



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING DECEMBER 13 - DECEMBER 19, 2019

SUMMARY

There were seven reported site visits in the past seven days (12/13 – 12/19), with samples collected for all seven visits. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at six of the seven sites.

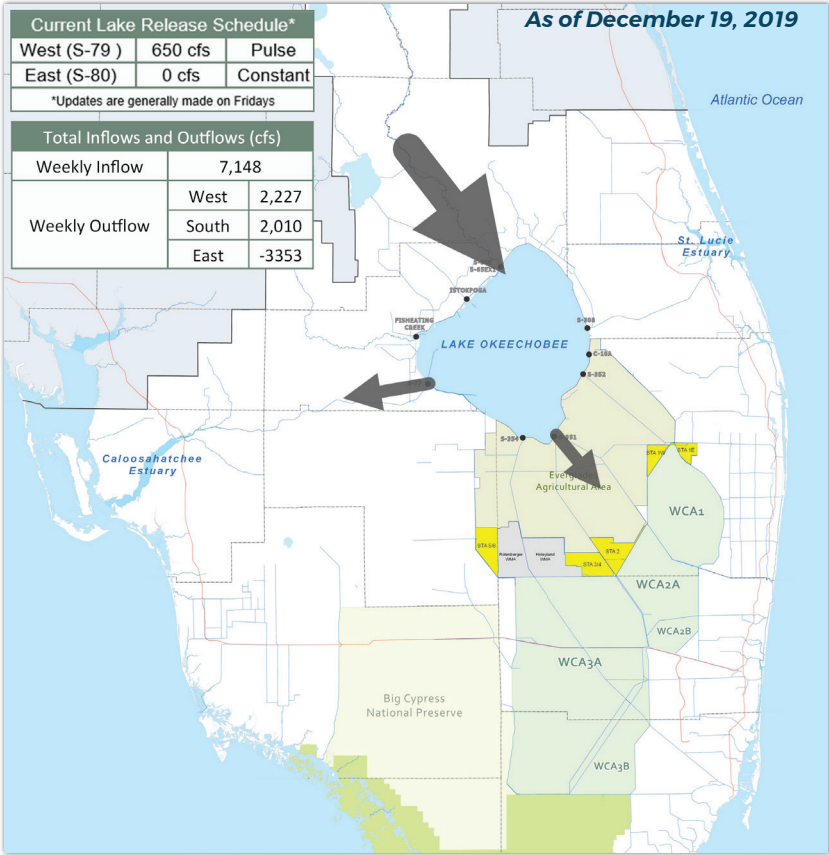
The most recent NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee that is not obscured by cloud cover is from 12/16, which shows approximately 20% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential, with the strongest signal in the south region of the lake. Imagery does not indicate any significant bloom activity in the estuaries, which were relatively clear of cloud cover. South Florida Water Management District samplers observed and sampled algae at the S77 and S79 structures. *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* was dominant at S77, but no toxins were detected. There was no clear dominate algal taxon at the S79 structure, and no toxins were detected.

Orange County staff collected two samples from Cypress Lake, one at Northwest of Center and the other at Boat Ramp at Northwest Shore. The sample collected at Cypress Lake Northwest of Center was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and had no detectable toxins. The sample collected at Cypress Lake Boat Ramp at Northwest Shore was also dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*; however, 28.25 parts per billion total microcystins were detected.

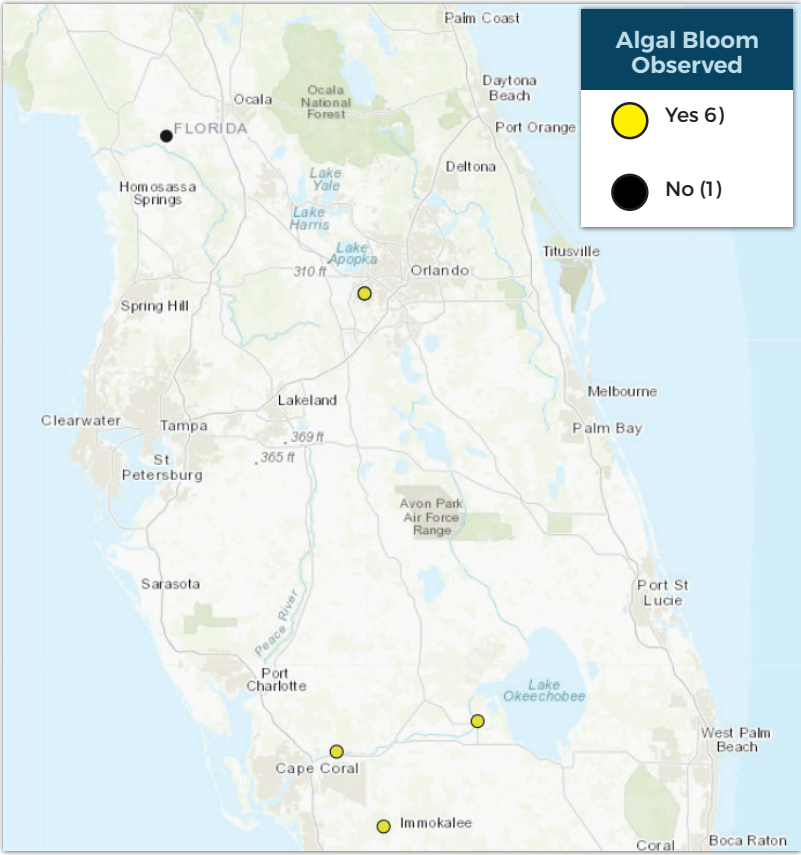
Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff performed sampling at Rainbow River, Sunshine Lake and Lake Trafford. The Rainbow River sample had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable toxins. The Sunshine Lake sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Dolichospermum circinale* and had no detectable toxins. The Lake Trafford sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis sp.* and *Cyanodictyon imperfectum*, and trace levels (0.38 parts per billion) of total microcystins were detected.

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.

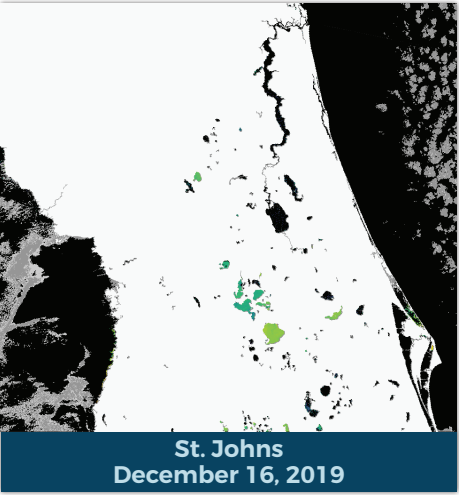
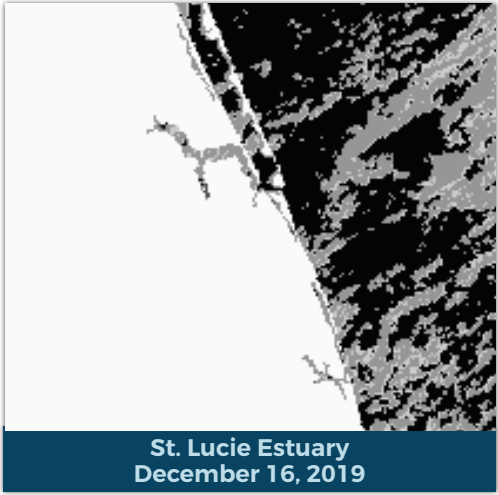
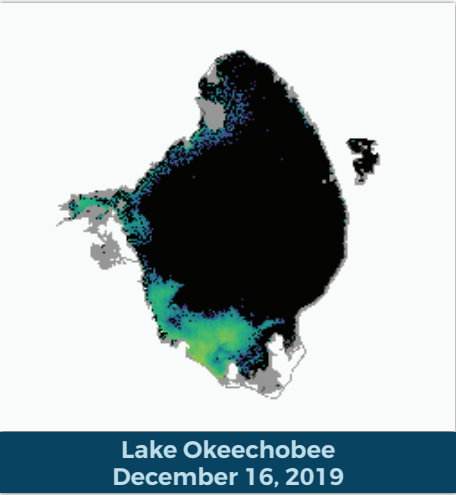
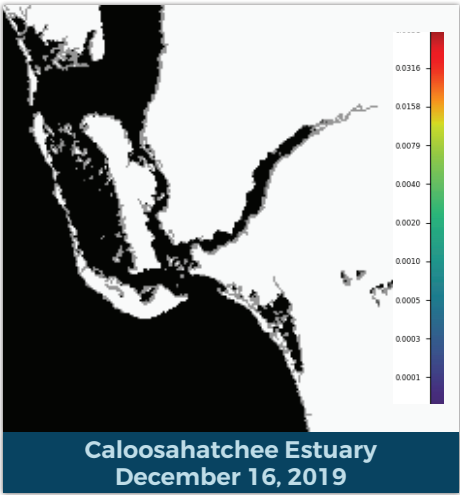
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



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](https://www.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](https://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](https://www.florida.gov/AlgalBloom)

Learn more about Florida’s Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response
visit our Water Quality website to check the current status and to receive updates.

Protecting Together
[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](https://www.ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov)