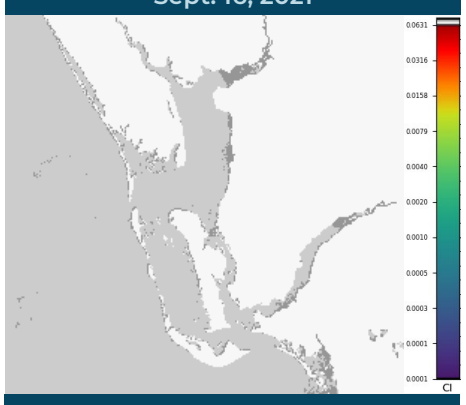
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING SEPT. 10 – 16, 2021

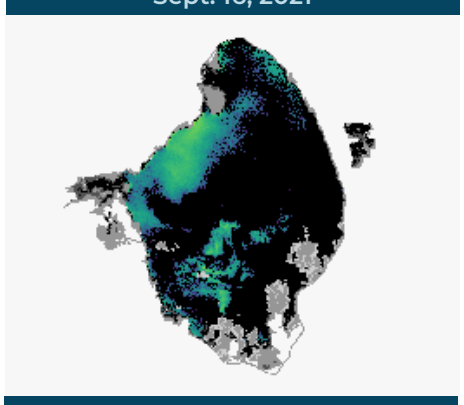
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Sept. 16, 2021



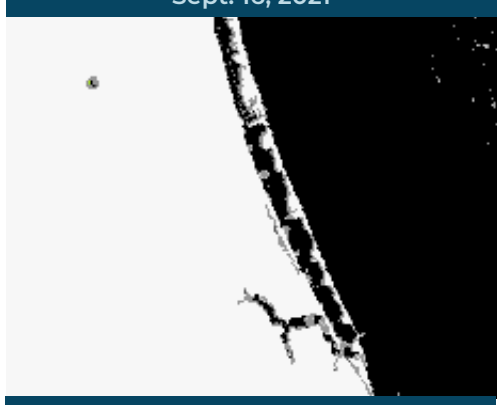
Satellite imagery for visible portions of the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no significant bloom potential

Lake Okeechobee
Sept. 16, 2021



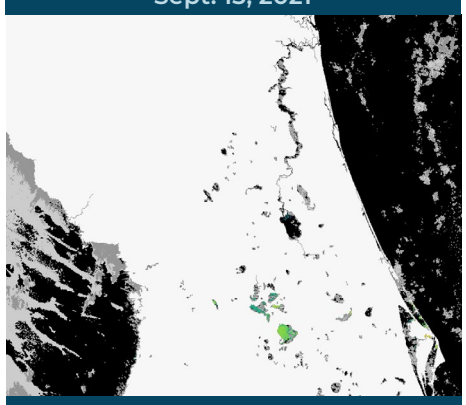
Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 20% of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
Sept. 16, 2021



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

St. Johns
Sept. 15, 2021



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows low bloom potential on the northern quarter of Lake George.

SUMMARY

There were 26 reported site visits in the past seven days, with 26 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 12 of the sites.

On 9/13 – 9/14, South Florida Water Management District staff collected harmful algal bloom (HAB) monitoring samples from the **C43 canal – S77**; **C44 canal – S80**; **Kissimmee River - S65 (river side)**; and **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp**. The **C44** sample had no dominant algal taxon, and the three other sites were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. Trace levels (0.30 ppb) of microcystins were detected at the **Kissimmee River** site only, with the balance having no detectable cyanotoxins.

On 9/13 – 9/14, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected samples from the **St. Johns River near San Mateo and near Palatka Bridge** and from **Lake George**. The two **St. Johns River** samples were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, and the **Lake George** sample was co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. Cyanotoxins were not detected at the sites.

On 9/13 – 9/14, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected HAB samples from six locations. Samples collected at both the **Lake Okeechobee side and the C44 canal side of S308C** and at **Lake Copeland** in Orange County were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*. **Eagle Lake** in Pinellas County was co-dominated by *Microcystis wesenbergii* and *Dolichospermum circinale*. **Merritt's Mill Pond** in Jackson County was dominated by *Oscillatoria limosa*, and **Lang Lake** in Hamilton County was dominated by *Oedogonium sp.* **Eagle Lake** in Pinellas County had 8.4 ppb microcystins detected, with the balance having no cyanotoxins detected.

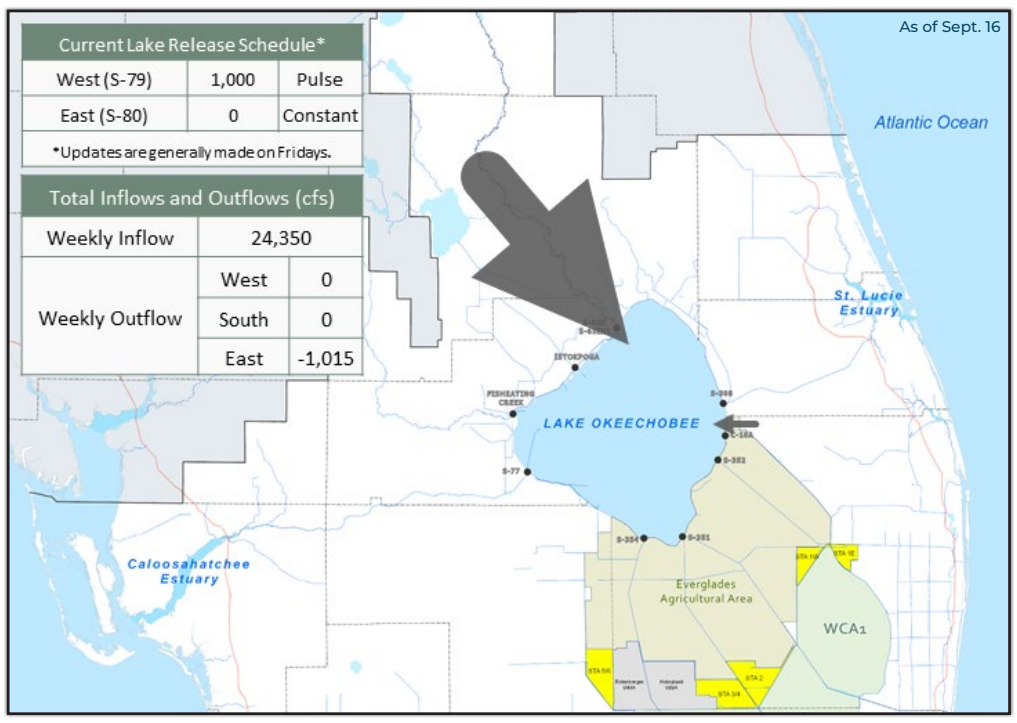
On 9/15 – 9/16, SJRWMD collected five samples, DEP collected seven samples and Orange County staff collected one sample. Site visits are available and posted online at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom. Results are pending.

This is a high-level summary of the sampling events for the reported week. For all field visit and analytical result details, please refer 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.

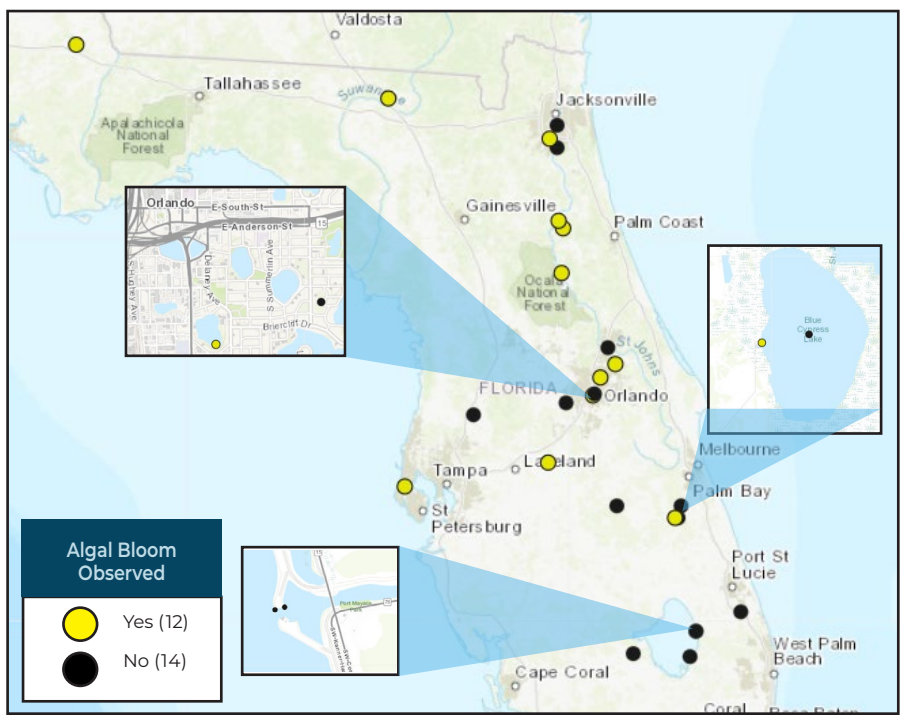
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS

Current Lake Release Schedule*		
West (S-79)	1,000	Pulse
East (S-80)	0	Constant
*Updates are generally made on Fridays.		

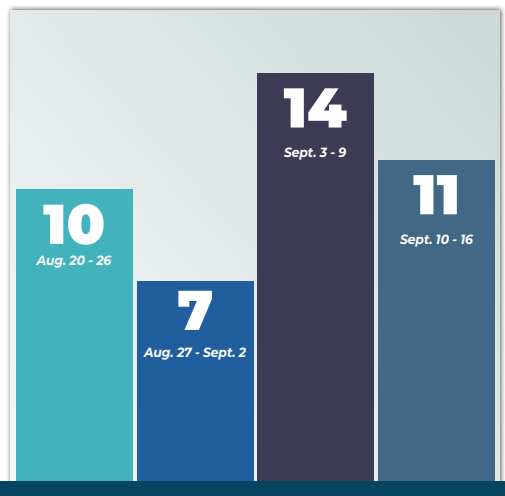
Total Inflows and Outflows (cfs)		
Weekly Inflow	24,350	
Weekly Outflow	West	0
	South	0
	East	-1,015



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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