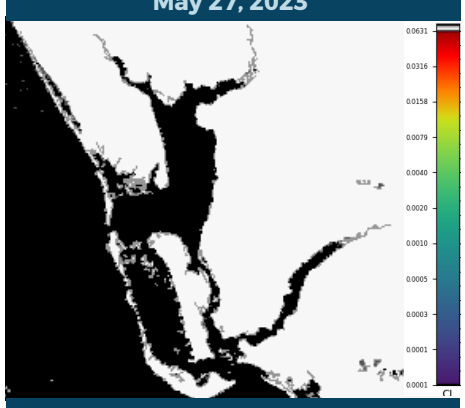
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING MAY 26 - JUNE 1, 2023

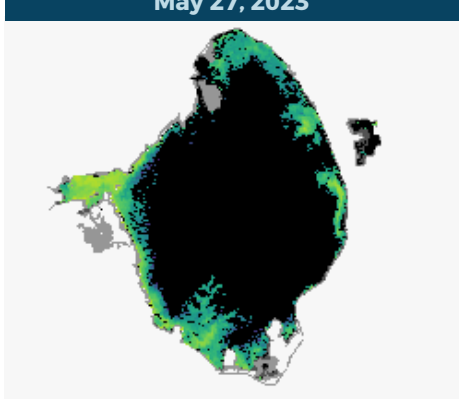
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
May 27, 2023



Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no bloom potential on visible portions of the estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
May 27, 2023

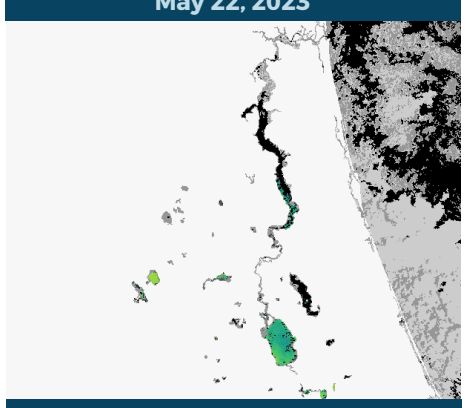


Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows moderate bloom potential on approximately 30% of the lake, mostly along the shoreline.

St. Lucie Estuary
May 27, 2023

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

St. Johns River
May 22, 2023



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows moderate bloom potential on Lake George extending down the mainstem of the river to Clarkes Creek.

This week, Governor Ron DeSantis signed House Bill 1379 into law, which supports the goals of Executive Order 23-06 (Achieving Even More Now for Florida's Environment) and builds on the historic investments and accomplishments over the past four years in advancing the protection of natural resources. Learn more about this legislation.

SUMMARY

There were 20 reported site visits in the past seven days with 20 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 14 of the sites.

On 5/30-6/1, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples from 14 sites. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

- **Lake Pearl - Woodside Village Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Haines - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis wesenbergii*; trace level (0.50 parts per billion [ppb]) microcystins detected.
- **Scott Lake - at Fitzgerald Rd Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; trace level (0.41 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Wauseon Bay - E Lobe:** Algal mat co-dominated by *Oedogonium sp.* and *Spriogyra sp.* No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Hollingsworth - at Lakeland Water Ski Club:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.26 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **St. Johns River - Mullet Lake Park:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Sue - Fawsett Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.37 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake George – North:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Whistler - at Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caywood Pond - SW Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.89 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Hunter Springs:** Results pending.
- **Georges Lake at Boat Ramp:** Results pending.
- **Old Lake Davenport – SW Dock:** Results pending.
- **Tiger Lake:** Results pending.

On 5/30-5/31, South Florida Water Management District staff collected one HAB routine and three HAB response samples.

- **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **C44 Canal - S308C (canal side):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S354 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Dolichospermum circinale* co-dominant; 3.8 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.44 ppb) microcystins detected.

On 5/30, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected one HAB routine and one HAB response samples.

- **Lake Washington - Center:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Bull Creek - North of Fish Camp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.25 ppb) microcystins detected.

Last Week

On 5/25, DEP staff collected HAB response samples from three sites. **Lake Maitland - Kraft Azalea Garden** and **Lake Baldwin - Park Boat Ramp** had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected. **Lake Rowena - Near NE corner** had no dominant algal taxon, and microcystins were estimated to be 1.8 ppb.

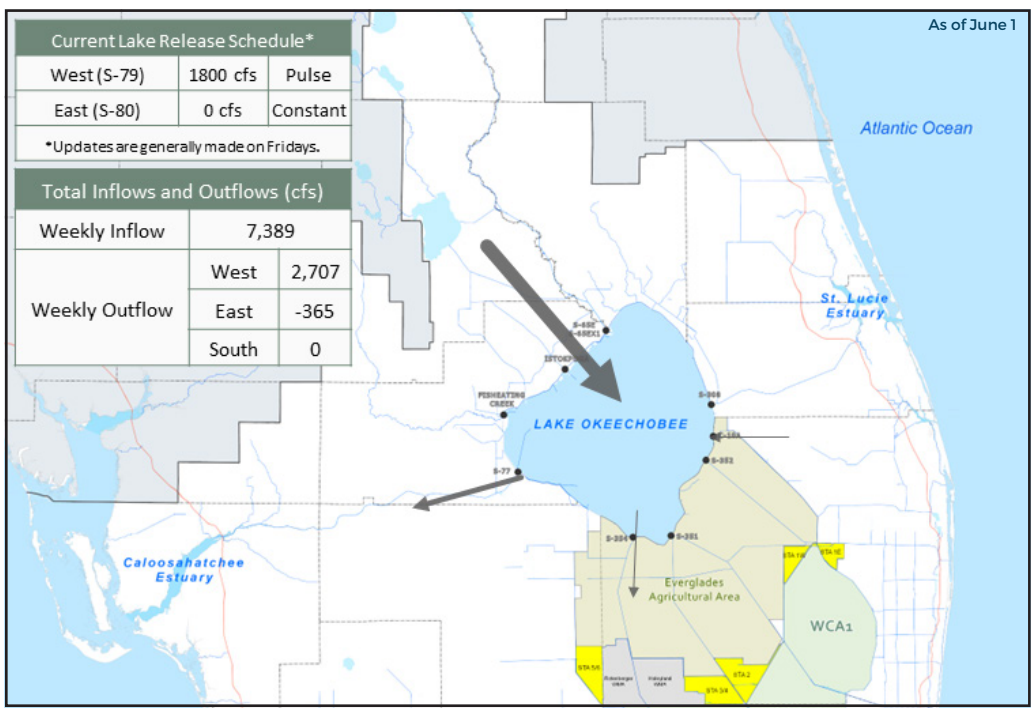
On 5/25, SJRWMD staff collected two HAB routine and one HAB response sample from **Lake Monroe – Center, St. Johns River - downstream from Lemon Bluff boat ramp** and **Crescent Lake - mouth of Dunns Creek.** The samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

On 5/25, Highlands County staff collected two HAB response samples at **Lake Istokpoga – Near C410** and **Lake Bonnet – Boat Ramp.** Both samples were co-dominant for *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*. The **Lake Istokpoga** sample had trace level (0.14 ppb) microcystins detected, and the **Lake Bonnet** sample had no cyanotoxins detected.

Results for completed analyses are available at 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.

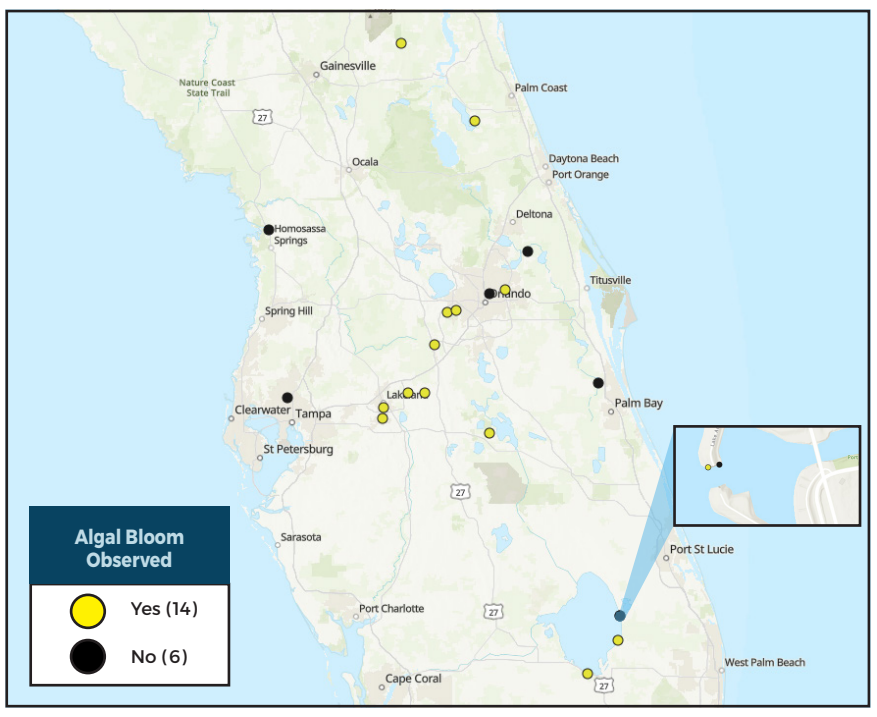
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



Current Lake Release Schedule*		
West (S-79)	1800 cfs	Pulse
East (S-80)	0 cfs	Constant
*Updates are generally made on Fridays.		

Total Inflows and Outflows (cfs)		
Weekly Inflow	7,389	
Weekly Outflow	West	2,707
	East	-365
	South	0

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.

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