



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

3 October 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: October 3, 2005

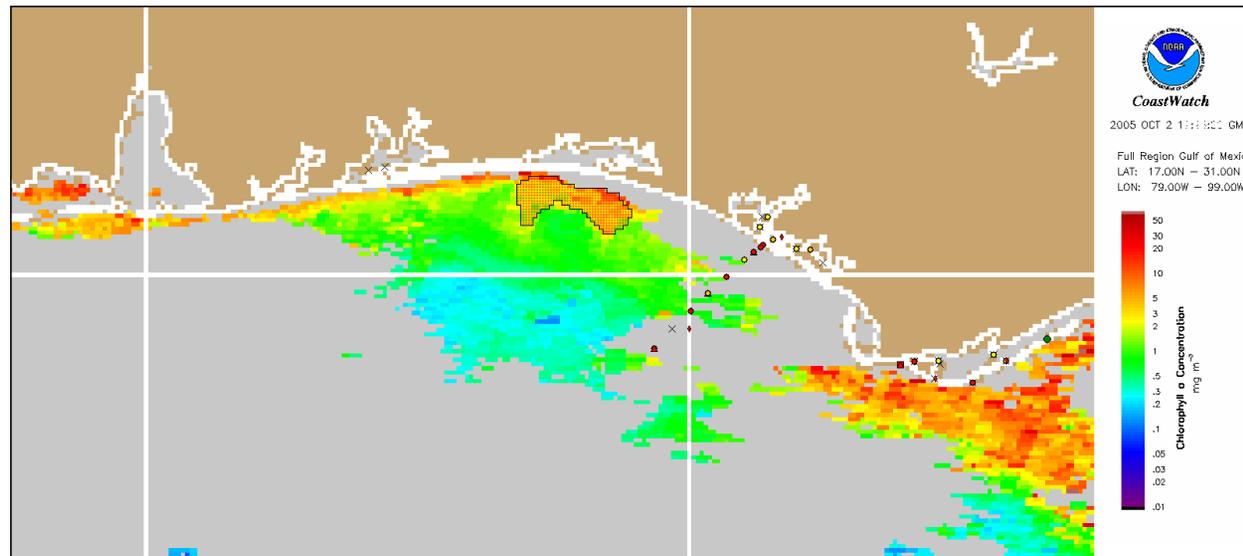
Conditions: Harmful algal blooms have been identified from Pinellas to Collier County, Bay to Franklin, and Dixie to Levy Counties. The following patchy impacts are possible through Thursday: none to low at Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee and northern Collier Counties. The following patchy impacts are possible through Thursday: none to very low at Bay, eastern Franklin, Dixie and Levy Counties, and low to moderate at Gulf and western Franklin Counties. Dead fish have been reported in Okaloosa, Walton, Bay, Gulf, Franklin, Sarasota and Collier Counties. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as red tide.

Analysis: Imagery indicates persistence of elevated chlorophyll along-shore from Okaloosa to Franklin Counties and beyond into the panhandle. The elevated chlorophyll band has decreased in overall intensity and extent since the Sept. 29 bulletin (generally $<6 \mu\text{g/l}$; up to 10 miles offshore). Hot spots continue outside Apalachicola Bay (up to $20 \mu\text{g/l}$; $29^\circ 30' \text{N}$, $85^\circ 11' \text{W}$) and within the bay to northeast of St George Sound (up to $30 \mu\text{g/l}$). In addition, there is a hot spot extending offshore of the Okaloosa/Walton County Line (up to $12 \mu\text{g/l}$; $30^\circ 12' \text{N}$, $86^\circ 16' \text{W}$). High chlorophyll levels are also present offshore of Dixie and Levy Counties ($>20 \mu\text{g/l}$; $29^\circ 04' \text{N}$, $83^\circ 22' \text{W}$). Recommend sampling. Strong easterly and northeasterly winds may cause onshore transport and increase impacts from Okaloosa to Wakulla Counties. Easterlies will likely reduce respiratory irritation reports in Dixie and Levy Counties (Sept 30; FWRI).

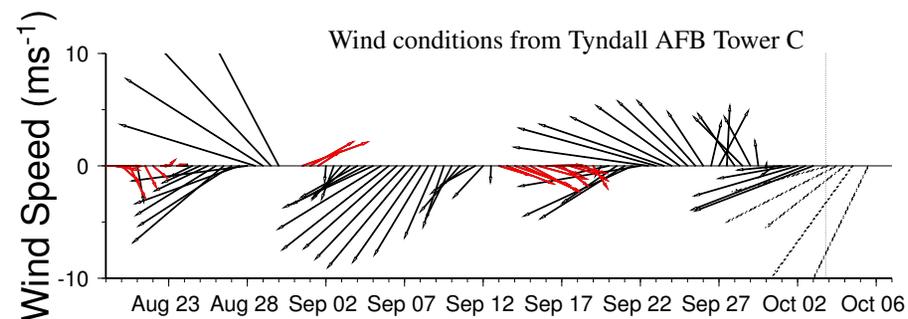
~Fenstermacher and Fisher

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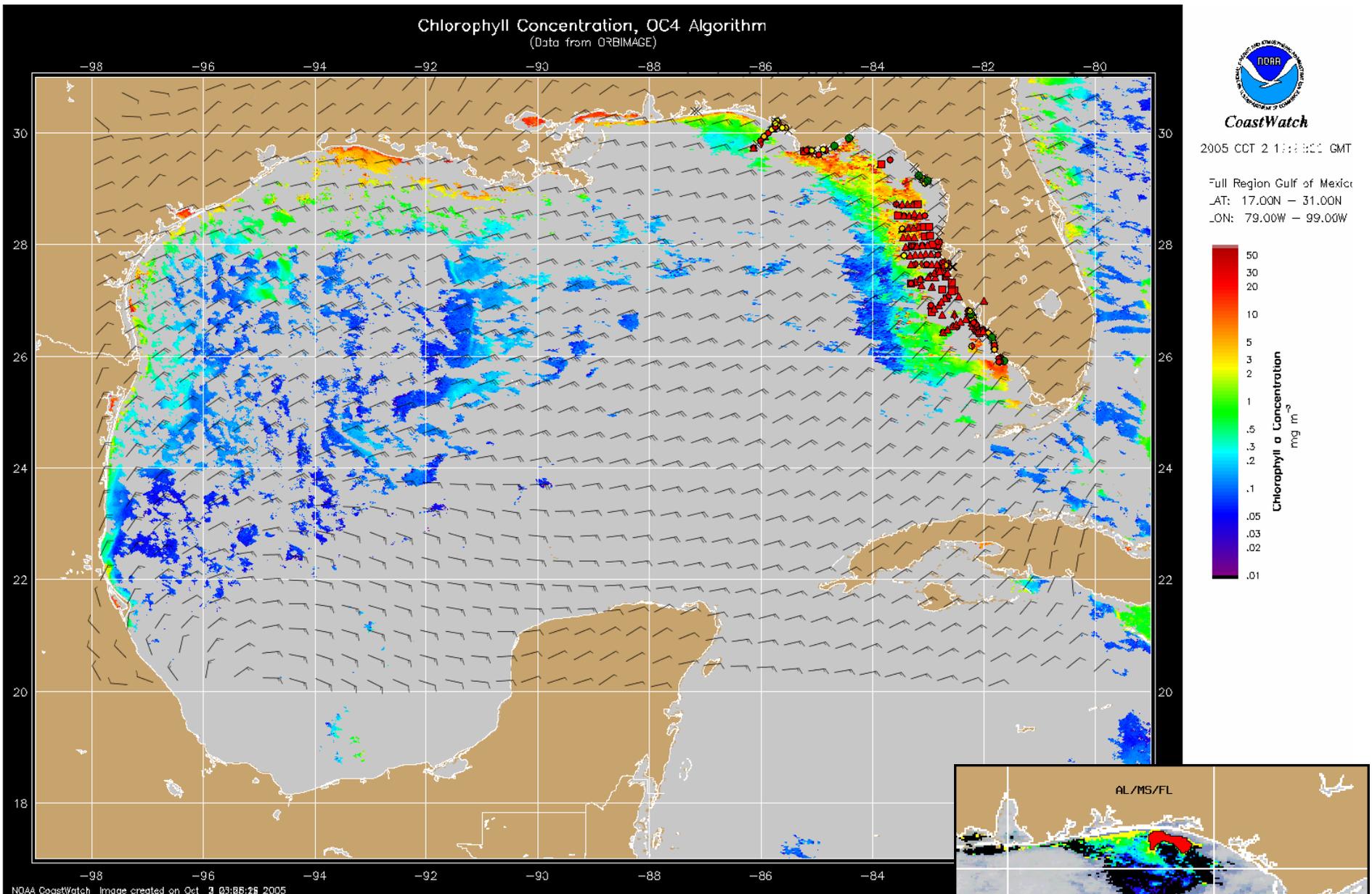


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. 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.

NW Florida: Strong easterlies today followed by northeasterlies Tuesday night and Wednesday (15-20 knots; 8-10 m/s). Easterlies on Wednesday evening and Thursday (5-15 knots; 3-8 m/s).



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for October 4, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from September 30, 2005 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).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis)