



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

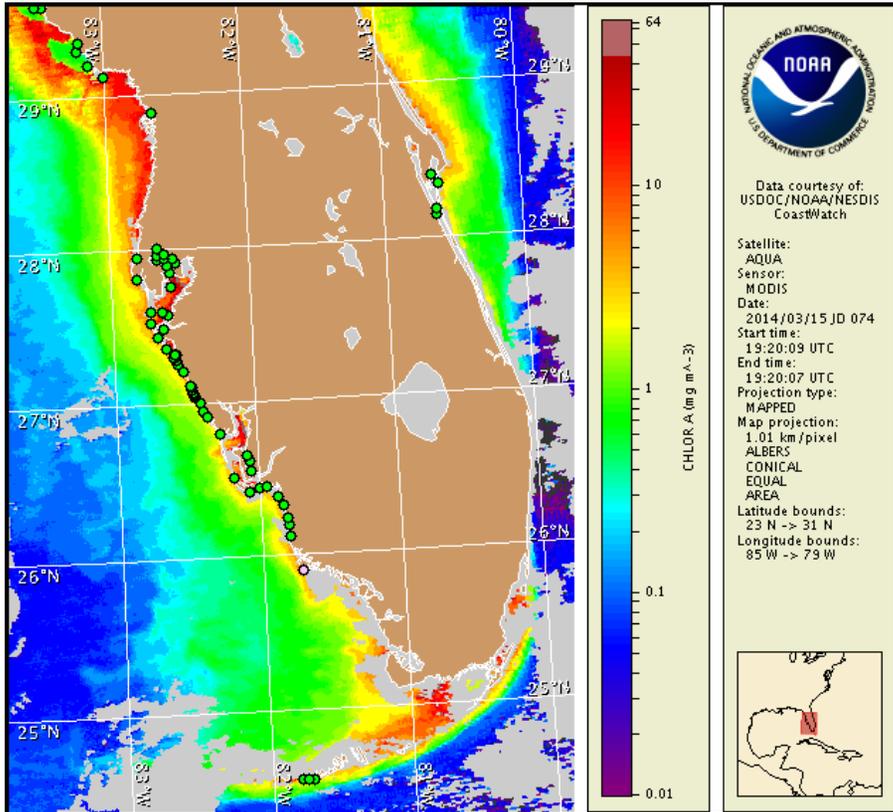
Monday, 17 March 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 10, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from March 7 to 14: 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/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

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida and is not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Monday, March 17 through Monday, March 24.

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

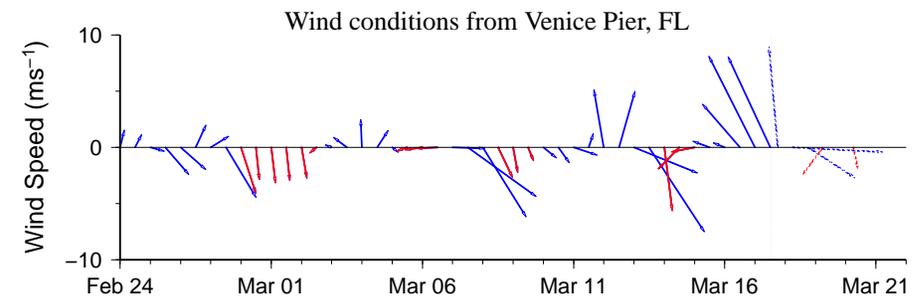
Analysis

Samples collected over the last week along the coast of southwest Florida from Pinellas to Monroe counties, including the Florida Keys, all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present, with the exception of one sample that indicated background concentrations alongshore central Collier County (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCPCPD; 3/10-3/13). Reports of five marine bird mortalities were received from the Lower Keys (FWRI, MML; 3/12).

Recent MODIS Aqua imagery (3/15, shown left) is partially obscured by clouds along the coast of southwest Florida, including alongshore central Lee to Collier counties, limiting analysis. Elevated chlorophyll (2-5 $\mu\text{g/L}$) is visible along- and offshore from Pinellas to Collier counties.

Harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida is not expected today through Monday, March 24.

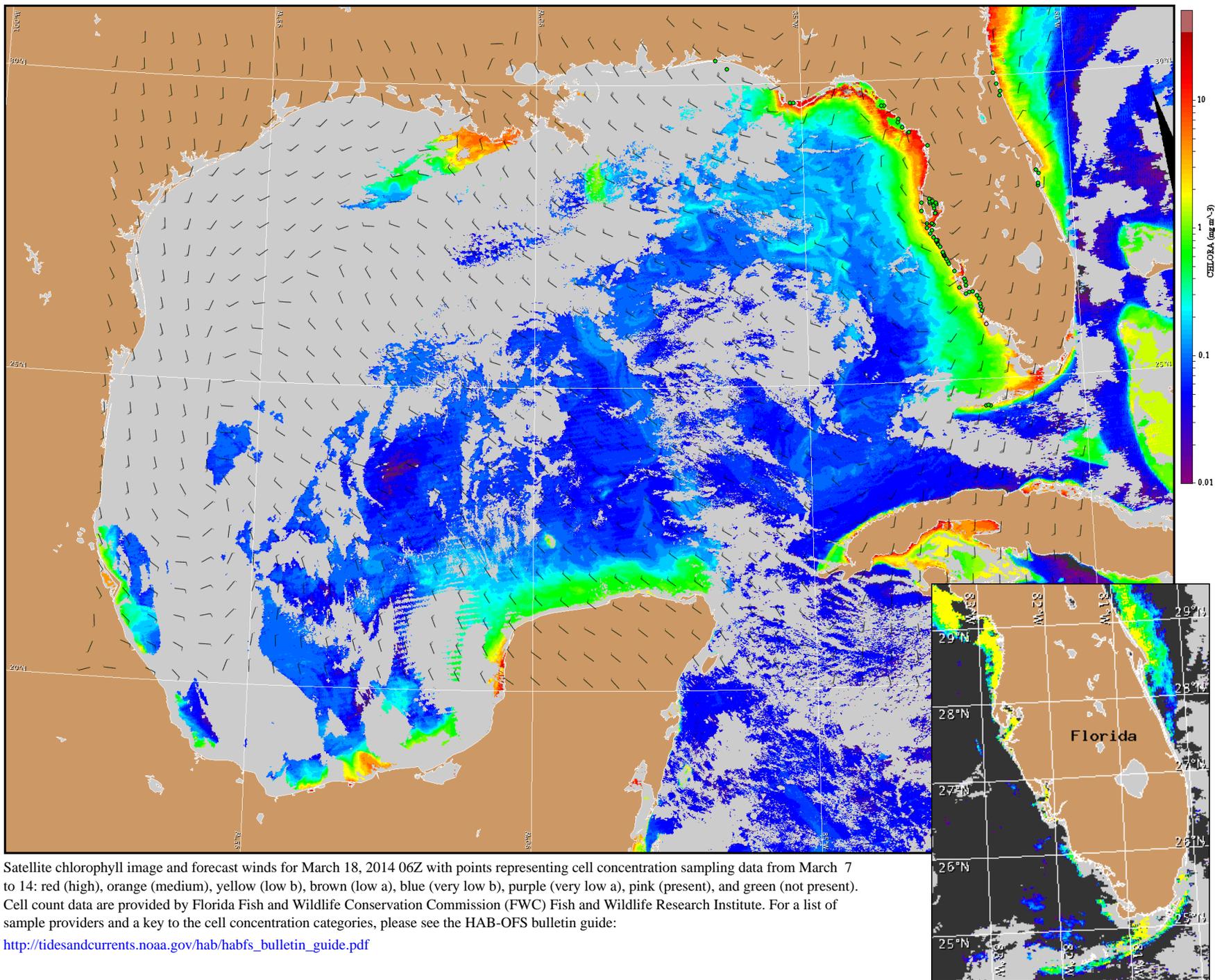
Kavanaugh, Davis



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

Southwest Florida: South to southwest winds (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) today. Northwest to north winds (10-15kn, 5-8m/s) tonight through Tuesday night becoming northeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) after midnight. North to northwest winds (5-10kn) Wednesday through Thursday becoming northeast to east winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Thursday night through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 18, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 7 to 14: 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 of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).