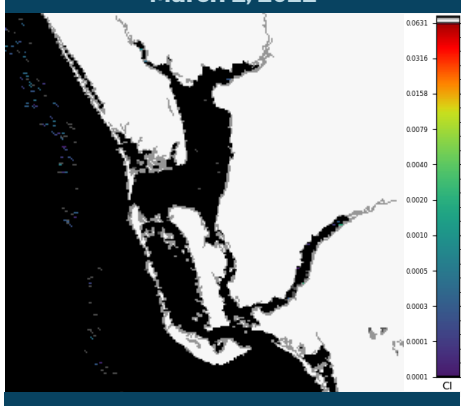
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEB. 25 – MARCH 3, 2022

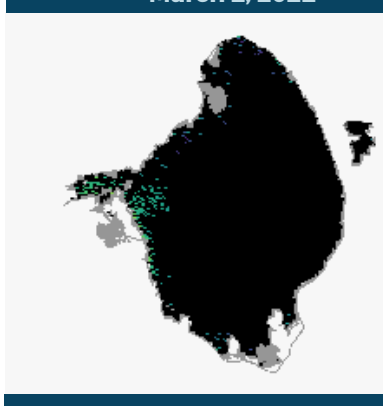
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

Caloosahatchee Estuary
March 2, 2022



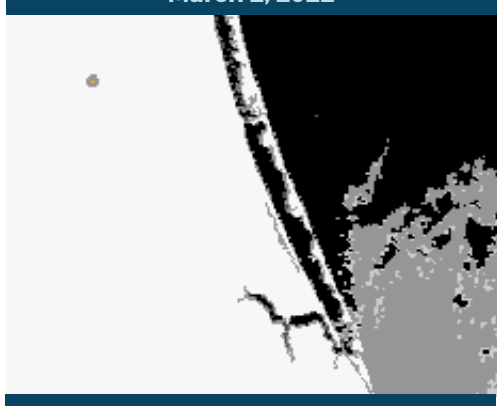
Satellite imagery shows no significant bloom potential on visible portions of the Caloosahatchee river and estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
March 2, 2022



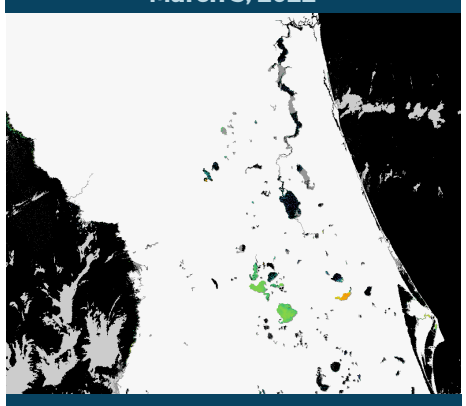
Satellite imagery shows less than 5% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the western shoreline of Lake Okeechobee.

St. Lucie Estuary
March 2, 2022



Satellite imagery shows no significant bloom potential on visible portions of the St. Lucie river and estuary.

St. Johns
March 3, 2022



Satellite imagery shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential throughout Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River downstream of the lake to Jacksonville, Florida.

SUMMARY

There were eight reported site visits in the past seven days, with eight samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at four of the sites.

On 2/28, South Florida Water Management District staff collected a sample from the **C43 Canal upstream from the S77 Structure**. There was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 2/28, Lee County staff collected a sample on the **Caloosahatchee River - Davis Boat Ramp**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 2/28, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected samples from **Lake Otis** and **Banana Lake**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had trace levels (0.43 parts per billion [ppb] and 0.44 ppb, respectively) of microcystins detected.

On 3/1, Alachua County staff collected samples from **Lake Wauburg, Newnan's Lake** and **Orange Lake**. The **Lake Wauburg** sample was dominated by *Dolichospermum helicoideium* and had a trace level (1.0 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Newnan's Lake** sample was dominated by *Dolichospermum planctonicum* and had a trace level (0.80 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Orange Lake** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 120 ppb microcystins detected.

On 3/1, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from **Lake Weir**. The sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and no cyanotoxins were detected.

