

Volunteers from The Schroon Lake Association (SLA) have been working through the New York State Federation of Lake Associations, Inc. (NYSFLA) using the Citizens Statewide Lake Assessment Program (CSLAP) to sample and evaluate the quality of Schroon Lake waters since 1987 (except 1996) in our North Basin and since 2003 in our South Basin. Each year reports are prepared evaluating current conditions and comparing results to prior years. Full 2017 reports can be found on our website.

Summary for both the North and South Basin compared to prior years

Both basins of Schroon Lake continue to be *mesoligotrophic*, or moderately unproductive, based on very low nutrient levels and intermediate water clarity and algae levels. Water transparency was slightly lower than usual, despite algae levels (chlorophyll *a*) that were also slightly lower than usual. Each of the other water quality indicators was similar to normal in 2017. We experienced very high early August deep-water phosphorus readings that do not appear to be representative of conditions in the lake at that time. However, a spike in surface phosphorus readings in late August (probably unrelated to the earlier deep-water TP increase) was verified by other sampling. This did not appear to influence other water quality indicators.

Compared to nearby lakes both basins have similar water clarity, but lower nutrient and algae levels than other nearby (eastern Adirondack region) lakes. Aquatic plant coverage is lower than in many of these other lakes, although extensive weed growth occurs in some nearshore areas. Chloride levels were between the 25th and 50th percentile, indicating a slight potential for aquatic life impacts from road salt (and no impacts have not been reported). Organic contaminants limit consumption of lake trout, yellow perch and smallmouth bass in specific size ranges,