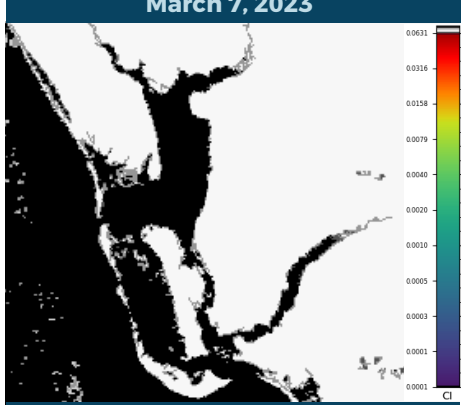
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING MARCH 3 - MARCH 9, 2023

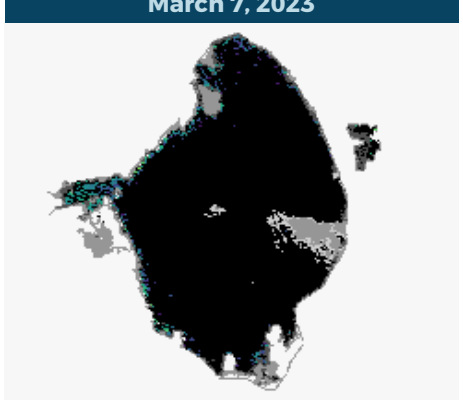
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
March 7, 2023



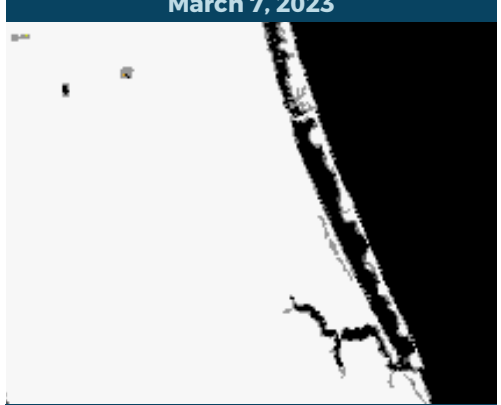
Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no bloom potential.

Lake Okeechobee
March 7, 2023



Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows scattered low bloom potential, primarily along the northern, western and southern shorelines.

St. Lucie Estuary
March 7, 2023



Satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary shows no bloom potential.

St. Johns River
March 7, 2023

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows no bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George or the mainstem of the river.

SUMMARY

There were 28 reported site visits in the past seven days with 28 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 16 of the sites.

On 3/7-3/9, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples at 15 locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name. DEP continues to monitor the persistent algal bloom in **Georges Lake**. *The Putnam County Health Department's existing Cyanobacteria Health Alert remains in effect while results are pending.*

- **Lake Baldwin - Fleet Peeples Park:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 0.43 parts per billion (ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Whistler - at Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 5.1 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Fish Lake - NE Shore:** No dominant algal taxon in water sample, algal mat sample dominated by *Oedogonium sp.*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Hollingsworth - at Lakeland Water Ski Club:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.40 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Scott Lake - at Fitzgerald Rd Boat Ramp:** No dominant algal taxon; trace level (0.35 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Osceola - Canton Ave:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.21 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Virginia - Dinky Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.10 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Sunset Lake - W Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Woronichinia naegeliana* co-dominant; 2.8 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Pearl - Woodside Village Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.96 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Blue Lake - Lagrow Rd:** Results pending.
- **Lake Placid - Boat Ramp:** Results pending.
- **Georges Lake - Boat Ramp Rd:** Results pending. Bloom still observed, but conditions improved.
- **Georges Lake – Center:** Results pending. Bloom still observed, but conditions improved.
- **Lake Glenada - Boat Ramp:** Results pending.

On 3/6-3/9, South Florida Water Management District staff collected four HAB response samples and eight routine HAB monitoring samples.

- **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.53 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **C44 canal - S308C (canal side):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee – POLESOUT:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - L005:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - KISSR0.0:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - LZ2:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee – PALMOUT:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - LZ30:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - RITTAE2:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - CLV10A:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 3/6, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected one HAB response sample at **Newnans Lake – Center**. The sample was dominated by *Dolichospermum sp.* and had a trace level (0.96 ppb) of microcystins detected.

