SUMMARY

There were seven reported site visits in the past seven days (1/22 – 1/28) with seven samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at five of the sites. The best available satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 1/26 showed no significant bloom potential on visible portions of these water bodies. Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 1/19 showed scattered low bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George and the main stem of the St. Johns River; however, there have been no reports of visible algae on these waters. Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

On 1/27, Orange County staff collected a sample from Cypress Lake – Boat Ramp at NW Shore. The sample was co-dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and Microcystis sp. No cyanotoxins were detected.

On 1/27, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples from Blue Cypress Lake - Center and Stickmarsh - North. There were no dominant algal taxa or cyanotoxins detected in either sample.

On 1/28, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected samples from Lake Ivanhoe – 200 feet from boat ramp, Lake Sue – SW Lobe, Lake Copeland – N of Center and Lake Willisara – Center. Sample results are still 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 sample 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 purplish, 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.

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)

SALTWATER BLOOM

- Observe stranded wildlife or a fish kill
- Information about red tide and other saltwater algal blooms

FRESHWATER BLOOM

- Observe an algal bloom in a lake or freshwater river
- Information about blue-green algal blooms

REPORT ALGAL BLOOMS

On 1/20, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected a sample from Caloosahatchee River at 4980. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at three of the sites. The best available satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 1/26 showed no significant bloom potential on visible portions of these water bodies. Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 1/19 showed scattered low bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George and the main stem of the St. Johns River; however, there have been no reports of visible algae on these waters. Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).