



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

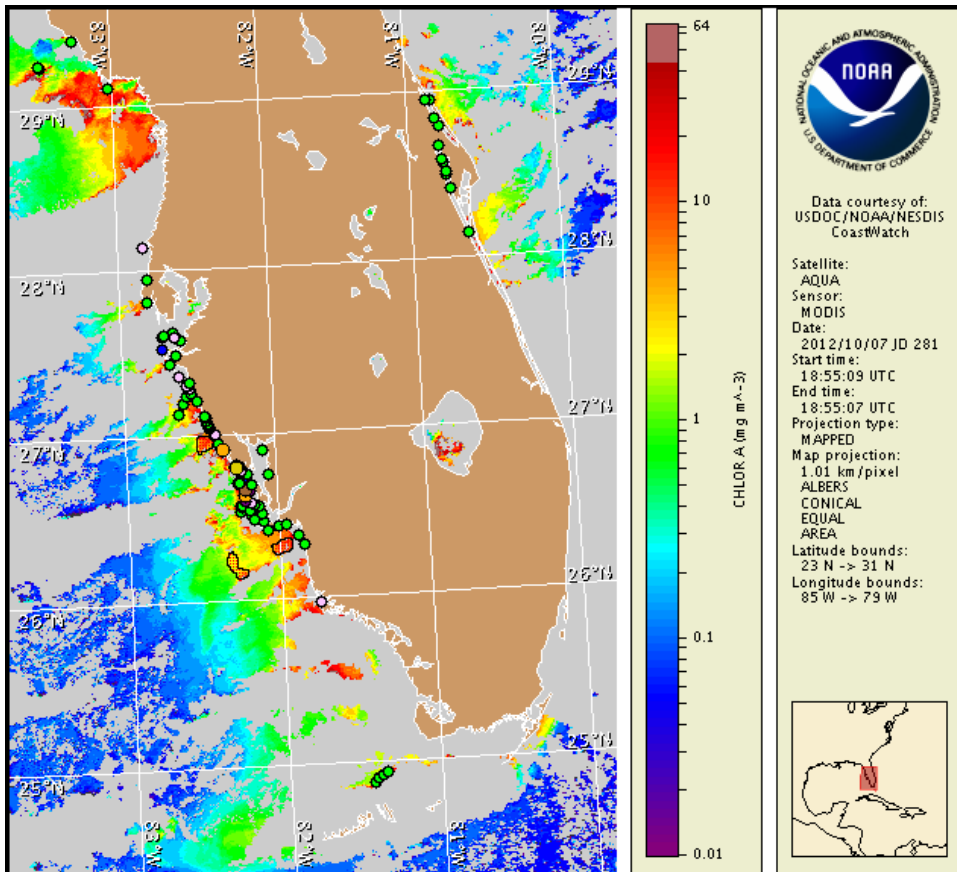
Tuesday, 09 October 2012

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, October 4, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 29 to October 4 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

A harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) is present at the coast of southern Sarasota, Charlotte, in the Gasparilla Pass and northern Pine Island Sound regions of Charlotte and northern Lee, and offshore Lee counties. The harmful algae *Karenia brevis* are present onshore southern Manatee County. In southern Sarasota and Charlotte counties, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible today through Wednesday. In the bay regions of Charlotte and northern Lee counties, patchy moderate respiratory impacts are possible today through Wednesday. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, October 10. Over the past few days, reports have been received of respiratory irritation and discolored water in southern Sarasota County. Reports of dead fish have also been received alongshore the following county regions: southern Sarasota, northern Charlotte, and northern Lee.

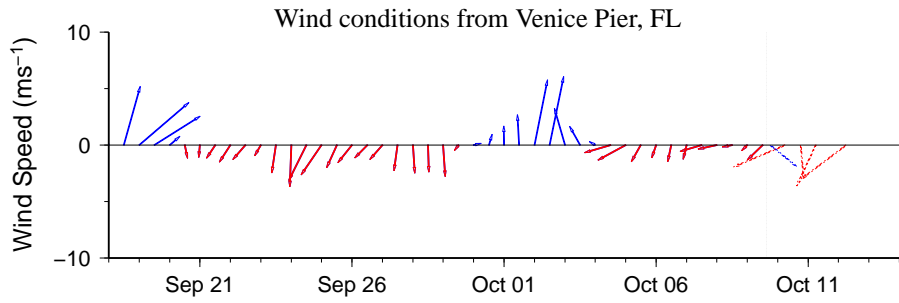
Analysis

A harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) is present at the coast of southern Sarasota, Charlotte, and in the Gasparilla Pass and northern Pine Island Sound regions of Charlotte and northern Lee, and offshore Lee counties. The harmful algae *K. brevis* are present onshore southern Manatee County. Although no recent samples have been received from Sarasota County, slight to moderate respiratory impacts reported over the past few days indicate that the bloom is still present in southern Sarasota County (MML; 10/5-8). Recent samples collected from along- and offshore Lee County and in the Pine Island Sound region of northern Lee County ranged from background to medium, with the highest concentrations within the northern Pine Island Sound and offshore Lee County (FWRI, MML; 10/3-10/4). Background concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified alongshore Pinellas and Collier counties (FWRI; 9/30-10/1). No *K. brevis* was identified from samples collected offshore the Florida Keys in Monroe County (FWRI, MML; 9/28-10/3).

