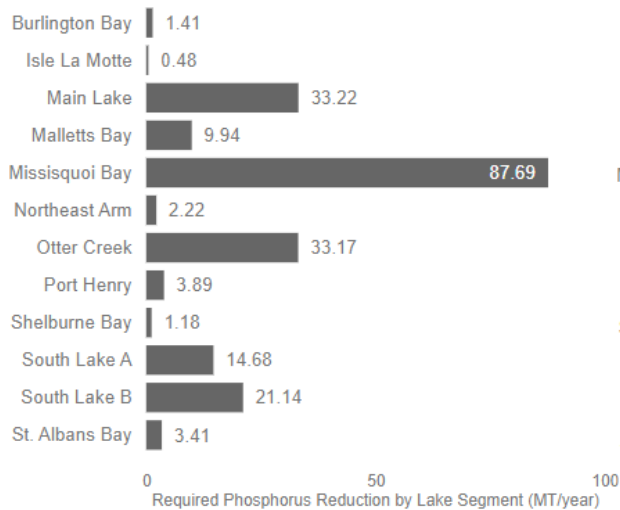


I am following up on the testimony that I provided to the committee yesterday on the Clean Water initiative Annual Performance Report with answers to a few of the questions that were raised. If you could please pass these along to the committee members I would appreciate it. If any additional questions come up, please let me know!

Question: are some rivers [in the Lake Champlain basin] worse than others [in terms of total contribution of phosphorus to the lake]?

Answer: yes, the phosphorus reduction targets vary for example, the Missisquoi River is higher than others. The below chart shows the required phosphorus reduction targets for each lake segment within the Lake Champlain TMDL.



Question (Rep. Templeman, in reference to developing/expanding the capacity of the clean water workforce): Of the workforce body, is there a particular agency/department at the forefront of the interface (in agriculture)?

Answer: The Agricultural Clean Water Initiative Program (AgCWIP) from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets (VAAF) Water Quality Division provides grants to local and regional partners to work with farms to support the improvement of water quality across the state of Vermont through education and outreach, technical assistance, organizational capacity development, and conservation practice surveys. The eligible activity of organizational capacity development is related to partner organizations expanding and developing their workforce and services related to water quality and environmental conservation. More information on the AgCWIP program is available here:

<https://agriculture.vermont.gov/agricultural-clean-water-initiative-program>

For additional questions, please contact: Nina Gage, AAFM (nina.gage@vermont.gov)

Question (Rep. O'Brien): How much funding does EPA provide to Vermont for clean water?

Answer: Funding for water quality improvement efforts from EPA to the State of Vermont in Federal Fiscal Year 2023 = \$25,795,449. Much of this is in the form of base or Bipartisan Infrastructure Law awards to the State Revolving Loan fund, which provides generationally-transformative investments in support of water pollution control infrastructure. These funds do require State match. This funding includes dollars used to support personnel, which is not reported on in the Performance Report.

From the 2023 Report on Federal Funding Related to Water Quality Improvement Efforts in Vermont, available at:

https://dec.vermont.gov/sites/dec/files/wsm/erp/docs/2023_Vermont%20Federal%20Clean%20Water%20Funding%20Report_V.2.pdf.

Thank you!

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