



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

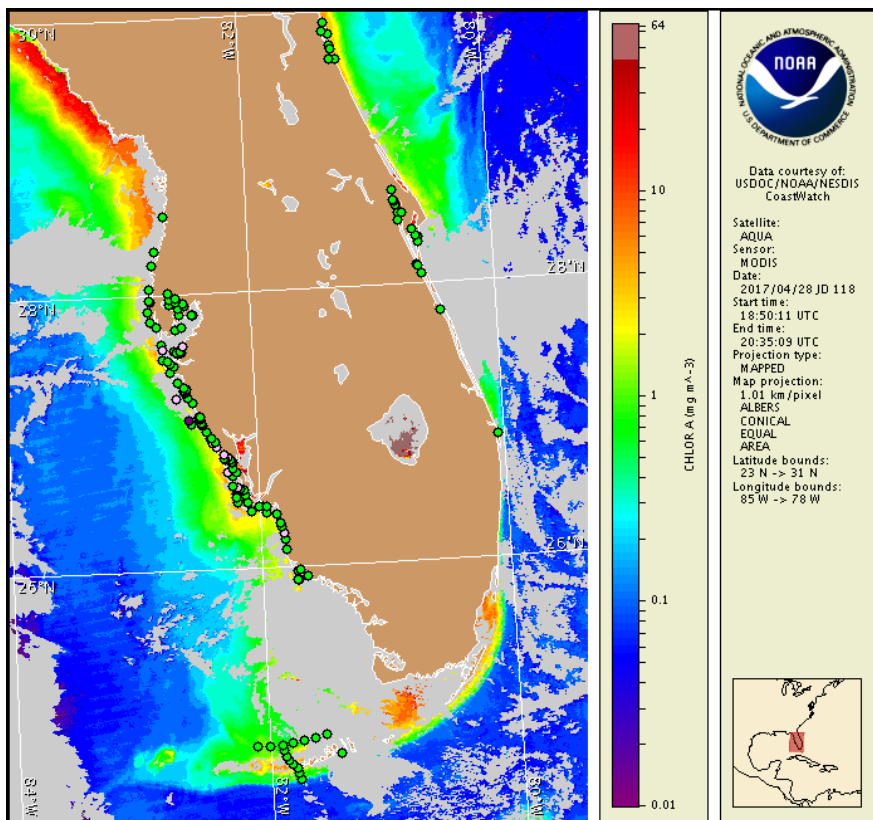
Monday, 01 May 2017

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Thursday, April 27, 2017



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from April 21 to 28: 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](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

Not present to very low concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of southwest Florida and not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, May 1 through Thursday, May 4. Check [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach\\_conditions.html](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

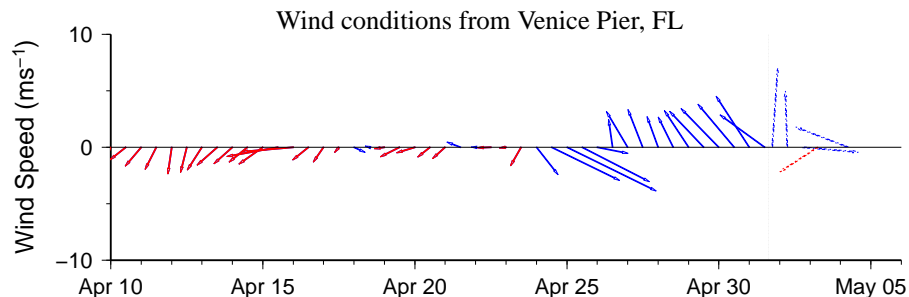
## Analysis

Recent samples continue to indicate 'background' concentrations of *Karenia brevis* are present alongshore from Pinellas to Collier counties and present in up to 'very low a' concentrations approximately 5 miles offshore Venice in Sarasota County and in Gasparilla Sound in the bay regions of southern Charlotte County (FWRI, SCHD, CCPCD; 4/21-5/1). 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, 4/28) is partially obscured by clouds along- and offshore southwest Florida. Where visible, the imagery indicates elevated levels of chlorophyll (1-4  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) alongshore from Sarasota to Lee counties, likely the result of mixed, non-harmful algal blooms reported in the region. The patch of elevated chlorophyll (2-6  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ), with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis*, previously identified on 4/27, persists offshore central Lee County

Variable winds today through Thursday will reduce the potential transport of surface *K. brevis* concentrations.

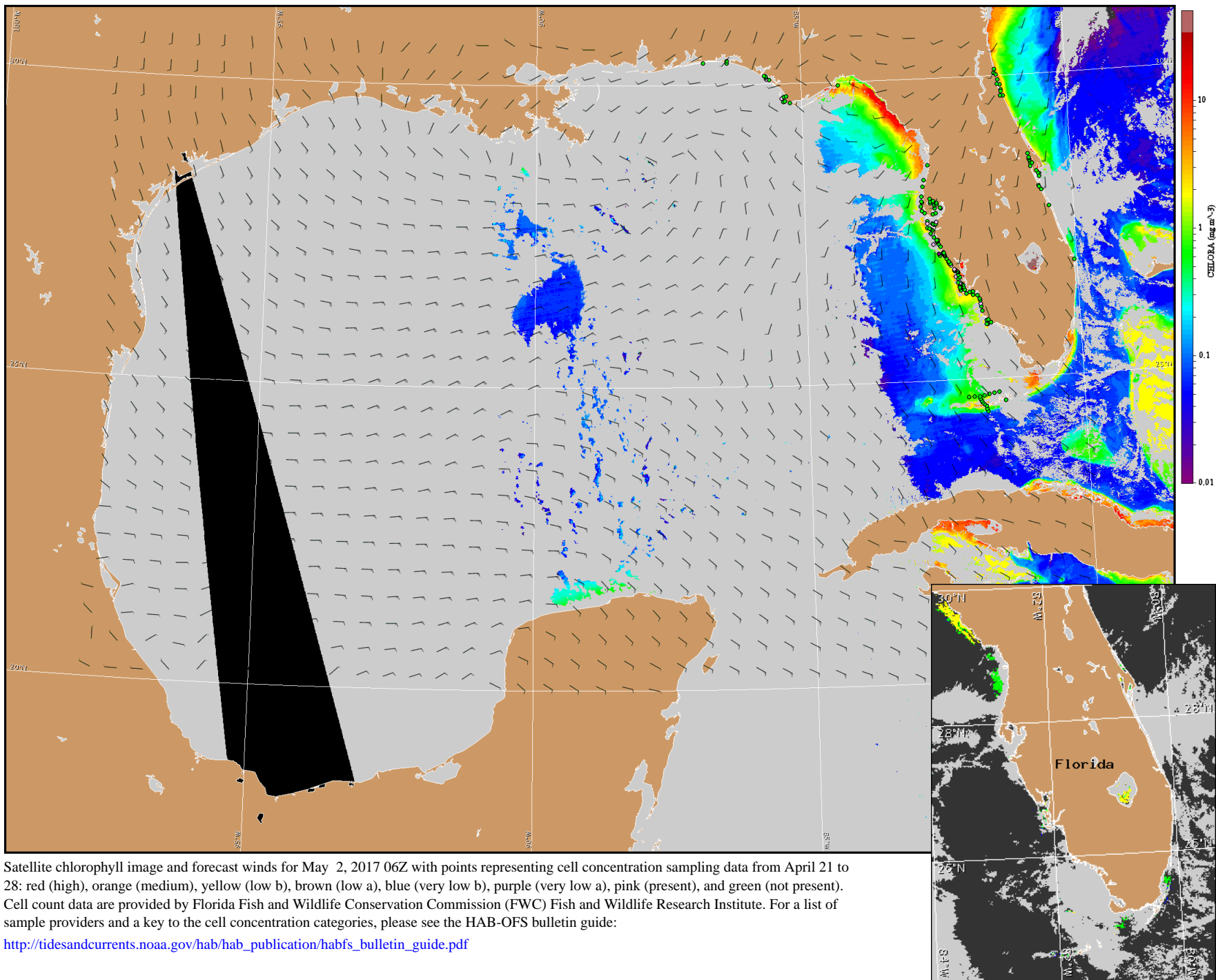
Urizar, Keeney



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):** Variable winds (5-15 kn, 3-8 m/s) today through Thursday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 2, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from April 21 to 28: 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).