NEW YORK STATE | Department of Environmental Conservation

Water Quality Reporting and Planning

Cayuga Lake Watershed Intermunicipal Organization

January 24, 2024

Today's Objective

Provide an overview of:

- Assessment and listing
- Clean water planning
- Funding opportunities

DOW Water Wheel

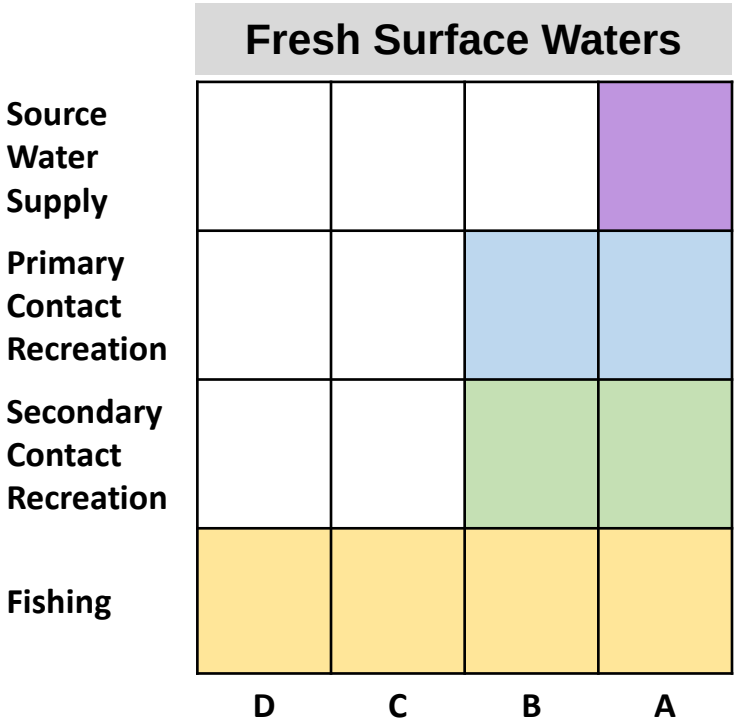
Background

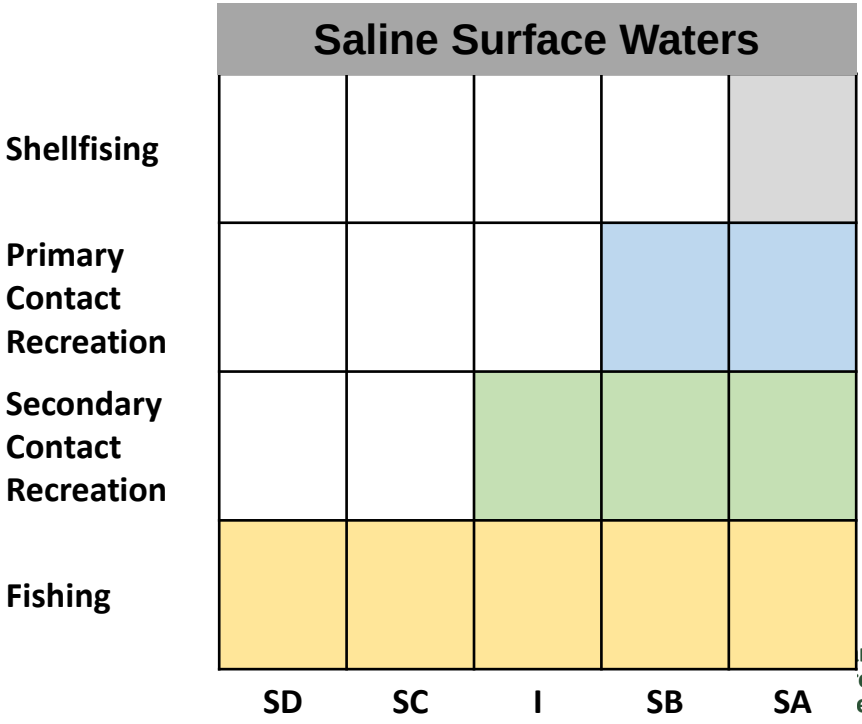
Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act and supporting regulations in Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations (40 CFR) 130.7, requires NYS to:

- Monitor, assess, and report on the quality of their waters relative to the designated uses established in accordance with their water quality standards (WQS).

