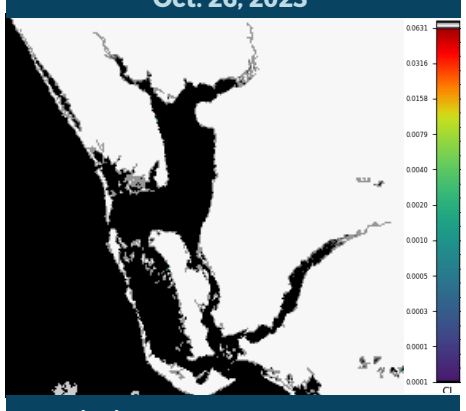
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCT. 20 - OCT. 26, 2023

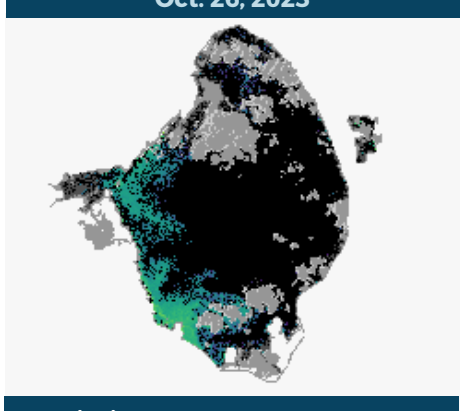
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Oct. 26, 2023



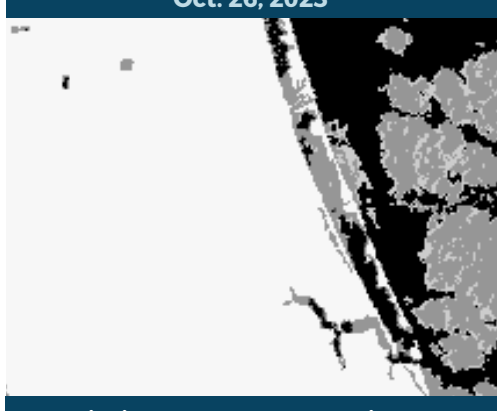
Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows no bloom potential on visible portions of the estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
Oct. 26, 2023



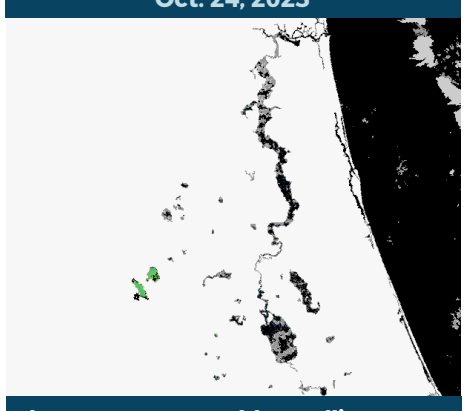
Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 20% of the lake, primarily within several miles of shore along the western half of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
Oct. 26, 2023



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

St. Johns River
Oct. 24, 2023



The most recent usable satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows low to moderate scattered bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River down to Doctors Lake.

SUMMARY

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

On 10/23 – 10/26, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected five harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Lake Rowena - near NE corner: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level [0.12 parts per billion (ppb)] cylindrospermopsin detected.

Lake Underhill - Boat Ramp: *Microcystis aeruginosa;* no cyanotoxins detected.

Blanton Lake - South Lobe: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* co-dominant; Microcystins were estimated to be 1.0 ppb.

Unnamed Lake - off Moog Rd: *Dinophyceae* (a dinoflagellate); no cyanotoxins detected.

Peace River - Veterans Park Ramp: Results pending.

On 10/23 – 10/26, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected 10 routine HAB monitoring samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Stick Marsh – North: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Blue Cypress Lake – Center: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Blue Cypress Lake – Southeast marsh entry: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Johns River - Mandarin Point: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Doctors Lake – Center: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

St. Johns River - Shands Bridge: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Crescent Lake - mouth of Dunns Creek: Results pending.

Lake George – Center: Results pending.

Lake Jesup – Center: *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii;* 0.57 ppb cylindrospermopsin detected.

Lake Monroe – Center: Results pending.

