



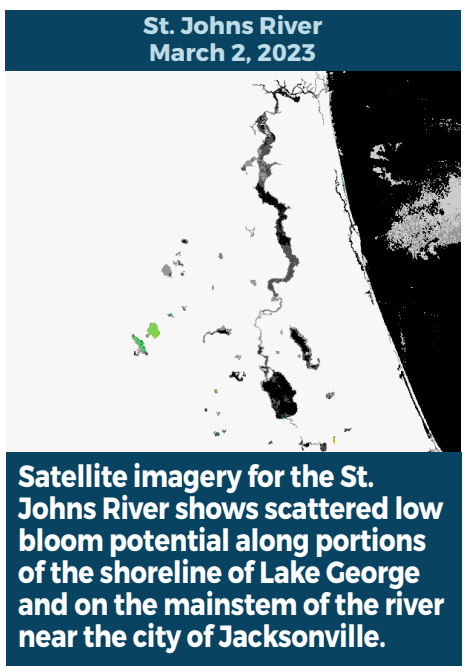
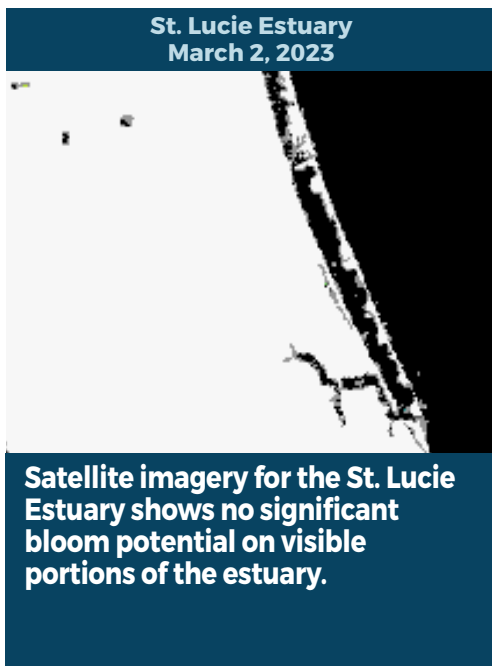
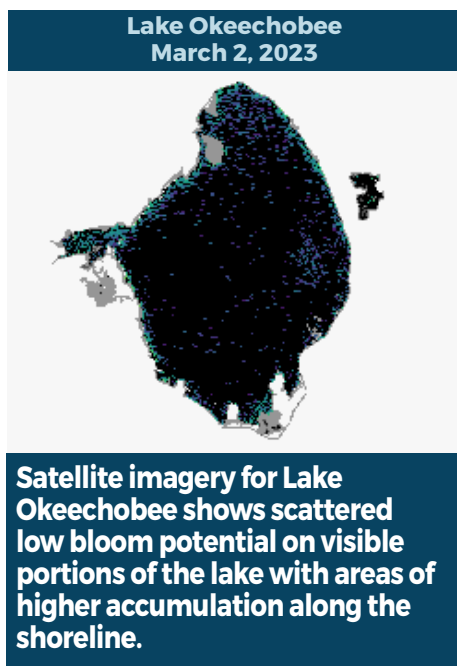
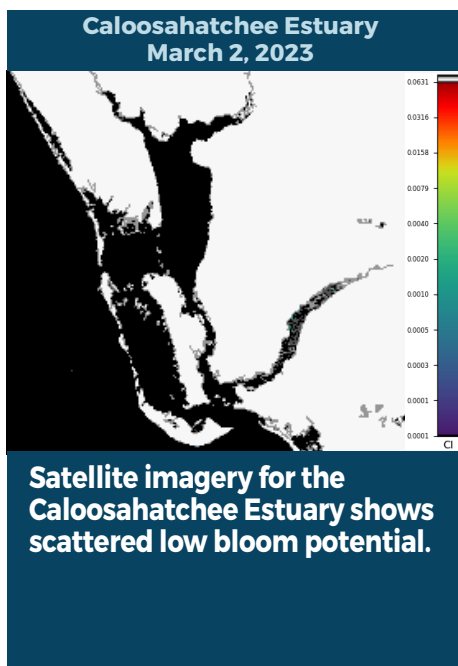
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING FEB. 24 - MARCH 2, 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).



