



Ohio's HAB Experience

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Ohio EPA

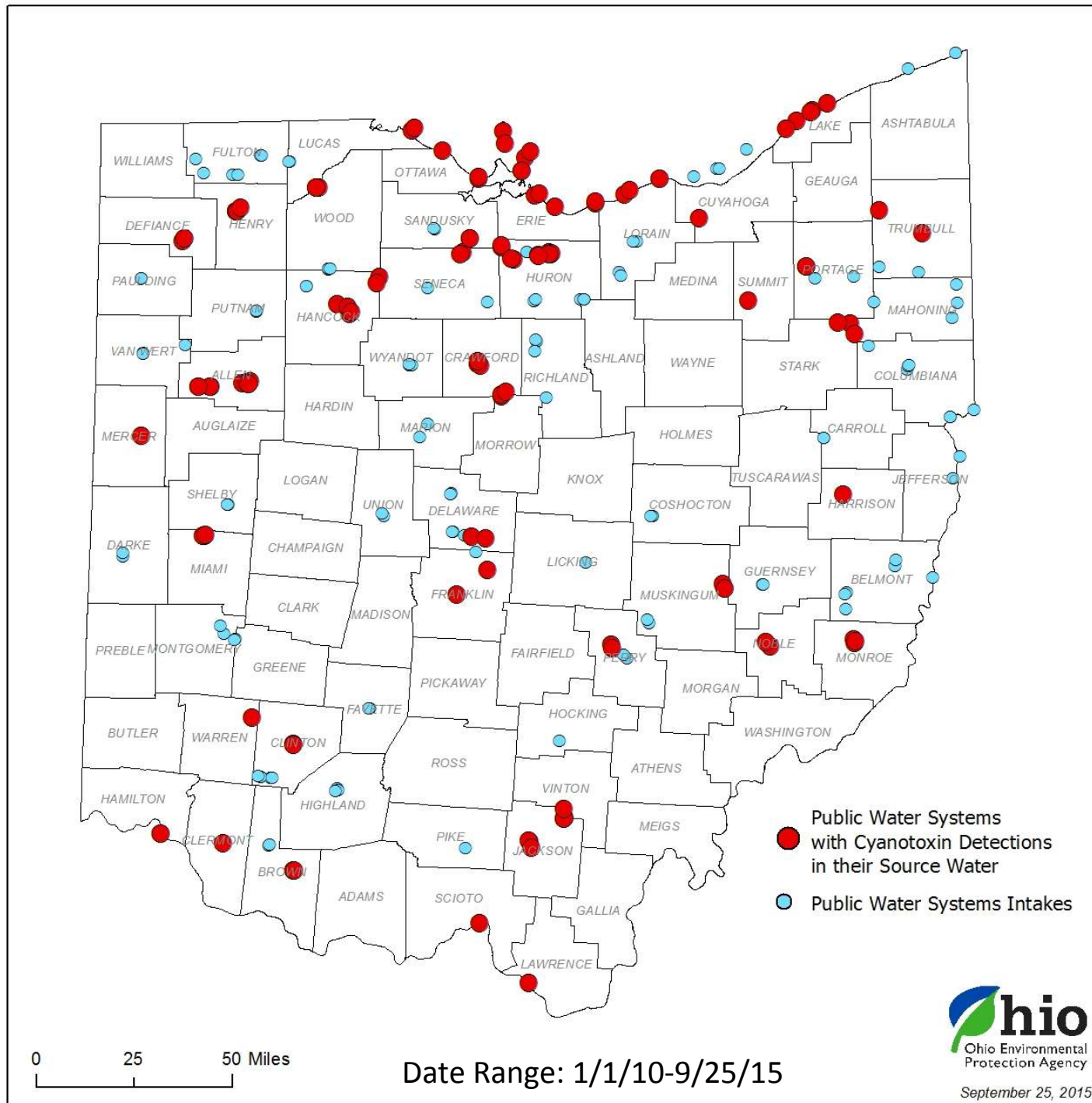
Division of Drinking And Ground Waters

4-27-16



Public Water Systems with Cyanotoxin Detections in their Source Water (54 Total)

Sampled 72
SW PWSs
(59%)



