



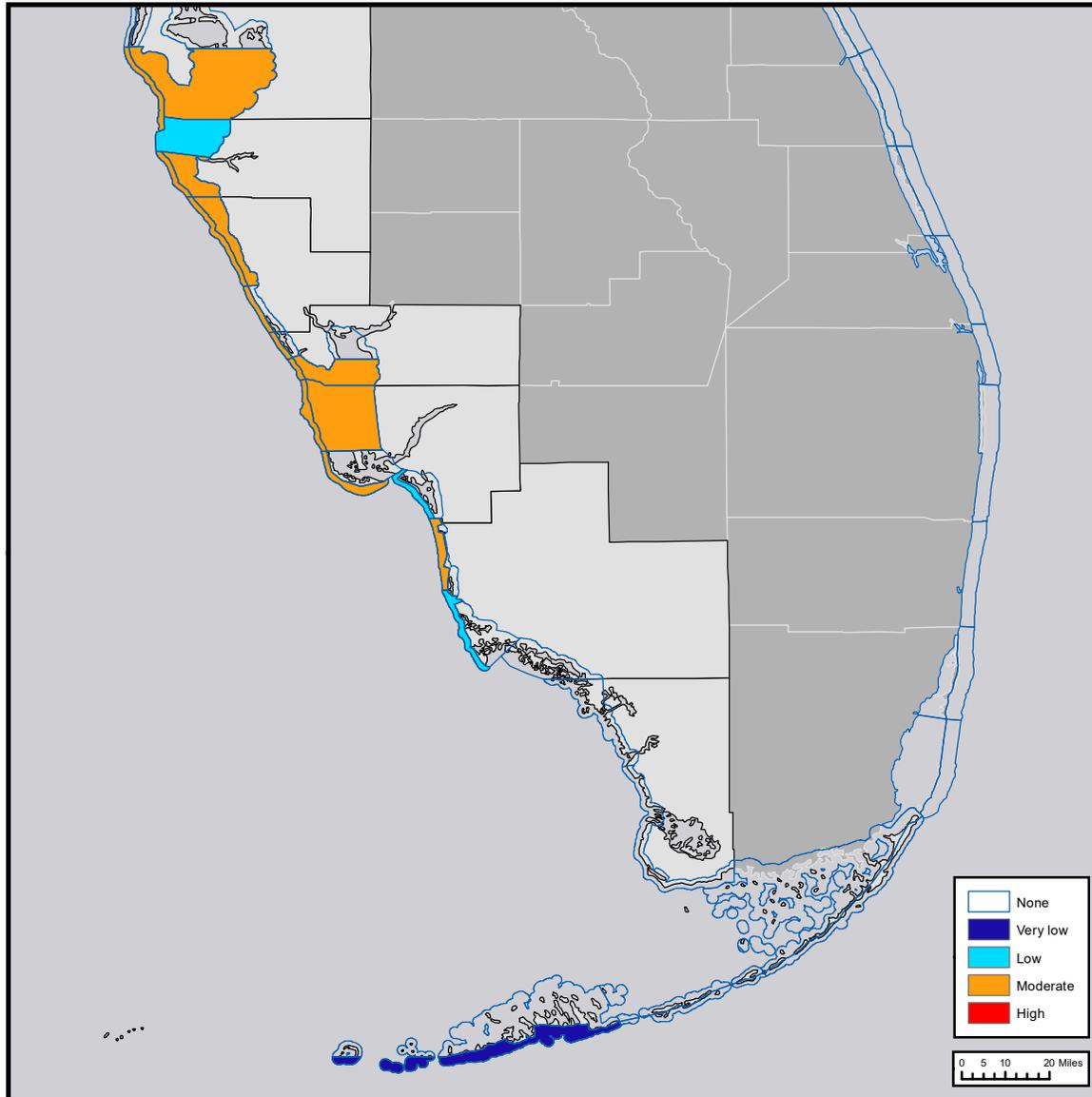
# Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Monday, December 3, 2018  
 NOAA National Ocean Service  
 NOAA Satellite and Information Service  
 NOAA National Weather Service

## Region: Southwest Florida



Instructions for viewing this geospatial pdf are available at: <https://go.usa.gov/xn9g2>.



The image above is the top layer in a series of maps for 12-03-18 to 12-06-18 displaying the highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecasts in each region.

## Conditions Report

Not present to high concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of southwest Florida, and present in very low concentrations alongshore 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.

