



Lochloosa Lake



The Lake can be viewed and enjoyed at several locations as most of the area is managed by the St. Johns River Water Management District (SJRWMD). Access the lake off CR 2082 along the north shore, Alachua County Lochloosa park on U.S. 301 from the west side, or on the east side from historic Cross Creek on CR 325. Enjoy the opportunities for hiking, camping, bicycling, horseback riding, boating, wildlife viewing and fishing!

Fun Facts

- The lake is approximately 6,100 acres and its deepest point is about 10 feet.
- Lochloosa Creek is the largest tributary to Lochloosa Lake and has its headwaters near Santa Fe Lake.
- The surrounding land is 84% forests, wetlands and other water bodies. The remaining land is agricultural and urban.
- Lochloosa Lake flows into Orange Lake via Cross Creek.
- Lochloosa Lake was designated an Outstanding Florida water or OFW in 1987, which gives it special protections.

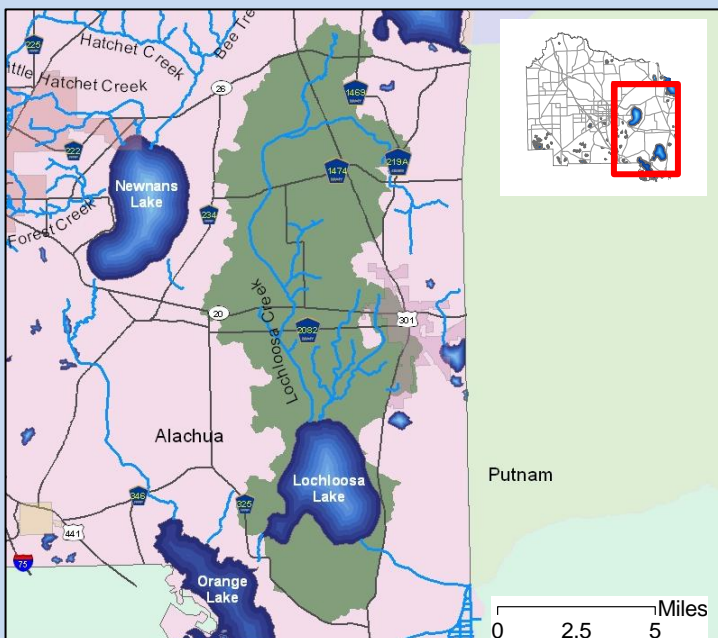


Figure 2. Map of Lochloosa Lake watershed (green), Gainesville urban center (dark pink), Putnam County (light green), and Alachua County (pink).

Ways you can help!

- Dispose of oils and chemicals properly at the Hazardous Waste Collection Center.
- Properly maintain your septic system.
- Scoop, bag, and trash pet waste.
- Use fertilizers and pesticides sparingly, or not at all.
- Keep grass clippings out of storm drains, swales, and ditches put it back on the lawn or bag it.
- Report illicit discharges or dumping to 246-6800.

Water Quality

Current Human Impacts

- Nonpoint pollution sources in Lochloosa Lake watershed are primarily associated with the land use types of each area especially silviculture and agriculture.
- There are no domestic wastewater facilities in the watershed; however, septic tanks are used throughout.
- There is a limited fish consumption advisory for mercury.

Nutrients: The proposed FDEP water quality nutrient standards will be effective in 2012. When these standards are adopted, Lochloosa Lake will be considered a dark colored lake according to long-term data from SJRWMD. Phosphorus and nitrogen concentrations will exceed the standards, indicating nutrient impairment. Sources of nutrients in the watershed are from non-point sources, including fertilizers used in agriculture.

