



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING JANUARY 17 - JANUARY 23, 2020

SUMMARY

There were four reported site visits in the past seven days (1/17 – 1/23), with four samples collected. Algal Bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at three of the sites.

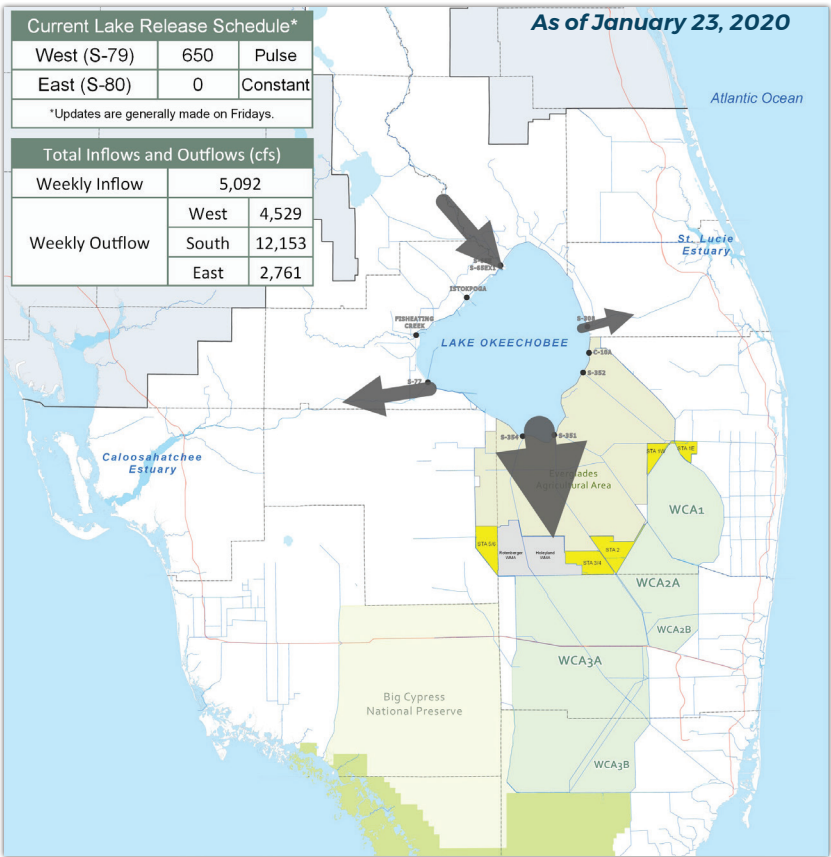
NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 1/22/20 shows approximately 15% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the western shore of the lake, with portions of the lake obscured by cloud cover. Imagery from 1/22/20 does not indicate any significant bloom activity in the Caloosahatchee estuary. Imagery for the St. Lucie estuary on 1/22/20 was completely obscured by cloud cover, but imagery from 1/18/20 did not show any bloom activity. Imagery for the St. Johns River from 1/22/20 was also completely obscured by cloud cover, but imagery from 1/21/20 did not show any bloom potential between Lake George and Palatka, with the rest of the Lower St. Johns River obscured by cloud cover.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples on 1/21/20 at Star Lake, Gator Lake, and Harbor Isles - Southern Lobe. Both Star and Gator Lakes had no dominant algal taxa and no toxins were detected. No bloom was observed by the samplers at Star Lake. The sample collected at Harbor Isles – Southern Lobe was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a total microcystin concentration of 4.6 parts per billion.

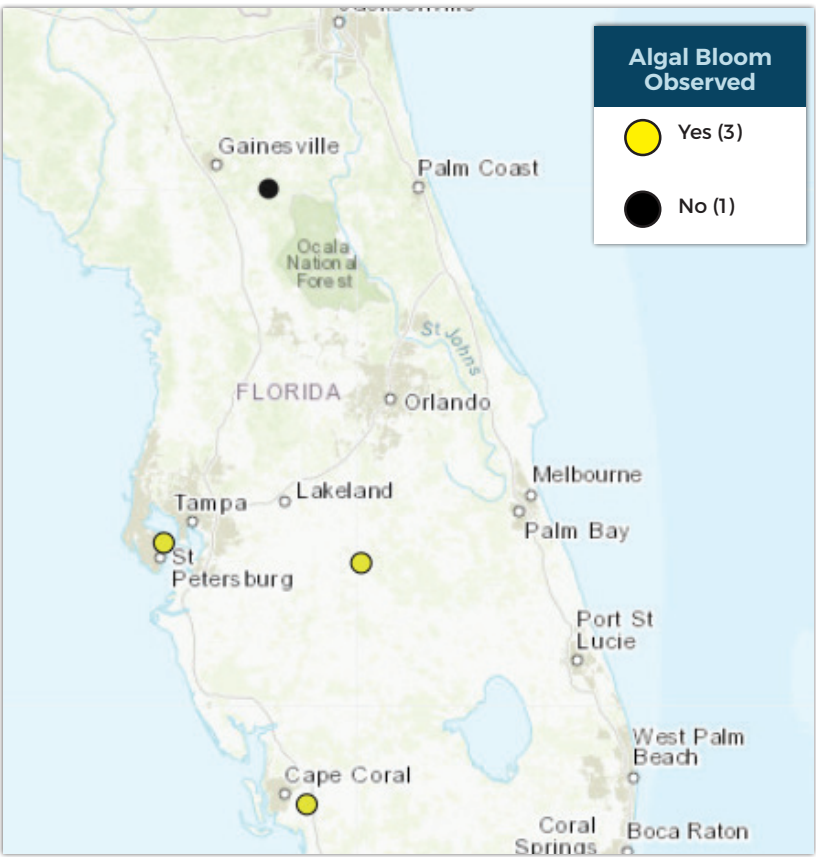
DEP staff collected a sample at Lake Clinch – NE Lobe on 1/22/20 that was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, but no toxins were detected.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer the complete algal bloom map with data table by clicking the “Field and Lab Details” Quick Link from the Algal Bloom Dashboard. Different types of blue-green algal bloom species can look different and have different impacts. However, regardless of species, many types of blue-green algae can produce toxins that can make you or your pets sick if swallowed or possibly cause skin and/or eye irritation due to contact. We advise to stay out of water where algae is visibly present as specks, mats or water is discolored pea-green, blue-green or brownish-red. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with the algal bloom-impacted water, or the algal bloom material or fish on the shoreline.

