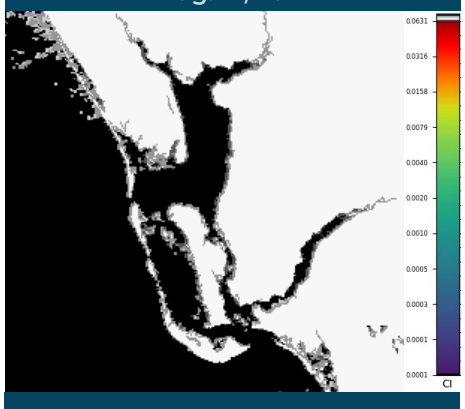
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING AUG. 20 – 26, 2021

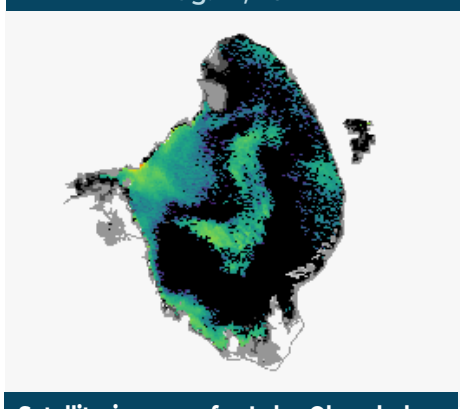
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e., wind, rain, temperature or stage).

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Aug. 21, 2021



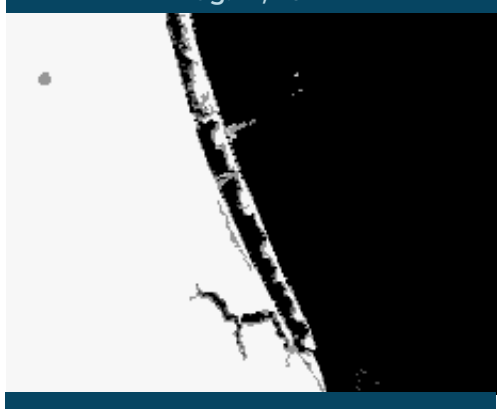
Satellite imagery for visible portions of the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no significant bloom potential.

Lake Okeechobee
Aug. 21, 2021



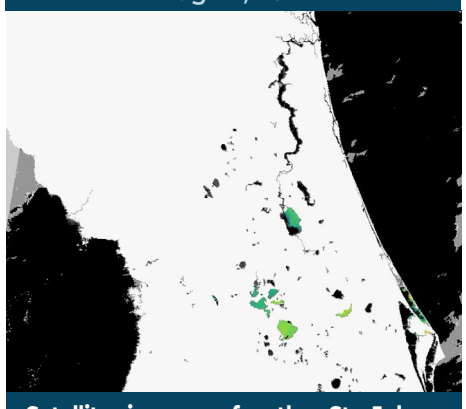
Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows low to high bloom potential on approximately 50% of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
Aug. 21, 2021



Satellite imagery for visible portions of the St. Lucie Estuary shows no significant bloom potential.

St. Johns
Aug. 21, 2021



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows low to moderate bloom potential on 60% of Lake George.

SUMMARY

There were 39 reported site visits in the past seven days, with 39 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at seven of the sites.

On 8/23 and 8/24, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples from **C43 Canal– S77 (upstream)**; **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside)**; **C44 Canal – S308C (canal side**); and **C44 Canal – S80 (upstream)**. The **C43 Canal – S77 (upstream)** and **C44 Canal – S80 (upstream)** samples did not have a dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected. The **Lake Okeechobee – S308C (lakeside)** and **C44 Canal – S308C (canal side)** samples were both dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had 1.1 parts per billion (ppb) and 1.0 ppb microcystins detected, respectively.

On 8/23, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from **Lake Emerald – SE Park Shore**. There was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

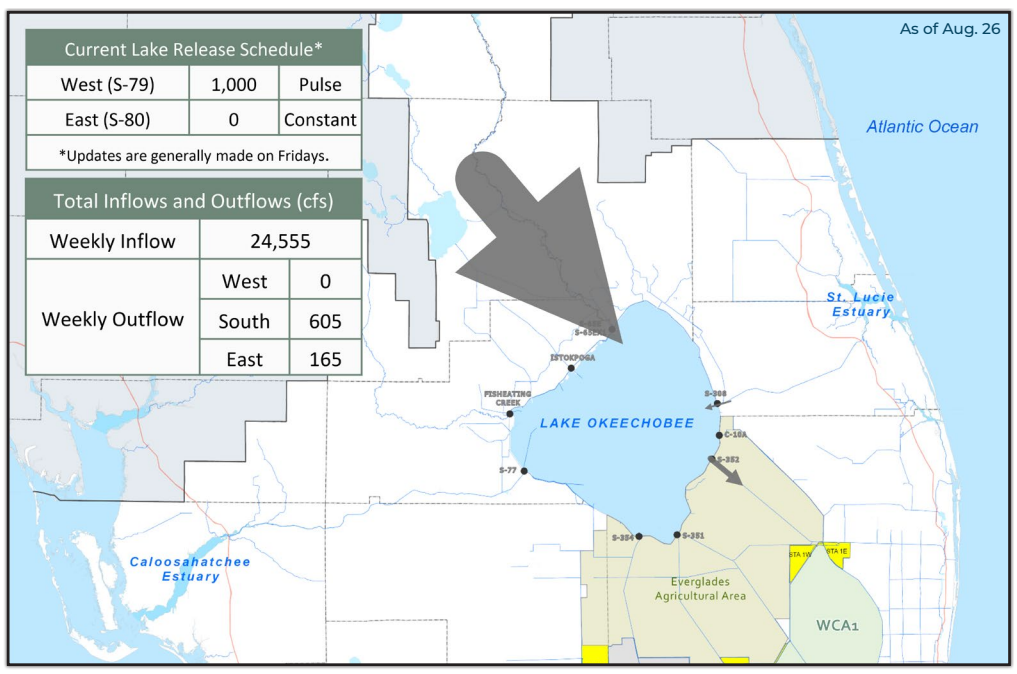
On 8/24 and 8/25, SFWMD staff collected samples from **Lake Okeechobee** at the following stations. Cyanotoxin results are included in parentheses following each station name: **KISSRO.0** (non-detect); **LZ2** (non-detect); **NES191** (trace, 0.28 ppb); **L001** (non-detect); **NES135** (trace, 0.63ppb); **NCENTER** (trace, 0.56 ppb); **EASTSHORE** (trace, 0.39 ppb); **L004** (trace, 0.26 ppb); **L008** (trace, 0.27 ppb); **L005** (4.3 ppb); **POLESOUT** (non-detect); **POLESOUT1** (trace, 0.52 ppb); **POLESOUT2** (non-detect); **POLESOUT3** (1.2 ppb); **KBARSE** (non-detect); **CLV10A** (trace, 0.29 ppb); **LZ40** (trace, 0.97 ppb); **PALMOUT** (trace, 0.36 ppb); **PALMOUT1** (non-detect); **PALMOUT2** (non-detect); **PALMOUT3** (trace, 0.26 ppb); **LZ30** (non-detect); **POLE3S** (non-detect); **RITTAE2** (non-detect); **LZ25A** (non-detect); **L007** (non-detect); **L006** (non-detect); and **PELBAY3** (non-detect). Approximately a third of the sites had no dominant algal taxon. The majority of the sites that had a dominant algal taxon were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Only station **RITTAE2** was dominated by *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*.

