Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: AL/MS/FL
Thursday, 23 October 2014
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, October 20, 2014

Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from October 13 to 22: 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 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 for Florida can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:
http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus

Conditions Report
*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore northwest Florida Thursday, October 23 through Monday, October 27.

Check [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations. Visit [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/#swfl](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/#swfl) for the most recent southwest Florida conditions report.

Analysis

**Due to technical difficulties, the 10/20 daily merge MODIS imagery could not be displayed. Please refer to the southwest Florida bulletin for the remainder of the image.**

*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of northwest Florida from Escambia to Taylor counties. Sampling over the past week in St. Joseph Bay, in Gulf County, detected one background *K. brevis* concentration (FWRI; 10/21). All other sampling alongshore and in the bay regions of Bay, Gulf, Franklin, and Wakulla counties indicated *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI; 10/17-10/21). Surface samples collected 12 and 16 miles offshore Franklin County on 10/17, in a region previously identified as having anomalously high chlorophyll, indicated *K. brevis* was not present (FWRI). No fish kills or respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* have been reported along the coast of northwest Florida over the past few days (MML; 10/20-10/23).

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery from 10/20 (shown left) is partially obscured by clouds along- and offshore northwest Florida from Bay to Jefferson counties. In recent imagery, patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) are visible along- and offshore Taylor County. Anomalously high chlorophyll continues to be visible, in patches, alongshore and extending up to 40 miles offshore Taylor County. Anomalously high chlorophyll noted in imagery from 10/17 through 10/19 along- and offshore Gulf to Wakulla counties is obscured by clouds in the most recent imagery. Due to the optical characteristics that are typical in the area, elevated chlorophyll is not necessarily indicative of the presence of *K. brevis*, and some elevated chlorophyll may also be due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

Northeast winds over the past several days may have promoted westerly transport of *K. brevis* concentrations. Northeast winds forecasted today through Monday may continue to promote westerly transport of *K. brevis* concentrations.

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To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html)
Wind Analysis

**Escambia to Taylor counties**: Northeast winds (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) today. Northeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) Friday becoming north winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Friday evening through Saturday. North winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Sunday becoming northeast winds (5-10kn) Sunday evening before turning east (10kn) after midnight. East winds (10-15kn) Monday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for October 24, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from October 13 to 22: 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 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).