Last Week

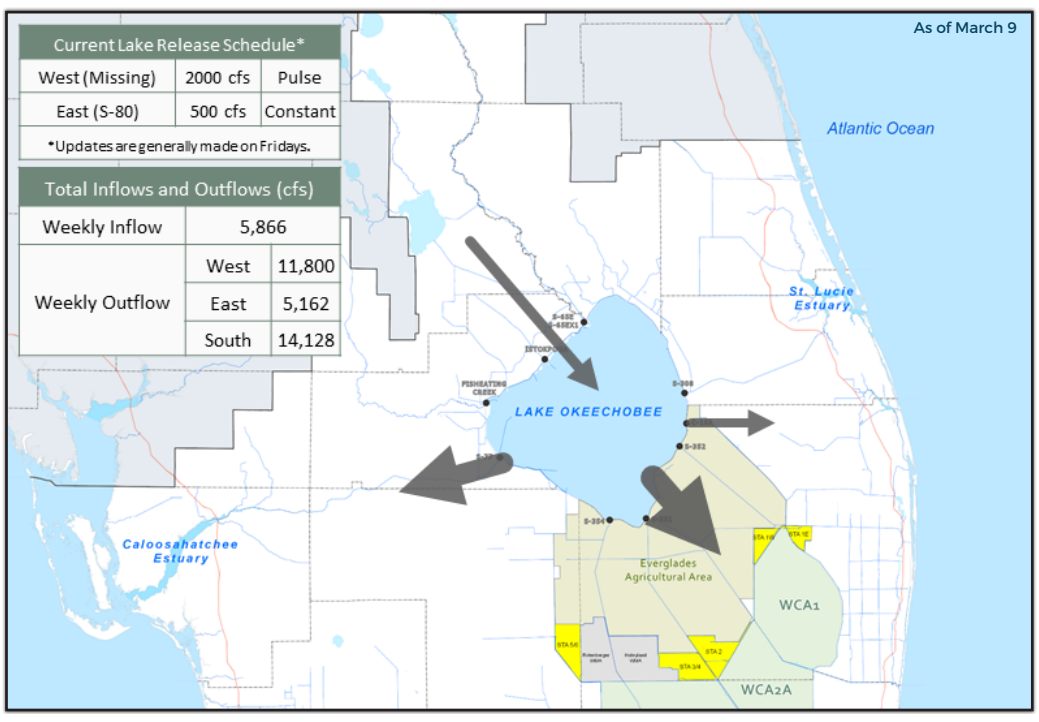
Results are now available for four sites where DEP staff collected HAB response samples on 2/27-3/2. *The Putnam County Health Department's existing Cyanobacteria Health Alert remains in effect while results are pending for Georges Lake, and DEP staff are resampling weekly to monitor the cyanotoxin concentrations.*

- **Lake Maitland - Kraft Azalea Garden:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.43 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Louise Lake - NW Lobe:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 3.9 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Georges Lake – Center:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 4.9 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Georges Lake - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 100 ppb microcystins detected.

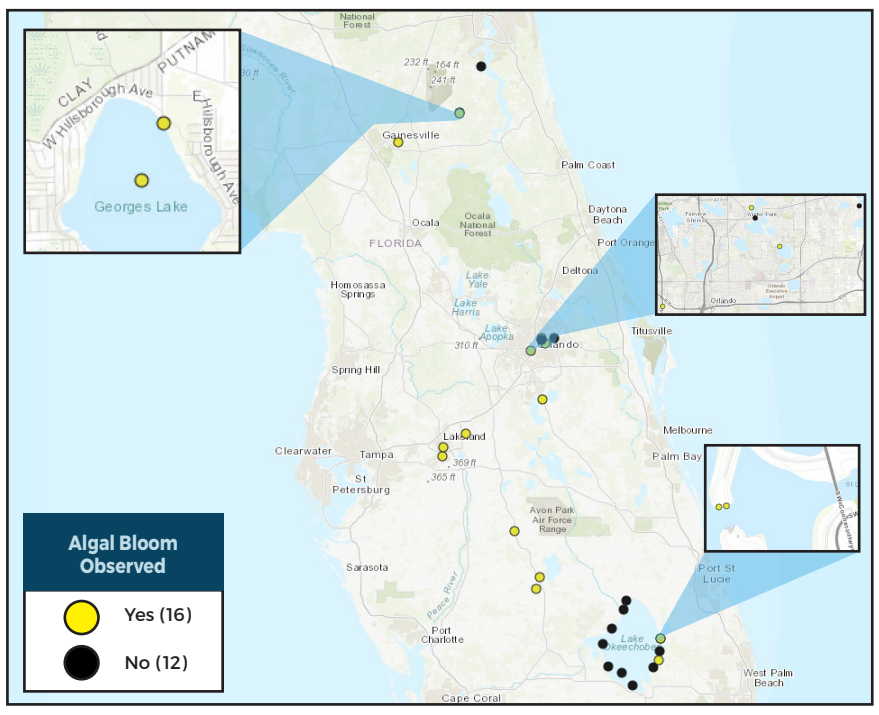
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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

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

PROTECTING TOGETHER

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