

Lake Champlain Basin Program

Agricultural Tiling Workshop

January, 2008

Opportunities for Action

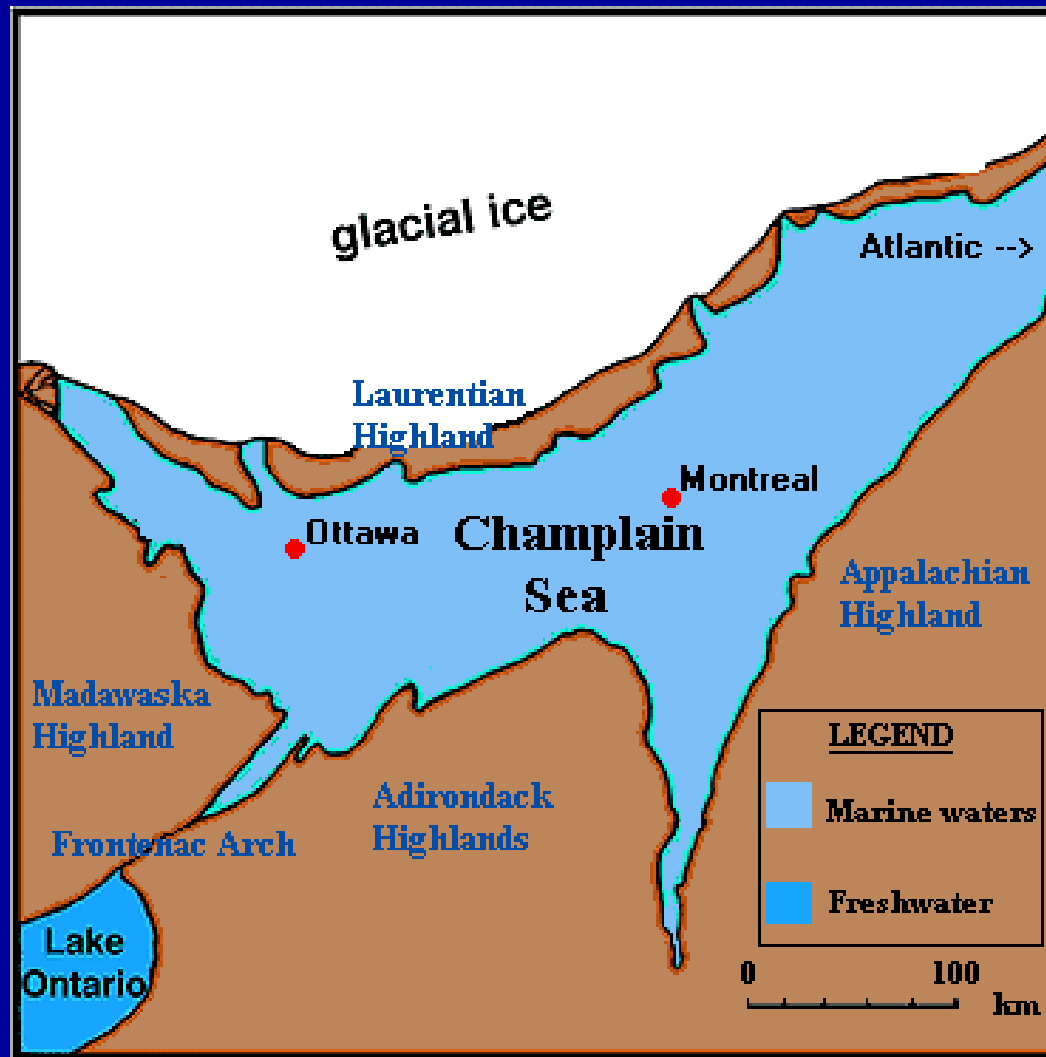
Highest Priorities for Action

1. Reduce phosphorus inputs
2. Reduce toxic contamination
3. Control the introduction, spread of nonnative nuisance species
4. Minimize the risk from water-related health hazards

Opportunities for Action also includes Priorities and Actions in Recreation, Cultural Heritage and Regional Economy

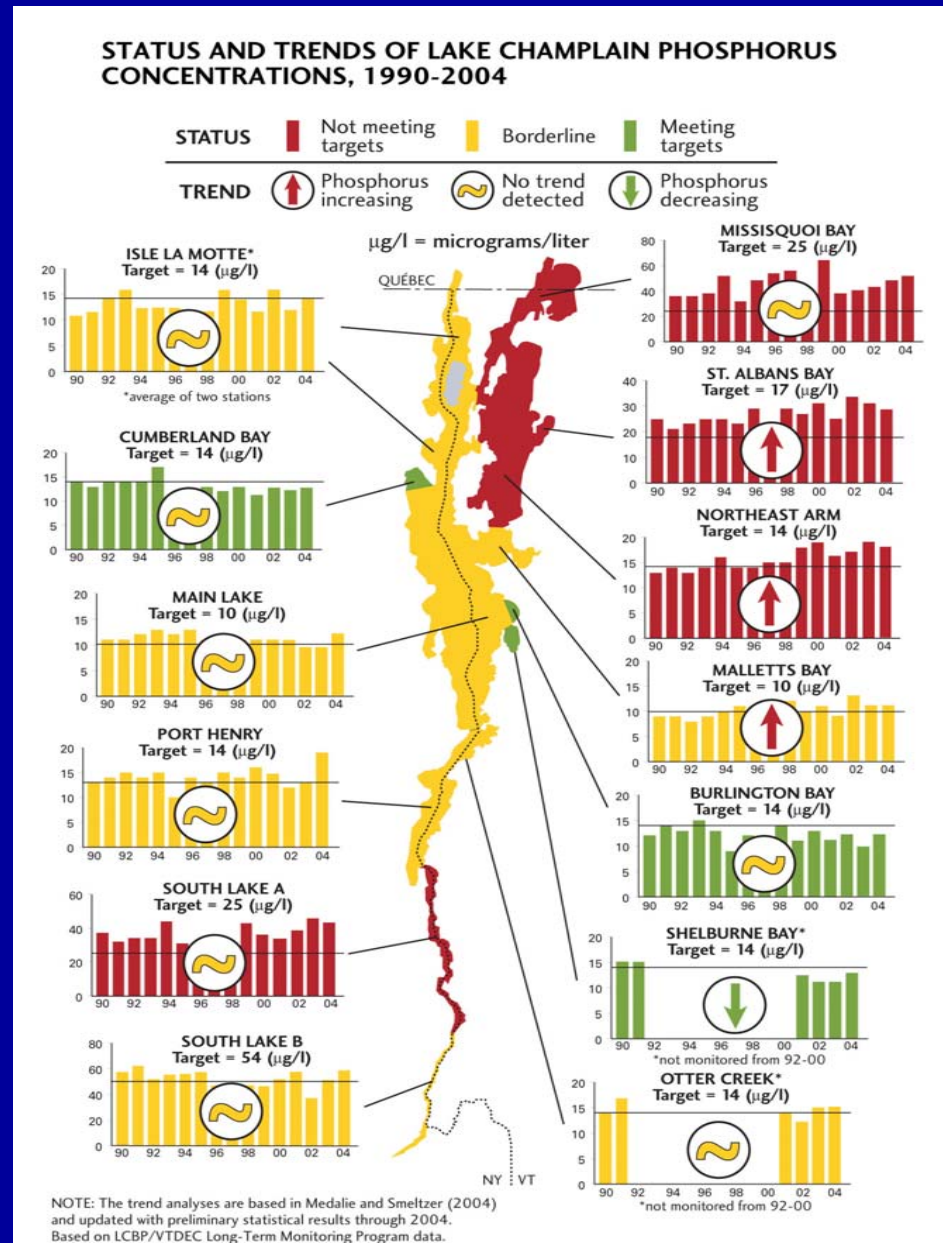


The Champlain Sea



Are Phosphorus Levels too high in the Lake?

- **Yes** - Phosphorus levels are too high in much of the Lake due to human activities, especially in: *Missisquoi Bay Northeast Arm & South Lake.*
- **But** - The Main Lake Cumberland Bay Shelburne Bay Mallets Bay and Burlington Bay are all very near their targets
- **Great reductions** have been made with Sewage Treatment Plant upgrades, but
- **Great challenges remain** from nonpoint source runoff



What are the Pollution Trends in our Rivers?

- Tributary Rivers Carry most of the Phosphorus to the Lake.
- Now less than 10% of the Phosphorus entering the Lake comes from Treatment Plants and Industries.
- About 90% of Phosphorus entering the Lake comes from Nonpoint Sources:
 -comes from agriculture
 -comes from developed land
 -comes from forests
- Only the LaPlatte R. (VT) meets target load
- Seven tributaries are reducing phosphorus
- Three tributaries are increasing phosphorus
- Eight tributaries show no trend

STATUS AND TRENDS OF TRIBUTARY PHOSPHORUS LOADING, 1990-2004



NOTE: The trend analyses for all the rivers, except the Pike, are preliminary results from Laura Medalie, USGS, personal communication. Based on LCBP/VTDEC Long-Term Monitoring Program data. The Pike River analysis is from the Québec Ministry of Sustainable Development, Environment and Parks.