10/04/19

Lake Hopatcong Harmful Algal Bloom: Field Sampling Locations, Results and Aircraft Remote Sensing Information

Based on data from the monitoring on 10/3, the DEP has lifted the advisory at Mid-Lake, in the lower-central portion of the lake (see advisory status map below). At this time, approximately 87% of the waters of the lake have had the advisory lifted.

As of 10/4, the advisory remains in effect for the Prospect Point and Wood Port Bay area in the northeastern portion of the lake (see advisory status map below).

On 9/27, the DEP lifted the advisory at Crescent Cove River Styx and the open water area adjacent to Hopatcong State Park.

On 9/20, DEP lifted the advisory at the mouth of Wood Port Bay, east of Davis Cove Mid-Lake and the Bertrand Island.

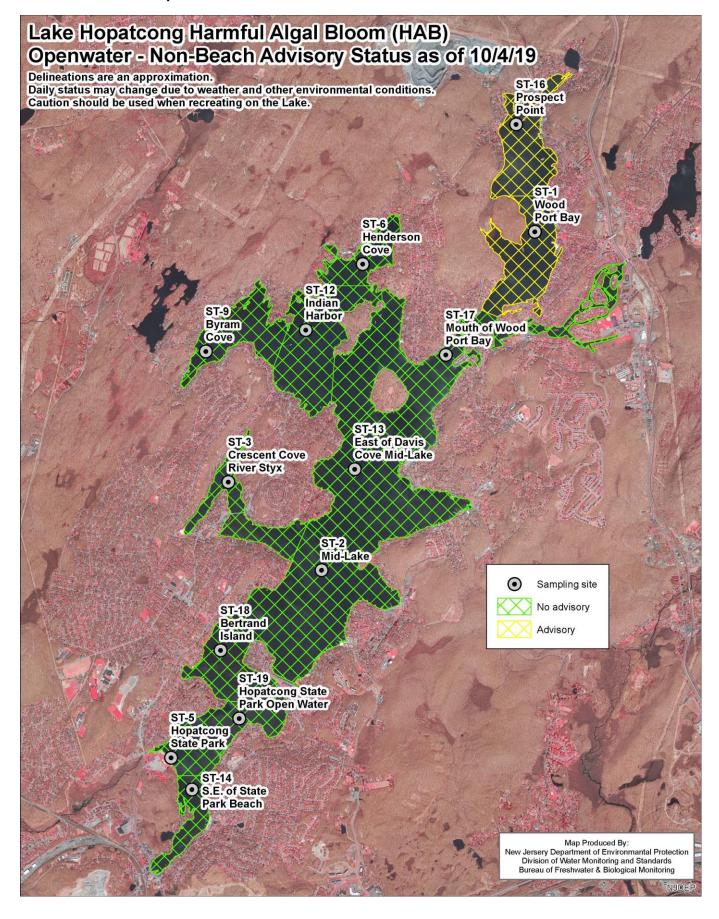
Beach sampling results are included in the tables below. As per the DEP/DOH Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Freshwater Recreational Response Strategy, two subsequent samples below the health advisory guidance thresholds are required for reopening of a regulated Public Recreational Bathing facility. Based on the data, DEP/DOH has approved the local health department to re-open the following beaches: as of 8/13 Pebble Beach, Sand Harbor, Bass Rock Beach, Sperry Springs Beach, Beck Lane Beach and CAPP Beach, as of 8/16, Byram Bay Community Club Beach and Clearwater Beach, and as of 9/27, Hopatcong State Park beach, East Shore Beach, Hopatcong Homestead Beach, Ingram Cove, and Shore Hill's Beach.

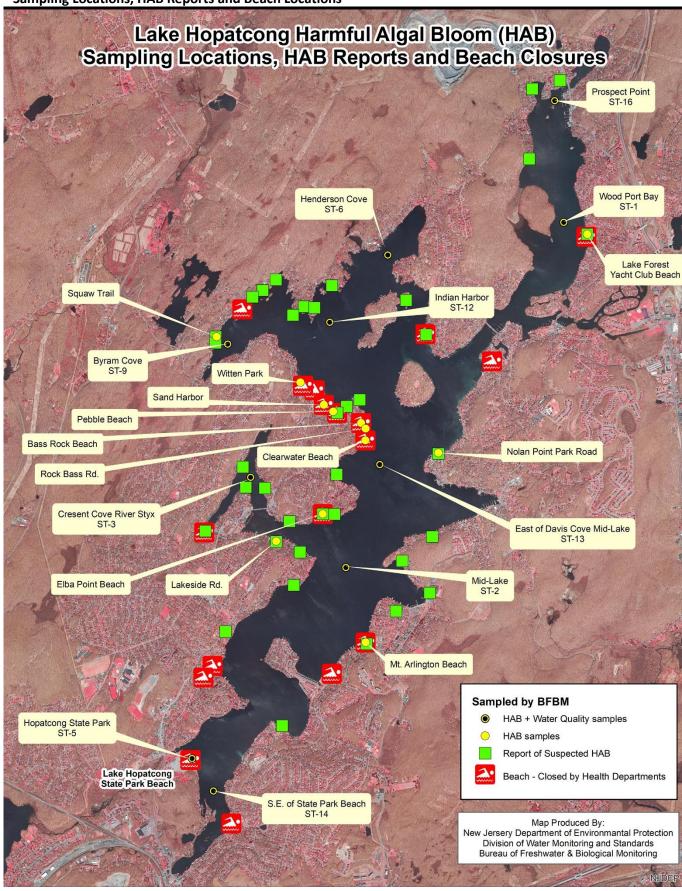
The DEP urges the public to avoid swimming or water sports that may result in contact with the water, such as water-skiing, tubing, canoeing, paddle boarding and kayaking. There is no recommended limitation on fishing or passive recreational boating that does not have the potential for splashing. However, fish caught should not be eaten. The public is further advised that pets should not be allowed in the water or to drink it.

