

# HABs State of the Science webinar series: HABs Blooms Sources & Movements

## Speakers:

Michael McKay – Bowling Green State University

Kateri Salk – Michigan State University

Bart De Stasio – Lawrence University

Silvia Newell – Wright State  
University

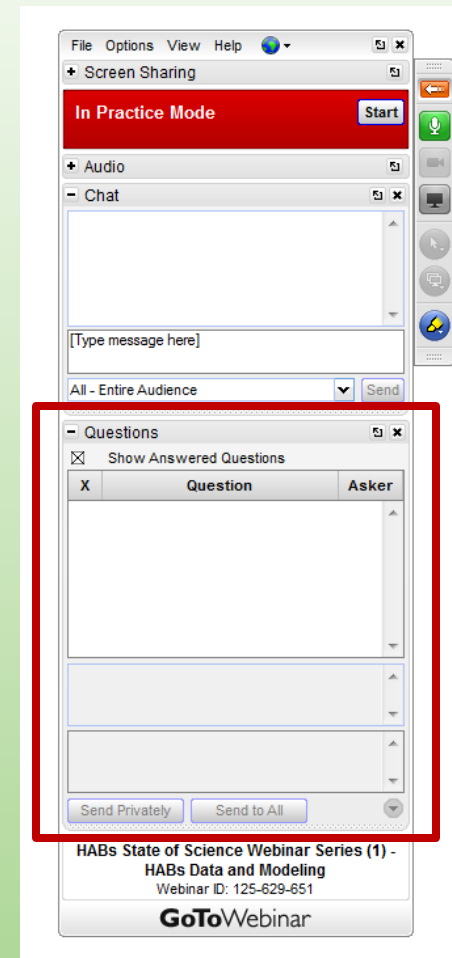
Mark Rowe – University of Michigan

In partnership with:



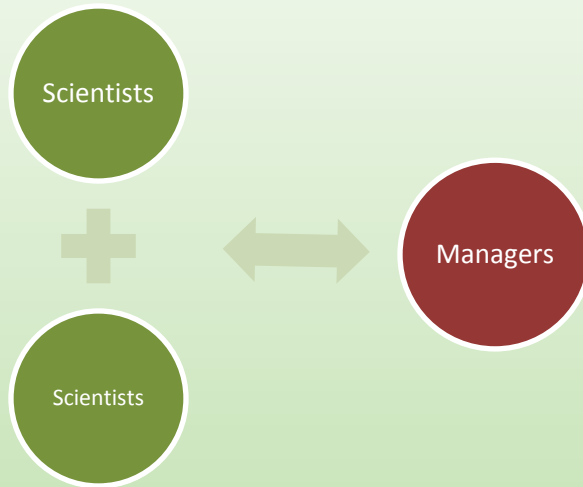
# GoToWebinar Housekeeping Items

- Submit your text questions and comments using the Questions Panel
- Note: This webinar is being recorded and will be posted on the HABs Collaboratory website



# Great Lakes HABs Collaboratory

*“A virtual laboratory for information sharing and collective actions to address HABs”*



- Multidisciplinary group, 100+ members from different Agencies, Ministries, Colleges, Universities and Organizations across the Great Lakes



# HABs State of the Science webinar series

- Result of the inaugural meeting of the HABs Collaboratory
  - Identified need for communication between researchers, and between researchers and managers
- Present on-going research projects related to HABs in the Great Lakes region
- Goals:
  - Improve communication
  - Knowledge transfer
  - Opportunities for collaboration

# Ohio Sea Grant / OSU Stone Lab

- Managing 55 HABS related projects (~\$7,000,000)
  - 18 funded by Ohio Sea Grant
  - 5 funded by OSU’s Field 2 Faucet initiative
  - 32 funded under the Ohio Department of Higher Education (OSU/UT; 18 vs. 14)
- Stone Lab Guest and Research Lecture Series
  - June 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup>, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup>, and August 4<sup>th</sup>
  - 7pm -9pm
  - <https://ohioseagrant.osu.edu/news/calendar>
- 9/15/16 “State of Science” meeting in Toledo
  - Stranahan Theater
  - Modeling, BMPs, and Public Health-Water treatment



# HAB DETECTION, MAPPING AND WARNING NETWORK: SANDUSKY BAY

Mike McKay – Bowling Green State University

# HAB DETECTION, MAPPING AND WARNING NETWORK: SANDUSKY BAY

Robert Michael McKay – Bowling Green State University  
George S. Bullerjahn – Bowling Green State University





# Project Overview

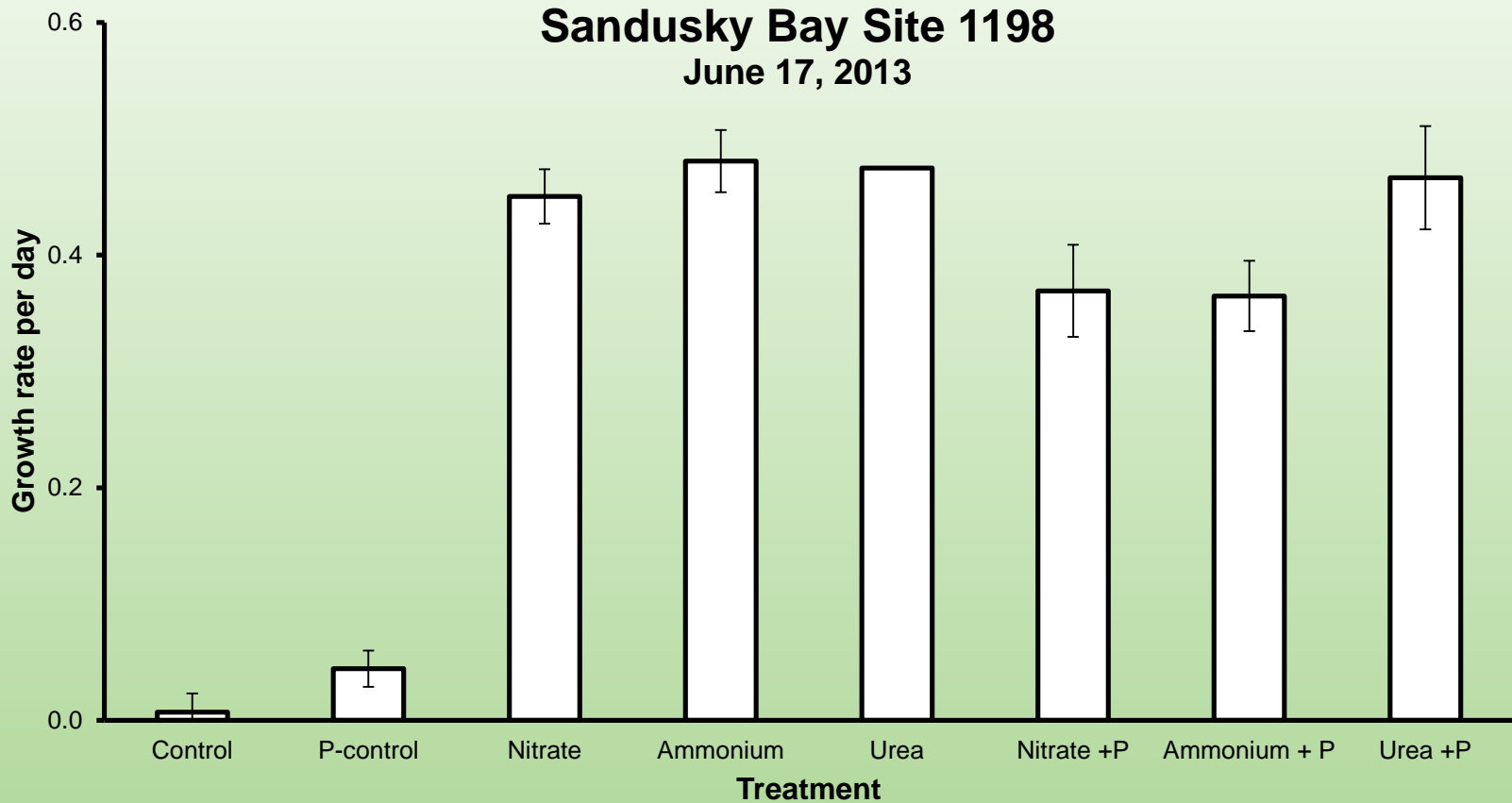
- HAB Detection, mapping and warning network: Sandusky Bay
- G.S. Bullerjahn, R.M. McKay: Bowling Green State University
  - J. Ortiz, D. Bade: Kent State Univ
  - J. Chaffin: OSU Stone Lab
  - D. Kane: Defiance College
- Ohio Department of Higher Education
- Sandusky Bay: 2015-present
- What makes *Planktothrix* bloom?



# Objectives/Approach

- Inform Big Island Water Works, lake managers and interested citizens on the extent and distribution of HABs in Sandusky Bay
  - weekly- to biweekly monitoring in cooperation with ODNR
  - deploy sondes at municipal water intakes capable of detecting algal- and cyanobacterial pigments in real-time
  - hyperspectral imaging via weekly NASA overflights
- Elucidate the relationship between nutrient cycling and bloom formation, persistence and toxicity
  - $H_0$ : an active nitrogen cycle is important in structuring the *Planktothrix* bloom (Kateri Salk – to follow)

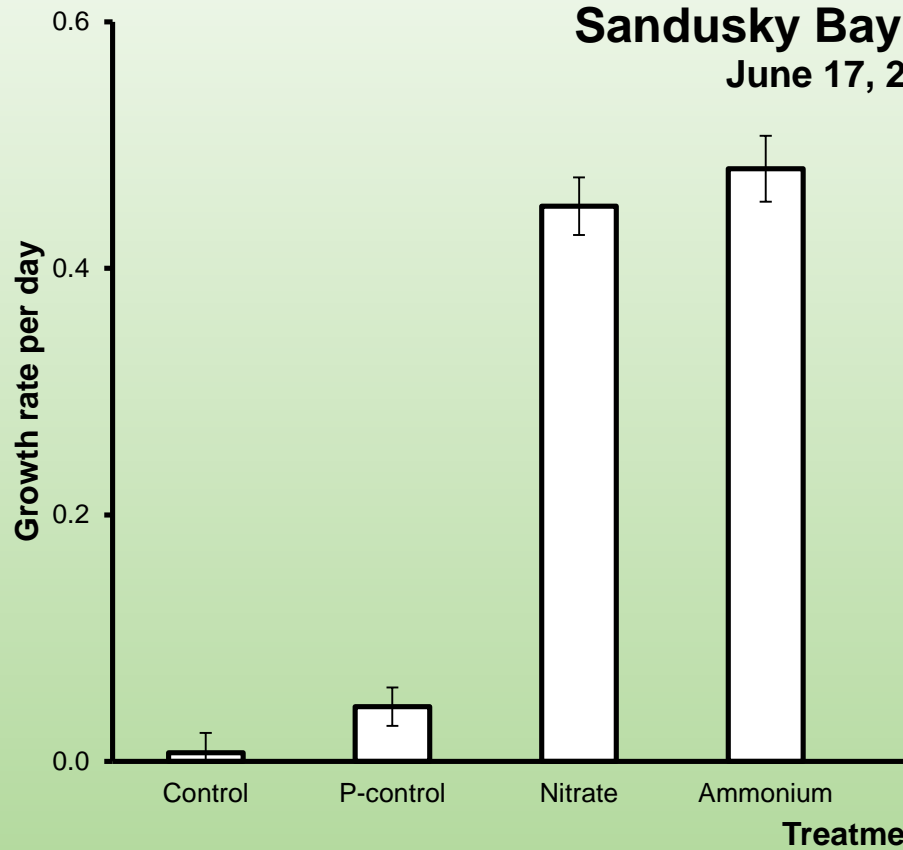
# Rationale



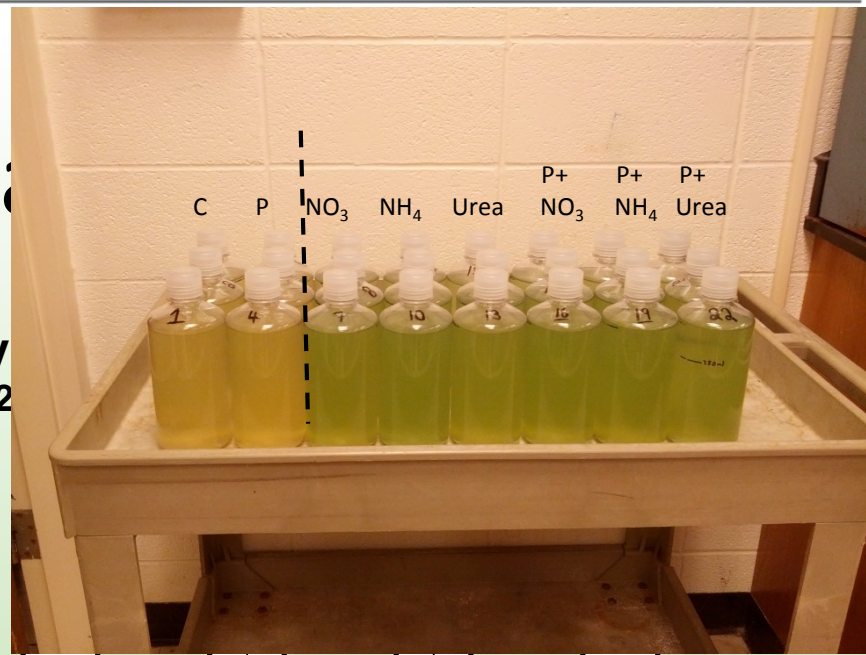
Davis et al., 2015, *Environ. Sci. Technol.* 49: 7197-7207

