

Red Tide Status - Florida Southwest Coast January 13, 2023

Present Status: The red tide organism, *Karenia brevis*, was observed at background to low concentrations in 11 samples collected from Pinellas County, background to low concentrations in six samples collected from or offshore of Hillsborough County, background to medium concentrations in 15 samples collected from or offshore of Manatee County, very low to medium concentrations in 30 samples collected from or offshore of Sarasota County, background to medium concentrations in nine samples collected from or offshore of Charlotte County, background to low concentrations in 24 samples collected from or offshore of Lee County, background to high concentrations in 11 samples collected offshore of Collier County, and very low to medium concentrations in three samples collected offshore of Monroe County.

Reports of fish kills suspected to be related to red tide were received from Pinellas, Manatee, Sarasota, and Collier counties over the past week. For more details, please visit: <https://myfwc.com/research/saltwater/health/fish-kills-hotline/> and <https://visitbeaches.org/>.

Respiratory irritation suspected to be related to red tide was reported via the Beach Conditions Reporting System and/or the Fish Kill Hotline over the past week in Southwest Florida in Pinellas County (Boca Ciega Bay, Indian Shores Beach), Manatee County (Anna Maria Beach, Anna Maria Island Rod and Reel Pier, Anna Maria Public Beach, Coquina Beach, Longboat Key Beach, Manatee Beach, Pine Avenue Canal), and Sarasota County (Blind Pass Beach, Lido Key Beach, Longboat Key, Manasota Key Beach, Manasota North Beach, Nokomis Beach, Siesta Key Beach, Snake Island, South Lido Key Beach, Turtle Beach, Venice Beach, Venice North Jetty Beach). For recent and current information at individual beaches, please visit <https://visitbeaches.org/> and for respiratory irritation forecasts that use FWC and partner data, please visit <https://habforecast.gcoos.org/>.

Forecasts by the [USF-FWC Collaboration for Prediction of Red Tides](#) for Pinellas County to northern Monroe County predict net southern/southeastern movement of surface waters and southeastern transport of subsurface waters in most areas over the next 3.5 days.

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
Pinellas					
-	01/11	not present	-	Anclote Key; E of (Anclote Anchorage)	PC
-	01/09	not present	-	Clearwater Beach Pier 60	FWRI
-	01/06	not present	-	Bay Park on Sand Key (Clearwater Harbor)	FWRI-FWH
-	01/09	not present	-	Via Cipriani; dock S of (Old Tampa Bay)	FWRI
-	01/08	not present	-	Indian Rocks Beach	USCGA
-	01/08	VERY LOW	-	Indian Shores Beach	USCGA
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Reddington Shores Beach	PC
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	La Contessa Pier	FWRI
-	01/11	not present	-	Granada Terrace Park (Coffeepot Bayou)	CoSP
-	01/11	not present	-	North Shore Park Beach (Middle Tampa Bay)	CoSP
-	01/09	not present	-	Treasure Island Beach	PC

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
-	01/11	not present	-	Spa Beach (Middle Tampa Bay)	CoSP
-	01/11	not present	-	Treasure Island Beach	CoSP
-	01/09	not present	-	FWRI Peninsula; SE tip of (Bayboro Harbor)	FWRI
-	01/09	not present	-	FWRI Peninsula; SE tip of (Bayboro Harbor)	FWRI
-	01/11	not present	-	Lassing Park (Middle Tampa Bay)	CoSP
-	01/09	LOW	-	Wallace Cove (Boca Ciega Bay)	FWRI
-	01/11	BACKGROUND	-	Maximo Park (Lower Tampa Bay)	CoSP
-	01/11	VERY LOW	-	Point Pinellas (Middle Tampa Bay)	CoSP
-	01/11	-	not present	Pass-a-Grille Beach; 34 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Pass-a-Grille Beach; 34 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Pass-a-Grille Beach; 34 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Pass-a-Grille Beach; 34 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/09	LOW	-	Shell Key (Pass-a-Grille North Channel)	PC
-	01/09	LOW	-	Shell Key Beach	PC
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Ft. DeSoto East Beach (Lower Tampa Bay)	PC
-	01/09	LOW	-	Ft. DeSoto North Beach	PC
-	01/09	LOW	-	Mullet Key; Gulf Pier	FWRI
Hillsborough					
-	01/05	BACKGROUND	-	Bahia Beach (Middle Tampa Bay)	PC
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 41 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 21 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	BACKGROUND	Bunces Pass; 11 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 31 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	BACKGROUND	Bunces Pass; 21 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	LOW	Bunces Pass; 5.8 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 41 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 31 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	LOW	Bunces Pass; 11 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 41 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 31 mi W of	FWRI

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
-	01/11	-	not present	Bunces Pass; 21 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/11	-	VERY LOW	Bunces Pass; 5.8 mi W of	FWRI
Manatee					
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	Little Redfish Creek; 1.1 mi NW of (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/05	not present	-	Bishop Harbor Boat and Kayak Launch	PC
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	Skyway Fishing Pier; South (Lower Tampa Bay)	FWRI
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	Joe Island; N of (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	South Skyway Causeway; NE end of (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	South Skyway Rest Area; NW of (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Fletcher Point (Lower Tampa Bay)	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Egmont Key; 2.3 mi SW of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Egmont Key; 2.3 mi SW of	FWRI
-	01/09	MEDIUM	-	Anna Maria Island Rod & Reel Pier (Lower Tampa Bay)	FWRI
-	01/09	LOW	-	School Key; NE of (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Mead Point (Lower Tampa Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	not present	-	Palma Sola Bay Bridge	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Coquina Beach; 4.6 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Coquina Beach; 4.6 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/09	BACKGROUND	-	Longboat Pass Boat Ramp (Sarasota Bay)	FWRI
-	01/10	LOW	-	Longboat Pass; NE of (Sarasota Bay)	PC
-	01/10	not present	-	White Mangrove Lane; SE of (Sarasota Bay)	PC
Sarasota					
-	01/09	not present	-	Longboat Key Beach	SCDH
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Longboat Key; 4.1 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Longboat Key; 4.1 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Longboat Key; 19 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Longboat Key; 19 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/09	LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
-	01/11	VERY LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	FWRI
-	01/06	LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/10	LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/12	VERY LOW	-	New Pass Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/12	not present	-	Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/06	LOW	-	Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/10	VERY LOW	-	Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/11	not present	-	Bay Dock (Sarasota Bay)	MML
-	01/09	not present	-	Ringling Causeway	SCDH
-	01/09	LOW	-	North Lido Beach	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Lido Beach Casino	SCDH
-	01/10	-	LOW	Lido Beach; 2.3 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Lido Beach; 2.3 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Lido Beach; 2.3 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	South Lido Park	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Siesta Beach	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Turtle Beach	SCDH
-	01/10	-	LOW	Turtle Beach; 4 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Turtle Beach; 4 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Casey Key; 18 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/10	-	LOW	Casey Key; 18 mi W of	FWRI
-	01/09	not present	-	Nokomis Beach	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	North Jetty	SCDH
-	01/10	-	LOW	Venice Inlet; 3 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	LOW	Venice Inlet; 3 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	VERY LOW	-	Higel Marine Park	PC
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Venice Beach	SCDH
-	01/10	VERY LOW	-	North Waterway; canal S of	PC
-	01/09	not present	-	Service Club Park	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Venice Fishing Pier	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Brohard Beach	SCDH
-	01/09	not present	-	Caspersen Beach	SCDH
-	01/10	-	LOW	Manasota Beach; 3.4 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	LOW	Manasota Beach; 3.4 mi W	MML

