



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

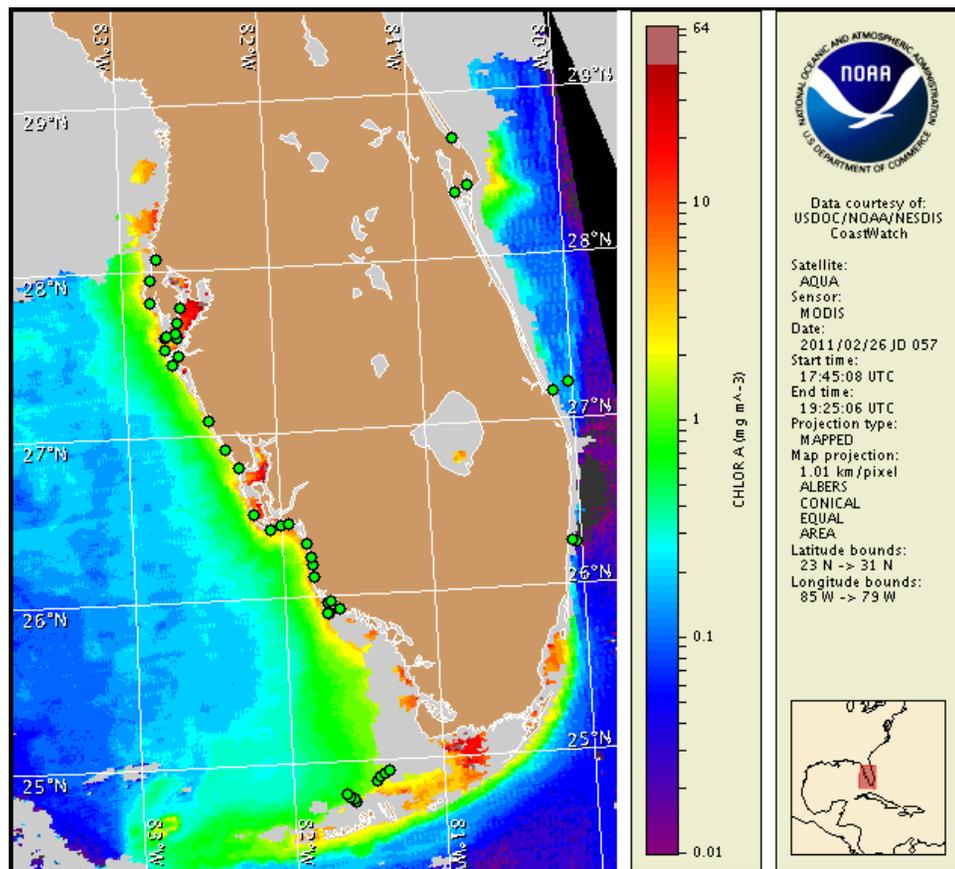
28 February 2011

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: February 22, 2011



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from February 18 to 23 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](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

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida today through Sunday, March 6.

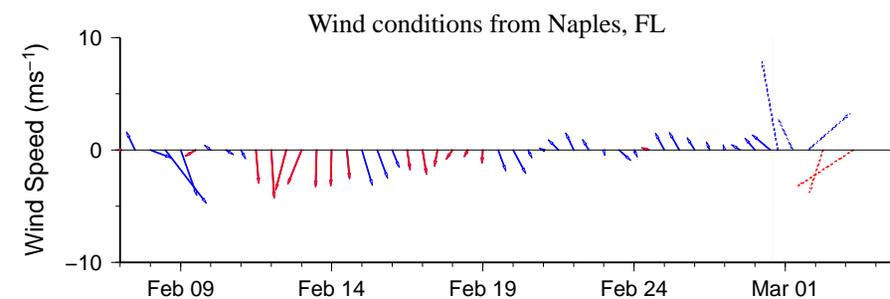
## Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom in southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. *Karenia brevis* was not identified in samples collected last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe County and the Florida Keys (FWRI, MML; 2/21-23).

Satellite imagery over the past week reveals consistently elevated chlorophyll levels (approximately 1.4-7  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) along the southwest Florida coastline from Pinellas to Collier County. Much of the elevated chlorophyll at the coast is likely the result of non-toxic mixed diatom blooms that continue to be reported along southwest Florida.