Over the past few days, satellite imagery has been partially cloudy alongshore the southwest Florida coastline, limiting analysis. Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (10/7, shown left) continues to indicate several patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (3 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) alongshore Sarasota County, extending approximately 5 miles offshore. Patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (3 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are also visible alongshore Charlotte, Lee and Collier counties, extending an unknown distance offshore due to cloudy imagery.

Offshore winds will minimize respiratory impacts through Wednesday, October 10, except in the bay regions of Charlotte and Lee Counties, however consistent upwelling conditions may also intensify bloom concentrations.

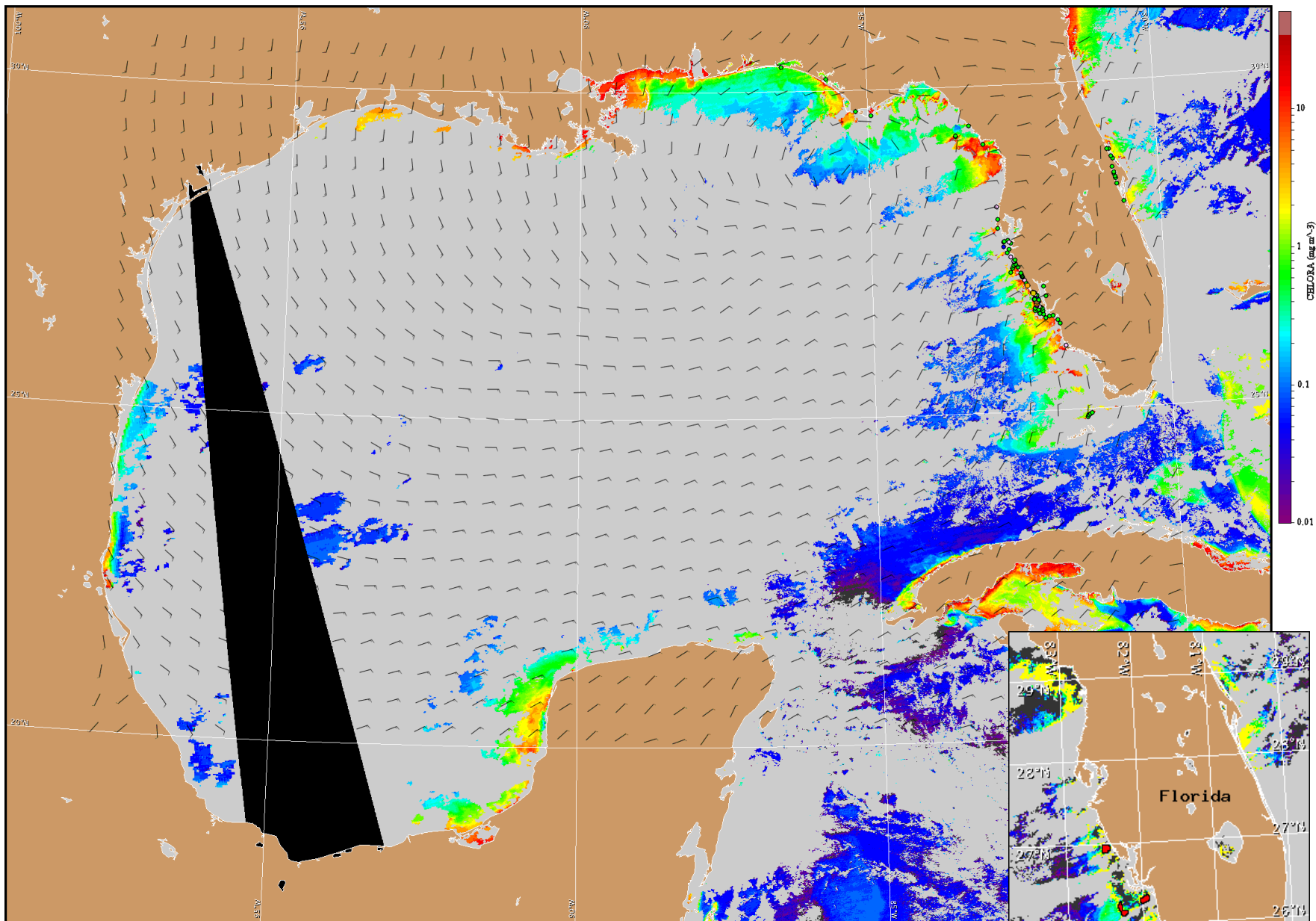
Kavanaugh, Davis



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

Southwest Florida: Northeast winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) today becoming north winds (10 kn, 5 m/s) this afternoon. Northeast winds (10 kn) tonight through Wednesday. North winds (5-10 kn) Wednesday afternoon through evening.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 10, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 29 to October 4 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).