

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

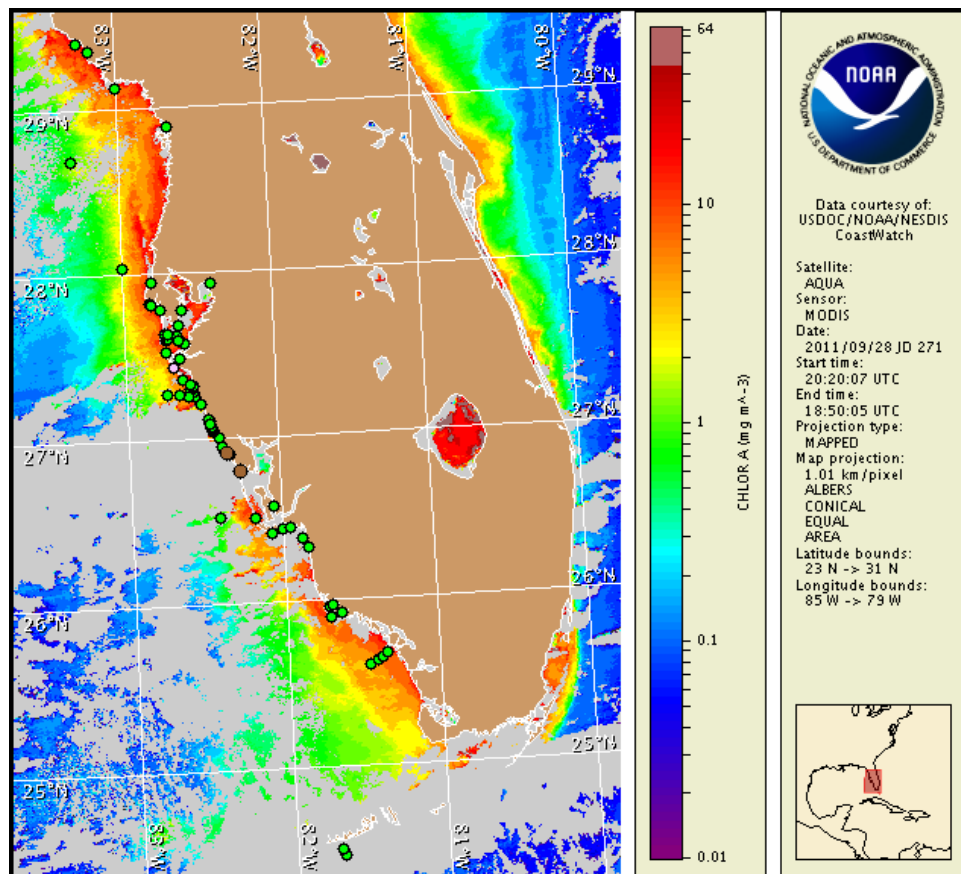
Thursday, 29 September 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Wednesday, September 28, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 19 to 28 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

A harmful algal bloom has been identified at the coast in southern Sarasota County and in Charlotte County. Today through Sunday, patchy very low impacts are possible in southern Sarasota County and no impacts are expected in Charlotte County. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday.

Analysis

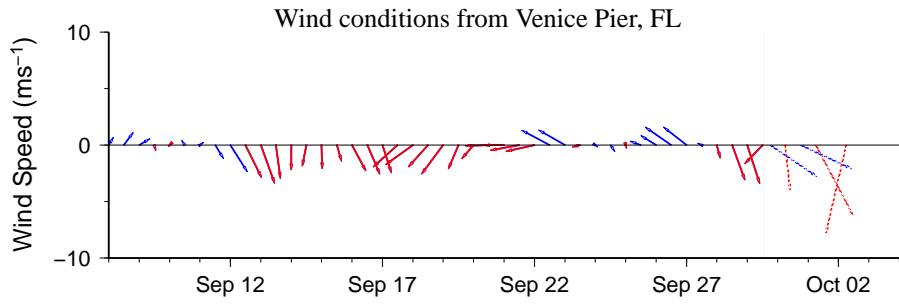
A harmful algal bloom has been identified at the coast in southern Sarasota County and in Charlotte County.

The most recent sample results from Charlotte County indicate Low a concentrations of *Karenia brevis* in Englewood Beach and Gasparilla Island (FWRI 9/27). In Manatee County, background concentrations of *K. brevis* were found in Longboat Pass (FWRI 9/27). All other samples collected from offshore and onshore Pinellas, Sarasota and Lee counties and from onshore Manatee, Charlotte, and Monroe counties indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI 9/20-9/27).

Recent MODIS satellite imagery is obscured by clouds in northern Lee County, in the Florida Keys, and in the region alongshore and offshore southern Sarasota County and Charlotte County where the bloom has been identified. Where visible, chlorophyll levels range from approximately 4.5 to 10 $\mu\text{g/L}$. These elevated chlorophyll levels are most likely due to the non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported in several counties in southwest Florida (FWRI 9/20-9/27).

Forecasted winds today through Sunday will reduce the potential for impacts at the coast. Conditions are favorable for bloom intensification and further bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday.

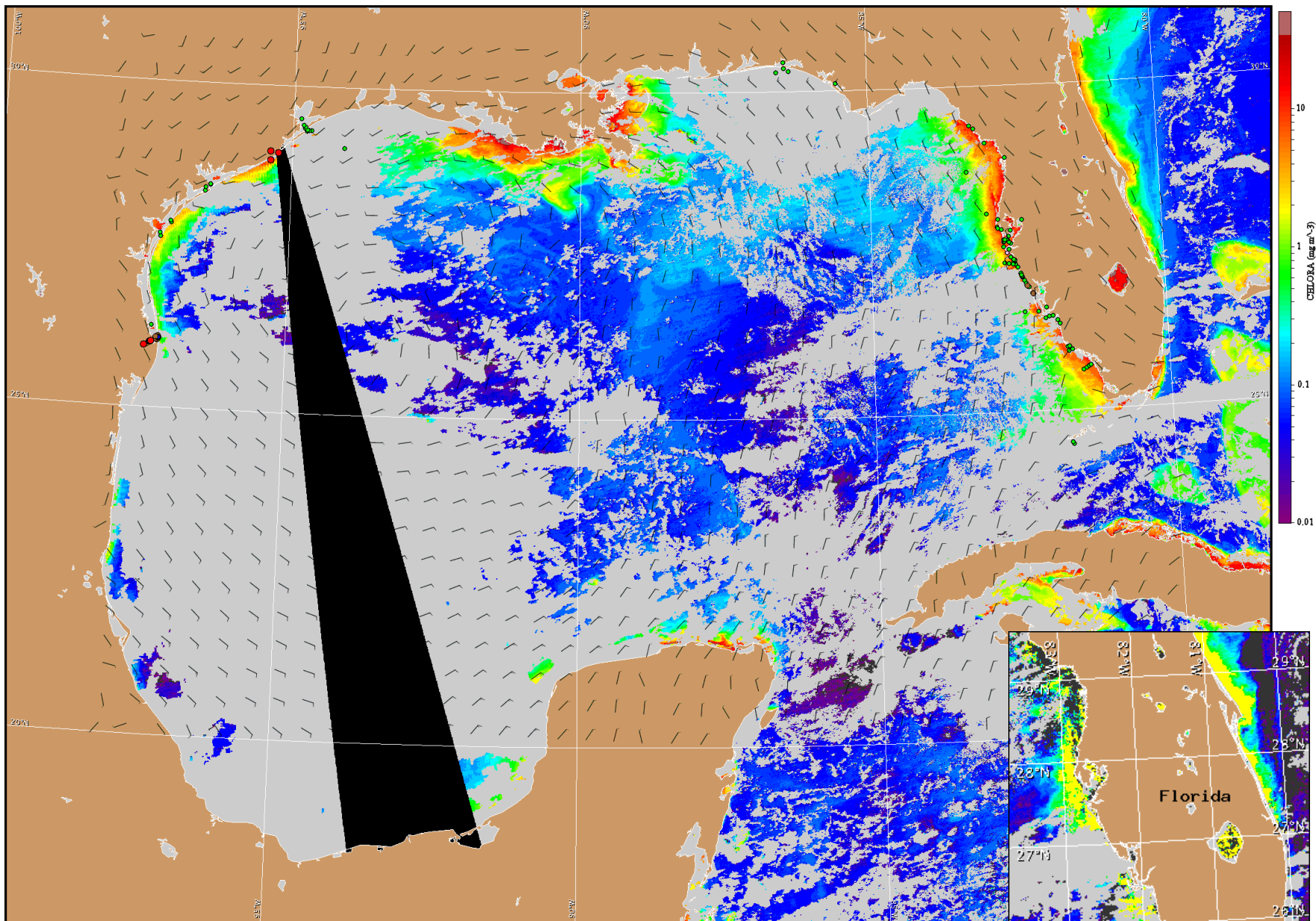
Urizar, Kavanaugh



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).

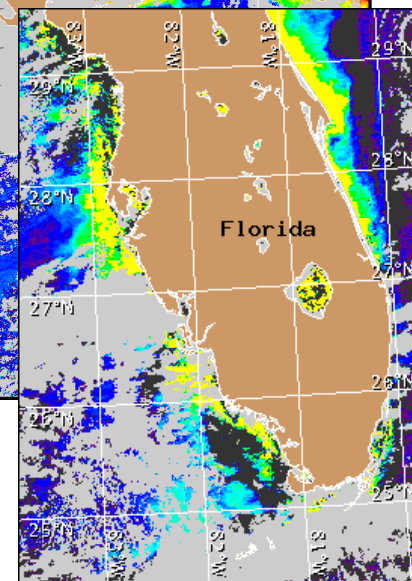
Wind Analysis

SW Florida: Northwestern to northerly winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) tonight and tomorrow. Northerly to northeasterly winds (15 kn) Saturday. Northeasterly winds (15 kn) Sunday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 30, 2011 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 19 to 28 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).