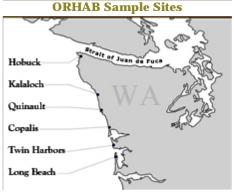


Pacific Northwest Harmful Algal Blooms Bulletin

September 25, 2008





126°W

20 40 60

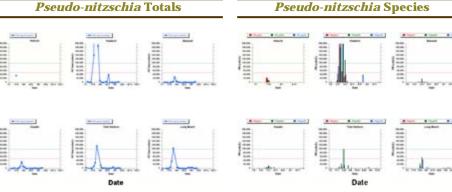
Speed

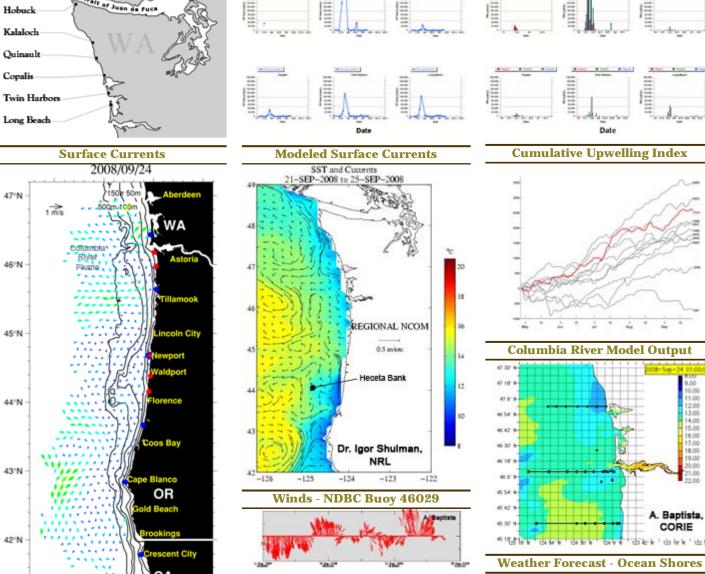
125°W

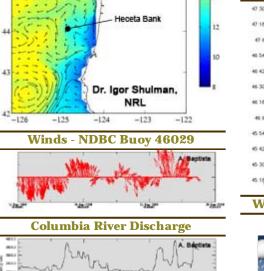
80 Gregon State

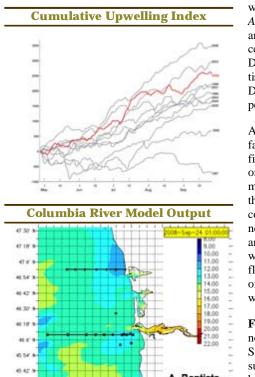
124°W

123°W









Thu

58 | 49

Fri

61 | 49

Sat

59 | 49



Pseudo-nitzschia totals are subdivided into the following species groups identified by light microscopy - a/f/h (P. australis/fraudulenta /heimii), p/m (P. pungens/multiseries), pd/d/c (P. pseudodelicatissima/delicatissima/cuspidata). Threshold levels of each group at which toxin testing is done are shown as a colored horizontal bar in the Pseudo-nitzschia species graph

Summary – *Pseudo-nitzschia* spp. cell counts remain <5000 cells/L along the Washington coast. DA in razor clam tissue remains <1 ppm at all sample sites along the WA coast. *Dinophysis* spp. were spotted at Twin Harbors (4000 cells/L). Alexandrium sp. has been spotted at Twin Harbors and Long Beach since 9/19 with a high of 5000 cells/L at Twin Harbors. The Washington Department of Health reports PSP in shellfish tissue remains <38 µg/100g along the WA coast. Due to low cell counts, no further testing will be performed by ORHAB at this time.

After more than 2 weeks of sustained, upwellingfavorable (southward) wind conditions marking the first half of Sept, more recently we've seen the onset of fall with several storms of increasing magnitude. A satellite SST image obtained between the two storms (Sep 22) shows a well-developed, cold JDF eddy, but cold water is now largely absent nearshore along the WA coast. Modeled currents and SST still suggest a weak upwelling system, with a weakened upwelling jet and slightly onshore flow. Phytoplankton present in the surface waters offshore or originating from the Juan de Fuca eddy will be advected towards the coast.

Forecast – Moderately strong (~10-20 kt), northward winds are expected to persist until Sunday, with continued onshore transport of surface waters. Winds are forecasted to reverse briefly to upwelling-favorable conditions, however, a second (stronger) Pacific frontal system is expected early to mid next week.