- Submit an integrated report to EPA, every two years
  - 305(b) Report (assessment of all waters)
  - 303(d) List (waters where water quality standards are not met and a TMDL is required) along with the methods (CALM) to develop the list

Classification and Best Use





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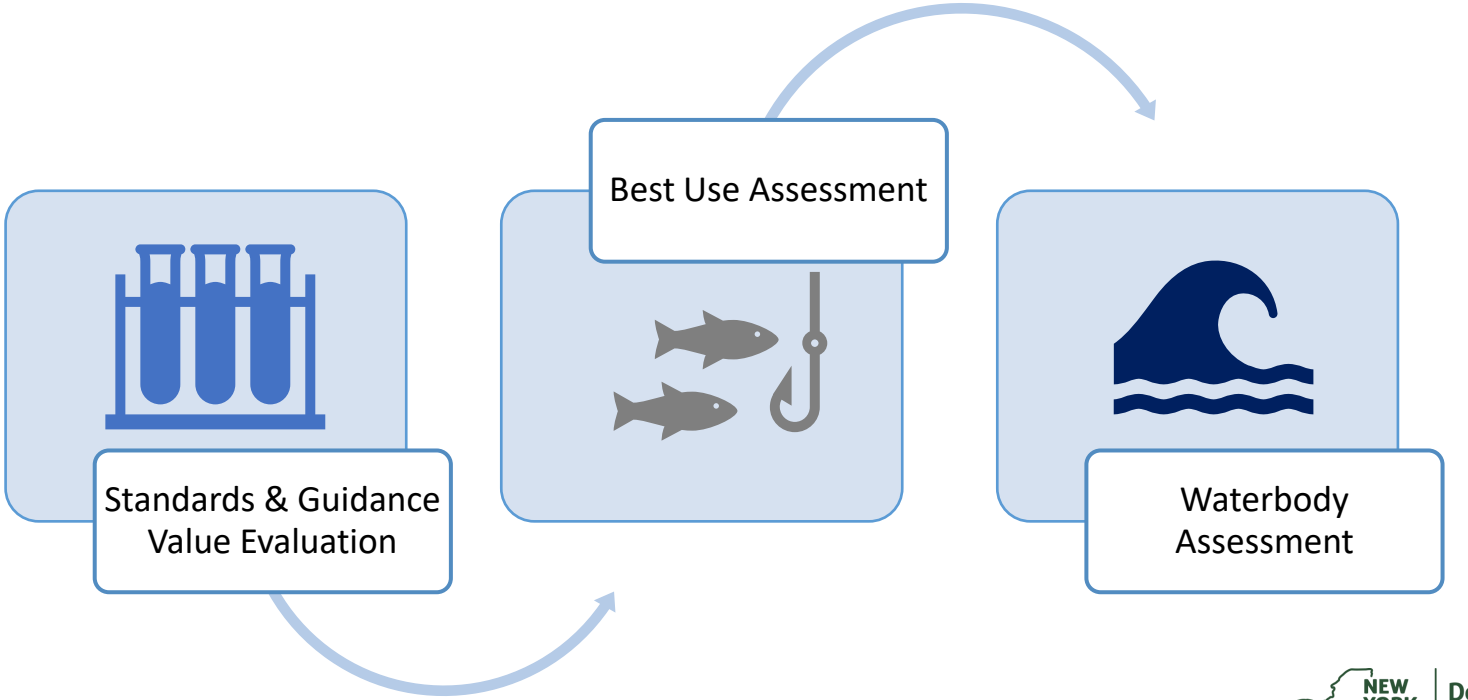
Assessment Overview



CALM
"Consolidated Assessment and Listing Methodology"

- A description of the methods used to assess water quality;
- An explanation of how all available monitoring data was assembled and used to determine the attainment status consistent with the applicable WQS; and
- Decision rationales to not use any available data (40 CFR Section 130.7).

