



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

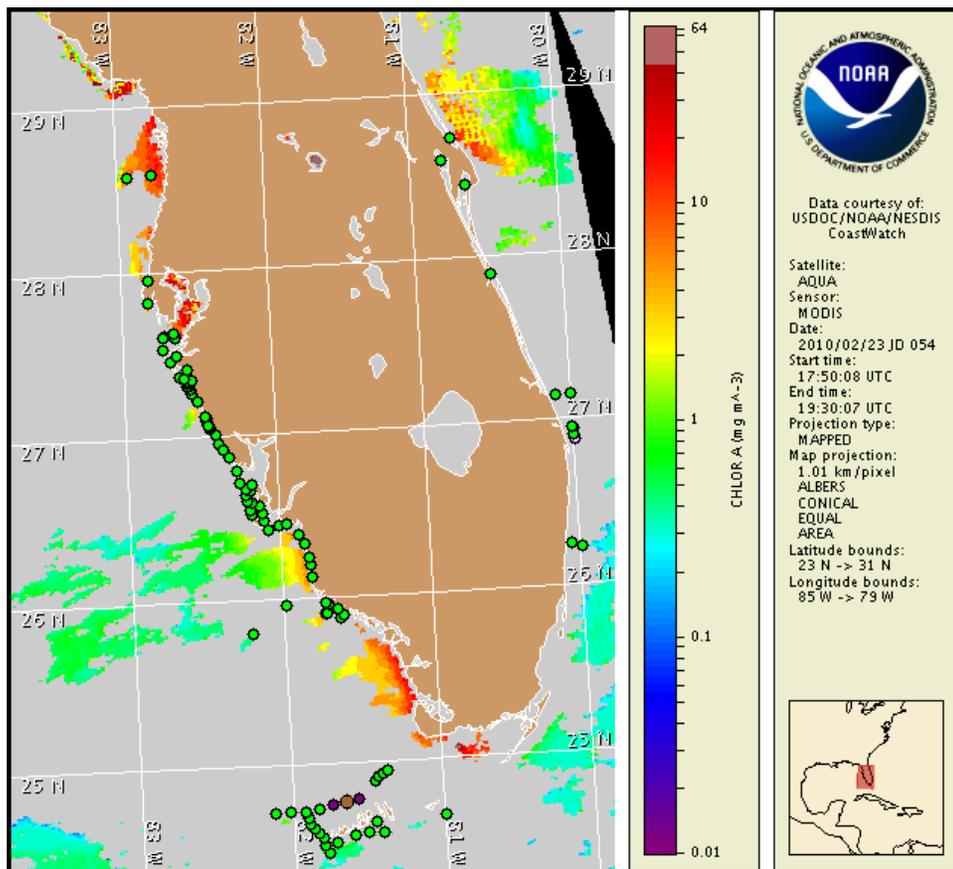
25 February 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: February 22, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 15 to 24 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 HABFS bulletin guide:

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

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.

Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom continues offshore in the gulfside region of the lower Florida Keys and was last identified on 2/8 offshore in the gulfside region of the middle Florida Keys. Patchy low impacts are possible today through Sunday in the gulfside region of the lower and middle Florida Keys. No impacts are expected elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, February 28.

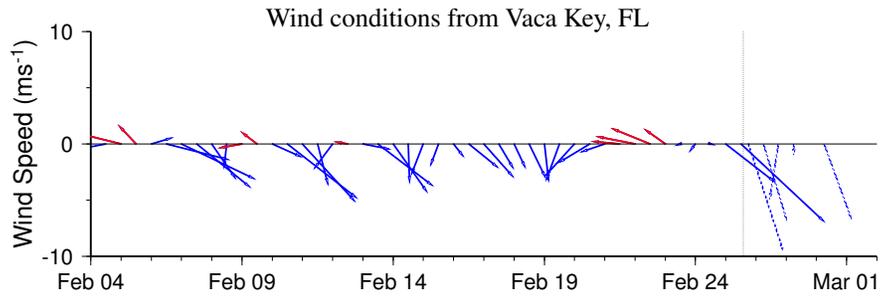
Analysis

SW Florida: No *Karenia brevis* has been identified alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier County, or offshore southern Collier County (15nm northwest of Marco Island and 3.4nm southwest of Cape Romano) in the past week (FWRI, 2/18-2/24). No new sample information is available in northern Monroe County where a 'very low b' *K. brevis* concentration was last identified southwest of Pavilion Key on 2/9 (FWRI). No reports of impacts due to harmful algal blooms have been received this week (MML,FWRI,CCPCPD). Recent satellite imagery is predominantly obscured by clouds throughout the southwest Florida region, limiting analysis. No elevated chlorophyll features are visible in recent MODIS imagery nearshore or offshore northern to central Collier County.

