BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

Reporting September 6 - September 12, 2019

SUMMARY

There were 19 reported site visits in the past week (9/6 - 9/12), with all 19 site visits resulting in samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 10 of those sites.

NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 9/11/19 shows that bloom potential on the lake is significantly reduced, with less than 10% coverage. Imagery also indicated that estuaries remained free of bloom potential. South Florida Water Management District collected samples at the S77, S79, and S308C structures and at the L005 and Polesout lake monitoring stations on 9/9/19. Toxins results were all low, ranging from non-detect to trace levels not exceeding 0.36 parts per billion (ppb). South Florida Water Management District also collected samples on 9/10/19 at two other lake locations, 2.13 Miles WNW of PELBAY3, 1.05 Miles southwest of CLV10A, as well as at S5A in the C-51 canal. The sample collected at 2.13 Miles west northwest of PELBAY3 was dominated by *microcystis aeruginosa* and had a total microcystin concentration of 1.2 ppb. This is much lower than the values detected during the 8/28/19 sampling event in this area prior to the hurricane. No toxins were detected in the sample collected at 1.05 Miles southwest of CLV10A which was also dominated by *microcystis aeruginosa*. The S5A sample was dominated by *microcystis aeruginosa* and had a total microcystin concentration of 34.75 ppb.

From last week's update for which analytical results were still pending, the cyanotoxin results for the Fellsmere Water Management Area one sample collected on 8/28/19 was 3.5 ppb microcystins and 0.11 ppb *cylindrospermopsin*.

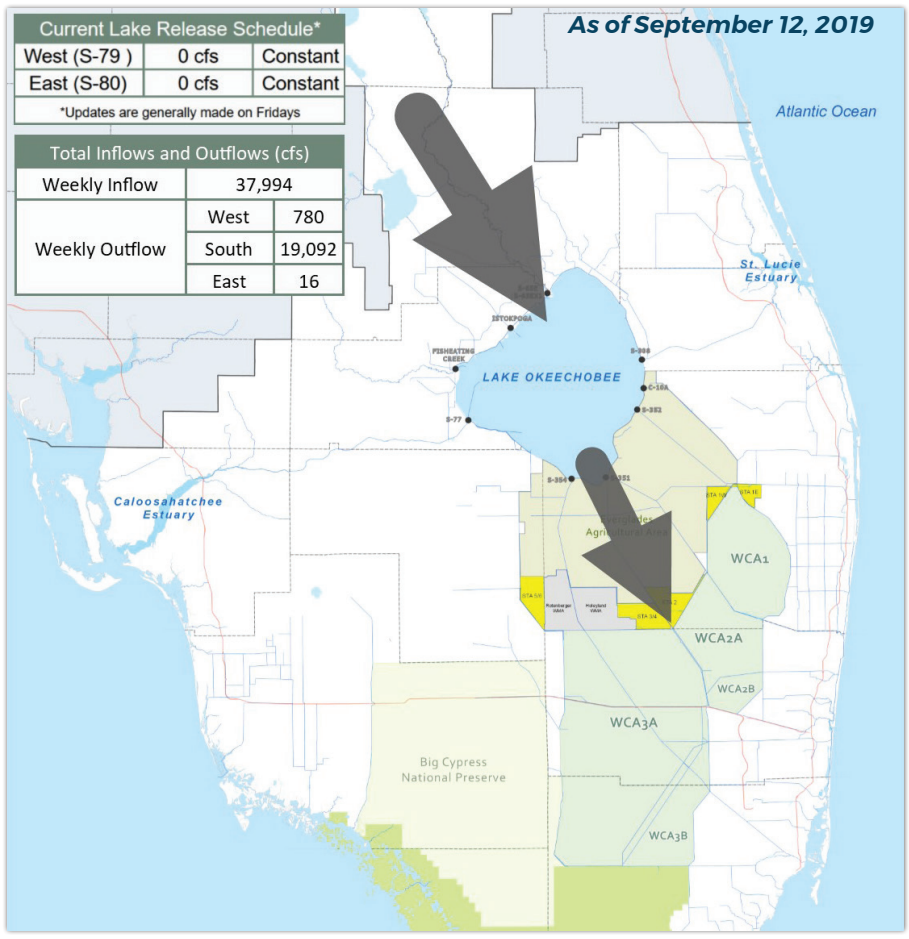
DEP staff will be sampling potential bloom areas on Lake Okeechobee next week weather permitting.

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.

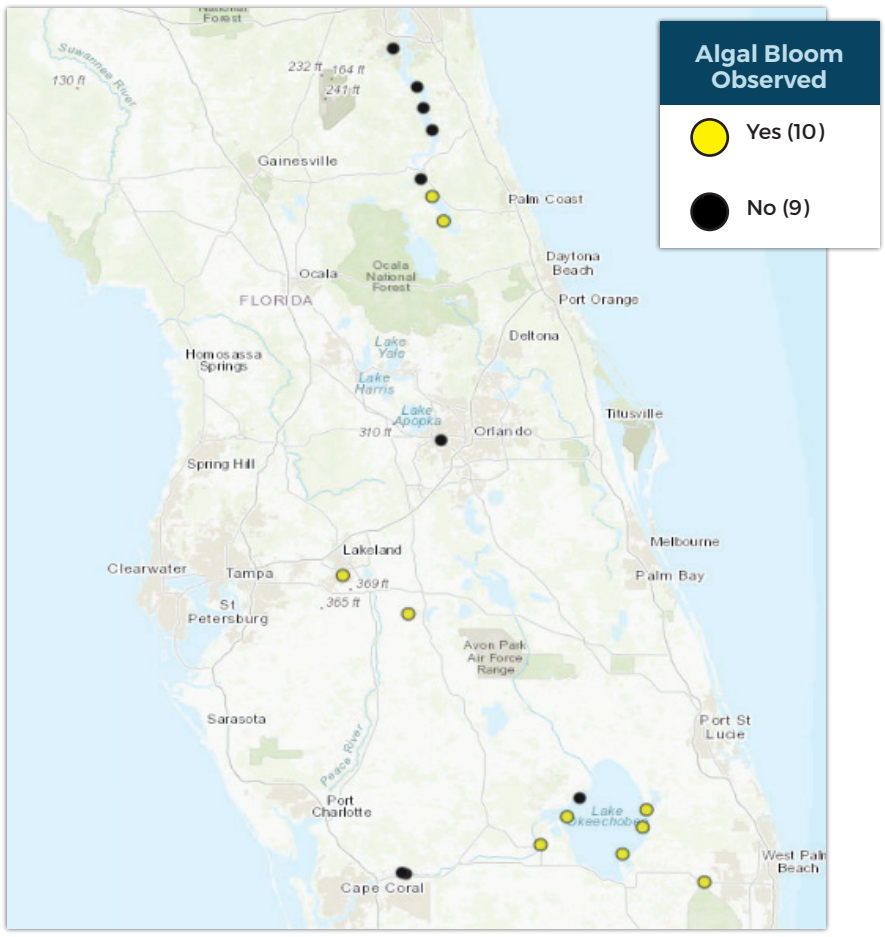
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS

Current Lake Release Schedule*		
West (S-79)	0 cfs	Constant
East (S-80)	0 cfs	Constant
*Updates are generally made on Fridays		

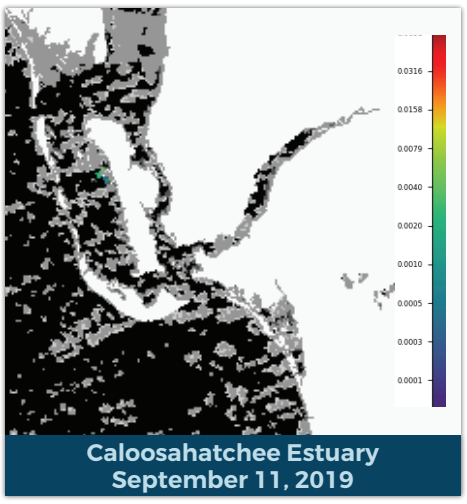
Total Inflows and Outflows (cfs)		
Weekly Inflow	37,994	
Weekly Outflow	West	780
	South	19,092
	East	16



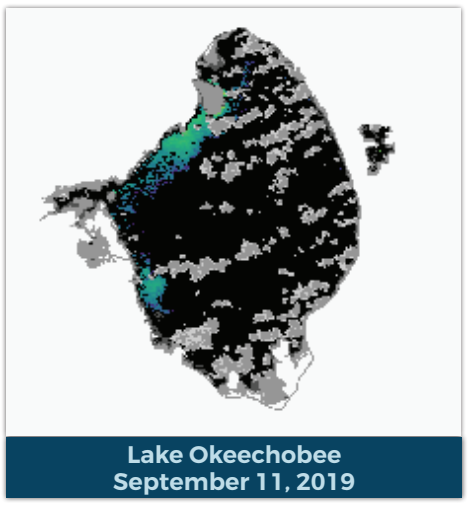
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



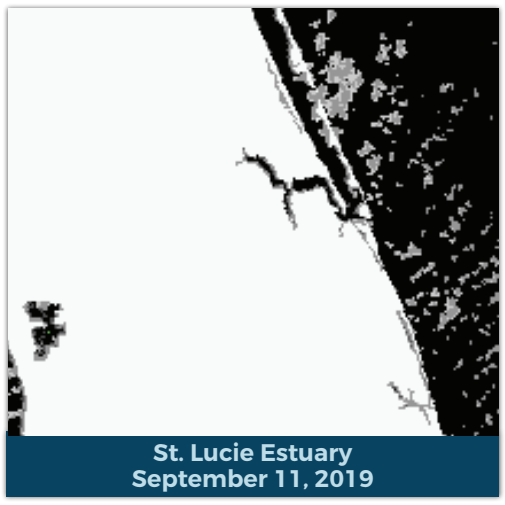
Satellite Imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud-cover



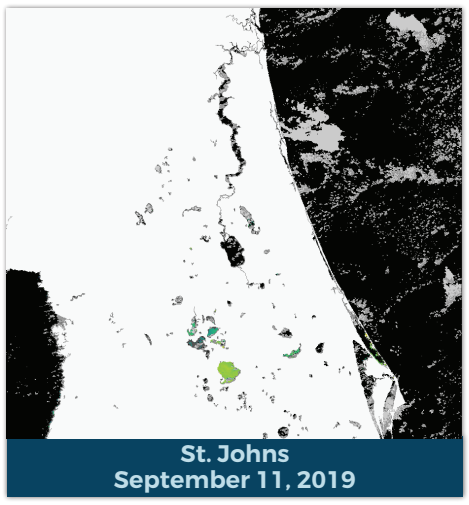
Caloosahatchee Estuary
September 11, 2019



Lake Okeechobee
September 11, 2019

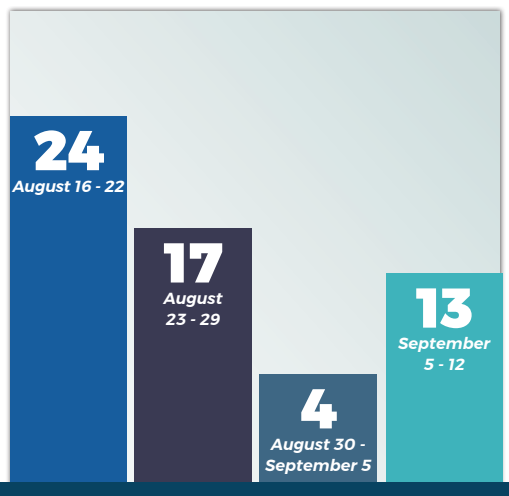


St. Lucie Estuary
September 11, 2019



St. Johns
September 11, 2019

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

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom