

The Vermont Clean Water Fund Board, Working Meeting

Agenda

Date/Time: Monday, August 22, 2016, 1:00pm – 2:00pm

Location: National Life Davis Building – 5th Floor Board Room

1. Welcome and introductions (5 minutes)
Update on the Clean Water Fund property transfer tax receipt revenues
Alyssa Schuren, DEC Commissioner
2. Process for FY18 Clean Water Fund allocations (10 minutes)
Alyssa Schuren, DEC Commissioner
3. Review comments received during 30-day public comment period (15 minutes)
 - (a) Summary of online questionnaire results
 - (b) Recommended adjustments to Draft FY18 Clean Water Fund Allocations
 - (c) Updated Draft FY18 Clean Water Fund Allocations
Kari Dolan, Clean Water Initiative Program (CWIP) Manager
4. Comments from the public (10 minutes)
Alyssa Schuren, DEC Commissioner
5. Next Clean Water Fund Board meeting (15 minutes)
 - (a) Clean Water Fund Board recommendation for draft FY18 Clean Water Fund Allocations
 - (b) 20-Day public comment period September 8-28
Kari Dolan, CWIP Manager

Supporting Materials:

- FY16 Clean Water Fund Revenue Summary and FY17 Clean Water Fund Forecast
- Clean Water Fund Budget Process, FY18
- Summary and Compilation of Online Questionnaire Results
- Memo on Recommended Adjustments to Draft FY18 Clean Water Fund Allocations
- Draft FY18 Clean Water Fund Allocations

Clean Water Fund - 21932

SFY16 Month Over Month Summary

	Prior Year	July	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total YTD
FY16 Monthly Forecast	\$ -	\$ 280,039	\$ 275,048	\$ 550,297	\$ 488,366	\$ 426,821	\$ 348,065	\$ 442,522	\$ 285,465	\$ 484,754	\$ 289,804	\$ 346,807	\$ 432,013	\$ 4,650,001
FY16 Actual Revenues	\$ 43,022	\$ 280,039	\$ 275,048	\$ 550,297	\$ 488,366	\$ 426,821	\$ 348,065	\$ 442,522	\$ 285,465	\$ 484,754	\$ 231,572	\$ 339,652	\$ 497,252	\$ 4,692,875
Monthly Over/Under	\$ 43,022	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (58,232)	\$ (7,155)	\$ 65,239	
Cumulative Over/Under	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ 43,022	\$ (15,210)	\$ (22,365)	\$ 42,874	
														Difference to target \$ (42,874)

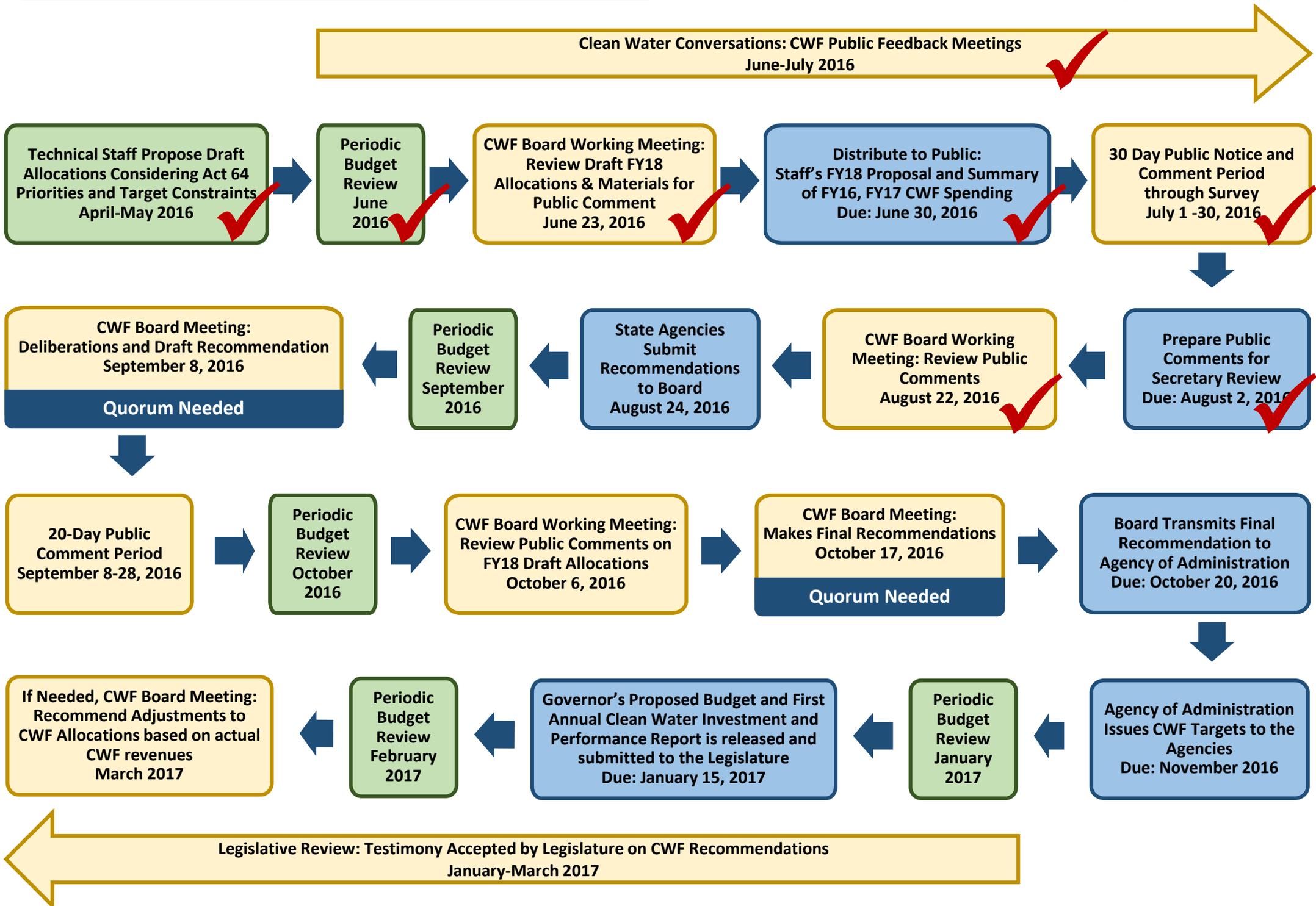
Clean Water Fund 21932

Clean Water Surcharge: FY17 Monthly Forecast

	Prior Year	July (Actual)	August	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	April	May	June	Total YTD
FY 17 Monthly Forecast	\$ 4,650,001	\$ 471,438	\$ 506,796	\$ 410,661	\$ 456,291	\$ 392,142	\$ 486,471	\$ 285,268	\$ 242,100	\$ 315,227	\$ 361,665	\$ 432,803	\$ 539,138	\$ 4,900,000
FY 17 Actual Revenue	\$ 4,692,875	\$ 471,438												\$ 471,438
														\$ -
Over/Under	\$ 42,874	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 42,874
														Difference to Target (4,385,688)

Clean Water Fund FY18 Budget Process (Process Begins April 2016)

Updated 8/19/2016



Key: Clean Water Fund Budgetary Process Task of Interagency Finance and Reporting Committee Public & Legislative Process

Memorandum

Date: August 12, 2016
To: Clean Water Fund Board
From: Clean Water Initiative Program
Subject: Summary of Results of the Vermont Clean Water Fund Fiscal Year 2018 Priorities Questionnaire
CC: Clean Water Initiative Interagency Finance & Reporting Subcommittee

The Clean Water Fund (CWF) Board posted an online questionnaire to collect public and stakeholder input on the State Fiscal Year 2018 CWF allocation priorities. The public notice and comment period was for 30 days from July 1st to July 30th. We received 260 responses, included in the following pages. The results of the survey are as follows:

Question #1: Rate the water pollution sources that the CWF Board should focus on for FY18.

- a. Approximately 75% of respondents rated agricultural lands as high priority;
- b. Approximately 50% of respondents rated lack of vegetated buffers along waterways as a high priority;
- c. Approximately 45% of respondents rated unstable stream channels and wastewater treatment as a high priority;
- d. Approximately 40% of respondents rated developed lands as a high priority;
- e. Approximately 35% of respondents rated industrial facilities and roads as a high priority;
- f. Approximately 20% of respondents rated logging areas and logging roads as a high priority.

Question #2: The fundamental purpose of the CWF is to target the most significant water pollution sources in order to achieve clean water in the most cost-effective manner. How well does this targeting of the CWF meet your expectations for achieving clean water across the state?

- a. 71% of respondents generally agreed with this statement, and 15% did not agree. It would be helpful in future surveys to inquire further into the public's expectations for these funds.

Question #3: Which of the following activities should the Vermont CWF employ to address current water quality needs for FY2018?

- a. There was significant support for using the CWF to support financial assistance through grants (82%);
- b. Respondents also support technical assistance activities to offer guidance in implementation (74%) and to support municipalities in establishing local stormwater management programs (62%);
- c. There was also support for using the CWF to support monitoring, water quality testing and mapping for tracking purposes (64%).

Question #4: Indicate how you would allocate FY2018 funds from the CWF among the program categories listed below to address the State's priority clean water needs.

- a. There was strong interest to support all sectors; there was no majority of respondents favoring one sector over others;
- b. Respondents would like to see the agricultural sector receive around 30% of the funds; municipalities receive between 20-30% of the funds, which grants for municipal roads would receive an additional 10-25%; and funds for the restoration of natural resources receive between 10-25%.

Question #7: How did you hear of this questionnaire?

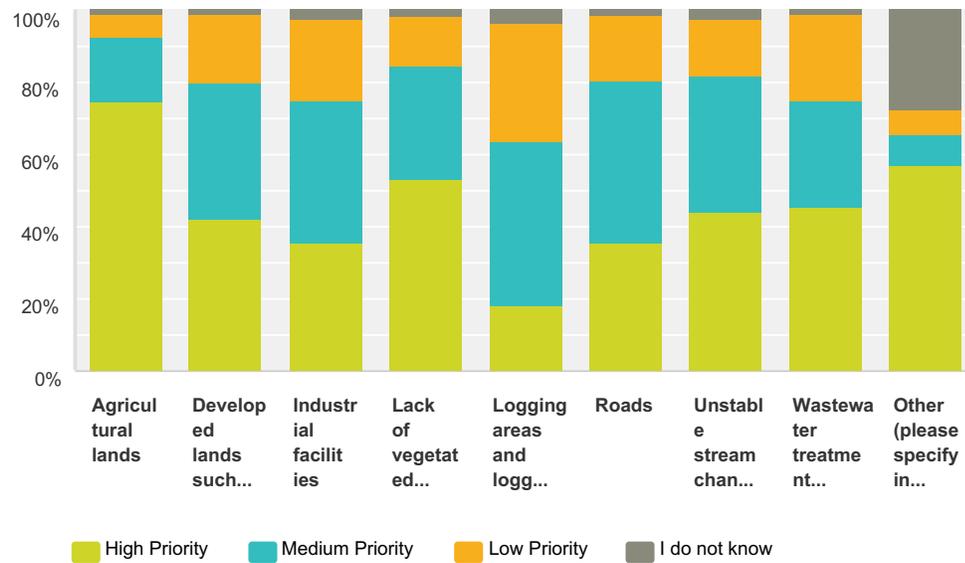
- a. Majority (75%) of respondents heard about the questionnaire through email, followed by word of mouth (10%) and Clean Water Conversations outreach (8%).

Other Notable Comments

- a. U.S. EPA Region 1 commented that Lake Champlain Basin Program will no longer support the agronomist positions in Lake Champlain Basin beyond Oct 2018. We will need to evaluate whether a portion of the FY2018 CWF budget should provide funds to support this work.

Q1 Rate the water pollution sources that the Clean Water Fund Board should focus on for the next state fiscal year (FY2018).

Answered: 255 Skipped: 0



	High Priority	Medium Priority	Low Priority	I do not know	Total
Agricultural lands	75% 187	18% 45	7% 17	1% 2	251
Developed lands such as parking lots	42% 102	38% 91	19% 46	1% 3	242
Industrial facilities	36% 86	40% 96	22% 54	2% 6	242
Lack of vegetated buffers along waterways	53% 132	31% 78	14% 34	2% 4	248
Logging areas and logging roads	18% 44	45% 110	33% 80	3% 8	242
Roads	36% 85	45% 107	18% 43	2% 4	239
Unstable stream channels	44% 106	38% 91	15% 37	3% 6	240
Wastewater treatment facilities	46% 112	29% 72	24% 58	1% 3	245
Other (please specify in comment box below)	57% 33	9% 5	7% 4	28% 16	58

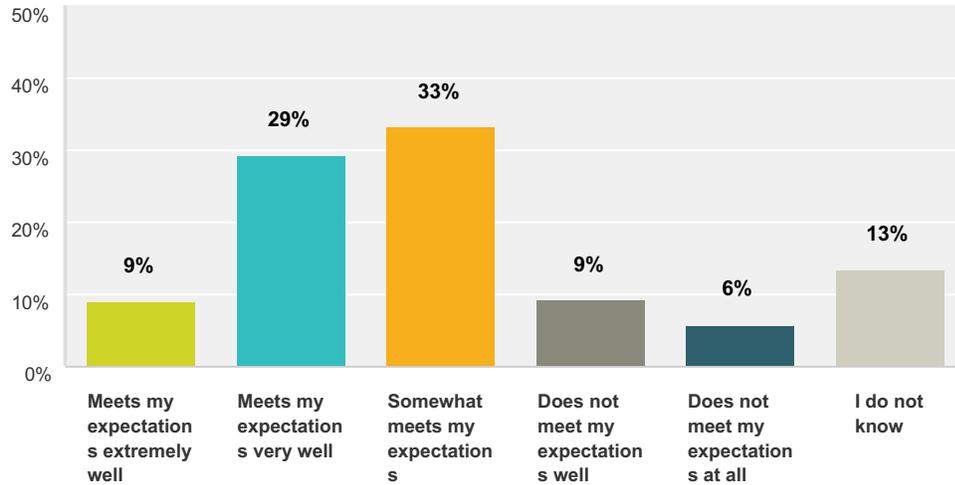
#	Other	Date
1	All urban hadscape/lot coverage.	7/30/2016 3:10 PM
2	Lakefront property	7/30/2016 2:49 PM
3	Restoring floodplain forests and wetlands (and riparian buffers) where lacking	7/28/2016 4:24 PM

4	There are many small land disturbing activities that do not come under state laws and regulations such as private driveways, back yards, ponds, gardens, hobby farms and lawns that can add up to a significant contribution of soil erosion and Phosphorus to the Lake. For example, in the Mad River Valley, the cumulative length of private driveways is almost half the cumulative length of roads in the Valley. Simple actions taken by landowners and homeowners such as installing and maintaining water bars and ditch control points can prevent erosion, save costs on repairs and keep a significant amount of Phosphorus out to the Lake.	7/27/2016 9:47 AM
5	driveways	7/26/2016 9:57 PM
6	Change rules for determining impervious surfaces for solar panels	7/26/2016 3:06 PM
7	Mountain top and "wild area" development	7/26/2016 9:57 AM
8	Parking lots one half acre in size or larger should be strictly monitored for run off. Manure pits should not be within one quarter mile of open water such as streams, rivers, ponds and lakes. Buffer zones along water ways need to be increased to at least twice of what they are now! Systems need to be in place and acted upon to bring compliance to any and all environmental regulatory laws!	7/26/2016 9:56 AM
9	Construction Sites	7/26/2016 8:29 AM
10	multiple locations of monitoring systems	7/25/2016 9:15 PM
11	maple sugaring operations	7/25/2016 4:19 PM
12	tile drains (storm sewers) specifically	7/25/2016 3:21 PM
13	Ag lands are clearly a high priority, but with federal money and other resources, the Clean Water Fund should focus on other areas that need attention but don't have alternative funding sources.	7/25/2016 1:40 PM
14	Work on the front end of the pollution problem by identifying products that contain the contaminants and offering alternatives. If for example too much phosphorus is getting into water from laundry and dish washing products. Couple the problem to the origination and get the products off the market or make them undesirable to the consumer because of the damage that is caused. Pesticides, herbicides(especially Roundup) and even VOCs that are used for solvents etc. We make a lot of pollution eliminating crab grass!	7/25/2016 1:38 PM
15	High elevation ridgeline wind project roads.	7/22/2016 11:54 AM
16	The Romans decided plumbing and sewers would be a good investment... Now the right mammals delicate IN water the water goes to aLEACH field in many parts of VT... In particular along lake shores. aptly a named, the water leaches as it is so designed. Where do you think it goes? It certainly does not get adsorbed or taken up by vegetation. Use some science. The state certainly has not when it comes to a farm with 200 cows which is equivalent to a town with a population of 5000. Education and finding common ground will help you with the dirty dairy that gets the press. Look, 30 yrs of liquid manure pits. No P reduction. You my wonder why... The liquid is not taken up by normal conditions of yesteryear when liquid systems where a novelty. Yesteryear was a time when farms fit the landscape and there was no need to travel on a town and state highway to do the cropping systems. Anr and at dept has stagnated their thinking by doing much of the analysis in house.	7/21/2016 9:08 PM
17	Invasive plant management and outreach, especially in the private sector - this "elephant in the room" is not going to go away or get any smaller. Very literally a GROWING problem on our streambanks, in our forest canopies, on the forest floors, degrading habitat at the microbial level.	7/21/2016 7:27 PM
18	Surface-source drinking water bodies that are open to human contact.	7/21/2016 10:32 AM
19	I have checked "logging areas and logging roads" as medium priority because if loggers/county foresters are doing their jobs correctly they should be using prescribed procedures to minimize runoff and erosion. Same applies for "roads" and "parking lots"	7/20/2016 8:21 AM
20	Water reservoirs (drinking water) being used be used for recreation should be stopped.	7/18/2016 3:32 PM
21	Improving soil function - eg. all turf areas, agricultural land, ditch networks (farm, municipal, logging) is the most cost effective way to clean up water. Improving the storage capacity of soil/turf (1% increase in organic matter allows 1 acre to store an additional ~ 20,000 gal of water is cheaper may be cheaper than upgrading WWTFs.	7/18/2016 3:13 PM
22	new construction on slopes	7/17/2016 10:30 AM
23	Proposed industrial wind turbine sites	7/17/2016 7:33 AM
24	Residential bioremediation options	7/15/2016 10:07 PM
25	We need not to be harsh with our vermont farmers.	7/15/2016 6:34 AM
26	Septic systems from camps that are now HOMES on lakes. Lets see if you take that one on. Tax dollars rule	7/14/2016 8:45 PM

27	You should differentiate between paved roads and gravel roads above - the is a measurable difference. Also, there are many different sizes and types of agricultural lands - hard lumping them all into one question.	7/14/2016 8:31 PM
28	AGRICULTURE	7/14/2016 7:12 PM
29	controlling storm water runoff on all residential homes. le turning grass into gardens, keeping storm water on each property with rain gardens, rain barrels, pervious pavement. also working with landscape architects to have them do the same in all of their work. See what Philadelphia is doing to contain stormwater. Making all areas possible into storm water management areas with gardens.	7/14/2016 1:57 PM
30	Large farms such as the nelsons. Also agency of ag needs to stop babying the farmers and regulate them more.	7/14/2016 6:10 AM
31	Gravel Roads	7/11/2016 10:54 AM
32	Spend resources on Ag lands, please! This is the most significant polluter.	7/11/2016 9:35 AM
33	Need trees along streams.	7/9/2016 12:02 PM
34	drainage ditches that run through almost all farm land but high concern for steep slopes toward lakes and streams	7/7/2016 6:17 PM
35	Logging removes cover which if a large enough area (>5 acres) can result in severe road and other infrastructure damage with 3" rain in 24 hour or more. Can logging on slopes over 5% be required to not clear cut or at least consider downstream impacts similar to dam break studies?	7/7/2016 11:02 AM
36	Reducing and disincentivizing direct untreated stormwater discharges to waters collected from impervious areas greater than 5000SF	7/5/2016 10:59 AM
37	private septic system failures in concentrated hamlets and village centers	7/5/2016 9:15 AM
38	Boat Monitoring & Lake Bomoseen	7/4/2016 6:36 PM
39	INVASIIVE WEEDS AND NUSIANCE SPECIES	7/4/2016 2:25 PM
40	You need to clean the lakes we have. Milfoil should be the top priority. The lake has so much phosphorus in it already. that clean up is as important if not more than preventing future.	7/4/2016 11:53 AM
41	Agri pesticide and antibiotic use as well as manure management.	7/4/2016 11:39 AM
42	pharmaceutical products from sewage	7/3/2016 9:15 PM
43	Privet property that is non agriculture/non business.	7/3/2016 4:25 PM
44	Measure phosphorus in all of the above where applicaple	7/2/2016 8:57 AM
45	Green Stormwater Infrastructure - from rain gardens to wetlands, from street trees to forest blocks	7/1/2016 2:40 PM
46	Investing in attractive stormwater infrastructure in our downtowns can help concentrate development there - reducing auto-oriented development (and more impervious surface) on the outskirts. This accomplishes many of the State's goals.	7/1/2016 11:22 AM
47	Inland Lakes	7/1/2016 11:17 AM

Q2 The fundamental purpose of the Clean Water Fund is to target the most significant water pollution sources in order to achieve clean water in the most cost-effective manner. How well does this targeting of the Clean Water Fund meet your expectations for achieving clean water across the state?

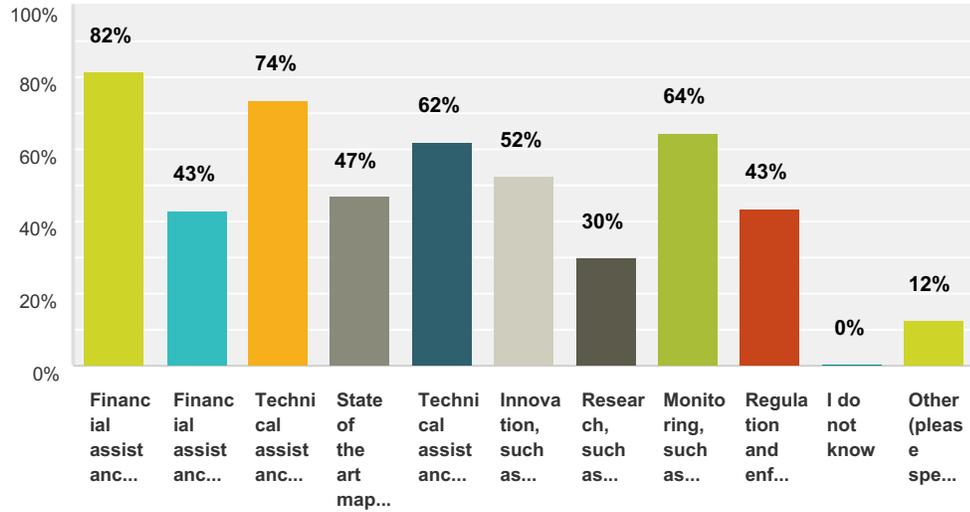
Answered: 246 Skipped: 9



Answer Choices	Responses
Meets my expectations extremely well	9% 22
Meets my expectations very well	29% 72
Somewhat meets my expectations	33% 82
Does not meet my expectations well	9% 23
Does not meet my expectations at all	6% 14
I do not know	13% 33
Total	246

Q3 Which of the following activities should the Vermont Clean Water Fund employ to address current water quality needs for FY2018? (Select all that apply).

Answered: 235 Skipped: 20



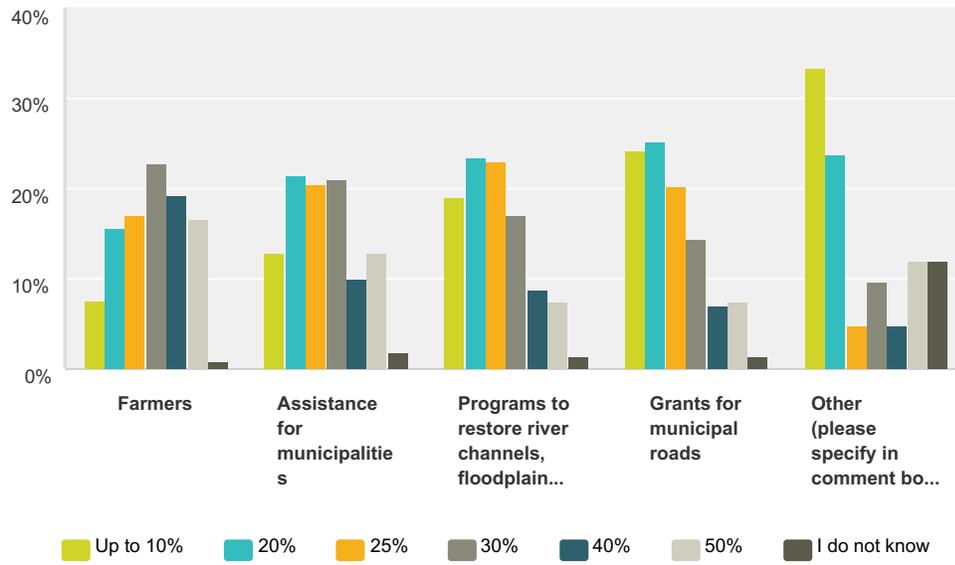
Answer Choices	Responses
Financial assistance to implement clean water actions using grants	82% 192
Financial assistance to implement clean water actions using loans	43% 101
Technical assistance to advise on practices and offer guidance in implementation	74% 173
State of the art mapping for project identification and prioritization	47% 111
Technical assistance to help municipalities establish local stormwater management programs, such as stormwater utilities	62% 146
Innovation, such as technologies and practices, to reduce water pollution	52% 123
Research, such as studies of impacts from emerging pollution sources or effectiveness of pollution controls	30% 70
Monitoring, such as water quality testing and mapping to track progress	64% 151
Regulation and enforcement	43% 102
I do not know	0% 1
Other (please specify)	12% 29
Total Respondents: 235	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Specific technologies and habits that should be supported (and their widespread adoption incentivized) are 1) what I refer to as the "deep" conservation of water, 2) dry, preferably source-separating, ecological toilets, 3) onsite greywater systems and 4) onsite rainwater harvesting and storage systems.	7/30/2016 3:38 PM
2	Education of the general public of the importance of individual actions that may seem small but that add up to be significant contributions	7/27/2016 10:00 AM
3	promoting the state as a partner, not just a regulator, particularly among farmers	7/27/2016 8:09 AM
4	Fund local watershed groups administrative costs!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!	7/26/2016 5:11 PM

5	Let us not out rule common sense.	7/26/2016 10:15 AM
6	Lack of current enforcement of buffers and "cuts" in the buffers can be seen from the road and not one enforces.	7/26/2016 10:09 AM
7	Identifying needs and budget the funds to correct the problems. Too many inequities when left to grant or loan programs.	7/26/2016 8:57 AM
8	Stop issuing permits to build on Class 2 wetlands, stop issuing permits to pollute. Zero discharge is the goal.	7/22/2016 11:57 AM
9	Clean house at the ag dept and anr...	7/21/2016 9:19 PM
10	More outreach and education at the grassroots level - private landowners can do SO MUCH MORE to improve water quality.	7/21/2016 7:37 PM
11	Monitoring, strengthening protections for, and enforcing regulations on water bodies that communities rely on for surface-source drinking water.	7/21/2016 10:35 AM
12	Education & Training	7/20/2016 1:28 PM
13	Easily accesible public resource center for receiving information by phone (not a static web site)	7/20/2016 1:10 PM
14	support watershed scale collaborative grassroots efforts	7/18/2016 3:28 PM
15	The allowing of P discharge trading within and without municipal borders.	7/18/2016 8:40 AM
16	encourage, support and stay current on research by academic institutions - guide them to use the funding resources they can tap to address needs	7/17/2016 10:42 AM
17	Grants or low interest loans to demonstrate the effectiveness of biomass/bioremediation for residential or small business waste water treatment	7/15/2016 10:13 PM
18	important that funded activities not pay for activities already being paid for out of existing programs	7/15/2016 3:01 PM
19	Provide funding for farmers to begin/continue education and implementation to stop phosphorus pollution from manure. This is the number one cause of water pollution in Vermont!	7/15/2016 1:00 PM
20	Push back against the radical policies of the EPA	7/15/2016 9:41 AM
21	Vt Agriculture, Kentucky Coal. Both important to state economies, both killing the planet.	7/14/2016 7:20 PM
22	Don't expect municipalities to create stormwater utilities outside of urban areas. Also, please don't force them to take over private sector infrastructure that is inadequate.	7/14/2016 4:14 PM
23	restore funding that has been taken away from local volunteer organizations for ANR payroll	7/7/2016 6:35 PM
24	Sub-watershed sampling and mapping and cause by (sub)watershed (i.e. some more by development, some more by ag etc), qualitative analysis of overflow wasterwater events	7/6/2016 5:07 PM
25	phosphorus removal technology	7/6/2016 10:37 AM
26	GSI retrofits to directly connected impervious surfaces and disincentivize new connections such as when adding sidewalks to roads.	7/5/2016 11:09 AM
27	why not all? weird question. those all sound good.	7/5/2016 9:25 AM
28	We already know the main pollutor is the farmer. Enough studing do something.	7/4/2016 11:58 AM
29	get off the LIDAR kick please	7/2/2016 9:46 AM

Q4 Indicate how you would allocate FY2018 funds from the Clean Water Fund among the program categories listed below to address the State's priority clean water needs. Your answers should represent percentages and add up to 100%.

Answered: 235 Skipped: 20



	Up to 10%	20%	25%	30%	40%	50%	I do not know	Total
Farmers	8% 17	16% 35	17% 38	23% 51	19% 43	17% 37	1% 2	223
Assistance for municipalities	13% 28	21% 47	20% 45	21% 46	10% 22	13% 28	2% 4	220
Programs to restore river channels, floodplains, lake shorelands and wetlands	19% 39	23% 48	23% 47	17% 35	9% 18	7% 15	1% 3	205
Grants for municipal roads	24% 49	25% 51	20% 41	14% 29	7% 14	7% 15	1% 3	202
Other (please specify in comment box below)	33% 14	24% 10	5% 2	10% 4	5% 2	12% 5	12% 5	42

#	Other	Date
1	Education about and incentivization to promote new habits and the use of the technologies I listed in my response to Question #3 above.	7/30/2016 3:38 PM
2	Research on new technologies or effectiveness of proposed solutions	7/29/2016 2:40 PM
3	Programs to identify projects and priorities.	7/28/2016 11:34 AM
4	Stormwater	7/27/2016 3:12 PM
5	General Education to make the need for this action a common household word. And some funding for workshops and manuals to show how individual can take actions to keep their private driveways and small disturbed areas from eroding. In other words, knowing how stormwater causes erosion of disturbed areas and what actions can be taken.	7/27/2016 10:00 AM
6	promotion/outreach	7/27/2016 8:09 AM

7	Grants for multi user private roads	7/26/2016 1:39 PM
8	Grants to groups monitoring water quality.	7/26/2016 11:17 AM
9	enforcement	7/26/2016 10:09 AM
10	Monitoring and enforcement of the clean water act	7/26/2016 9:32 AM
11	Invest in infrastructure(pipes , wastewater treatment plants)	7/25/2016 11:53 PM
12	monitoring progress	7/25/2016 9:36 PM
13	introduce legislative action to eliminate all problem materials that are cumulatively polluting our waters.	7/25/2016 1:51 PM
14	Pay youth corps to do fencing for farmers. Pay towns to address road runoff. Support rather than dictate.	7/22/2016 11:57 AM
15	Change the food system all together because the dairy farm sand castle relies of labor that adds little back to the communities	7/21/2016 9:19 PM
16	Invasives management and outreach	7/21/2016 7:37 PM
17	Small landowner education/outreach, and assistance	7/21/2016 4:33 PM
18	Don't know	7/21/2016 10:35 AM
19	Education, training & technical assistance to farmers and Municipalities	7/20/2016 1:28 PM
20	assistance for more water quality monitoring	7/18/2016 7:41 PM
21	Education: engineers, contractors, homeowners, local zoning/permitting boards, owners of large parkinglotsroad crews, VTTrans, Zero Discharge Challenge, watershed based collaborative projects, 5% - calculations re amending turf to store more water vs upgrades to WWTF	7/18/2016 3:28 PM
22	at least 10% for enforcement	7/17/2016 10:42 AM
23	Residential or community options/research for waste water management	7/15/2016 10:13 PM
24	Road runoff is a minor cause of water pollution and minimal effect on our lakes and waterways.	7/15/2016 1:00 PM
25	Test all septic systems on lake frontage	7/14/2016 8:54 PM
26	River and stream stabilization	7/14/2016 7:20 PM
27	Assumed "assistnce for municipalities" included a municipal roads component.	7/14/2016 6:15 PM
28	5% for restoring natural resources	7/9/2016 12:05 PM
29	administrative cost for non- profit volunteer local watershed organizations	7/7/2016 6:35 PM
30	stormwater	7/7/2016 2:11 PM
31	technical assistance and education for farmers	7/6/2016 1:56 PM
32	GSI implementation grants for public/ private partners 15%	7/5/2016 11:09 AM
33	Isnt assistance for municipalities and grants for municipal roads part of the same category?	7/5/2016 9:25 AM
34	To provide assistance to polluted lake clean up. Look at Lake Champlain's bays. the State should be ashamed to call its self a "green" state.	7/4/2016 11:58 AM
35	I include grants for roads under assistance for towns	7/2/2016 9:46 AM
36	Downtown stormwater/streetscape improvements.	7/1/2016 11:26 AM

Q5 Please offer any additional comments for the Clean Water Fund Board to consider when it convenes on September 8, 2016 to draft recommendations on the use of the Clean Water Fund as part of the FY2018 state budget.

Answered: 88 Skipped: 167

#	Responses	Date
1	Conventional agricultural practices aside, much of the remaining sources of our water quality woes stem from the destructive habits of the general population. For instance, owning and driving private automobiles and/or ICE powered water craft (with all of their attendant pollution generating characteristics), purchasing, using and essentially disposing via wastewater and/or stormwater streams those products that contain industrial toxics, the use of flush toilets, not outfitting homes and businesses with rainwater harvesting technologies to mitigate urban runoff, overuse of water (the additional volume of which ends up in wastewater and stormwater streams), not outfitting homes and businesses with greywater recovery systems, etc. Any program which fails to address these kinds of habits and the role that each of plays in their persistence will ultimately fail in it's outcome. We are all, in our own ways, to blame for water pollution and this point needs to be driven home at every level of education, certification, training, in the mass media and in the various influential processes that most of us take part in on a regular basis (home buying, car buying, professional development, basic consumerism like food purchasing, interacting with state or municipal actors, travel, past times, etc.). All of human activity should have as it's backdrop the need for clean water. The state and the CWFB, in particular, need to play major roles in the creation and sustenance of a holistic and prolific culture of clean water.	7/30/2016 3:38 PM
2	It's important to address the degradation of our wetland habitat and the development around our lakes, ponds and streams.ALSO RESEARCH NEEDS TO BE CONDUCTED ON THE EFFECT OF THE IMMENSE LANDFILL ON THE BANKS OF LAKE MEMPHREMAGOG IN COVENTRY ,VT	7/30/2016 3:00 PM
3	Get and stay serious. The past 20 years have been a joke. We know the problems, enough study, make it work. The Lake is in serious trouble.	7/30/2016 7:01 AM
4	We need to provide funding to parties that are required or should take action to address pollution issues, monitor the progress, but also ensure we have tested these best practices in Vermont's conditions and are able to show they will be effective at reducing pollution for the cost of compliance.	7/29/2016 2:40 PM
5	There are multiple farm assistance funds available already through USDA, NRCS programs. Programs are for the most part voluntary. While farms may make up a large portion of the water quality impacts, as long as programs are voluntary, there will be little incentive for farmers to change their practices or take advantage of other funds that may require them to go to a higher standard. If funding is to be allocated to the farms, then practices should be required above the minimum	7/28/2016 8:29 AM
6	I was disappointed to see Clean Water Fund resources proposed to fund VTrans' payments to communities with stormwater utilities. This has the potential to be a VERY significant drag on the Clean Water Fund were a larger number of communities to opt to establish stormwater utilities.	7/27/2016 11:18 PM
7	Clean Water Fund should focus on categories where there are not other pots of money available or where the need outweighs the funds offered	7/27/2016 3:12 PM
8	Real enforcement shows you are serious. No grants to cities for WWTP upgrades - they already have user fees to draw on. Adopt a strong CSO rule. Current draft RAP rule is a shameful retreat, it sends a message that one sector is getting a free pass.	7/27/2016 9:50 AM
9	Don't forget Conservation Districts; we are part of State Government, too.	7/26/2016 10:01 PM
10	Agriculture is key.	7/26/2016 2:36 PM
11	Please work with the PSB to change the definition of solar panel installations from pervious to impervious. Those panels allow precipitation to run off, hitting the ground with as much impact as for any other impervious surface. The present definition is ridiculous.	7/26/2016 1:39 PM

