



# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

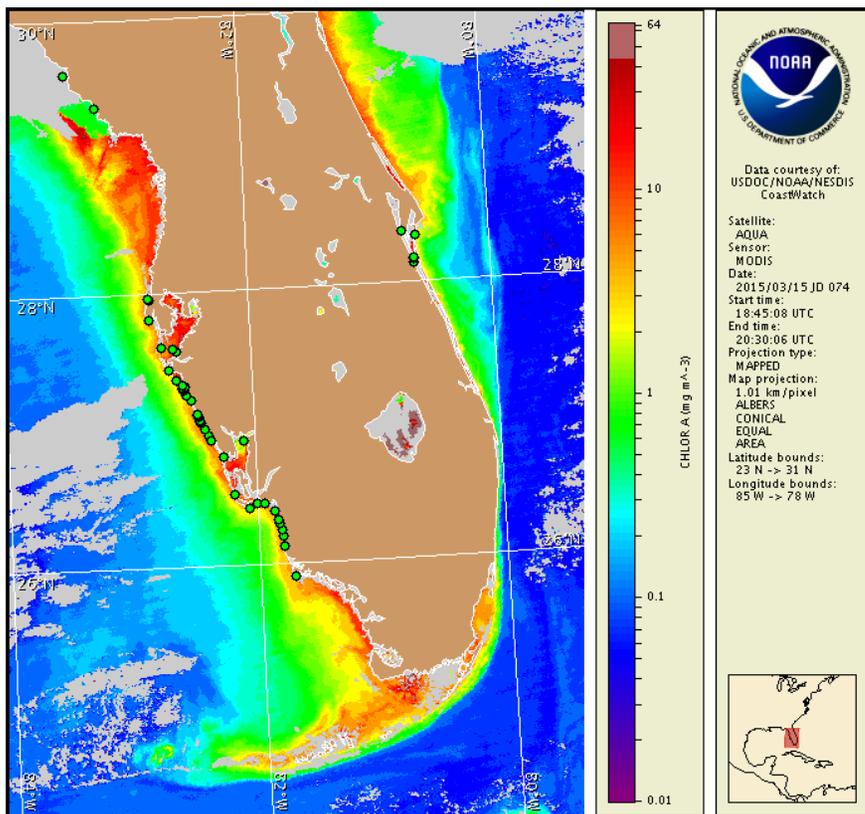
Monday, 16 March 2015

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, March 9, 2015



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from March 6 to 12: 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](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

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) along the coast of southwest Florida, including the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected alongshore southwest Florida Monday, March 16 through Monday, March 23. Check [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach\\_conditions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

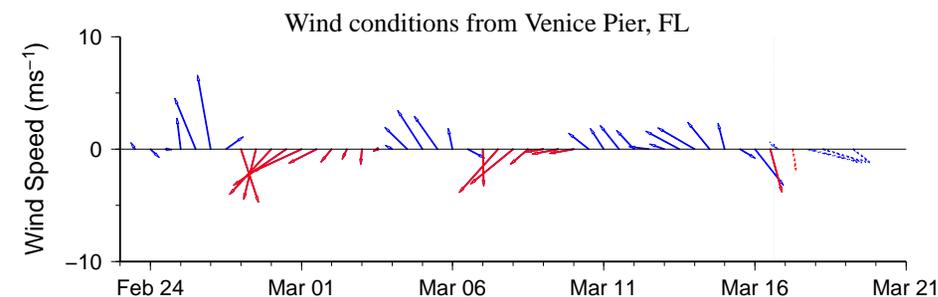
## Analysis

Recent samples received from along- and offshore southwest Florida, from Sarasota to Collier counties, all indicate that *Karenia brevis* is not present (FWRI, SCHD, MML, CCPCPD; 3/6-3/12).

In recent MODIS Aqua imagery (3/15, shown left), elevated chlorophyll (1-8  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) is visible in patches along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties.

Harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida is not expected today through Monday, March 23.

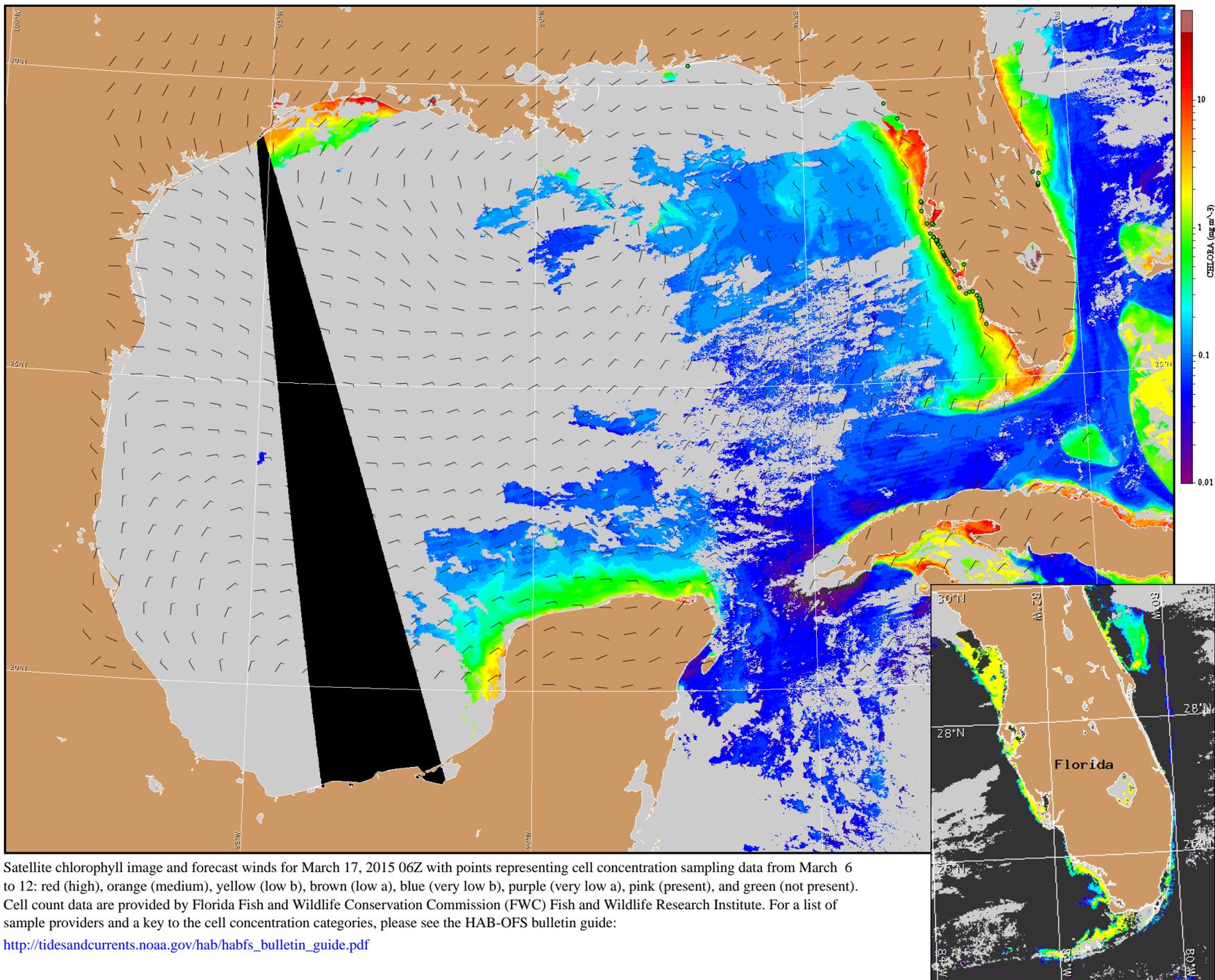
Urizar, Davis, Lalime



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):** Northerly to northwesterly winds (10kn, 5m/s) today through Wednesday. Northerly to northeasterly winds (5kn, 3m/s) Wednesday night. Southeasterly winds (5kn) Thursday becoming westerly in the afternoon. Northwesterly to westerly winds (5kn) Thursday night and Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for March 17, 2015 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from March 6 to 12: 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).