



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING DECEMBER 11 - DECEMBER 17, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 23 reports of visits in the past seven days (12/11 – 12/17), with 23 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at nine sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 12/16/20 showed no bloom potential on **Lake Okeechobee** or visible portions of the **St. Lucie Estuary**. The imagery for the **Caloosahatchee Estuary** was not visible during the 12/16 satellite fly over.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 12/15 showed no 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 12/14 – 12/16, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected nine samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside), KISSR0.0, LZ2, L005, POLESOUT, RITTAE2, LZ30 CLV10A, and PALMOUT**. Total microcystin results are in parentheses following each sample location name: **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside)** (non-detect), **KISSR0.0** (trace, 0.27 parts per billion), **LZ2** (trace, 0.26 ppb), **L005** (non-detect), **POLESOUT** (non-detect), **RITTAE2** (trace, 0.41 ppb), **LZ30** (non-detect) **CLV10A** (non-detect), and **PALMOUT** (trace, 0.69 ppb). Four of the nine sites were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, while the rest had no dominant algal taxa.

On 12/14, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected a sample from **Lake Idyl – dock**. No cyanotoxins were detected in the sample and there was no dominant algal taxon.

On 12/15, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples from **Lake Washington – Center, St. Johns River – CM 13 Near San Mateo, and Lake George – Center**. Cyanotoxins were non-detect for all three samples. Saxitoxin results are still pending. There was no dominant algal taxon in any of these samples.

On 12/15, DEP staff collected water samples at **Harbor Isles – Southern Lobe, Harbor Isles – NW Lobe, Lake Kissimmee – SW Brahma Island, and S65 - Lakeside**. The **Harbor Isles – Southern Lobe** sample had 6.0 ppb total microcystins, the **Harbor Isles – NW Lobe** sample had 5.4 ppb total microcystins, the **Lake Kissimmee – SW Brahma Island** sample had no detectable cyanotoxins, and the **S65 – Lakeside** sample had a trace level (0.27 ppb) of total microcystins. All four samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*.

On 12/16, DEP staff collected samples from the Indian River Lagoon at four locations, **IRL – Cocoa Village Marina, IRL – 528 Bridge South, IRL – 528 Bridge North, and IRL – North of Magnolia Point**. Only the **IRL – Cocoa Village Marina** and **IRL – 528 Bridge North** samples contained trace levels of total microcystin (0.32 ppb and 0.31 ppb, respectively). Microcystins were not detected in the other two samples. Saxitoxin results are pending. There was no dominant algal taxon in any of these samples.

On 12/17, DEP staff collected samples at **Lake Formosa – Asher Lane, and Lake Melva**. Results are still pending.

Last Week

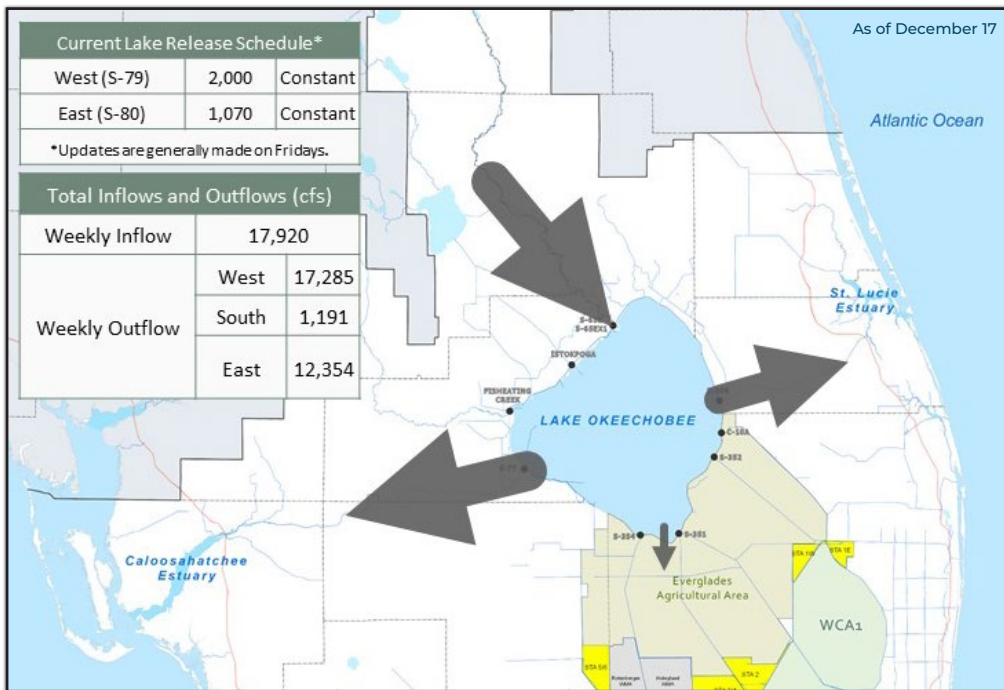
On 12/10, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples from the **Banana River – between NASA and 528 Causeways** and **North Indian River Lagoon – SW of 406 Causeway**. No cyanotoxins were detected in either sample. Algal identification was not performed on these samples.

On 12/10, Orange County staff collected a sample from **Lake Anderson – N Shore**. The sample contained 2.0 ppb total microcystins and was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*.

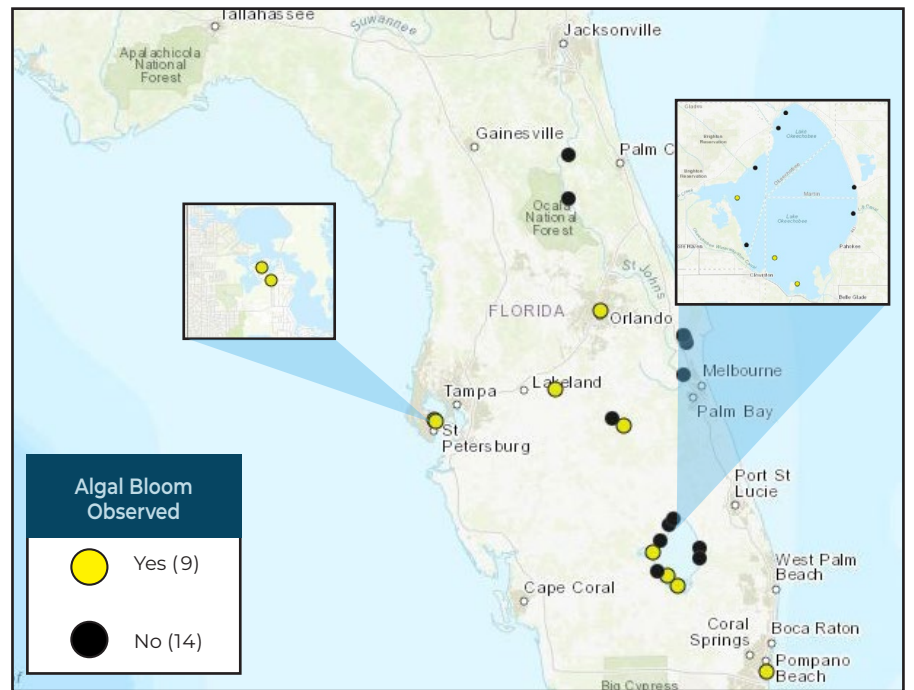
Note: Due to holiday state office closures, reports for the forthcoming two weeks will be distributed on Dec. 28 and Jan. 4, 2021, respectively.

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.

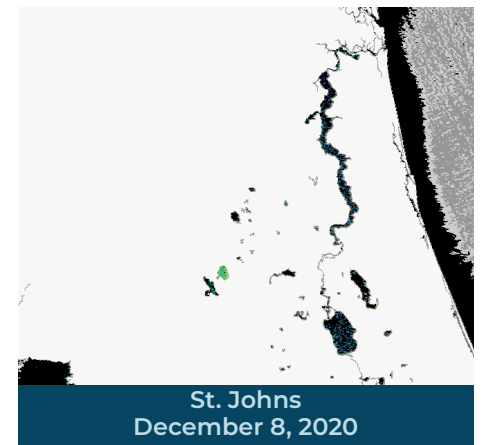
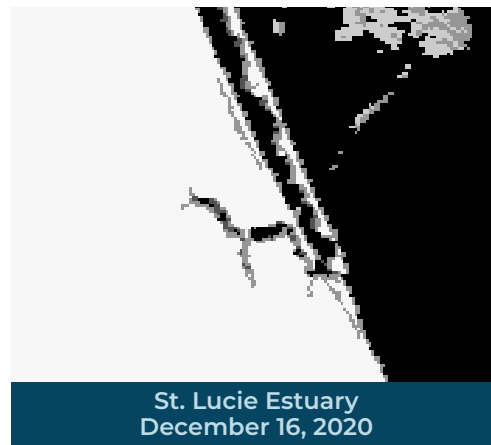
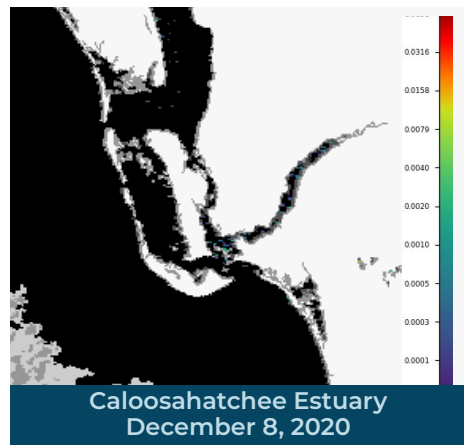
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



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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