Data Quality Requirements

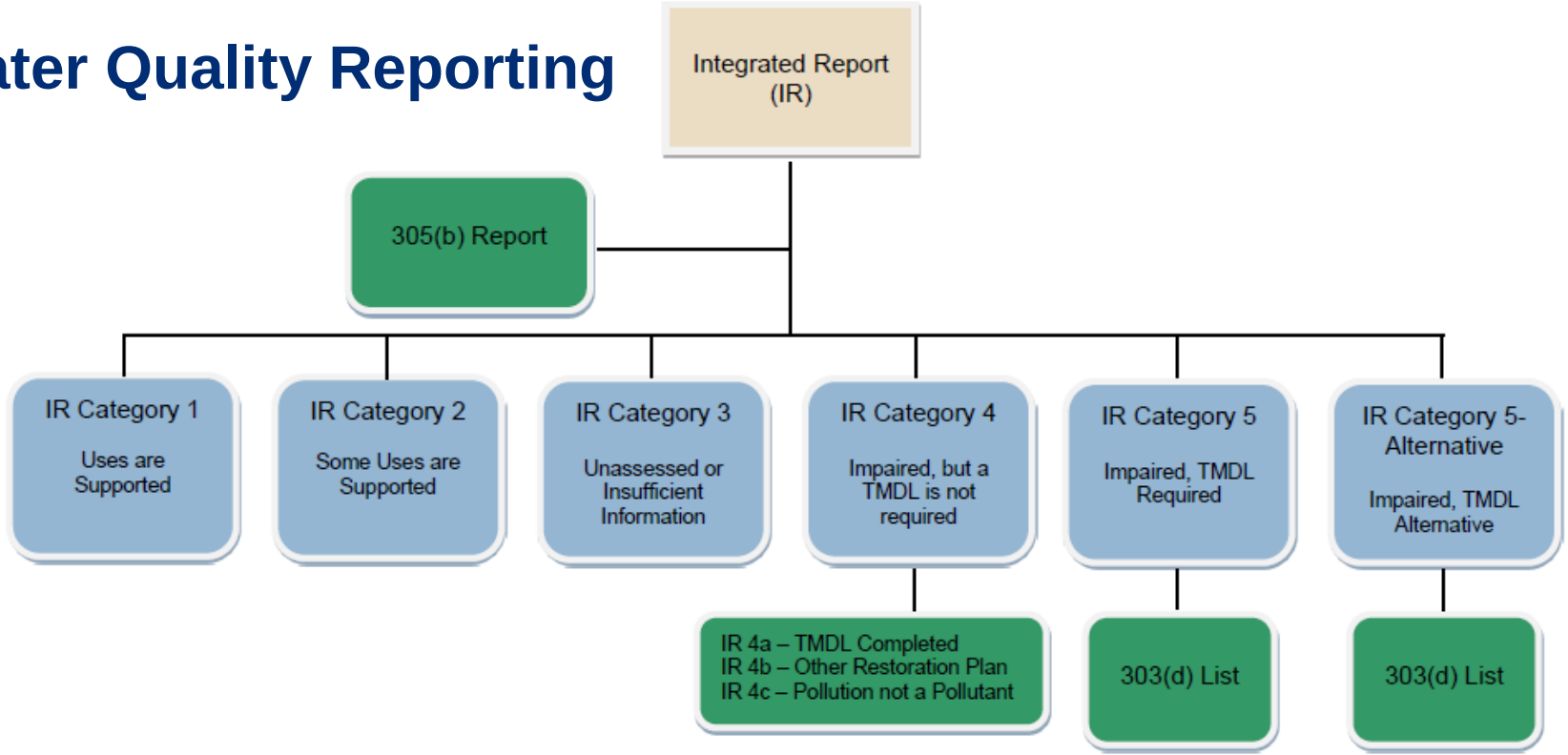
- be collected following a QAPP;
- demonstrate precision, accuracy, bias, representativeness, completeness, comparability, and sensitivity;
- accompanied with a DUAR;
- be analyzed by an ELAP accredited Lab for parameters that DOH certifies, and using methods approved under 40 CFR Part 136;
- be reflective of parameters with a WQS or a Supplemental Indicator identified in Tables 1-5 of the CALM;