Since the initial report of an algal bloom on 6/17/19, the DEP Bureau of Freshwater and Biological Monitoring has been sampling and analyzing the waters in Lake Hopatcong to identify the algal species and to determine whether cell count levels or cyanotoxins are present above NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels. HAB response has been conducted in accordance with NJ's Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Freshwater Recreational Response Strategy, which is a unified interagency approach for responding to HABs Sampling will be conducted on Tuesdays and Thursdays with results posted on the following days. Flights will continue once a week.

Due to the widespread nature of this bloom, based on field sampling, laboratory results and aircraft remote sensing, on 6/27, 7/3 and 7/12 DEP issued press releases advising the public to avoid swimming in or contact with Lake Hopatcong water. In addition to some beaches already being closed due to visual, field or lab results, as a precaution, DEP recommended that local health authorities close all public swimming beaches along the lake. On 7/26, DEP issued a press release lifting the advisory in the Indian Harbor area of the lake. On 8/1, DEP lifted the advisory in Henderson Cove, on 8/9 the advisory was lifted in Byram Cove, and as of 8/13 and 8/16 the advisory in Pebble Beach, Sand Harbor, Bass Rock Beach. Sperry Springs Beach, Beck Lane Beach and CAPP Beach was lifted. On 9/20, DEP issued a press release lifting the advisory at the mouth of Wood Port Bay, east of Davis Cove Mid-Lake and the Bertrand Island area - see advisory status map below. Press releases are available here.

Bloom reports and sampling locations, as well as the results from sampling events can be found in the sampling locations map and results table below. NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels include cell counts $\geq 20,000$ cells/ml and microcystin levels $\geq 3 \mu g/L$. While many HAB cell counts in Lake Hopatcong have been above NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels, measurable microcystin levels have been below the guidance. DEP will continue to monitor the lake until the HAB subsides to levels below all NJ Health Advisory Guidance triggers.





Potential Health Effects and Results

Exposure to cyanobacteria can cause a range of health effects, including rashes, allergy-like reactions, flu-like symptoms, gastroenteritis, respiratory irritation and eye irritation. Exposure to a HAB which is actively producing cyanotoxins may result in more serious health effects including liver toxicity and neurological effects. HABs may begin to produce cyanotoxins at any time.

In order to be classified as a harmful algal bloom, NJ first identifies the presence of cyanobacterial species and then performs analyses for cell counts and/or toxins. The tables below detail the sampling that has occurred since 6/18/2019, as well as the results to date. Due to the characteristics of the lake, as the bloom progresses, some areas may test higher on some days than previous days. This variability is expected due to the shift in cyanobacteria populations, wind or water currents moving the blooms around the lake.

Results from sampling conducted on 10/03/19 show continued cell counts above advisory levels for locations as highlighted in the first set of tables below. Toxin levels are shown in the second set of tables.

Lake Hopatcong Harmful Algal Bloom (HAB) Samples and Results as of 10/03/2019

Cell Counts – June and July

	Station#															
Site name	(where applicable)							Cyano	bacteria	Counts ce	lls/mL*					
									Date	Sampled						
Bathing Beach Sites		6/18/2019	6/21/2019	6/26/2019	6/27/2019	6/28/2019	7/1/2019	7/2/2019	7/5/2019	7/9/2019	7/11/2019	7/16/2019	7/19/2019	7/23/2019	7/25/2019	7/30/2019
Pebble Beach		57000					95000	16850		19300				24750		
Sand Harbor		51375					9250	27800		17750				24500		
Clearwater Beach			8750				21000	13000		33375				13000		
Bass Rock Beach		200	35812				33030	53450		24125		222		26750		
Lake Forest Yacht Club Beach				9750			115000	4400		21250				45000		
Elba Point Beach				37125			18500	29090		12875				24000		
Mt. Arlington Beach					179000		12750	14125		25875				30500		
Hopatcong State Park	ST-5					24250	7750	0	17125	32000	46750	35000	48000	47250	71000	35000
Sperry Springs Beach		Late	-22					(920)		12-21	(1000)		1000	32500		
Byram Bay Community Club Beach														38250		
Beck Lane Beach		-220												55500		
CAPP Beach														42750		
East Shore Beach													***	15625		
Hopatcong Homestead Beach		lease:									(000)			29250		1
Ingram Cove														18500		
Crescent Cove Beach			20.0											45750	198000	222
Shore Hills Beach																
Knolls Beach																
Other Lake Sites																
Nolan Point Park Road		12500					12500	11900								
Rock Bass Rd.		lease :	9750													1
Squaw Trail			11875													
Lakeside Rd.			10281									240			1200	202
Witten Park					14500											
Wood Port Bay	ST-1					34000		8000	20475	30500	9525	15000	18000	78000	19750	59500
Mid-Lake						Section and Security		the state of the s		Taring and the		A AMERICA AND A STATE OF THE ST	Cara de la companya d	AND THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF	remonent and	
(collected at surface, 0.5, 1.0, and 2	ST-2					36000		65750	22750	29875	31500 at 3.02	19000 at 0.1	21000 at 0.1	60750 at 0.5	33250 at 0.1	35000 at 1
meters. Highest results listed)						at 1 meters		at 2 meters		at 0.1 meters	meters	meters	meters	meters	meters	meters
Crescent Cove River Styx	ST-3					34500		2000	35500	79000	37000	52000	43000	46500	205500	65250
Henderson Cove	ST-6					28280		19000	13000	18500	15000	32000	26000	40000	17250	11250
Byram Cove	ST-9					10250		28000	37000	29000	47500	28000	22000	43250	50050	25500
Indian Harbor	ST-12					22000		39750	10000	8000	16000	8000	9000	19000	18500	17750
East of Davis Cove Mid-Lake	ST-13					18500		19000	7000	18500	60000	13000	18000	49000	38750	31500
S.E. of State Park Beach	ST-14					34000		21100	17500		10000	6000	14000	40500	53825	49500
Prospect Point	ST-16							5150	37000	6000	10000	10000	14000	18750	34500	41750
Mouth of Wood Port Bay	ST-17															
Bertrand Island	ST-18	200	202		202					200				222		222
Hopatcong State Park Open Water	ST-19															
moparcong state rank open water	31-13					1858	2000		1858						E IMMA	

*NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels

Cell Count ≥ 20,000 cells/ml;

Microcystins ≥ 3µg/L

Indicates > than advisory levels

<u>Cell Counts</u> – August, September and October

Site name	Station# (where applicable)	Cydnobacteria courts censymi																		
			Date Sampled																	
Bathing Beach Sites		08/01/19	08/06/19	08/08/19	08/12/19	08/15/19	08/20/19	08/22/19	08/27/19	08/29/19	09/03/19	09/05/19	09/10/19	09/12/19	09/17/19	09/19/19	09/24/19	09/26/19	10/01/19	10/03/19
Pebble Beach		Con-		15250	18625	1000			1000	(444)		***	(mm)	***				***
Sand Harbor		1644	()	12750	13500	1944	()		(44)	()	()	(4-4)	See.		9-47		(444)	()	(444)	
Clearwater Beach			(100	21000	16250	18500	(1			()	(144	2440)			N==()					***
Bass Rock Beach		1000	7,000	12000	17250		7,000	1001		1,515	1,000		(444	202	9491	202		1000	(made)	- 222
Lake Forest Yacht Club Beach			//444	1222			7822			1922	7822	***		202	444			2001	1222	
Elba Point Beach		***	//	/			//444			/(/(222			444	***		***		15250	16500
Mt. Arlington Beach		2444	9822	124		142	1200	1020	1222	0242	1202	2.21	7002	200	1220	222	5221		1,112	222
Hopatcong State Park	ST-5	63000	57250	27250	18250	18375	45000	46000	31250	31375	15625	35000	16500	24000	32750	17500	14250	500	1227	
Sperry Springs Beach			722	6500	9750	122	722	1 222	1,252	722	72.2	220		202	222	1000	1221	5559	1225	200
Byram Bay Community Club Beach		520.		21250	16750	17250	1920	122	22.0	1000	1929	222	7150	222			2025		Die	
Beck Lane Beach		544	1	13750	17000		7000		144	1000	1000		122		200	202	2027		1-1-1	-60
CAPP Beach		1999		5250	4500	-	Neda -		-	1944	164		124			444		100		
East Shore Beach		12	1	rese			-			(1999	220	12-2				Present. Below quantification	5500		-
		12	1644	(rece			1===			1999	1656	221	12-2	-	-		Present. Below	13625		-
Hopatcong Homestead Beach																	quantification			
Ingram Cove		160000		1000		2.0			22.0	200			1200		222		18500	1000	Present. Below	6750
Crescent Cove Beach			1,600.00	18080	1000000		186950			14000	286990	(208)	3,25/63%	2000	Assista		50.560		quantification	0,00
Shore Hills Beach		122		1944			(leak			(111	1955	440	20250	32500	21625	106000	19500	15750		
Knoll's Beach	1977	522		12.00		24.5	1000			(0.00		222	1202				1000	4447	(200)	- 00
Other Lake Sites					0.00											· ·				
Nolan Point Park Road			175-51.0						12.0	100				Sto		202	000		WED	
Rock Bass Rd.		222				1250			VED					111	***	111			122	200
Squaw Trail			0	g						2000	0	AT-0.								
Lakeside Rd.						1000	5000		1999	5000	S									
Witten Park				2.55		1753			1993											
Wood Port Bay	ST-1	96750	54750	40000	55750	17250	60250	42125	53000	44750	87500	95250	91375	136375	51000	39000	25000	25875	24000	22000
Mid-Lake	ST-2	47500 at	56125 at	37750 at	53000 at	67000 at	30875 at	44125 at	26375 at	34250 at	23750 at	27500 at 1	25500 at 1	22375at 0.1	33500 at	25000 at 0.1	27375 at 1	25750 at	15800 at 0.1	16250 at
(collected at surface, 0.5, 1.0, and 2 meters. Highest results listed)	2.50	0.1 meters	0.1 meters	1 meters	1 meters	1 meter	1 meters	1 meters	1 meters	0.1 meters	0.1 meters	meters	meters	meters	1 meter	meters	meters	2 meters	meters	1 meters
Crescent Cove River Styx	ST-3	84000	80750	50625	148000	62875	60625	40750	22750	29750	28250	31000	19125	32625	6000	21625	18500	6500		
Henderson Cove	ST-6	19750	15000	17375	12250	02873	00025	40730	22730	25750	20230	31000	19123	32023		21025	18300			
Byram Cove	ST-9	18000	13750	17500	14500	1999	8		1000	1000	15000		2000		3000				1000	
Indian Harbor	ST-12	14250	11750	17250	17250	1900	10000 10000		(70.0)	5000	13070 13448	2-21	1000	222	***		2000	****	1222	
East of Davis Cove Mid-Lake	ST-12	44000	38250	22500	42750	48250	26500	26750	24500	35125	25000	18750	30500	23250	17250	14000				800
S.E. of State Park Beach	ST-13	48500	41500	24250	59125	54500	27000	27500	30500	26500	9500	17750	50300	25230	17230	14000	17250			
Prospect Point	ST-14	63000	30000	28000	73000	42250	25250	35500	30750	56500	55250	49750	72500	53500	32400	40250	33500	35000	23000	24250
Mouth of Wood Port Bay	ST-10		50000	20000	75000	43000	27000	29000	28250	49125	29750	45500	35000	24750	13500	16750	33300	53000	25000	24230
Bertrand Island	ST-17		(1444	()	-140)	53125	39250	36750	29500	22000	21750	22375	19000	29250	19375	19250				
Hopatcong State Park Open Water	ST-18	1000	122			33123	35230	30730	29300	22000	21730	ZZ373	19000	23230	19373	19250	12500	12000	1000	
Hopomorie state raik obeli water	31-19					3777	10000		3700	100.0	1,000				-		12300	12000		

*NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels

Cell Count ≥ 20,000 cells/ml;

Microcystins ≥ 3µg/L

Indicates > than advisory levels

Toxins – June and July

Site name	Station# (where applicable)		Microcystins μg/l (lowest Reporting Level 0.15μg/l)*														
		Date Sampled															
Bathing Beach Sites		06/18/19	06/21/19	06/26/19	06/27/19	06/28/19	07/01/19	07/02/19	07/05/19	07/09/19	07/11/19	07/16/19	07/19/19	07/23/19	07/25/19	07/30/19	
Pebble Beach		0.83	(2/2)	224	252	199	0.15	0.16	1943	0.17	520	202	(2.5)	0.25	1940	624	
Sand Harbor		1.35	200	655		222	0.17	< Reporting Level	522	0.21	200	250	3	0.22	5.00		
Clearwater Beach		1-1-10	0.16	-			< Reporting Level	0.18	(6-4)	0.24			()	0.23	()	ji	
Bass Rock Beach			0.21	***			0.08	0.16		0.23		***		0.25		***	
Lake Forest Yacht Club Beach			***	0.38		- 555	0.24	0.35		0.29			***	0.42		345	
Elba Point Beach		-	(200)	< Reporting Level		520	0.19	< Reporting Level		0.19	(10)		0.037	0.34	(200)		
Mt. Arlington Beach		(111)	-	355	0.15	***	< Reporting Level	0.16	100	0.32			***	0.18		-	
Hopatcong State Park	ST-5			855		< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	0.15	< Reporting Level	0.24	0.24	0.24	0.39	0.42	0.36	0.61	
Sperry Springs Beach			***	100		***		***		***	(***)	***	(***)	(***)	***		
Byram Bay Community Club Beach				***			200			***					***		
Beck Lane Beach CAPP Beach		1220	540	200 800	2.0	222	504 2		1444	200	220		220	NATE:	2221	1	
East Shore Beach			200	525	222		200			222				1000			
Hopatcong Homestead Beach		Her	220	202	202	999	924	100		200	2.0	200	520	1022	242	024	
Ingram Cove									1000					10444			
Crescent Cove Beach		(200)	(52.8)				653	553	105372	- 333	Inchil	110	100000	0.62	1.29		
Shore Hills Beach	244	1200		222	2.0	200	821	100	1044	202	2.00	202	1.00	0.02	1,25	524	
Knolls Beach							3									5	
Other Lake Sites																	
Nolan Point Park Road		< Reporting Level		111		222	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level			(10)						
Rock Bass Rd.		Gas	0.23	747	240	100	824		(4.1	200	0.00	240	(4.6)	(84)	150	600	
Squaw Trail		(969)	0.16	825			949		/					(444)			
Lakeside Rd.			0.17			122		139	()	222		- 22				- 60	
Witten Park			***		< Reporting Level		***		***		***				***	***	
Wood Port Bay	ST-1	1762				0.34		0.38	0.42	0.41	0.41	0.38	0.59	0.65	0.41	0.33	
Mid-Lake (collected at surface, 0.5, 1.0, and 2 meters. Highest results listed)	ST-2	(In)			202	0.15	133	0.16	0.15	0.22 at 0.1 meters	0.19 at 0.1 meters	0.23 at 4 meters	0.36 at 0.1 meters	0.30 at 1 meters	0.32 at 1 meters	0.24 at 1 meters	
Crescent Cove River Styx	ST-3		***			0.18	***	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	0.26	0.29	0.32	0.48	0.25	0.39	0.42	
Henderson Cove	ST-6	(East	1550	<u>a</u>		< Reporting Level	524	0.15	0.18	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	0.18	0.25	0.25	0.35	0.22	
Byram Cove	ST-9	777		55	553	0.2	651	< Reporting Level	0.16	0.18	< Reporting Level	0.18	0.18	0.37	0.24	0.19	
Indian Harbor	ST-12	1000/	ŧ	555		< Reporting Level	E	0.32	0.16	0.19	0.15	0.26	0.24	0.29	0.23	0.21	
East of Davis Cove Mid-Lake	ST-13		***)			< Reporting Level		< Reporting Level	0.28	0.45	0.17	0.18	0.32	0.18	0.13	0.23	
S.E. of State Park Beach	ST-14	100		202		0.16	521	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	202	0.22	0.25	0.22	0.34	0.24	0.32	
Prospect Point	ST-16	Car		222	249	VIN	- 22	0.35	0.31	0.28	0.45	0.57	0.43	0.61	0.43	0.3	
Mouth of Wood Port Bay	ST-17	(200)		200				***	(***)					1(***)		***	
Bertrand Island	ST-18			100	- 23										***		
Hopatcong State Park Open Water	ST-19	1000	5.00	1224			524	200		202	2.0	202			5000	534	

*NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels

Cell Count ≥20,000 cells/ml;

Microcystins ≥3µg/L

Indicates > than advisory levels

<u>Toxins</u> – August, September and October

Site name	Station# (where applicable)							Micro	ocystin	ıs μg/l	(lowest	Report	ing Level	l 0.15μg	/I)*					
			Microcystins μg/l (lowest Reporting Level 0.15μg/l)* Date Sampled																	
Bathing Beach Sites		08/01/19	08/06/19	08/08/19	08/12/19	08/15/19	08/20/19	08/22/19	08/27/19	08/29/19	09/03/19	09/05/19	09/10/19	09/12/19	09/17/19	09/19/19	09/24/19	09/26/19	10/01/19	10/03/19
Pebble Beach				0.29	0.23															
Sand Harbor			544	0.26	0.15			242	522		9997	944	242		300				1000	
Clearwater Beach		1000	100	0.23	0.29	0.12	1922	222		700				1443	1444	7023	144	222	(444)	- 22
Bass Rock Beach				0.30	0.18		1999	575	***	1000		1444	555	1444)		0.6386	1964			
Lake Forest Yacht Club Beach			***						***	***		***		1444)		***	(4)4)			
Elba Point Beach	t i	14441	355			()	7444	ald :		2000	(***)	244	-44		(444)	2024	450		< Reporting Level	0.2
Mt. Arlington Beach		555		***	222	1000	1263		2.2		1000	- 5.5		5.1	1444					5.00
Hopatcong State Park	ST-5	0.375	0.30	0.36	0.60	0.22	0.47	0.26	0.6	0.6	0.4	0.35	0.36	0.41	0.37	0.21	0.39	***		***
Sperry Springs Beach		1966-1		0.16	0.17		1994		144	1999		lead .	544	1964)		(886)	1964		1,4441	***
Byram Bay Community Club Beach		2007		0.26	0.19	0.17			555	1.000		000		2007		1000	27527		2000	570
Beck Lane Beach				0.17	0.16		- 222	***		***	***		***							***
CAPP Beach			222	0.27	0.19	1000	1220	555	326	-000	10001	9200	122	(202)	1000	4200		222		2/4
East Shore Beach							1444		944		***	9447			(888)	(U.S.)	0.16 < Reporting	0,29		
Hopatcong Homestead Beach		2757	355	(200)	553	\$500a	5550	200	(2532)	(1997)	27773	9770	555	5757	(875)	10-00 p.	Level	0.2	8054	(275))
Ingram Cove			144		244	3447	1,464	222			200	9497	111				0.35	0, 23		
Crescent Cove Beach		1.947		244			1/222			704						704	120		0.2	0.19
Shore Hills Beach	***			***		***	***	***			(***)		0.47		0.36	2.3	0.16	0.41		***
Knolls Beach	210	(444)		***				275	***	***	***				***	(444)	(444)		150	***
Other Lake Sites		- 200-0		A-100	29/2		11889	29-22	10000	20062		20000		Company of the compan			1990	No.	-30000	
Nolan Point Park Road		***						222						***			***		***	
Rock Bass Rd. Squaw Trail		(44)					1444			7000						794			1444	
Lakeside Rd.																1446				
Witten Park								***		1000							1444			
Wood Port Bay	ST-1	0.366	0.30	0.30	0.37	0.34	0.36	0.38	0.38	0.48	0.23	0.26	0.27	0.23	0.17	0.16	0.22	0.22	0.17	0.19
Mid-Lake	31.T	0.300	0.30	0.50	0.36 at	0.94 at	0.32 at	0,50	0.56	0.40	0.23	0.20	0.27	0.25	0.17	0.10	0.22	0.22	0.17	0.15
(collected at surface, 0.5, 1.0, and 2	ST-2	0.168 at 1 meter	. 0.22 at 1 meters	0.23 at 1 meters	0.1	0.1	0.1	< Reporting Level	0.19 at 1 meters	0.26 at 1 meters	< Reporting Level	0.17 at 13 meters	0.18 at 1 meters	0.19 at 13 meters	0.15 at 1 meters	< Reporting Level	0.22 at 0.1 meters	0.28 at 1 meters	0.18 at 1 meters	0.25 at 13 meters
meters. Highest results listed)	CT O	0.20	0.20	115555	meters	meters	meters	4.04	0.60	0.50	0.55	0.54	0.40	0.4	< Reporting	040	Carr	0.22	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	17 pm to (casa) post
Crescent Cove River Styx	ST-3	0.28	0.30	0.49	0.54	0.43	0.41	1.24	0.63	0.60	0.55	0.51	0.18	0.4	Level	0.18	0.2	0.32	27.7	***
Henderson Cove	ST-6	0.185	0.22	0.25	0.25		7464			7444				444		(444)				
Byram Cove	ST-9	0.244	0.44	0.22	0.15		1999	***	***	***	***	***	***		***	(***)		***		***
Indian Harbor	ST-12	0.253	0.16	0.29	0.17															
	ST-13	0.162	0.16	0.23	0.42	0.31	0.22	0.22	0.22	0.16	< Reporting	< Reporting	< Reporting	0.34	< Reporting	0.15			22.57	(250)
East of Davis Cove Mid-Lake	02270										Level	Level	Level		Level					
S.E. of State Park Beach	ST-14	0.476	0.53	0.41	0.44	0.44	0.23	0.54	0.53	0.57	0.41	0.35		(90)	Paparting	Paparting	0.5	502	(***)	
Prospect Point	ST-16	0.192	0.37	0.40	0.39	0.31	0.23	0.31	0.26	0.26	0.23	0.20	0,23	0.34	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	0.18	0.27	0.15	0.23
Mouth of Wood Port Bay	ST-17	222			222	0.20	0.21	< Reporting Level	0.24	0.24	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	< Reporting Level	0,17	< Reporting Level	0.16		222		222
Bertrand I sland	ST-18	07077			575	0.21	0.26	< Reporting Level	0.19	0.24	< Reporting Level	0.21	0.18	< Reporting Level	0.16	0.19	3 753 7	575	STORY!	270)
Hopatcong State Park Open Water	ST-19	****							(555)								0.29	0.38		

*NJ Health Advisory Guidance Levels

Cell Count ≥ 20,000 cells/ml;

Microcystins ≥ 3µg/L

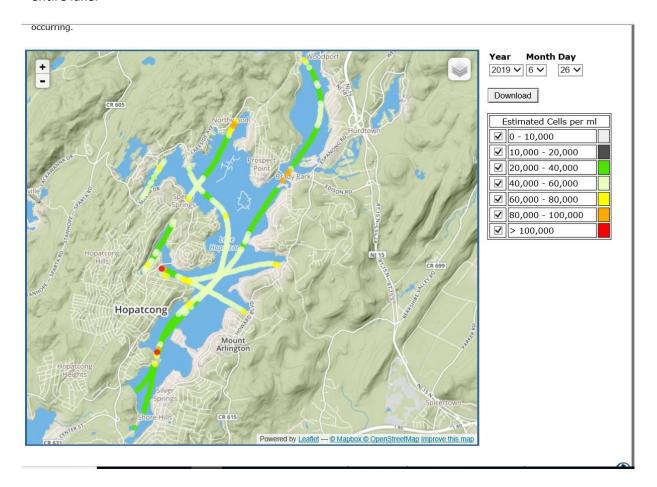
Indicates > than advisory levels

Aircraft Remote Sensing Information and Results

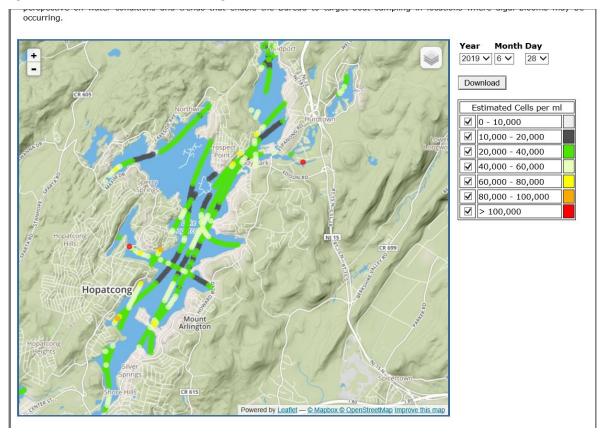
In addition to the response to Harmful Algal Bloom visual reports, field sampling and laboratory analyses described above, the DEP has developed aircraft remote sensing capabilities for general cyanobacteria detection and tracking. A sensor is used to pick up wavelengths of light specific to the cyanobacteria pigment phycocyanin in a waterbody. This advanced monitoring method provides immediate feedback on the presence and relative cyanobacteria cell counts and can serve as a screening method to target waters for sample collection. While laboratory analyses serve as the definitive determination of whether results exceed NJ Health Advisory Guidance levels, remote sensing data provides useful information on the general extent and trends of a bloom.

Remote sensing flights were conducted over Lake Hopatcong on 6/26, 6/28, 6/30, 7/3, 7/10, 7/17, 7/24, 7/30, 8/9, 8/20, 8/27, 9/3, 9/11, 9/17 and 9/24. The scale below estimates the pigment concentrations and cell counts; the bright yellow to red is estimated to be over 20,000 cells/ml or higher, light green denotes an area of concern where cell counts may be near 20,000 cells/ml and dark gray denotes low levels or non-detect. Images are available below for the flights. Samples results are needed to confirm sensor estimates.

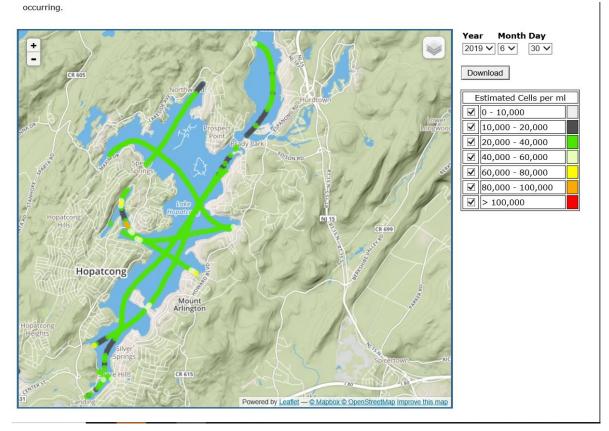
On 6/26/2019, the flight data shows elevated levels of the phycocyanin pigment covering almost the entire lake.



