

**Legend**

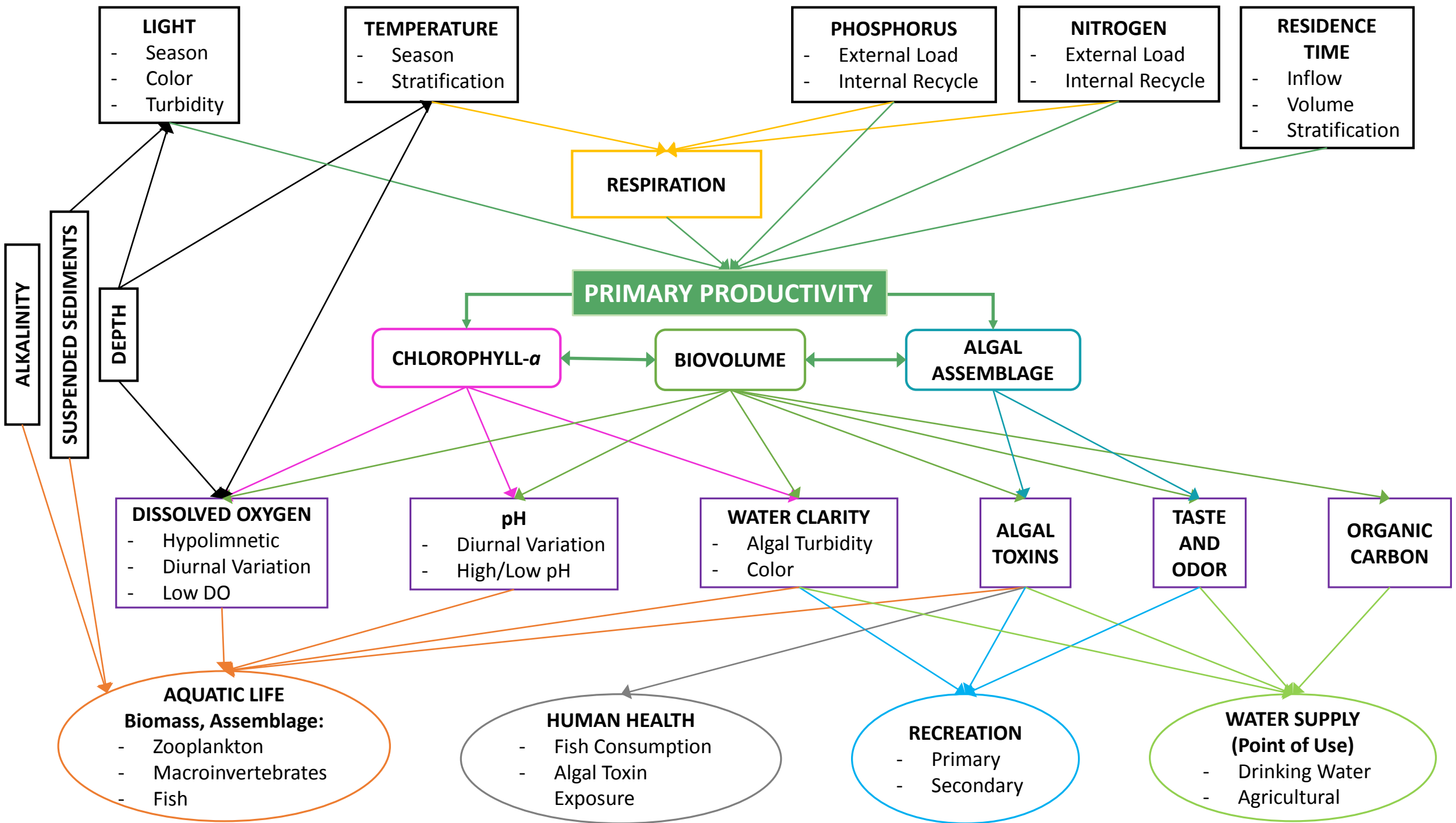
- ▶ SAC homework
- 🕒 Task tentative
- 🕒 DWR tasks

# Tentative 2016 Nutrient Criteria Development Timeline

# Review & Next Steps for HRL

# December Recap

- SAC described indicators
  - SAC identified uses for HRL
  - SAC linked indicators to uses
- 
- DWR took all information and developed a summary for each indicator and a “complete” conceptual model for the lake



# One Step Further

- **DWR developed WQ Goals (and then refined them) based on each use the SAC identified in December**
  - Aquatic Life
  - Water Supply
  - Recreation

Water Quality Goal(s) as Defined in Rule	Refined WQ Goal(s)
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>	
HRL should support a healthy and diverse population of fish, benthos, and wildlife.	<p data-bbox="1335 247 1946 358" style="text-align: center;">HRL should support a Healthy and Diverse population of fish and benthos that are safe for Human Consumption</p> <p data-bbox="1302 411 1979 518" style="text-align: center;"><b>Diverse biological population that is safe for human consumption</b></p>
Protection of HRL to allow for the safe consumption of fish species	
HRL should maintain an aesthetic quality that does not interfere with any of the above uses.	
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>	
HRL should be suitable for use as a water supply source	<p data-bbox="1309 736 1972 811" style="text-align: center;">HRL should be free from cyanotoxins and excessive algal growth</p> <p data-bbox="1302 862 1979 969" style="text-align: center;"><b>Potentially harmful (toxic or excessive) algal bloom prevention</b></p>
HRL should not contain substances that cause taste and odor issues that are untreatable	
<b>RECREATION</b>	
Protection of HRL to allow for full-body contact recreation including swimming	<p data-bbox="1317 1122 1964 1233" style="text-align: center;">HRL should provide water of adequate clarity that is free from excessive algae and algal toxins and is desirable for recreation</p> <p data-bbox="1350 1286 1931 1393" style="text-align: center;"><b>Waters desirable and safe for recreation</b></p>
Protection of HRL to allow for incidental or infrequent body contact recreation through boating, wading, or other activities	
HRL should maintain an aesthetic quality that does not interfere with any of the above uses	


# What's Next?

## Refined Conceptual Models for Each Goal

Refined WQ Goal(s)	Potential Assessment Endpoint(s)	Final Assessment Endpoint(s)	Measure	WQ Range(s) (Literature)	Potential Criteria	
					Response Indicator(s)	Causal Indicators(s)
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>						
<b>Diverse biological population that is safe for human consumption</b>	Algae		Water Clarity			
	Fish		pH			
	Macroinvertebrates		Algal Toxins			
	Zooplankton		DO			
			Chlorophyll-a			
			Algal Assemblage			
			Algal Biovolume			
			Suspended Sed.			
			Alkalinity			

# EXAMPLE

WQ Goal - Surface waters free from harmful algae


Refined WQ Goal(s)	Assessment Endpoint(s)	Measure	WQ Range(s) (Literature)	Potential Criteria	
				Response Indicator(s)	Causal Indicators(s)
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>					
 <b>PHAB Prevention</b>	Algae Algal Toxins	Chlorophyll-a Microcystis Cylindrospermopsin	<u>Piedmont Reservoirs</u> Chl-a = 1 – 200 ug/L Micro = .1 – 50 ug/L Cylind = .5 – 25 ug/L	Chlorophyll-a Toxins (general)	Nitrogen Phosphorus Light Temperature Residence Time

Proposed Criteria: Chlorophyll-a with a toxin component and nitrogen threshold



# EXAMPLE

WQ Goal – Safe, clear water desirable for swimming

Refined WQ Goal(s)	Assessment Endpoint(s)	Measure	WQ Range(s) (Literature)	Potential Criteria	
				Response Indicator(s)	Causal Indicators(s)
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>					
 <b>Good Recreational Quality Water</b>	Water Clarity	Suspended Sediment Depth	<u>Southeastern Lakes &amp; Reservoirs</u> Turb = 5 – 120 NTU Depth = 7 – 15 M	Secchi Depth	Land Use Soil Composition Residence Time

Proposed Criteria: Depth threshold and narrative criteria

# Next: Approaches to Develop Criteria

- Reference Condition (Regional approach)
- Stressor-Response
- Mechanistic Model (Site-specific)
- Weight-of-Evidence
- Best Professional Judgement
- Other

Potential Criteria	
Response Indicator(s)	Causal Indicator(s)
AQUATIC LIFE	
Chlorophyll-a	Nitrogen
Toxins	Phosphorus
	Light
	Temperature
	Residence Time

