



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

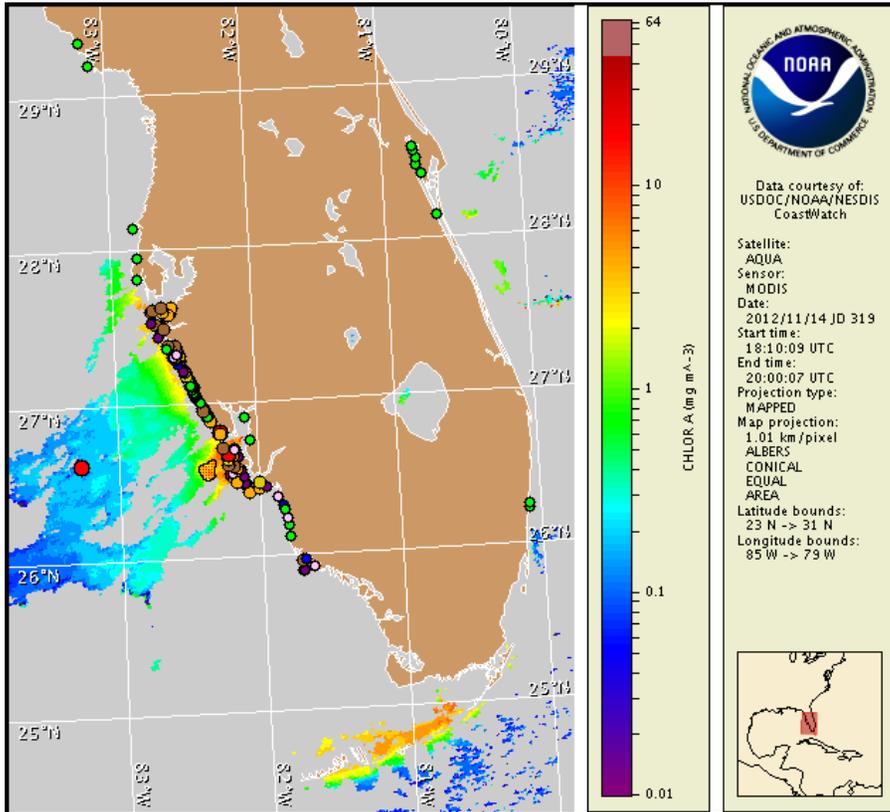
Thursday, 15 November 2012

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Tuesday, November 13, 2012



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 5 to 14 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). Cell count data are provided by Florida 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 the Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/research/redtide/events/status/statewide/>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

Very low to high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida Red Tide) are present along- and offshore from southern Pinellas to Collier counties. Patchy high respiratory impacts are possible today through Monday in the southern Sarasota Bay region of Sarasota County, the Gasparilla Sound region of Charlotte County, and the Pine Island Sound region of Lee County. Patchy moderate respiratory impacts are possible today, Friday and Monday in the bay region of southern Pinellas and Manatee counties and the San Carlos Bay region of central Lee County, with patchy high impacts on Saturday and Sunday. Patchy low respiratory impacts are possible today through Monday in the Marcos Bay region of Collier County. Patchy very low respiratory impacts are expected alongshore southern Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, and southern Lee counties today through Monday. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Monday, November 19.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom of *Karenia brevis* is present along- and offshore southwest Florida from southern Pinellas to Lee counties, with concentrations ranging from very low to high. Background to low concentrations of *K. brevis* were also reported in the Marco Island regions of southern Collier County (FWRI, CCPCPD; 11/8, 11/13). Recent samples collected range from very low to medium *K. brevis* concentrations in the lower Tampa Bay (Pinellas & Manatee counties), Sarasota Bay (Sarasota County), Gasparilla Pass (Charlotte County) and Pine Island Sound (Lee County) systems (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 11/9-14). A sample collected 64 miles offshore of Charlotte and Lee counties indicated *K. brevis* in high concentrations (FWRI; 11/13).

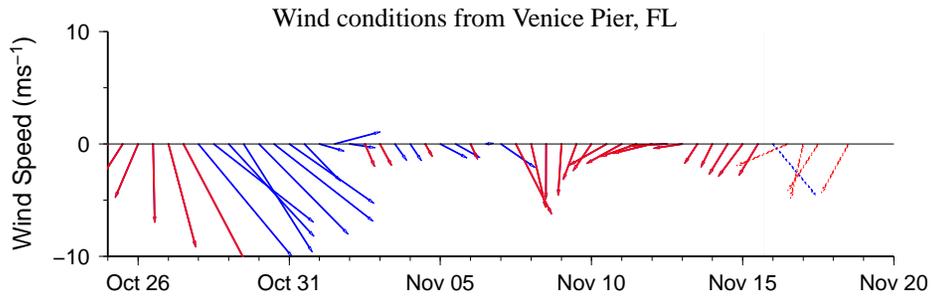
Recent MODIS imagery is obscured by clouds alongshore from southern Pinellas to northern Charlotte counties, and Collier County limiting analysis. A large patch of elevated to high chlorophyll (5 to >10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) remains alongshore and up to 13 miles offshore of Charlotte and Lee Counties (western extent: 26°31'53.84"N, 81°26'16.69"W). Continued offshore sampling is recommended.

Forecasted offshore winds today through Monday may decrease the potential for respiratory impacts along the coast from southern Pinellas to Lee counties, except in the bay regions. Continuous upwelling favorable winds are forecasted through Monday; intensification is possible in southern Lee and Collier counties.

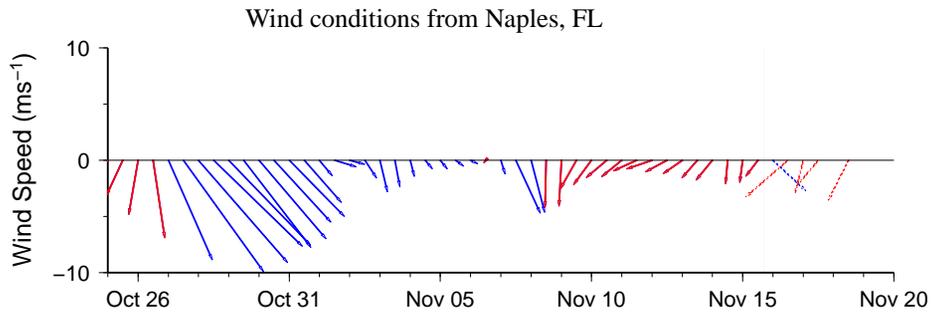
~Fenstermacher, Kavanaugh

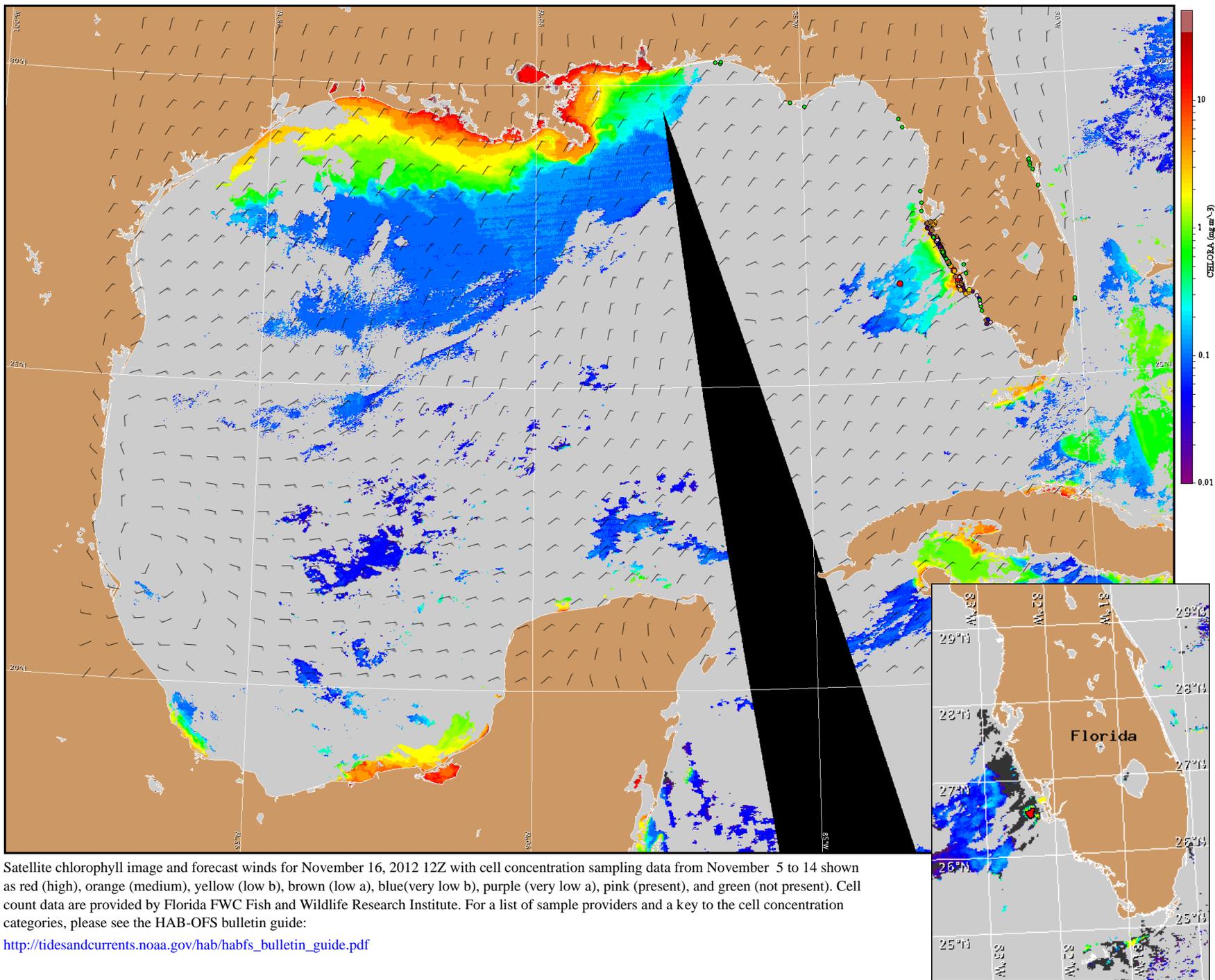
Wind Analysis

SWFL: North winds to northeast winds today through Monday (10-15 kn; 5-8 m/s), with increasing winds on Saturday and Sunday (15-20 kn; 8-10 m/s).



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).





Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 16, 2012 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from November 5 to 14 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). Cell count data are provided by Florida 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 of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).