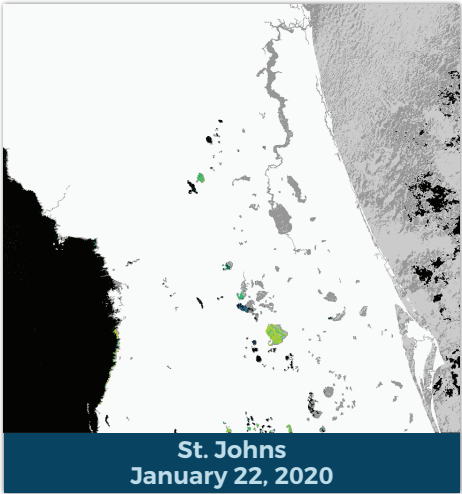
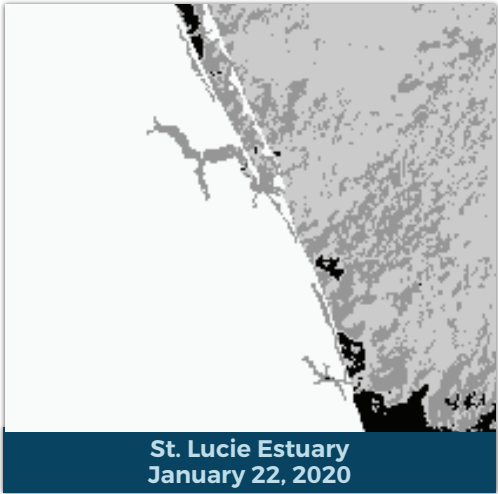
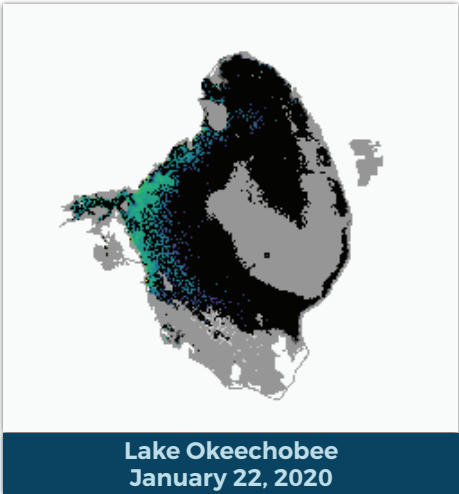
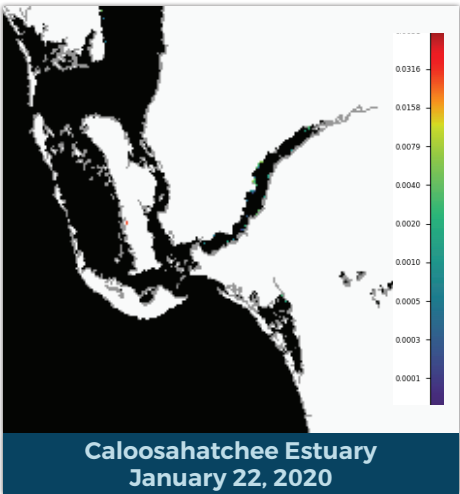
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



Satellite Imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud-cover



REPORTS FROM HOTLINE



REPORT PUBLIC HEALTH ISSUES

HUMAN ILLNESS

Florida Poison Control Centers can be reached 24/7 at 800-222-1222
(DOH provides grant funding to the Florida Poison Control Centers)

OTHER PUBLIC HEALTH CONCERNS

CONTACT DOH
(DOH county office)

FloridaHealth.gov/
all-county-locations.html

REPORT ALGAL BLOOMS

SALTWATER BLOOM

- Observe stranded wildlife or a fish kill
- Information about red tide and other saltwater algal blooms

CONTACT FWC

800-636-0511 (fish kills)
888-404-3922 (wildlife Alert)

MyFWC.com/RedTide

FRESHWATER BLOOM

- Observe an algal bloom in a lake or freshwater river
- Information about blue-green algal blooms

CONTACT DEP

855-305-3903
(to report freshwater blooms)

FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom