

Martin County Projects Update
July 26, 2018 at 11 a.m., City of Stuart Commission Chambers
(Update provided by Dianne Hughes, Senior Ecosystem Specialist,
Ecosystem Restoration & Management Division)

LAKE OKEECHOBEE / WATER CONDITIONS

- Lake elevation is 14.31'
 - 7 days ago 14.41'
 - 30 days ago 14.10'
- Total Structure Inflows –3685 cfs
- Total Structure Outflows –~~662~~ cfs 6062
- S-308 Outflows – 3100 cfs
- S-80 Outflows – 0 cfs
- Salinity Levels – Bottom salinities unavailable; surface salinities slightly improving to ~ 5 ppt.
- Water Temperatures – Trending down slightly due to rains and averaging 86°F.
- Enterococcus – Roosevelt Bridge is at moderate levels and; Sandsprit Park, Stuart Sandbar, and Leighton Park are listed as good.

Project Updates

- The County completed exotic vegetation removal at Halpatiokee (525-acres), Kiplinger (140-acres) and Pendarvis Cove (41-acres) properties along the St. Lucie River. Also completed exotic removal work at Peck Lake (68-acres) and Gomez (61-acres) along the Indian River Lagoon.
- We all know that tourism is a vital industry in Martin County and we want to make sure you have the most accurate information on conditions. We created www.protectourparadise.com as a way to keep people informed. Here you can find the answers to the many questions your customers might have, as well as links related to beach and water conditions.

Blue Green Algae

- County staff continues to monitor social media, news and perform reconnaissance around the County at public access points to understand the extent and impact of algae in our watershed.
- County staff is discussing the possibility of how we might utilize the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's \$3M grant fund for Harmful Algal Bloom Management Services. We have investigated two technologies 1) an in water air curtain technology and 2) a vacuum technology, however, for the first application we have not located a deep enough dead end canal and with the second application there is currently no disposal facility that will accept the materials.
- The County has been coordinating with the Health Department offers the following "Swim It, Shore It or Dodge It" reminders:
 - Swim It with a buddy when safety flags and signs indicate that it is safe to do so.
 - Shore It on the sand if you have a cut on your skin, have a weakened immune system or you are alone
 - Dodge It avoid organisms that live in or near the water, and stay clear of algae blooms.
- If you experience illness related to an algae bloom, please call the Florida Poison Control Center at 1-800-222-1222.
- For health-related questions, contact the Florida Department of Health in Martin County at 772-221-4090.
- To report fish kills, call Fish Kill Hotline (Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission) at 800-636-0511.
- To report algae blooms, contact the Florida Department of Environmental Protection at 855-305-3903.