



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

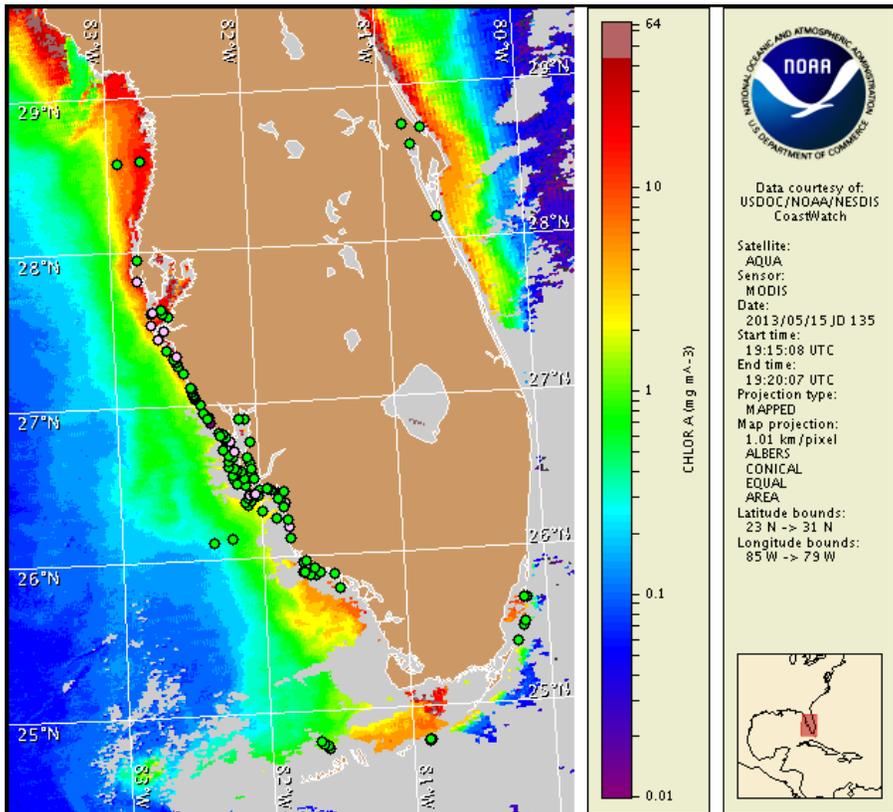
Thursday, 16 May 2013

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, May 13, 2013



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from May 6 to 14: 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:

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

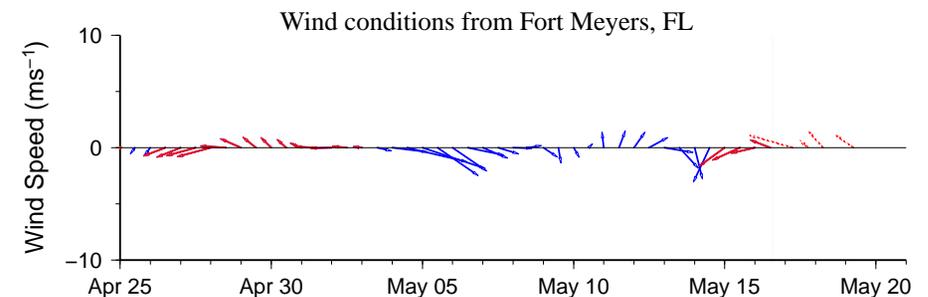
Background to very low concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore southwest Florida. In the bay regions of Charlotte and central Lee counties, patchy very low respiratory impacts are possible today through Monday. No respiratory impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys, today through Monday, May 20.

Analysis

Samples reported since Monday indicate that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between 'not present' and 'background' along- and offshore southwest Florida (FWRI, SCHD, MML; 5/7-13). No *K. brevis* was identified in samples collected alongshore the middle Keys (Conch Key; MML; 5/14). No dead fish or respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* have been reported in the past several days.

Over the past few days, MODIS Aqua imagery has been obscured by clouds, limiting analysis. In MODIS imagery from May 15 (shown left), elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) is visible stretching along- and offshore Pinellas to northern Sarasota County. Imagery alongshore Charlotte to Monroe counties is primarily obscured by clouds, prohibiting analysis. This region will continue to be monitored as imagery becomes available.

