# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEBRUARY 5 - FEBRUARY 11, 2021

## SUMMARY

There were 21 reported site visits in the past seven days (2/5 – 2/11) with 21 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 12 of the sites. The best available satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 2/11 showed scattered low bloom potential on visible portions of Lake Okeechobee. No significant bloom potential was observed in either estuary. Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 2/11 showed no bloom potential on Lake George. The lower St. Johns River was obscured by cloud cover; however, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) samplers did not observe algal bloom conditions on the St. Johns River between Mandarin Point and the Shands Bridge this week during their routine monthly monitoring trip. 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 2/8, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples from **Harbor Isle Lake – Southern Lobe**, **Harbor Isle Lake – Center** and **Harbor Isle Lake – Northwest Lobe**. All three samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 3.1 parts per billion (ppb), 3.6 ppb and 4.9 ppb total microcystin, respectively.

On 2/8, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected a sample from **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside)**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 2/8, SJRWMD staff collected samples from the **St. Johns River – Mandarin Point**, **St. Johns River – Shands Bridge** and **Doctors Lake – Center**. No dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected in any of the samples.

On 2/9, Collier County staff collected samples from **Naples Moorings Bay – Park Shore Marina** and **Naples Moorings Bay – Park Shore Discharge**. Both samples were co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Dolichospermum planctonicum*. No cyanotoxins were detected in the samples.

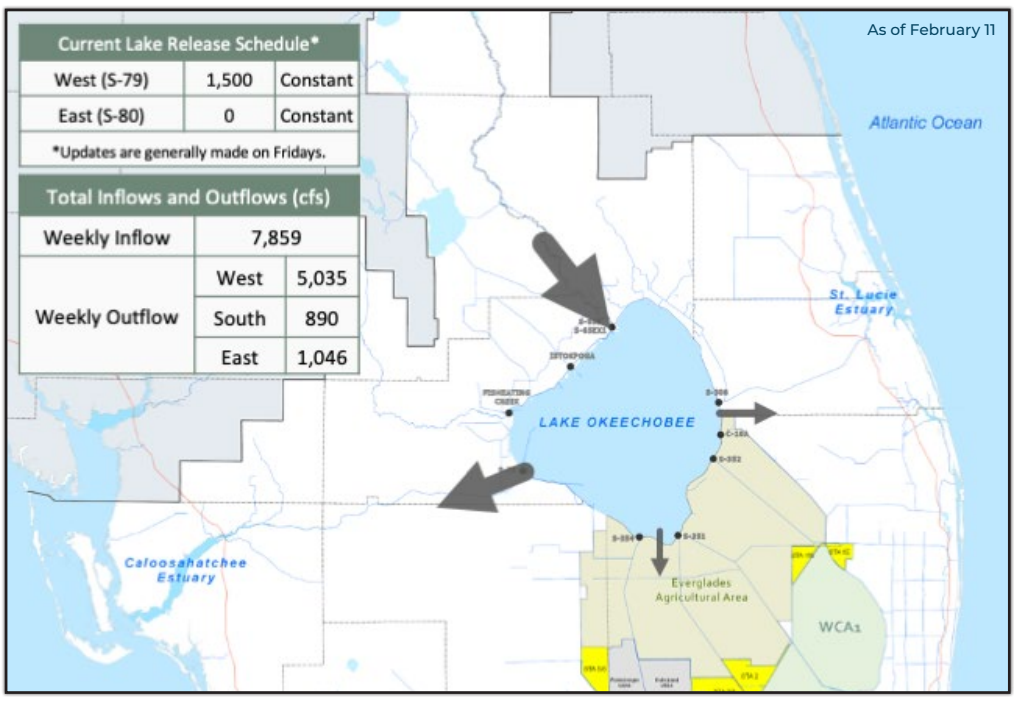
On 2/9, DEP staff collected a sample from **Black Creek Canal – Ebbtide Court**. The sample was dominated by *Enteromorpha flexuosa* and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 2/9 and 2/10, SFWMD staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at eight sites: **KISSR0.0, LZ2, L005, POLESOUT, RITTAE2, LZ30, PALMOUT** and **CLV10A**. Due to shipping delays, these results are still pending.

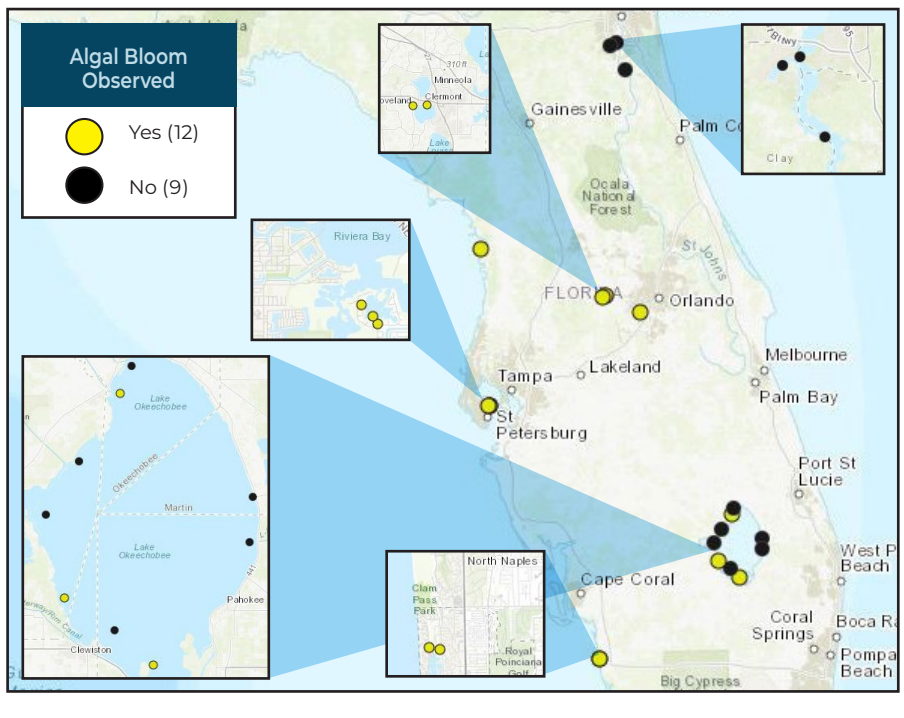
On 2/11, DEP staff collected samples from **Lake Minnehaha – 75 meters south of Lakeshore Drive**, **Lake Minnehaha –130 meters southeast of Highway 561** and **Lake Sloat**. Sample results are still pending.

*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.*

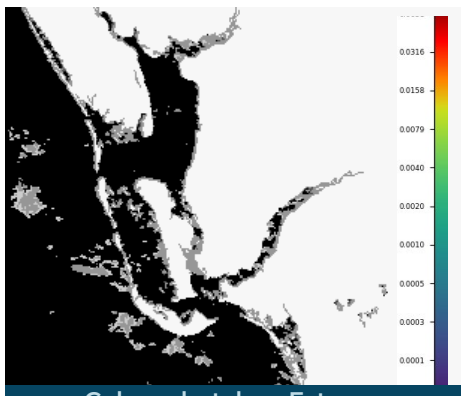
## LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS




## SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE

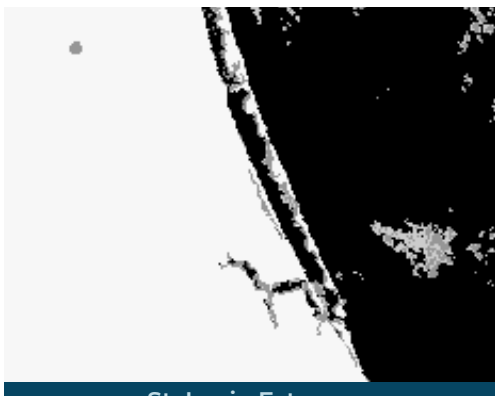



***Satellite Imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud-cover.***



Caloosahatchee Estuary
February 11, 2021

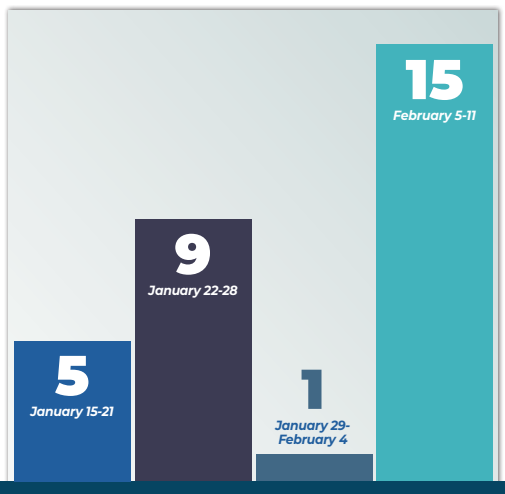
Lake Okeechobee
February 11, 2021



St. Lucie Estuary
February 11, 2021

St. Johns
February 11, 2021

## 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 to check the current status and to receive updates.**

PROTECTING TOGETHER

ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov