



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

18 December 2002

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: November 26, 2002

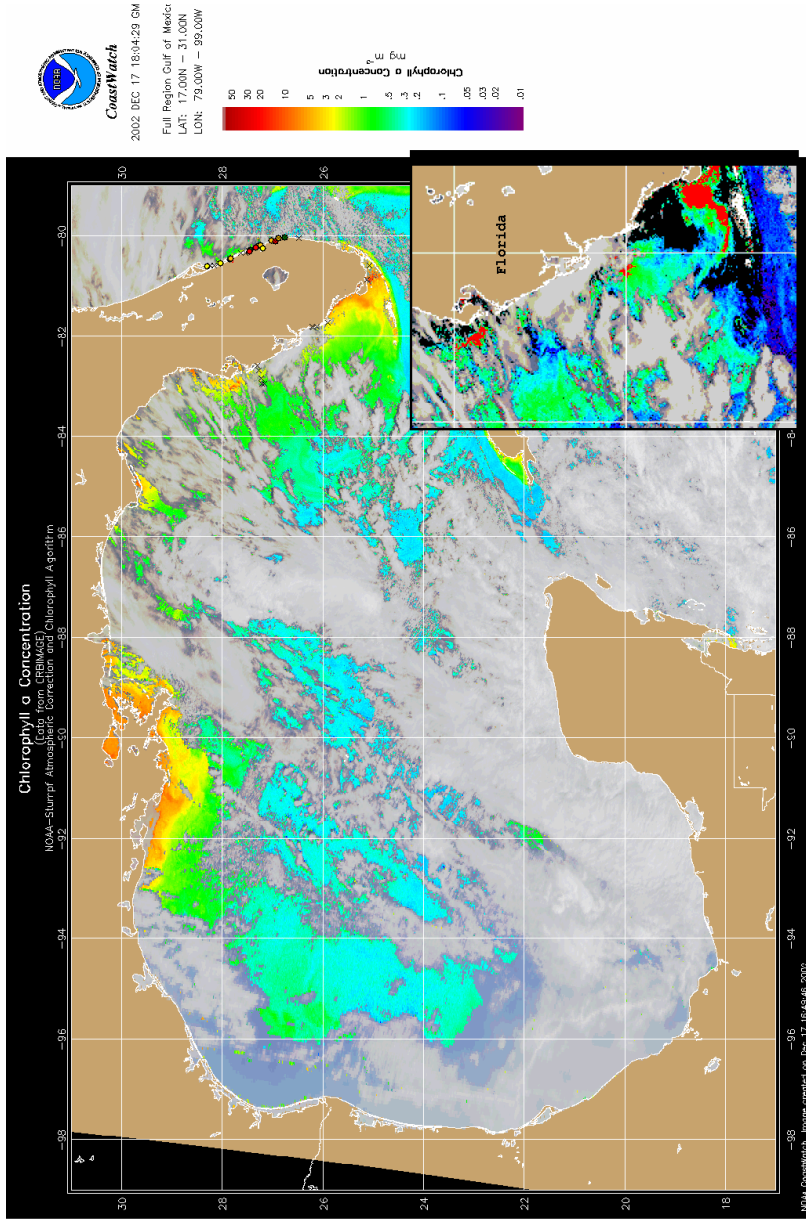
Analysis

Continuous overcast has precluded most assessment from satellite for a week.

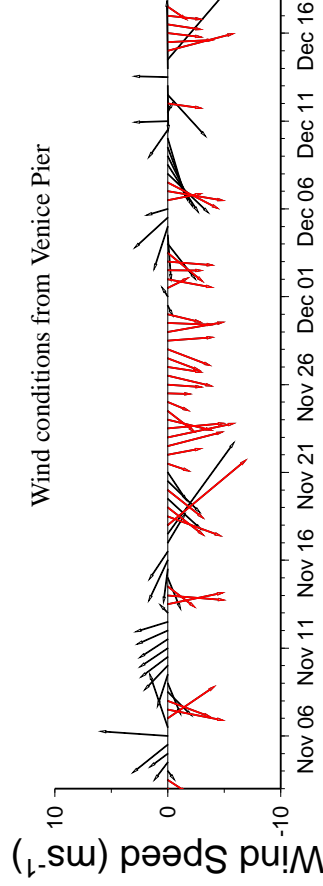
The bloom off Cape Sable and north of the Keys has concentrations of 3-5 ug/L. The coastal portion is locally generated, the offshore portion (filament due north of lower Keys) may have been transported from Cape Romano area. There is a low probability of *K. brevis* in the filament (unlikely that *K. brevis* is present in the mass west of Cape Sable.) This area should be watched for any other developments.

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Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from December 11, 2002 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 expected to shift to come from the south for the rest of the week, but with the next front, northerlies are possible early next week.

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