



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING MARCH 5 - MARCH 11, 2021

SUMMARY

There were 13 reported site visits in the past seven days (3/5 – 3/11), with 13 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at only one of the sites. The satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 3/10 showed no significant bloom potential on visible portions of Lake Okeechobee or either estuary; however, a significant portion of Lake Okeechobee was obscured by cloud cover. The most recent image of Lake Okeechobee that was not obscured by cloud cover is from 3/7 and no significant bloom potential was shown in that image. The best available satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 3/9 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 3/9 - 3/12, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at nine sites: **S308C, KISSR0.0, LZ2, L005, POLESOUT, RITTAE2, LZ30, PALMOUT** and **CLV10A**. No dominant algal taxon or cyanotoxins were detected in the **S308C, KISSR0.0, LZ2, L005** and **POLESOUT** samples. Results for the **RITTAE2, LZ30, PALMOUT** and **CLV10A** samples are still pending.

On 3/10, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from **Lake Crago – Near Boat Ramp**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.52 parts per billion [ppb]) of microcystins was detected.

On 3/10, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) 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.

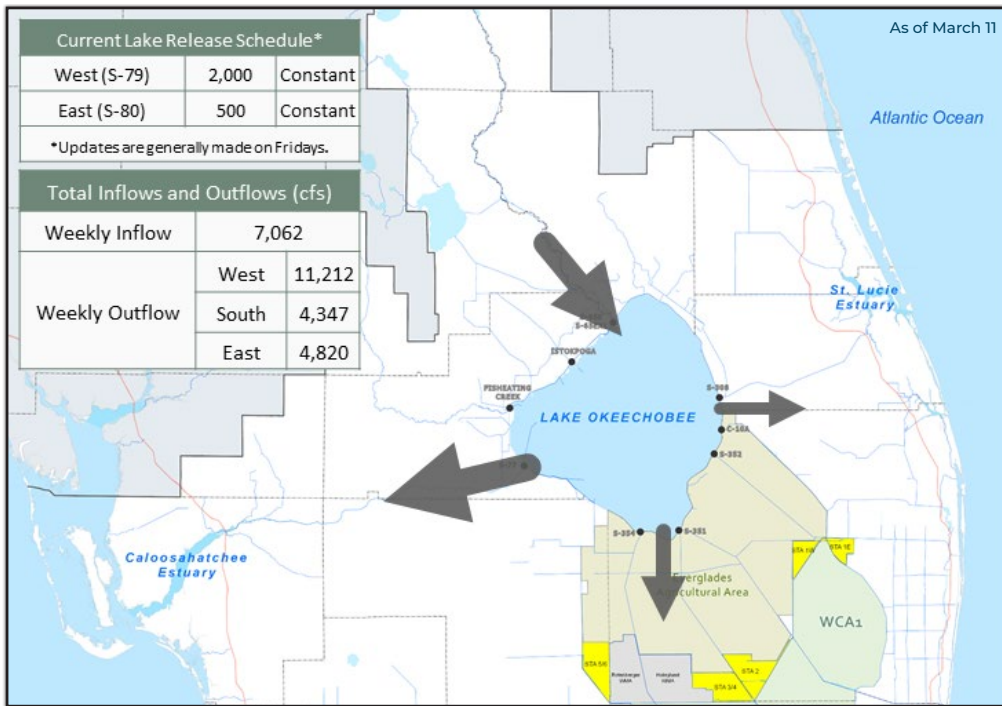
Last Week

On 3/3, FWC 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.