SUMMARY

There were 22 reported site visits in the past seven days with 22 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at 16 of the sites.

On 2/27-3/2, Florida Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) staff collected harmful algal bloom (HAB) response samples at seven locations. Dominant algal taxa and cyanotoxin results follow each waterbody name.

DEP continues to monitor the persistent algal bloom in **Georges Lake**. The Putnam County Health Department has a Cyanobacteria Health Advisory notification posted for **Georges Lake** and it remains in effect.

- **Starke Lake - Boat Ramp:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Weir - Hope Boat Ramp:** *Planktolyngbya limnetica*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Coral Gables Canal - at SW 34th Street Road:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Maitland - Kraft Azalea Garden:** Results pending.
- **Louise Lake - NW Lobe:** Results pending.
- **Georges Lake - Center:** Results pending. Bloom still observed.
- **Georges Lake - Boat Ramp:** Results pending. Bloom still observed but conditions improved.

On 2/28, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected one HAB response sample at **Lake Okeechobee - S308C (lakeside)**. *Microcystis aeruginosa* was the dominant algal taxon and a trace level (0.81 parts per billion [ppb]) of microcystins were detected. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers suspended releases from the S308C structure until SFWMD contractors performed algal treatments in the lake in the vicinity of the S308C structure. On 3/1, SFWMD test results for microcystin-LR using Enzyme-Linked Immunosorbent Assay (ELISA) test kits came back below the detection limit of 0.2 ppb, and on 3/2, the Corps resumed releasing water from the lake at the S308C structure.

On 2/27, St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD) staff collected two routine HAB monitoring samples and one HAB response sample.

- **Stick Marsh - North (STKM):** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Blue Cypress Lake - Center (BCL):** No dominant algal taxon; trace level (0.25 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **C65 Canal - upstream of S96D (BCWMO):** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 2/28, Southwest Florida Water Management District staff collected four HAB response samples.

- **Lake Eloise - NW near Lulu Canal:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Eagle Lake - East:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Howard - SW:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Hartridge - SW:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 2/28, Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWC) staff collected three HAB response samples from the **Banana River**.

- **Banana River - 520 Slick Boat Ramp:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Banana River - Ramp Road Park:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Banana River - Kelly Park:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.

On 2/28-3/1, Orange County staff collected four HAB response samples.

- **Lake Speer - NW Lobe:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Caywood Pond - SW Dock:** *Aphanizomenon flos-aquae*; trace level (0.58 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Burkett - Center:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.48 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Lake Martha - NE Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (0.26 ppb) microcystins detected.

Last Week

On 2/20-2/23, DEP staff collected HAB response samples at 15 locations and four of these locations had pending results.

- **Lake Sue - NW Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; trace level (estimated 0.27 ppb) microcystins detected.
- **Big Sand Lake from Dock:** *Microcystis aeruginosa*; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Lake Mann - McQueen Park:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Sunset Lake - W Shore:** *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Woronichinia naegelianiana* co-dominant; 3.7 ppb microcystins detected.

On 2/20-23, SJRWMD staff collected routine HAB monitoring samples at one location that had pending results.

- **Lake Monroe - Center:** No dominant algal taxon; no cyanotoxins detected.

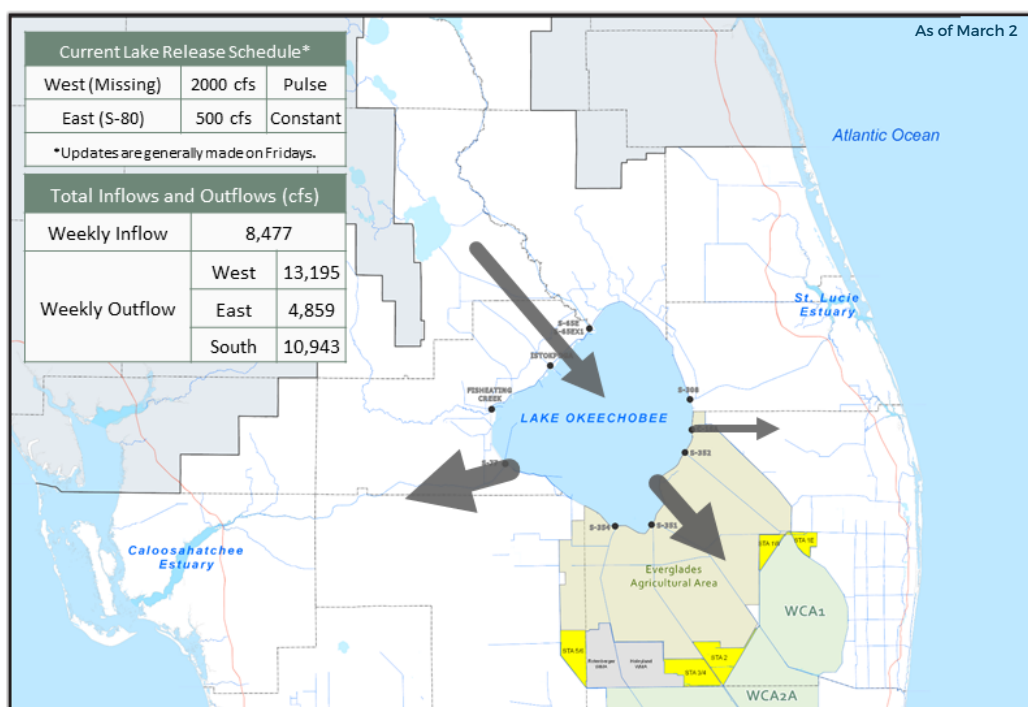
On 2/23, FWC staff collected three HAB response samples from the **Banana River**.

- **Banana River - 520 Slick Boat Ramp:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Banana River - Ramp Road Park:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.
- **Banana River - Kelly Park:** Results pending; no cyanotoxins detected.

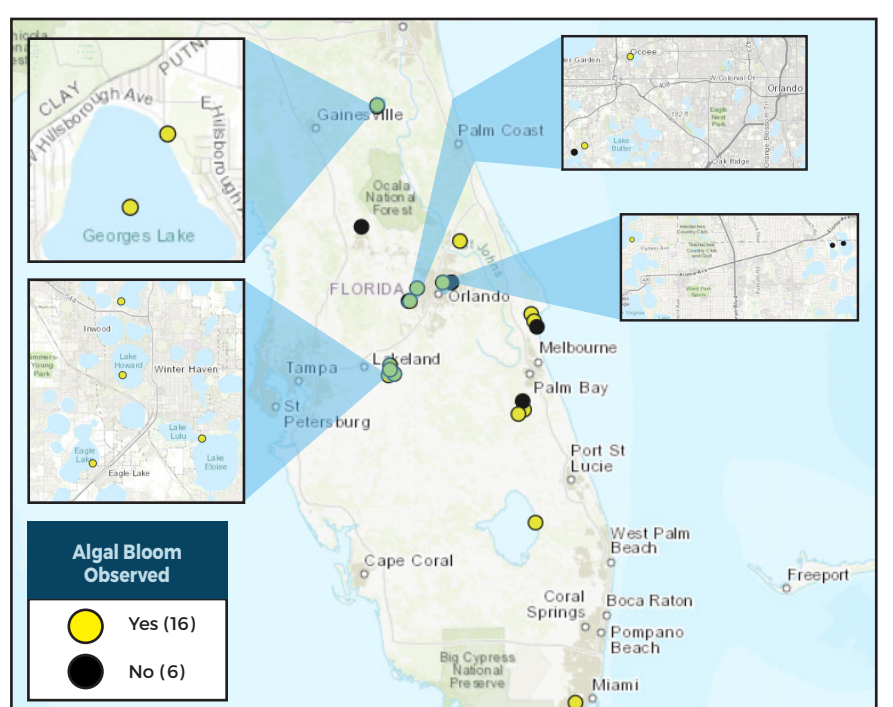
Results for completed analyses are available at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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