



BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING DEC. 8 - DEC. 14, 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
Dec. 12, 2023

The best available satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary shows very scattered moderate bloom potential on visible portions of the estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
Dec. 12, 2023

The best available satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee is partially obscured by cloud cover, but it shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential visible portions of the lake, primarily on the western half of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
Dec. 6, 2023

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

St. Johns River
Dec. 12, 2023

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River shows lightly scattered low to moderate bloom potential on Lake George and the mainstem of the river downstream to downtown Jacksonville, with an area of more concentrated, moderate bloom potential near Jacksonville Naval Air Station.

SUMMARY

There were 18 reported site visits in the past seven days with 18 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at three of the sites.

On 12/11 - 12/13, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected a Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) response sample at three locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Lake Drawdy - Center: no dominant algal taxon; trace level [0.13 parts per billion (ppb)] microcystins detected.

Lake Howell - N Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* were co-dominant; no cyanotoxins detected.

Blanton Lake - South Lobe: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* were co-dominant; 7.4 ppb microcystins detected.

On 12/12 - 12/14, South Florida Water Management District staff collected eight routine HAB monitoring samples on **Lake Okeechobee (KISSRO.0, LZ2, L005, POLESOUT, RITTAE2, LZ30, PALMOUT and CLV10A)** and one HAB response sample at the **C44 Canal - S308C**. No dominant algal taxon or cyanotoxins were detected in any of the samples.

On 12/11 - 12/12, St. Johns River Water Management District staff collected six routine HAB monitoring samples. The **Lake George - Center** sample was dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and had no cyanotoxins detected. The **Crescent Lake - mouth of Dunns Creek, St. Johns River - Mandarin Point, Doctors Lake - Center, St. Johns River - Shands Bridge** and **St. Johns River - at Racey Point** samples had no dominant algal taxon and no cyanotoxins detected.

Last Week

On 12/7, Highlands County staff collected three HAB response samples from three locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Lake Placid: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii* were co-dominant; trace level (0.12 ppb) microcystins detected.

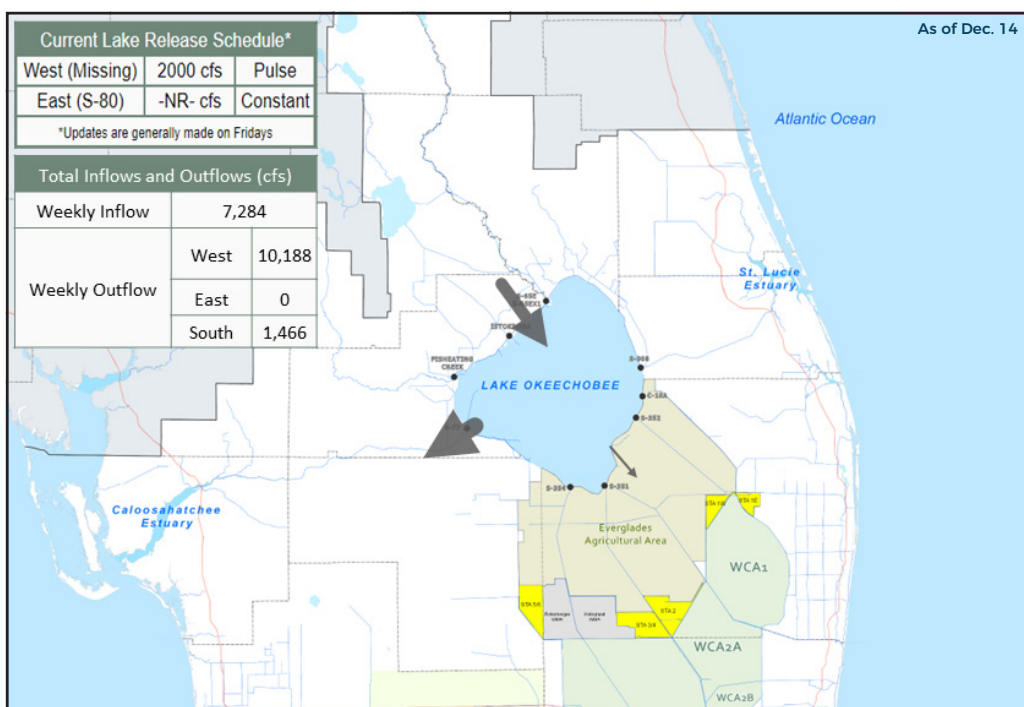
Lake June-in-Winter - Boat Ramp: *Coelosphaerium kuetzingianum*; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Glenada - Boat Ramp: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* were co-dominant; 7.8 ppb microcystins detected.

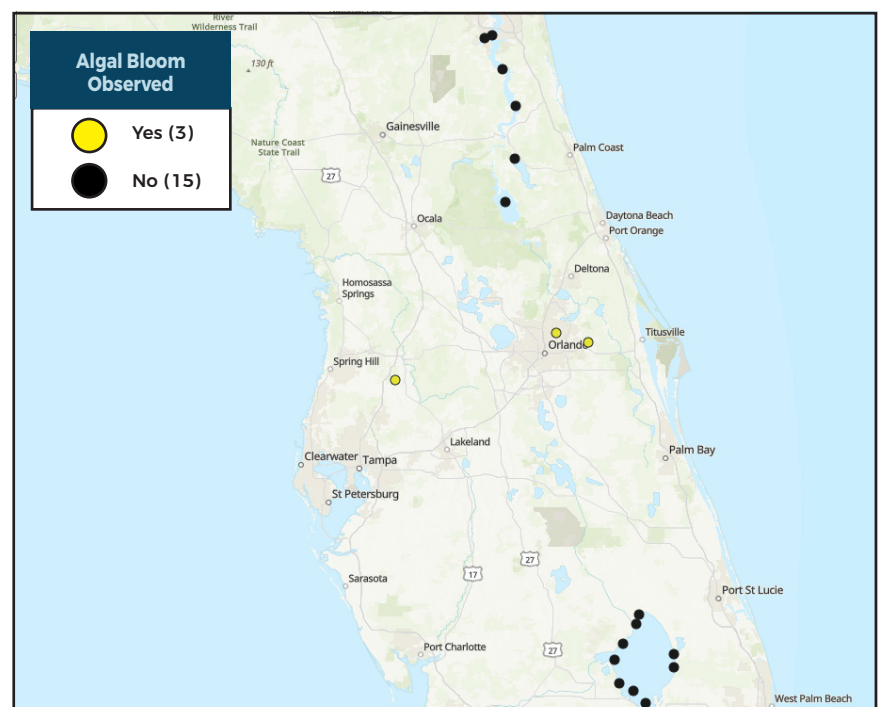
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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