



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

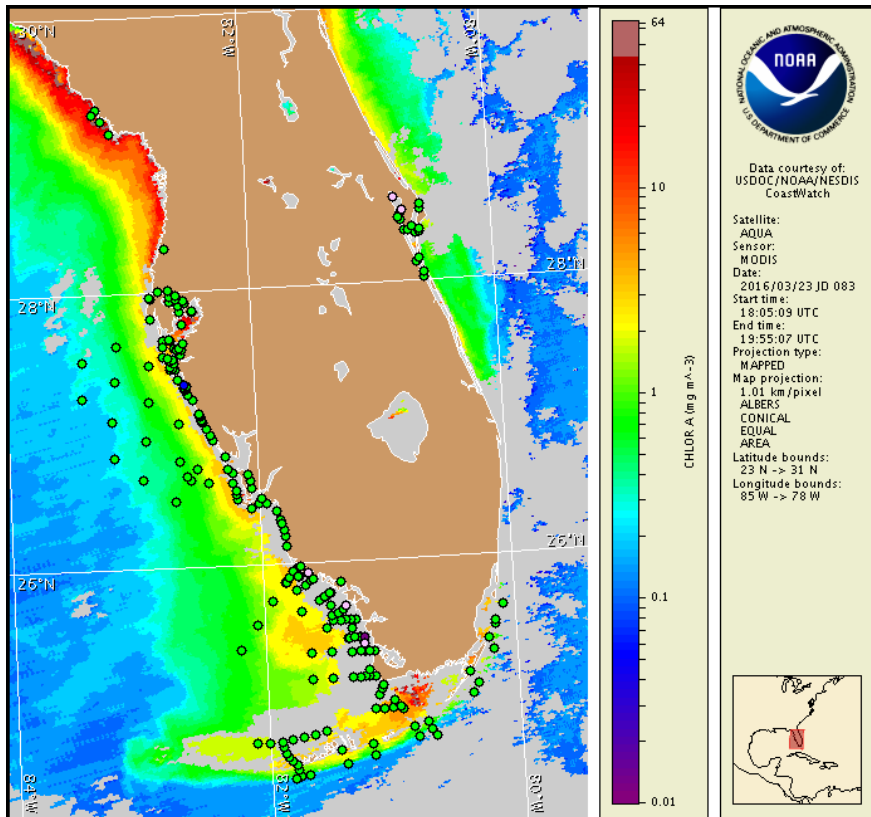
Thursday, 24 March 2016

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 21, 2016



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from March 14 to 23: 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>

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to very low concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida and is not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Thursday, March 24 through Monday, March 28.

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

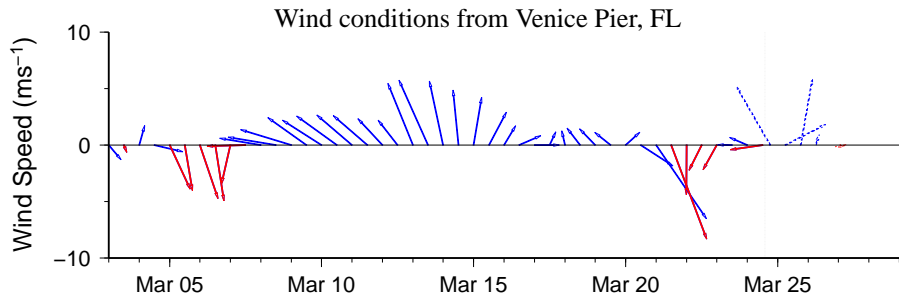
Analysis

Recent samples collected along-and offshore southwest Florida indicate that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range from not present to 'very low b' from Pinellas to Monroe counties (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCENRD; 3/14-23). 'Very low b' *K. brevis* concentrations were identified in one sample from New Pass in Sarasota County (MML; 3/23). All other samples collected alongshore Pinellas to Collier counties over the past week indicate that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, MML; 3/17-22). 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, 3/23) is obscured by clouds along the coast of southwest Florida, limiting analysis. Elevated chlorophyll (1-3 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible extending offshore the coast from Pinellas to Monroe counties.

Southerly winds forecast today through Saturday may promote northerly transport of any remaining surface *K. brevis* concentrations alongshore southwest Florida.

