



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

16 November 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: November 8, 2006

## Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to central Collier Counties. In southern Pinellas, Manatee, northern Sarasota, and northern Lee Counties, patchy moderate impacts are possible today. In southern Sarasota and Charlotte Counties, patchy high impacts are possible today. In Collier County, patchy low impacts are possible today. In southern Pinellas, Manatee, northern Sarasota, northern Lee, and Collier Counties, patchy very low impacts are possible Friday through Sunday. In southern Sarasota and Charlotte Counties, patchy low impacts are possible Friday through Sunday. In southern Lee County, no impacts are expected today through Sunday.

## Analysis

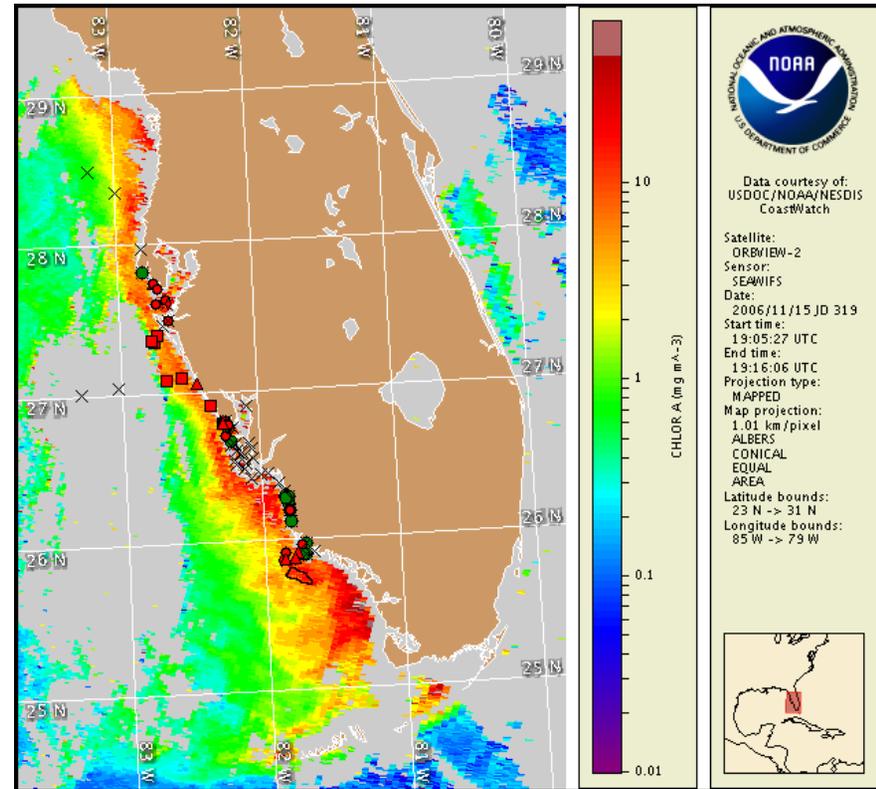
The harmful algal bloom persists from Pinellas to central Collier Counties. Present satellite imagery (11/15) indicates the presence of small patches of elevated chlorophyll levels (>6 µg/L) throughout southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier County. In general, the highest chlorophyll levels are located offshore Lee and Collier Counties. There is a band of high chlorophyll levels (17-24 µg/L) from 26°40.3'N 82°19.8'W to 26°34.8'N 82°17'W, there is a region of high chlorophyll levels (8-27 µg/L) centered about 26°19.8'N 81°58.3'W, and there is a band of high chlorophyll levels (13-19 µg/L) from 26°13.6'N 81°55.1'W to 26°7'N 81°53.6'W. The most recent samples taken offshore Manatee County at the Skyway Fishing Pier (south) indicate low b levels of *K. brevis* (FWRI; 11/15). North-facing regions of northern Manatee County may experience patchy low impacts Friday and patchy moderate impacts Saturday and Sunday as northerly winds are forecasted. Samples taken offshore Sarasota and Charlotte Counties indicate medium and high levels of *K. brevis*, respectively, and samples taken offshore Collier County indicate low a levels of *K. brevis* (FWRI; 11/13-15).

Offshore winds Friday through Sunday will decrease impacts at the coast. Intensification of the bloom is possible due to steady offshore winds Friday through Sunday. Weak southward alongshore transport of the bloom is possible Friday through Sunday.

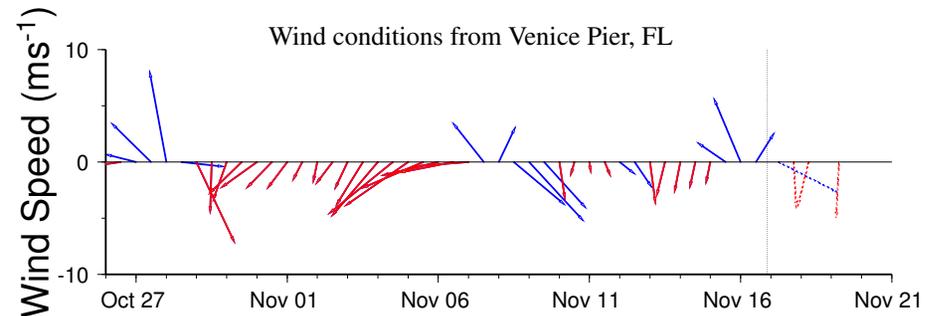
Urizar, Bronder

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.

