



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING MAY 14 - MAY 20, 2021

SUMMARY

There were 50 reported site visits in the past seven days (5/14 - 5/20), with 50 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 35 of the sites.

The most current usable satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is from 5/18. The lake was partially obscured by cloud cover and showed moderate to high bloom potential on approximately 20% of Lake Okeechobee, with the heaviest accumulation along the northern and western shorelines. No significant bloom potential was observed in visible portions of the Caloosahatchee river or estuary, but algal bloom conditions were reported on the Caloosahatchee River at the S79 structure, Barron Park-LaBelle, the Alva Boat Ramp and the Davis Boat Ramp. No bloom potential was observed in visible portions of the St. Lucie river or estuary, but algal bloom conditions were observed on the C44 canal downstream of the S308 structure and above the S80 structure. The most current usable satellite imagery for the St. Johns River is from 5/18. The imagery was partially obscured by cloud cover and showed scattered low to moderate bloom potential on Lake George and the St. Johns River downstream to near Green Cove Springs, Florida. 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 5/18, and 5/20, 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 5/18 samples, and the 5/20 sample results are still pending. For daily updates and sampling data results, please visit ProtectingFloridaTogether.org/PineyPointUpdate.

On 5/17, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples at **Lake Okeechobee - FEBIN; Lake Okeechobee - FEBOUT; C43 - S77 (upstream); Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside);** and at **C43 Canal - S79 (upstream)**. The **Lake Okeechobee - FEBIN** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. The **Lake Okeechobee - FEBOUT** sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level [0.90 parts per billion (ppb)] microcystins detected. The **C43 - S77 (upstream)** and **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside)** samples were both dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 11 ppb and 2.2 ppb microcystins detected, respectively. The **C43 Canal - S79 (upstream)** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.89 ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 5/17, DEP staff collected samples at **Orange River - Orange Harbor RV and L-40 Canal - North of G300 Structure**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 11 ppb and 4.6 ppb of microcystins detected, respectively.

On 5/17, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) collected samples at **Lake George - Center** and **St. Johns River - Georgetown Marina**. The **Lake George - Center** sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.54 ppb) of microcystins were detected. The **St. Johns River - Georgetown Marina** sample was co-dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and *Planktolyngbya limnetica* and had a trace level (0.46 ppb) of microcystins detected.

On 5/18, Lee County staff collected samples at **Caloosahatchee River - Alva Boat Ramp** and **Caloosahatchee River - Davis Boat Ramp**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 4.6 ppb and 35 ppb microcystins detected, respectively.

On 5/18, DEP staff collected a sample at **Lake Clark - Boat Ramp**. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 6.0 ppb microcystins detected.

On 5/18 and 5/19, SFWMD staff collected samples from Lake Okeechobee at the following stations (cyanotoxin results follow each station name): **KISSRO.0** (1.0 ppb); **LZ2** (1.3 ppb); **NES191** (trace, 0.90 ppb); **L001** (3.3 ppb); **NES135** (2.9 ppb); **NCENTER** (1.2 ppb); **EASTSHORE** (1.4 ppb); **L004** (3.2 ppb); **L008** (5.5 ppb); **L005** (3.0 ppb); **POLESOUT** (19 ppb); **POLESOUTI** (5.0 ppb); **POLESOUT2** (7.6 ppb); **POLESOUT3** (3.0 ppb); **KBARSE** (4.5 ppb); **CLV10A** (non-detect); **LZ40** (4.3 ppb); **PALMOUT** (1.6 ppb); **PALMOUTI** (7.3 ppb); **PALMOUT2** (1.7 ppb); **PALMOUT3** (9.3 ppb); **LZ30** (16 ppb); **POLE3S** (11 ppb); **RITTAE2** (9.1 ppb); **LZ25A** (trace, 0.90 ppb); **L007** (1.5 ppb); **L006** (1.4 ppb); **PELBAY3** (2.8 ppb); and **Pahokee Marina** (6.6 ppb). *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon in all the samples with microcystin levels greater than 1 ppb.

On 5/19, DEP staff collected samples at **Caloosahatchee River - Barron Park Labelle; Lake Winnott - 147 Bakers Acres Drive;** and **Lake Willisara - Center**. The **Caloosahatchee River - Barron Park Labelle** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 2.8 ppb of microcystins detected. The **Lake Winnott - 147 Bakers Acres Drive** sample did not have a dominant algal taxon and had a trace level (0.23 ppb) of microcystins detected. The **Lake Willisara - Center** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.33 pb) of microcystins detected.