12	It does not take a rocket scientist to understand and see that the majority of pollution comes from farms. The proliferation of liquid manure systems has exacerbated rather than improved water quality in Vermont over my lifetime. Much of that runoff ends up in municipal road systems and drains into water ways. Towns cannot afford to foot the bills for erosion control measures on town highways without significant help from state funded programs. Towns will need the help. Farmers will need the help. Targeted funding in these areas will produce the biggest bang for the buck. Duncan Hastings, 26 years as a Town Manager/Administrator	7/26/2016 10:58 AM
13	Small towns, that are run by volunteer selectboards, need assistance in the grant procurement process. The idea of submitting a grant proposal is intimidating to the lay person and will get in the way of small towns getting the financial assistance they will need going forward. The roads in rural hill towns, such as Duxbury, present significant engineering challenges. The solutions will often times strip a small communities ability to afford the appropriate response. Easily obtained, administrative support will help provide fair and equal access to the grant monies being made available. John Murphy, Duxbury Selectboard Chair	7/26/2016 10:46 AM
14	I am a citizen of a watershed. I believe there should be mandatory education in public schools in Vermont on the understanding of the clean water laws and the Clean Water Fund. We are all responsible for the commons of water. Educating our high school students may empower them to take on an environmental citizenry to ensure our water remains safe for future generations. Furthermore, adult education is just as important. Water Education and Citizenry for all.	7/26/2016 10:15 AM
15	The problems have existed for years with all the knowledge and implied consent of the regulatory agencies. What is needed is to stop writing new regulations and start enforcing the ones you have on the largest farms that are seen as "poster children" when they are actually part of the problem.	7/26/2016 10:09 AM
16	Question why agronomists are only proposed outside the Lake Champlain basin?	7/26/2016 9:39 AM
17	The top priority should be to stop untreated sewage from entering the lake; second to stop manure and ag run-off into the lake.	7/26/2016 9:32 AM
18	Farmers need financial assistance to implement changes so they don't go out of business; enable/incentivize municipal control over development as much as possible. Set the target but let the municipality figure out how to meet the target. You'll get a more context specific development. Require Act 250 to recognize Form-based Code and watershed contextual design. Enable transfer of development rights within NON IMPAIRED watersheds to keep them from becoming impaired and to foster compact nodes of development. Give credit (tax? Financial?) to non developed lands that remain undeveloped for the SW function they provide.	7/26/2016 9:29 AM
19	Prioritize by size. Work on source problems. Reduce from the watersheds and basins first and manage the input. Champlain, Memphramagog, Connecticut River will only be as good as the waters that feed them. Choose the biggest of the smaller lakes and tributaries and work your way down. Reducing input will improve quality, and the down stream problems will be diminished when we get to them.	7/26/2016 8:57 AM
20	Please stop delaying the implementation of ag practices to address the phosphorus runoff	7/25/2016 10:03 PM
21	With increased monitoring & technical support the goals of clean water will become common. If water quality was measured regularly and became part of the news cycle attention to practices would increase. This could be another unique example of Vermont as a healthy destination.	7/25/2016 9:36 PM
22	Go after polluters vigorously, and use technical assistance, education and fines to ensure compliance. It is time to take off the gloves and make sure people understand the consequences of flouting rules set up for the benefit of all.	7/25/2016 5:15 PM
23	No more using state taxpayer dollars to pay for AOT permit fees to DEC.	7/25/2016 5:01 PM
24	Maybe some consideration for helping residents with their water sources when commercial or private entities discharge system and or storm water drainage impacts or has influence on them. Making them contaminated.	7/25/2016 4:46 PM
25	Improve Materials Management by identifying clearly what the problem materials are, the amount produced in one year, the amount ending up in water at the end of the year, the alternatives to not using the material, the alternative products that might be a substitute, The cost of the material. For example How much phosphorus is being produced and where is it going? I think when you add up the millions of dish washing machines and the total number of gallons moving into the system and then find out where does it all go..... we would be taxing phosphorus so heavily that other products would be found.	7/25/2016 1:51 PM
26	This is a STATEWIDE problem, not just a Lake Champlain issue. Money must be available on a statewide basis. Federal agencies like NRCS already have designated most of their money to the LC Basin.	7/25/2016 1:22 PM
27	Please focus on waters statewide, not just Lake Champlain	7/25/2016 9:06 AM
28	Allow for flexibility in meeting goals, monitoring and enforcement are key.	7/23/2016 7:58 AM

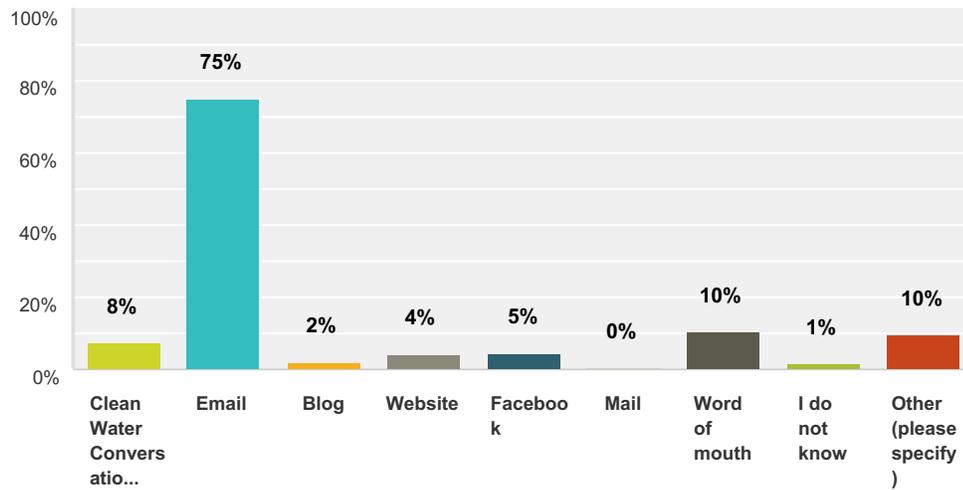
29	ANR doesn't have much credibility when they cut deals behind closed doors with solar and wind developers and allow environmental destruction for politically driven special interests. The renewable energy permit mill discredits everything else you are doing.	7/22/2016 11:57 AM
30	Smaller farms across the state will need more help to implement water quality upgrades and to reduce their runoff potential, lots of small projects across numerous farms will likely have a bigger immediate impact than a few large projects and will create opportunity for more positive perception of the Board	7/22/2016 9:42 AM
31	have a phosphorus credits payment for farms. A Ponunds of P import export balance sheet. On th eminus side... No use value payment. You import no P on to farm...grow own feed, have a closed here and closed plant production system... This also is good food bio security.	7/21/2016 9:19 PM
32	A long-term holistic approach must be designed and implemented around invasive plant management, to get towns and private landowners on the same page, using the same techniques, and sharing the same paradigm.	7/21/2016 7:37 PM
33	Farmers, municipalities, and road managers are well aware of water quality issues--it's small landowners with no farms or forestry operations that need education and assistance when it comes to stormwater mitigation and stream buffer restoration.	7/21/2016 4:33 PM
34	Vermont has deeply insufficient monitoring and protection for surface-source drinking water. Vermont must prioritize safe, clean drinking water over recreation.	7/21/2016 10:35 AM
35	One size does not fit all.	7/21/2016 9:08 AM
36	More outreach instead of regulation/enforcement so more people understand the real water quality issue facing ALL of us	7/20/2016 2:23 PM
37	While I do think it's important to provide funding for municipalities to fix sewage and stormwater treatment, I recognize that farms are on the front line of complaints. In my experience, farms seeking help with these issues can wait months or years for funding approval from NRCS or other entities. If we expect farmers to clean things up, we must help them. All stick and no carrot means fewer farms, which are the backbone of our state identity.	7/20/2016 1:10 PM
38	addressing stormwater inputs (from rds esp.) is important but will also deliver more water at a quicker rate to a stream network already being expanded-enlarged by increasing frequency and intensity of storms; increasingly important to support municipalities in developing and implementing corridor protections and keeping development out of harm's way	7/18/2016 10:45 PM
39	Funding needs to be equitably distributed - in actuality - statewide	7/18/2016 7:41 PM
40	The board should be looking at reservoirs and ponds used for drinking water regulation to stop recreation in and on these properties.	7/18/2016 3:36 PM
41	Healthy Soil = Clean Water. Funding should largely support this fundamental equation in one way or another.	7/18/2016 3:28 PM
42	The Board should consider the capacity as well as the availability of funding sources. The property tax is not an infinite source of revenue.	7/18/2016 10:05 AM
43	Don't forget the smaller towns in your funding allocation. Many towns don't have more than two full-time office staff, and very limited funds but will still be trying to follow the new laws as best we can!	7/17/2016 8:20 PM
44	Bioremediation in the residential section is completely un-funded. Whole communities or large farms can clean waste water to gray water usage. Essential for farms, and quite viable for individuals or localities. Funding is needed to explore residential/farm options that allows bioremediation processes to clean the water before it gets to the septic/leach field.	7/15/2016 10:13 PM
45	you should prioritize where funds will have the greatest impact on phosphorus (ie, NOT municipal WW plants)	7/15/2016 3:01 PM
46	The main source of water pollution has to be stopped with restoration taking place at the same time.	7/15/2016 1:00 PM
47	Please also consider special protections for drinking water sources.	7/15/2016 10:45 AM
48	How do you determine significance in question #2? The oval statement is too broad. Anything and everything can be significant. In our town it is roads that may be significant, but not sure as to degree compared to storm water run-off. Both are significant but I cannot determine how much.	7/15/2016 10:21 AM
49	It seems Senator Starr had worked out a pay structure that farmers, loggers and municipalities all agreed to but it was axed by The Governor its too bad politics stand in the way of true progress and compromises	7/15/2016 10:09 AM
50	The Board needs to recognize the cost of the regulation it imposes and not force the municipality to raise taxes to pay for improvements that on a state level will increase water quality. If water quality is a State priority than the State should incur the cost to achieve it. Be realistic about where the problem is created and spend the state's financial resources to achieve the greatest cost effective result.	7/15/2016 9:39 AM

51	Rethink the regulations for graveled municipal highways especially in smaller towns where assets are limited	7/15/2016 6:37 AM
52	Have the Board consider all sources of pollution and not just the ones that will affect them the least.	7/14/2016 8:54 PM
53	Agriculture is the biggest part of the problem dollars spent on ag mitigation will generate far more impact than heightened standards for sewage plants. Put the \$\$ and the effort where the problem and the return is greatest.	7/14/2016 7:20 PM
54	Mandating that towns rock line ditches is expensive and will do very little to limit run off.	7/14/2016 6:17 PM
55	Block grants to municipalities may be a more effective use of time and resources than continual grant application writing. Can municipalities develop "clean water priority plans" with funding passed to them to implement these priorities?	7/14/2016 6:15 PM
56	Some of the questions posed are so poorly worded that it is impossible to provide a reasonable answer. Very frustrating.	7/14/2016 5:15 PM
57	Be willing to pay for new regulations to cover the cost. This will cause you to appreciate the cost of what you are regulating and self regulate your expectations of what is important. Don't penalize those that have been acting in good faith.	7/14/2016 4:14 PM
58	The Clean Water Fund should distribute funds on levels consistent with their contribution to surface water pollution. For example, agriculture is a large sector of nonpoint source pollution, so therefore should receive a large portion of funding to achieve noticeable pollution reduction.	7/14/2016 2:46 PM
59	Find easy solutions on a small basis and keep building. Ie Farmers putting in crops in winter, putting in small crops between large ones during the summer. See Denise Smith at denisefnlc@gmail.com friends of No Lake Champlain for all the work they have done. And educate all of the public through local educational meetings on how each of us can help.	7/14/2016 2:01 PM
60	Need stronger enforcement of existing rules	7/13/2016 3:04 PM
61	I find the total fund woefully inadequate. Please work on developing a really significant fund, in the area of \$20 million per year.	7/11/2016 9:39 AM
62	Help municipalities meet their obligations	7/9/2016 12:05 PM
63	Please focus on Missisquoi Bay. Farm Raps need to be mandated sooner than later and enforced.	7/8/2016 7:30 PM
64	Assistance to municipalities and farmers will be key in the success. We do not want to burden municipalities or struggling farmers with the associated cost.	7/8/2016 1:39 PM
65	Since the farmers are already getting funding and assistance from EPA, the Clean Water Fund should go to Non-profits volunteers, especially watershed organizations. It should give 10 to 12 percent for administration costs of projects.	7/7/2016 6:35 PM
66	Streambank stabilizatoin to hold soils in larger storm events and forestry rules to reduce flooding risk into existing roadway structures. Ag will need to implement best practices over time. Stream buffers can parallel shoreland protection law across the state.	7/7/2016 11:08 AM
67	The allocation of funds need to recognize that they are many more State and Federal grant/loans sources for agriculture than there are for municipal requirements.	7/7/2016 9:39 AM
68	Just be sure municipalities money is earmarked for waste water treatment facilities.	7/7/2016 7:25 AM
69	Fix waste water from Municipalities	7/6/2016 7:46 PM
70	Ensure an all in approach that keeps citizens responsible as well as agriculture. Ag impact is greater, but on a per acre basis isn't. We focus on it because of "cost effectiveness" but regular VTers just hear "Ag is the problem". Also, we have to find more strategic solutions, and convey the message that the Lake isn't going to clean itself magically overnight. Toxic algal blooms in Burlington are caused by development. So, we should be targeting where are the algal blooms specifically. Road building historically has been in the floodplain, creating buffers retroactively may be difficult but coordination with new construction should be promoted. Funding for farmers should supplement existing funding by giving additional options not the same options and actually highlighting farmers that are proactive (may not qualify for EQUIP). There needs to be focus on how to APPLY a nutrient management plan effectively (support that goes beyond just writing it).	7/6/2016 5:07 PM
71	continue technical assistance programs that document farmer practices installed with or without government money.	7/6/2016 1:56 PM
72	Consider offering funding a position(s) to help support municipalities that want to create storm water utilities. Additional funding to RPC's (for staff and projects) to support local WQ priorities identified in their regional plans.	7/6/2016 1:17 PM
73	Assistance for towns to plan and implement wastewater systems for small village centers and hamlet areas would help us to concentrate growth in these areas, according to state land use goals.	7/5/2016 9:25 AM

74	The State should focus on grant funding for municipalities with projects that are ready to go and provide technical assistance for farmers to implement BMPs.	7/5/2016 9:18 AM
75	Direct funding to farmers and municipalities to implement project not staff to manage projects/grants. More financial assistance for farmers to purchase equipment to implement proven field practices that will improve water quality and promote farm sustainability.	7/5/2016 8:52 AM
76	Focus most on those activities that have significant co-benefits like flood resilience, wildlife habitat, reducing soil erosion, reduced road maintenance costs, etc.	7/5/2016 8:49 AM
77	Fix the lakes. Do something. Enough study. Keep up the preventative issues going forward but you can't keep ignoring the existing conditions. Preventing is not going to curb the lakes problems.	7/4/2016 11:58 AM
78	Algae and excessive weed growth are major concerns.	7/4/2016 9:45 AM
79	Allow for free drinking water testing for residences annually	7/4/2016 7:29 AM
80	Consider consulting with the U.S. Geological Survey as they have the largest network of water quality data and water quality specialist in the country. They are able to offer a \$1 for \$1 federal match on cooperative projects. Water.usgs.gov or water.watch.usgs.gov and explore around.	7/3/2016 4:57 PM
81	Farms are the single largest contributor to our water pollution. Help the farmers fix the problems with funding made available to them to meet the new regulations!	7/2/2016 6:21 PM
82	Continue to work outside of the Lake Champlain watershed. Every watershed counts!	7/2/2016 9:46 AM
83	Find the BMP in regards to measuring phosphorus in smaller rivers and streams and make it available to towns/organizations who wish to do so.	7/2/2016 9:03 AM
84	I think transparency with the public is very important. Thanks for including us in this process.	7/1/2016 2:48 PM
85	Q 2 is unclear. It ask the respondent to rate the targeting of the Clean Water Fund, but the targets are unclear. Is the basins? Is the response in Q 1? Bad question = bad result.	7/1/2016 12:49 PM
86	Pushing these responsibilities (financially) onto Towns will be devastating. We (towns) do not have the expertise, funding, political buy-in, or ability to meet these standards without significant and comprehensive assistance.	7/1/2016 11:27 AM
87	We all "get it". It's all important, and much of it is expensive. It's going to take much more building of support, and then significant assistance to partners, to implement this all. Focus first on "best bang for the buck".	7/1/2016 11:24 AM
88	Thank you for your work on creating a clean water environment. As a conservative, I would like to keep our waterways and water clean from toxins, chemicals, and disease. Thank you for your work.	7/1/2016 11:23 AM

Q7 How did you hear of this questionnaire? (Select all that apply.)

