

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

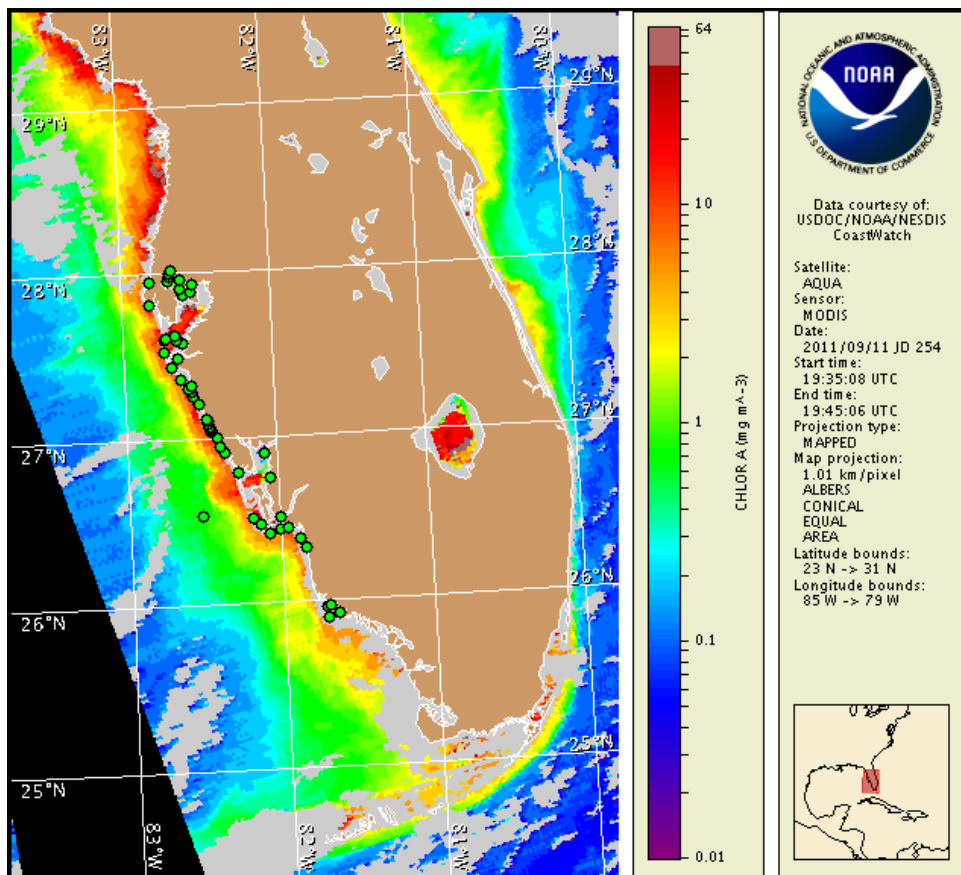
Monday, 12 September 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Tuesday, September 6, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 3 to 8 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/habofs_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. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, September 18.

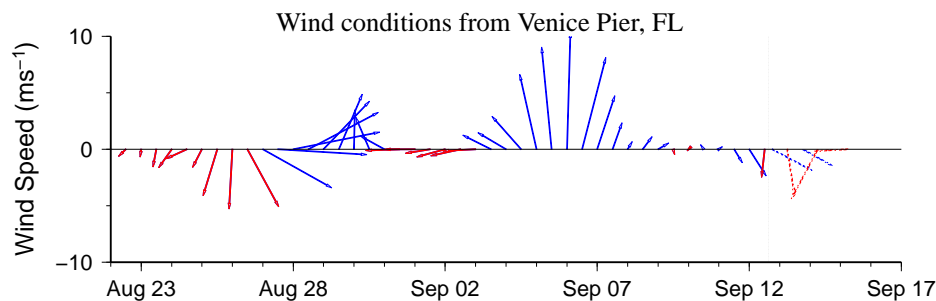
Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom in southwest Florida. Background concentrations of *Karenia brevis* were identified alongshore Pinellas and Sarasota Counties in addition to a very low concentrations alongshore of Sarasota County (MML, FWRI; 9/6-8). *K. brevis* was not identified in water samples collected last week alongshore of Hillsborough, Manatee, Charlotte, Lee and Collier Counties or offshore of Lee County (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 9/3-9). No recent samples have been taken in the Florida Keys.

