



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

Reporting August 23 - 29, 2019

SUMMARY

There were 14 reported site visits in the past week (8/23 - 8/29) with all 14 site visits resulting in samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 11 of those sites.

NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee indicates that bloom potential appears to be covering approximately 35% of the lake, with the heaviest bloom potential now appearing in the southern portion of the lake, while the potential in the northeastern lake seems to have decreased. Imagery indicates that estuaries remain free of bloom potential. South Florida Water Management District collected samples at the S79 structure on 8/26 and S308C structure on 8/28. Toxins were not detected at S79. The S308C sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and only trace levels (0.27 ppb) total microcystins were detected. DEP collected samples at four locations in the southern portion of Lake Okeechobee (Lake O-SE, Lake O-SW, Lake O-S, and Pahokee Marina) on 8/28 in areas with the highest bloom potential. Algae was observed in the water column and on the surface at the time of collection. All four samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Total microcystins were 192.9 ppb at Lake O-SE, 71.75 ppb at Lake O SW, 26.33 ppb at Lake O S and 1.1 ppb at Pahokee Marina.

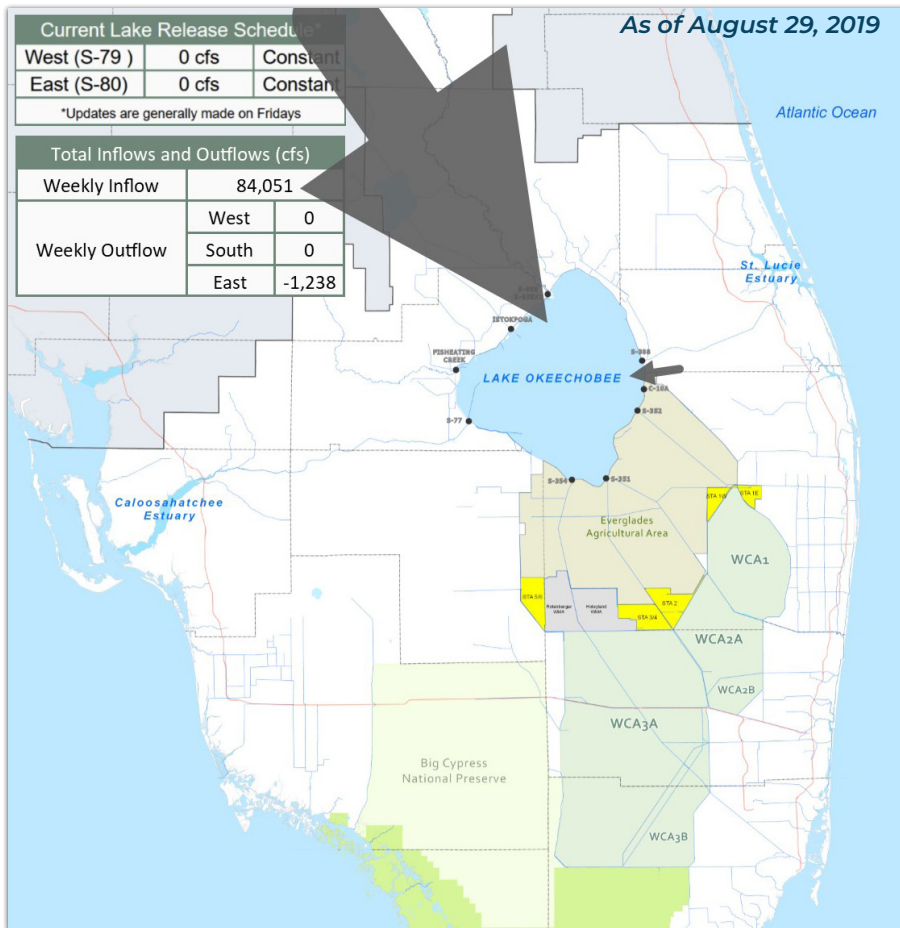
From last week's update for which analytical results were pending, no toxins were detected in the sample collected on 8/22 at the C44S80 structure. South Florida Water Management District revisited the C44S80 structure on 8/29 and observed green layer on the surface of the water moving upstream (analytical results pending).

St. Johns One River Water Management District staff collected samples at Sator-East South Fork WMA in Brevard County and Fellsmere Water Management Area 1 in Indian River County. The Sator-East South Fork WMA sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. The remaining algal ID and toxin analysis results are still pending.

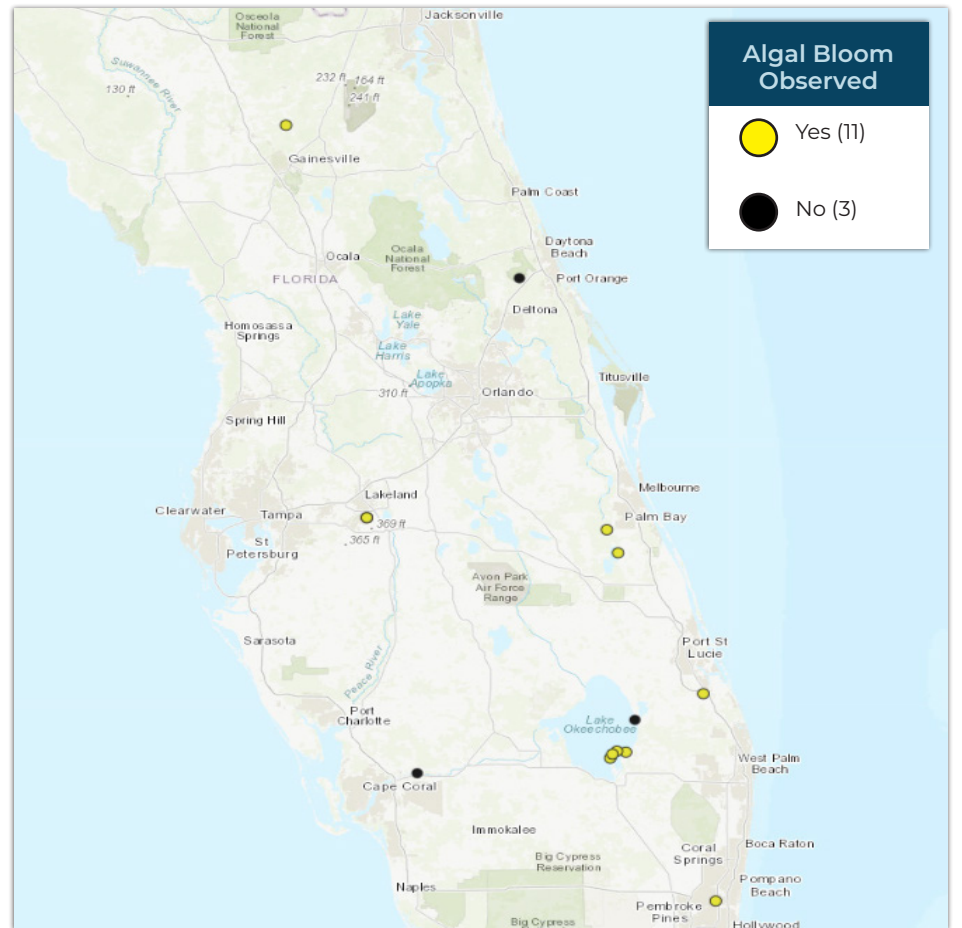
DEP staff continue to monitor blooms in the New River area near Fort Lauderdale. A sample collected at West Canal and 16th was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a total microcystin concentration of 0.79 ppb.

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.

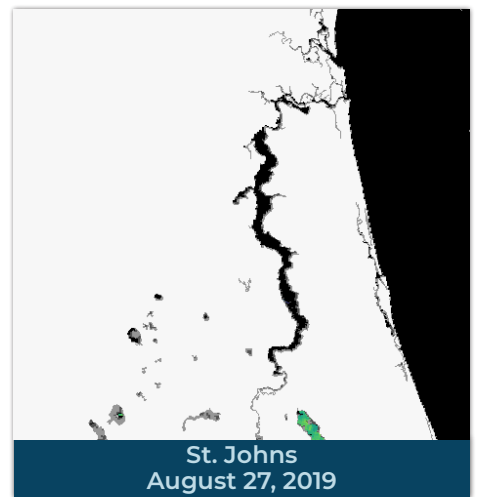
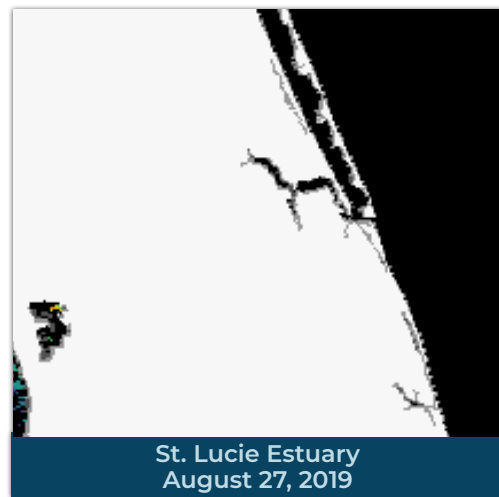
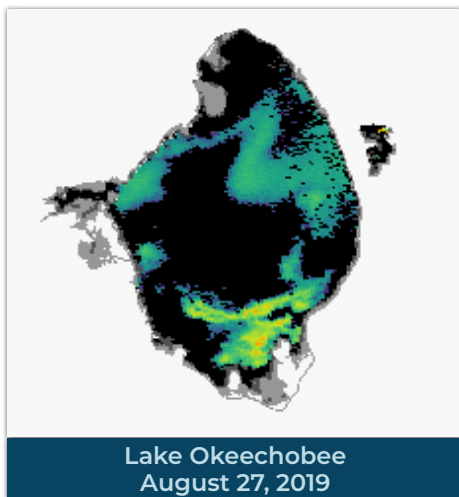
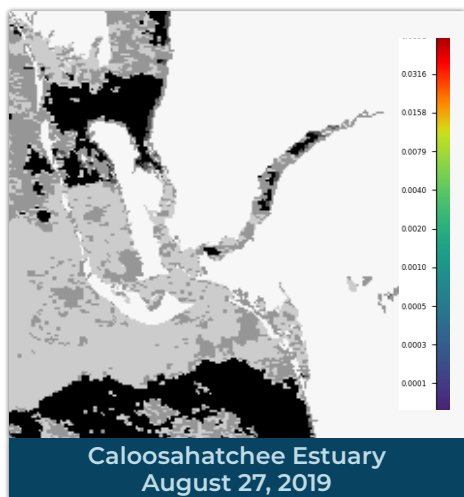
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



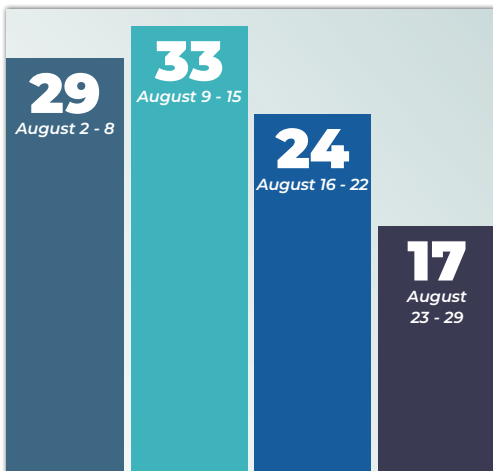
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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