Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Southwest Florida
Thursday, 10 March 2016
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, March 7, 2016

Conditions Report
Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to low concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida and is not present offshore of the Florida Keys. K. brevis concentrations are patchy in nature and levels of respiratory irritation will vary locally based upon nearby bloom concentrations, ocean currents, and wind speed and direction. The highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecast for Thursday, March 10 through Monday, March 14 is listed below:

County Region: Forecast (Duration)
Southern Manatee, bay regions: Very Low (Th-M)
Northern Sarasota, bay regions: Very Low (Th-M)
All Other SWFL County Regions: None expected (Th-M)

Check http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html for recent, local observations. Health information, from the Florida Department of Health and other agencies, is available at http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_health_info.html. Dead fish have been reported in Collier and Monroe counties.

Analysis
Recent samples collected along-and offshore southwest Florida indicate Karenia brevis concentrations range from background to 'low' from Pinellas to Sarasota counties, and are not present alongshore Charlotte, Lee, and Collier counties (FWRI, MML, CCENRD; 2/29-3/9). Dead fish were reported in the Ten Thousands Islands region of southern Collier and northern Monroe counties (FWRI; 3/7-3/9). Detailed sample information and a summary of impacts can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at: http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus.

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 3/8), is partly obscured by clouds from Pinellas to Monroe counties limiting analysis. Patches of elevated chlorophyll (2-8 µg/L) with the optical characteristics of K. brevis are visible offshore the southwest Florida coast from southern Lee to southern Collier County.

East southeast to south winds forecast alongshore southwest Florida today through Monday may promote the potential for northerly transport of surface K. brevis concentrations alongshore southwest Florida.

Lalime, Davis

Satellite chlorophyll image with possible K. brevis HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from February 29 to March 8: 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/hab_publication/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
Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL

Wind conditions from Fort Myers, FL

Wind Analysis

**Englewood to Tarpon Springs (Venice):** Southeast to south winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today through Friday becoming east to southeast winds (10kn, 5m/s) Saturday. South winds (10kn) Sunday and Monday.

**Chokoloskee to Bonita Beach:** East southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today through Saturday night. South winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Sunday and Monday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 11, 2016 12Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 29 to March 8: 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/hab_publication/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).