



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING JULY 17 - JULY 23, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 33 reports of visits in the past seven days (7/17 – 7/23), with 33 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at nine sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries and rivers** has been unavailable for the past week due to overcast conditions. The most recent image available for **Lake Okeechobee and the St. Lucie River and Estuary** is for 7/14 which showed approximately 85% coverage of low to high algal bloom potential on the lake and no bloom activity on the visible portions of the **St. Lucie River or estuary**. The most recent image available for the **Caloosahatchee River and Estuary** is from 7/18 which shows no bloom activity on the visible portions of the **Caloosahatchee River or estuary**.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 7/21 shows areas of low to moderate bloom potential along the eastern shore of **Lake George** to the **Ortega Bridge** just south 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 7/20, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from **Lake Washington – Center**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable microcystins, cylindrospermopsins or anatoxin-a (saxitoxin results are pending).

On 7/20, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from the **St. Johns River – St. Vincent Hospital**. The sample was dominated by *Dolichospermum circinale* and no cyanotoxins were detected.

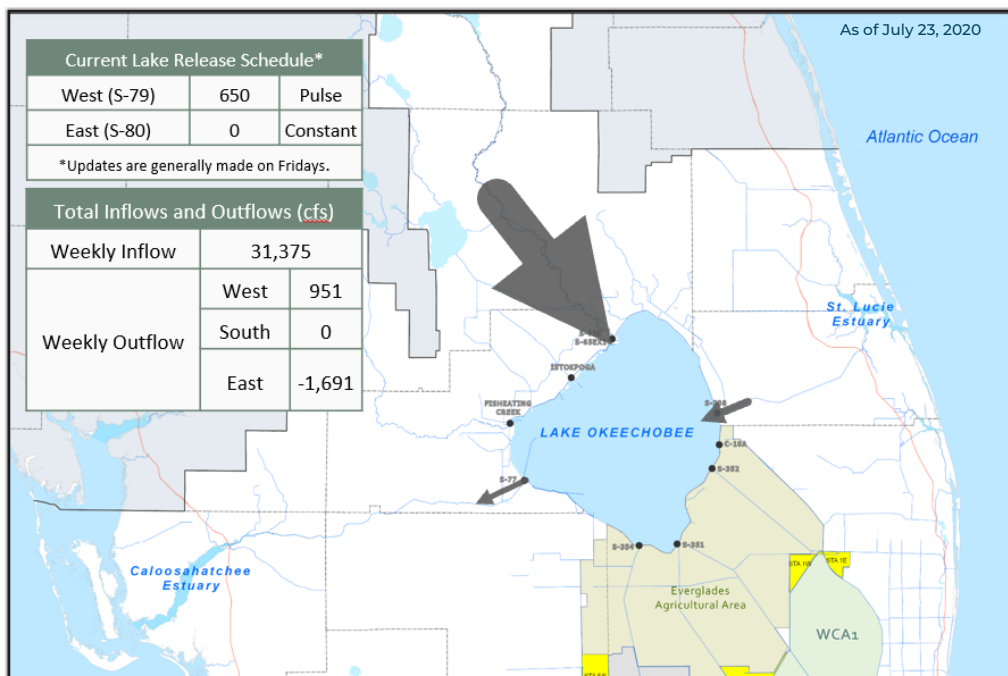
On 7/21 and 7/22, South Florida Water Management District staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at the following stations. Cyanotoxin results are included in parentheses following each station name: **KISSRO.0** (non-detect); **LZ2** (trace, 0.28 parts per billion); **NES191** (non-detect); **L001** (trace, 0.38 ppb); **NES135** (trace, 0.42 ppb); **NCENTER** (trace, 0.28 ppb); **EASTSHORE** (trace, 0.32 ppb); **L004** (trace, 0.63 ppb); **L008** (trace, 0.50 ppb); **L005** (non-detect); **POLESOUT** (trace, 0.33 ppb); **POLESOUTI** (trace, 0.25 ppb); **POLESOUT2** (trace, 0.74 ppb); **POLESOUT3** (4.6 ppb); **KBARSE** (trace, 0.33 ppb); **CLV10A** (2.4 ppb); **LZ40** (18 ppb); **PALMOUT** (1.1 ppb); **PALMOUTI** (non-detect); **PALMOUT2** (trace, 0.46 ppb); **PALMOUT3** (4.7 ppb); **S352-Lakeside** (2.6 ppb); **LZ30** (7.3 ppb); **POLE3S** (non-detect); **RITTAE2** (non-detect); **LZ25A** (trace, 0.95 ppb); **L007** (12 ppb); **L006** (29 ppb); and **PELBAY3** (trace, 0.46 ppb). *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon in all samples with total microcystin levels greater than 1 ppb. Several stations (**POLESOUT, POLESOUTI, KBARSE**) that had trace levels of total microcystins were dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*.

On 7/22, DEP staff collected a sample from **Lake Sebring – SW Boat Ramp**. The dominant algal taxon was *Dolichospermum circinale*. No cyanotoxins were detected.

