



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

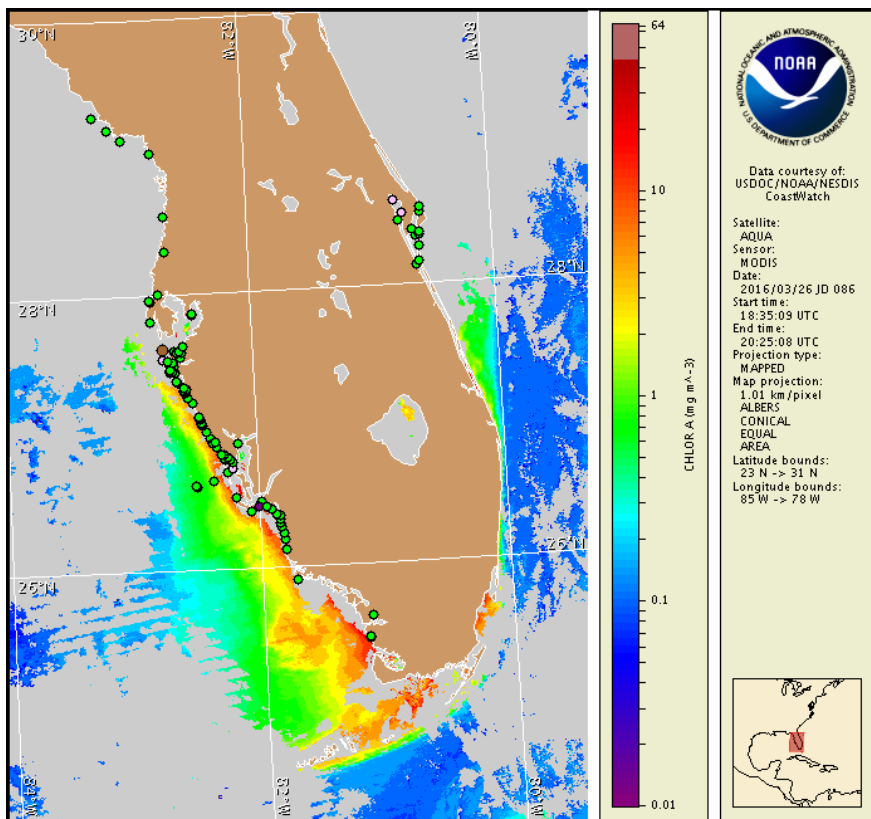
Monday, 28 March 2016

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, March 24, 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 18 to 25: 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 low concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida and is not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Monday, March 28 through Thursday, March 31.

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

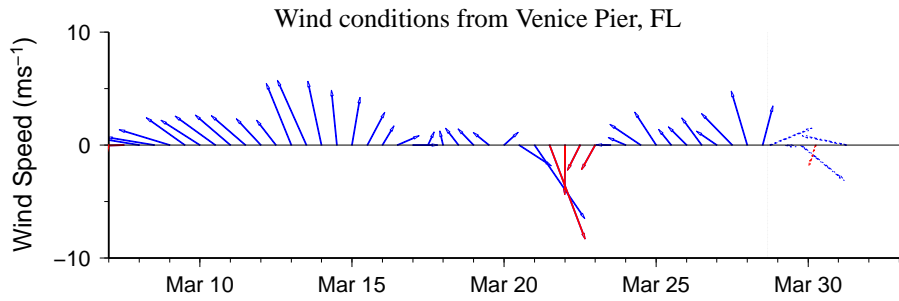
Analysis

Recent samples collected along-and offshore the coast of southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe counties identified not present to 'low a' concentrations of *Karenia brevis*, with the highest concentrations collected from alongshore southern Pinellas County at Gulf Pier on Mullet Key (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCENRD; 3/18-24). 'Very low a' *K. brevis* concentrations were also identified alongshore Lighthouse Beach in Lee County (FWRI; 3/23). Detailed sample information and a summary of impacts can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at: <http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>.

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (3/26, shown left) is partially obscured by clouds along the coast of southwest Florida, limiting analysis. Elevated chlorophyll (1-8 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible extending offshore the coast from Pinellas to Monroe counties.

Variable winds forecast alongshore southwest Florida today through Thursday may minimize the potential for transport of any remaining surface *K. brevis* concentrations at the coast.

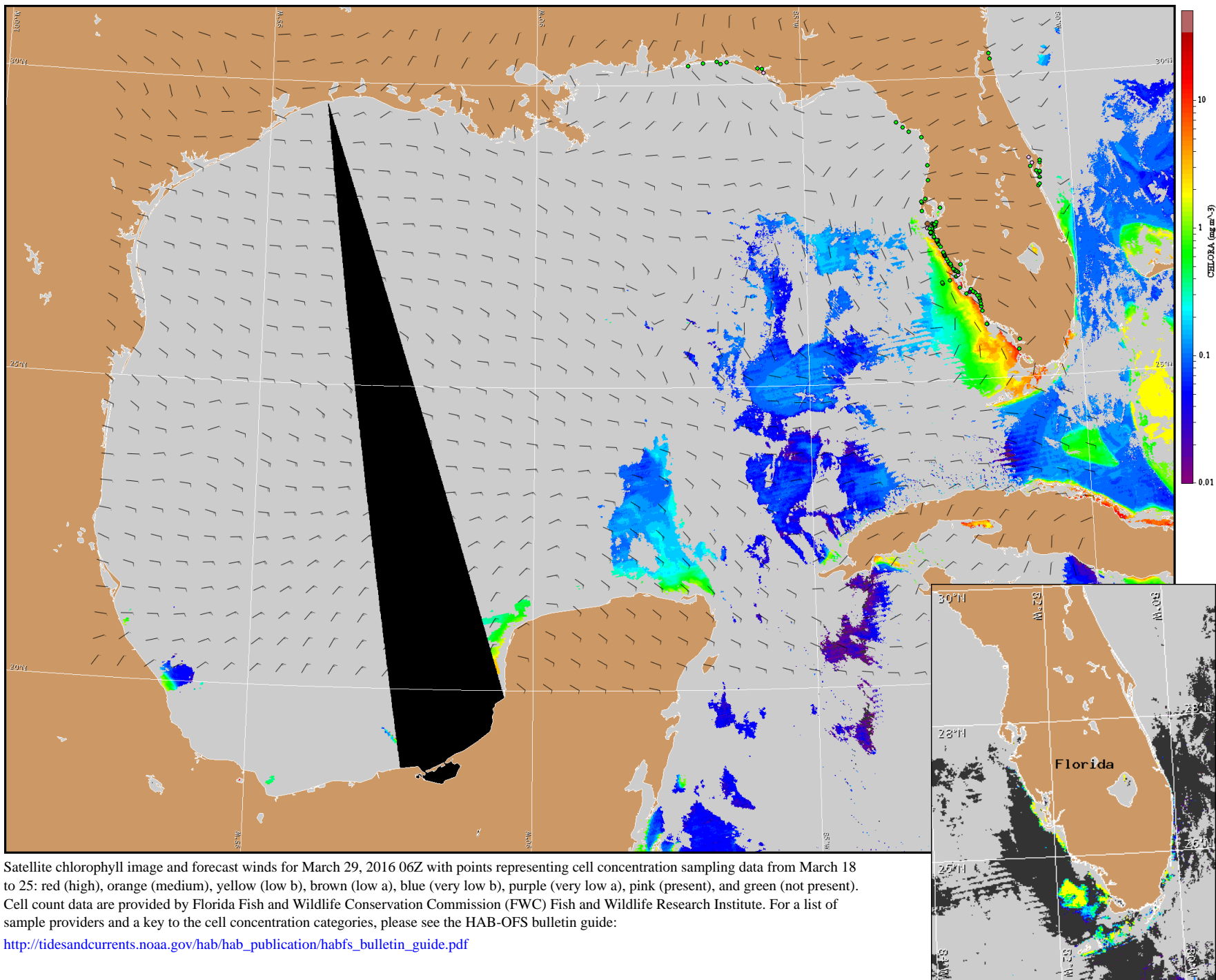
Lalime, Derner



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): Southwest winds (10kn, 5m/s) today. West winds (10kn) tonight becoming north (5kn, 3m/s) Tuesday. West winds (10kn) Tuesday afternoon becoming north (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Tuesday night. East winds (10kn) Wednesday becoming southeast overnight. Southeast winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) Thursday becoming south in the afternoon.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 29, 2016 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 18 to 25: 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).