

Red Tide Status - Florida Southwest Coast September 11, 2020

Present Status: The red tide organism, *Karenia brevis*, was observed at background concentrations in one sample collected offshore of Pinellas County and one sample collected offshore of Hillsborough County. *K. brevis* was not observed in samples collected from or offshore of Manatee, Sarasota, Charlotte, or Lee counties. No samples were analyzed this week from Collier or Monroe counties.

In Southwest Florida over the past week, no fish kills suspected to be related to red tide were reported (please see <https://myfwc.com/research/saltwater/health/fish-kills-hotline>).

No reports of respiratory irritation were received over the past week.

Forecasts by the [USF-FWC Collaboration for Prediction of Red Tides](#) for Pinellas to northern Monroe counties predict northwestern transport of surface waters and net northern movement of subsurface waters in most areas over the next four days.

| County | Date Collected | Alongshore Inshore | Offshore | Site Location | Collector |
|---------------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|--|-----------|
| Pinellas | | | | | |
| - | 09/03 | - | not present | Clearwater Beach Island; 4.1 mi W of | SPC |
| - | 09/03 | - | not present | Clearwater Beach; 3.3 mi W of | SPC |
| - | 09/03 | not present | - | Clearwater Pass | SPC |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Clearwater Pass | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Grand Bellagio Condo Docks (Old Tampa Bay) | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | - | not present | Indian Shores; 83 mi W of | FWRI |
| - | 09/09 | - | BACKGROUND | Redington Shores; 62 mi W of | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | La Contessa Pier | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | - | not present | Madeira Beach; 120 mi W of | FWRI |
| - | 09/07 | not present | - | FWRI Peninsula; SE tip of (Bayboro Harbor) | FWRI |
| - | 09/07 | not present | - | FWRI Peninsula; SE tip of (Bayboro Harbor) | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Eckerd College (Wallace Cove) | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | - | not present | Shell Key; 188 mi W of | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Mullet Key; Gulf Pier | FWRI |
| Hillsborough | | | | | |
| - | 09/10 | - | BACKGROUND | Mullet Key; 61 mi W of | FWRI |
| Manatee | | | | | |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Skyway Fishing Pier; South (Lower Tampa Bay) | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Fletcher Point (Lower Tampa Bay) | FWRI |

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|-----------------|----------------|--------------------|-------------|---|-----------|
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Anna Maria Island Rod & Reel Pier (Lower Tampa Bay) | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Palma Sola Bay Bridge | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Longboat Pass Boat Ramp (Sarasota Bay) | FWRI |
| Sarasota | | | | | |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Longboat Key Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Sail Dock | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | Sail Dock | MML |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Sail Dock | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | Sail Dock | MML |
| - | 09/03 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/10 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/03 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/10 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/04 | not present | - | Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay) | MML |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Ringling Causeway | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | North Lido Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Lido Beach Casino | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | South Lido Park | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Siesta Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Turtle Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Nokomis Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | North Jetty | SCDH |
| - | 09/09 | - | not present | Venice; 195 mi W of | FWRI |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Venice Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Service Club Park | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Venice Fishing Pier | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Brohard Beach | SCDH |

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| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Caspersen Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Manasota Beach | SCDH |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Blind Pass Beach | SCDH |
| Charlotte | | | | | |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Englewood Beach | ChCPRCR |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Punta Gorda Boat Ramp (Charlotte Harbor) | FDEP |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Boca Grande Pier (Gasparilla Sound) | ChCPRCR |
| Lee | | | | | |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Burnt Store Marina (Charlotte Harbor) | FDEP |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Boca Grande Pass | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Little Bokeelia Island; N of (Charlotte Harbor) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Mondongo Island; W of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Captiva Pass | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Captiva Rocks; SW of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Hemp Key; S of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Cork Island; W of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Redfish Pass; 1.8 mi E of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Redfish Pass (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Regla Island; W of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Buck Key; 1.9 mi NE of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | York Island; W of (Pine Island Sound) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Buck Key; S of (Blind Pass) | FDACS |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Matanzas Pass (Estero Bay) | EBAP |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Lynn Hall Park | LCEL |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Lighthouse Beach | LCEL |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Mound House Dock (Estero Bay) | EBAP |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Estero River; upstream | EBAP |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Coon Key; N of (Estero Bay) | EBAP |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Carl Johnson Park Boat Ramp (Estero Bay) | EBAP |

