



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

## REPORTING MARCH 13 - MARCH 19, 2020

### SUMMARY

There were two reported site visits in the past seven days (3/13 - 3/19), with two samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at one site.

The most recent NOAA satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is from 3/17 and shows approximately 5% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the northwestern shores of the lake, with some cloud cover. No significant bloom potential was observed in the 3/17 imagery for the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie rivers and estuaries; however, some portions of the estuaries were obscured by cloud cover. Imagery from 3/16 for the St. Johns River also was partially obscured by cloud cover, but no bloom potential was indicated on visible portions of Lake George and on the main stem of the St. Johns River downstream of Lake George.

On 3/11, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from Lake Harris (Center). Those analytical results are now available. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*, but no cyanotoxins were detected.

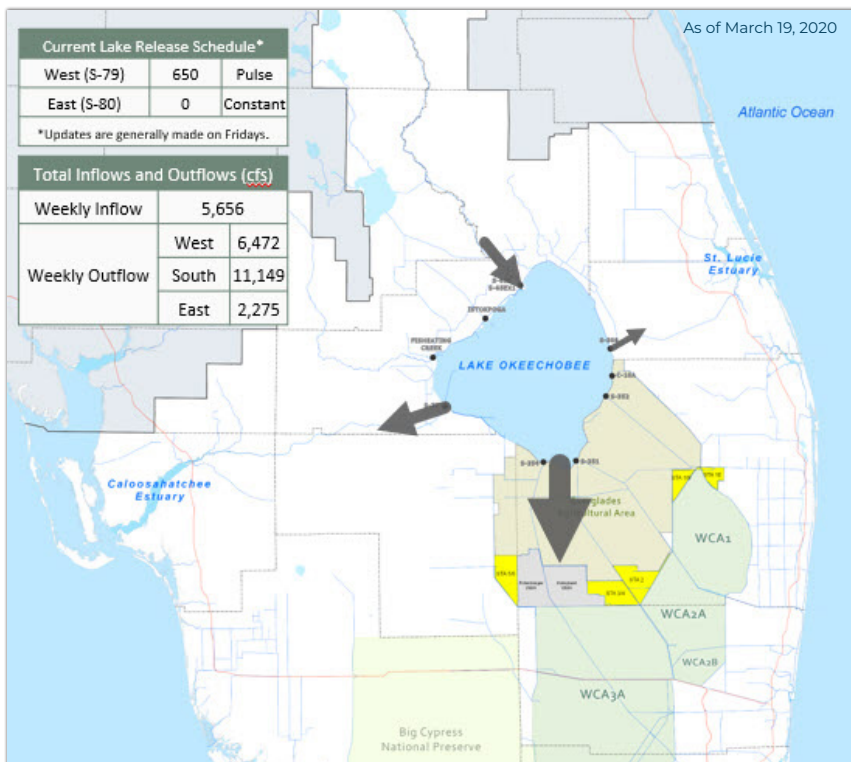
On 3/12, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples at Lake Minneola (near center), Lake Minneola (near beach), Fay Lake and Lake Dora (Center). Analysis results are now available. Both Lake Minneola samples were dominated by *Dolichospermum planctonicum*. No cyanotoxins were detected in either sample. The Fay Lake sample had no dominant algal taxa and no cyanotoxins were detected. The Lake Dora (Center) sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, but no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 3/16, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from Lake Harris (Near Eldorado). The sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. No cyanotoxins were detected.

