



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

## REPORTING MAY 7 - MAY 13, 2021

### SUMMARY

There were 30 reported site visits in the past seven days (5/7 - 5/13), with 30 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 19 of the sites.

The satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 5/11 showed moderate to high bloom potential on approximately 95% of Lake Okeechobee, with the heaviest accumulation along the northwest and southeast shorelines. No significant bloom potential was observed in visible portions of the Caloosahatchee river or estuary, but algal blooms were reported on the river at the S79 structure and Barron Park. No bloom potential was observed in visible portions of the St. Lucie river or estuary; however, algal blooms were observed on the C44 canal downstream of the S308 structure and above the S80 structure. The satellite imagery for the St. Johns River has been heavily obscured by cloud cover for the past week. The most recent usable image is from 5/7 and showed scattered low to moderate bloom potential on Lake George and the St. Johns River downstream to the city of Jacksonville. 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 5/11, and 5/13, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected water samples at **13 locations in the area near Port Manatee in Tampa Bay** in response to the Piney Point emergency release. Cyanotoxins were not detected in the 5/11 samples, and the 5/13 sample results are still pending. For daily updates and sampling data results, please visit [ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate](https://ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate).

On 5/10, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples at the **C43 Canal - S77** and **C 43 Canal - S79** structures. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 2.5 parts per billion (ppb) and a trace level (0.63 ppb) of microcystins detected, respectively.

On 5/10, DEP staff collected samples at **Lake Okeechobee- S308 (Lakeside)** and **C-44 - S308 (canal side)**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 65 ppb and 21 ppb of microcystins detected, respectively.

On 5/10, Highlands County staff sampled **Huckleberry Lake - Canal Entrance**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.65 ppb) of microcystins were detected.

On 5/10 and 5/11, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) collected samples from **Blue Cypress Lake - Center**, **Stick Marsh - North** and **Crescent Lake - Mouth of Dunns Creek**. The **Blue Cypress Lake - Center** sample was dominated by *Microcystis sp.* and had a trace level (0.63 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Stick Marsh - North** sample had no dominant algal taxon and had a trace level (0.30 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Crescent Lake - Mouth of Dunns Creek** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.36 ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 5/10, DEP staff collected samples from **Manatee River - Mouth**, **Anna Maria Sound - Safe Harbor Channel** and **Anna Maria Sound - 2714 Ave B by Dock** in response to filamentous algae mats. Algal samples were collected and sent to the FWC Fish and Wildlife Research Institution for identification; those results are still pending. No cyanotoxins were detected in the water samples.

On 5/12, city of Orlando staff sampled **Lake Rowena - 0.1 miles from Mills Ave**. There was no dominant algal taxon and 0.74 ppb of cylindrospermopsin was detected.

On 5/12 and 5/13, DEP staff collected samples from **Caloosahatchee River - Baron Park**; **Little Lake Conway - off FOP Lodge Dock**; **Lake Okeechobee - Clewiston Boat Ramp**; **Manatee River - 1220 Mill Creek by Dock**; **Lake Toho - Marina Dock**; and **Drainage to Sarah Bayou**. The **Caloosahatchee River - Baron Park** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 3.7 ppb microcystins detected. The **Little Lake Conway - off FOP Lodge Dock** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected. Sample results are still pending for **Lake Okeechobee - Clewiston Boat Ramp**; **Manatee River - 1220 Mill Creek by Dock**; **Lake Toho - Marina Dock**; and **Drainage to Sarah Bayou**.

On 5/12 and 5/13, SFWMD staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (Lakeside)**; **C51 Canal - S155A (Upstream)**; **C51 Canal - S155 (Upstream)**; **M Canal - at 60th Street North**; and **C44 Canal - S80 (Upstream)**. The **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (Lakeside)** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 4.3 ppb microcystins detected. Results are still pending for **C51 Canal - S155A (Upstream)**; **C51 Canal - S155 (Upstream)**; **M Canal - at 60th Street North**; and **C44 Canal - S80 (Upstream)**.

On 5/12 and 5/13, SJRWMD staff collected samples at **St. Johns River - Mandarin Point**; **Doctors Lake**; **St. Johns River - Shands Bridge**; **Lake Monroe - Center**; and **Lake Jesup - Center**. The **St. Johns River - Mandarin Point**, **Doctors Lake** and **St. Johns River - Shands Bridge** samples had no dominant algal taxon and had no cyanotoxins detected, with saxitoxin results still pending. Sample results are still pending for **Lake Monroe - Center** and **Lake Jesup - Center**.

On 5/13, Lee County staff collected samples from the **Caloosahatchee River - Alva Boat Ramp** and **Caloosahatchee River - Davis Boat Ramp**. Those results are still pending.

#### Last Week

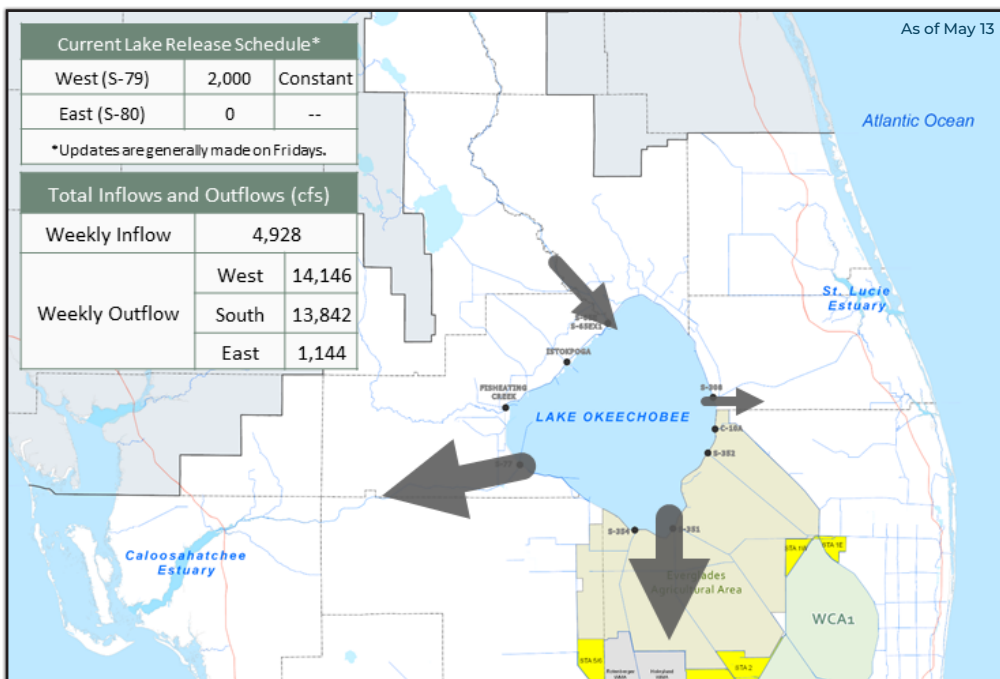
On 5/5, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission staff collected samples at **Indian River - Parrish Park**, **Banana River - 520 Slick Boat Ramp** and **Indian River - Eau Gallie Pier**. Cyanotoxin samples were not collected. Algal identification results are still pending.

On 5/6, DEP staff collected samples from **Lake Melva**; **Trout Lake Canal - 35 Meters from FL-19**; **Lake Weir - North Shore**; **M-Canal**; and the **C-44 - S80 (Upstream)**. The **Lake Melva** sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.36 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Trout Lake Canal - 35 Meters from FL-19** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.31 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Lake Weir - North Shore** sample was co-dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and *Botryococcus braunii* and had a trace level (0.33 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **M-Canal** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 6.3 ppb of microcystins detected. The **C-44 - S80 (Upstream)** sample had no dominant algal taxon and had a trace level (0.36 ppb) of microcystins detected.

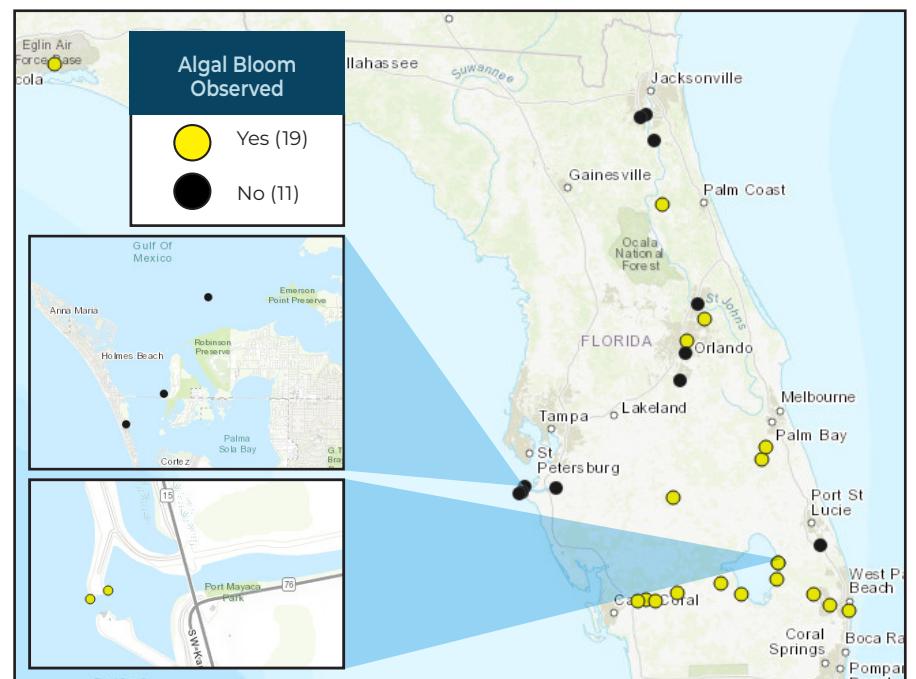
On 5/6, SFWMD staff collected samples from **C51 Canal - S155 (Upstream)**, **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (Lakeside)** and **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Ramp**. The **C51 Canal - S155 (Upstream)** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 1.8 ppb microcystins detected. The **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (Lakeside)** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 77 ppb of microcystins detected. The **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Ramp** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 2.6 ppb of microcystins detected.

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 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.

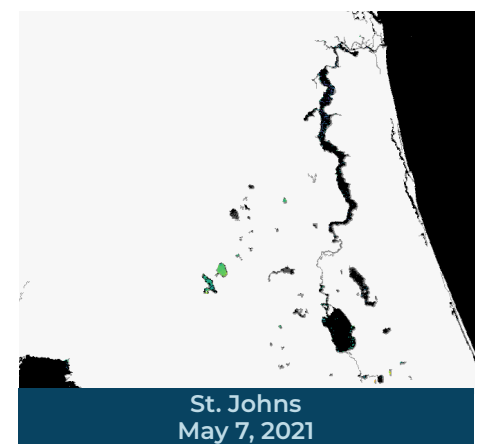
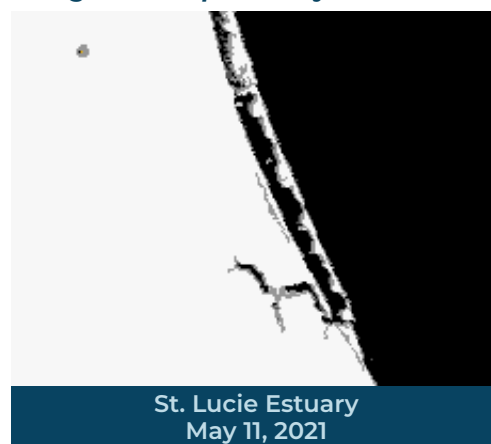
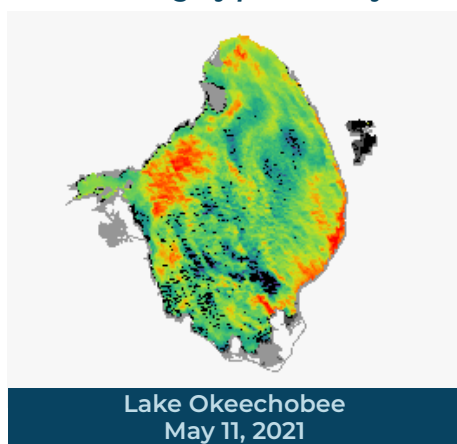
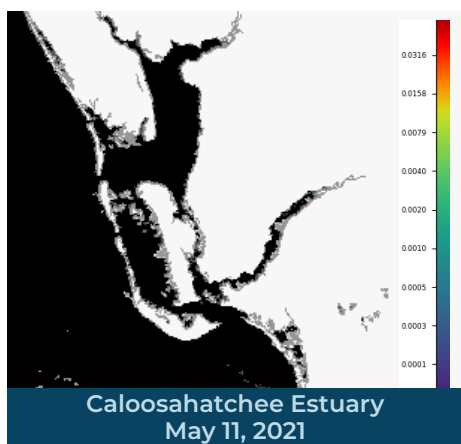
### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



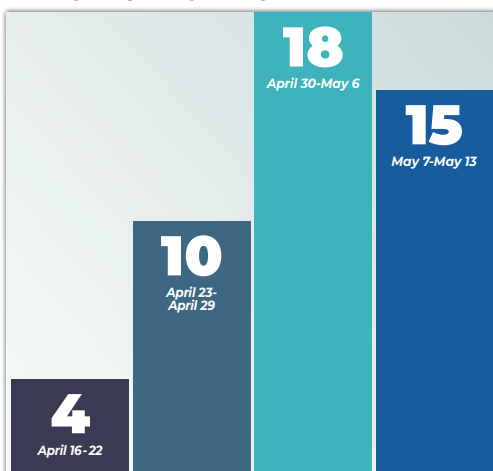
### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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](https://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](https://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](https://FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom)

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response visit our [Water Quality website](https://WaterQuality.floridadep.gov) to check the current status and to receive updates.

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[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](https://ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov)