



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

14 September 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: September 11, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from Pinellas to northern Collier Counties. Patchy moderate impacts are possible today and Friday and patchy low impacts are possible Friday night through Sunday for Pinellas County. Patchy high impacts are possible today and Friday and patchy moderate impacts are possible Friday night through Sunday for Manatee and Sarasota Counties. Patchy moderate impacts are possible today through Saturday, and patchy low impacts are possible Sunday for Charlotte, northern Lee, and Collier Counties. No impacts are expected in southern Lee County.

Analysis

The harmful algal bloom has more northward into northern Pinellas County and persists from southern Pinellas County to northern Collier County. Transport models indicate that the bloom may have moved northward approximately 17-28 km since 9/10 and indicate downwelling from 9/12-14. Present imagery (9/12) is obscured by clouds; however elevated chlorophyll levels ($>30 \mu\text{g/L}$) are visible in Pinellas County at $27^{\circ}49'45''\text{N } 82^{\circ}59'42''\text{W}$ (9 nm west of Redington Pier; recommend sampling) and at $28^{\circ}5'21''\text{N } 82^{\circ}52'48''\text{W}$ (approximately 3 nm west of Honeymoon Island). Most recent samples indicate that *K. brevis* is present at medium concentrations (FWRI; 9/12) offshore Pinellas County. Bottom samples taken offshore Sarasota and Charlotte Counties indicate the presence of *K. brevis* at low a-medium concentrations while surface samples range from low b-medium (FWRI; 9/12). In the Pine Island Sound and San Carlos Bay regions of Lee County samples confirm low a-medium concentrations, and at Clam Pass in Collier County concentrations have increased to medium (FWRI; 9/11). Samples also confirm that non-harmful algae is present at varying concentrations throughout the *K. brevis* bloom. There have been reports of respiratory irritation and dead fish.

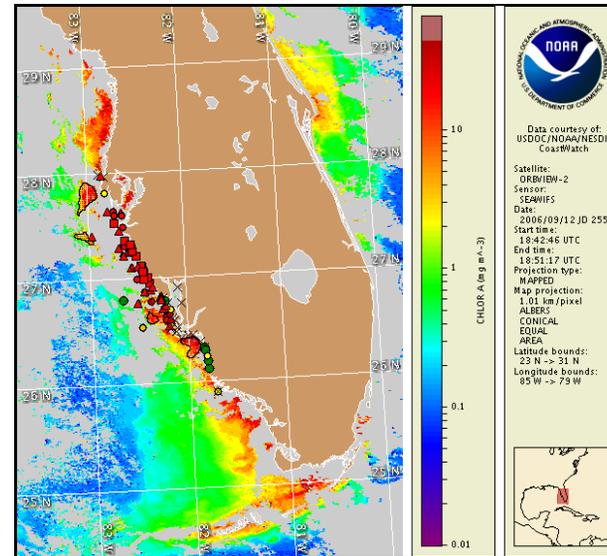
Onshore winds today through Saturday will increase coastal impacts

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

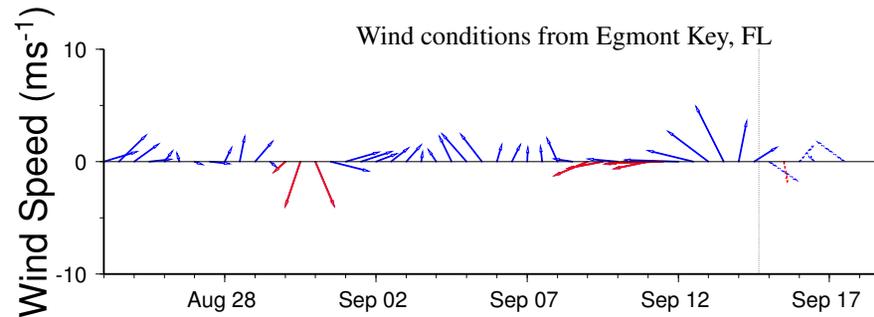
1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

for Charlotte, Lee, and Collier Counties, and onshore winds today through Friday will increase coastal impacts for Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties. No significant intensification is expected. Bloom will maintain location at the coast.

