Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Texas
Monday, 08 May 2017
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, May 1, 2017

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, May 8 through Monday, May 15.

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

Analysis
Sampling from the Texas A&M University’s Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB), located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between ‘not present’ and ‘background’ (TAMU; 5/3-5/8). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua ensemble imagery (5/7; shown left) is partially obscured by clouds from Freeport to the Rio Grande region, limiting analysis. Elevated to high chlorophyll (3 to 18 µg/L) with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* is visible offshore from the Sabine Pass region to the Rio Grande region. However, 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 a potential maximum transport of 10km north from the Port Aransas region from May 7-11.

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To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit the NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System bulletin archive: [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html)
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for May 9, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from April 28 to May 4: 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 with K. brevis optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).