



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCTOBER 16 - OCTOBER 22, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 31 reports of visits in the past seven days (10/16 – 10/22), with 31 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at eight sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 10/17 to 10/22 has been heavily obscured by cloud cover. Only a small fraction of the southwest portion of the lake is visible in imagery from 10/18 and there is some indication of low algal bloom potential in the few visible portions. The most recent viable imagery available was included in last week's HAB report. The imagery from 10/15 showed approximately 40% coverage of medium to high algal bloom potential on the lake. No bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 10/17 to 10/22 has also been heavily obscured by cloud cover. The 10/18 imagery is least obscured and did not show any significant bloom potential on **Lake George** or visible portions of the **main stem of the St. Johns River**. 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 10/19, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples from **C43 Canal – S77 (Upstream)** and **S308C (Lakeside)**. No dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected in the two samples.

On 10/21, SFWMD staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at the following stations. Cyanotoxin results are included in parentheses following each station name: **KISSRO.0** (non-detect), **LZ2** (non-detect), **NES191** (non-detect), **L001** (non-detect), **NES135** (non-detect), **NCENTER** (non-detect), **EASTSHORE** (non-detect), **L004** (non-detect), **L008** (2.3 parts per billion), **L005** (non-detect), **POLESOUT** (non-detect), **POLESOUT1** (trace 0.56 ppb), **POLESOUT2** (non-detect), **POLESOUT3** (5.0 ppb), and **KBARSE** (non-detect). *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon in six samples (**L008**, **POLESOUT**, **POLESOUT1**, **POLESOUT2**, **POLESOUT3** and **KBARSE**). The **KISSRO.0** samples were co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wessenbergii*; the **L005** samples were co-dominated by *Planktolyngbya limnetica* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*.

On 10/22, samples were collected at **Lake Okeechobee** stations **PALMOUT1**, **PALMOUT2**, **PALMOUT3**, **LZ30**, **POLE3S**, **RITTAE2**, **LZ25A**, **L007**, **L006**, **PELBAY3**, and **LZ40**. Sample results are pending.

On 10/20, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected a sample at **Lake Jessup-Center** that was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. The sample had a trace level (0.55 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin detected (saxitoxin results pending).

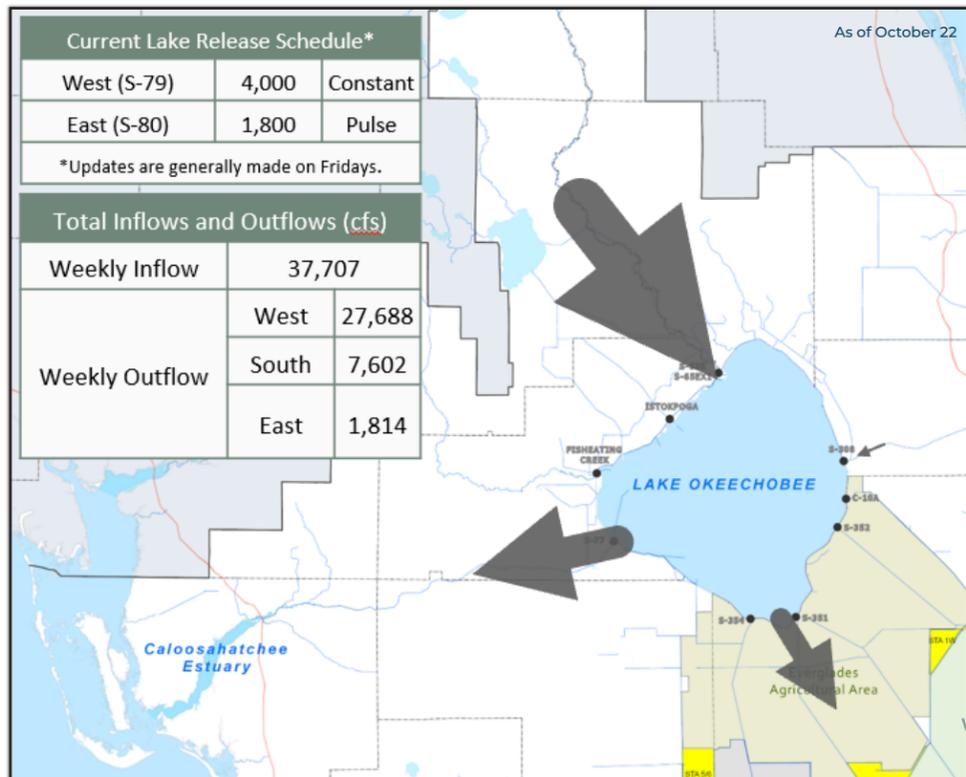
SJRWMD collected a sample at **Lake Washington Center** on 10/20 and a sample at **Center of Lake Monroe** on 10/21. No dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected in the two samples (saxitoxin results pending).

Last Week
SJRWMD staff collected a sample from **Crescent Lake – mouth of Dunns Creek** on 10/14 and samples from **SJR at Mandarin Point**, **Doctor's Lake-Center**, and **SJR at Shands Bridge** on 10/15. The **Crescent Lake at Dunns Creek** and **SJR at Shands Bridge** samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*; the other two samples had no dominant taxon. No cyanotoxins were detected in the four samples (saxitoxin results pending).

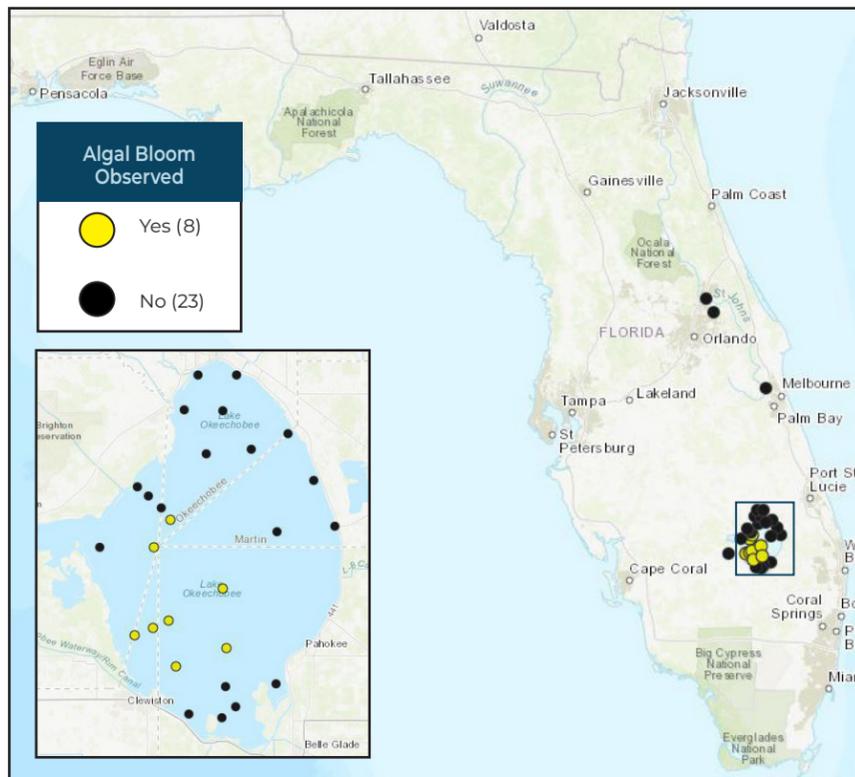
On 10/15, DEP collected a sample from **Direct Run-off upstream of Laurel Drive**. The sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis wessenbergii* and *Dolichospermum planctonicum*. Toxins were detected 3.1 ppb, the result was Y qualified to indicate improper sample preservation because the sample was received above six degrees Celsius.

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.

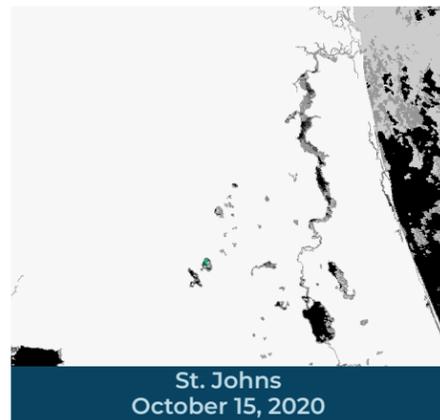
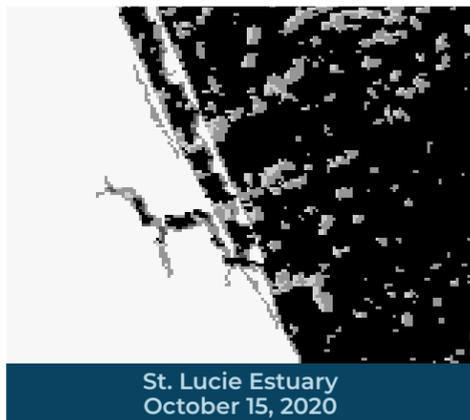
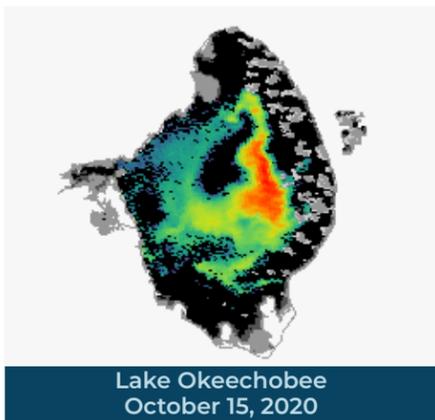
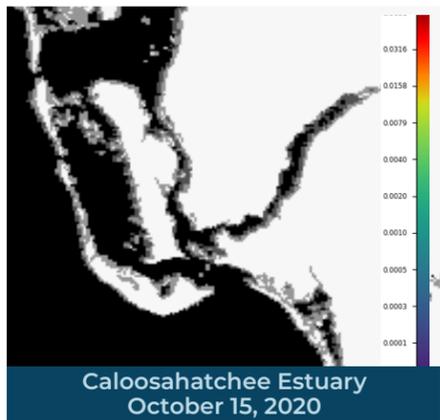
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



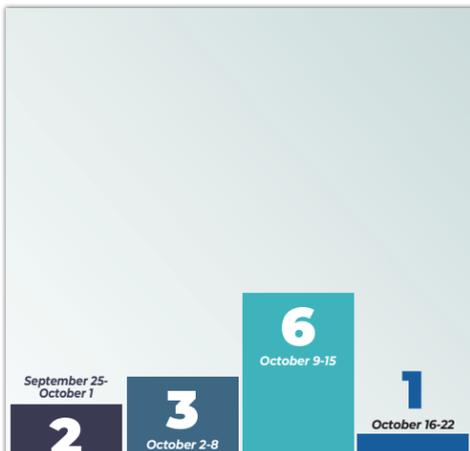
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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](http://WaterQuality) website to check the current status and to receive updates.

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