



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING AUGUST 7 - 13, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 10 reports of visits in the past seven days (8/7 – 8/13), with 10 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 8/13 showed approximately 25% 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 8/13 showed low to moderate bloom potential along the eastern shore of **Lake George**, but approximately a third the lake was obscured by cloud cover. Low bloom potential was visible on the mainstem of the **St. Johns River from Federal Point to Ferreira Point**. 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 8/10, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from the **Imperial River - Bonita Bay Outflow**. There was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 8/10, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (Lakeside)** and from the **C43 canal - upstream of the S77 structure**. Both samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 8/10, Orange County staff sampled **Lake Roberts - SE**. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and only trace (0.26 parts per billion) total microcystins were detected.

On 8/11, DEP staff collected a sample from **Merritt Mill Pond - Southern end**. The sample was dominated by *Plectonema wollei* and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 8/11, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected a sample from **Lake Jessup - Off Grassy Point** and from **Lake Monroe - Center**. The **Lake Jessup** sample was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* and a trace (0.87 ppb) level of cylindrospermopsin was detected. There was no dominant algal taxon in the **Lake Monroe** sample and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 8/12, SFWMD staff collected a sample from **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (Lakeside)**. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and a trace (0.28 ppb) level of total microcystins was detected.

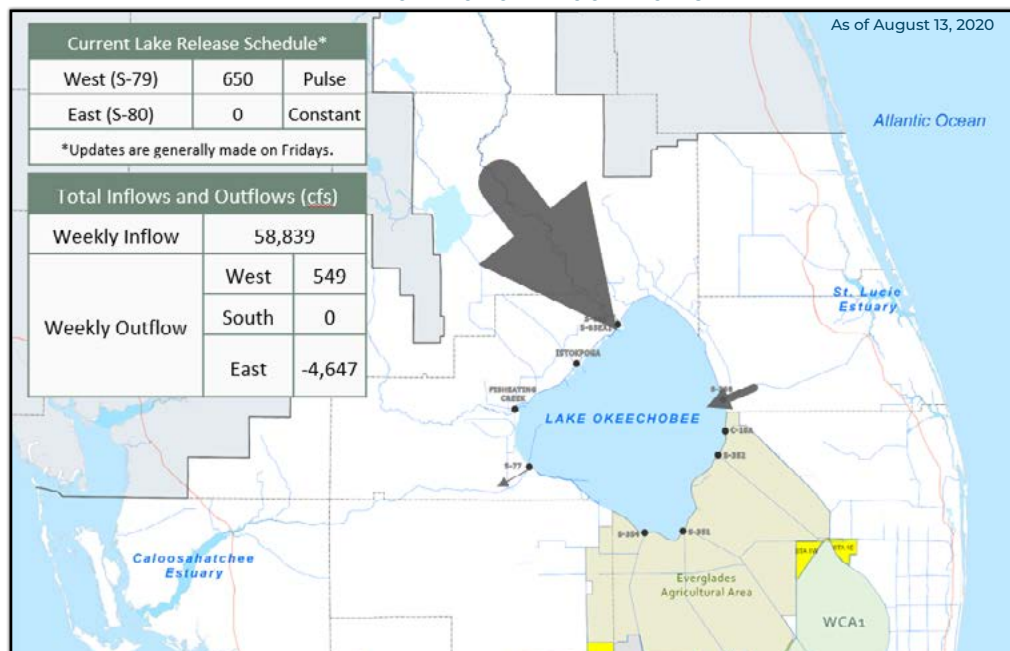
On 8/13, DEP staff collected samples from the **C-51 Canal** and the **Fellsmere Kayak Launch**. Results for these samples are still pending.

