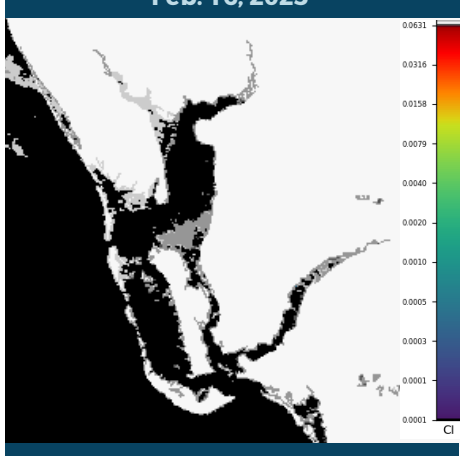
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEB. 14-FEB. 20, 2025

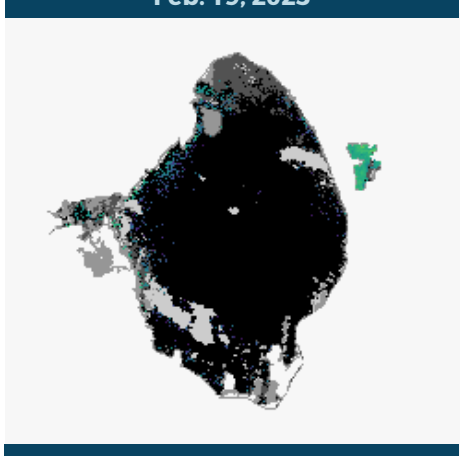
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Feb. 16, 2025



The most recent usable satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary from 2/16 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows no bloom potential in visible portions of the estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
Feb. 19, 2025



The most recent usable satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 2/19 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows widely scattered low to moderate bloom potential, primarily in nearshores of the lake.

St. Lucie Estuary
Feb. 15, 2025

The most recent usable satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary from 2/15 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows no bloom potential in visible portions of the St. Lucie River.

St. Johns River
Feb. 14, 2025

The most recent usable satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 2/14 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows sparse low to moderate bloom potential on visible portions of Lake George and the mainstem of the St. Johns River downstream to Jacksonville.

SUMMARY

There were 10 reported site visits in the past seven days with 10 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at eight of the sites.

On 2/17-2/19, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected eight Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Blanton Lake – South Lobe: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins were detected.

Bass Lake – East Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Staurastrum* sp. were co-dominant; no cyanotoxins were detected.

Lake Conway – Nela Avenue: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins were detected.

Lake Killarney – Killarney Drive: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; an estimated 1.2 parts per billion (ppb) of microcystins and a trace level (0.16 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin were detected.

Lorraine Lake – West Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; a trace level (0.37 ppb) of cylindrospermopsin was detected.

Lake Highland – Southeast Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Woronichinia naegeliana* were co-dominant; trace level (0.37 ppb) of microcystins was detected.

Lake Weir – Hampton Beach: *Raphidiopsis raciborskii* and *Botryococcus braunii* were co-dominant; no cyanotoxins were detected.

Lake Weir – Hope Boat Ramp: *Raphidiopsis raciborskii* and *Botryococcus braunii* were co-dominant; no cyanotoxins were detected.

On 2/18, St. Johns River Water Management District staff one routine HAB monitoring sample. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

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

On 2/18, Highlands County staff collected one HAB response sample at **Lake Placid – Boat Ramp.** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii* were co-dominant; a trace level (0.45 ppb) of microcystins was detected.

Last Week

On 2/13, DEP staff collected four HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

Lake Seminole – Boat Ramp: *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Microcystis wesenbergii*; no cyanotoxins were detected.

Lake Pineloch – North Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; a trace level (0.13 ppb) of microcystins was detected.

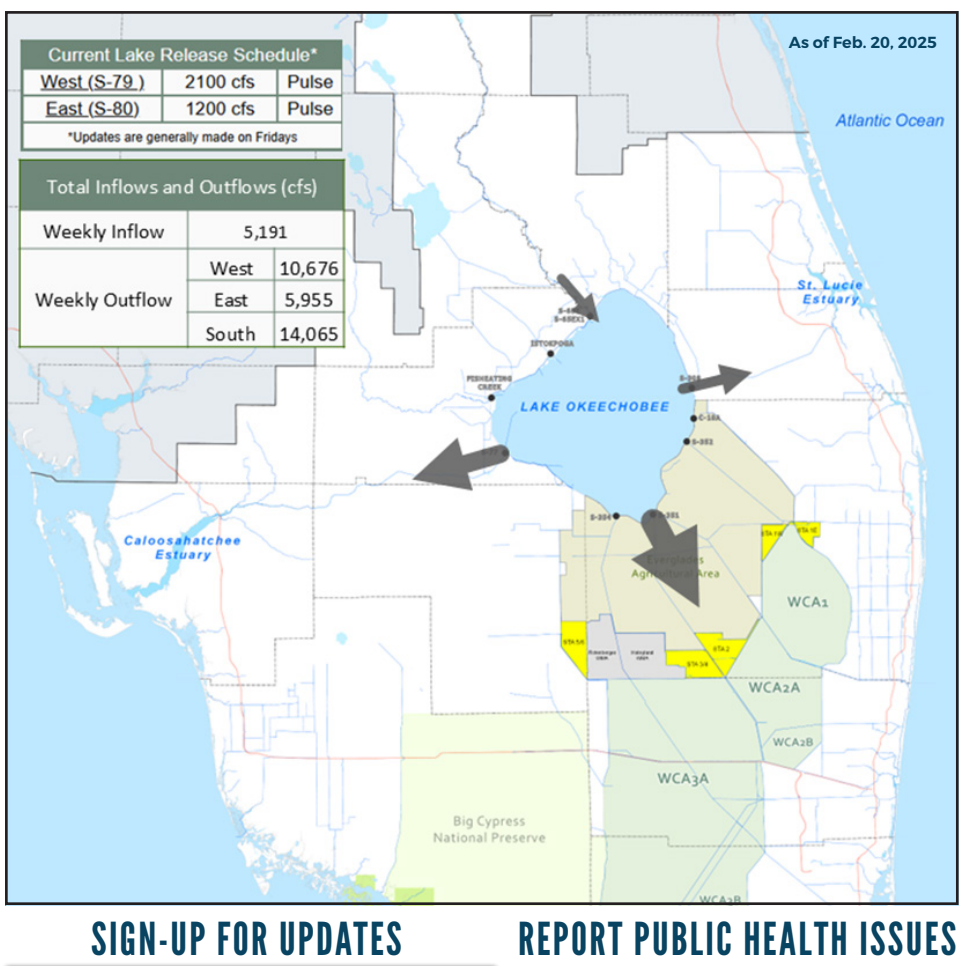
Lake Jessamine – Bywater Boat Ramp: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; a trace level (0.13 ppb) of microcystins was detected.

Lake Arnold – North Shore: *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins were detected.

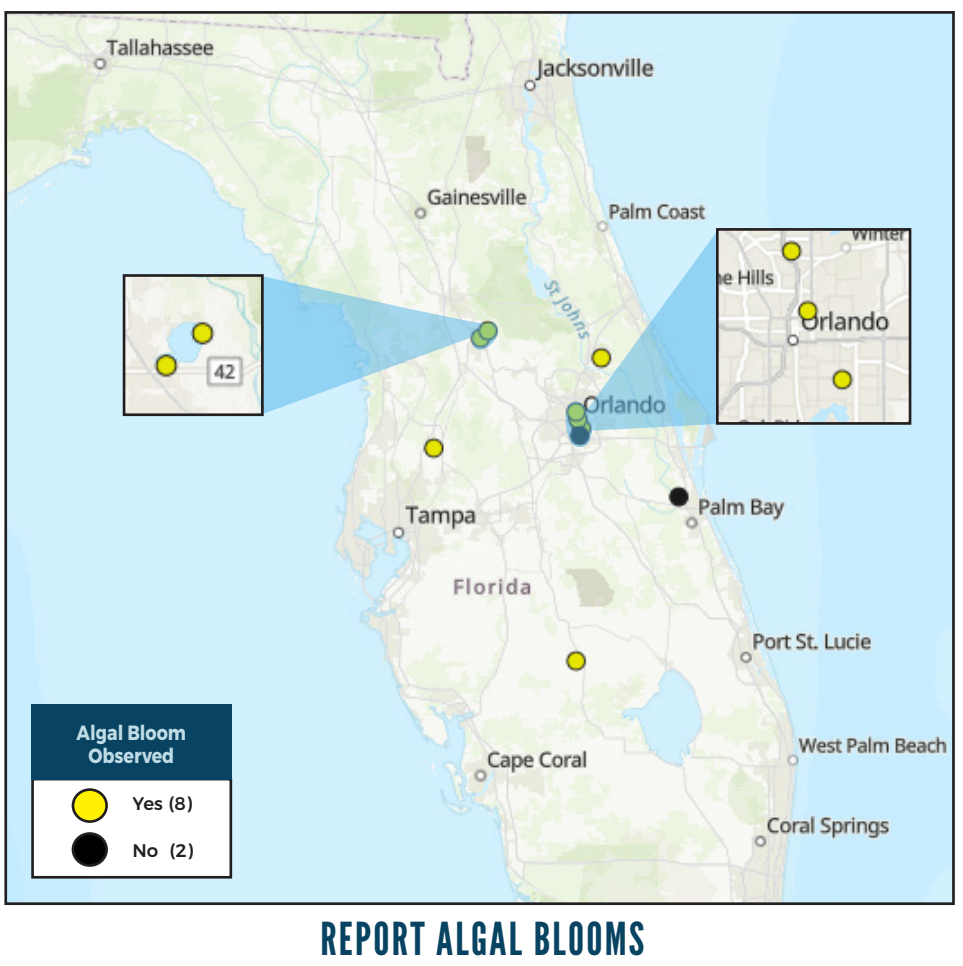
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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