

March 19, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING

LAKE KANASATKA

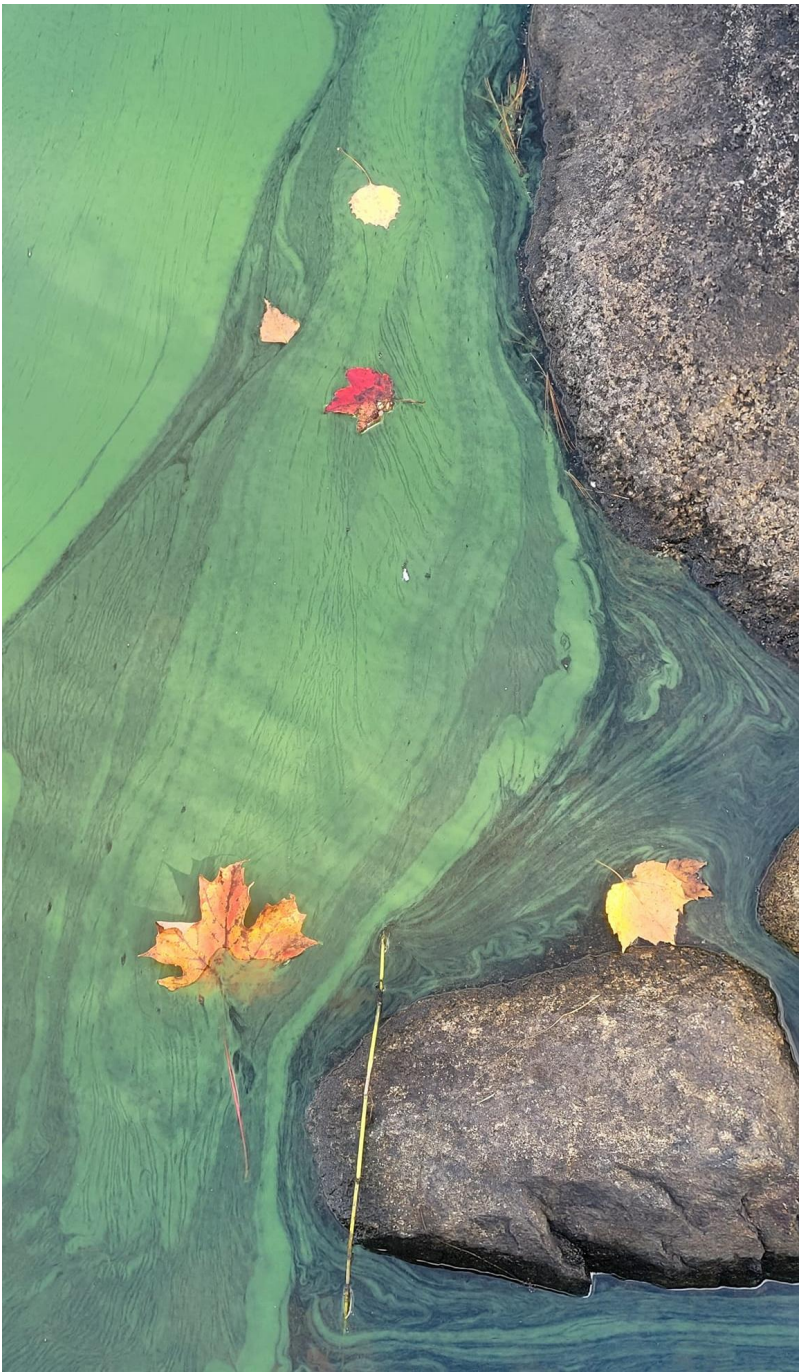
Moultonborough, NH



Laura Diemer, CLM
FB Environmental
Associates

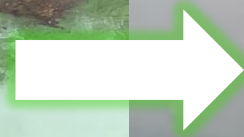
THE PROBLEM





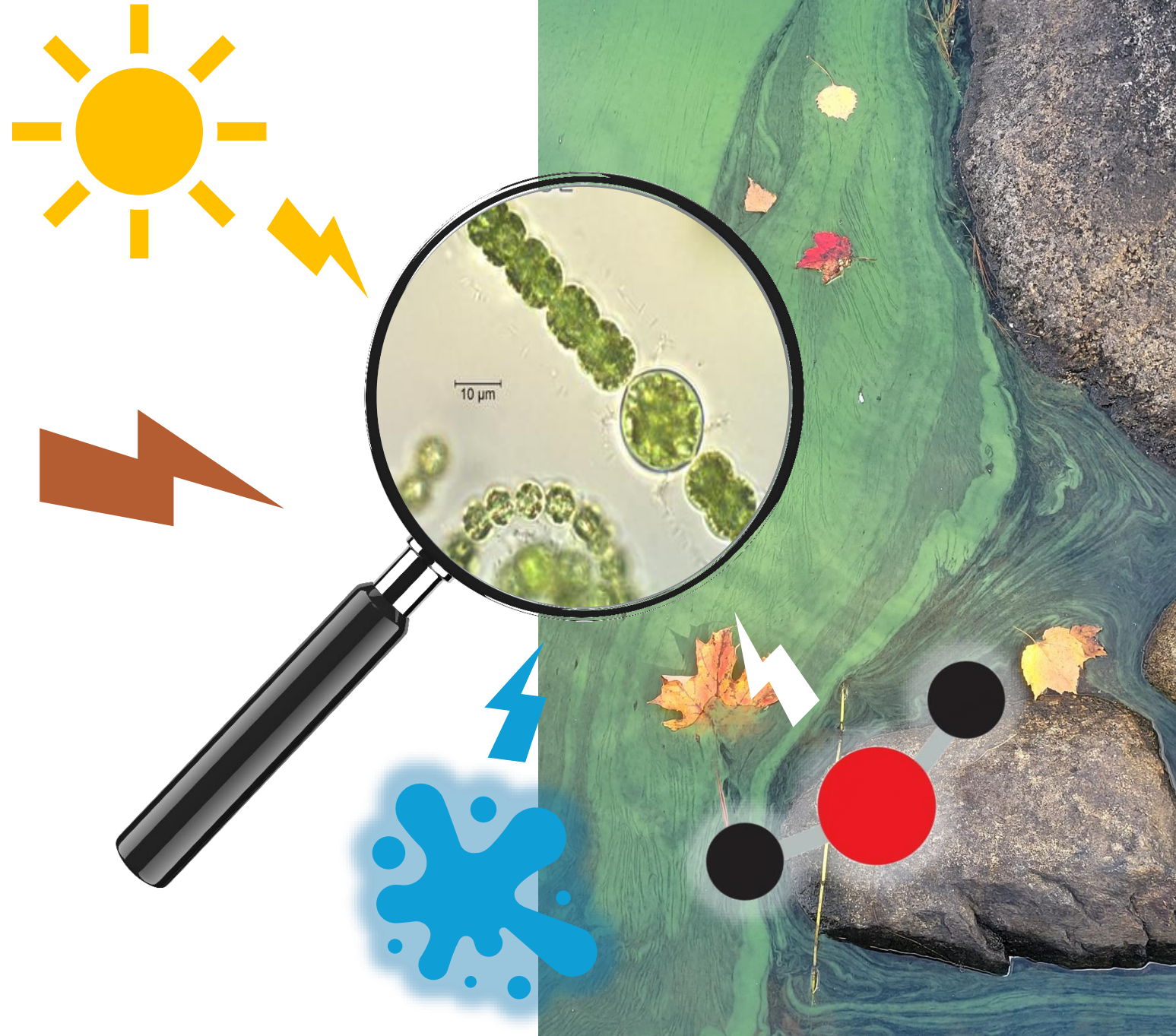
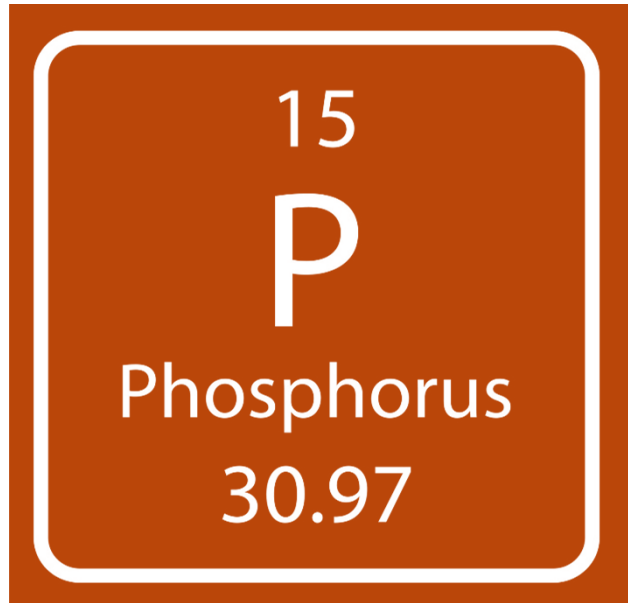


LAKE K



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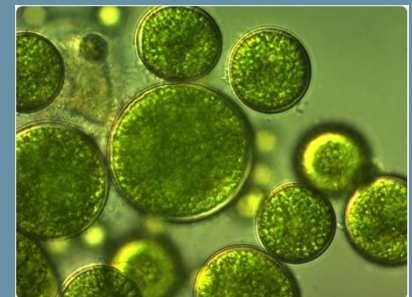
THE CAUSE



THE CAUSE

Excess
Watershed
P Loading

Water
Quality
Decline



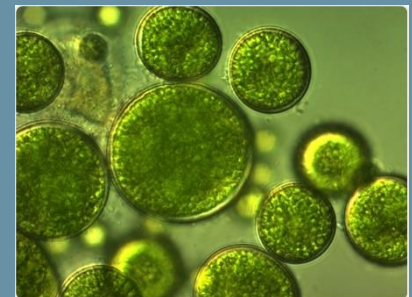
THE CAUSE

Excess
Watershed
P Loading

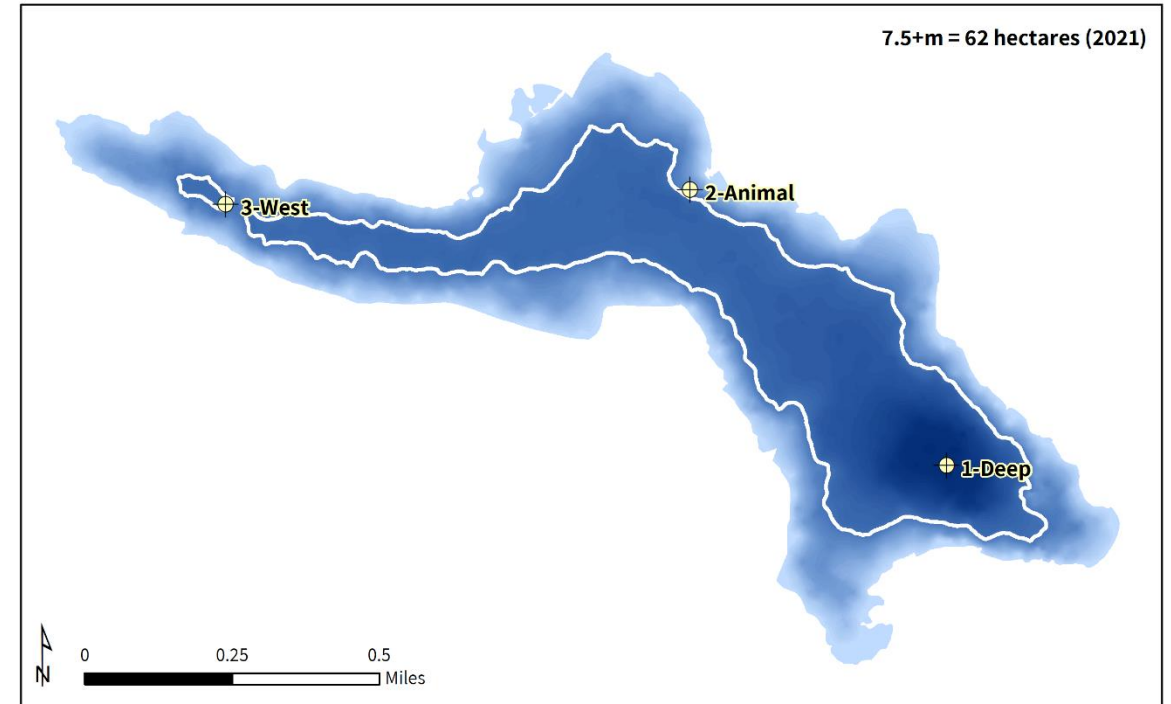
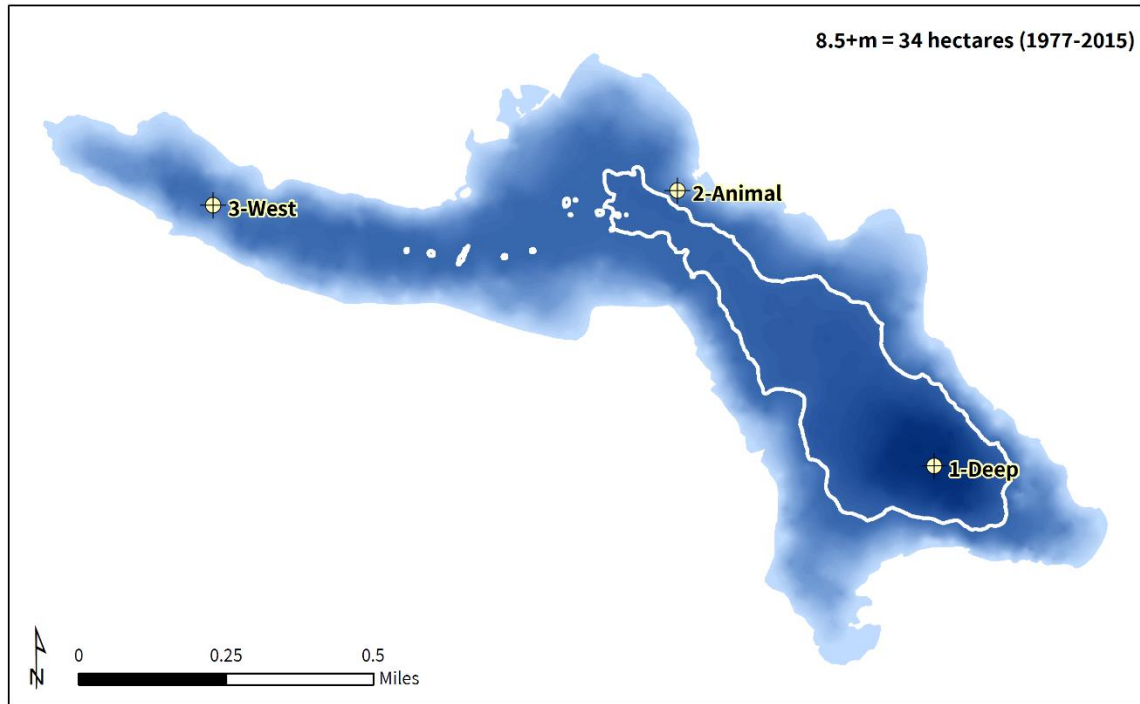
>20%

