



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

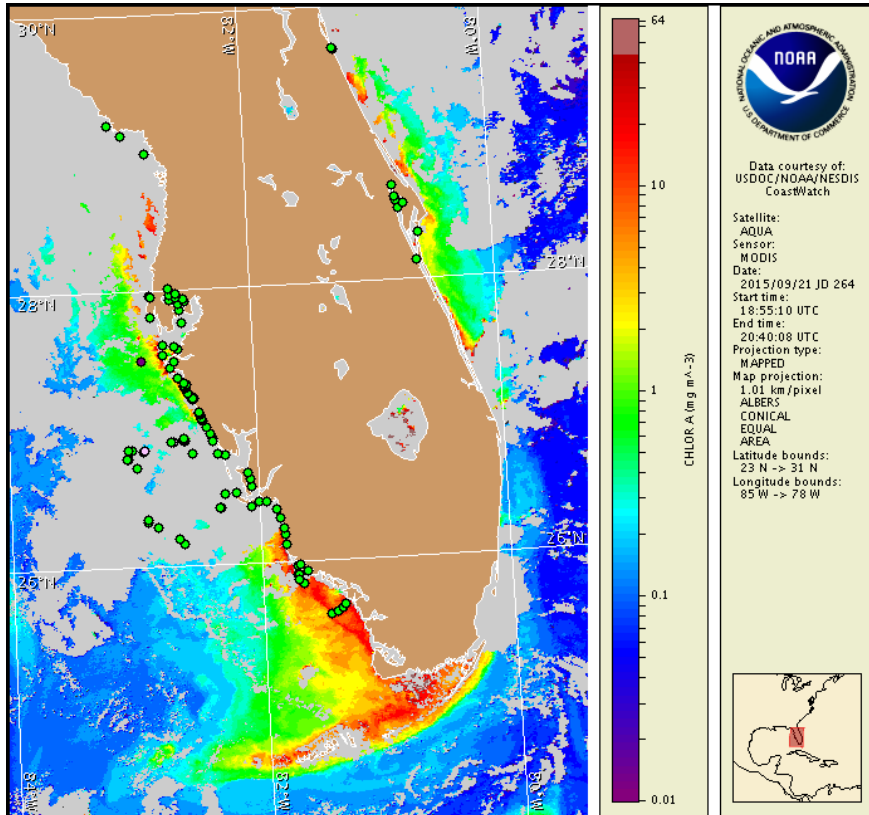
Thursday, 24 September 2015

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, September 21, 2015



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 23: 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

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to very low concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida, and is not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Thursday, September 24 through Monday, September 28.

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

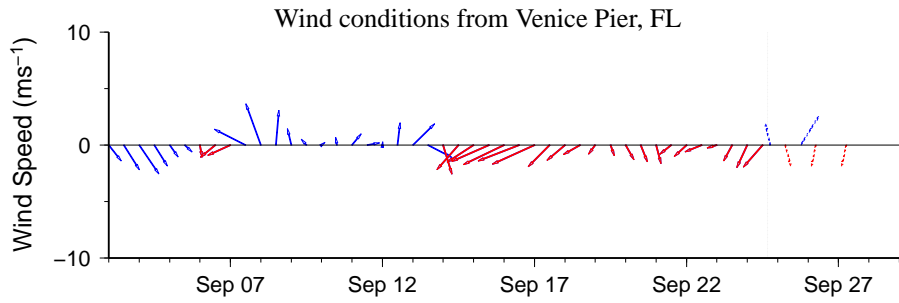
Analysis

Recent samples collected along- and offshore the coast of southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties indicated not present to 'very low a' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (FWRI, SCHD, CCENRD; 9/18-9/22). Offshore Manatee County, one sample collected 13 miles west of Anna Maria Island indicated 'very low a' concentrations of *K. brevis*. In northern Sarasota County, a new sample collected on 9/21 at Turtle Beach indicated *K. brevis* was not present, where a 'low a' *K. brevis* concentration was identified on 9/14 (FWRI, MML, SCHD). Offshore northern Charlotte County, three samples indicated present concentrations of '*K. brevis*' (FWRI; 9/19-20). All other sampling along- and offshore southwest Florida, from Pinellas to Collier County indicated that *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI, SCHD, CCENRD; 9/18-9/22). No reports of respiratory irritation or dead fish were received from alongshore southwest Florida over the last several days (FWRI, MML, CCENRD; 9/21-9/24).

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 9/21) is partially obscured by clouds along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties, limiting analysis in this region. Patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* are visible along- and off-shore from southern Manatee to Sarasota counties and along- and offshore northern Collier County.

