Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

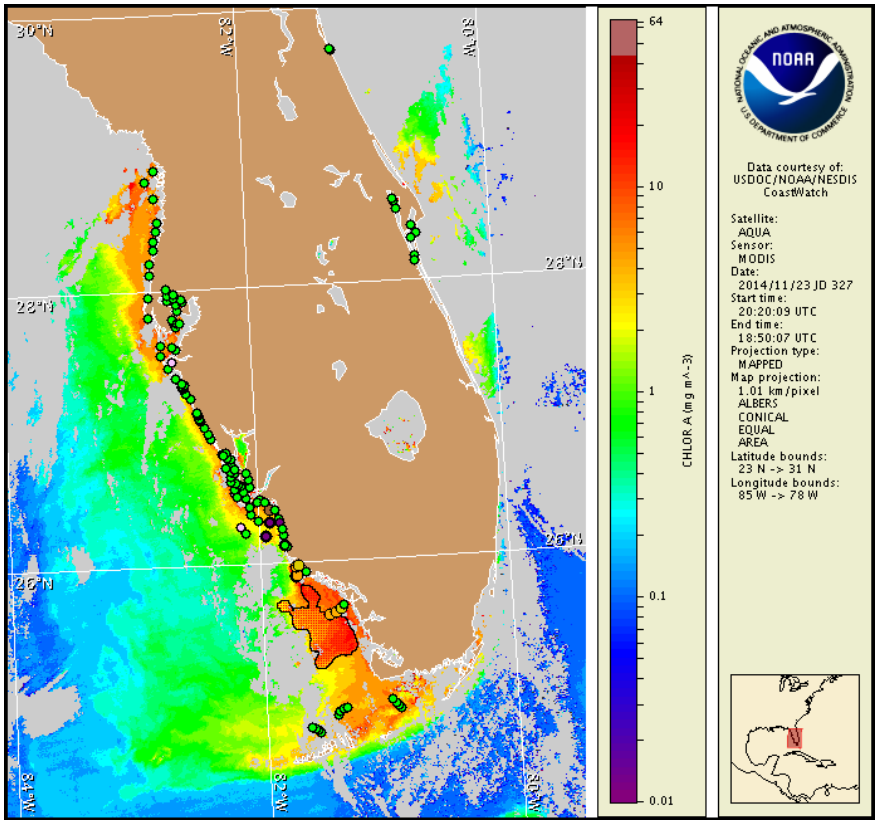
Wednesday, 26 November 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, November 24, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from November 16 to 25: 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

Not present to medium concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of southwest Florida and not present in the Florida Keys. *K. brevis* concentrations are patchy in nature and levels of respiratory irritation will vary locally based upon nearby bloom concentrations, ocean currents, and wind speed and direction. The highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecast for Wednesday, November 26 to Monday, December 1 is listed below:

County Region: Forecast (Duration)
Southern Lee: Moderate (W), Very Low (Th-M)
Central Collier: Very Low (W-M)
Central Collier, Bay Regions: High (W-Th), Moderate (F-M)
All Other SWFL County Regions: None expected (W-M)

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations. Health information, from the Florida Department of Health and other agencies, is available at http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_health_info.html. No reports of respiratory irritation or dead fish due to *K. brevis* have been received over the past several days.

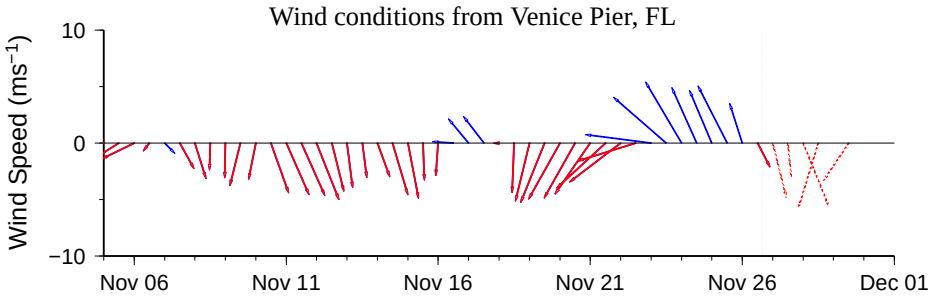
Analysis

Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Monday, December 1.

