



# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

## REPORTING AUGUST 28 - SEPTEMBER 3, 2020

### SUMMARY

There were eight reports of visits in the past seven days (8/28 - 9/3), with eight samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at six sites.

Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 9/2 showed approximately 65% coverage of low to high algal bloom potential on the lake. Highest bloom potential was observed in the open water in the northeast quadrant of the lake. No bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuary.

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 9/2 did not show any significant bloom potential on Lake George or the main stem of the St. Johns River. Crescent Lake showed moderate to high bloom potential throughout most of the lake. 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 8/31, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from Tiger Lake - Near Ramp. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and had a trace level (0.96 parts per billion) of total microcystins.

On 8/31, City of Cape Coral staff collected a sample from Boris Canal. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no detectable cyanotoxins.

On 9/1, City of Cape Coral staff collected samples at Makai Canal 1, Makai Canal 2, Palmetto Golf Course - Upstream of Weir, Palmetto Pines Golf Course Lake, Ticonderoga Canal and Highlander Canal. All samples were co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*, except for the Ticonderoga Canal, which had no dominant algal taxon. Total microcystin values should be considered estimates for Makai Canal 1 (2.0 ppb) and Palmetto Golf Course - Upstream of Weir (1.5 ppb), Palmetto Pines Golf Course Lake (2.0 ppb), and Makai Canal 2 (trace level, 0.48 ppb), due to sample preservation issues.

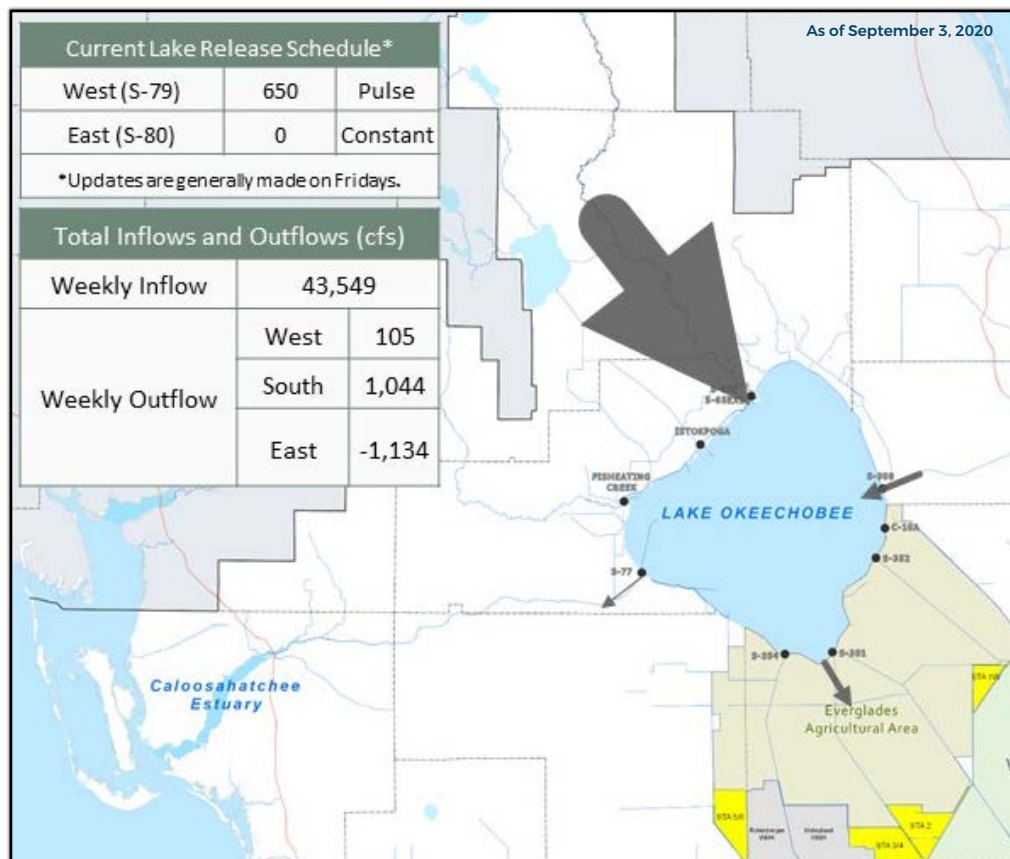
#### Last Week

On 8/27, DEP staff collected a sample from the Indian River Lagoon - Marina Park Dock. The sample was dominated by a mixed assemblage of nanoplankton and picoplankton. No cyanotoxins were detected.

