There were 18 reported site visits in the past seven days (4/16 - 4/22), with 18 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at nine of the sites. The satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 4/22 showed low to moderate bloom potential along the shoreline of Lake Okeechobee. No significant bloom potential was observed in visible portions of the Caloosahatchee or St. Lucie rivers or estuaries. The satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 4/22 showed low to moderate bloom potential on Lake George and portions of the St. Johns River downstream of Lake George. 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 4/16, 4/17, 4/18, 4/21 and 4/22, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected water samples at approximately nine locations in the area near Port Manatee in Tampa Bay in response to the Piney Point emergency release. Bloom conditions have been observed in the localized area of previous discharges and continue to be monitored. To date results have ranged from non-detect to trace (0.38 parts per billion [ppb]) levels of cyanotoxins. For daily updates and sampling data results, please visit ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate.

On 4/19, Lee County staff collected a sample from the Caloosahatchee River – Alva Boat Ramp. The sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had 3.5 ppb microcystins detected. On 4/19, South Florida Water Management District staff collected samples at the C43 Canal – S308C, C43 Canal – S77, Lake Okeechobee – S308C (Lakelands) and Lake Okeechobee – Clewiston Boat Ramp. All four samples were dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa or Microcystis sp. and had trace (0.27 ppb), 2.0 ppb, 30 ppb and 37 ppb microcystins, respectively. On 4/22, DEP staff visited the Lake Okeechobee – S308C location. Those results are still pending.

On 4/19, DEP staff collected samples from Lake Ivanhoe – 200 Feet from Boat Ramp and Lake Estelle – Near OMA. Neither sample had a dominant algal taxon or cyanotoxins detected.

On 4/20, DEP staff collected a sample from Clear Lake – 4680 Clear Lake Drive. The sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had 12 ppb microcystins detected.

On 4/21, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from Lake Washington – Center. There was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 4/22, DEP staff collected samples from Sawgrass Lake – from CWC Dock and Dead River – Residential Canal South of US 441. Those results are still pending.

On 4/22, Orange County staff collected samples at Lake Anderson – NW Corner, Lake Conway – SW Shore and Lake Holden – 90 Miles S of Lake Holden Point. Those results are still pending.

Last Week

On 4/4 and 4/5, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples from Crescent Lake – Mouth of Dunns Creek; Lake Monroe – Center; Lake Jesup – Center; Lake George – Center; Stick Marsh – North; and Blue Cypress Lake – Center. The Crescent Lake – Mouth of Dunns sample was dominated by Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii and had trace (0.53 ppb) microcystins detected. The Lake Jesup – Center sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had trace (0.35 ppb) microcystins detected. The Lake Monroe – Center sample was dominated by Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii and had trace (0.53 ppb) microcystins detected. The Lake George – Center sample had no dominant algal taxon and trace (0.53 ppb) microcystins detected. The Stick Marsh – North sample had no dominant algal taxon and trace (0.26 ppb) microcystins detected. The Blue Cypress Lake – Center sample had no dominant algal taxon and had trace (0.27 ppb) microcystins detected.

On 4/4, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff collected algal identification samples at Indian River – Parish Park, Banana River – S20 Stick Boat Ramp and Indian River – Eau Gallie Pier. Cyanotoxin samples were not collected. Analytical results are still pending.

On 4/4, 4/5, and 4/6, South Florida Water Management District staff collected a sample from the C51 Canal – S555. The sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had no cyanotoxins detected.

On 4/5, DEP staff collected samples from the Caloosahatchee River – Franklin Lock (S79 Upstream) and Lake Winnott – 147 Bakers Acres. The Caloosahatchee River – Franklin Lock (S79 Upstream) sample had no dominant algal taxon and trace (0.59 ppb) microcystins detected. The Lake Winnott – 147 Bakers Acres sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had 2.3 ppb microcystins detected.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analysis results 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 colors represent different algal bloom conditions (blue/green, green, brown/marshy, etc.). All text details are subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

For information on red tide and other saltwater algal blooms please visit ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/RedTide.

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Visit our Florida Poison Control Centers (to report freshwater blooms)
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Learn more about Florida’s Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response
visit our Water Quality website to check the current status and to receive updates.

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