



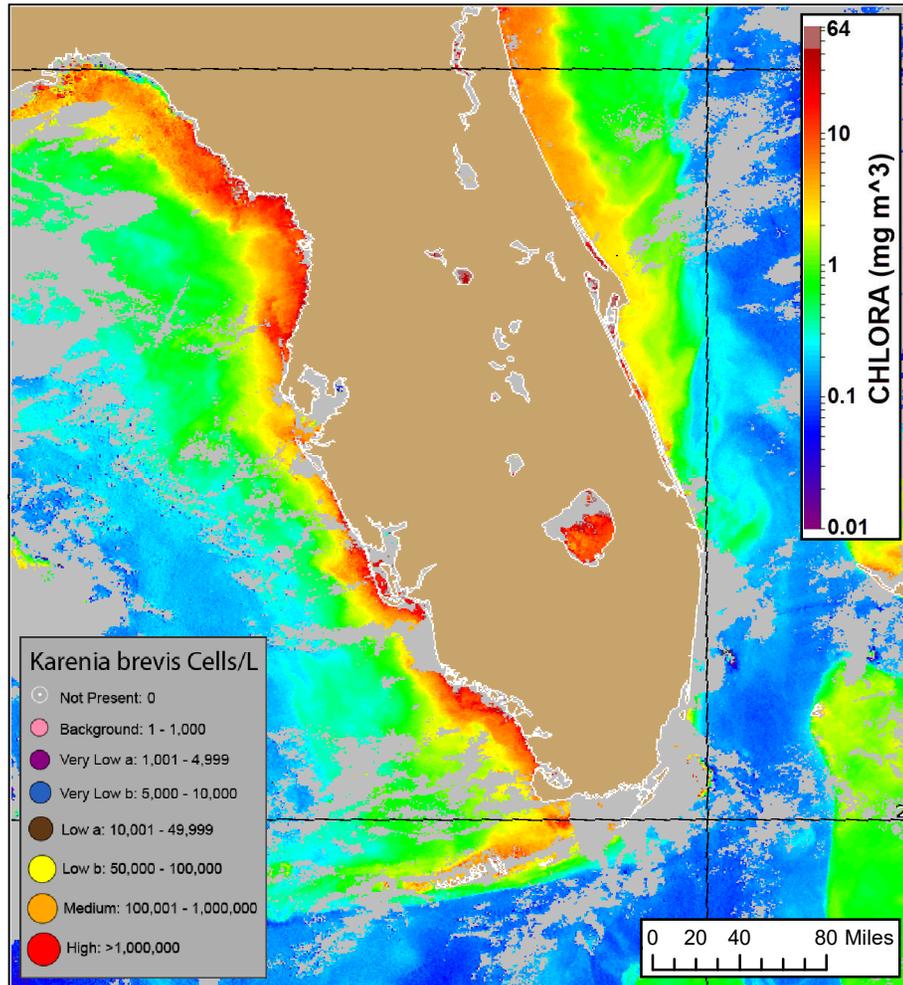
Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Monday, September 28, 2020
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>.



Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as red tide) is not present alongshore southwest Florida. No respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* is expected in this region.

Analysis

Imagery:

Recent ensemble imagery (VIIRS, 9/26) shows patches of elevated to very high chlorophyll (2 to >20 $\mu\text{g/L}$) are present along- and offshore from Pinellas to Collier counties. Patches of chlorophyll with the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* are visible alongshore southern Charlotte, northern Lee, and southern Lee counties, corresponding with areas of very high chlorophyll. Additional sampling of this region is recommended.

Forecasts:

Variable winds were observed last week (9/22-28), remaining variable through Tuesday (9/29). Upwelling favorable winds are forecast Wednesday through Friday (9/30-10/2), making harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida possible Saturday through Monday, October 5.

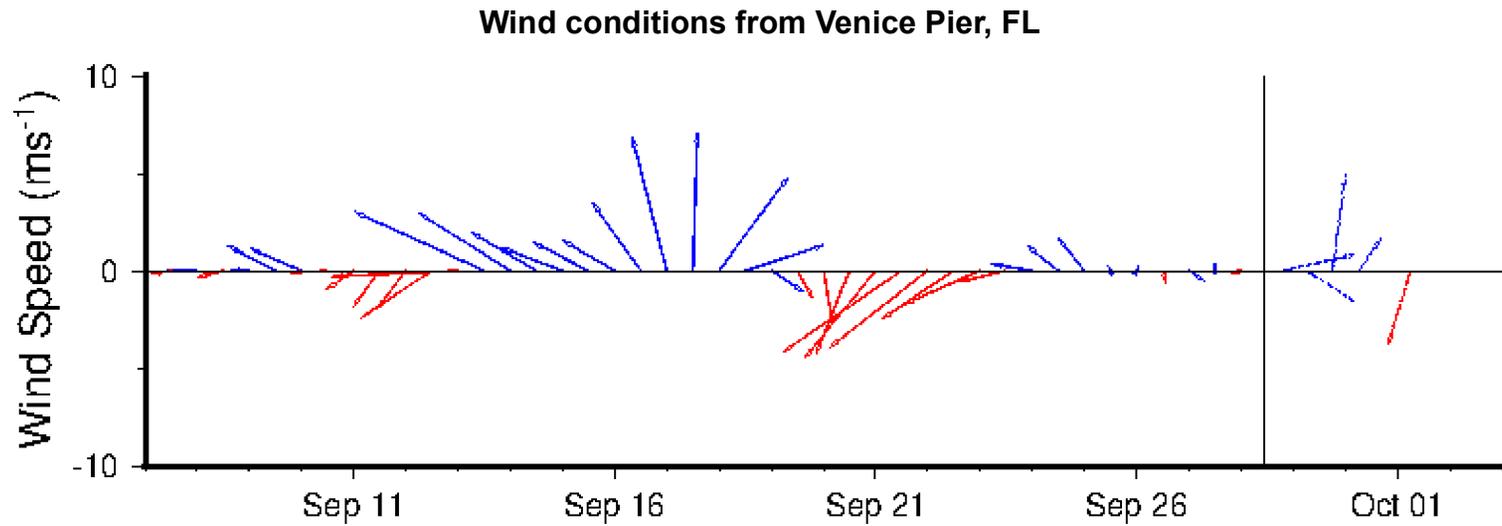
Additional satellite imagery available here:

