

CREON I-CREOS Workshop

Melbourne, Australia

December 10th, 2009

**NOAA Coral Reef Conservation Program, and the
Integrated Coral Observing Network (ICON) project:
Current Capabilities and Vision for the Future**

Lew Gramer

NOAA / University of Miami – Cooperative Institute for Marine & Atmos. Studies

Project PI, Jim Hendee

NOAA Atlantic Oceanographic and Meteorological Laboratory

C R C P



A collaborative effort – interagency and international!



NOAA Goals

Coral Reef Conservation Program

PRODUCTS/ACTIVITIES

- Improved Understanding of Ecological Processes
 - Physical - biological linkages
 - Causes of Ecological Change
- Online Continuous and Integrated Data
- Baselines and Long-term Climate Trends
- Decision Support Tools
 - Near Real-Time *Ecoforecasts* for Coral Bleaching, Disease, Spawning, Larval Drift, Biological Productivity Changes, etc.
 - Predictive Numerical Models (bleaching, biology, chemistry)
- Local Action Strategy Support
 - Climate
 - Land-based Sources of Pollution

C R C P



Key Threats to Coral Reef Ecosystems

Coral Reef Conservation Program

Key Threats Addressed

- **Climate Change**
 - Ocean Warming
 - Ocean Acidification
 - Sea-level Rise
 - Changing Ocean Circulation
- **Impacts of Fishing**
 - Biological Productivity
 - Larval Transport/Recruitment
- **Land-based Sources of Pollution**
 - Eutrophication
 - Near-shore Hydrodynamic Processes
- **Alien/Invasive Species**
- **Coral Disease**
- **Recreational Overuse**

C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Physical and Chemical Coral Reef Monitoring

CORE CAPABILITIES



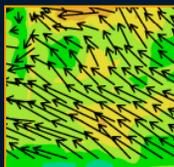
Capability 1: *In Situ*, Fixed platform temporal oceanographic and water quality monitoring



Capability 2: Ship-based spatial oceanographic, water quality, and reef fish surveys



Capability 3: Satellite-based synoptic observations, climatologies, anomalies and related products



Capability 4: Regional Physical/Chemical Modeling

NOAA Capabilities

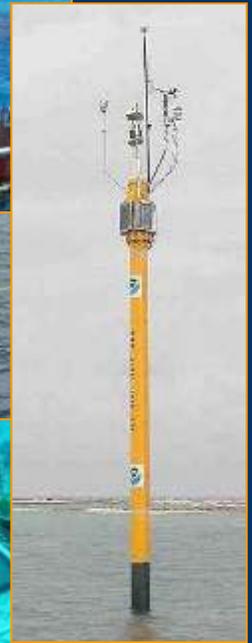
Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation

Near Real-time Platforms

- ICON/CREWS Pylons
- Ocean Acidification Moorings
- NDBC Buoys

Subsurface Instrumentation

- Ocean Current Profiles (ADCP)
- Wave & Tide Recorders (WTR)
- Subsurface Temperature Recorders
- Acoustic Fish/Plankton Sensors
- PAM Fluorometers (coral health)
- Ocean Acidification (pH, PCO_2)



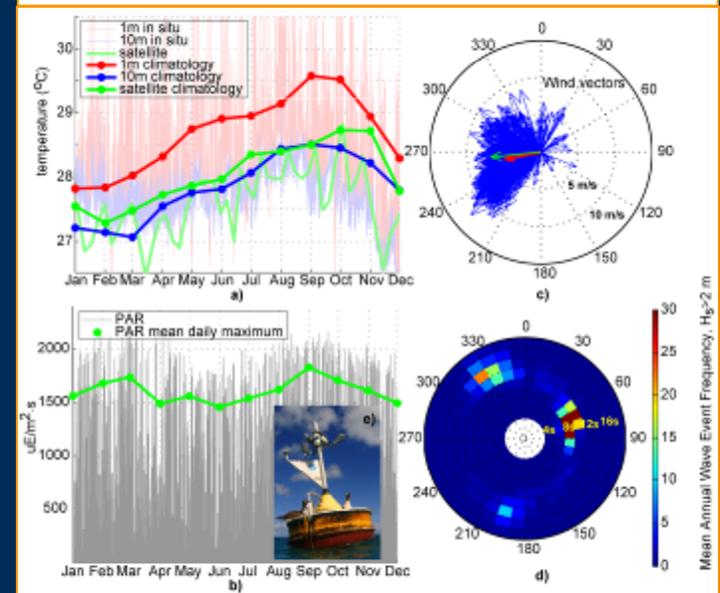
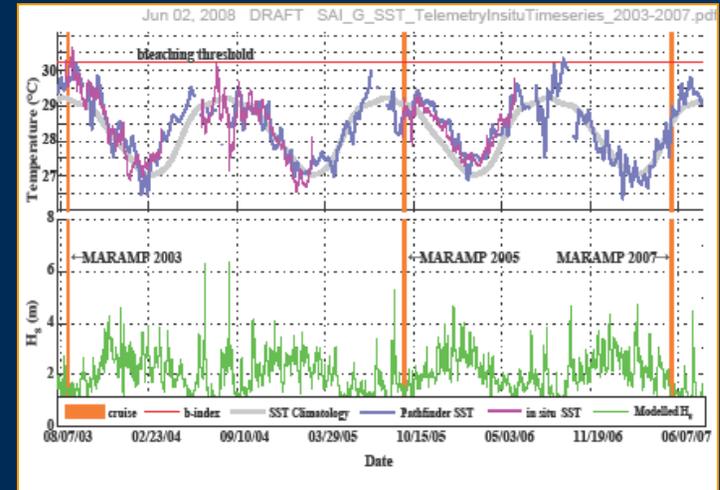
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



Variables measured:

- Temperature and Salinity
- Air Temperature, Pressure, Rain, Humidity, Winds
- Currents, Waves, Tides
- Light (PAR, UV, attenuation)
- pCO₂ , pH
- Coral Photosynthetic Efficiency (active fluorom.)
- Nutrients
- Frequency Distribution of Fish and Plankton

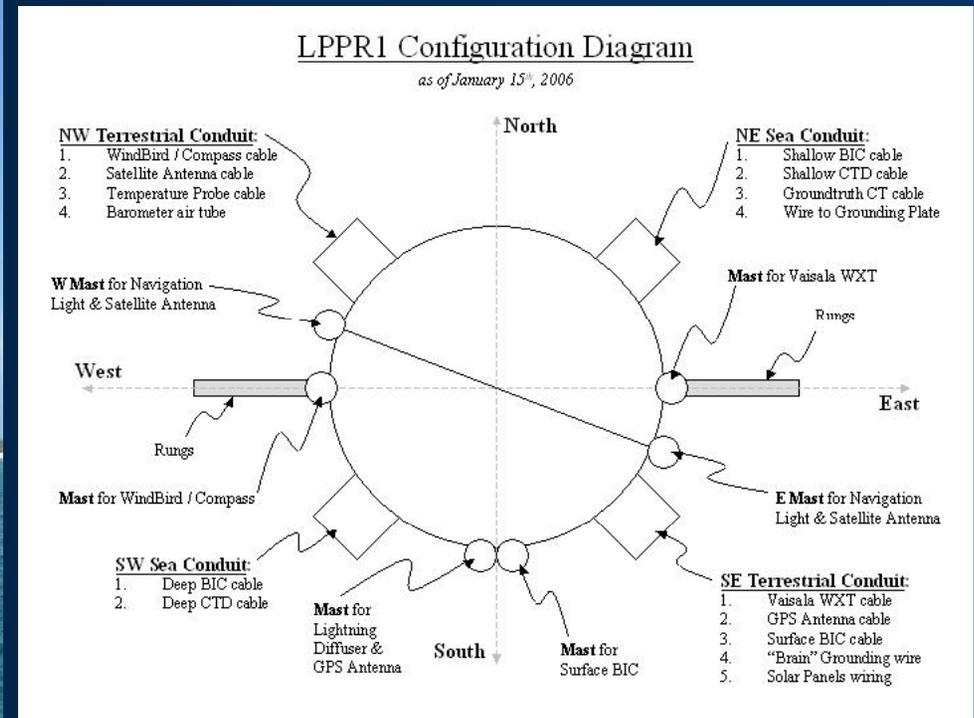


NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



Puerto Rico — US Virgin Islands — Little Cayman

NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



Puerto Rico — US Virgin Islands — Little Cayman

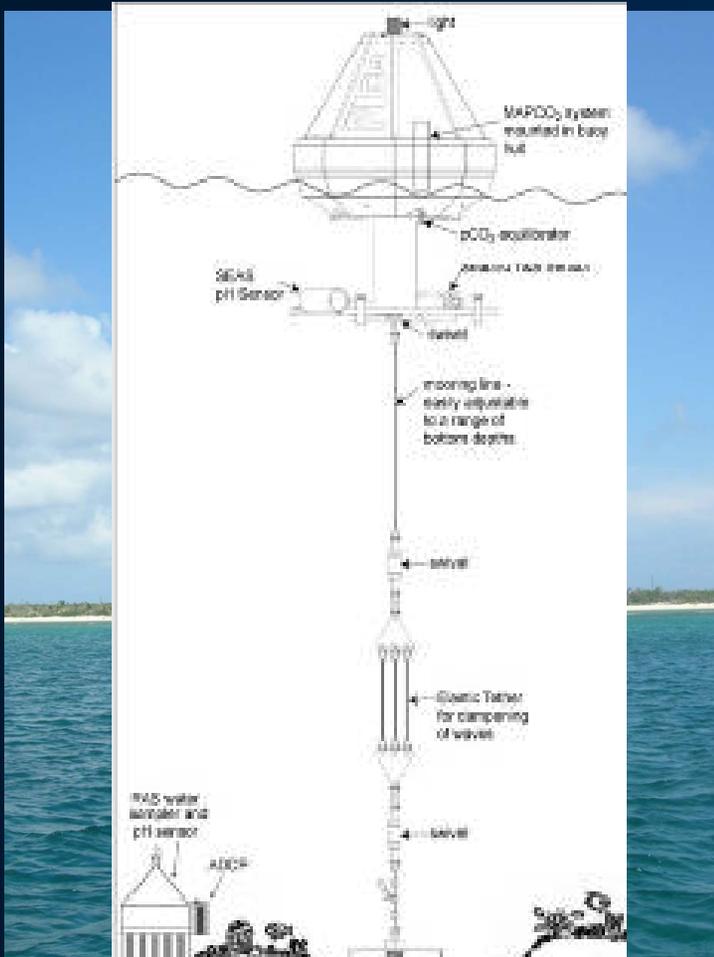


NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



US Virgin Islands — Little Cayman

NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



Florida Keys (Molasses Reef)

C R C P

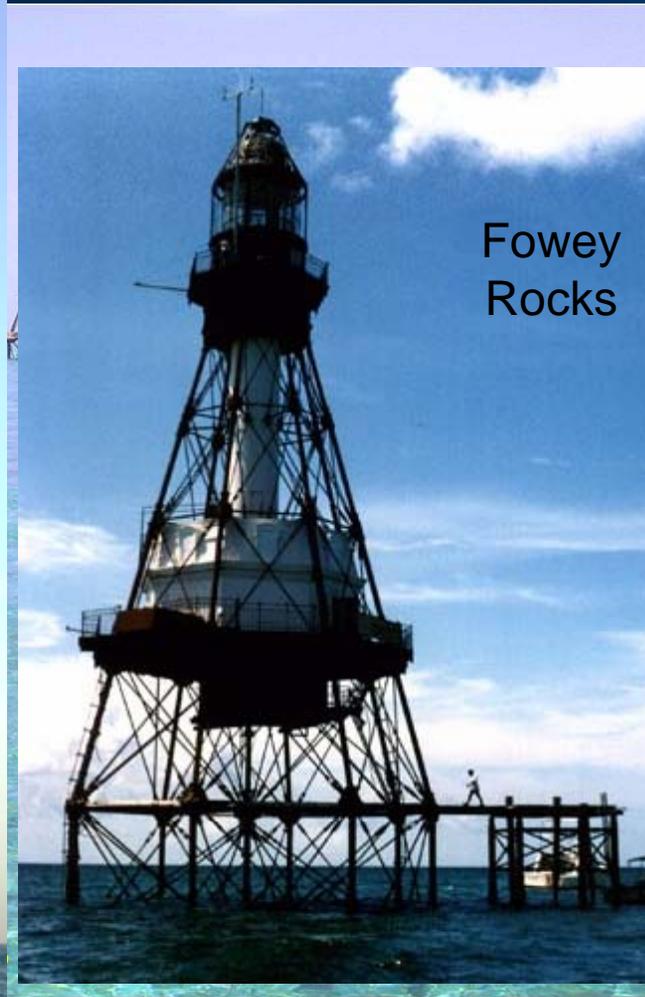


NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



Autonomous hourly, reef-
fish and plankton size-
frequency
distributions:
BioSonics DT-X
Echosounder

Florida Keys (Tennessee Reef)