Refined WQ Goal(s)	Potential Assessment Endpoint(s)	Final Assessment Endpoint(s)	Measure	WQ Range(s) (Literature)	Potential Criteria	
					Response Indicator(s)	Causal Indicators(s)
<b>AQUATIC LIFE</b>						
Diverse biological population that is safe for human consumption	Algae		Water Clarity			
	Fish		pH			
	Macroinvertebrates		Algal Toxins			
	Zooplankton		DO			
		Chlorophyll-a				
		Algal Assemblage				
		Algal Biovolume				
		Suspended Sed.				
		Alkalinity				
<b>WATER SUPPLY</b>						
Potentially harmful (toxic or excessive) algal bloom prevention	Algae		Org. Carbon			
			Taste & Odor			
			Algal Toxins			
			Water Clarity			
			Algal Biovolume			
			Algal Assemblage			
		Chlorophyll-a				
<b>RECREATION</b>						
Waters desirable and safe for recreation	Algae		Water Clarity			
			Algal Toxins			
			Taste & Odor			

# *Ambient Lakes Monitoring*

## What Is Collected?

Chemical samples are collected from the photic zone using an integrated sampler.

- Nutrients (NH<sub>3</sub>,NOX,TKN,TP)
- Turbidity
- Chlorophyll *a*
- Total Solids
- Total Suspended Solids
- Total Metals and Chloride (Water Supply Lakes)



# Ambient Lakes Monitoring

## What Is Collected?

Physical Conditions are measured with multi-probe meters.

- Temperature (°C)
- Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)
- pH
- Conductivity ( $\mu\text{mhos/cm}$ )
- Secchi Depth (m)



Photic Zone is determined using a Secchi disk.  
(Photic Zone = 2x secchi depth)



# *North Carolina Trophic State Index*

## *NCTSI*

CHL = Chlorophyll a (g/L)

TON = Total Organic Nitrogen (mg/L)

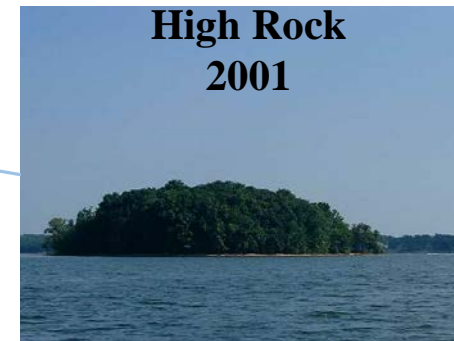
TP = Total Phosphorous (mg/L)

SD = Secchi Depth (inches)

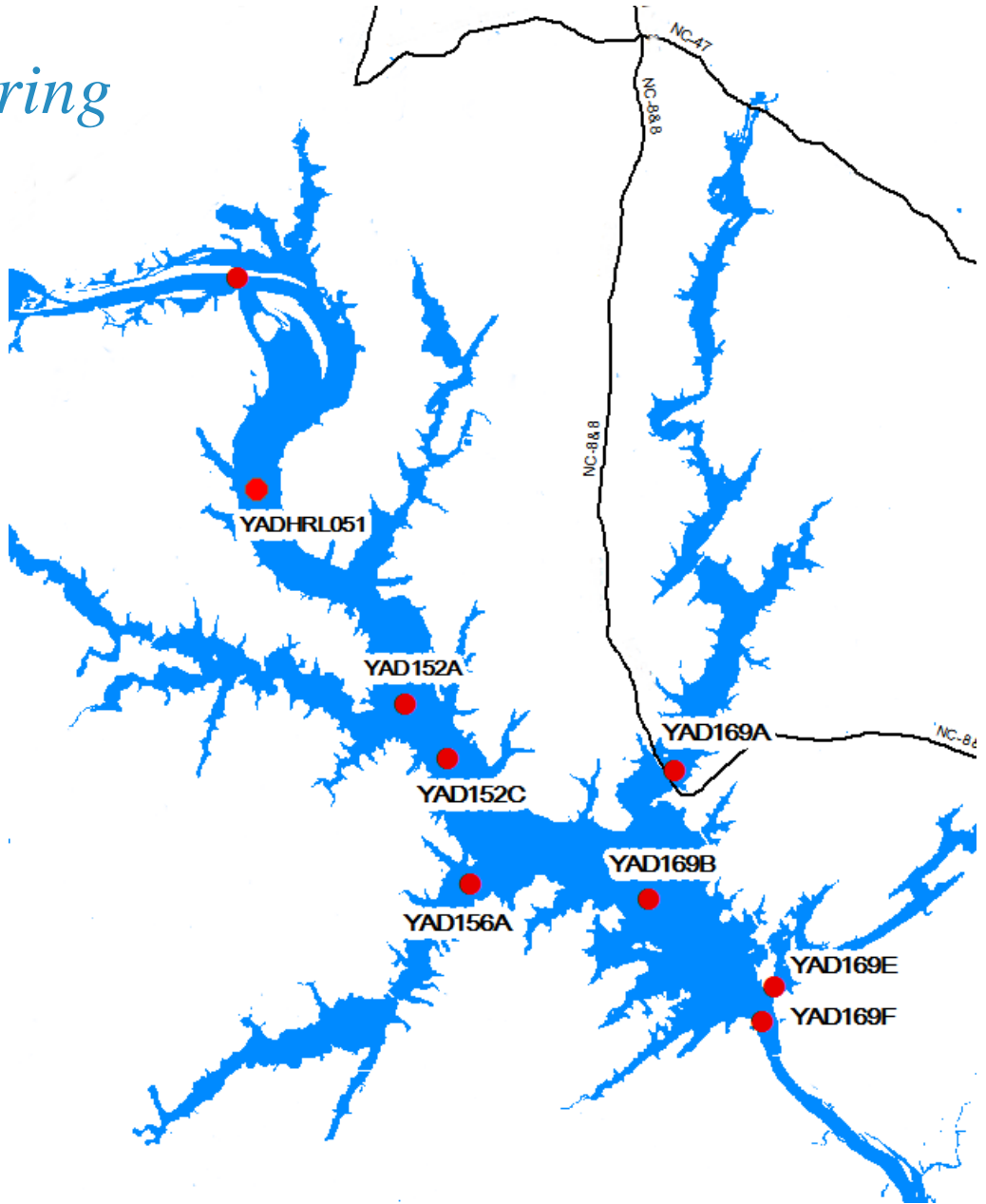
< -2.0	Oligotrophic
-2.0 - 0.0	Mesotrophic
0.0 - 5.0	Eutrophic
>5.0	Hypereutrophic

