SUMMARY

There were five reports of visits in the past seven days (10/23 - 10/29), with five samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by the samplers at two sites.

Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee and the Caloosahatchee and St. Lucie estuaries from 10/29 showed approximately 15% coverage of medium to high algal bloom potential, predominantly on the northwest quadrant of the lake. No bloom potential was observed on the visible portions of either estuaries.

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 10/29 did not show any significant bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George or 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 10/26, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff sampled Tiger Lake – Near Ramp. The sample was dominated by Dolichospermum circinale and had a trace level (0.69 parts per billion) of total microcystin detected.

On 10/27, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected samples at Blue Cypress Lake - Center and Stick Marsh – North. The Blue Cypress Lake – Center sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and had no detectable levels of cyanotoxins. The Stick Marsh – North sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.27 ppb) of total microcystin was detected.

On 10/28, Orange County staff collected samples at Lake Anderson – NW Corner and had no detectable levels of cyanotoxins. The sample was dominated by Dolichospermum circinale and had no detectable levels of cyanotoxins. The Stick Marsh – North sample had no dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.27 ppb) of total microcystin was detected.

On 10/29, Orange County staff collected samples at Lake Anderson - NW Corner and Lake Roberts – SE Corner. Both samples were co-dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa and Microcystis wesenbergii, with only the Lake Anderson - NW Corner sample having detectable levels (1.9 ppb) of total microcystin.

Last Week

On 10/22, samples were collected at Lake Okeechobee stations PALMOUT1, PALMOUT2, PALMOUT3, L180, POLE3S, RITTAE2, L25SA, L007, L006, PELBAYS and LZ40; however, sample results were still pending. Total microcystin results are included in parentheses following each site name: PALMOUT1 (10 ppb) PALMOUT2 (13 ppb) PALMOUT3 (15 ppb) LZ25 (0.1 ppb) POLE3S (non-detect) RITTAE2 (non-detect) L25SA (non-detect) L007 (trace 0.99 ppb) L006 (16 ppb) PELBAYS (non-detect) and LZ40 (trace 0.28 ppb).

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 algae bloom map with state 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 your pets sick if swallowed or possibly cause skin and/or eye irritation due to contact. We advise people to stay out of water where algae is visibly present as specks, mats or water is discolored. Additionally, pets or livestock should not come into contact with the algal bloom-impacted water, or the algal bloom types of blue-green algal bloom species can produce toxins that can make you or your pets sick if swallowed or possibly cause skin and/or eye irritation due to contact.

Satellite Imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud-cover