



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

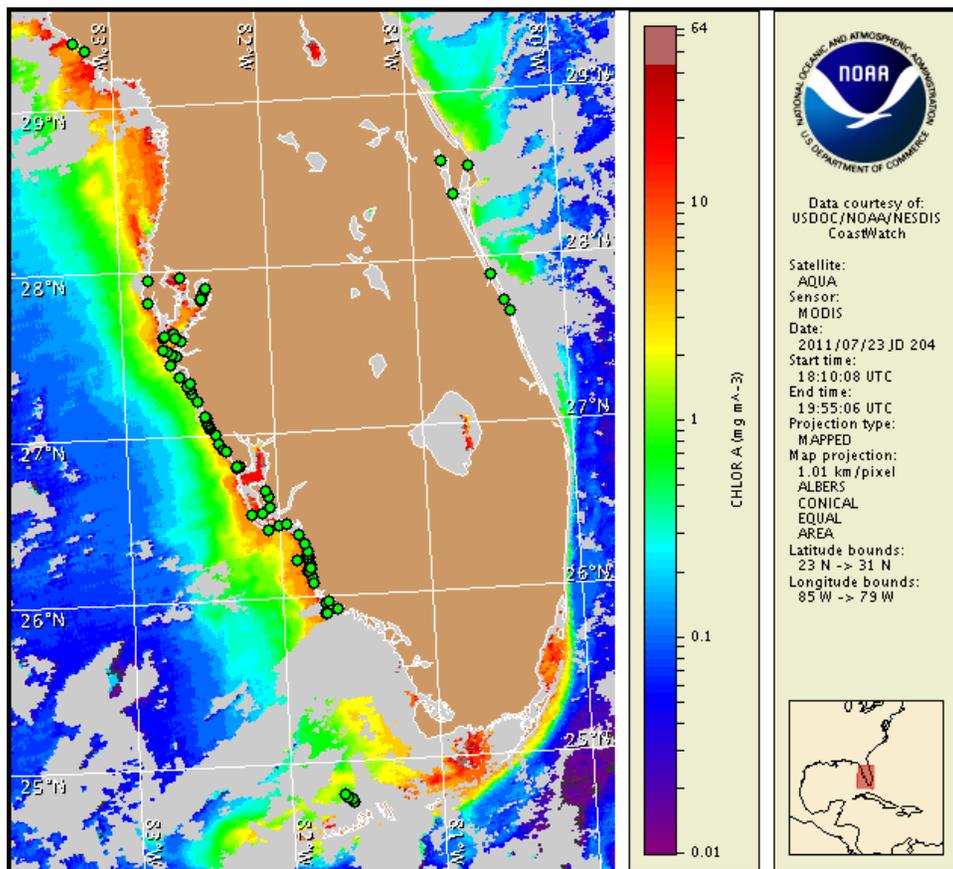
Monday, 25 July 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: March 24, 2008



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from July 15 to 21 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](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, July 31.

Discolored water and dead fish have been reported alongshore northern Collier County and in Old Tampa Bay from 7/18-7/20. These reports are associated with blooms of non-toxic algae and resulting low dissolved oxygen levels in the water. These non-toxic algae do not produce respiratory irritation impacts associated with the Florida red tide caused by *Karenia brevis*. The Collier County Pollution Control & Prevention Department recommends that people exercise caution when going to the beach as there are stressed and dying animals in the surf zone that could cause injury if they were to be stepped on.

## 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 to Collier counties, or offshore Lee and Collier counties and the Florida Keys (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 7/18-22).

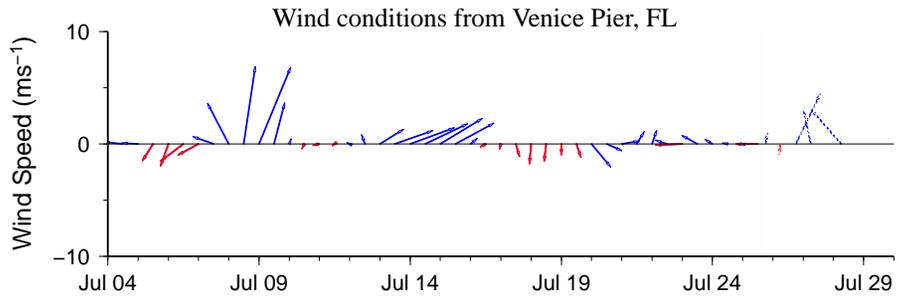
Discolored water and dead fish was reported alongshore northern Collier County from Vanderbilt Beach to Doctor's Pass, and near MacDill Air Force Base, Old Tampa Bay (CCPCPD, FWRI; 7/18, 7/20). They are associated with blooms of non-toxic algae and resulting low dissolved oxygen levels in the water (FWRI, CCPCPD; 7/20, 7/22).

Recent MODIS imagery (7/23-24) shows a band of elevated to high chlorophyll (2 to >10  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) alongshore from Pinellas County to Collier County, extending offshore up to 10 miles in southern Pinellas County and up to 12 miles in southern Lee County and northern Collier county. Elevated chlorophyll features visible at and near the coast are likely the result of non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported in several southwest Florida counties, including Lee and Collier counties (FWRI, 7/18-22).

Lee County Health Department continues to issue warnings to avoid contact with the Caloosahatchee River and other fresh water systems due to the presence of potentially harmful Cyanobacteria concentrations (LCHD, 7/25).

Harmful algal bloom formation is not expected at the coast through Sunday, July 31.

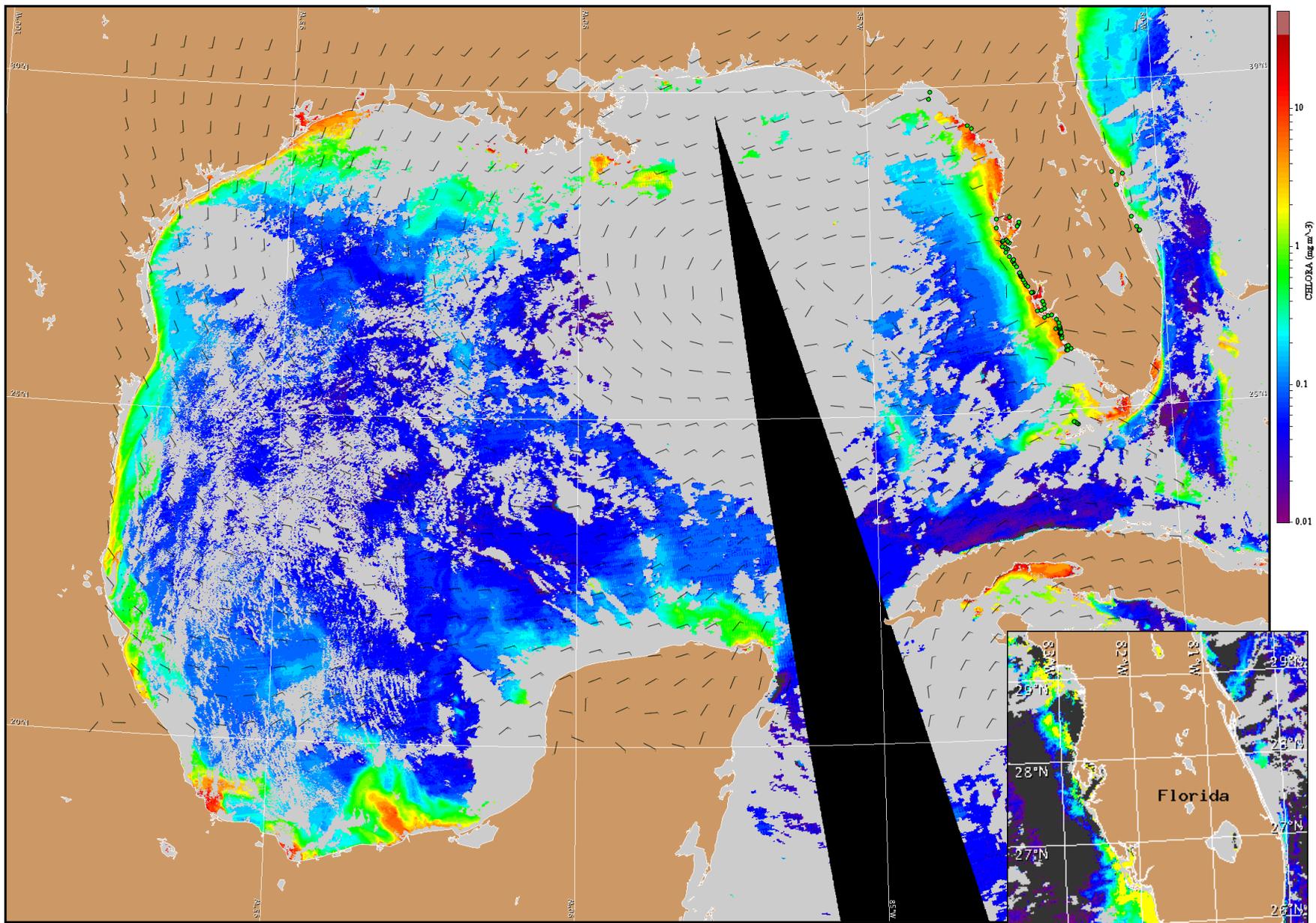
-Yang, Fenstermacher



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:** West winds (10kn, 5m/s) this afternoon. Southwest, south, or south-east winds (10kn) Tuesday through Thursday shifting east (5kn, 3m/s) later Thursday afternoon. East winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Thursday night and Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for July 26, 2011 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from July 15 to 21 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).