Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, September 9 through Monday, September 16. Check [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

Analysis

A background concentration of Karenia brevis was identified in one sample collected alongshore Manatee County at Longboat Pass last week (FWRI; 9/3). All other samples collected along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier County and the Florida Keys indicate K. brevis is not present (FWRI, SCHD, MML; 8/30-9/6). No dead fish or respiratory irritation associated with K. brevis have been reported in the past week (FWRI, MML; 9/3-9/9).

MODIS Aqua imagery has been partially obscured by clouds along- and offshore southwest Florida over the past week, limiting analysis. In recent MODIS Aqua imagery (9/8, shown left), patches of elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to >10 µg/L) are visible along- and offshore Pinellas through Monroe counties with patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (3 to >20 µg/L) visible alongshore from southern Manatee to central Lee County. Elevated chlorophyll at the coast is likely the result of mixed non-harmful algal blooms that continue to be reported in many southwest Florida counties.

Upwelling favorable winds today through Thursday may increase the potential for bloom formation at the coast this week.

Davis, Kavanaugh
Wind Analysis

Southwest Florida: Northeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) today becoming north winds (10kn) this afternoon. Northeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) this evening becoming east winds (10-15kn) tonight through Wednesday. East winds (10kn) Thursday becoming variable in the afternoon. East winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Thursday night. Variable to locally onshore winds (10kn) Friday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for September 10, 2013 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from August 30 to September 6: 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).