Conditions Report

A patchy harmful algal bloom was last identified alongshore and offshore the ocean side of the lower Florida Keys on 3/30 and offshore the gulf side of the lower Florida Keys on 3/31. No reports of impacts associated with these blooms have been received. No impacts are expected alongshore the Florida Keys or elsewhere alongshore southwest Florida today through Wednesday, April 21.

Analysis

**Florida Keys:** A harmful algal bloom was last identified alongshore and offshore the ocean side of the lower Florida Keys on 3/30 and offshore the gulf side of the lower Florida Keys on 3/31. No new samples have been received for either location, where up to 'low a' and 'medium' *Karenia brevis* concentrations were identified south of Newfound Harbor Keys and 5-10 miles north of Upper Harbor Keys, respectively (MML; 3/30-31). Due to continued cloud cover over the Florida Keys, satellite imagery cannot provide any additional information. Persistent easterly winds over the past 10 days have most likely caused the bloom in the gulf side of the lower Florida Keys to dissipate or transport westward. Variable winds are forecasted this week for this region.

**Southwest Florida:** Except for the Florida Keys, there is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of *K. brevis* at the coast in southwest Florida. No new samples have been received since the last bulletin. Due to continued cloud cover over southwest Florida, satellite imagery cannot provide any additional information.

Due to technical difficulties SeaWiFS imagery is currently unavailable for display. MODIS imagery is shown on this bulletin.

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Wind analysis

Lower Florida Keys: Northerly to northeasterly winds (5-10 kn, 3-5 m/s) today. Northeasterly to easterly winds (5-10 kn) Tuesday. Variable winds (5-10 kn) Tuesday night and Wednesday.

Southwest Florida: Northerly winds (10-15 kn, 5-8 m/s) today. Southeasterly winds (5 kn, 3 m/s) tomorrow becoming northwesterly (10 kn, 5 m/s) in the afternoon. Northwesterly winds (10 kn) Wednesday.

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 April 20, 2010 06Z with Cell concentration sampling data from April 9 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).