Forecasts indicate upwelling favorable winds Tuesday night through Friday increasing the potential for bloom formation.

## Urizar, Burrows

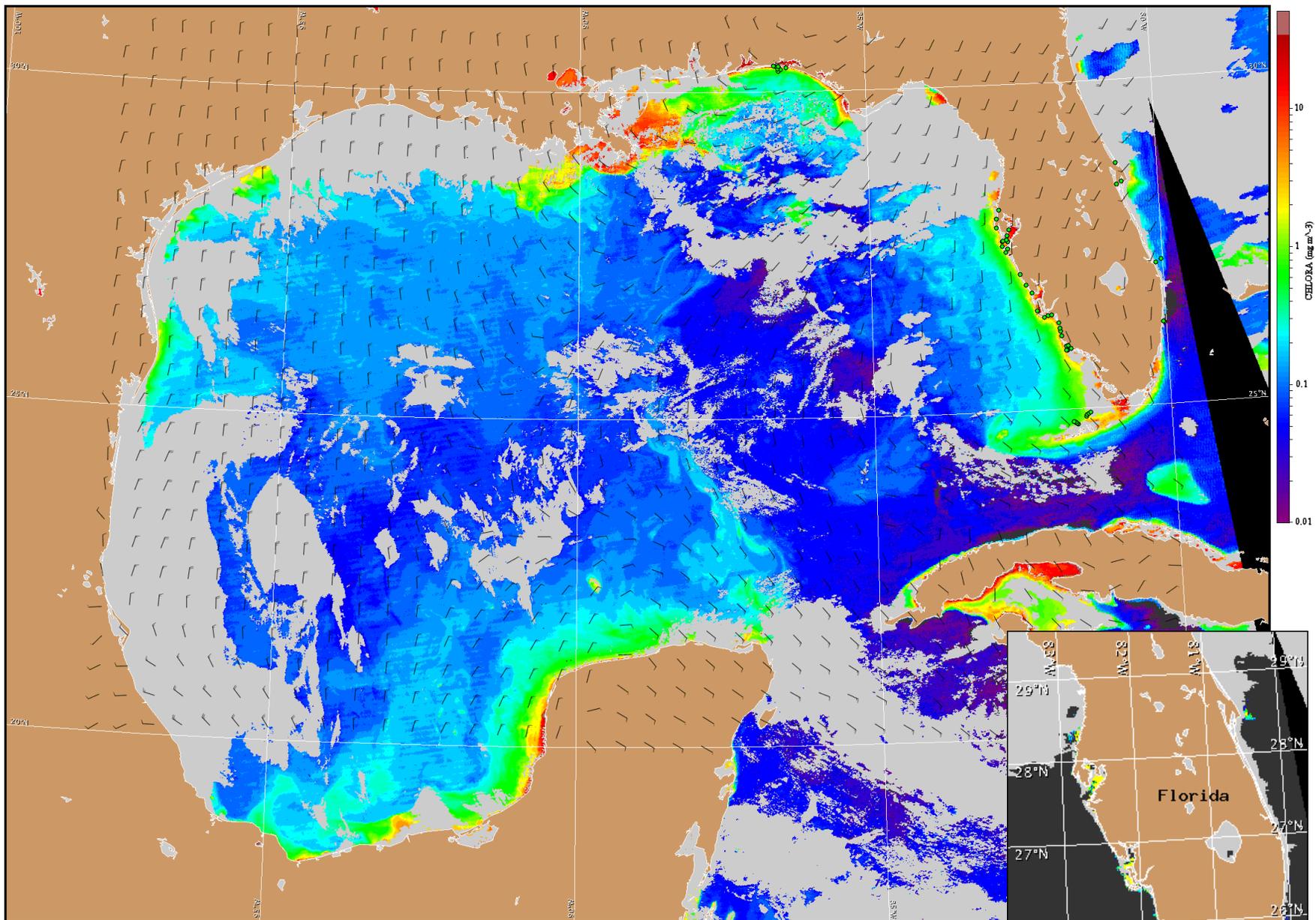


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

## Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Southeasterly winds becoming southerly this afternoon then southwesterly tonight (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s). Northwest winds tomorrow and northeasterly winds tomorrow night through Thursday (15 kn). Easterly winds Thursday night through Friday (15 kn).

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 1, 2011 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 18 to 23 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](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf)

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).