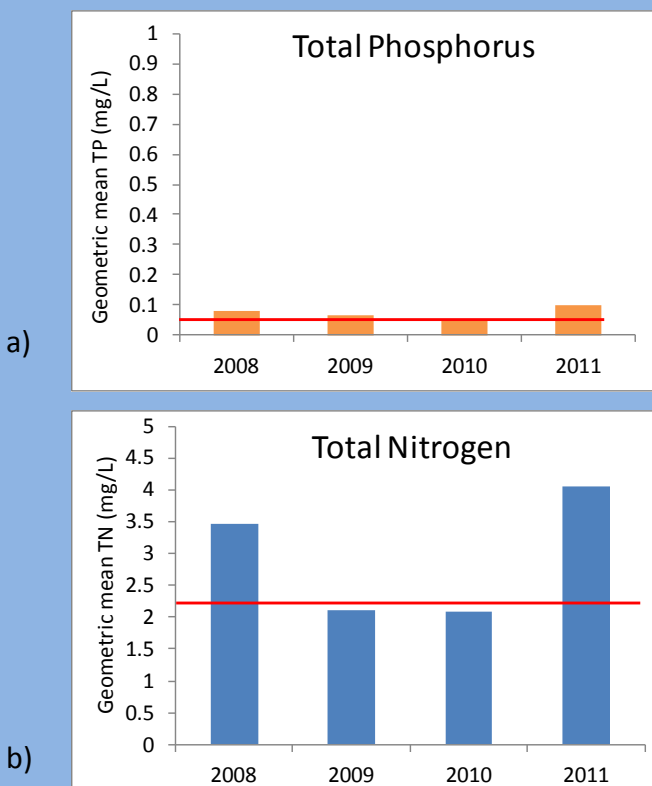


Figure 3. Graph of annual geometric mean of a) total phosphorus (TP) data and b) total nitrogen data (TN) collected by SJRWMD. Nutrient standards for dark lakes w are represented by the red line a) TP of 0.05 mg/L and b) TN of 2.23 mg/L.

Chlorophyll a: Algal abundance is commonly measured by the amount of chlorophyll a in water. Given excessive nutrient concentrations in the lake it is not surprising to find chlorophyll a concentrations also exceed the standard, indicating impairment.

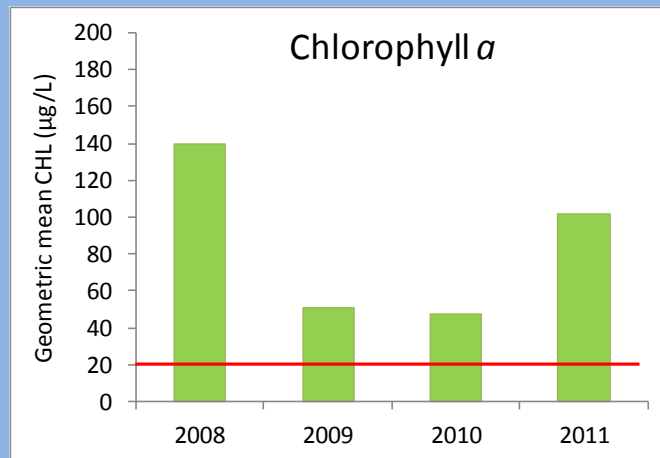


Figure 5. Graph of annual geometric mean of Chlorophyll a collected by SJRWMD. The Chlorophyll standard for lakes with color >40 Platinum Cobalt Units are represented by the red line (20 µg/L).

Lake Level: Water surface elevation of Lake Lochloosa is monitored by SJRWMD. The graph below is the daily recorded stage (water level) from March 1960 to Feb 2012.

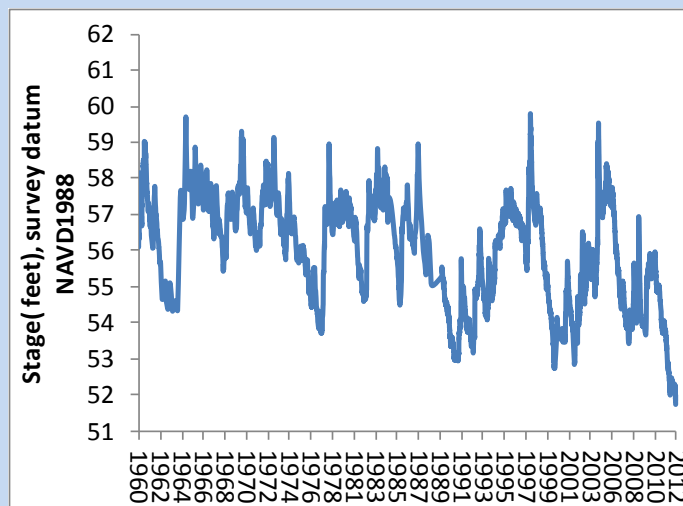


Figure 4. Graph of stage in Lake Lochloosa (1960-2012) data provided by SJRWMD.

To learn more:

- Read Orange Creek Basin Management Action Plan (BMAP) <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/water/watersheds/bmap.htm>
- For fish consumption advisories visit <http://www.doh.state.fl.us/floridafishadvice/>
- Visit the St. Johns River Water Management District website at http://www.sjrwmd.com/organge_creek/