**Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin**
Region: Texas
Monday, 22 December 2014
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, December 15, 2014

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**Conditions Report**

*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore Texas Monday, December 22 through Monday, December 29.

Check [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

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**Analysis**

Sampling from Texas A&M University’s Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, continues to indicate that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between ‘not present’ and ‘background' (TAMU; 12/15-12/22). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (12/21, shown left) is completely obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to the Rio Grande, preventing analysis in these regions.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 20km south from the Port Aransas region from December 21-25.

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**Wind Analysis**

**Port Aransas**: Southwest winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today, becoming south (10-15kn) winds tonight. Southeast winds (10-15kn) Tuesday becoming northwest winds (20-25kn, 10-13m/s) Tuesday afternoon through Wednesday. Northwest winds (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) Wednesday evening becoming north winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) after midnight. East winds (10-15kn) Thursday becoming south winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Thursday afternoon through Friday evening.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for December 23, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from December 12 to 18: 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

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