Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to very low concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Monday, August 14 through Monday, August 21. For recent, local observations and data check Mote Marine Laboratory Daily Beach Conditions (http://visitbeaches.org/) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Red Tide Status (http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus).

Analysis

Recent samples received from along- and offshore southwest Florida, from Pinellas to Collier counties, indicate Karenia brevis is not present, with the exception of one ‘very low’ sample from Hurricane Pass in the bay regions of northern Pinellas County, and one background concentration approximately 5 miles offshore northern Pinellas County (FWRI, SCD, MML, CCPCD; 8/4-8/10).

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 8/12; shown left) is mostly obscured by clouds along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties, limiting analysis. Patches of elevated to high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) are visible along- and offshore northern Sarasota County and northern to central Collier County, with the optical characteristics of K. brevis, likely the result of mixed non-harmful algal blooms that continue to be reported in the region.

Winds forecasted for Wednesday through Friday (8/16-8/18) are favorable for the potential of harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida.

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To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/gomx.html
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for August 15, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from August 4 to 10: 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:

Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).