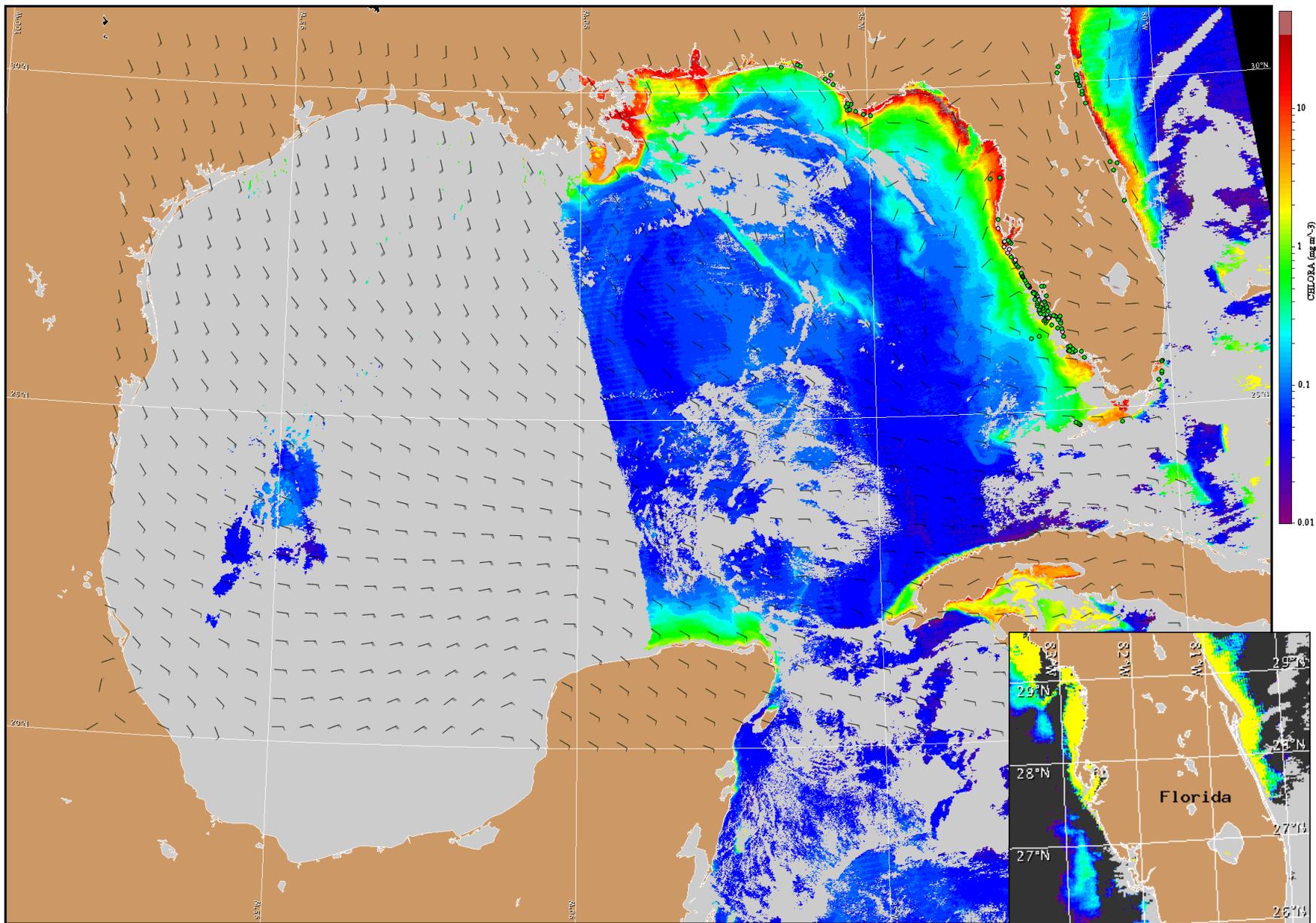
Yang, Derner



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: Southeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) today becoming west this afternoon. North winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) tonight. Southeast winds (10kn) Friday, shifting south to west (5-10kn) Friday afternoon. North winds (10kn) Friday night becoming east after midnight. Southeast winds (10kn) Saturday becoming west in the afternoon. Variable winds (<10kn) Saturday night. South winds (5-10kn) Sunday becoming west (10kn) Sunday afternoon. Northwest winds (10kn) Sunday night becoming east after midnight. Southeast winds (10kn) Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 17, 2013 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from May 6 to 14: 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).