SUMMARY

There were three reported site visits in the past week (11/08 - 11/14), with samples collected at all three sites. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at only one of the three sites.

NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 11/08 shows approximately 10-15% coverage of moderate bloom potential on the western side of the lake near the mouth of Fisheating Creek. Imagery does not indicate any bloom activity in the estuaries, although portions of the estuaries were partially obscured by cloud cover. Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected a sample within the potential bloom area on Lake Okeechobee on 11/14. Algae was not observed. Analytical results for the Fisheating Bay sample are pending.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff performed sampling on Lake Idyl on 11/12. The co-dominant species in the sample were Microcystis aeruginosa and Planktolyngbya limnetica. Toxins were not detected. Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected a sample on 11/14 from a canal in Cape Coral. Algae was not observed. Analytical results for the sample are pending.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer to 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.