‘CWSP and BWQC Start-Up Activities in Northwest Vermont’

Presented as part of Act 76 Clean Water Lecture Series

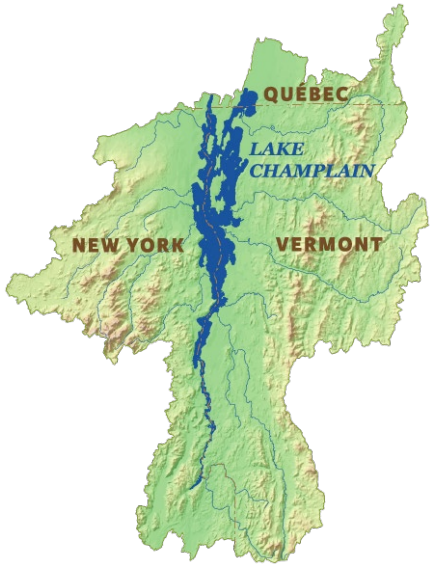
The 10 minute plan

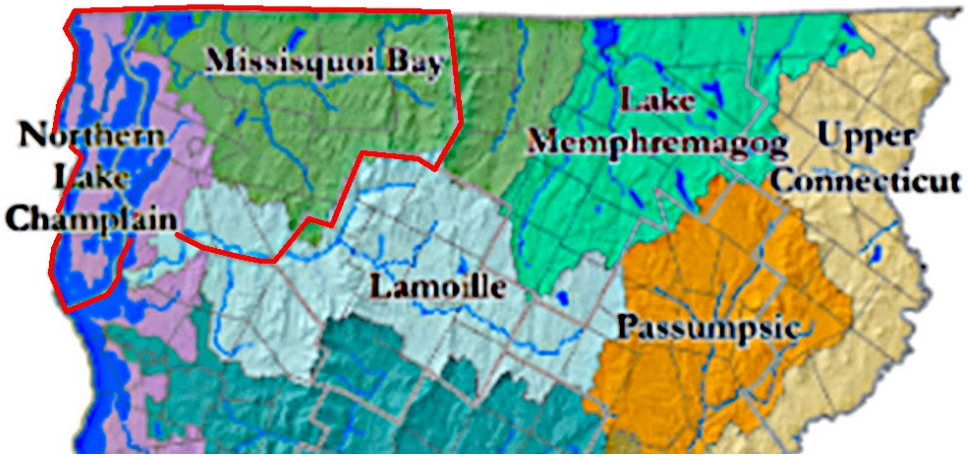
- Who we are
- What we are doing
- How we are doing it
- Where we might be headed

And we're off..

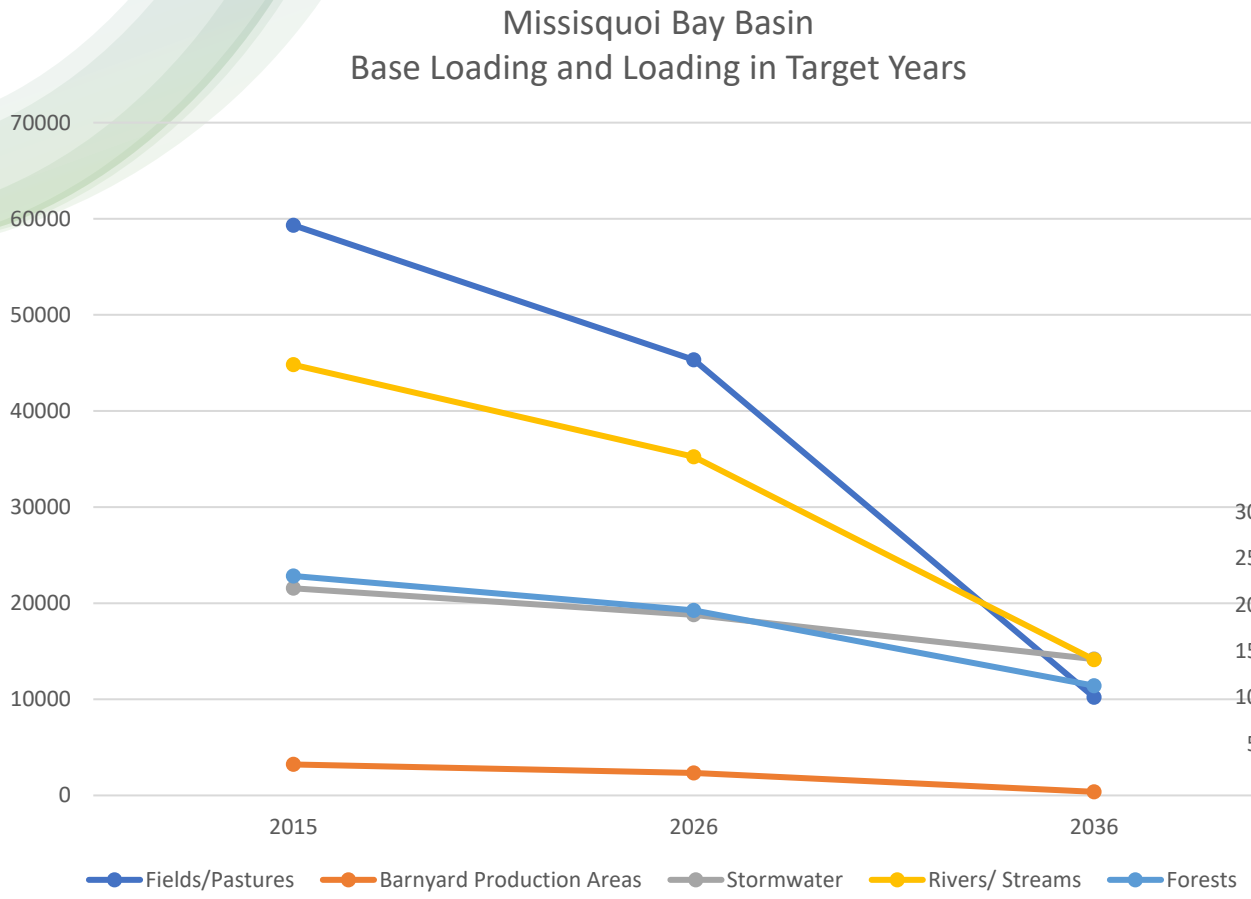
- Who we are:
  - Organization/ Geography / History
- What we are doing and Why
  - CWSP for Two Basins (Double the fun!)
  - P Targets
  - Motivation
- How we are doing it
  - Big picture
  - Specifics

