



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

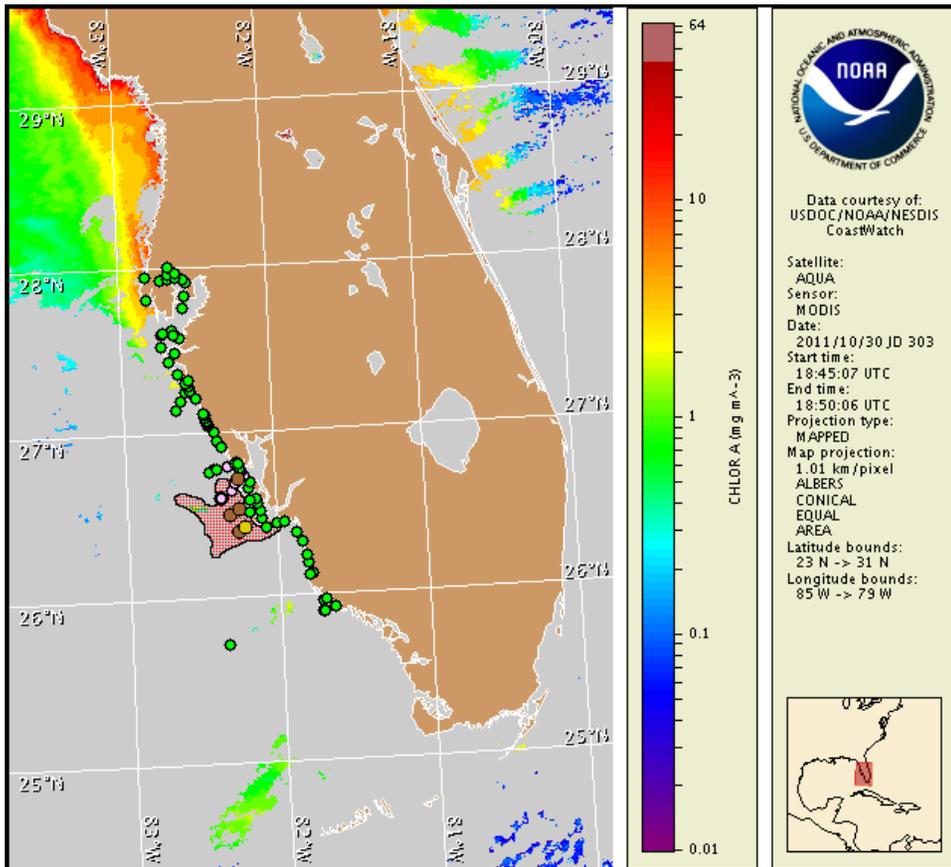
Monday, 31 October 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, October 27, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 21 to 31 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 HAB-OFS bulletin guide:

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

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:

<http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom is present alongshore and offshore northern to central Lee County. Harmful algae is also present in the Gasparilla and Pine Island Sound regions of Charlotte and Lee County. Patchy very low impacts are possible in the Gasparilla and Pine Island Sound regions and alongshore northern and central Lee County today through Wednesday. No impacts are expected along the coast of Charlotte County or elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, November 2. Reports of dead fish have been received in Charlotte County over the past week.

Analysis

The harmful algal bloom first identified on 9/26 in southern Sarasota County is currently located alongshore and offshore Charlotte and northern to central Lee Counties, including the Gasparilla and Pine Island Sound regions. *Karenia brevis* concentrations are highest offshore central Lee County ('medium' up to 10 miles west of Sanibel Island), and range from background to low concentrations throughout the remaining bloom region both alongshore and offshore Charlotte through central Lee County (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 10/21-10/27). Samples collected over the past 10 days indicate that the bloom is no longer present in Sarasota County (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 10/21-10/27). All other samples collected alongshore from Pinellas through northern Monroe counties, and offshore Sarasota County indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, MML, SCHD; 10/21-10/27).

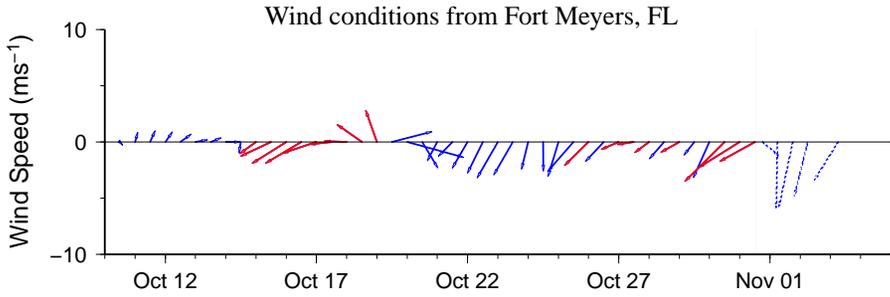
Dead fish were reported last week by FWRI near Manasota Key in Charlotte County (10/25). No additional reports of impacts have been reported elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida over the past week.

Recent MODIS imagery has been cloudy, limiting analysis of present bloom location and conditions. Wind conditions over the past few days combined with the presence of 'very low' to 'low' offshore subsurface *K. brevis* samples reported by FWRI may have promoted slight bloom intensification of the bloom at the coast; however, intensification this week is unlikely. Forecasted northeast winds this week will decrease the potential for respiratory impacts in southwest Florida; however, the possibility of impacts in bay regions of Charlotte and Lee counties may be greater. Slight southward transport of the bloom is possible through Wednesday, November 2.

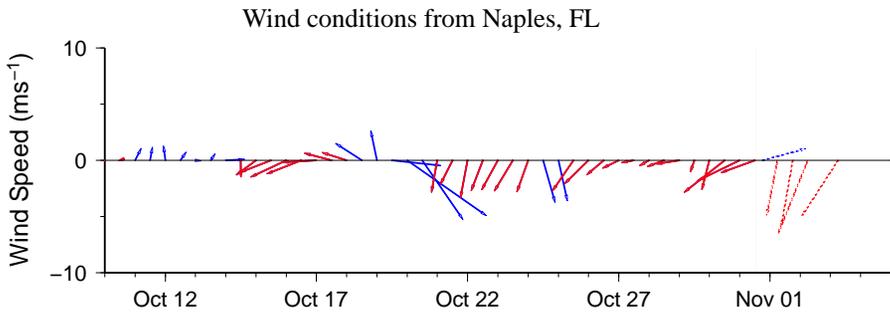
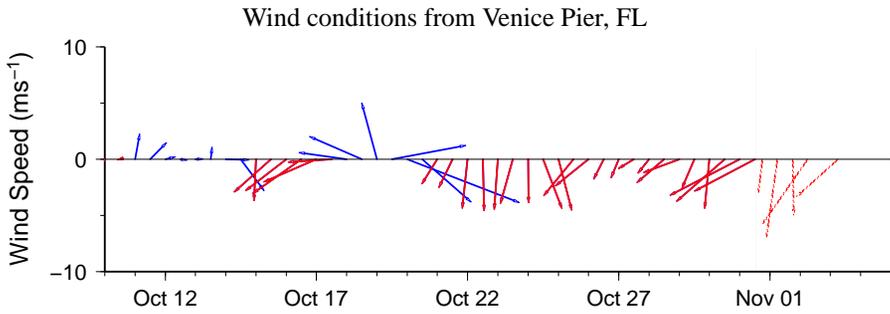
Fisher, Urizar

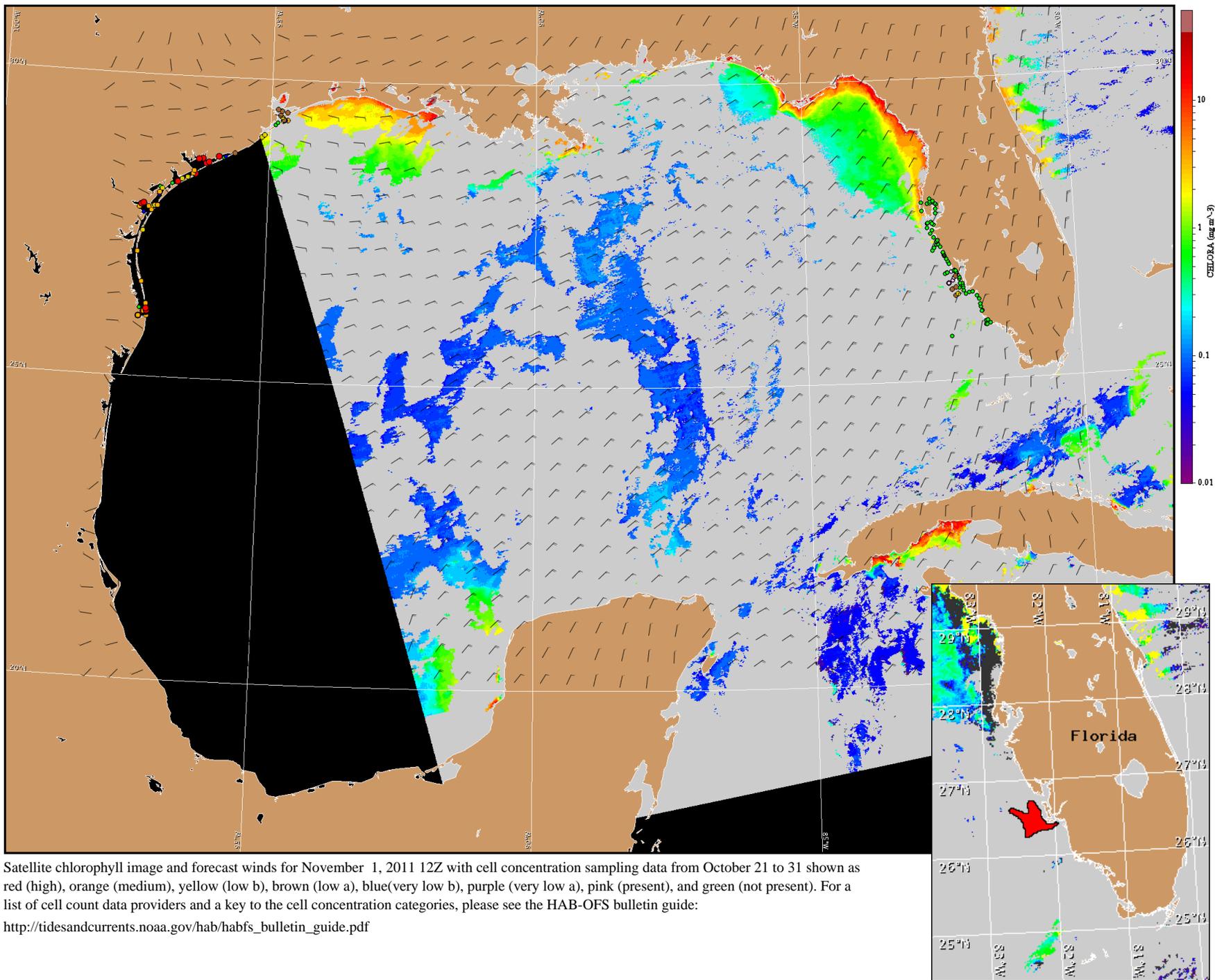
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Northeast winds today (20 kn, 10 m/s) and tonight through Wednesday (15-20kn, 8-10m/s), decreasing to 10kn (5m/s) Wednesday night.



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 1, 2011 12Z with cell concentration sampling data from October 21 to 31 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 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).