Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Southwest Florida
Monday, 02 March 2015
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, February 23, 2015

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 alongshore southwest Florida Monday, March 2 through Monday, March 9.

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

Analysis
Other than one background concentration identified along Englewood Beach in Charlotte County (FWRI; 2/25), the most recent samples received from along- and offshore southwest Florida, from Pinellas to Monroe counties and offshore the Florida Keys, all indicate that Karenia brevis is not present (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCPCPD; 2/20-26).

In recent MODIS Aqua imagery (3/1, shown left), elevated chlorophyll (1-4 µg/L) is visible in patches along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe counties.

Harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida is not expected today through Monday, March 9.

Derner, Kavanaugh, Lalime

Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL

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
Englewood to Tarpon Springs (Venice): East winds (5kn, 3m/s) today becoming west (10kn, 5m/s) this afternoon. North to northeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) tonight. East winds (5-10kn) Tuesday becoming west Tuesday afternoon. South to southeast winds (5-10kn) Tuesday night through Thursday becoming west (10kn) Thursday afternoon. North winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Thursday night. Northeast winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Friday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 3, 2015 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 20 to 26: 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).