Pending Results from Last Week

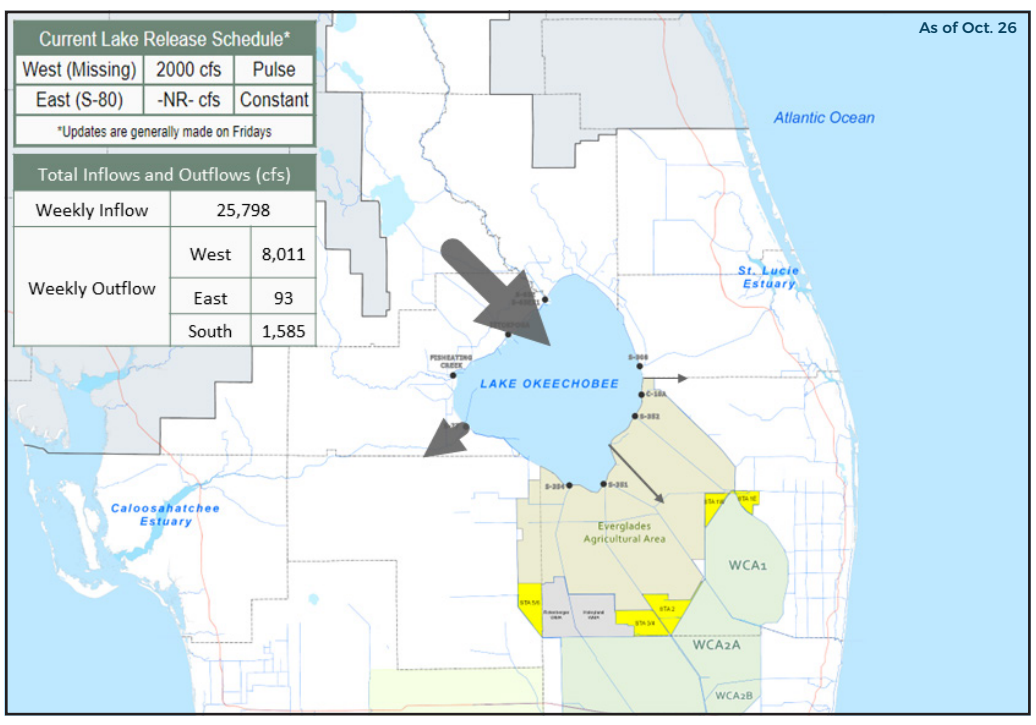
On 10/19, DEP staff collected a HAB response sample at **Lake Howell – N Shore**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 10/16 – 10/19, SJRWMD staff collected a routine HAB monitoring sample at **Lake Washington – Center** and a HAB response sample at **Lake Yale South of Center**. The **Lake Washington – Center** sample had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins were detected. The **Lake Yale South of Center** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had a trace level (0.58 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin detected.

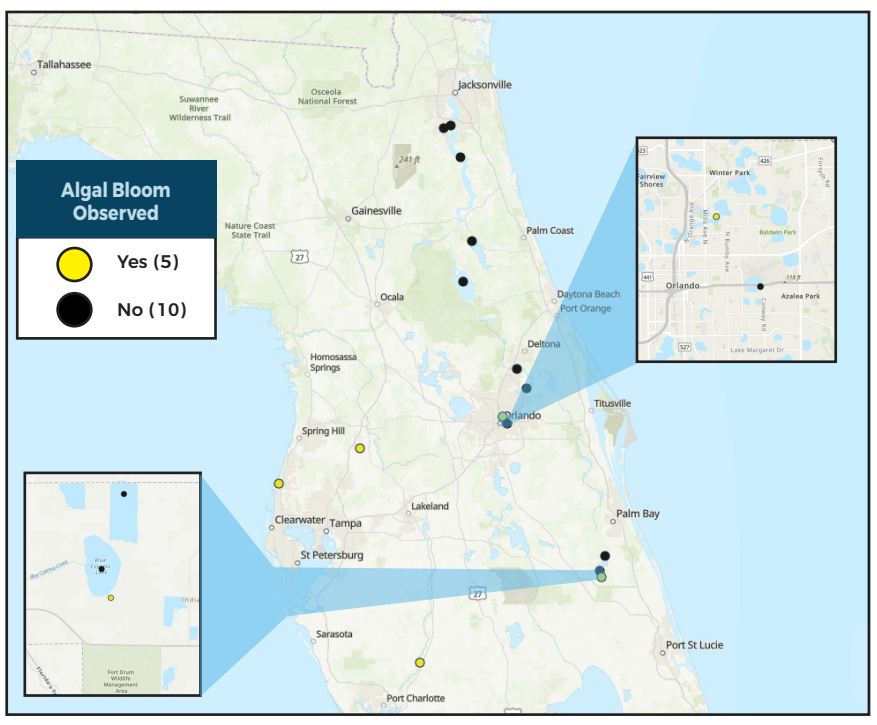
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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