**Q&A for the LCBP RFP *Measurement of selected cyanotoxins and mercury in fish consumed from Lake Champlain:***

(updated 2/22/16)

Q: What is the target number of fish species to be sampled for cyanotoxins as part of Task 1

1. We recognize that we are asking a lot for a project with a very tight budget. We do not know what a feasible number of samples might be for the cyanotoxin component of the project; that is why details for this aspect of the RFP are intentionally vague. We expect that this aspect of the project will generate enough information to help design & fund a more rigorous pilot study to being to generate enough data to inform a consumption advisory, if necessary.

Q: Water sample collection for cyanotoxins:

1. The intent here is to gather pre-bloom ambient conditions with respect to cyanotoxins and exposure of sportfishes to the toxins. Please select a sampling strategy that will provide information that will appropriately describe these pre-bloom conditions.

Q: Can LCBP assist with the permit process?

1. We cannot provide additional funds for permits, but in the case of collecting samples from Quebec waters (if necessary), we can provide contact information to facilitate the permit process.

Q: What are you looking for in the mercury component of the project?

1. The mercury component of this project is very detailed to accommodate the statistical analyses necessary to recalculate the fish consumption advisory data for those species. More detailed information about past mercury studies can be found in a 2012 report based on a 2011 project funded by LCBP: <http://www.lcbp.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/03/66_SynopticAssessmentHg_ReEvalPCBs_LakeChamplainFishes.pdf>

Q: The RFP background section references cyanotoxin analysis on skin tissue, but skin is not identified in the Scope of Work outlined in Section II.

1. Respondents should focus on the project tasks and deliverables described in Section II of the RFP.