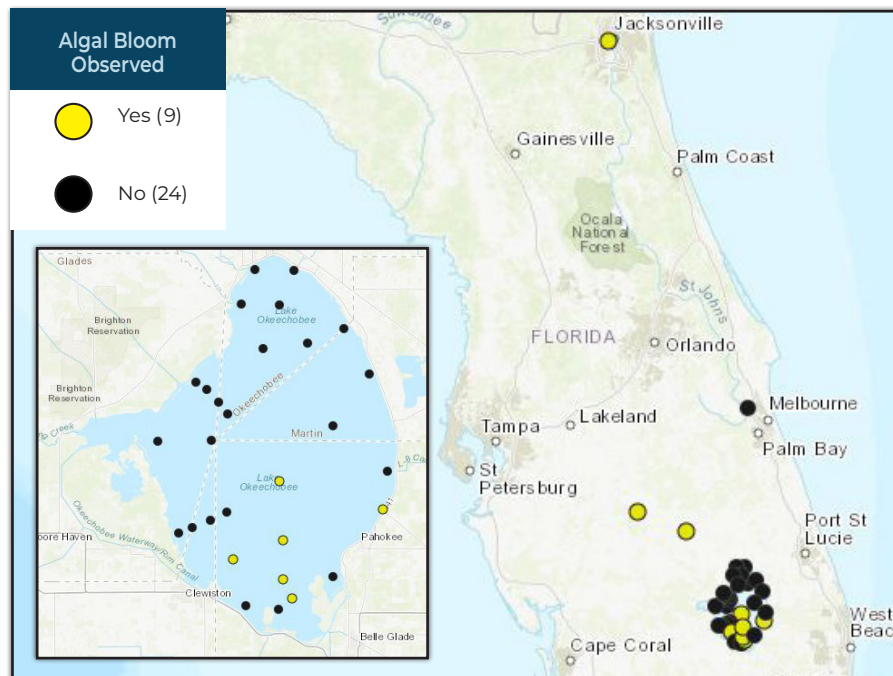
On 7/23, DEP staff collected a sample from the **Istokpoga Canal – Boat Ramp**. Sample results are pending.

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.

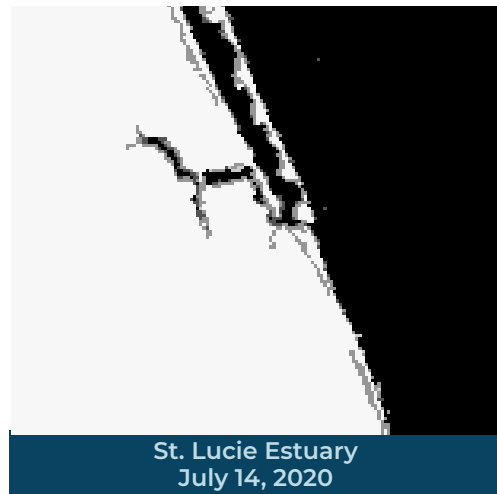
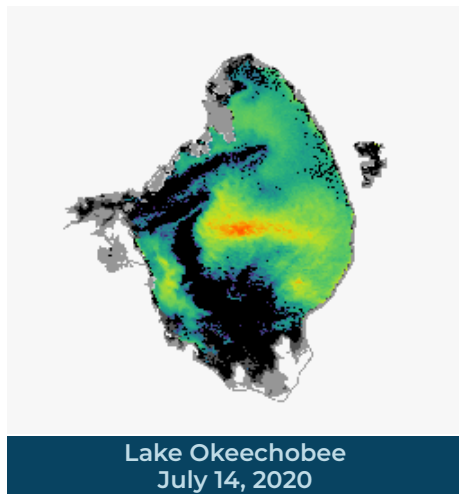
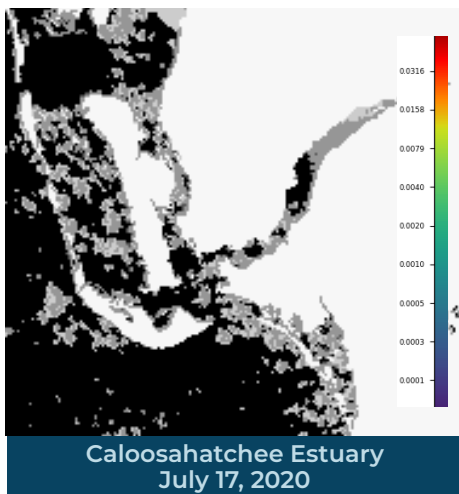
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



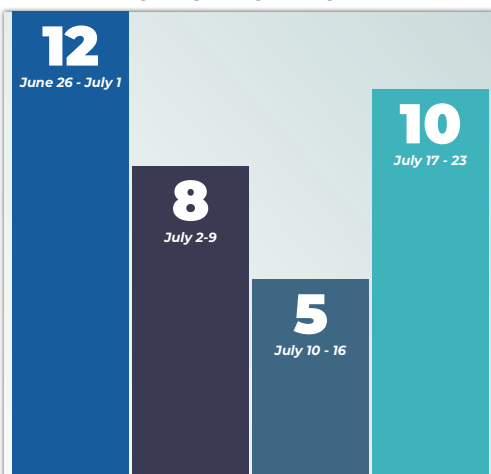
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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