While cloudy imagery over the last week limits long term analysis, recent imagery shows elevated to high chlorophyll (4 to >10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore from the panhandle to Lee County with weaker chlorophyll levels ($\sim 4 \mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore of Collier County. Elevated chlorophyll features currently visible at the coast are not indicative of *K. brevis* blooms, and are likely the result of non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported alongshore several counties in southwest Florida (FWRI; 9/5-9). A slightly elevated feature ($\sim 2 \mu\text{g/L}$) is located 20 miles offshore of Collier County, which may also be the result of non-toxic algal blooms.

Upwelling favorable north to northeast winds today until Friday may increase the potential for bloom formation at the coast this week.

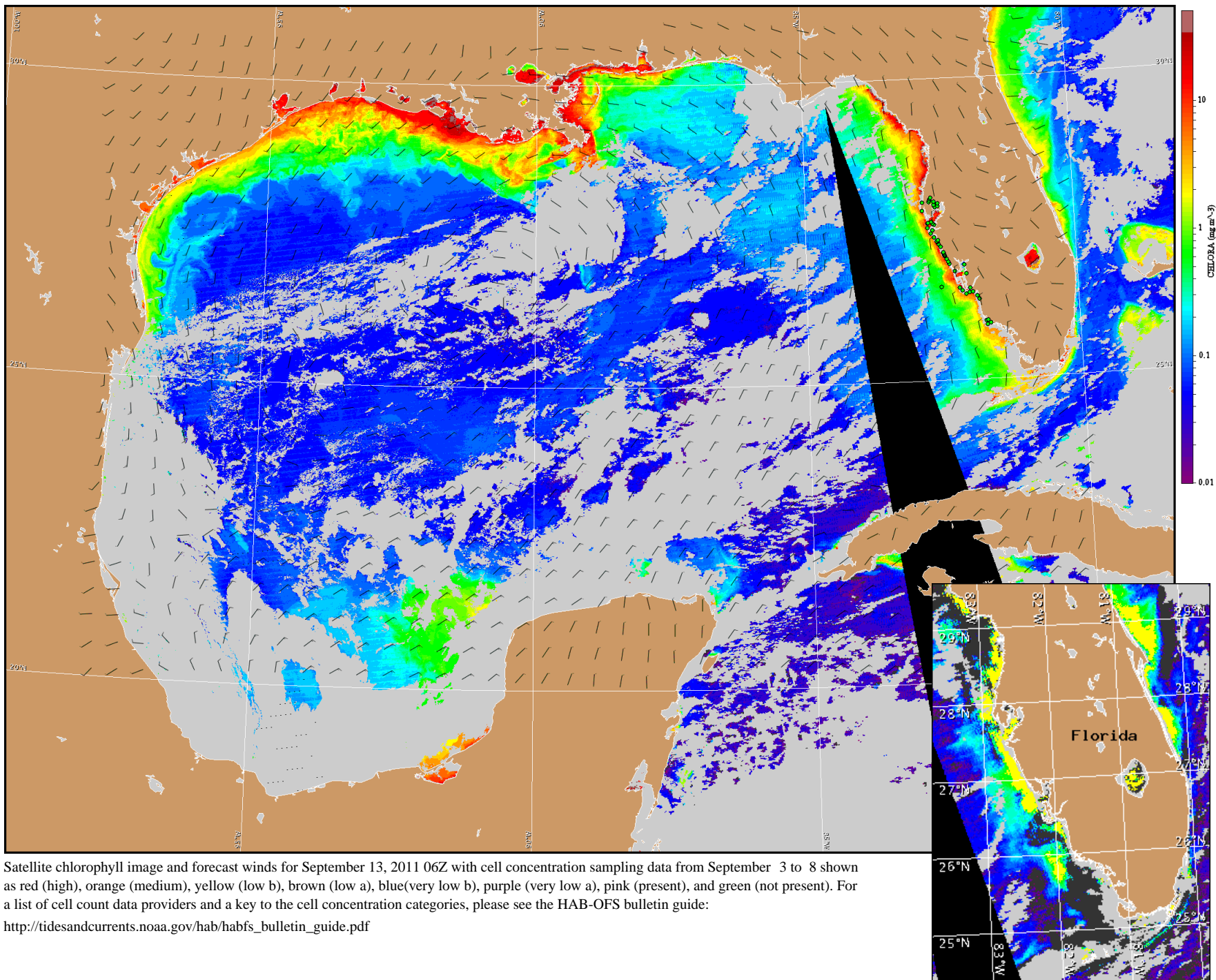
~Fenstermacher, Derner



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: Westerlies today followed by variable north to east winds tonight through Friday (5-10 kn; 3-5 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 13, 2011 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 3 to 8 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).