Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

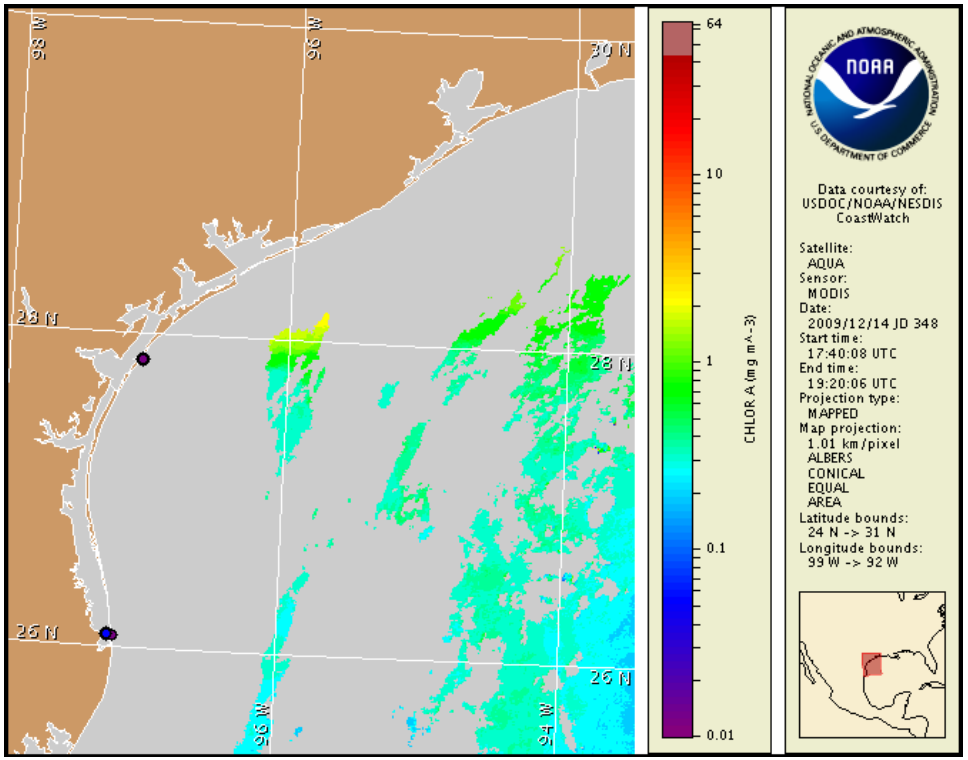
17 December 2009

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: December 15, 2009



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from December 7 to 15 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:

http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

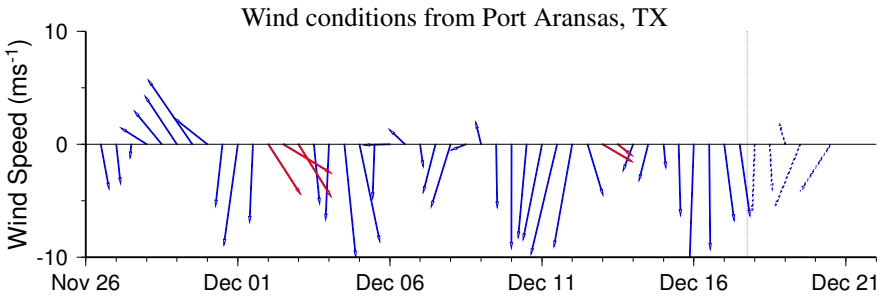
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom continues along South Padre Island and in the Corpus Christi area. Patchy very low impacts are expected in both areas through the week.

Analysis

Due to cloudy weather in the Gulf, no satellite imagery has been available since last week. Fish kills continue to be reported in the Corpus Christi Bay area. Low concentration of Karenia cells continue to be reported in both South Padre Island and Corpus Christi Bay. Low concentrations of cells were reported at Port Aransas. The strong north winds will favor south and westward movement of blooms.

Wynne, Tomlinson



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

North wind today at 10-20 knots. North wind Friday at 10-20 knots North wind Saturday at 10-20 knots. North wind Sunday at 5-15 knots. East wind Monday at 5-10 knots.

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 GeoEye approval via the CoastWatch Program.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm

Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 18, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from December 7 to 15 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue(very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide:
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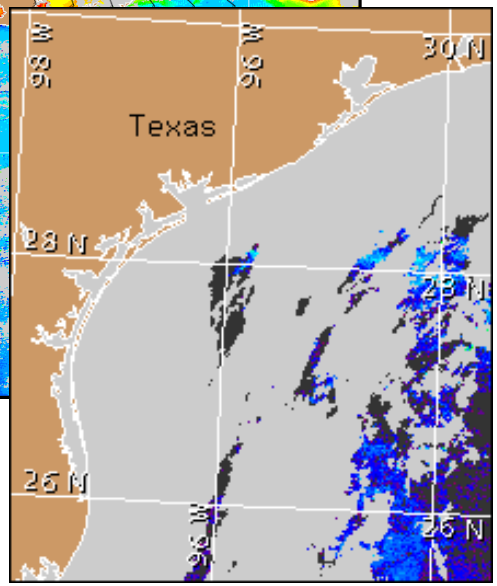

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).