



## Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

Region: Southwest Florida

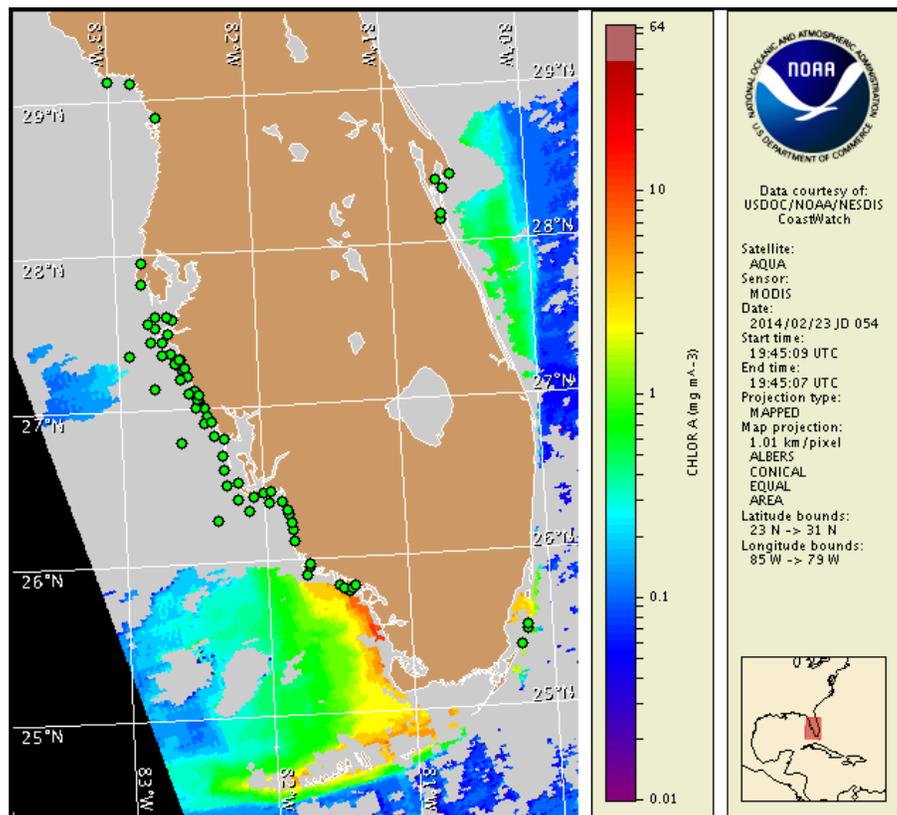
Monday, 24 February 2014

NOAA National Ocean Service

NOAA Satellite and Information Service

NOAA National Weather Service

Last bulletin: Tuesday, February 18, 2014



Satellite chlorophyll image with possible *K. brevis* HAB areas shown by red polygon(s), when applicable. Points represent cell concentration sampling data from February 14 to 21: 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 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (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:

[http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs\\_bulletin\\_guide.pdf](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/habfs_bulletin_guide.pdf)

Detailed sample information can be obtained through FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institute at:

<http://myfwc.com/redtidestatus>

To see previous bulletins and forecasts for other Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin regions, visit at: <http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/bulletins.html>

## Conditions Report

*Karenia brevis* (commonly known as Florida red tide) ranges from not present to background concentrations along the coast of southwest Florida and is not present in the Florida Keys. No respiratory irritation is expected Monday, February 24 through Monday, March 3. Check [http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach\\_conditions.html](http://tidesandcurrents.noaa.gov/hab/beach_conditions.html) for recent, local observations.

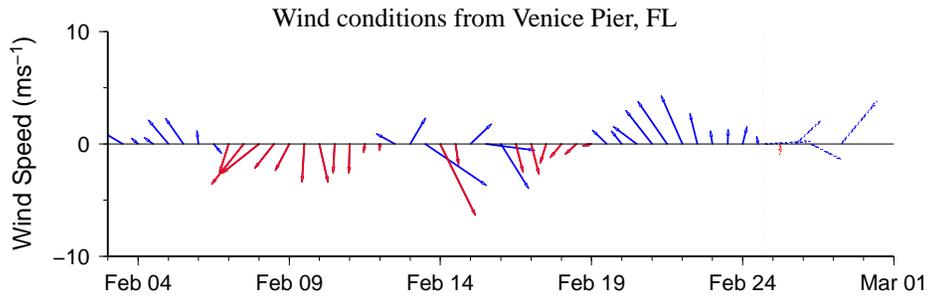
## Analysis

In samples collected in the last week along- and offshore southwest Florida, 'background' concentrations of *K. brevis* were identified in one sample collected alongshore southern Sarasota County at Venice Fishing Pier (FWRI, SCHD; 2/17). All other samples collected along- and offshore from Pinellas to Collier counties indicated that *K. brevis* is not present (FWRI, MML, SCHD, CCPCPD; 2/17-21).

Over the past few days, MODIS Aqua imagery (2/23, shown left) has been obscured by clouds along- and offshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties, limiting analysis. MODIS Aqua imagery from 2/20 (not shown) indicated that the feature of elevated chlorophyll (1-2  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) identified in the previous bulletin approximately 8-10 miles offshore from Pinellas to Charlotte counties has decreased in extent. Recent samples collected in the area indicate that the feature is unlikely to contain *K. brevis* (FWRI, MML; 2/18). Elevated chlorophyll (2-7  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ) remained visible alongshore southwest Florida from Pinellas to Collier counties.

Harmful algal bloom formation at the coast of southwest Florida is not expected today through Monday, March 3.

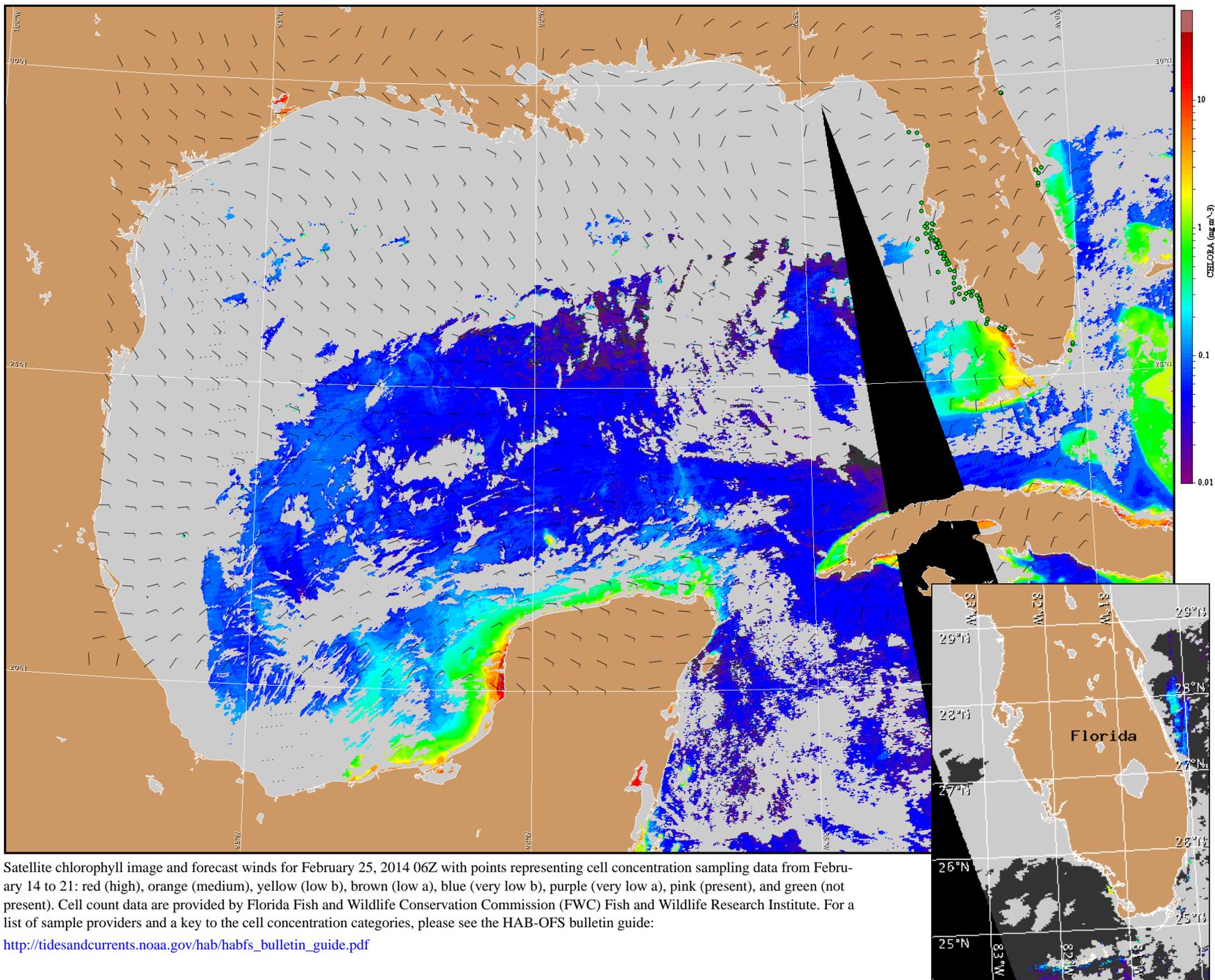
Kavanaugh, Davis



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

**Southwest Florida:** Southwest to west winds (5kn, 3m/s) today becoming north winds (5kn) tonight. East to northeast winds (5kn) Tuesday becoming west to northwest winds (10kn, 5m/s) Tuesday afternoon through evening. Southwest winds (5-10kn, 3-5m/s) Wednesday morning. West to northwest winds (10-20kn, 5-10m/s) Wednesday afternoon through evening becoming north winds (5-15kn, 3-8m/s) after midnight through Thursday afternoon. Northeast winds (5-10kn) Thursday night through Friday.



Satellite chlorophyll image and forecast winds for February 25, 2014 06Z with points representing cell concentration sampling data from February 14 to 21: 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 Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (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:

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Verified and suspected HAB areas shown in red. Other areas of high chlorophyll concentration shown in yellow (see p. 1 analysis for interpretation).