Experimental Lake Erie Harmful Algal Bloom Bulletin
National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science and Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
23 August 2013; Bulletin 15

Microcystin concentrations in some areas of the bloom near Maumee Bay may reach 56 ug/L. Dense cyanobacteria is present along some of the western shore. There may be small patches of scum from the Bass Islands west to Maumee Bay.

Slight eastward transport is forecasted for the next few days. Winds today >15 knots could possibly cause mixing of the bloom. Low winds (<8 knots) are expected over the weekend which could cause the bloom to intensify at the surface and produce patchy areas of scum.

-Dupuy, Stumpf, Tomlinson

Figure 1. MODIS Cyanobacterial Index from 20 August 2013. Grey indicates clouds or missing data. Black represents no cyanobacteria detected. Colored pixels indicate the presence of cyanobacteria. Cooler colors (blue and purple) indicate low concentrations and warmer colors (red, orange, and yellow) indicate high concentrations. The estimated threshold for cyanobacteria detection is 35,000 cells/mL.

Figure 2. Nowcast position of bloom for 23 August 2013 using GLCFS modeled currents to move the bloom from the 20 August 2013 image.

Figure 3. Forecast position of bloom for 26 August 2013 using GLCFS modeled currents to move the bloom from the 20 August 2013 image.

Figure 4. Averaged forecasted currents from Great Lakes Coastal Forecasting System over the next 72 hours.

Air and Water Temperature from Marblehead, OH. From: NOAA/Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS).

Wind Speed, Gusts and Direction from Marblehead, OH. From: NOAA/Center for Operational Oceanographic Products and Services (CO-OPS). Note: 1 knot = 0.51444 m/s. Blooms mix through the water column at wind speeds greater than 7.7 m/sec (~15 knots).

For more information and to subscribe to this bulletin, go to: http://www.glerl.noaa.gov/res/Centers/HABS/lake_erie_hab/lake_erie_hab.html