Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

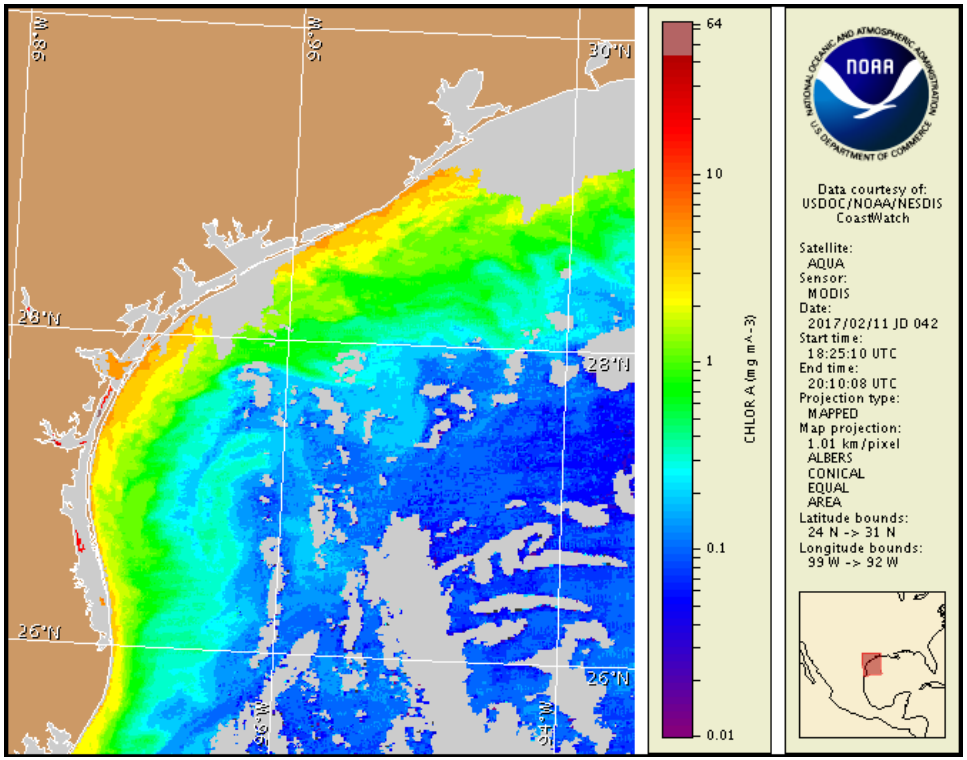
Monday, 13 February 2017

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, February 6, 2017



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from February 3 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 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

Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department at:

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us./landwater/water/environconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml

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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

Conditions Report

There is currently no indication of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Texas red tide) along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, February 13 through Tuesday, February 21.

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

Analysis

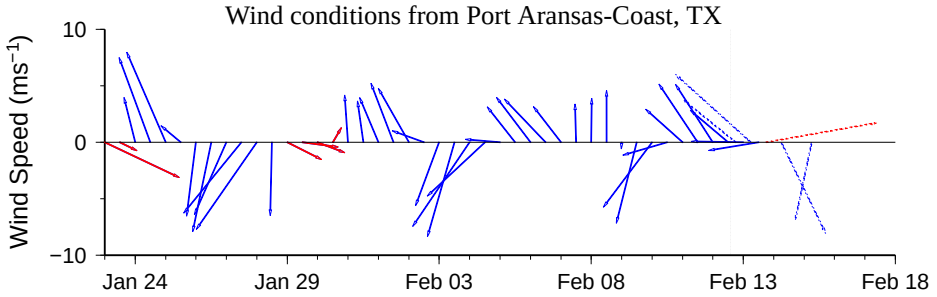
Due to the upcoming federal holiday, the next bulletin will be issued on Tuesday, February 21.

Sampling from the Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB), located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia sp.* concentrations range between 'not present' and 'background' (TAMU; 2/6-2/13). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua ensemble imagery (2/11; shown left) does not indicate the presence of chlorophyll anomalies with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* along- and offshore from Gavleston Island to the Matagorda Peninsula, and from Mustang Island to Rio Grande.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 30km south from the Port Aransas region from February 11 to February 16.