Last Week

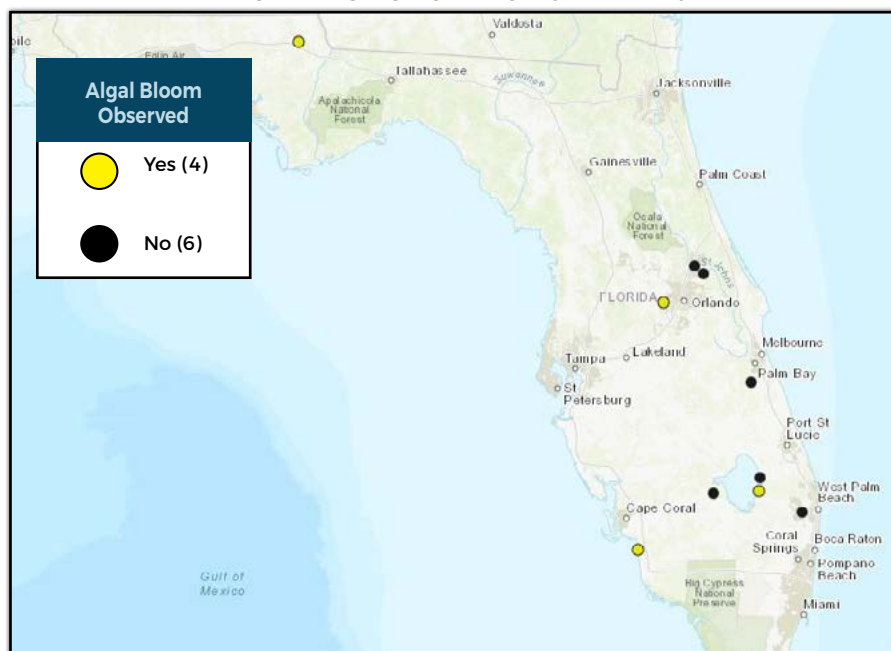
On 8/6, DEP staff collected a sample from the **East Hillsboro Canal**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

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.

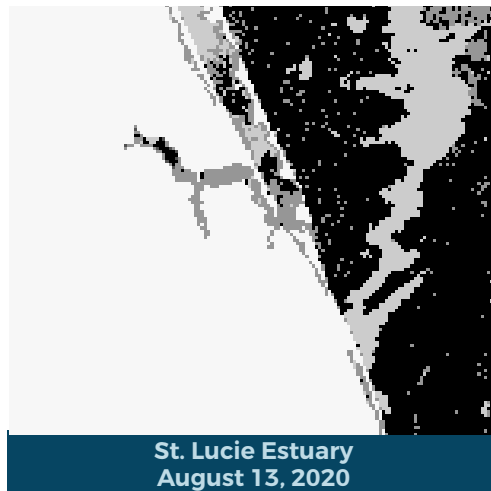
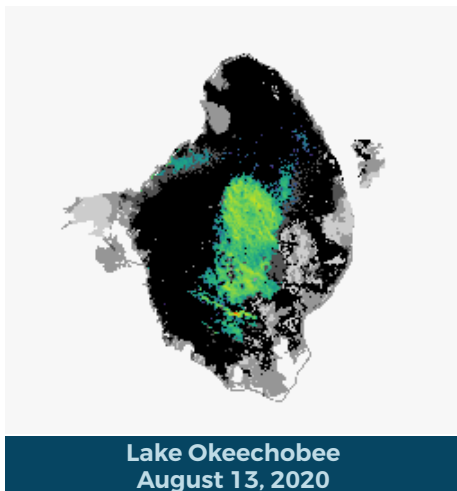
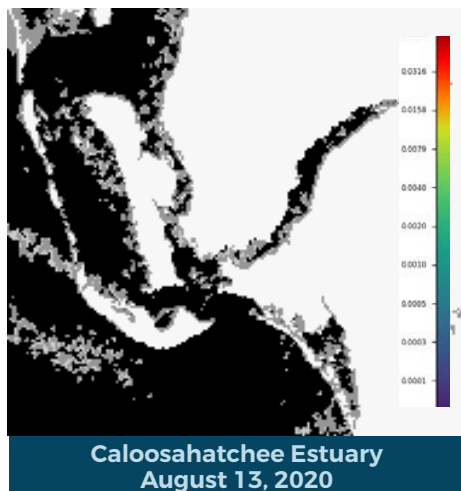
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



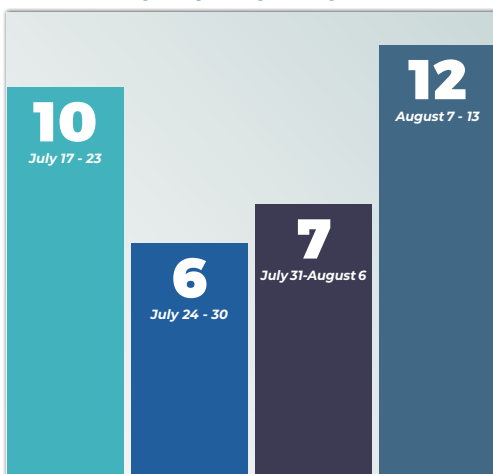
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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

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

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