



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

23 May 2005

National Ocean Service

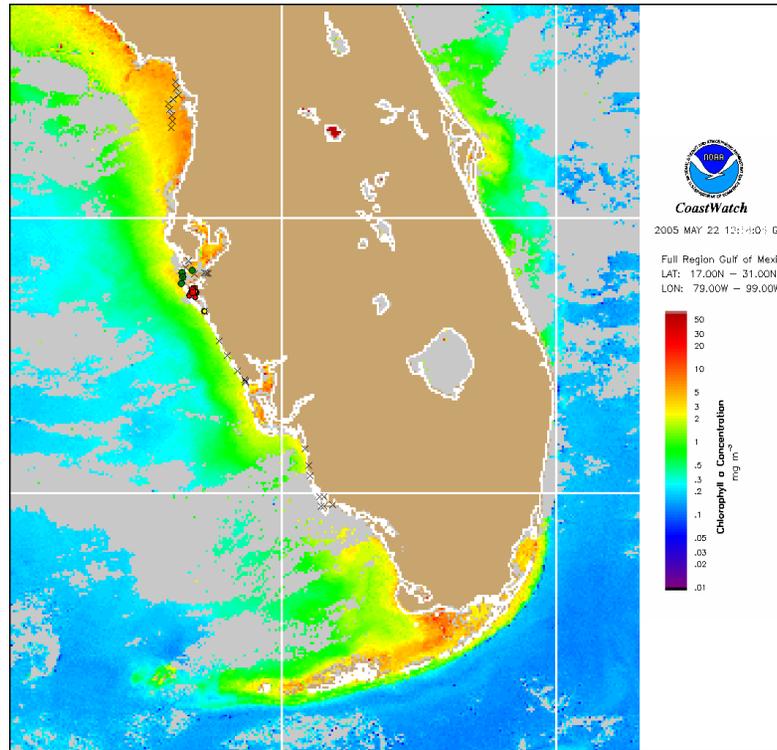
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: May 19, 2005

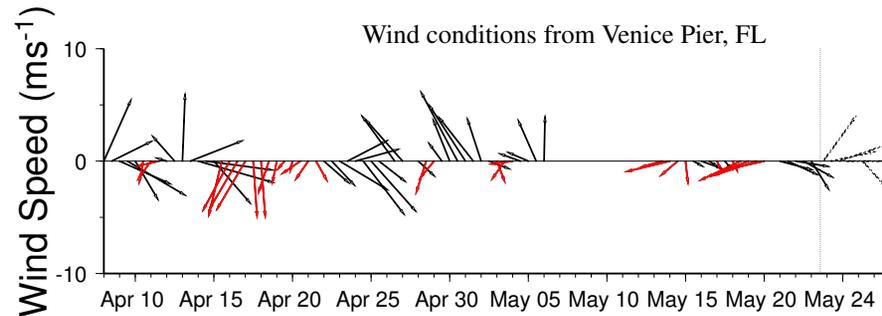
Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified in Southern Pinellas, Manatee and Northern Sarasota Counties. Patchy very low to high impacts are possible in bayside vicinities through Thursday. The bloom continues to dissipate along the coast; impacts at the beach are unlikely.

Analysis: The bloom remains in the Palma Sola and Sarasota Bay systems. Samples collected last week (5/16-5/19) by FWRI and Mote Marine Lab indicated a new presence of *K. brevis* outside Tampa Bay at Mullet Key. Imagery reveals continued elevated chlorophyll levels outside Tampa Bay to the west of Anna Maria Island up to 5 µg/L (27°30'N, 82°46'W). Higher levels of *K. brevis* than previously sampled were reported at Anna Maria Island (Low), Longboat Pass (Medium), and New Pass (Medium); while levels have decreased in Palma Sola Bay and Cortez. Fish kills continued to be reported last week from Palma Sola Bay. One report of respiratory irritation was also made last week at Matlacha Pass in Lee County, although no *K. brevis* was found. Continued bayside impacts are possible in and around Palma Sola Bay, Anna Maria Island and the mouth of Tampa Bay. Intensification and movement of the bloom is not expected.

~Fisher, Bronder



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from May 15, 2005 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).

