

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

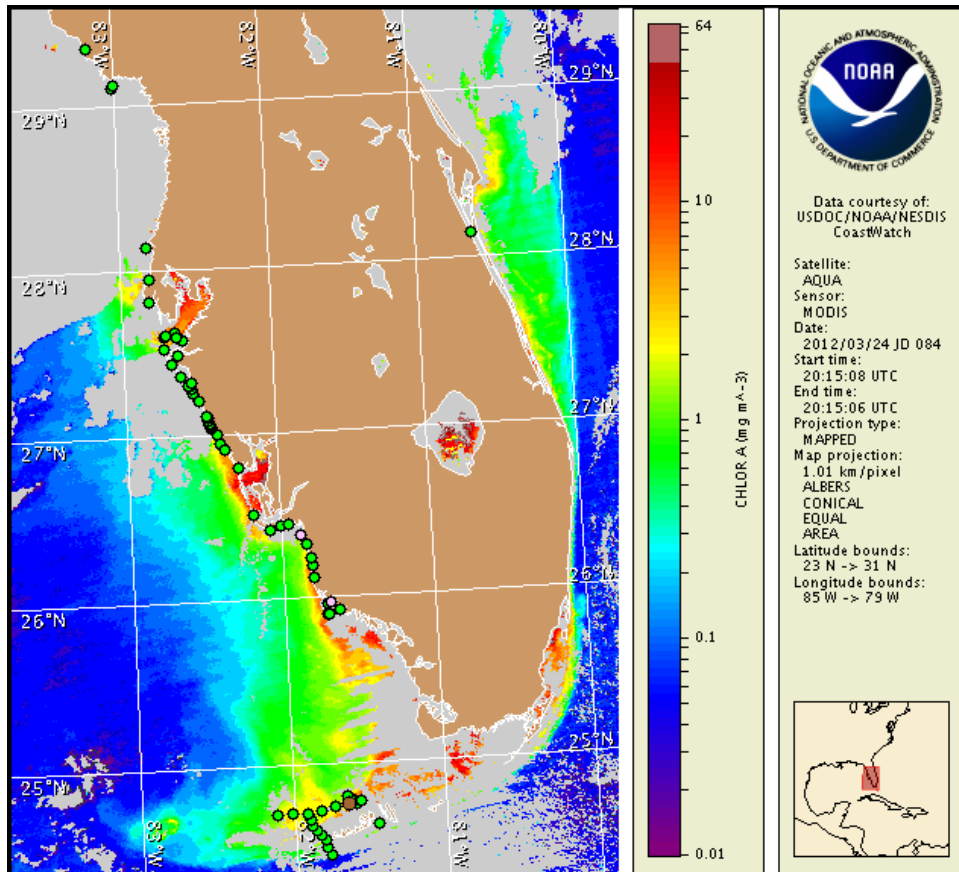
Monday, 26 March 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, March 22, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 16 to 24 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 patchy harmful algal bloom has been identified offshore in the Gulf side region of the Lower Florida Keys, with patchy low impacts possible today and Tuesday. A patchy harmful algal bloom was last identified alongshore and offshore Monroe County from the Pavilion Key region to western Cape Sable on March 1-2. No reports of impacts in association with this bloom have recently been reported, however, impacts remain possible in this region. No additional impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, March 28.

Analysis

Southwest Florida: A harmful algal bloom was last identified on March 1-2 alongshore Monroe County from Pavilion Key to Cape Sable. Recent sample information is presently unavailable for the coastal Monroe County region. MODIS imagery, although cloudy, suggests that the bloom may still be present alongshore and offshore Monroe County and west of Cape Sable. The elevated to high chlorophyll feature (~4 to >10 µg/L) remains visible alongshore southern Collier County and Monroe County (MODIS 3/23 image, not shown).

Samples collected alongshore from Pinellas to Collier counties indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, CCPCPD, SCHD; 3/19-23). Detailed sampling information can be obtained through FWRI at <http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/events/status/statewide/>. Elevated chlorophyll features are also visible alongshore southern Pinellas, Manatee, Charlotte, northern Lee and Collier counties. These features may be the result of non-harmful algal blooms or resuspended sediments, and are unlikely to contain *K. brevis*.

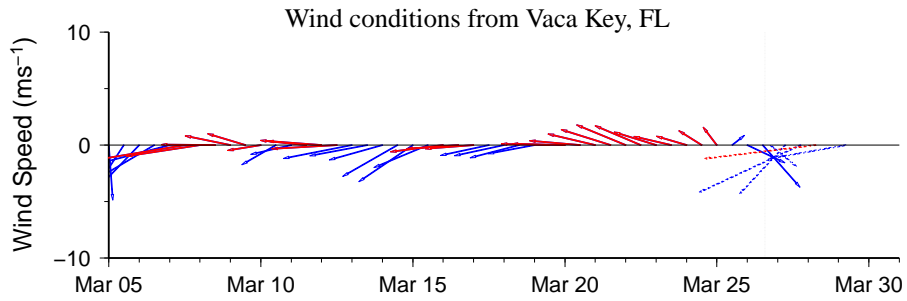
Florida Keys: Recent samples range from predominantly 'not present' throughout the region to one 'low a' concentration of *K. brevis* (3/24, MML) located 3.4 nm north of Marvin Key. While cloud cover limits analysis, patchy elevated chlorophyll features (2 to >10 µg/L) remain visible in recent MODIS imagery north of the Lower and Middle Keys. Continued westward transport of features in this region is possible through Wednesday. Continued sampling is recommended.

