



LAKE CHAMPLAIN STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING NOTES

JULY 20, 2021 1:00-4:00PM
(VIA WEBINAR/TELECONFERENCE)

ATTENDANCE:

STEERING COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

Nathalie Provost (Meeting Chair, Quebec MELCC), Lauren Townley (NYS DEC for Joe Zalewski), Pete Laflamme (VTANR for Julie Moore), Vic Putman (Chair, NY CAC), Pierre Leduc (Chair, Quebec CAC), Mark Naud (Chair, VT CAC), Buzz Hoerr (Chair, E&O Committee), John Krueger (Chair, HAPAC), Neil Kamman (Chair, TAC), Mel Cote (EPA R1), Mario Paula (EPA R2 for Rick Balla), Rifat Salim (USACE), Andrew Milliken (USFWS), Obediah Racicot (NRCS VT), Brian Steinmuller (NYS Dept. Ag & Markets), Dan McKay (NYS Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation), Ryan Patch (VT AAFM for Alyson Eastman), Laura Trieschmann (VT ACCD), Jenn Callahan (VTRANS for Craig Digiammarino)

STAFF: LCBP: Eric Howe, Jim Brangan, Colleen Hickey, Ryan Mitchell, Elizabeth Lee, Sue Hagar, Meg Modley Gilbertson, Matthew Vaughan, Lauren Jenness, Mae Kate Campbell, Katie Darr, Heather Radcliffe (NEIWPPC), Isabelle Piché (Quebec MELCC), Erin Vennie-Vollrath (LCBP NYS DEC), Laura DiPietro (VT AAFM), Stéfanos Bitizikis (QC MELCC), Sarah Coleman (LCBP VT ANR), MaryJo Feuerbach (EPA R1), Katie Lynch (EPA R2)

GUESTS: Ahren Von Schnell (Cong. Stefaniks's Office)

Nathalie Provost (QC MELCC) Chaired this meeting

MEETING BEGINS

1:00 PM

INTRODUCTIONS. *Nathalie Provost, QC MELCC will Chair this meeting*

- Nathalie Provost introduced Isabelle Piché, who will be the new MELCC appointee to TAC.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FROM JUNE 2, 2021 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

- **Motion By:** John Krueger
- **Second by:** Neil Kamman
- **Discussion on the motion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor
- **Abstentions:** None

PUBLIC COMMENT

1:20 PM

- Eric Howe shared a comment he'd received from a member of the public who was concerned about manure spreading before forecasted rain events.

FY22 BUDGET THEMES – REVIEW RESULTS FROM SUMMIT, AGREE ON THEMES FOR FY22 BUDGET

Eric Howe thanked Steering Committee members for reconvening after the June summit, to vote on themes for the FY22 budget cycle. Following the summit, a survey was distributed to participants to identify the themes they felt were most important. Eric reviewed the top themes in each category of the *Opportunities for Action* goals. Themes approved by the Steering Committee will be passed on to the appropriate LCBP advisory committee for inclusion in their requests for proposal (RFP) development processes.



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Clean Water	Support projects that achieve multiple co-benefits with investments in natural solutions, such as habitat enhancement, shoreline protection, flood resilience and ecological restoration practices to achieve multiple OFA goals
	Focus on improving soil health on agricultural lands across the basin. Support includes technical support and education and outreach programming to producers about benefits and techniques to improve soil health. Grant programs would support NY Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), VT Natural Resource Conservation Districts (NRCD), and other similar groups to train staff, to bolster soil health programs, acquire necessary equipment, and provide training to producers
	Fund wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements, especially green stormwater infrastructure, with assistance to communities to build community acceptance to invest in their wastewater treatment facility (WWTF) and drinking water treatment facility infrastructure
	Continue to quantify the economic value of clean water to the Lake Champlain Basin
	Develop plan for non-nutrient contaminant monitoring, including agrochemicals, to close knowledge gaps related to public and ecosystem health
Healthy Ecosystems	Continue to support the watercraft inspection and decontamination program for Lake Champlain to address overland transport and introduction of AIS and add one decontamination station for the VT side of Lake Champlain
	Support aquatic invasive species (AIS) spread prevention and early detection programs across the Basin, including a comprehensive Lake Champlain AIS early detection monitoring program, using new technologies
	Support programs to create opportunities to conserve and restore critical lands for habitat of vulnerable species
	Identify priority watersheds to target restoration over a larger landscape
	Support advancements in technological water quality/quantity monitoring to improve understanding of ecosystem health, provide insight into existing resource areas of concern such as critical habitat, improvements to modeling of flooding or spill plumes or harmful algal blooms (HABs)
	Support work to quantify ecosystem benefits of water quality improvements to incentivize funding and implementation of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs)
Thriving Communities	Identify and prioritize shoreline and riverside land for potential conservation and public access for traditionally underserved communities with a focus on sites of cultural, archaeological, and historic significance
	Support climate resilience in the Basin: Community resilience, understanding connections, and addressing education gaps
	Pursue recreation planning and strategic, integrated approaches to funding initiatives that restore and protect natural assets and increase public access and recreational co-benefits.



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Informed and Involved Public	Offer grant programs to inform students and teachers about the watershed issues, pollution solutions, and personal stewardship possibilities
	Provide grant programs to continue support for watershed groups to provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement
	Support outreach to municipal and state highway departments regarding salt reduction in the entire watershed
	Support projects and programs to educate the public about the role of septic system management and WWTFs in water quality, and promote career opportunities in this field in partnership with Lake Champlain Sea Grant workforce development programs

Committee members raised concerns about themes that are similar to the core projects that LCBP supports every year, and noted that these themes may be better addressed outside of the RFP process. Committee members also noted that in considering these themes and recent increases in LCBP's budget, it is an ideal time to consider new roles that LCBP could be taking on. Several committee members noted the tension between wanting the advisory committees to consider themes outside of the top themes identified, but also the need to provide specific guidance to the advisory committees to direct their work.

In the Clean Water priorities, participants noted that the top priority could be considered more of an overarching theme, and could be incorporated into the scoring criteria. Participants asked the group to consider priorities that fell just below the top group (such as nutrient management and manure management), but other participants felt uncomfortable changing the order that had been provided by the survey. A participant raised the point that manure management is not specifically covered by any current LCBP grant program. A concern was raised about whether LCBP is the best entity to fund wastewater infrastructure improvements. It was noted that the Basin Program's role in wastewater and stormwater infrastructure could be to help build the community engagement to invest in these improvements, and not center on the construction.

There was discussion on whether the Committee should approve themes at this time, or just provide more general "guidelines" to the advisory committees; however, it was noted that any topic covered in *Opportunities for Action* remains eligible for LCBP funding. The need to identify these priorities to avoid delaying the budget development process was also raised.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE THEMES FOR FY22 LCBP BUDGET PROCESS

MOTION TO APPROVE THEMES FOR ALL *OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION* GOALS PRESENTED AT TODAY'S MEETING, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF USING THE CO-BENEFITS THEME AS A SCORING CRITERION, AND CONSIDERING DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION AN OVERARCHING THEME

- **Motion By:** Andrew Milliken
- **Second by:** John Krueger
- **Discussion on the motion:** Nathalie Provost suggested revisiting the process next year so that the Steering Committee considers all themes above a certain % of voting threshold



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- **Vote: All in favor**
- **Abstentions: None**

OPPORTUNITIES FOR ACTION 2022

Eric Howe reviewed the top-ranked results of the survey sent to summit participants to identify priorities for the 2022 update to *Opportunities for Action*, noting that more in-depth discussions will be held at the September Executive and Steering Committee meetings.

Clean Water	Support research and understanding of impact of climate change on clean water
	Fund implementation of actions developed by the Missisquoi bay bi-national phosphorus reduction task force
	Expand monitoring to understand root causes of trends and to target resources in a coordinated approach across the Basin
	Close knowledge gaps on internal nutrient loading in key areas of the lake, with management recommendations
	Fund green infrastructure projects to reduce stormwater flows in combined sewer service areas to reduce occurrences of CSOs.
Healthy Ecosystems	Support expansion of AIS decontamination stations across the Basin to reduce risk of spread to all waterbodies in the Basin
	Prioritize, implement and assess restoration and conservation projects in Lake Champlain Basin tributaries and watersheds that increase the resilience of these tributaries and the lake and support native fish wildlife and plants under current and predicted future conditions including: Riparian restoration, Wetland restoration, Floodplain reconnection and restoration, Instream restoration, Aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial connectivity
	Support habitat restoration projects for species of high conservation need (rare, threatened, and endangered)
	Address canalways as an AIS vector to Lake Champlain: Implement AIS barrier in Champlain Canal and assess need in Chambly Canal
	Focus on restoring healthy soils that store carbon and nutrients through shifting agricultural practices and restoration of riparian areas, floodplains, wetlands, shrublands and forest.
Thriving Communities	Support ongoing funding and partnerships with stakeholders to preserve prioritized shoreline and riverside land in the Basin for erosion control and recreation opportunities
	Develop a long-term diversity, equity, inclusion plan to diversify LCBP, including staff, committees, and opportunities among grants and education programs
	Ensure that LCBP and CVNHP programs and grant opportunities are representative of the Basin and its residents, and that traditionally underserved communities are represented within committees of the Program



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	Facilitate work to expand recreation access to the Lake Champlain Basin's waters in a coordinated manner to reduce impacts to the health of the Lake, with a focus on the South lake
	Identify recreation needs at current access areas and identify related outreach programming that can be conducted at these areas
Informed and Involved Public	Continue to support education and outreach programming to agricultural producers
	Continue to support outreach programs to stakeholders to promote the benefits of Lake Champlain to communities
	Develop education and outreach programs to educate stakeholders on the benefits and outcomes of completed projects for water quality, to encourage local support for community-level investments in water quality projects that benefit the Lake
	Continue to provide support to watershed groups which provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement
	Interpret technical information in a way that is easily understood by stakeholders

STEERING COMMITTEE FEEDBACK ON SUMMIT

Steering Committee members and other participants were asked to provide feedback on the Summit and budget theme identification process. Many committee members noted the benefits of having a broad range of stakeholders involved in the process. Suggestions for improvements included ensuring the scale of themes considered is similar (overarching ideas vs. very specific projects can be difficult to compare), educating participants on the broad range of work that LCBP is already doing and the variety of work needed to address water quality problems, ensuring all themes are clearly articulated in terms of their end goals, and starting pieces of the discussion earlier so that the Steering Committee decision can happen in June.

Participants thanked the LCBP staff for their work on the summit, and in the launch of the *State of the Lake 2021* report.

CVNHP FY22 BUDGET THEMES FOR RFPP

Jim Brangan provided an overview of the CVNHP request for pre-proposals (RFPP) process. The RFPP is divided into two categories – larger projects that center around an interpretive theme, and the core grant program, which covers local heritage grants, smaller interpretive theme grants, collections grants, and internship grants. This year's interpretive theme is Corridor of Commerce.

ACTION ITEM: APPROVE THEMES FOR THE CVNHP FY22 RFPP

- **Motion By:** Neil Kamman
- **Second by:** Vic Putman
- **Discussion on the motion:** None
- **Vote:** All in favor



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- **Abstentions: None**

UPDATES

- Eric Howe: The CVNHP International Summit will be held Sept. 19-20 in Saranac Lake, NY. Fieldtrips will take place on the 19th and a save-the-date will be sent out soon. Chris Korleski, from the EPA Great Lakes National Program Office will be providing welcome on the summit theme: Celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Clean Water Act. Brendan Wiltse from the Adirondack Watershed Institute will be providing the keynote. Kelly Cerialo from CABN and Karrie Thomas from the Northern Forest Canoe Trail will also be presenting. All followed by knowledge cafe. Field trip includes the Saranac Laboratory, Mohawk Cultural Center, and Blueseed Studios. The next Steering Committee meeting is on September 22.
- Mae Kate: save the date information for the 2022 Lake Champlain Research Conference has been sent out and is available here: lcbp.org/lcrc.
- Colleen: NY partners have been working with organizations and institutions to prepare for a teacher's summit to be held on October 20th. The Boat Launch Stewards have been doing a phenomenal job this summer and Katie Darr has been working to create a profile post for each steward on social media. The Raise the Blade Campaign has been active this summer, new communities coming on board include Hinesburg, South Burlington, and Plattsburgh.
- Mel Cote (EPA R1): Fully vaccinated Americans will be able to cross the border starting in August, but the US has not opened the border to Canadians yet. USEPA will likely not be returning to the office in full-force until November, however restrictions on travel will be lifted soon, so we'll be able to attend in-person meetings.
- MaryJo Feuerbach (EPA R1): New regional administrators should be announced by this September. The Biden administration has placed increased support for the geographic programs, like LCBP in their budget. An expected \$20M is expected for the Lake Champlain program. Regions are asking to work with programs to show results overtime to say something publicly about what we are achieving. We will need to think about this over the next year, develop key metrics into next OFA, adopt metrics from VT, NY, QC using already, etc.
- Mario Paula (EPA R2): no update from Region 2. We should have an official regional administrator soon.
- Pete LaFlamme (VTDEC): have a number of policy and regulatory updates. VTDEC issued and completed issuance of all Winooski river basin permits for this year. VTDEC continues rollout of the 3-acre permit, working in concert with the Watershed Investment Division. Three rules are at different states of process. Staff are working with stakeholder groups on the new water quality standards rules and are preparing to go public soon. Similarly, updates to the VT wetland rules are in preparation to go public in early October. Anti-degradation rules will be previewed in late August. A statewide PFAS



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monitoring plan for summer is being implemented to monitor various waterbodies, wastewater treatment facilities, and fish tissue to look for signs of contamination.

- Neil Kamman (VTDEC): The VT Clean Water Fund revenue performed nicely. The Clean Water Board was able to include \$2M increase for agricultural engineering. We are in the process of updating the Clean Water Fund for FY22 and the Board will meet on Aug 12th and include substantial input from American Rescue Plan Act. 8 different pillars of funding are being discussed: 3-acre permit, community scale decentralized wastewater treatment, financial assistance for pre-treatment for businesses that create higher strength effluent, CSOs, assisting individual and multi-unit homes to redevelop onsite systems, support water infrastructure needs at mobile home parks, allocation for clean water fund, investment into state-owned dams to maintain and keep safe dams. Overall, aggregate investment is upwards of \$100M. Look forward to working with the Steering Committee as this grows up to not bump into each other with clear swim lanes.
- John Krueger (HAPAC): Earlier this summer a British invasion force of nearly 10K men came out of Canada. Americans retreat down along VT shoreline; first week of July there's an engagement at Hubbardton. Americans scatter, re-group in Manchester. Delegates meet in Windsor, VT, and declare VT a free and independent republic. Exciting month to be in the Champlain Valley in 1777.
- Lauren Townley (NYSDEC): Erin put together a nice summary document, but exciting news is that some of our major funding programs are open right now that were held back last year due to COVID. NYSDEC was able to execute a contract with NY Rural Water Service Association and is looking forward to reporting back results. NYHABs notification system is up and running for the summer, includes an interactive map, and now a mobile application to report potential blooms to DEC.
- Nathalie Provost (QC MELCC): Quebec re-signed the Missisquoi Bay Memorandum of Understanding, shared news at last meeting.
- Pierre Leduc (QCCAC): Last week a demonstration raingarden in Bedford at the community center was inaugurated. This project was funded by the QC government as part of the month of water, will help homeowners learn about stormwater management, and is aimed at reducing CSOs in that municipality.

MEETING ADJOURN

4:00PM

Nathalie Provost thanked all participants and wished them a good rest of the summer.

Welcome to the 2021 Lake Champlain Steering Committee SUMMIT

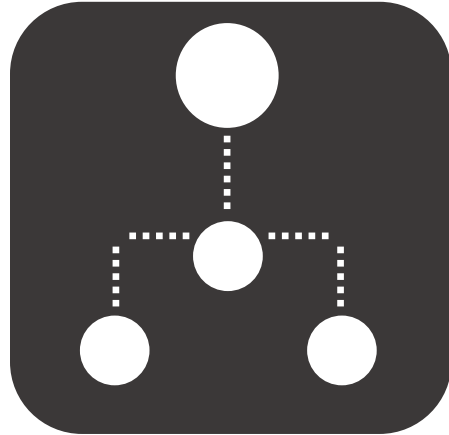




Overview



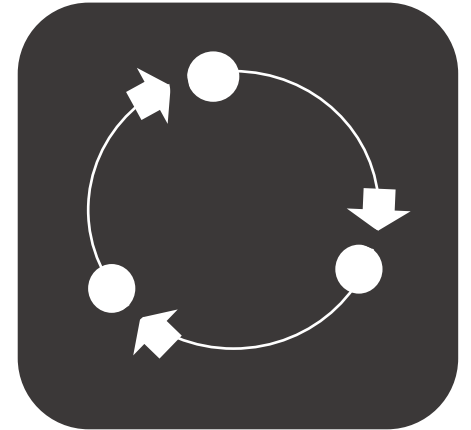
Opportunity
to hear
All
voices



Organizational
structure



Role
and
decision
making



Welcome
input
and refine
process



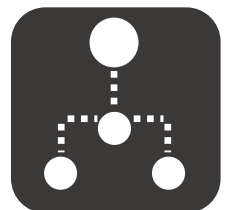
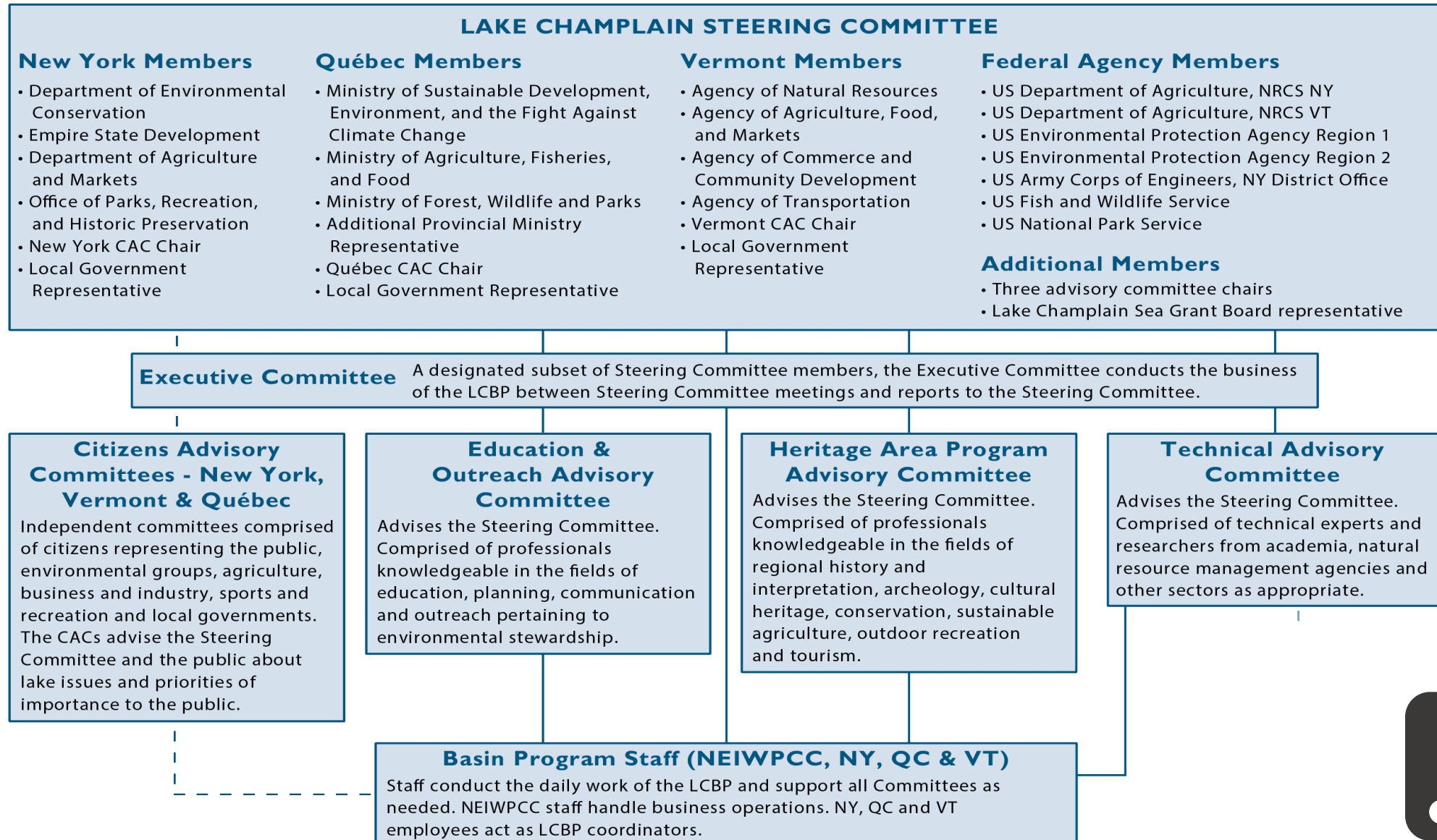
LCBP Steering Committee SUMMIT purpose

