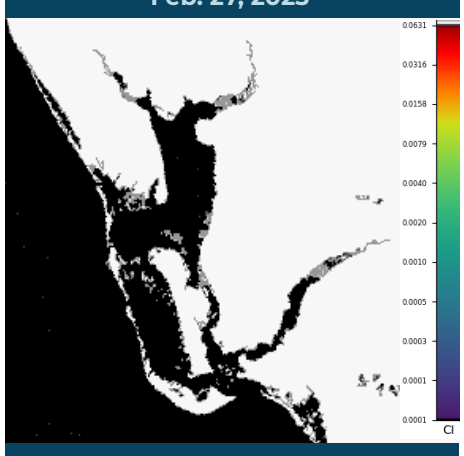
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEB. 21-FEB. 27, 2025

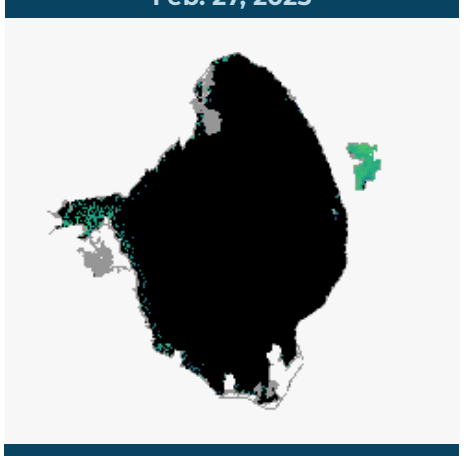
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA—Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to rapidly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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Feb. 27, 2025



Satellite imagery for the Caloosahatchee Estuary from 2/27 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows some scattered low to moderate bloom signal in visible portions of the upper estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
Feb. 27, 2025



Satellite imagery for Lake Okeechobee from 2/27 shows scattered moderate bloom potential, primarily in the Fisheating Creek area and along the western shoreline.

St. Lucie Estuary
Feb. 23, 2025

The most recent usable satellite imagery for the St. Lucie Estuary from 2/23 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows scattered low to moderate bloom potential in visible portions of the South Prong of the St. Lucie River.

St. Johns River
Feb. 27, 2025

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River from 2/27 is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows scattered 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 15 reported site visits in the past seven days with 15 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 11 of the sites.

On 2/24-2/27, Florida Department of Environmental Protection staff collected nine Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

East Lake — South Shore: ***Microcystis aeruginosa***; 0.53 part per billion (ppb) of microcystins were detected.

Lake Formosa — Southwest Park: No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Hobbs Lake — South: ***Microcystis aeruginosa*** and ***Aphanizomenon flos-aquae*** co-dominant; trace level (0.37 ppb) of microcystins detected.

Lake Roberts — South Dock: ***Chlamydomonas*** sp.; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Butler — West Shore: no dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

Lake Hancock — John Hancock Drive Boat Ramp: ***Microcystis aeruginosa***; trace level (0.29 ppb) of microcystins detected.

Lake Olive — South Shore: ***Microcystis aeruginosa***; no cyanotoxins detected.

Big Sand Lake — Near Pointview Circle: Results pending.

Lake Winnott — Bakers Acres Drive: Results pending.

On 2/26-2/27, St. Johns River Water Management District staff four routine HAB monitoring sample. 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.

Lake Jesup — Center: Results pending.

Lake Monroe — Center: Results pending.

On 2/25, Highlands County staff collected two HAB response samples. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