# Rationale

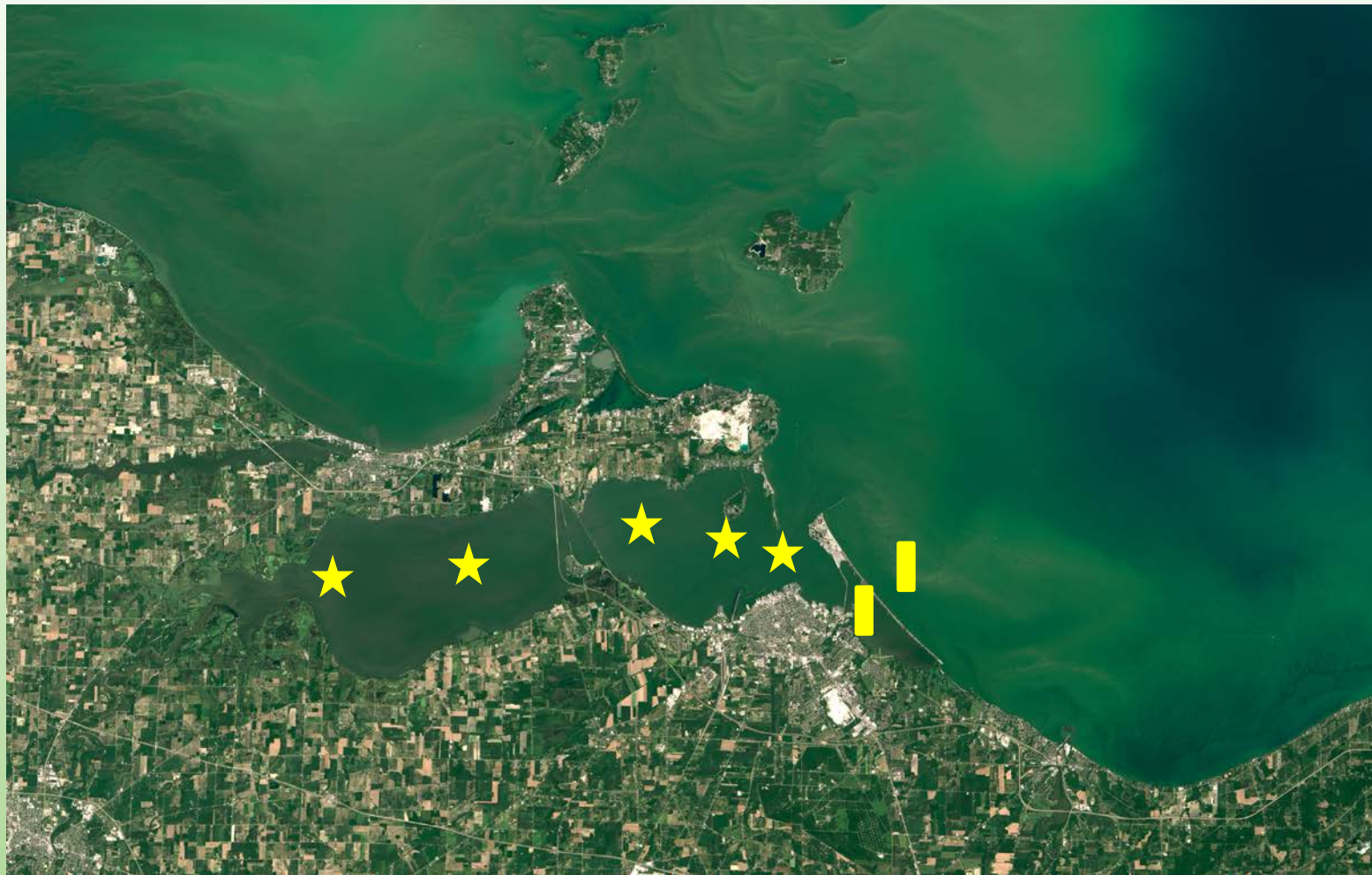
Sandusky Bay  
June 17, 2015



Davis et al., 2015, *...*



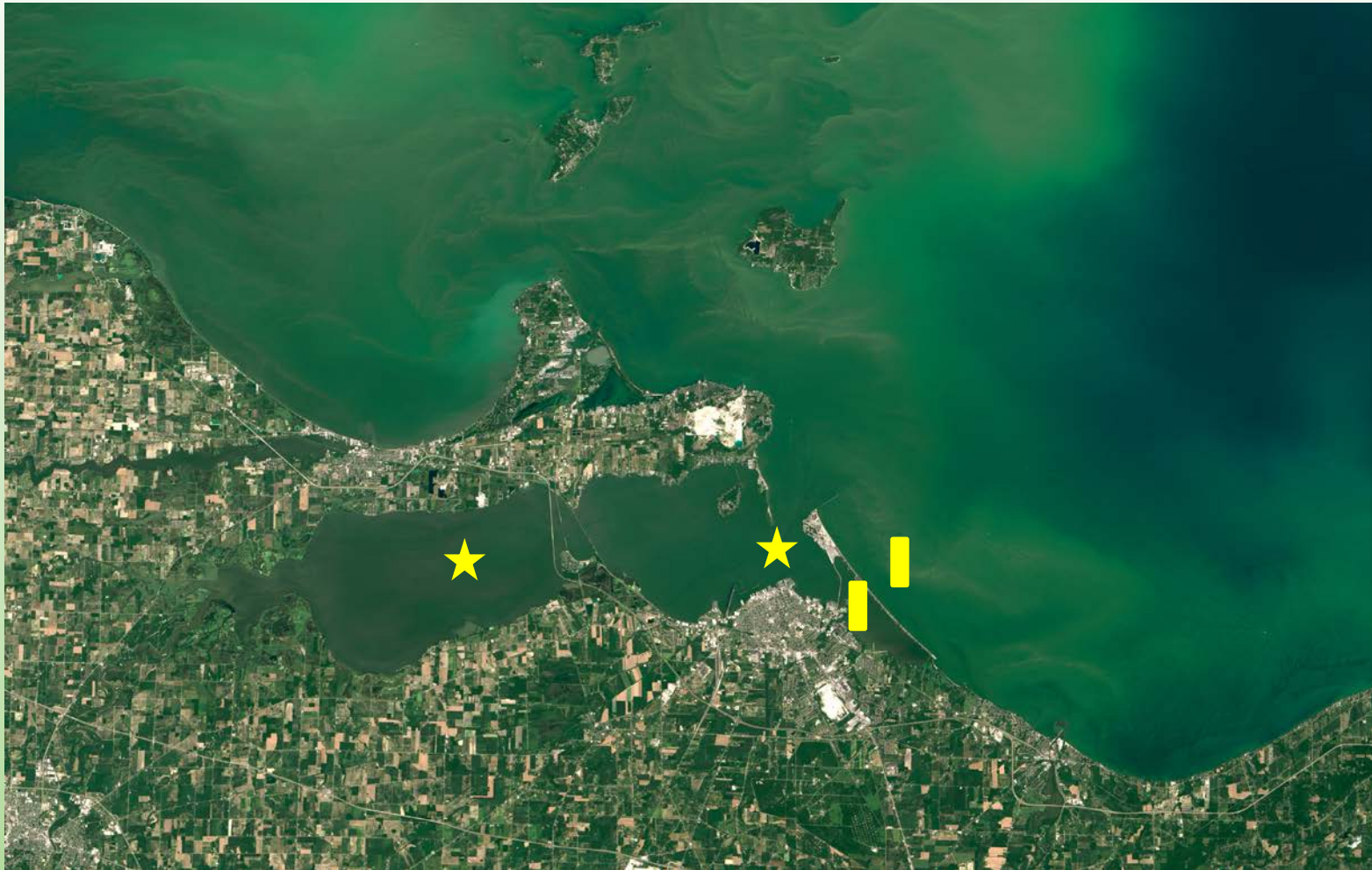
# Field Sites



Landsat (28 July, 2015) imagery courtesy of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and US Geological Survey



# Field Sites



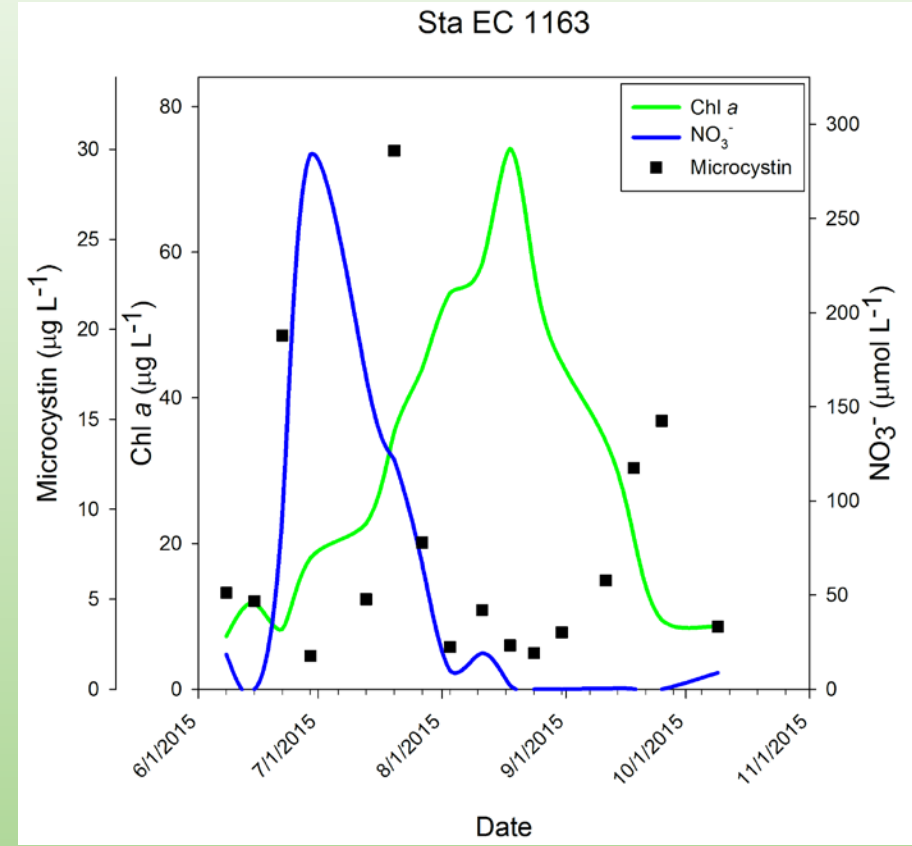
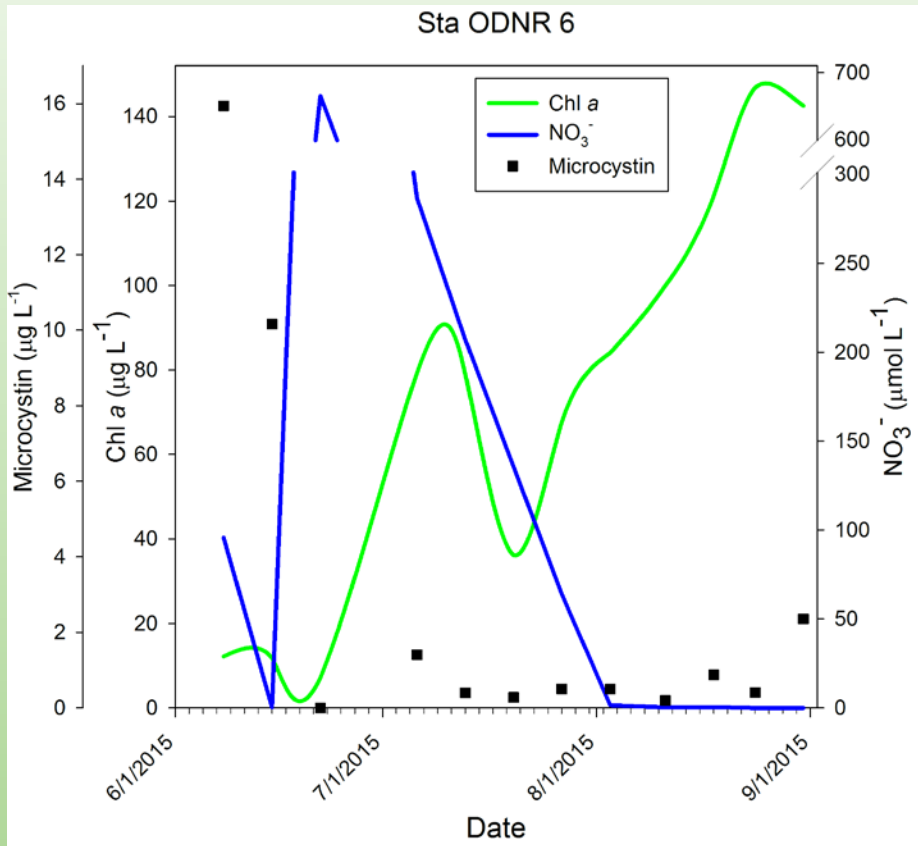
Landsat (28 July, 2015) imagery courtesy of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and US Geological Survey

# Summary of Findings:

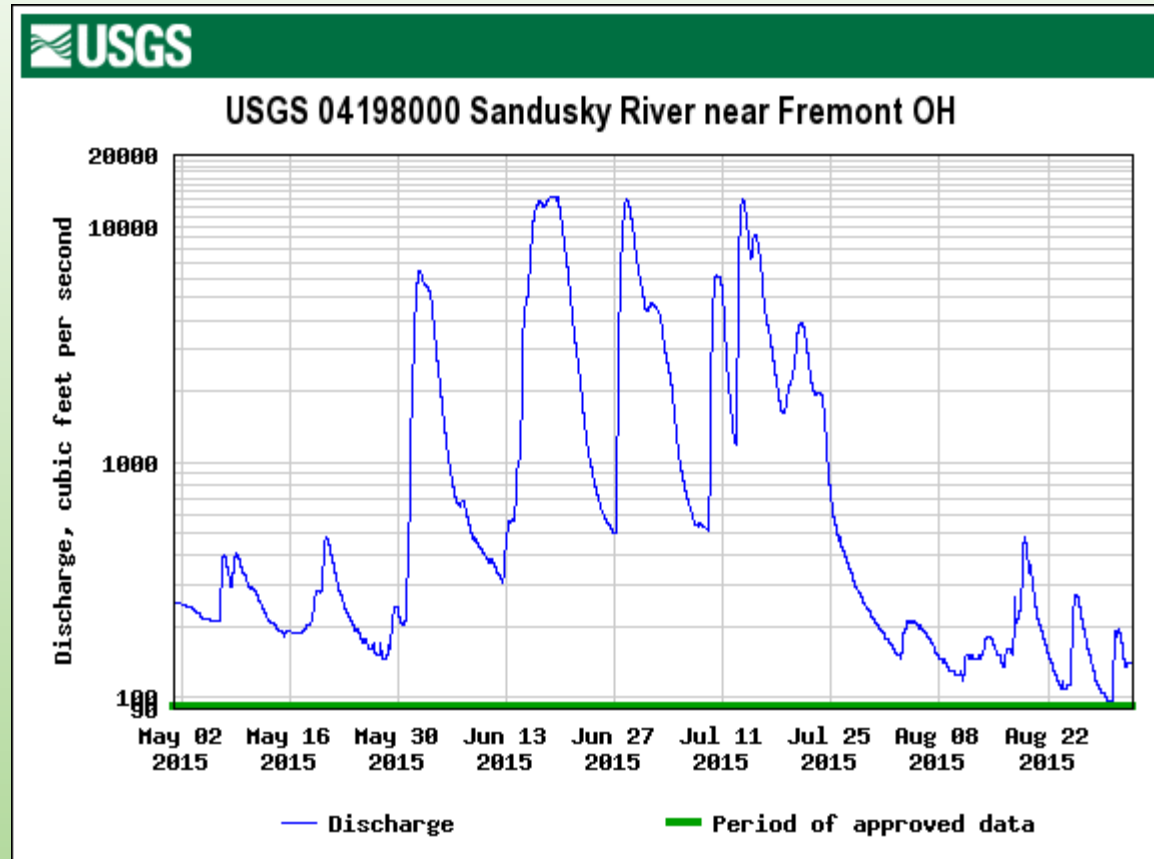
## HAB Biomass, Toxicity and Nitrogen Dynamics

- Inner Bay

- Outer Bay



# The unexpected.....





# Relevance to Water Quality Managers:

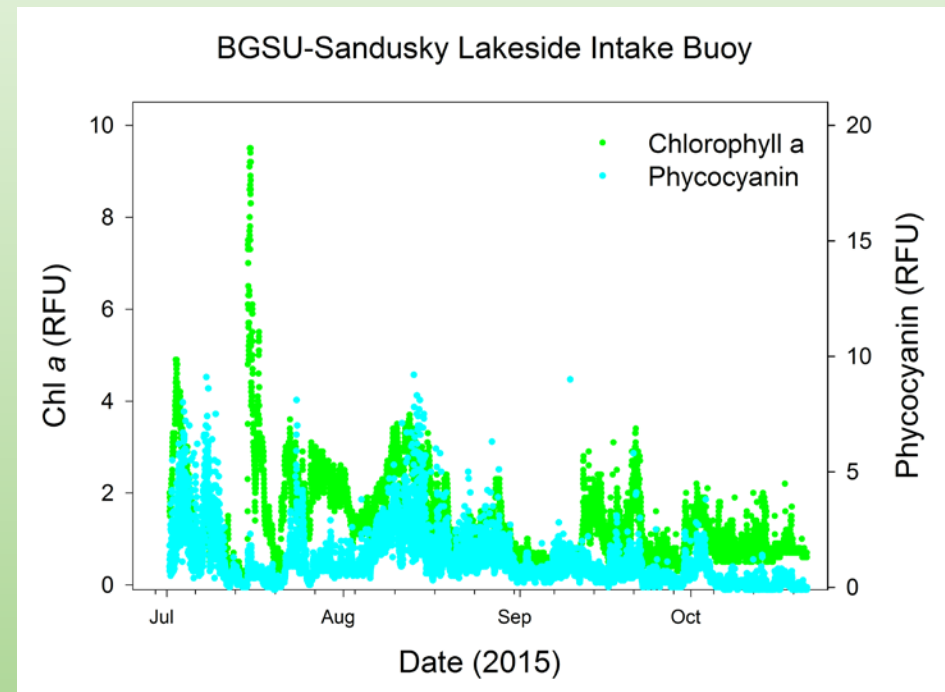
Real-time monitoring

HABS Data Portal: <http://habs.glos.us/map/>

- Sandusky water intake



June 23, 2016



# HABs Collaboratory

- *What questions still need to be answered about HABs?*
  - Environmental parameters and their role in bloom toxicity
    - A role for nitrogen in bloom development and toxicity?
  - Adopt 'omics approach
- *How can collaboration help your research?*
  - Expand genomics databases to include relevant Great Lakes isolates
    - Meyer et al. 2016, IAGLR: WLE *Microcystis* isolates
    - Ivanova et al., 2016, IAGLR: DNA Barcoding
    - Edge et al., 2016, IAGLR: EcoBiomics Initiative

