Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

22 December 2003

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

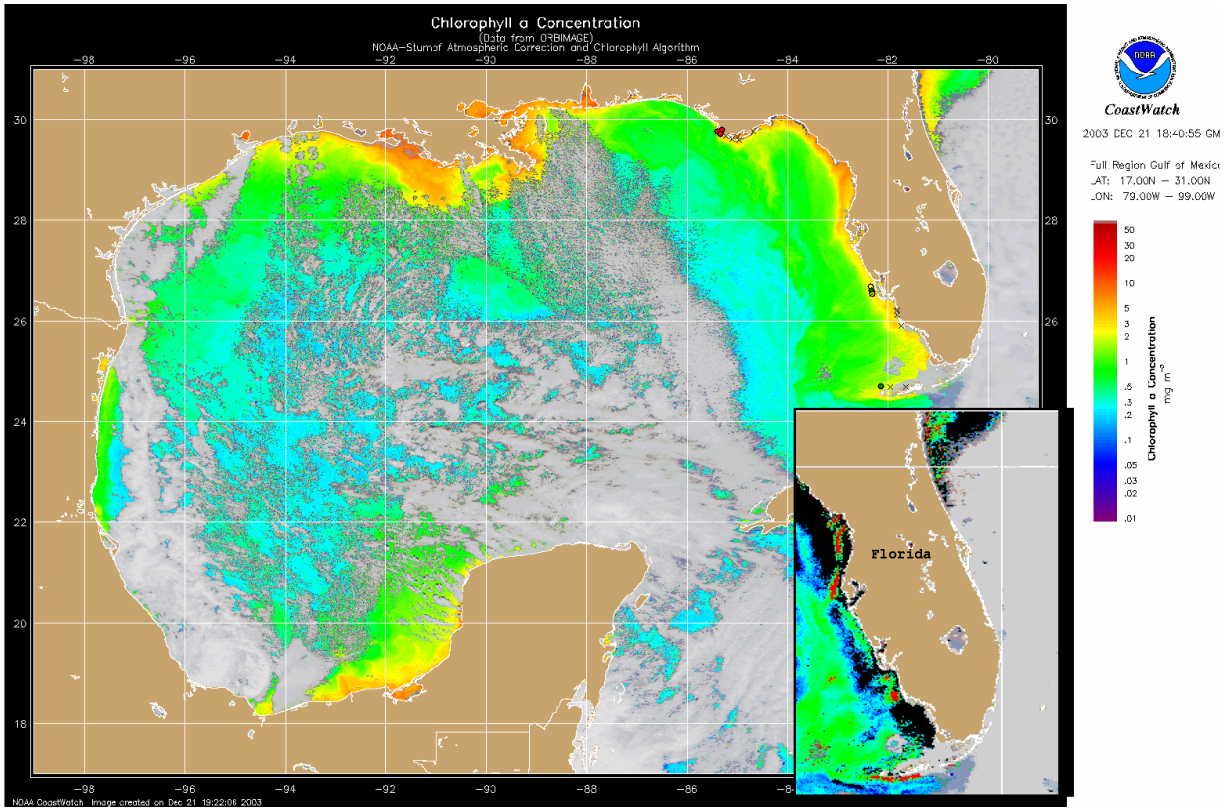
Last bulletin: December 16, 2003

Analysis

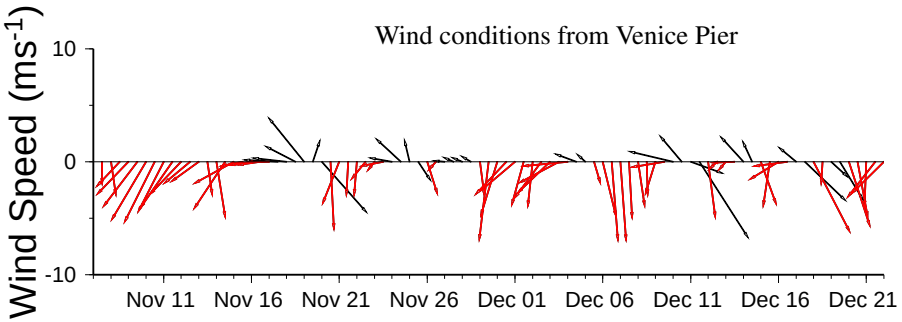
SW Florida:

The high chlorophyll feature at Cedar Key has now moved southward, to 83dW 27d38'N. Chlorophyll continues to exceed 6 ug/L in the area. Field samples on December 8 reported very low levels of K. brevis, therefore this most likely represents a bloom of another species, with very low levels of K. brevis. Two areas of elevated chlorophyll are indicated offshore from Sanibel to Cape Romano (82d5'W, 26d20'N and 81d54'W, 25d54'N). Although it is unlikely that this is K. brevis, the area should be watched.

-Tomlinson



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from December 16, 2003 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 NOAA buoys. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast.

A period of north to northeasterly winds the past two days are expected to shift easterly today and continue through Tuesday.