Conditions Report

*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, April 4 through Monday, April 11.

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

Analysis

Data from Texas A&M University’s Imaging FlowCytobot, located on the Port Aransas ship channel, is currently unavailable. However, previous sampling indicated *Karenia brevis* concentrations ranging from ‘not present’ to ‘background’ (TAMU; 3/7-14).

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (4/2, shown left) is obscured by clouds in patches along and offshore the Texas coast from Baffin Bay south to the Rio Grande, limiting analysis. Elevated to high chlorophyll (1-18 µg/L) is visible along- and offshore the coast of Texas from Sabine Pass to the Padre Island National Seashore. Elevated chlorophyll is not indicative of the presence of *K. brevis* and is most likely due to the resuspension of benthic chlorophyll and sediments along the coast.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate negligible transport from the Port Aransas region from April 2-6.

Keeney, Yang

Wind Analysis

**Port Aransas to Matagorda Ship Channel:** South to southeast winds (5-20kn, 3-10m/s) today through Wednesday, shifting to east winds (5-10kn, 305ms) Wednesday night. North winds (5-10kn) Thursday, shifting south (5-10kn) Thursday evening. South to southeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Friday.
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for April 5, 2016 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 25 to April 1: 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 Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. 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 of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).