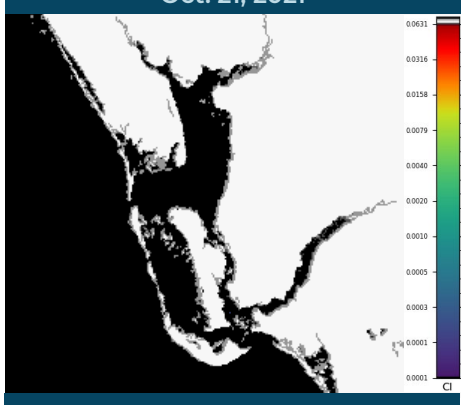
BLUE-GREEN ALGAL BLOOM WEEKLY UPDATE

REPORTING OCT. 15 – 21, 2021

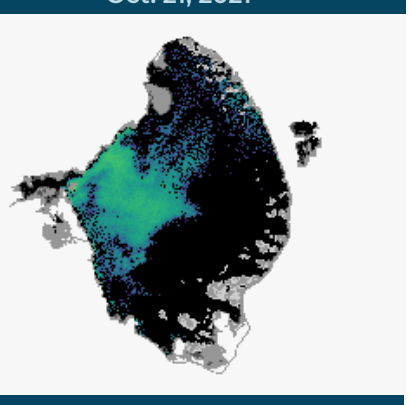
Satellite imagery provided by NOAA - Images are impacted by cloud cover.
A value of 0.004 is nominally equivalent to approximately 20-30 ug/L chlorophyll a of cyanobacteria, and 0.06 would be in the 300-500 ug/L chlorophyll a range.
Please keep in mind that bloom potential is subject to change due to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

Caloosahatchee Estuary
Oct. 21, 2021



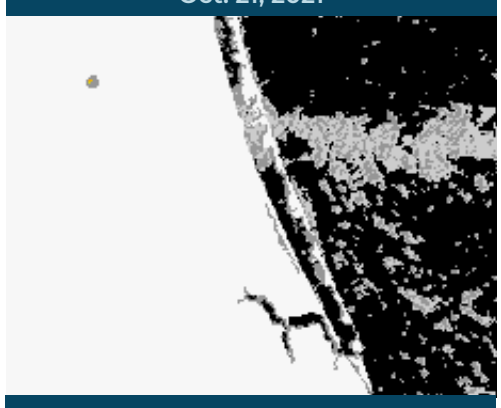
Satellite imagery shows no bloom potential on visible portions of the Caloosahatchee Estuary.

Lake Okeechobee
Oct. 21, 2021



Satellite imagery shows and shows low to moderate bloom potential on approximately 35% of Lake Okeechobee.

St. Lucie Estuary
Oct. 21, 2021



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

St. Johns
Oct. 21, 2021

Satellite imagery for the St. Johns River is partially obscured by cloud cover and shows low to moderate bloom potential on the southern end of Lake George, Little Lake George and Doctors Lake.

SUMMARY

There were 34 reported site visits in the past seven days, with 34 samples collected. Algal bloom conditions were observed by samplers at five of the sites.

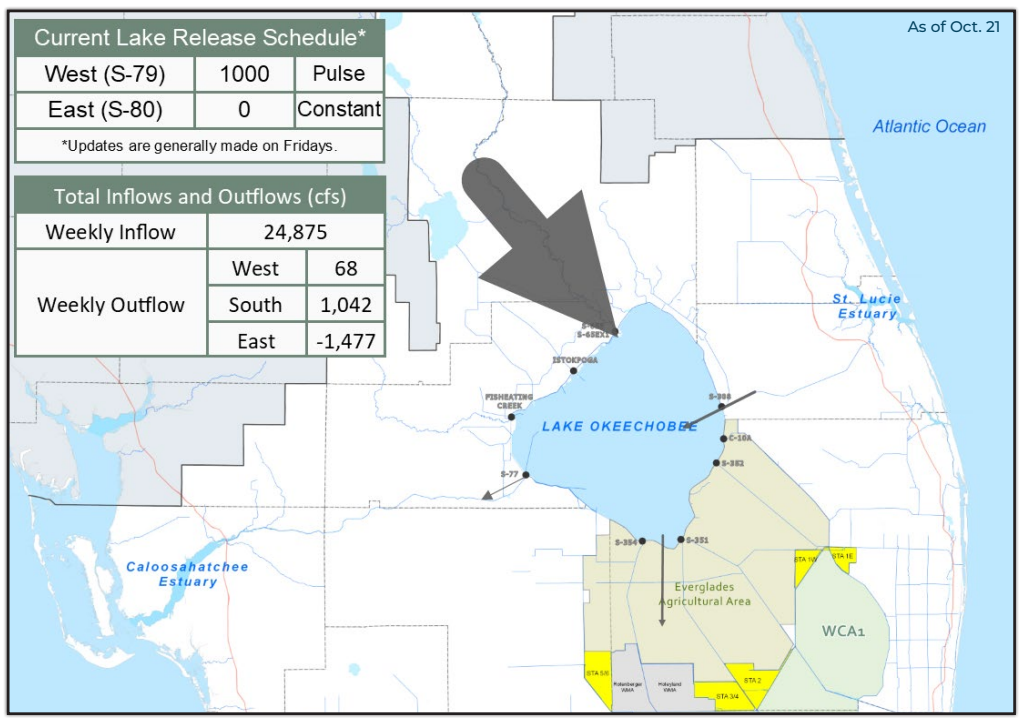
On 10/18-20, South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) staff collected samples near the **S308 structure on the C44 Canal** and **Lake Okeechobee**, from the **S77 structure on the C43 Canal**, the **S80 structure on the C44 Canal**, at the **Pahokee Marina Boat Ramp** and at **routine HAB monitoring stations on Lake Okeechobee**. There was no dominant algal taxon at any of the structures and the **S308C Lakeside** sample had a trace level [0.30 parts per billion (ppb)] of microcystin detected. The SFWMD also collected 28 routine samples on **Lake Okeechobee**. The majority of the samples from the **northern half of Lake Okeechobee** had neither a dominant algal taxon nor cyanotoxins detected with the exception of **KBARSE** and **L008** which had trace levels (0.28 ppb and 0.36 ppb, respectively) of microcystin detected. The samples from the **southern half of the lake** were a mixture of no dominant taxon, dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa*, or co-dominated by *Microcystis aeruginosa* and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. Five samples (**L006, LZ30, PALMOUT1, PALMOUT2** and **PALMOUT3**) had microcystin concentrations detected, ranging from trace level (0.38 ppb) to 3.2 ppb.

On 10/20, the SJRWMD sampled **Lake Washington**. The sample had no dominant algal taxon and no microcystins detected; results for other cyanotoxins are pending.

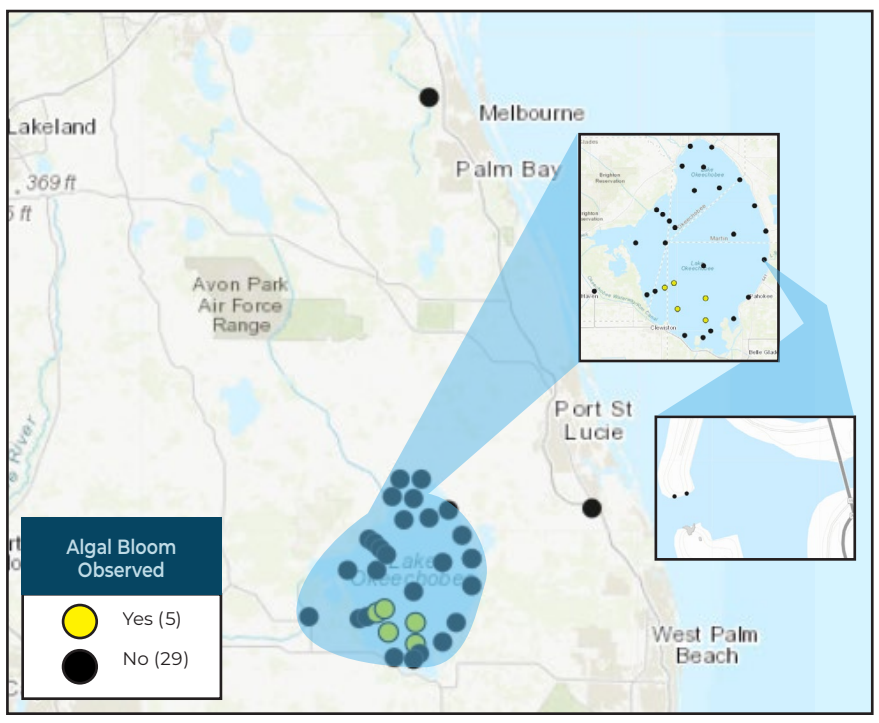
Results for completed analyses are available and posted at FloridaDEP.gov/AlgalBloom.

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.

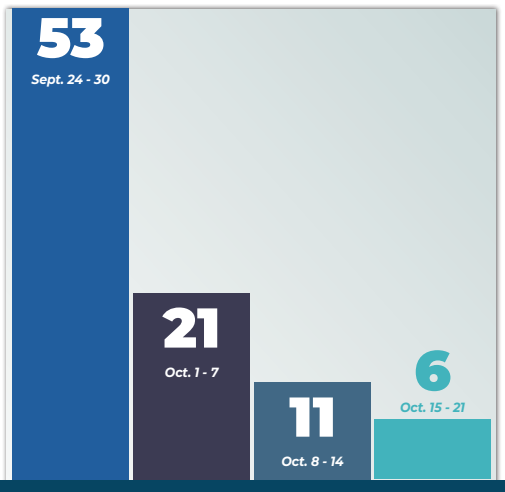
LAKE OKEECHOBEE OUTFLOWS



SITE VISITS FOR BLUE-GREEN ALGAE



REPORTS FROM HOTLINE



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

Learn more about Florida's Algal Bloom Monitoring and Response visit our Water Quality website to check the current status and to receive updates.

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ProtectingFloridaTogether.gov