



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

18 April 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

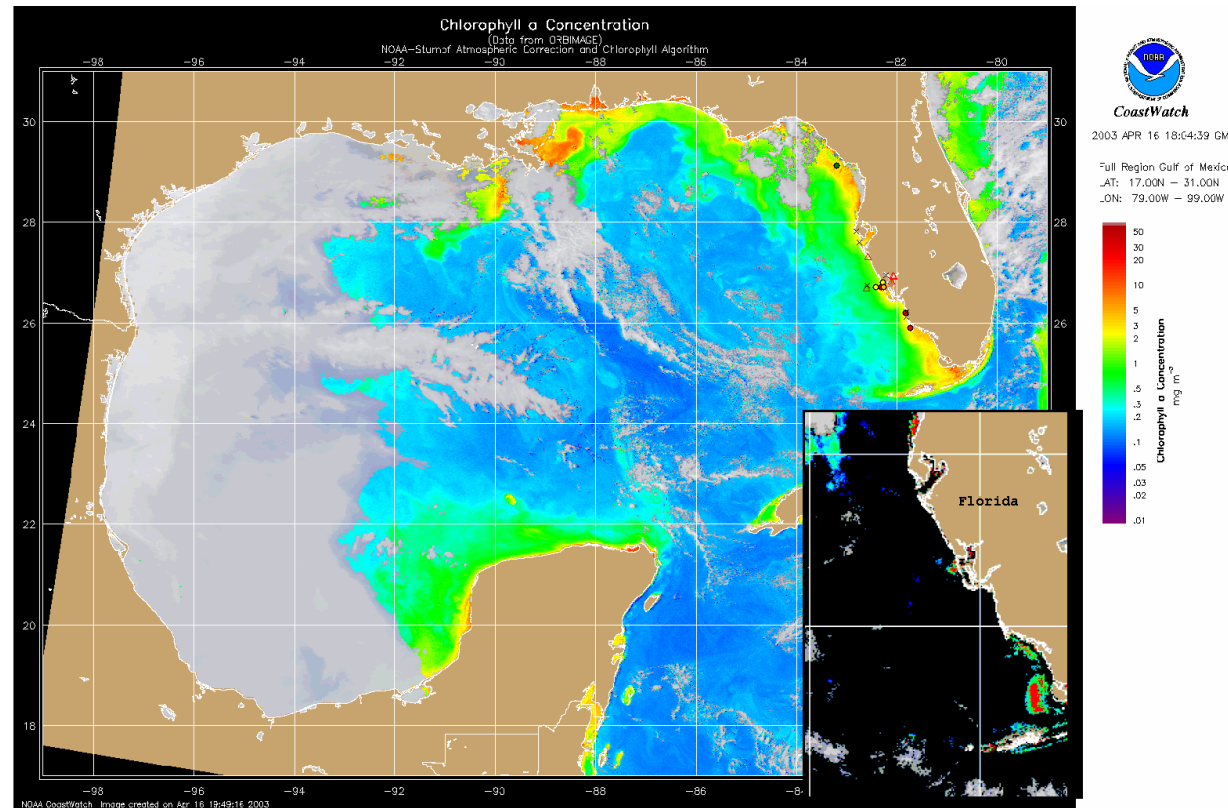
NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: April 9, 2003

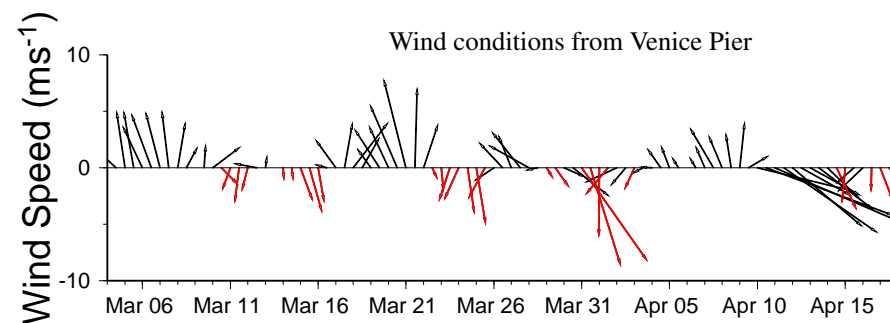
Analysis SW Florida:

The *K. brevis* bloom which extended from Venice to Ft. Meyers seems to be diminishing. Chlorophyll has dropped from 6-10 ug/L to below 1.5 ug/L in most areas. Imagery indicates an area outside Gasparilla Pass (extending offshore to 82d9'W, 26d31'N) where chlorophyll still remains high (above 4 ug/L). Observations taken on April 16, indicate that *K. brevis* concentrations have dropped to low levels except for inside Gasparilla Pass (medium levels).

The flagged region at Marco Island appears to be moving southward and extends to 81d29W and 24d59N. This bloom is not likely to be dominated by *K. brevis*. East to southeasterly winds are expected to persist through Monday, therefore southward movement is unlikely at this time.



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from April 9, 2003 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red circles (low), 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 NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

Winds are predicted to shift from the north, to easterly by this evening. East to southeasterly winds are predicted throughout the weekend.

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, international, 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.

