

Monitoring methods for cyanobacteria and cyanotoxins discussed in this guidance are shown below. Check/uncheck the box for monitoring requirements to see which method may suit your needs. Each method has a link that will take you directly to that section of our guidance document for a discussion of how the method works and resources to learn more about it. Definitions of the criteria used here are located in [Section 4.1](#) or visible when touched by your cursor. For additional information on management and control strategies, visit [Section 6](#). See [Section 3.3.4](#) of HCB-2 for additional considerations with analysis of benthic cyanobacteria samples.

Select your monitoring requirements:					
Target Analyte		Lab Required		Turnaround Time	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Planktonic Cyanobacteria	<input type="checkbox"/>	Yes	<input type="checkbox"/>	Less than 24 hours
<input type="checkbox"/>	Benthic Cyanobacteria	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	1 to 3 days
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cyanotoxin				

Method	Cyanobacteria			Cyanotoxin			Result Type	Sample Type	Relative Cost	Level of Training
	P/A	ID	DEN/AB	P/A	CGN	TOT				
<a href="#">Visual Assessments - planktonic</a>	4	1	1	1	1	1	Qualitative	Variable	\$	Novice
<a href="#">Visual Assessments - benthic</a>	4	1	2	1	1	1	Qualitative	Variable	\$\$-\$	Novice to Expert
<a href="#">Jar and Stick Tests - planktonic</a>	4	1	1	1	1	1	Qualitative	Point sampling	\$	Novice
<a href="#">Pigments - planktonic</a>	4	1	4	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">Pigments - benthic</a>	4	1	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">Remote Sensing - planktonic</a>	4	1	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Indirect	\$	Intermediate / Expert
<a href="#">Remote Sensing - benthic</a>	2	1	1	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Indirect	\$	Intermediate / Expert
<a href="#">Microscopy - planktonic</a>	4	4	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate / Expert
<a href="#">Microscopy - benthic</a>	4	2	4	1	1	1	Quant./Qual.	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate / Expert
<a href="#">Genetic Methods for Identification - planktonic</a>	4	4	3	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">Genetic Methods for Identification - benthic</a>	4	4	3	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">Semi-automated Classification and Machine Learning - planktonic</a>	4	4	4	1	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">Strip Tests / Dip Sticks</a>	1	1	1	4	1	4	Semi-Quant.	Point sampling	\$\$	Novice
<a href="#">Protein Phosphatase Inhibition Assay (PPIA)</a>	1	1	1	4	1	1	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$	Intermediate
<a href="#">ELISA</a>	1	1	1	4	1	4	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$	Intermediate

<a href="#">Mass Spectrometry</a>	1	1	1	4	4	1	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$\$	Expert
<a href="#">Chromatography</a>	1	1	1	4	4	1	Quantitative	Variable	\$\$\$	Expert
<a href="#">Genetic Analysis for Cyanotoxins</a>	4	1	1	4	1	1	Quantitative	Point sampling	\$\$	Intermediate

Symbols		Abbreviations	
	Suitable	P/A	Presence/absence
	Potential	ID	Identification
	Not suitable	DEN/AB	Density/abundance
		CGN	Congener-specific concentrations
		TOT	Total cyanotoxin concentrations