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| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Lovers Key State Park | LCEL |
| - | 09/08 | not present | - | Pelican Bay Nature Park Pier (Estero Bay) | EBAP |
| - | 09/09 | not present | - | Bonita Beach Park | LCEL |

Note: ChCPRCR = Charlotte Co Parks Recreation and Cultural Resources; EBAP = Estero Bay Aquatic Preserve; FDACS = Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; FDEP = Florida Department of Environmental Protection; FWRI = FWC-Fish and Wildlife Research Institute; LCEL = Lee County Environmental Lab; MML = Mote Marine Laboratory; SCDH = Sarasota County Department of Health; SPC = St. Petersburg College

Key for Results

| Description | <i>Karenia brevis</i> abundance | Possible effects (<i>Karenia brevis</i> only) |
|------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| NOT PRESENT-BACKGROUND | 0 - 1,000 cells/L | no effects anticipated |
| VERY LOW | > 1,000 - 10,000 cells/L | possible respiratory irritation; shellfish harvesting closures when cell abundance equals or exceeds 5,000 cells/L |
| LOW | > 10,000 - 100,000 cells/L | respiratory irritation; shellfish harvesting closures; possible fish kills; probable detection of chlorophyll by satellites at upper range of cell abundance |
| MEDIUM | > 100,000 - 1,000,000 cells/L | respiratory irritation; shellfish harvesting closures; probable fish kills; detection of surface chlorophyll by satellites |
| HIGH | > 1,000,000 cells/L | as above, plus water discoloration |

Red Tide-Related Hotlines and Information Sources

Latest Red Tide Status Report by Phone

Call (866) 300-9399 at anytime from anywhere in Florida toll-free to hear a recording about red tide conditions throughout the state. FWRI updates the recording each Friday by 5 p.m. Callers outside of Florida can dial (727) 502-4952. Standard calling charges apply.

Fish and Wildlife Hotlines and Reporting Contacts

[FWRI Fish Kill Hotline](#)

The FWC's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute (FWRI) maintains this hotline through a federally funded project to survey fish-related diseases and mortalities.

Call (800) 636-0511 (toll-free) to report fish kills, diseased fish, or fish with other abnormalities. Leave a detailed report and contact information on the recorded message. A biologist will contact the caller, usually the following workday, if more information is needed. Please do not call the FWRI Fish Kill Hotline to request dead fish cleanup; local municipalities are responsible for dead fish cleanup, usually only on public beaches.

[FWC Wildlife Alert Hotline](#): (888) 404-3922 (toll-free)

If you find a dead, sick, or injured manatee or sea turtle, or you would like to report a wildlife law violation, please call FWC's 24-hour Wildlife Alert Number.

Hotlines and Reporting Sites for Effects on Humans

Florida Poison Information Center: (800) 222-1222 (toll-free)

If you would like to report health issues related to exposure to red tide, please call the Florida Poison Information Center at 800-222-1222. Additional information on the health effects of Florida red tide can be found on the [Florida Department of Health](#) website.

Information Sources

Mote Marine Laboratory's [Beach Conditions Report](#) provides up-to-date information about the effects of red tide on Florida Gulf coast beaches, including reports of dead fish, respiratory irritation among beachgoers, water color, and wind direction. The site also provides information on red drift algae and rip currents.

At the **University of South Florida (USF) College Of Marine Science**, the [Collaboration for the Prediction of Red Tides](#) uses [forecast models](#) to track and predict harmful algal blooms (HABs) in the southeastern United States and reports current conditions. Experimental products include *Karenia* flag maps of bloom locations and 4.5-day HAB trajectory forecasts. The center is a cooperative venture with the FWC.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) uses satellite imagery, field observations, and buoy data to assess harmful algal blooms in the Gulf of Mexico. A report of conditions and additional information appears on the [NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System](#) website.

[START: Solutions to Avoid Red Tide](#) is a nonprofit group committed to scientific research and educational outreach on the impacts of Harmful Algae Blooms.

[Outreach and social media products](#) about Florida red tide are available for viewing and download.

Shellfish Harvesting Closures

To protect public health, the Fish and Wildlife Research Institute's Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) group closely monitors the status of *K. brevis* on Florida's coasts, providing technical support to the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS), the agency that regulates approved shellfish harvesting areas. Before harvesting in Florida waters, determine open or closed status by visiting the Department's [Division of Aquaculture](#) Web site or calling a field office.

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