~Fenstermacher, Derner

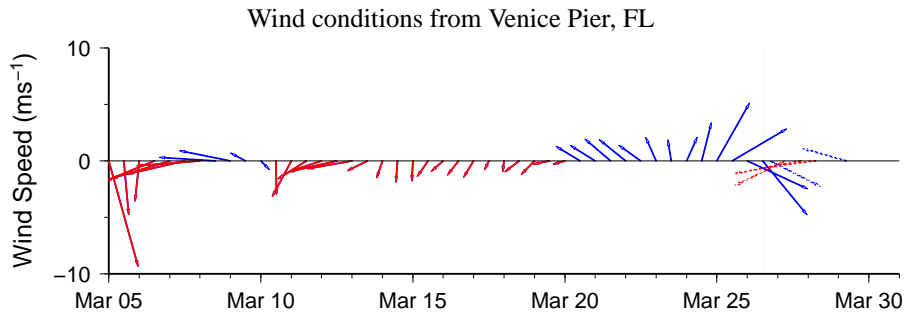
Wind Analysis

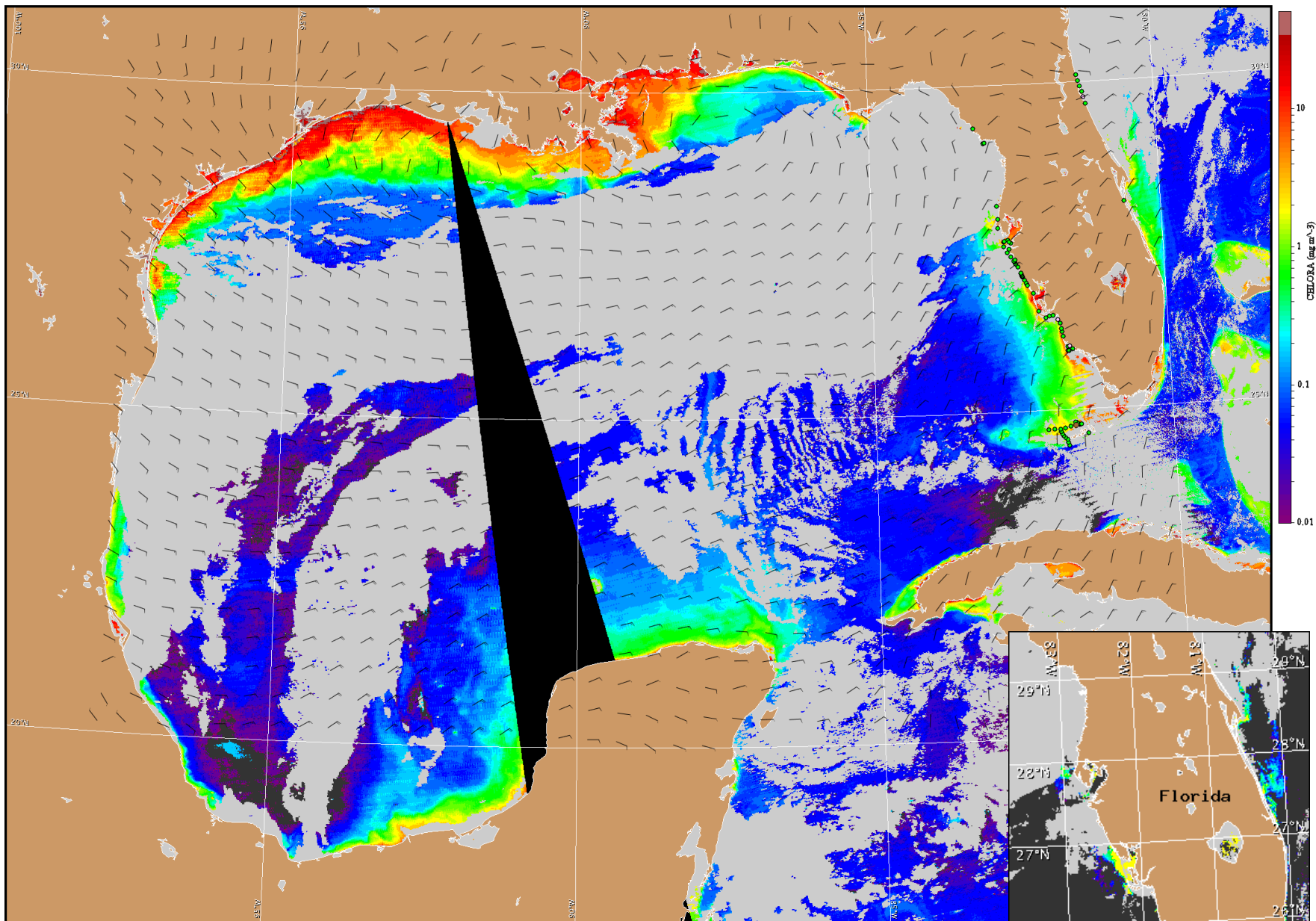
SWFL: Northwest to northeasterlies today thru Wednesday, with easterlies in the evenings (5-15 kn; 3-8 m/s).

FL Keys: North to easterlies today and Tuesday (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s), with strong easterlies Tuesday night and Wednesday (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s).



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 March 27, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 16 to 24 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).