Urizar, Fenstermacher



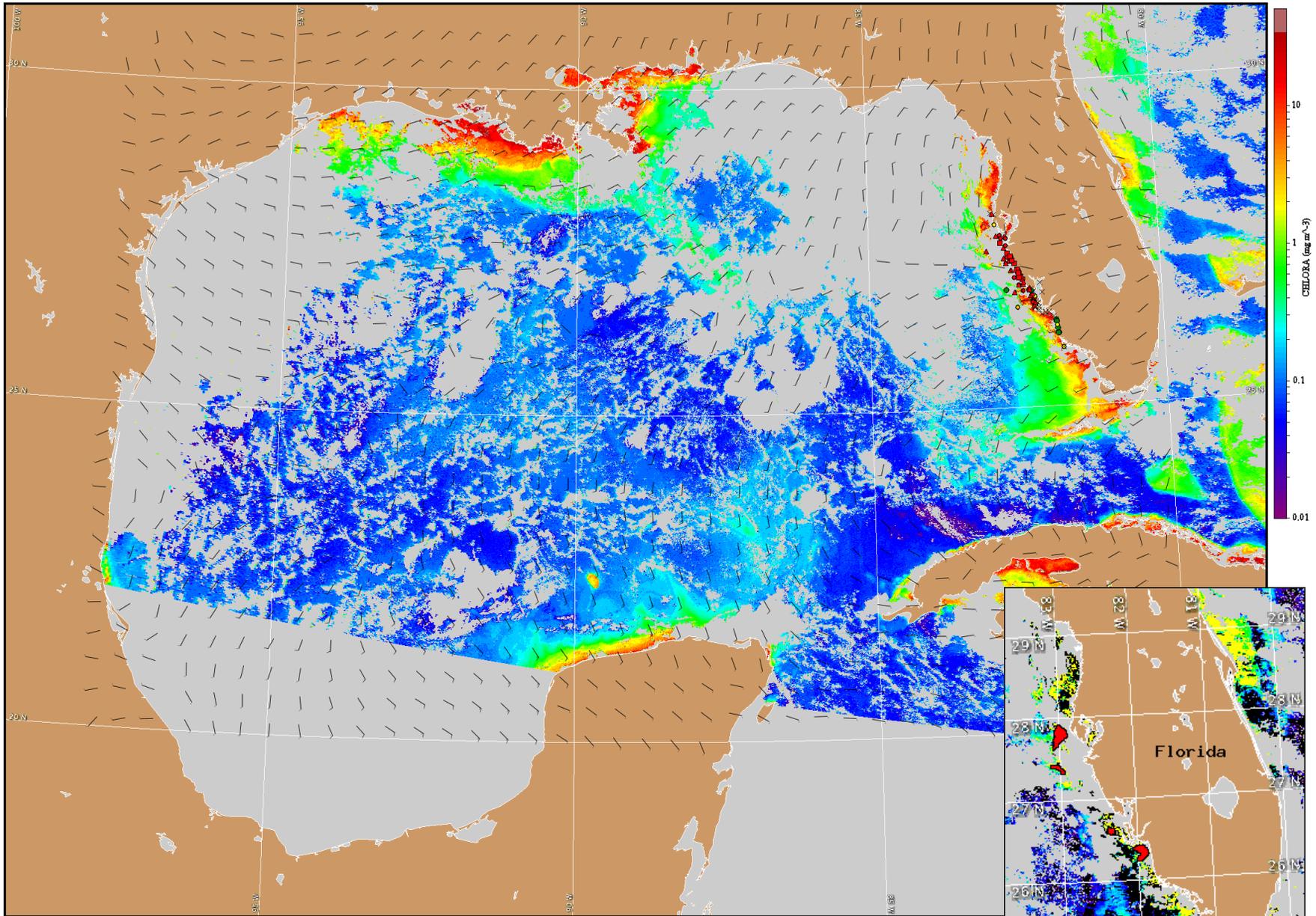
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from September 4-8 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



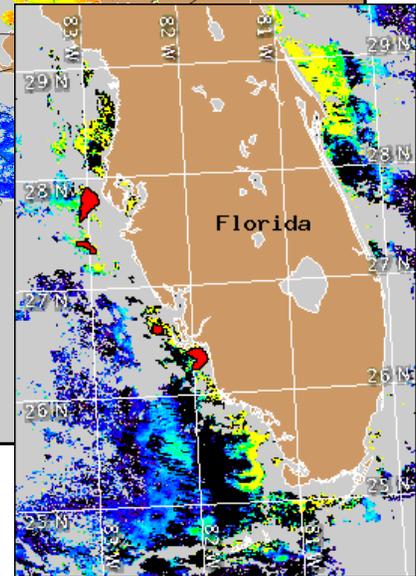
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

Pinellas, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties: NWS Forecast indicates northwesterlies today and Friday at 5-10 knots (3-5 m/s). Light variable winds Friday night through Monday ($< 5\text{kts}$, $< 3 \text{ m/s}$).

Charlotte, Lee, and Collier Counties: NWS Forecast indicates southwest-west winds today at 5-10 knots (3-5 m/s). Northwesterlies Friday and Saturday at 5-10 knots (3-5 m/s). Variable winds Sunday and Monday at 5 knots (3 m/s).

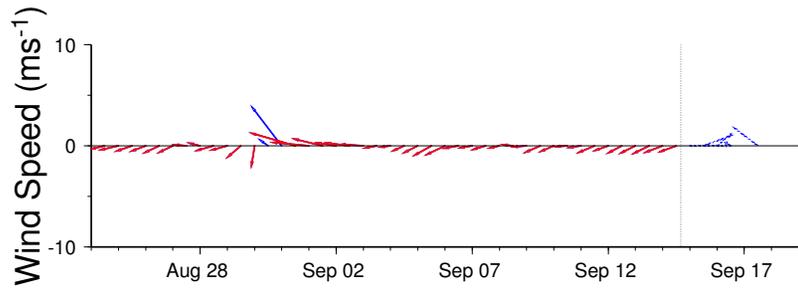


Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 15, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 4-8 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Naples, FL



Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL

