Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom at the coast in southwest Florida including the Florida Keys. No *Karenia brevis* was identified in samples taken last week alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Lee Counties (FWRI, 2/7-12). Additionally, samples taken from southwest to north of the lower Florida Keys all indicated that *K. brevis* is not present (MML 2/11-13).

Satellite imagery (Feb. 15) indicates that the small patches of elevated chlorophyll features identified in the previous bulletin and located northwest, southwest and south of the lower Florida Keys have dissipated. Due to cloud cover, the feature located 6 to 25 miles directly west of the Marquesas Keys is not currently visible; however, a previous image (Feb. 12) indicated that the feature was still present at that location and at a similar extent and intensity (<1 µg/L). Reporting on this feature will cease as it continues to move away from the Florida Keys.

Bloom formation alongshore southwest Florida is not expected today through Sunday, Feb. 22.

Urízar, Fenstermacher
Wind conditions from Sand Key, FL

Wind speed and direction are averaged over 12 hours from buoy measurements. Length of line indicates speed; angle indicates direction. Red indicates that the wind direction favors upwelling near the coast. Values to the left of the dotted vertical line are measured values; values to the right are forecasts. Wind observation and forecast data provided by NOAA’s National Weather Service (NWS).

Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL

Wind conditions from Naples, FL

Wind Analysis

Florida Keys: Northeasterly to easterly winds today (15-20 kn, 8-10 m/s). Southeasterly winds Wednesday (15 knots). Southerly to southwesterly winds Thursday (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) becoming northwesterly to northerly Thursday night (15-20 kn). Northerly winds Friday (15-20 kn). Northerly to northeasterly winds Saturday (15 kn).


To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA CoastWatch bulletin archive: http://coastwatch.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins_ns.htm
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 18, 2009 12Z with Cell concentration sampling data from February 7 to 13 shown as red (high), orange (medium), yellow (low b), brown (low a), blue (very low b), purple (very low a), pink (present), and green (not present). For a list of cell count data providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HABFS bulletin guide: http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).