Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Texas
Monday, 30 April 2012
NOAA Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, April 23, 2012

Conditions Report
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of Karenia brevis (Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Sunday, May 6. There is currently a bloom of the algae Aureoumbra lagunensis in the upper Laguna Madre region. This algae does not produce respiratory impacts associated with the Texas red tide caused by Karenia brevis, but it may cause discolored water.

Analysis
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of Karenia brevis at the coast in Texas. Due to technical difficulties the most recent MODIS imagery could not be displayed on this bulletin. Recent MODIS imagery (4/28; not shown) is partially obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to the Matagorda Island region and along the South Padre Island region. Patches of elevated chlorophyll (2-6 µg/L) are visible along- and offshore the Sabine Pass region and from Pass Cavallo south to the South Padre Island region. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of K. brevis and is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast. Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 20 km south from the Port Aransas region from April 28 to May 2.

Kavanaugh, Yang

Wind conditions from Port Aransas-Coast, TX

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 Analysis
Port Aransas: Southeast to east winds (5-20 kn, 3-10 m/s) today through Friday night.

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive:
http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 1, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from April 21 to 25 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 HAB-OFS 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).