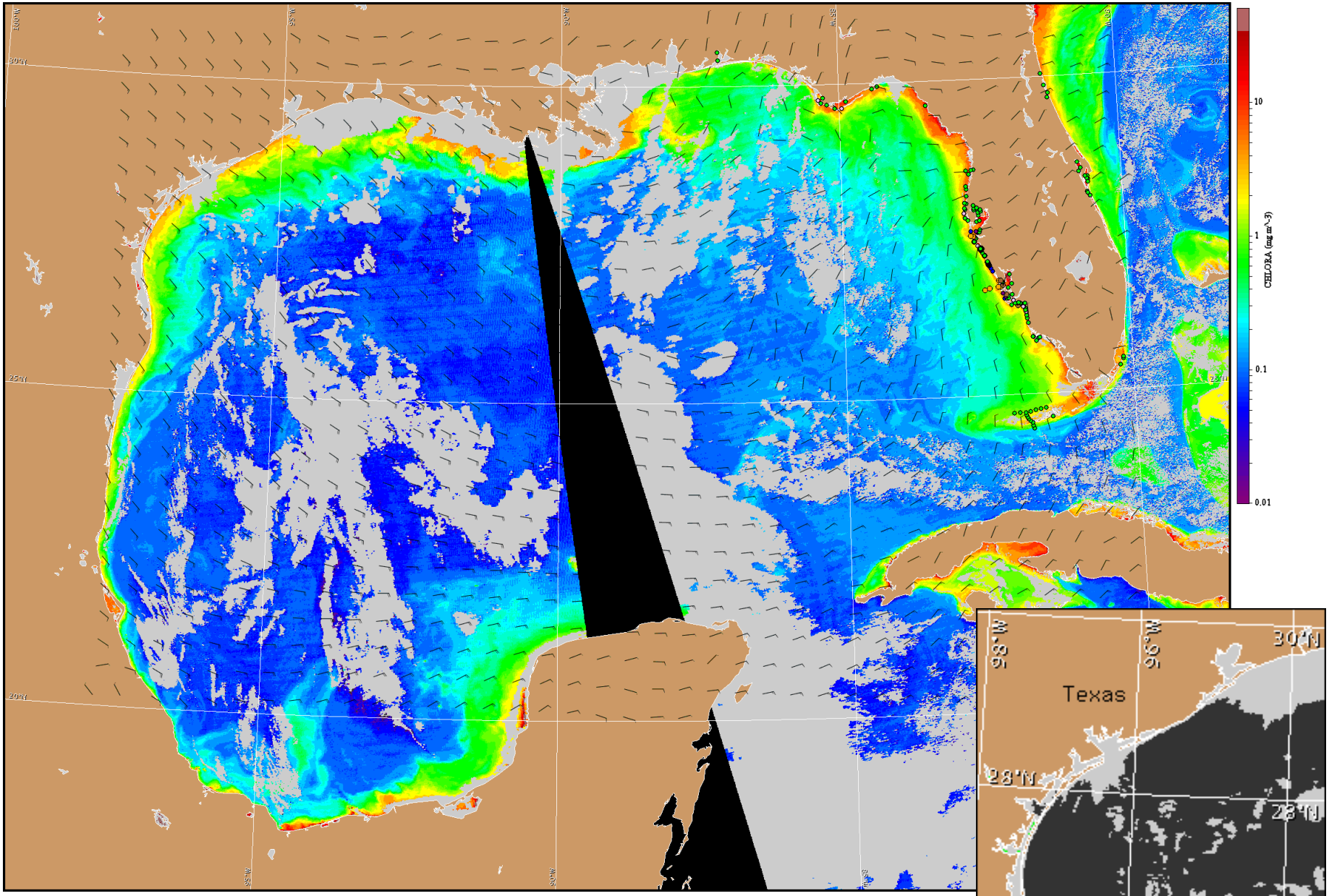
Yang, Davis, Ludema



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

Port Aransas to Matagorda Ship Channel: Southeast winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) today. South winds (15-20kn, 8-10m/s) Tuesday shifting west Tuesday afternoon. Northwest to northeast winds (10-25kn, 5-13m/s) Tuesday night through Wednesday. Northeast winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Thursday. South to southeast winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 14, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 3 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 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:

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