



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

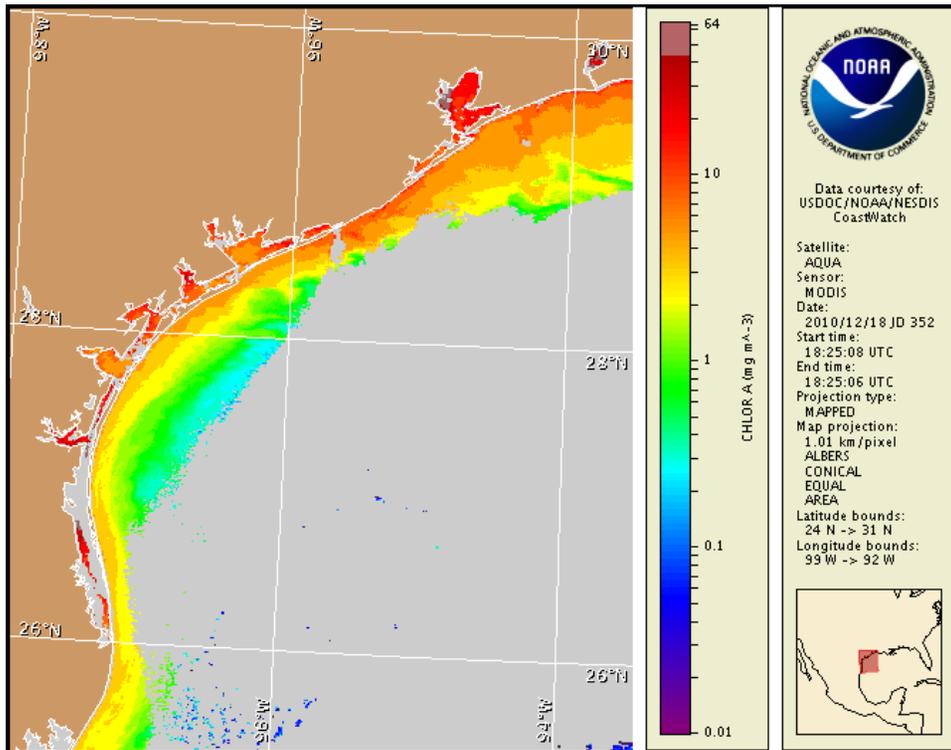
20 December 2010

NOAA Ocean Service

NOAA Satellites and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: December 13, 2010



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from December 10 to 16 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://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

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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.

Conditions Report

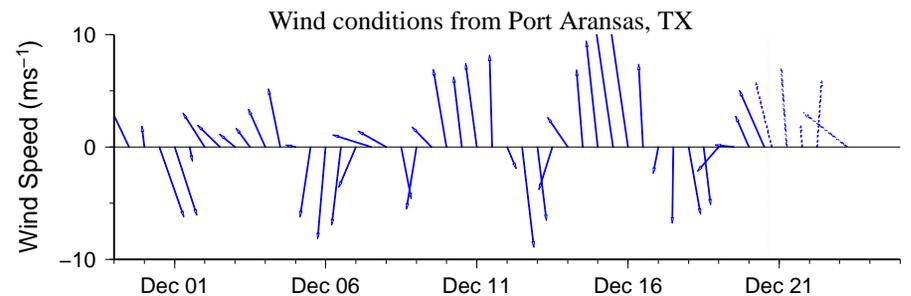
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, December 26.

Analysis

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom along the coast of Texas. Elevated chlorophyll is visible in the imagery along much of the Texas coastline, including a broad region of elevated to high chlorophyll (2 to >10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) stretching along- and off-shore from Sabine Pass to Cavalle Pass. The patchy high chlorophyll (>20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) feature last reported along- and offshore from East Matagorda Bay to Freeport seems to have dissipated, though elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to >10 $\mu\text{g/L}$) remains throughout this region. Elevated chlorophyll (2-5 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is also visible along- and offshore from Cavalle Pass to South Padre Island. Elevated chlorophyll appears to be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments as a result of strong winds over the past several days and is most likely not related to a harmful algal bloom.

Forecast models indicate a potential maximum transport of 20km south along the coast from Port Aransas from December 18-22.

Derner, Kavanaugh

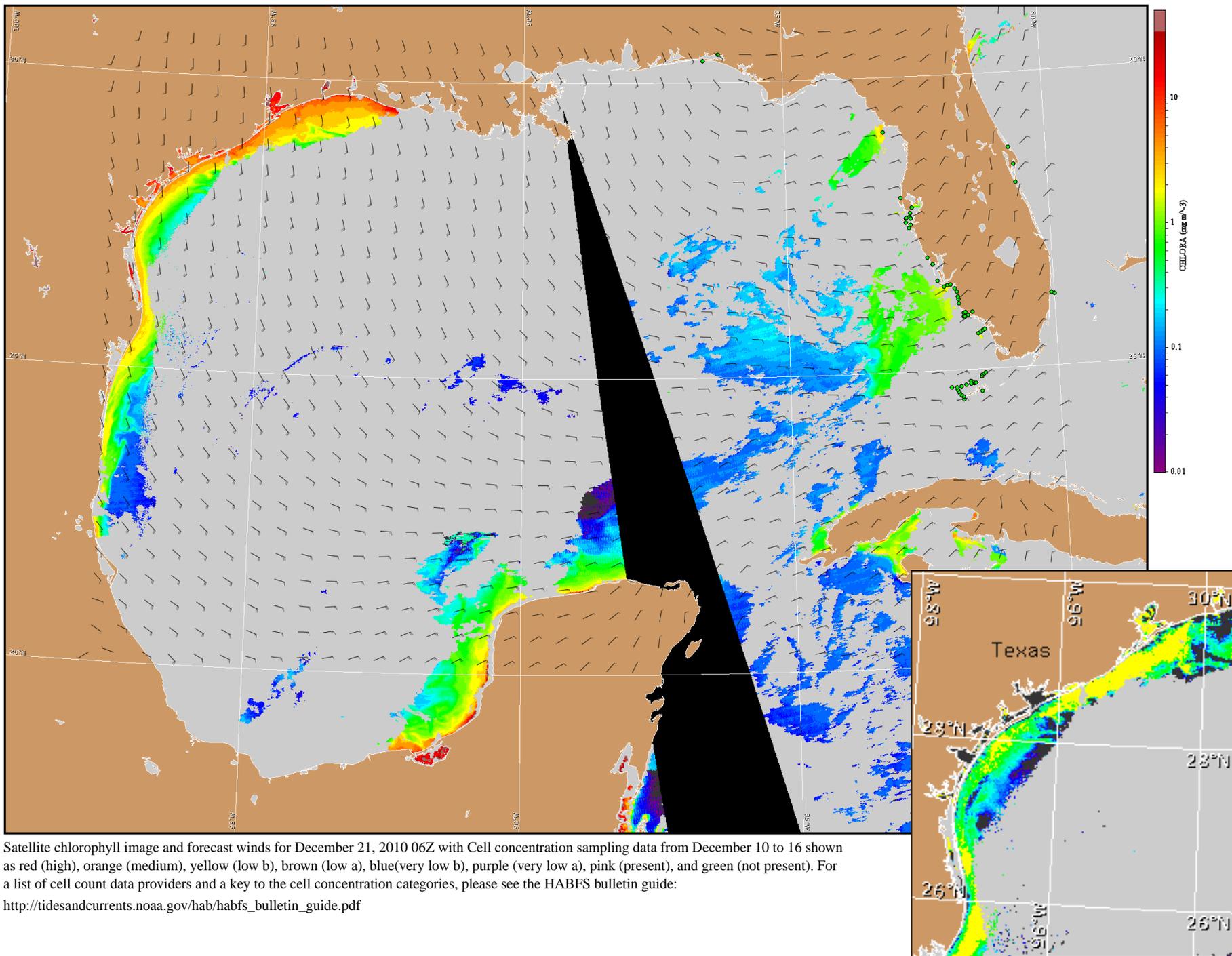


Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind Analysis

South winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today through Thursday, increasing to 15-20kn (8-10m/s) for tonight. Northwest to north winds (15-25kn, 8-13m/s) Friday.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 21, 2010 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from December 10 to 16 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:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).