

The maps below show *Sargassum* abundance, with warm colors representing high abundance. **In June 2021, the *Sargassum* amount increased slightly from May 2021 across the central west Atlantic (CWA) and Caribbean Sea, and increased significantly in the Gulf of Mexico (GoM).** Large amount of *Sargassum* was observed in the CWA, i.e., the region east of the Lesser Antilles in the maps below, the central east Atlantic (CEA), and the entire Caribbean Sea (CS). Meanwhile, *Sargassum* has continuously been transported from the CS to the GoM, the Straits of Florida, and along the east coast of Florida. In addition to the significant beaching events around many Caribbean nations and islands, beaching events have also been reported along the east coast of Florida. In all regions combined, the total *Sargassum* amount in June 2021 was approaching the historical record in June 2018.

**Looking ahead**, the *Sargassum* amount in the CS will remain high this summer without any doubt. Meanwhile, *Sargassum* transport to the GoM will also continue, possibly resulting in more beaching events in the Florida Keys and along the east coast of Florida. We will keep a close eye on how *Sargassum* in the CS and the tropical Atlantic may evolve in the next two months. More updates will be provided by the end of July 2021, and more information and near real-time imagery can be found under the *Sargassum* Watch System (SaWS, <https://optics.marine.usf.edu/projects/saws.html>).