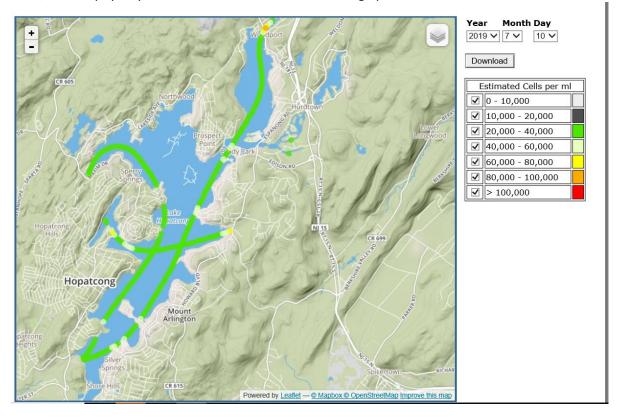
On 6/28/2019, the bloom still covers a large section of the lake, with the coves to the north showing signs that the bloom was diminishing.



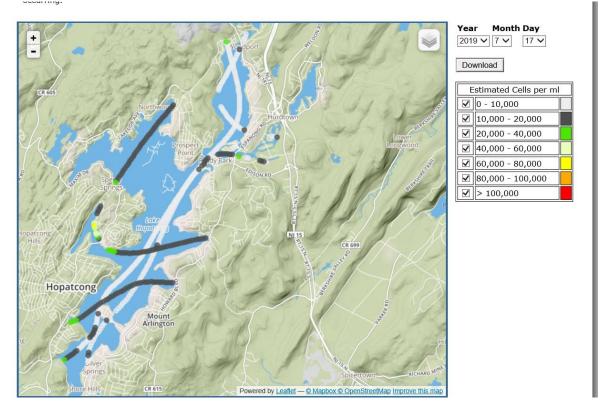
On 6/30/2019, the intensity of the bloom appears to be diminishing, but there are still areas of concern in many coves and by the State Park Beach.



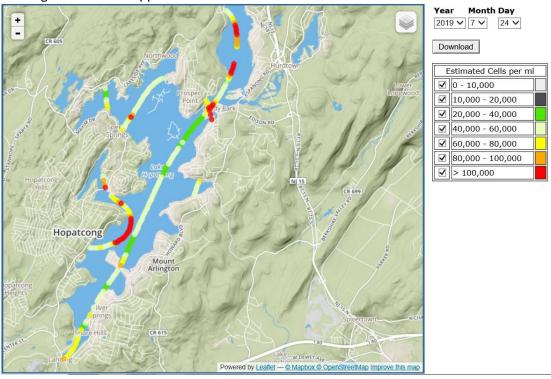
On 7/10/19, phycocyanin levels have increased over a large portion of the lake.



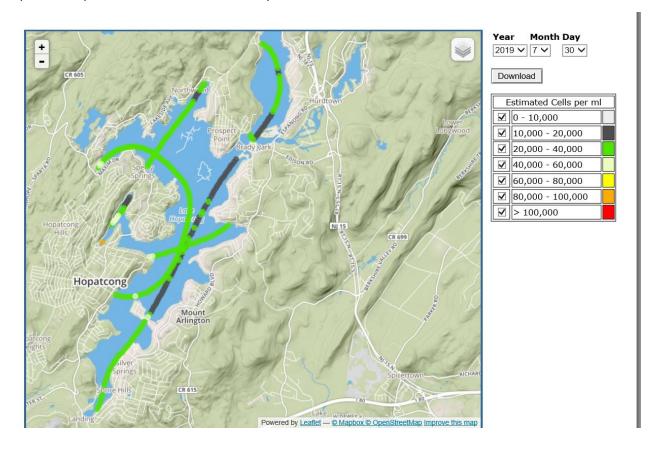
On 7/17/19, the flight shows the phycocyanin levels seem to have significantly decreased in spatial coverage. The highest levels are in River Styx.



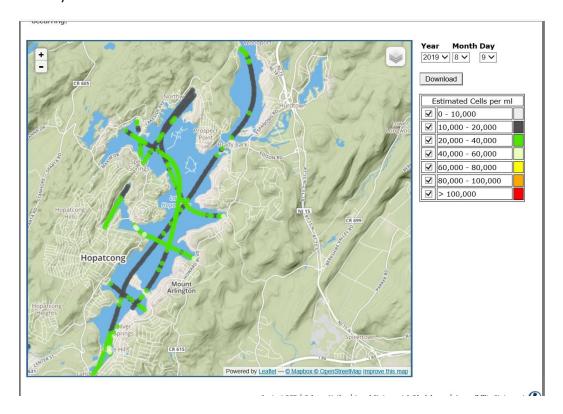
The 7/24 flight shows that the phycocyanin levels seem to have significantly increased in intensity and spatial coverage. The bloom appears to be lake wide.



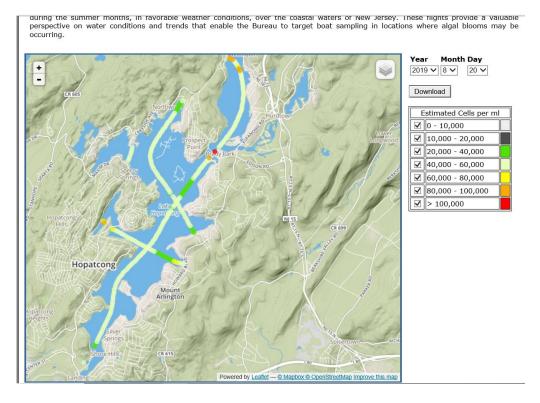
On 7/30 the phycocyanin levels seem to have decreased in intensity and spatial coverage. The bloom is still present in pockets with one near the buoy at ST-14.