Recently Reported Impacts (Listed by County):

**Respiratory irritation:** Manatee, Sarasota, Lee, Collier  
**Dead fish:** Pinellas, Sarasota, Charlotte, Lee, Collier

Definition of respiratory irritation levels.

RESPIRATORY IRRITATION LEVEL	AFFECTED POPULATION				
	NONE	CHRONIC RESPIRATORY CONDITION	SENSITIVE TO RED TIDE	GENERAL PUBLIC (MILD SYMPTOMS)	GENERAL PUBLIC (INTENSE SYMPTOMS)
None	X				
Very low		X			
Low		X	X		
Moderate		X	X	X	
High		X	X	X	X

## Additional Resources

Health Information:

**Florida Department of Health:**  
<http://www.floridahealth.gov/environmental-health/aquatic-toxins/red-tide.html>

**Other resources:** <https://go.usa.gov/xQNWp>

Recent, Local Observations and Data:

**Mote Marine Laboratory Daily Beach Conditions:**  
<http://visitbeaches.org>

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission:**  
<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

State Name	County Region	Mon 12/03	Tue 12/04	Wed 12/05	Thu 12/06			
Florida								
	DIXIE County-Gulf Coast							
	LEVY County-Gulf Coast							
	CITRUS County-Gulf Coast							
	HERNANDO County-Gulf Coast							
	Northern PASCO County-Gulf Coast							
	Southern PASCO County-Gulf Coast							
	Northern PINELLAS County-Gulf Coast							
	Northern PINELLAS County-Bay Regions							
	Northern PINELLAS County, Upper Bay Area-Bay Regions							
	Southern PINELLAS County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	very low			
	Southern PINELLAS County-Bay Regions	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate			
	PINELLAS and Northern MANATEE County-Bay Regions	low	low	low	low			
	South MANATEE County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	very low			
	South MANATEE County-Bay Regions	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate			
	North SARASOTA County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	low			
	North SARASOTA County-Bay Regions	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate			
	Southern SARASOTA County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	very low			
	Southern SARASOTA County-Bay Regions							
	North CHARLOTTE County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	low			
	North CHARLOTTE County-Bay Regions							
	Southern CHARLOTTE County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	very low			
	Southern CHARLOTTE County-Bay Regions	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate			
	Upper CHARLOTTE Harbor-Bay Regions							
	Northern LEE County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	very low			
	Northern LEE County-Bay Regions	moderate	moderate	moderate	moderate			
	Central LEE County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	low			

The table lists the highest level of potential respiratory irritation forecast. *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.

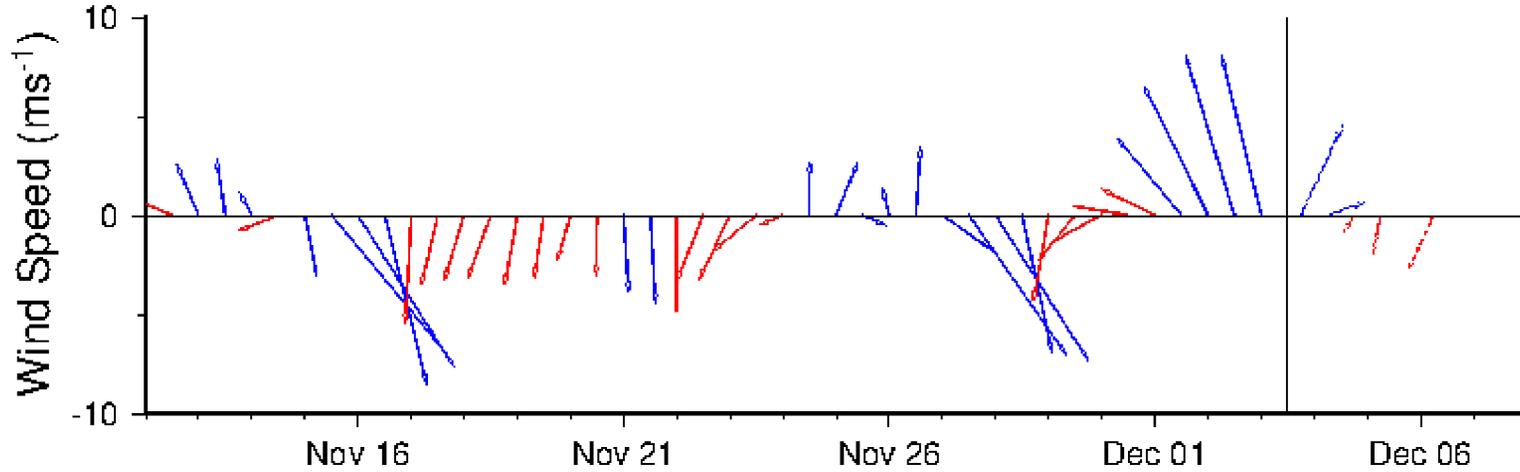
Cells are marked 'none' if *K. brevis* was detected, but no respiratory irritation is forecasted in the region. Cells are blank if no *K. brevis* has been detected in the region.

State Name	County Region	Mon 12/03	Tue 12/04	Wed 12/05	Thu 12/06			
Florida								
	Central LEE County-Bay Regions							
	Southern LEE County-Gulf Coast	low	low	low	very low			
	Southern LEE County-Bay Regions							
	Northern COLLIER County-Gulf Coast	moderate	moderate	moderate	low			
	Northern COLLIER County-Bay Regions							
	Central COLLIER County-Gulf Coast	low	moderate	moderate	very low			
	Central COLLIER County-Bay Regions							
	Southern COLLIER County-Gulf Coast							
	Northern MONROE County-Gulf Coast							
	Southern MONROE County-Gulf Coast							
	UPPER KEYS-Oceanside							
	UPPER KEYS and FLORIDA BAY-Gulfside							
	MIDDLE KEYS-Oceanside							
	MIDDLE KEYS-Gulfside							
	LOWER KEYS-Oceanside	very low	none	none	none			
	LOWER KEYS-Gulfside							

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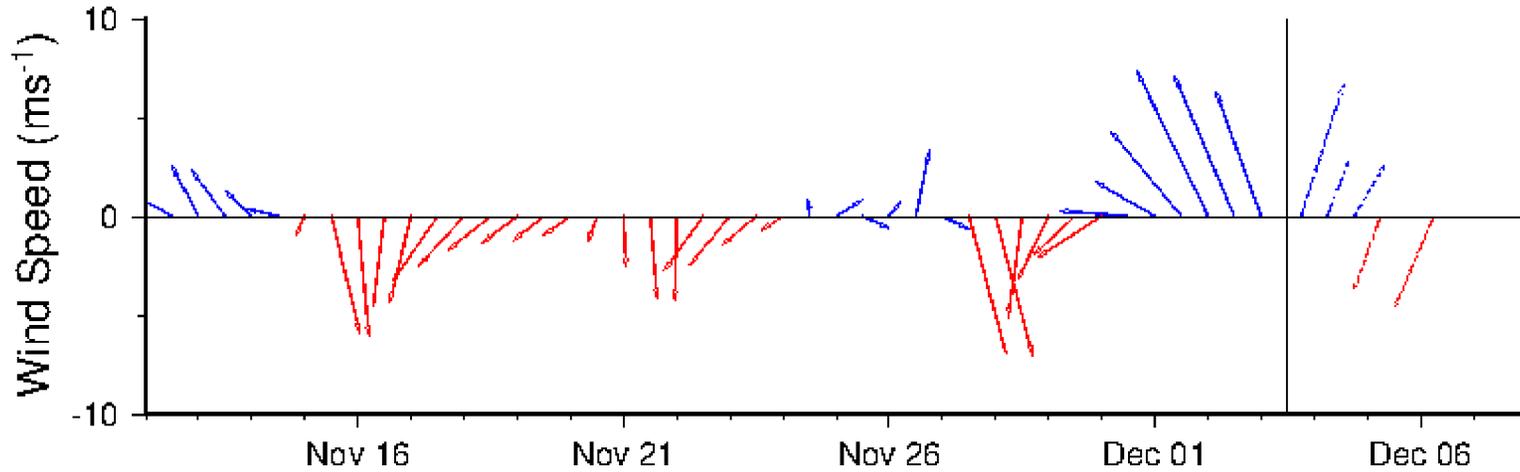
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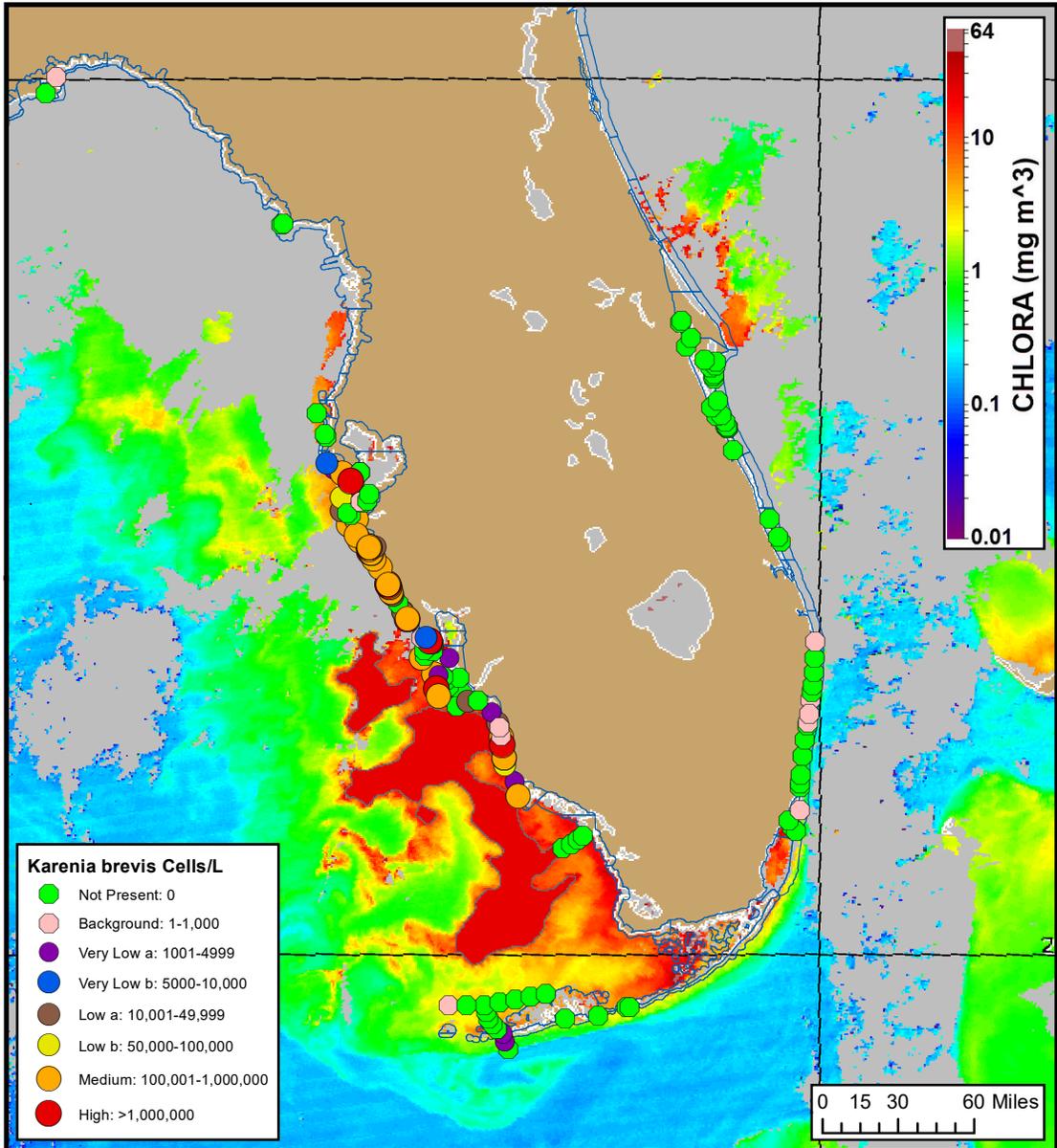
**Wind conditions from Clearwater Beach, FL**



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). A text summary of the marine forecast by region is available from NWS at <https://go.usa.gov/xnx4y>.

**Wind conditions from Venice Pier, FL**





## Analysis

### Summary of Recent Water Samples:

#### ***K. brevis* Cell Concentrations:**

**Range:** Not Present through High

**Date:** 11/23-11/30

**Source:** FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCPCD

### Imagery:

Recent ensemble imagery (MODIS Aqua, 12/2), is partially obscured by clouds from Pinellas to southern Sarasota counties, limiting analysis. Patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 µg/L) with some optical characteristics of *K. brevis* are visible along- and offshore from Charlotte to Monroe counties. The anomaly can be seen extending up to 60 miles west of Marco Island, and 65 miles west of Cape Sable in Everglades National Park.

