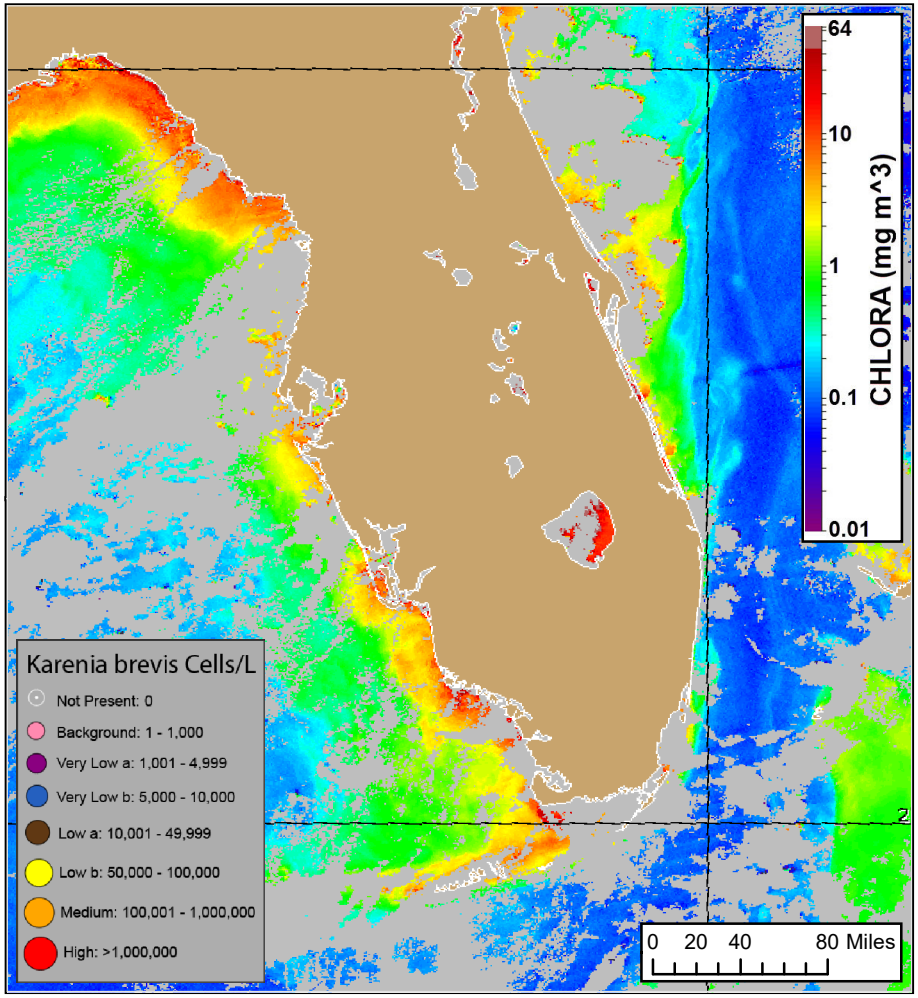
Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Tuesday, October 13, 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.



Karenia brevis cell concentration sampling data from: 10/03/20 through 10/12/20. 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 (10/11/20) with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s).

Conditions Report

Karenia brevis (commonly known as red tide) is not present alongshore southwest Florida, and is not present in the Florida Keys. Background to very low concentrations of *K. brevis* are present offshore Pinellas County. No respiratory irritation associated with *K. brevis* is expected in this region.

Analysis

Imagery:

Recent ensemble imagery (VIIRS, 10/11) is partially obscured by clouds alongshore areas of Sarasota and Charlotte counties, limiting analysis of those regions. Patches of elevated to high chlorophyll (2-14 µg/L with some of the optical characteristics of *K. brevis* are visible along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties. Patches offshore Pinellas County correspond with ‘background’ and ‘very low’ *K. brevis* concentrations sampled 9/28.

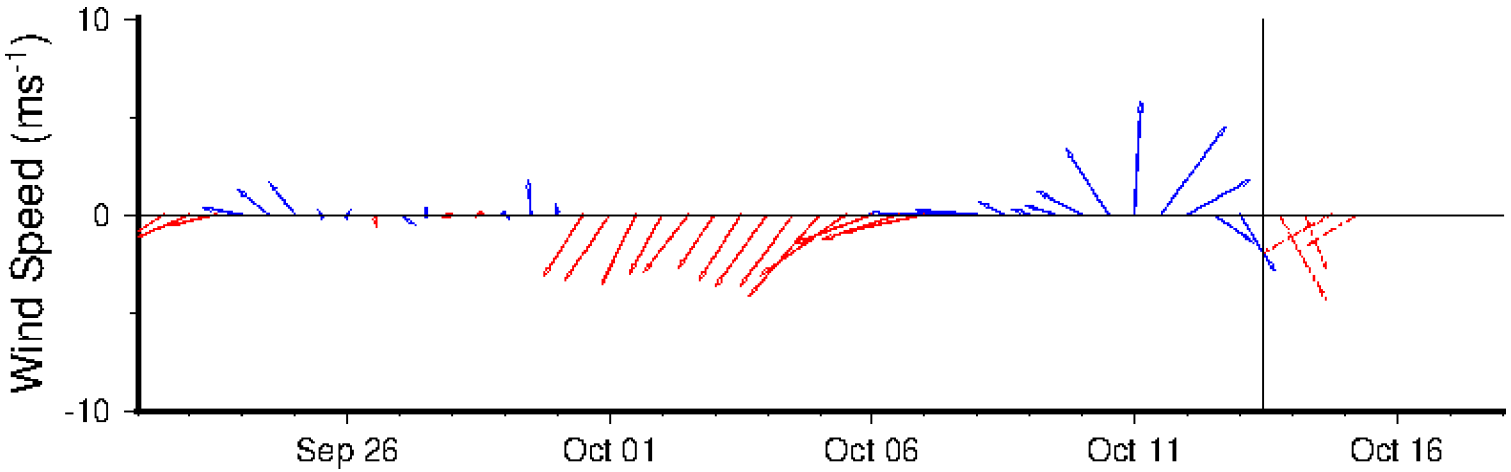
Forecasts:

Variable winds were observed throughout last week (10/5-12). Northerly winds forecast through Saturday (10/13-17) will not support harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida through Monday, October 19.

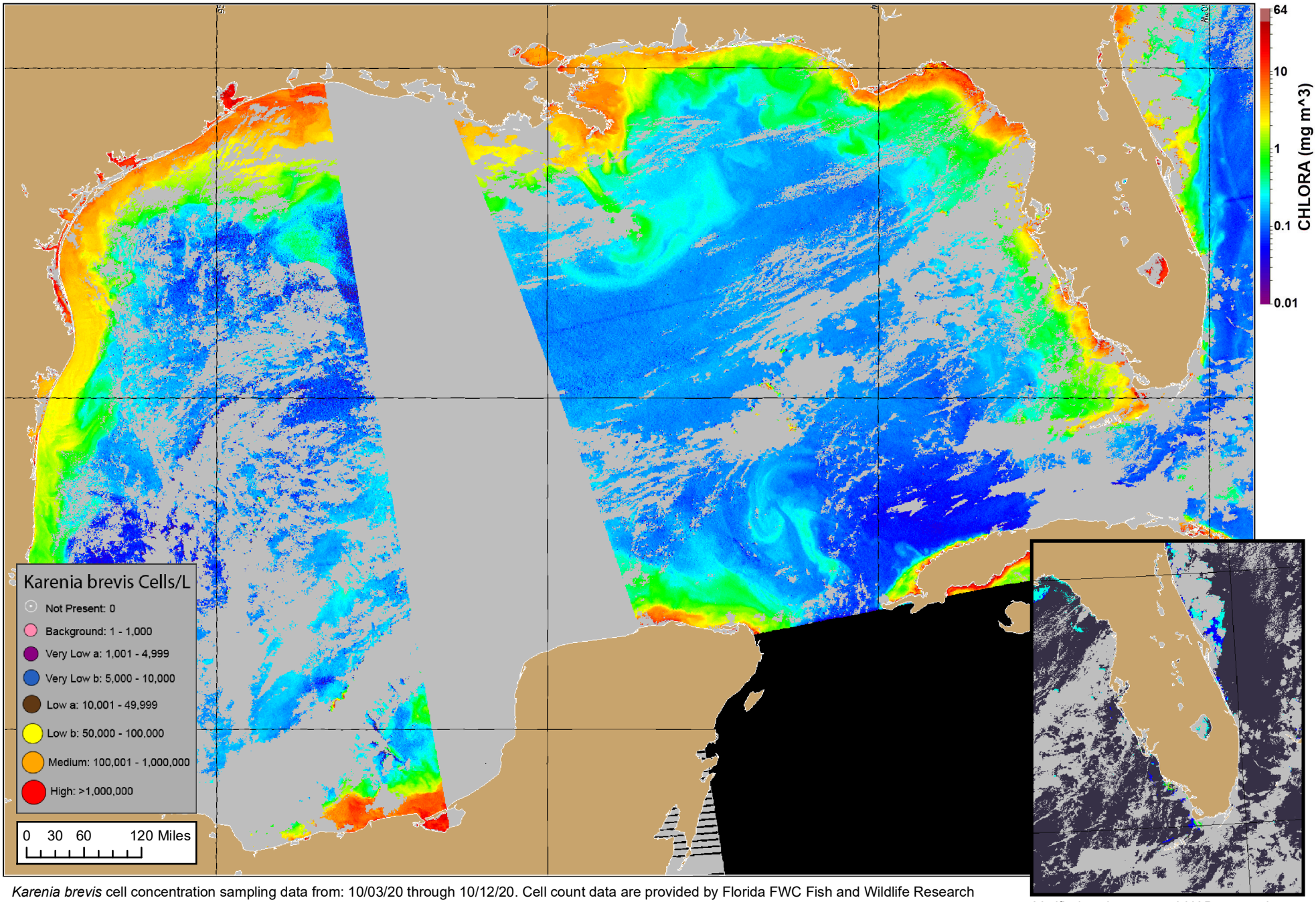
Additional satellite imagery available here: https://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/gomx/data/Imagery-EasternGOMX/

- Keeney, Davis

Wind conditions from Venice Pier, 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 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/stheastmz.



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VIIRS satellite chlorophyll image (10/11/20).

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