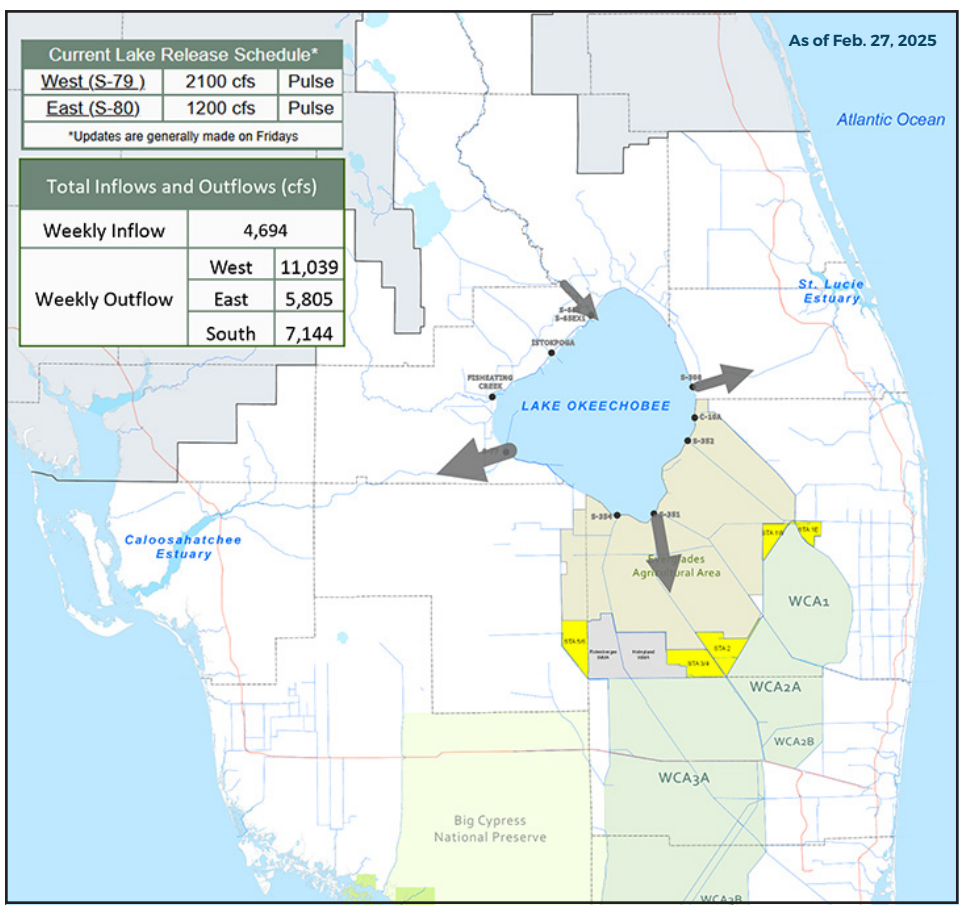
Lake Placid — Boat Ramp: ***Microcystis aeruginosa*** and ***Raphidiopsis raciborskii*** co-dominant; trace level (0.23 ppb) of microcystins detected.

Lake Grassy: ***Microcystis aeruginosa***; no cyanotoxins detected.

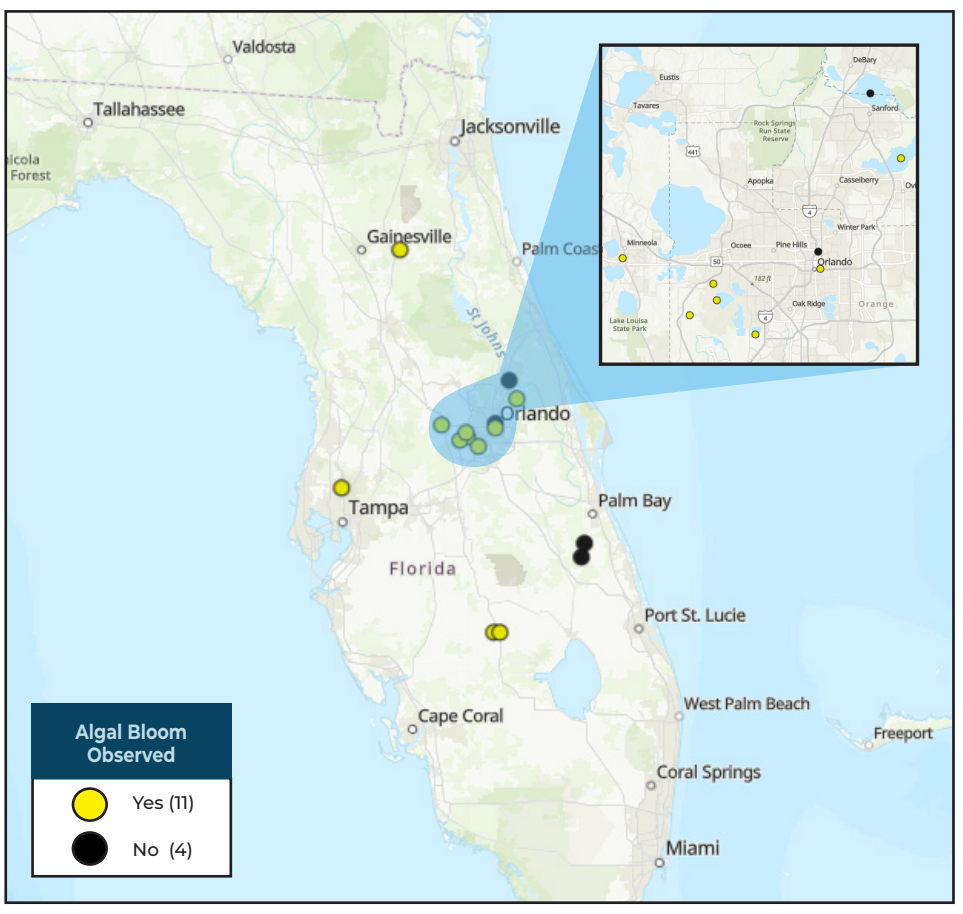
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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