

ECOHAB: *Karenia*

NOAA ECOHAB PROGRAM

The Ecology and Oceanography of Harmful Algal Blooms (ECOHAB) program is a multi-agency partnership between the [National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's \(NOAA\) Center for Sponsored Coastal Ocean Research \(CSCOR\)](#) and the [National Science Foundation \(NSF\)](#), [U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\)](#), [National Aeronautics and Space Administration \(NASA\)](#), and [Office of Naval Research \(ONR\)](#).

The purpose of the national ECOHAB program is to study the effects of harmful algal blooms (HABs) on ecosystems and human health through a combination of long-term regional studies and short-term targeted studies. Research results from the ECOHAB program will be used in the management of [coastal](#) resources to reduce HAB development, impacts, and future threats. ECOHAB's objectives are to:

1. Produce new, state-of-the-art detection methods for HABs and their toxins;
2. Understand the causes and dynamics of HABs;
3. Develop forecasts of HAB growth, transport, and toxicity; and
4. Predict and reduce impacts on higher [trophic levels](#) and humans.



Harmful algal blooms can be easily visible



A large bloom can cause massive fish kills

Projects selected for support through the national ECOHAB program must successfully compete in an external, peer-reviewed process, which ensures a high level of scientific merit. Project participants include investigators from academic, state, federal, and nonprofit institutions.

Unless otherwise noted, all images are credited to the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission and ECOHAB: *Karenia* project affiliates.

