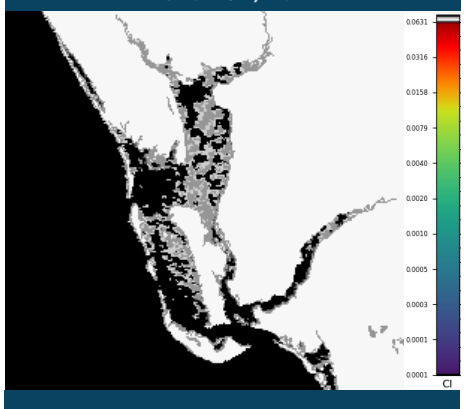
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING MARCH 25 –31, 2022

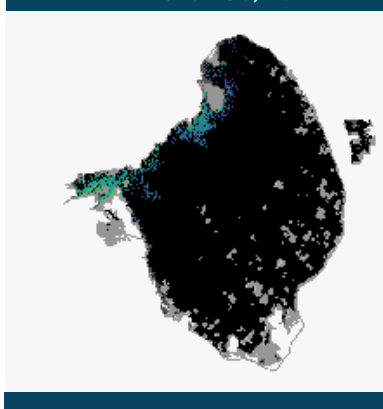
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
March 31, 2022



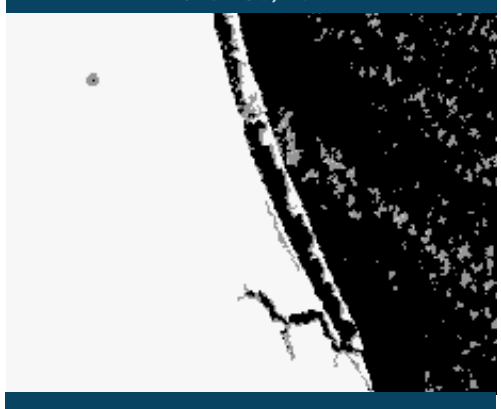
Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no significant bloom potential.

Lake Okeechobee
March 30, 2022



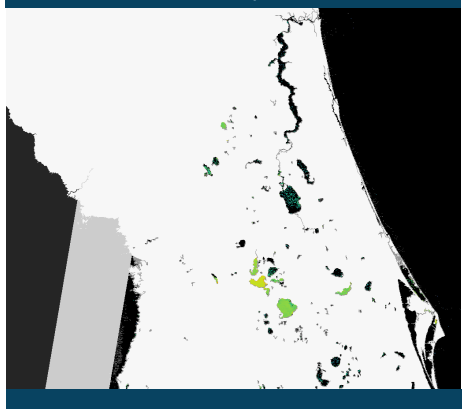
Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows approximately 5% coverage of low to moderate bloom potential along the northwest shore of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
March 30, 2022



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

St. Johns
March 29, 2022



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

SUMMARY

There were 16 reported site visits in the past seven days, with 15 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at eight of the sites.

On 3/28, South Florida Water Management District staff collected a sample from the **C43 Canal – Upstream S77 Structure**. There was no dominant algal taxon in the sample and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 3/28, Lee County staff collected samples from the **Caloosahatchee River – Alva Boat Ramp** and **Caloosahatchee River – Davis Boat Ramp**. The **Caloosahatchee River – Alva Boat Ramp** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. The **Caloosahatchee River – Davis Boat Ramp** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected.

On 3/28, Pinellas County staff visited **Lake Seminole – North End** but found only aquatic plants. No samples were collected.

On 3/28 - 3/31, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected samples at **Orange River – RV Boat Ramp; Caloosahatchee River – Upstream of Franklin Lock; Lake Glenda; Lake Okeechobee – Canal Point Boat Ramp; L-10 Canal - S352 Structure; Lake Sue; Lake Formosa;** and **Lake Virginia**. The **Orange River – RV Boat Ramp** and **Caloosahatchee River – Upstream of Franklin Lock** samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Glenda** sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Okeechobee – Canal Point Boat Ramp** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **L-10 Canal - S352 Structure** had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. Sample results for **Lake Sue, Lake Formosa** and **Lake Virginia** are still pending.

On 3/29 - 3/30, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected samples from **Stickmarsh – South; Stickmarsh-STKM; Blue Cypress Lake;** and **Crescent Lake – Mouth of Dunns Creek**. The **Stickmarsh – South, Stickmarsh-STKM** and **Blue Cypress Lake** samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **Crescent Lake – Mouth of Dunns Creek** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

Last Week

On 3/22 – 3/23, SJRWMD staff collected samples from **Lake Monroe, Lake Washington** and **Lake Jesup**. The **Lake Monroe** sample was co-dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and *Planktolyngbya limnetica* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Washington** sample had a trace level (0.30 ppb [parts per billion]) of microcystins detected. The **Lake Jesup** sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and had a trace level (0.47 ppb) of microcystins detected. No saxitoxins were detected in any of these samples.

