

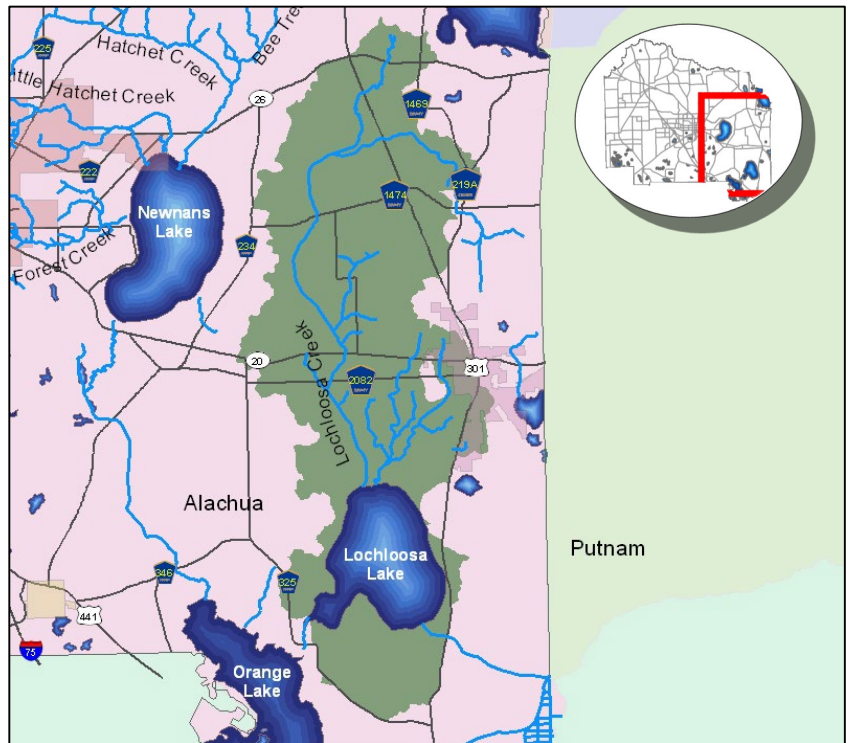


Lochloosa Lake

Fact Sheet

The Watershed

- The lake is approximately 5,809 acres and its deepest point is about 10 feet.
- Lochloosa Creek is the largest tributary to the lake, and the creek's headwaters are near Lake Santa Fe.
- Land use around the lake is about 84% forested, wetland, and other water bodies.
- Lochloosa Lake flows into Orange Lake via Cross Creek.



Map of Lochloosa Lake watershed (green).

Potential Pollution

- Failing septic systems and wildlife can introduce fecal material which is a source of nitrogen, phosphorus, and bacteria such as *E. coli*.
- Non-point source pollution can occur through the introduction of fertilizers and pesticides related to silviculture and agriculture.



Lochloosa Lake from above.

Biology

Much of Lochloosa Lake's shoreline is bordered by cypress trees, while knotgrass and spatterdock (bonnets) are the predominant aquatic plants in the lake. Fishing for black crappie, warmouth, red ear sunfish, and bluegill is popular on the lake. Under high water conditions, the lake outflows through Lochloosa Slough, which converges with Orange Creek.

Water Quality

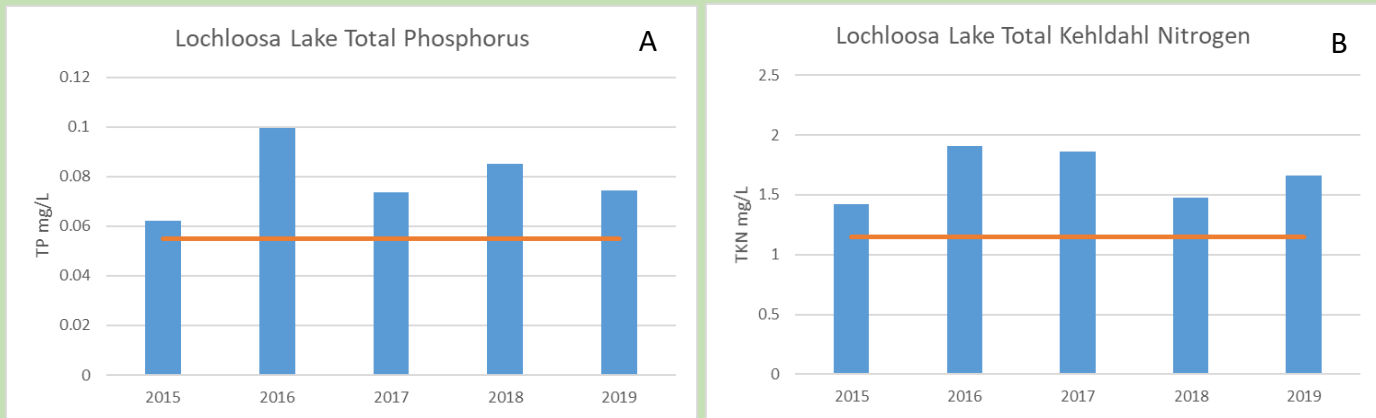


Figure 1. Annual Geometric Mean of A) total phosphorus (TP) and B) total Kjeldahl nitrogen (TKN). Data acquired from St. John's River Water Management District (SJRWMD) for Lochloosa Lake site "LOL".

Nutrients: In May 2017, a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) was implemented for Lochloosa Lake to address nutrient pollution. TMDLs for the lake were determined for both phosphorus (41% TP reduction) and nitrogen (59% TN reduction). Total nitrogen is the sum of organic and inorganic forms of nitrogen, including TKN and nitrate + nitrite. TKN alone is above the TMDL for Lochloosa Lake.

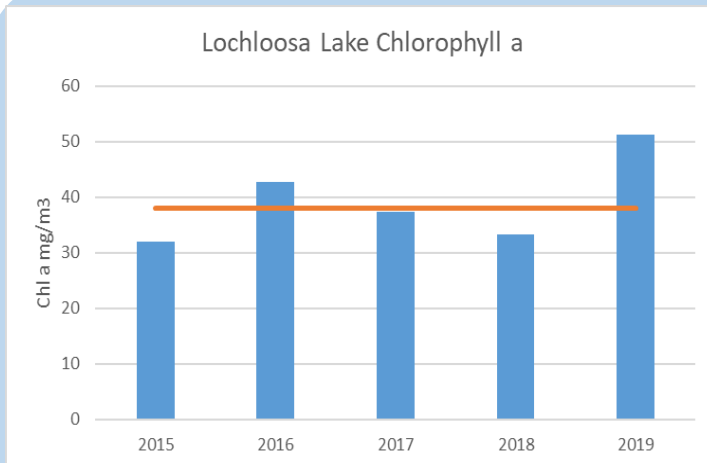


Figure 2. Annual Geometric Mean Chlorophyll- α .

Chlorophyll- α :

Algal abundance is commonly measured in the amount of chlorophyll- α in water. The high nutrient concentrations have led to the elevated chlorophyll- α concentrations.

Current Human Impacts

- Lochloosa Lake was designated an Outstanding Florida Water, or OFW, in 1987, giving it special protection.
- Positive impacts on water quality result from preservation within the watershed by the 27,300 acre Lochloosa Wildlife Conservation Area.



Lochloosa Lake from the Alachua County boat ramp overlook.