Summary of Ohio HAB Response

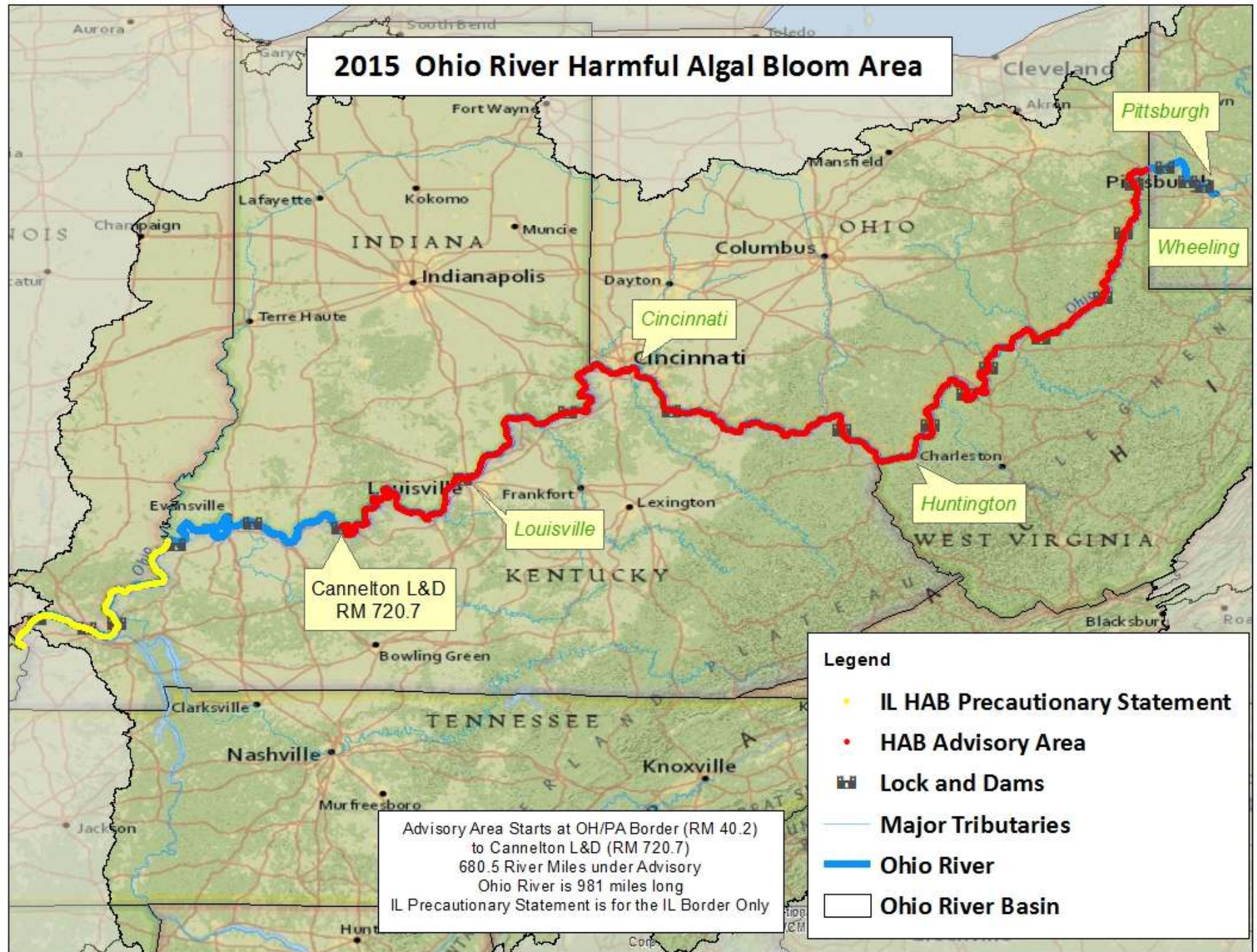
- **2010 - Ohio EPA began Sampling for cyanotoxins at PWSs**
- **2011 - State of Ohio HAB Response Strategy**
 - Recreational and Drinking Water
 - Standardized definitions, sample collection procedures, cyanotoxin thresholds, and public notice language
- **2012 Created Separate PWS HAB Response Strategy (Updated Annually)** <http://epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/HAB.aspx>
- **2013 and 2014 Finished water detections and advisories issued**
- **2015 - Ohio Senate Bill 1 Passed**
- **2016 - Proposed HAB rules:**
 - Anticipated effective date: **June 1, 2016**
 - Both PWS and Rec Strategies updated



Lake Erie 10/09/11



2015 Ohio River Harmful Algal Bloom Area



Portsmouth Intake



HAB Rules - Overview

Proposed Rules: epa.ohio.gov/ddagw/rules.aspx

- PWS requirements - new rules in OAC Chapter 3745-90
 - Microcystins action levels in drinking water
 - Monitoring requirements
 - Treatment technique requirements
 - Public notification and Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) requirements
 - Recordkeeping requirements
- Laboratory Certification requirements –
New OAC rule 3745-90-04 and amended rules in Chapter 3745-89
 - Laboratory certification
 - Analytical techniques
 - Reporting deadlines

<http://epa.ohio.gov/Portals/28/documents/labcert/TotalMicrocystins.pdf>



Next Steps

Funding Assistance

- WSRLA HAB Infrastructure Loans (0% Interest/20 yrs) - \$50M was allocated this year (3rd year) and approximately \$20M unallocated.
- Monitoring Equipment Grants – Ohio EPA anticipates additional funds will become available after July 1, 2016; recommend that entities apply now to get on the waiting list (up to \$30K per PWS, lifetime max).

Ongoing Research

- Ohio Board of Higher Education HAB Grants
- Collaboration with USEPA and AWWA on Methods
- Collaboration with NOAA and USGS on HAB Surveillance

Post-Season full evaluation of 2016

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Big Picture

- HABs offer challenges and opportunities
 - New and engaged partners at the table
 - Greater awareness of water quality
- CWA/SDWA coordination is key
 - CWA impairments based on algae
 - Use drinking water concerns to drive watershed/source water improvements