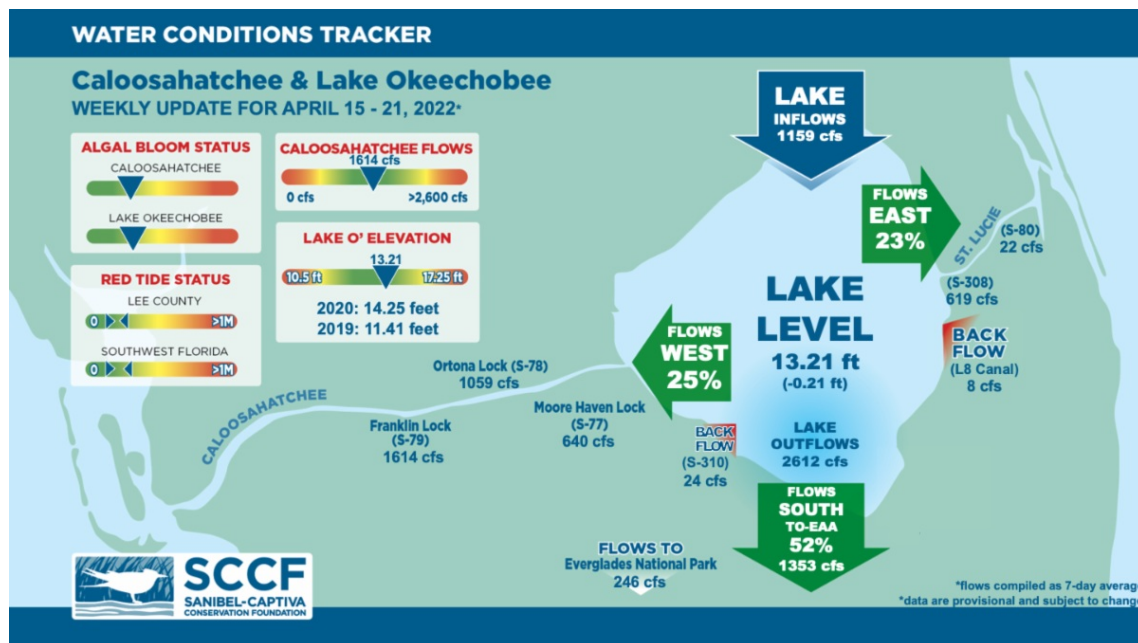




This Week's Water Conditions Update

April 22, 2022

Water Conditions Tracker



Lake Okeechobee Levels & Caloosahatchee Flow Impacts

On 4/21/22 Lake Okeechobee was at 13.21 feet, decreasing by 0.21 feet in the past week. The weekly average flow at S-79 was 1,614 cfs (cubic feet per second) and flow from the Lake at S-77 was an average of 640 cfs. The 14-day average flow was **1,698 cfs** and has been in the **optimal flow envelope for 149 days**.

For more information on Lake Okeechobee and estuary conditions go to the latest [Caloosahatchee Conditions Report](#)

US Army Corps reduces flow to 1,500 cfs at S-79

As of 4/16/21 flows to the Caloosahatchee from S-79, at the Franklin Lock and Dam, were reduced to a 7-day average, pulse release of 1,500 cfs. Decreased flows near the end of the dry season, when fish and oyster spawning are beginning, help prevent the advection of larvae to less suitable downstream habitats.



Virtual Water Quality Tour from Lighthouse Beach

[Click here](#) or on the image above to take a virtual tour from above Lighthouse Beach Park to see how the water looked this week.

Photo was taken on 4/18/22 at 1:56 PM on a high tide (high tide @ 1:12 PM (3.08 ft)).

Red Tide

[Satellite imagery](#) over the past week has not detected any blooms off the coast of Southwest Florida.

On 4/15/22, the FWC reported that the red tide organism, *Karenia brevis*, was observed at background concentrations in one Northwest Florida sample over the past week. In Southwest Florida, *K. brevis* was not observed.

The Clinic for the Rehabilitation of Wildlife (CROW) on Sanibel received 2 birds with toxicosis symptoms (from red tide or blue-green algae) from 4/12/22 - 4/18/22.

Blue-Green Algae

On 4/18/22 sampling for cyanobacteria by the Lee County Environmental Lab reported the presence of *Dolichospermum*, *Microcystis*, and cyano-filaments at the **Alva Boat Ramp** and the **Davis Boat Ramp** as visible specks. *Dolichospermum*, *Microcystis*, and cyano-filaments were **moderately abundant** upstream of the **Franklin Locks** with streaks and accumulation along the locks.

Over the past week, [satellite imagery](#) from Lake Okeechobee showed 5 - 10% bloom potential on approximately 80 square miles along North and western shoreline.

Resources To Follow:

To learn more about our current water conditions, click on the following links:

[Caloosahatchee Conditions Report](#)

A collaborative, weekly analysis, including recommendations for water managers regarding Lake Okeechobee flows.

RECON

SCCF's River, Estuary, and Coastal Observing Network is a network of eight optical water quality sensors deployed throughout the Caloosahatchee and the Pine Island Sound estuary to provide real-time water quality data.

Red Tide Resources

[NOAA HAB Monitoring System - Lake Okeechobee](#)

[Algae Reporting App](#)

[Click here](#) to subscribe to ***Connecting You to SCCF*** and other SCCF mailing lists.

DONATE TO SCCF

Stay Connected!

