



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

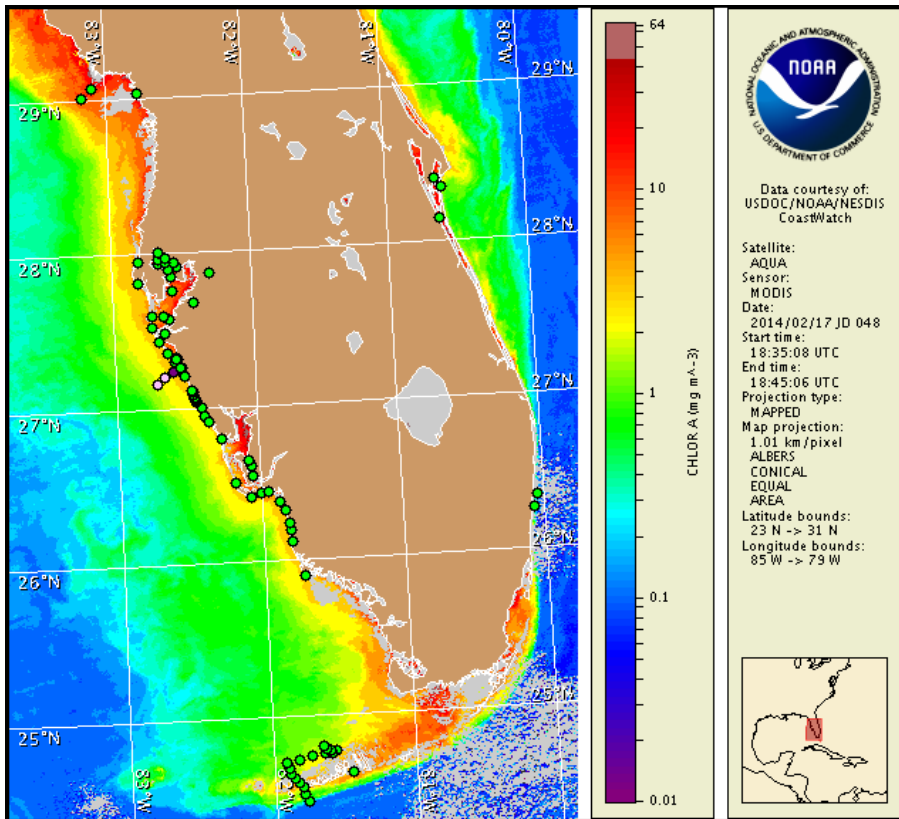
Tuesday, 18 February 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, February 10, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from February 8 to 17: 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

Detailed sample information can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) along the coast of southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected Tuesday, February 18 through Monday, February 24. Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations.

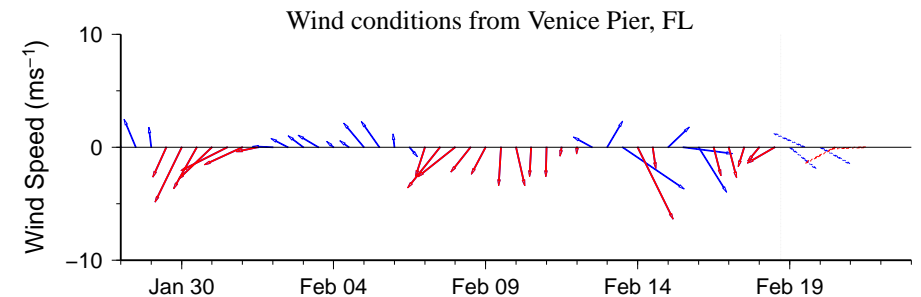
Analysis

Samples collected over the last week along the coast of southwest Florida from Pinellas to central Collier County and the Florida Keys all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is 'not present' (FWRI, MML, CCHD; 2/8 - 2/14). Two background and one 'Very Low a' *K. brevis* concentrations were identified offshore of Sarasota County (FWRI, 2/11).

MODIS Aqua imagery over the last week (2/14-17; 2/17 shown left) indicates an anomalous feature ~8-10 miles offshore from Pinellas to Charlotte counties, with recent, slightly elevated (~2 $\mu\text{g/L}$) chlorophyll levels. The location of this feature corresponds with the background samples offshore of Sarasota County. We will continue to monitor this feature.

Harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida is not expected today through Monday, February 24.

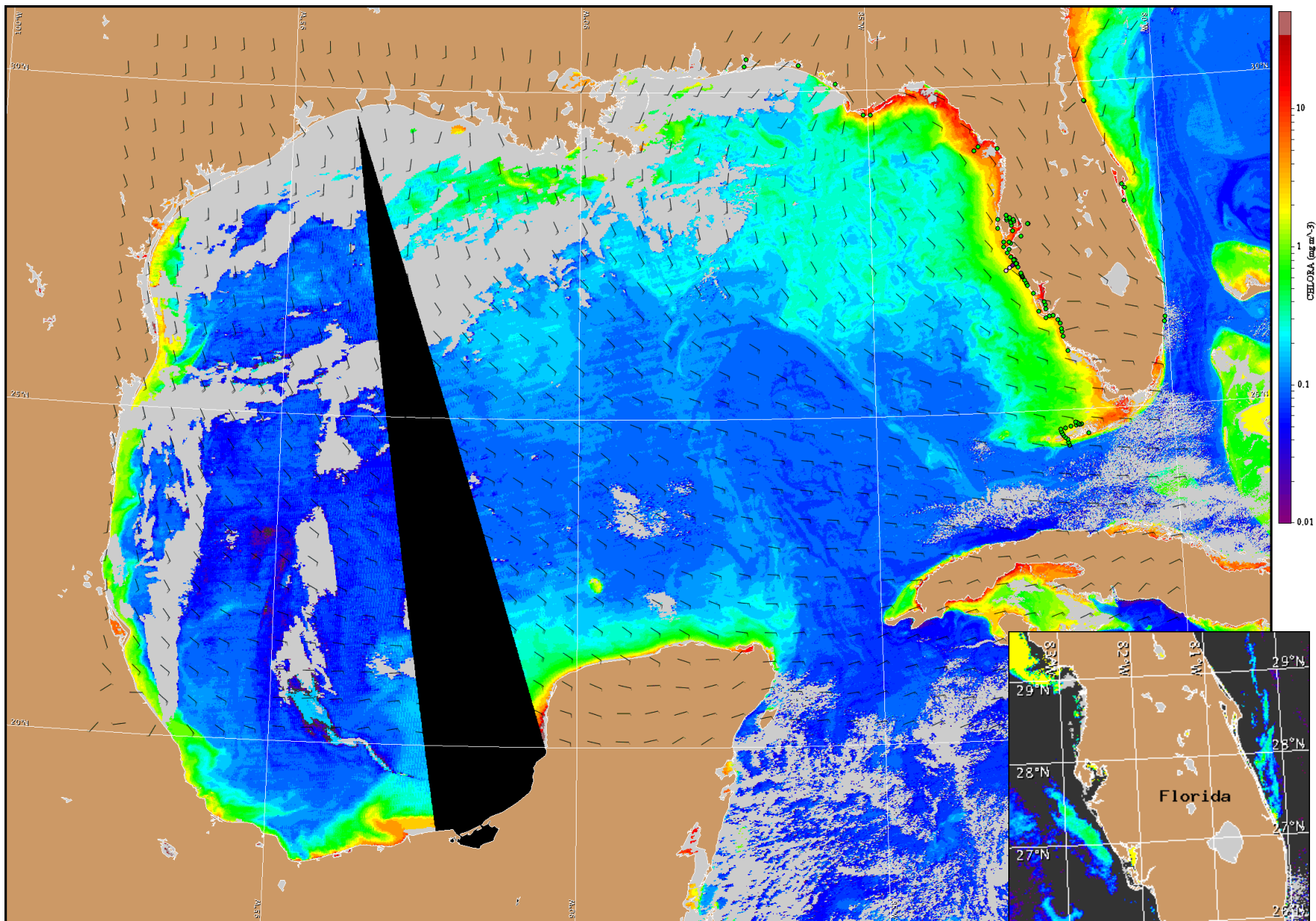
Fenstermacher, Kavanaugh



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

SWFL: Southeast to westerly winds today and northeast winds tonight (5-10 kn; 3-5 m/s). Southeast to easterly winds on Wednesday and Thursday (5-10 kn) and southerly winds on Friday and Saturday (10-15 kn; 5-8 m/s).



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 19, 2014 12Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 8 to 17: 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:

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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).