



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

6 December 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 3, 2007

Conditions Report

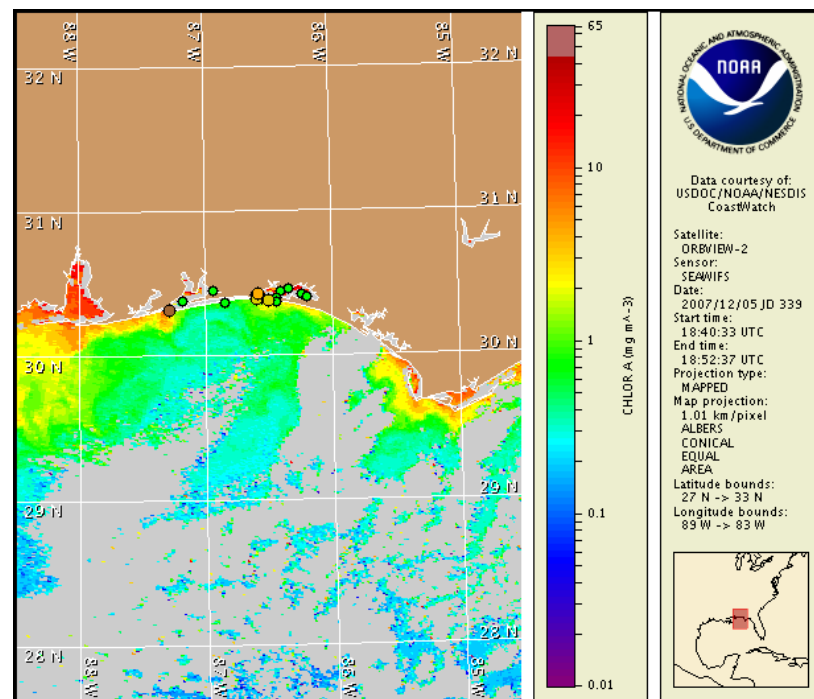
A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from Okaloosa County, Florida to Mobile County, Alabama and in Harrison County, Mississippi. In Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama, patchy moderate impacts are possible today through Sunday. In Escambia County, Florida and island regions of Harrison County, Mississippi, patchy low impacts possible today through Sunday. No impacts are expected elsewhere in northwest Florida, Alabama or Mississippi through Sunday, December 9.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom persists in patches from Okaloosa County, Florida to Harrison County, Mississippi. Chlorophyll levels have decreased ($<3\mu\text{g/L}$) along the coast of eastern Okaloosa County, although chlorophyll remains elevated (approx. $4\mu\text{g/L}$) centered at $30^{\circ}22'59''\text{N}$ $86^{\circ}31'32''\text{W}$. In Escambia County, the previously elevated chlorophyll patch persists, extending 15 km offshore out to approx. $30^{\circ}11'33''\text{N}$ $87^{\circ}19'29''\text{W}$. Chlorophyll levels are approx. $3\text{--}4\mu\text{g/L}$ alongshore from Escambia County, Florida to Mobile County, Alabama. Continued sampling is recommended along the coast and in bay regions.

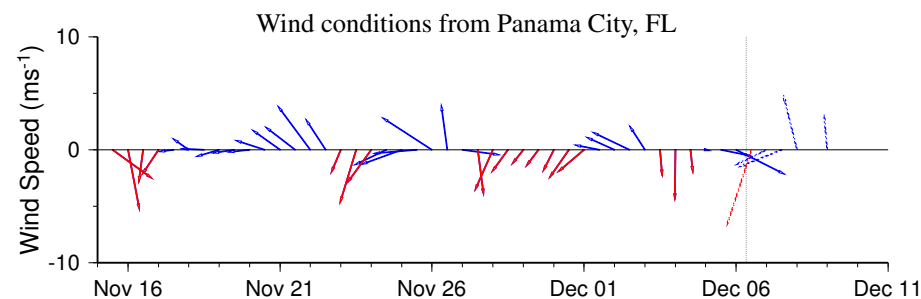
Reports of dead fish have been received from Okaloosa County over the past few days. Onshore winds through the weekend may increase impacts along the coast and decrease potential for intensification.

~Fenstermacher, Allen



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from November 26 to December 5 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://www.csc.noaa.gov/crs/habfs/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf



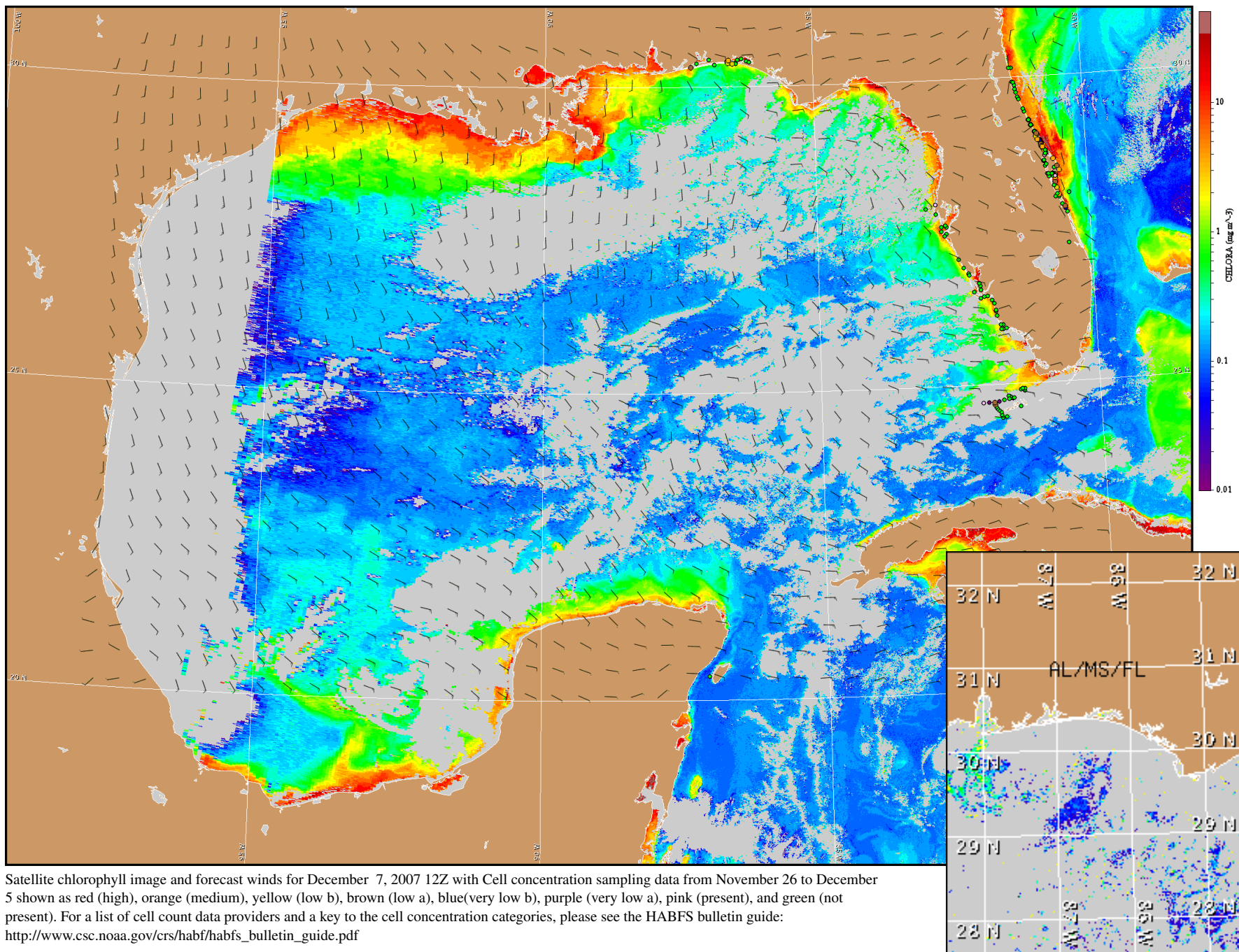
Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida & Alabama: Northeasterlies to easterlies today and south to southeasterlies Friday (10-15 kts; 5-8 m/s) through Sunday (5-10 kts; 5 m/s).

Mississippi: Easterlies today followed by southerlies tonight through Saturday (5-15 kts; 3-8 m/s). Southeasterlies on Saturday night and Sunday (10-15 kts; 5-8 m/s).

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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.



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

Wind conditions from Dauphin Island, AL

