



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEBRUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 27, 2020

SUMMARY

There were six reported site visits in the past week (2/21-2/27), with six samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at all six sites. The most recent NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is from 2/23 and shows approximately 10% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the northwestern shores of the lake. No significant bloom potential was observed in the most recent viable imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary, the St. Lucie River and St. Johns River.

St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample at Fellsmere Water Management Area on 2/24. The sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis sp.* No cyanotoxins were detected in the sample.

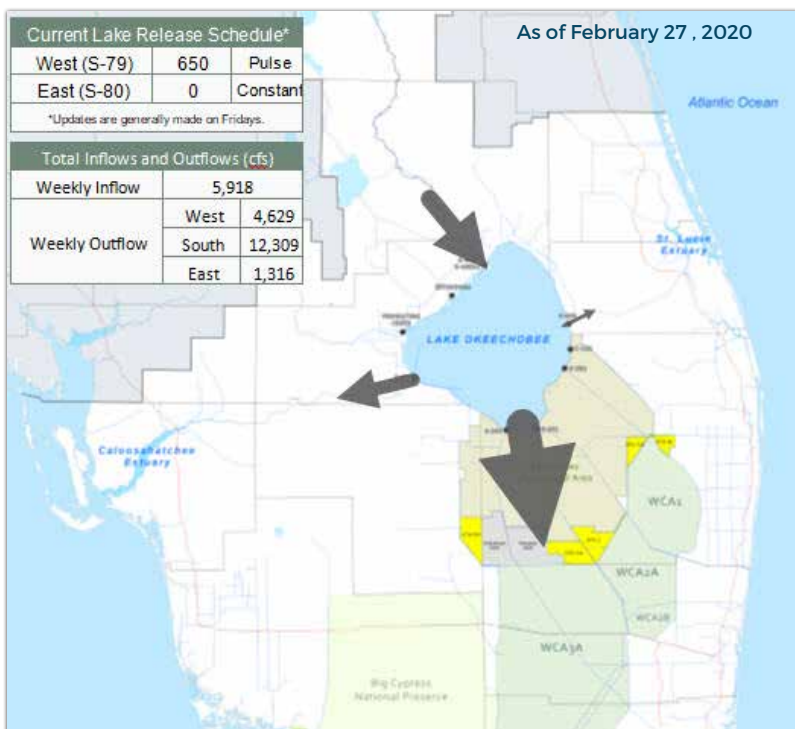
On 2/25, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples at Lake Arnold, Lake Ariana (near ramp), West Tiger Point Pond (Maplewood Drive) and Maplewood Creek (Maplewood Drive). The Lake Arnold sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Pseudanabaena sp.* and had only trace (1.6 parts per billion) of total microcystin detected. The Lake Ariana (near ramp) sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*, but no cyanotoxins were detected. The West Tiger Point Pond (Maplewood Drive) sample was co-dominated by *Dolichospermum circinale* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*, while the Maplewood Creek (Maplewood Drive) sample was dominated by only *Dolichospermum circinale*. Samples for toxin analysis were not collected at these sites.

On 2/26, DEP staff collected a sample at Lake Jennie Jewel (West of Canal Connection to East Lobe). This sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 2.4 parts per billion of total microcystins detected.

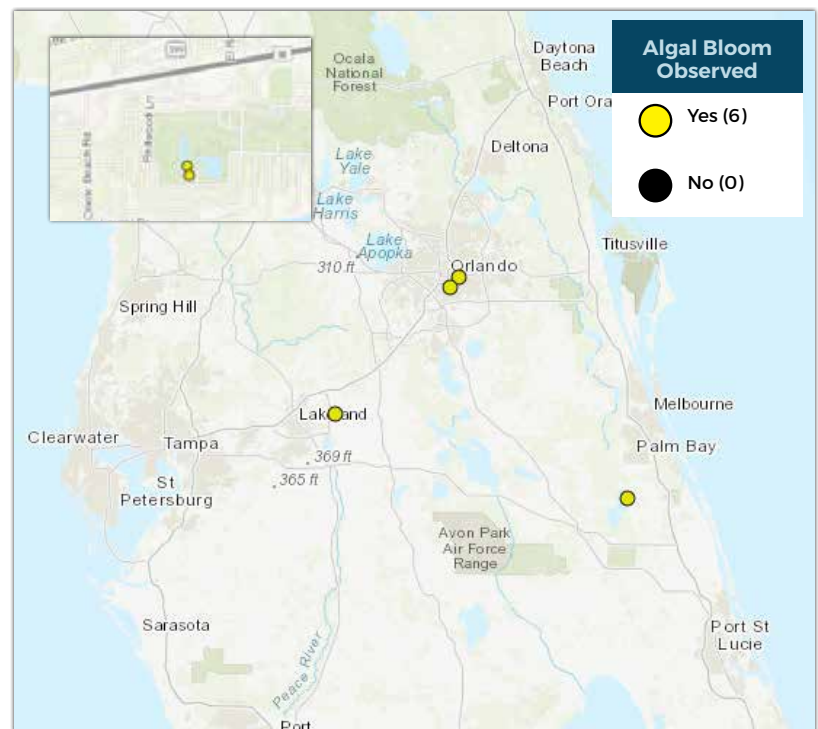
These results are now available. On 2/20, DEP staff collected one sample on a residential canal off Tarpon Lane on the Indian River Lagoon and performed follow-up sampling at two locations on Lake Minneola. The Tarpon Lane sample had no dominant taxa and no detectable levels of cyanotoxins. The two Lake Minneola samples were both dominated by *Dolichospermum plantonicum*, and neither sample had detectable levels of cyanotoxins.

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 FloridaDEP.gov/CleanVessel t 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.

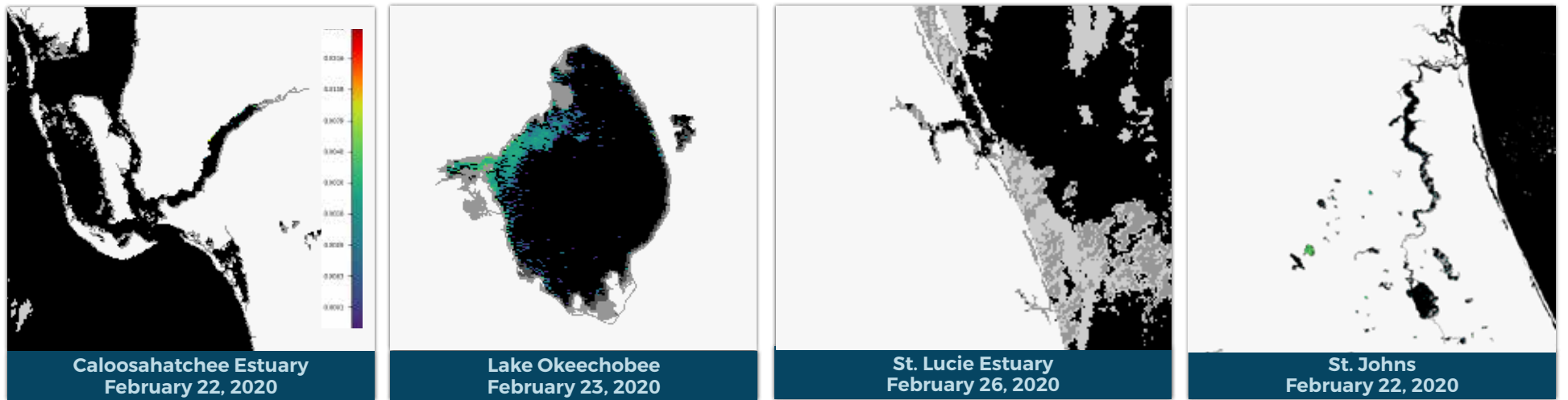
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



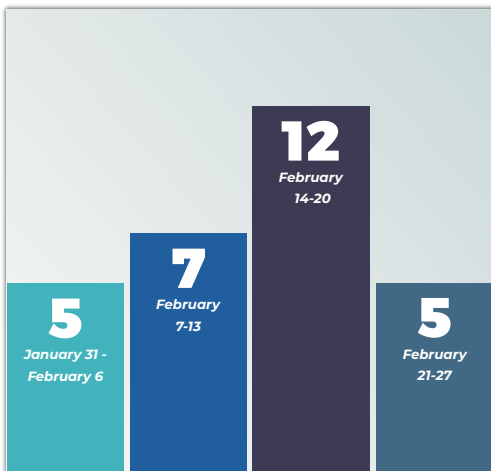
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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