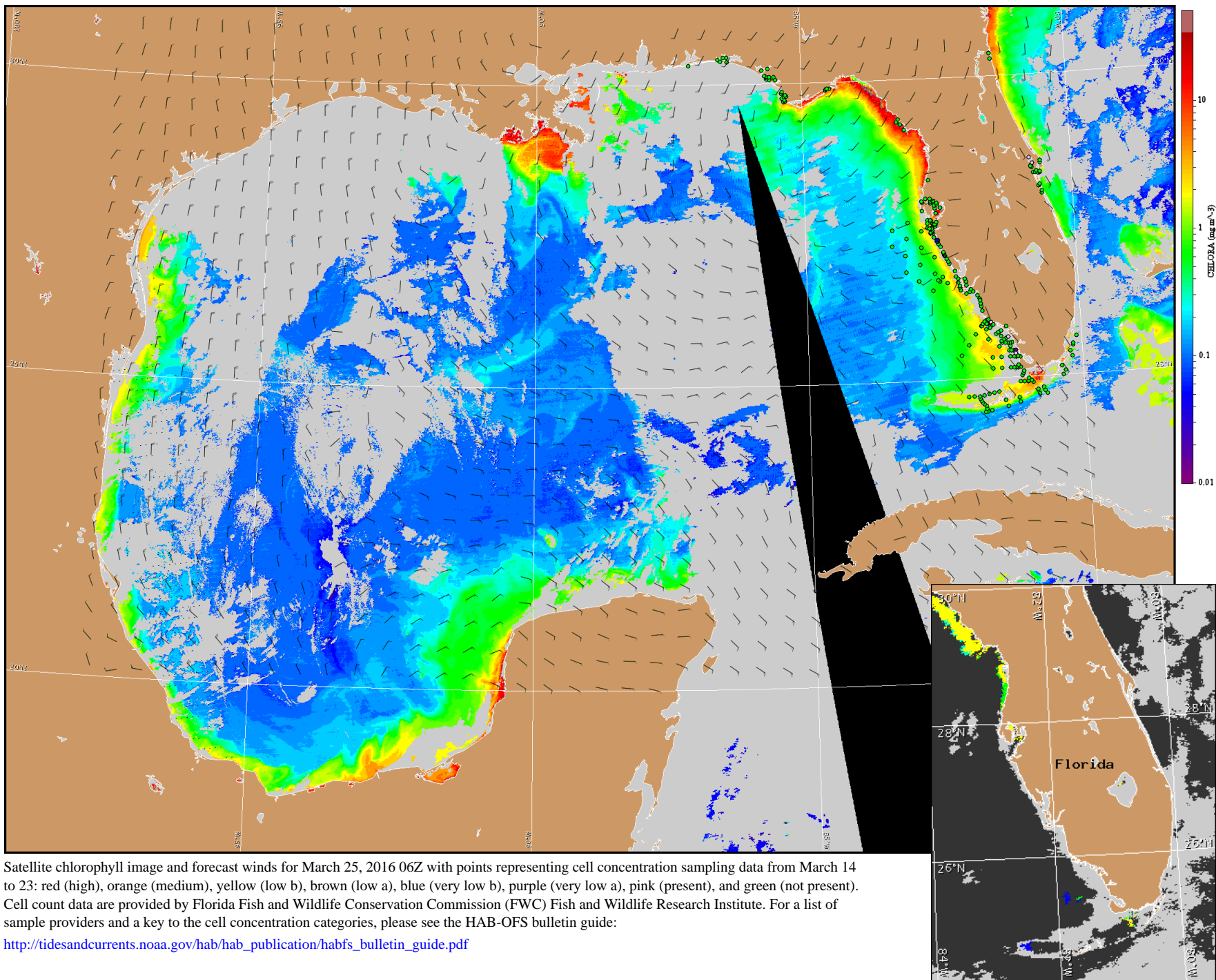
Derner, Davis



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): Southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) today becoming south (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) this afternoon through Saturday. Northeast to east winds (5kn, 3m/s) Saturday night. Southeast winds (5kn) Sunday becoming south (5kn) Sunday afternoon through Monday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 25, 2016 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 14 to 23: 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 with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).