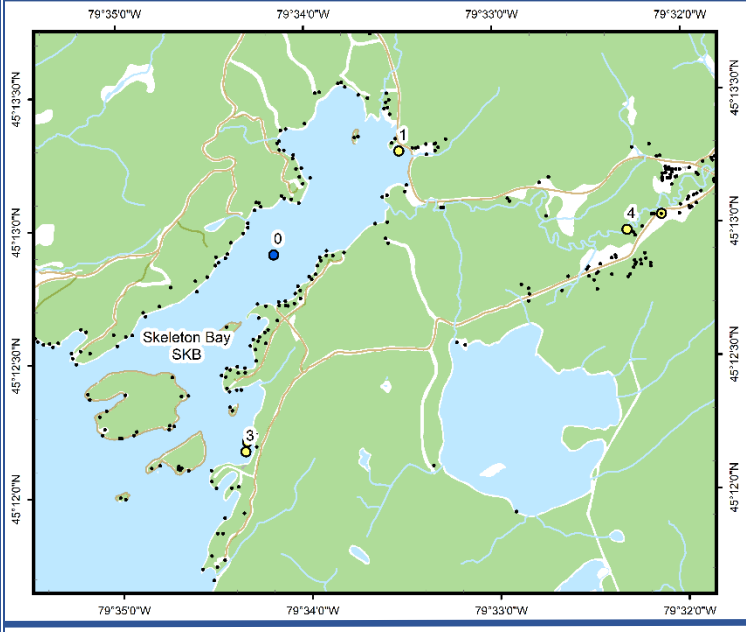
Skeleton Bay (SKB)



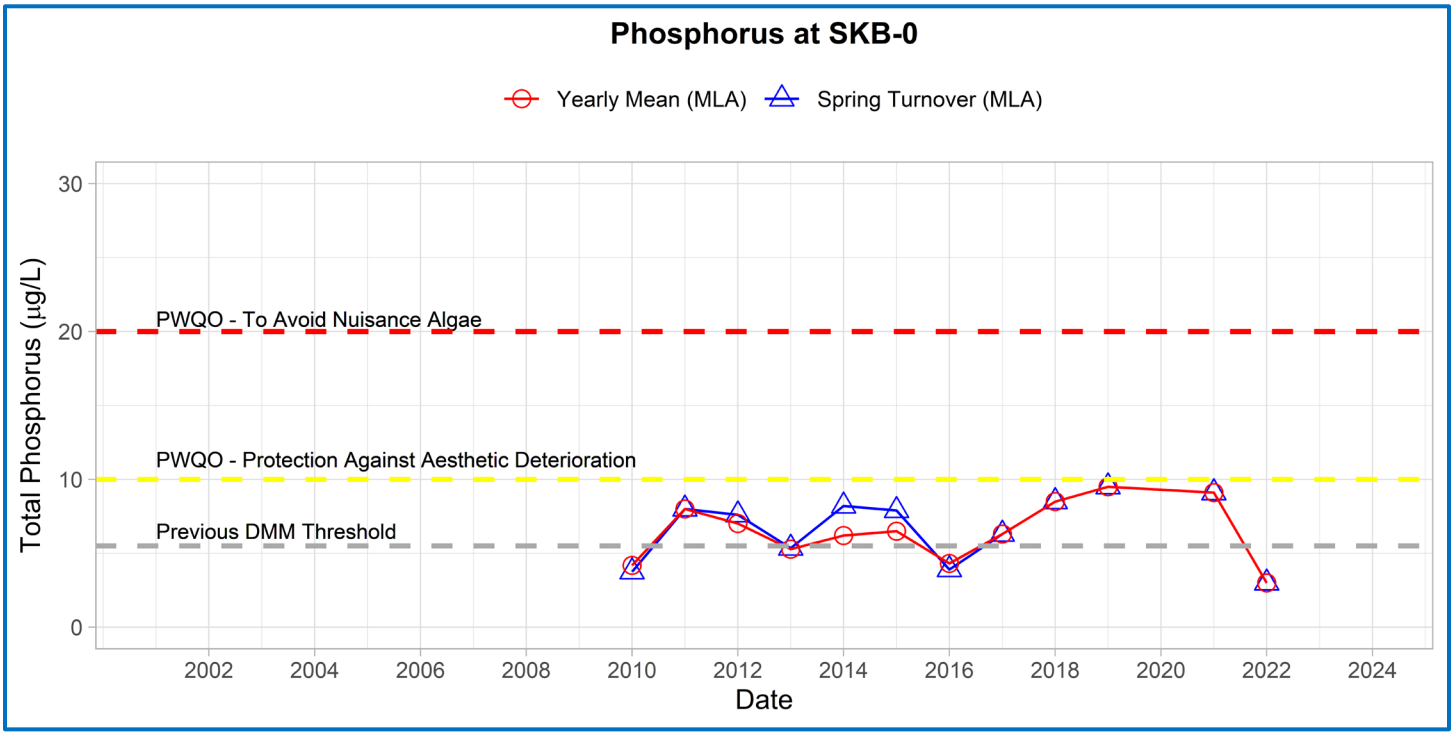
Area Description:

Skeleton Bay is in the eastern portion of Lake Rosseau's north basin. The bay has an area of 1.7 km² and a maximum depth of 20 m. The northeast section of the bay is bordered by Highway 141. This bay receives inflow from six watercourses including the Bent River which drains agricultural lands. Skeleton Bay is not currently listed as vulnerable by the DMM. MLA monitoring of Skeleton Bay began in 2010.

Volunteer Recognition: Jill Levine.

2022 Water Quality Results:

	Mean Secchi Disk (m)	Total Phosphorus (µg/L)		E. coli Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100mL)	Total Coliforms Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 mL)
		Spring Turnover	Yearly Mean		
SKB-0	3.1	3.0			
SKB-1		4.5	5.6		



Note: Grubbs test indicates data collected in 2012 are considered an outlier

In 2022, the spring phosphorus concentration at the deep-water station (SKB-0) was the lowest recorded in the MLA dataset and was below the historic DMM threshold of 5.5 µg/L as well as Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Objectives for Protection Against Aesthetic Deterioration (10 µg/L) and Nuisance Algal Growth (20 µg/L). Consistent increases in phosphorus concentrations at SKB since 2016 did not continue in 2021. Nearshore monitoring of annual and spring phosphorus concentrations at SKB-1 was within the range of variability of previous monitoring. *E. coli* samples were not collected in 2022. Average annual Secchi disk depth (3.1 m) was consistent with previous monitoring (2.13 – 6.13 m). **HESL recommends ongoing sampling to continue to monitor for changes in long-term trends and emerging issues.**