Last Week

On 2/23 – 2/24, DEP staff collected samples from **Lake Sue; Lake Estelle; Hillsborough River at Franciscan Center; Lake Formosa; Banana River at Sunset Drive; Lake Copeland;** and **Lake Chelton.**

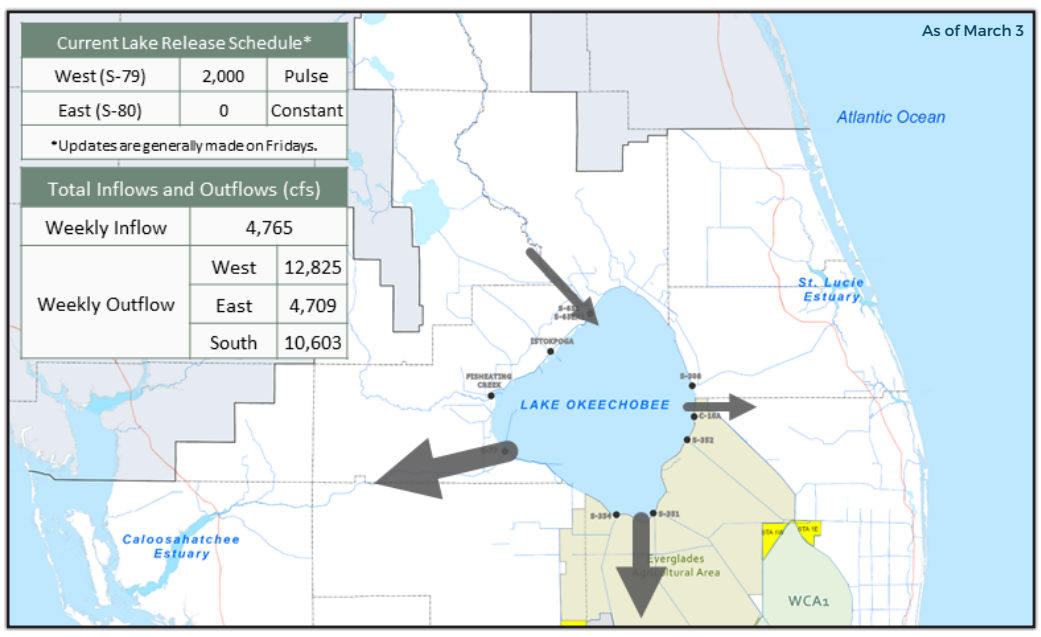
The **Lake Sue, Lake Estelle** and **Lake Formosa** samples were each dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 50 ppb, trace (0.38 ppb) and trace (1.2 ppb) of microcystins detected, respectively. The **Hillsborough River at Franciscan Center** sample was dominated by a green alga, *Chlamydomonas sp.*, and had a trace level (0.27 ppb) of microcystins detected.

The **Banana River at Sunset Drive** benthic algal sample was co-dominated by *Spirogyra sp.* and *Cladophora* and the water sample was dominated by diatoms, with no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Copeland** and **Lake Chelton** samples had no dominant algal taxon. The **Lake Copeland** sample had no cyanotoxins detected, and the **Lake Chelton** sample had 0.66 ppb of microcystins detected.

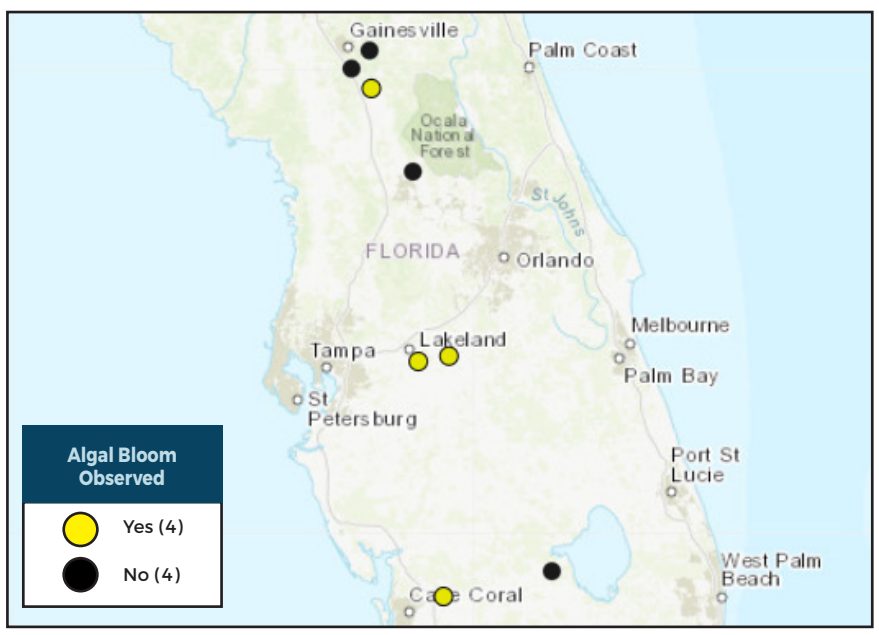
Results for completed analyses are available and posted at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer to 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 staying out of water where algae is visibly present as specks or mats or where water is discolored pea-green, blue-green or brownish-red. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with algal bloom-impacted water or with algal bloom material or fish on the shoreline.

LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



SIGN-UP FOR UPDATES

PROTECTING TOGETHER

To receive personalized email notifications about blue-green algae and red tide, visit ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov.

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