

Florida: Severe Red Tide Continues Fish Kills on Southwest Coast



In Southwest Florida over the past week, *K. brevis* was observed at background to high concentrations in 24 samples collected from or offshore of Sarasota County, low to high concentrations in seven samples collected from or offshore of Charlotte County, background to high concentrations in 32 samples collected from or offshore of Lee County, and background to medium concentrations in 10 samples collected from or offshore of Collier County.



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A patchy bloom of the Florida red tide organism, *Karenia brevis*, persists in Southwest Florida.

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Additional samples collected throughout Florida over the past week did not contain *K. brevis*.

Over the past week, fish kills were reported in Southwest Florida in Sarasota County (Casey Key, Manasota Beach, Nokomis Beach, Venice Beach, Venice North Jetty), in Charlotte County (Boca Grande Beach, Don Pedro State Park, Gasparilla Pass, Lemon Bay, Little Gasparilla Beach, Punta Gorda Beach, Red Fish Cove), in and offshore of Lee County (Boca Grande Pass, Gasparilla Island, Captiva Beach, San Carlos Bay, Sanibel Island), and in Collier County (South Marco Beach).

Respiratory irritation was reported over the past week in Sarasota County (6/29 and 7/3 at Lido Key; 6/28-7/1 and 7/3-7/6 at Manasota Beach; 6/29-7/4 and 7/6 at Nokomis; 6/29-7/1 and 7/3-7/5 at Venice Beach; 6/29-7/4 and 7/6 at Venice North Jetty), and Lee County (6/28-6/29 at Captiva; 6/28-6/29 and 7/2 at Gasparilla Island Range Lighthouse; 6/29-7/2 at Gasparilla Island State Park).

Forecasts by the [USF-FWC Collaboration for Prediction of Red Tides](#) for Pinellas to northern Monroe counties predict net northern, alongshore movement of surface waters, and southern, onshore transport of subsurface waters over the next three days.

Additional information regarding the current status of algal blooms in South Florida is being consolidated and posted on the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's website: <https://floridadep.gov/dear/algal-bloom>.

This information, including maps and reports with additional details, is also available on the [FWRI Red Tide website](#). The website also provides links to additional information related to the topic of Florida red tide including satellite imagery, experimental red tide forecasts, shellfish harvesting areas, the FWC Fish Kill Hotline, the Florida Poison Information Center (to report human health effects related to exposure to red tide), and other wildlife related hotlines.

To learn more about various organisms that have been known to cause algal blooms in Florida waters, see the FWRI Red Tide [Flickr](#) page. Archived status maps can also be found on Flickr.

The FWRI HAB group in conjunction with Mote Marine Laboratory now have a [Facebook](#) page. Please like our page and learn interesting facts concerning red tide and other harmful algal blooms in Florida.