Data Quantity Requirements

- meet a minimum of two years* of data and be less than ten years old; and

- meet a minimum number of samples* (six samples for ponded and eight samples for flowing waters).

Water Quality Reporting



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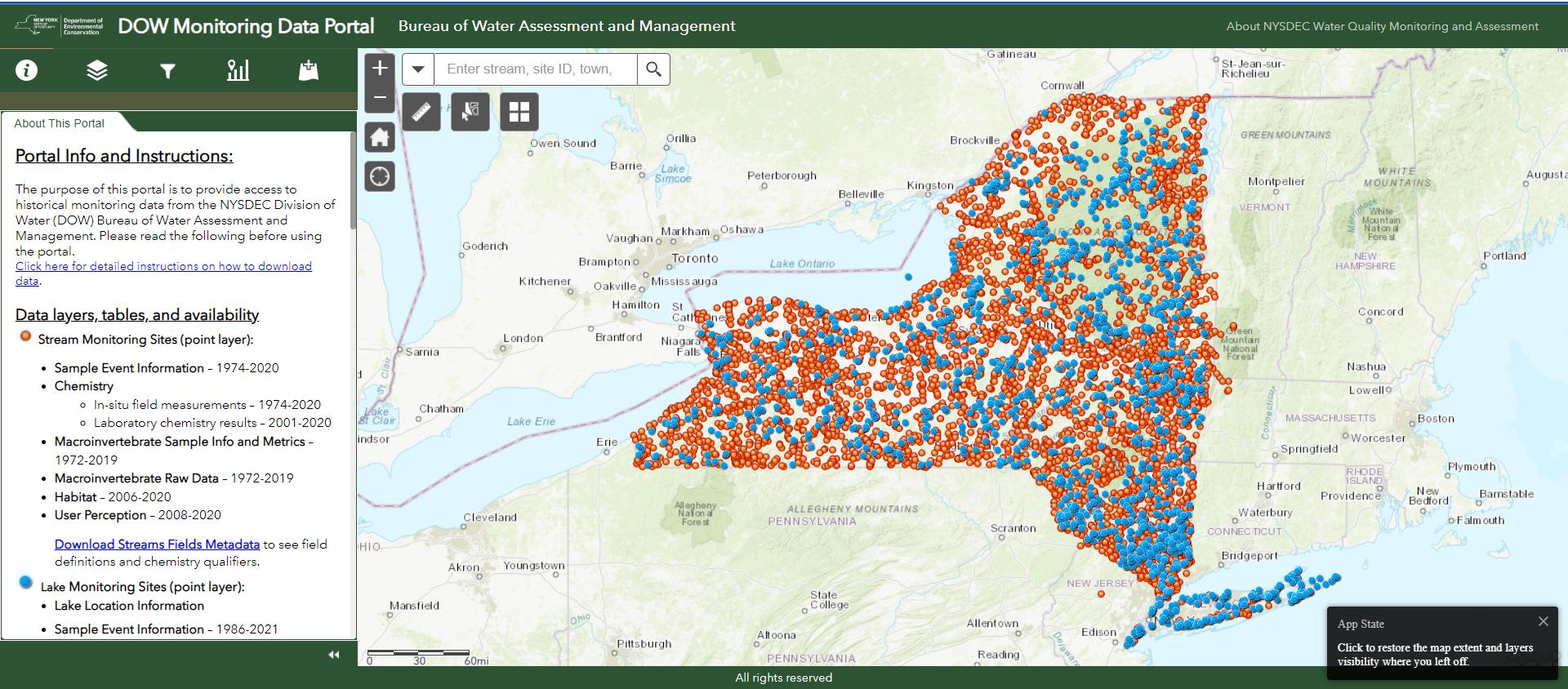
Integrated Reporting Schedule

