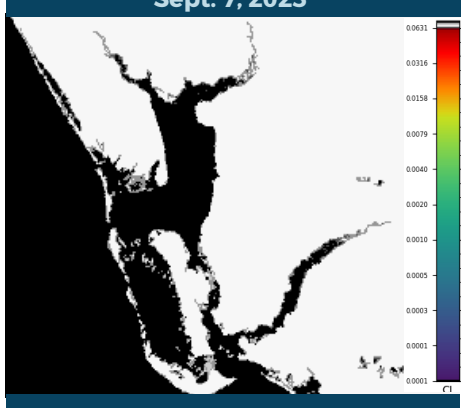
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING SEPT. 1 - SEPT. 7, 2023

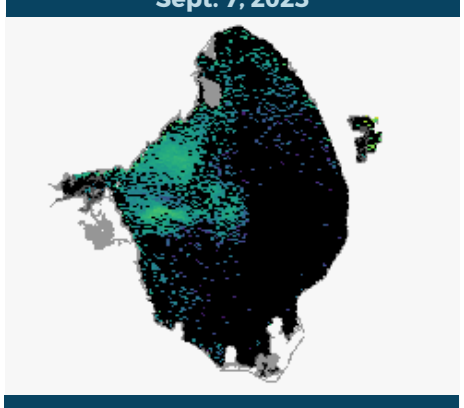
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Sept. 7, 2023



Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no bloom potential.

Lake Okeechobee
Sept. 7, 2023

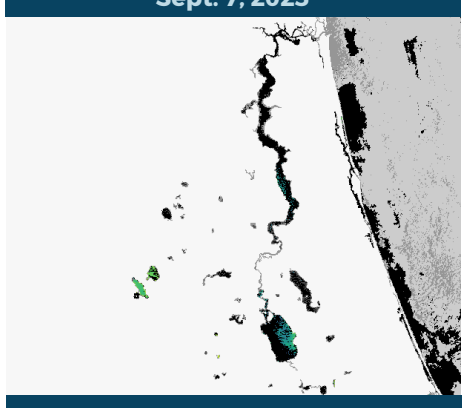


Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows low to moderate algal bloom potential on approximately 25% of the lake, primarily in the northwest quadrant.

St. Lucie Estuary
Sept. 7, 2023

Satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary shows no bloom potential.

St. Johns River
Sept. 7, 2023



Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 35% of Lake George and scattered low to moderate bloom potential on the main stem of the river downstream to Colee Cove.

SUMMARY

There were 54 reported site visits in the past seven days with 54 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 15 of the sites.

On 9/5-9/7, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected 16 harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

- **Caloosahatchee River - McGregor Colonial Park:** *Planktolyngbya limnetica*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - SE 32nd St:** *Planktolyngbya limnetica*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Coral Point Dr:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Hancock Creek - Moody Ramp:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - West First St and Altamont Ave:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - N of Loftons Island:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - End of Coon Rd:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caloosahatchee River - Fort Myers Shores:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Able Canal - Connie Ave N:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **C44 Canal - Timer Powers Park:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **New River Canal - at Mola Ave:** Dinophyceae; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Minnehaha - E Dock:** No dominant algal taxon; trace level (0.20 parts per billion [ppb]) cylindrospermopsin detected.
- **South Fork New River - Rio Nuevo A Condo:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; trace level (0.10 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Pioneer Lake - N Shore:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **New River - at Riverland Woods Boat Ramp:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Leon Lake - N Side:** *Plectonema wollei* and *Scytonema crispum* co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 9/5-9/6, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected six HAB response samples. The **C44 Canal - S308C** sample was dominated by *Glenodinium* sp. and had no cyanotoxins detected. No dominant algal taxon or cyanotoxins were present in samples from **Lake Okeechobee - Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp**; **Lake Okeechobee - S271; Lake Okeechobee- L8 Canal - CULV10A; Lake Okeechobee - S352;** and **Lake Okeechobee - S354**.

On 9/5-9/6, SFWMD staff collected 29 routine HAB samples on **Lake Okeechobee** and at one structure on the **C43 Canal - S77 (upstream)**. For the **C43 Canal - S77 (upstream)** sample, there was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Okeechobee stations **NES191, L001, NES135, NCENTER, L008, L005, POLESOUT3, PALMOUT3, PALMOUT2, PALMOUT** and **LZ25A** were dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. **PALMOUT1** (0.51 ppb), **LZ30** (0.30 ppb) and **LZ40** (0.27 ppb) were also dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* but had trace levels of microcystins detected. Stations **POLESOUT1, POLESOUT** and **RITTAE2** were dominated by *Planktolyngbya limnetica*. Stations **KISSR0.0, LZ2, S308C (lakeside), EASTSHORE, L004, POLESOUT2, KBARSE, CLV10A, L006, POLE3S, L007** and **PELBAY3** had no dominant algal taxon.