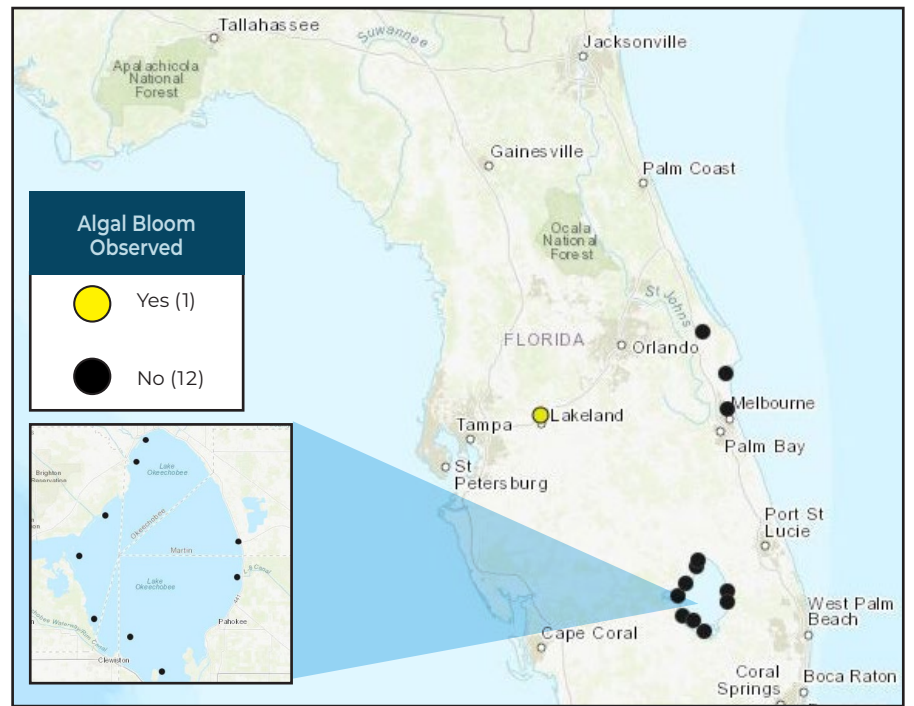
On 3/4, DEP staff sampled **Manatee River – 7th Street, Lake Eustis – Northwest Corner, Harbor Isle Lake – Center, Harbor Isle Lake – Northwest Lobe, Harbor Isle Lake – Southern Lobe, Lake Weir – Northwest Shore** and **Lake Winnott – 147 Baker Acres**. The **Manatee River – 7th Street** sample was dominated by *Enteromorpha* sp. and no cyanotoxins were detected. The **Lake Eustis – Northwest Corner** sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and a trace level (0.35 ppb) of microcystins was detected. The **Harbor Isle Lake – Center, Harbor Isle Lake – Northwest Lobe** and **Harbor Isle Lake – Southern Lobe** samples were all co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Prorocentrum minimum* and had 1.4 ppb, 1.1 ppb and 1.2 ppb microcystins, respectively. The **Lake Winnott – 147 Baker Acres** sample was dominated by *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae* and had a trace level (0.37 ppb) of microcystins 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.

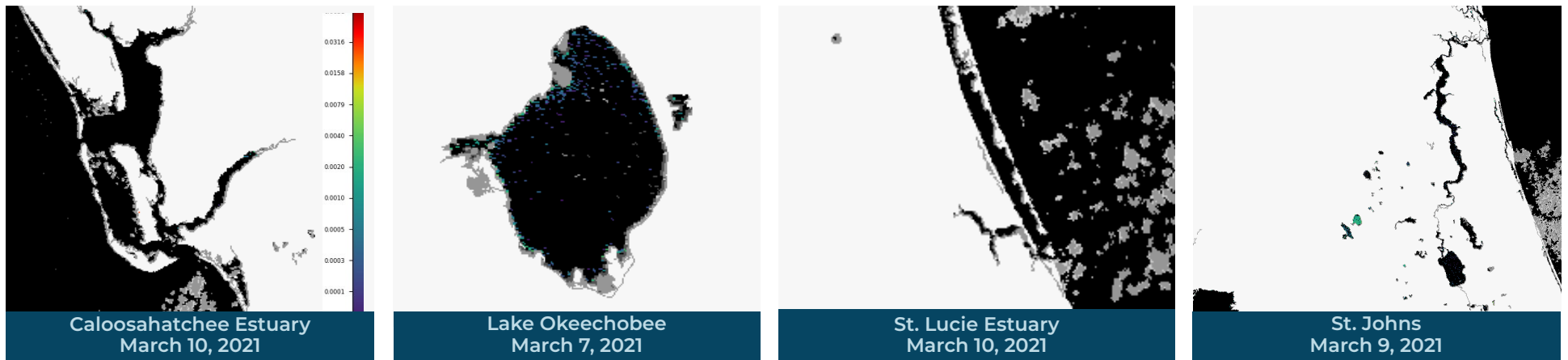
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



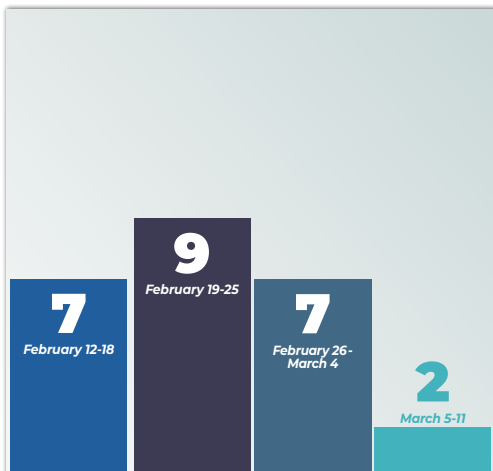
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response visit our [Water Quality website](http://WaterQuality.com) to check the current status and to receive updates.

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