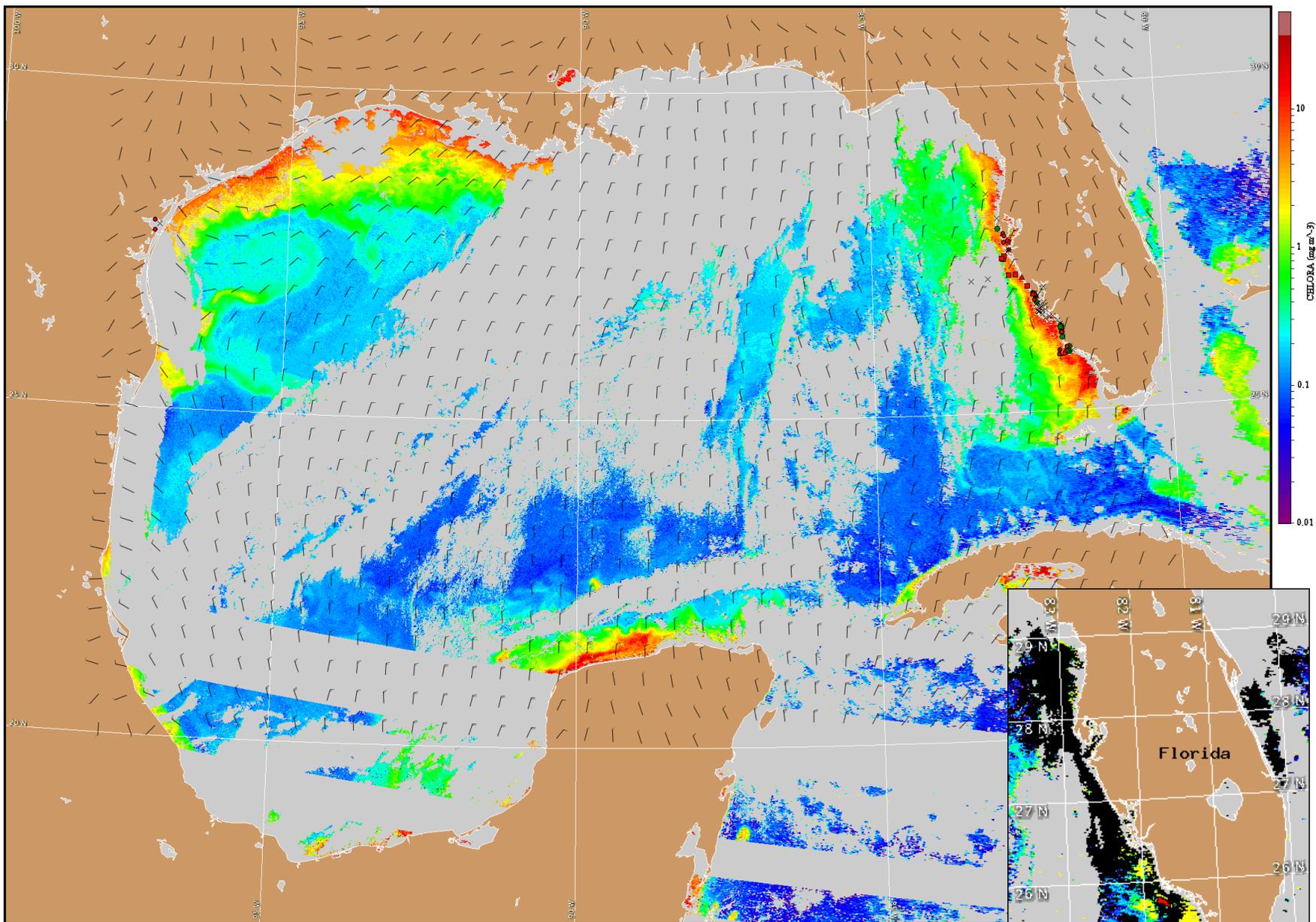


Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 6-15 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present). Cell count data from FWRI. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site: <http://research.myfwc.com>



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.

SW Florida: Northwestern winds today at 20-25 knots (10-13 m/s). Northerly winds Friday (10 kts, 5 m/s), Saturday (10-15 kts, 5-8 m/s), and Sunday (15-20 kts, 8-10 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 17, 2006 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from November 6-15 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). Cell count data from FWRI. For a key to the cell concentration descriptions, visit the FWRI web site: <http://research.myfwc.com>

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