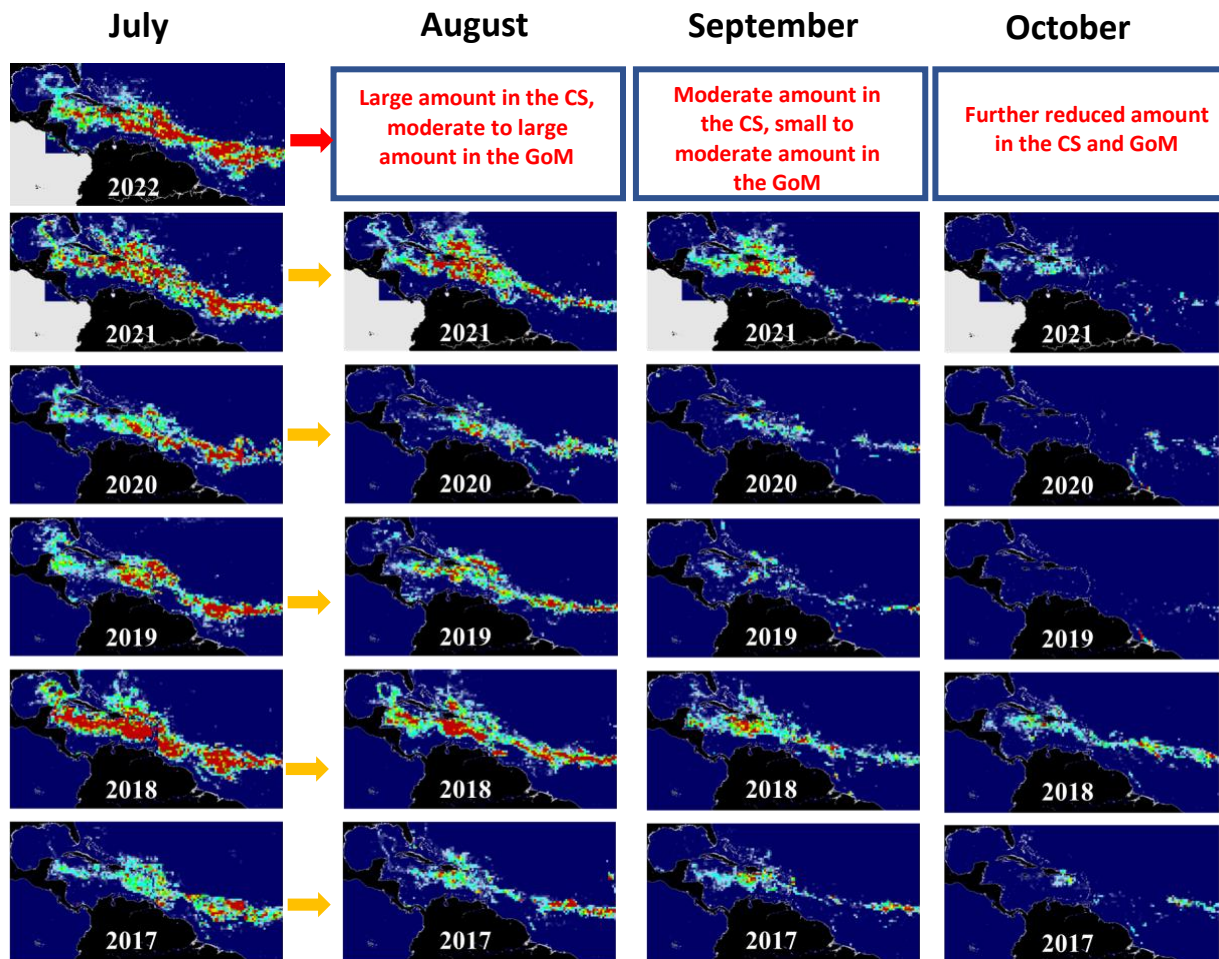


The maps below show *Sargassum* abundance, with warm colors representing high abundance. **In July 2022, the overall *Sargassum* amount decreased from record highs in June, with total tonnage across the Central Atlantic being slightly less than the previous historical record for the month of July (2018).** This reduction follows the trend of recent years, during which the *Sargassum* abundance peaked in June. Nevertheless, while regional decreases in abundance were observed in the tropical Atlantic, the Central West Atlantic (CWA, i.e., the region east of the Lesser Antilles in the maps below), the Central East Atlantic, and the Gulf of Mexico (GoM), essentially **no decrease was observed in the Caribbean Sea (CS)**. This indicates significant beaching events are still ongoing around the CS nations/islands. Likewise, some moderate amount of *Sargassum* was found in the Straits of Florida and along the east coast of Florida, indicating possible beaching events in Florida.

Looking ahead, total *Sargassum* tonnage will likely continue to decrease in the coming months, based on historical seasonality. However, considering the near-record *Sargassum* abundances in the CS and CWA, significant beaching events in the CS are expected to continue. Additionally, large amounts of *Sargassum* in the CEA may transport westward toward the CS and GoM in August and Early September. More updates will be provided by the end of August 2022, 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>).



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.