



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCTOBER 2 - OCTOBER 8, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 36 reports of visits in the past seven days (10/2 - 10/8), with 36 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at 15 sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee** and **St. Lucie** estuaries from 10/7 was heavily obscured by cloud cover but showed increased areas of low to high algal bloom potential on the lake compared to the 10/6 image. No bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 10/7 was also heavily obscured by cloud cover over the lower portion of the river but did not show any significant bloom potential on **Lake George** or visible portions of the main stem of the **St. Johns River**. 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 10/5 through 10/7, South Florida Water Management District staff collected samples from two control structures and Lake Okeechobee at the following stations. Cyanotoxin results are included in parentheses following each station name: **S308C (Lakeside)** (non-detect); **C43 Canal - S77 (Upstream)** (non-detect); **FEBIN** (non-detect); **KISSRO.0** (non-detect); **LZ2** (non-detect); **NES191** (non-detect); **L001** (non-detect); **NES135** (non-detect); **NCENTER** (non-detect); **EASTSHORE** (non-detect); **L004** (non-detect); **L008** (43 parts per billion); **L005** (non-detect); **POLESOUT** (non-detect); **POLESOUT1** (1.1 ppb); **POLESOUT2** (13 ppb); **POLESOUT3** (16 ppb); **KBARSE** (5.5 ppb); **CLV10A** (non-detect); **LZ40** (53 ppb); **PALMOUT** (trace, 0.28 ppb); **PALMOUT1** (1.2 ppb); **PALMOUT2** (3.2 ppb); **PALMOUT3** (5.3 ppb); **LZ30** (6.0 ppb); **POLES3** (non-detect); **RITTAE2** (non-detect); **LZ25A** (non-detect); **L007** (trace, 0.27 ppb); **L006** (non-detect); and **PELBAY3** (non-detect). *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant taxon in all of the samples with total microcystin levels greater than 1 ppb.

On 10/6, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected a sample from **Santa Rosa Sound (Direct Runoff upstream of Laurel Drive)**. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis wessenbergii* and a trace level (1.9 ppb) of total microcystin was detected.

On 10/7, staff from the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and Wildlife Research Institute (FWC/FWRI) collected samples from **Indian River-Parrish Park Boat Ramp**, **Indian River Eau Gallie Pier** and **Banana River- 520 Slick Boat Ramp**. Algal identifications are being performed by FWC/FWRI (results pending). No cyanotoxins were detected (saxitoxin results still pending).

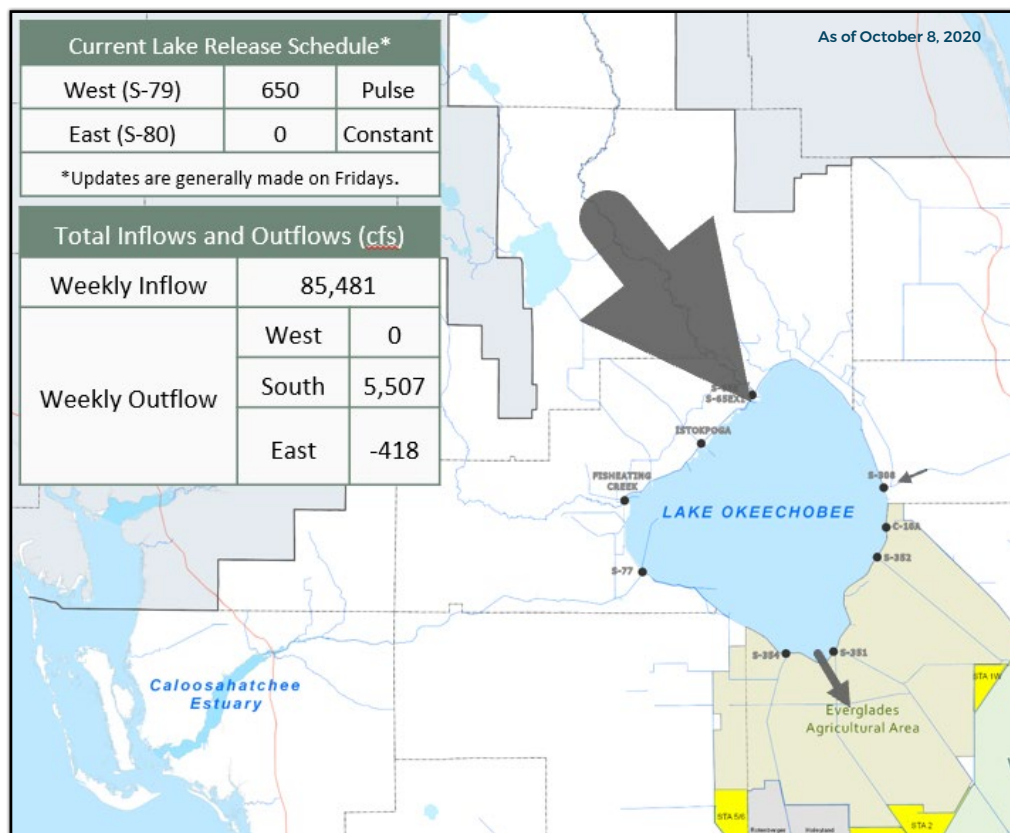
On 10/8, DEP staff collected a sample from **Three Forks Marsh (2.8 miles south of boat ramp)**. Sample results are still pending.

Last Week

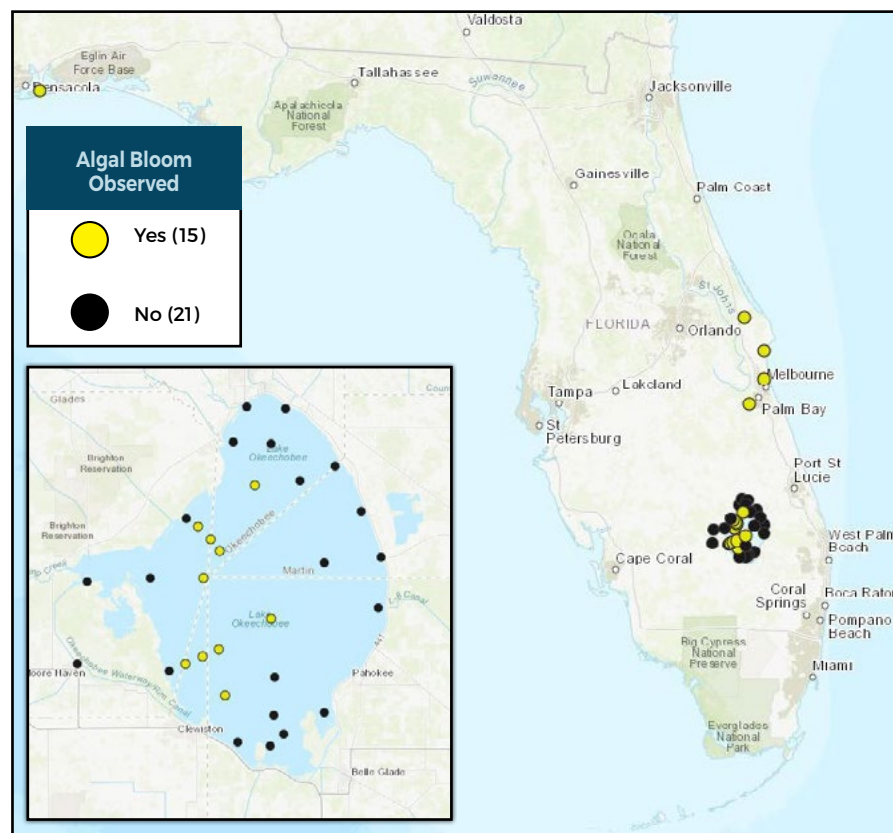
On 9/29, FWC/FWRI collected samples from **Indian River-Parrish Park Boat Ramp**, **Indian River Eau Gallie Pier** and **Banana River- 520 Slick Boat Ramp**. All three samples were dominated by nanocyanobacteria. The **Banana River- 520 Slick Boat Ramp** sample had a trace level (0.29 ppb) of total microcystins detected. No toxins were detected in the two other samples.

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.

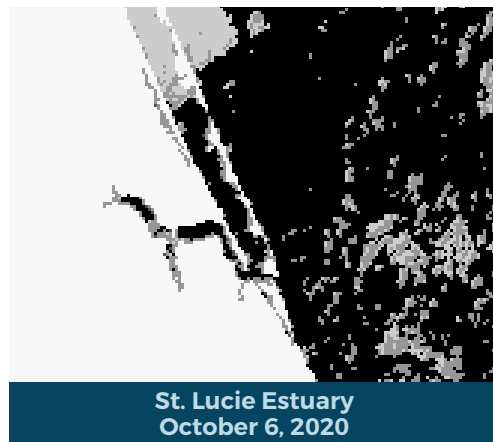
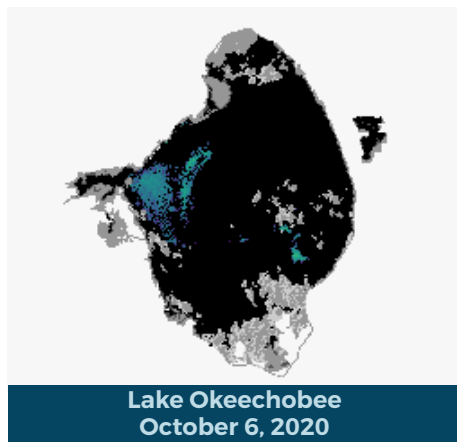
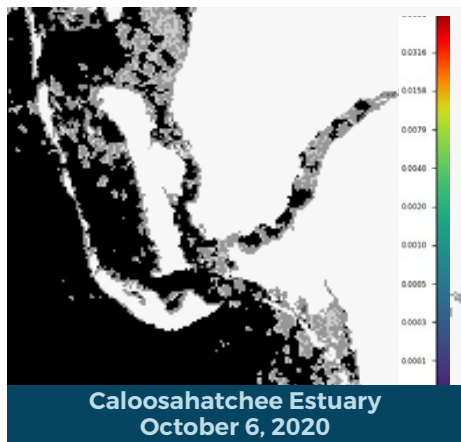
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



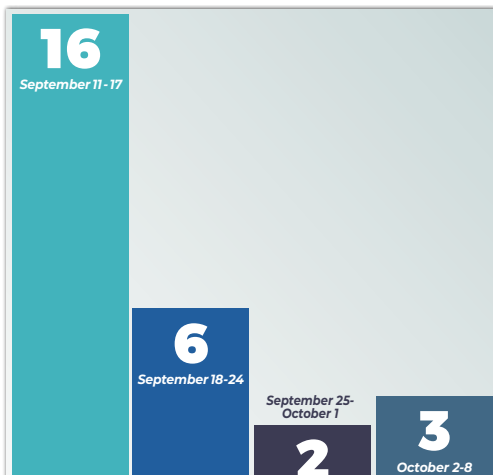
SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



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](http://WaterQuality) website to check the current status and to receive updates.

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