C R C P

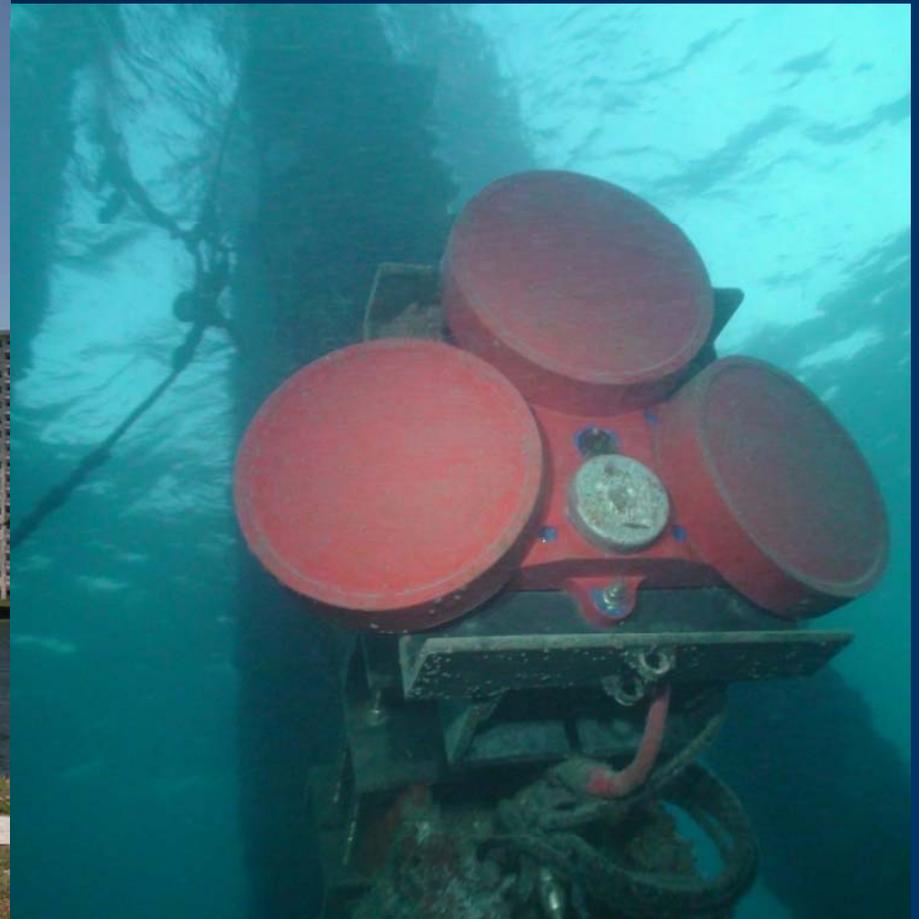


NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



ICON/CREWS Stations – the current view



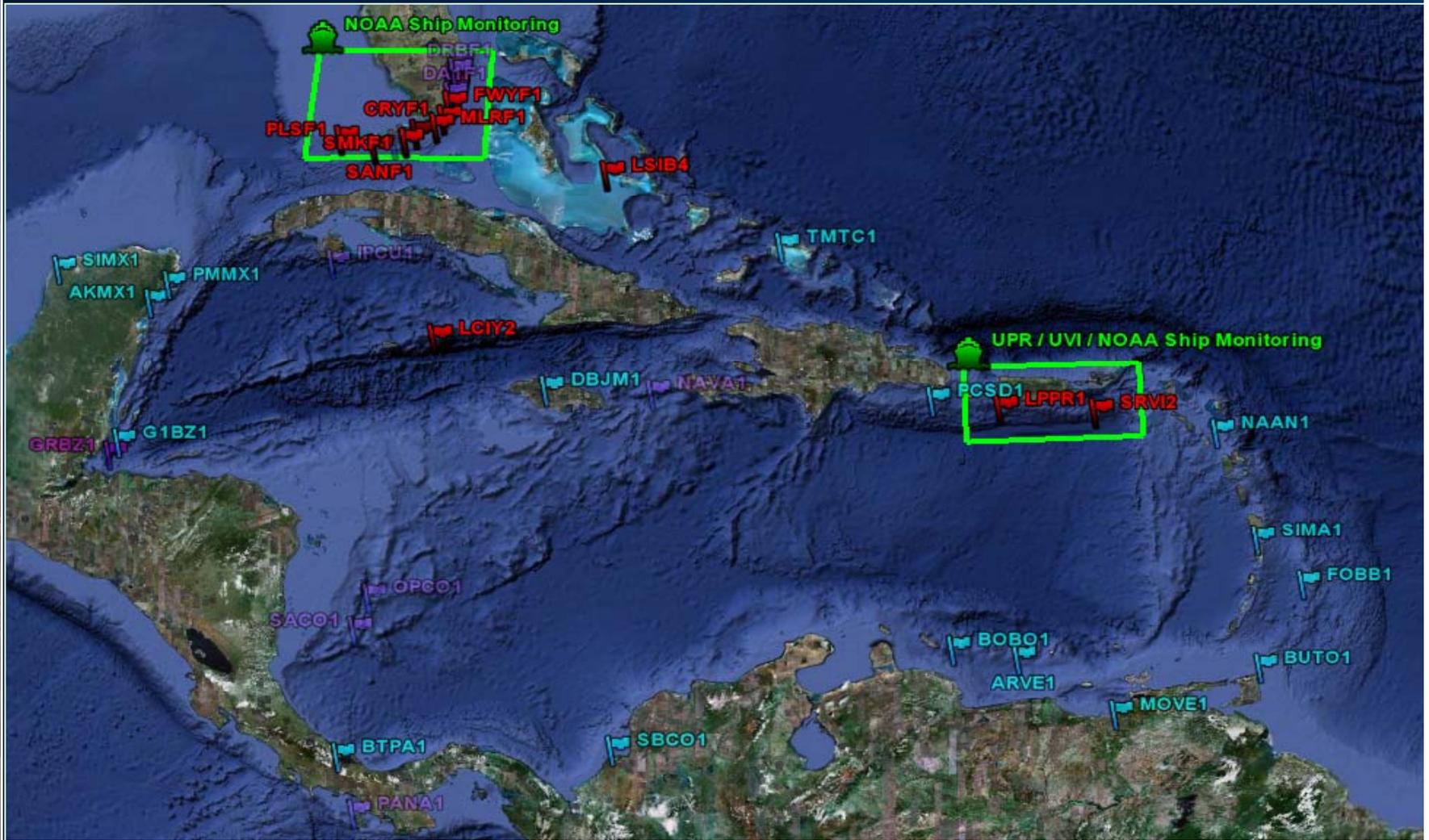
Florida mainland (Port Everglades)

NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



Caribbean ICON/CREWS Sites (current, proposed):



C R C P

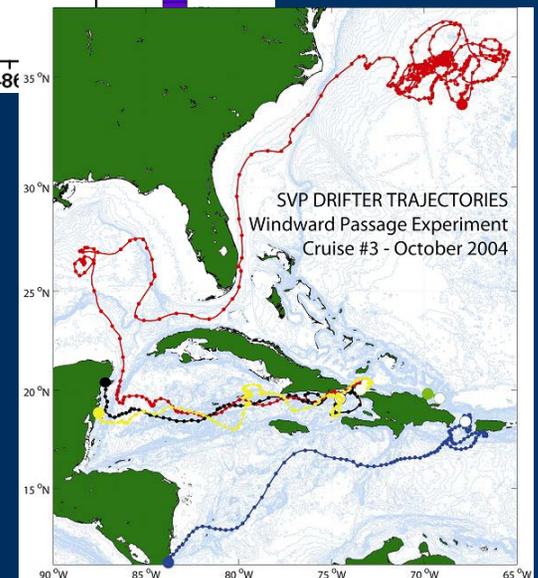
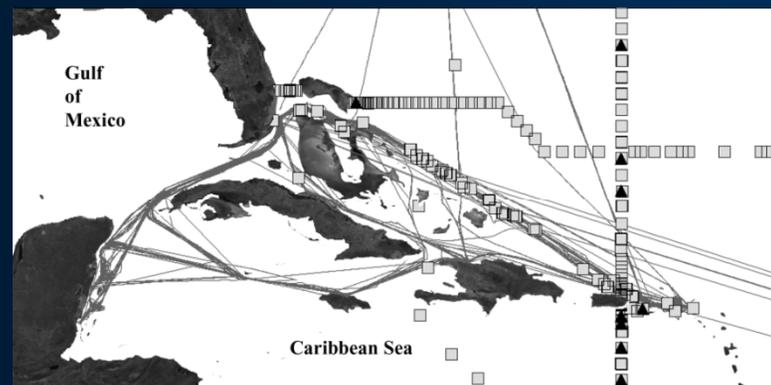
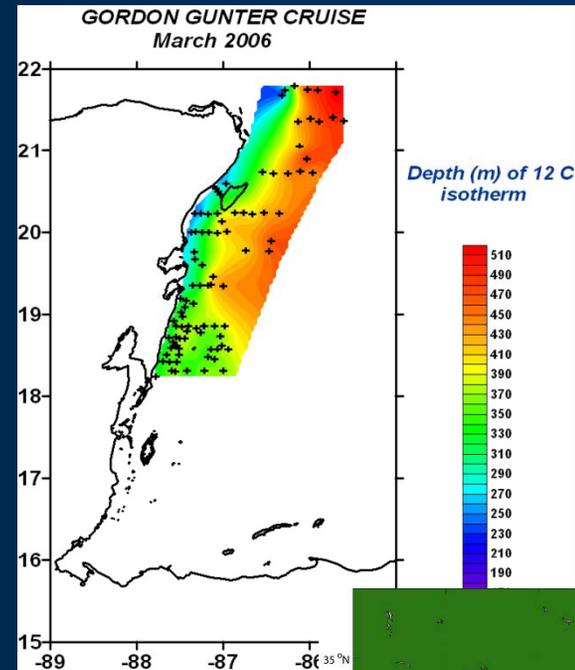
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 2: Ship-based Monitoring



Spatial Structure of:

- Sea Temperature
- Salinity
- Ocean Currents
- Nutrients
- Chlorophyll
- Carbon chemistry
- Turbidity / Attenuation

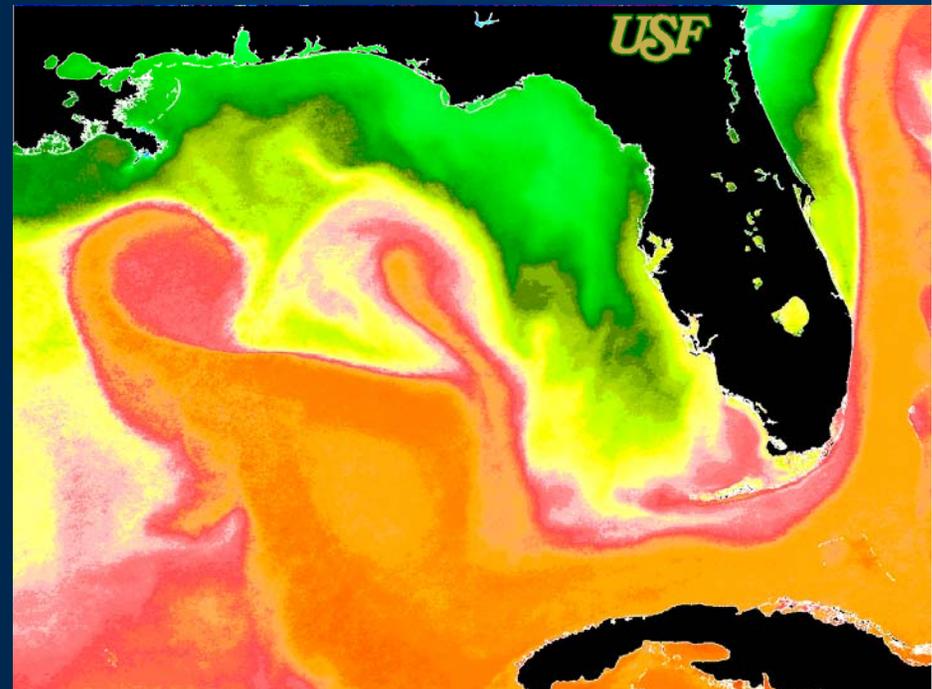
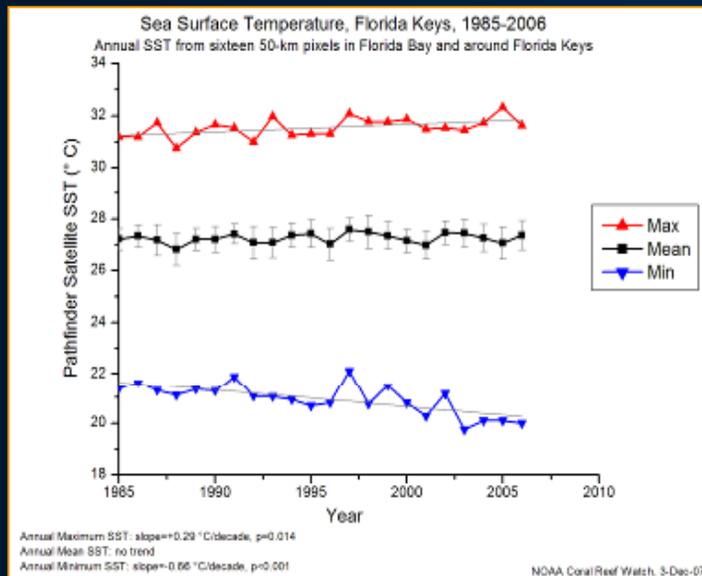
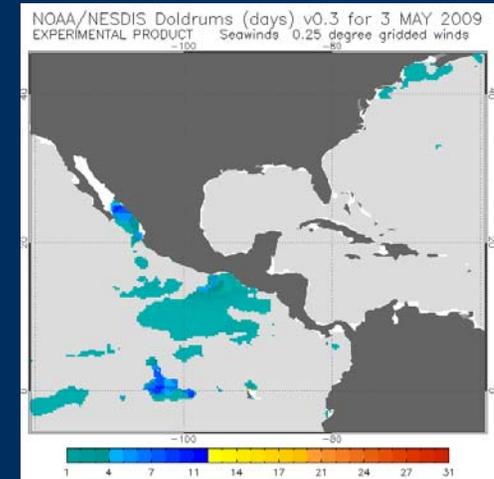


NOAA Capabilities

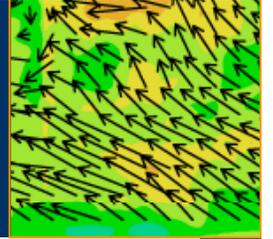
Capability 3: Satellite Monitoring



- SST
- Wind
- Ocean Productivity
- Sea Surface Height
- Light
- Coral-Specific



Capability 4: Physical/Chemical Modeling



NOAA Modeling: Synthesis and product development applications of prior capabilities

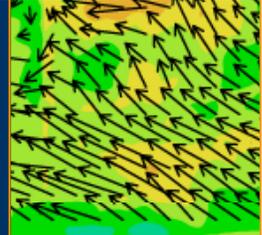
Modeling Products:

- **Bleaching forecasts**
- **Ocean acidification**
- **Hydrodynamic Modeling**
- **Harmful Algal Blooms**
- **Upwelling / productivity changes**
- **Other Ecoforecasting**

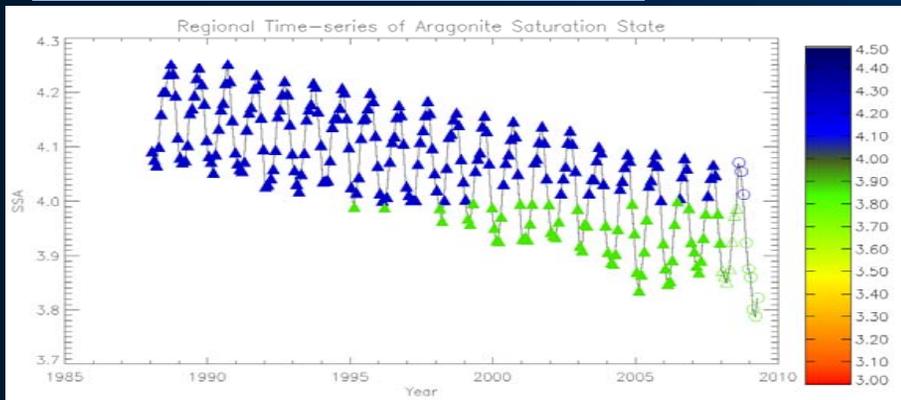


NOAA Capabilities

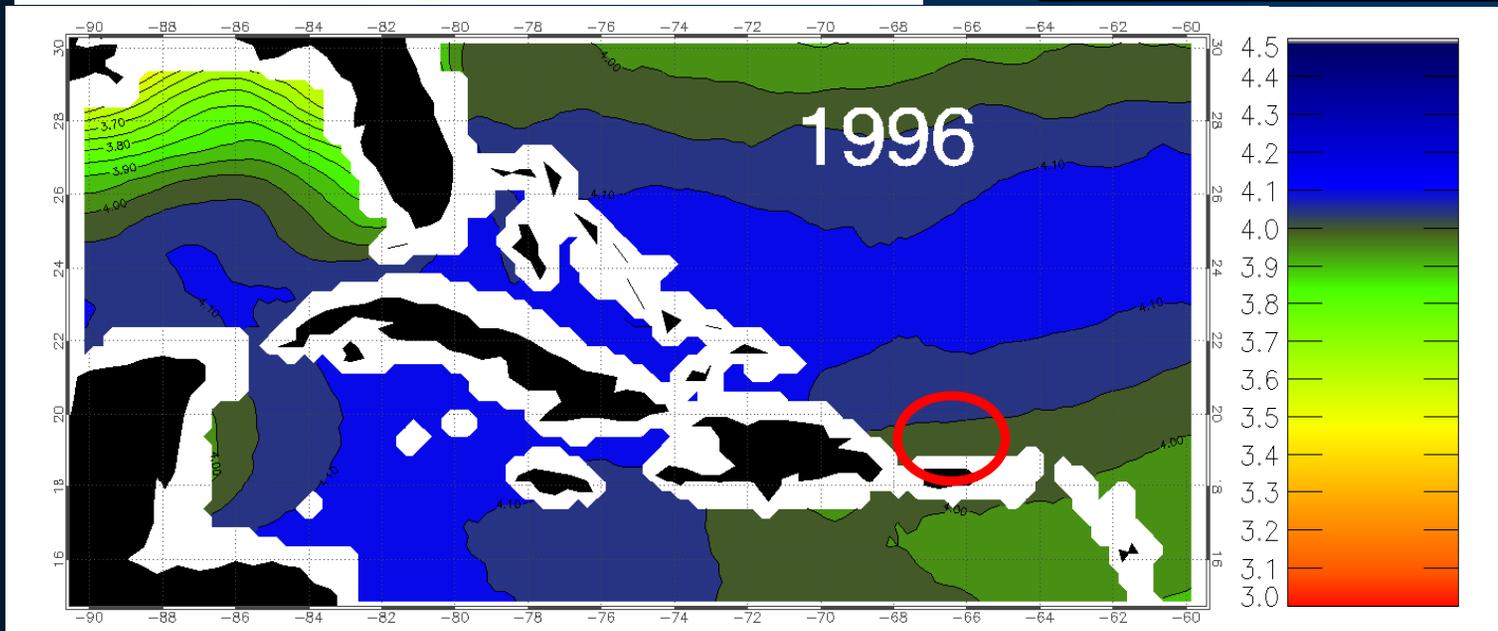
Capability 4: Modeling



Ocean Acidification:



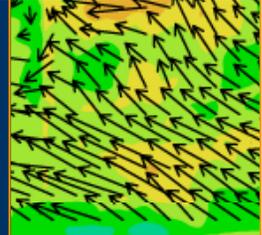
- Monthly modeled environmental estimates of sea surface carbonate chemistry in the Greater Caribbean.



C R C P

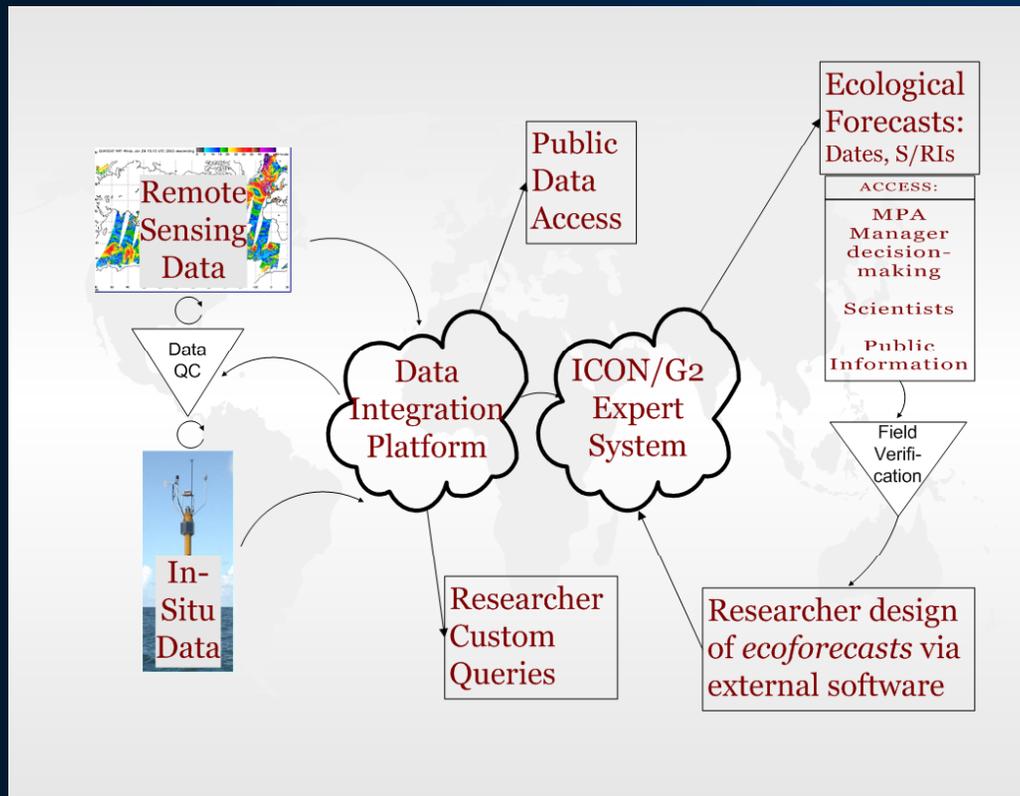
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 4: Modeling



Ecoforecasting:

- **ICON/G2 Expert System**



NOAA ICON ecoforecasts use *fuzzy logic* to predict impacts of physical, chemical, biological, and human-induced change on reef ecosystems and their components.

<http://ecoforecast.coral.noaa.gov>



ICON approach to ecoforecasting

- Environmental sensors are monitored in *near real-time*
- Hourly data or time-series evaluated for ecological significance
- Subjective values assigned for each ecoforecast, each condition
 - “*high*”, “*very high*” or “*drastic high*” light for coral stress,
 - “*conductive*” sea temperature for coral spawning, etc.
- Ecoforecast *alerts* can be triggered by individual conditions...
- ...or by multiple conditions that potentiate one another!
- Alerts describe the severity and duration of each condition
 - Stimulus/Response (or stress) index calculated
 - Links provide graphs and maps for key conditions

C R C P



NOAA -- CHAMP -- ICON -- Forecast-Detail&uuid=f0052cf4e2111dbfe8709e00b000f75 - Mozilla Firefox

File Edit View Go Bookmarks Yahoo! Tools Help

http://www.coral.noaa.gov/prototype/index/0/MLRF1/forecast-detail&uuid=f0052cf4e2111dbfe8709e00b000f75

noaa research NOAA's **Integrated Coral Observing Network (ICON)**
Integrating and inferencing near real-time coral reef data for coral researchers, Marine Protected Area personnel, and the public.

[ICON HOME](#) | [SITES](#) | [LOGIN](#) | [HELP](#) | [SITE HOME](#) | [SUMMARY](#) | [SENSORS](#) | [SOURCES](#) | [BIOLOGY](#) | [DATA](#) | [GRAPHS](#) | [ECO-FORECASTS](#) | [IMAGES](#)

 **Molasses Reef, Florida Key (MLRF1)**
Ecological Forecast - Details

Ecological Forecasts
daily via Web and email

ECOLOGICAL FORECAST: 'Mass spawning of Montastraea spp. and dispersal in the Gulf Stream' for 12 Aug 2006 8:00:00 a.m. (Day 223)

Forecast Model:
'Mass spawning of Montastraea spp. into the Gulf Stream (high sea temp & more surface current)'

Stimulus/Response Index (S/RI) = 51, because:
 Surfcur Umin was Somewhat High (30.6) during period Morning
 Lunar Phase was Waning Gibbous (0.58) during period All Day
 Seandbc was Somewhat High (29.5) during period All Day

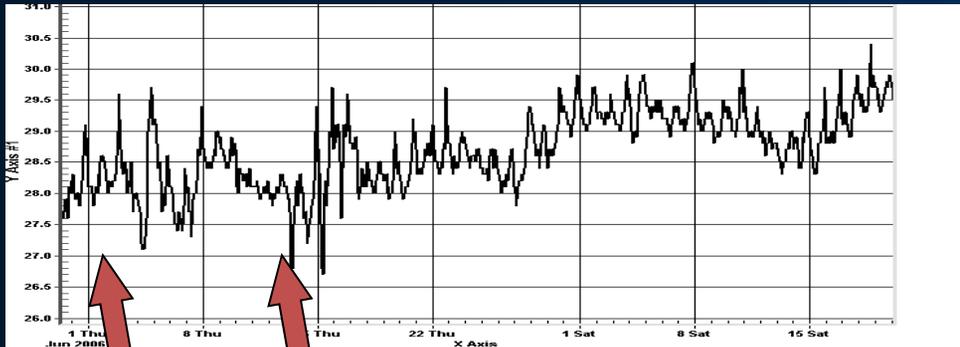
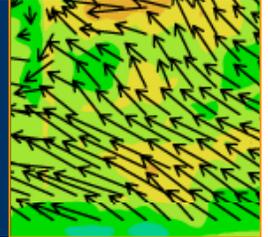
(Forecast generated as of 27 Sep 2006 8:15:29 a.m.)

[Click here to return to Eco-Forecasts](#)

Detailed explanations of environmental triggers, as well as impact

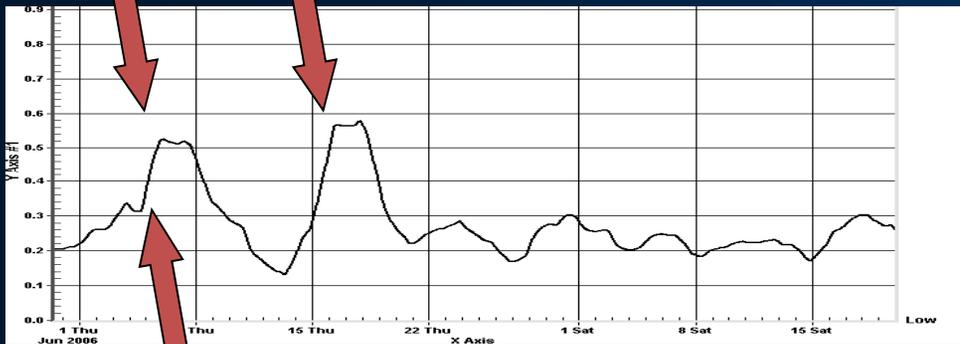
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 4: Ecoforecasting



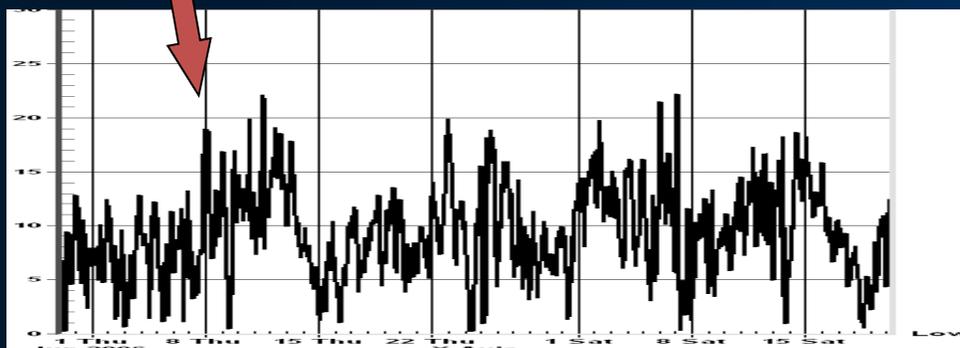
Hourly sea temperature (°C)

T_{hourly} reported via satellite



High-frequency T variance

$$T_{\text{var}} = \Sigma_{3d} [\sigma_{1d} (T_{\text{hourly}})]$$



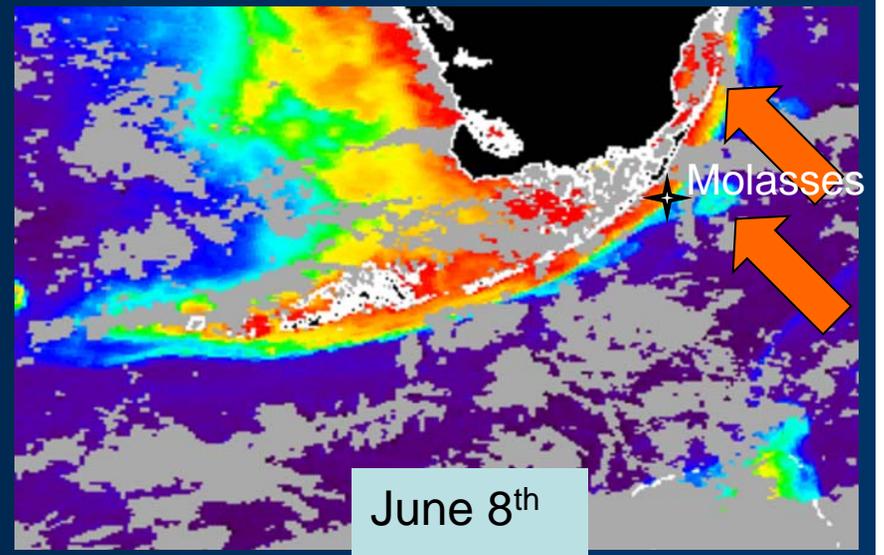
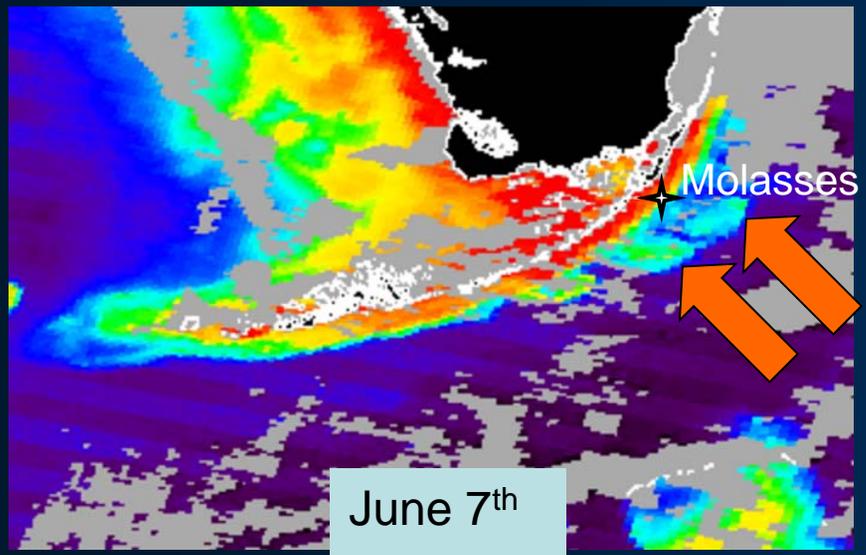
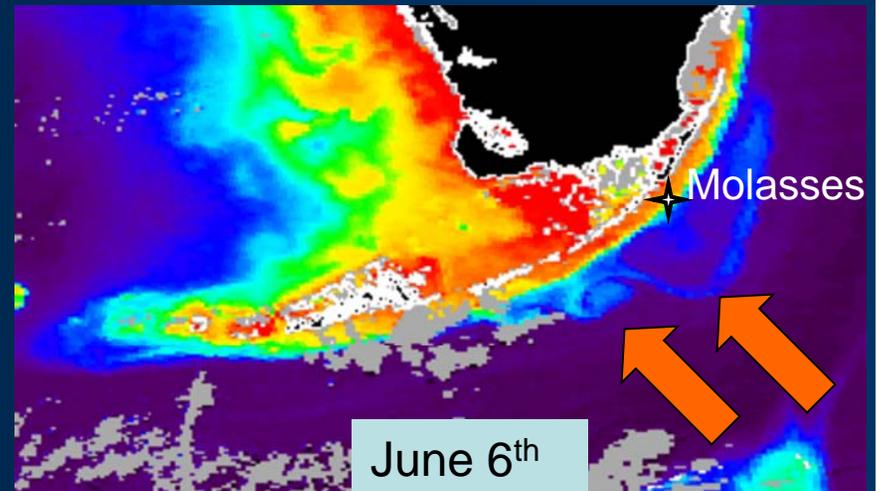
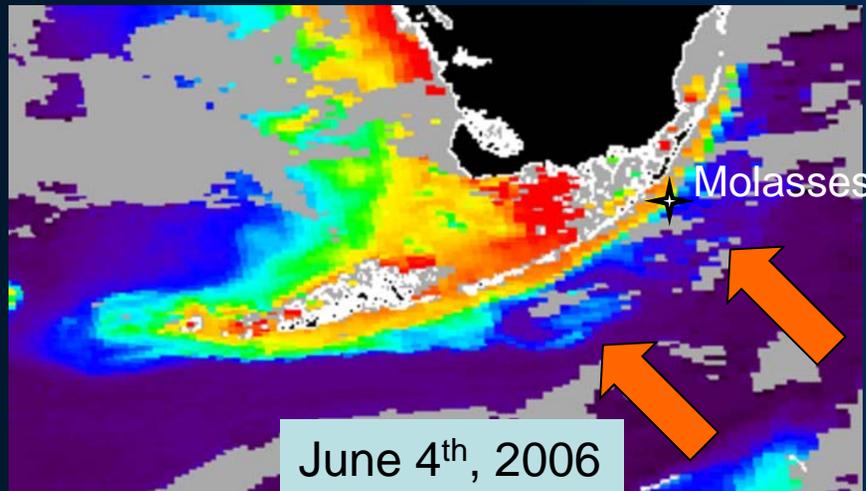
Mean hourly wind (knots)

NB: T_{var} spike *preceded* wind

What is the forcing mechanism?



Chlorophyll shows cyclonic circulation



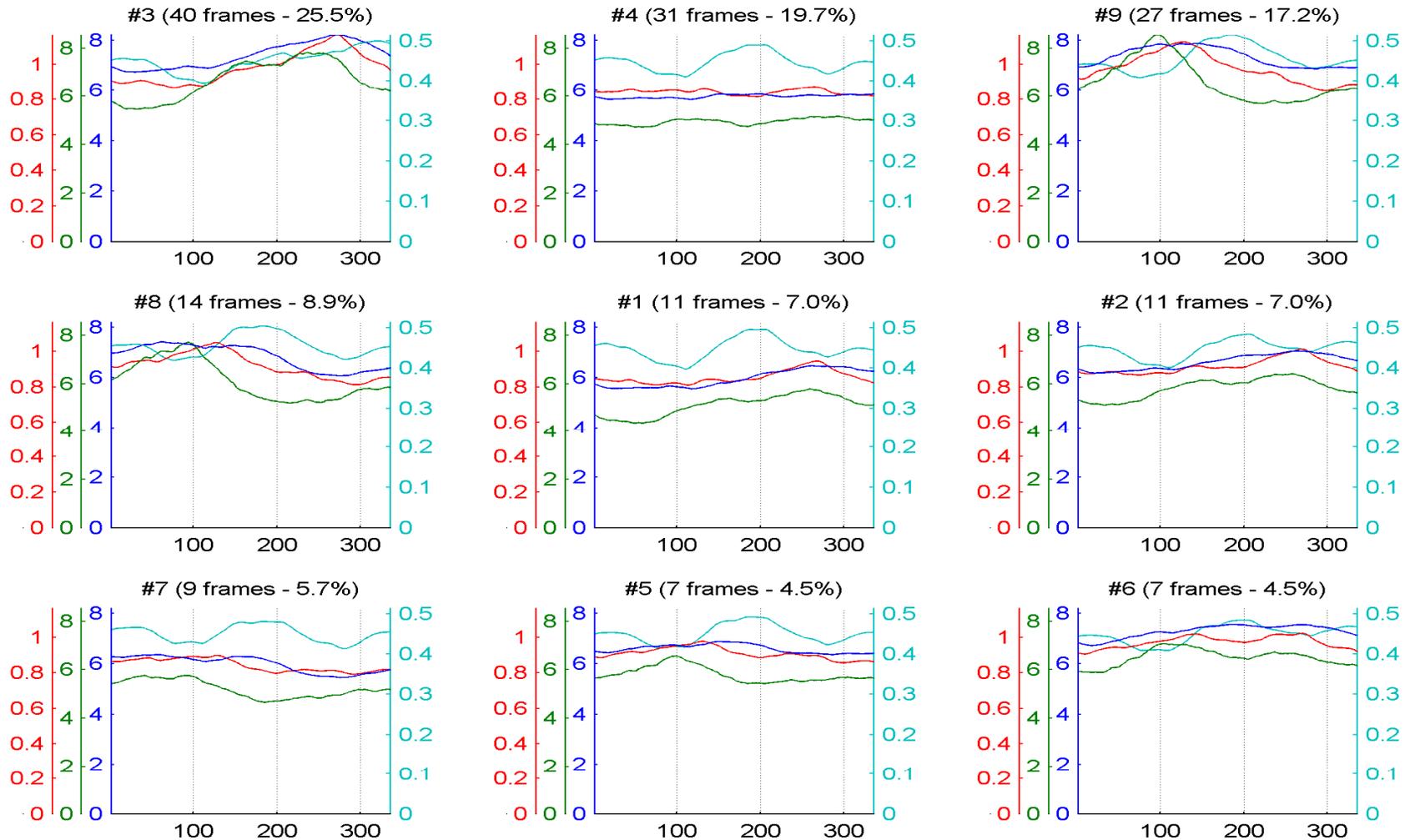
Self-Organizing Maps (SOM)

- A non-linear statistical analysis technique
 - No assumptions about underlying distributions
 - Robust to outliers
- *Unsupervised machine learning* – an Artificial Neural Network **trained** to automatically characterize similarities between data vectors
 - Multiple “units” each of same dimension as a data vector; arranged on an (arbitrary-sized) $N \times M$ map; initialized at random, or by Principal Components
 - Training: presenting data, one vector at a time to all $N \times M$ units; gradually, the set of units organize themselves so similar patterns are adjacent
- Can compare data to SOM units quantitatively – a “Best Matching Unit” is found for each data vector



Extended SOM – non-linear covariability between forcing and response (physical, ecosystem)

SOM "Modes" SMKF1 1988-2008 Annual, 336H frames (N=157): sea_t_1_day_deviation_3_day_average (c) (>93%) (>0.597)

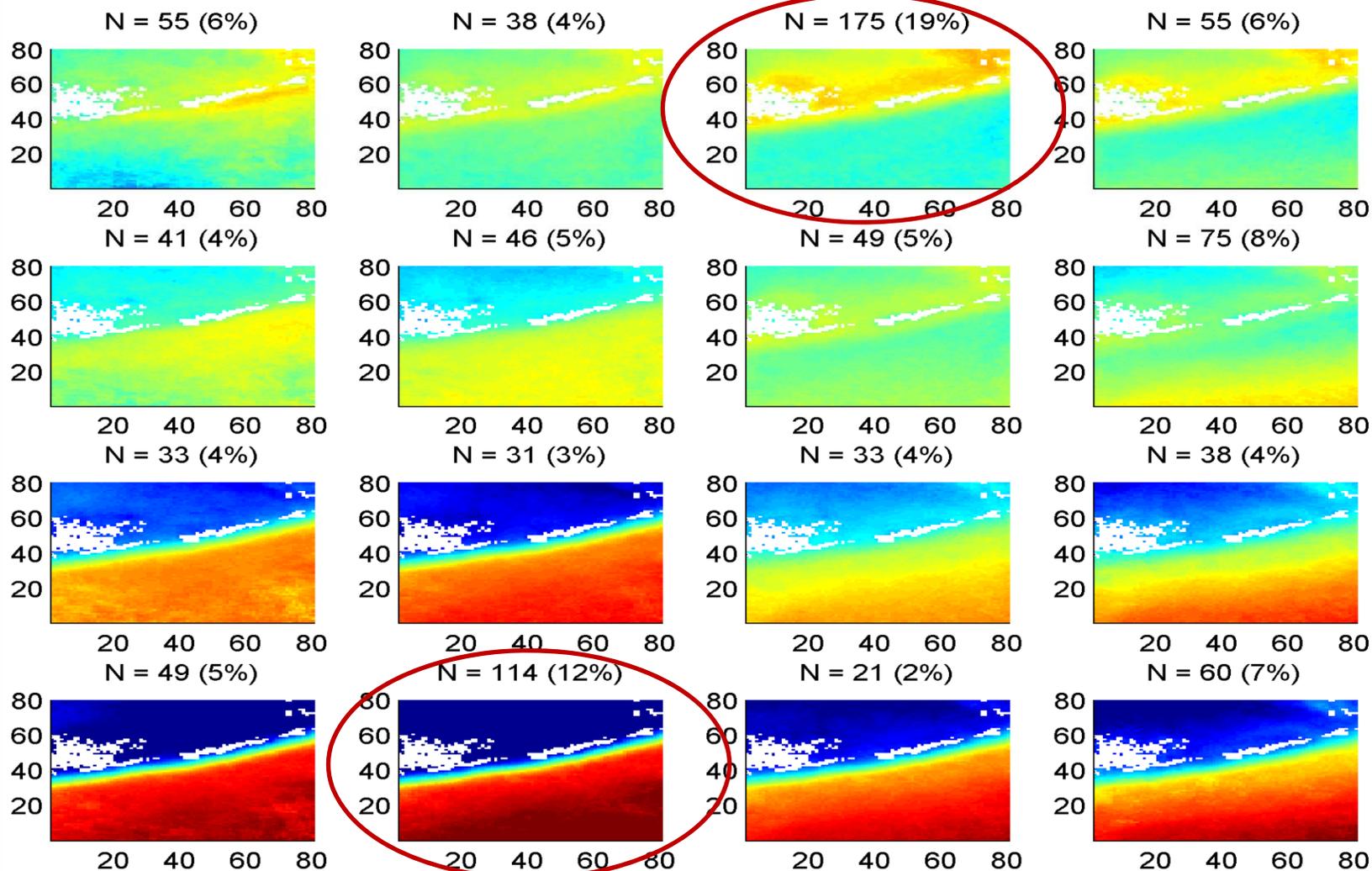


vs. air_t_1_day_deviation_3_day_average (r), wind1_u_3_day_deviation_sum_wind1_v (g), wind1_speed_3_day_average (b)



Spatial SOM of SST fields

SMKF1 SOM "Modes" [4 4], USF AVHRR SST 2005



Coral Reef Monitoring

Challenges:

- **Better integrate data – regional and local; physical, chemical, biological, ecological**
- **Tailor products to management needs**
- **Improved access and more timely delivery**
- **Automate observations**
- **Better serve management**
- **New instruments to address known gaps**
- **Higher space/time-resolution data**
- **More tools for climate change impacts**
- **Model parameterization/validation**



CREON I-CREOS Workshop

Melbourne, Australia

December 10th, 2009

Integrated Coral Observing Network (ICON) project

For more information:

<http://ecoforecast.coral.noaa.gov>

Jim Hendee, jim.hendee@noaa.gov

+1-305-361-4396

Lew Gramer, lew.gramer@noaa.gov

+1-305-361-4554

C R C P



CREON I-CREOS Workshop

Melbourne, Australia

December 10th, 2009

Integrated Coral Observing Network (ICON) project

Additional Slides

C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



Caribbean ICON/CREWS Sites (current, proposed):



C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Capability 1: *In situ* Instrumentation



Management Requests:

- ✓ Near-real-time monitoring (FL) – CREWS/ICON
- ✓ Currents for larval transport and connectivity (Region) – Drifters/ODP/CM
- ✓ Ocean acidification – MAPCO2 (Region)
- Regional Integration (Region) – CariCOOS and other Regional OOSes
- Continue reef SST monitoring (FL) – FKNMS
- Nearshore salinity (FL)
- Currents and waves for LBSP (PR, USVI)

Satellite and Model Initiation/Validation

C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Capability 2: Ship-based Monitoring



Atlantic/Caribbean Oceanographic Cruises

Region	Project	06	07	08	09	10 ?
Caribbean	Reef fish/Larval Fish (NMFS)		X		X	X
GOM	Reef fish survey (NMFS)	X	X	X	X	X
GOM	Flower Garden Banks NMS (NOS)	X	X	X		X
GOM	Deep coral (NMFS)					X
FL	Pulley Ridge reef fish (NMFS)				X	X
FL	Florida Keys NMS (NOS)	X	X	X	X	
FL	Tortugas Ecological Reserve (NOS)		X	X	X	X
FL	Oculina Banks (NMFS)			X		
FL	FACE (OAR)		X	X		X
FL	Benthic habitat mapping (NOS)					X
PR/USVI	Benthic habitat mapping (NOS)	X	X	X	X	X (FL)
PR/USVI	Ocean Obs/fish larvae (OAR, NMFS)		X	X	X	X
PR/USVI	Reef fish recruitment (NMFS)					
PR	Vieques seagrass & coral (NOS)	X	X	X		
Navassa	Navassa NWR (NMFS, NOS)	X			X	

C R C P



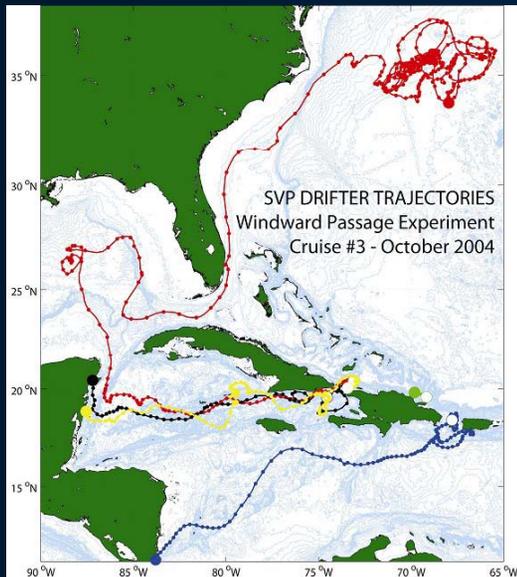
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 2: Ship-based Monitoring



Management Requests:

- ✓ Currents for connectivity (USVI)
- ✓ Currents and waves for LBSP (PR, USVI)
- See *in situ* list



Larval drift around Caribbean



Caribbean CO₂

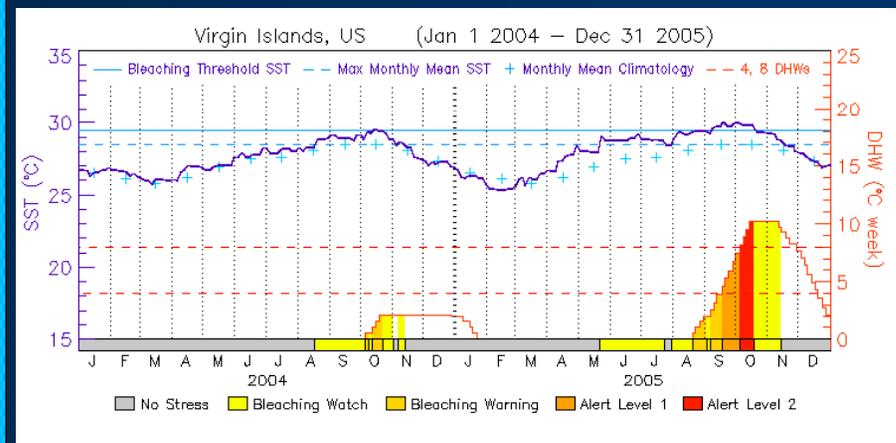
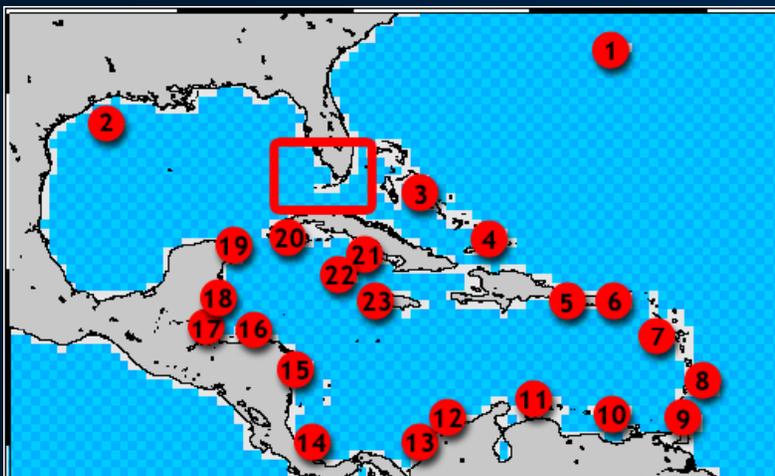
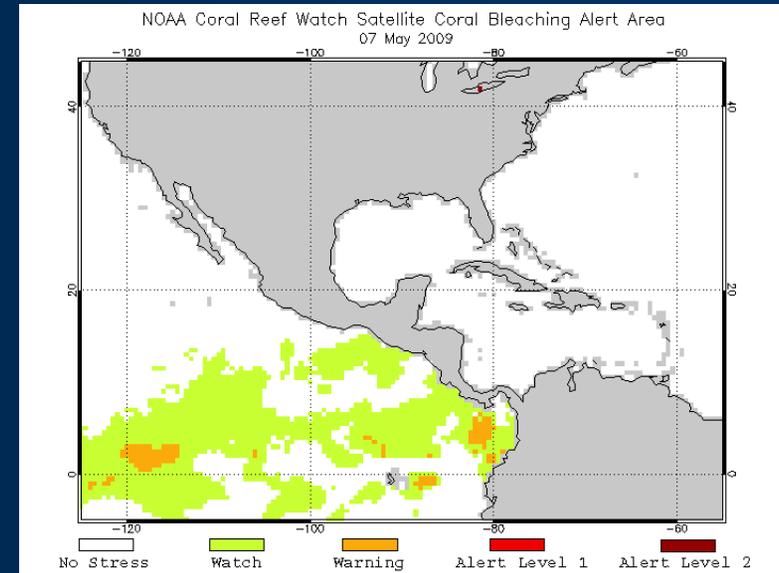
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 3: Satellite Monitoring



SST-Based Products:

- Coral bleaching nowcasts
- Satellite Bleaching Alerts
- Virtual Stations
- Near-real-time data
- Long-term data



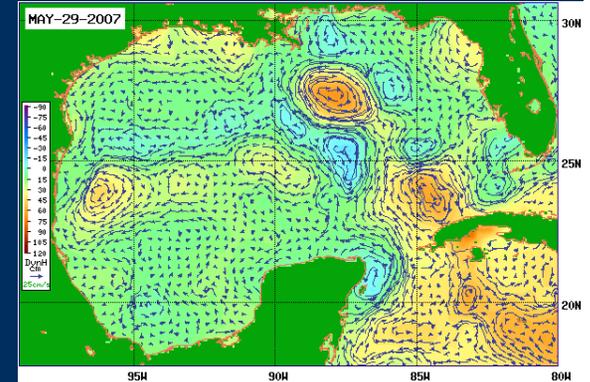
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 3: Satellite Monitoring



Management Requests:

- ✓ **Circulation for:**
 - **Nearshore processes**
 - **Connectivity**
- ✓ **Coastal chlorophyll**
- ✓ **Bleaching prediction & follow-up**
- ✓ **Nearshore & higher resolution SST**
- ✓ **Ocean acidification**

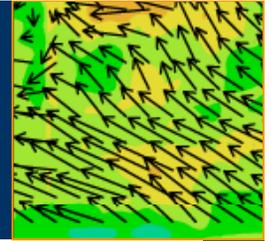


C R C P

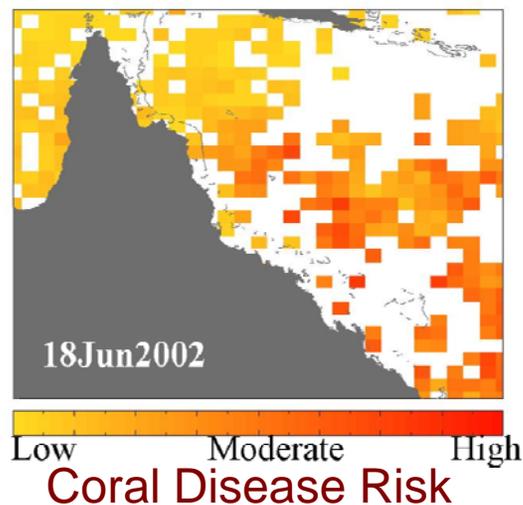
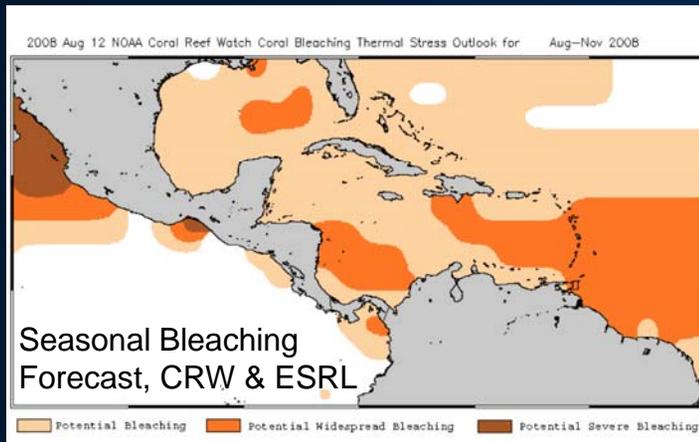


NOAA Capabilities

Capability 4: Modeling



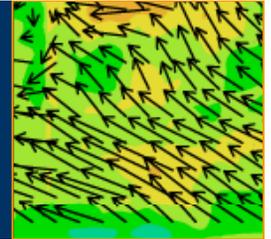
Thermal Stress: Bleaching and disease forecasts



- A tropical coral bleaching outlook system
- NOAA ESRL SST model
- Forecast regions of potential thermal stress from one-week to four months
- SST-based Disease outbreak potential

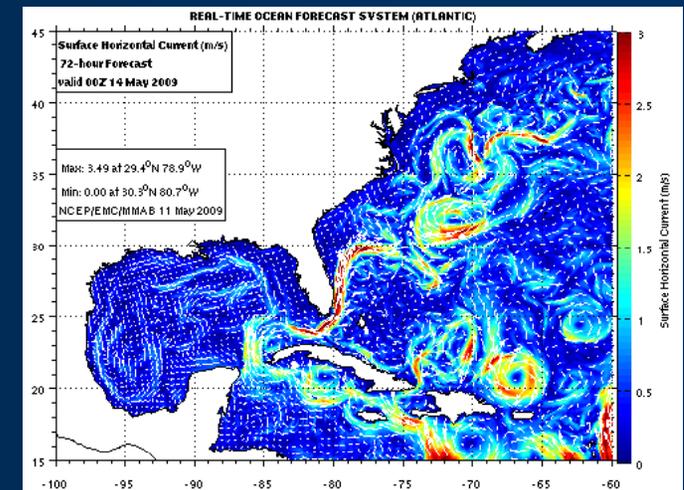
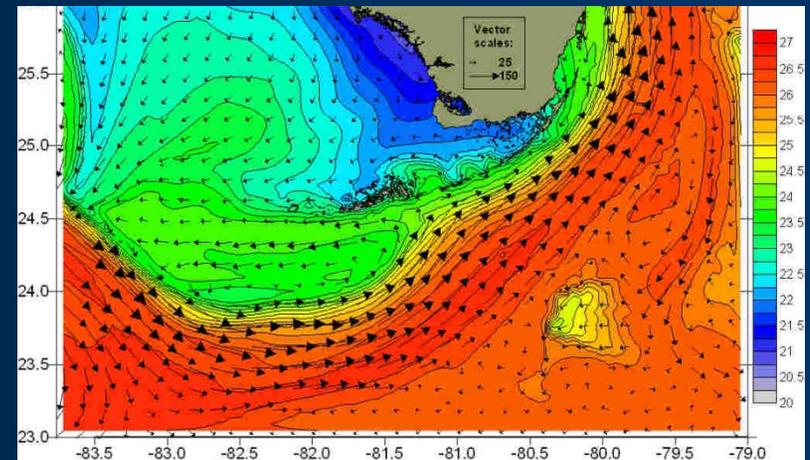
NOAA Capabilities

Capability 4: Modeling



Hydrodynamic Modeling:

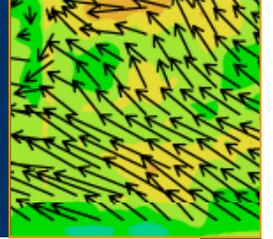
- Multiple scales: bay to basin
- Existing examples:
S FL HYCOM, PR/USVI
ROMS, RTOFS



NOAA Environmental Modeling Center
Real-Time Ocean Forecast System
(Atlantic)

NOAA Capabilities

Capability 4: Modeling



Management Requests:

- ✓ Bleaching event prediction (Region) - CRW
- ✓ Ocean acidification (Region) – CRW/AOML/UPRM
- ✓ HAB/Black water events (FL) – NCCOS
- Larval transport/recruitment (USVI)
- Sea level rise (PR,FL) – Climate & Coastal Program
- Near-shore currents for LBSP (PR, USVI)

C R C P



NOAA Capabilities

Physical and Chemical Monitoring

Future Directions – Underway:

- **Light and temperature from satellites**
- **Bleaching and disease prediction**
- **Higher resolution data**
- **Standard systems for data access/analysis**
- **Training for data use and application**
- **Atlantic OA Test-bed, La Parguera, PR**

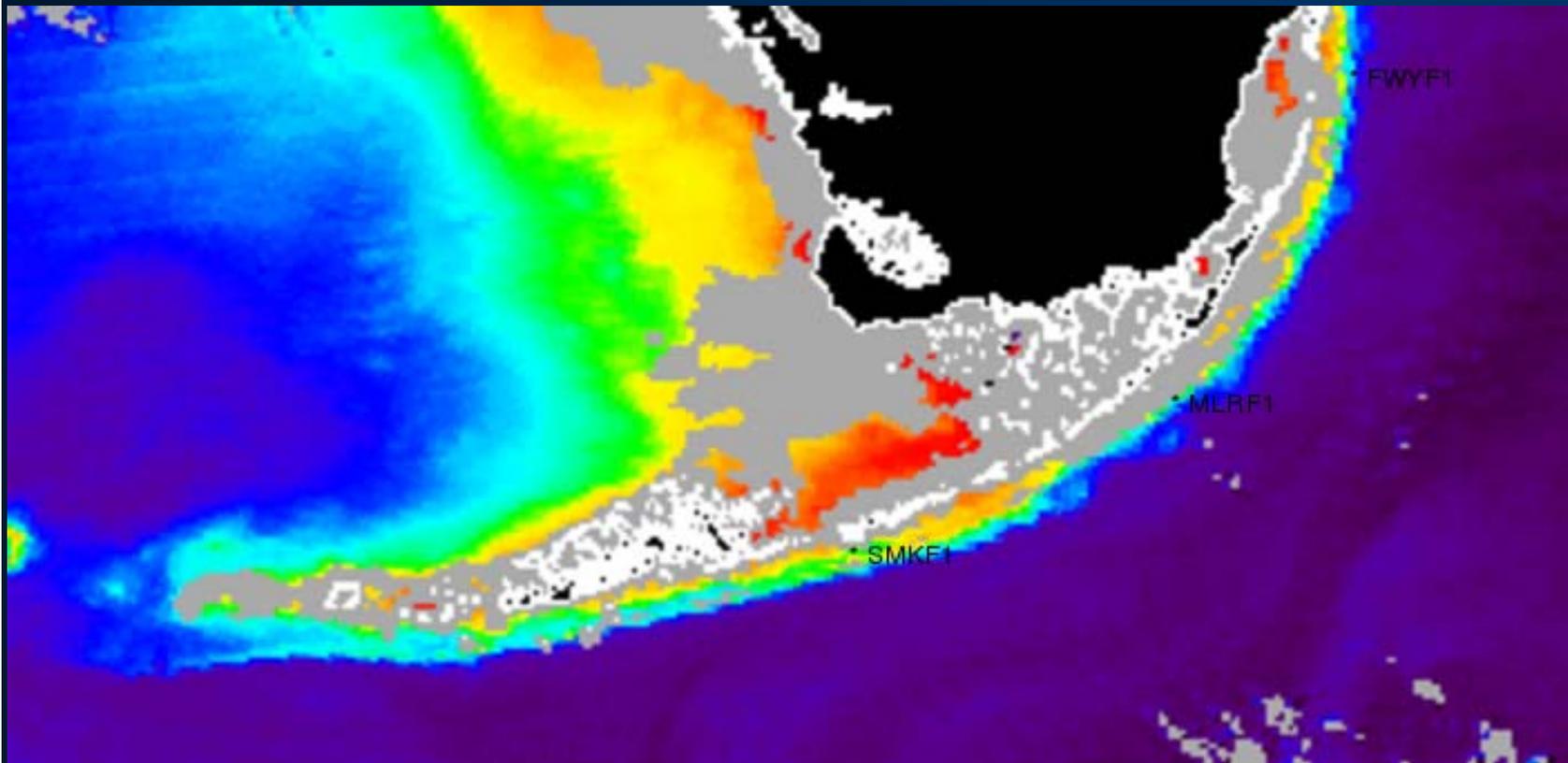
Future Directions – Down the Road:

- **Quantitative water quality and turbidity from satellites**
- **Ocean Acidification Monitoring Network**

C R C P



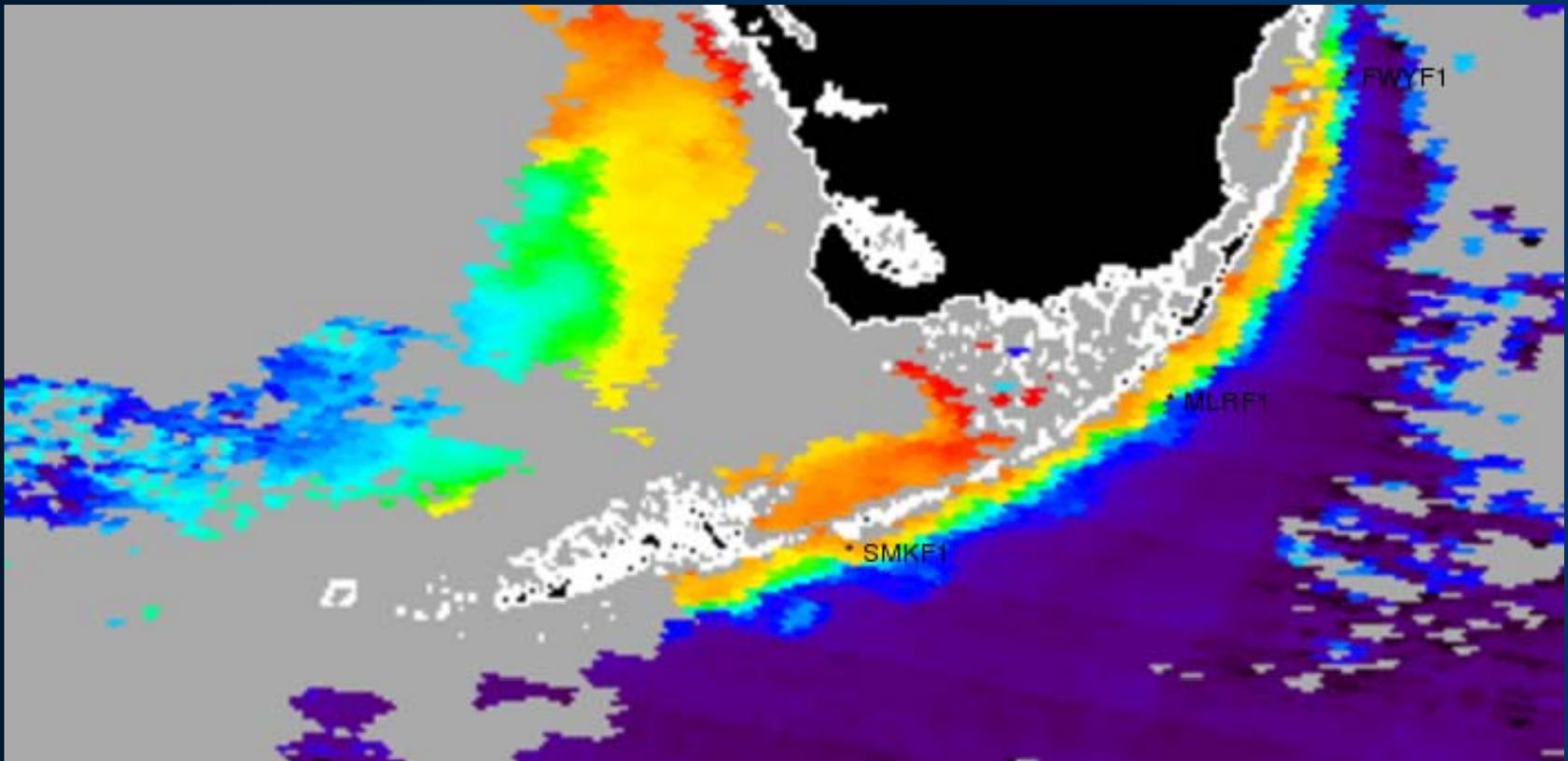
SME “street” – 2005 083



C R C P



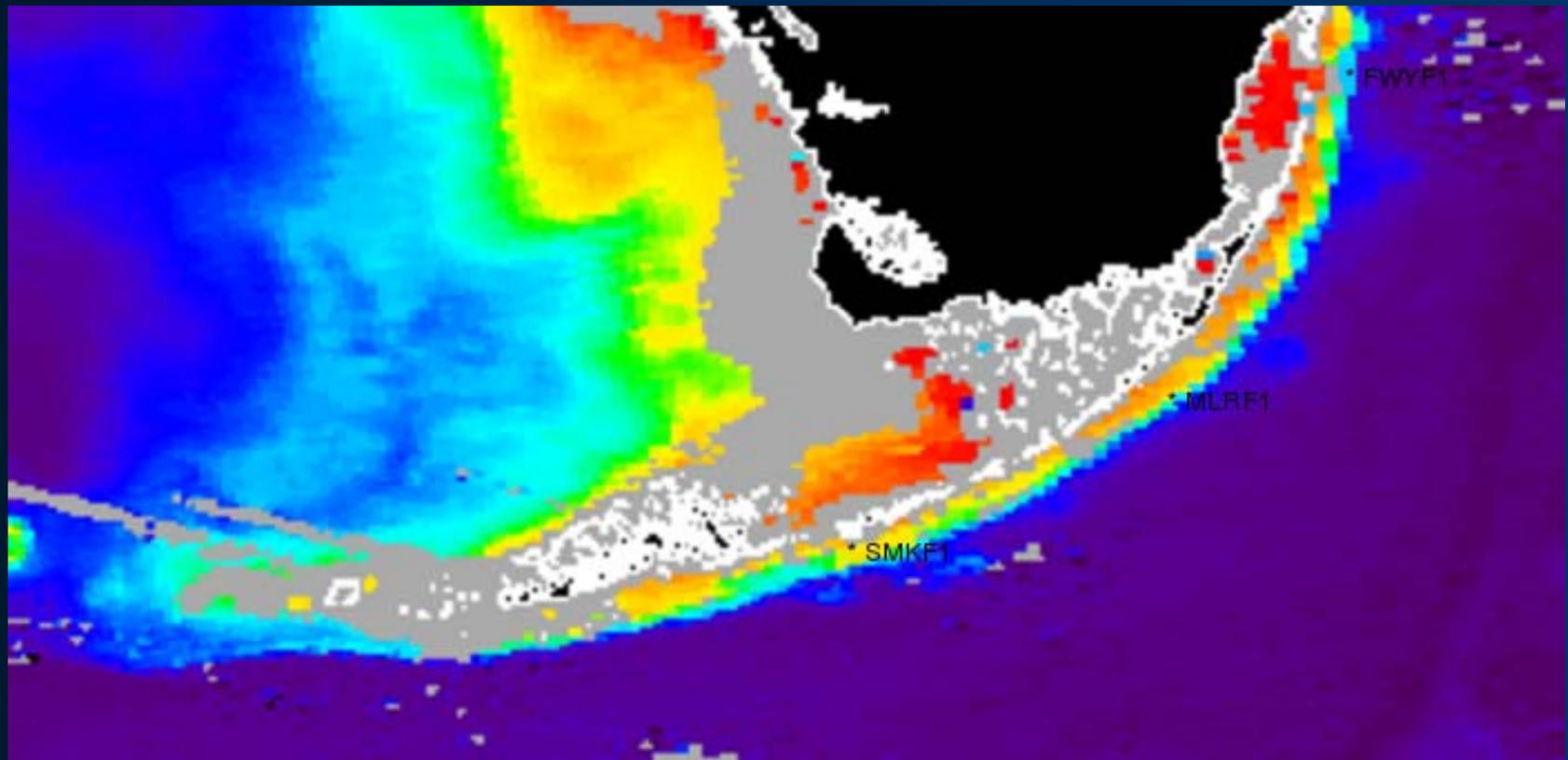
2005 107



C R C P



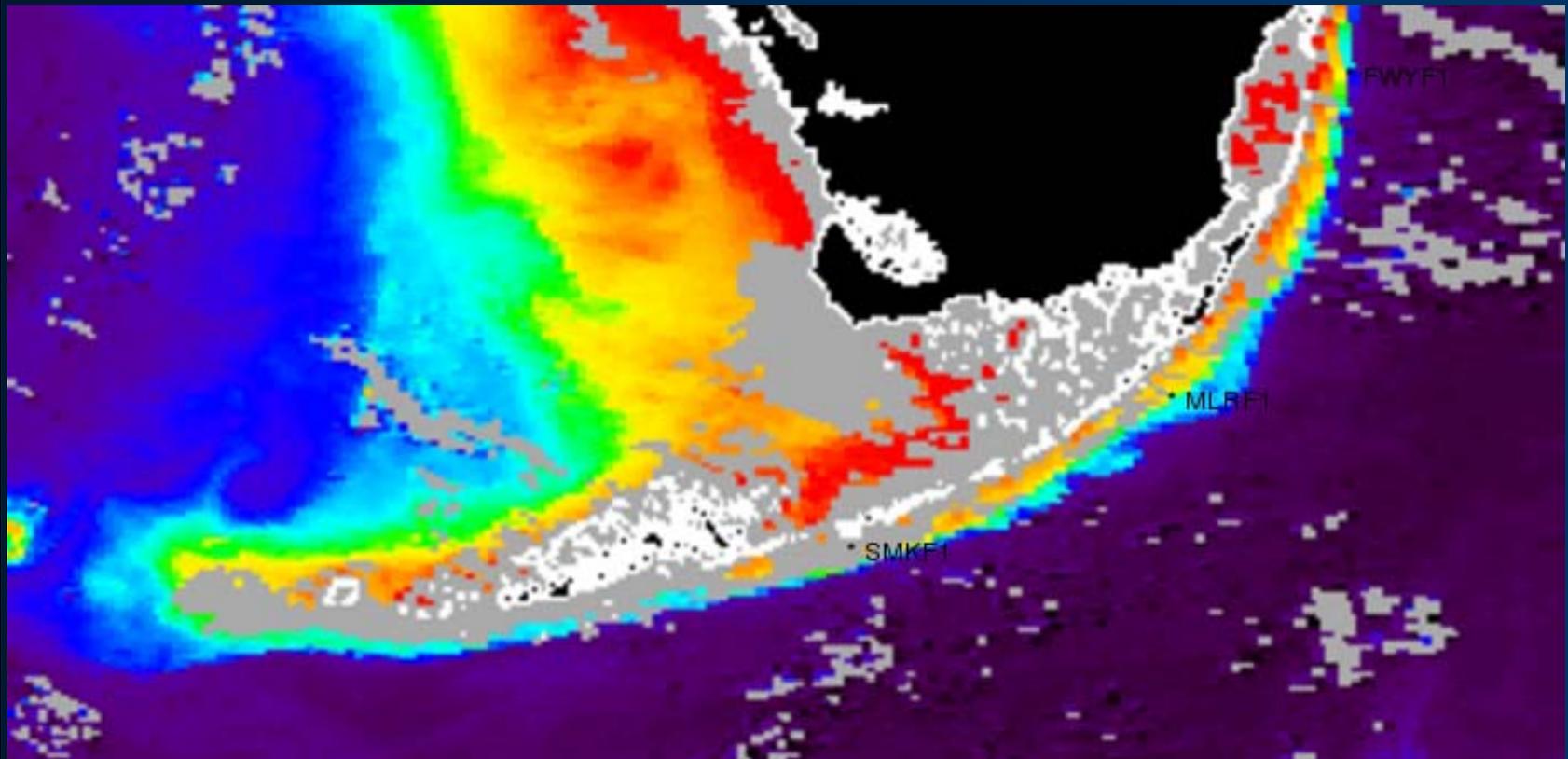
2005 129



C R C P



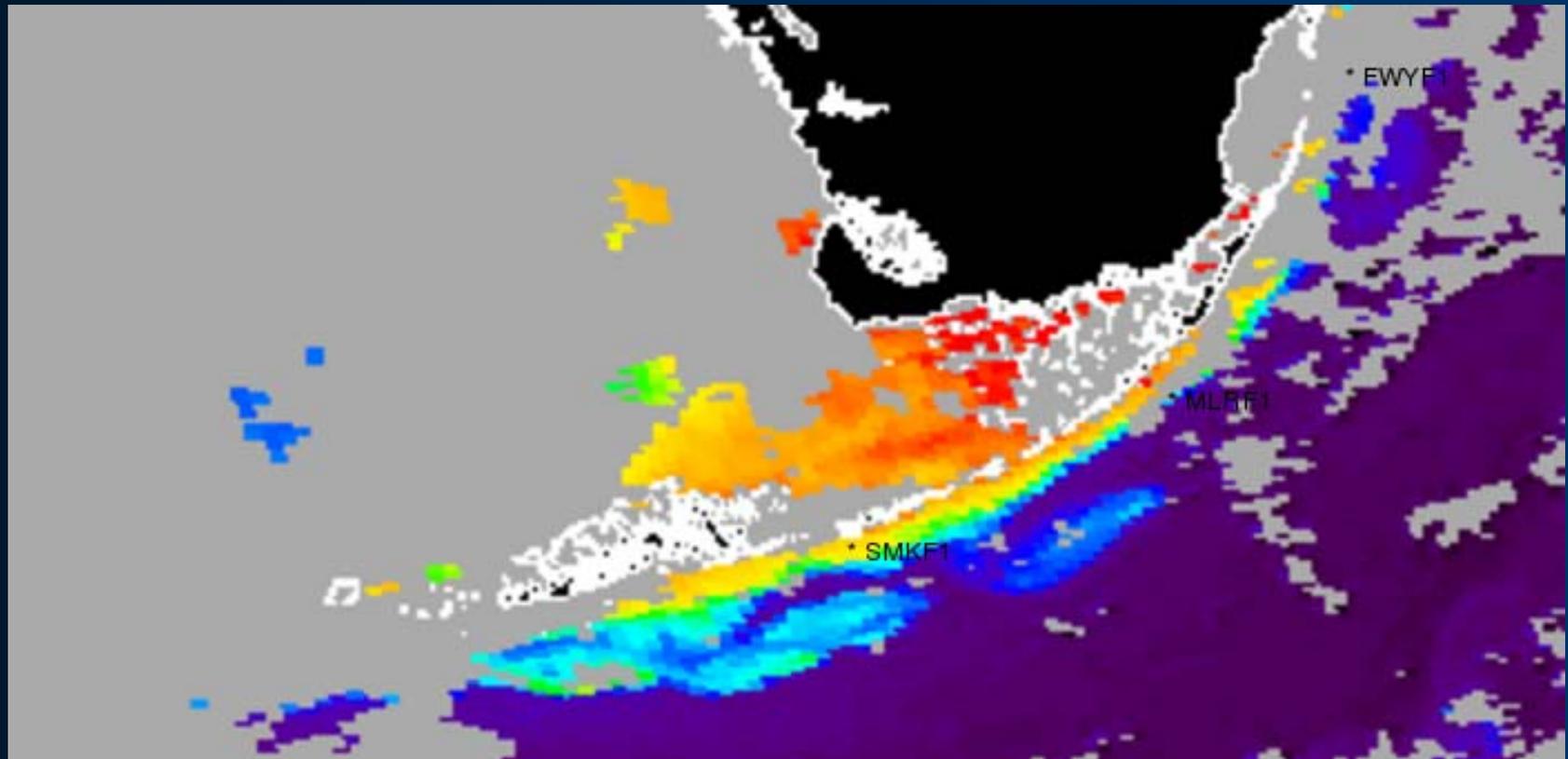
2005 186



C R C P



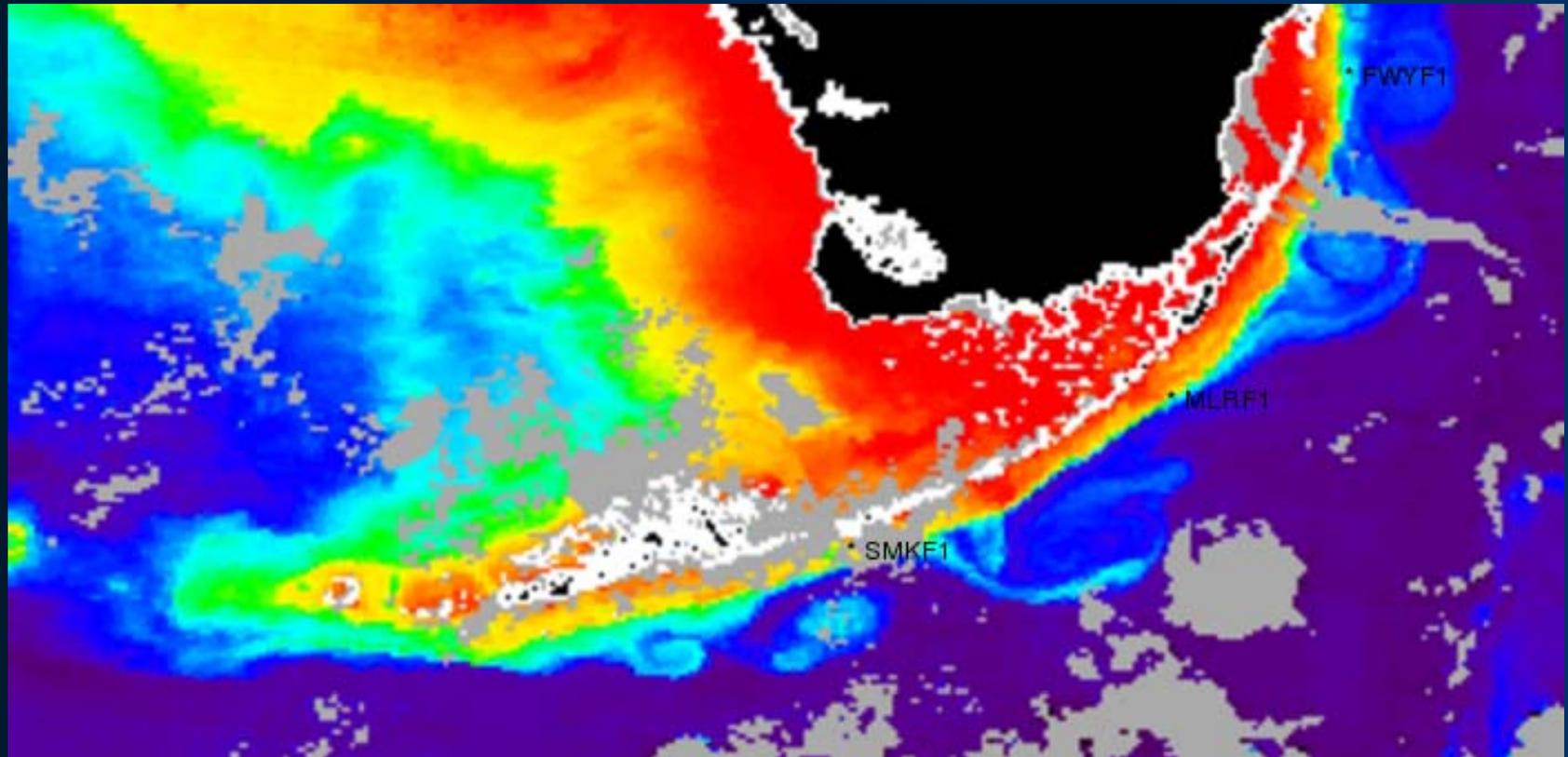
2005 218



C R C P



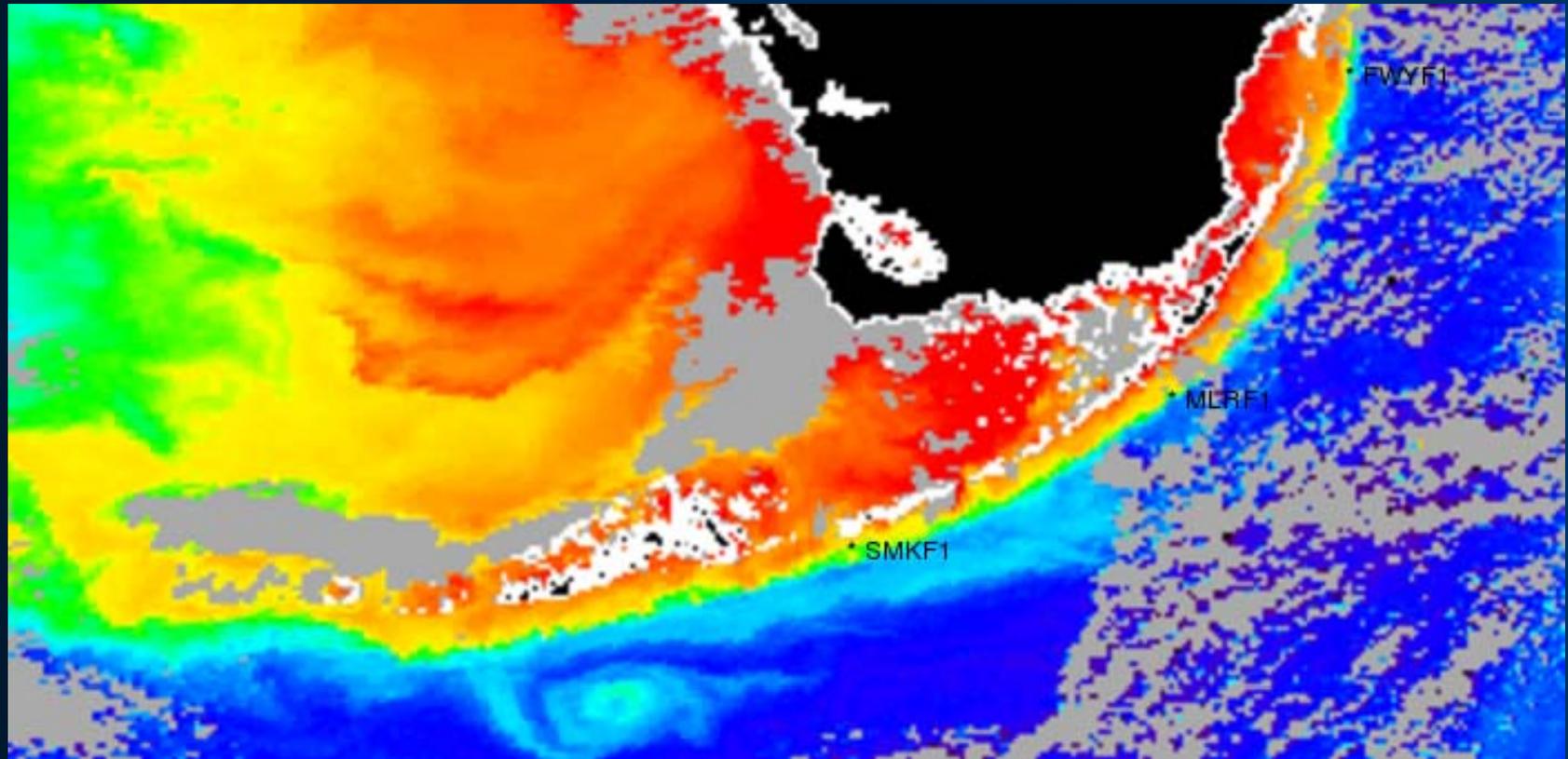
Magnificent – 2005 244



C R C P

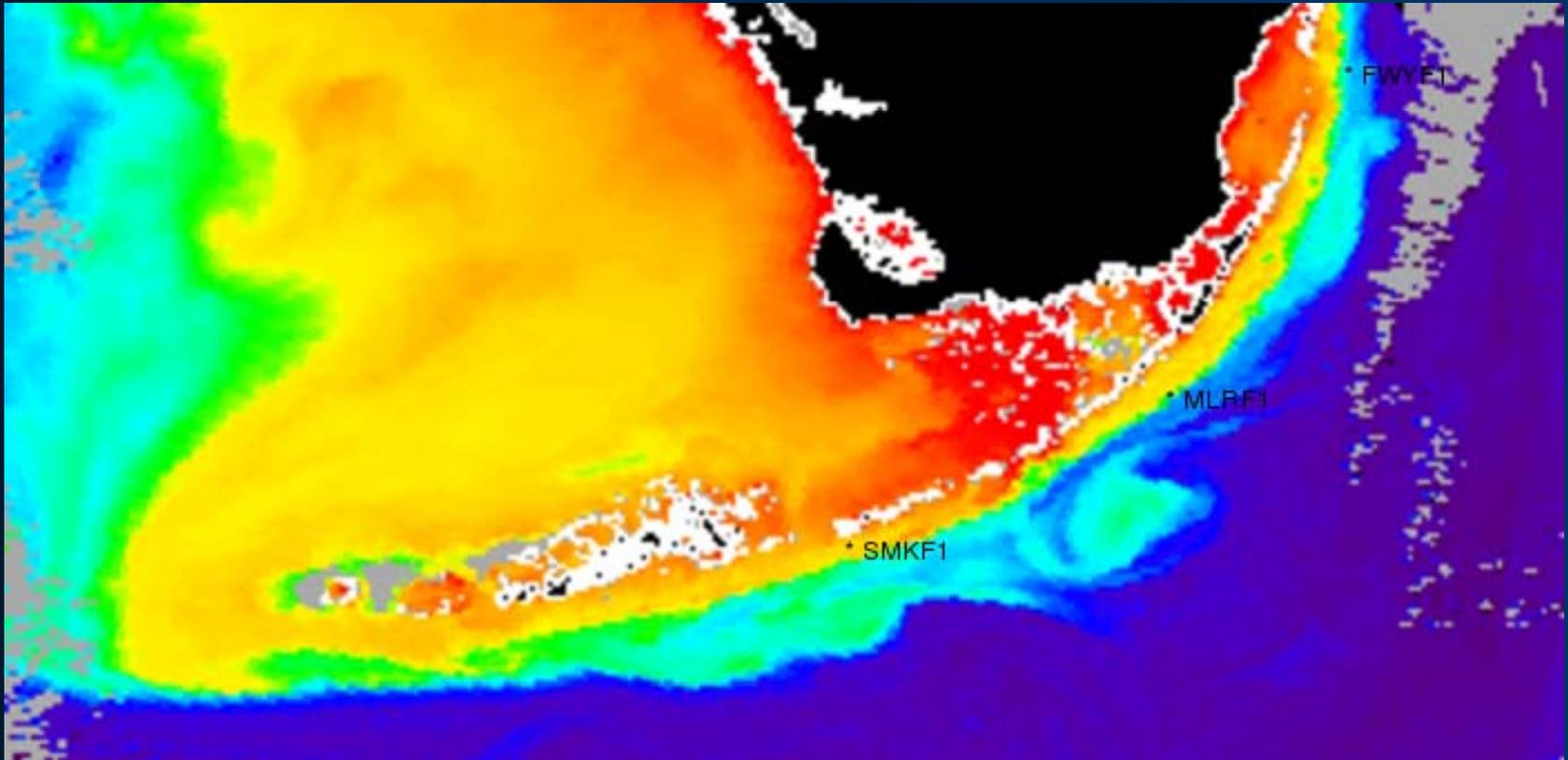


2005 307



C R C P

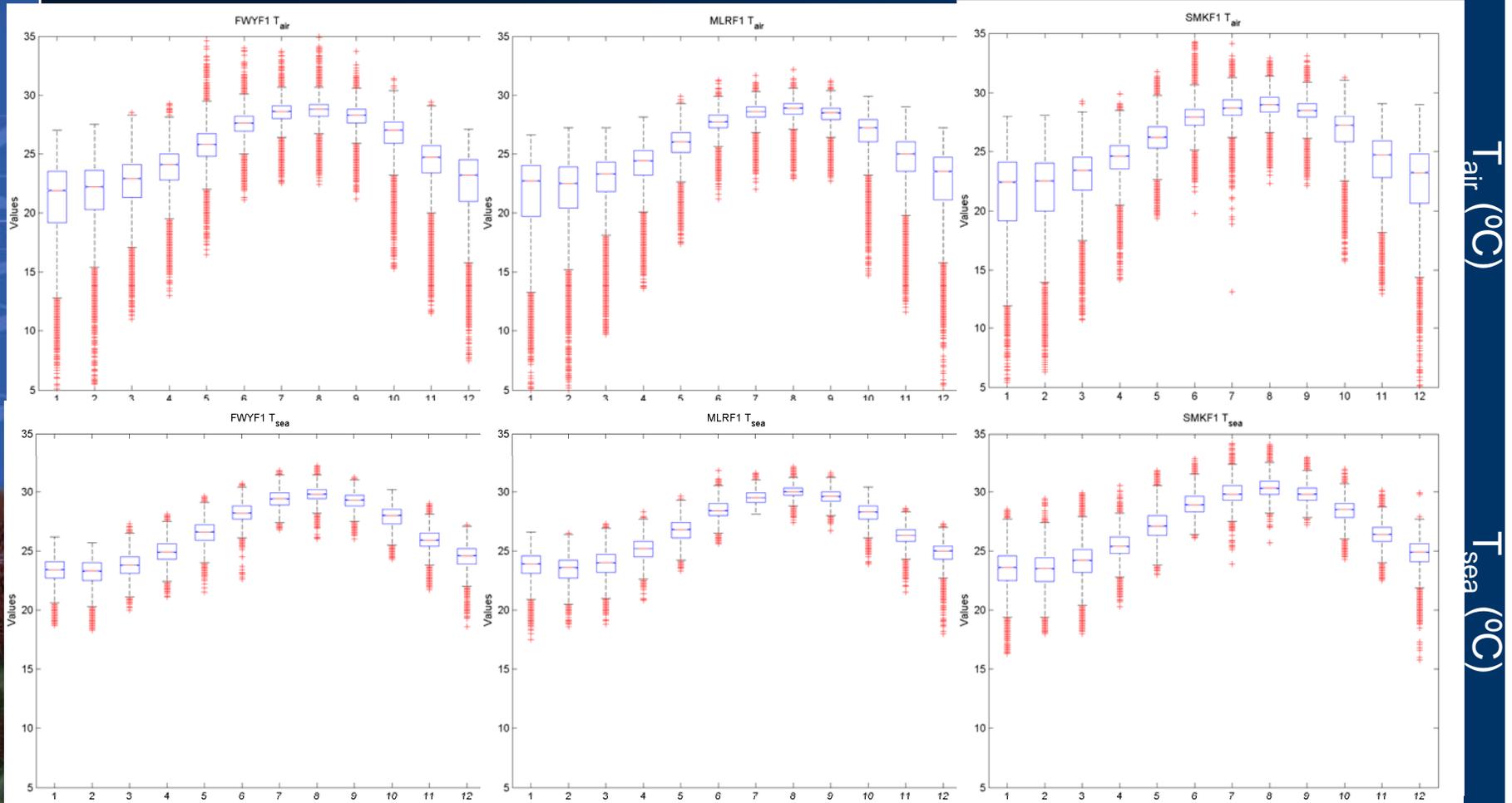
2005 361



