

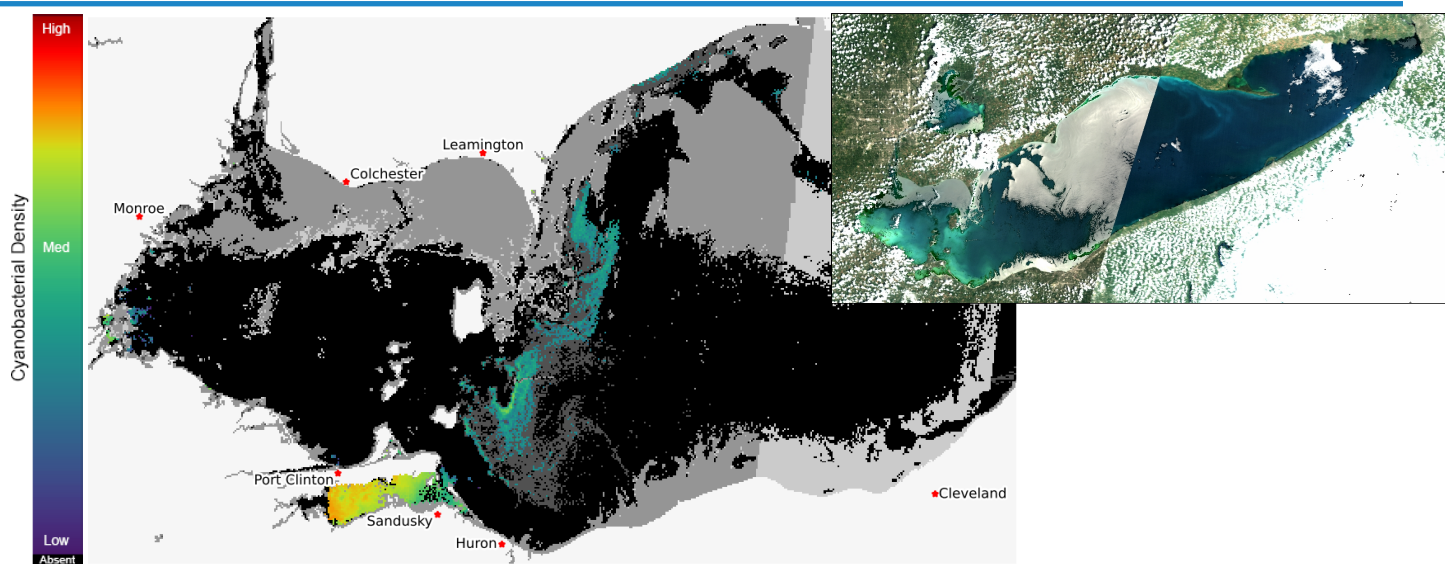
Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Forecast

2026-07-12

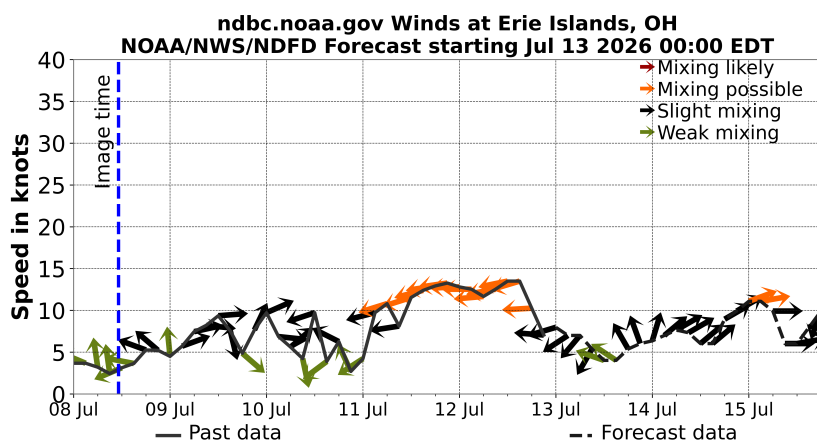
Summary

Observed and Forecasted Bloom Position is being updated daily. A possible bloom of cyanobacteria has appeared in the western central basin. In some past years a short-lived cyanobacteria bloom has appeared in the central basin in July. This is distinct from the typical bloom that forms in the western basin. During low wind, small patches of scum may be present northeast of Kellys Island and southeast of Pelee Island. There is currently negligible cyanobacteria bloom in the Western Basin. Sandusky Bay has a local bloom of mixed cyanobacteria. The 2026 Western Lake Erie HAB seasonal forecast was issued on June 25th, which can be found by [clicking here](#). Weekly high resolution imagery of Maumee Bay can also be found at [the Demonstration Great Lakes \(20m\) HAB Monitoring Page](#). --Stumpf & Tomlinson 10 July 2026.

The past few days of imagery can be seen at [the HAB monitoring site](#). The Lake Erie Forecast is operated by the National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science. Contact hab@noaa.gov for technical Questions. Model Last Updated: 2026-07-12 11 PM EST

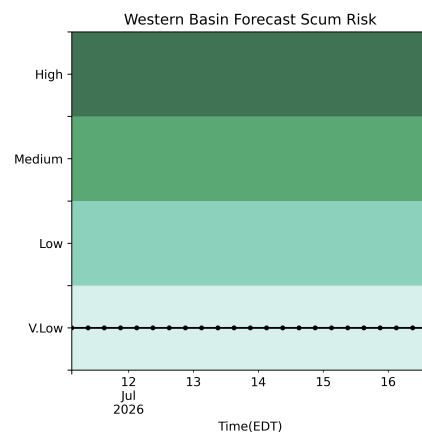


Current Lake Erie Sentinel-3 satellite imagery from the Ocean and Land Color Imager (OLCI) on Jul 08, 2026, showing bloom location and extent in the western basin. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. The estimated threshold of cyanobacteria detection is 20,000 cells/mL. Inset shows an enhanced truecolor image of the entire lake. Data derived from Copernicus Sentinel-3.



Wind speed and direction from Erielslands, OH. Blooms mix through water column at wind speeds > 15 knots.

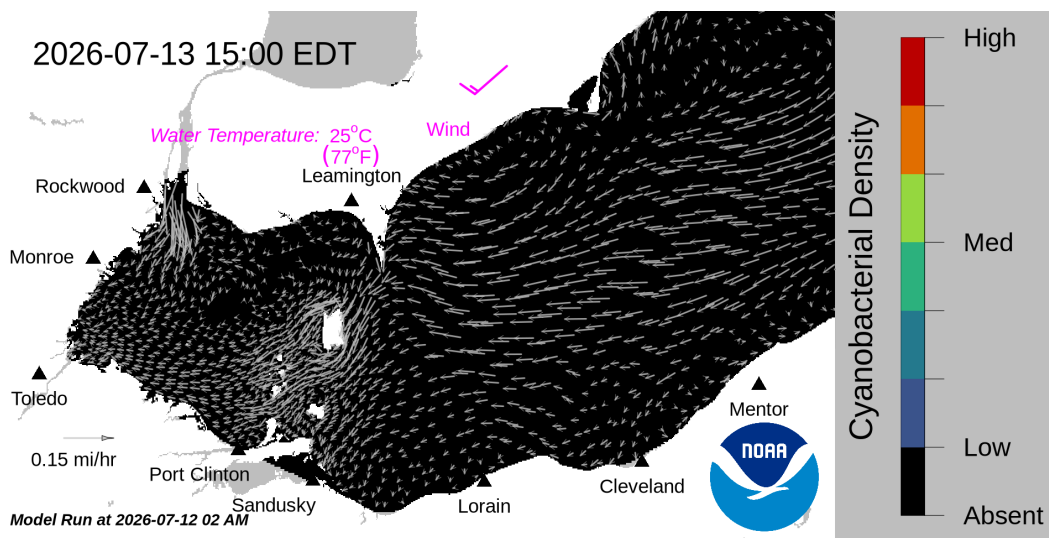
For more information visit: coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/habs/hab-forecasts/lake-erie/



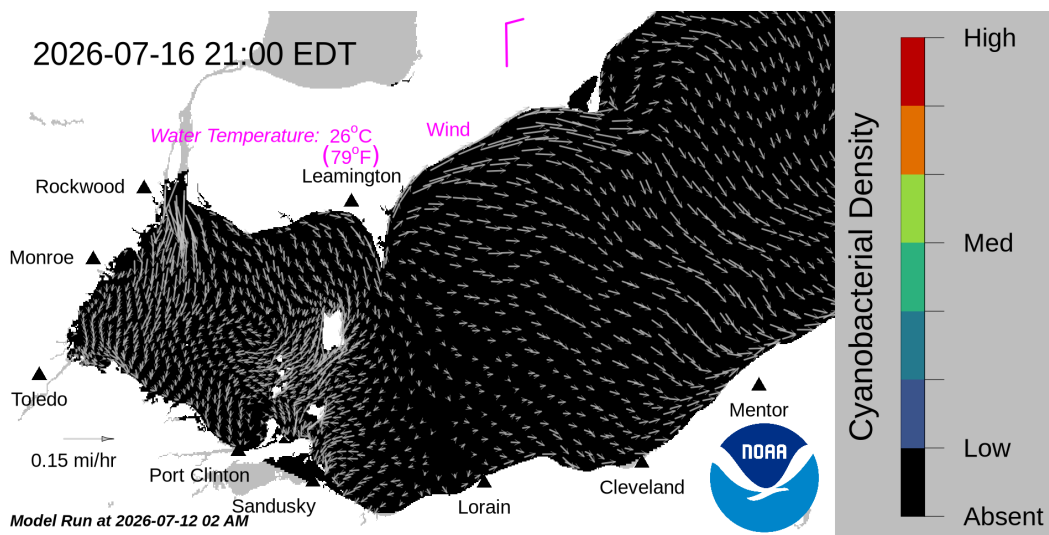
Where the bloom is present in western Lake Erie, the potential risk of scum.

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Forecast surface bloom position for Jul 13, modeled from the last satellite image with water currents estimated from the Lake Erie Operational Forecast System (LEOFS). Potential for bloom movement is forecast in 3-dimensions with a hydrodynamic model using satellite imagery and currents. The modeled output does not contain clouds. Black indicates the absence of chlorophyll and gray indicates area with no data. The arrows show forecasted currents. Water temperature and winds (in magenta) are the averages for the western basin from the model.



Forecast surface bloom position for Jul 16. Black indicates the absence of chlorophyll and gray indicates area with no data. The arrows show forecasted currents. Water temperature and winds (in magenta) are the averages for the western basin from the model.

Additional resources:

- [Archived Lake Erie Forecasts](#)
- [More information](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Contributors and Data Providers](#)
- [Lake Erie HAB Forecast Guide](#)

For more information visit: coastalscience.noaa.gov/science-areas/habs/hab-forecasts/lake-erie/

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