



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING DECEMBER 4 - DECEMBER 10, 2020

SUMMARY

There were three reports of visits in the past seven days (12/4 - 12/10), with three samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at three sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 12/8 showed widespread, scattered low bloom potential on **Lake Okeechobee**. Similar scattered low bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of both estuaries. According to National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration staff that manage the satellite imagery, low light levels and the dark water color may have disrupted the algorithm used to estimate the chlorophyll concentration, leading to the speckled appearance of the imagery; therefore, no percent algal cover is being estimated for this week's image.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 12/10 showed similar widespread, scattered low bloom potential on visible portions on **Lake George and 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 12/10, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected samples from the **Banana River - between NASA and 528 Causeways** and **North Indian River Lagoon - SW of 406 Causeway**. Results are still pending.

On 12/10, Orange County staff collected a sample from **Lake Anderson - N Shore**. Results are still pending.

Last Week

On 12/2, SJRWMD staff collected samples at **Banana River between NASA and 528 Causeways** and **North Indian River Lagoon - SW of 406 Causeway**. No cyanotoxins were detected and algal identifications are still pending.

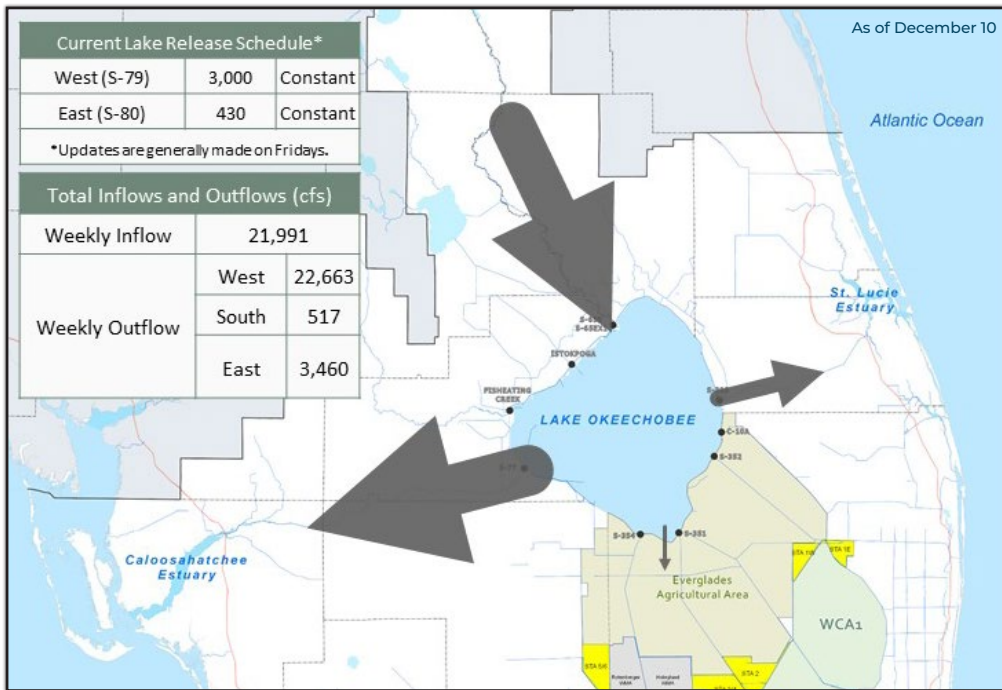
On 12/2, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected samples at **Eau Gallie River - Ballard Park** and **Eau Gallie Causeway - Boat Ramp**. No cyanotoxins were detected and algal identifications are still pending.

On 12/2, Collier County staff collected a sample at **Doctors Bay - Naples Park Shore**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

