Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

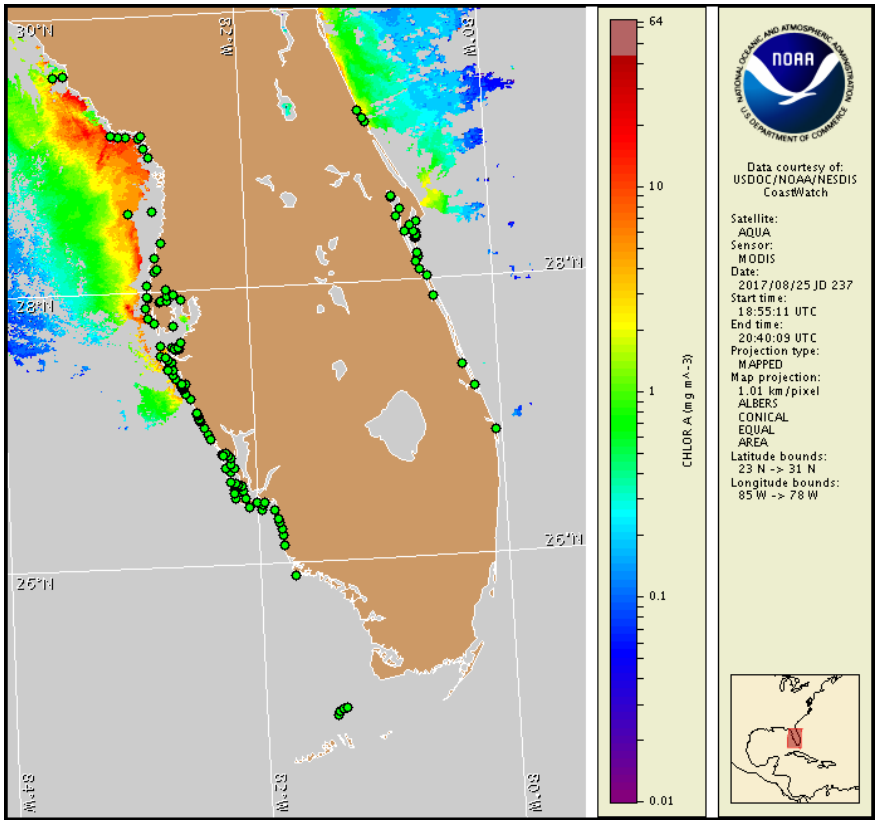
Monday, 28 August 2017

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, August 21, 2017



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from August 18 to 24: 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:

https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/GOMX_HAB_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: https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx.html

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) along the coast of southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, August 28 through Tuesday, September 5. For recent, local observations and data check Mote Marine Laboratory Daily Beach Conditions (http://visitbeaches.org/) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Red Tide Status (http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus).

Analysis

Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, September 5.

Recent samples received from alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe counties, including the Florida Keys, indicate *Karenia brevis* is not present, (FWRI, SCHD, MML, CCPCD; 8/18-8/24). Detailed sample information and a summary of impacts can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at: http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus.

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 8/25 shown left) is mostly obscured by clouds alongshore southwest Florida, limiting analysis. A patch of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 μg/L) with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* is visible 7 miles offshore northern Pinellas County, but likely the result of mixed non-harmful algal blooms that continue to be reported in the region.

Forecasted winds today through Friday may decrease the potential for *K. brevis* bloom formation at the coast.