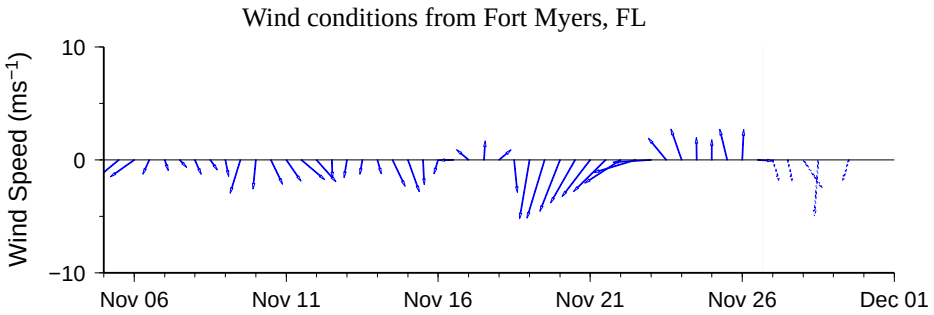
Not present to medium concentrations of *Karenia brevis* are present along- and offshore portions of southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe counties (FWRI, SCHD, MML, CCPCPD; 11/18-25). Recent samples collected throughout the Pine Island Sound and Matlatcha Pass regions of Lee County continue to indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 11/18-23). Samples collected alongshore northern Collier County at Vanderbilt Beach, Seagate, and the Naples Pier also indicated that *K. brevis* is not present, while samples collected throughout the Marco Island region of Collier County identified several 'low a' to 'medium' concentrations, with the highest concentrations detected at Caxambas Pass and Big Marco Pass near Snook Inn (FWRI; 11/24). Three samples collected approximately 3-9 miles offshore Pavilion Key in Monroe County identified 'low b' to 'medium' *K. brevis* concentrations (MML; 11/25). Other than one background concentration identified at Palma Sola Bay Bridge in Manatee County, all samples received from Pinellas to Sarasota counties and offshore the Florida Keys also indicated that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 11/20-25). No reports of respiratory irritation or fish kills have been received over the last several days (FWRI, MML; 11/24-26).

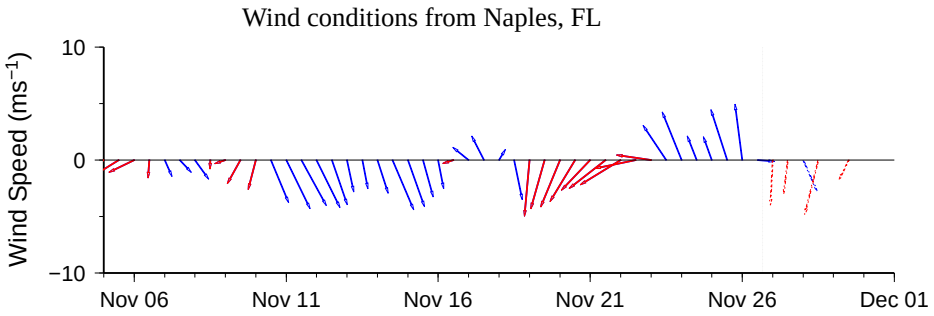
Recent MODIS Aqua imagery has been completely obscured by clouds, preventing analysis. Imagery from 11/23 (shown left and in previous bulletin) indicated that the *K. brevis* bloom area has continued to transport southward. See the previous bulletin (HAB20141124_2014058_SFL) for imagery analysis.

Observed winds over the past few days may have maintained the location of surface *K. brevis* concentrations. Forecast winds over the next several days may promote continued southerly transport of surface *K. brevis* concentrations. ˜Derner, 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).

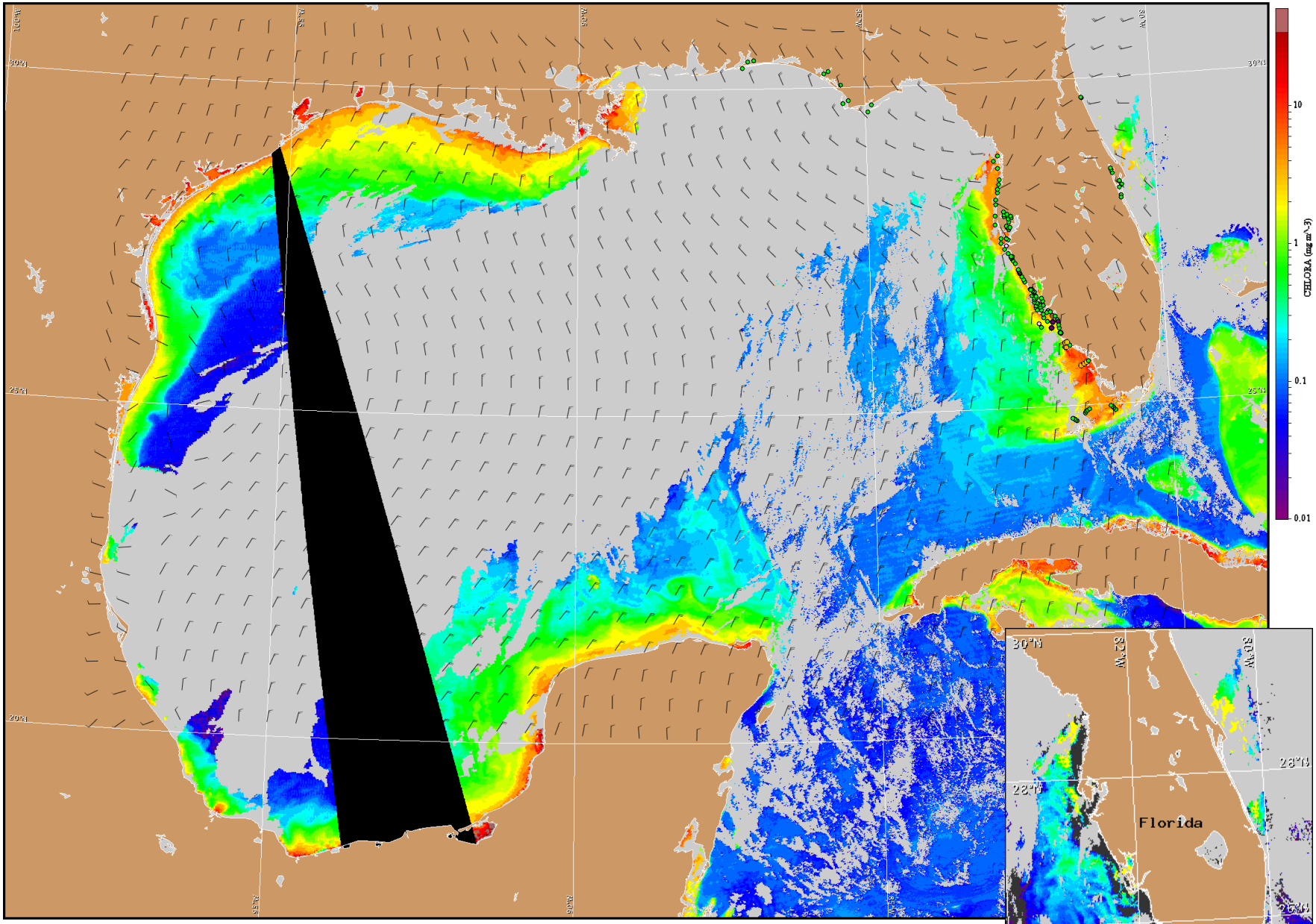




Wind Analysis

Bonita Beach to Englewood (Fort Myers): North winds (10-25+kn, 5-13+m/s) today through Thursday. Northeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Friday. East winds (10-15kn) Saturday through Sunday.

Chokoloskee to Bonita Beach (Naples): North winds (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) today becoming north northeast (15-20kn) tonight. North winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Thursday. North northeast winds (10-20kn) Friday. East northeast winds (15-20kn) Saturday. East winds (10-15kn) Sunday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 27, 2014 12Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from November 16 to 25: 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

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).