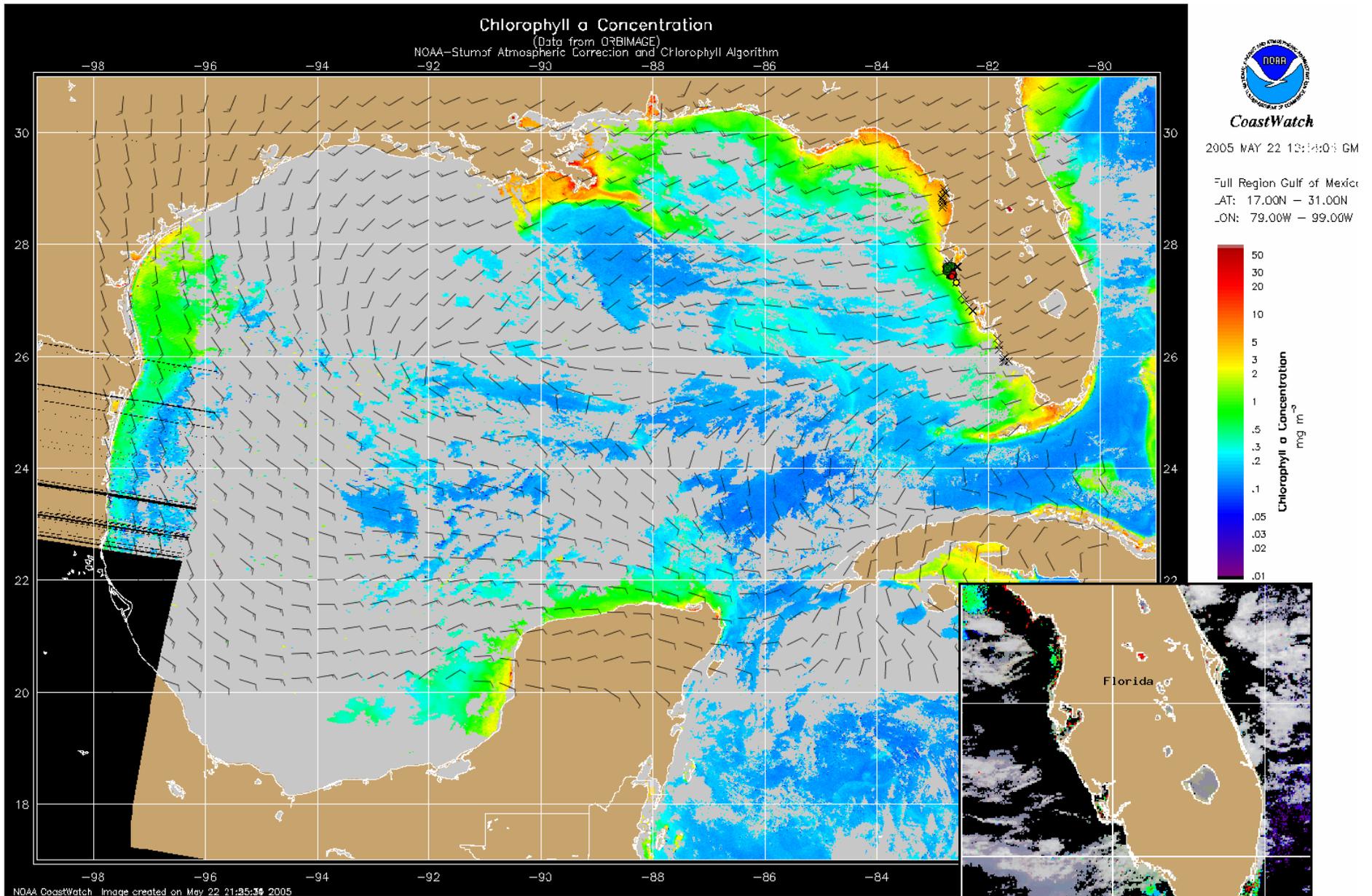


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right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

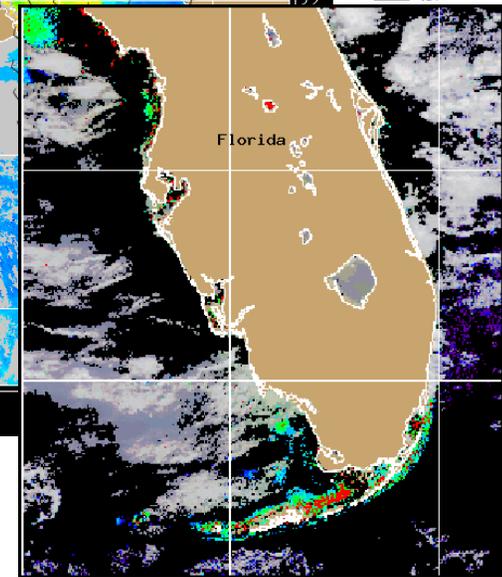
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Mild (5-10kt, 3-5m/s) southwesterlies today becoming moderate (10-15kt, 5-8m/s) westerlies this afternoon into Tuesday. Gusty conditions Tuesday afternoon will weaken to 10-15kt (5-8m/s) northwesterlies Tuesday night, turning northerly Wednesday. Milder (10kt, 5m/s) northwesterlies Wednesday night, returning to northerlies Thursday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for May 24, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from May 15, 2005 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).



Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)