# LINKAGES OF ACTIVE NITROGEN CYCLING AND PLANKTOTHRIX BLOOMS IN SANDUSKY BAY, LAKE ERIE

Kateri Salk – Michigan State University

# LINKAGES OF ACTIVE NITROGEN CYCLING AND PLANKTOTHRIX BLOOMS IN SANDUSKY BAY, LAKE ERIE

Kateri Salk – Michigan State University

Nathaniel Ostrom – Michigan State University

MICHIGAN STATE  
UNIVERSITY

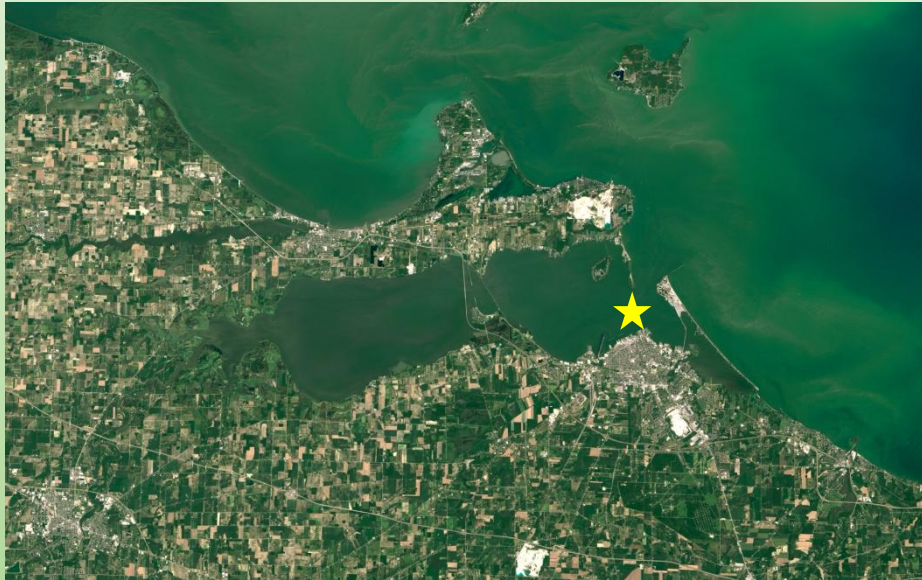
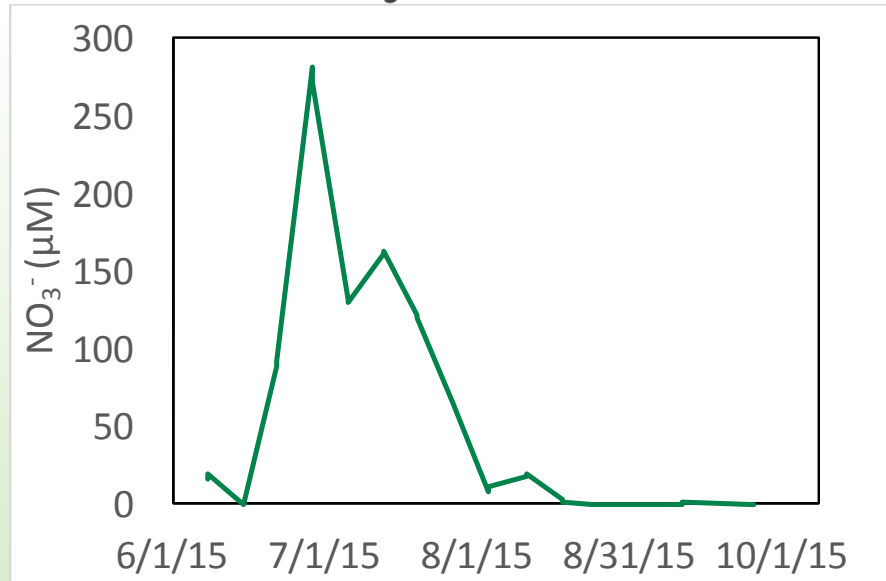


# Project Overview

- Sandusky Bay, Lake Erie (2015-present)
  - Offshore Lake Erie – *Microcystis*
  - Sandusky Bay - *Planktothrix*
- How do N cycling processes affect HAB formation and composition in N-limited nearshore zones such as Sandusky Bay?
- Funding:
  - MSU Water Science Network WaterCube
  - MSU Marvin Hensley Endowed Fellowship
  - MSU Rose Graduate Fellowship in Water Research
  - NSF Graduate Research Fellowship

# Project Hypotheses/Approach

- Hypothesis: an active N cycle is important in structuring *Planktothrix* bloom development and toxicity
- Microbial N loss processes drive N limitation in late summer
  - Sediment N loss measurements (denitrification, anammox, N<sub>2</sub>O)
  - Isotope Pairing Technique
- N fixation provides a source of fixed N when DIN is scarce
  - Water column N fixation measurements
  - *Planktothrix* abundance and toxicity (Bullerjahn, McKay) may be bolstered by a commensal relationship with N fixers



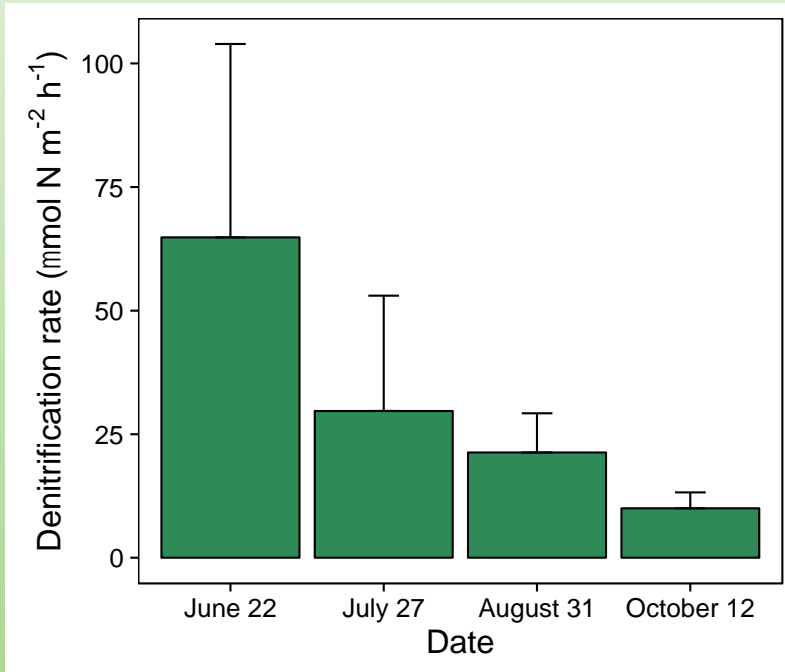
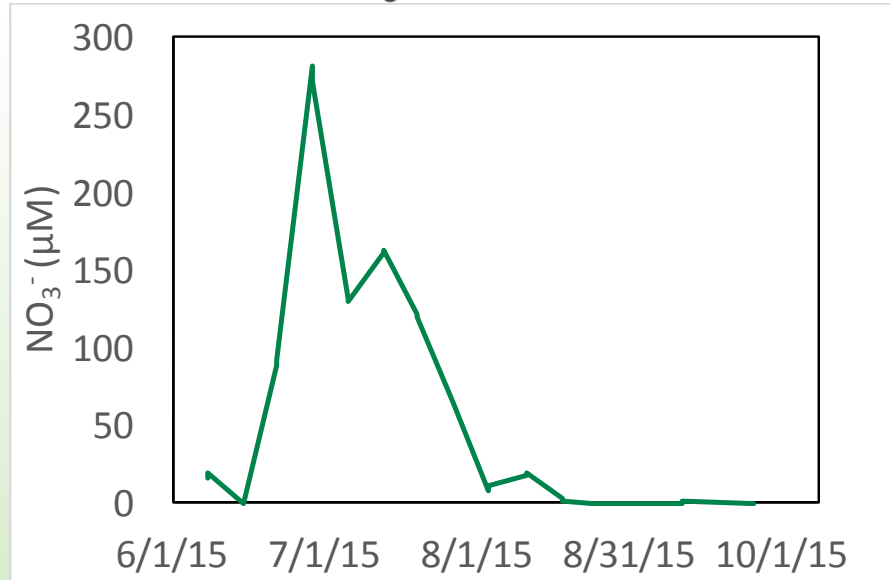
Landsat (28 July, 2015) imagery courtesy of NASA Goddard Space Flight Center and US Geological Survey

June 23, 2016

## Inner Bay Station

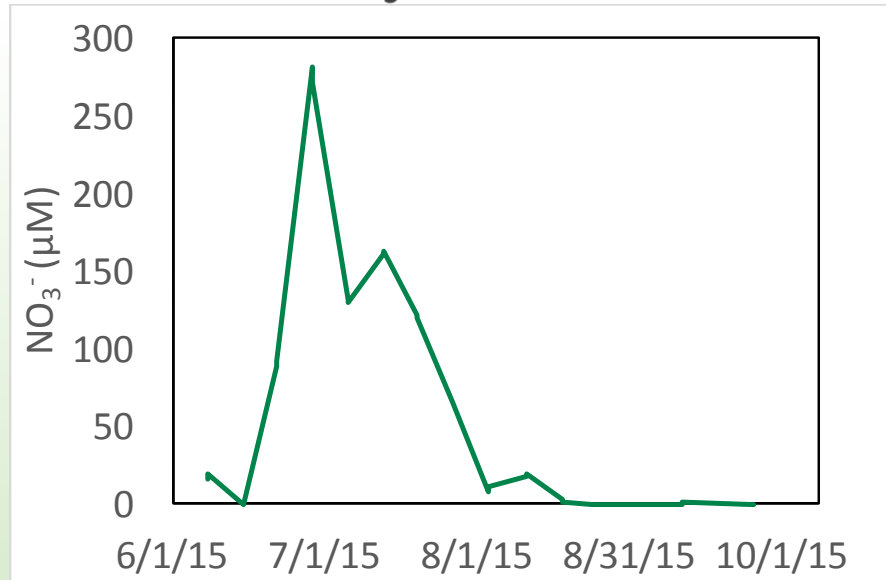
- $[\text{NO}_3^-]$  spikes in late June (Sandusky River discharge)
- $[\text{NO}_3^-]$  decreases through August, remains low





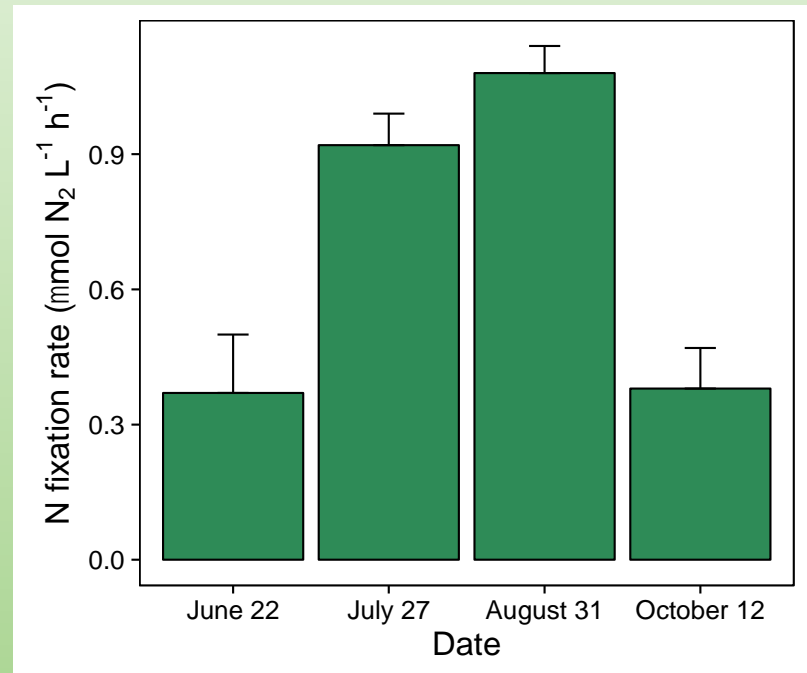
## Denitrification

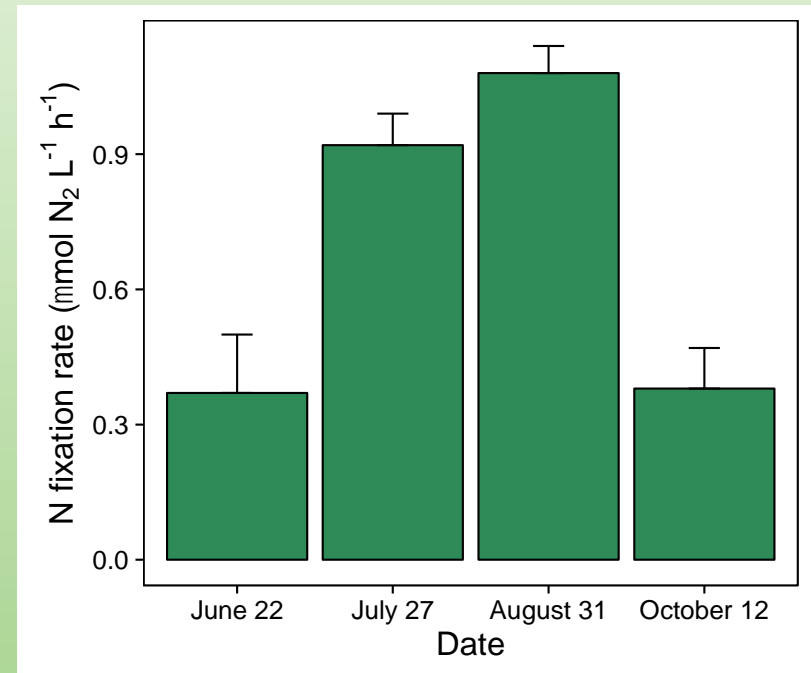
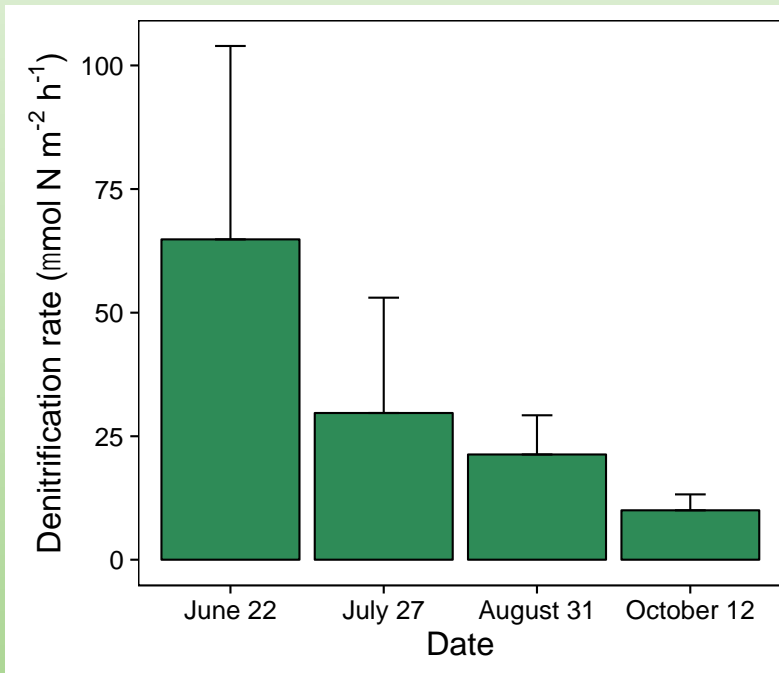
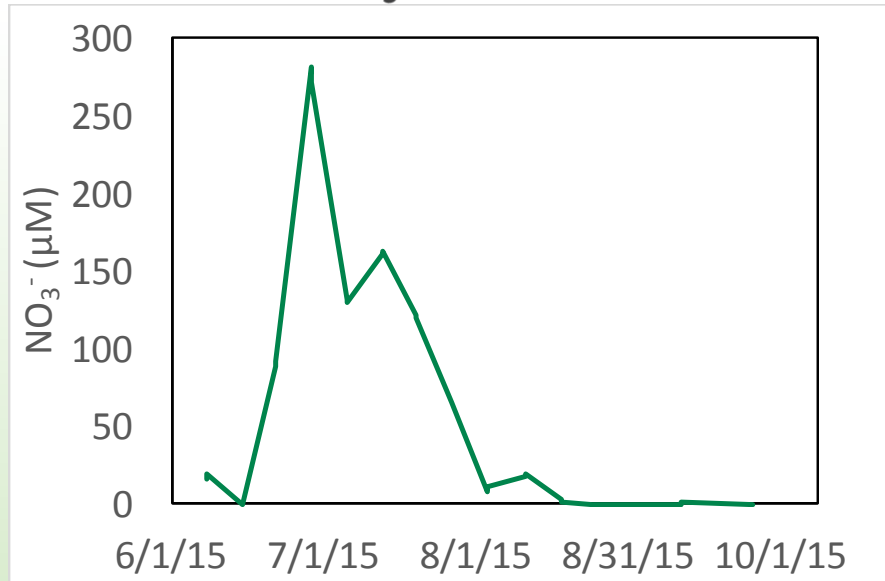
- Rates positively associated with ambient  $[\text{NO}_3^-]$
- Mechanism for N drawdown, N limitation in Sandusky Bay



## N fixation

- Rates peak as  $[\text{NO}_3^-]$  reaches a minimum
- Supplementation of fixed N in the Bay





# Summary of Findings

- What questions still need to be answered about HABs?
  - What is the overall role of N in Great Lakes HAB dynamics?
  - Linking biogeochemistry with HAB formation and toxicity
    - predictive models
- How can collaboration help your research?
  - Connecting omics techniques with measurements of environmental processes

# UNEXPECTED CHANGES IN THE GREEN BAY, LAKE MICHIGAN FOOD WEB FOLLOWING INVASION BY ZEBRA MUSSEL

Bart De Stasio – Lawrence University

# Unexpected changes in the Green Bay, Lake Michigan food web following invasion by zebra mussel

**BART DE STASIO  
BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT  
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY  
APPLETON, WI**

# Project Overview

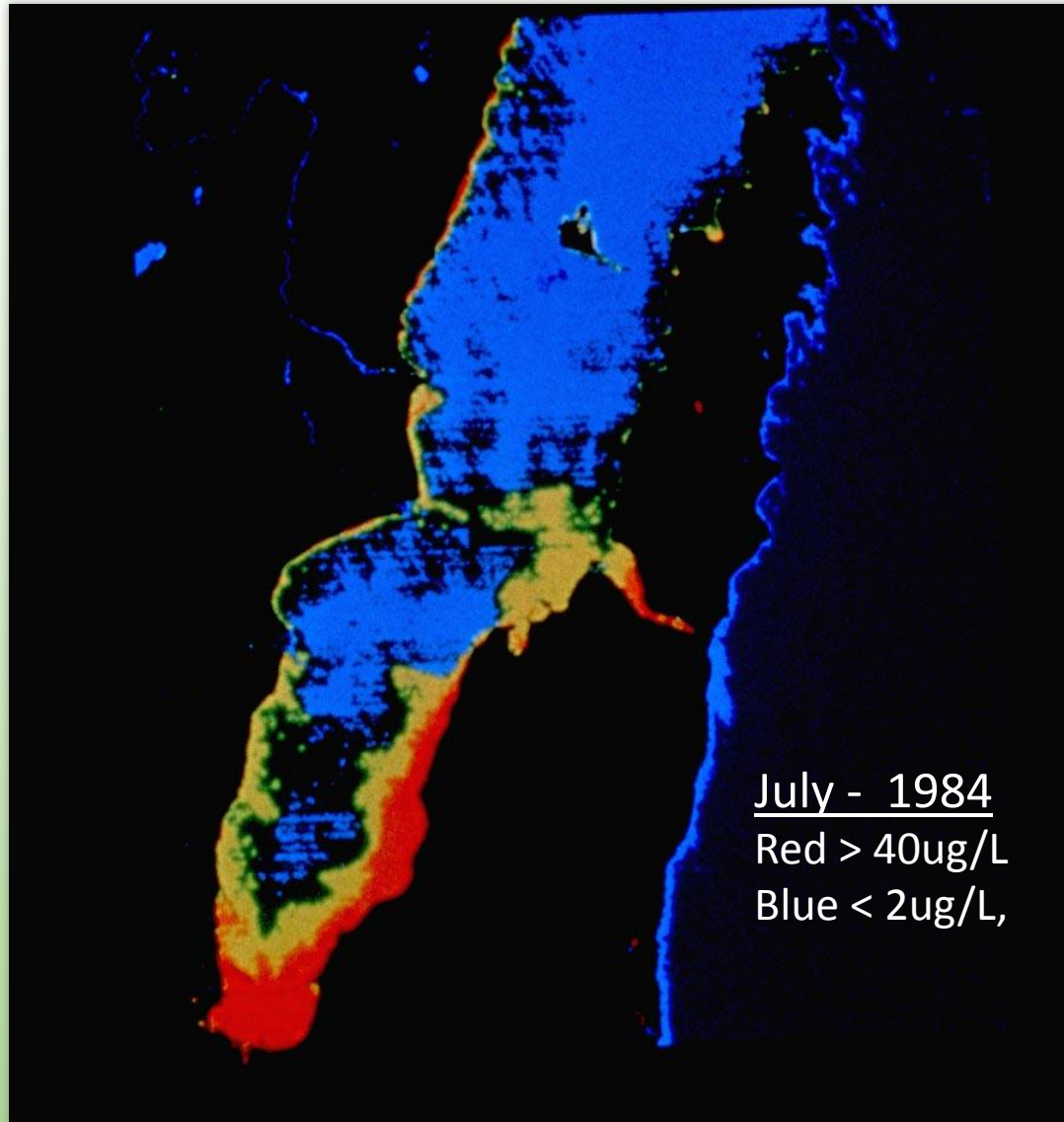
“Unexpected changes in the Green Bay food web following invasion by zebra mussel”

- PI: Bart De Stasio, Lawrence University, Wisconsin
- Funding:
  - Univ of Wisconsin Sea Grant Institute
  - American Philosophical Society
- Location: Green Bay (1980s – 2012)
- Objective: Test for phytoplankton community shifts following invasion by zebra mussels



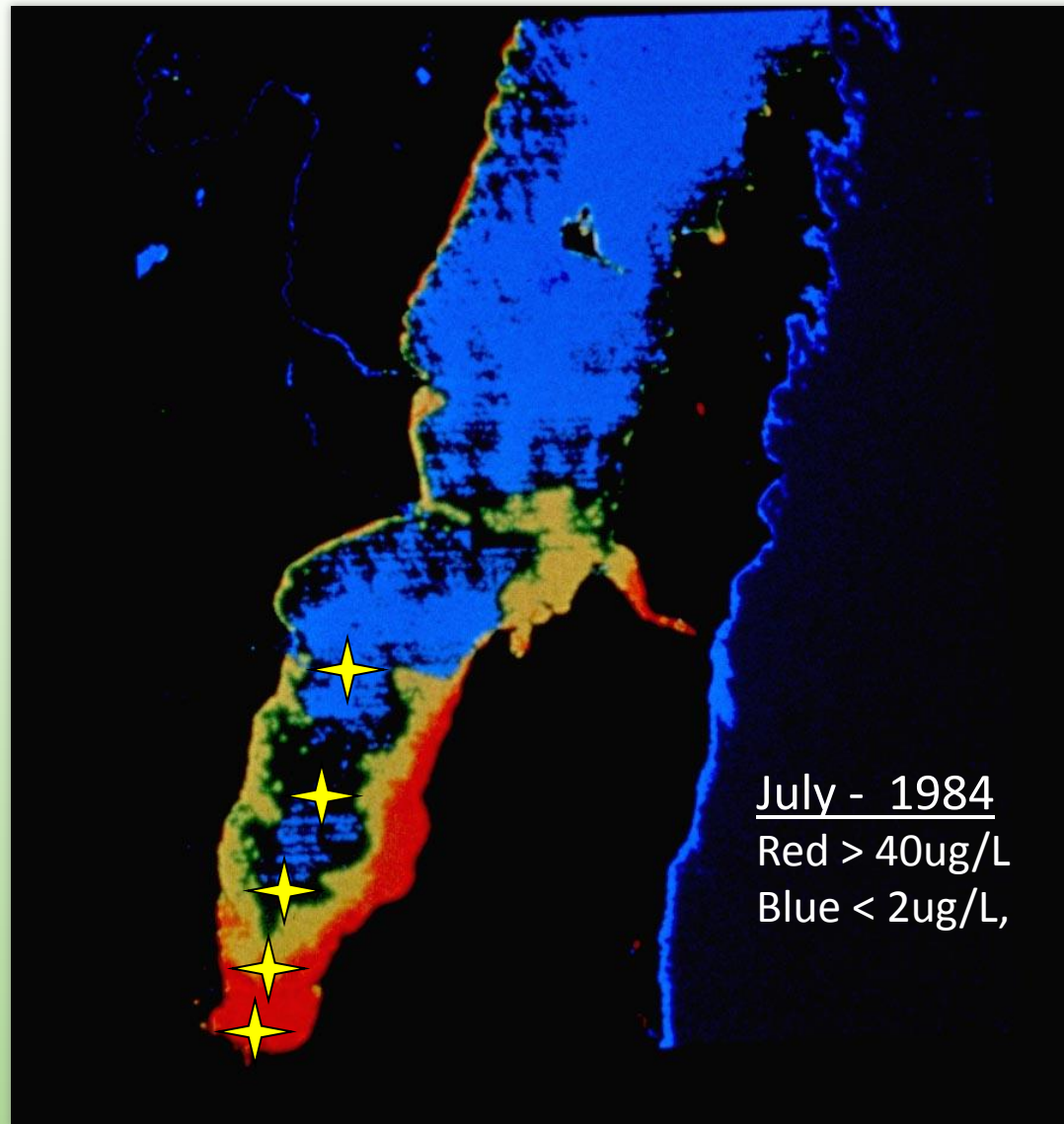


# Chlorophyll *a*





# Chlorophyll *a*



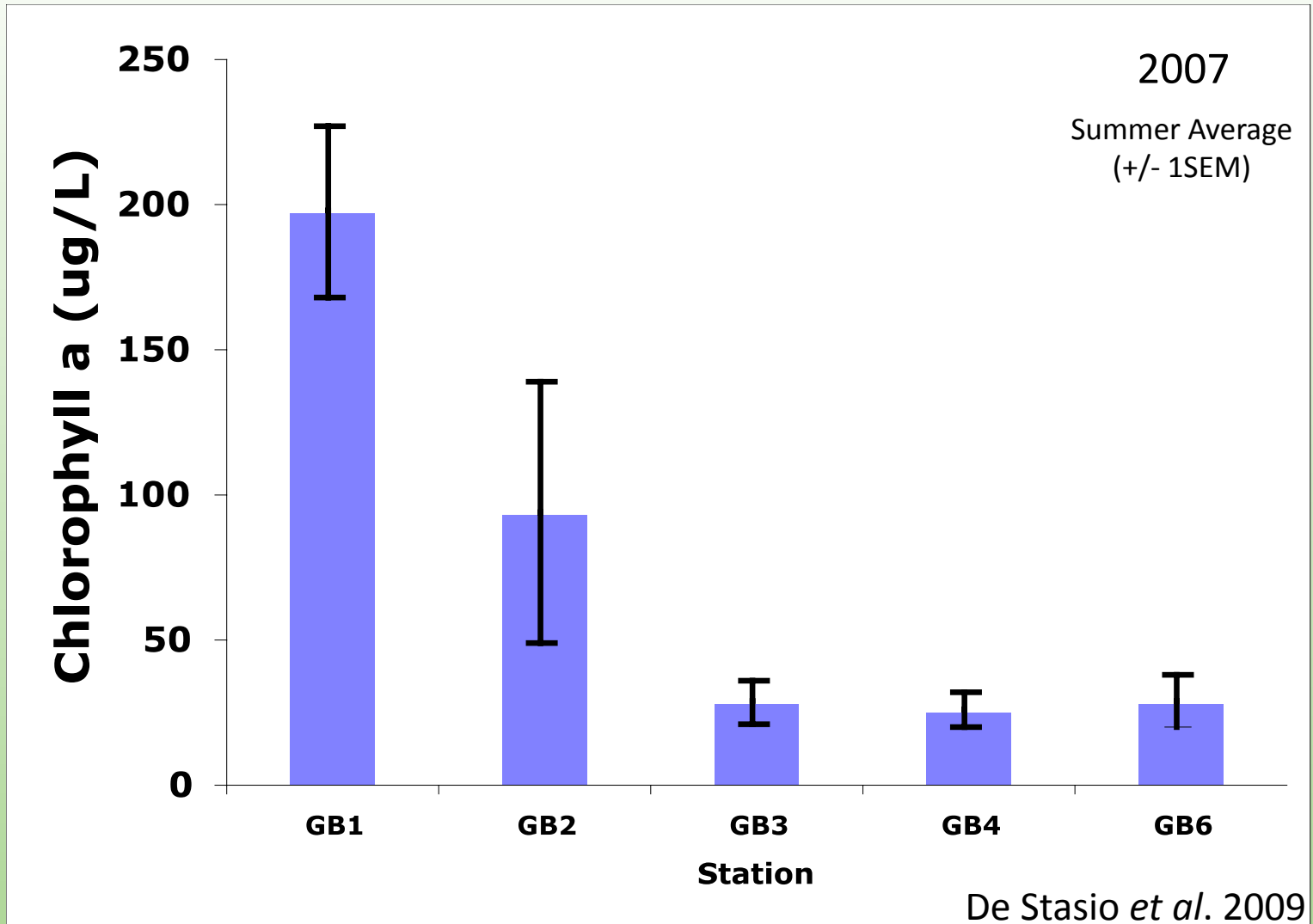
# Approach

- **Summer Biweekly Sampling 5 stations**
- **Phytoplankton Abundance (chlorophyll & counts)**
- **Primary Production ( $^{14}\text{C}$  uptake Method)**
- **Zooplankton Abundance**
- **Zooplankton Grazing Rates ( $^{14}\text{C}$ -labeled food uptake)**



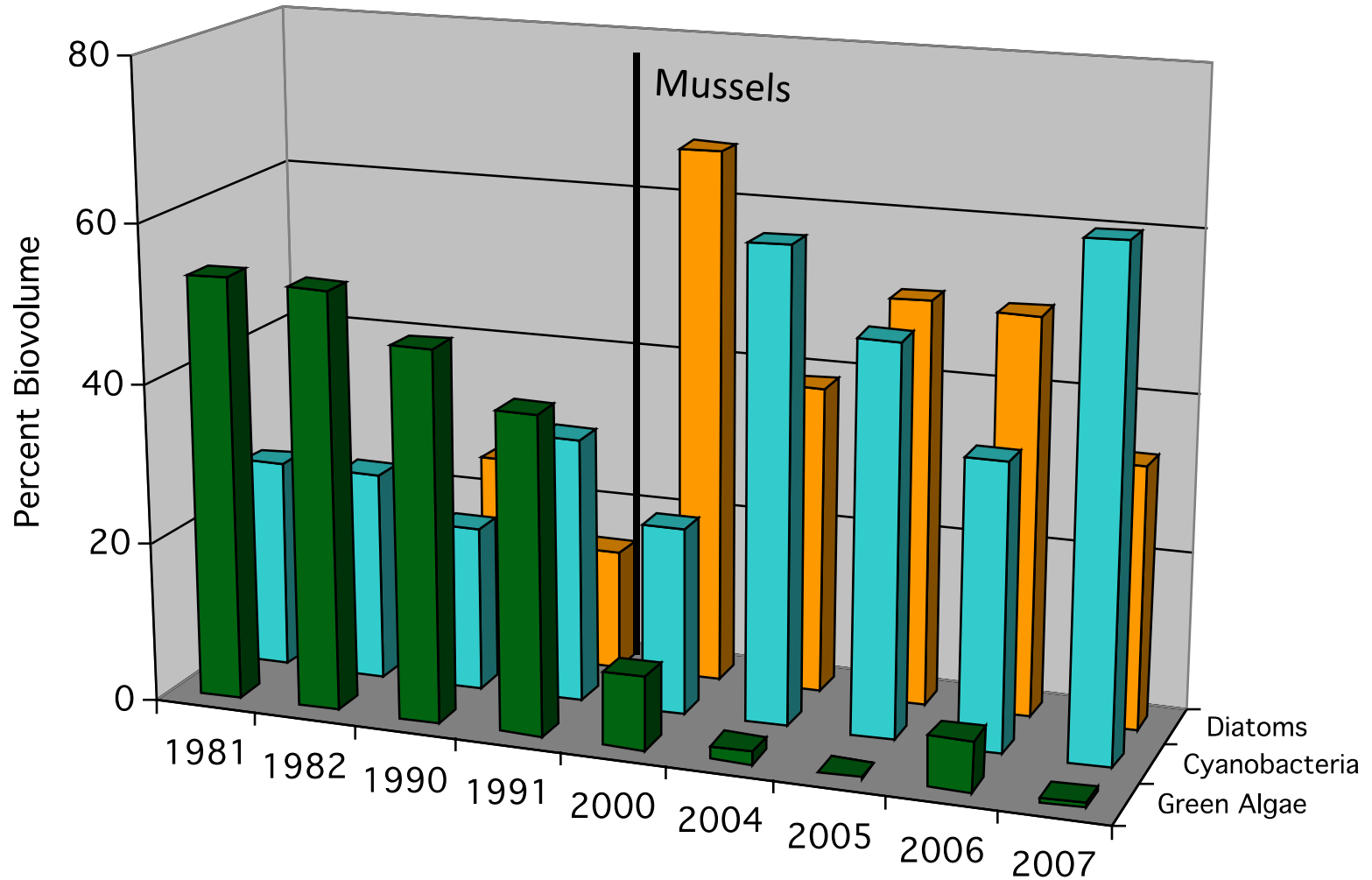


# Post-Invasion Trophic Gradient





# Lower Bay Algae



De Stasio *et al.* 2008

# Summary of Comparisons

## AFTER INVASION:

- Phytoplankton biomass increased, NPP no change
- Cyanobacteria & Diatoms Increased (*Microcystis* dominant)
- Cyanotoxins can exceed WHO limits (1 ug/L) in late summer
- Chlorophyta decreased
- Zooplankton biomass & grazing decreased

# HABs Collaboratory

- What questions still need to be answered about HABs?
  - Role of dreissenids and Nitrogen availability
  - N<sub>2</sub>-fixing vs. non-fixing cyanobacteria
- How can collaboration help your research?
  - Coordinated comparisons of food web processes
  - New avenues for addressing water quality issues



# **WATER COLUMN AMMONIUM DYNAMICS AFFECTING HARMFUL CYANOBACTERIAL BLOOMS IN WESTERN LAKE ERIE 2015-2016**

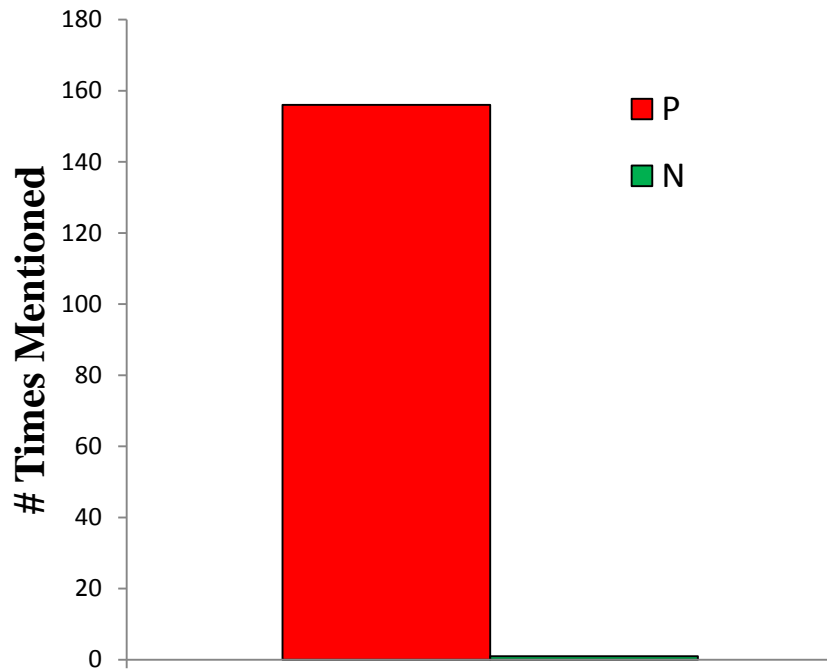
Silvia Newell – Wright State University



# WATER COLUMN AMMONIUM DYNAMICS AFFECTING HARMFUL CYANOBACTERIAL BLOOMS IN WESTERN LAKE ERIE 2015-2016

Daniel K. Hoffman, Mark J. McCarthy, Timothy W. Davis\*, Justin A. Myers, and Silvia E. Newell  
Wright State University and \*NOAA-GLERL





No N regulations in Ohio  
 Proposed 40% reduction in P  
 loading in Great Lakes Water  
 Quality Agreement – Annex IV



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Review

Assessing and addressing the re-eutrophication of Lake Erie: Central basin hypoxia

Donald Scavia <sup>a,\*</sup>, J. David Allan <sup>b</sup>, Kristin K. Arend <sup>c</sup>, Steven Bartell <sup>d</sup>, Dmitry Beletsky <sup>e</sup>, Nate S. Bosch <sup>f</sup>, Stephen B. Brandt <sup>g</sup>, Ruth D. Briland <sup>h</sup>, Irem Daloglu <sup>b</sup>, Joseph V. DePinto <sup>i</sup>, David M. Dolan <sup>j</sup>, Mary Anne Evans <sup>k</sup>, Troy M. Farmer <sup>h</sup>, Daisuke Goto <sup>l</sup>, Haejin Han <sup>m</sup>, Tomas O. Höök <sup>n</sup>, Roger Knight <sup>o</sup>, Stuart A. Ludsin <sup>h</sup>, Doran Mason <sup>p</sup>, Anna M. Michalak <sup>q</sup>, R. Peter Richards <sup>r</sup>, James J. Roberts <sup>s</sup>, Daniel K. Rucinski <sup>b,i</sup>, Edward Rutherford <sup>p</sup>, David J. Schwab <sup>t</sup>, Timothy M. Sesterhenn <sup>n</sup>, Hongyan Zhang <sup>e</sup>, Yuntao Zhou <sup>q,u</sup>

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- <sup>c</sup> Old Woman Creek National Estuarine Research Reserve, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife, Huron, OH 44839, USA
- <sup>d</sup> Cardno EMRD, 339 Whitecrest Dr., Maryville, TN 37801, USA
- <sup>e</sup> Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research, School of Natural Resources and Environment, University of Michigan, 440 Church St., Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA
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- <sup>g</sup> Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR 97331, USA
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- <sup>j</sup> University of Wisconsin-Green Bay, 2420 Nicolet Dr., Green Bay, WI, USA
- <sup>k</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, Great Lakes Science Center, 1451 Green Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48105, USA
- <sup>l</sup> Center for Limnology, University of Wisconsin-Madison, 680 North Park Street, Madison, WI 53706, USA
- <sup>m</sup> Korea Environment Institute, 215 Jinhongno, Eunpyeong-gu, Seoul 122-706, Republic of Korea
- <sup>n</sup> Department of Forestry and Natural Resources, Purdue University, 196 Mantlell St, West Lafayette, IN 47907, USA
- <sup>o</sup> Division of Wildlife, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Columbus, OH 43229, USA
- <sup>p</sup> Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory, NOAA, 4840 S. State Rd., Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA
- <sup>q</sup> Department of Global Ecology, Carnegie Institute for Science, 260 Panama St., Stanford, CA 94305, USA
- <sup>r</sup> National Center for Water Quality Research, Heidelberg University, 310 E. Market St., Tiffin, OH 44883, USA
- <sup>s</sup> U.S. Geological Survey, Fort Collins Science Center, 2150 Centre Ave., Fort Collins, CO 80523, USA
- <sup>t</sup> Water Center, University of Michigan, 625 E. Liberty, Ann Arbor, MI 48103, USA
- <sup>u</sup> Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI 48109, USA

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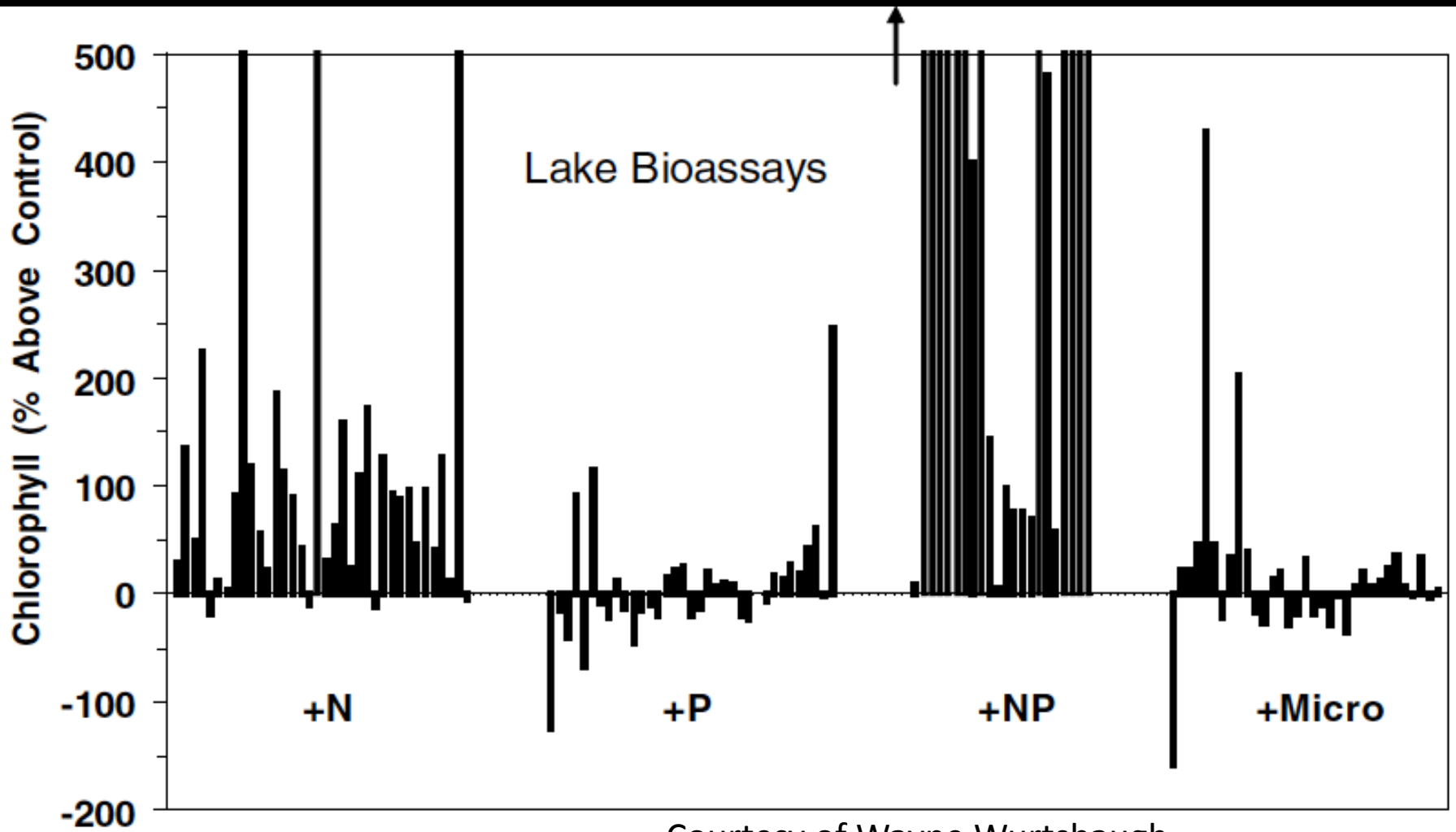
Communicated by Leon Boegman

Keywords:  
 Lake Erie  
 Hypoxia  
 Phosphorus load targets  
 Best management practices

ABSTRACT

Relieving phosphorus loading is a key management tool for controlling Lake Erie eutrophication. During the 1960s and 1970s, increased phosphorus inputs degraded water quality and reduced central basin hypolimnetic oxygen levels which, in turn, eliminated thermal habitat vital to cold-water organisms and contributed to the extirpation of important benthic macroinvertebrate prey species for fishes. In response to load reductions initiated in 1972, Lake Erie responded quickly with reduced water-column phosphorus concentrations, phytoplankton biomass, and bottom-water hypoxia (dissolved oxygen <2 mg/l). Since the mid-1990s, cyanobacteria blooms increased and extensive hypoxia and benthic algae returned. We synthesize recent research leading to guidance for addressing this re-eutrophication, with particular emphasis on central basin hypoxia. We document recent trends in key eutrophication-related properties, assess their likely ecological impacts, and develop load response curves to guide revised hypoxia-based loading targets called for in the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. Reducing central basin hypoxic area to levels observed in the early 1990s (ca. 2000 km<sup>2</sup>) requires cutting total phosphorus loads by 46% from the 2003–2011 average or reducing dissolved reactive phosphorus loads by 78% from the 2005–2011 average. Reductions to these levels are also protective of fish habitat. We provide potential approaches for achieving those new loading targets, and suggest that recent load reduction recommendations focused on western basin cyanobacteria blooms may not be sufficient to reduce central basin hypoxia to 2000 km<sup>2</sup>.

# Nutrient Addition experiments



Courtesy of Wayne Wurtsbaugh



Oct. 2008

Control  
(no nutrients)



+ N-NO<sub>3</sub><sup>-</sup>



+ P-PO<sub>4</sub><sup>3-</sup>



+ N + P



Courtesy of Hans Paerl

# Lake Erie



© University of Michigan (2014)



© University of New Hampshire

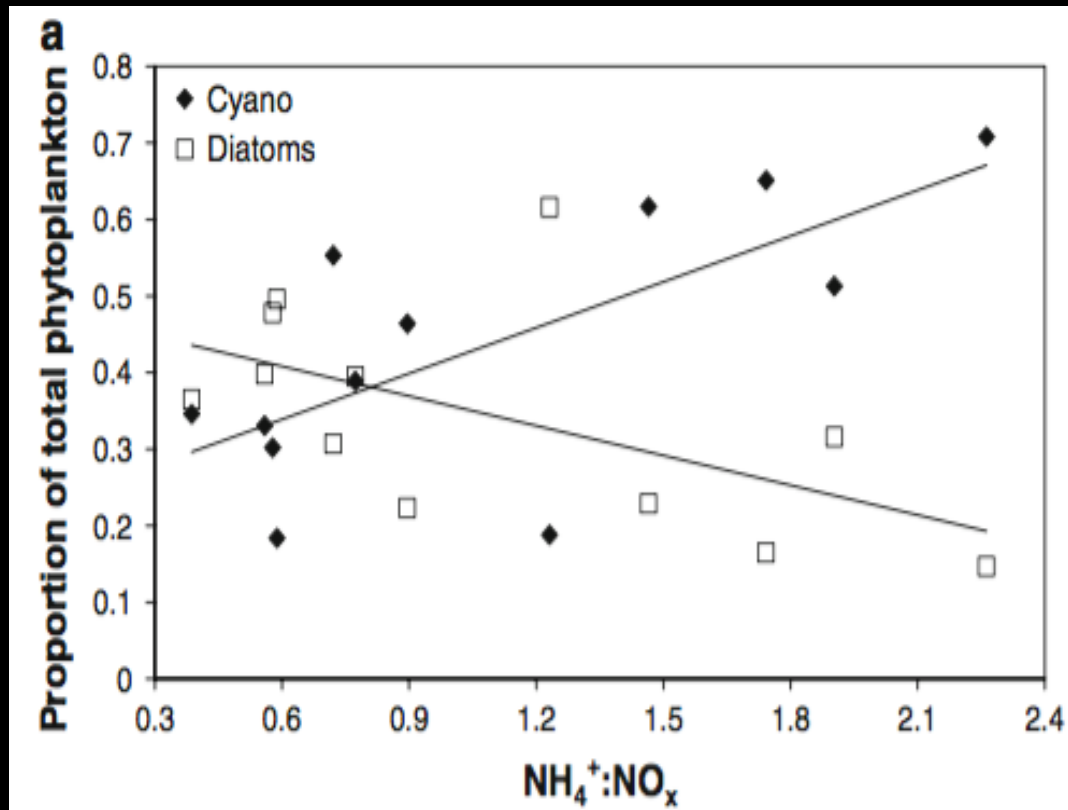


**Microcystis:**  
Non-N<sub>2</sub> fixers

From  
<http://cyanobacteria.myspecies.info>

# N Form and Community Structure

- $\text{NO}_3^-$  : favors diatoms
- Reduced N ( $\text{NH}_4^+$  and urea): favors cyanobacteria



McCarthy et al.  
2009



# N and Cyanobacterial Toxicity

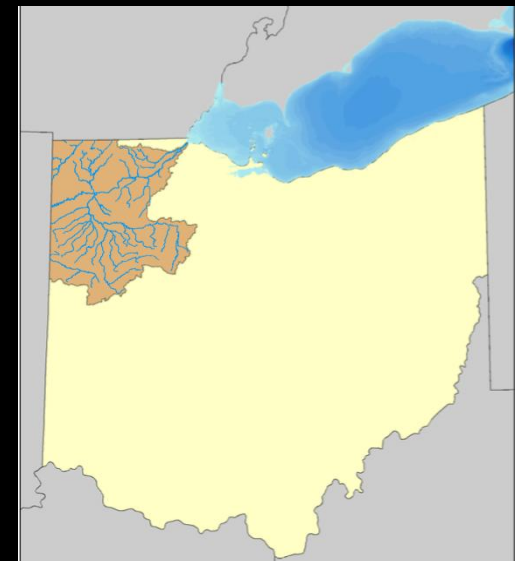
- N additions to non-N-fixing cyanobacteria can increase toxicity.  
(Davis et al. 2010, 2015)
- Low  $\text{NH}_4^+$  concentrations can inhibit toxin production  
(Kuniyoshi et al. 2010)
- Urea uptake may lead to both increased *Microcystis* biomass and toxin production  
(Finlay et al. 2010)

# N Inputs to Western Lake Erie



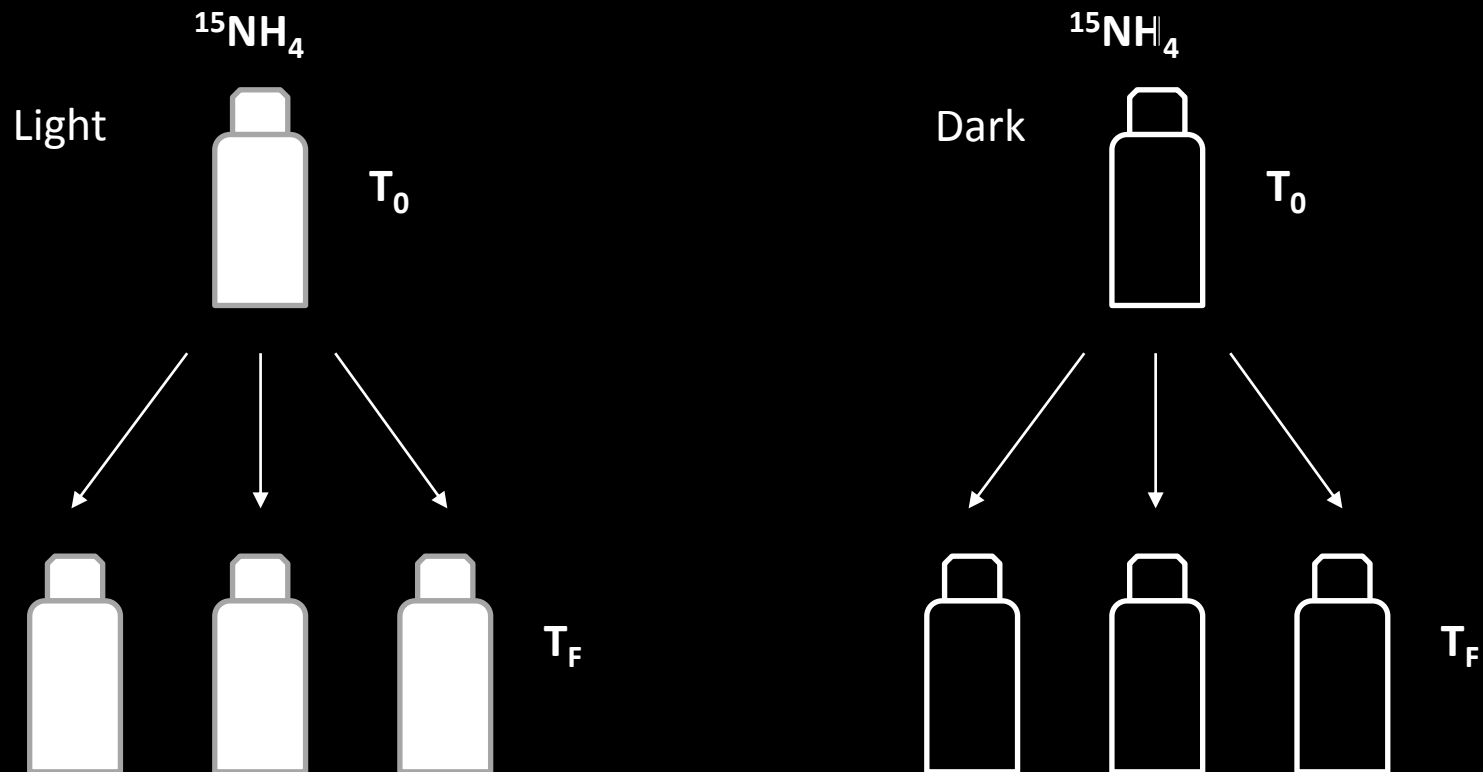
- Maumee River: 80% agricultural UAN or anhydrous  $\text{NH}_4$
- Kjeldahl N ( $\text{NH}_4^+$  + organic N) load from Maumee River to Lake Erie = 9000 metric tons/yr  
 $\frac{1}{4}$  of total Maumee N load

(Richards et al. 2010)

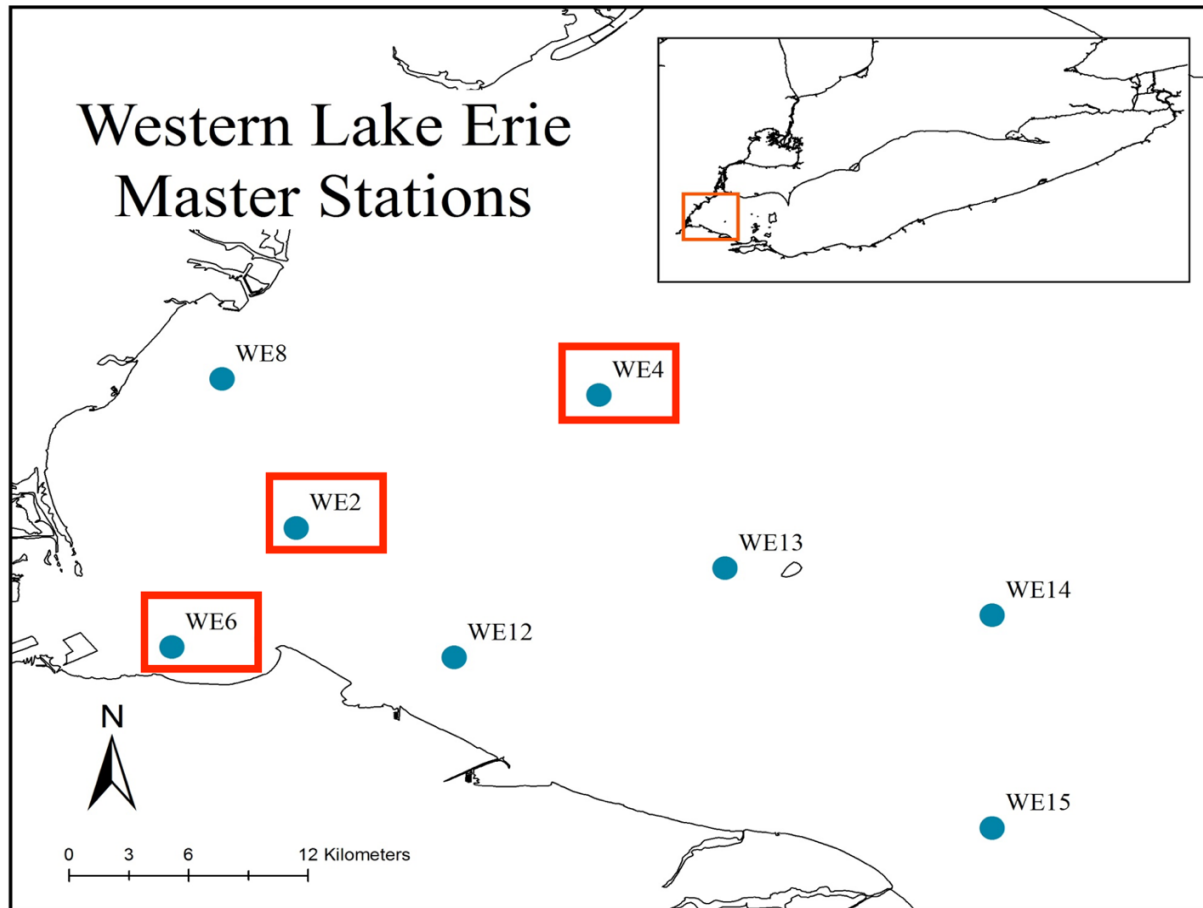


Question: How fast is the  $\text{NH}_4^+$  turnover?  
Can it sustain phytoplankton growth?  
During the bloom?

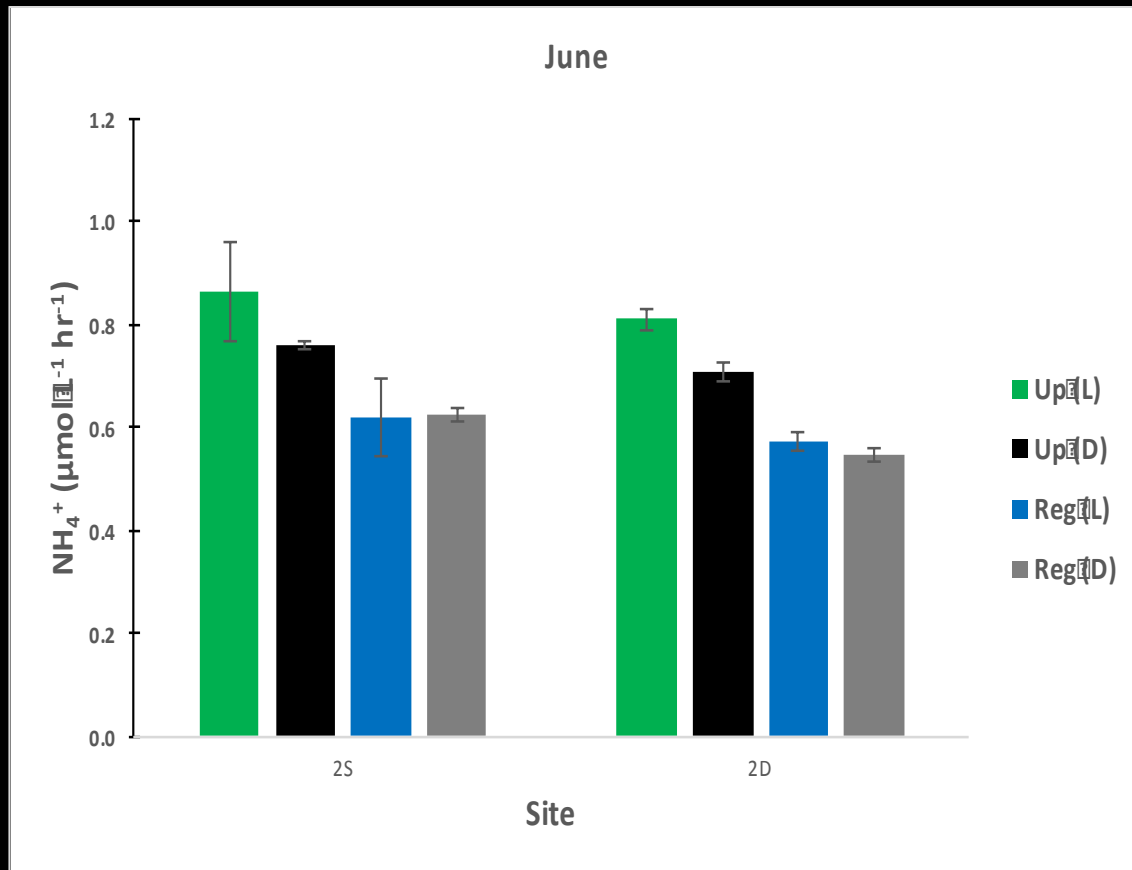
Approach:  $\text{NH}_4^+$  Uptake and Regeneration



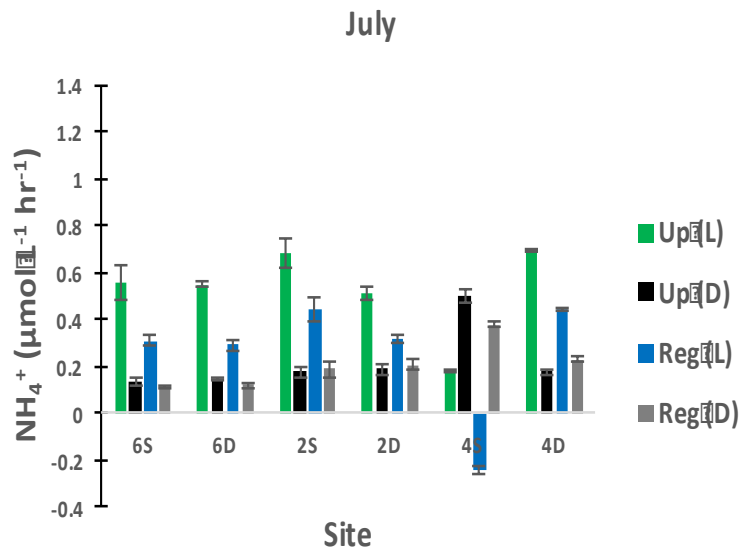
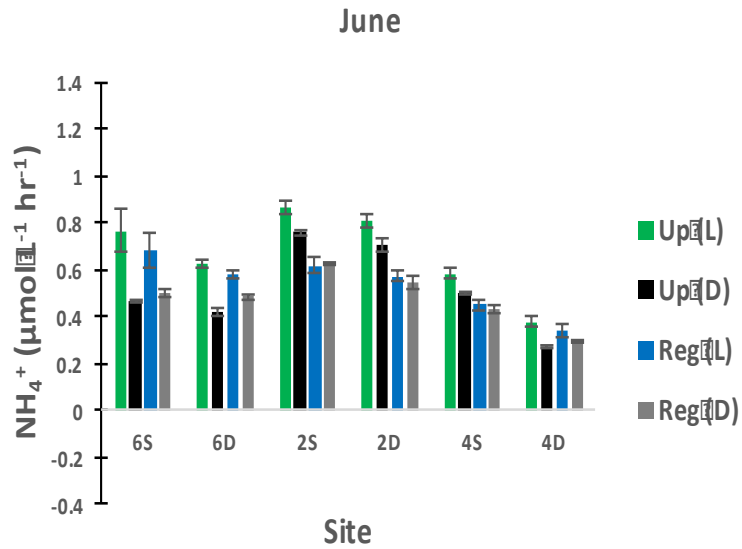
# Sampling with NOAA GLERL



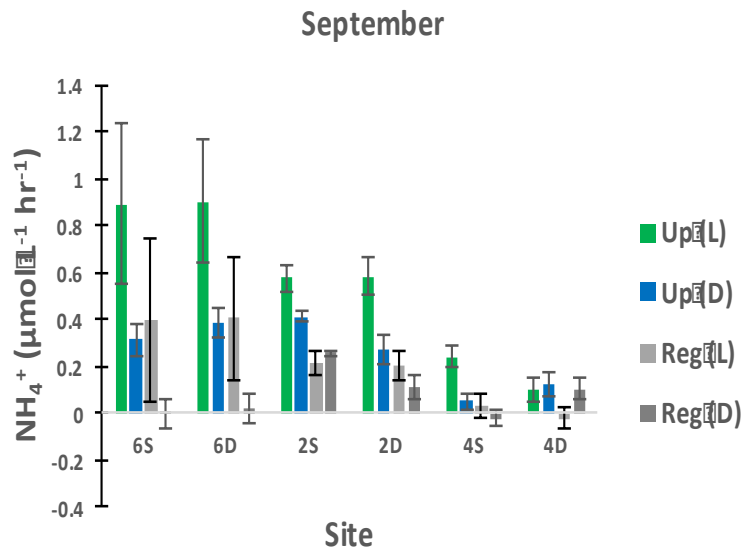
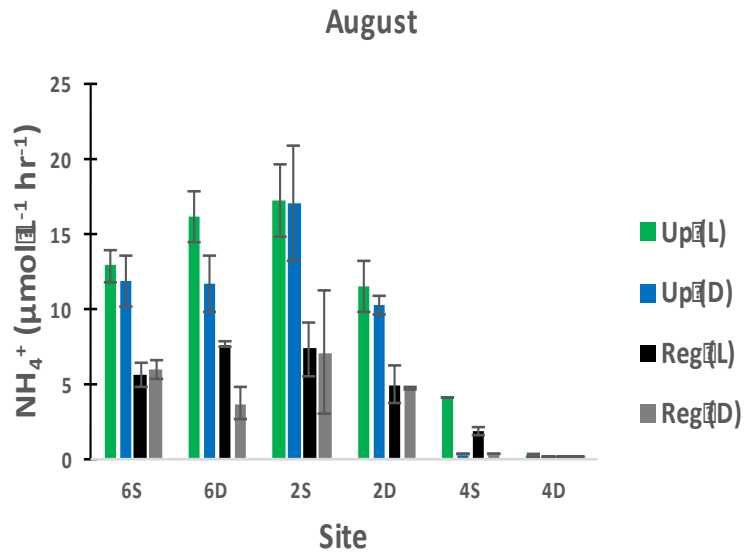
# NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> Uptake/Regeneration



# NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> Uptake/Regeneration



# NH<sub>4</sub><sup>+</sup> Uptake/Regeneration





# Summary of Findings

- Difference between uptake and regeneration rates is more pronounced as the cyanobacterial blooms increase
- Potential uptake rates balanced by regeneration before bloom, but not during – remaining supply must come from elsewhere or phytoplankton are N-limited
- Dual nutrient control is required to control blooms and toxicity in Lake Erie



# HABs Collaboratory

- We need a nitrogen budget for WLE
- Ammonium and Urea loads?
- Is there a model looking to incorporate N data?