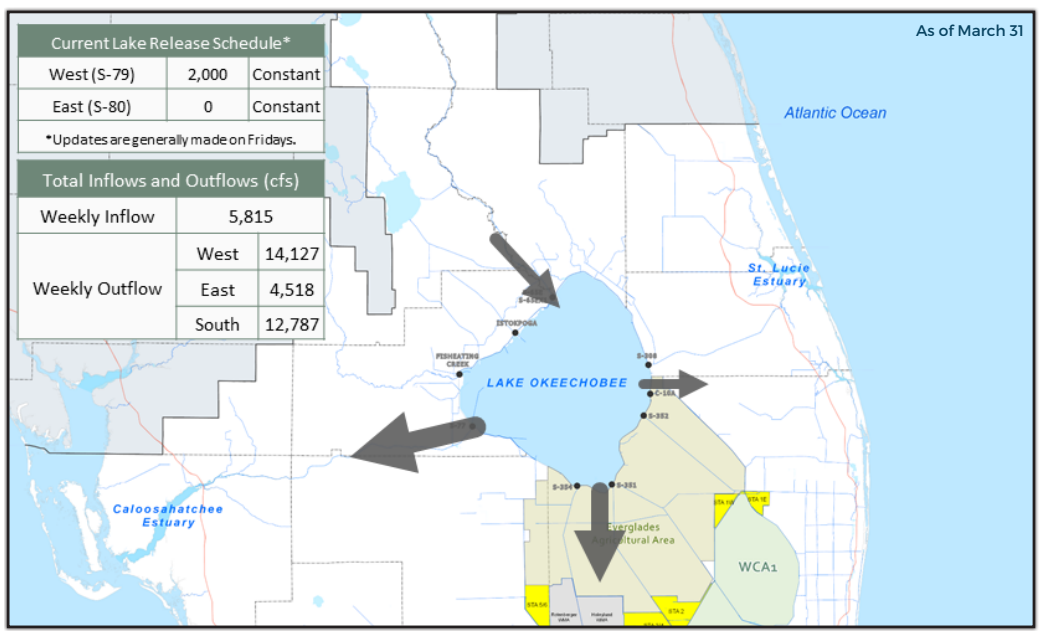
Results for completed analyses are available and posted at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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.

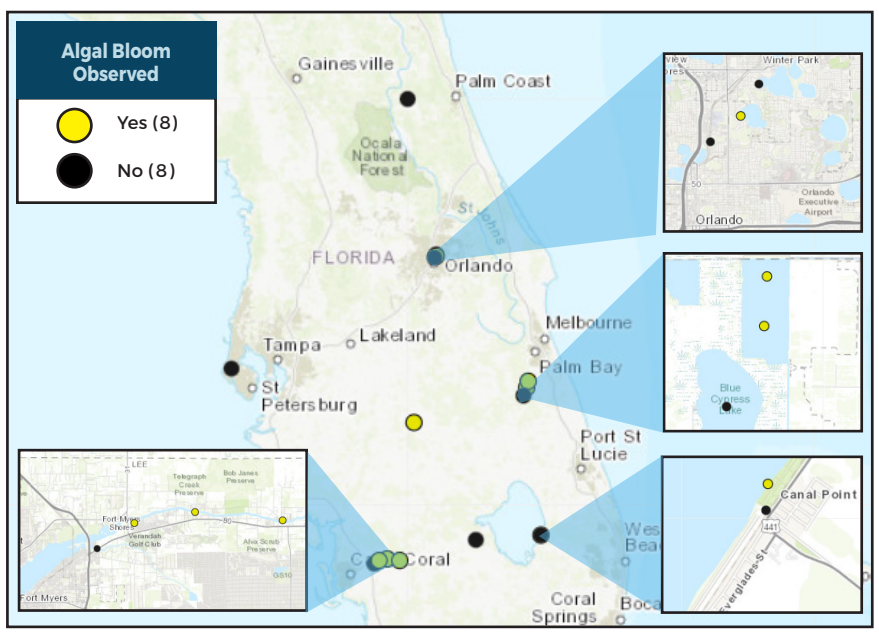
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS

Current Lake Release Schedule*		
West (S-79)	2,000	Constant
East (S-80)	0	Constant
*Updates are generally made on Fridays.		

Total Inflows and Outflows (cfs)		
Weekly Inflow	5,815	
Weekly Outflow	West	14,127
	East	4,518
	South	12,787



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