



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

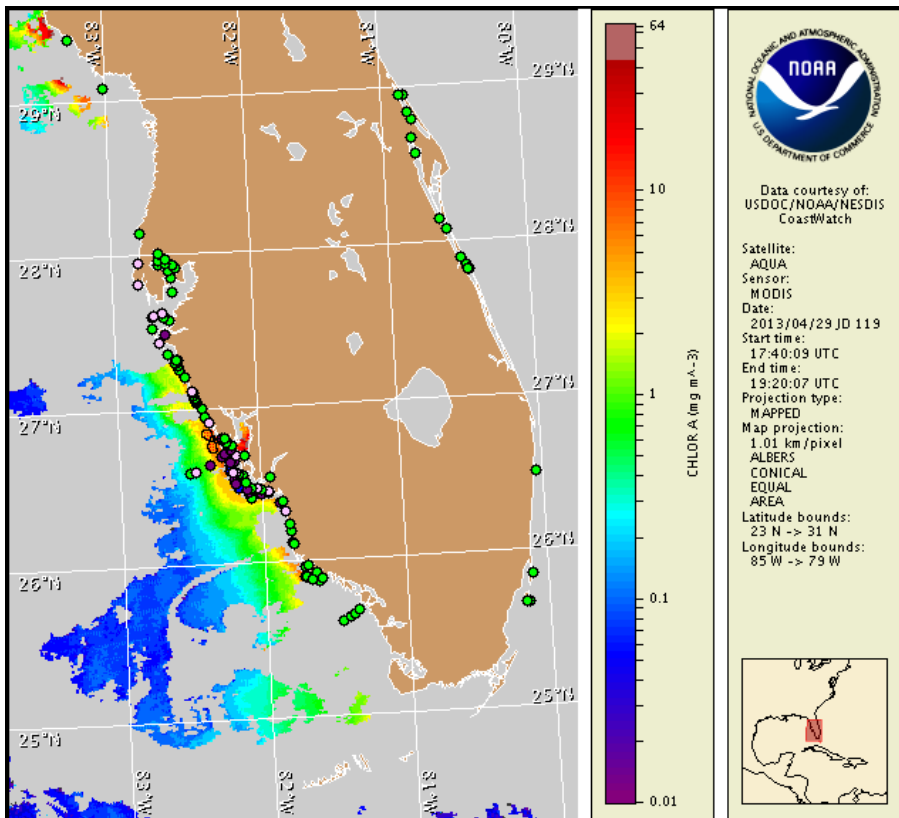
Thursday, 02 May 2013

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, April 29, 2013



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from April 22 to 30: red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). Cell count data are provided by Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (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

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

<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

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

Conditions Report

Background to very low concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) are present along- and offshore southwest Florida. In the bay regions of central Lee County, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible today through Monday. No respiratory impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys, today through Monday May 6.

Analysis

Recent sampling throughout southwest Florida continues to indicate that *Karenia brevis* concentrations persist alongshore, offshore and in the bays of central and southern Lee County. Samples collected in the Pine Island Sound region of Lee County indicate *K. brevis* concentrations still range between 'not present' and 'very low a' (FWRI; 4/24, 4/30). Samples collected from Pinellas and Sarasota counties indicated 'not present' to 'background' concentrations while all other samples indicate 'not present' alongshore southwest Florida (FWRI; 4/25-30).