On 8/25, DEP staff collected samples from **Lake Rowena – NE Corner** and **Lake Lulu - NW**. Both samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had trace levels (0.12 ppb and 0.14 ppb) cylindrospermopsin detected, respectively.

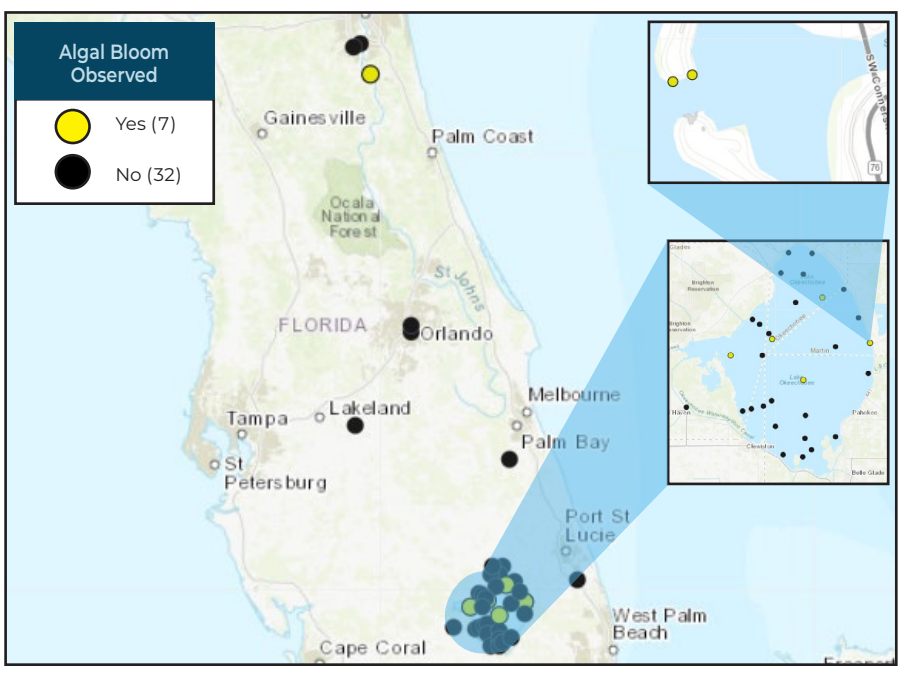
On 8/25, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples from **St. Johns River – Mandarin Point**; **Doctors Lake**; **St. Johns River – Shands Bridge**; and **Stickmarsh – North**. The **St. Johns River – Mandarin Point** and **St. Johns River – Shands Bridge** samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, with the **St. Johns River – Mandarin Point** sample having no detectable cyanotoxins and the **St. Johns River – Shands Bridge** sample having trace levels (0.15 ppb) cylindrospermopsin detected. The **Doctors Lake** sample had no dominant algal taxon and trace levels (0.34 ppb) of microcystins detected. Results are pending for the **Stickmarsh – North** sample due to a shipping delay.

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 where water is discolored pea-green, blue-green or brownish-red. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with algal bloom-impacted water or with algal bloom material or fish on the shoreline.

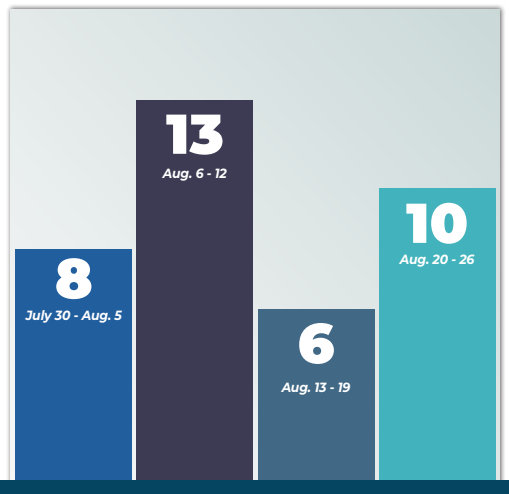
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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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ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov