



### Area Description:

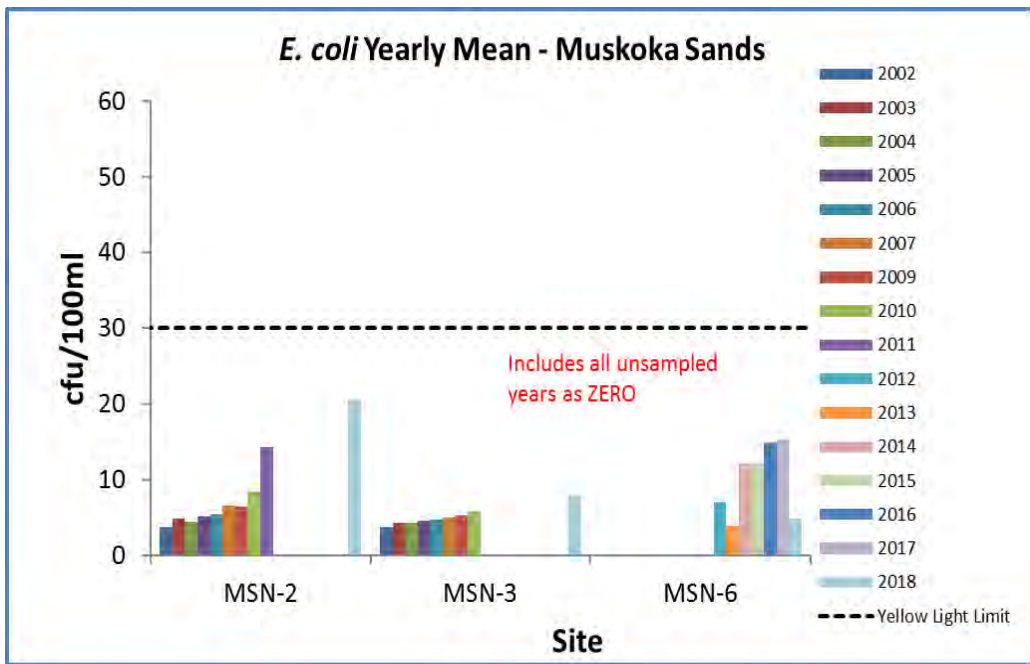
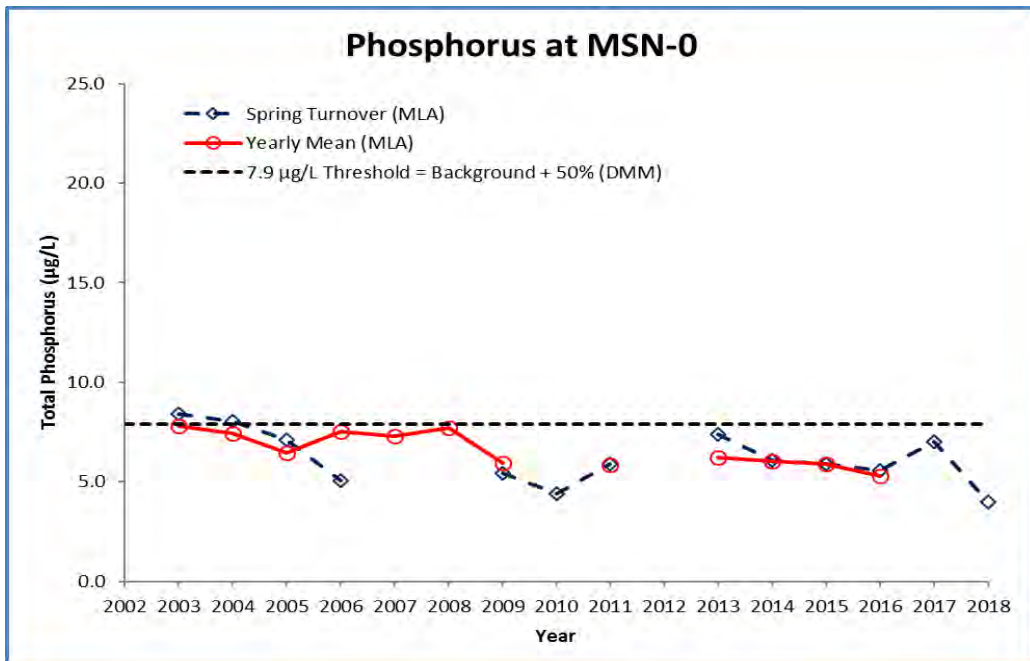
The Muskoka Sands sampling area is located in southeastern Lake Muskoka at the confluence with the Hoc Roc River. This area has a high intensity of development with a large resort and golf course, along with a high density of residential properties and roads adjacent to the lake. The Hoc Roc River flows through agricultural, industrial, residential, and natural wetland areas before it drains into a shallow bay. Dominant northwest winds and a considerable fetch would subject this area to heavy onshore wave action. Monitoring started in 2003. All stations shown may not be sampled each year.

**Volunteer Recognition: Carol Hoskins and Carroll Manol**

## Muskoka Sands (MSN)

2018 Water Quality Results: (Note: Hatched cell signifies not tested for in 2018)

Station	Mean Secchi Disk (m)	Total Phosphorus (µg/L)		<i>E. coli</i> Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)	Total Coliform Yearly Geometric Mean (cfu/100 ml)	DOC Yearly Mean
		Spring Turnover	Yearly Mean			
MSN-0	3.7	4.0				
MSN-2				5.5	102.9	
MSN-3				3.7	38.9	
MSN-6				4.9	69.2	
MSN-8	0.5	20.0	12.8			



## Summary and Recommendations:



The spring phosphorus concentration at the deep station (MSN-0) remains below the historic DMM threshold of 7.9 µg/L in 2018 and is the lowest recorded to date. Only one spring phosphorus sample was collected at MSN-0 in 2018, therefore no yearly mean could be calculated, and no value is reported for 2018. MSN-8 is a new station added in 2017; higher phosphorus results in 2017 and 2018 are indicative of inputs from the watercourse in this location. *E. coli* results at MSN-2, MSN-3 and MSN-6 in 2018 were all below the MLA limits (details in report Section 3). Re-tests were required at MSN-3. Secchi measurements remain stable through sampling years at station MSN-0, varying between 2.7 and 5.25. Secchi measurements were taken for the first time in 2017 at Station MSN-8. **Beacon recommends that sampling continue to monitor long-term trends, with special attention to Station MSN-8.**