C R C P



In situ data – T_{air} , T_{sea} seasonal



Fowey
Rocks

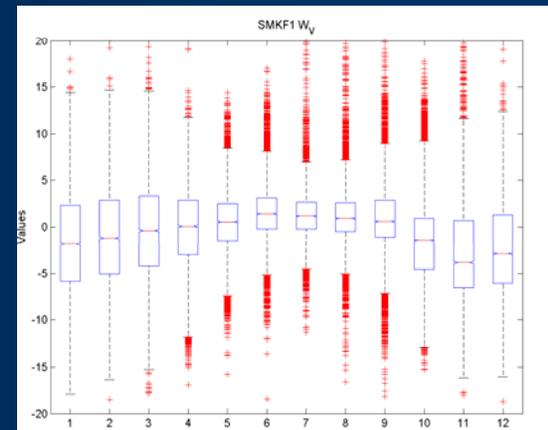
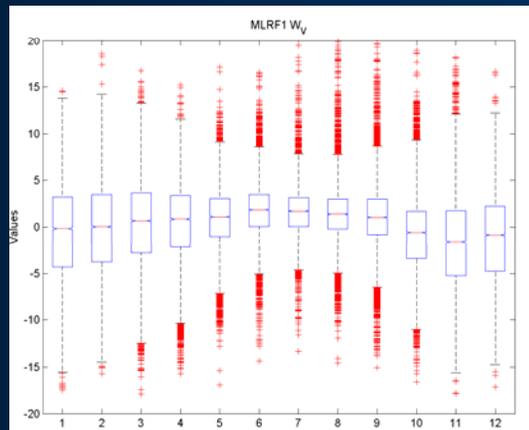
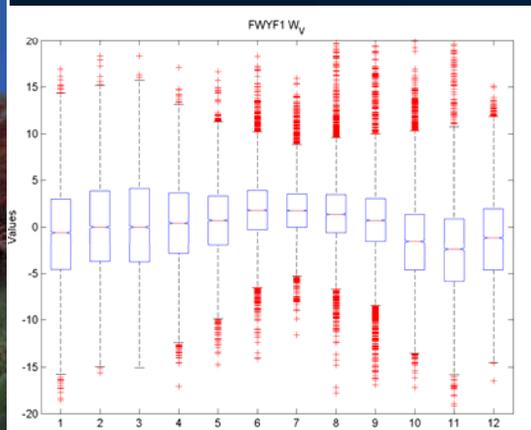
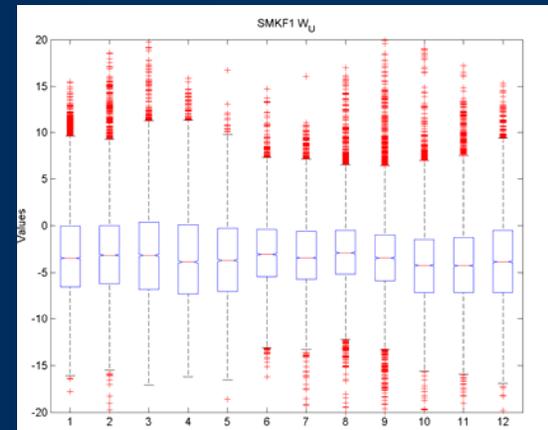
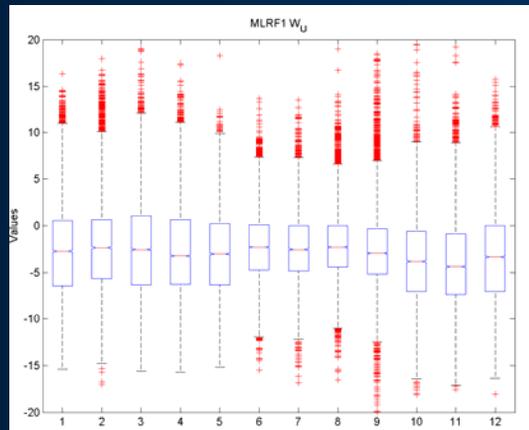
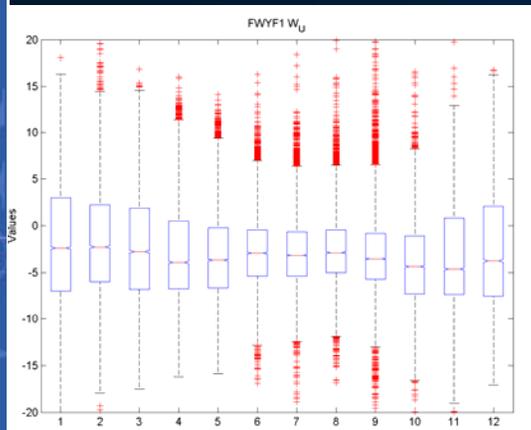
Molasses
Reef

Sombrero
Key

T_{air} ($^{\circ}C$)

T_{sea} ($^{\circ}C$)

In situ wind - seasonal W_U , W_V



W_U (m/s)

W_V (m/s)

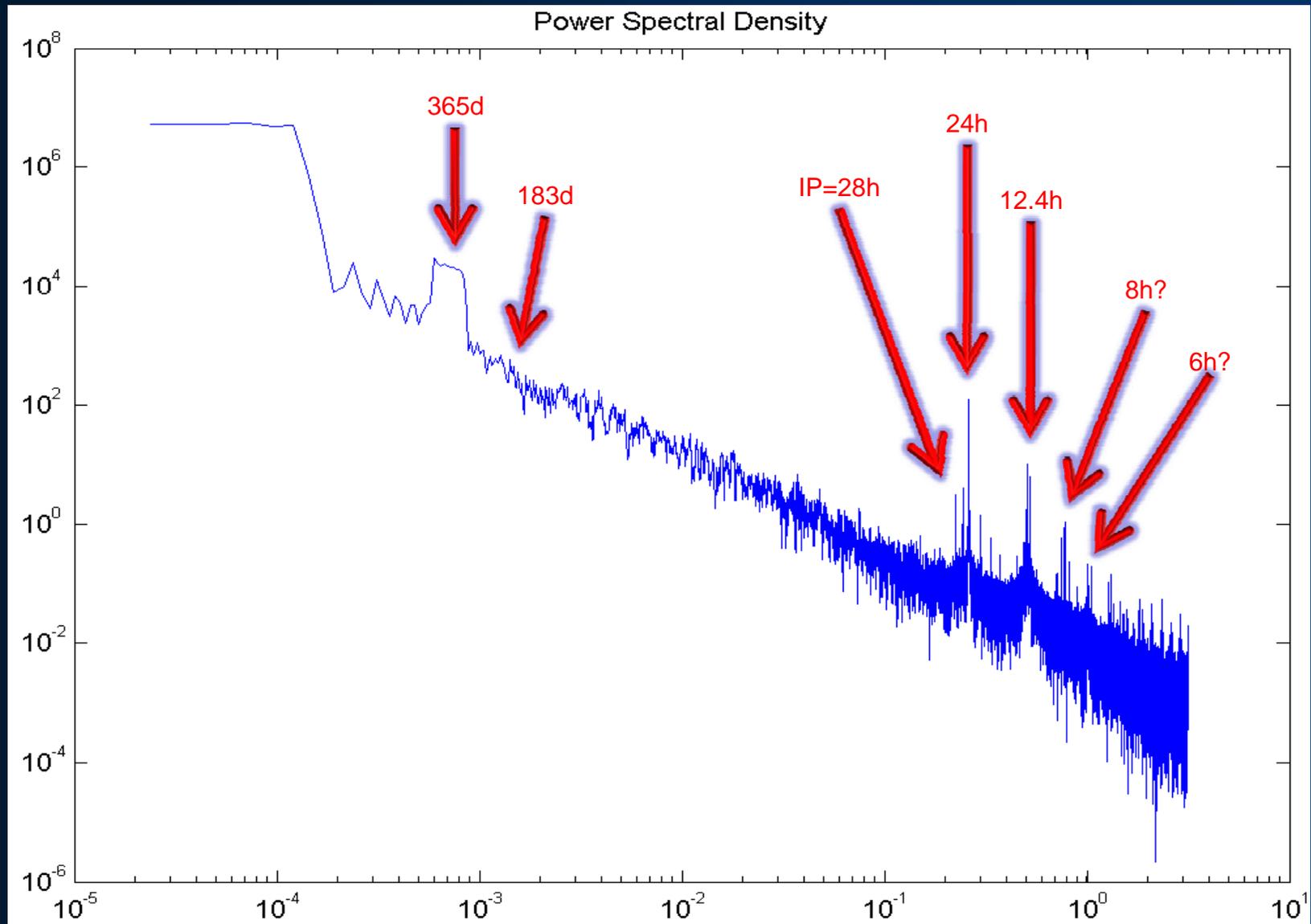
Fowey
Rocks

Molasses
Reef

Sombrero
Key

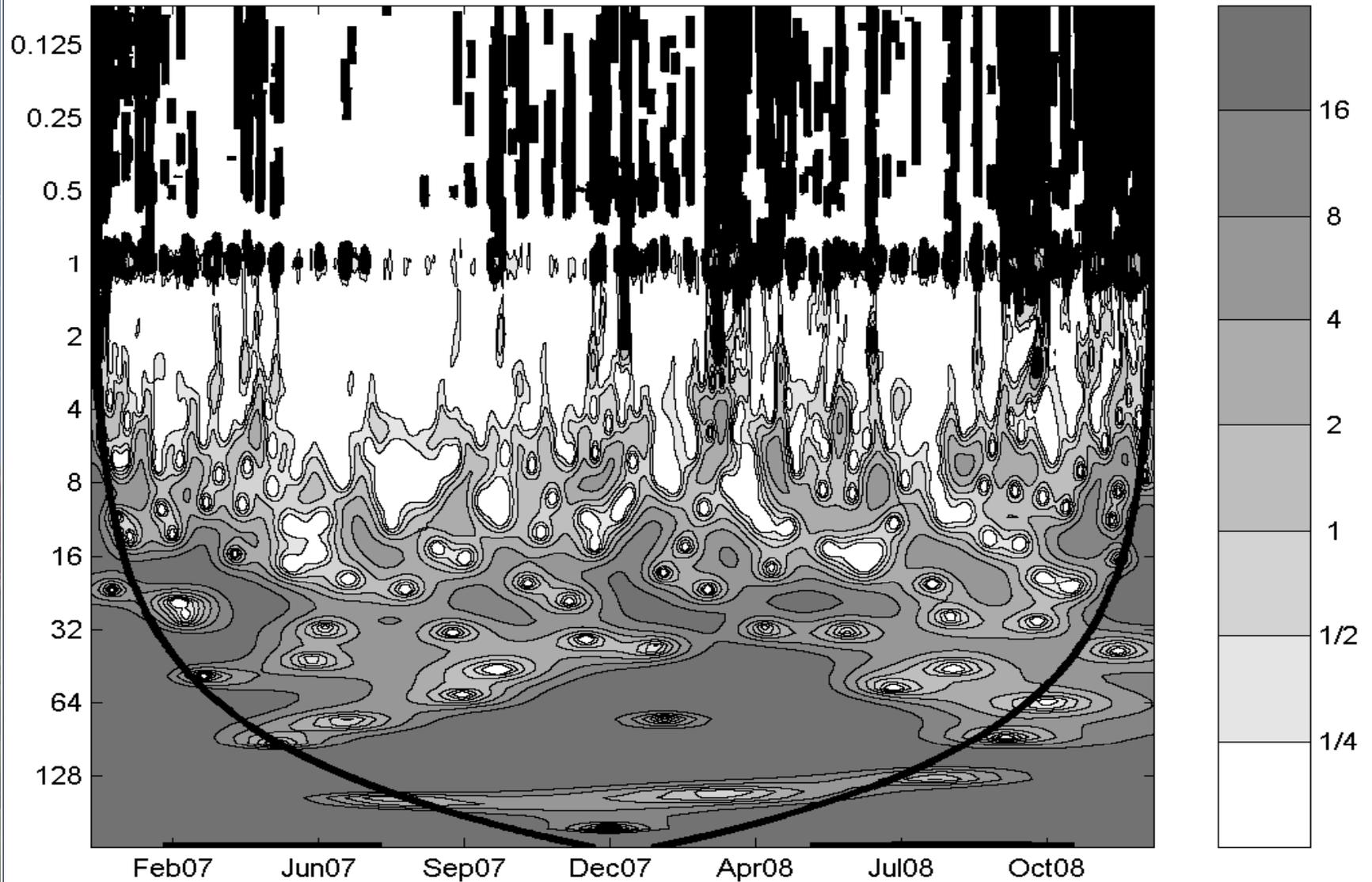


In situ cycles (Sombbrero Reef)



Time-dependent spectrum

WT: sea temperature time series (SMKF1, last 2 years)

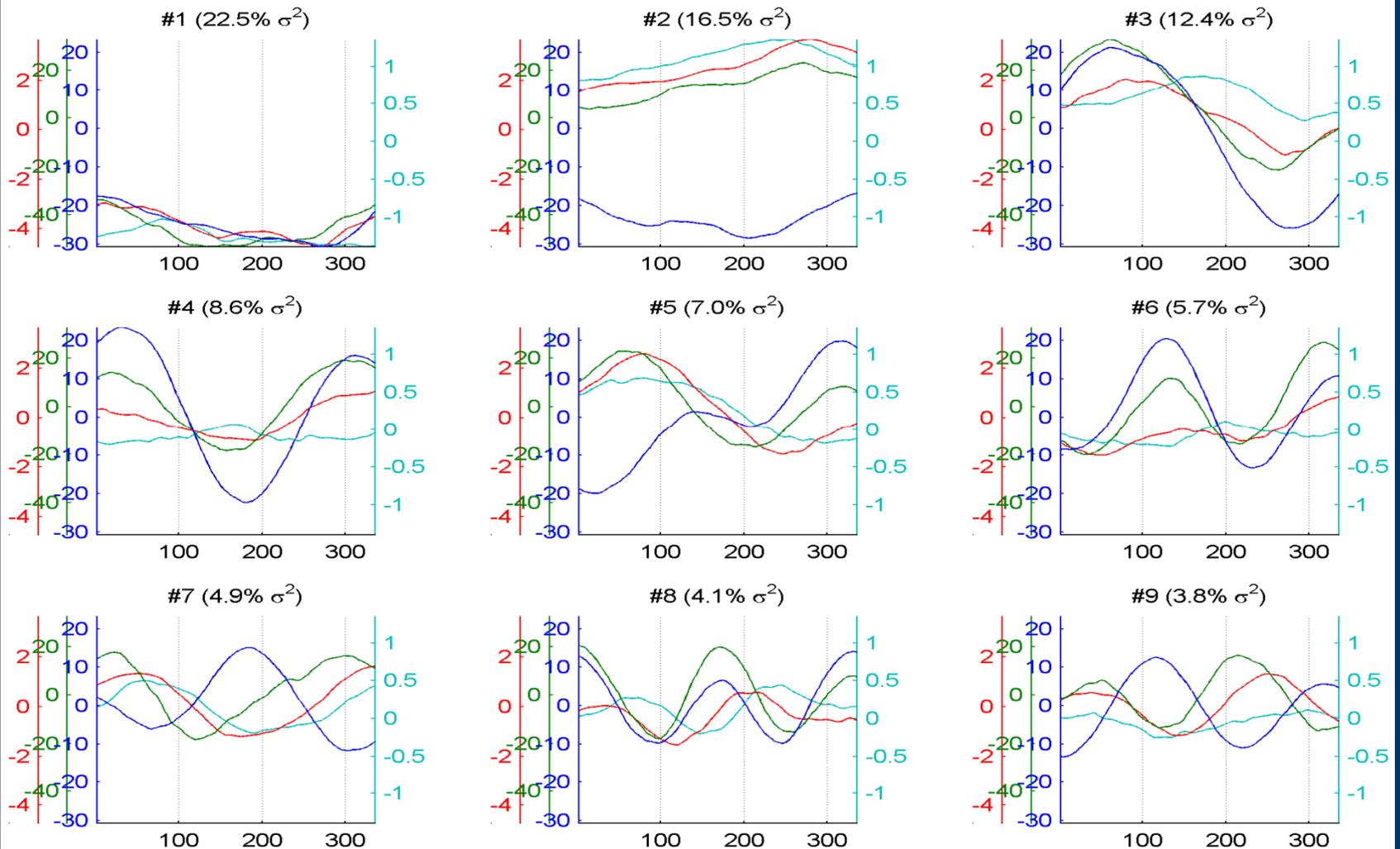


CRCP

Period in days

Extended PCA – covariability between possible forcing and coastal ocean response

PCA(ρ) Modes SMKF1 1988-2008 Annual, 336H frames (85.5% of σ^2): sea_t_1_day_deviation_3_day_average (c)



vs. air_t_1_day_deviation_3_day_average (r), wind1_u_3_day_deviation_sum_wind1_v (g), wind1_speed_3_day_average (b)

