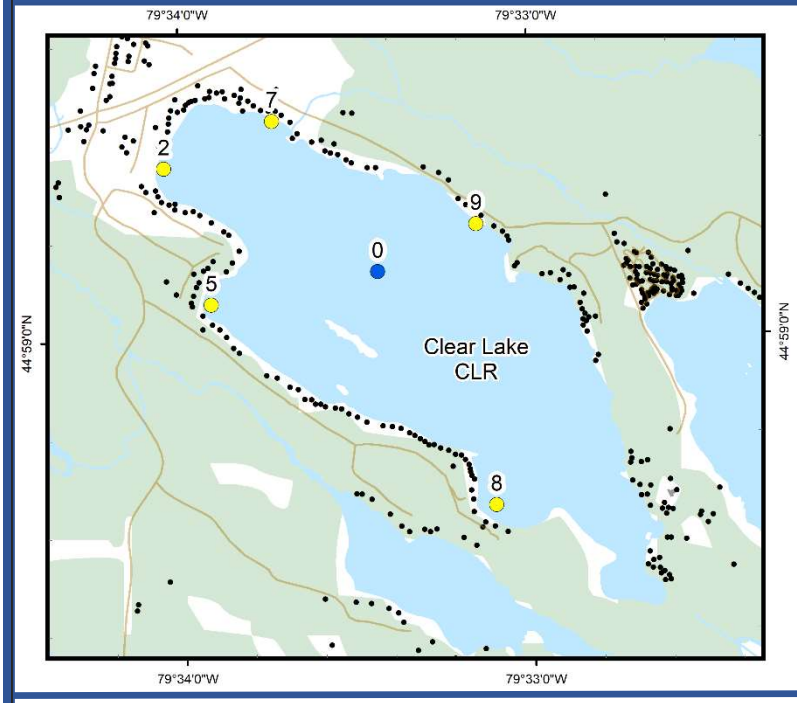
Clear Lake (CLR)



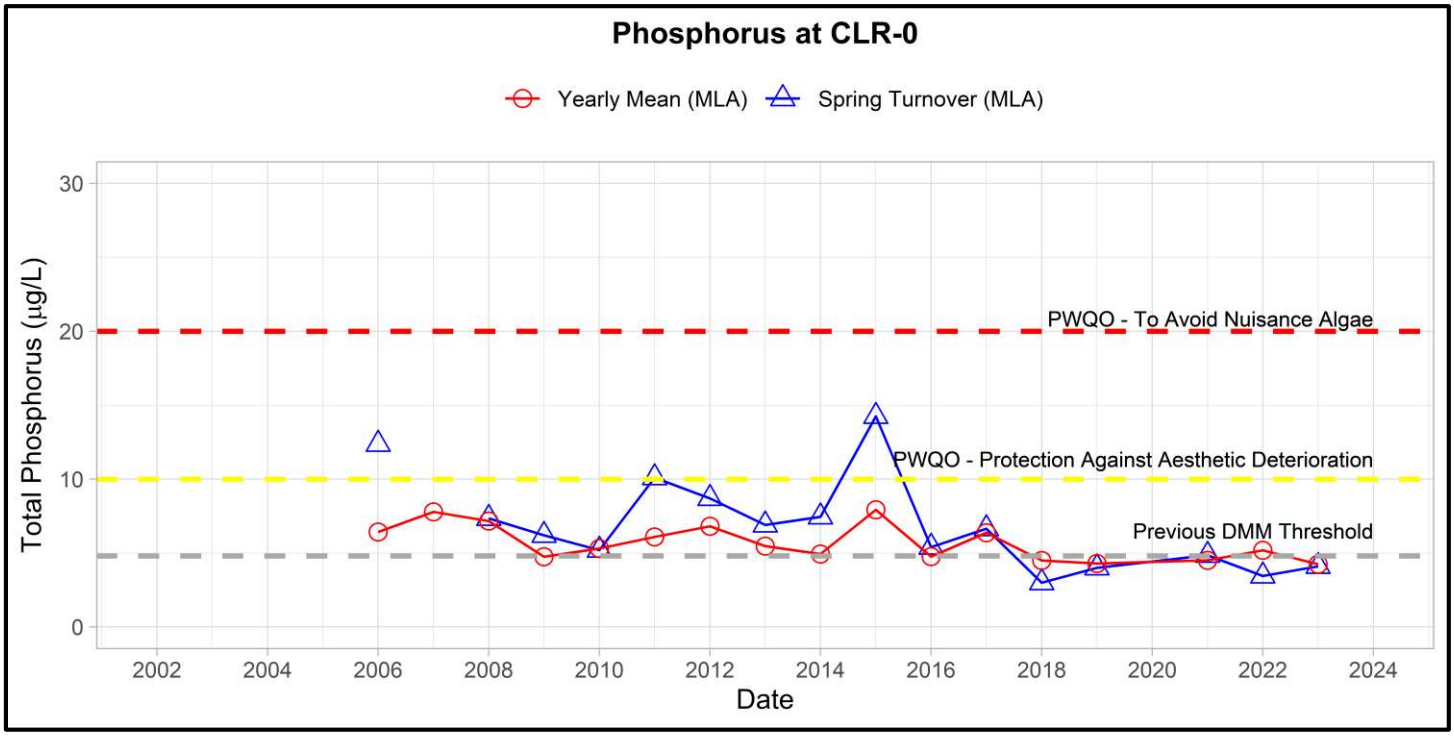
Area Description:

Clear Lake, also called Torrance Lake, is a small (surface area = 1.49 km^2) lake with a maximum depth of 16 m. The lake is moderately developed with residential lots and is adjacent to
Highway 169. Inflow and outflow of the lake are limited, and surface runoff comes from a small watershed area (0.84 km^2). Clear Lake is currently classified as moderately sensitive and over threshold by the DMM. MLA monitoring of Clear Lake began in 2006.

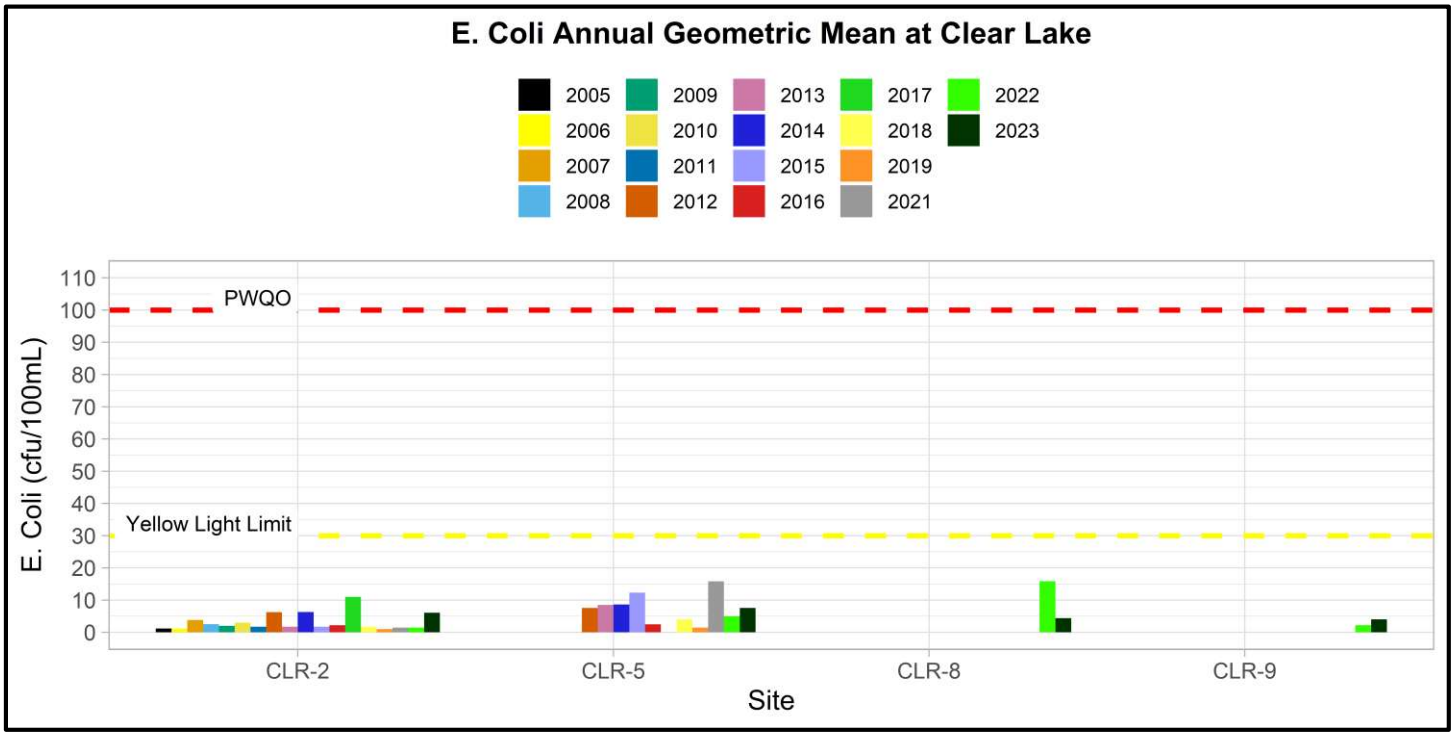
Volunteer Recognition: Bob and Sharon Cleverdon.

2023 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		
CLR-0	6.8	4.1	4.3		
CLR-2		5.0	4.9	6	61
CLR-5				8	101
CLR-8		5.0	8.0	4	62
CLR-9				5	88



Note: Grubbs test indicates Spring and Annual Total Phosphorus data in 2012 are considered to be outliers.



In 2023, annual average and spring phosphorus concentrations at the deep-water station (CLR-0) were below the historic DMM threshold of 4.8 µg/L and below Provincial Water Quality Monitoring Objectives for Protection Against Aesthetic Deterioration (10 µg/L) and Nuisance Algal Growth (20 µg/L). Nearshore monitoring of annual and spring phosphorus concentrations at CLR-2 and 5 were within the range of variability of previous monitoring; 2023 was the second phosphorus sampling year at CLR-8, values were consistent with sampling in 2022 including elevated phosphorus concentrations during August sampling. *E. coli* counts at all stations were below the yellow light trigger established by the MLA. Average annual Secchi disk depth (6.8 m) was consistent with previous monitoring (3.63 and 9.30 m). **HESL recommends ongoing sampling to continue to monitor for long-term trends and emerging issues.**