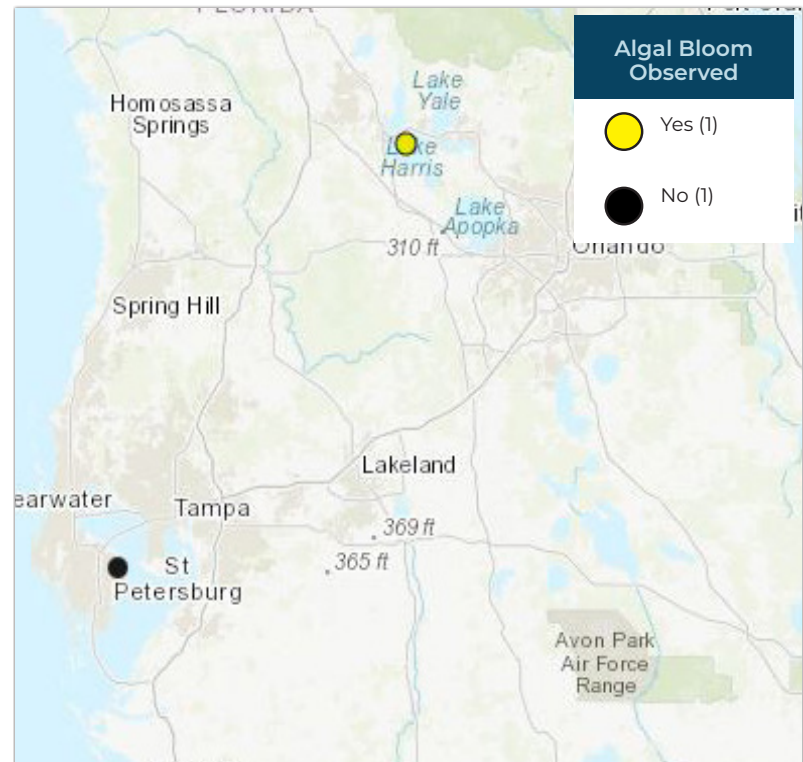
On 3/17, Florida DEP staff collected a sample from Harbor Isle Lake (Southern Lobe). The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, but no cyanotoxins were detected.

*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.*

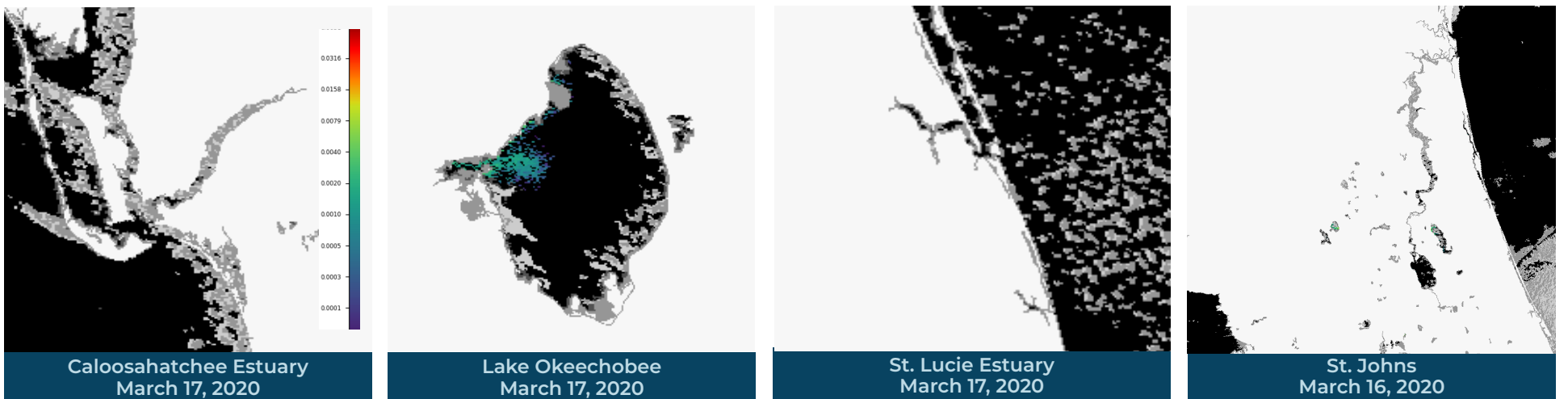
### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



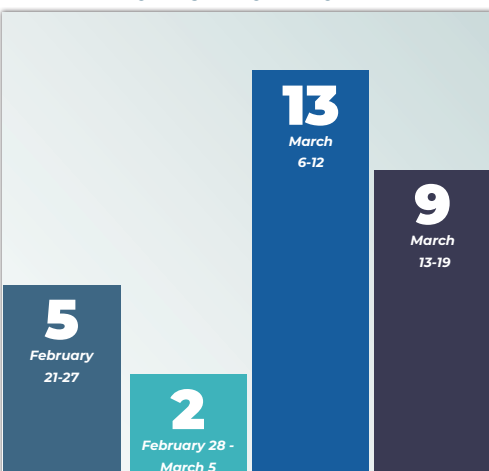
### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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](http://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](http://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](http://FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom)