



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING DECEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 27, 2020

SUMMARY

There were six reports of visits in the past seven days (12/18 – 12/24), with six samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were not observed by the samplers at any of the sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 12/27/20 showed no significant bloom potential on visible portions of **Lake Okeechobee** and the **St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries**.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 12/27 showed low scattered bloom potential 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 12/21, South Florida Water Management District staff collected a sample at **Lake Kissimmee – S65 (lakeside)**. The sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wessenbergii*. A trace level (0.43 parts per billion) of total microcystin was detected.

On 12/21, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected samples from **Stick Marsh – North** and **Blue Cypress Lake – Center**. Neither sample had a dominant algal taxon. The **Stick Marsh – North** sample had a trace level (0.37 ppb) of total microcystin. The **Blue Cypress Lake – Center** sample had no cyanotoxins detected.

On 12/21, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff collected samples from **Indian River – Parrish Park**, **Banana River – 520 Slick Boat Ramp** and **Indian River – Eau Gallie Pier**. Results are still pending for the algal identifications. No cyanotoxins were collected.

Last Week

On 12/15, SJRWMD 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. Saxitoxins were non-detect. There was no dominant algal taxon in any of these samples.

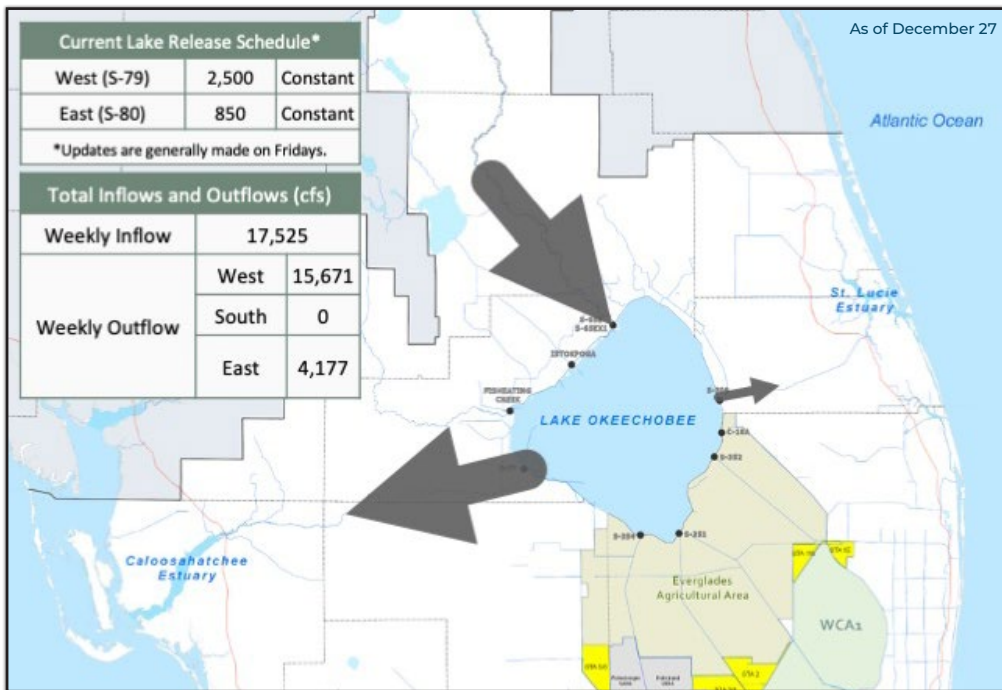
On 12/16, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples from the Indian River Lagoon at four locations: **IRL – Cocoa Village Marina**, **IRL – 528 Bridge South**, **IRL – 528 Bridge North** and **IRL – North of Magnolia Point**. The **IRL – Cocoa Village Marina** and **IRL – 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. Saxitoxins were non-detect. 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**. The **Lake Formosa – Asher Lane** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.46 ppb) of total microcystin. The **Lake Melva** sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Characium rostratum*, and 3.9 ppb of total microcystin was detected.

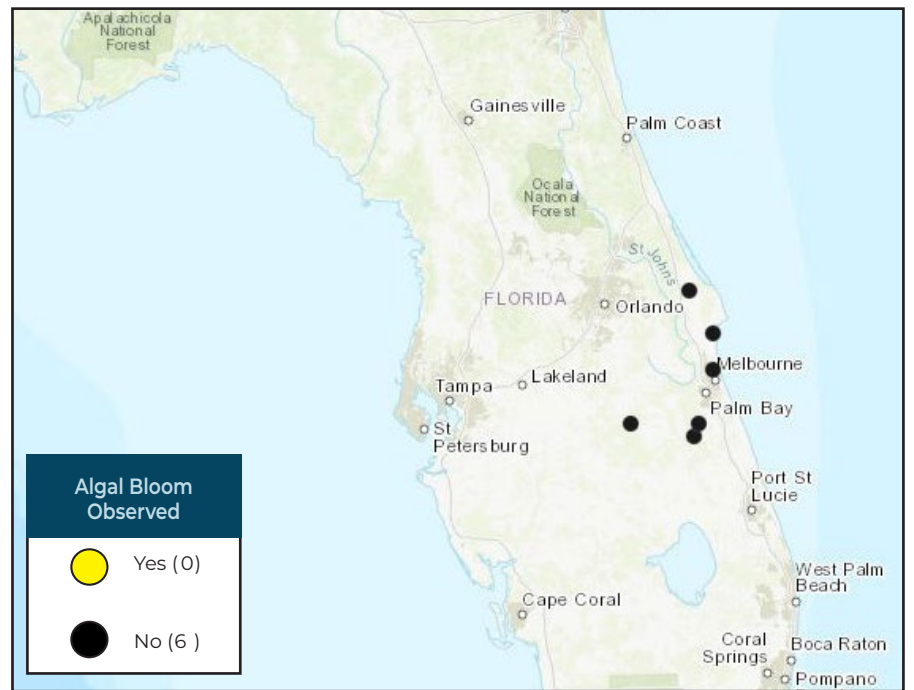
Note: Due to holiday state office closure, the report for the forthcoming week will be distributed on Jan. 4, 2021.

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.

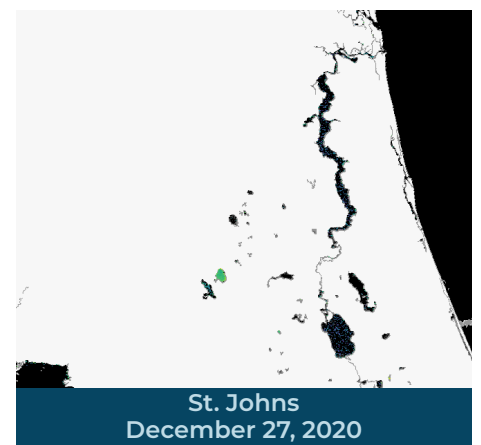
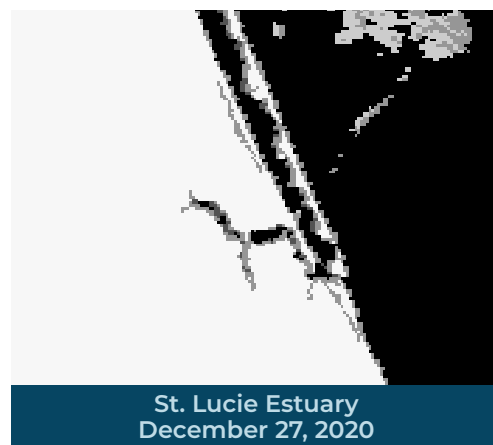
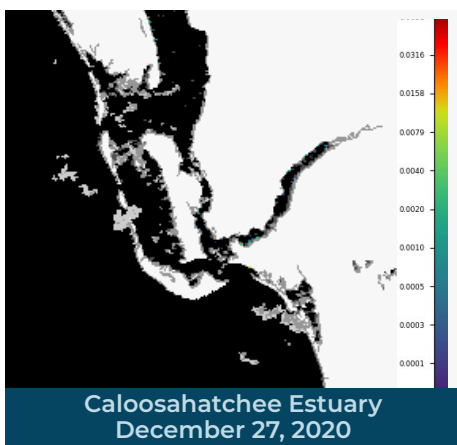
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



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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