



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

23 November 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: November 23, 2005

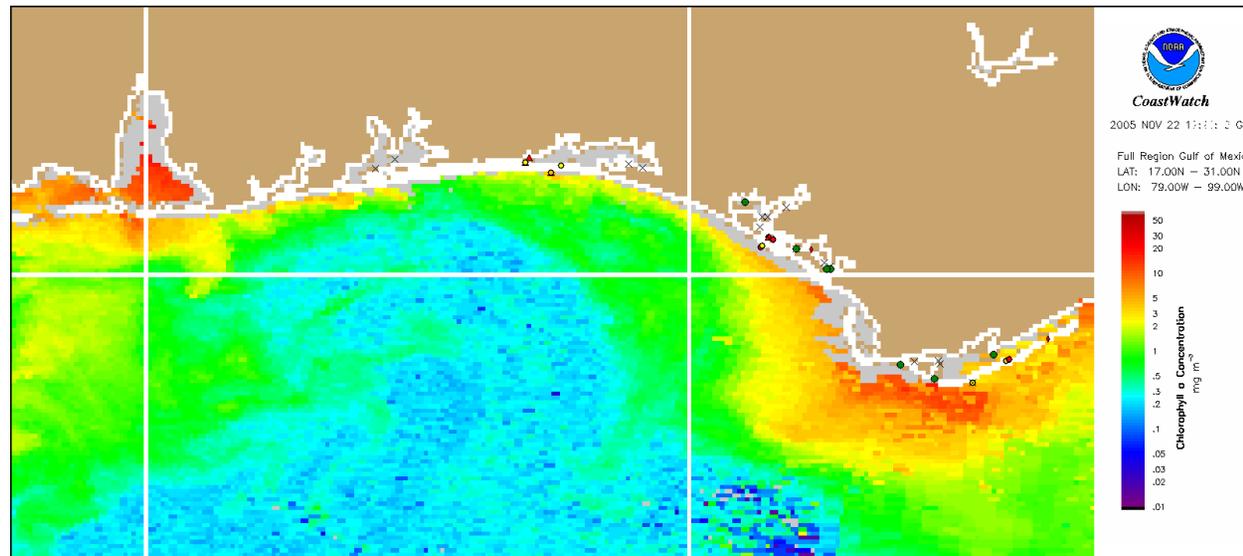
Conditions: Harmful algal blooms have been identified in patches along SW Florida from Pinellas to Lee County and from Dixie to Levy County. Patchy moderate to high impacts are possible in Lee, Charlotte, and Dixie Counties through Friday, with patchy low impacts possible Saturday and Sunday. Patchy low to moderate impacts possible in Levy, Manatee, and Sarasota Counties through Thursday, with patchy very low impacts over the weekend. Very low impacts expected in Pinellas County through Sunday. A second bloom has been identified in patches from Wakulla to Okaloosa County. Patchy moderate impacts possible from Okaloosa to Bay County through Thursday, with very low impacts likely from Gulf to Wakulla County. Patchy low impacts possible from Wakulla to Okaloosa County through the weekend. Dead fish have been reported in Pinellas, Dixie, Walton, and Okaloosa Counties over the past few days. Dead fish smell, while unpleasant, does not produce the same respiratory irritation as harmful algal blooms.

Analysis: The bloom remains in patches along the Florida Panhandle. Medium concentrations of *K. brevis* have been reported in Okaloosa County (11/21, FWRI). Chlorophyll concentrations remain elevated (10-15 $\mu\text{g/L}$) at Cape San Blas from 29°29'N 84°51'W to 29°36'N 85°26'W. Small patches of elevated chlorophyll are also visible at 30°11'N 87°15'W and 30°8'N 87°37'W. Continued sampling recommended. The bloom is highly patchy, and will have highly patchy impacts. Westerly winds today and tomorrow, followed by easterly winds through the weekend should minimize transport of bloom.

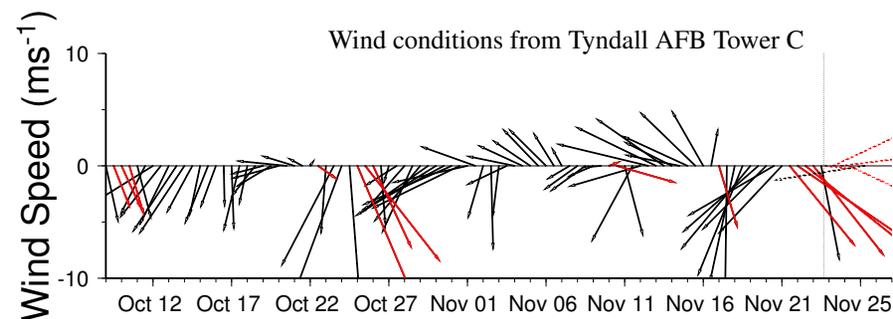
-Stolz, Keller

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.

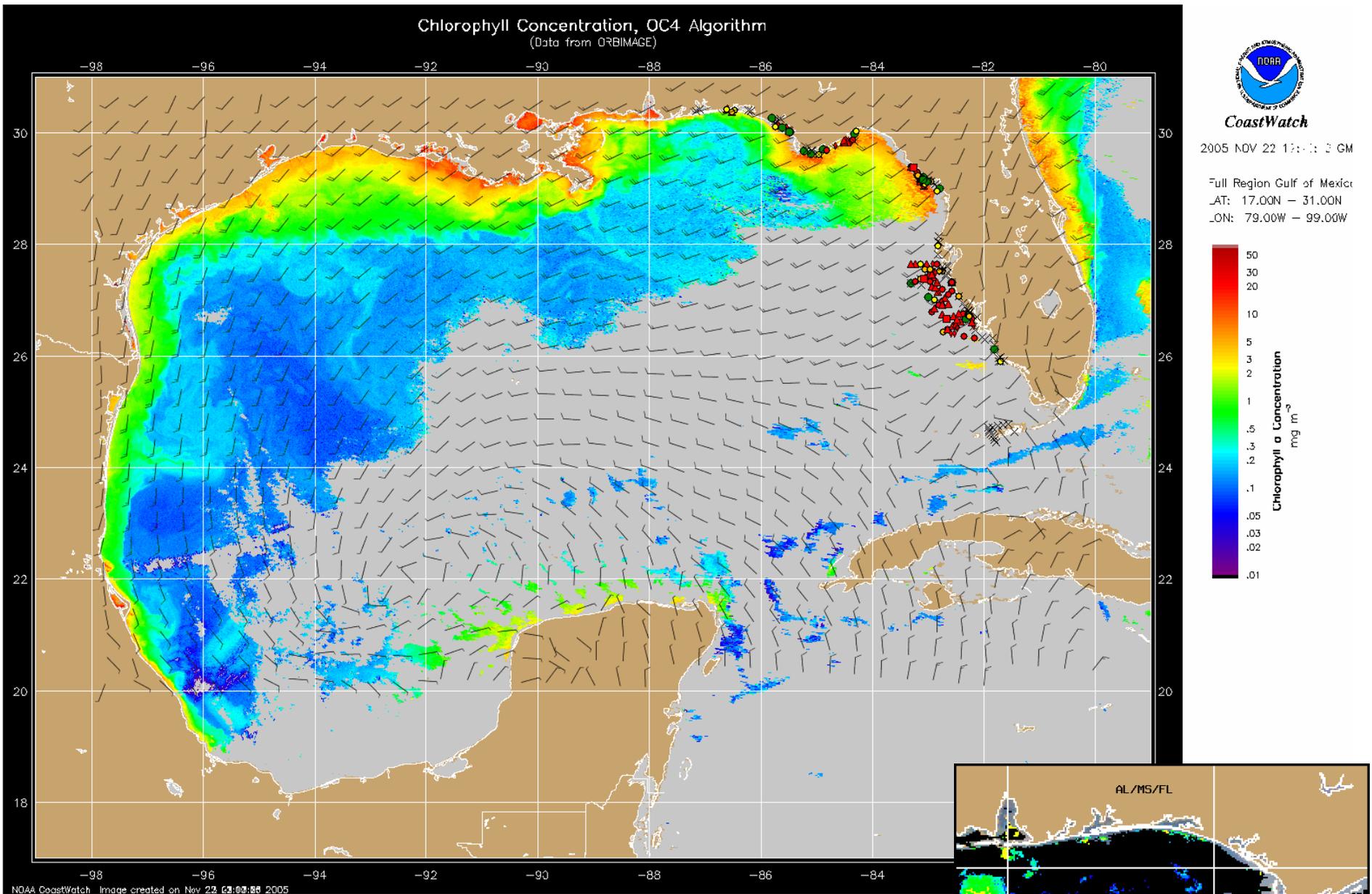


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



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.

FL Panhandle: Northerly winds today at 15-20 knots (8-10 m/s) becoming southwesterly by this afternoon. Westerly winds Thursday, becoming northwesterly by Thursday evening and northeasterly by Friday. Easterly winds at 10-15 knots (5-8 m/s) Saturday and Sunday.



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