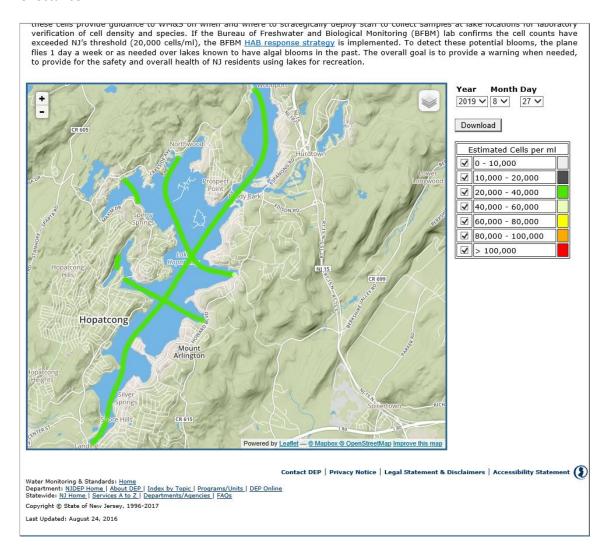
On 8/9, the Lake Hopatcong the phycocyanin levels seem to have remained at the same intensity but the spatial coverage seems to be diminishing. The bloom is still present in pockets with higher levels in the south near the buoy at station ST-14.



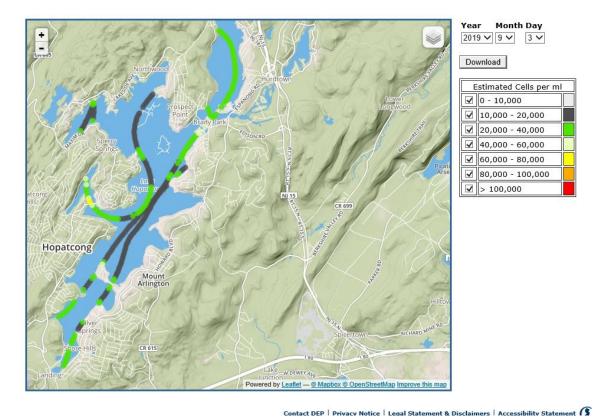
On 8/20, the phycocyanin levels were elevated lake wide, above 20,000 cells/ml. The flight confirmed the decrease in the bloom at the 2 buoy stations mid lake and in the south, but the bloom was still present lake wide with higher levels in the River Styx Crescent Cove area and in the extreme northern section. This flight shows an increase in intensity from the last flight on 8/9/2019.



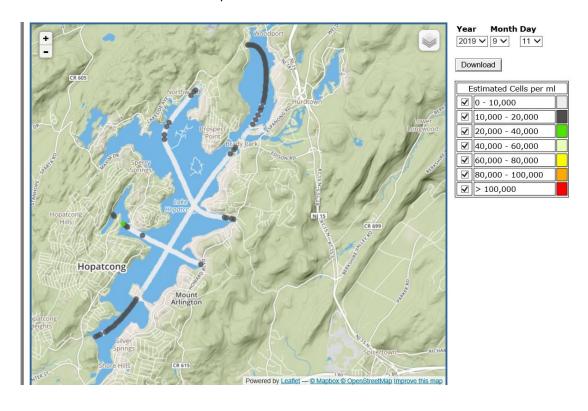
On 8/27, the phycocyanin levels were elevated lake wide, above 20,000 cells/ml. The flight data showed a general decrease in the intensity since last week, but the bloom was still present lake wide. Cloud cover may have been limiting the cyanobacteria to deeper depths and not at the surface where the aircraft sensor detects the reflectance.



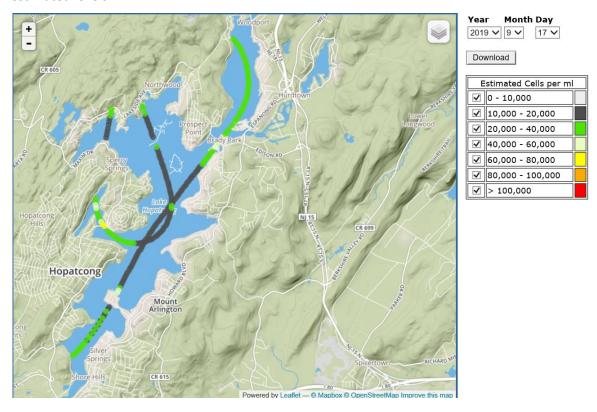
On 9/3, the phycocyanin levels were elevated in the northern and southern sections and were the highest in River Styx - all of those areas were above 20,000 cells/ml. The flight data shows a general decrease in the intensity and spatial distribution since last week, but the bloom is still present in areas. However, large areas were estimated to be below 20,000 cells/ml.



On 9/11, the phycocyanin levels have significantly declined. The flight data shows a general decrease in the intensity and spatial distribution since last week, with large areas estimated to be below 20,000 cells/ml. Confirmation will come from sample collection.



The phycocyanin levels have significantly declined over the last month. The 9/17 flight data shows a bloom is still present in areas and large areas are estimated to be below 20,000 cells/ml. The River Styx area has higher estimated levels.



The flight data from 9/24 shows that a bloom is still present in some areas while large areas are now estimated to be below 20,000 cells/ml.

