



Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Texas

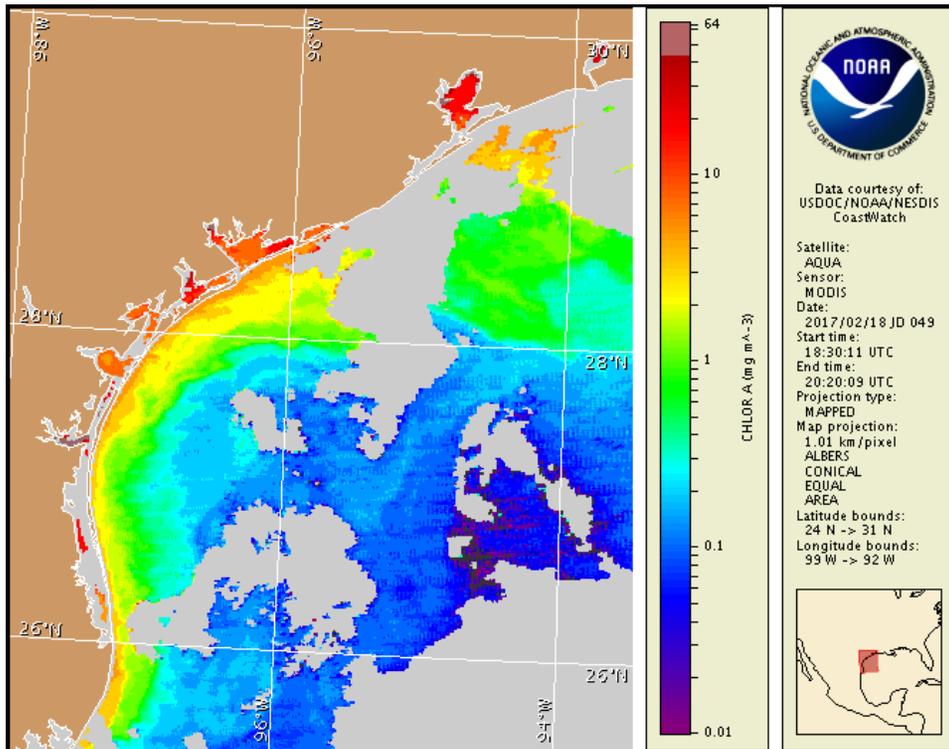
Tuesday, 21 February 2017

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Monday, February 13, 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 11 to 20: 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/enviroconcerns/hab/redtide/status.phtml>

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

Karenia brevis (commonly known as Texas red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of Texas. No respiratory irritation is expected Tuesday, February 21 through Monday, February 27.

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

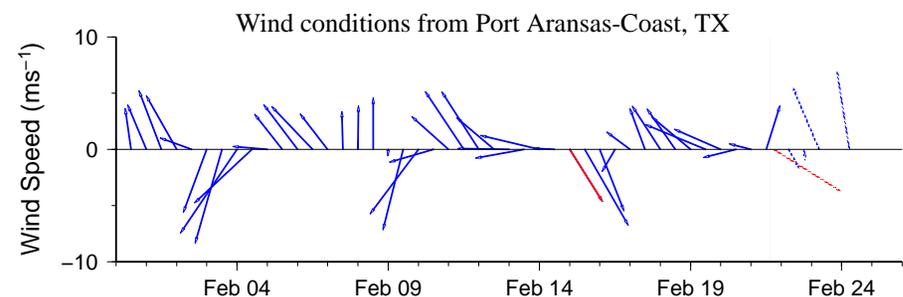
Analysis

Sampling from the Texas A&M University's Imaging FlowCytobot (IFCB), located on the Port Aransas ship channel, indicates that *Karenia brevis* concentrations range between 'not present' and 'background' (TAMU; 2/13-2/21). For information on area shellfish restrictions, contact the Texas Department of State Health Services.

Recent MODIS Aqua ensemble imagery (2/18; shown left) is obscured by clouds from Sabine Pass to the Matagorda Peninsula, preventing analysis of this region. Ensemble imagery along- and offshore the Texas coast from the Matagorda Peninsula to the Rio Grande does not indicate the presence of chlorophyll anomalies with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis*.

Forecast models based on predicted near-surface currents indicate a potential maximum transport of 15km south from the Port Aransas region from February 18 to February 24.