On 9/6, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected one HAB response sample at **St. Johns River - Astor Park Boat Ramp**. The sample was dominated by Dinophyceae; no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 9/7, Highlands County staff collected one HAB response sample at **Lake Glenada – Boat Ramp**. Results are pending.

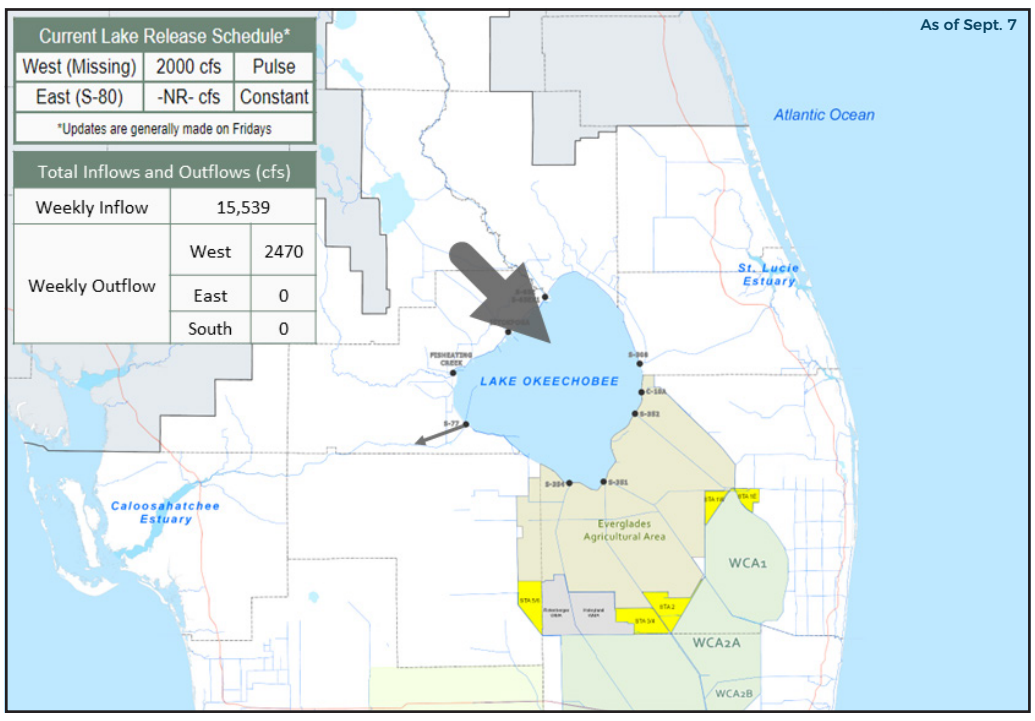
Pending Results from Last Week

On 8/31, SJRWMD collected one routine HAB sample at **Lake Washington – Center**. There was no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

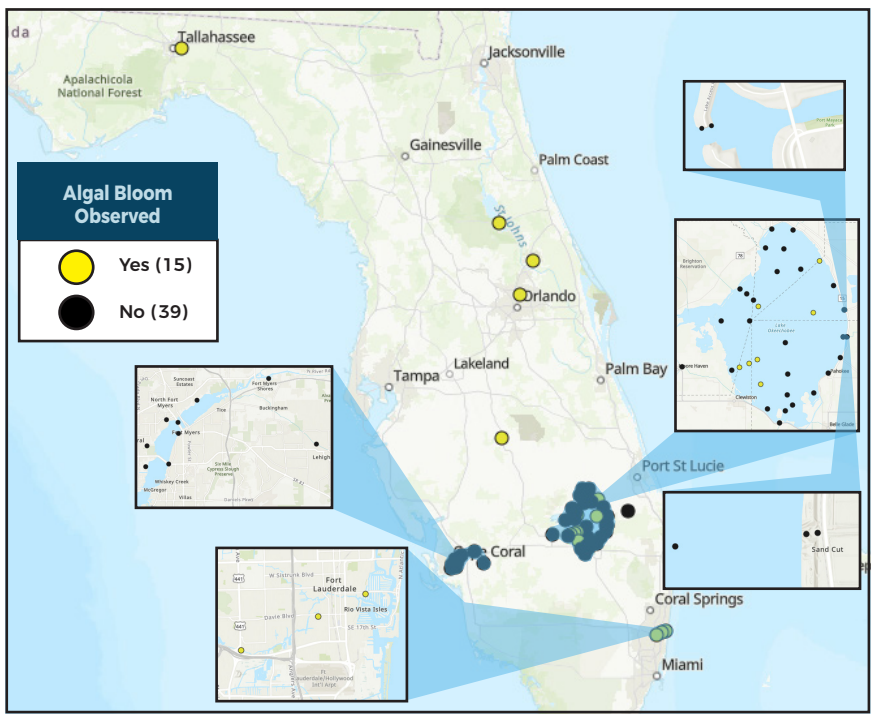
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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