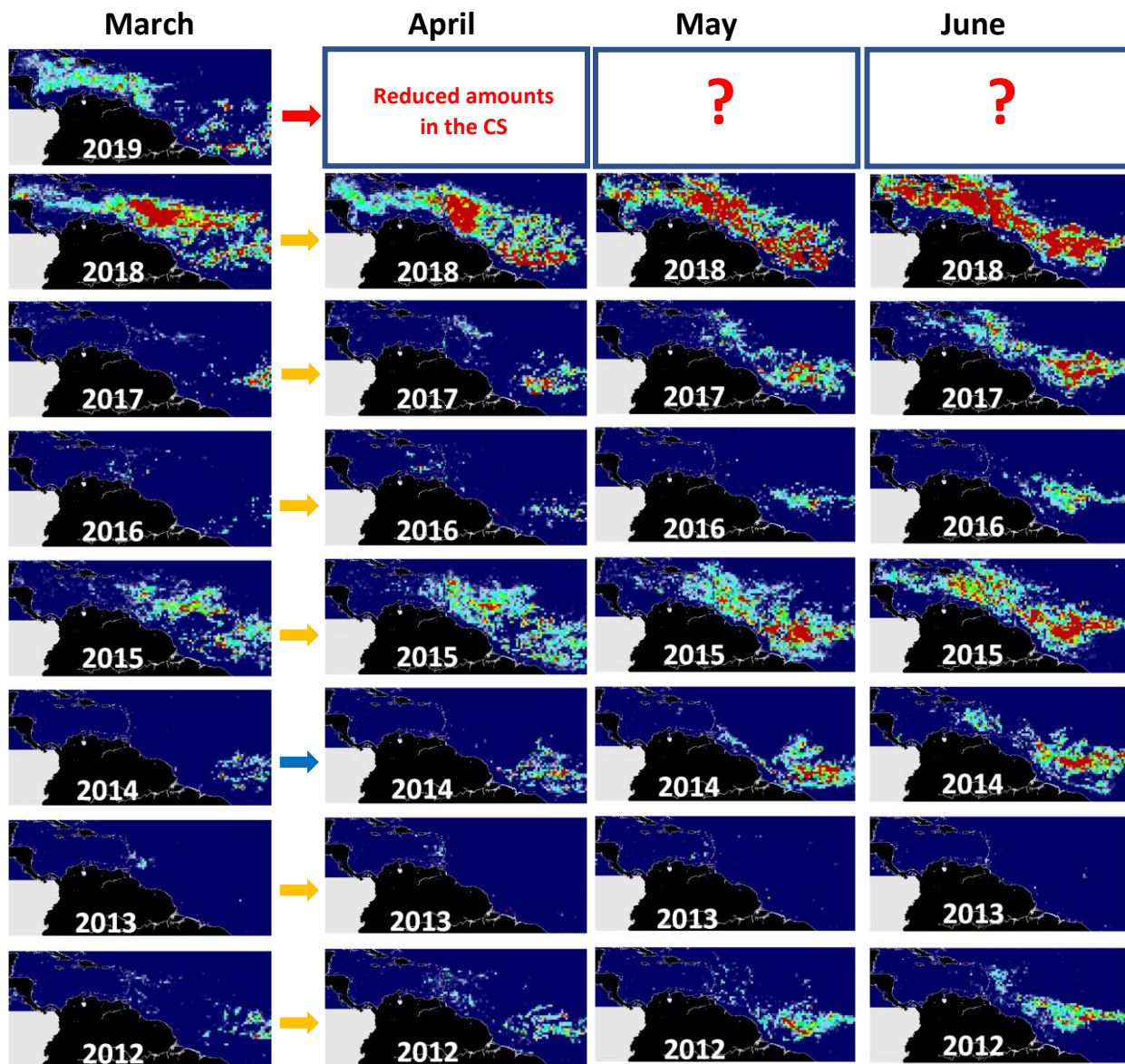




The maps below show *Sargassum* abundance, with warm colors representing high abundance. On Feb 28th we predicted that during March 2019 large amounts of *Sargassum* would continue to be found in the entire Caribbean Sea (CS) and around Loop Current (LC), and during April 2019 the amount of “new” *Sargassum* transported from the Central West Atlantic (CWA) to the CS would decrease. Observations during March 2019 confirmed this prediction. Following the pathway of the LC and Gulf Stream, *Sargassum* beaching has also been reported along the east coast of Florida. Currently, the amount of *Sargassum* in the CWA is considerably lower than in Mar 2018, suggesting lower amount of transport (than Apr-May 2018) to the CS and the amount in the in the CS may decrease slightly from Mar 2019.

Wang, M., and C. Hu (2017), Predicting *Sargassum* blooms in the Caribbean Sea from MODIS observations, *Geophys. Res. Lett.*, 44, 3265–3273, doi:10.1002/ 2017GL072932.



Disclaimer: The information bulletin is meant to provide a general outlook of current bloom condition and future bloom probability for the Caribbean Sea. By no means should it be used for commercial purpose, or used for predicting bloom conditions for a specific location or beach. The authors of this bulletin, as well as USF and NASA, take no responsibility for improper use or interpretation of the bulletin.