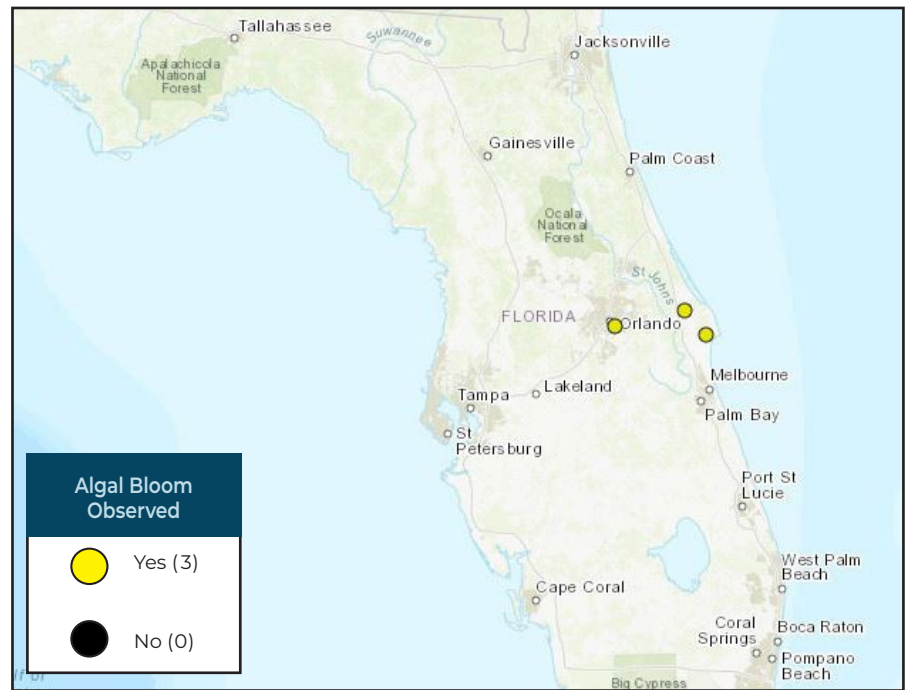
On 12/3, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff collected samples at **Indian River - Parrish Park**, **Banana River - Slick Boat Ramp** and **Indian River - Eau Gallie Pier**. No cyanotoxins were detected and algal identifications are still pending.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer 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.

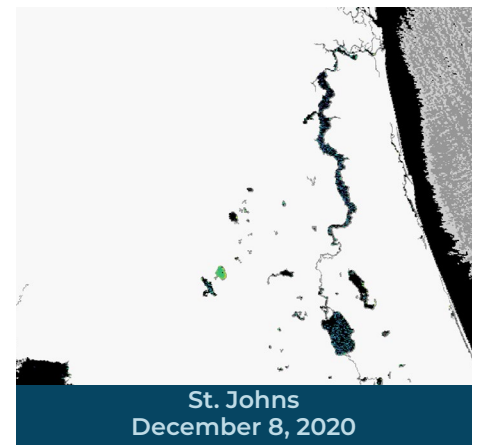
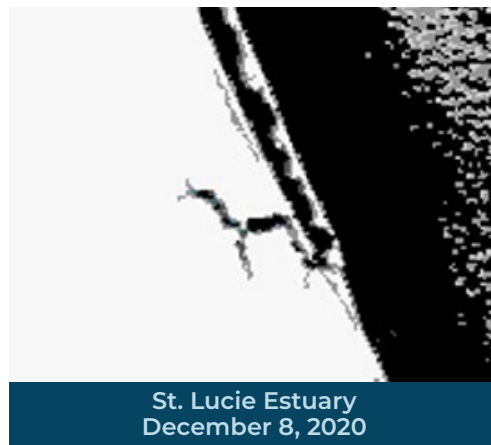
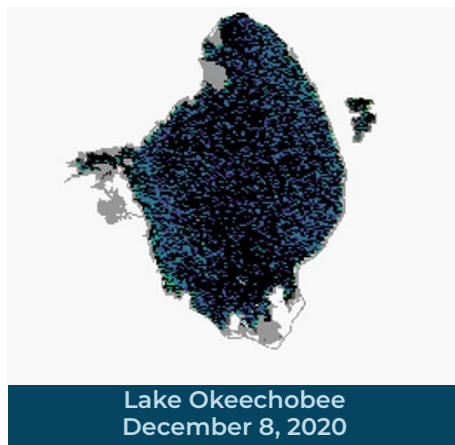
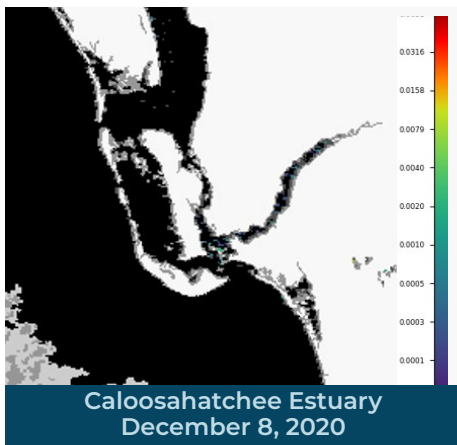
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



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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