- **Include voices** from Advisory Committees
- **“Themes” to focus** the upcoming LCBP budget
- **All of Opportunities for Action (OFA) is open** – themes will receive higher priority in process
- **Identify priorities for OFA 2022** – begin process for next Management Plan





LCBP Operating Structure





LCBP Steering Committee

LAKE CHAMPLAIN STEERING COMMITTEE

New York Members

- Department of Environmental Conservation
- Empire State Development
- Department of Agriculture and Markets
- Office of Parks, Recreation, and Historic Preservation
- New York CAC Chair
- Local Government Representative

Québec Members

- Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment, and the Fight Against Climate Change
- Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries, and Food
- Ministry of Forest, Wildlife and Parks
- Additional Provincial Ministry Representative
- Québec CAC Chair
- Local Government Representative

Vermont Members

- Agency of Natural Resources
- Agency of Agriculture, Food, and Markets
- Agency of Commerce and Community Development
- Agency of Transportation
- Vermont CAC Chair
- Local Government Representative

Federal Agency Members

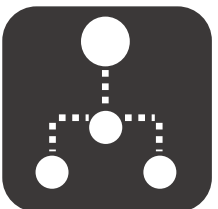
- US Department of Agriculture, NRCS NY
- US Department of Agriculture, NRCS VT
- US Environmental Protection Agency Region 1
- US Environmental Protection Agency Region 2
- US Army Corps of Engineers, NY District Office
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- US National Park Service

Additional Members

- Three advisory committee chairs
- Lake Champlain Sea Grant Board representative

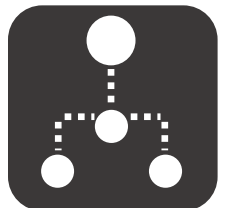
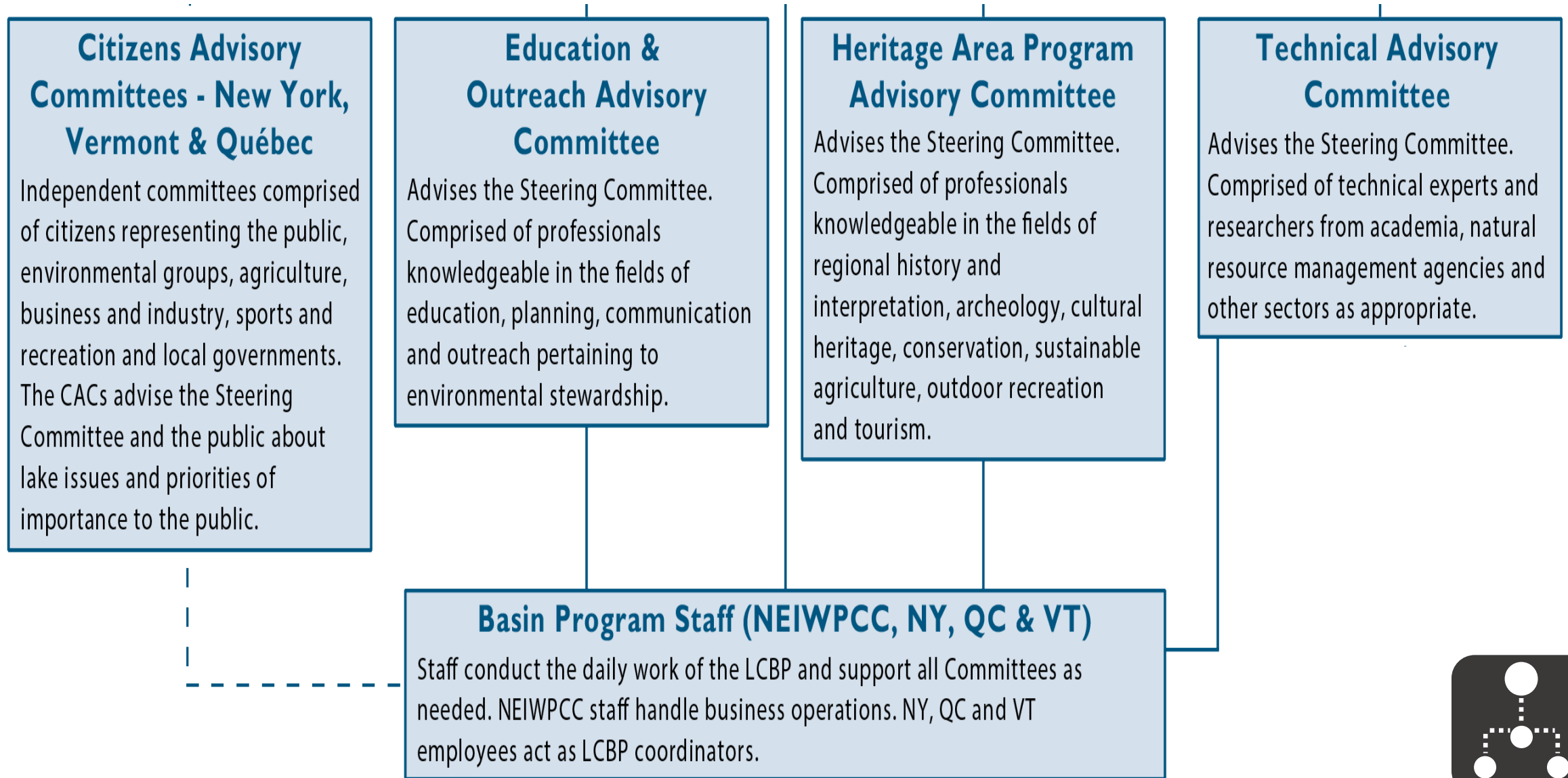
Executive Committee

A designated subset of Steering Committee members, the Executive Committee conducts the business of the LCBP between Steering Committee meetings and reports to the Steering Committee.





LCBP Advisory Committees and Program Staff





Steering Committee Roles and Responsibilities

- **Provide** a forum for discussion of policies and issues of mutual concern
- **Exchange** of information and coordinated actions
- **Set** Annual LCBP budget
- **Review and approve** Lake Champlain Management Plan – *Opportunities for Action* (5-year cycle)





Steering Committee Roles and Responsibilities

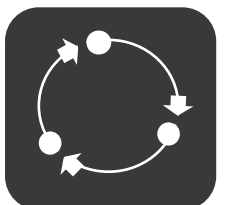
- **Oversee** the coordination of cultural heritage and recreational resource programs of the CVNHP
- **Approve** US Army Corps of Engineers WRDA 542 projects
- **State of the Lake** and Ecosystem Indicators report (3-year cycle)
- **Approve** Committee memberships
- **Approve** Grant awards





Cross Pollination & Integration of Goal Silos

- cross pollination of groups and committees encourages open and equitable, creative thinking and decision-making
- approach may appear to silo recommendations under a particular Goal/Heading
- budget and OFA process and the work of the committees and staff serve to integrate actions across an integrated network of themes





Informing Budget and OFA Planning 2021/2022

Collect

Facilitate
and enable

Give



Informing Budget and OFA Planning 2021/2022

Collect

Collect ideas/themes/priorities from various stakeholders and committees for Summit attendees to prioritize, and ultimately Steering Committee to vote on budget/OFA recommendations.



Informing Budget and OFA Planning 2021/2022

Facilitate
and enable

Facilitate and enable the open flow of conversation across disciplines and interest areas by a deliberate integrated meeting structure.



Informing Budget and OFA Planning 2021/2022

Give

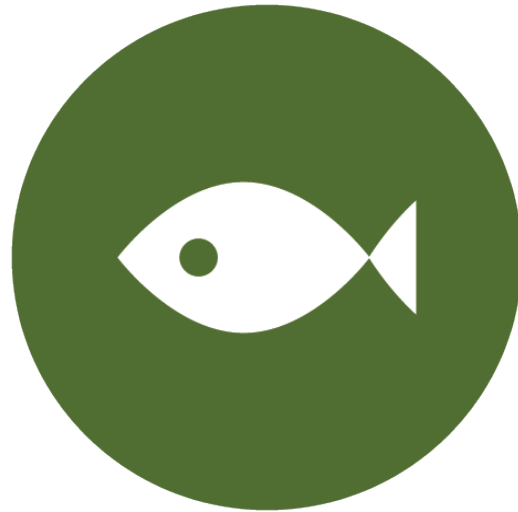
Give a fair and inclusive opportunity to all participants, especially those reticent and quiet voices, staffers, etc.



OFA Goals



Clean
Water



Healthy
Ecosystems



Thriving
Communities



Informed &
Involved Public



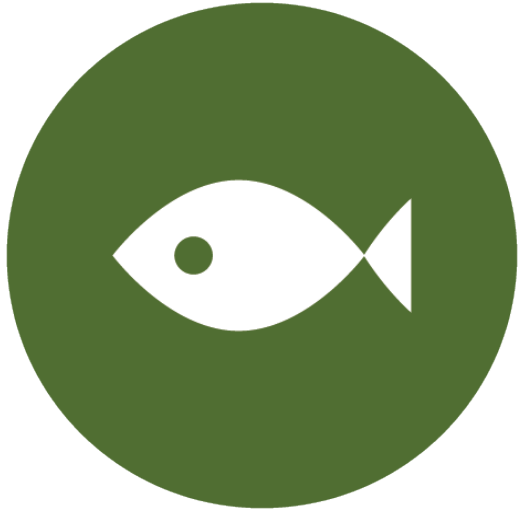
Improve scientific understanding

Contaminants of concern and pathogens

Nutrient loading



Healthy Ecosystems



Habitat conservation

Aquatic invasive species

Enhancement of biodiversity



Thriving Communities



Community support

Lake and basin recreation

Water-wise economic development

Cultural heritage resources



Informed and Involved Public



Enhancement of learning

Build awareness



Shared ideas mean better ideas

Collaborative, cross-disciplinary efforts can lead to....

New ways of thinking and approaching an issue or concern.

Giving (and receiving) a greater sense of creative input.

Raising the visibility and quality of programs.



The Whole is Greater than the Sum of Its Parts

Improves inter-group and interdisciplinary communication to accelerate discoveries and their translation to practice.

Creates projects and ideas that originate from relationships, rather than a sole source.



The Whole is Greater than the Sum of Its Parts

Creates projects that emerge from the process, potentially with many interrelated or comprehensive outcomes.

Builds respect for each other's expertise, including Lived Experience.

Challenges power dynamics, and prioritizes inclusion, equity and diversity.



How we got here

The charge:

Each of the States, the Province of Quebec, and the EPA, were asked to provide high level themes to develop priorities for the next budget cycle.

The Committee Chairs (with assistance from LCBP staff), provided insights on recent budget priorities and management (budget applied to LCBP, management was more broad/general).



How we got here

	Clean Water	Healthy Ecosystems	Thriving Communities	Informed & Involved Public
EPA	Modernization of monitoring including autonomous and remote water quality monitoring and eDNA; Phosphorus reduction, coordination & tracking; Harmful Algal Blooms	Aquatic Invasive Species/Vessel Incidental Discharge Act; eDNA	Environmental Justice	
NYSDEC	Clean water monitoring/understanding root causes of trends to target efforts	Invasive species early detection, spread prevention and removal; Understanding terrestrial wildlife distribution; Fish & wildlife passage including for Atlantic Salmon.		
VTDEC	Nature-Based Solutions and Green Infrastructure		Building Human Infrastructure- Capacity Building Assessment/Inventory/Prioritization: Applying an Adaptive Management approach	
E&O Committee	How to encourage people to take personal responsibility via watershed thinking to increase stewardship behavior?	Stream Wise implemented for upstream visibility of stewardship practices, climate resiliency	Helping communities understand resiliency; understanding that we are all connected; watershed awareness and impactful ecological choices	Measure the impact of stewardship behavior/actions over time; continue to educate and inform students and teacher about the watershed issues, pollution solutions, and personal stewardship possibilities; Identifying translation needs and being inclusive in our outreach to underserved communities.
HAPAC	*2024 Conservation & Community theme - Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere Network (CABN) *More needs to be done to reach out to enhance diversity, inclusion and equity in interpreting the history and culture of the region. *2022 Conservation & Community theme - 50th Anniversary of the Clean Water Act	*2023 Corridor of Commerce theme - Bicentennial of the completion of the Champlain Canal	*focus of HAPAC *2025-2027 Making of Nations theme - Semi quincentennial of the American Revolution	
TAC	Phosphorus reduction; identify and characterize contaminants	Research and implementation projects for riparian and habitat improvements to protect native species		
NYCAC	Wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements			
QCCAC	Reduce the use of fertilizer/pesticide use on farms using a cost-offset program; Implementation of phosphorus reduction projects; WWTTP facility upgrades; green infrastructure projects	Conservation and restoration of wetlands, waterway connections; Monitor benthic health in agricultural intensive areas; Study the carrying capacity of Missisquoi River		
VTAC	Toxics - agro-industrial chemicals; Increased investment in natural solutions; VAEI lab accessibility to NGOs	climate change	Organizational capacity grants for planning and implementation over longer term; Public access;	

Priority Themes Matrix 5/11/21

Pre-Roundtable Briefing Packets

served as the “seeds” for the pre-Summit conversations held on May 19 and 20 and were submitted by:

EPA

HAPAC

VT

QC CAC

NY

NY CAC

E&O AC

VT CAC

TAC



5 year

Group B

The infographic is set against a dark grey background with rounded corners. It features two main sections, each with a circular icon and accompanying text. The top section has a blue circle with a white water drop icon, followed by the number '54' in large white font, and the text 'Clean Water priorities' in white. The bottom section has a purple circle with a white crossed oars icon, followed by the number '34' in large white font, and the text 'Thriving Communities priorities' in white.

Category	Count
Clean Water priorities	54
Thriving Communities priorities	34



5 year

Group D

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63 Informed & Involved Public priorities



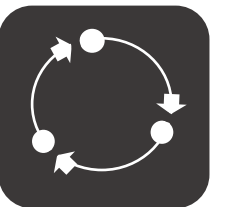
Next Steps and Roll Out of Goal Integration

1

LCBP staff goal condensed/combined concepts generated in roundtables for each goal.

Ensured that the briefing packet “seeds” of conversation were added.

The priority list was then sent out to the June 2nd participants.





Next Steps and Roll Out of Goal Integration

2

Cohorts A-D will focus today on identifying and filling gaps in the lists and refining those ideas into themes.

Theme Examples:

Address cyanobacteria blooms – TOO VAGUE

Reduce phosphorus loading from barnyards – TOO SPECIFIC

Need to find the sweet spot!



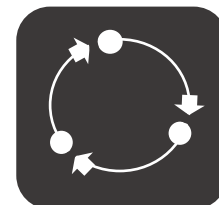


Next Steps and Roll Out of Goal Integration

3

This is the beginning of the process. Today is about identifying the themes = **“what”**

Over the summer committees will focus on how to incorporate the themes into their programs and processes = **“how”**









Roundtable Agenda: Morning

Morning Rapid Café-style Rounds

8:00	Morning Virtual Platform Opens
8:30-8:55	Introductory Session
8:55	Café Breakout Groups Assemble
11:30 – 1:30	Mid-day Break



Café Breakout Groups

Cafés	9:00 - 9:30	9:35 - 10:05	10:10 - 10:40	10:45 - 11:15
 Clean Water	Cohort A	Cohort D	Cohort C	Cohort B
 Healthy Ecosystems	Cohort B	Cohort A	Cohort D	Cohort C
 Thriving Communities	Cohort C	Cohort B	Cohort A	Cohort D
 Informed & Involved Public	Cohort D	Cohort C	Cohort B	Cohort A





Summit Agenda: Afternoon

- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1:30 | Summit Plenary |
| 1:45-2:30 | Presentation of Preliminary Goal Results |
| 2:45-3:00 | Health Break |
| 3:00-3:45 | Steering Committee Action |
| 3:45-4:00 | Closure |
| Adjourn | |



Key “Questions” for the Morning Café Rounds

Are the recommendations to the Steering Committee for each OFA Goal—both short term (one year) and long term (five years) fairly complete?

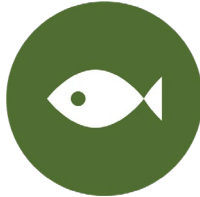




Key “Questions” for the Morning Café Rounds

Are there any gaps in
the recommendations to
the Steering Committee
for each OFA Goal?

If so, please add them.





Key “Questions” for the Morning Café Rounds

Confirm that sticky notes **clearly represent the ideas that the roundtable participants want to share with Steering Committee.**

These will be the ideas that the **Steering Committee will vote on.**





Key “Questions” for the Morning Café Rounds

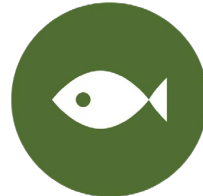
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Confirm that sticky notes **clearly represent the ideas that the roundtable participants want to share with Steering Committee.**

These will be the ideas that the **Steering Committee will vote on.**





Café Team Leaders

Cafés	Facilitator	Notetaker	LCBP Staff
 Clean Water	Danielle	Lily	Matt
 Healthy Ecosystems	Lee-Ann	Amelia	Meg
 Thriving Communities	Liz	Heather	Jim
 Informed & Involved Public	Ellie	Jillian	Colleen



Logistics and Instructions for AM/PM

Lauren's email

ljenness@lcbp.org

401-533-2374

LCBP Office: 802-372-3213



Break 11:30 – 1:30





Afternoon Summit

Welcome back!



Summit Agenda: Afternoon

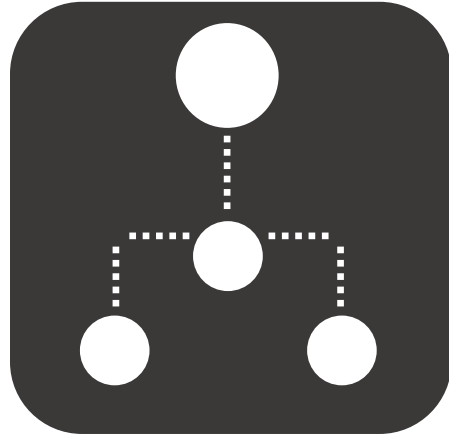
- | | |
|------------------|--|
| 1:30 | Summit Plenary |
| 1:45-2:30 | Presentation of Preliminary Goal Results |
| 2:45-3:00 | Health Break |
| 3:00-3:45 | Steering Committee Action |
| 3:45-4:00 | Closure |
| Adjourn | |



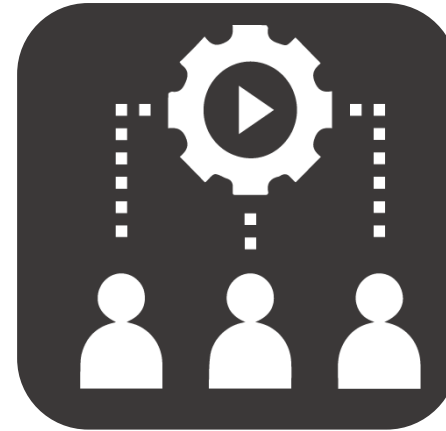
Overview Recap



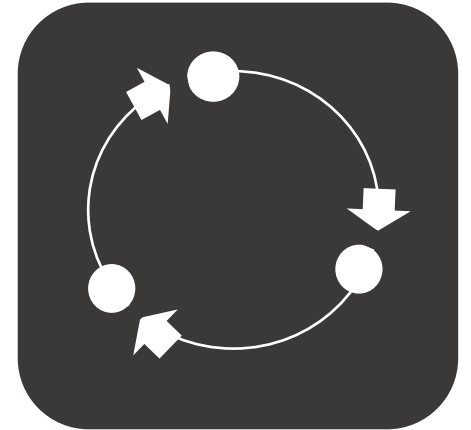
Opportunity
to hear
All
voices



Organizational
structure



Role
and
decision
making



Welcome
input
and refine
process



Presentation of Preliminary Aggregate

Results from IdeaBoardz for each Goal (Roundtables Plus AM Session)

1:50-2:00 Clean Water: Matt

2:00-2:10 Healthy Ecosystems: Meg

2:10-2:20 Thriving Communities: Jim

2:20-2:30 Informed and Involved Public: Colleen

2:30-2:45 Goal Prioritization: Participant's use voting platform to:

- Rank top 4 one-year FY22LCBP Budget themes by OFA goal
- Rate each five-year OFA topic for inclusion in the 2022 OFA



Umbrella Themes

- 1. Assessments for DEI, BIPOC initiatives, and work to prioritize funding and distribute equitably
- 2. Improved data communication
- 3. Support innovative ideas



Clean Water:



Divided each topic area into three categories:

1. Management-driven and well-designed monitoring and research
2. Existing work – how to continue, refocus, and/or expand
3. Emerging areas of focus



Clean Water:



Cyanobacteria

Contaminants

Nutrient reduction

Infrastructure

Funding prioritization

Ecosystem services

Agriculture

Climate change

Monitoring



Clean Water:



Additional 5-year idea highlights

- Improve understanding of groundwater
- De-icing salt reduction
- Improve monitoring and understand cyanotoxins
- Climate change



Healthy Ecosystems: Meg



4 broad themes of for FY22 conversation:

1. **Habitat Restoration and Conservation**

(riparian, wetland, native species, AOP/dams, GSI, soils, priority watershed, marinas)

2. **Species Restoration and Conservation**

(map, cool water, eDNA, wildlife human conflict, terrestrial, fish biological indicators)

3. **Invasive Species**

(ED, VIDA, pathway management, water chestnut, zebra mussels, bio control, pests)

4. **Ecosystem Services/Climate Change**

(Stream Wise, Lake Wise, connectivity/conservation/climate change, carrying capacity)



Healthy Ecosystems: Meg



4 broad themes of for OFA conversation:

1. **Habitat Restoration and Conservation**

(assess and prioritize, wetlands, floodplain connectivity, soils, miss bay carrying capacity, GSI/DEI, housing policy, RTE, forest BMPs, AOP/fish habitat, habitat DEI use (rice) and landowner outreach)

2. **Species Restoration and Conservation**

(native fish species restoration(sturgeon, walleye etc.), dam removal, fish passage, cool water fish species restoration, in-stream habitat, sea lamprey management goals)

3. **Invasive Species**

(expand steward program, implement barrier on Champ Canal, WC management, pathway outreach and spread prevention, implement VIDA)

4. **Ecosystem Services/Climate Change**

(ecosystem health metrics and tracking, climate change impact communication and prediction, ID habitat restoration priority areas)

MISC. Policy assessment



Thriving Communities: Jim



One-Year Budget Themes

- Artist in Residence Programs
- Focus on climate resilience in the Basin
- Identify shoreline and riverside land for potential conservation
- Research expanding access opportunities to Lake Champlain, including recreational access opportunities for BIPOC and underserved communities
- Increase involvement in lake policy development/stewardship/recreation for First Nations and underserved communities



Thriving Communities: Jim



- **One-Year Budget Themes**
- Research expanding access opportunities to Lake Champlain
- Offer multi-year grant program for organizational capacity building
- LCBP to consider programs, projects and initiatives that may fall through efforts among TAC, CAC, E&O
- Pursue recreation planning
- Analyze where grant dollars have gone at the sub-watershed level to determine any inequity of resources.



Thriving Communities: Jim



Five-Year Budget Themes

- Develop long-term diversity, equity, inclusion plan to diversify LCBP
- Emphasize the impact of climate change on communities, tie in historical context of 1816
- Analyze and identify how Basin communities are likely to receive new climate refugees
- Seek funding and partnerships with stakeholders to preserve prioritized shoreline and riverside land
- Focus on capacity Building
Assessment/Inventory/Prioritization: Apply an Adaptive Management approach



Thriving Communities: Jim



Five-Year Budget Themes

- In 2024, CVNHP will focus on the Conservation and Community theme with a focus on the Champlain-Adirondack Biosphere
- From 2025-2027, CVNHP focuses on the Making of Nations theme by highlighting/celebrating the 250th Anniversary of the American Revolution
- Continue teacher trainings to build understanding of cultural heritage, recreation, and work on larger watershed mindset
- Recreation and Cultural Heritage encourages appreciation, understanding and stewardship of our resources and should be emphasized.



Thriving Communities: Jim



- Engage underrepresented communities to learn what they think makes a thriving community, and brainstorming ways in which we can connect solutions to community concerns to solutions for Basin-wide issues
- Increase outreach to municipal governments to inform of Lake Champlain Basin programs as well as funding opportunities available (with an emphasis on smaller municipalities)
- Analyze where grant dollars have gone at the sub-watershed level to determine any inequity of resources.



Informed & Involved Public: Colleen



One-Year Budget Themes

- Identify targeted audiences and develop E&O program
- Develop E&O opportunities/programs to celebrate successes and progress - collaborative cross-border and international efforts, WWTFs
- Develop projects to interpret and communicate projects and programs in other goal/program areas
- Develop projects that increase data accessibility, interpretation and communication for public engagement
- Expand and continue existing E&O programming, with emphasis on interpretation of science and bridging the gap with scientists/experts
- Develop award programs to recognize successes and progress



Informed & Involved Public: Colleen



Five-Year Budget Themes

- Communicating climate change impacts to landscapes and communities
- Develop projects to interpret and communicate projects and programs in other goal/program areas
- Incorporate the CVNHP themes into the CBEI programming.
- Measure and communicate impacts of stewardship behavior
- DEI/Environmental Justice
- Develop projects that increase data accessibility, interpretation and communication for public engagement
- Develop and implement community science projects
- Develop education
- Surveys and assessments of program effectiveness, including short-term social media



Goal Prioritization

Participant's use voting platform to rank:

- Rank top 4 one-year FY22LCBP Budget themes by OFA goal
- Rate each five-year OFA topic for inclusion in the 2022 OFA



Goal Prioritization – Access to Poll

slido Go to slido.com enter code # 858285

Joining as a participant?

Enter code here



(how it should appear
on your screen)

Or use this QR code



Or copy and paste URL into browser tab

<https://app.sli.do/event/t6mqtfwd/live/polls>



slido

Rank LCBP FY22 Budget Themes &
Rate LCBP 2022 OFA Themes

① Start presenting to display the poll results on this slide.



Clean Water – FY22 Budget Themes



(Scoring criteria) 1. Support projects that achieve **multiple co-benefits** with investments in natural solutions, such as habitat enhancement, shoreline protection, flood resilience and ecological restoration practices to achieve multiple OFA goals (82%)

2. Focus on **improving soil health on agricultural lands** across the basin. Support includes **technical support and education** and outreach programming to producers about benefits and techniques to improve soil health. Grant programs would support NY SWCD, VT NRCD (63%)

3. Fund **wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements**, especially green stormwater infrastructure, with assistance to communities to build community acceptance to invest in their WWTF and DWTF infrastructure (61%)

4. Continue to **quantify the economic value of clean water** to the Lake Champlain Basin (45%)

5. Develop plan for **non-nutrient contaminant monitoring**, including agrochemicals, to close knowledge gaps related to public and ecosystem health (37%)



Healthy Ecosystems – FY22 Budget Themes



1. Continue to **support the watercraft inspection and decontamination program** for Lake Champlain to address overland transport and introduction of AIS and add one decontamination station for the VT side of Lake Champlain (71%)
2. Support **AIS spread prevention and early detection programs** across the Basin, including a comprehensive Lake Champlain AIS Early Detection monitoring program, using new technologies. (66%)
3. Support programs to **create opportunities to conserve and restore critical lands** for habitat of vulnerable species (58%)
4. Identify **priority watersheds to target restoration** over a larger landscape (53%)
5. Support advancements in technological **water quality/quantity monitoring** to improve understanding of **ecosystem health**, provide insight into existing resource areas of concern such as critical habitat, improvements to modeling of flooding or spill plumes or HABs. (53%)
6. Support work to **quantify ecosystem benefits** of water quality improvements to incentivize funding and implementation of TMDLs (50%)



Thriving Communities – FY22 Budget Themes



1. Identify and prioritize **shoreline and riverside land** for potential **conservation and public access** for traditionally underserved communities with a focus on sites of cultural, archaeological, and historic significance. (71%)
2. Support **climate resilience in the Basin**: Community resilience, understanding connections, and addressing education gaps (55%)
3. Pursue **recreation planning** and strategic, integrated approaches to funding initiatives that restore and protect natural assets and **increase public access** and recreational co-benefits. (53%)



Informed & Involved Public – FY22 Budget Themes



1. Offer grant programs to **inform students and teachers** about the watershed issues, pollution solutions, and personal stewardship possibilities (74%)
2. Provide grant programs to continue **support for watershed groups** to provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement (68%)
3. Support outreach to municipal and state highway departments regarding **salt reduction** in the entire watershed (66%)
4. Support projects and programs to educate the public about the **role of septic system management and WWTFs in water quality**, and promote career opportunities in this field in partnership with Lake Champlain Sea Grant workforce development programs (63%)



Steering Committee Action

Summit recommendations for Annual Budget Themes for next cycle.

- Review
- Discussion
- Vote





Clean Water – OFA 2022



Support research and understanding of impact of climate change on clean water

Fund implementation of actions developed by the Missisquoi bay bi-national phosphorus reduction task force

Expand monitoring to understand root causes of trends and to target resources in a coordinated approach across the Basin.

Close knowledge gaps on internal nutrient loading in key areas of the lake, with management recommendations

Fund green infrastructure projects to reduce stormwater flows in combined sewer service areas to reduce occurrences of CSOs.



Support expansion of AIS decontamination stations across the Basin to reduce risk of spread to all waterbodies in the Basin

Prioritize, implement and assess restoration and conservation projects in Lake Champlain Basin tributaries and watersheds that increase the resilience of these tributaries and the lake and support native fish wildlife and plants under current and predicted future conditions including: Riparian restoration, Wetland restoration, Floodplain reconnection and restoration, Instream restoration, Aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial connectivity

Support habitat restoration projects for species of high conservation need (rare, threatened, and endangered)

Address canalways as an AIS vector to Lake Champlain: Implement AIS barrier in Champlain Canal and assess need in Chambly Canal

Focus on restoring healthy soils that store carbon and nutrients through shifting agricultural practices and restoration of riparian areas, floodplains, wetlands, shrublands and forest.



Thriving Communities – OFA 2022



Support ongoing funding and partnerships with stakeholders to preserve prioritized shoreline and riverside land in the Basin for erosion control and recreation opportunities.

Develop a long-term diversity, equity, inclusion plan to diversify LCBP, including staff, committees, and opportunities among grants and education programs

Ensure that LCBP and CVNHP programs and grant opportunities are representative of the Basin and its residents, and that traditionally underserved communities are represented within committees of the Program

Facilitate work to expand recreation access to the Lake Champlain Basin's waters in a coordinated manner to reduce impacts to the health of the Lake, with a focus on the South lake.

Identify recreation needs at current access areas and identify related outreach programming that can be conducted at these areas.



Informed & Involved Public – OFA 2022



Continue to support education and outreach programming to agricultural producers

Continue to support outreach programs to stakeholders to promote the benefits of Lake Champlain to communities

Develop education and outreach programs to educate stakeholders on the benefits and outcomes of completed projects for water quality, to encourage local support for community-level investments in water quality projects that benefit the Lake

Continue to provide support to watershed groups which provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement

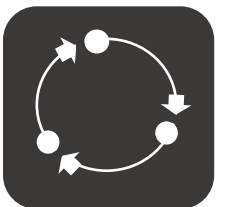
Interpret technical information in a way that is easily understood by stakeholders



Acknowledgements

Thank you!!!

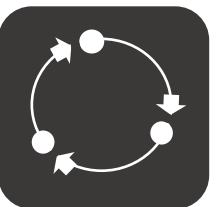
- Lake Champlain Steering Committee
- Participants
- Facilitators and Notetakers (EPA, NEIWPCC, SUNY Plattsburgh, UVM)
- Ann Ruzow Holland
- Elizabeth Lee
- Lauren Jenness





Thank you!!!

Follow up evaluation survey/comment period on the event process



Category	Sub-category	Clean Water THEME	Summit Survey votes	Summit Survey %	Theme Execution
Infrastructure	Funding	Support projects that achieve multiple co-benefits with investments in natural solutions, such as habitat enhancement, shoreline protection, flood resilience and ecological restoration practices to achieve multiple OFA goals	31	82%	Implementa tion funding
Agriculture	Soil health	Focus on improving soil health on agricultural lands across the basin. Support includes technical support and education and outreach programming to producers about benefits and techniques to improve soil health. Grant programs would support NY SWCD, VT NRCD, and other similar groups to train staff, to bolster soil health programs, acquire necessary equipment, and provide training to producers.	24	63%	RFPP funding
Infrastructure	Funding	Fund wastewater and stormwater infrastructure improvements, especially green stormwater infrastructure, with assistance to communities to build community acceptance to invest in their WWTF and DWTF infrastructure	23	61%	Implementa tion funding
Economic	Research	Continue to quantify the economic value of clean water to the Lake Champlain Basin	17	45%	RFPP funding
Contaminants	Monitoring	Develop plan for non-nutrient contaminant monitoring, including agrochemicals, to close knowledge gaps related to public and ecosystem health	14	37%	RFPP funding
Agriculture	Manure	Focus on manure management, including funding for manure incorporation measures. Develop white paper to inform policy concerning the application and incorporation of manure in agricultural fields	13	34%	Implementa tion funding
Cyanobacteria	Monitoring	Expand Lake Champlain Cyanobacteria monitoring program to include more frequent cyanotoxin sampling and build monitoring network to include remote sensing and new sensor technologies, and expand volunteer network to increase frequency of observations	13	34%	Cyanobacter ia funding
Cyanobacteria	Modeling	Support research and modeling work to improve predictive capabilities for cyanobacteria blooms and understanding of cyanobacteria population dynamics, considering forecasted effects of climate change.	13	34%	RFPP funding
Nutrient Reduction	Research	Implementation grant funding for basin-wide nutrient reduction	13	34%	Implementa tion funding
Nutrient Reduction	Research	Support research into impacts of different forms of phosphorus on water quality and management options to target specific forms of phosphorus	13	34%	RFPP funding
Monitoring	Collaboration	Work with Federal, State and regional partners to improve collaboration on monitoring programs	12	32%	LCBP staff- driven
Developed lands	Implementa tion	Include septic system programs as a priority in implementation grant opportunities	11	29%	Implementa tion funding
Developed lands	Research	Examine connections between impervious surface in the Basin and impacts to water quality and sensitive species, and identify key areas to reduce impervious surfaces	11	29%	RFPP funding
Monitoring	Funding	Encourage research programs to use LTMP and other monitoring programs to examine root causes of trends to address underlying problems	9	24%	RFPP funding
Developed lands	Implementa tion	Include technical assistance programs as a priority in implementation grant opportunities	9	24%	Implementa tion funding
Agriculture	Research	Support research for successful crop diversity, cash crop, and cover crop promotion to producers	8	21%	RFPP funding
Cyanobacteria	Research	Support innovative methods to prevent or treat cyanobacteria blooms	8	21%	RFPP funding
Agriculture	Ag BMPS	Dedicated funding stream for agricultural equipment for implementation of practices that benefit water quality	7	18%	Implementa tion funding
Monitoring	Monitoring	Expand the LTMP with more in-situ monitoring systems	7	18%	Monitoring funding
Monitoring	Funding	Expand funding into LCBP organizational support grant program to include laboratory support for water quality monitoring programs by watershed groups	5	13%	Implementa tion funding
Collaboration	Steering Committee	Discuss distribution of American Rescue Plan Act funding to NY and VT municipalities for clean water investments	3	8%	LCBP staff- driven
Ecosystem Services	DEI theme	Emphasize underserved communities implementation grant program opportunities	1	3%	DEI overarching theme
Collaboration	DEI theme	Improve LCBP tracking system for funding - where funds are going, benefits, and outcomes especially in underserved communities	1	3%	LCBP staff- driven

OFA Objective	Sub-Category	Healthy Ecosystems Theme	Summit Survey votes	Summit Survey %	Theme execution
AIS	Management	Continue to support the watercraft inspection and decontamination program for Lake Champlain to address overland transport and introduction of AIS and add one decontamination station for the VT side of LC	27	71%	Implementati on funding
AIS	Management	Support AIS spread prevention and early detection programs across the Basin, including a comprehensive Lake Champlain AIS ED monitoring program, using new technologies.	25	66%	Implementati on funding
Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat	Management	Support programs to create opportunities to conserve and restore critical lands for habitat of vulnerable species	22	58%	RFPP funding
Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat	Management	Identify priority watersheds to target restoration over a larger landscape	20	53%	RFPP funding
Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat	Research	Support advancements in technological water quality/quantity monitoring to improve understanding of ecosystem health, provide insight into existing resource areas of concern such as critical habitat, improvements to modeling of flooding or spill plumes or HABs.	20	53%	RFPP funding
Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat	Research	Support work to quantify ecosystem benefits of water quality improvements to incentivize funding and implementation of TMDLs	19	50%	RFPP funding
Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity	Management	Support aquatic organism passage projects and programs in the Basin	16	42%	Implementati on funding
AIS	Management	Support management of water chestnut in the Lake Champlain Basin	15	39%	Core Program
Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity	Research	Support mapping of vulnerable species and their habitat, with identification and prioritization for areas of concern	13	34%	RFPP funding
Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity	Monitoring	Support monitoring projects and programs that increase our understanding of distribution and range of critical species, including use of eDNA and volunteer monitors	11	29%	RFPP funding
Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity	Research	Support research to develop biological indicators for water quality and ecosystem health, with a focus on salmonid habitat	11	29%	RFPP funding
AIS	Research	Support research to improve implementation of biological controls focused on addressing long established aquatic invasive species	10	26%	RFPP funding
Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat	Research	Support research to understand impacts of marinas (current and proposed expansions) on the lake ecosystem, including human behaviors	9	24%	RFPP funding
AIS	Research	Research and monitor impact of zebra mussels to the Lake's food web to inform potential impacts of a future quagga mussel infestation	6	16%	RFPP funding
Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity	Monitoring	Track hemlock wooly adelgid in Lake George watershed to ensure containment and limit additional spread in LCB.	3	8%	RFPP funding
		Continue to expand Lakewise program into New York and Québec	1	3%	Core

Category	Thriving Communities THEMES	Summit Survey votes	% Support	Theme Execution
Community outreach	Support climate resilience in the Basin: Community resilience, understanding connections, and addressing education gaps	21	55%	RFPP funding
Community outreach	Increase outreach to municipal governments to inform of Lake Champlain Basin programs as well as funding opportunities available (with an emphasis on smaller municipalities)	19	50%	Staff-driven
Community outreach	Support multi-year grant program for organizational capacity building	10	26%	Implementation funding
DEI	Develop capacity to support organizations that do not normally receive funding with financial and technical resources, and target organizations in priority, and underserved watersheds	17	45%	Implementation funding
DEI	Increase engagement of underrepresented communities in decision making, funding, stewardship, and recreational opportunities	18	47%	Staff-driven
DEI - aligns with a Clean Water theme	Analyze where grant dollars have gone at the sub-watershed level to determine any inequity of resources.	5	13%	Staff-driven
Interpretation	Support additional Artist in Residence programs to incorporate the arts into interpreting the Lake and the issues it faces.	11	29%	RFPP funding
Public access	Identify and prioritize shoreline and riverside land for potential conservation and public access for traditionally underserved communities with a focus on sites of cultural, archaeological, and historic significance.	27	71%	RFPP funding
Public access	Pursue recreation planning and strategic, integrated approaches to funding initiatives that restore and protect natural assets and increase public access and recreational co-benefits.	20	53%	RFPP funding
Social science	Support social science-related work that does not directly apply to priorities for existing LCBP advisory committees	4	11%	Staff-driven

Category	Informed and Involved Public Theme	Summit Survey votes	Summit Survey %	Theme execution
Students and teacher training	Offer grant programs to inform students and teachers about the watershed issues, pollution solutions, and personal stewardship possibilities	28	74%	RFP funding
Watershed group support	Provide grant programs to continue support for watershed groups to provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement	26	68%	RFP funding
Outreach to municipalities	Support outreach to municipal and state highway departments regarding salt reduction in the entire watershed	25	66%	RFP funding
Septic and WWTF-focused outreach	Support projects and programs to educate the public about the role of septic system management and WWTFs in water quality, and promote career opportunities in this field in partnership with Lake Champlain Sea Grant workforce development programs	24	63%	RFP funding
Stewardship	Support projects and programs to engage stakeholders and increase local stewardship in the upper reaches of the watershed to help them understand their connection to Lake Champlain	21	55%	RFP funding
Public access	Support projects and programs to expand and improve public access to water quality and quantity data to engage public, and inform policy.	19	50%	RFP funding
Underserved communities	Support projects and programs to extend outreach programming to traditionally underserved communities, including indigenous populations	18	47%	RFP funding
HABs	Support programs to improve public understanding of Harmful Algal Blooms, including identification, causes, prevention, and myths. Offer interpretation to non-English speaking audiences.	17	45%	RFP funding
Outreach	Increase communication of publicly visible projects, such as signage for installations of scientific equipment and interpretation support for management activities on the lake or in the watershed	15	39%	Staff-driven
Agriculture outreach	Support interpretation of science and technological transfer to farms	14	37%	RFP funding
Outreach	Support projects and programs to interpret the new State of the Lake report at venues across the Basin.	14	37%	RFP funding
Community science	Offer grant programs to support community science	13	34%	RFP funding
Underserved communities	Offer grant programs to support organizations that do not normally receive funding with financial and technical resources, and target organizations in priority, and underserved watersheds	12	32%	RFP funding

Outreach	Develop additional interpretive video clips to interpret lake issues, including cyanobacteria blooms, and distribute to movie theaters and other locations around the Basin	12	32%	Staff-driven
Underserved communities	Provide greater opportunities to involve and engage underserved communities and a more diverse community members.	11	29%	Staff-driven
Outreach	Support projects to increase understanding of audiences to target communication and science outreach programs	9	24%	RFP funding
Public access	Offer ADA-compliant technologies for LCBP meetings to ensure fully accessible opportunities for public participation	5	13%	Staff-driven
Outreach	Use results of public awareness survey to target outreach in relation to lake safety (swimming lessons, safe boating for non-motorized boats, ice safety)	5	13%	RFP funding
Marinas	Assess contaminant prevention practices at marinas	5	13%	RFP funding
Underserved communities	Translate key messages of State of the Lake report into languages accessible to New American communities	4	11%	Staff-driven
Outreach	Support projects to develop and implement community surveys to engage the public	4	11%	RFP funding
Outreach	Develop program to interpret public trust laws to stakeholders in the Basin	3	8%	RFP funding

OFA Objective	OFA Sub-Objective
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Climate Change
Reduce Nutrient Loading	Missisquoi Bay
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Monitoring
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Monitoring
Reduce Nutrient Loading	Developed lands
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Monitoring
Reduce Nutrient Loading	Agriculture
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Cyanobacteria
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Monitoring
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Research
Reduce Contaminants of Concern and Pathogens	Wastewater
Reduce Contaminants of Concern and Pathogens	De-Icing salts
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Modeling
Reduce Contaminants of Concern and Pathogens	Agriculture

Reduce Contaminants of Concern and Pathogens	Agriculture
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Monitoring
Reduce Nutrient Loading	Agriculture
Improve scientific knowledge and understanding of water quality conditions and trends in Lake Champlain and the effectiveness of management approaches	Research
Reduce Contaminants of Concern and Pathogens	Research

Clean Water Topics for LCBP 2022 OFA (5-year)	Summit Results HIGH (5)	Summit Results MEDIUM (3)
Support research and understanding of impact of climate change on clean water	30	7
Fund implementation of actions developed by the Missisquoi bay bi-national phosphorus reduction task force	23	12
Expand monitoring to understand root causes of trends and to target resources in a coordinated approach across the Basin.	21	15
Close knowledge gaps on internal nutrient loading in key areas of the lake, with management recommendations	20	16
Fund green infrastructure projects to reduce stormwater flows in combined sewer service areas to reduce occurrences of CSOs.	20	15
Establish benthic health monitoring in several brooks in agriculture-intensive and other areas of the basin to document improvements from BMP implementation programs.	18	17
Increase support for comprehensive nutrient management planning, especially for small farms	20	13
Improve monitoring and expand understanding of cyanotoxins	17	18
Expand the LTMP to include an in-situ sensor network across the lake and tributaries to better inform policy and the public.	16	19
Quantify the mass balance, forms, and transportation routes of phosphorus for the entire Lake Champlain Basin	19	13
Increase investment in core wastewater service area and encourage upgrading infrastructure in these areas to effectively treat PFAS, microplastics, etc.	19	12
Support road de-icing salt research, implementation, and monitoring throughout the watershed, including alternative programs to reduce sodium chloride application to roads and parking lots	16	19
Develop robust groundwater model for Lake Champlain Basin, including nutrient and contaminant transport	18	13
Support identified ways to reduce agrochemical application.	14	21

Research ways to reduce agrochemical application and runoff	13	21
Expand the cyanobacteria monitoring program with increased volunteer network, remote sensing, and other technologies.	12	18
Education & outreach to expand the use of FarmPREP program	7	23
Understand the benefits of clean water and how clean water funds are distributed to communities across the landscape	12	12
Support "maker space" innovation contest to develop technologies/tools for reducing contaminants	7	12

Summit Results LOW (1)	Score
1	172
3	154
2	152
2	150
3	148
3	144
5	144
3	142
3	140
5	139
8	139
1	138
7	136
3	136

4	132
8	122
7	111
14	110
18	89

OFA Objective

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Support Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat

Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Support Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat

Support Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity

Support Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat

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Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Prevent the Spread of Aquatic Invasive Species

Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity

Preserve and Enhance Biodiversity

Support Conservation of Vulnerable Habitat

Healthy Ecosystems Topics for LCBP 2022 OFA (5-year)	Summit Results HIGH (5)	Summit Results MEDIUM (3)	Summit Results LOW (1)
Support expansion of AIS decontamination stations across the Basin to reduce risk of spread to all waterbodies in the Basin	32	5	1
Prioritize, implement and assess restoration and conservation projects in Lake Champlain Basin tributaries and watersheds that increase the resilience of these tributaries and the lake and support native fish wildlife and plants under current and predicted future conditions including: Riparian restoration, Wetland restoration, Floodplain reconnection and restoration, Instream restoration, Aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial connectivity	29	7	2
Support habitat restoration projects for species of high conservation need (rare, threatened, and endangered)	26	12	0
Address canalways as an AIS vector to Lake Champlain: Implement AIS barrier in Champlain Canal and assess need in Chambly Canal	26	11	1
Focus on restoring healthy soils that store carbon and nutrients through shifting agricultural practices and restoration of riparian areas, floodplains, wetlands, shrublands and forest.	24	12	1
Develop and track metrics to measure changes in ecosystem health	22	13	3
Continue to support survey and removal of water chestnut in the Lake Champlain basin.	19	17	2
Continue to support restoration of habitat quality and access for Atlantic salmon, lake trout, walleye and other sportfish	20	15	2
Support research to increase understanding of predicted impacts of a changing climate including frequency of floods, increased air and water temperatures on the lake's ecosystem.	21	12	5
Support projects to increase stream restoration	19	15	4
Continue and expand Great Lakes-Lake Champlain AIS program (VIDA)	18	15	5
Support projects to address pathways of AIS introduction and spread, including water gardening, aquarium and spiritual releases, bait, etc.	15	20	3
Work with USFWS, Québec MNRF, and other partners to continue to research non-target impacts of sea lamprey control	13	19	6
Support fish community research, including juvenile lake trout	10	22	6
Support research to increase knowledge of lake sturgeon populations and improve access to historical spawning locations.	11	18	9
Assess state and local policies to identify policies that align, contradict, or pose obstacles to healthy ecosystems goals	11	17	10

Score

176

168

166

164

157

152

148

147

146

144

140

138

128

122

118

116

OFA Objective

Support Lake and Basin recreation

Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners

Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners

Support Lake and Basin recreation

Support Lake and Basin recreation
Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners
Support awareness and
conservation of cultural heritage
resources

Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners
Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners
Engage and Support Community &
Management Partners

Thriving Communities Topics for LCBP 2022 OFA (5-year)	Summit Results HIGH (5)	Summit Results MEDIUM (3)	Summit Results LOW (1)
Support ongoing funding and partnerships with stakeholders to preserve prioritized shoreline and riverside land in the Basin for erosion control and recreation opportunities.	24	13	1
Develop a long-term diversity, equity, inclusion plan to diversify LCBP, including staff, committees, and opportunities among grants and education programs	23	11	4
Ensure that LCBP and CVNHP programs and grant opportunities are representative of the Basin and its residents, and that traditionally underserved communities are represented within committees of the Program	20	15	3
Facilitate work to expand recreation access to the Lake Champlain Basin's waters in a coordinated manner to reduce impacts to the health of the Lake, with a focus on the South lake.	17	18	3
Identify recreation needs at current access areas and identify related outreach programming that can be conducted at these areas.	13	21	4
Support capacity-building opportunities with an adaptive management approach for watershed organizations	12	22	4
Support interpretation of our past and the resources that represent our cultural heritage to foster appreciation by stakeholders that will drive their interest in stewardship of the Basin and the CVNHP.	12	20	6
Emphasize the impact of climate change, with mitigation measures, on communities, with context of historical events such as eruption of Mount Tambora in 1816 that led to the "year without a summer" in New England and New York.	12	16	10
Support a coherent assessment of municipal policies in the basin and analyze synergies and tradeoffs in those policies that impact the lake.	10	18	10
Examine how Basin communities are likely to receive new climate migration residents and how this will affect the Basin as a whole	6	17	15

Score
160
152
148
142
132
130
126
118
114
96

OFA Objective	Informed & Involved Public Topics for LCBP 2022 OFA (5-year)	Summit Results HIGH (5)	Summit Results MEDIUM (3)	Summit Results LOW (1)	Score
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Continue to support education and outreach programming to agricultural producers	26	12	0	166
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Continue to support outreach programs to stakeholders to promote the benefits of Lake Champlain to communities	23	14	1	158
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Develop education and outreach programs to educate stakeholders on the benefits and outcomes of completed projects for water quality, to encourage local support for community-level investments in water quality projects that benefit the Lake	23	14	1	158
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Continue to provide support to watershed groups which provide on-the-ground projects and community learning and engagement	24	12	1	157
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Interpret technical information in a way that is easily understood by stakeholders	24	11	3	156
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Facilitate cross-committee communication of LCBP committee members to promote education and outreach opportunities from technical and heritage projects	18	20	0	150
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Develop outreach programs to inform local decision makers about Lake and Basin issues	21	13	4	148

Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Continue to build a network of educators who teach about the Basin.	19	16	2	145
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Identify communities that have been underserved by LCBP grant programs and outreach programming and develop targeted outreach and engagement strategies for these communities.	18	17	2	143
Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Increase student learning opportunities with connections to design-build programs for water quality and ecosystem health projects	18	15	4	139
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Increase community science to engage and develop stewardship for the basin	20	10	8	138
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Measure the impact of stewardship actions over time and track behavior changes as a result of outreach programming	17	16	5	138
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Support education and outreach programming in collaboration with the Missisquoi Bay Bi-National Phosphorus Reduction Task Force	16	18	3	137
Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Develop a K-12 mentorship program to encourage watershed stewardship, with an emphasis on traditionally underserved communities	17	15	5	135
Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Support education programs to communicate messaging about climate resiliency and adaptation	18	13	6	135
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Develop an informational dashboard to inform stakeholders about Basin-related data and programs	18	12	8	134
Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Support technical training opportunities for watershed groups	17	15	4	134

Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Develop visual maps that welcome people to the watershed, introduce native lands, highlight local subwatersheds, introduce key attributes, each local map can have some representation done by local artists that would be promoted through a competitive grant process to build awareness. All the maps would be linked, and help promote a sense of shared but diverse identity.	17	13	8	132
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Expand Streamwise and Lakewise program with a focus on outreach and education and funding for implementation of riparian buffers	16	16	4	132
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Strengthen the feedback loop between resource managers and community members. Ensure the managers are answering questions relevant to communities.	12	22	4	130
Enhance formal learning at all educational levels	Develop education and outreach training programs and tool boxes to help technical professionals better engage with the general public.	15	17	4	130
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Utilize the heritage of the Basin to engage stakeholders and foster stewardship of the Basin's natural resources	15	14	8	125
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Create opportunities to receive information from the public to share their information and opinions about the Basin	11	21	6	124
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Engage with New American communities to identify and acknowledge their watershed issues of concern	13	17	8	124
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Support events that can boost outreach programming, such as bike rides	12	19	7	124

Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Identify and translate select LCBP publications into languages interpretable by New American and other traditionally underserved communities	13	16	9	122
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Utilize digital survey tools to measure public interest and engagement in the Lake	12	18	8	122
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Repeat public awareness survey to check-in on progress of knowledge and stewardship of the public.	10	21	6	119
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Establish a shared foundation for priority setting and goals for environmental justice around water quality concerns in Lake Champlain Basin.	12	16	8	116
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Create and support a community awards program to recognize water quality projects and programs implemented at the community level	10	18	9	113
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Develop a Lake Leaders program to promote individuals who take steps to improve the health of the Lake	9	20	8	113
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Facilitate development of shared educational model of the LCRR social-ecological system among Lake Champlain Basin and Richelieu River stakeholders	8	19	11	108
Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.	Encourage career promotion programs in the lake management field	9	12	16	97

Build awareness through informal learning of Lake Champlain Basin issues across all age groups.

Develop program to interpret public trust laws to stakeholders in the Basin	5	14	19	86
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NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

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LCBP Steering Committee Update July 20, 2021

- The [Resilient NY program](#) has begun its work on the Chazy, Little Chazy, Ausable and Boquet Rivers. This DEC and Office of General Services program will identify the causes of flooding within each watershed, and develop, evaluate, and recommend effective and ecologically sustainable flood and ice jam hazard-mitigation projects. Proposed flood mitigation projects will be identified and evaluated using hydrologic and hydraulic modeling to quantitatively determine which proposed recommendations will likely result in the greatest flood reduction benefits. Additionally, the flood resiliency studies will incorporate the latest climate change forecasts and assess ice jam hazards where they have been identified as a threat to public health and safety.
- DEC has executed a contract with New York Rural Water Association to provide technical assistance to wastewater treatment facilities for phosphorus reductions in Lake Champlain watershed. The contract kick-off meeting has taken place and Rural Water has begun reaching out to wastewater treatment facilities.
- Round XI of the [Regional Economic Development Council initiative](#), which launched May 10, includes over 30 programs through nine state agencies. The [Consolidated Funding Application \(CFA\)](#) will be open until **4:00 p.m. on July 30, 2021**. The following water-related grant programs are available through the CFA: [Water Quality Improvement Project](#) (WQIP) Program, [Non-Agricultural Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant](#) (NPG), and [Wastewater Infrastructure Engineering Planning Grant](#) (EPG) program.
- As part of the development of the 2020/2022 New York State Section 303(d) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters, the public is invited to provide water quality data or information. This data solicitation period began May 19, 2021 and will close on September 27, 2021. DEC will then begin compiling a Draft Section 303(d) List, which will be made available for public review and comment in December 2021. Additional information regarding the Section 303(d) List process can be found in the [May 19th Environmental Notice Bulletin](#) and on [DEC's website](#).
- DEC has launched NYHABS for 2021, the New York harmful algal blooms notification and reporting system. NYHABS features an interactive map that is updated daily with reports of HABs throughout New York. DEC is asking the public and trained algal bloom samplers to send reports of HABs with photos electronically via a [simple, mobile phone-friendly form](#). After DEC and Department of Health (DOH) evaluate the reports, they are posted to [NYHABS](#).



Department of
Environmental
Conservation