



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

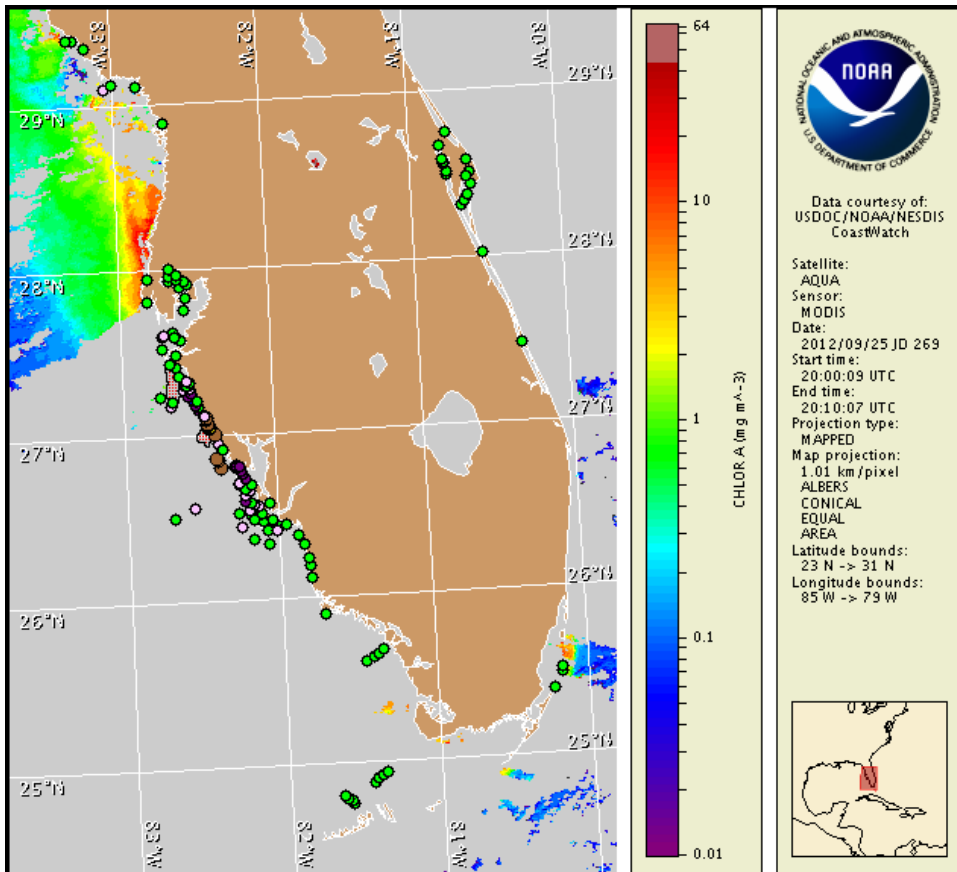
Thursday, 27 September 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, September 24, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 17 to 26 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](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

Patchy bloom concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) have been identified onshore southern Sarasota County and onshore and offshore Charlotte County. The harmful algae *Karenia brevis* have been identified onshore southern Manatee, northern Sarasota, and northern Lee County, and in the Pine Island Sound region of northern Lee County. In southern Sarasota County, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible today and Friday and patchy moderate respiratory impacts are possible Saturday and Sunday. In Charlotte County, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible Saturday and Sunday. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, September 30. A report of respiratory irritation in Sarasota County was received in the past few days.

## Analysis

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

Samples taken from alongshore southern Sarasota County indicated low b (Brohard Beach) and low a (North Jetty, Venice Fishing Pier, Service Club Park, Caspersen Beach and Manasota Beach) concentrations of *K. brevis* (SCHD 9/24). Very low b (Venice Beach) and very low a (Siesta Beach) concentrations were also found on shore southern Sarasota County (SCHD 9/24). Samples taken from within Sarasota Bay indicated very low a concentrations at Longboat Pass (southern Manatee County) and at Quick Point (Sarasota County) (FWRI 9/25). Three samples collected 4.5-6 mi offshore Charlotte County indicated low a concentrations of *K. brevis* (FWRI 9/21). Low a concentrations were also identified in Gasparilla Pass (southern Charlotte) (FWRI 9/21). In northern Lee and the Pine Island sound region of Lee County, concentrations range from not present to very low a (FWRI 9/21-9/25). *K. brevis* was not present or at background concentrations in Pinellas County (FWRI 9/24) and not present in northern Collier County (FWRI 9/25).

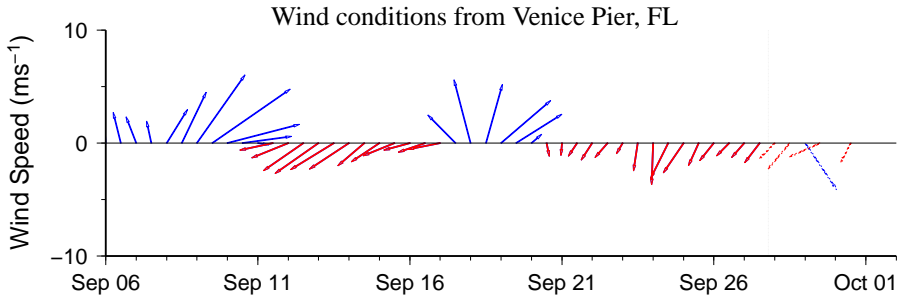
Satellite imagery continues to be completely obscured by clouds alongshore southwest Florida preventing the analysis of chlorophyll levels. Satellite imagery from 9/23, however, indicated elevated to high levels of chlorophyll (>3 µg/L) in the regions highlighted in the image on left and on the inset of page 3 of this bulletin.

Persistent offshore winds are not favorable for further bloom formation, although they are favorable for bloom intensification.

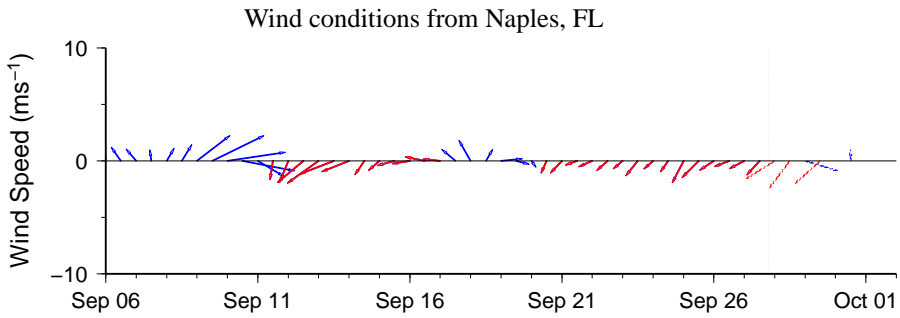
Urizar, Fenstermacher

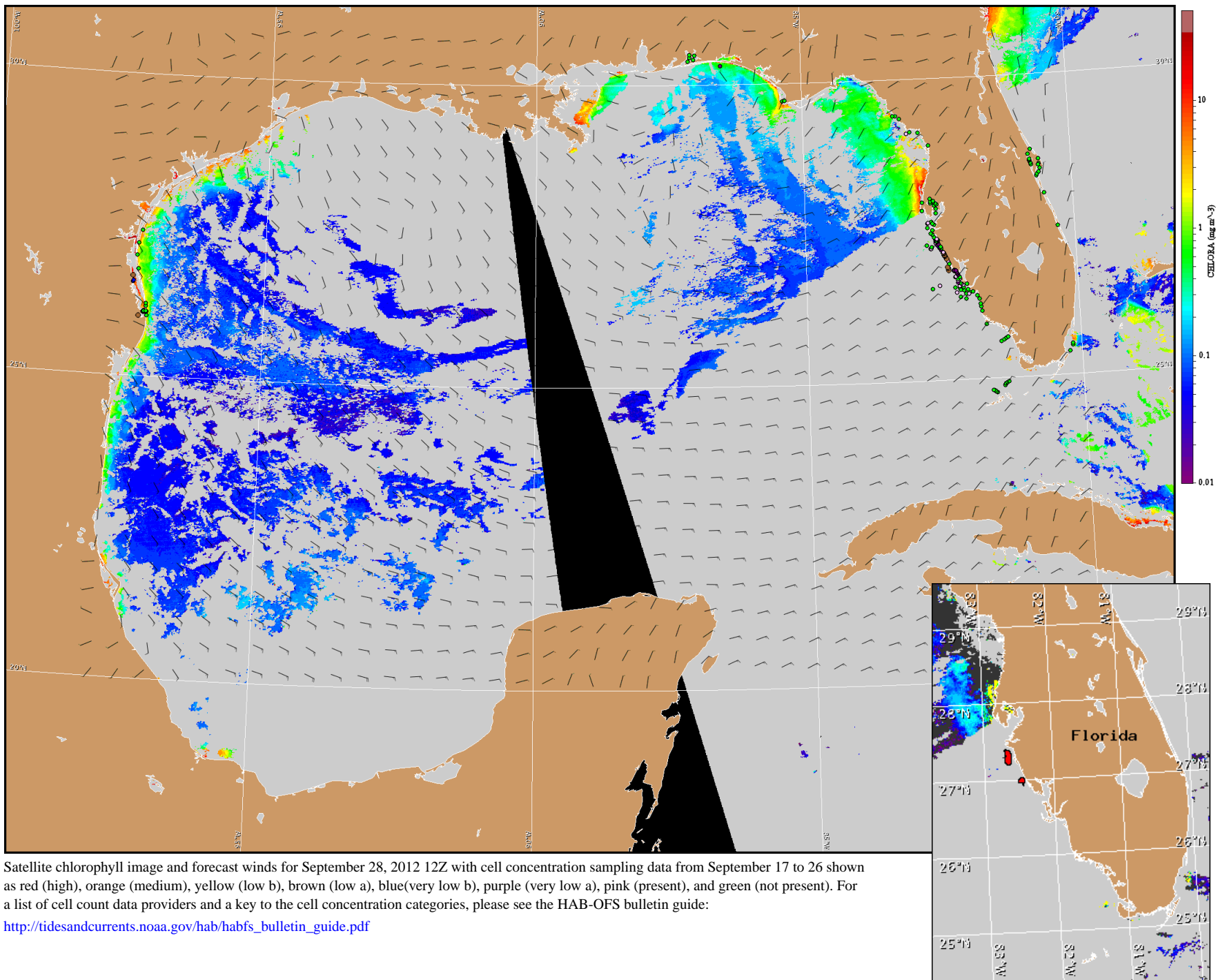
### Wind Analysis

SW Florida: Easterly to northerly winds today (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) and Friday (10 kn). Easterly winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) Saturday becoming northwesterly in the afternoon. Northeasterly to southeasterly winds (5 kn) Saturday night. Southerly winds (5-10 kn) 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 September 28, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 17 to 26 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).