



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

13 February 2006

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: February 9, 2006

Conditions Report

Very low levels of harmful algae have been reported in Pinellas County. No impacts are expected in any southern Florida county through Thursday.

Analysis

SW Florida: Cloudy imagery limits analysis of high chlorophyll band located offshore from Citrus to Pasco Counties. Imagery indicates some dissipation since last bulletin. A central point of the elevated chlorophyll band is located at 28° 26'N, 82° 57'W. Recommend sampling. Variable winds will likely continue dissipation and maintain location. Chlorophyll levels have also decreased alongshore of Pinellas County, likely indicating *K. brevis* dissipation (Very Low concentration, 2/7, FWRI).

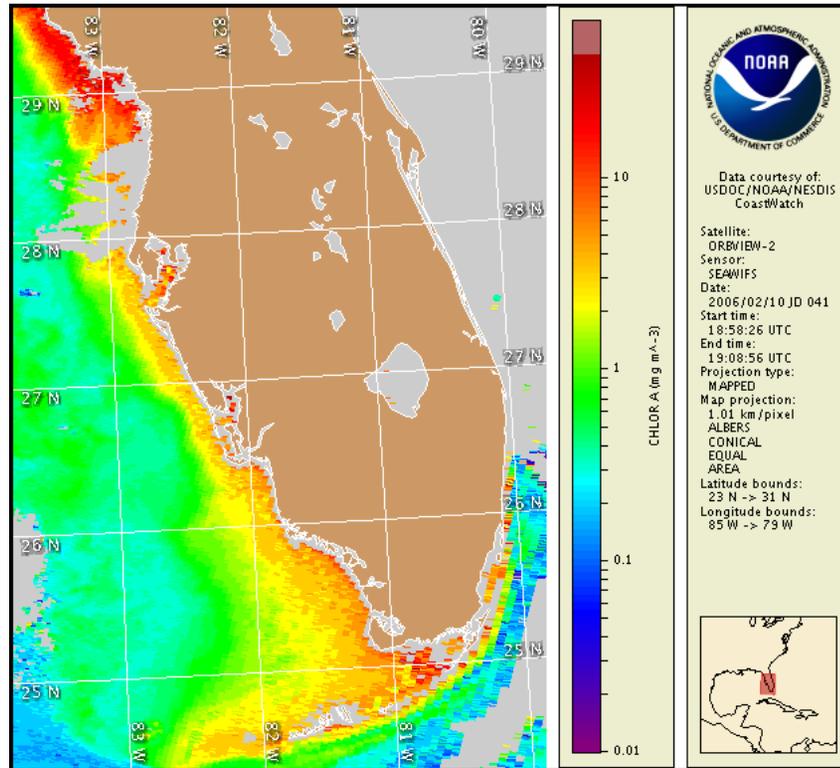
Keys: Chlorophyll levels have decreased north of the Keys since the last bulletin (2/9). Low level *K. brevis* patches confirmed by sampling appear to have dissipated or moved westward to north of Key West (24°46'N, 81°51'W). Strong northerlies to easterlies will continue bloom dissipation and southwesterly transport.

Anomaly imagery indicates a persistent band of chlorophyll south and offshore of the Lower Keys, possibly from *K. brevis* transport around the Keys. However, chlorophyll levels are generally low, except at the western edge. The western extent is located southwest of the Marquesas Keys (24°21'N, 82°39'W) and extends east to Long Key (24°32'N, 81°6'W). The western half of the band has the strongest signal (Midpoint 24°19'N, 81°54'W).

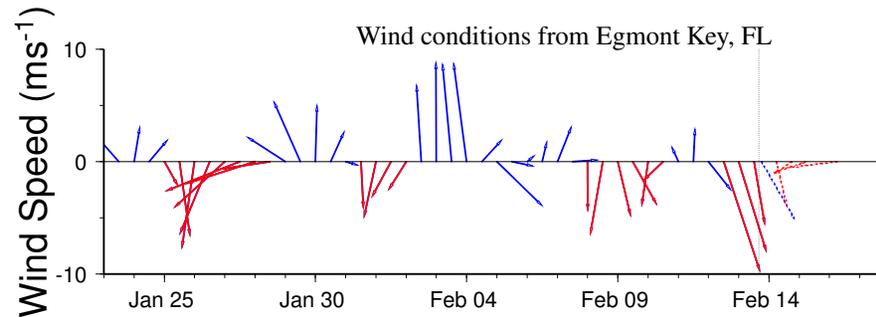
Fenstermacher, Keller

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 OrbImage approval via the CoastWatch Program.



