

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

22 October 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: October 18, 2007

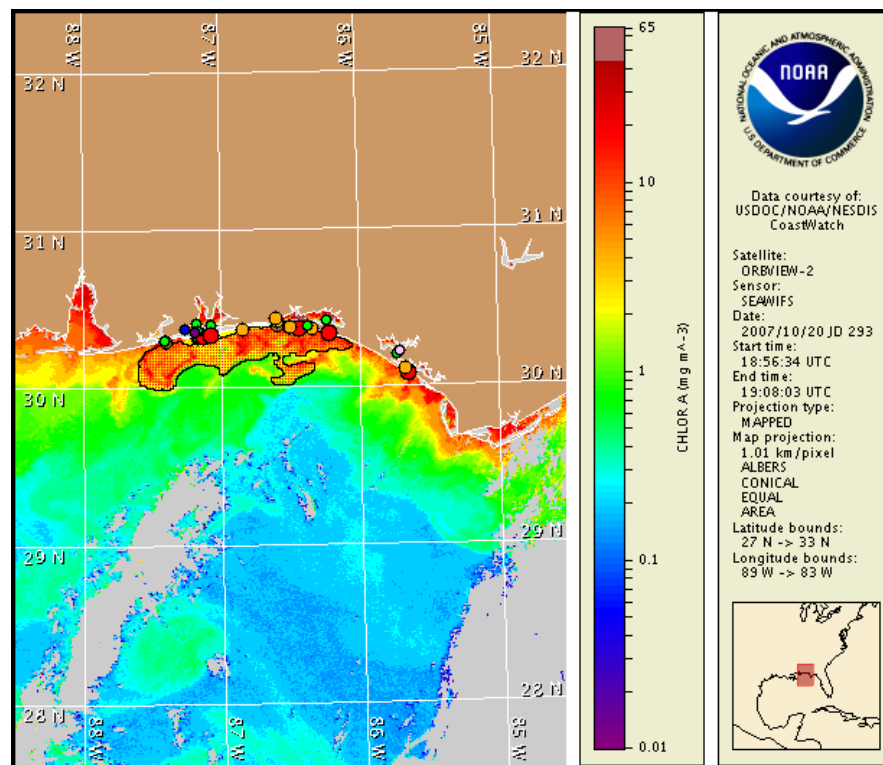
Conditions Report

A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from Bay County, Florida to Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy moderate impacts are possible in Baldwin County today through Tuesday, with patchy very low impacts possible on Wednesday and Thursday. Patchy high impacts are possible in Escambia, Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties today and Tuesday, with patchy low impacts on Wednesday and Thursday. Patchy moderate to high impacts are possible in the bay regions of Okaloosa and Bay Counties through Thursday, with patchy low impacts possible along the coast on Wednesday and Thursday. Patchy low impacts are possible today and Tuesday for Gulf County, with patchy very low impacts possible on Wednesday and Thursday. Reports of dead fish have been received in the last several days.

Analysis

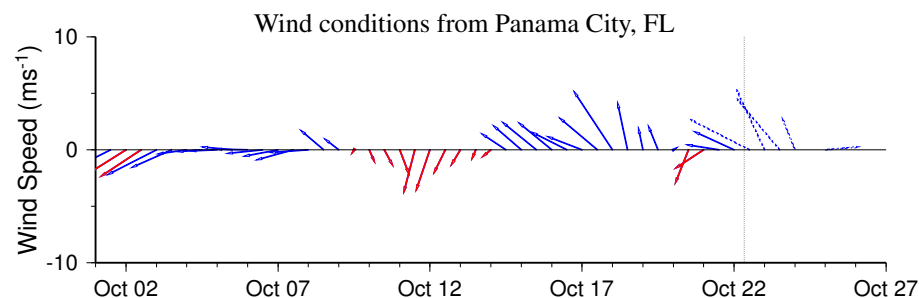
A harmful algal bloom persists along the northwest coast from Baldwin County, Alabama to Bay County, Florida. Concentrations range from very low to high alongshore Baldwin, Escambia, Okaloosa, Walton, and Bay Counties (FWRI; 10/19). No recent samples were received for Gulf County; however, due to continued reports of fish kills and respiratory irritation in the area, further sampling is recommended. Samples received last week indicated that *k.brevi*s was not present in Franklin County. Recent satellite imagery (10/20) illustrates that chlorophyll levels are elevated in patches along the coast from Gulf to Baldwin County, with concentrations as high as $20\mu\text{g/L}$. Continued sampling is recommended both onshore and offshore from Gulf to Baldwin County. Southerly winds throughout most of the week will likely increase impacts along the northwestern coast.