# SHORT-TERM FORECAST OF LAKE ERIE HAB DISTRIBUTION AND MOVEMENT: 2016 UPDATES

Mark Rowe – University of Michigan

# HAB Tracker

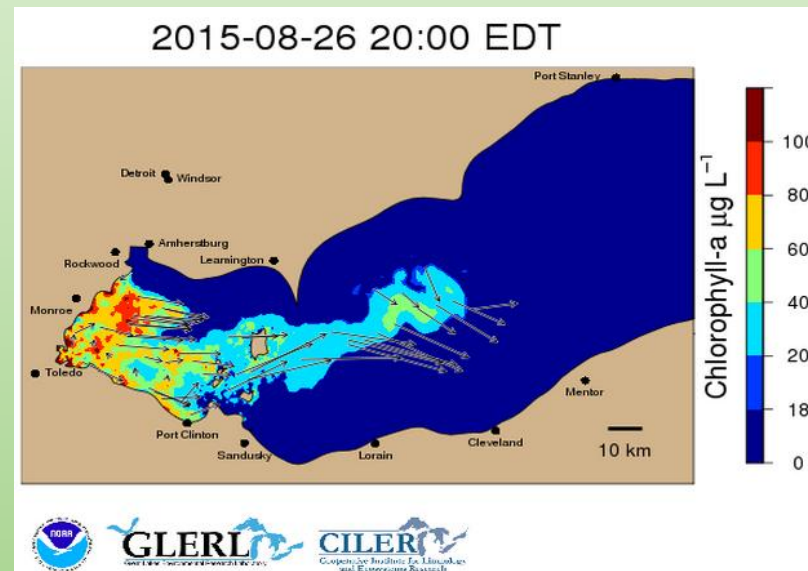
## Short-term forecast of Lake Erie HAB distribution and movement: 2016 updates

Mark Rowe

University of Michigan

Cooperative Institute for Limnology and Ecosystems Research

NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory



June 23, 2016

# Project Overview

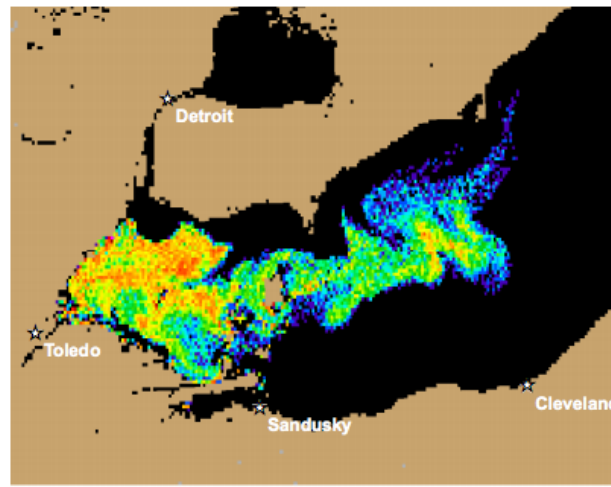
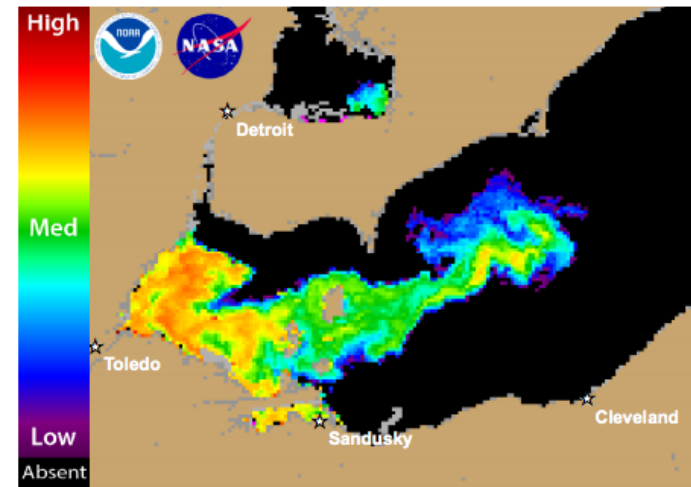
- Title: HABS Monitoring, Forecasting, and Genomics for the Great Lakes
- Large team, including  
Tim Davis, Eric Anderson, Hank Vanderploeg – NOAA GLERL  
Tom Johengen, Mark Rowe – CILER  
Rick Stumpf, Tim Wynne – NOAA NCCOS
- Funding: NOAA - GLRI
- Locations: Lake Erie and Saginaw Bay
- Objectives:
  - Understand the drivers of HAB development, toxicity, and transport
  - Develop new and enhance existing decision support tools for environmental and public health officials



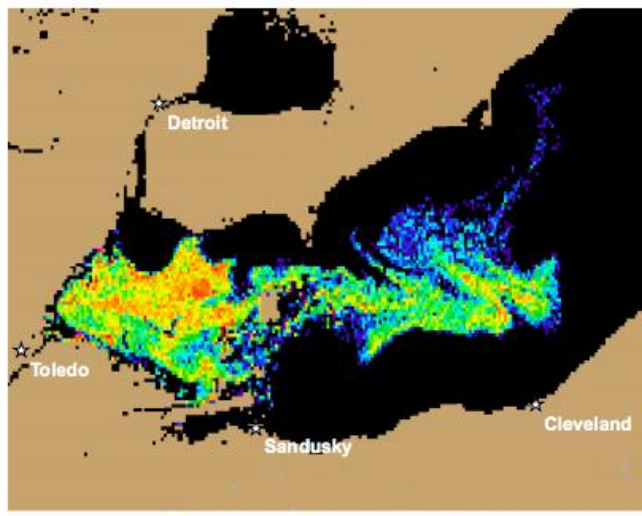
# Experimental Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin

National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory

24 August, 2015, Bulletin 13



Satellite-  
derived HAB  
nowcast



June 23, 2016

- 5-day forecast
  - Meteorological forecast
  - Hydrodynamic model
  - Lagrangian particle model

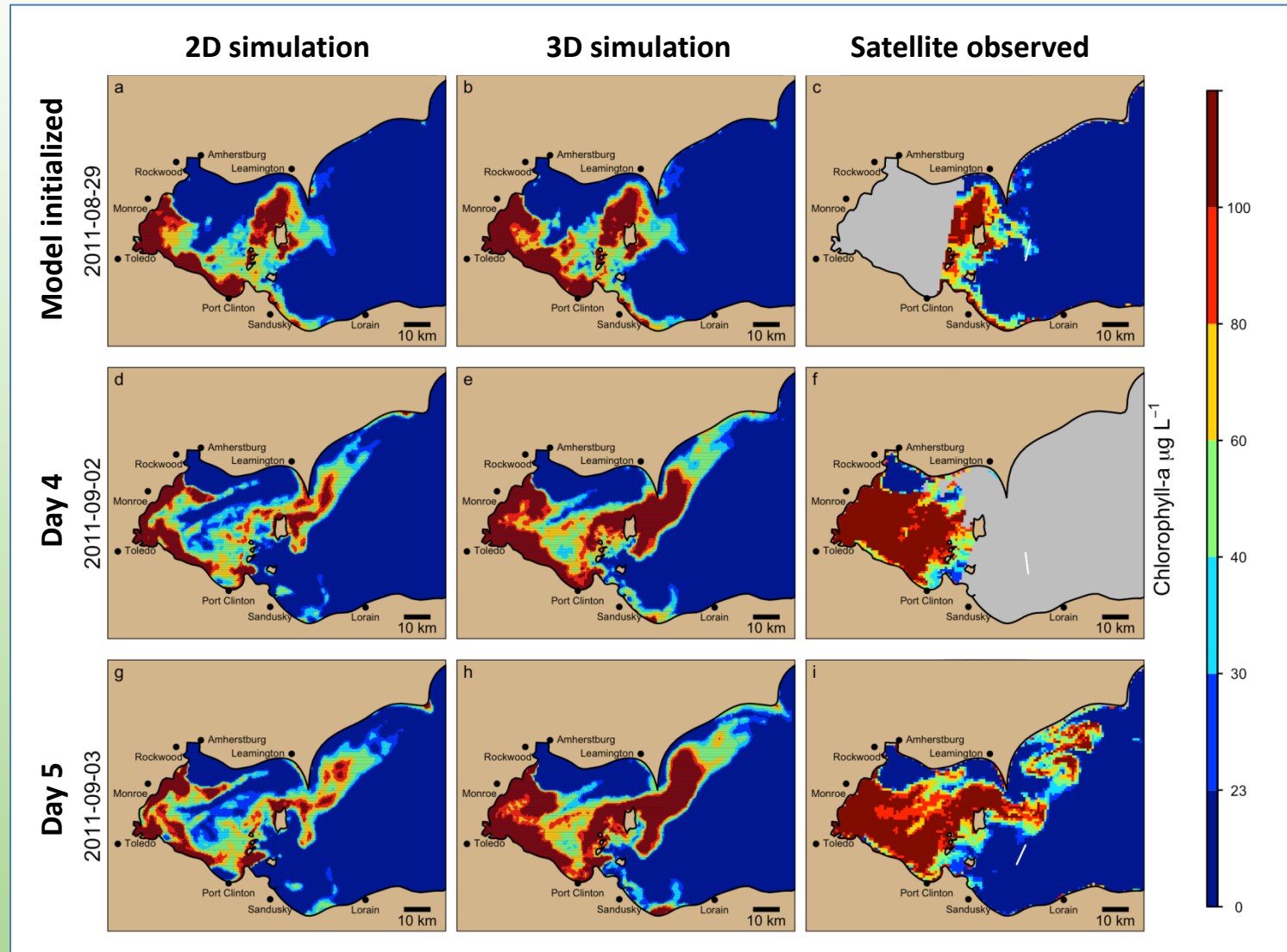
# HAB Tracker

## experimental short-term forecast

- 2015 improvements
  - Updated Lagrangian particle model linked to new FVCOM-based Lake Erie Operational Forecast model
  - Produce a more complete nowcast by using previous model run to fill in partial satellite images
- 2016 improvements
  - 3D simulation of *Microcystis* vertical distribution: buoyancy versus turbulent mixing

