



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING JULY 24 - JULY 30, 2020

SUMMARY

There were eight reports of visits in the past seven days (7/24 – 7/30), with eight samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at four sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 7/30 showed approximately 70% coverage of low to high algal bloom potential on the lake and no bloom potential on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 7/30 showed no bloom potential on **Lake George**. Much of the mainstem of the **St. Johns River** was obscured by cloud cover, but no bloom potential was observed in visible portions. 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 7/27, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from **Lake Okeechobee – Pahokee Marina** and the **Ortega River – Sadler Point**. The **Pahokee Marina** sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis sp.* and had 1.6 parts per billion (ppb) total microcystins detected. The **Ortega River – Sadler Point** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable cyanotoxins.

On 7/27, South Florida Water Management District staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside)** and the **C43 Canal – S77 (upstream)**. The sample from the **S308C structure** had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable cyanotoxins. The **C43 Canal – S77 (upstream)** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no detectable cyanotoxins.

On 7/28, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample at **Stick Marsh – North** and **Blue Cypress Lake – Center**. The **Stick Marsh – North** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, and the **Blue Cypress Lake – Center** sample had no dominant algal taxon. Both samples were non-detect for cyanotoxins.

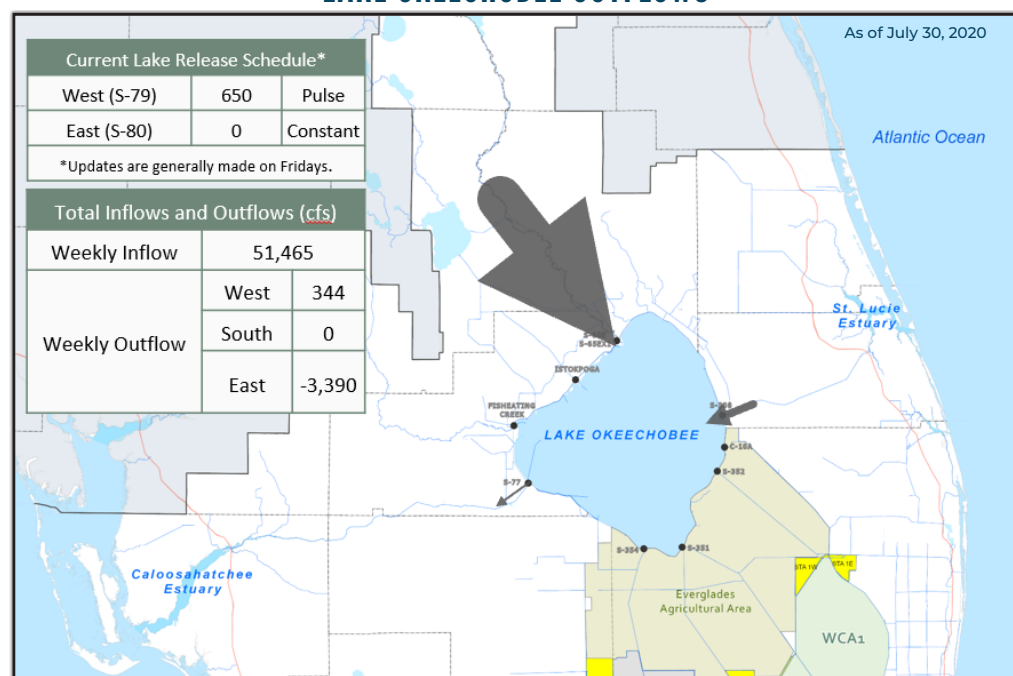
On 7/30, DEP staff collected samples from **Reclaimed Mine Lake – Near Ramp** and **Scott Lake – West**, both in Polk County. Sample results are pending.

Last Week

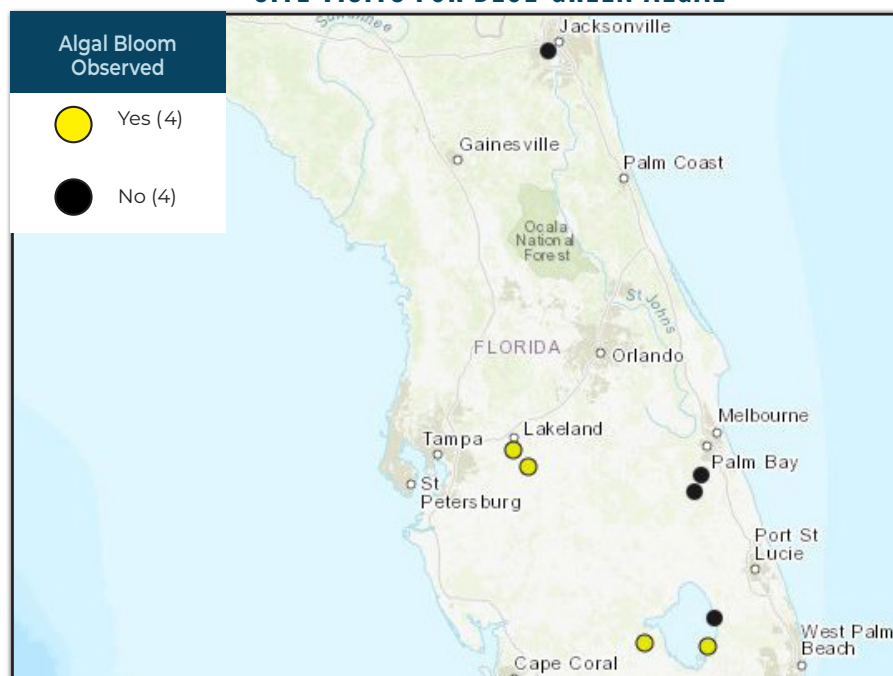
Sample results for **Lake Jessup – off Grassy Point** and **Istokopoga Canal Boat Ramp** were still pending. The **Lake Jessup** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had trace levels (0.44 ppb) of total microcystins and a trace level (0.79 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin. The **Istokopoga Canal** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins 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 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.

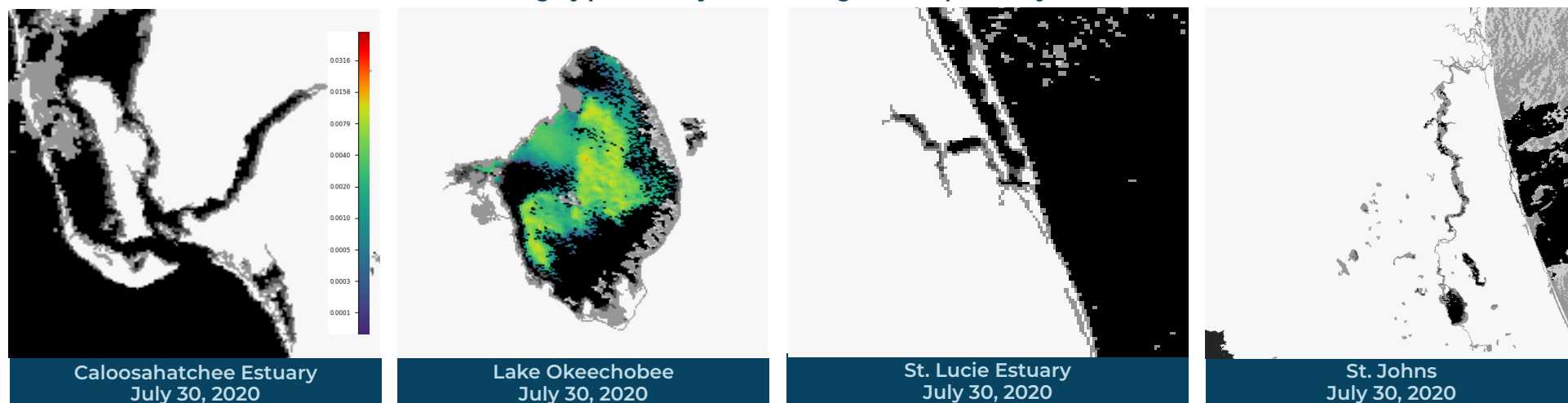
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



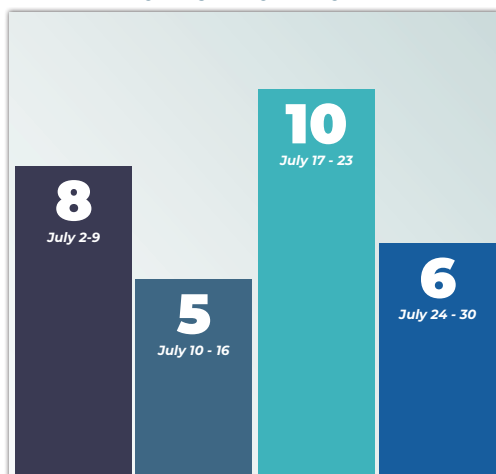
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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