BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCTOBER 25 - OCTOBER 31, 2019

SUMMARY

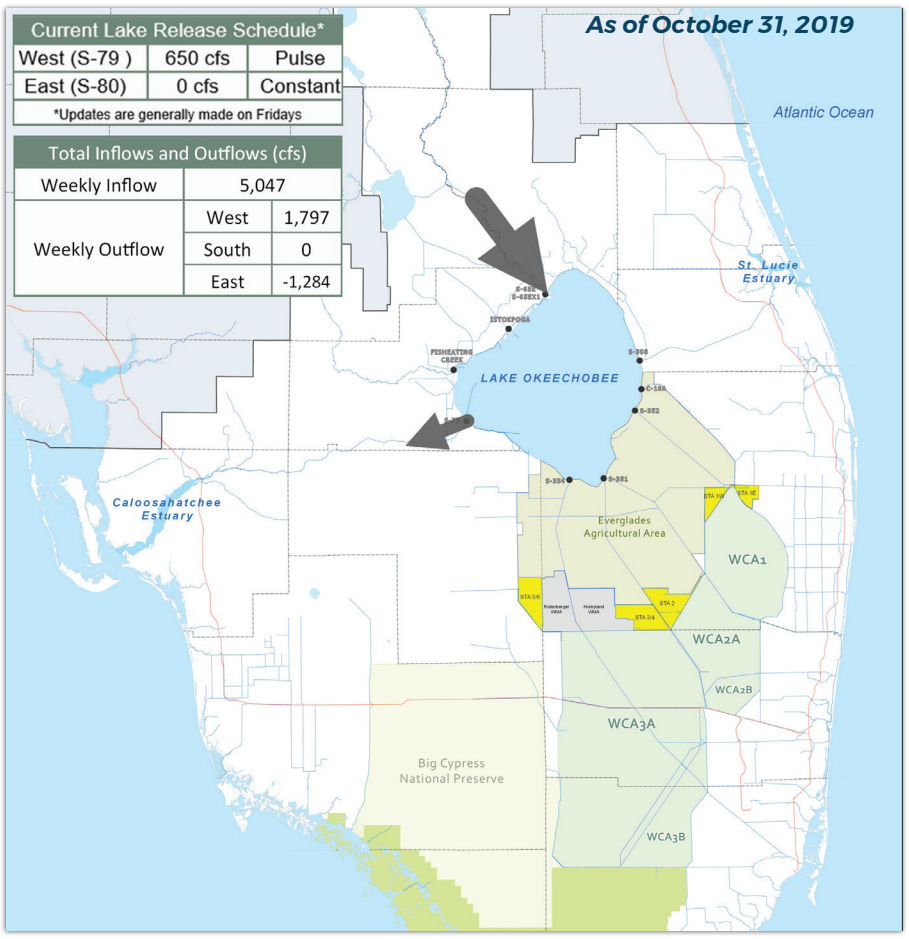
There were five reported site visits in the past week (10/25 - 10/31), with samples collected at four of the five sites. Samplers observed algal bloom conditions at two sites.

NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 10/24 shows approximately 15% coverage of moderate bloom potential on the northwestern side of the lake. Imagery does not indicate any bloom activity in the estuaries, although portions of the estuaries as also obscured by cloud cover. The South Florida Water Management District collected a sample at the S77 structure on 10/28. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* but had no toxins detected. The South Florida Water Management District also collected a sample at the C51 Canal at Kirk Road on 10/28. The sample was also dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* but had 6.1 parts per billion of total microcystins detected.

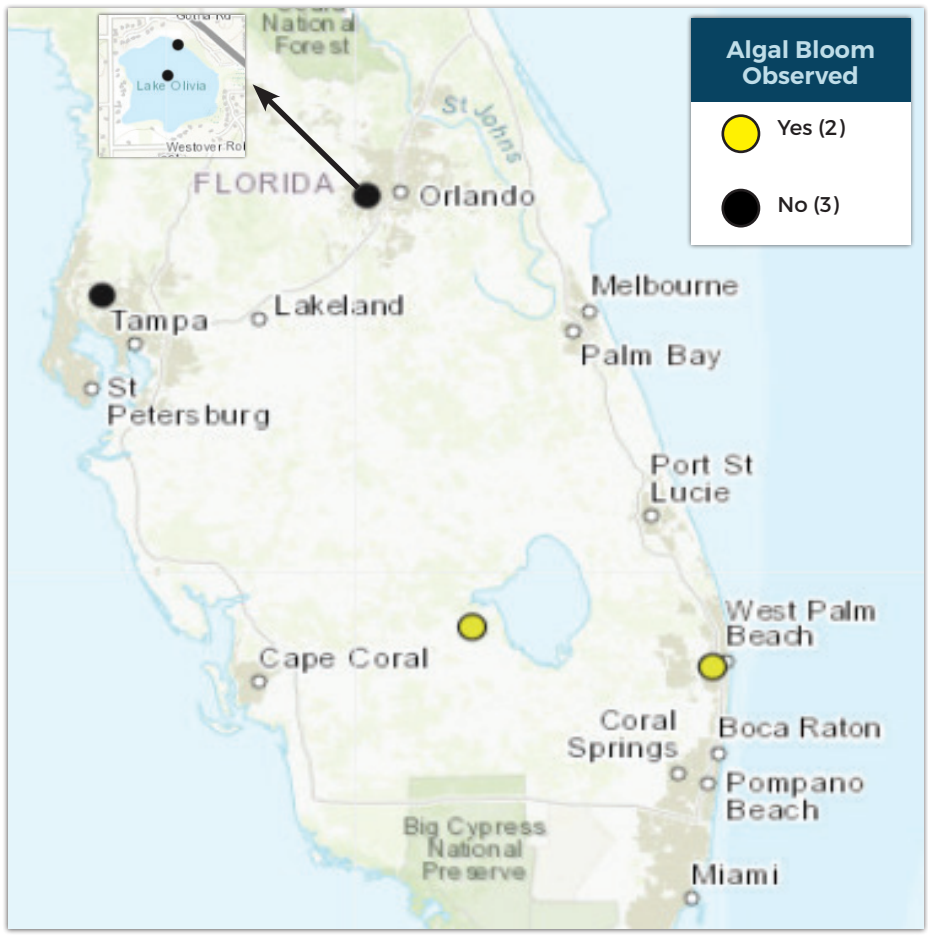
Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff performed follow up sampling on Lake Olivia at Center and Boat Ramp on 10/30. The Center sample had no dominant taxa and a trace level (0.26 parts per billion) of cylindrospermopsin. The Boat Ramp sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.25 parts per billion) of cylindrospermopsin. Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff also attempted to respond to a bloom report for Keystone Lake on 10/29 but were unable to obtain access to the lake. No bloom was observed from the perimeter of the lake where open water was visible.

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.

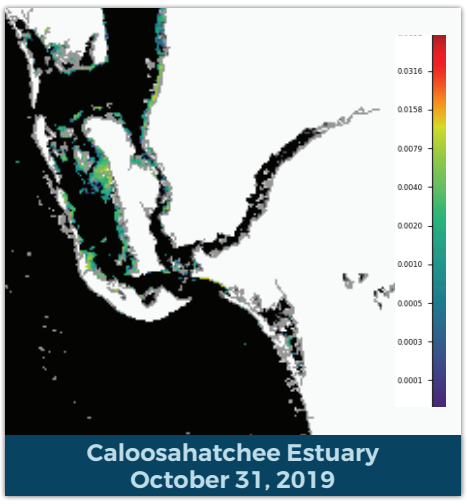
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



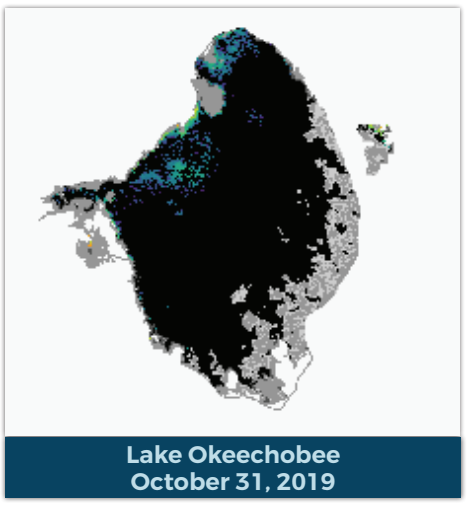
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

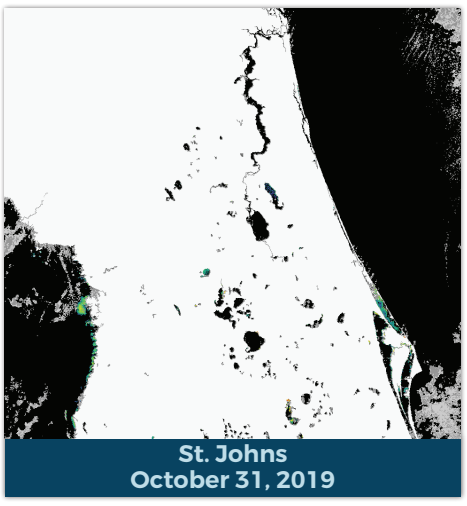


Caloosahatchee Estuary
October 31, 2019



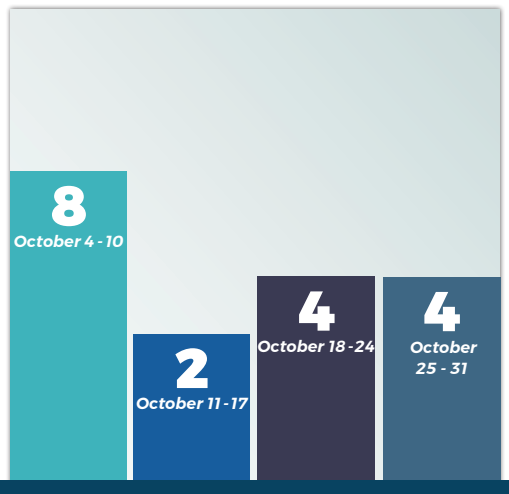
Lake Okeechobee
October 31, 2019

St. Lucie Estuary
October 31, 2019



St. Johns
October 31, 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