~Keller, Fenstermacher



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 14 to 18 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/habf/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

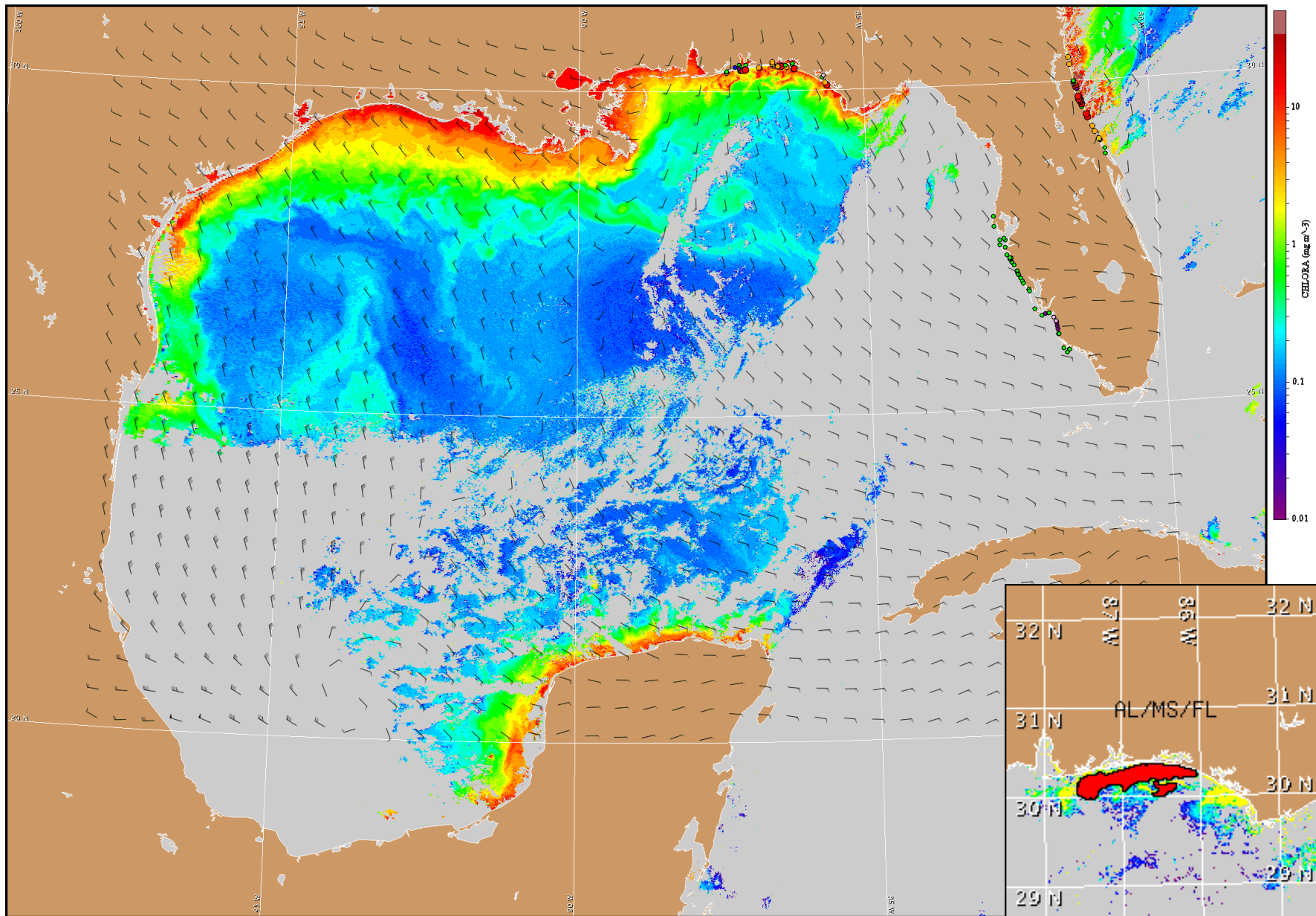


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida: Strong southeasterly winds (15-20 knts; 8-10 m/s) today followed by south to southwesterlies on tonight and Tuesday (10-15 knts; 5-8 m/s). North to northwesterlies on Wednesday through Friday (5-15 knts; 3-8 m/s).

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.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 23, 2007 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from October 14 to 18 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/habf/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).

Wind conditions from Dauphin Island, AL