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
				of	
-	01/09	not present	-	Manasota Beach	SCDH
-	01/09	VERY LOW	-	Blind Pass Beach	SCDH
Charlotte					
-	01/11	not present	-	Englewood Beach	ChCPRCR
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Punta Gorda Beach; 3.3 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Punta Gorda Beach; 3.3 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Stump Pass; 1.6 mi W of	PC
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Knight Island Beach; 1.1 mi W of	PC
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Little Gasparilla Island; 3.8 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Little Gasparilla Island; 3.8 mi W of	MML
-	01/11	VERY LOW	-	Boca Grande Pier (Gasparilla Sound)	ChCPRCR
-	01/10	-	BACKGROUND	Gasparilla Pass; 18 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Gasparilla Pass; 18 mi W of	MML
Lee					
-	01/11	VERY LOW	-	Boca Grande Pass	FDACS
-	01/11	BACKGROUND	-	Little Bokeelia Island; N of (Charlotte Harbor)	FDACS
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Boca Grande Pass; 2 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Boca Grande Pass; 2 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Boca Grande Pass; 2 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	not present	-	Jug Creek Point; E of (Matlacha Pass)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Mondongo Island; W of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	Ben Coleman Keys (Matlacha Pass)	FDEP-CHAP
-	01/06	-	LOW	Cayo Costa; 4.8 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/06	-	BACKGROUND	Cayo Costa; 4.8 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	not present	-	Matlacha Pass Bridge; NW of	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	Matlacha Pass Bridge; S of	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	Porpoise Point Island; SW of (Matlacha Pass)	FDEP-CHAP
-	01/10	-	LOW	Captiva Pass; 4.2 mi W of	MML

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
-	01/10	-	LOW	Captiva Pass; 4.2 mi W of	MML
-	01/09	-	VERY LOW	Captiva Pass; 14 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/09	-	BACKGROUND	Captiva Pass; 14 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/11	not present	-	Captiva Pass	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Captiva Rocks; SW of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Hemp Key; S of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	McCardle Island; SW of (Matlacha Pass)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Cork Island; W of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	Deer Stop Keys; SW of (Matlacha Pass)	FDEP-CHAP
-	01/11	not present	-	Redfish Pass; 1.8 mi E of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/09	-	not present	Redfish Pass; 24 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/09	-	BACKGROUND	Redfish Pass; 24 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/06	-	BACKGROUND	Redfish Pass; 5.4 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/06	-	VERY LOW	Redfish Pass; 5.4 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/11	VERY LOW	-	Redfish Pass (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Regla Island; W of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Buck Key; 1.9 mi NE of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/10	not present	-	Alison Hagerup Beach Park	LCEL
-	01/09	-	VERY LOW	Captiva Island; 34 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	LOW	Captiva Island; 5.2 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	LOW	Captiva Island; 5.2 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	not present	-	Merwin Key; W of (San Carlos Bay)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	York Island; W of (Pine Island Sound)	FDACS
-	01/11	not present	-	Buck Key; S of (Blind Pass)	FDACS
-	01/07	-	LOW	Blind Pass; 3.1 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/07	-	LOW	Blind Pass; 3.1 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	BACKGROUND	Bowmans Beach; 46 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	not present	-	Lynn Hall Park	LCEL
-	01/10	not present	-	Lighthouse Beach	LCEL
-	01/10	not present	-	Tarpon Bay Road Beach	LCEL
-	01/10	-	BACKGROUND	Bowmans Beach; 4 mi SW	MML

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
				of	
-	01/10	-	not present	Bowmans Beach; 4 mi SW of	MML
-	01/10	-	LOW	Tarpon Bay Road Beach; 20 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	not present	Sanibel Beach; 4.9 mi SE of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Sanibel Beach; 4.9 mi SE of	MML
-	01/10	not present	-	New Pass Bridge	LCEL
-	01/07	-	not present	Bowmans Beach; 5.5 mi S of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	not present	Tarpon Bay Road Beach; 6.2 mi SW of	MML
-	01/10	-	BACKGROUND	Tarpon Bay Road Beach; 6.2 mi SW of	MML
-	01/07	-	not present	Tarpon Bay Road Beach; 5.9 mi S of	FGCU
-	01/10	not present	-	Bonita Beach Park	LCEL
Collier					
-	01/07	-	VERY LOW	Barefoot Beach; 24 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	not present	Barefoot Beach; 10 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Barefoot Beach; 10 mi W of	MML
-	01/05	not present	-	Barefoot Beach State Preserve	CCPCD
-	01/09	not present	-	Barefoot Beach State Preserve	CCPCD
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Wiggins Pass; 32 mi W of	MML
-	01/10	-	LOW	Wiggins Pass; 32 mi W of	MML
-	01/09	not present	-	Vanderbilt Beach	CCPCD
-	01/05	not present	-	Vanderbilt Beach	CCPCD
-	01/09	-	BACKGROUND	Clam Pass; 35 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/05	not present	-	Seagate	CCPCD
-	01/09	not present	-	Seagate	CCPCD
-	01/07	-	MEDIUM	Naples Pier; 6.7 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/07	-	MEDIUM	Naples Pier; 6.7 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/05	not present	-	Naples Pier	CCPCD
-	01/09	not present	-	Naples Pier	CCPCD
-	01/09	-	BACKGROUND	Gordon Pass; 47 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/08	-	not present	Keewaydin Island; 21 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/09	-	MEDIUM	Marco Island; 7.2 mi NW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/09	-	not present	Big Marco Pass; 60 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/05	not present	-	South Marco Beach	CCPCD

County	Date Collected	Alongshore Inshore	Offshore	Site Location	Collector
-	01/09	not present	-	South Marco Beach	CCPCD
-	01/09	-	HIGH	Caxambas Pass; 15 mi W of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/09	not present	-	Shell Key; S of (Gullivan Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	not present	-	Turtle Key; E of (Gullivan Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	not present	-	Coon Key; S of (Gullivan Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	not present	-	Round Key; N of (Fakahatchee Pass)	FDACS
-	01/09	-	BACKGROUND	Cape Romano; 2.3 mi E of (Gullivan Bay)	FDACS
-	01/09	-	not present	Cape Romano; 78 mi W of	FGCU
-	01/10	-	not present	Gomez Point; 3.3 mi SW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
Monroe					
-	01/10	-	VERY LOW	Jewell Key; 3.7 mi SW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Tiger Key; 6.1 mi SW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/10	not present	-	Pavilion Key; SW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/10	-	MEDIUM	Pavilion Key; 9.2 mi SW of	FWRI-Crustaceans
-	01/05	not present	-	Windley Key; N of (Cotton Key Basin)	USCGA
-	01/05	-	not present	Plantation Point; 1.2 mi S of	USCGA
-	01/10	-	not present	Sawyer Key; 1.7 mi N of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Marvin Key; 3.9 mi N of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	West Harbor Key; 6.6 mi N of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 12 mi N of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Smith Shoals	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 10 mi NW of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 8.6 mi NW of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Kemp Channel Bridge; 1.6 mi SE of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 5.5 mi NW of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 3 mi NW of	MML
-	01/10	not present	-	Key West Harbor	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 2.3 mi S of	MML
-	01/10	-	not present	Key West; 5.5 mi S of	MML

Note: ChCPRCR = Charlotte Co Parks Recreation and Cultural Resources; CoSP = City of St. Petersburg; CCPCD = Collier County Pollution Control and Prevention Department; FDEP-CHAP = FDEP - Charlotte Harbor Aquatic Preserve; FDACS = Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services; FGCU = Florida Gulf Coast University; FWRI = FWC-Fish and Wildlife Research Institute; FWRI-Crustaceans = FWRI-Crustacean Group; FWRI-FWH = FWRI-Fish and Wildlife Health; LCEL = Lee County Environmental Lab; MML = Mote Marine Laboratory; PC = Private Citizen - Volunteer Program; SCDH = Sarasota County Department of Health; USCGA = US Coast Guard Auxiliary

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) 502-4956. 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 Reporting System](#) 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 [Gulf of Mexico Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast](#) website.

[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.

Report prepared by Mary Harper, FWC/FWRI, St. Petersburg, (727) 896-8626.