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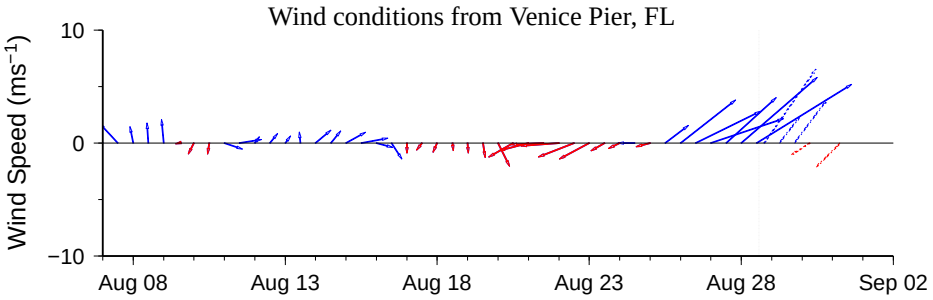
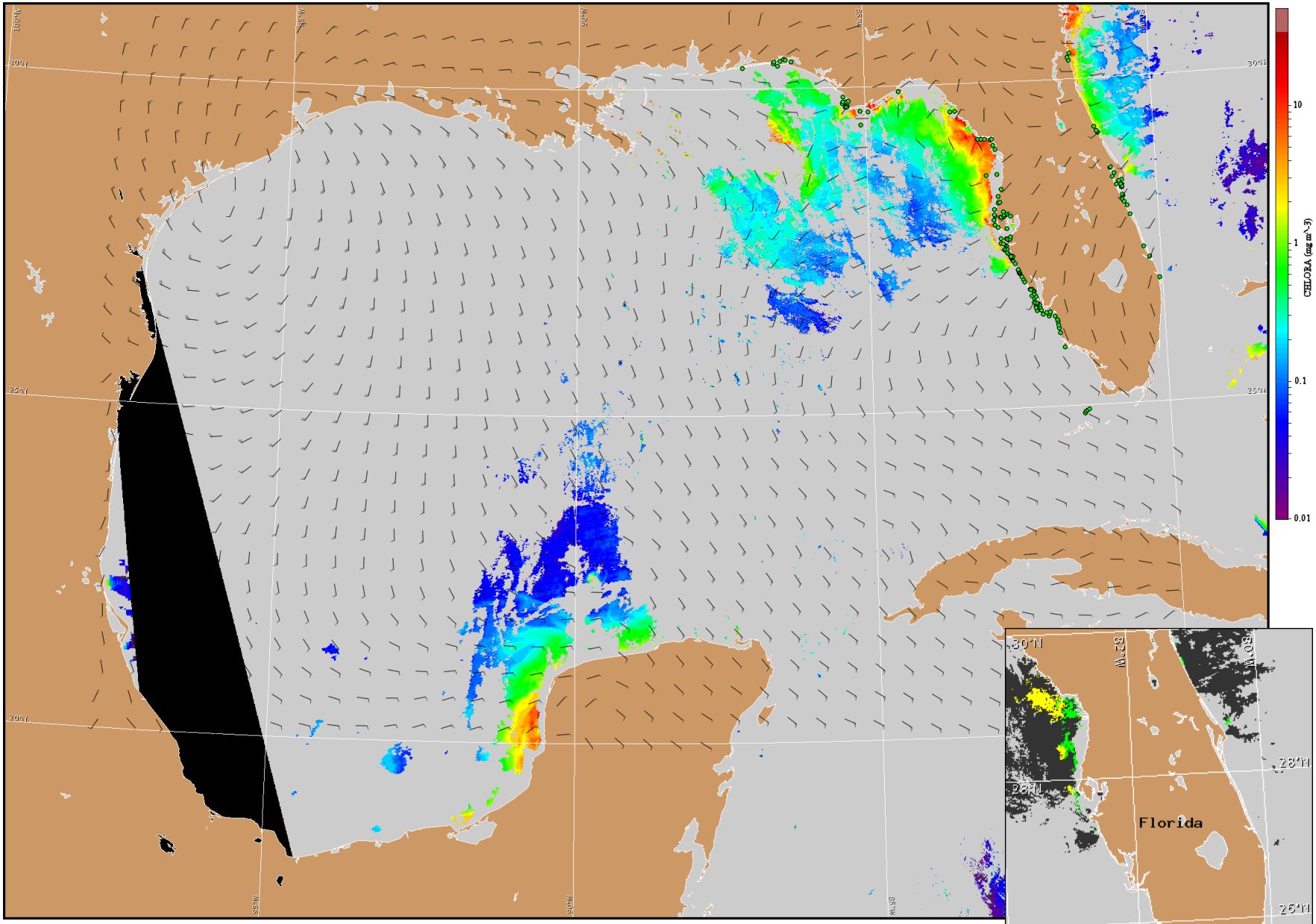


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.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

Wind Analysis

Englewood to Tarpon Springs (Venice): Southwest to west winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today through Tuesday night. Variable winds (5kn, 3m/s) Wednesday through Thursday morning. South to southeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Thursday afternoon through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 29, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from August 18 to 24: 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).