Forecasted winds today through Monday, September 28 are not favorable for harmful algal bloom intensification at the coast of southwest Florida.

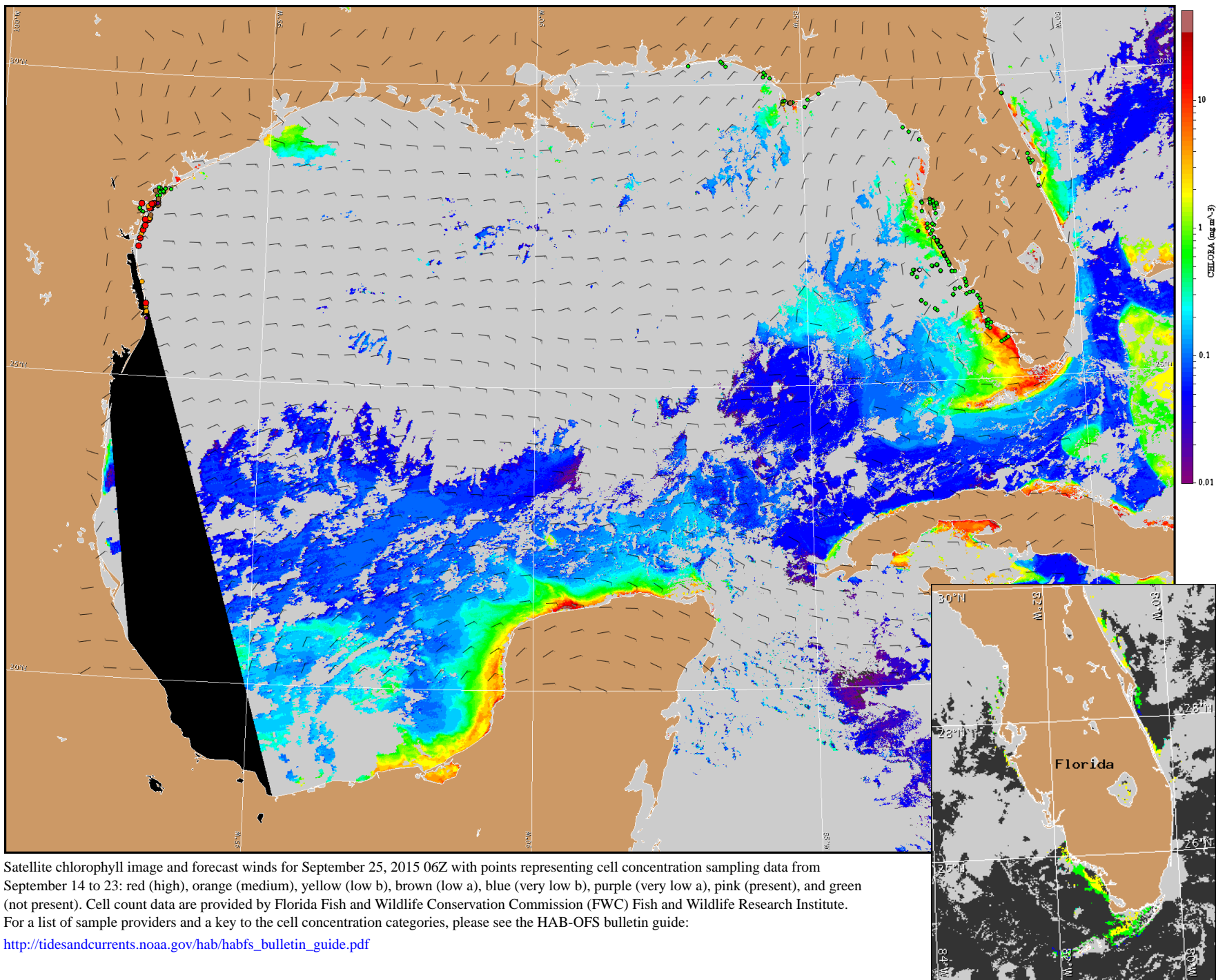
Yang, Davis



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

Englewood to Tarpon Springs (Venice): Northeast to north winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today becoming east after midnight. East winds (5kn, 3m/s) Friday becoming southwest Friday afternoon. North to northeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) Friday night. East winds (5kn) Saturday becoming south Saturday afternoon. North winds (10kn) Saturday night becoming east after midnight. Southeast winds (10kn) Sunday becoming east (10kn) Sunday night and Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 25, 2015 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from September 14 to 23: 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 with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).