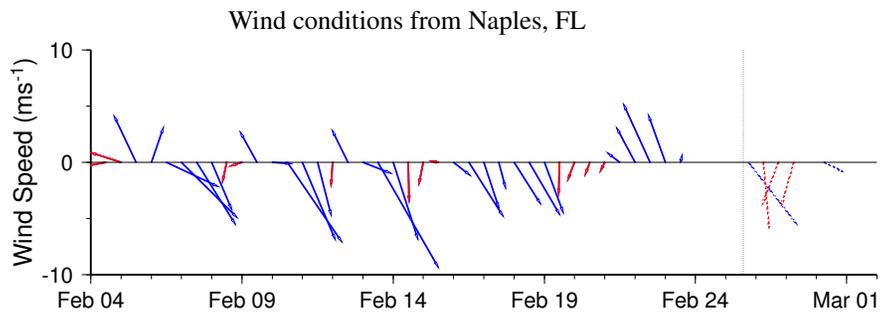
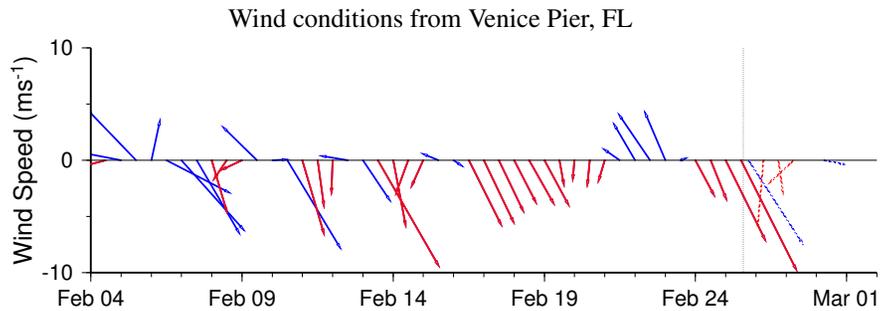
Florida Keys: A patchy harmful algal bloom continues offshore in the gulfside region of the lower Florida Keys (up to 'low a'; MML, 2/15). No new sample information is available north of the middle Florida Keys where 'very low a' to 'very low b' *K. brevis* concentrations were last identified on 2/8 (MML). Recent satellite imagery is obscured by clouds throughout the Florida Keys region. Continued sampling is recommended. Strong northwest to north winds today through Sunday will increase the potential for southward transport of the bloom north of the Keys.

Due to technical difficulties SeaWiFS imagery is currently unavailable for display. MODIS imagery is shown on this bulletin.

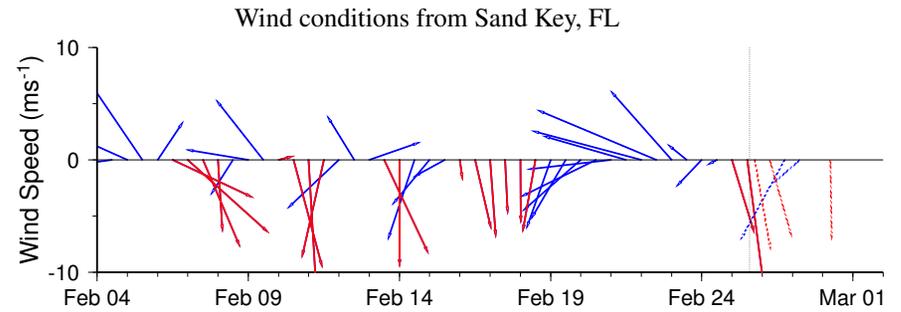
-Fisher, Lindley



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).



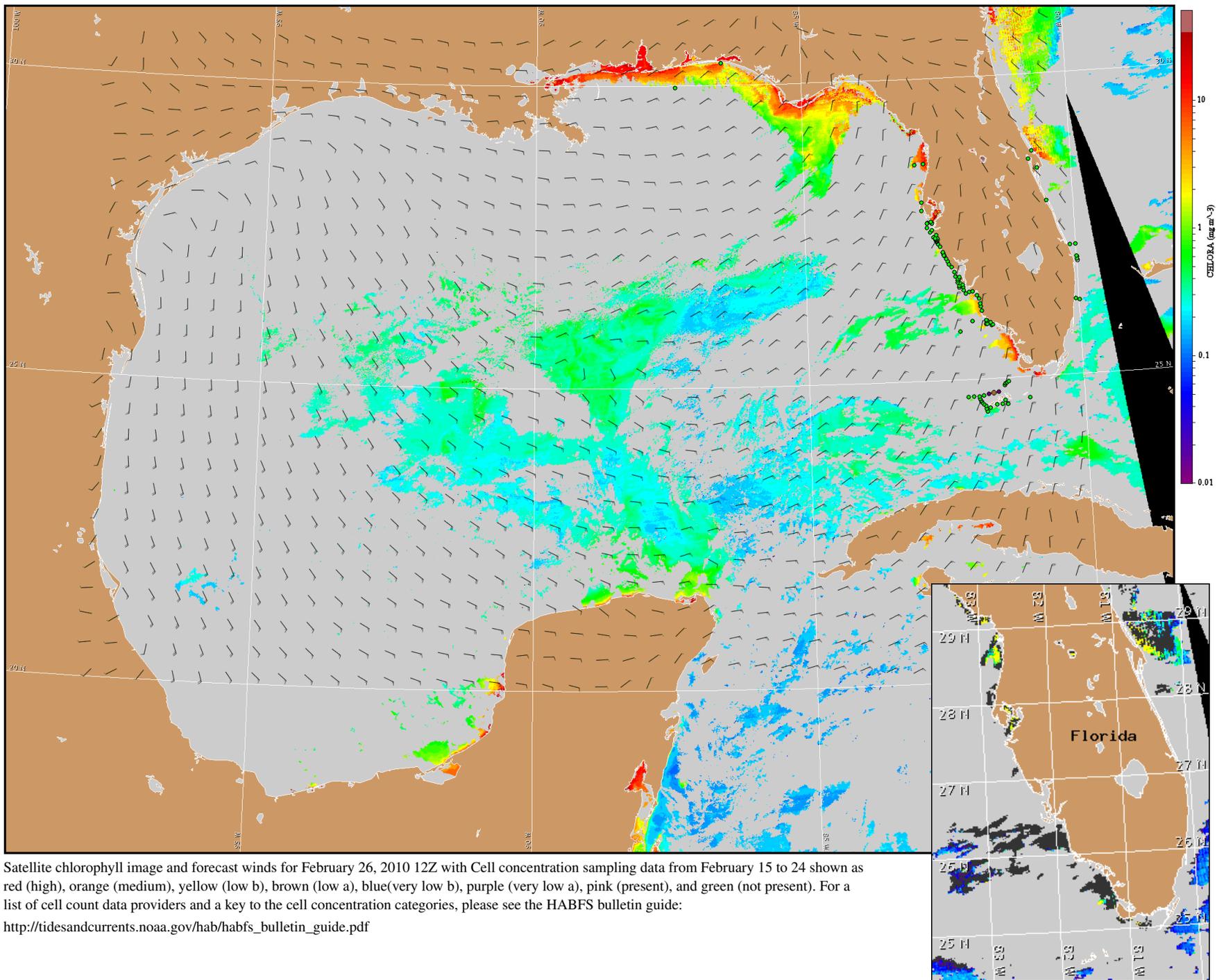
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Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Northwest winds today through tonight (15-20kn, 8-10m/s). North to northeast winds Friday (10kn, 5m/s). North winds Saturday (15kn, 8m/s). Northwest to north winds on Sunday (15kn).

Florida Keys (gulfside): Northwest to north winds today (25-35kn, 13-18m/s) and tonight (15-20kn, 8-10m/s). North to northeast winds Friday (15-20kn), shifting east to southeast Friday night (5-10kn, 3-5m/s). Southwest winds Saturday (15-25kn, 8-13m/s). Northwest to north winds Sunday (10-15kn, 5-8m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 26, 2010 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 15 to 24 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 HABFS 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).