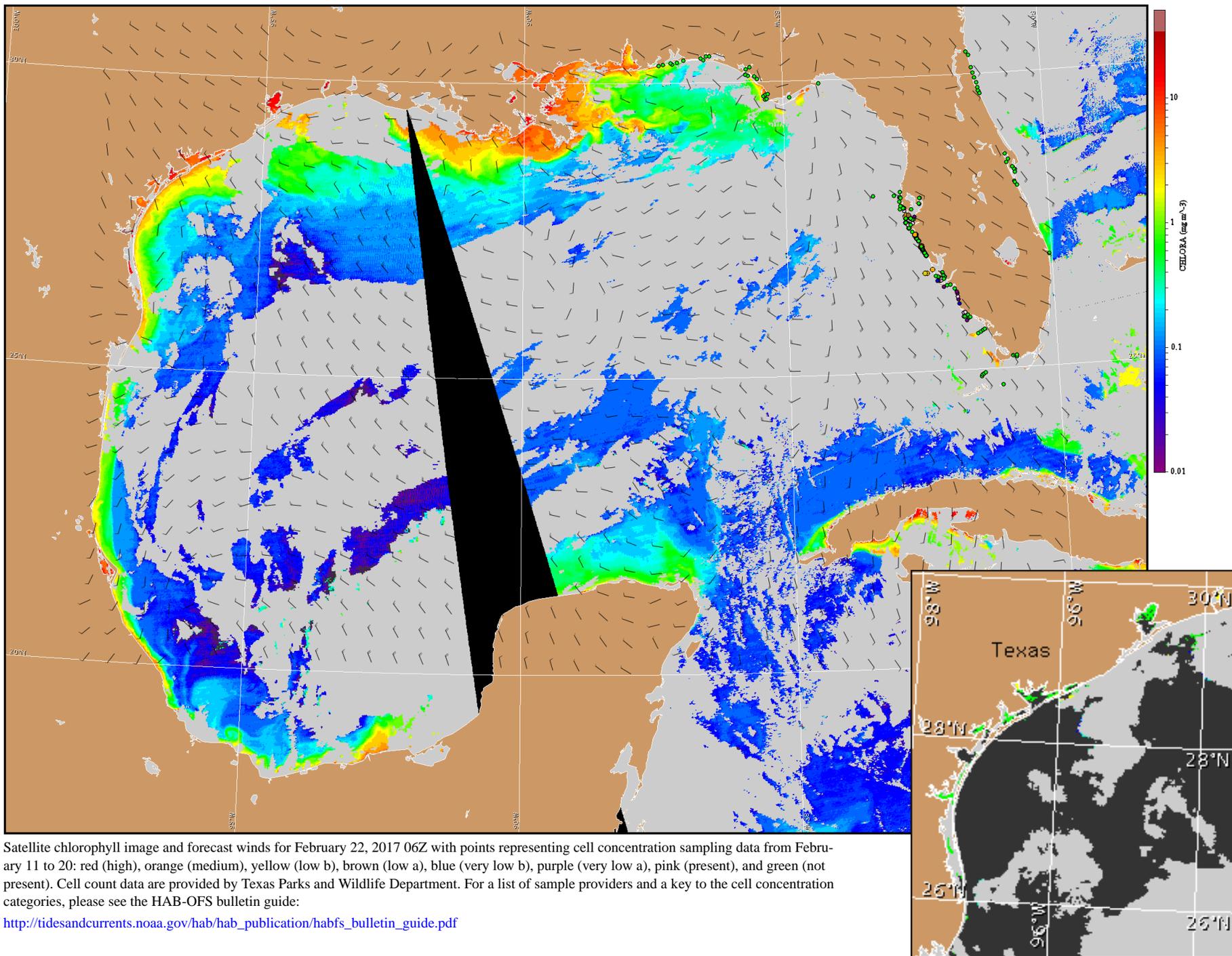
Davis, Kavanaugh, Ludema



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: Northwest winds (5-20kn, 3-10m/s) today through Wednesday shifting west (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) this afternoon. South winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) Wednesday night through Friday becoming east to northeast winds (5-20kn) Friday afternoon through evening. Northeast to east winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Saturday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 22, 2017 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 11 to 20: 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).