Milestone	Schedule
Assessment of DEC Monitoring Data	Ongoing
Data Solicitation Period (announced in the NYS *Environmental Notice Bulletin* and DEC's *MakingWaves* e-newsletter)	May – September of the odd year
Assessment of outside data and information received and development of Draft 305(b) Report and 303(d) List	October – December of the odd year
Draft Section 303(d) List made available for public review	January of the even year
Section 303(d) List submitted to EPA	April 1st of the even year
EPA decision on the Section 303(d) List	30 days after submitted to EPA

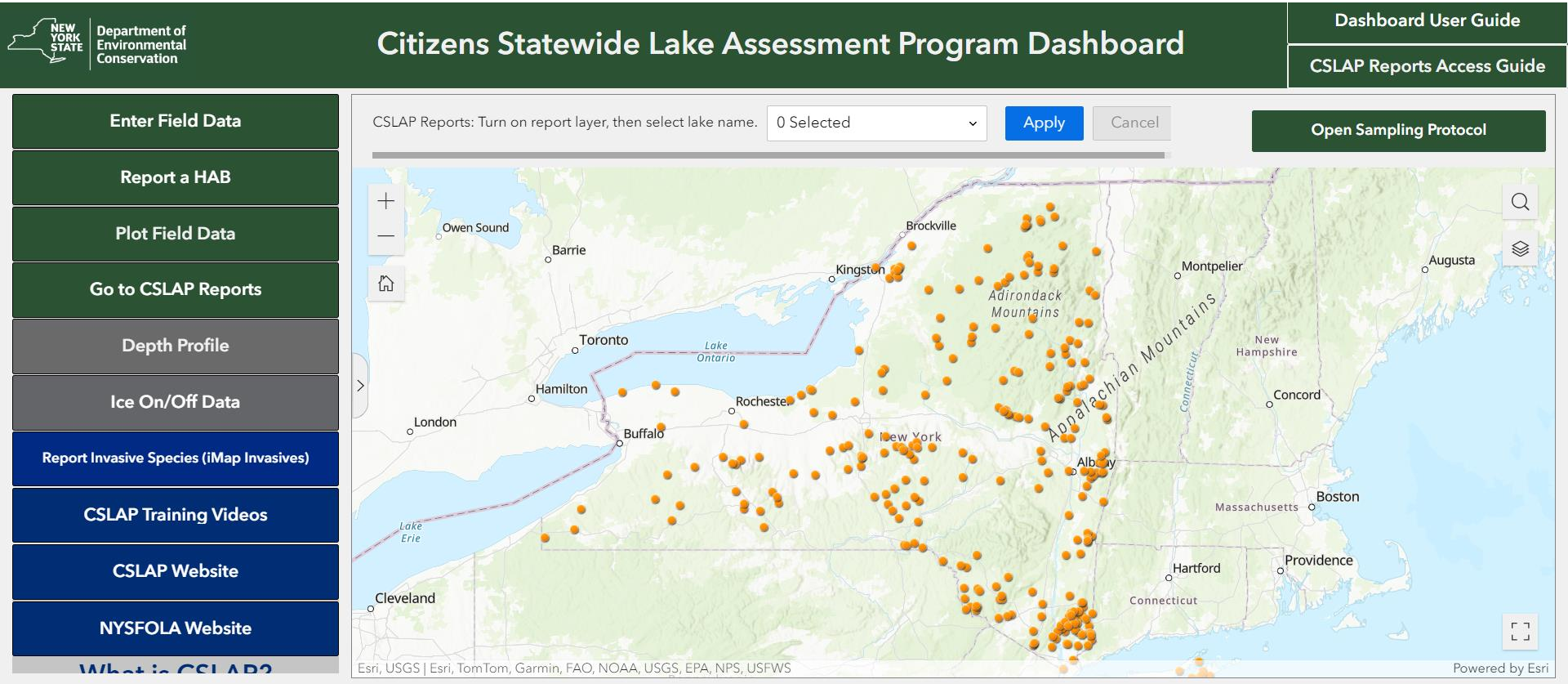
DOW Monitoring Portal

https://nysdec.maps.arcgis.com/apps/webappviewer/index.html?id=692b72ae03f14508a0de97488e142ae1



CSLAP Online Data/Reporting Portal

https://experience.arcgis.com/experience/c32878596a0a47deb5f97ea5e07ec9c5



NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION

DECinfo Locator

Base Map: Topographical

Help

- Search
- Tools
- **DEC Information Layers**

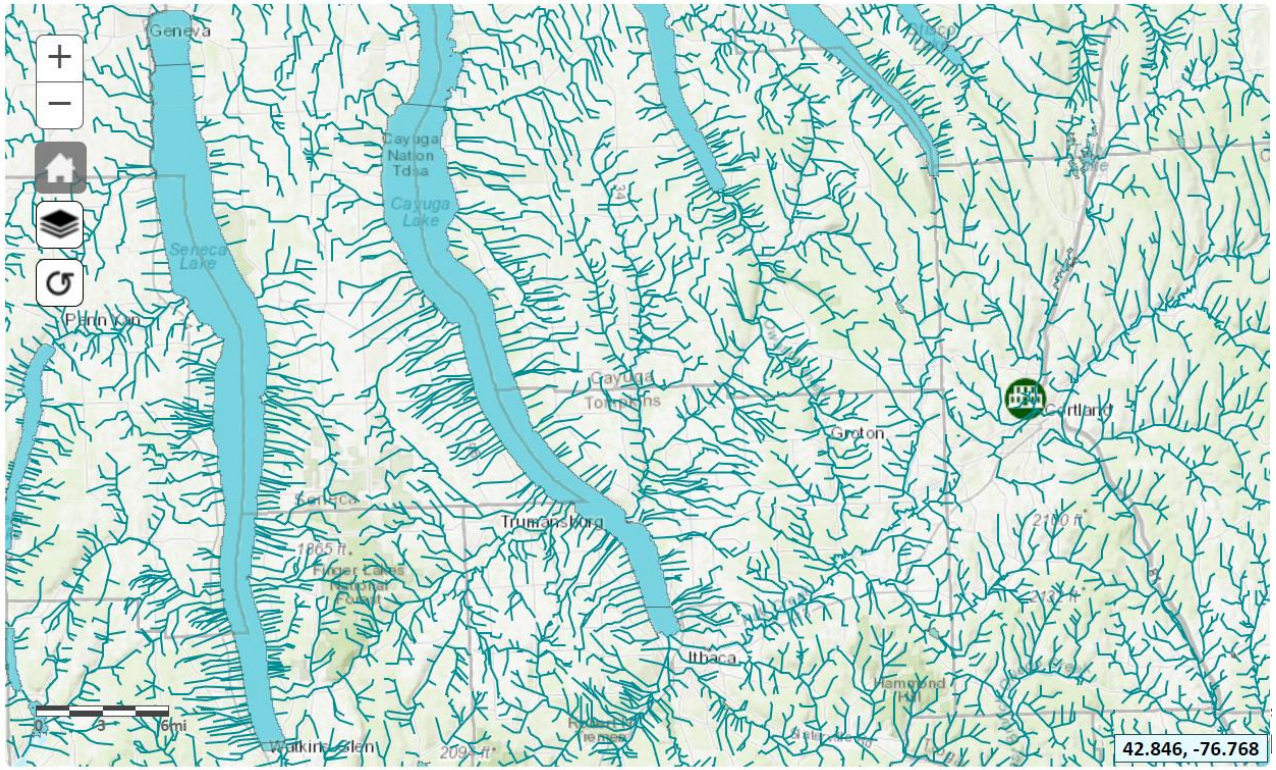
Environmental Quality | Outdoor Activity