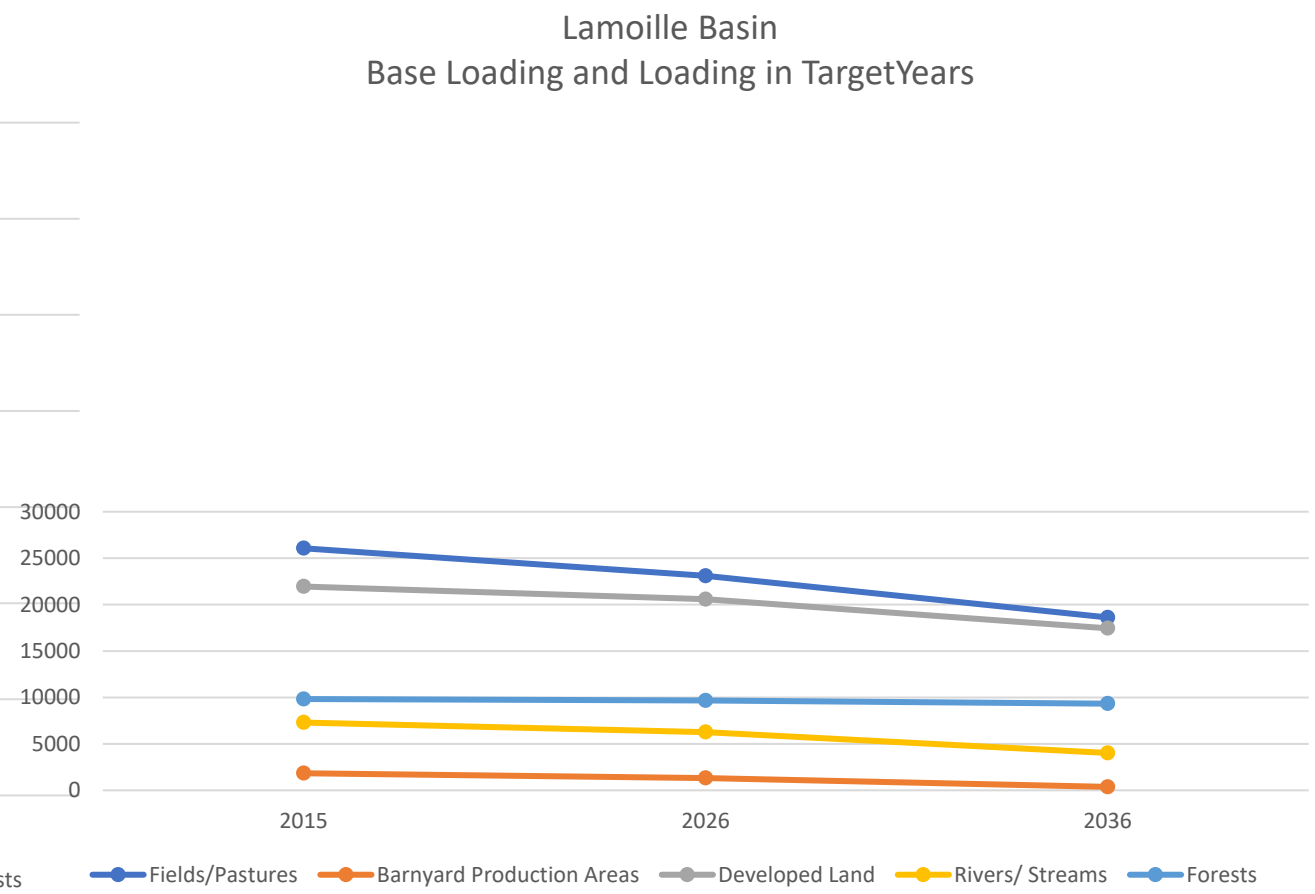
Basin area relative to RPC boundary





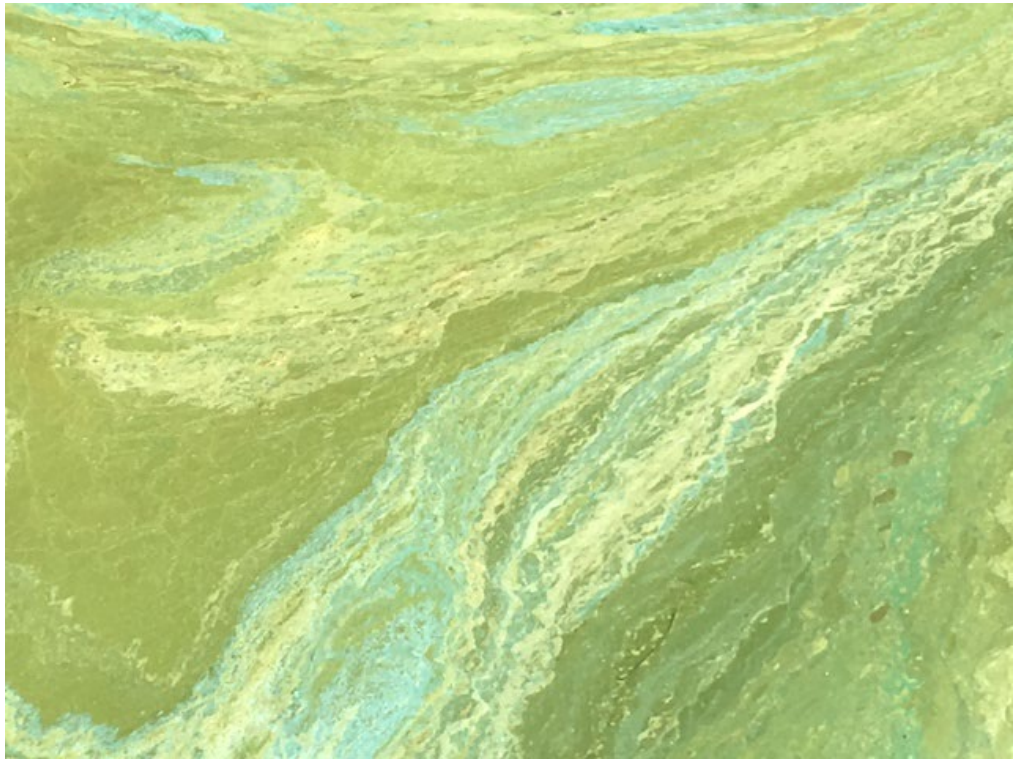
TMDL target reductions for the Basins we serve





(Source: Vermont DEC, as formatted by NRCP)

Motivation



First Year Reduction targets **<u>based on available funds</u>, by land use (kg)**

	Farm field	Developed	Forest	Stream	Total
Basin 6 - Missisquoi, Rock, Pike	23.1	26.2	48.3	47.7	145.3

For context,
-Gravel wetland project treating 17 acre watershed might reduce P by ~ 7 kg / year.
-3 acre floodplain/buffer restoration within 15 acre area along valley stream might reduce P by 10 kg / year (after a one year credit of 60 kg).

How we are doing it

- But first: A perspective or bias
- A few words about Theory vs Practice
- Examples

Bias: It’s a Paradigm shift

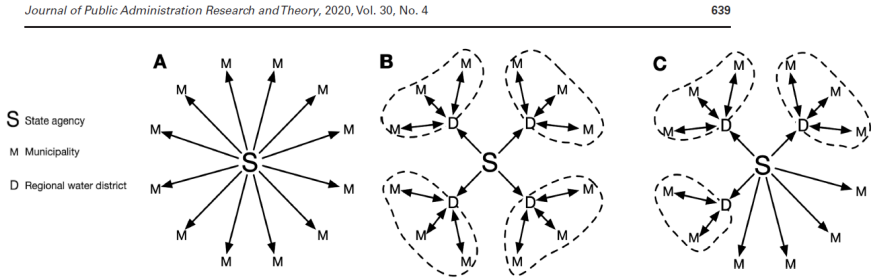
Paradigm Shift

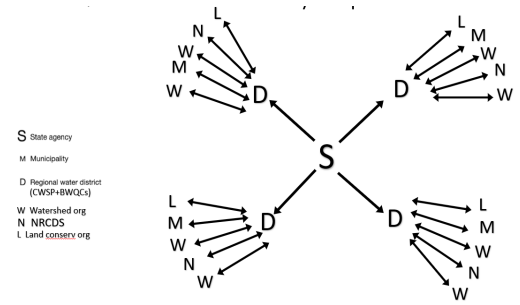
Normal
Understanding & doing things a certain way

Something that challenges, disrupts, & innovates, leading to major changes

New normal
Transformed understanding and actions

Adapted from: ***ther3journal.com***





(Source: Adapted from **Patrick Bitterman, Christopher J. Koliba Modeling Alternative Collaborative Governance Network Designs: An Agent-Based Model of Water Governance in the Lake Champlain Basin, Vermont**

Theory vs Practice

Theory

Phase 1

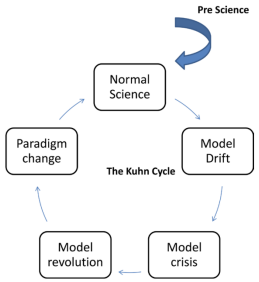
- Develop a website/webpage for CWSP and BWQC notices and activities
- Set up a grant/contract tracking system and grant reporting systems, to manage grant and contract issuance, and grant reporting to the State
- Set up a project tracking system, for managing CWSP funded projects, that integrates with the State's project tracking
- Ensure all CWSP legal and accounting requirements will be sufficient for CWSP operations
- Draft required CWSP policies
- Provide input to development of Secretary's Guidance, by participating in Act 76 Advisory Group Meetings.
- Invoice Processing

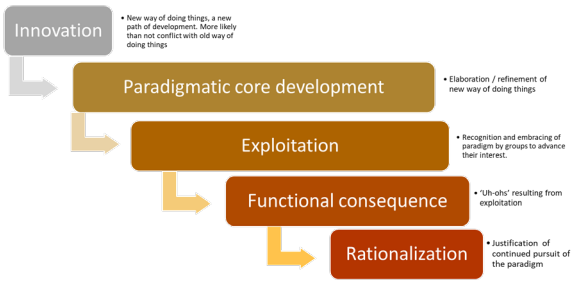
Phase 2

- Establish and empanel the BWQC
- BWQC capacity development and training
- Develop and Adopt BWQC Meeting Rules and Policies
- BWQC member attendance at approved meetings and trainings during start-up for three members two-municipal members and one member representing a statewide conservation organization)
- Conduct RFQs, procurement for select services related to stand up clean water projects, as appropriate

Practice

- Setting up systems
- Educating
- Developing policies
- Setting up more systems
- Creating organizations
- Developing more policies
- Educating more





Examples of “operationalizing”

- BWQC realm Examples
  - Identification of Representatives and Alternates
  - Drafting and Adoption of Bylaws and procedures
  - Cautious Action

And more examples

- CWSP Examples
  - Resource and Contract Management (internal)
  - Forms and Automation (external)
    - Link to DEC project tracking DB
  - Simple modeling to convey magnitude of task

Where might we be headed?

Some place we have not been before?

Financial incentives?

Questions and Follow up…

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