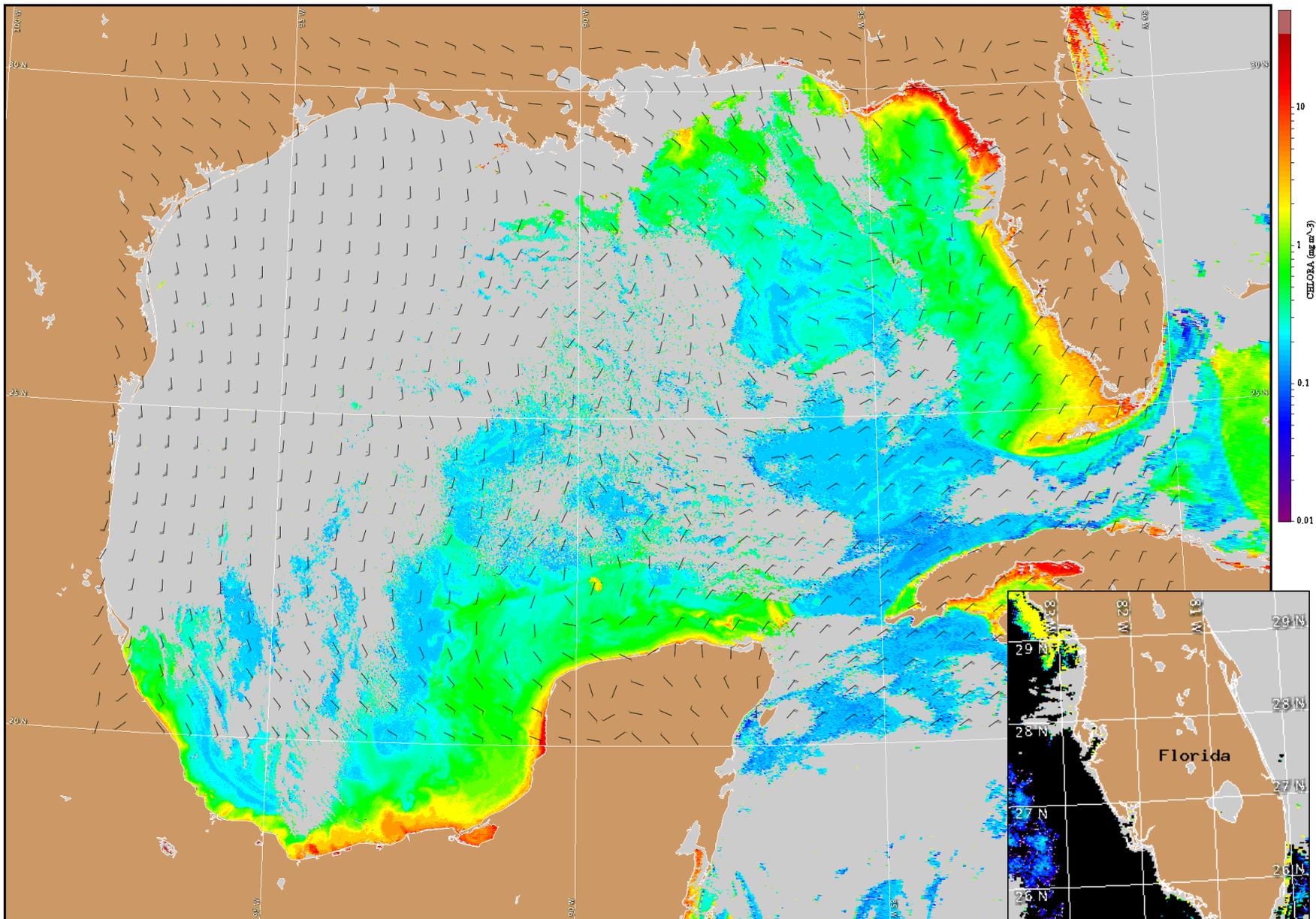
Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



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.

SW Florida: Strong northwest winds (20 kts; 10 m/s) clocking to northeasterlies tonight followed by easterlies Tuesday morning and westerlies Tuesday afternoon (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s). Southeasterlies on Wednesday and easterlies on Thursday (5-10 knots; 3-5 m/s).

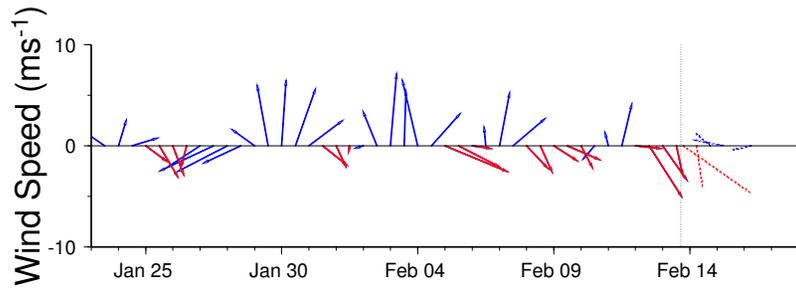
Keys: North to northeasterlies today through Tuesday (10-20 knots; 5-10 m/s). Northeast to easterlies on Wednesday and Thursday (15 knots; 8 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 14, 2006 12Z.

Verified HAB areas shown in red. Other bloom areas shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).

Wind conditions from Cedar Key, FL



Wind conditions from Vaca Key, FL

