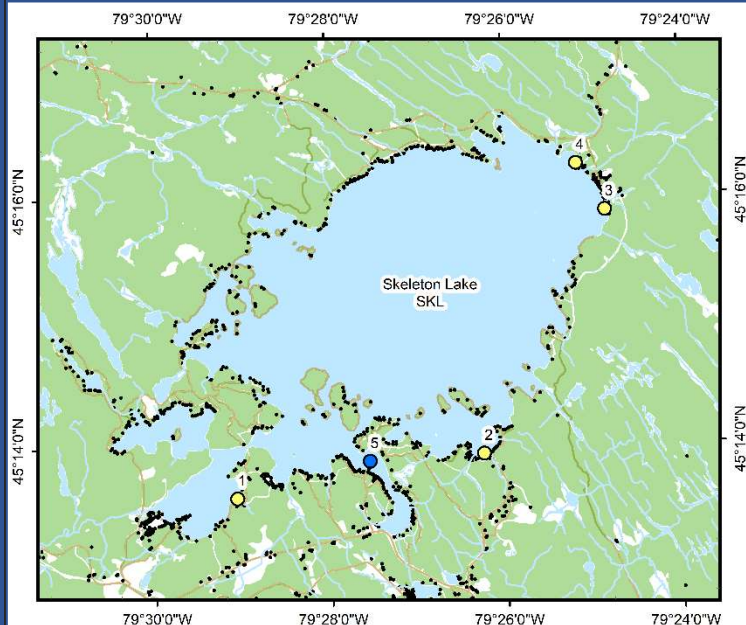




Skeleton Lake (SKL)



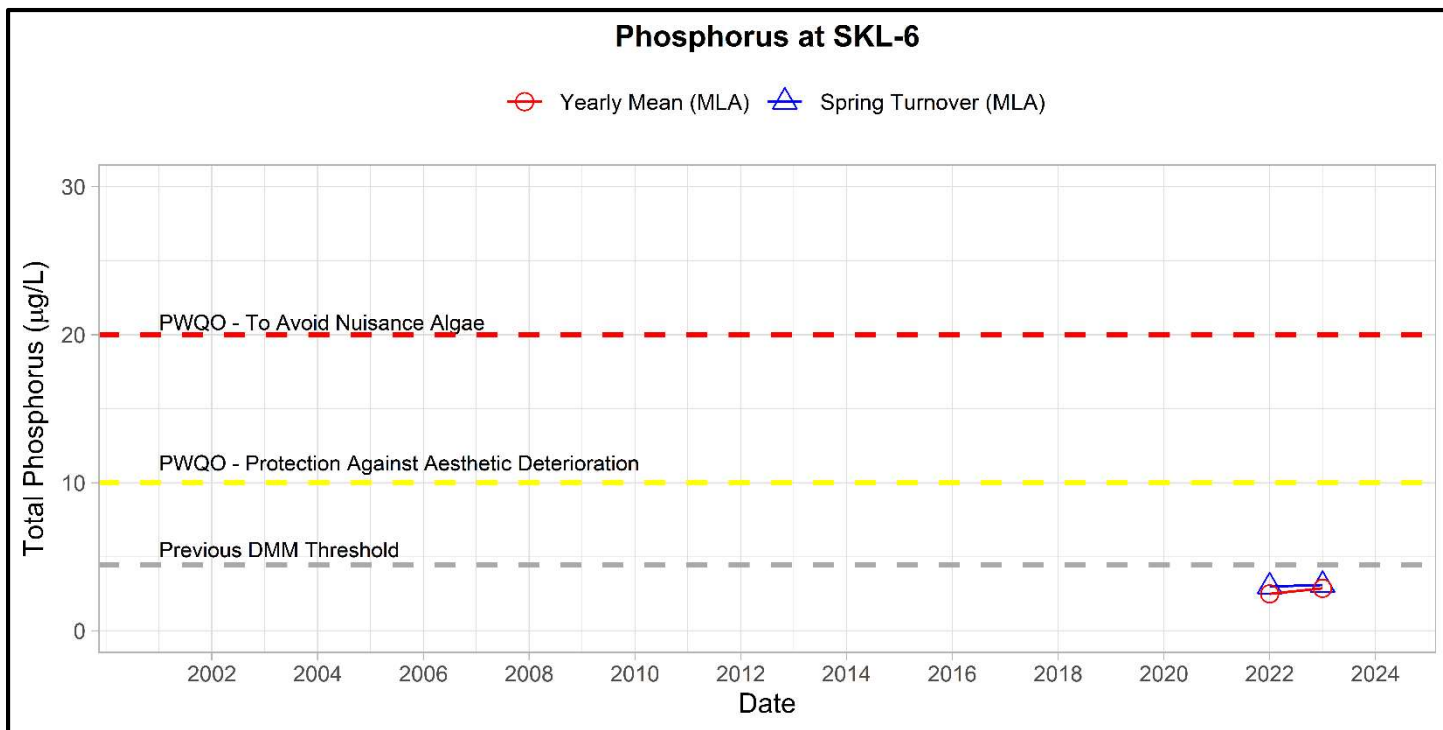
Area Description:

Skeleton Lake is large lake located east of Lake Rosseau and North of Three Mile Lake. It has a surface area of 20.54 km² in area and a maximum depth of 60 m. Skeleton Lake receives drainage from a 46.68 km² watershed. Skeleton Lake is not currently listed as vulnerable by the DMM. MLA monitoring of Skeleton Lake began in 2006 but ended in 2008, sampling resumed in 2021 and is the first sampling event by the MLA since 2008.

Volunteer Recognition: Geoff Ross, Jan Hunter & Tony Shevsky.

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 | | |
| SKL-1 | 4.0 | 6.3 | 3.4 | | |
| SKL-2 | 4.1 | 4.1 | 3.4 | | |
| SKL-3 | 4.1 | 3.8 | 3.7 | | |
| SKL-4 | 4.4 | 4.6 | 4.1 | | |
| SKL-6 | 4.0 | 3.1 | 2.9 | | |



Note: Grubbs test indicates no spring or annual average phosphorus data collected are considered outliers.



Annual average and spring phosphorus concentrations at the deep-water station (SKL-6) were consistent with results collected in 2022 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 SKL-1, 2, 3, and 4 was consistent with long-term monitoring data. *E. coli* samples were not collected in 2023 at Skeleton Lake. **HESL recommends ongoing sampling to enable the assessment of long-term trends and emerging issues.**