- Permits and Registrations
- Environmental Cleanup
- **Environmental Monitoring**

Check / Uncheck all

Layer Information

- **Waterbody Inventory/Priority Waterbodies List**
  - **Lakes and Reservoirs**
  - **Estuaries**
  - **Rivers and Streams**
- Public Involvement
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Legal Information
- Reference Layers



Clean water plans

- Watershed-based approach to that outlines a strategy to improve water quality.
- TMDLs, 9E Plans
- These plans document the:
  - Pollutant sources and loads
  - Allowable pollutant level
  - Actions will improve water quality

9E Plans v. TMDLs

Feature	9E Plan	TMDL
Pollutant sources	Better for Nonpoint	Better for Point (regulatory)
Public comment period	No (public participation throughout)	Yes
Implementation	Required	Optional
Approval	NYS DEC	EPA
Funding	Eligible for state & federal	Eligible for state & federal

Element	9E Plan	TMDL
A—Sources pollutant & loads	✓	✓
B—Water quality target & needed reductions	✓	✓
C—Identify BMPs	✓	✓
D—Identify resources needed to implement (financial and technical)	✓	Not required for EPA approval
E—Outreach	✓	✓
F—Implementation schedule	✓	Not required for EPA approval
G—Milestones to implement plan	✓	✓
H—Criteria to assess water quality improvement	✓	✓

Cayuga Lake Plans

- Cayuga Lake Watershed Restoration & Protection Plan
- Cayuga Lake HABs Action Plan
- Draft Cayuga Lake TMDL
- DWSP2s
  - several
- County Soil and Water Conservation District AEM/Strategic Plans (6)

Funding Opportunities

- Projects listed in the implementation plans or identified as goals in a TMDL, 9E Plan, HABs Action Plan or DWSP2 plan are prioritized for state funding through various grant programs
- Examples include the Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Program and Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant (NPG)
- Assistance available through the Community Assistance Teams (CATs)

Implementation in Cayuga– A Few Examples

Type	Project	Description	Amount	Funding	Recipient
Best Management Practice (BMP)/Mitigation	Cayuga County Road Ditch Stabilization Project	Identify and stabilize road ditches using erosion control best management practices, and by hydroseeding.	$400,000	Round 17 WQIP	Cayuga County SWCD
Best Management Practice (BMP)/Mitigation	Tompkins County Hydroseeding Program	County-wide program to hydroseed recently scraped ditches on municipal roads.	$261,110	Round 16 WQIP	Tompkins County Soil and Water Co
Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	Village of Union Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant Improvements	Improve the village's Wastewater Resource Recovery Facility to reduce the phosphorus entering Cayuga Lake.	$4,480,000	Round 17 WQIP	Village of Union Springs

Resources

- **Water Quality Assurance** (https://dec.ny.gov/environmental-protection/water/water-quality/assurance)
- **CALM** (https://extapps.dec.ny.gov/docs/water_pdf/calm.pdf)
- **Water Quality Improvement Project (WQIP) Grant Program** (dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant applications/wqip-program)
- **Nonpoint Source Planning and MS4 Mapping Grant (NPG)** (https://dec.ny.gov/get-involved/grant-applications/non-agricultural-nonpoint-source-planning-ms4-mapping-grant)
- **Community Assistance Teams** (https://efc.ny.gov/CAT)

Thank You

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