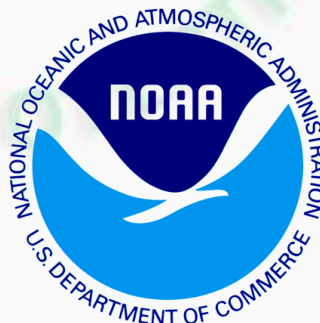




# Cyanobacteria Assessment Network (CyAN)

Blake A. Schaeffer, John Clark, and John Darling

USEPA Region 8 HABs Meeting  
September 30<sup>th</sup> – October 1, 2015



# Partners and Stakeholders

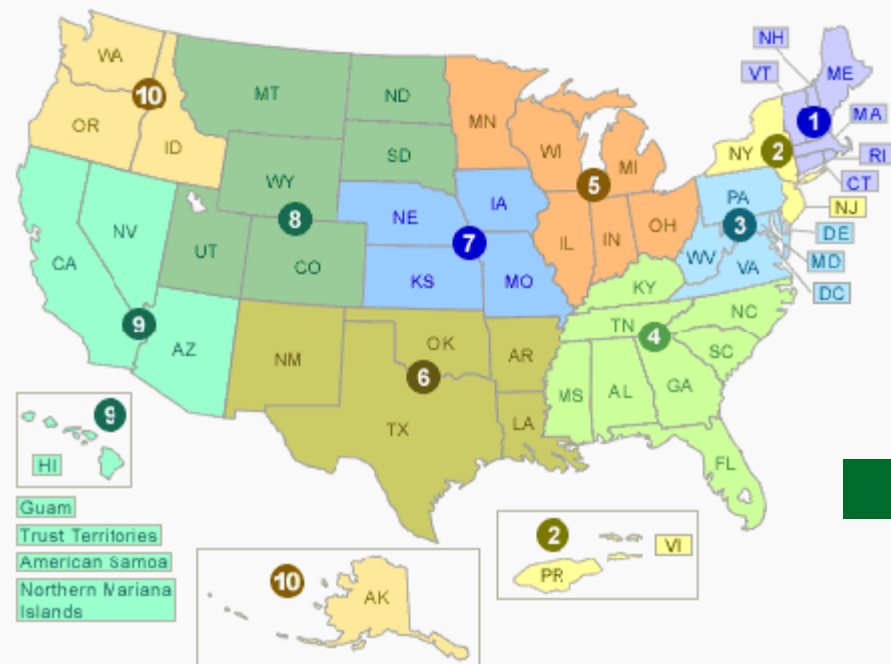
- EPA Office of Water
  - Office of Wetlands, Oceans, and Watersheds
  - Office of Wastewater Management
  - Office of Science and Technology
  - Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water

