



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

## REPORTING FEBRUARY 14 - FEBRUARY 20, 2020

### SUMMARY

There were 10 reported site visits in the past seven days (2/14 – 2/20), with 10 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at nine of the sites. The most recent NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is from 2/18 and shows approximately 10% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the western shores of the lake. The lake was partially obscured by cloud cover, so actual algal coverage may be greater. No significant bloom potential was observed in the 2/18 imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary, the St. Lucie River and St. Johns River.

Lee County staff collected a sample on 2/18 at the Franklin Locks (upstream). The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* but no cyanotoxins were detected.

Orange County staff collected samples on 2/17 at Lake Jenny Jewel and Lake Anderson. The Lake Jenny Jewel sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis sp.* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* and had a total microcystins concentration of 150 parts per billion. The Lake Anderson sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* and had a total microcystins concentration of 34 parts per billion.

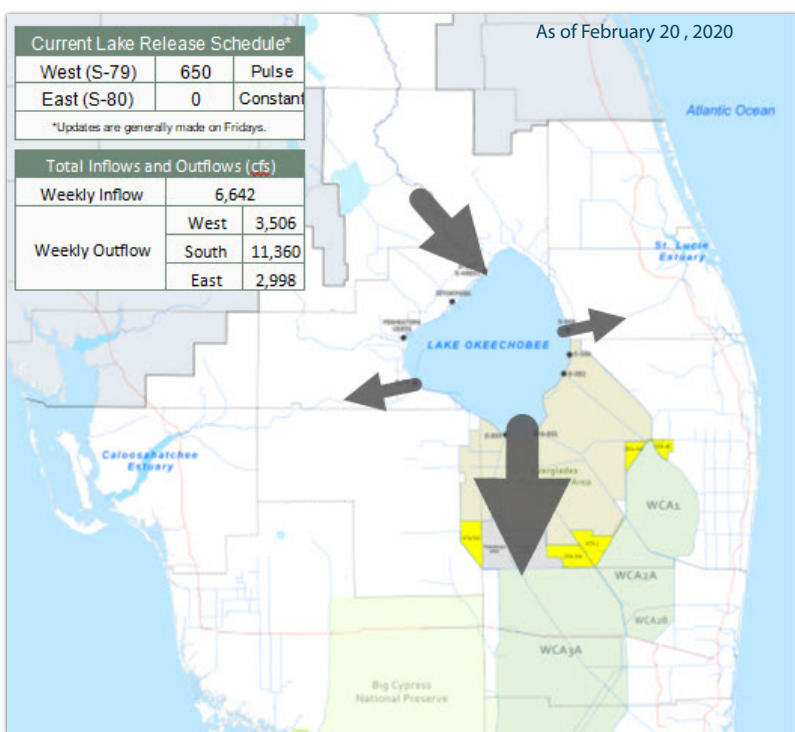
Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample at Spoonbill Pond in Duval County on 2/17 that was dominated by *Chlamydomonas sp.* No toxins were detected.

On 2/19, DEP staff performed follow-up sampling at two Harbor Isle locations (SE Lobe and Southern Lobe). Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Total microcystins concentration was 2.6 parts per billion in the SE Lobe sample. In the Southern Lobe sample, total microcystins concentration was 560 parts per billion and the *cylindrospermopsin* concentration was 2.7 parts per billion. DEP collected a sample at Lake Deer on 2/19. The co-dominant taxa were *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Dolichospermum circinale* and total microcystins concentration was 1.1 parts per billion. On 2/20, DEP collected a sample at Tarpon Lane and performed follow-up sampling at Lake Minneola. Results for these two samples are pending.

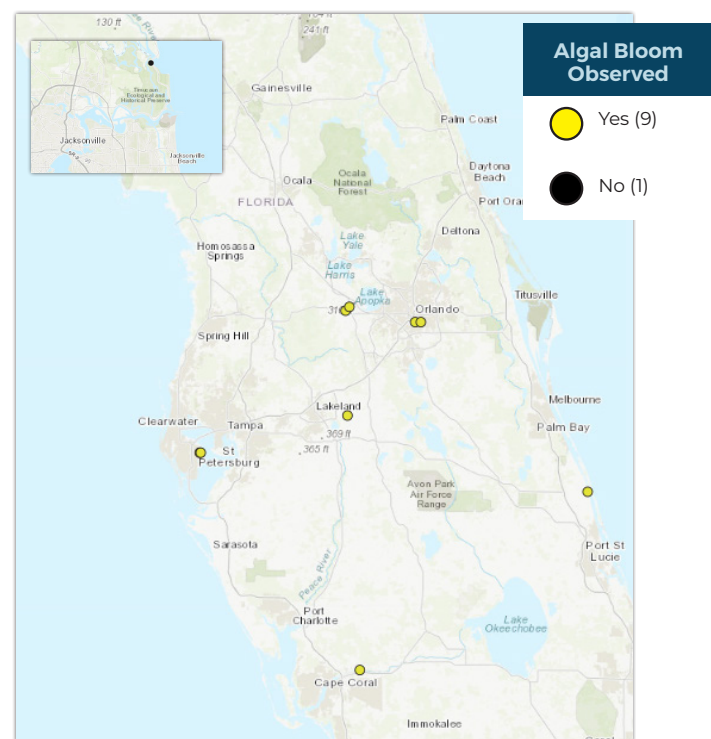
Some sample results were still pending when last week's report was written. These results are now available. From 2/12, the St. Johns River (Mandarin Point) sample was dominated by *Microcystis sp.* and the St. Johns River (Hibernia Point) sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Neither sample had detectable levels of cyanotoxins. Both follow-up samples collected on 2/13 at Lake Rianhard (Sycamore Street and 70 meters south of Front Street) were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and neither had detectable levels of cyanotoxins. The Lake Grace sample collected on 2/13 was co-dominant for *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Coelosphaerium dubium*, but no cyanotoxins 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.*

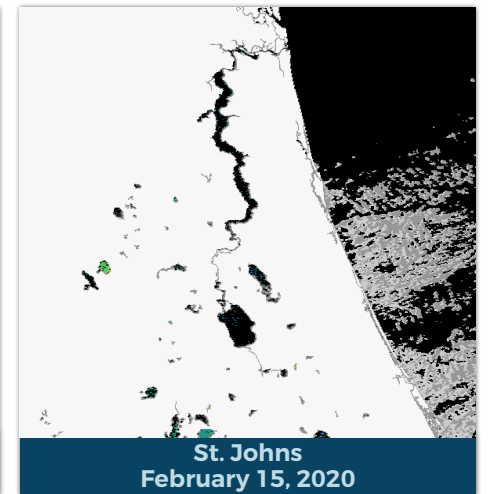
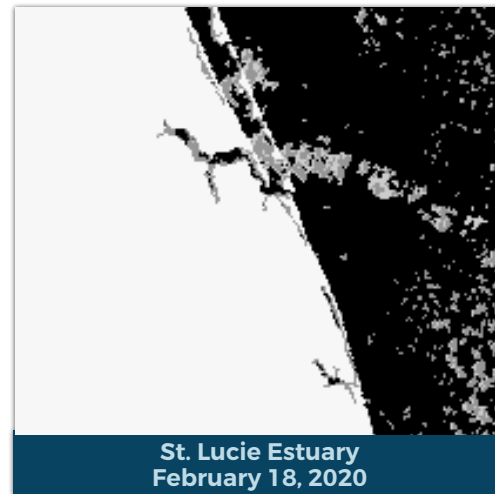
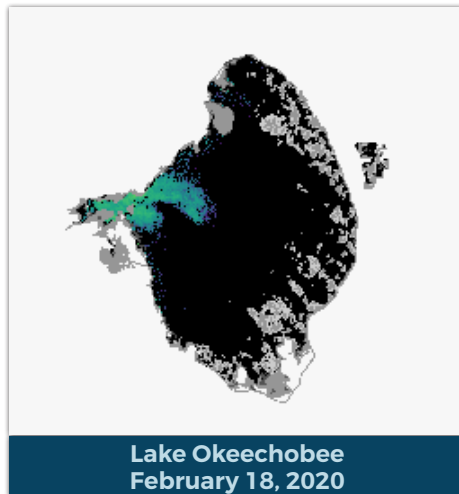
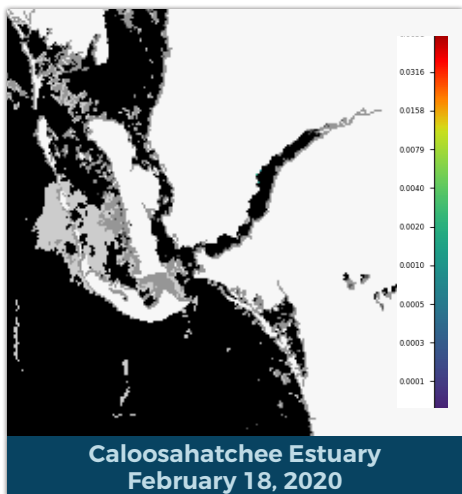
### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



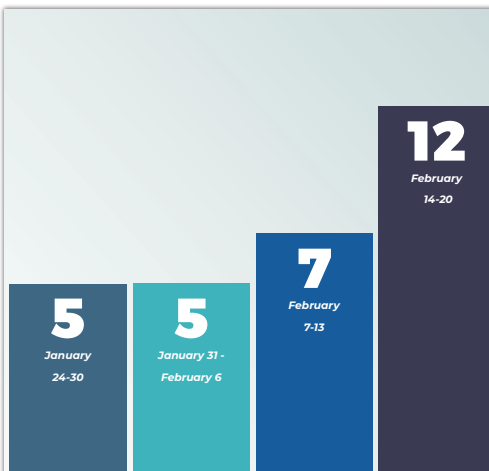
### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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