<https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx/data/Imagery-EasternGOMX/>

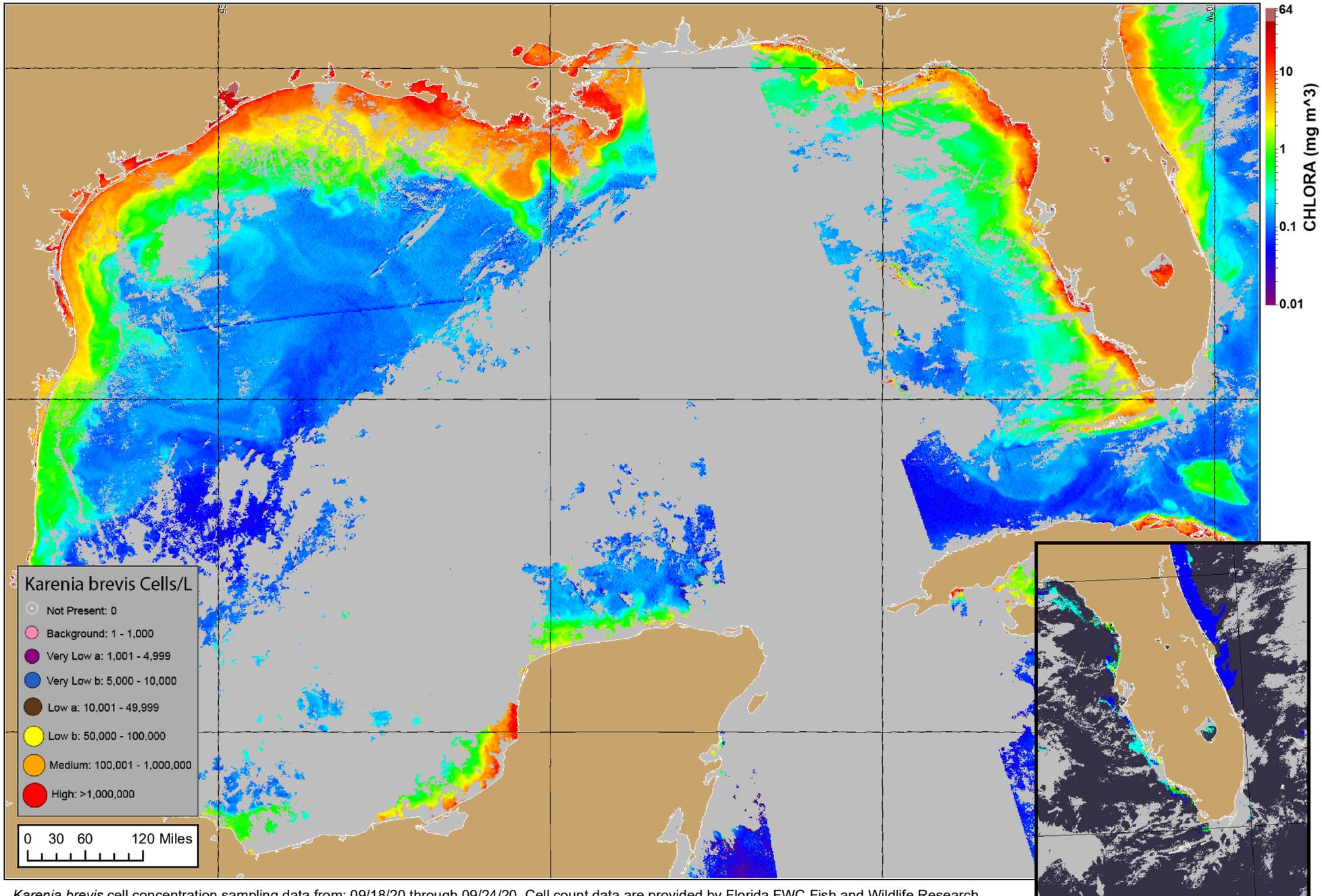
- Keeney, Davis

Karenia brevis cell concentration sampling data from: 09/18/20 through 09/24/20. 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. Detailed sample information can be obtained through the Florida FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute: <http://myfwc.com/REDTIDESTATUS>.

VIIRS satellite chlorophyll image (09/26/20) with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).



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 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://www.weather.gov/marine/sttheastmz>.



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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).