- EPA Regions

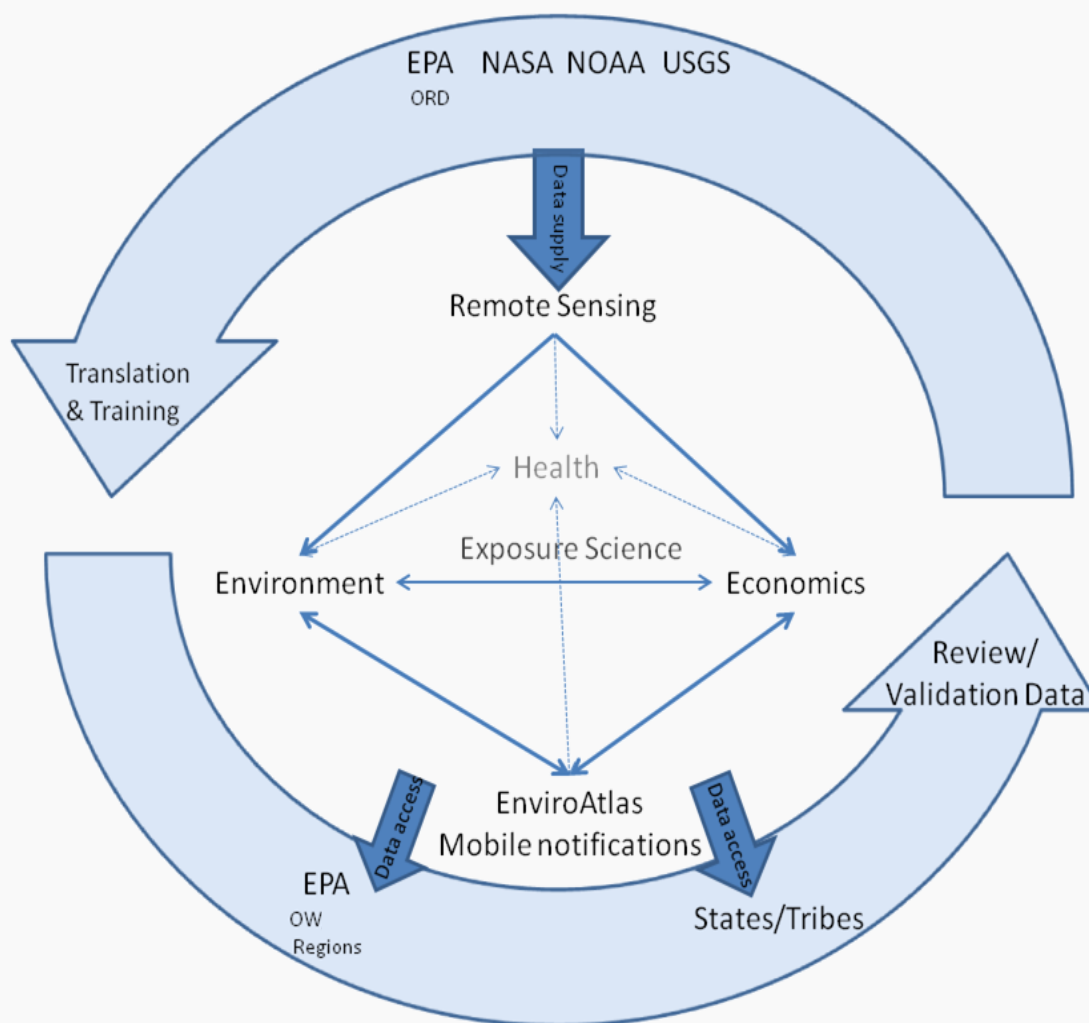
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- States

