

Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

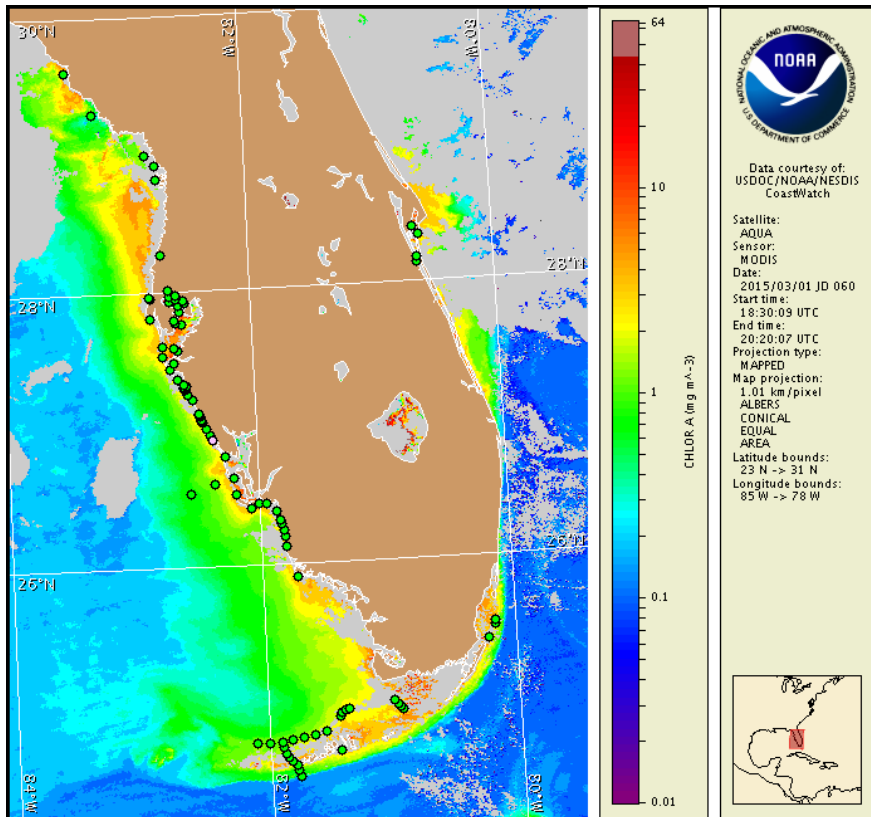
Monday, 02 March 2015

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, February 23, 2015



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent 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

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

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

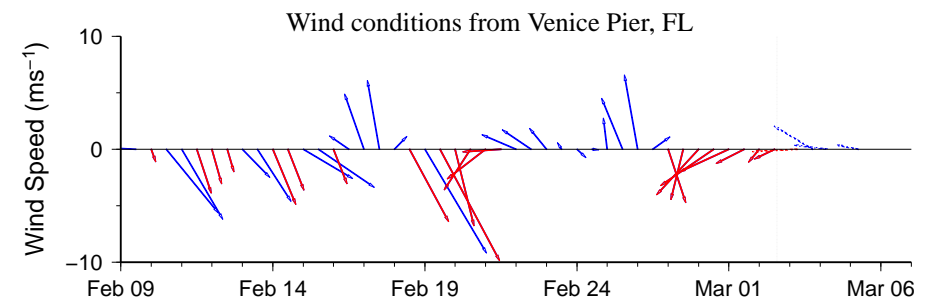
Analysis

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 $\mu\text{g/L}$) 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.

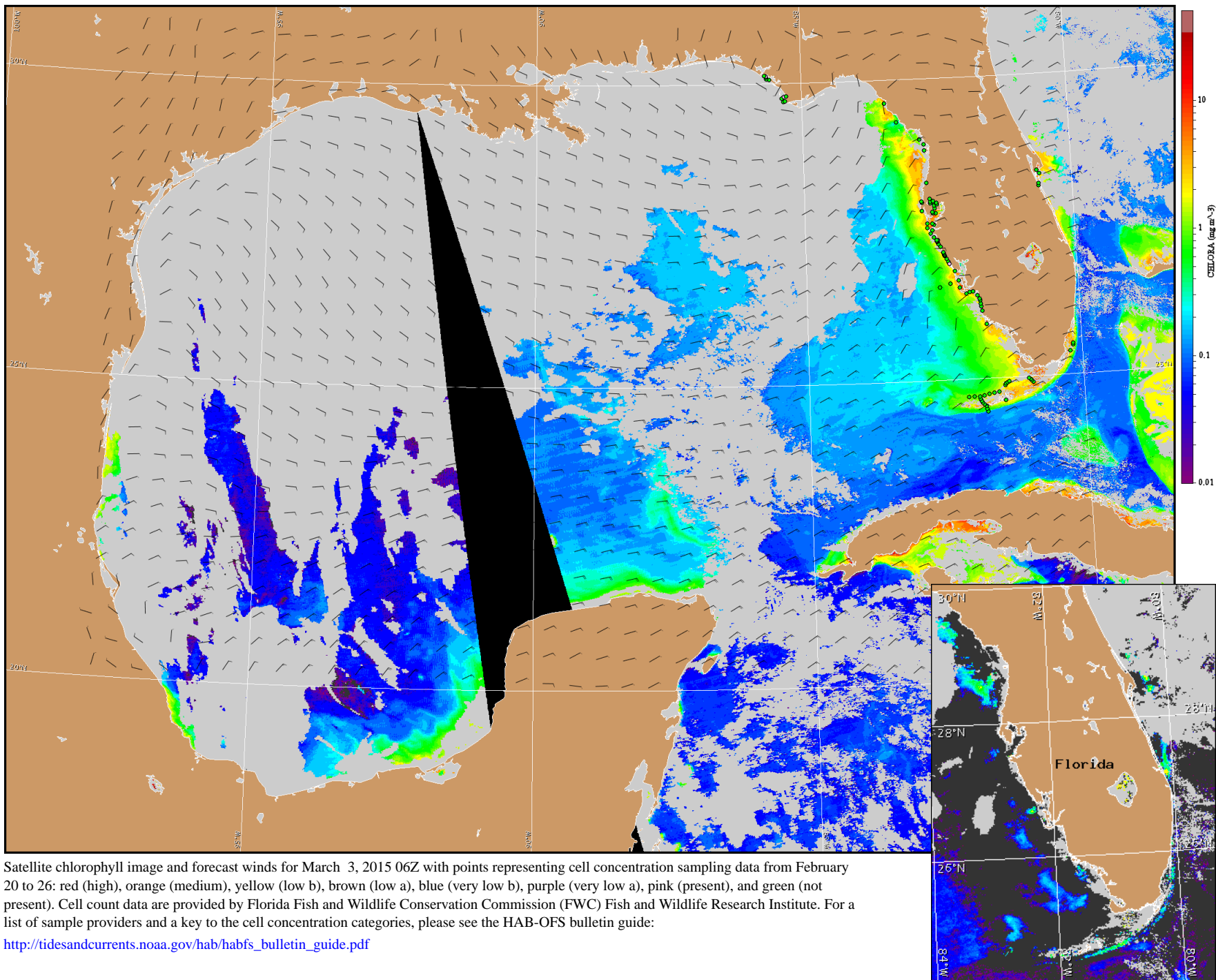
Derner, Kavanaugh, Lalime



Wind 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:

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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).