



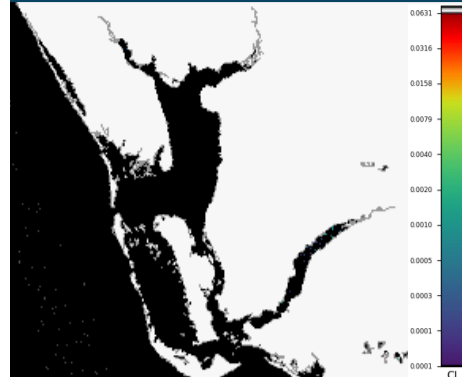
# BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEB. 16 - FEB. 22, 2024

Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.

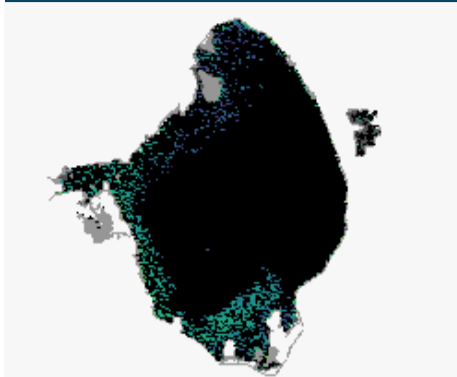
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range. Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly changing environmental conditions or satellite inconsistencies (i.e.,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

Caloosahatchee Estuary  
Feb. 22, 2024



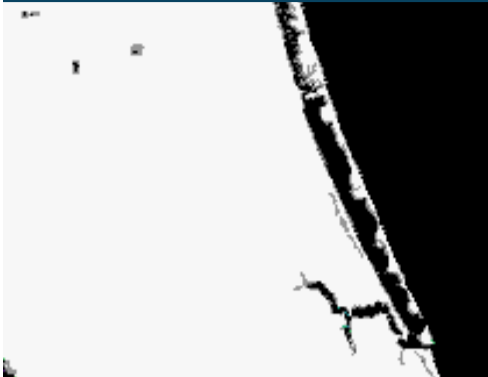
Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary from 2/22 shows highly scattered low to moderate bloom potential, predominantly in the upper estuary.

Lake Okeechobee  
Feb. 21, 2024



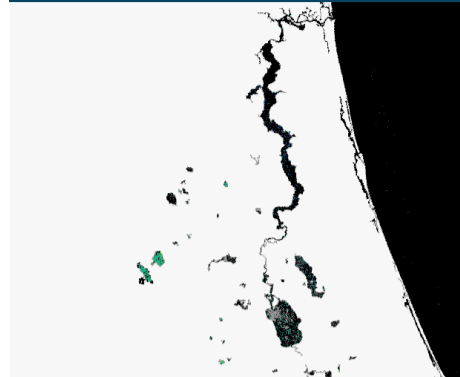
The most recent usable satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is from 2/21 and shows low to moderate bloom potential on 15% of the lake, predominantly along the northern, western and southern shorelines of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary  
Feb. 21, 2024



The most recent usable satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary is from 2/21 and shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential, predominantly in the upper estuary but also at the confluence of the estuary and the Atlantic Ocean.

St. Johns River  
Feb. 22, 2024



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 2/22 is partially obscured by cloud cover, but shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential throughout Lake George and the mainstem of the river down to the city of Jacksonville.

## SUMMARY

There were eight reported site visits in the past seven days with eight samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at five of these sites.

On 2/19, Highlands County staff collected two Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

**Lake Placid - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; trace level [0.20 parts per billion (ppb)] microcystins detected.

**Lake Glenada - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; trace level (0.88 ppb) microcystins detected.

On 2/20 - 2/22, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected four HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

**Lake Pearl - Park Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Pseudanabaena mucicola* co-dominant; estimated 1.4 ppb microcystins detected.

**Choctawhatchee Bay - Legion Park pipe:** No algal taxonomy sample collected; no cyanotoxins detected.

**Lake Minnehaha - East Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; estimated (1.2 ppb) microcystins detected.

**Lake Harris - East Central Shore:** Results pending.

On 2/21, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected two routine HAB monitoring samples at two locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

**Lake Washington - Center:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

**Lake Jesup - Center:** *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*; no cyanotoxins detected.

### Last Week

On 2/15, DEP staff collected a HAB response sample from **Lake Harris - East Central Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.