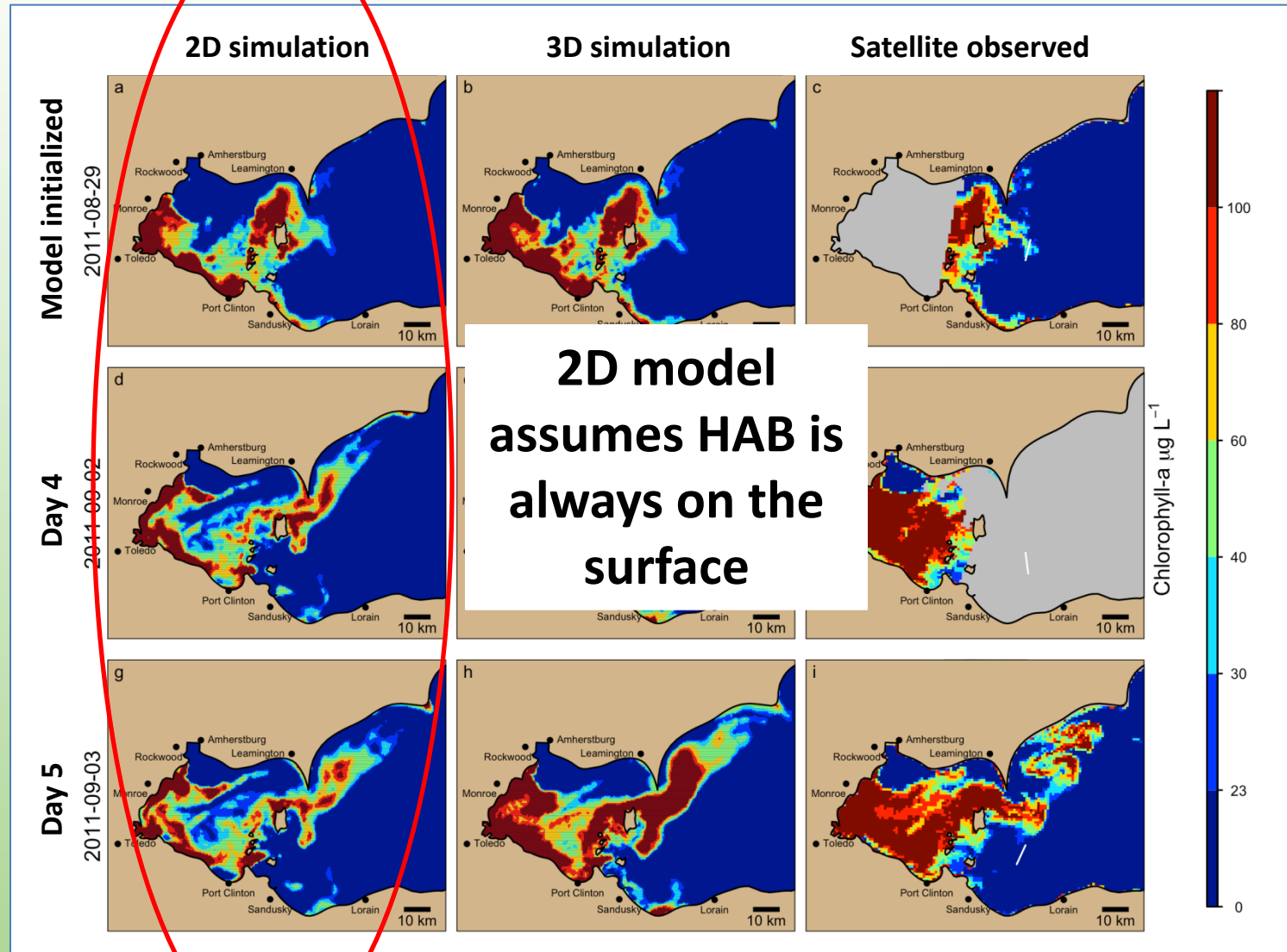


# Hindcast skill assessment



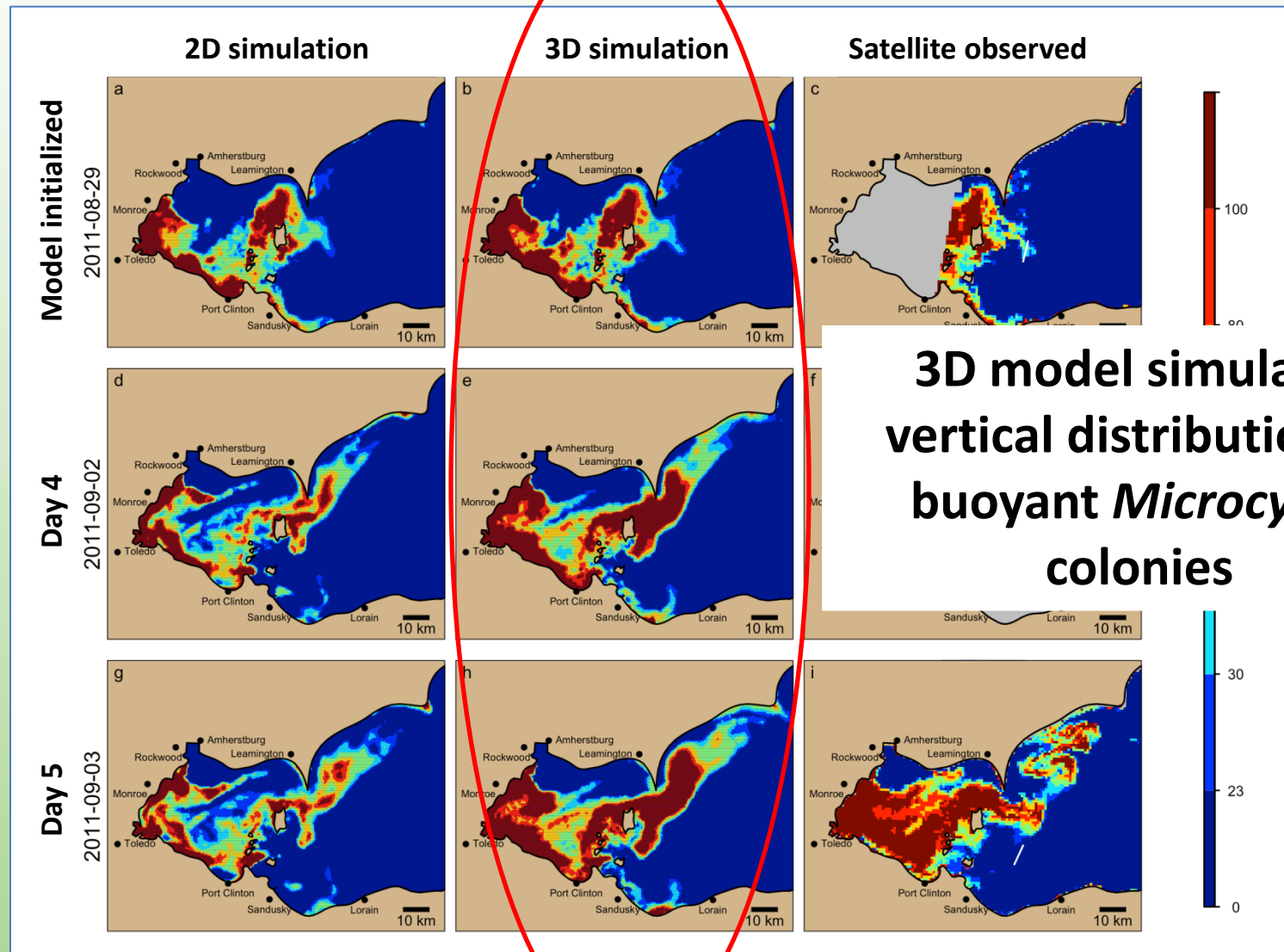
June 23, 2016

# Hindcast skill assessment



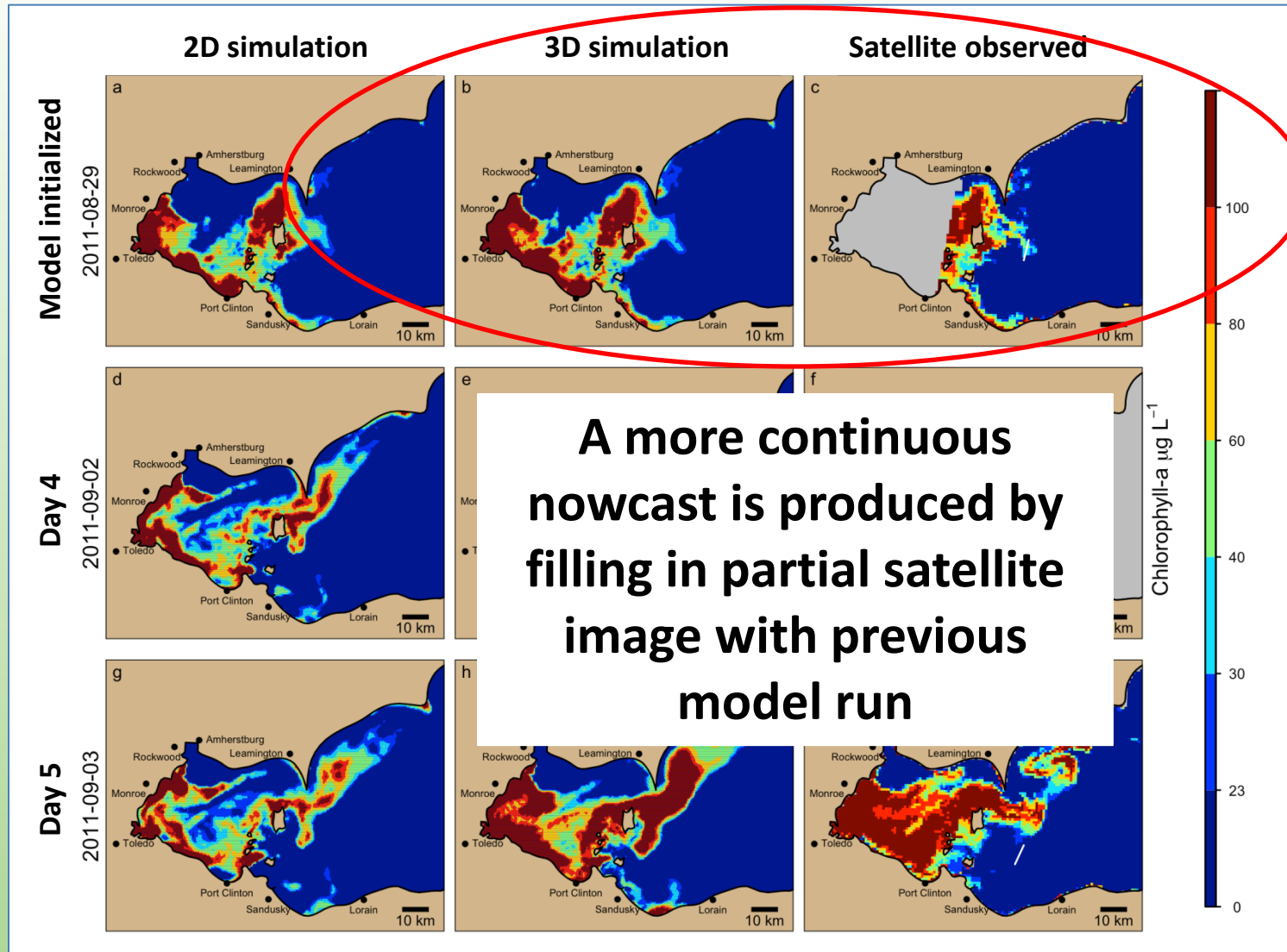
June 23, 2016

# Hindcast skill assessment

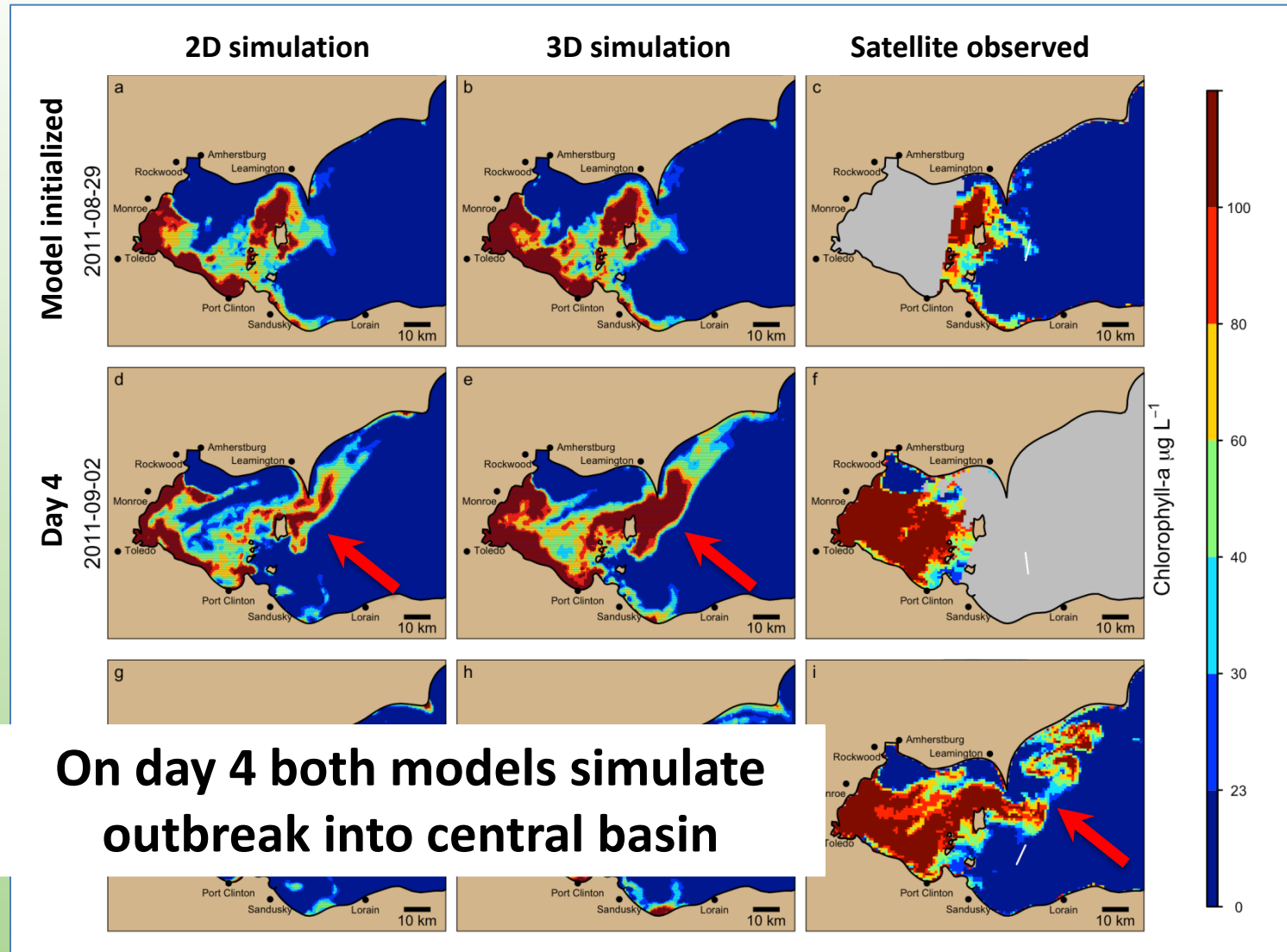


June 23, 2016

# Hindcast skill assessment

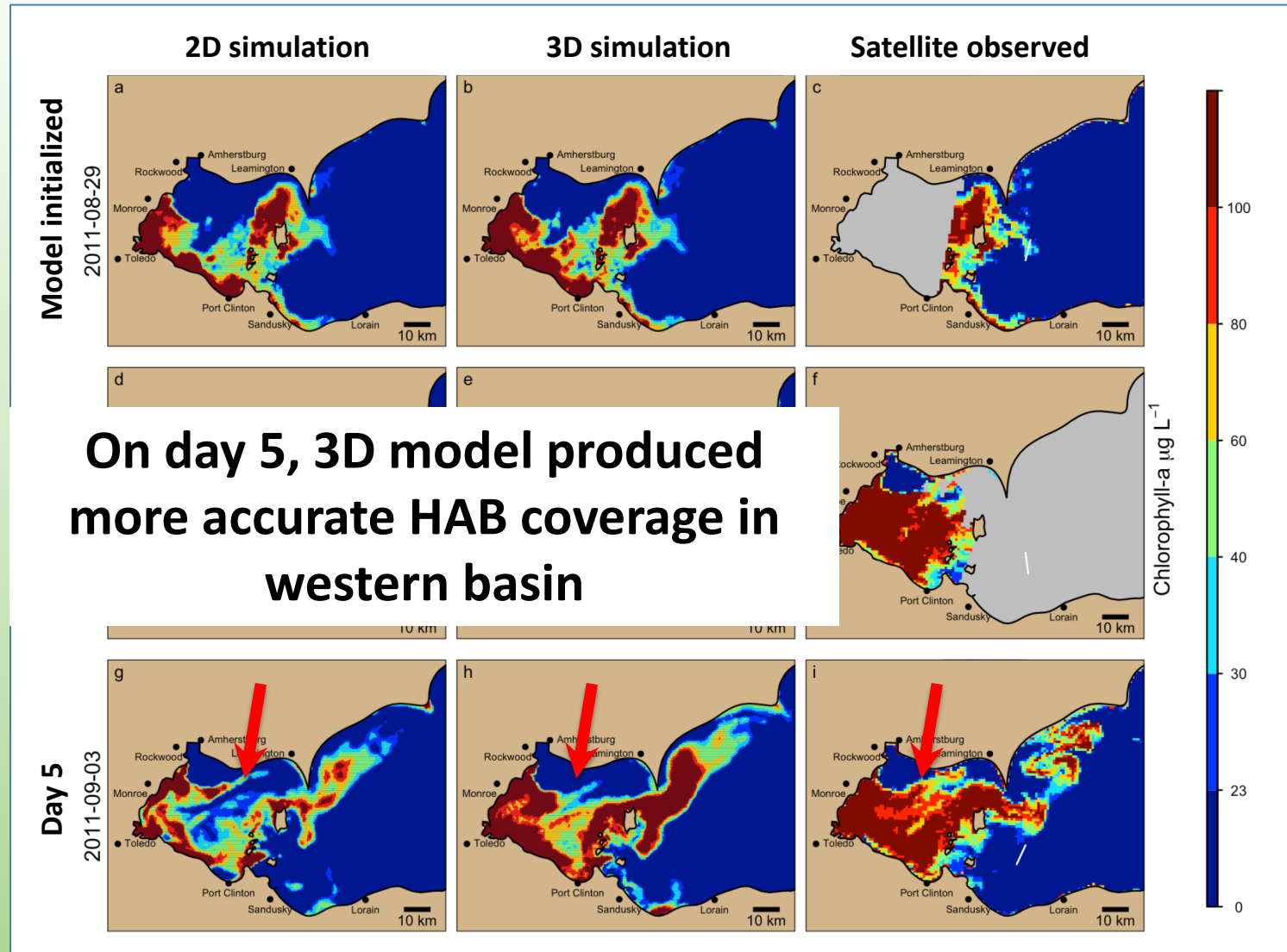


# Hindcast skill assessment



June 23, 2016

# Hindcast skill assessment



June 23, 2016



# Summary of Findings

- Skill assessment for record 2011 HAB season
  - 26 hindcast simulations
  - Statistically significant improvement in model skill by comparison to subsequent satellite images
    - 3D model had greater skill than 2D model
    - 3D model performed better than “persistence” forecast

M.D. Rowe, E.J. Anderson, T. T. Wynne, R. P. Stumpf, D. L. Fanslow, K. Kijanka, H. A. Vanderploeg, J.R. Strickler, T. W. Davis. J. Geophysical Research, *submitted*



# HABs Collaboratory

- What questions still need to be answered about HABs?
  - Predictive models of *Microcystis* buoyancy and size distribution

# HABs Blooms Sources & Movements



In partnership with:



# Coming up next:

## HABs & Safe Drinking Water

### Thursday, July 7 2016, 1-2 p.m. (EDT)

HABs Blooms Detection, Composition & Effects – TBD

HABs Blooms Sources & Toxicity - TBD

HABs & Public Health – TBD

HABs Blooms Monitoring & Forecasting – TBD

HABs: Educate and Engage - TBD

To learn more about the HABs Collaboratory and the HABs State of the Science Webinar Series, visit us at:

<http://glc.org/projects/water-quality/habs/>