# NC Trophic State Scale

< -2.0	Oligotrophic
-2.0 - 0.0	Mesotrophic
0.0 - 5.0	Eutrophic
>5.0	Hypereutrophic



# Ambient Lakes Monitoring

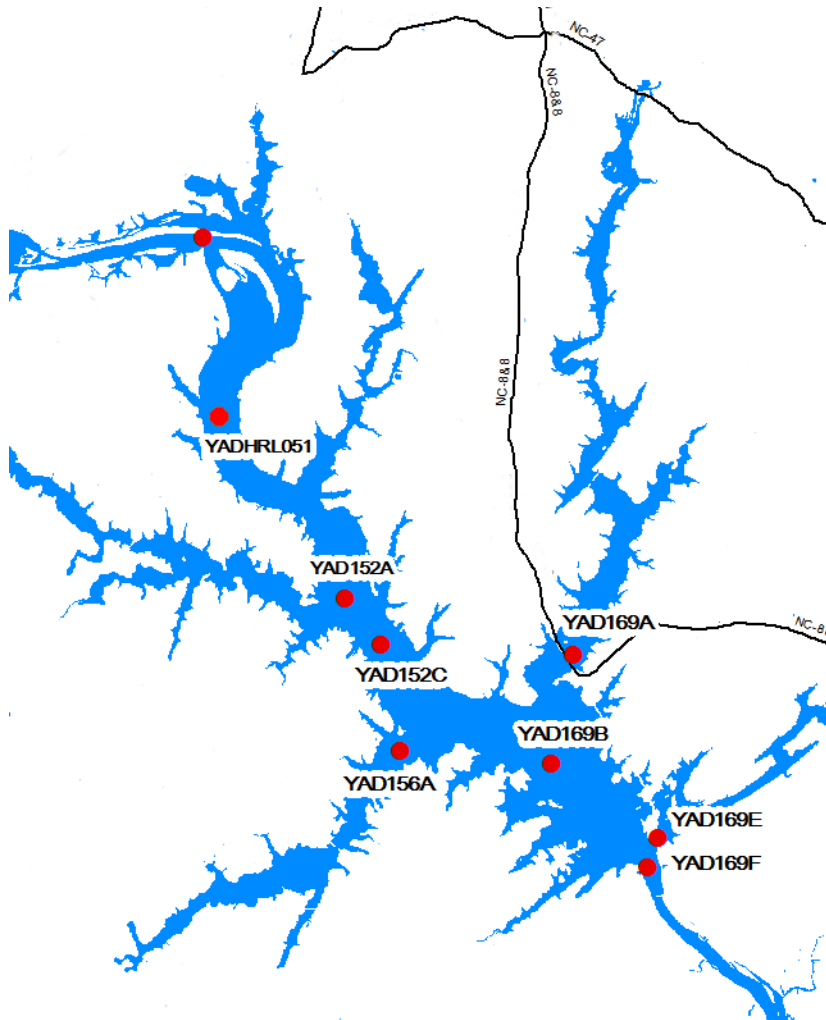


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# High Rock Diurnal Study



## Site Name

YADHRL051  
 YAD152C  
 YAD169A  
 YAD169B

## Physical WQ Parameters

Temperature(°C)  
 pH (s.u.)  
 Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)  
 % Saturation Oxygen  
 Conductivity (us/cm)

