



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

23 January 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: January 19, 2006

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in southern Pinellas and northern Manatee Counties. Patchy none to very low impacts are possible for southern Pinellas and northern Manatee Counties Monday night through Tuesday afternoon. No other impacts are expected through Thursday.

Analysis

Bloom concentrations remain weak alongshore of southwest Florida. However, recent sampling data indicates a slight increase in onshore concentrations for southern Pinellas and northern Manatee counties. Concentrations have increased from present (1/10; FWRI) to very low (1/19; FWRI) at Anna Maria Island and from not present (1/10; FWRI) to very low (1/19; FWRI) at Mullet Key gulfside. Present to medium concentrations were found offshore at Englewood in Charlotte County (1/12; MML). Due to variable winds throughout the week, little movement of the bloom is expected. Northwestern winds Monday night through Tuesday may slightly increase impacts alongshore.

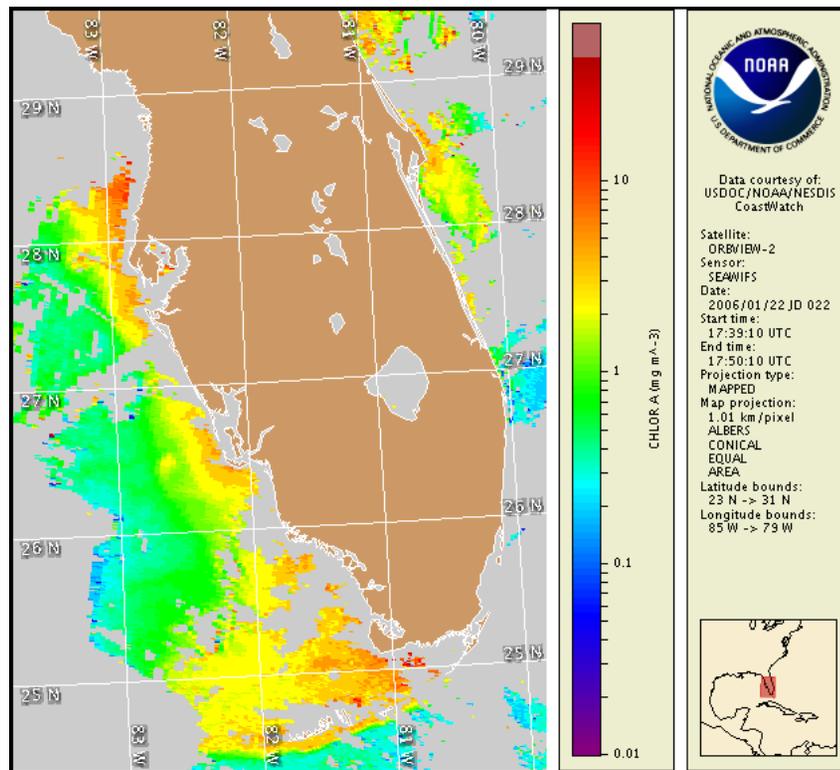
Bloom continues to dissipate in the Florida Keys. Present to very low concentrations of *K. brevis* were reported at Sugarloaf Key (1/16; MML). An elevated chlorophyll patch has been detected around 81° 17' W and 24° 48' N, just north of the Horseshoe Keys. Sampling is recommended. No impacts are expected throughout the week. Easterly and northeasterly winds may cause slight westerly movement of the bloom.

No recent sampling data has been obtained for southeast Florida at Palm Beach County.

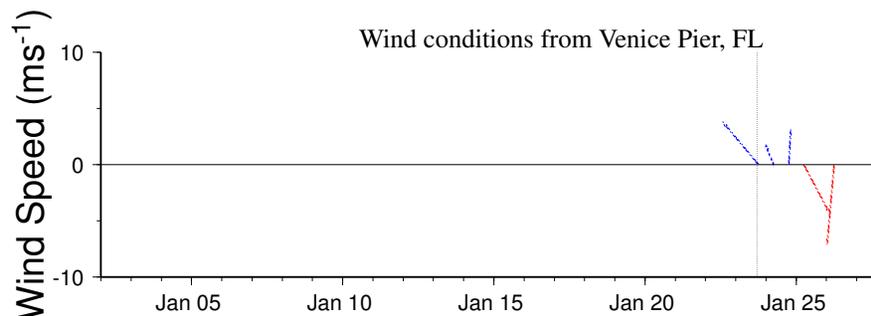
~Keller, Fenstermacher

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 OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



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.

SW Florida: Southeast winds today with southwest winds tonight (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Northwest winds Tuesday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). North winds Tuesday night through Wednesday (15 knots; 8 m/s) becoming northeast Wednesday night through Thursday (15 knots; 8 m/s).

Keys: East winds today (10-20 knots; 5-10 m/s). North to northeast winds through Thursday (10-15 knots; 5-8 m/s).

