



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

5 November 2007

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

Last bulletin: November 1, 2007

Conditions Report

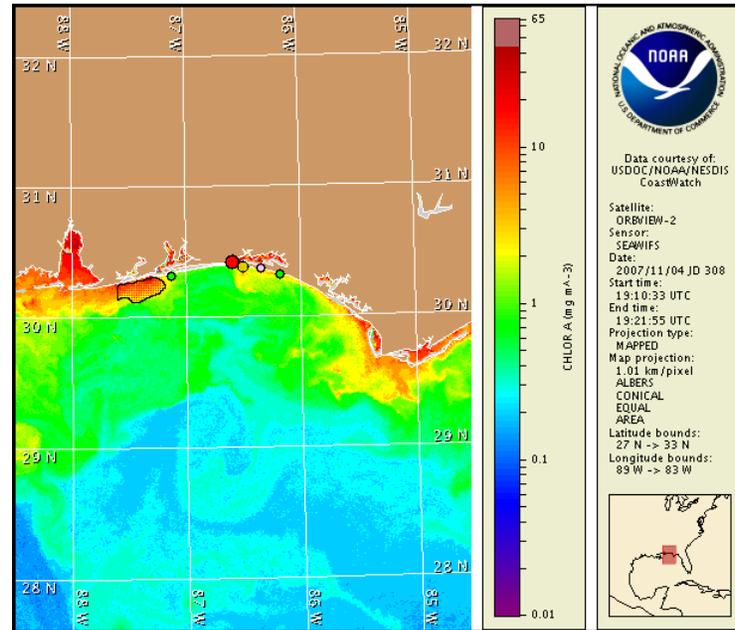
A harmful algal bloom has been identified in patches from Gulf County, Florida to Baldwin County, Alabama. Patchy moderate impacts are possible in bay regions of Gulf County today through Wednesday. Patchy low impacts are possible today through Wednesday in Okaloosa County. Patchy moderate impacts are possible tonight and patchy very low impacts are possible Tuesday and Wednesday in Baldwin County, Alabama. No impacts are expected in Bay, Walton, Santa Rosa and Escambia counties today through Wednesday.

Analysis

A harmful algal bloom persists from Gulf to Escambia County, Florida, and in Baldwin County, Alabama. Recent samples from Okaloosa County indicate 'high' and 'medium' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (FWRI; 10/31). Additionally, samples reveal 'medium' concentrations of *K. brevis* in St. Joseph Bay, Gulf County. Sample results indicate that *K. brevis* is not present in Escambia and Santa Rosa counties; however satellite imagery indicates elevated levels of chlorophyll (> 4 µg/L) onshore from Santa Rosa County, Florida and westward through Alabama. Imagery also reveals a small patch of elevated (~6µg/L) chlorophyll levels onshore Okaloosa County, Florida (centered at 30°22'41"N, 86°32'22"W). Reports of dead fish continue to be received from Okaloosa County as well as reports of discolored water from Escambia County.

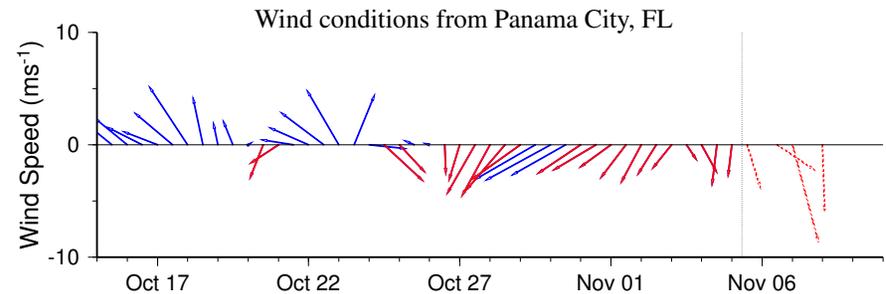
Offshore winds will minimize impacts in northwest Florida except for bay regions of Gulf County where winds will be onshore today through Wednesday. Onshore winds tonight will increase the potential for impacts in Baldwin County, Alabama. Although conditions continue to be favorable for upwelling, intensification of the bloom is unlikely.

Urizar, Keller



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 28 to November 1 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: Northerlies today (5-10 kt, 3-5 m/s) and easterlies tonight (5 kt). Northwesterlies Tuesday (15-20 kt, 8-10 m/s) and northerlies Tuesday night (15-20 kt). Northerlies Wednesday (15-20 kt).

Alabama: Westerlies today (5-10 kt, 3-5 m/s) and southerlies tonight (10 kt). Northwesterlies Tuesday (10 kt) and northerlies Tuesday night through Wednesday (10-25 kt, 5-13 m/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.

Wind conditions from Dauphin Island, AL

