



Experimental Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

27 May 2004

National Ocean Service/NCCOS and CSC

NESDIS/CoastWatch and NDBC

Last bulletin: May 25, 2004

Analysis

SW Florida: Boaters reported discolored water off Sanibel, which corresponds to feature observed in imagery. It has currently been identified as mostly *Trichodesmium* bloom, one of the expected blooms this time of year. Discolored reported off Naples probably associated with bloom observed in imagery with greatest intensity south and west of Cape Romano. *Karenia* not expected.

Keys. With continued easterlies, more of the blooms north of the Keys are expected to move west, e.g. past the Tortugas. The loop current is bringing this water closer to the reefs offshore of Key Largo (81W), although the discolored water is still several miles offshore of the reefs. A bloom (probably diatom) north of Key West, maybe noted as discolored water.

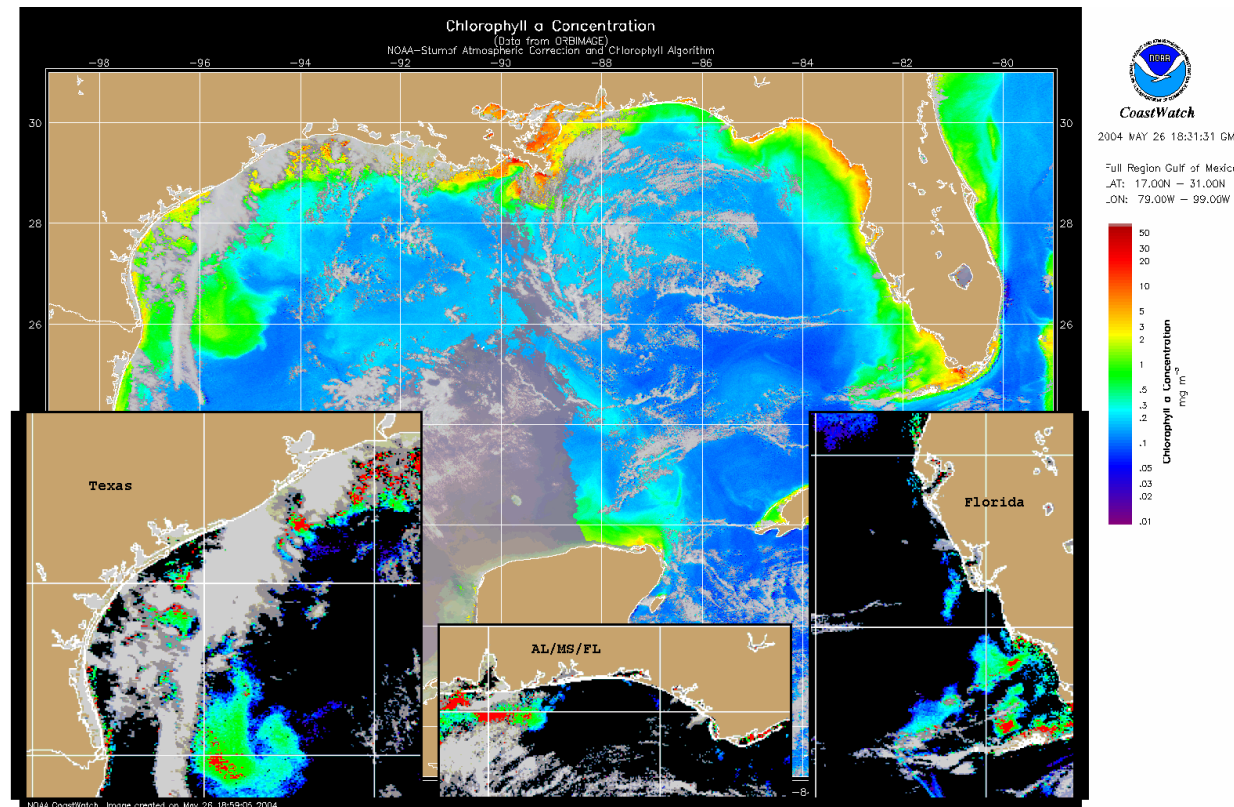
TX Significant feature off Texas east of 96W. This is not expected to be harmful.

LA. Intense bloom continuing nearshore. Some portions have moved offshore south of the Birdsfoot Delta as far as 28.5N. Some reduction in Mississippi Sound

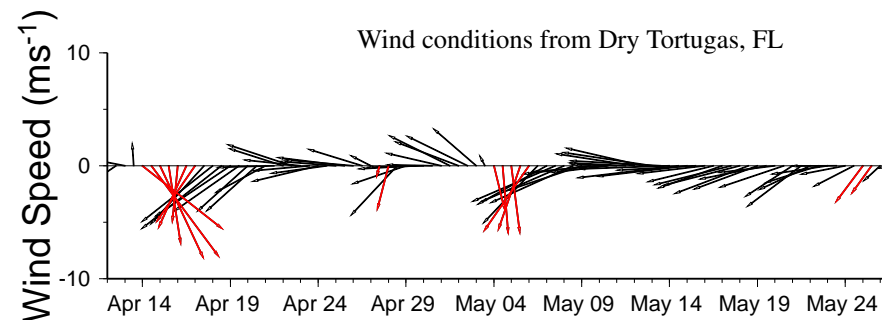
-Stumpf

Please note the following restrictions on all SeaWiFS imagery derived from CoastWatch.

1. These data are restricted to civil marine applications only; i.e. federal, state, and local government use/distribution is permitted.
2. Distribution for military, international, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
3. There are restrictions on Internet/Web/public posting of these data.
4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



Chlorophyll concentration (above) and possible HAB areas shown in red (inset). Cell concentration sampling data from May 20, 2004 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.

Easterlies expected to continue in Keys through June 1. Westerlies forecast for Venice - Sanibel area.

