



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEBRUARY 26 - MARCH 4, 2021

SUMMARY

There were 12 reported site visits in the past seven days (2/26 – 3/4), with 12 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 11 of the sites. The best available satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 3/2 showed no bloom potential on visible portions of these water bodies. The best available satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 2/27 showed no bloom potential on Lake George or visible portions of these water bodies. 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 3/3, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples from **Lake Deer – Western Shore** and **Lake Buckeye – Boat Ramp**. The **Lake Deer – Western Shore** sample was dominated by *Coelosphaerium dubium* and *Anabaena sp.*, and trace level of microcystins [0.49 parts per billion (ppb)] were detected. The **Lake Buckeye – Boat Ramp** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae* and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 3/3, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff collected samples from **Indian River Lagoon – Parrish Park**, **Indian River Lagoon – Eau Gallie Pier** and the **Banana River – 520 Slick Boat Ramp**. Cyanotoxin samples were not collected and algal identifications are still pending.

On 3/4, DEP staff sampled **Manatee River – 7th Street**; **Lake Eustis – Northwest Corner**; **Harbor Isle Lake – Center**; **Harbor Isle Lake – Northwest Lobe**; **Harbor Isle Lake – Southern Lobe**; **Lake Weir – Northwest Shore**; and **Lake Winnott – 147 Baker Acres**. Results are still pending.

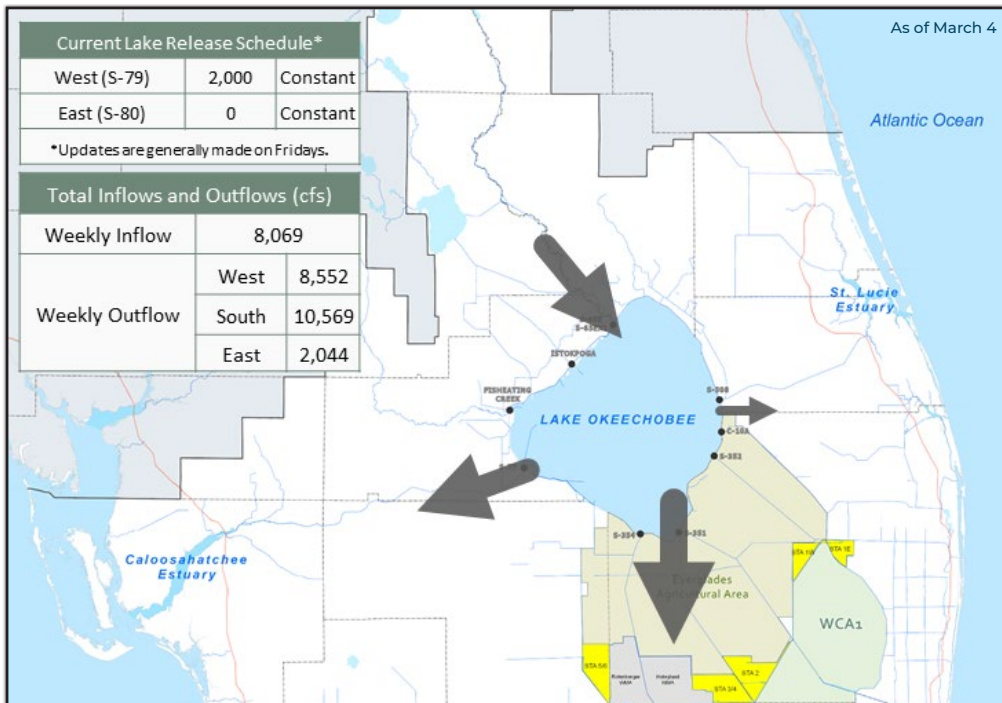
Last Week

On 2/24 and 2/25, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples at **Blue Cypress Lake – Center**; **Fellsmere WMA – Center**; **Lake Jessup – Center**; **Lake Monroe – Center**; and **Stick Marsh – North**. The **Blue Cypress Lake – Center** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected. The **Fellsmere WMA – Center** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* and had 1.0 ppb of microcystins detected. The **Lake Jessup – Center** sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Monroe – Center** and **Stick Marsh – North** samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

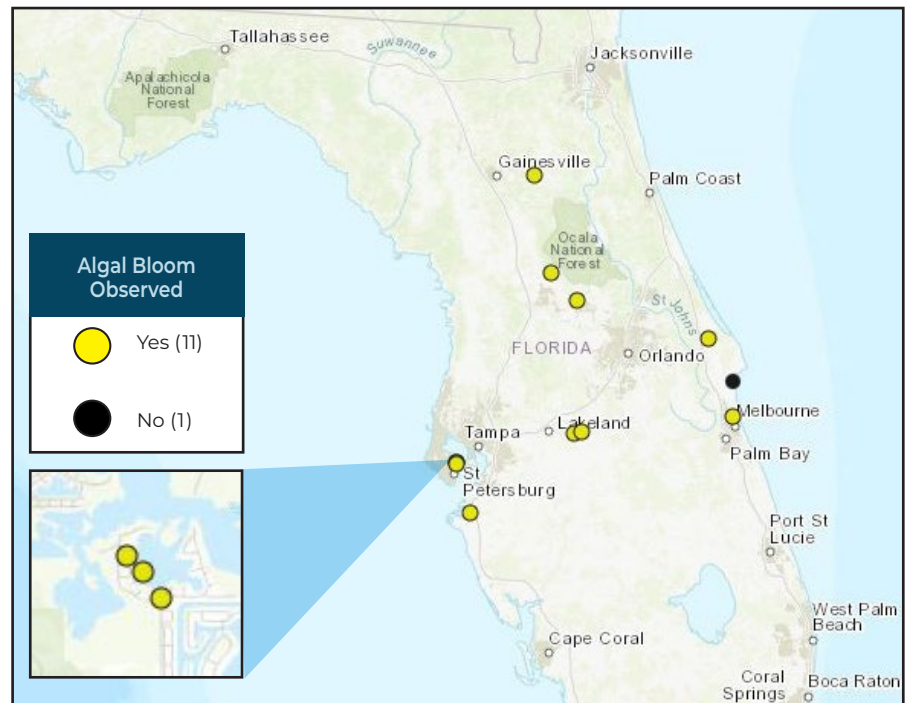
On 2/25, DEP staff sampled **Sanibel Slough – Middle Gulf Dr**. The sample was dominated by *Anabaenopsis circularis* and had no cyanotoxins detected.

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.

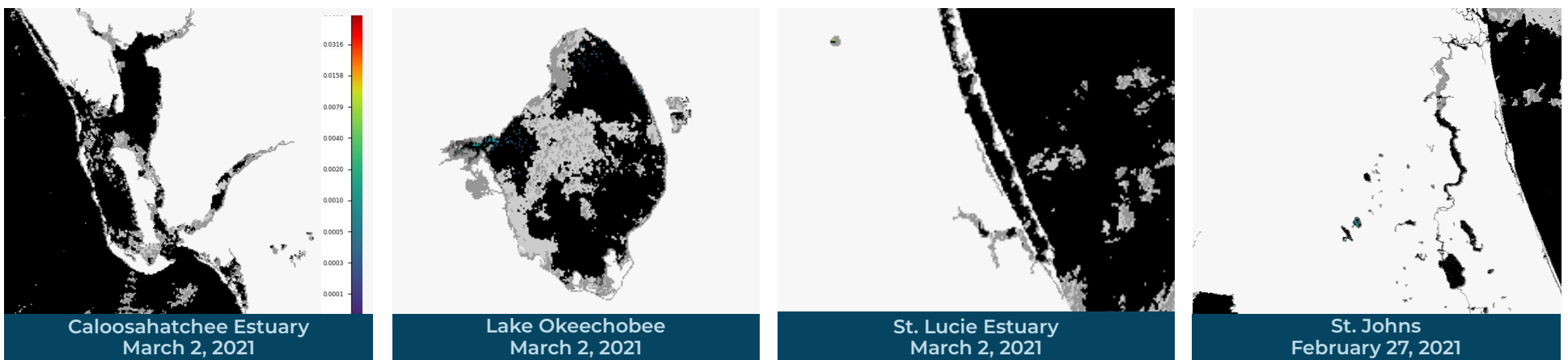
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



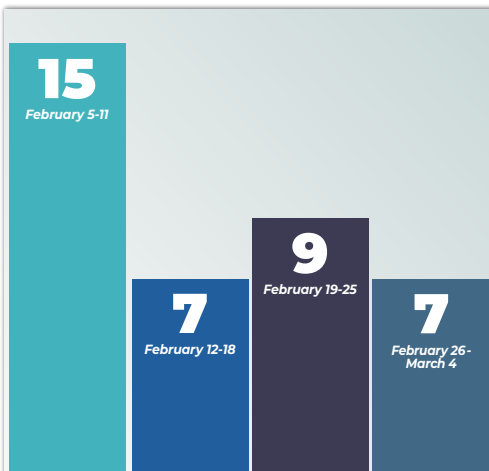
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

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