



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

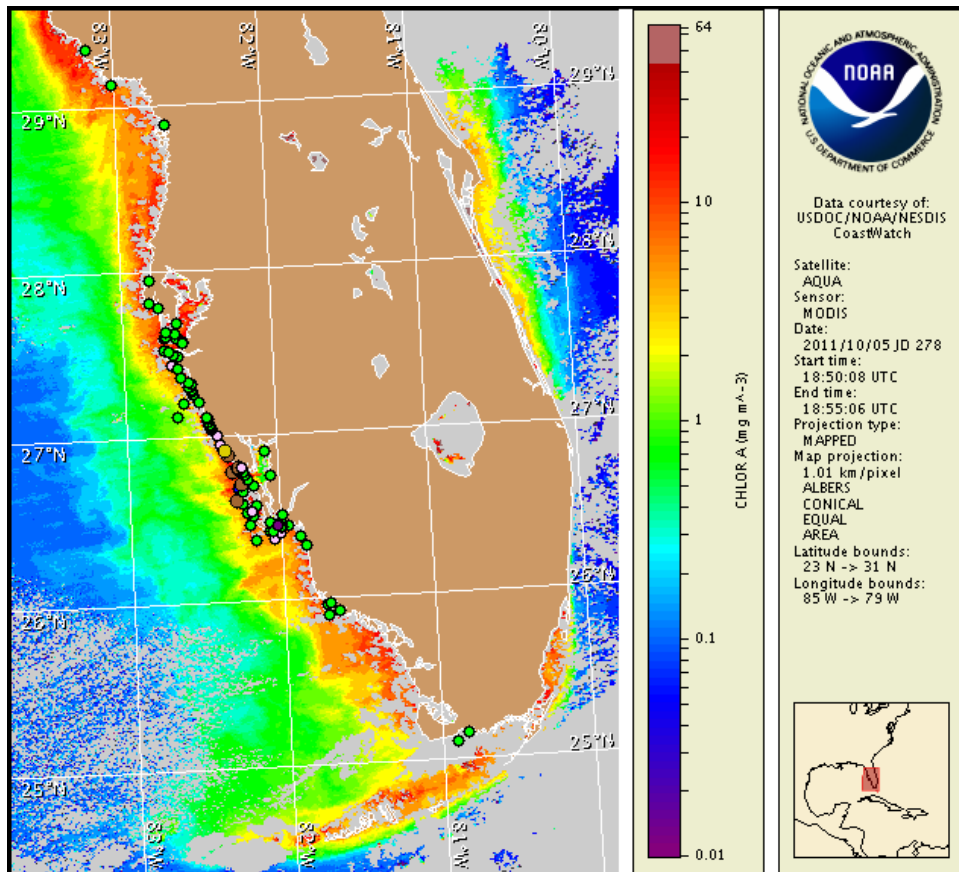
Thursday, 06 October 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, October 3, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 26 to October 5 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 is present in southern Sarasota, Charlotte, and Lee counties. Harmful algae is present in central Lee County. Today through Sunday, patchy low impacts are possible in southern Sarasota County, and patchy very low impacts are possible in Charlotte and northern Lee counties. No impacts are expected elsewhere along-shore southwest Florida today through Sunday, October 9.

Analysis

The harmful algal bloom first identified early last week continues along- and offshore southern Sarasota and Charlotte counties, and has expanded into northern Lee County. Harmful algae is present in central Lee County.

Recent sampling results show low a to low b concentrations of *Karenia brevis* alongshore Charlotte County at Gasparilla Island, Stump Pass, and Englewood Beach. Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified at Gasparilla Sound (FWRI; 10/4). In Lee County, two low a *K. Brevis* concentrations were identified at Boca Grande Pass and 4.28 miles west of Caya Costa (FWRI; 10/2-10/4), one very low a concentration was collected at the Sanibel Causeway (FWRI; 10/5), and background concentrations were identified at Redfish Pass (FWRI; 9/30). Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were also detected at Sarasota Big Pass, Sarasota County (FWRI; 10/3).

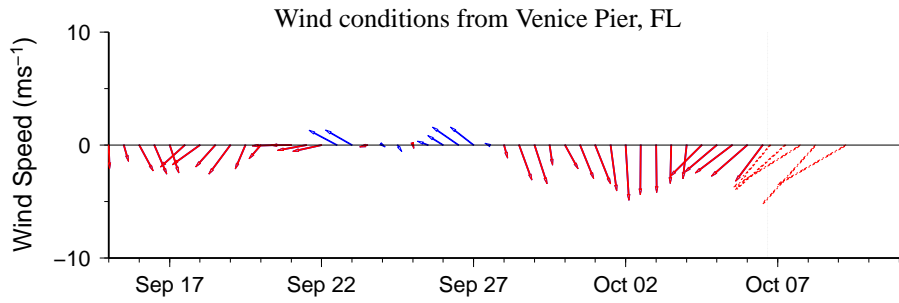
An elevated to very high chlorophyll (6 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible alongshore northern Lee County extending approximately 1-6 miles offshore. Elevated to high chlorophyll (6-13 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible alongshore mid to southern Sarasota and Charlotte counties extending approximately 4-5 miles offshore. Much of the elevated chlorophyll may be due to non-toxic algal blooms that continue to be reported alongshore several counties in southwest Florida (FWRI; 10/1-10/4).

Forecasted winds today through Sunday will reduce the potential for impacts at the coast.

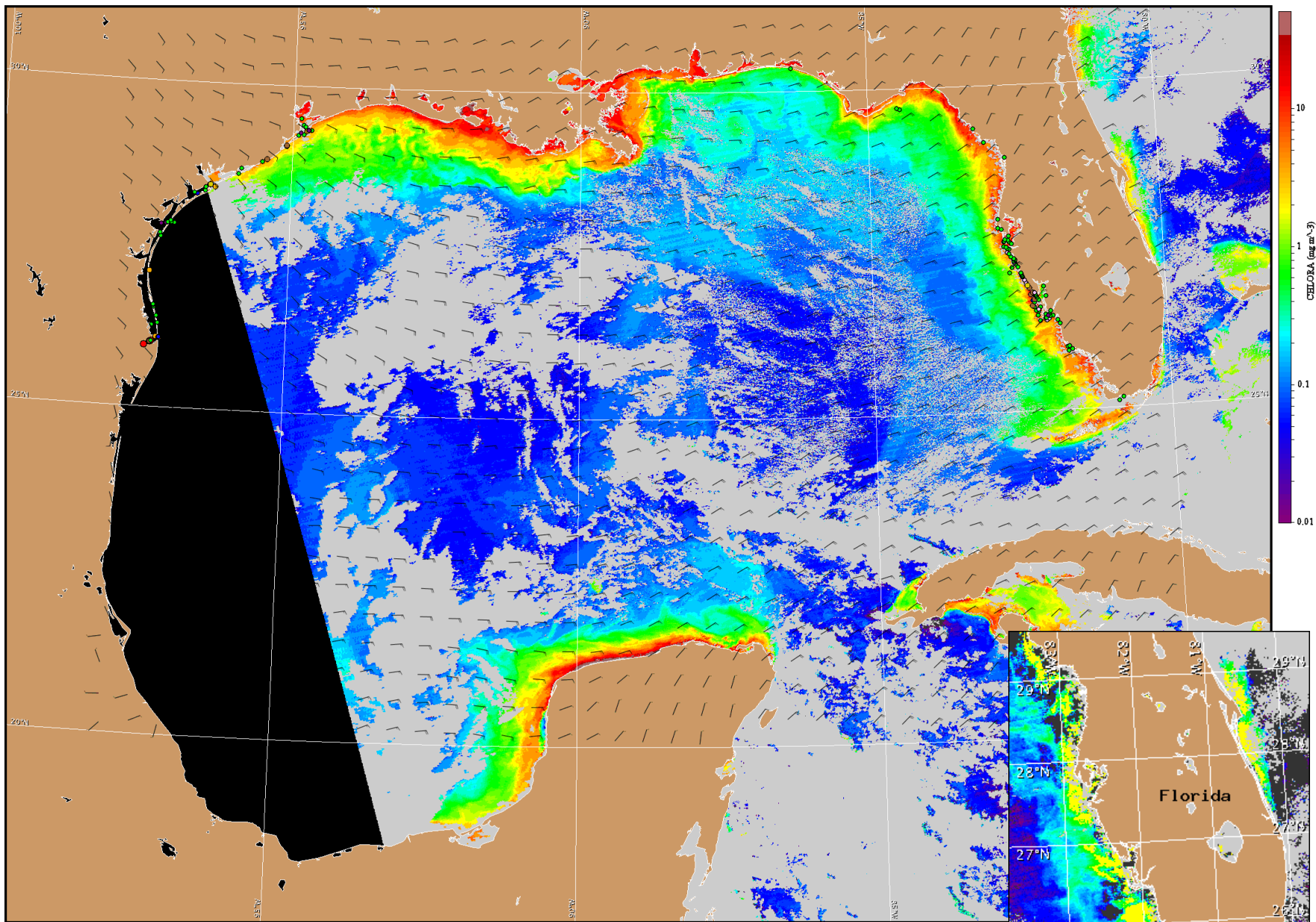
-Burrows, Derner

Wind Analysis

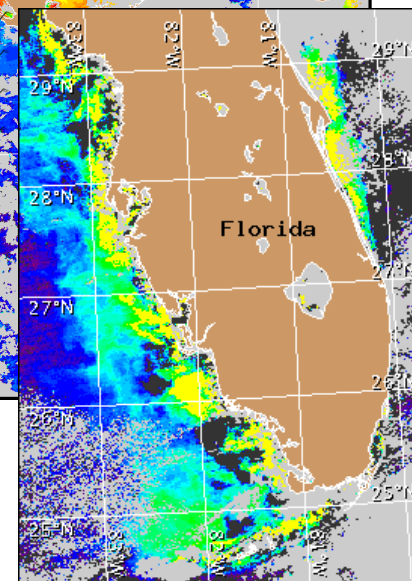
East to northeast winds 15-20 kn (8-10 m/s) today through Sunday.



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).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 7, 2011 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 26 to October 5 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



Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).