



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

Reporting July 19 - July 25, 2019

SUMMARY

There were 25 reported site visits in the past week, with 23 sites resulting in samples collected. The samplers reported algae was visible at only nine of the 25 sites. Toxins were detected at eight sites (one site pending results), with the highest levels being 32.0 parts per billion at the S351 rim canal location on Lake Okeechobee. There were three Lake Okeechobee stations with trace levels (results are between the laboratory method detection limit and the practical quantitation limit) of microcystins reported (NLake04, NLake05, and S308C) and four stations with no detectable toxins (NLake02, NLake03, NLake06, and PolesOut). Southwest Florida Water Management District staff visited the S-79 and S-78 structures on the Caloosahatchee River; no visible algae reported and no toxins were detected.

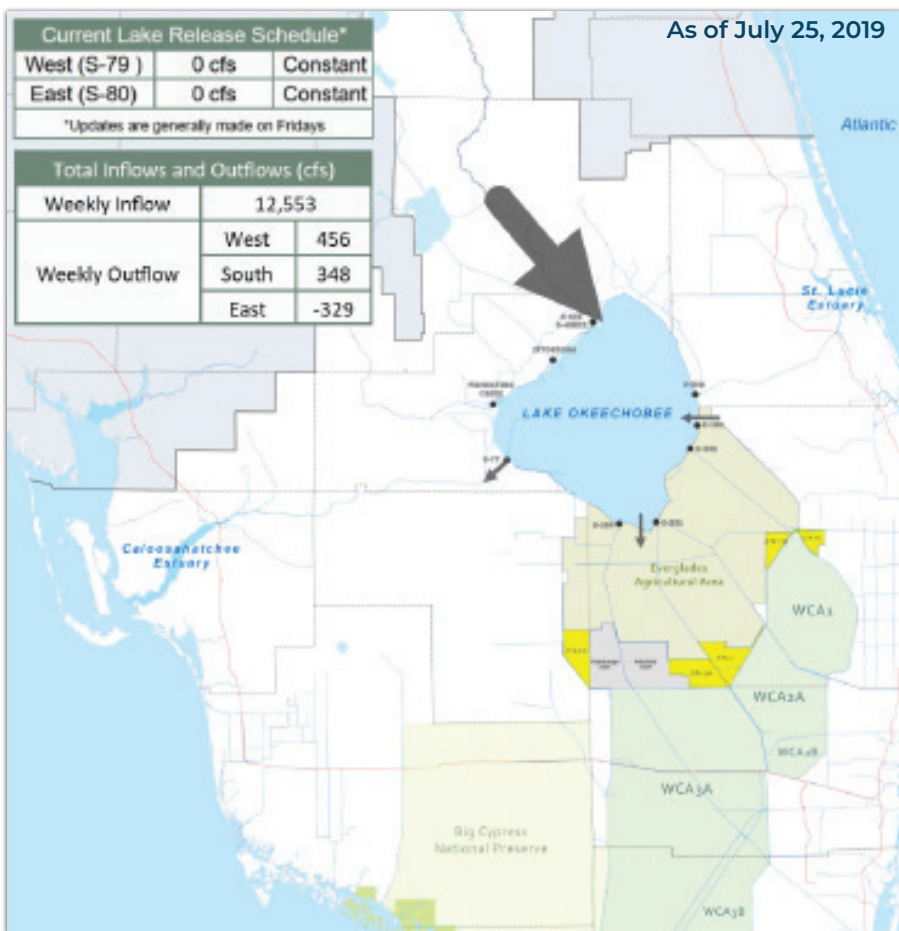
NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee continues to indicate bloom potential in the west and northwest portions of Lake Okeechobee, with bloom potential remaining in the medium range. Satellite imagery of the St. Johns River and the estuaries indicates no bloom potential.

DEP and St. Johns River Water Management District staff responded to a bloom on Lake Washington. No microcystins, cylindrospermopsins or anatoxin-a toxins were detected, but low levels (0.06 to 0.18 parts per billion) of saxitoxins were present in the four St. Johns River Water Management District samples.

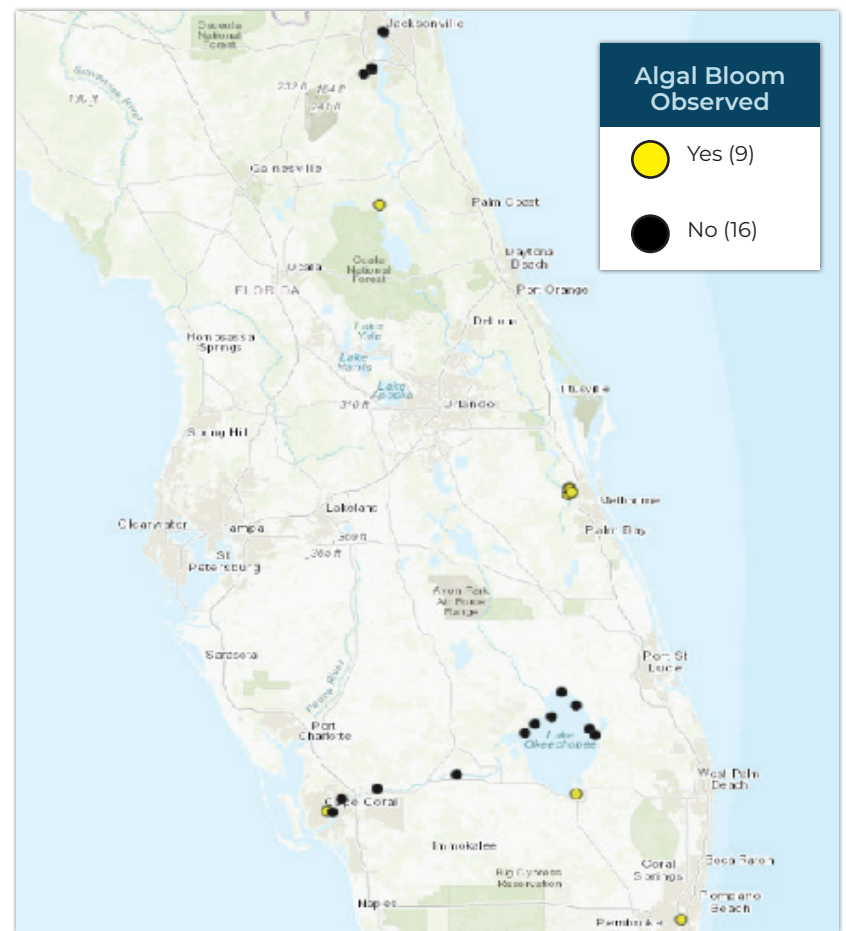
Canals in Ft. Lauderdale and Cape Coral were reported to have algal blooms. Both sites were sampled and *Microcystis aeruginosa* was present, but toxins were not detected. The Manatee River continues to be reported as clear by DEP staff. The Army Corps of Engineers continues to run their pilot for algal bloom cleanup. Initial results were reported as positive but limited algal presence on Lake Okeechobee inhibited a full evaluation. The project is a 10-day pilot that will continue through this week.

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.

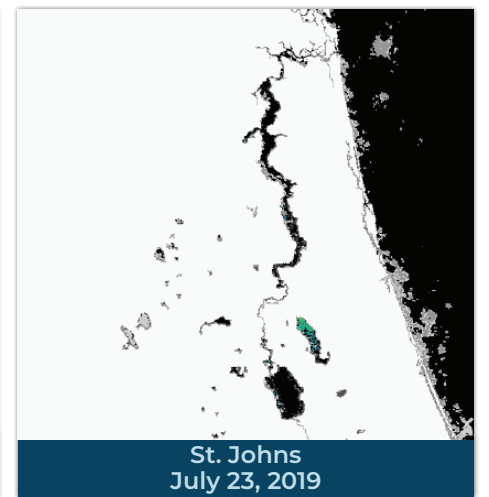
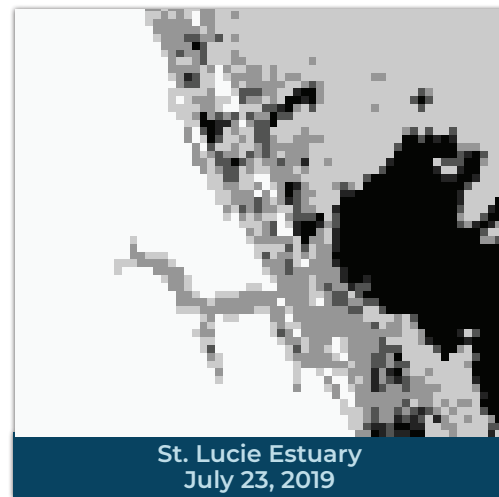
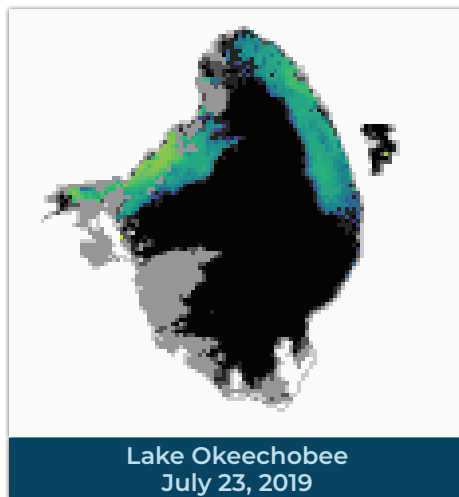
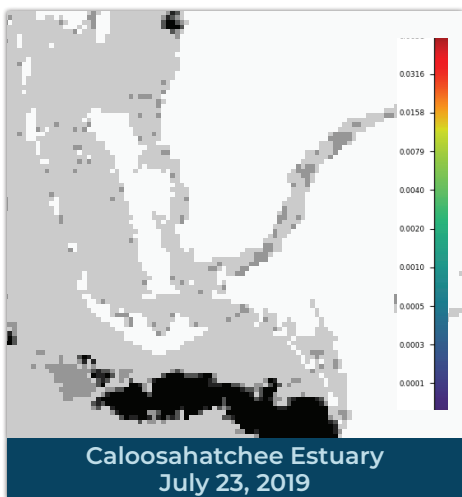
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



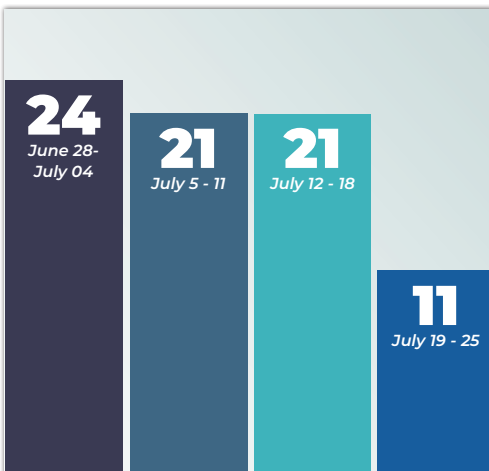
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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