Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
Region: Southwest Florida
Monday, 06 November 2017
NOAA National Ocean Service
NOAA Satellite and Information Service
NOAA National Weather Service
Last bulletin: Monday, October 30, 2017

Conditions Report
Not present to low concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of southwest Florida from Pinellas to Sarasota counties, and not present in the Florida Keys. *K. brevis* concentrations are patchy in nature and levels of respiratory irritation will vary locally based upon nearby bloom concentrations, ocean currents, and wind speed and direction. The highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecast for Monday, November 6 to Thursday, November 9 is listed below:

**County Region:** Forecast (Duration)

- **Northern Manatee, bay regions:** Very Low (M-Th)
- **Southern Manatee:** None (M-W), Very Low (Th)
- **Southern Manatee, bay regions:** Very Low (M-Th)
- **Northern Sarasota:** None (M-W), Very Low (Th)
- **All Other SWFL County Regions:** None expected (M-Th)

Health information, from the Florida Department of Health and other agencies, is available at [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx_health.html](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx_health.html). For recent, local observations and data check Mote Marine Laboratory Daily Beach Conditions ([http://visitbeaches.org/](http://visitbeaches.org/)) and the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission Red Tide Status ([http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus](http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus)). There have no reports of respiratory irritation or dead fish.

**Analysis**

Recent samples collected alongshore southwest Florida indicate *Karenia brevis* ranges from ‘not present’ to ‘low a’ concentrations from Pinellas to Sarasota counties, with the highest concentrations present in the bay regions of Manatee County (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCPCD; 10/27-11/2). Detailed sample information and a summary of impacts can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at: [http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus](http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus).

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 11/5) shows elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) along- and offshore southwest Florida. Two patches with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* are visible in the bay regions of northern Manatee County, and alongshore central Lee County, extending up to 18 miles offshore.

Alongshore winds were observed over the weekend. Alongshore winds forecast today through Thursday will reduce the potential for bloom intensification at the coast.

Keeney, Urizar

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*To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx.html](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx.html)*
Wind Analysis

**Englewood to Tarpon Springs (Venice):** Northeast to north winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) today through Wednesday. Southeast winds (5kn, 3m/s) Thursday becoming northwest winds (10kn, 5m/s) Thursday evening.

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).
Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for November 7, 2017 12Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from October 27 to November 2: 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).