### Errata from Last Week

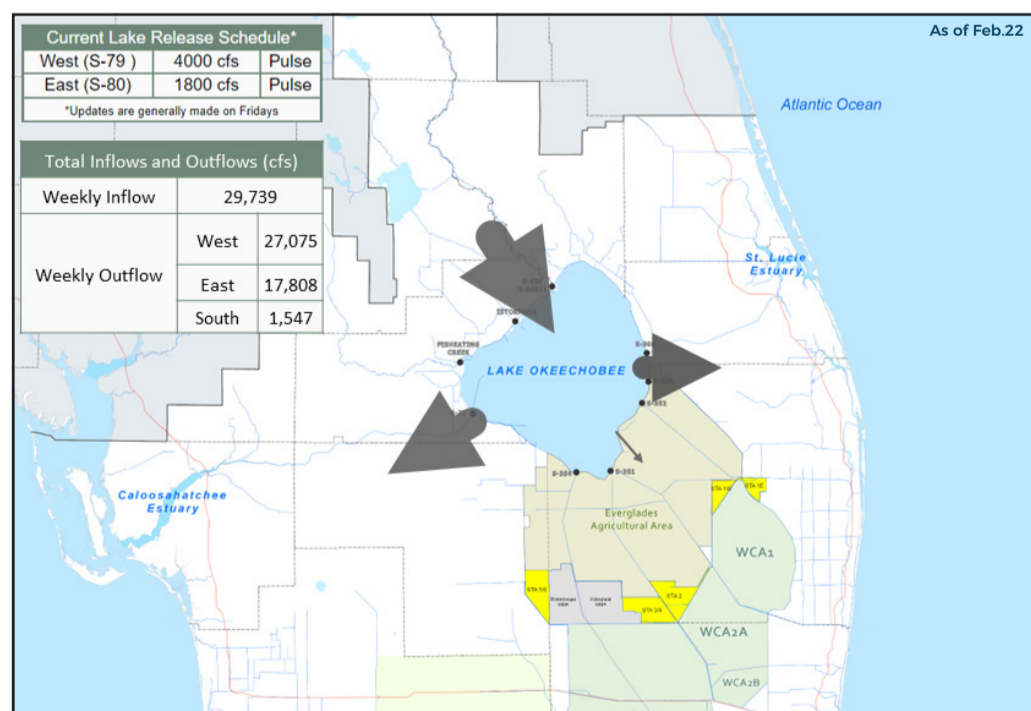
There is one date correction for last week's HAB Summary. South Florida Water Management District's **Lake Okeechobee** routine HAB monitoring samples were collected on 2/13 - 2/14 rather than on 2/5.

On 2/13, DEP collected a HAB response sample from **Lake Breckenridge - South Lobe.** The sample results for **Lake Breckenridge - South Lobe** were misidentified as results for **Chrise Lake.** The **Lake Breckenridge - South Lobe** sample was co-dominated by *Woronichinia naegeliana* and *Dolichospermum sp.* and had a trace level (0.30 ppb) microcystins detected.

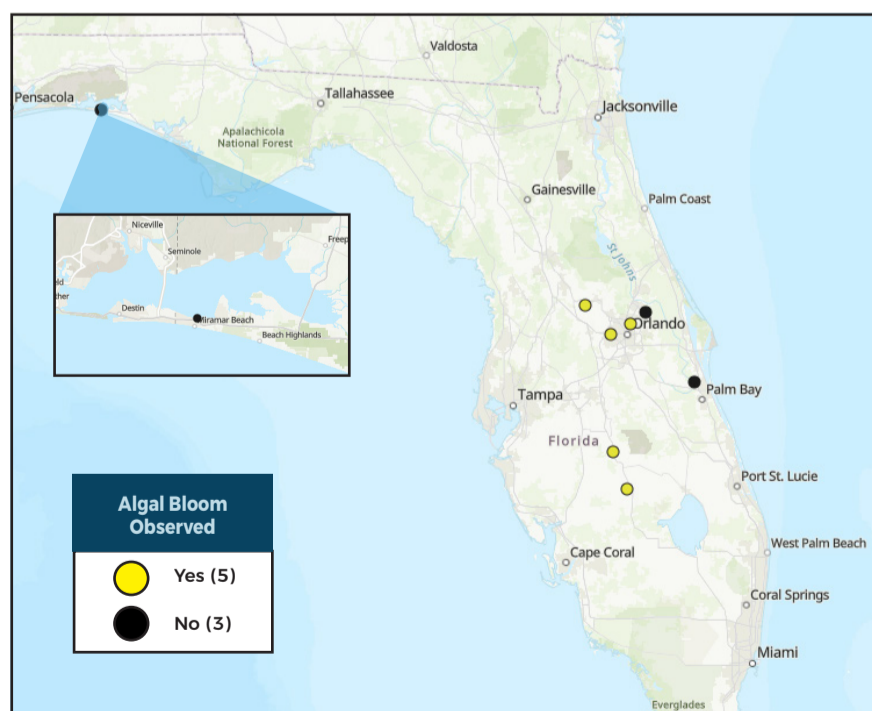
Results for completed analyses are available at [FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom](http://FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom).

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



## SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



### SIGN-UP FOR UPDATES

To receive personalized email notifications about blue-green algae and red tide, visit

PROTECTING TOGETHER  
[ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov](http://ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov)

### 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](http://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](http://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](http://FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom)