Conditions Report
Background to very low concentrations of Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore southwest Florida. No respiratory impacts are expected alongshore southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys, today through Monday, June 3.

Analysis
Samples collected along- and offshore southwest Florida throughout last week indicate there is no bloom of Karenia brevis at the coast in southwest Florida. In Sarasota County, background concentrations of K. brevis were identified at New Pass and Bay Docks in southern Sarasota Bay (MML; 5/22-5/24). In Charlotte County, background concentrations were identified at Catfish Creek in Gasparilla Sound and at Stump Pass in Lemon Bay (FWRI; 5/22). All other samples collected along- and offshore southwest Florida, from Pinellas to Monroe County indicate that no K. brevis is present (FWRI, MML; 5/22-5/24). No dead fish or respiratory irritation associated with K. brevis have been reported in the past several days (FWRI, MML; 5/23-5/28).

Over the past few days, MODIS Aqua imagery has been partially obscured by clouds in patches alongshore southwest Florida, limiting analysis. In MODIS imagery from May 25 (shown left), elevated chlorophyll (2-6 µg/L), visible in patches along- and offshore from Pinellas to Collier County, is likely the result of mixed non-harmful algal blooms that continue to be reported in many southwest Florida counties.

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Wind Analysis
Southwest Florida: East winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today through Saturday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 29, 2013 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from May 18 to 24: 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 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) Fish and Wildlife Research Institute. 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

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