Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Texas
Monday, 29 October 2012
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, October 22, 2012

Conditions Report
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) at the coast in Texas. No respiratory impacts are expected alongshore Texas today through Monday, November 5. For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Analysis
There is currently no indication of a harmful algal bloom of Karenia brevis at the coast in Texas. Recent MODIS imagery (10/28, shown left) is patchy from Pass Cavallo to the Rio Grande, limiting analysis in this region. Elevated chlorophyll (2-4 µg/L) is visible stretching along- and offshore from Sabine Pass to Pass Cavallo, with a patch of elevated to high chlorophyll (3-12 µg/L) along- and offshore the Sabine Pass area. 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 40 km south from the Port Aransas region from October 28 to November 1.

Derner, Urizar

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: Northeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today. East to southeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) tonight. South winds (5-15kn) Tuesday. South to southeast winds (5-15kn) Wednesday through Friday.

Satellite chlorophyll image with possible K. brevis HAB areas shown by red polygon(s). Cell concentration sampling data from October 19 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). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample 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

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:
http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environmentalconcerns/hab/redtide/status.shtml

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 October 30, 2012 06Z with cell concentration sampling data from October 19 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). Cell count data are provided by Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. For a list of sample providers and a key to the cell concentration categories, please see the HAB-OFS bulletin guide:
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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).