



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING APRIL 17 - APRIL 23, 2020

SUMMARY

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

Satellite imagery from 4/23 is largely obscured by cloud cover, making it difficult to get an accurate estimate of lake bloom coverage; however, imagery for the Caloosahatchee River and estuary, St. Lucie River and estuary and Lake Okeechobee shows no observable bloom activity. Recent satellite imagery for the St. Johns River also has been obscured by cloud cover. 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).

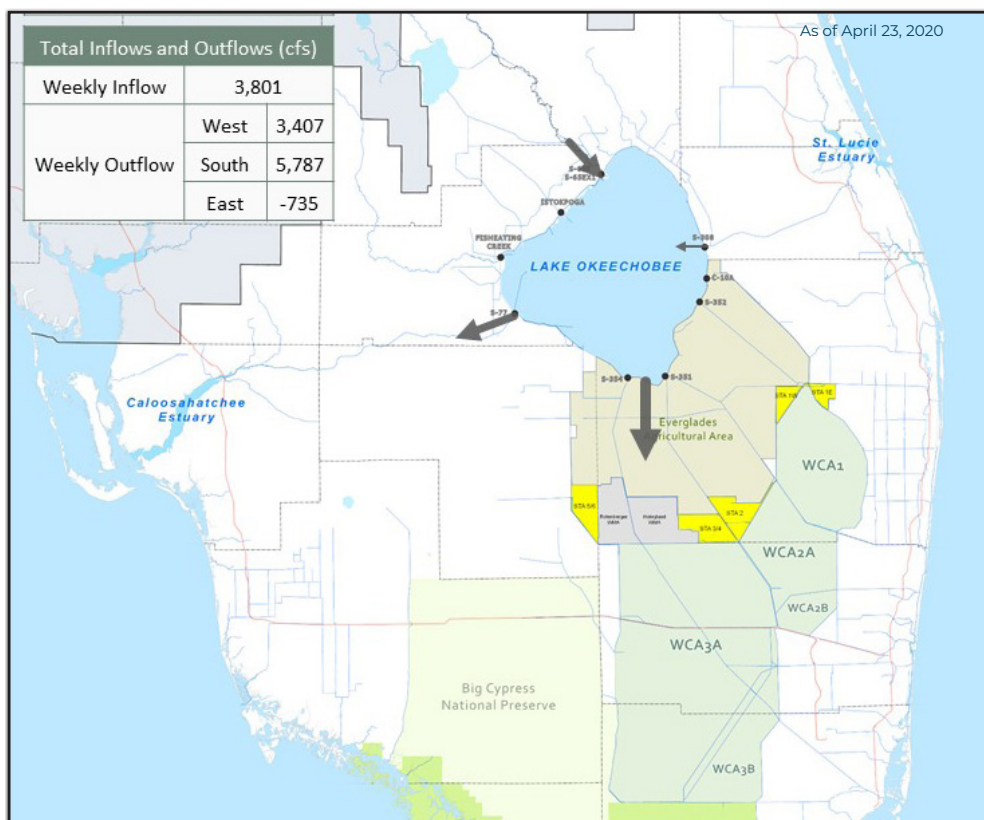
On 4/16, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected a sample at Lake Okeechobee-S352 (canal side); however, results were not available in time to include in last week's report. No cyanotoxins were detected and no dominant algal taxon was observed.

On 4/21, SFWMD staff collected a sample from the C44 canal at S153 (downstream) and SC19. Bloom conditions were not observed by the samplers at the SC19 site. The S153 (downstream) sample had a total microcystin concentration of 120 parts per billion and was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. The SC19 sample had no detectable cyanotoxins and no dominant algal taxon.

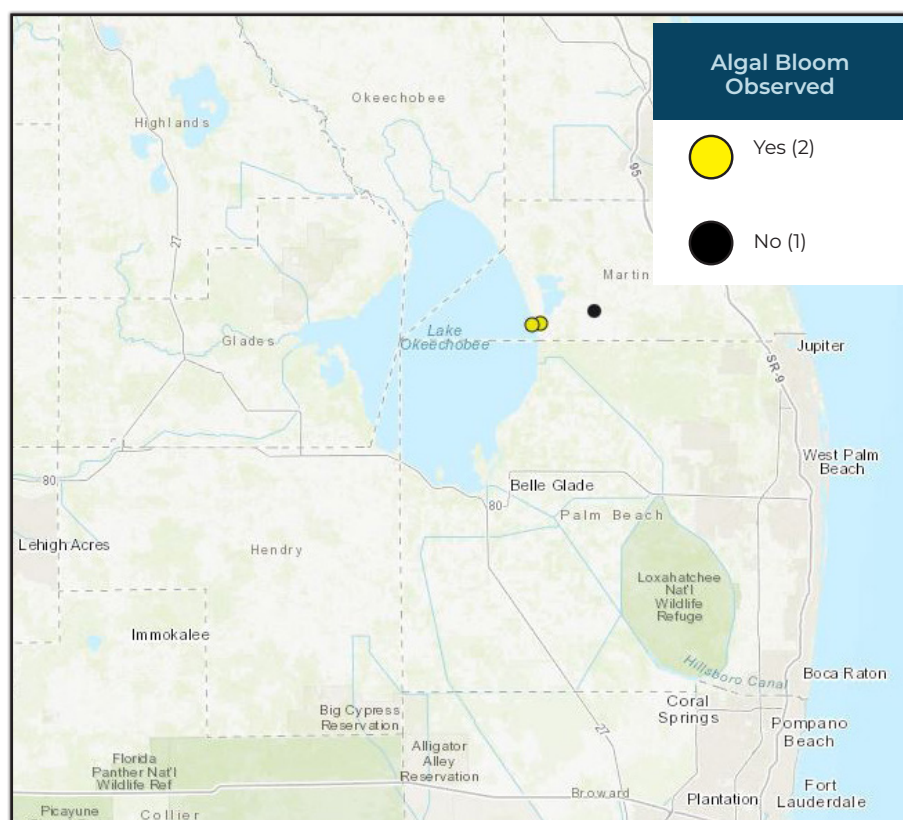
On 4/22, SFWMD staff collected a sample from Lake Okeechobee-S308C (lake side). The sample had a total microcystin concentration of 1.1 parts per billion and was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*.

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.

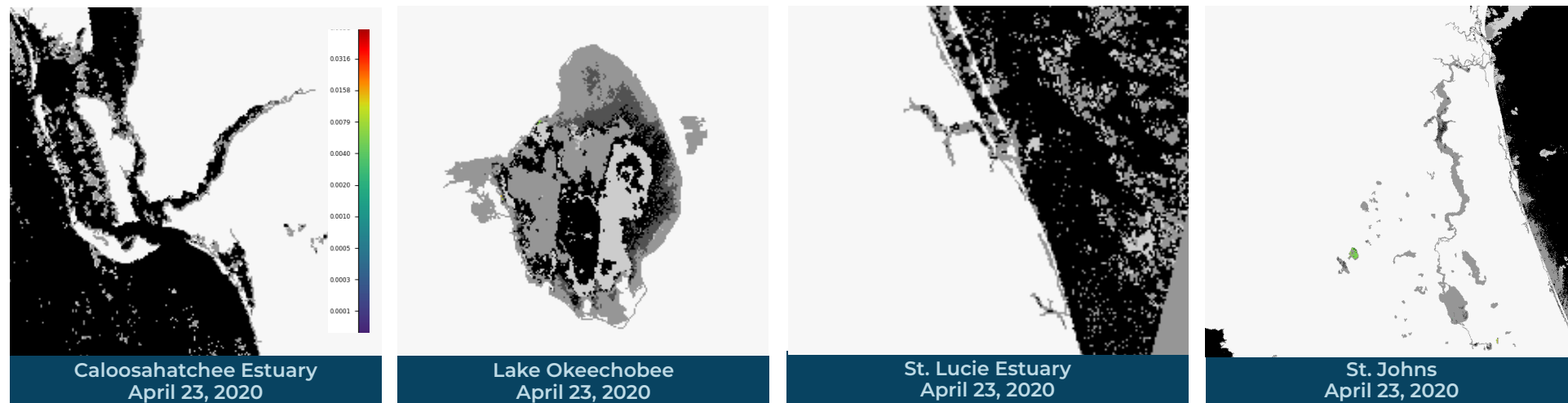
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



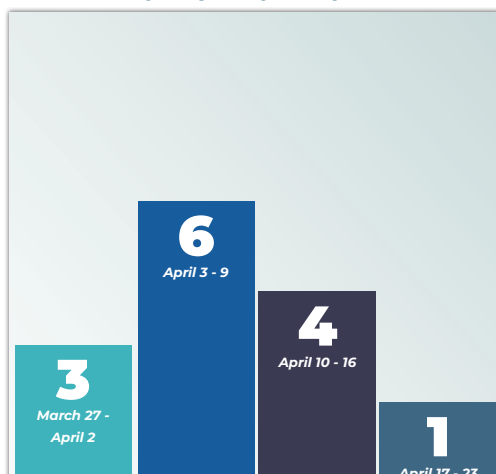
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

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