

Experimental Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin 08 July 2016, Bulletin 01

NOAA's 2016 seasonal forecast was announced July 7th at an even held by Ohio Sea Grant and Stone Laboratory. The bloom this year is expected to be significant, but less severe than the blooms of 2013-2015. The severity of the western Lake Erie cyanobacterial harmful algal bloom (HAB) depends on the load of bioavailable phosphorus, particularly from the Maumee River during the loading season (March 1-July 31).

There are currently no cyanobacterial blooms reported Lake Erie. However, the persistent bloom in Sandusky Bay is present.

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The images below are "GeoPDF". To see the longitude and latitude under your cursor, select "Tools > Analyze > Geospatial Location Tool".



Figure 1. Cyanobacterial Index from NASA's MODIS-Aqua data collected 05 July 2016 at 11:43 EST. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. The estimated threshold for cyanobacteria detection is 20,000 cells/mL.



Figure 2. Projected bloom compared to previous years. The wide bar is the likely range of severity based on the models. The narrow bar is the potential range of severity. A significant, but smaller than 2013-2015, bloom is predicted for 2016.



Produced with Information from NOAA's: National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory National Weather Service, Cleveland Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services Additional information from: Great Lakes Observing System Ohio Environmental Protection Agency Ohio State University, Stone Laboratory

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