



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

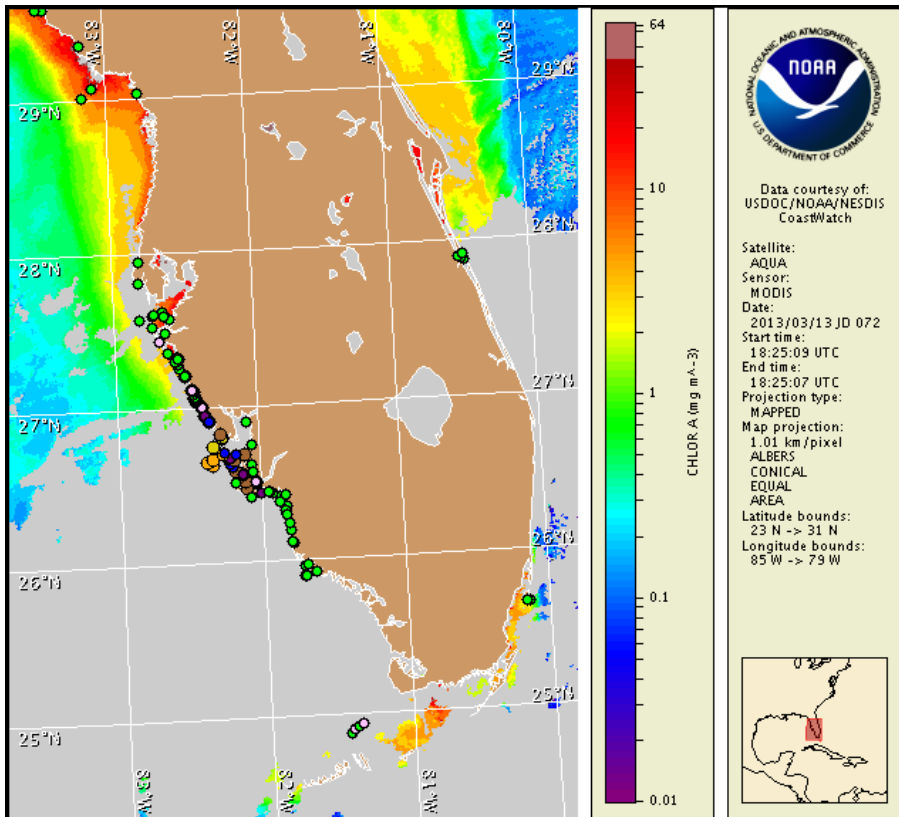
Thursday, 14 March 2013

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 11, 2013



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 4 to 12 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). Cell count data are provided by Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a list of sample 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

Very low to medium concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) are present alongshore and offshore southwest Florida. Alongshore Sarasota and Charlotte counties, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible today, Friday and Sunday and patchy low respiratory impacts are possible Saturday and Monday. In the bay regions of Charlotte and Lee counties, patchy moderate respiratory impacts are possible today, Friday, Saturday and Monday and patchy low respiratory impacts are possible Sunday. Alongshore central and southern Lee County, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible Saturday and Monday. No respiratory impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys, today through Monday, March 18. Over the last several days, a report of respiratory irritation was received from Charlotte County.

## Analysis

Alongshore and offshore southwest Florida from Sarasota to Monroe counties, *Karenia brevis* concentrations range from 'not present' to 'medium'. Harmful algae is also present at the southern entrance of Sarasota Bay (MML; 3/6-7). Samples from alongshore Sarasota County indicate background, present and 'very low a' concentrations of *K. brevis* (SCHD, FWRI; 3/11). Alongshore Charlotte County, recent samples indicate that *K. brevis* concentrations range from 'very low b' to 'low a' (FWRI; 3/12). In the bay regions of Charlotte and Lee counties, recent samples indicate not present to 'low b' concentrations of *K. brevis* (FWRI 3/12). Alongshore northern and central Collier County, *K. brevis* concentrations remain not present (FWRI 3/11).

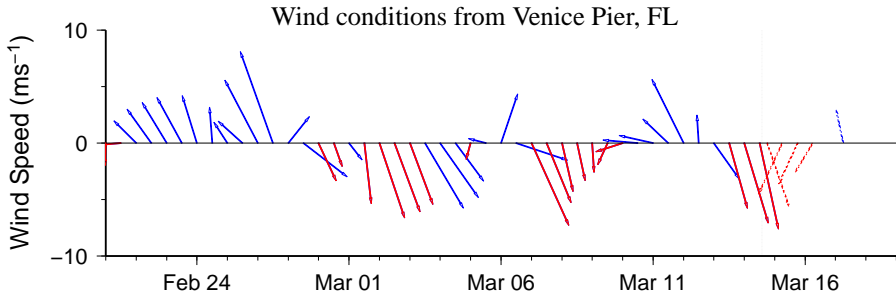
Over the past few days, MODIS Aqua imagery has been completely obscured by clouds alongshore and offshore southwest Florida eliminating the possibility for chlorophyll analysis.

Southerly forecast winds alongshore southwest Florida from Saturday through Monday may increase the potential for respiratory impacts and may reduce the potential for southerly transport of the bloom.

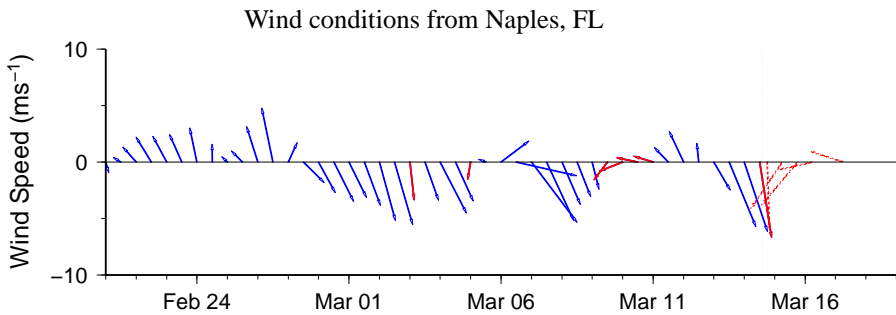
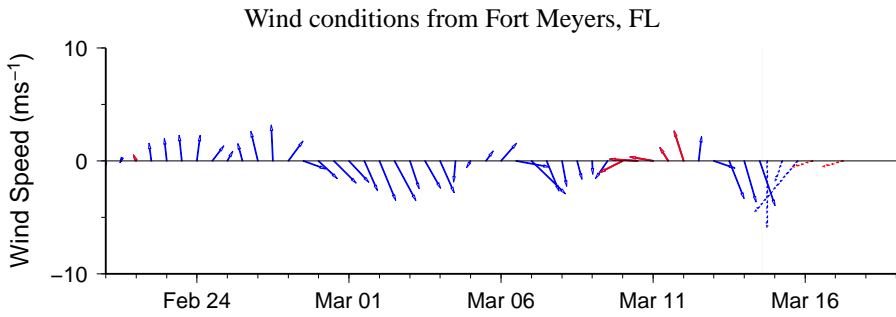
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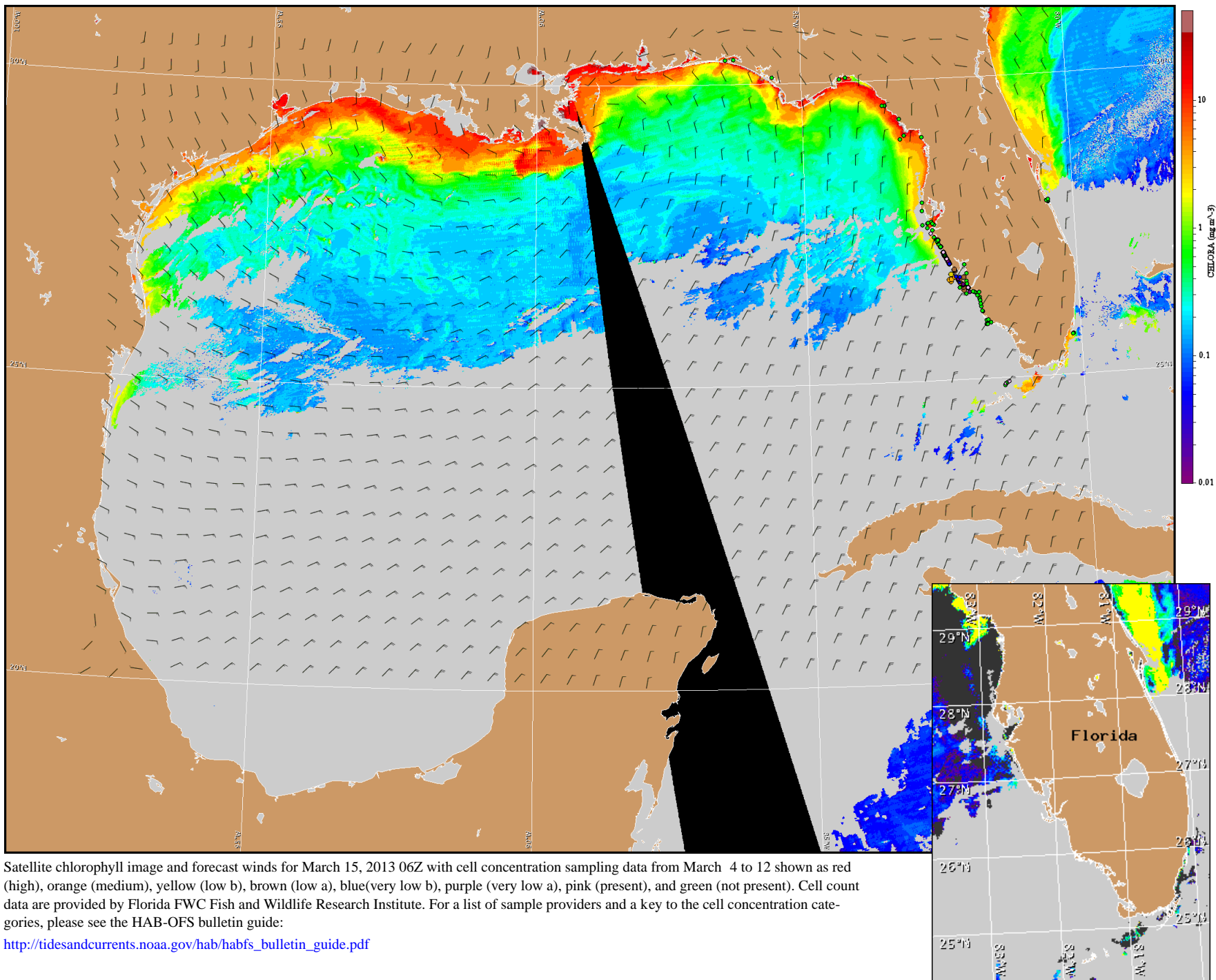
## Wind Analysis

**Sarasota to Collier:** Northerly winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today. Northeasterly winds (10kn) Friday with northwesterly winds (5kn, 3 m/s) in the afternoon and night. Southwesterly winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Saturday. Southeasterly winds (10kn) Sunday becoming southerly (5kn) in the afternoon and southwesterly Sunday night. Southeasterly winds (10kn) Monday becoming southerly in the afternoon.



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 15, 2013 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 4 to 12 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). Cell count data are provided by Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. For a list of sample 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).