

## BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE REPORTING JUNE 30 - JULY 6, 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).



DEP in coordination with its state and local partners extensively monitors and samples locations throughout Florida to evaluate water quality. Since January, DEP's Division of Environmental Assessment and Restoration has performed over 782 site visits and more than 1,130 sets of cyanotoxin analyses at DEP's state-of-the-art laboratory to protect public health and the environment. Learn more about the roles and responsibilities of the agencies within this network when responding to blue-green algal blooms as well as how local county health departments issue caution and health alert notices.

## **SUMMARY**

There were 31 reported site visits in the past seven days with 29 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 20 of the sites.

On 7/5-7/6, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff visited 24 locations and collected 22 HAB response samples. No blooms were observed and no samples were collected at the **Caloosahatchee - Sebastian Ct** and **Caloosahatchee - Alva Boat Ramp** locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

- Louise Lake NW Lobe: Planktolyngbya limnetica; trace level (0.13 parts per billion [ppb]) microcystins detected.
- Caloosahatchee End of SE 13th Ave: Sphaerospermopsis torques-reginae; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Caloosahatchee Jaycee Park: Microcystis aeruginosa; 2.8 ppb microcystins detected.
- Caloosahatchee End of Canal Cir: Microcystis aeruginosa; 2.5 ppb microcystins detected.
- Caloosahatchee Whitecap Cir Dock: Microcystis aeruginosa; 3.2 ppb microcystins detected.
- Pioneer Lake NE Shore: Microcystis aeruginosa; 0.45 ppb microcystins detected.
- Caloosahatchee Coral Point Dr: Microcystis aeruginosa; 16.8 ppb microcystins detected.
- Bonita Lake S Shore: Oedogonium sp.; trace level (0.26 ppb) anatoxin-a detected.
- C-107 at NW Volucia Drive: Oedogonium sp.; no cyanotoxins detected.

Results are pending for samples collected at Peace River - Veterans Park Ramp; Peace River - at Bartow; Peace River - Crews Park Boat Ramp; Peace River - Brownville; Peace River - at Fort Meade; Lake Apthorpe - Boat Ramp; Lake Hancock - South Central; Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina; Lake Weir - Eatons Beach; Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside); C44 canal - S308C (canal side); Lake Rowena - near NE corner; and Blue Lake - Western Shore.

On 7/5, South Florida Water Management District staff collected six HAB response samples.

- C43 Canal S77 (upstream): No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- C43 Canal S78 (upstream): No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- C43 Canal S79 (upstream): No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Lake Okeechobee S271 (lakeside): Microcystis aeruginosa; 3.3 ppb microcystins detected.
- Lake Okeechobee S352 (lakeside): Microcystis aeruginosa; 2.6 ppb microcystins detected.
- Lake Okeechobee S354 (lakeside): Microcystis aeruginosa; 1.0 ppb microcystins detected.

On 7/6, Highlands County staff collected a HAB response sample at Lake Istokpoga. Results are pending.

#### Pending Results from Last Week

On 6/28-6/29, DEP staff collected HAB response samples at five sites. The samples for Caloosahatchee River - Harbor View Canal and Caloosahatchee River - Rubicon Canal were not received by the laboratory due to a shipping delay.

- Caloosahatchee River Rivers Condo: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- Georges Lake Boat Ramp: Microcystis aeruginosa and Microcystis wesenbergii co-dominant.
- Caloosahatchee River Overiver Dr: Microcystis aeruginosa; trace level (0.76 ppb) microcystins detected.

On 6/29, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected one routine HAB monitoring sample at Lake Washington - Center and one HAB response sample at Bull Creek. The Lake Washington - Center sample was dominated by Dolichospermum circinale, and the Bull Creek sample was dominated by Microcystis aeruginosa. Neither sample had 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 As of July 6 Current Lake Relea West (S-79) 2000 cfs Pulse East (S-80) 0 cfs Constant Atlantic Ocean \*Updates are generally made on Fridays. Weekly Inflow 36,857 678 West Weekly Outflow East --625 0 South LAKE OKEECHOBE Caloosahatchee WCA:

### SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



#### **SIGN-UP FOR UPDATES**

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



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/ HEALTH all-county-locations.html

# REPORT ALGAL BLOOMS

- 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 bluegreen algal blooms.

# CONTACT DEP



855-305-3903 (to report freshwater blooms)

FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom