



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCTOBER 9 - OCTOBER 15, 2020

SUMMARY

There were 11 reports of visits in the past seven days (10/9 – 10/15), with 11 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at seven sites.

Satellite imagery for **Lake Okeechobee** and the **Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries** from 10/15 was partially obscured by cloud cover but showed approximately 40% coverage of medium to high algal bloom potential on the lake. No bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the **St. Johns River** from 10/15 was heavily obscured by cloud cover 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 10/12, South Florida Water Management District staff collected samples from **S308C (Lakeside)** and the **C43 Canal – S77 (Upstream)**. No dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected in the two samples.

On 10/12, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected a sample from **Blue Cypress Lake-Middleton Fish Camp**. The sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 10/13, SJRWMD staff collected a sample from **Lake George-Center**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected four samples this week. The **Lake Bradford-Western Shore** sample collected 10/9 was dominated by *Botryococcus braunii*. The **Indian River – Pebble Bay** sample collected 10/12 was dominated by dinoflagellates. The **C44-S80** sample collected 10/13 had no dominant algal taxon. There were no cyanotoxins detected in these three samples. On 10/15, DEP collected a sample from **Direct Run-off upstream of Laurel Drive**. Results are pending.

On 10/14, 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.

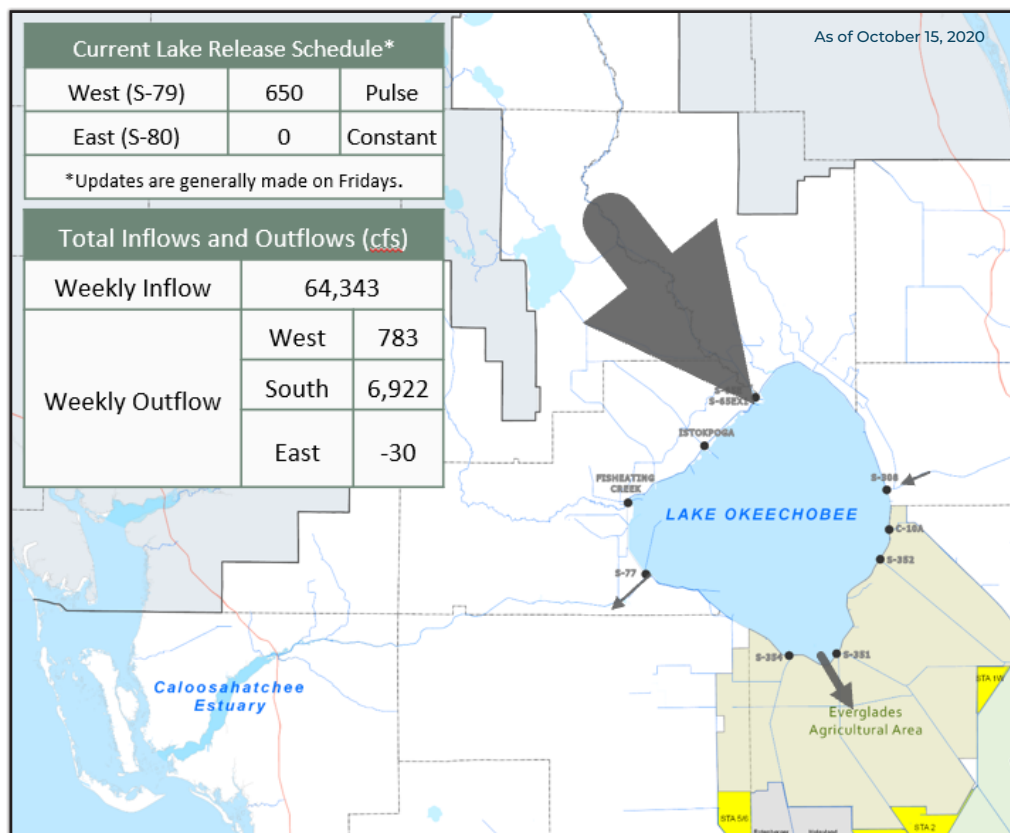
Last Week

On 10/7, 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.

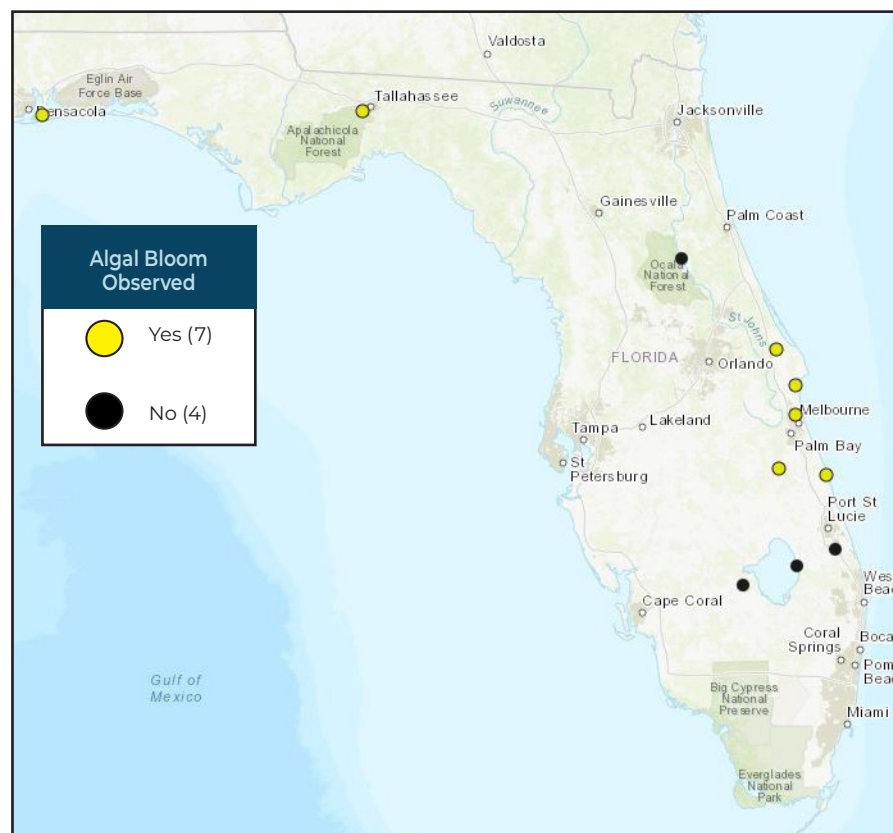
On 10/8, DEP staff collected a sample from **Three Forks Marsh (2.8 miles south of boat ramp)**. The sample was co-dominated by *Phormidium* sp. and *Ulothrix* sp., and no cyanotoxins were detected.

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.

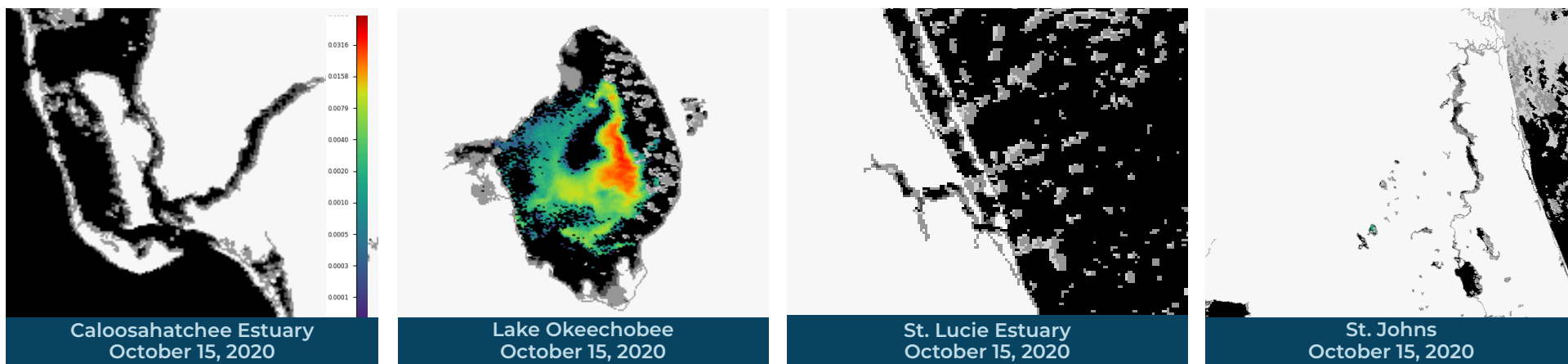
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



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