



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

12 December 2005

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 12, 2005

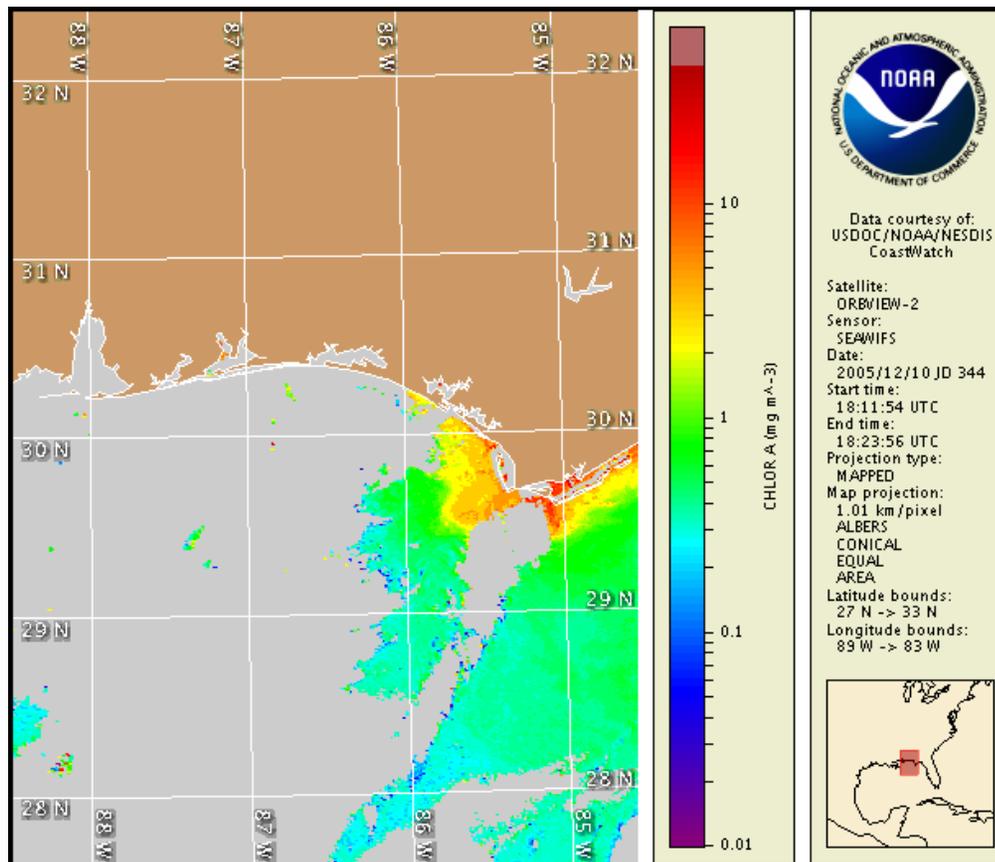
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches at Okaloosa and Walton Counties. In Okaloosa, patchy, none to very low impacts are possible through Tuesday and patchy, low to moderate impacts are possible on Wednesday and Thursday. No impacts are expected in Walton County through Thursday.

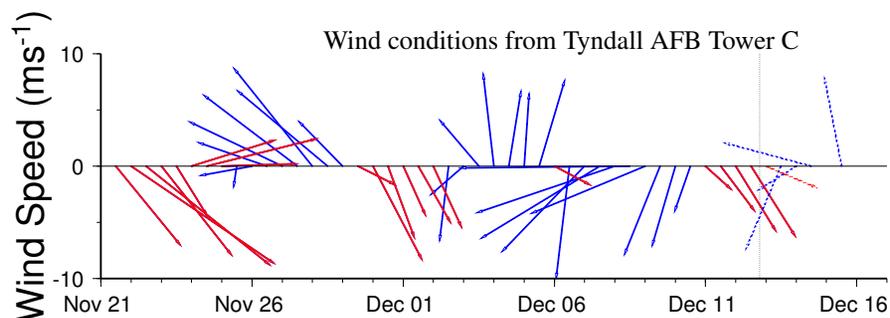
Analysis

The bloom in the Panhandle continues to weaken onshore. Samples indicate *K. brevis* is at low concentrations in Okaloosa, present in Walton and not present from Bay to Wakulla Counties (12/7; FWRI). Imagery indicates an elevated chlorophyll feature (up to 4 $\mu\text{g/L}$) approximately 18 miles southwest of St. Joseph Bay (29°27'N; 85°36'W). Imagery continues to indicate elevated chlorophyll (>9 $\mu\text{g/L}$) up to 8 miles offshore of Apalachicola Bay. Cloudiness limits analysis of western extent. Recommend sampling offshore. The continuation of offshore, upwelling favorable winds through Tuesday may increase bloom intensity and reduce onshore impacts. Strong onshore winds Wednesday and Thursday may transport bloom onshore and increase likelihood of impacts.

~Fenstermacher & Stolz



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).

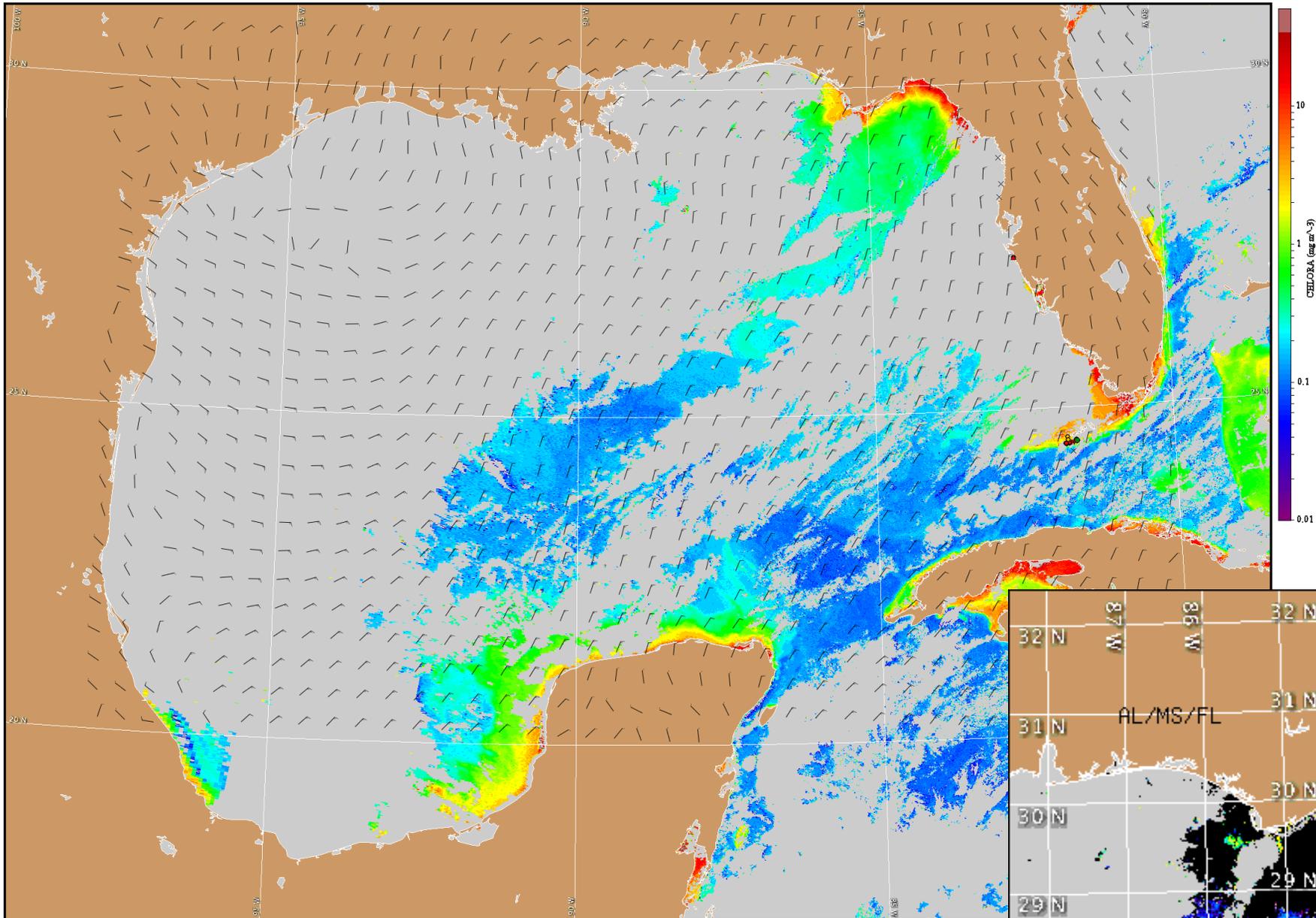


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

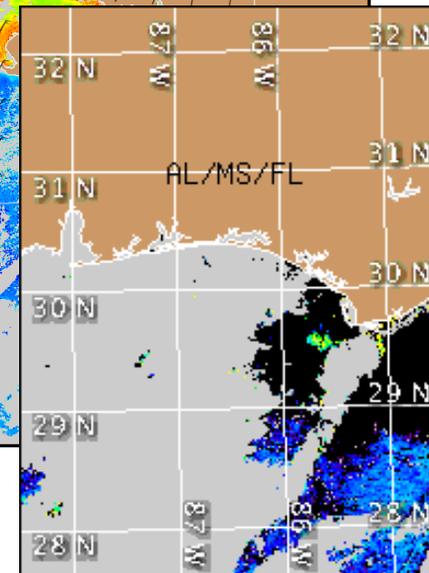
NW Florida: Northwesterlies today followed by northeasterlies to easterlies on Tuesday (10-15 knots; 5-8 m/s). Southeasterlies on Wednesday increasing in strength in the evening (10-20 knots; 5-10 m/s). Strong southwesterlies on Thursday morning (20-25 knots; 10-13 m/s).

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1. Data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
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Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 13, 2005 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from December 2 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).