



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

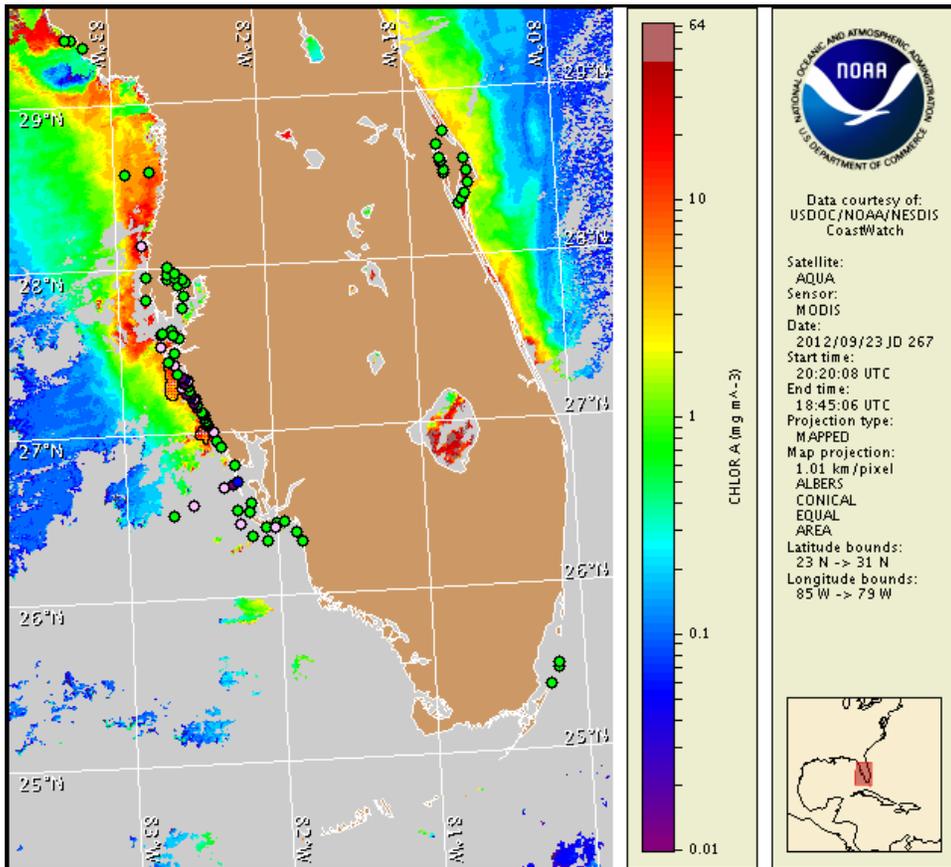
Monday, 24 September 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, September 17, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 20 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

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/events/status/statewide/>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

The harmful algae *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) have been identified onshore southern Manatee, Sarasota, and northern Lee County, and in the Pine Island Sound region of northern Lee County. No respiratory impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, September 30.

Analysis

The harmful algae *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) have been identified onshore southern Manatee, Sarasota, and northern Lee County, and in the Pine Island Sound region of northern Lee County.

Last week it was reported that a harmful algal bloom may have been present alongshore Sarasota County. Over the past week, extensive sampling overseen by officials from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) did not indicate the presence of a bloom although very low levels of harmful algae were found.

In Longboat Pass in southern Manatee County, concentrations of *K. brevis* have declined from very low a to not present (FWRI 9/11-19). Very low a and very low b concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified in Sarasota Bay (FWRI 9/17). Alongshore Sarasota County (from Lido Beach southward to Nokomis) numerous samples taken indicated that *K. brevis* concentrations ranged from not present to very low b (FWRI, SCHED 9/17). In northern Lee, very low b concentrations were identified at Boca Grande Pass and very low a concentrations were identified offshore (FWRI 9/14). In Pinellas, Charlotte and central and southern Lee County, sample results indicate that *K. brevis* is either not present or at background concentrations (FWRI 9/16-19).

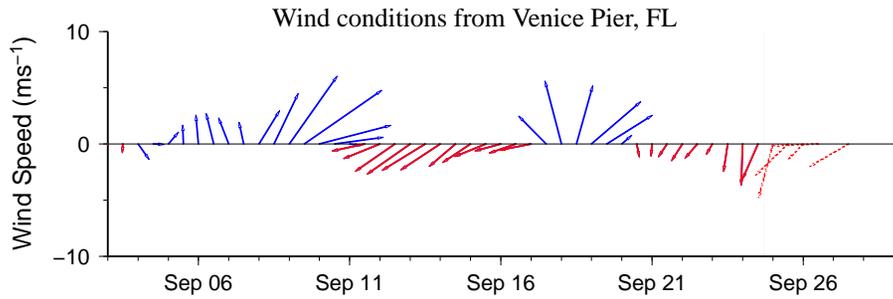
Satellite imagery (9/23) indicates elevated to high levels of chlorophyll (>3 $\mu\text{g/L}$) offshore and onshore Manatee and Sarasota counties. Also, alongshore each county is a patch with high levels of chlorophyll (>10 $\mu\text{g/L}$). The first patch is visible along northern Longboat Key and the second is visible along South Venice. Due to cloud cover, it cannot be determined if these two patches are instead one long patch extending from southern Manatee to southern Sarasota; however, sample results listed above indicated very low b and very low a concentrations of *K. brevis* in this region. Continued sampling is recommended.

Observed winds over the past weekend as well as forecasted winds today through Friday are favorable for bloom formation along southwest Florida.

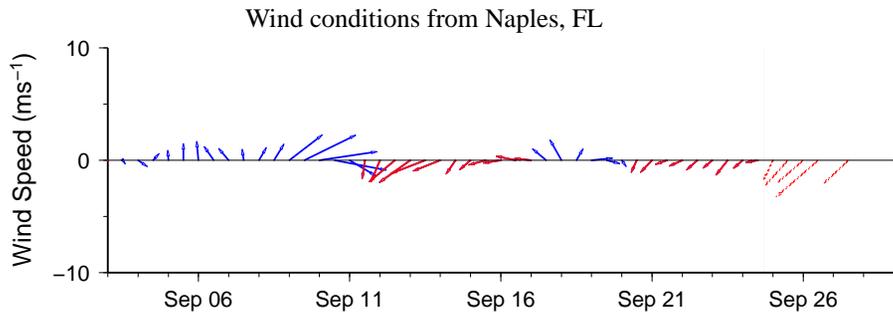
Urizar, Fenstermacher

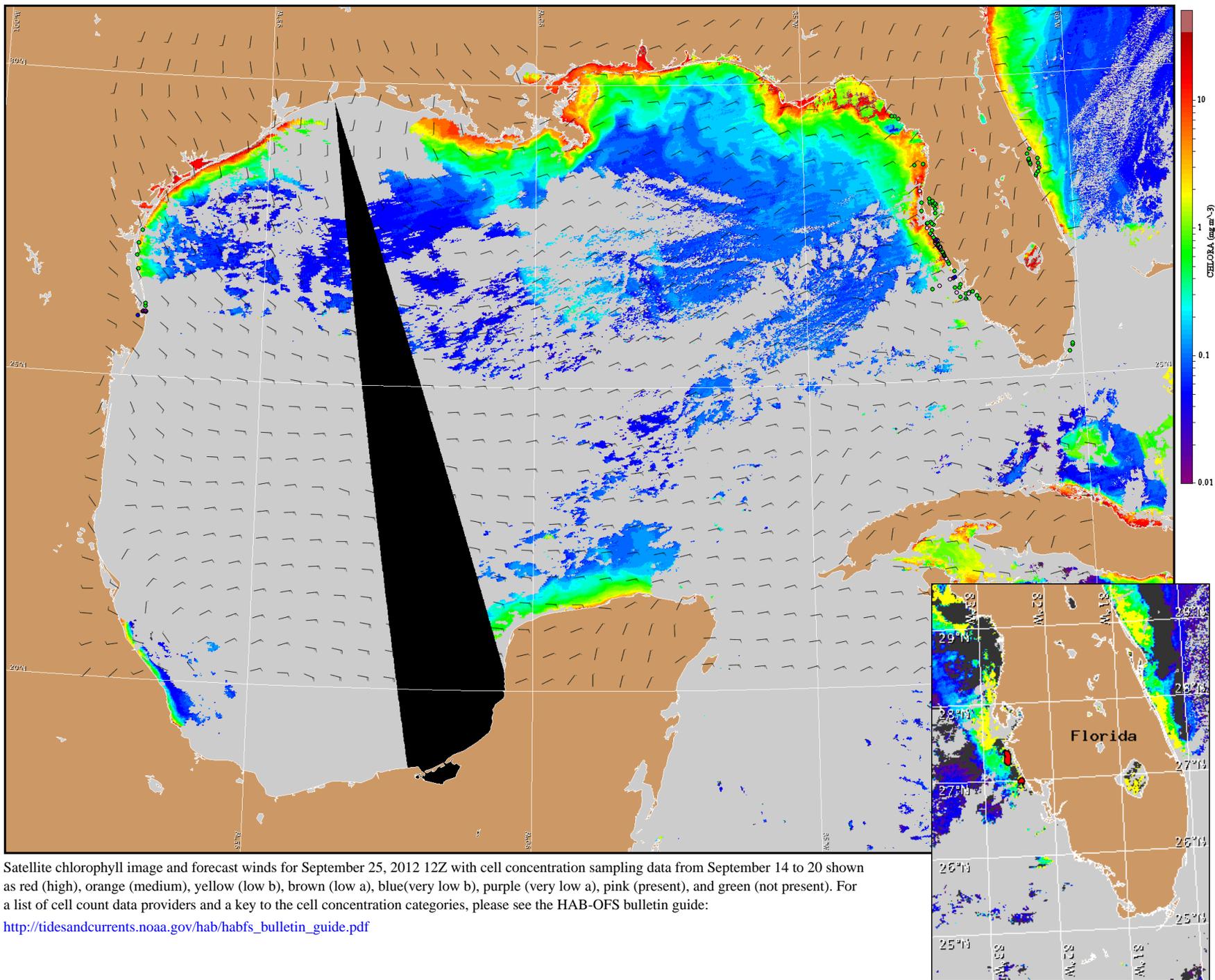
Wind Analysis

SW Florida: Northeasterly winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) today. Easterly and northeasterly winds (10-15 kn) Tuesday and Wednesday. Northeasterly winds (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) Thursday and Friday.



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 September 25, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 20 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).