



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

4 April 2005

National Ocean Service

National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service

Last bulletin: March 31, 2005

**Conditions:** A harmful algal bloom has been identified from southern Pinellas to Sarasota Counties. Impacts in Sarasota County are expected to be very low through Wednesday, and low on Thursday. Very low impacts are possible in southern Pinellas and Manatee Counties on Wednesday and Thursday. No impacts are expected in southern Pinellas and Manatee Counties through Tuesday.

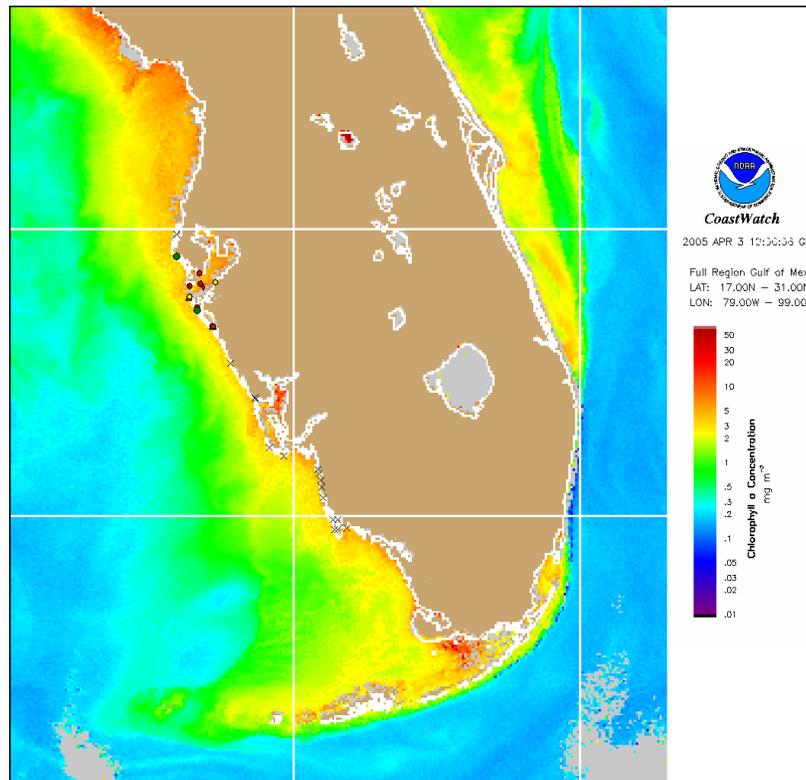
**Analysis:** The bloom along shore from southern Pinellas to Sarasota Counties appears to be weakening. Recent elevated chlorophyll levels along the entire coast of southwest Florida make it difficult to determine the extent of the bloom in imagery. Near St. Petersburg (26° 36'N, 82° 17'W) imagery indicates chlorophyll levels >5 µg/liter. Little movement of this bloom is expected through Thursday, and intensification of the bloom is unlikely.

**Keys:** Imagery indicates that chlorophyll levels north of the Keys and west of Cape Sable have increased recently. The chlorophyll level at 24° 49'N, 81° 16'W is above 4 µg/liter. There are no recent samples from this area, although medium concentrations were found in this region on March 14. Sampling is recommended.

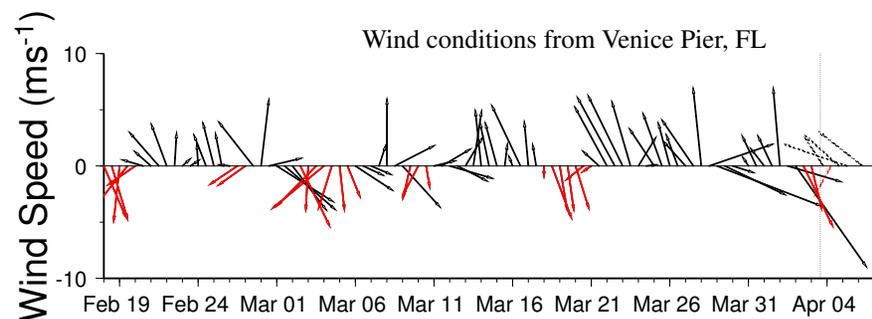
Bronder, Fisher

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2. Distribution for military, or commercial purposes is NOT permitted.
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4. Image products may be published in newspapers. Any other publishing arrangements must receive Orblmage approval via the CoastWatch Program.

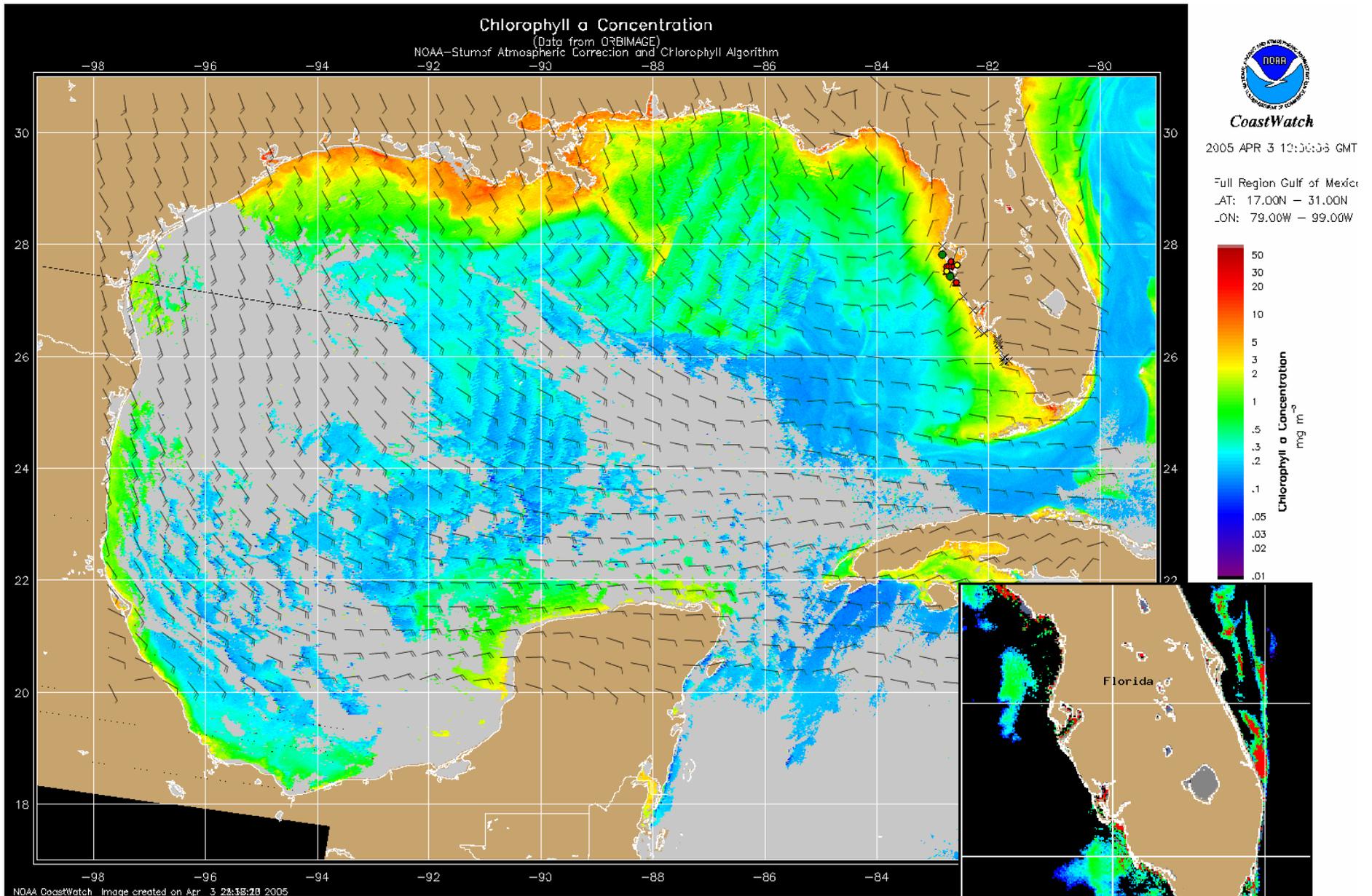


Chlorophyll concentration from satellite with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from March 23, 2005 shown as red squares (high), red triangles (medium), red diamonds (low b), red circles (low a), orange circles (very low b), yellow circles (very low a), green circles (present), and black "X" (not present).



Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from measurements made on buoys. 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: Winds will be northeast (10 kts, 5 m/s) today becoming southeast this afternoon, east tonight, southeast tomorrow, strengthening southeast (15 kts, 8 m/s) tomorrow night, south Wednesday and Thursday, strengthening west (20 kts, 10 m/s) Thursday afternoon.



Chlorophyll concentration from satellite and forecast winds for April 5, 2005 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from March 23, 2005 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).

Blooms shown in red (see p. 1 analysis and image for interpretation)