



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

15 August 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: August 11, 2005

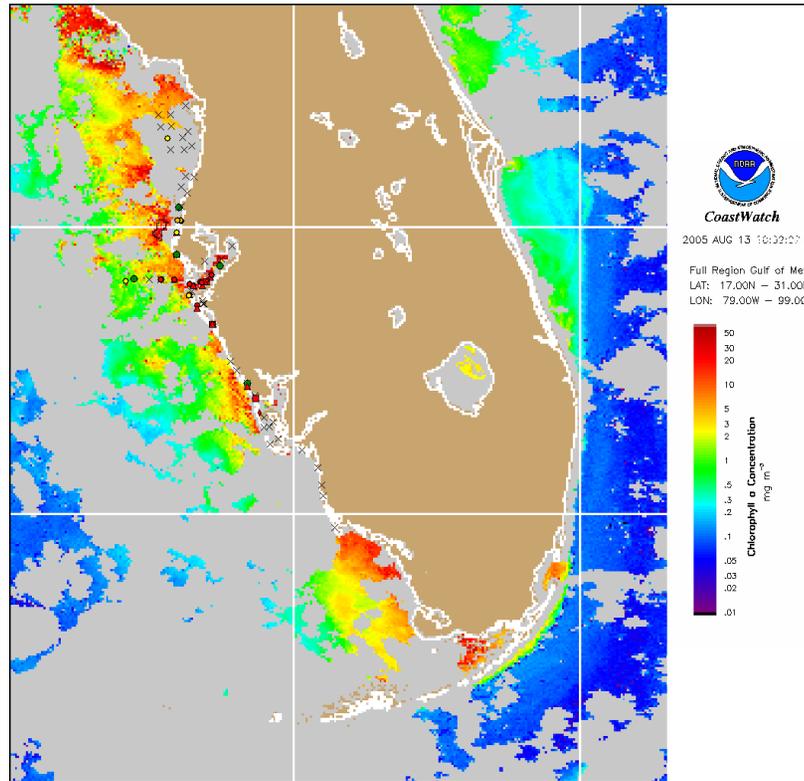
Conditions: A harmful algal bloom has been identified from northern Pinellas to northern Lee County. Today through Wednesday, the following impacts are possible, particularly in the afternoons: patchy low to moderate impacts in northern to central Pinellas County, Manatee, Charlotte and northern Lee Counties; very low impacts in southern Pinellas County; and patchy low to high impacts in Sarasota County.

Analysis: The current bloom persists offshore of Hernando County to coastal portions of northern Lee County. A high chlorophyll band continues to extend along the entire coast with several distinct patches in the following areas: offshore Pasco and Pinellas Counties at 27°50'N, 82°59'W north to 28°23'N, 83°5'W (hot spots at 28°1'N, 82°57'W and 28°22'N, 83°5'W); southern Sarasota County at 26°57'N, 82°27'W (20 µg/L); and outside Charlotte Harbor at 26°43'N, 82°20'W (36 µg/L). Sampling conducted by FWRI on August 8 showed no presence of *K. brevis* in Collier County; however high chlorophyll levels are visible in recent satellite imagery from 25°47'N, 81°42'W to 25°32'N, 81°16'W. This is likely a non-HAB event. Reports of discolored water are possible. Continual reports of fish kills, both onshore and offshore, were reported from Hernando to Lee Counties last week. Other marine animal deaths, including sea turtles, have been reported as well. Mild and fluctuating wind conditions have likely halted any significant movement of the bloom since the last sampling event on August 11. Afternoon westerly winds today through Wednesday will increase the likelihood of respiratory distress and dead fish reports. Slight northerly movement is possible through Thursday.