## Potential Chemical Parameters

Turbidity (NTU)  
 TSS (mg/L)  
 Chlorophyll a (µg/L)  
 Nitrate+Nitrite (mg/L)  
 TKN (mg/L)  
 NH3 (mg/L)  
 TP (mg/L)

## Physical

Hourly over 24 hour period

## Chemical??

4 per site visit  
 Maximum photosynthetic activity (highest D.O., pH).  
 Lowest photosynthetic activity (lowest D.O., pH).  
 Intervals between maximum and minimum.

# 2016 Ambient Lakes Monitoring

Yadkin River Basin Lakes  
26 lakes

High Rock	Lee
Roberdel	Monroe
Page	Twitty
Falls	Rockingham
Tillery	Hamlet
Tuckertown	Kannapolis
Badin	Fisher
Blewett Falls	Kerr Scott
Reese	McCrary
Back Creek	Concord
Coddle Cr.	Bunch
Winston	Salem
Wadesboro City Pond	
Tom-A-Lex	

Lumber River Basin Lakes  
3 lakes

Waccamaw  
Tabor  
Pages

ISB Studies

1:4 Dioxane  
Jordan Lake Solar Bee  
Rocky River Study  
Hannah Creek  
Falls Lake  
Coal Ash Fish Tissue

# *Albemarle Sound: Nutrient Criteria Development Progress*

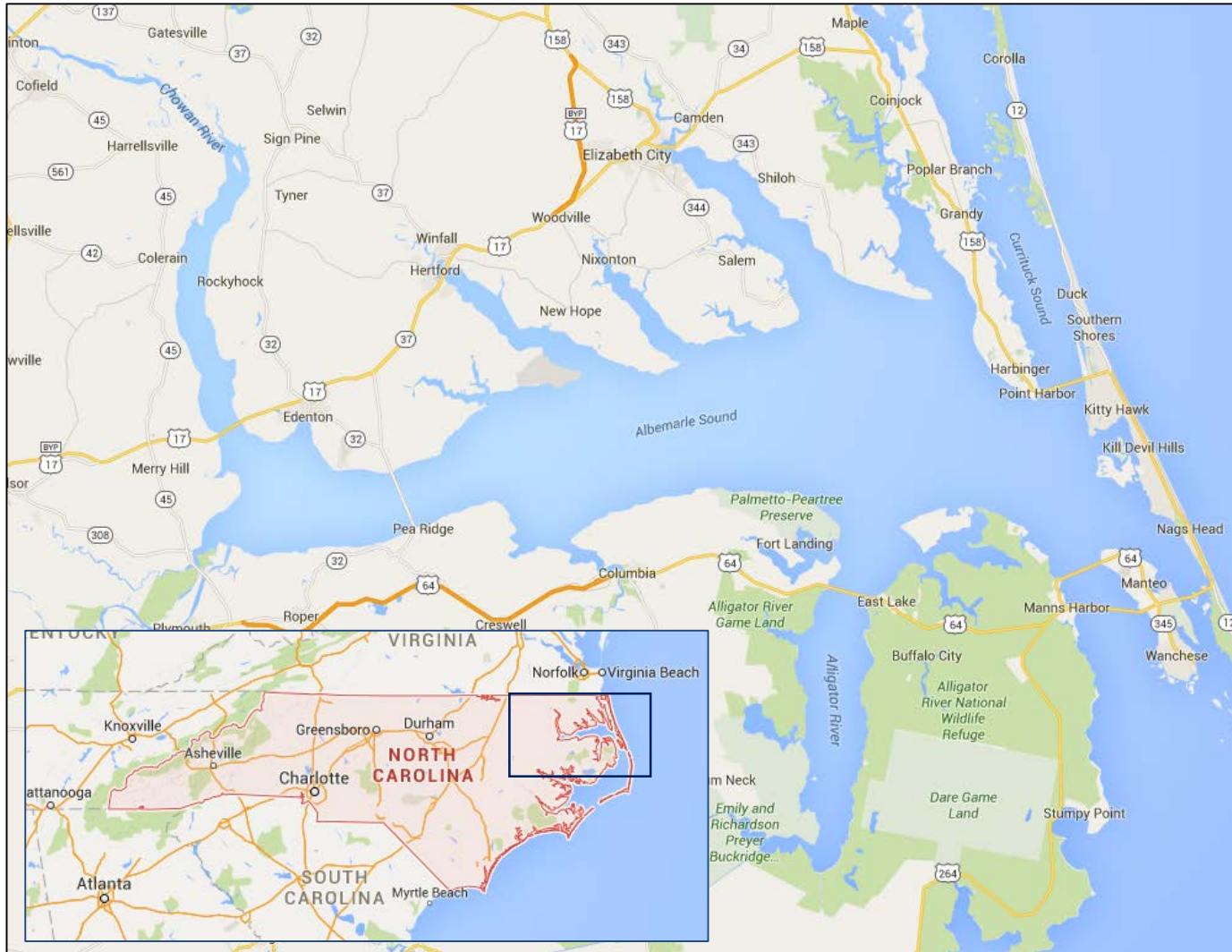


Jim Hawhee  
N.C. Division of Water Resources  
17 February 2016

*Department of Environmental Quality*



# Albemarle Sound



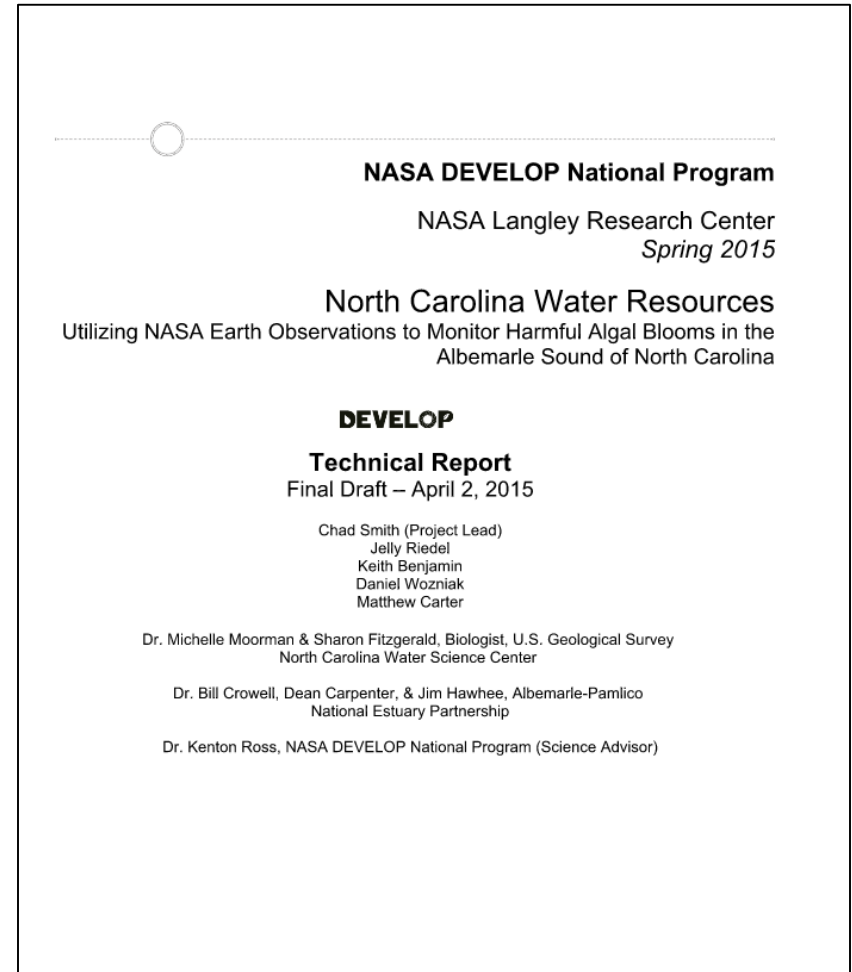
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# Albemarle Sound- Status

