

Lake Champlain Basin Program
Technical Advisory Committee Meeting
Wednesday June 1st, 2016
10:00 AM – 3:00 PM
LCBP Conference Room, Gordon Center House, Grand Isle, VT

TAC Meeting Agenda

I. 10:00 Executive Session- Grant Application Reviews

II. 10:45 AM Updates and Announcements

Bill Ardren – White River hatchery opening to supply Lake Trout and Atlantic Salmon to Lake Champlain.

Breck – June 23 – NOAA congressional round table is an opportunity for NOAA to show off to State congressional Staff all of the things they do for VT.

Fred – NY Governor announced new AIS regulations statewide. Launch regulation that applies to every waterbody in the state, all watercraft. Requires reasonable precautions by boat owners to clean, drain, dry, treat (wash) their boats.

Mark M – Great Lakes Sea Grant network has been hosting webinars on crude oil transport in the Great Lakes area. Mark will be moderating the meeting on June 15. Focused on EPA response to major oil spill on Kalamazoo River in 2010. Recovery effort for this spill now approaches \$1 billion. Also will have a speaker from NYS DEC on geographic response plans associated with oil spill clean-up.

Mike Winslow – Lake Champlain Committee is in the midst of cyanobacteria training sessions.

III. 10:50 AM Summary of Previous TAC Meeting

- a. TAC reviewed and approved minutes from the May 4th TAC meeting.
- b. Move to approve by Neil, second by Mark Malchoff.

IV. 10:55 AM LCBP updates, *Bill Howland, LCBP*

- a. Bill provided a brief overview of LCBP activities since the last TAC meeting.
- b. The Executive Committee meeting in May was canceled.
- c. Bill participated in a 3-day oil spill training in Plattsburgh that provided a good sense of what kind of training and information is out there. The training group deployed 1000 feet of boom in 45 minutes. He was persuaded that the emergency response system is capable of responding to a spill of roughly up to 1000 gallons, but are not prepared for a spill from multiple train cars.
- d. Draft OFA text will go out the Steering Committee this week for feedback/discussion at the June 22 Steering Committee meeting. LCBP has been encouraged to develop targets for phosphorus load reductions. LCBP's role is to support the federal and state agencies to meet their goals, but is not responsible for meeting these targets. We can help the state's meet their load reduction goals, and can be a positive force in the process, but cannot be responsible for their load reduction goals.
- e. June 22 LCBP Steering Committee – agenda will include WWTF Asset Management ROD, perhaps new TMDL (pending release), and discussion of OFA and a discussion on

- terms of RFPs for innovative research (\$650,000 for enhanced grants and \$350,000 for St. Albans RFP). Potential announcement of new LCBP Director, and Bill's last day.
- f. Bill thanked TAC for their service and TAC reciprocated their thanks for his leadership.

V. 11:00 AM Workplan Review, Urban Stormwater Green Infrastructure Upgrade Guidance and Training, *Andres Toranzo & Dana Allen, Watershed Consulting Associates, LLC*

- a. Andres and Dana presented the workplan for TAC feedback. The project will target urban and rural communities in their guidance document. WCA will then develop runoff reduction strategies ranked list and hold GSI trainings built off the guidance document and ranked list of strategies. Training material hosting solution will be negotiated with LCBP at the completion of the project. Project schedule to begin in June and run through August in 2017. Guidance document completed in early 2017, trainings to occur in summer 2017.
- i. TAC clarified the outreach audience, offered support for connecting WCA to potential audience.
 - ii. Motion to approve by Jenn C., second by Kevin F. all in favor. Breck and Mark M. abstained.

VI. 11:45 PM Lunch

VII. 12:30 PM Field Season Report, 2015 Lake Champlain Boat Launch Steward Field Season Report, *Meg Modley, LCBP*

- a. Meg reviewed the 2015 Field Season report for the Lake Champlain Boat Launch Steward program. Since 2007, the program grew from 4 stewards in 2007 to 10 stewards in 2016 (expanding with 2 in QC next year). Primarily a risk assessment and public outreach campaign. Since 2014, BLS program has been using mobile data collection survey techniques, following same question protocol (with additions) as has been collected since 2007. In 2007, 63% of boaters took spread prevention measures. In 2015, 89% of boaters did. Showing some behavior change. Some BLS data has been incorporated into policy.
- b. TAC provided feedback on the report and suggestions for the 10-year report to be developed after the 2016 field season.
- i. Mark suggested adding looking at downriggers for spiny waterflea
 - ii. Bernie has comments he'll share directly with Meg. Interested in expanding data to entire season, entire lake (as angler surveys do). Need a fixed timeblock, and can work with Meg on it.
 - iii. Look at % of infested boats retrieving by site.
 - iv. Angela interested in temporal analysis of certain species

VIII. 1:30 PM TAC Membership Discussion

- a. TAC discussed membership for 2015-2016 year.

IX. 1:45 PM VT TMDL Implementation Tracking Presentation, *Neil Kamman, VTDEC*

- i. Neil provided an overview of the state's new tracking system purposes – focus on reporting requirements, tracking tactical basin plan implementation, adaptive management, and transparency.
- ii. Tracking of clean water activities –
 1. Outreach – track scope, data collected, example, data management.

2. Database will incorporate DEC projects, but also integrate projects/databases from other groups – AAFM, TRANS, LCBP.
- iii. Tracking tool eventually will communicate with the EPA BATT tool, which will estimate load reductions, which in turn will feed back into DEC reporting database to report reductions achieved.
- iv. Reporting out the results geographically
 1. Working with Keurig & TNC to develop the clean water roadmap. Will illustrate all the data components of the tactical basin plans and illustrate them on the map. LimnoTech is downscaling scenario tool into the catchment level to color code them by sector, for nutrient reduction. This will be ready by spring 2017.

X. 1:45 PM Opportunities for Action 2016 planning

- a. Eric reviewed feedback from various LCBP committees on the draft management plan.
 - i. Three primary questions- high priority items to address in management plan, should LCBP identify target watersheds, and should LCBP set outcome/success goals.
 1. Breck said that LCBP should not necessarily avoid putting numbers on P reductions, but could advocate for greater public good (LCBP should not take on responsibility for actually meeting the goals)
 - ii. Eric handed out draft Clean Water section of OFA for TAC review with placeholder percentages
 1. Breck stressed inclusion of “community”
 2. Angela questioned BGA goals given current monitoring limits/measurable goals
 3. MaryJo clarified that goals given in this document are just example goals for discussion at this point in time
 4. Mark Malchoff reminded us to include Climate Change as a benchmark
 5. Neil likes LCBP framing state/federal goals in terms of what can be achieved in a certain timeframe.
 6. Neil suggested LCBP fund a public perception survey of LC water quality. Breck tacked on a “willingness to pay”. Bethany added that lay monitoring still has a public perception component.

XI. 3:00 PM Adjourn

Attendance:

TAC: Mike Winslow (Lake Champlain Committee; TAC Chair), Breck Bowden (LC Sea Grant/UVM), Bob Brower (NYS Dept. Ag & Markets), Bernie Pientka (VT FWD), Kevin Behm (Addison Co. RPC), Eric Young (Miner Institute), Mark Malchoff (LC Sea Grant/SUNY Plattsburgh), Kip Potter (VT-NRCS), Ed Snizek (APA), Kevin Farrington (City of Plattsburgh), Fred Dunlap (NYSDEC), Angela Shambaugh (VT DEC), Jenn Callahan (VTRANS), Neil Kamman (VTDEC). Phone: MaryJo Feuerbach (EPA R1), Bill Ardren (USFWS).

LCBP: Eric Howe, Bill Howland, Stephanie Castle, Meg Modley, Ryan Mitchell

Guests: David Borthwick-Leslie (FNLC), Andres Torizzo & Dana Allen (Watershed Consulting Associates)