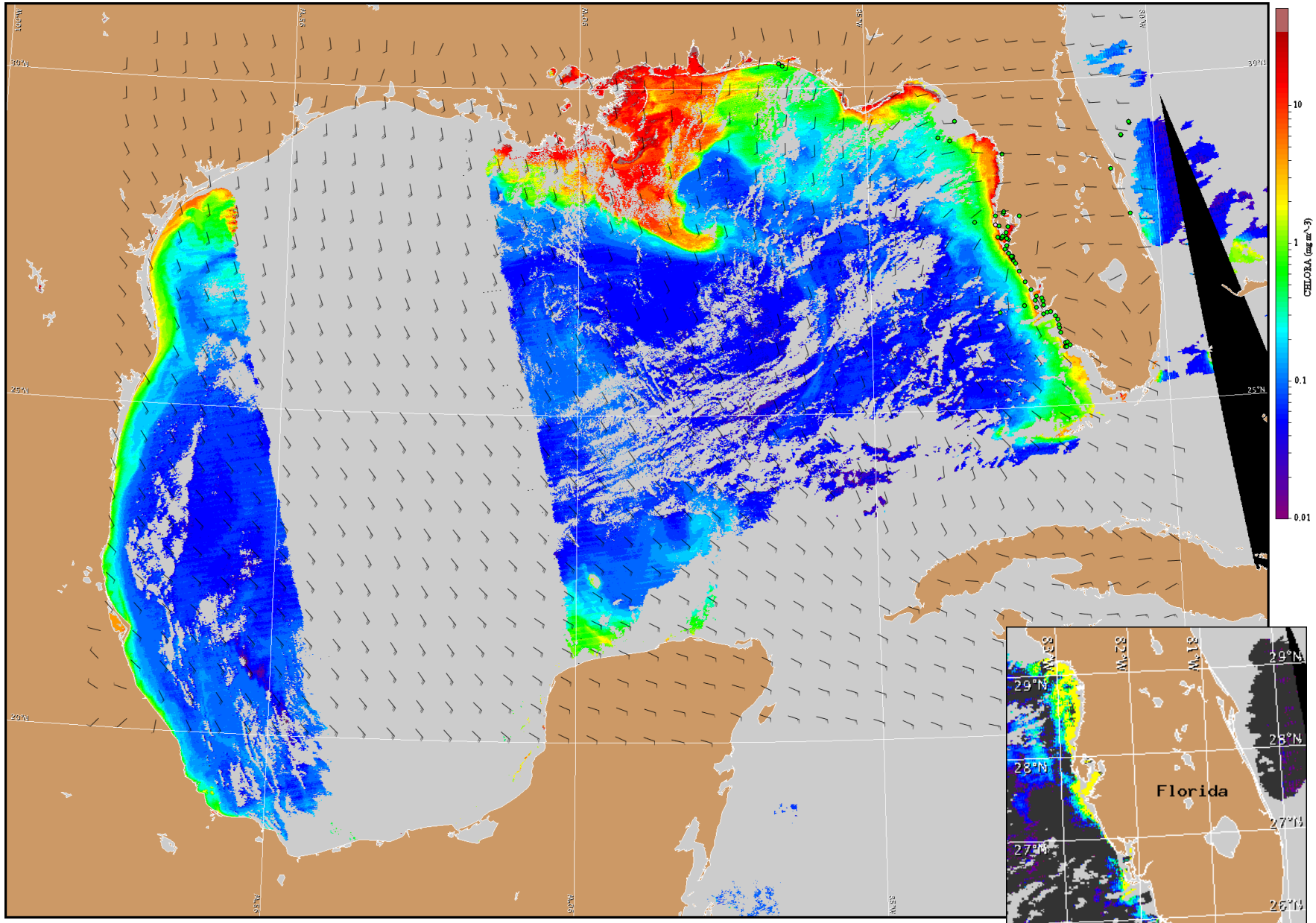


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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

Wind Analysis

SWFL: Southwesterlies today (5 kn; 3 m/s) and westerlies on Tuesday (10-15 kn; 5-8 m/s). Southwesterlies on Wednesday and Thursday and westerlies on Friday (10 kn; 5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for June 21, 2011 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from June 10 to 16 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).