## NASA DEVELOP Project

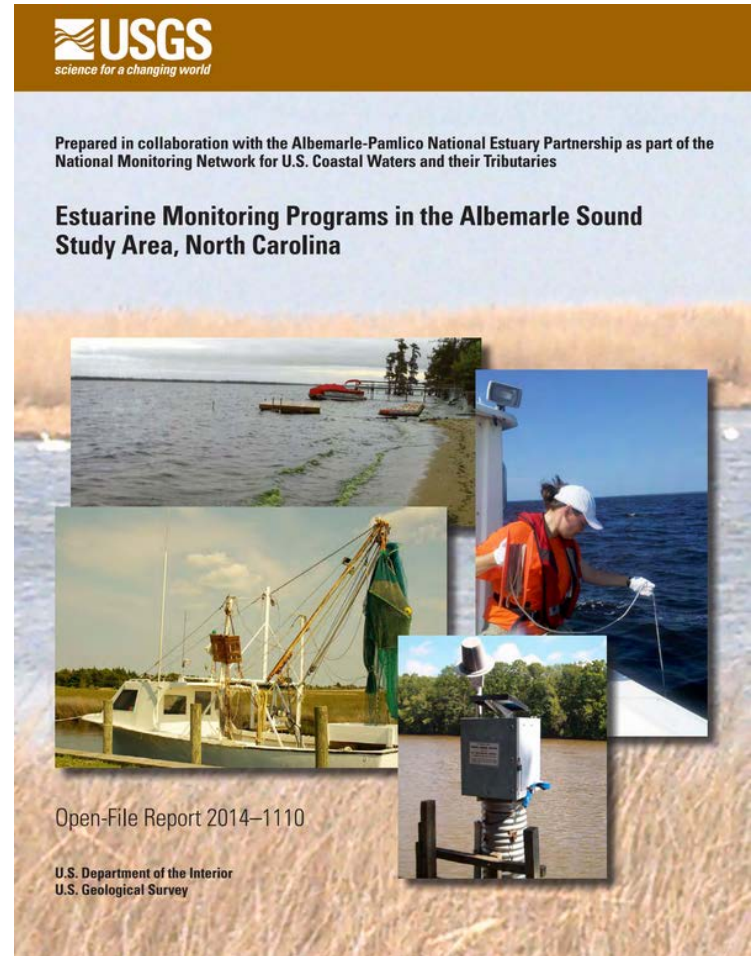
- Status: Complete
- Results inconclusive
- Summary: Project participants analyzed satellite color imagery to evaluate its accuracy for detecting chlorophyll a. Results showed poor correlation with previously collected water quality data.
- Full report on Google Drive



# *Albemarle Sound- Status*

## USGS Albemarle Sound Initiatives

- Status: Nearly complete
- An inventory of monitoring programs and available data in the Albemarle Sound watershed has been completed.
- Duke MEM project supervised by lead USGS PI offers trend analysis of variables including chl a, DO, turbidity, nitrogen and phosphorus.
- Both reports available on Google Drive
- USGS report analyzing results of field efforts ready soon.



# *Albemarle Sound- Status*

## Literature Review

- Status: Complete
- NSTEPS proposal for literature review funded and conducted by Tetra Tech.
- Summary: ~4,000 estuarine literature citations organized and associated with keywords for further exploration. Abstracts provided for most sources. Tags include geographical sorting, environmental endpoints, and methods.
- EndNote database, Excel sheet and a series of text files associated with each keyword are available via Google Drive.



# *Albemarle Sound- Status*

## Data Review and Analysis

- Summary: Advanced statistical and spatial analyses of historical DWR monitoring data in and near Albemarle Sound to inform criteria development
- Status: Final draft submitted





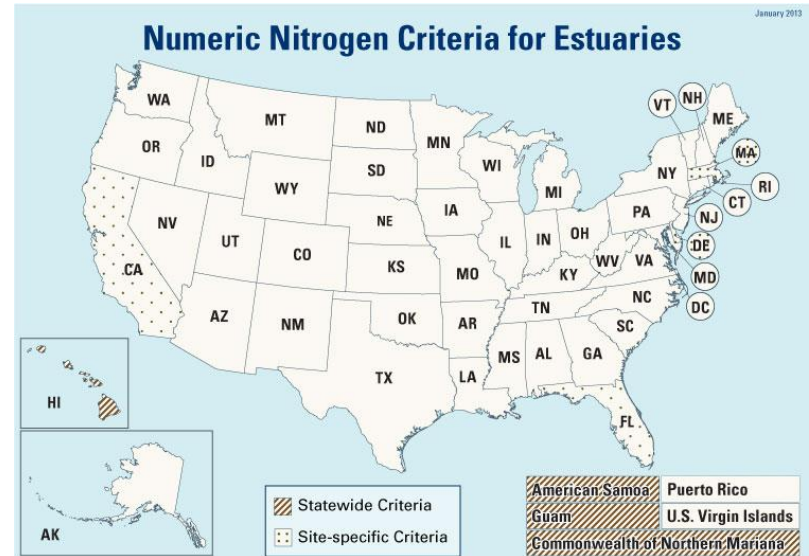
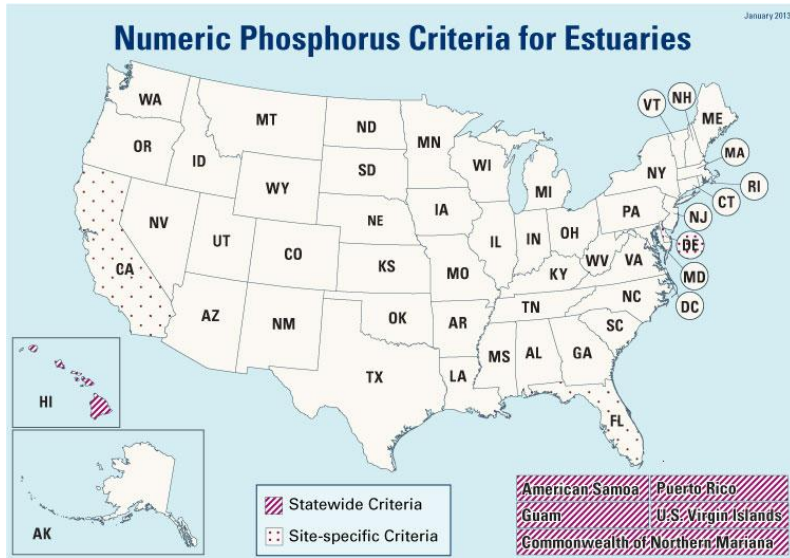
# *Albemarle Sound- Status*

## Law and Policy Review

- Status: Complete, report on Google Drive
- Summary: An evaluation of case law regarding numeric nutrient criteria development nationally and high-level policy case studies of other jurisdictions that have revisited nutrient criteria.
- Analysis conducted by a legal fellow associated with N.C. Sea Grant and the N.C. Coastal Resources Law, Planning and Policy Center.



# February Meeting: Case Studies



## Review of 11 estuarine nutrient criteria case studies

- Varying approaches, parameters, thresholds, and states of progress
- Case studies available on Google Drive

# *Albemarle Sound- What's Next?*

- Tentative March agenda includes:
  - Discussion of Tetra Tech data analyses
  - 303(d) listing methodologies
  - Overview of present monitoring efforts
- Conclusion of Phase I presently targeted for summer 2016:
  - Report summarizing proceedings and recommendations
  - Consultation with SAC



# *Albemarle Sound- SAC Homework*

- Evaluate High Rock conceptual model for applicability to Albemarle Sound, recommend adjustments as necessary.
- Review case studies
- Review Tetra Tech report



# APNEP Nutrient Workgroup Website

**Committees**

- Policy Board
- Science & Technical Advisory Committee
- Implementation Committee
  - Contaminants Workgroup
  - Education & Engagement Workgroup
  - Flows Workgroup
  - Freshwater Habitats & Fish Passage Workgroup
  - Monitoring Networks Workgroup
  - **Nutrients Workgroup**
  - Oyster Workgroup
  - Submerged Aquatic Vegetation Workgroup
- Past Committees

**Nutrients Workgroup**

[Overview](#)   [Meetings](#)

[Sign up for the Nutrient Workgroup's listserv](#)

[View supporting files through Google Drive](#)

**Overview**

APNEP is facilitating a working group to study and recommend appropriate nutrient standards for North Carolina's estuaries. This work will advance according to North Carolina's [Nutrient Criteria Development Plan](#) using the Albemarle Sound as a pilot study area.

APNEP staff support: [Jim Hawhee](#) (primary), [Dean Carpenter](#)

**Meetings**

Meeting	Agenda	Notes	Meeting Materials
<b>2015</b>			
*Note: Nutrient-related work prior to April 2015 occurred as part of APNEP's Contaminants Workgroup. Contaminants Workgroup notes are included below for reference and continuity.			
April 23, 2015 WebEx Webinar Connection information on agenda			<a href="#">link</a>
<b>2014</b>			
October 21, 2014 USGS Water Sciences Center 3916 Sunset Ridge Rd., Raleigh, NC			<a href="#">link</a>
August 5, 2014 Kinston-Lenoir Public Library 510 Queen Street, Kinston, NC			<a href="#">link</a>

<http://apnep.org/web/apnep/nutrients>

*Questions?*



*Department of Environmental Quality*