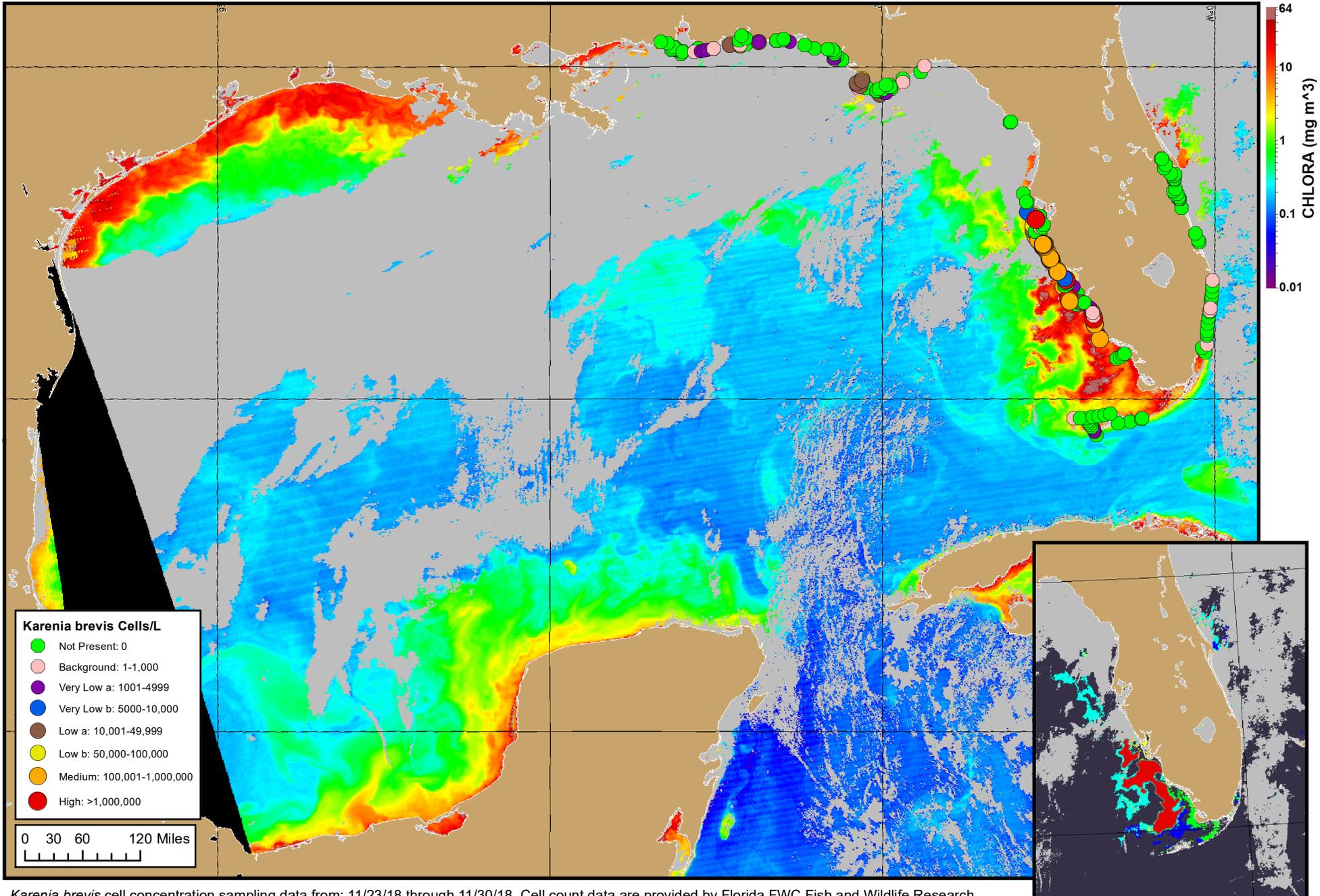
### Forecasts:

Onshore winds forecast today through Wednesday (12/3-5) may increase the potential for respiratory irritation at the coast of southwest Florida. Winds forecast Tuesday through Thursday (12/4-6) will promote the southward transport of surface *K. brevis* concentrations.

Ludema, Davis

*Karenia brevis* cell concentration sampling data from: 11/23/18 through 11/30/18. Cell count data are provided by Florida 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: [https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab\\_publication/GOMX\\_HAB\\_Bulletin\\_Guide.pdf](https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/hab_publication/GOMX_HAB_Bulletin_Guide.pdf). Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute: <http://myfwc.com/REDTIDESTATUS>.

MODIS Aqua satellite chlorophyll image (12/02/18) with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas with *K. brevis* optical characteristics shown in yellow (see p. 4 analysis for interpretation).