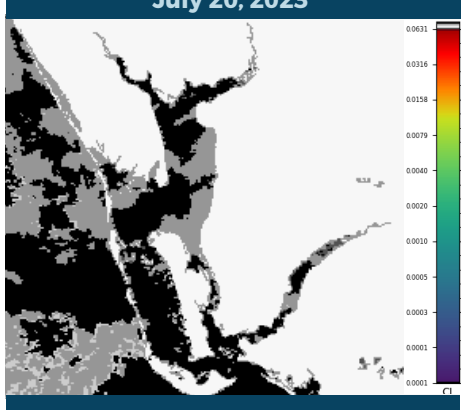
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING JULY 14 - JULY 20, 2023

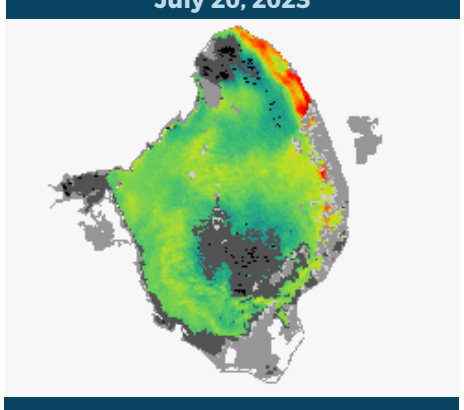
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
July 20, 2023



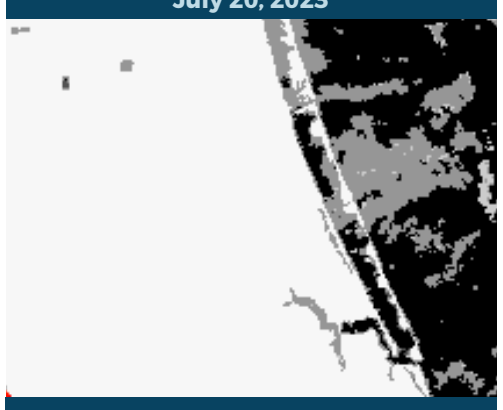
Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no bloom potential.

Lake Okeechobee
July 20, 2023



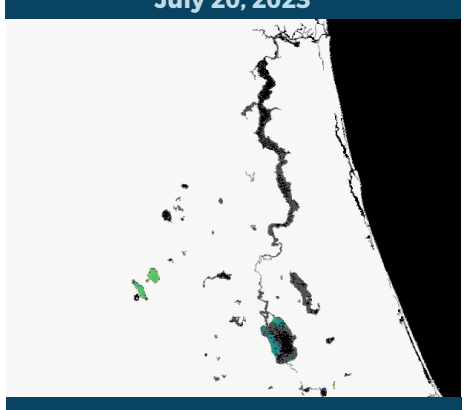
Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows moderate to high bloom potential over most of the lake, with the most intense bloom potential along the eastern shoreline.

St. Lucie Estuary
July 20, 2023



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

St. Johns River
July 20, 2023



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 20% of Lake George. The mainstem of the river is partially obscured by cloud cover, but some moderate bloom potential is visible at Doctors Lake.

In light of the heat wave across the U.S., Florida's residents and visitors are encouraged to take to the water to beat the heat this summer. In coordination with its partner agencies, DEP extensively surveys and samples locations throughout Florida to evaluate water quality. Stay up-to-date with the latest water sampling results on ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov.

SUMMARY

There were 40 reported harmful algal bloom (HAB) response or HAB routine site visits in the past seven days with 40 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 28 of the sites.

On 7/17-7/20, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected 27 HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

- **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 12 parts per billion (ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 59 ppb microcystins detected.
- **C44 Canal - S308C (canal side):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 2 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Weston - Kingswood Manor Park Dock:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Rowena - Near NE Corner:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace levels (0.19 ppb) microcystins and (0.47 ppb) cylindrospermopsin detected.
- **Louise Lake - NW Lobe:** No dominant algal taxon; trace level (0.20 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Pioneer Lake - N Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 0.72 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Alligator Lake – South:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Calothrix sp.* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Minnehaha - E Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 0.43 ppb cylindrospermopsin detected.
- **Park Lake - W Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.49 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Doctors Lake - Pace Island Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.33 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Rochelle – Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.96 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Smart - Hibiscus Dr Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.71 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **St. Johns River - 5937 W Shores Rd:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Silver:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Whistler - at Dock:** No dominant algal taxon; trace level (0.16 ppb) cylindrospermopsin detected.
- **St. Johns River - N Little Lake George (Beechers Point):** *Planktolyngbya limnetica*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Haines - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; trace level (1.0 ppb) microcystins detected.

Results are pending for samples collected at **Caloosahatchee River - W First St and Altamont; Caloosahatchee River - Coral Point Dr; Caloosahatchee - Jaycee Park; Caloosahatchee River - Horton Park; Caloosahatchee River - McGregor Colonial Park; Lake Panasoffkee South Side; Caywood Pond - SW Dock; Plantation Isles Canal SW 56th Avenue;** and **Old Lake Davenport - SW Dock**.

On 7/14-7/19, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected four HAB response samples and two Lake Okeechobee HAB routine samples.

- **C43 Canal - S77 (upstream):** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S271 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.76 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 11 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S354 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 1.8 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee – FEBIN:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee – FEBOUT:** No dominant algal taxon; estimated 1.1 ppb microcystins detected.

On 7/17-7/18, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) collected three HAB response and two HAB routine samples.

- **Lake Disston - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis wesenbergii*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Washington - Center:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Monroe - Center:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Results are pending for **St. Johns River - South of Dunns Creek at Channel Marker 19** and **Georges Lake Boat Ramp**.

On 7/18, Southwest Florida Water Management District staff collected a HAB response sample at **Bluebird Spring**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 7/20, Highlands County staff collected a HAB response sample at **Lake Istokpoga**. Results are pending.

Results Pending From Last Week

On 7/13, DEP staff collected 12 HAB response samples.

- **Caloosahatchee River - Jaycee Park:** *Microcystis aeruginosa;* 15 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Coral Point Dr:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 2.3 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - End of Canal Cir:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.76 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Whitecap Cir Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.59 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Coral Point Dr:** *Microcystis aeruginosa;* 2.3 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Horton Park:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 42 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - McGregor Colonial Park:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 44 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake George:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Little Half Moon Lake:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Pioneer Lake - NE Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.66 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Eaton - Ocala Conservation Center Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Bonita Lake - S Shore:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 7/13, SFWMD staff collected two Lake Okeechobee HAB response samples.

- **Lake Okeechobee - S354 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 6.3 ppb microcystins detected.
- **Lake Okeechobee - S352 (lakeside):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; 6.9 ppb microcystins detected.

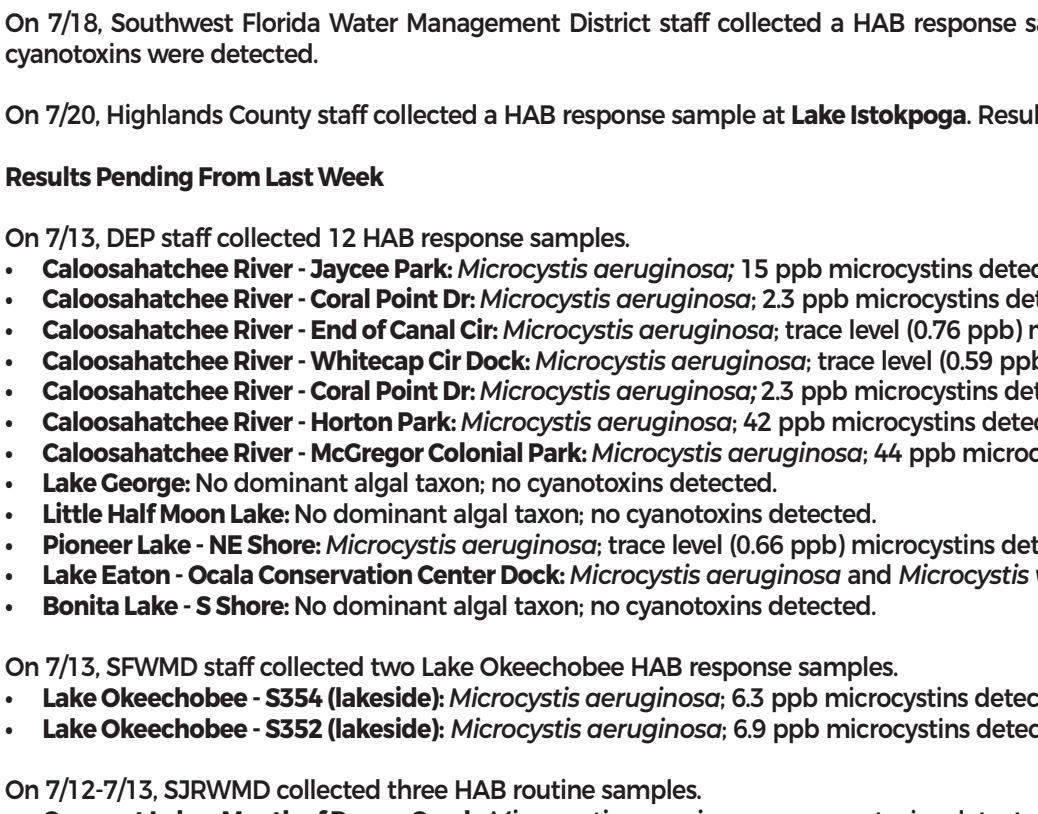
On 7/12-7/13, SJRWMD collected three HAB routine samples.

- **Crescent Lake - Mouth of Dunns Creek:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake George – Center:** *Microcystis aeruginosa;* no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Jesup – Center:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

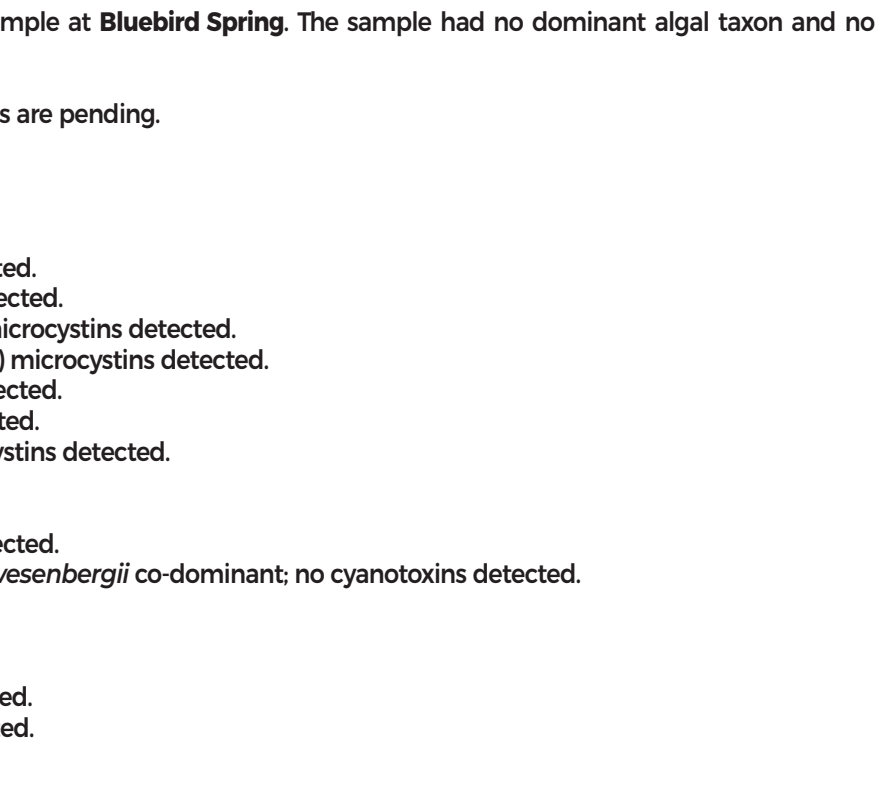
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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



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