



**Miami-Dade County**  
**EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTER**  
**FLASH REPORT # 1**  
**Red Tide**

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REPORT DATE  
 October 4, 2018

EOC ACTIVATION LEVEL  
 Level 3 – Monitoring

REPORT TIME  
 15:00

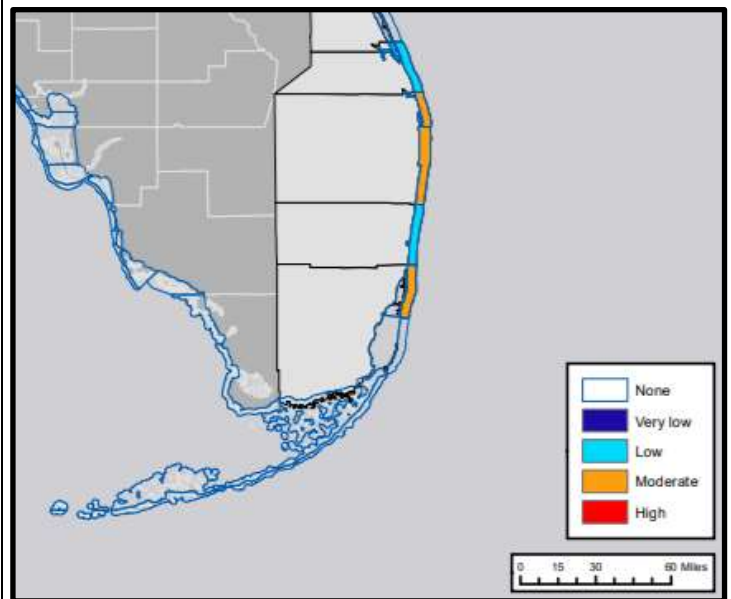
**SUMMARY OF CURRENT SITUATION AND ACTIONS**

1. The presence of red tide has been detected on the east coast of Florida, including Miami-Dade.
2. Public beaches in Miami-Dade County north of Haulover Inlet, will be closed until further notice. Additionally, the City of Sunny Isles Beach and Newport Fishing Pier are also closed.
3. A red tide is a higher-than-normal concentration of a microscopic alga (plantlike organism). In the Gulf of Mexico, it is *Karenia brevis*, often abbreviated as *K. brevis*. At high concentrations, the organisms may discolor the water, sometimes red, light or dark green, brown or the water may appear clear.
4. Very low to medium concentrations of *Karenia brevis* (commonly known as red tide) are present along- and offshore portions of east Florida. *K. brevis* concentrations are patchy in nature and levels of respiratory irritation will vary locally based upon nearby bloom concentrations, ocean currents, and wind speed and direction.
5. As red tide blooms approach coastal areas, breaking waves can cause their toxins to become mixed with airborne sea spray. People in coastal areas can experience varying degrees of eye, nose, and throat irritation. When a person leaves an area with a red tide, symptoms usually go away. People with severe or chronic respiratory conditions such as asthma or chronic lung disease are cautioned to avoid areas with active red tides.
6. Miami-Dade Regulatory and Environmental Resources Department has been engaged in sampling along the coast and is working with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission, the Florida Health Department, and others to attain the best situational awareness. At present, the main goal is to inform the public of the red tide's existence along the coast and the potential health hazards associated with it.
7. Organizations should track expenditures associated with the red tide response.
8. The incident "Miami-Dade County Red Tide – 2018" has been created on WebEOC®.

**Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission  
 Red Tide Status Map**



**NOAA EAST COAST FLORIDA (EXCERPT)  
 RED TIDE STATUS MAP, OCT 4, 2018**



**ATTACHMENTS**

- Miami-Dade County Mayor's Statement
- Relevant web links

PREPARED BY  
 N. Batista

Title  
 EOC Planning Section Chief

Signature  
*Niel Batista*

# Memorandum



**Date:** October 4, 2018

**To:** Honorable Chairman Esteban L. Bovo, Jr.  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos A. Gimenez", written over a horizontal line.

**Subject:** Beaches North of Haulover Inlet Closed

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Due to the recently confirmed presence of red tide in Palm Beach County, Miami-Dade County, in collaboration with the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC), collected water samples on Tuesday, October 2, at four locations off the coast of the County for testing. The County received results late Wednesday indicating that elevated levels of the algae linked to red tide have been detected in our area.

Although results for three sampling areas off Miami Beach and Crandon Park were reported in the very-low to low range, results for samples collected off Haulover Park were reported in the medium concentration range.

Red tides produce toxic chemicals that can affect marine organisms as well as humans. The Florida Department of Health advises people with severe or chronic respiratory conditions to avoid red tide areas.

In an abundance of caution, public beaches in Miami-Dade County located north of Haulover Inlet will be closed until further notice. Miami-Dade County will continue to monitor this situation and will be coordinating with state officials on further testing and any updated instructions regarding the presence of red tide in our area.

In addition, fish kills may occur during red tide. Fish kills can be reported by calling FWC's Fish Kill Hotline at 800-636-0511 or online.

We are taking this proactive step to ensure our residents and visitors are not affected as we collect samples in other areas for state testing. We will continue to seek guidance from the state Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and take precautionary measures as warranted.

c: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk, Circuit and County Courts  
Abigail Price-Williams, County Attorney  
Geri Bonzon-Keenan, First Assistant County Attorney

## Attachment 2 – Information Web Links

### Red Tide Links:

[Red Tide Related Hotlines and Information Sources](#)

### Red Tide Tools:

- [FWC Red Tide Status Report](#) (updated Wednesdays and Fridays).
- [USF Collaboration for the Prediction of Red Tides \(CPR\)](#)
- [USF Glider collecting subsurface data](#)
- [USF Central West Florida Satellite images](#)
- [NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Operational Forecast System \(HAB-OFS\)](#)
- [NOAA Harmful Algal Bloom Observing system \(HABSOS\)](#)
- [Mote Marine Laboratory Beach Condition Reporting System](#)

### Fish Kills and Wildlife Mortality:

- To report a fish kill, contact the FWC's Fish Kill Hotline at 800-636-0511 or [submit a report online](#), or download the free FWC Reporter app to your mobile device.  
- FWC will document the report /does not clean up.
- In addition to fish kills, red tides can cause illness and death to aquatic wildlife including marine mammals, sea turtles, and birds.
- If you see sick, injured or dead sea turtle or marine mammal call FWC's Wildlife Alert at 1-888-404-3922.
- To report a bird mortality visit: <http://legacy.myfwc.com/bird/default.asp>

### Frequently Asked Questions:

- <http://www.myfwc.com/research/redtide/faq/>

### Fact sheets/pocket guides:

- [Red tide facts and information pocket guide](#) and [Fact sheet](#)
- <http://www.myfwc.com/research/redtide/media/other-products/>

### Human health impacts:

- [Florida Department of Health](#)- Aquatic Toxins
- [Florida Department of Health](#) – Consumption
- Florida Poison Information Center: 800-222-1222
- <http://www.floridahealth.gov/videos/swim-it-shore-it-or-dodge-it.html>
- <http://www.floridahealth.gov/videos/swim-it-shore-it-or-dodge-it.html>

### Social media:

Hashtags: #RedTide #Florida #FWCResearch #MyFWC

[www.facebook.com/FLHABs/](http://www.facebook.com/FLHABs/)

[www.facebook.com/FWCResearch](http://www.facebook.com/FWCResearch)

### Photos from red tide event response:

<https://www.flickr.com/photos/myfwc/sets/72157699238779014>.

### Lake Okeechobee:

The best source of information regarding freshwater cyanobacteria blooms is <https://floridadep.gov/dear/algal-bloom/content/algal-bloom-sampling-results> or the DEP Press office: 850-245-2112 or

<http://depnews@floridadep.gov>