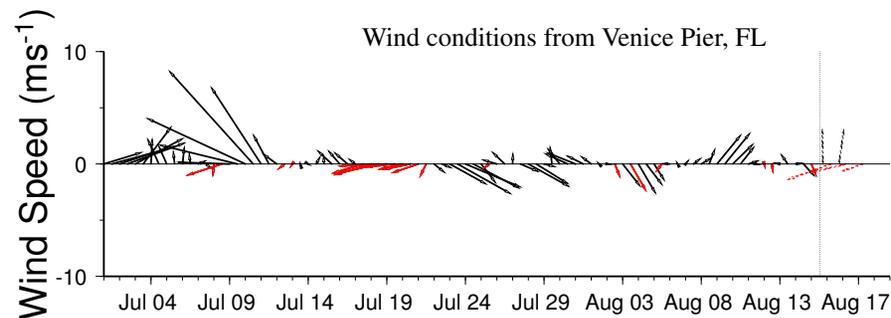
~Fisher & Bronder

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

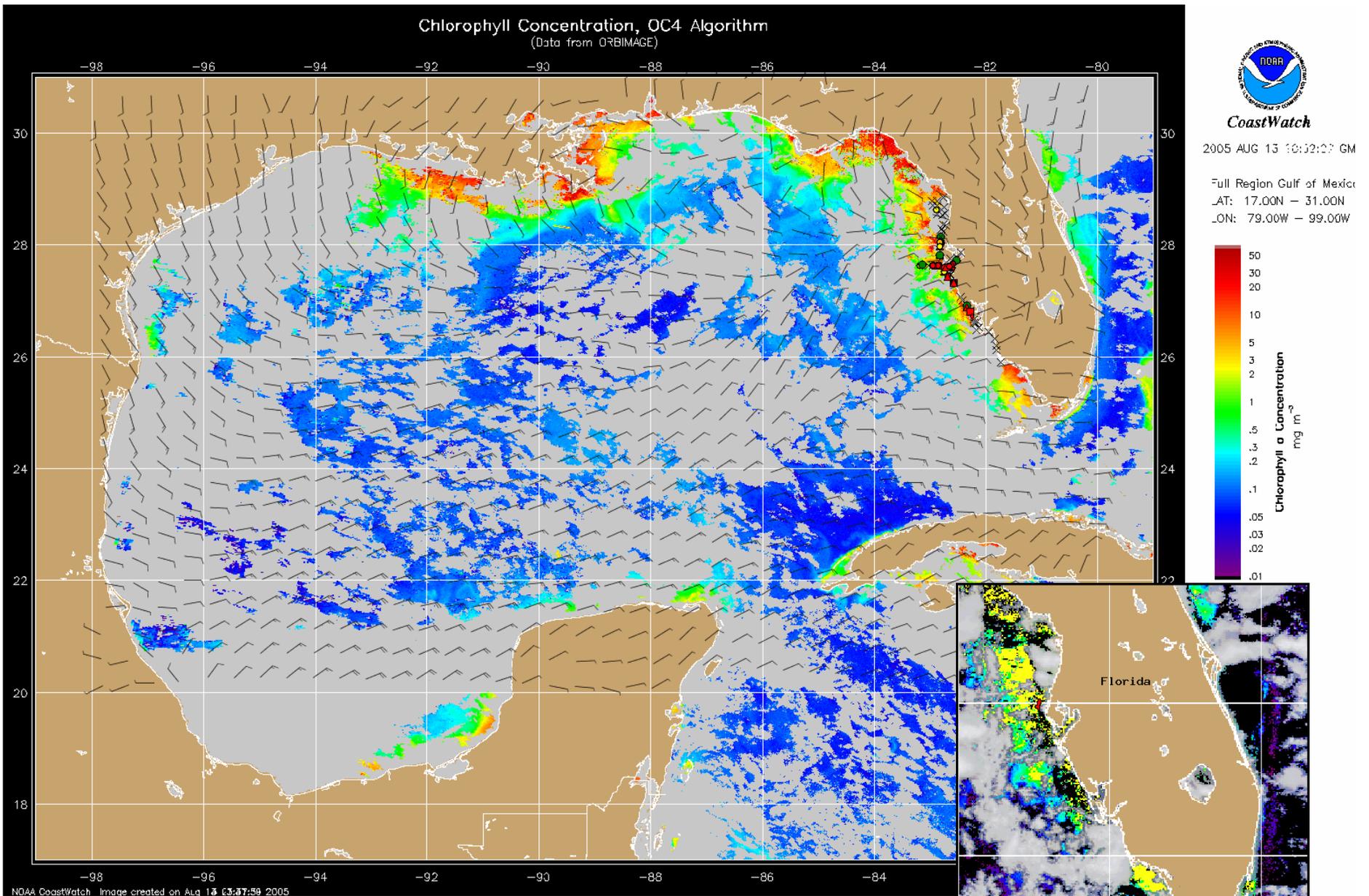


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from August 5, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (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.

Variable winds(5kts, 3m/s) today becoming onshore this afternoon at 5-10kts (3-5m/s), then shifting easterly tonight and weakening again to 5kts (3m/s). Southeasterly winds Tuesday and Wednesday becoming onshore at 5-10 kts (3-5m/s) in the afternoons. Easterlies (5-10 kts, 3-5m/s) on Thursday.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for August 16, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from August 5, 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)