Internal P
Loading

Water
Quality
Decline



THE CAUSE



If the trend of worsening low oxygen conditions continues, the extension of low oxygen into even shallower depths could support even greater internal loading and more severe blooms in the future.

MANAGEMENT SOLUTION: ALUM

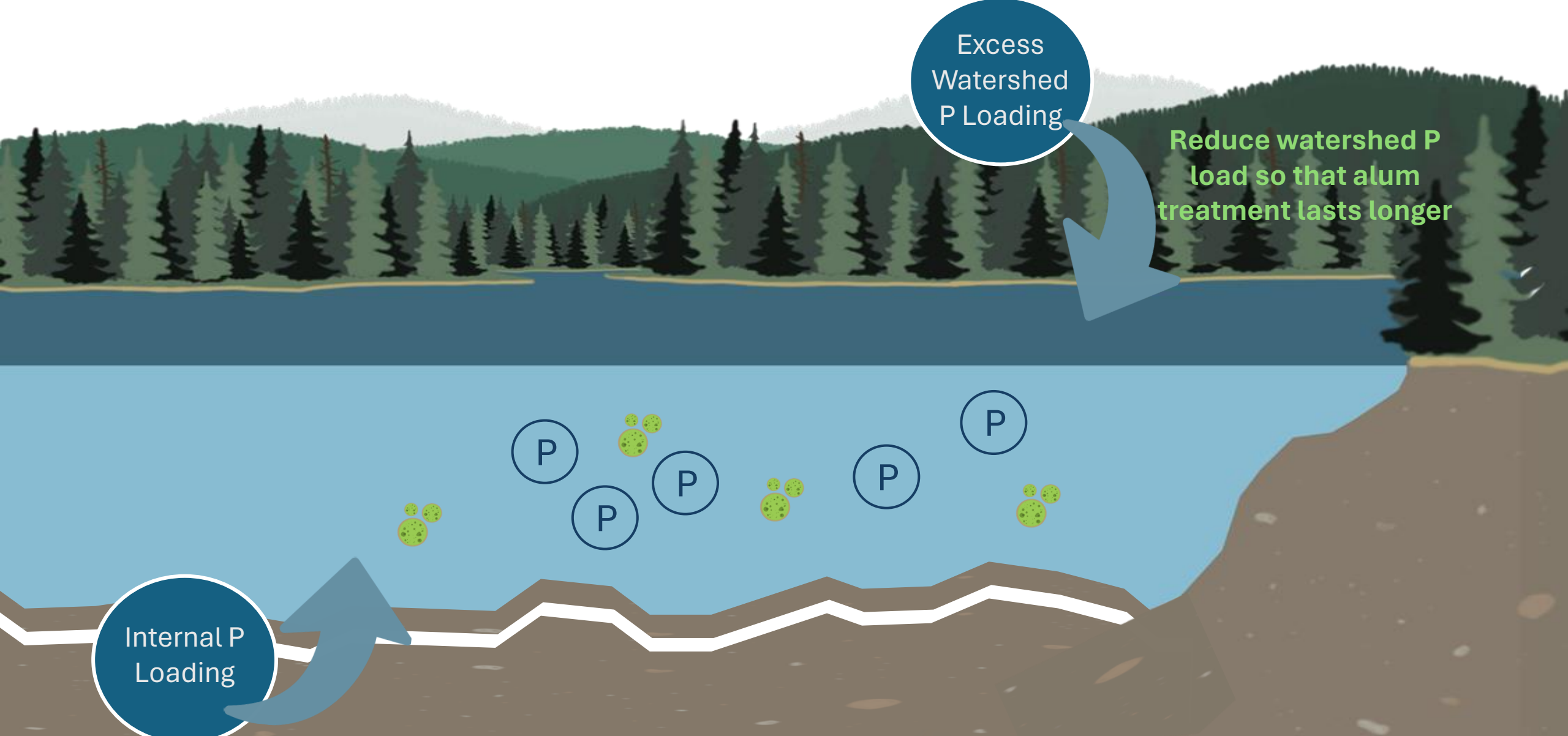


ALUM TREATMENT PRIMER

Excess
Watershed
P Loading

Reduce watershed P
load so that alum
treatment lasts longer

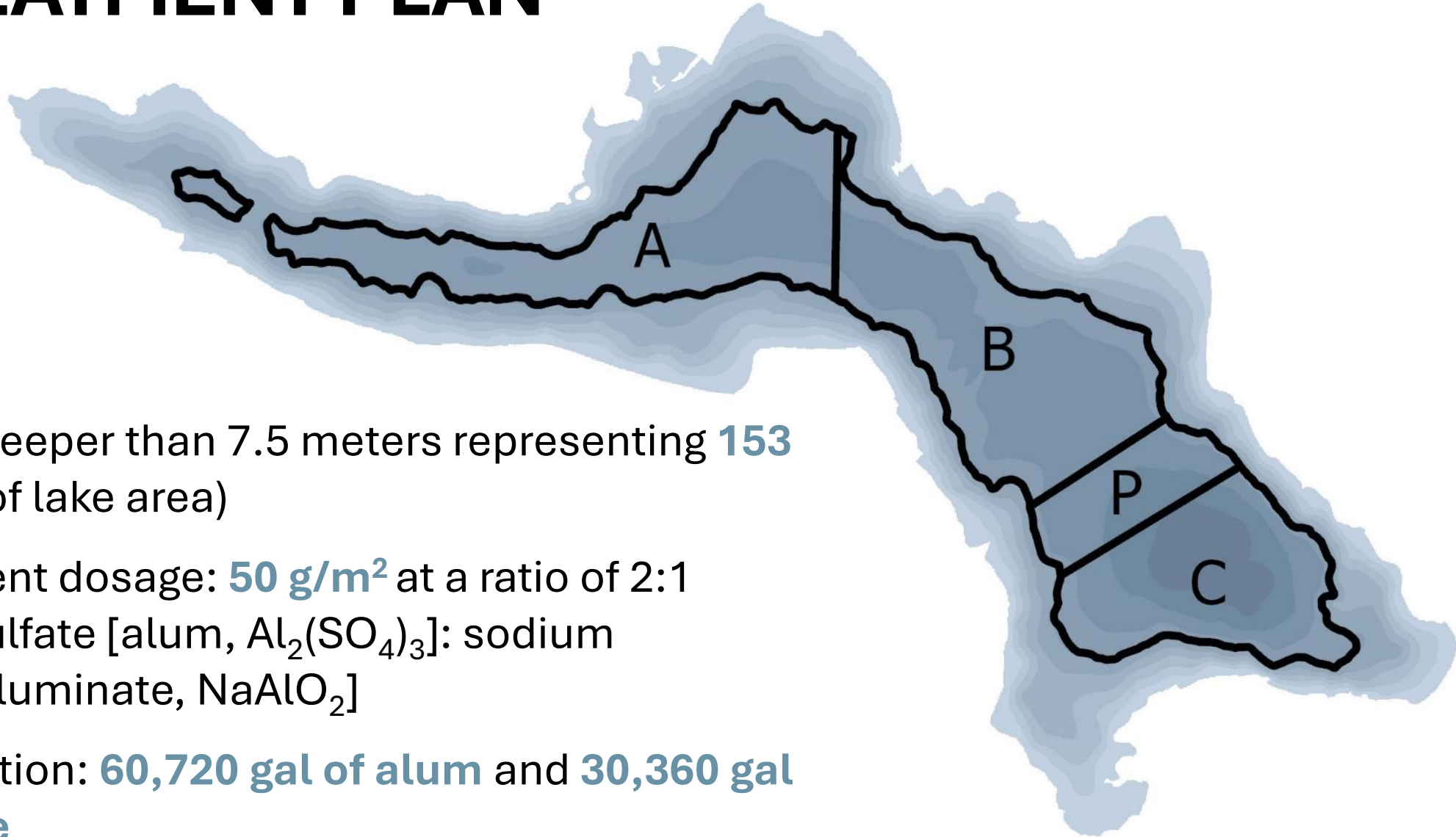
Internal P
Loading





WATERSHED P LOAD REDUCTIONS BY VOLUNTEERS

THE TREATMENT PLAN



- Treat areas deeper than 7.5 meters representing **153 acres** (43% of lake area)
- Total treatment dosage: **50 g/m²** at a ratio of 2:1 aluminum sulfate [alum, $\text{Al}_2(\text{SO}_4)_3$]: sodium aluminate [aluminate, NaAlO_2]
- Total application: **60,720 gal of alum** and **30,360 gal of aluminate**

ECOLOGICAL AND HUMAN HEALTH CONSIDERATIONS

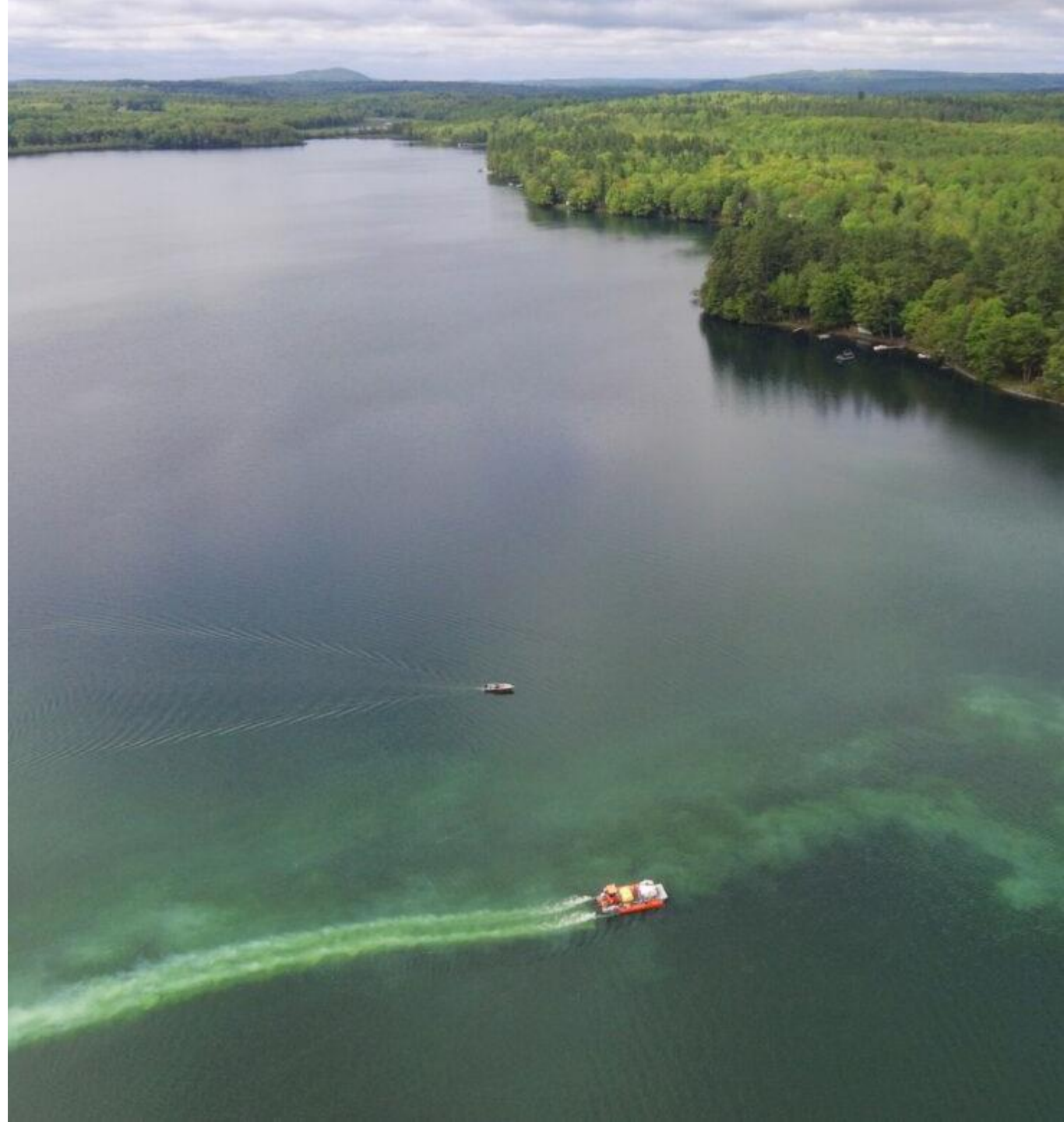
- Al can be toxic to aquatic life in high concentrations, especially at low pH, which is most risky when the Al is first added to the water (before it quickly hydrolyzes and forms the white, fluffy floc)
- Once floc is formed, no longer toxic
- Physical presence of floc can be stressful to fish and can bind with microscopic organisms as it settles (will likely see a reduction in plankton populations in the first year that will rebound in 2-3 years)



TO MINIMIZE RISK TO AQUATIC LIFE

1. Control pH

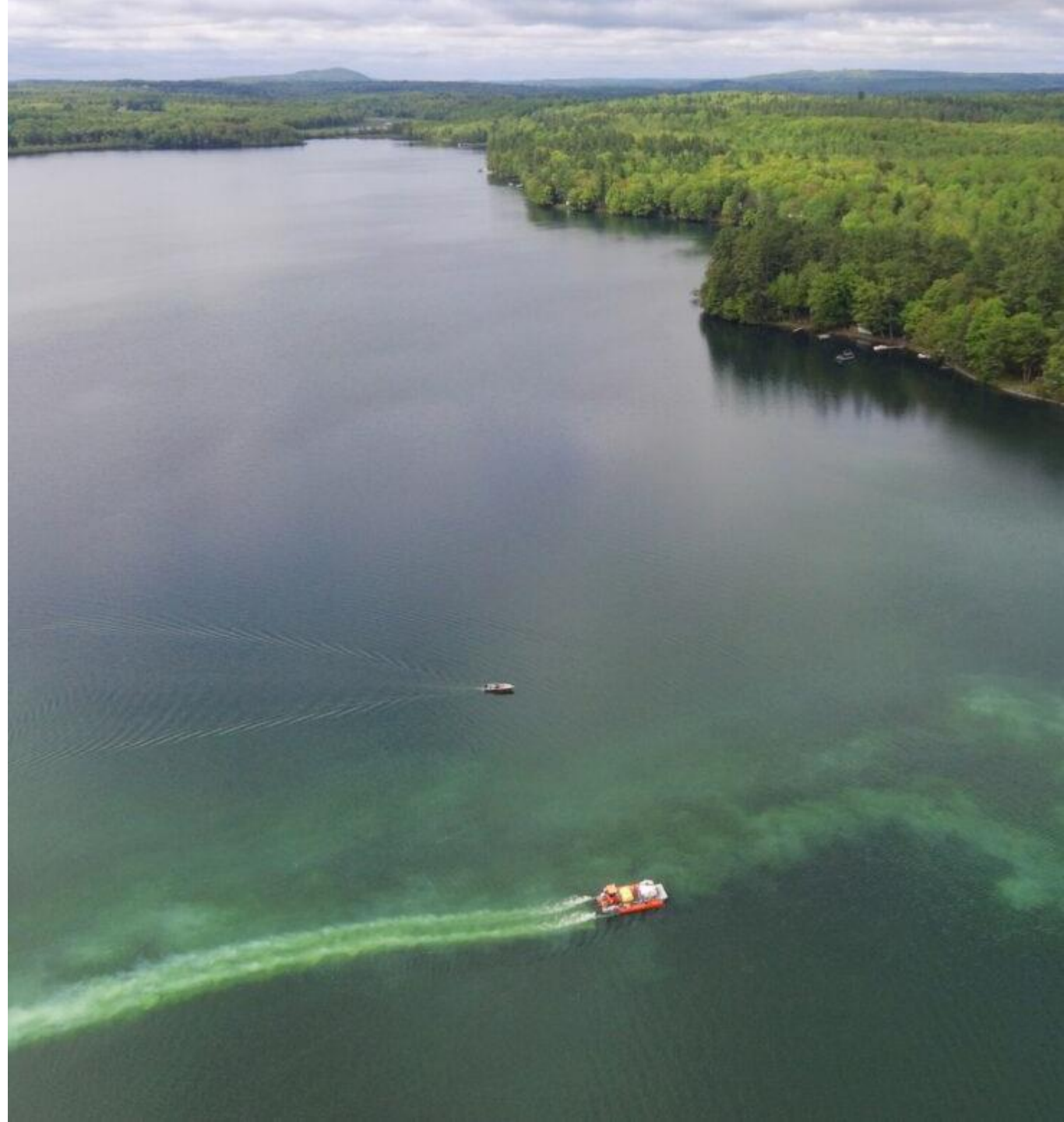
- 2:1 alum:aluminate application is used to stabilize pH between 6.0 and 8.5
- Aluminate acts as a buffer against changes in pH from the hydrolyzation of alum once injected into the water
- Applicator and third-party monitor continuously monitor pH during active treatment; applicator adjusts the 2:1 ratio in real-time to keep the pH close to background conditions
- Application ceases immediately if pH drops below 6.0



TO MINIMIZE RISK TO AQUATIC LIFE

2. Optimize Conditions

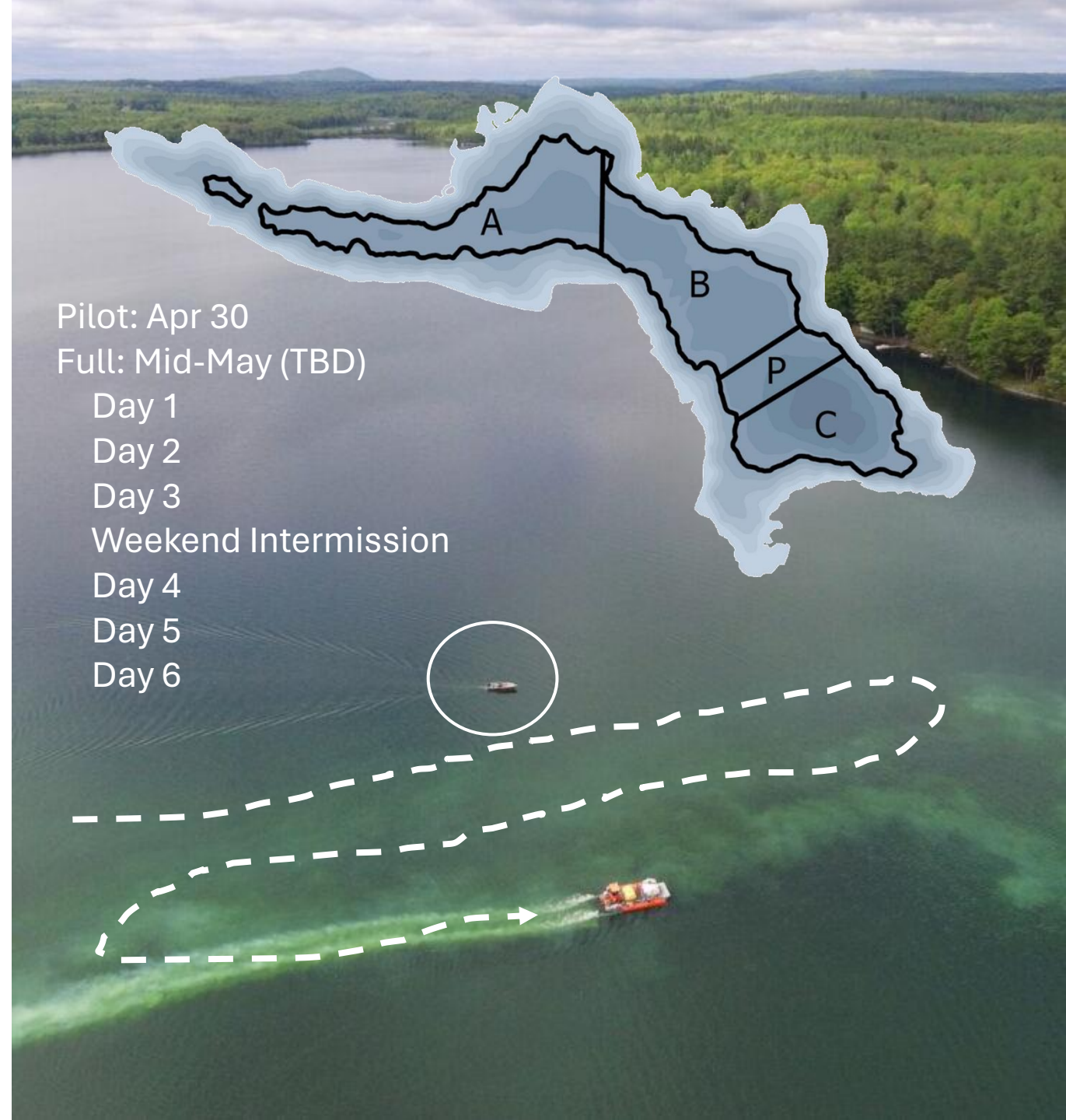
- Time of treatment (spring) conducive to even distribution and mixing; applying alum to waters with temperatures at least 4.4 deg C allows faster **floc formation**
- Treating in spring when bloom risk is low allows for proper **floc settling**; particulates can otherwise interfere with floc settling
- Treating in spring when waters are cooler and more oxygenated allows greater freedom of movement for aquatic organisms to avoid treatment areas
- Wind and rain not major concerns for application, though will only operate in winds <15 mph and minor rain



TO MINIMIZE RISK TO AQUATIC LIFE

3. Allow for Refuge & Rest

- Three main treatment zones created so that no more than 15% of the lake area is treated on a given day; portion of zone C treated during pilot
- Low dosages (25 g/m²) applied per zone per day to achieve <5 mg/L Al in the short-term; thus, each zone treated by two passes over two days
- Within the treatment zone, every other strip in the zone is treated first before filling in the alternate strips to allow refuge to mobile organisms (barge uses GPS to navigate and track treated area)
- Two-week “rest” period between pilot and full treatment; two-day “rest” period between first and second passes during full treatment (5 days)



Pilot: Apr 30

Full: Mid-May (TBD)

Day 1

Day 2

Day 3

Weekend Intermission

Day 4

Day 5

Day 6

TO MINIMIZE RISK TO AQUATIC LIFE

4. Monitor

- Intensive monitoring will occur before, during, and after treatment by UNH, FBE, and NHDES (19 monitoring days total)
- We will monitor:
 - Water clarity
 - Dissolved oxygen
 - Temperature
 - Conductivity
 - Turbidity
 - **pH**
 - Alkalinity
 - Hardness
 - Dissolved Organic Carbon
 - **Total Aluminum**
 - **Acid Soluble Aluminum**
 - Total Phosphorus
 - Total Kjeldahl Nitrogen
 - Nitrate-Nitrite
 - Chlorophyll-a
 - Phytoplankton
 - Zooplankton
 - **Fish & Aquatic life observations**
 - Floc evaluation with camera



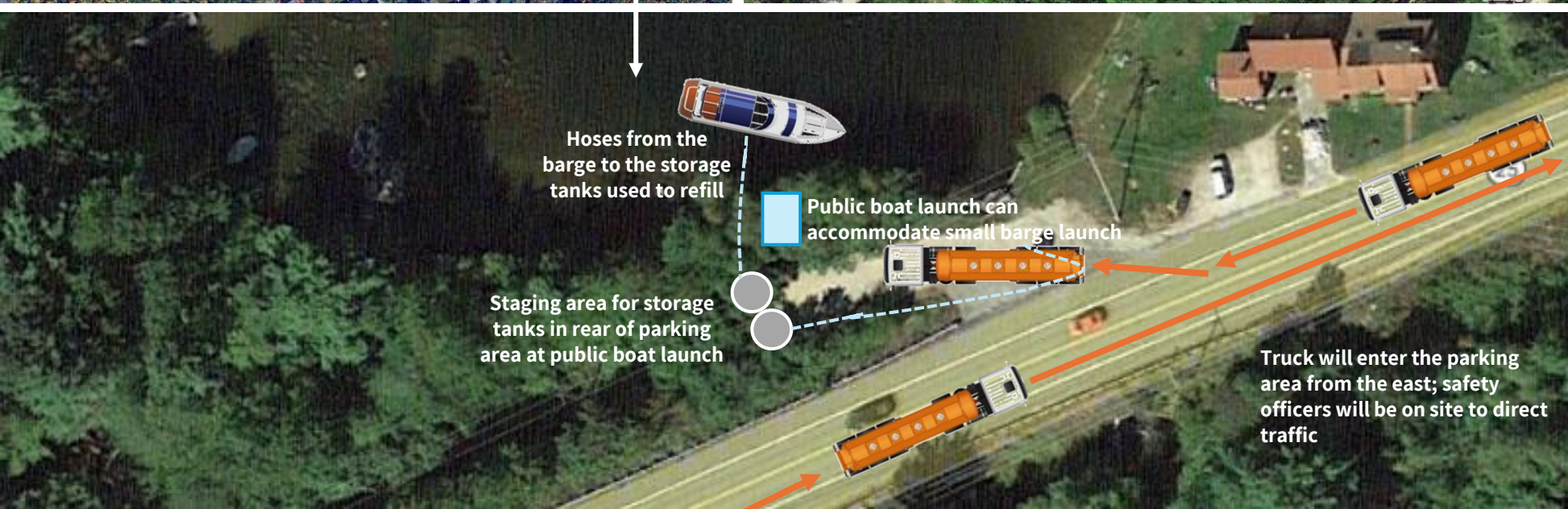
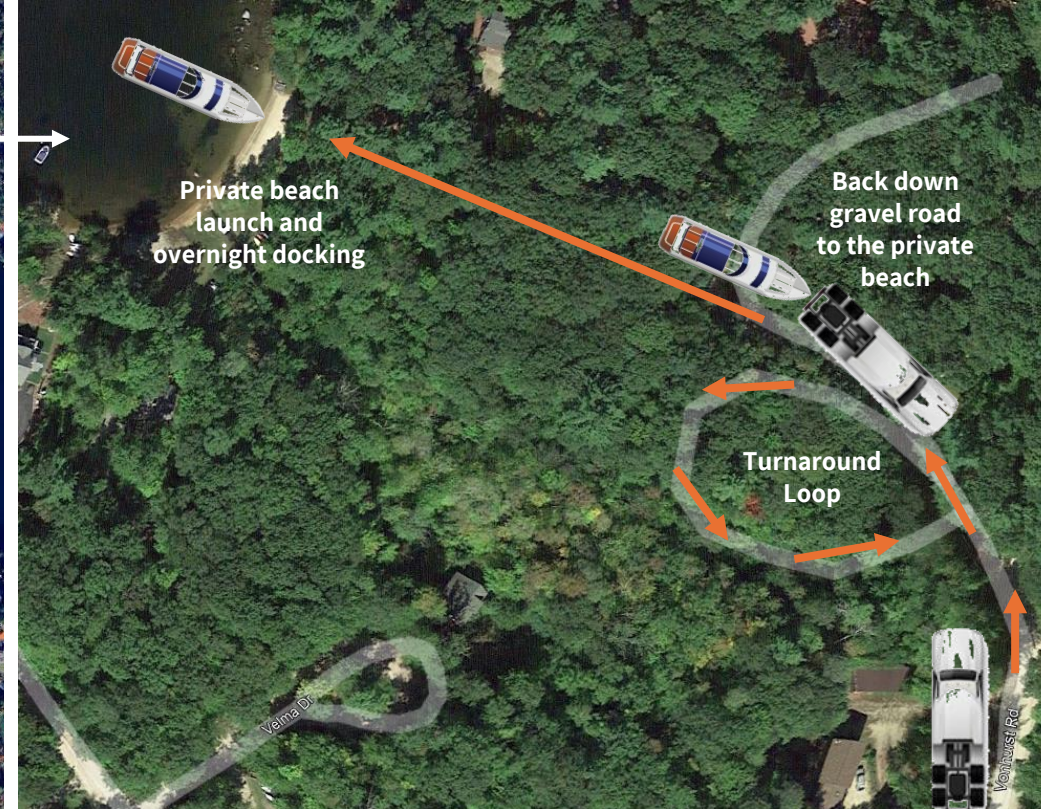
USE RESTRICTIONS DURING TREATMENT

- Alum will be applied in deep, offshore areas, so there is little to no risk to shoreline residents (even those withdrawing water from the lake)
- As a precaution and for the safety of personnel, NHDES is requesting that the public refrain from recreational use of, or water withdrawal from, the lake during and within 24 hours of the completed treatment
 - NHDES plans to close the public boat launch during the day while personnel are on site
- Public notification letters to all shorefront property owners around Lake Kanastka and adjacent to the stream outlet at Blackey Cove will be sent out by LKWA
- Notifications will also be posted at the public boat launch and all roads leading to the waterfront
- LKWA will provide notification information and updates on their Facebook page, website, and via email



STAGING LOGISTICS







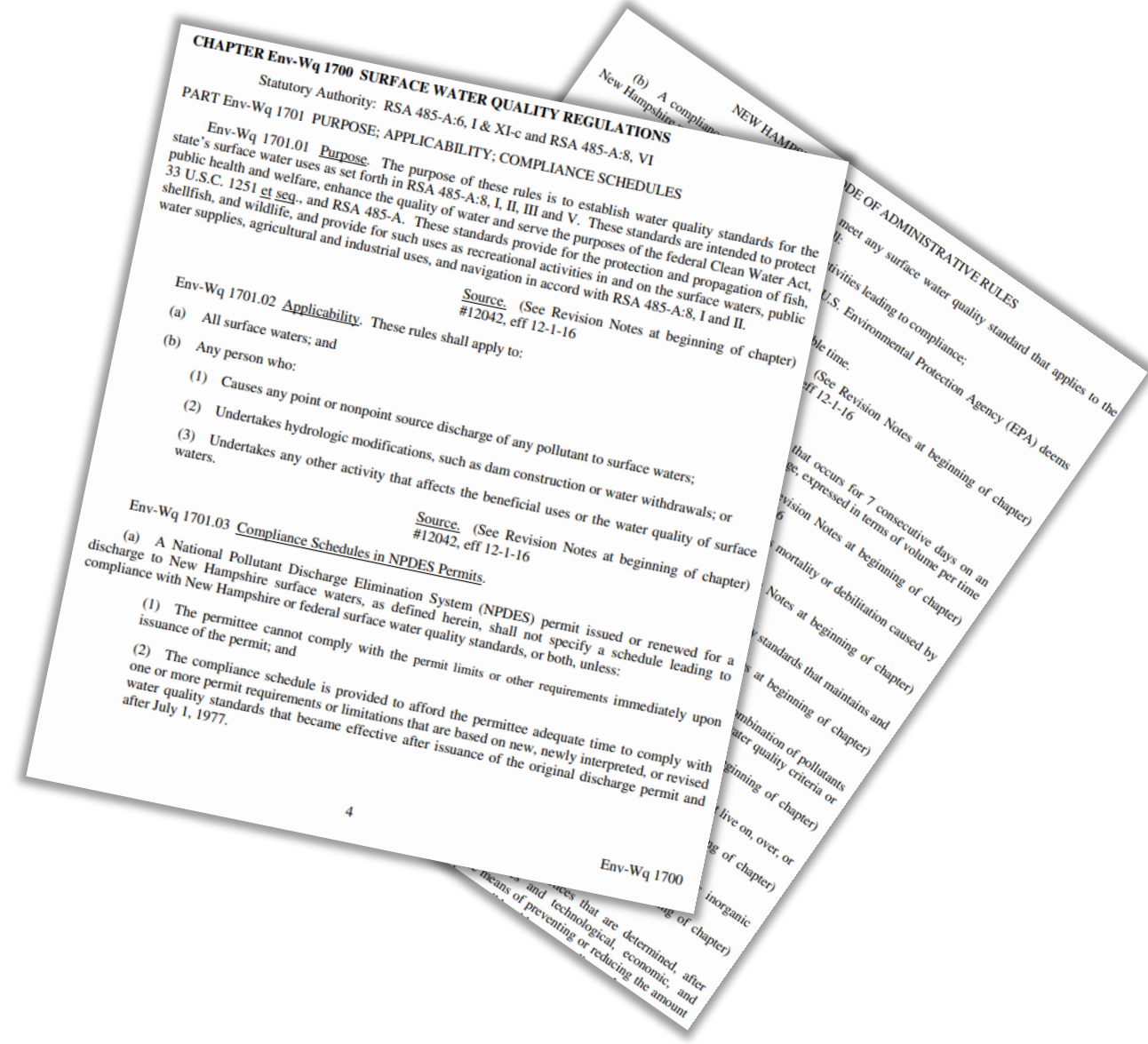
REPORTING AND RECORD KEEPING

- Record chemical names, composition, and suppliers
- Account for daily chemical treatment volumes, mass, and ratios
- Generate maps showing treatment area and boat route of passage
- Record pH readings within the treatment zone during treatment
- Note any equipment failures or deviations from operations and management plan
- All lab results and field data
- Final report summarizing all components of the project

RECEIVING WATER LIMITS

Parameter	Limit*
Aluminum (NH)	Acute: 750 µg/L daily avg. Chronic: 87 µg/L weekly avg.
Aluminum (EPA)	Depends on pH, hardness, and diss. organic carbon
pH	6.5 – 8.0 SU
Turbidity	10 NTUs above baseline

* Attainment of aluminum acute criteria will be the average of measures at the end of each day and chronic criteria will be average of measures over a 4-day period. Attainment of pH and turbidity limits will be determined as the average of all discrete measures at the end of each “treatment phase”.





WHAT TO EXPECT

- **Immediate water quality improvements** and likely record deep water clarity in the first summer and minimal to no blooms
- Long-term may decelerate the expansion of low oxygen area in the lake
- Short-term impacts to plankton will lead to long-term beneficial shifts in biological communities in favor of more balanced food webs
- Eventually the alum treatment's effectiveness will deteriorate to pre-treatment conditions (estimating 13 years), putting the lake at risk for blooms again; **important to continue watershed P load reduction efforts** to extend the life of the treatment
- It is **possible that a second smaller treatment may be needed** in a few years as a supplement to this first treatment; monitoring will inform us

COSTS

- Watershed Management Plan - \$76,000
- 2022-23 Monitoring (Cash + In-kind) & Sediment Analysis - \$19,000
- Treatment Planning & Permitting thru Feb - \$27,000
- Volunteer Work - Watershed BMPs (Cash + In-kind) - \$23,000

- 319 Grant – Watershed BMPs (Cash + In-kind) - \$167,000
- Treatment Planning & Permitting - \$13,000
- Treatment Application by SOLitude - \$482,000
- 2024 Monitoring (UNH, FBE, Lab fees) - \$61,000

} \$145,000

} \$723,000
-\$500K
-\$100K

**Awarded \$500,000
grant by NHDES**

\$868,000

WHAT'S NEXT?

- Public submits comments to david.e.neils@des.nh.gov or to 29 Hazen Dr., C/O David Neils, Concord, NH 03833 through April 3, 2024
- NHDES responds to public comments within 15 days
- NHDES issues permit in early April
- LKWA obtains NHDES CMF funds (\$500,000) to pay for treatment
- Contractors coordinate with LKWA, NHDES, and UNH LLMP for treatment and monitoring
 - Pilot Treatment (April 30th)
 - Full Treatment (anticipated mid-May)



March 19, 2024

PUBLIC HEARING

THANK YOU!

QUESTIONS?



Laura Diemer, CLM
FB Environmental
Associates