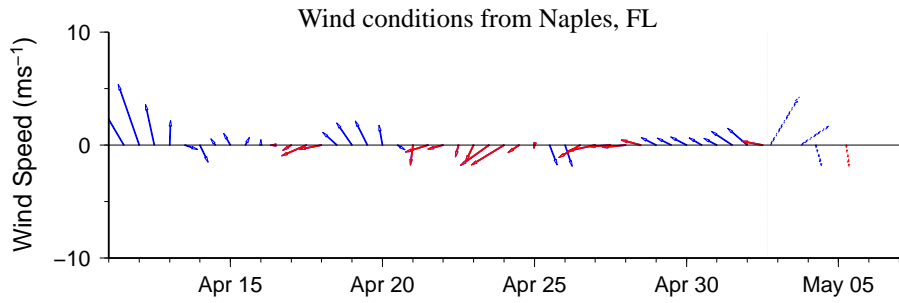
Imagery has been intermittently cloudy alongshore of southwest Florida limiting time series analysis. Elevated chlorophyll remains in April 29 imagery (shown) extending alongshore Charlotte and Lee counties (2-7 $\mu\text{g/L}$). However, anomalously high patches of elevated chlorophyll appear to have decreased in intensity and extent in April 30 imagery (not shown), now slightly offshore of Charlotte and Lee counties (2-5 $\mu\text{g/L}$), northern Monroe County (<2 $\mu\text{g/L}$) and the Florida Keys (2-4 $\mu\text{g/L}$). We will continue to monitor these features.

Predominately northerly winds this week may transport remaining patches of offshore *K. brevis* concentrations southward.

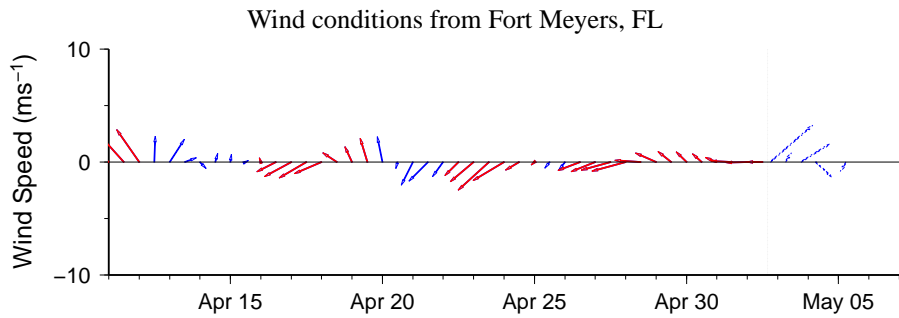
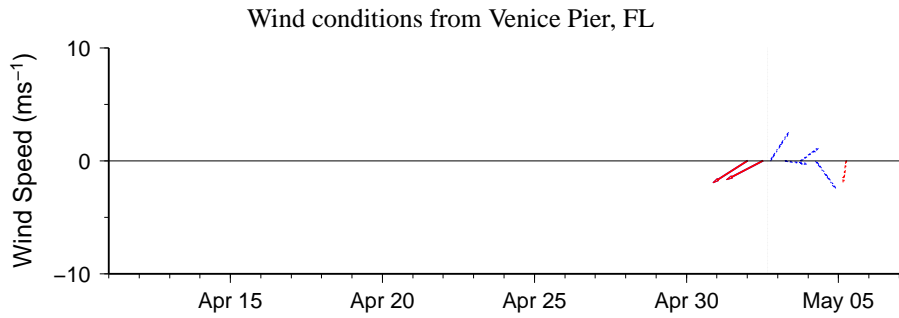
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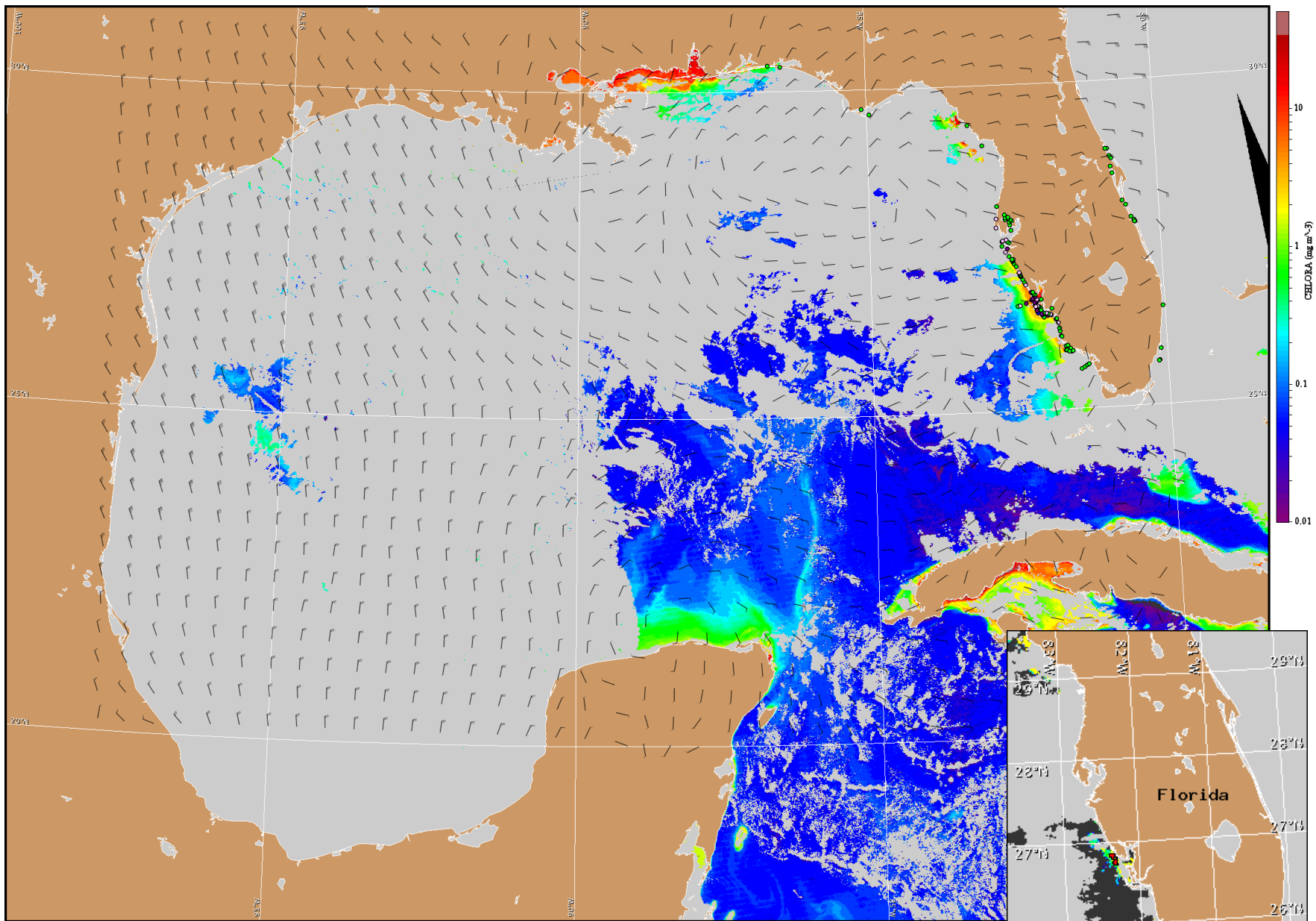
Wind Analysis

SWFL: South to southeasterlies today and Friday (10 kn; 5 m/s). North to northeasterlies on Friday night and north to northwesterlies on Saturday (5-15 kn; 3-8 m/s). Northwest-erlies on Saturday night and northwest to westerlies on Monday (15 kn; 8 m/s).



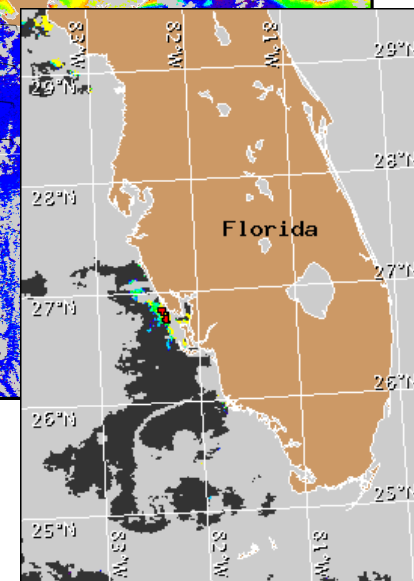
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 3, 2013 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from April 22 to 30: 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 Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (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).