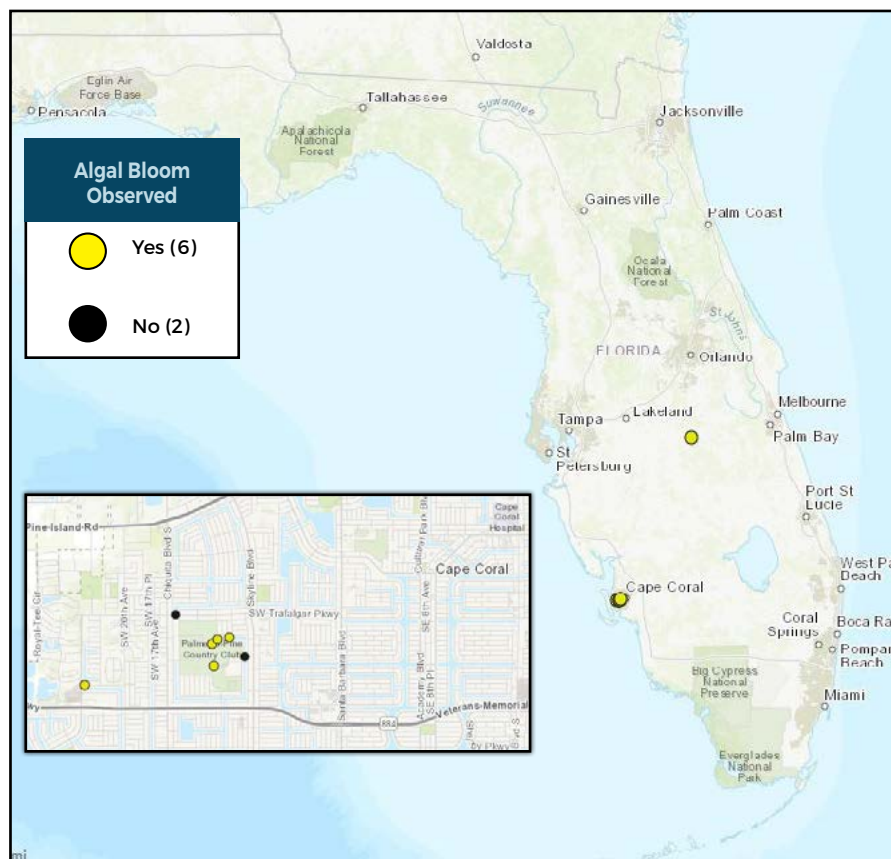
On 8/27, Orange County staff collected a sample from Lake Roberts SE. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and had a trace level (0.26 ppb) of total microcystins.

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.

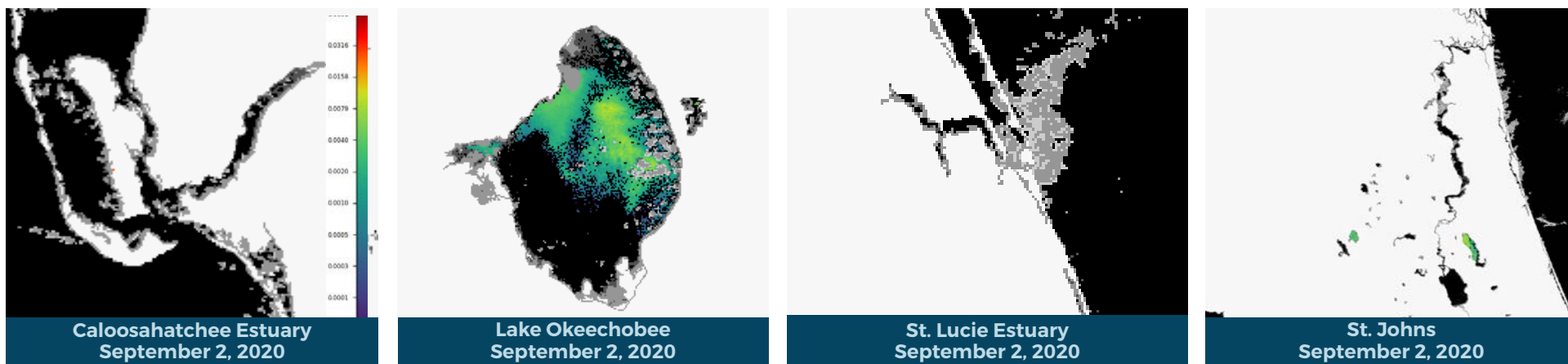
### LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



### 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