On 5/20, DEP staff collected a sample at **Caloosa Canal - Sebastian Court**. Those results are still pending.

On 5/20, SFWMD staff collected samples at **C51 Canal - S155A (upstream); C51 Canal - S155 (upstream); C51 Canal - Bridge Southern with Military; C51 Canal - Bridge Forrest Hill with I-95;** and **C44 Canal - S80 (upstream)**. Those results are still pending.

Last Week

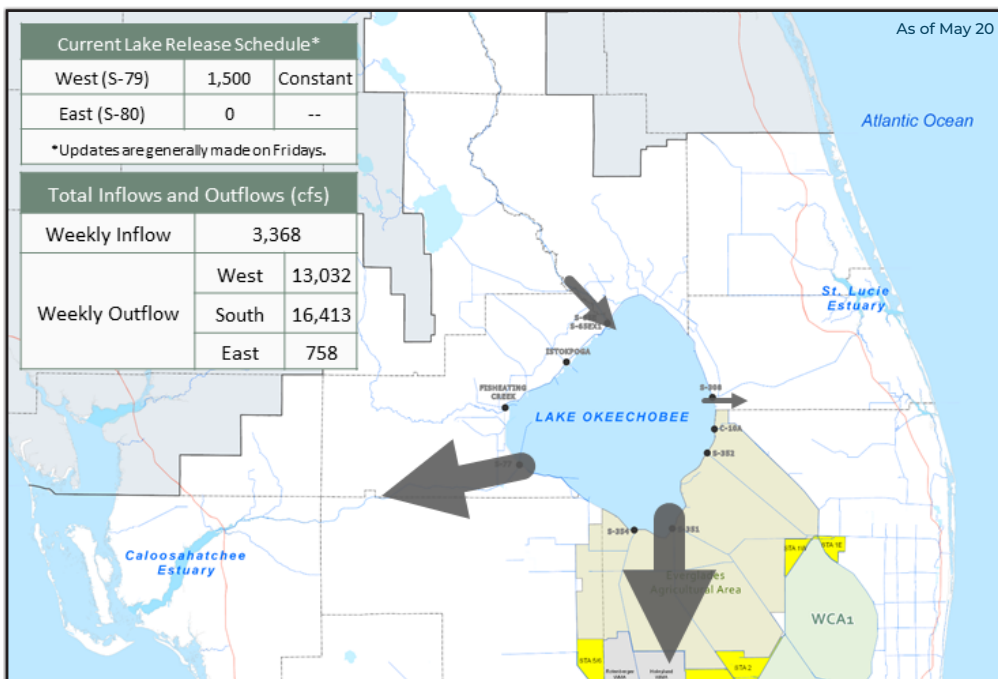
On 5/13, SFWMD staff collected samples at **C51 Canal - S155A (upstream); C51 Canal - S155 (upstream); M Canal - at 60th Street North;** and **C44 Canal - S80 (upstream)**. The **C51 Canal - S155A (upstream), C51 Canal - S155 (upstream)** and **M Canal - at 60th Street North** samples were all dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 86 ppb, 2.2 ppb and a trace level (0.42 ppb) of microcystins detected, respectively. The **C44 Canal - S80 (upstream)** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 5/13, SJRWMD staff collected samples at **Lake Monroe - Center** and **Lake Jesup - Center**. Both samples were co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. There were no cyanotoxins detected in the **Lake Monroe - Center** sample; the **Lake Jesup - Center** sample had a trace level (0.19 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin detected.

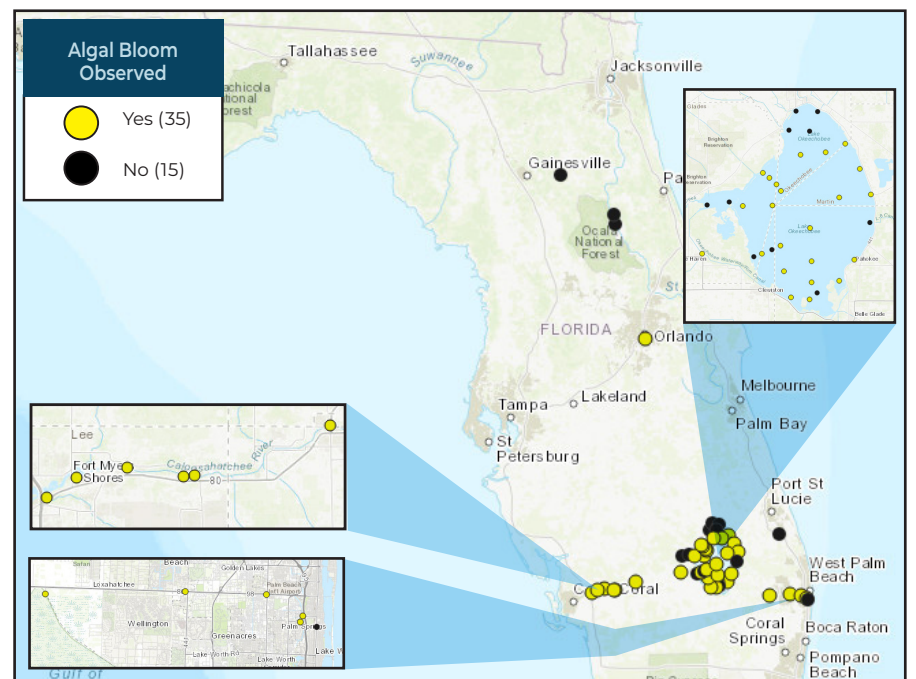
On 5/13, Lee County staff collected samples at **Caloosahatchee River - Alva Boat Ramp** and **Caloosahatchee River - Davis Boat Ramp**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 3.4 ppb and 1.4 ppb microcystins detected, respectively.

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.

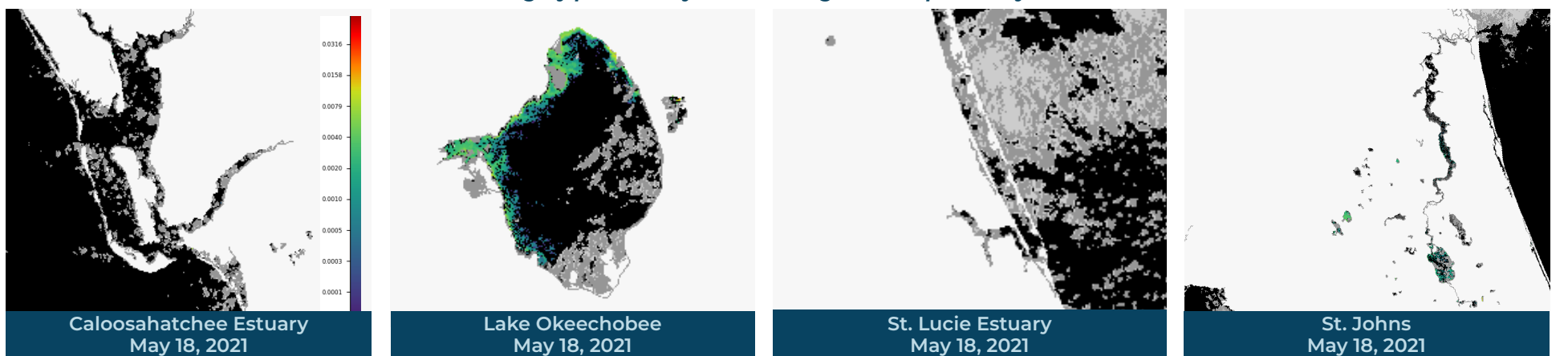
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



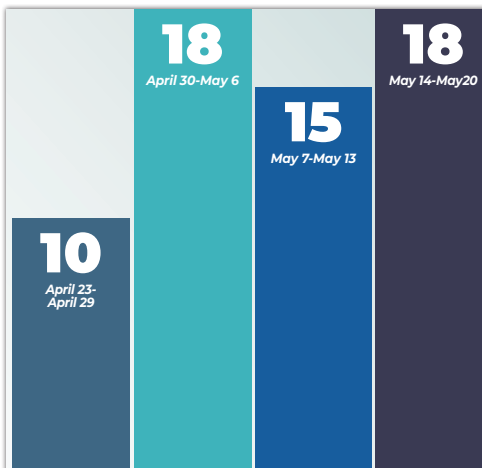
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

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

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

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