- Ohio EPA
- St. Johns River WMD
- S. Florida WMD
- California Water Board



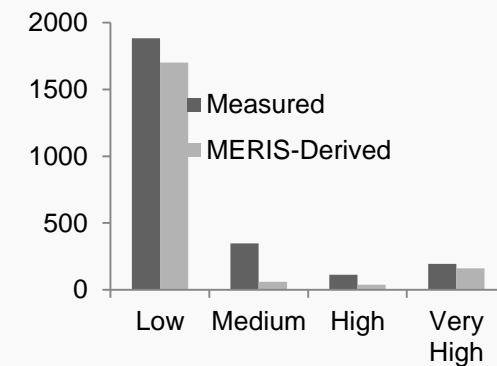
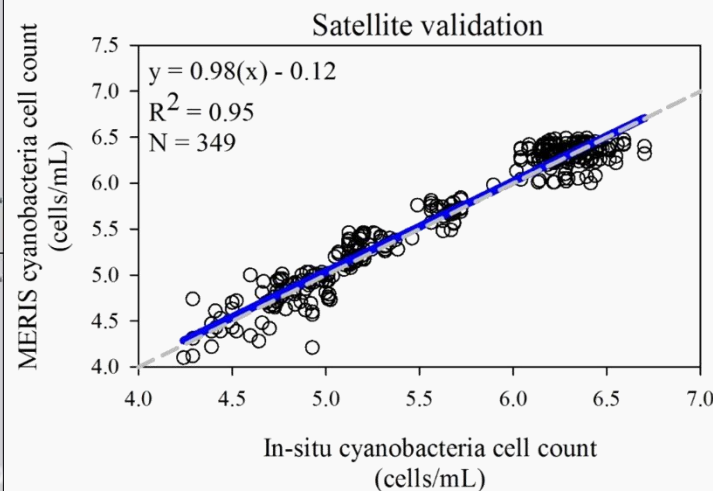
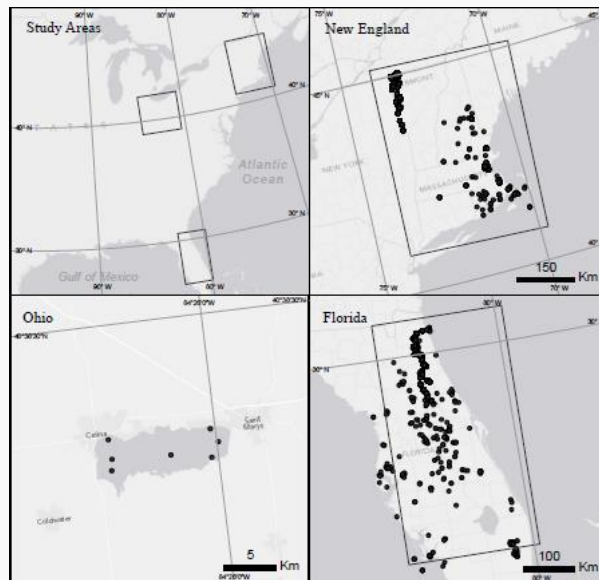
# Technical Approach



# Technical Approach

- **Remote Sensing**
  - *Uniform and systematic approach for identifying cyanobacteria blooms.*
    - Second derivative spectral shape algorithms (SS; Wynne et al. 2008)

$$SS(\lambda) = \rho_s(\lambda) - \rho_s(\lambda_-) + \{\rho_s(\lambda_-) - \rho_s(\lambda_+)\} * \frac{(\lambda - \lambda_-)}{(\lambda_+ - \lambda_-)}$$



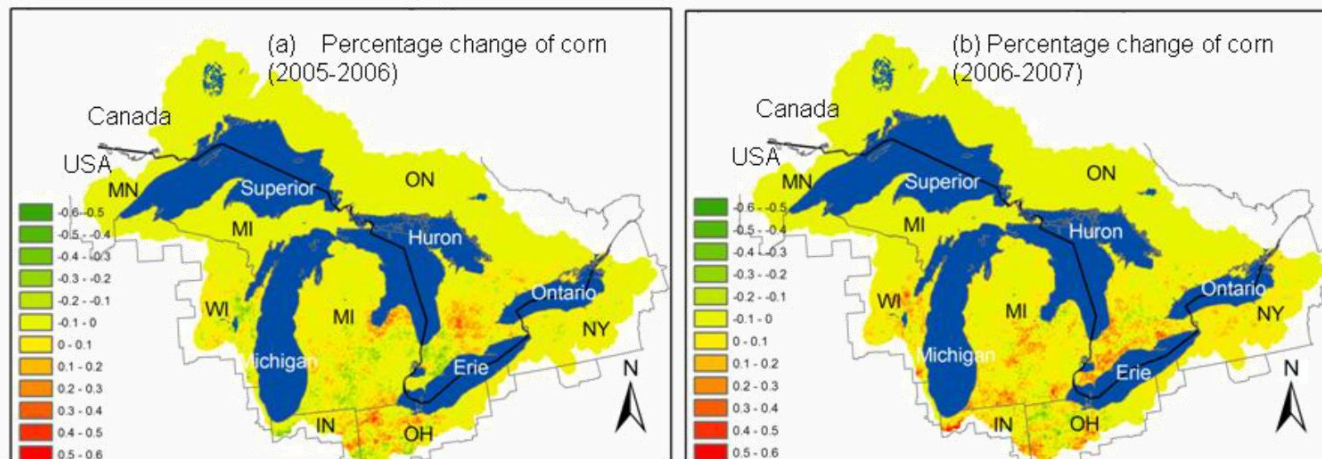


# Technical Approach

- **Remote Sensing**
  - *Strategy for evaluation and refinement of algorithms across platforms.*
  - Model output from *in situ* radiometry vs. *in situ* metrics for cyanobacteria.
  - Satellite radiometry vs. *in situ* radiometry and model output from satellite radiometry vs. *in situ* metrics for cyanobacteria (Bailey and Werdell 2006; Werdell et al. 2009)
  - Model outputs from multiple satellite instruments such as MERIS and Landsat (Franz et al. 2005).

# Technical Approach

- **Environment**
  - *Identify landscape linkages causes of chlorophyll-a and cyanobacteria.*
  - Evaluate chlorophyll-a concentrations and cyanobacteria cell count trends.
  - Identify changes related to land-cover modifications (2001–2016).
  - 13+ years of data observations across Great Lakes Basin, including all inland lakes ( $\geq 100$  ha), focus on sources of potable water.





# Technical Approach

- **Health**
  - *Exposure and human health effects in drinking and recreational waters.*
  - Remote sensing provides opportunity to estimate human exposure to cyanotoxins over specific geographic areas
  - Retrospective evaluation of existing health records among communities with a past history of cyanobacteria blooms detected via satellite.



# Technical Approach

- **Economics**

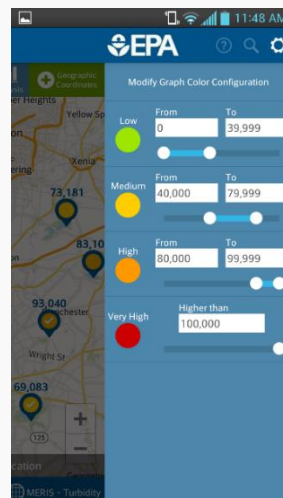
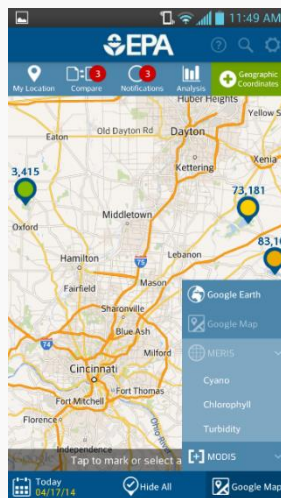
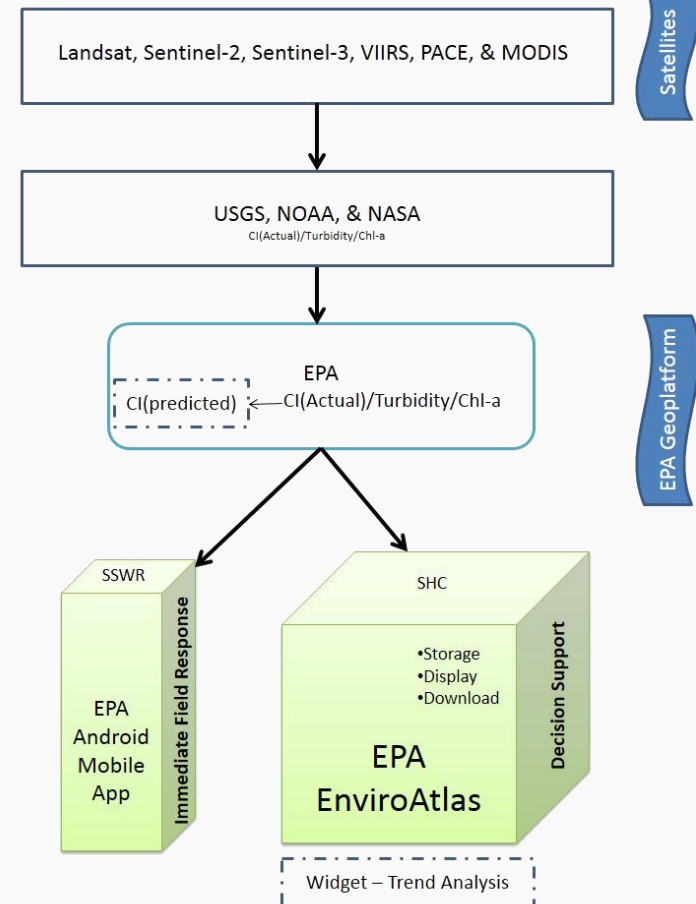
- *Behavioral responses and economic value of the early warning system.*
- Database of public resources spent on monitoring or responding to HABs. Assessment of the potential value of more comprehensive monitoring by satellite.
- Economic impact of avoiding toxic and nuisance bloom events in freshwater lakes.



# Technical Approach

## • Notifications

- *Bring the technology to EPA, states and tribal partners.*
- Ocean color satellite data not processed and delivered to stakeholders in a manner that demonstrates its practical value to daily life (Schaeffer et al. 2013).
- Data pushed from NOAA, NASA and USGS to EPA Mobile Android Platform on weekly time-steps.





# Technical Approach

- FY16
  - Florida, Ohio, California, New England
- FY17
  - Continental US
  - Lakes, reservoirs, and estuaries
- Satellite derived products
  - Cyanobacteria concentration
  - Chlorophyll-a concentration
  - Turbidity
  - Temperature

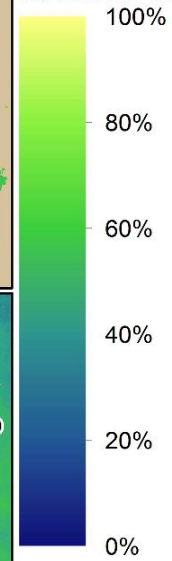




2009 - 2012  
Scenes: 356  
Mean: 48.3%

2009  
Scenes: 126  
Mean: 48.4%

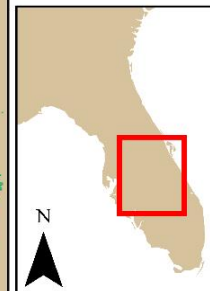
% cloud free observations

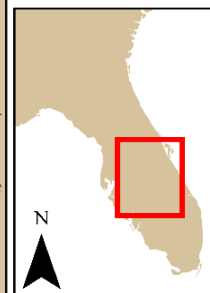
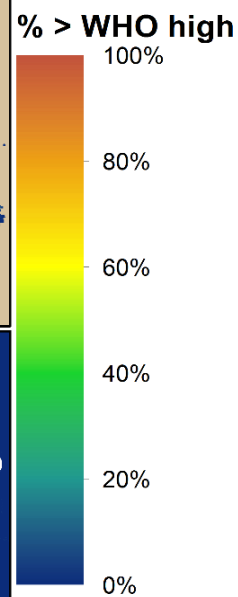
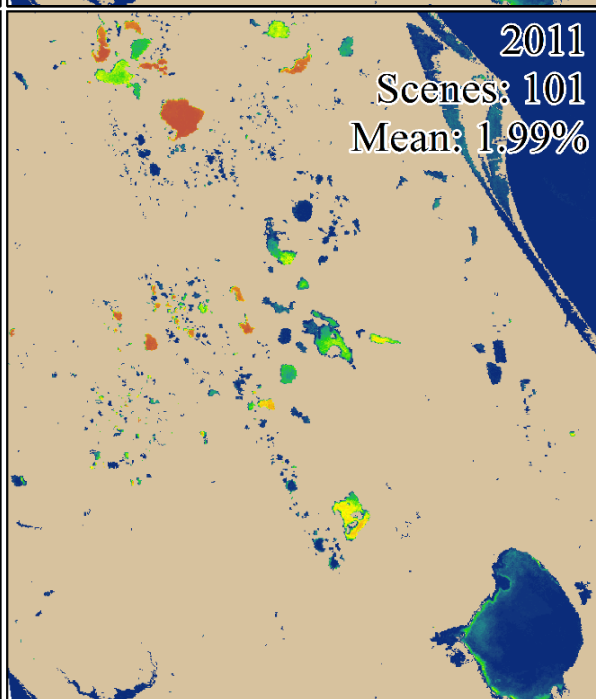
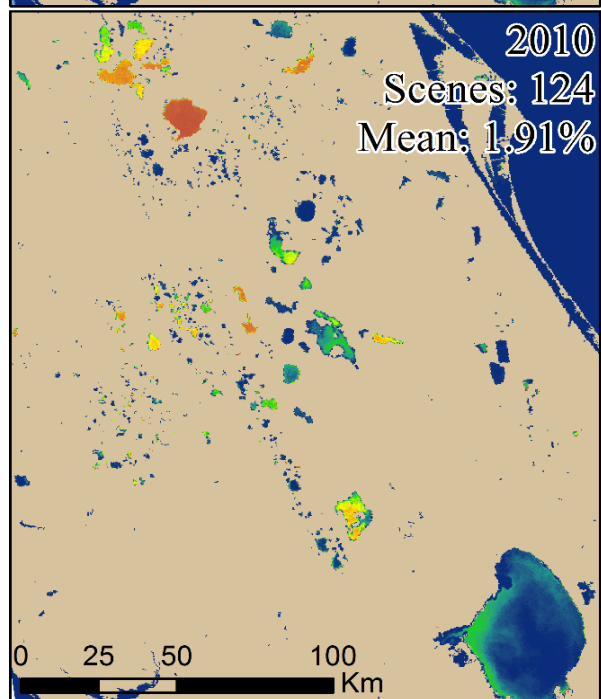
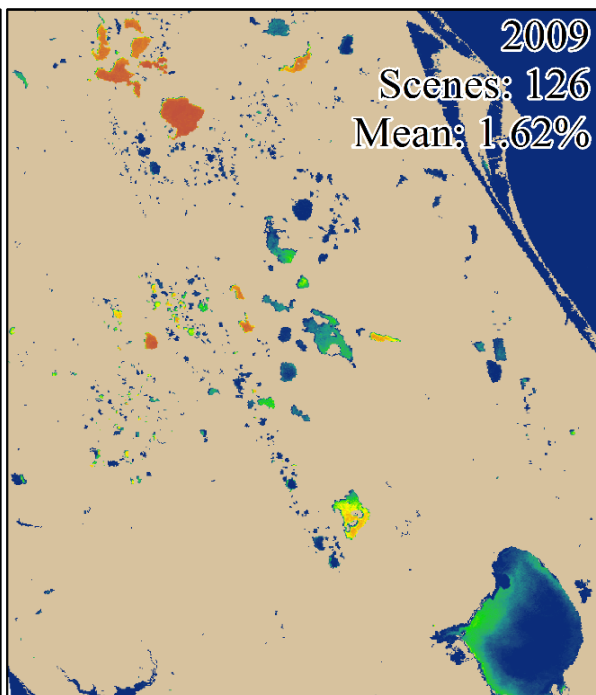
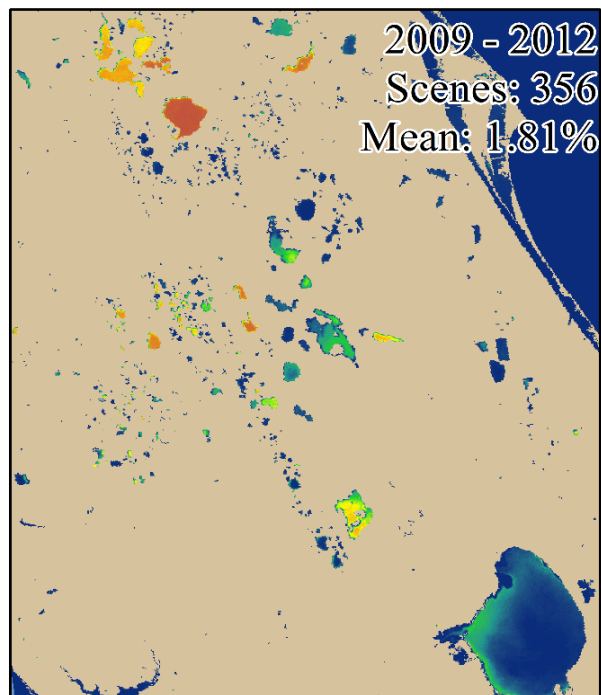


2010  
Scenes: 124  
Mean: 52.2%

2011  
Scenes: 101  
Mean: 42.7%

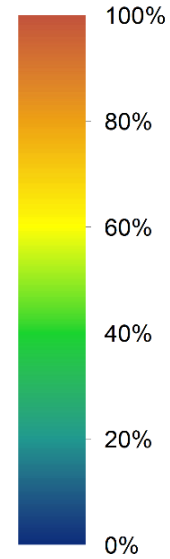
0 25 50 100 Km





2009 - 2012  
Scenes: 356  
Mean: 1.81%

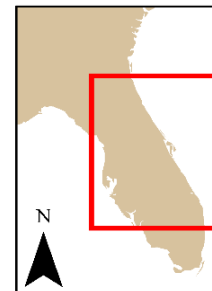
% > WHO high

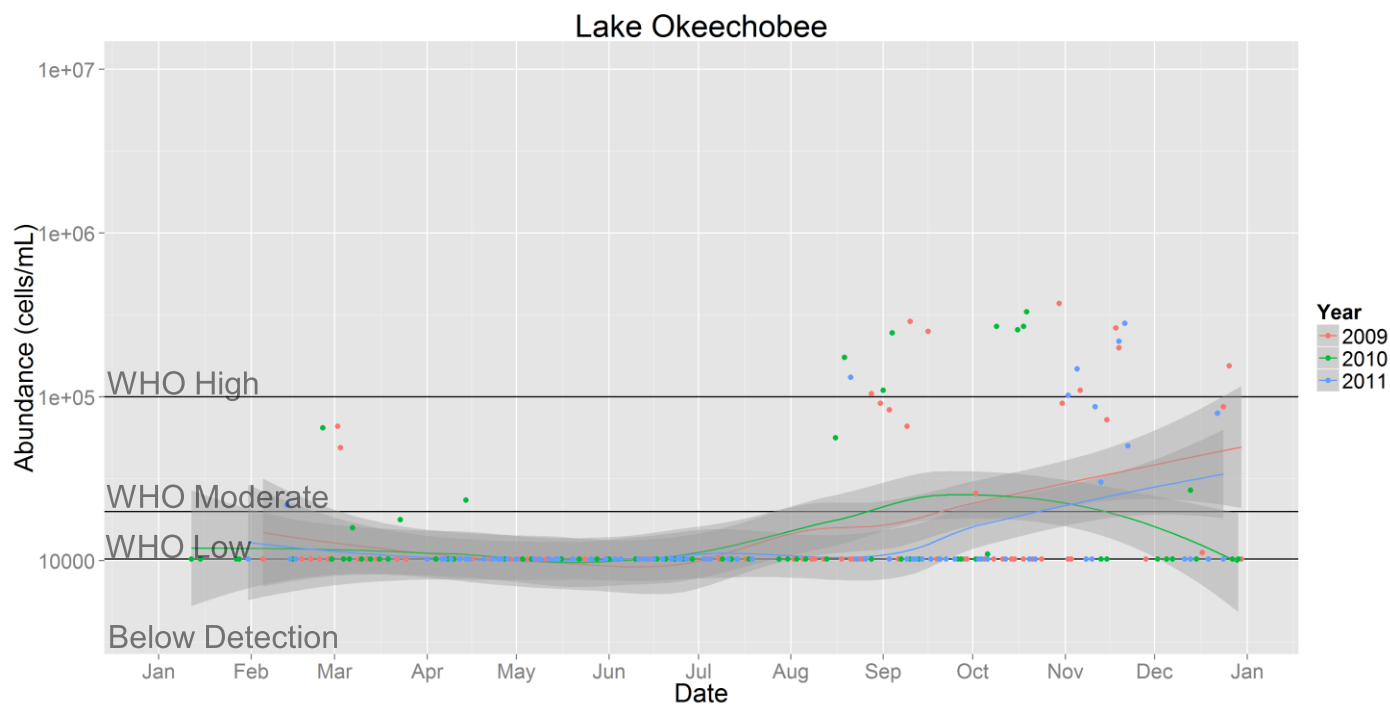
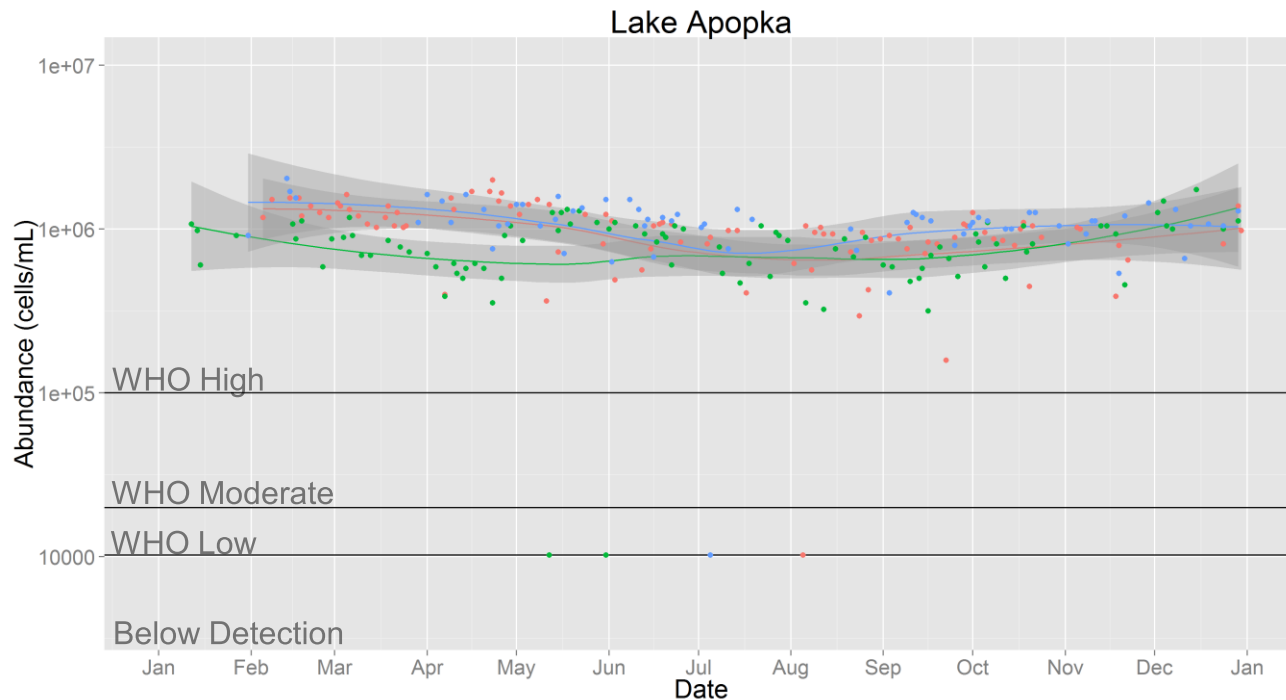


Lake Apopka

Lake Okeechobee

0 25 50 100 Km





# Impacts

- Informed decision making under the Clean Water Act and Safe Drinking Water Act.
- Complement National Aquatic Resource Surveys.
- Applied novel sophisticated tool to assist in management of events that may involve significant risk to the public.
- Increased use of remotely sensed water quality data to improve decision support in EPA and state agencies.
- Decrease costs of monitoring, resource allocations, and reduce exposures.

