



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

31 December 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: December 26, 2007

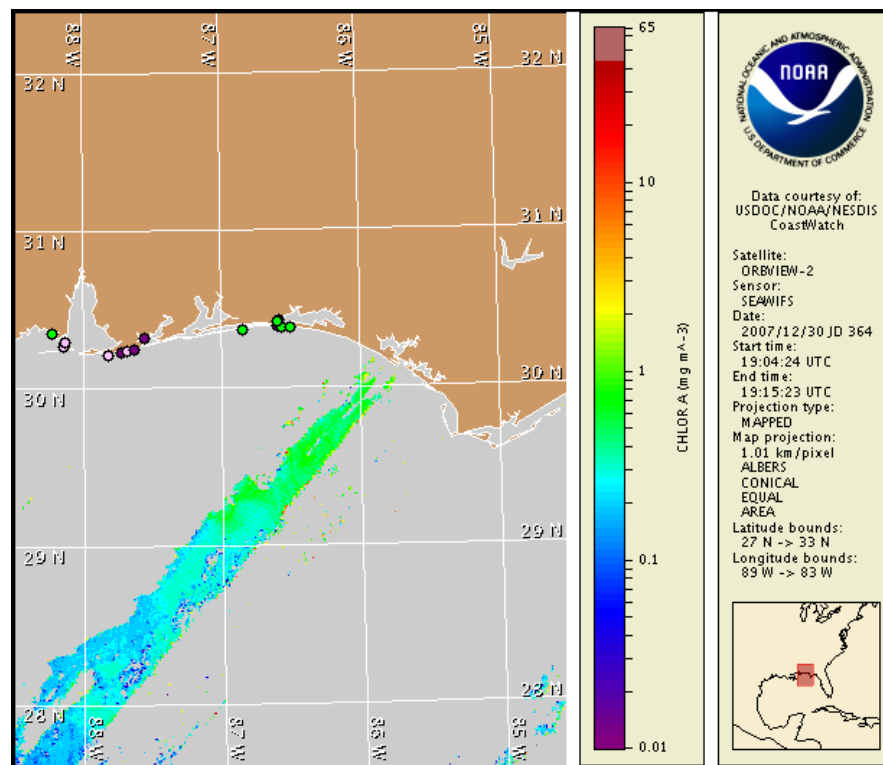
Conditions Report

NW Florida/Alabama: A harmful algal bloom persists in patches in Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy very low impacts are possible today through Thursday in bay regions of Okaloosa County, Florida and Baldwin County, Alabama. No other impacts are expected in northwest Florida or Alabama today through Thursday, January 3.

Analysis

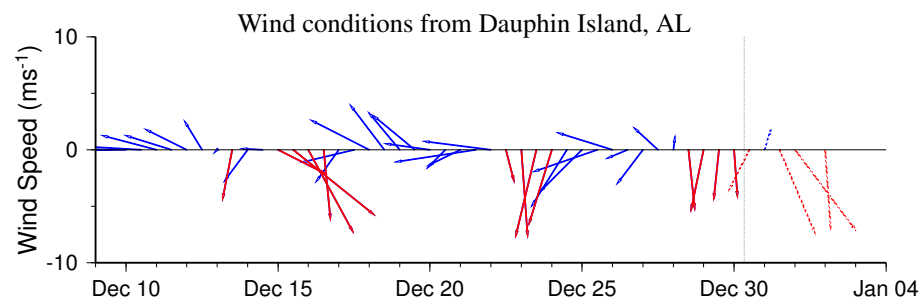
A harmful algal bloom persists in patches in bay regions of Okaloosa County, Florida and in Baldwin County, Alabama. *Karenia brevis* concentrations continue to dissipate throughout the bloom region, with not present to very low concentrations identified in western Choctawhatchee Bay, Okaloosa County on 12/27. No additional *K. brevis* has been identified alongshore northwest Florida from Escambia to Okaloosa County (FWRI, 12/27). Not present to very low concentrations of *K. brevis* have also been identified in bay regions of eastern Baldwin County and in patches along the coast of Baldwin County (ADPH, 12/26-27). Recent satellite imagery is obscured by clouds. Updated bloom extent analysis is not available at this time. This region will continue to be monitored. Offshore winds throughout the week will likely minimize impacts at the coast. Strong northerly winds this week may promote westward transport and intensification of remaining harmful algae along the coast.

~Fisher, Allen



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from December 26 to 27 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

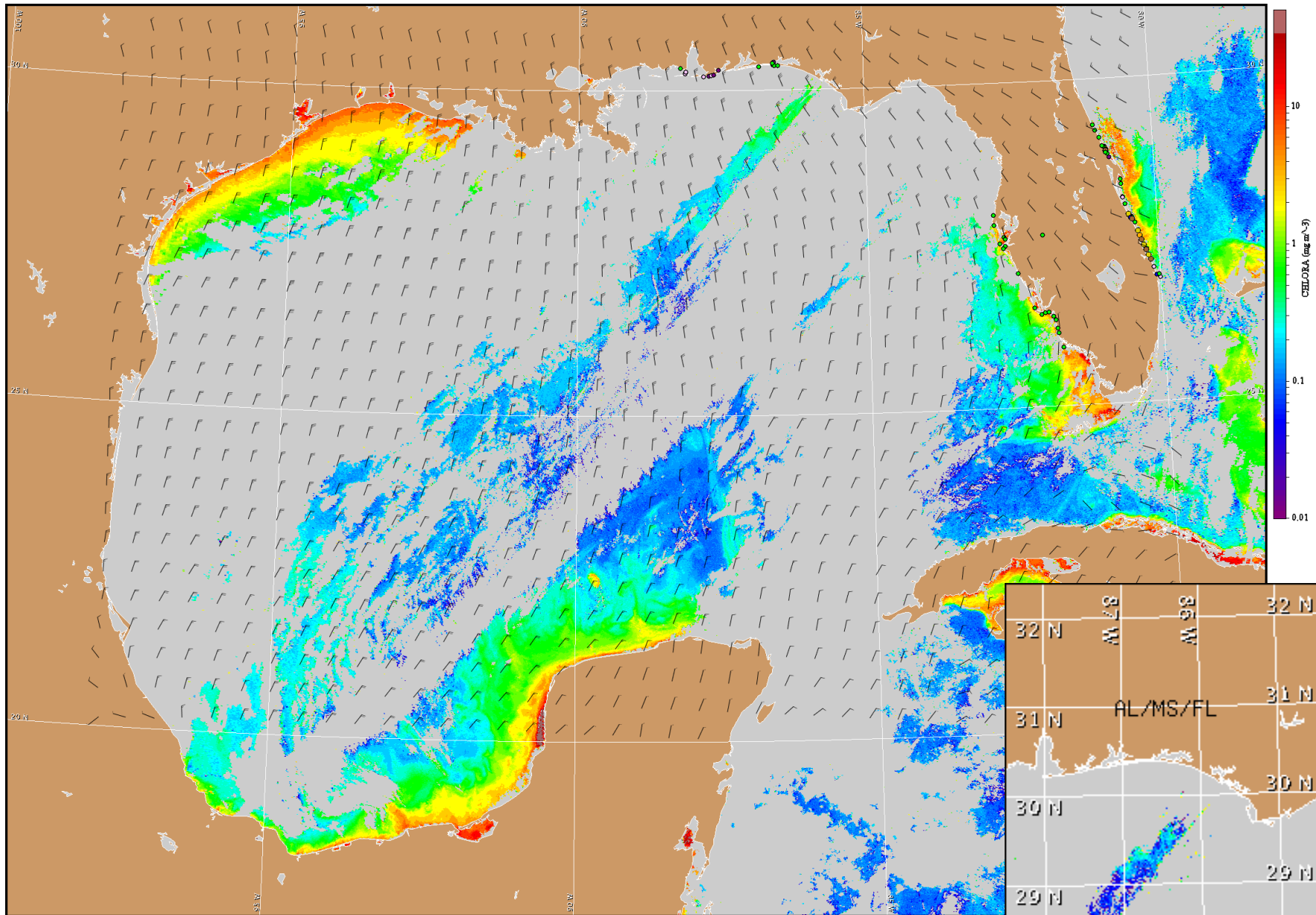


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts.

NW Florida/Alabama: East winds today (10kts, 5m/s). South becoming northwest winds tonight (20-25kts, 10-13m/s). North winds Tuesday through Wednesday night (20-25kts). Northeast winds becoming east expected Thursday (15-20kts, 8-10m/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 January 1, 2008 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from December 26 to 27 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 Panama City, FL

