

Schroon Lake (North Basin) Questions and Answers, 2015 CSLAP

Q1. What is the condition of our lake this year?

A1. The condition of Schroon Lake appeared to be close to normal in 2015. Algae levels were slightly lower than normal, but nutrient levels and water clarity were close to normal, and recreational assessments were slightly more favorable than usual. No shoreline blue green algae blooms were reported.

Q2. Is there anything new that showed up in the testing this year?

A2. Chloride testing results were typical of lakes with low impacts from road salt runoff, and no biological impacts were measured or reported.

Q3. How does the condition of our lake this year compare with other lakes in the area?

A3. Schroon Lake had similar water clarity, but slightly lower algae and nutrient levels, than other nearby lakes. It is not known if aquatic plant coverage was similar to the plant coverage in many of these lakes, most likely due to highly variable conditions across much of the lake.

Q4. Are there any trends in our lake's condition?

A4. Nutrient levels are slightly higher now than in the mid-2000s. Surface and bottom water temperatures have increased slightly since the late 2000s. Recreational assessments have improved slightly, consistent with slightly improved water quality assessments and lower algae levels.

Q5. Should we be concerned about the condition of our lake? Are we close to a tipping point?

A5. The CSLAP data indicates a low susceptibility to shoreline algae blooms, but the lake may be susceptible to increases in nutrient loading to the lake, which would increase baseline algae levels (and an apparent bloom was reported in the south basin in 2015).

Q6. Are any actions indicated, based on the trends and this year's results?

A6. Individual stewardship activities such as pumping your septic system, growing a buffer of native plants next to the water bodies, and reducing erosion from shoreline properties will help to improve lake conditions by reducing nutrient and sediment loading to the lake. Visiting boats should be inspected to reduce the risk of new invasive species, since nearby lakes harbor several invasive plants not found in the lake.

Lake Use				
	PWL	Average Year	2015	Primary issue
Potable Water				No impacts
Swimming				No impacts
Recreation				No impacts
Aquatic Life				Road salt
Aesthetics				No impacts
Habitat				Invasive plants
Fish Consumption				

Supported / Good
 Threatened / Fair
 Stressed / Poor
 Impaired
 Not Known