Answered: 221 Skipped: 34



Answer Choices	Responses
Clean Water Conversation Meeting	8% 17
Email	75% 166
Blog	2% 4
Website	4% 9
Facebook	5% 10
Mail	0% 1
Word of mouth	10% 23
I do not know	1% 3
Other (please specify)	10% 21
Total Respondents: 221	

#	Other (please specify)	Date
1	Lake Champlain International	7/28/2016 5:34 PM
2	I'm a Master's Degree candidate at Antioch university and have been seeking out jobs, internships, and research opportunities in water quality.	7/28/2016 10:55 AM
3	Watershed Group - Friends of the Mad River	7/27/2016 10:03 AM
4	From VTDEC's Bethany Sargent	7/26/2016 1:41 PM
5	county planning commission	7/25/2016 4:49 PM
6	Federation of Vermont Lakes and Ponds	7/25/2016 1:48 PM
7	Trout Unlimited	7/25/2016 1:23 PM
8	Rutland Regional Planning Commission	7/22/2016 2:04 PM
9	regional planning office	7/22/2016 9:17 AM

10	I am already in your email list, thank you. :-)	7/21/2016 7:37 PM
11	VLCT to VPA	7/17/2016 10:43 AM
12	VLCT	7/15/2016 10:03 AM
13	Vermont League of Cities and Towns	7/15/2016 9:40 AM
14	VLCT	7/14/2016 4:14 PM
15	Champlain Valley Farmers Coalition	7/7/2016 7:26 AM
16	Front Porch Forum	7/5/2016 7:02 PM
17	VPA Listserv	7/5/2016 9:26 AM
18	NRPC	7/5/2016 1:13 AM
19	From neighbor	7/3/2016 5:01 PM
20	pleae add me to the direct mailing list for noitices like this.	7/2/2016 9:47 AM
21	FLOW blog	7/1/2016 2:48 PM

From: Stephen Perkins, EPA

Hi Pete, Mary and Kari.

We have reviewed the June 30 draft Vermont Clean Water Fund SFY18 Recommendations and have one important comment. Item #3 in Table 3 would fund ACAP positions “outside the Lake Champlain Basin.” We understand that there are needs in other basins but want to be sure that you have a plan to fund the positions in the Lake Champlain Basin in the second half of SFY18 since it is our understanding that the funding from the LCPB ends in January 2018. As you will recall, the LCBP Steering Committee does not support funding these positions beyond January 2018. EPA does not want a repeat of the awkward box the Steering Committee was put in last year. There should be adequate time to prepare for a different approach for the future. If the ACAP positions for the remainder of SFY18 in the L Champlain Basin are not planned for in the DEC budget, EPA requests that you reprioritize the basins being funded through the Clean Water Fund to ensure that the Lake Champlain basin has the highest priority.

Thanks

Stephen

Suggestions for using the clean water funding would be to work to NOT give renewable energy projects a complete pass on environmental regulatory requirements. One concern in particular is the PSB determination that solar panels are pervious. With all that VT has done in recent years with the Shoreland Protection Act to limit impervious surfaces near our lakes and then to allow the PSB to make such an incredibly biased determination for the RE sector is absurd! I also think continued or increased support for the smaller lake's efforts to control and eliminate invasive species is an excellent use of funding.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment

Rhonda Shippee
Morgan VT

From: Mike Rapacz

It is clear after watching the slow demise of Champlain for the last two decades the ANR has no intention of addressing the two primary sources of pollution to our VT lakes: manure spreading and poor wastewater collection, treatment and disposal and spills. Until you do something meaningful about these two major issues, there will be no improvement to lake water quality. As our climate changes the destructive impact of these two becomes more prolific. At this point ANR and all of the three initial groups (LCC, LCBP, LCCAG) should stop the silliness and drop out of sight. Your presence and rhetoric give Vermonters the false impression that something is being done about the Lake, when water quality is a clear demonstration that nothing is. It is pretty clear that any improvements are going to happen despite your roadblocks and strawmen. You should be ashamed of yourselves.

As of today July 30, 2016—*Missisquoi Bay has no algae blooms*. Though well into the usual algae bloom “season”, the water quality in Missisquoi Bay is excellent: clean, clear—with good swimming and fishing.

Why are there no blooms so far this year? How can we replicate this? What impact does the answer have on water quality funding? Everything.

The answer: there were no heavy rainstorms in April when the near overflowing manure pits with their tons upon tons of readily solvable “algae candy” phosphorous flow into Missisquoi Bay. When rains did come the corn and grass were already up... supporting the significant increase in cover cropping.

How can we fund lake measures that will replicate this algae-free phenomena?

1. End the “single date” manure spreading and stagger pit manure release dates to take advantage of dry weather using the now vastly improved weather reporting of storms and rains. Give farms release approvals in collaboration with agronomists; record dates and weather conditions of releases.
2. Use funds strictly for implementation and regulatory practices: cover cropping, no-till planting, proper injection of manure liquids into pasture land.
3. Find new markets and distribution for transitioning farms from mono-culture corn and soy.
4. Buy outs of “critical source areas” for wide scale tree and other planting to stop erosion of agriculture land that is filled with phosphorous.

What is the best financial solution for farmers and citizens? STOP POLLUTION BEFORE IT BEGINS: Don’t get side-tracked by what is in the lake.

Pixley Hill

MEMORANDUM

TO: Clean Water Fund Board

FROM: Kari Dolan, Vermont Clean Water Initiative Program Manager

DATE: August 12, 2016

RE: Draft Clean Water Fund Allocation Priorities for SFY18

CC: Beth Pearce, State Treasurer, Michael Clasen, Deputy State Treasurer, Diane Bothfeld, AAFM Deputy Secretary, Michele Boomhower, VTrans Policy, Planning & Intermodal Development Director, Joan Goldstein, DED Commissioner, Trey Martin, ANR Deputy Secretary, Alyssa Schuren, DEC Commissioner, Pete LaFlamme, WSMD Director, Joanna Pallito, AID Director, Mary Borg, WSMD Deputy Director

Please find the attached latest draft *SFY18 Clean Water Fund Allocation Priorities* and public survey results. This draft describes the recommended broad uses of the Clean Water Fund for SFY18. These funds are critical in providing additional state funds above current state agency budgets to aid in addressing the State's priority clean water restoration needs.

The draft was originally constructed collaboratively by technical staff at the Agencies of Natural Resources (ANR), Agriculture, Food and Markets (AAFM), Commerce and Community Development (ACCD), and Transportation (VTrans) and approved by the Clean Water Fund Board at the June 23rd Board working session.

We considered feedback received from over 260 Vermonters who responded to the July public survey regarding expectations for the allocation of expenditures from the Clean Water Fund. Most members of the public who responded to the survey considered agriculture, river channel stability including vegetated buffers along waterways, and developed lands as priorities for funding. Based on public feedback, we recommend the following adjustments to the June allocation, which pertain to ANR's set of draft allocations only. We made no adjustments to the other agency draft allocations.

Below is a summary of the adjustments made to arrive at the latest proposal:

Activity	Adjustment	Justification
Increased ANR Allocation #3: Support for the DEC program that delivers agronomic (field based) technical support to farmers in the Champlain Basin	Increased by \$159,600 (from \$75,000 to \$234,600); Refocused to implement the program within the Lake Champlain Basin	Comment from EPA; need to provide state support when federal funding (from the Lake Champlain Basin Program) no longer becomes available to support this program
Decreased ANR Allocation #4: Partners support	Reduced by \$80,000 (from \$450,000 to \$370,000)	To accommodate the increase in Allocation #3
Decreased ANR Allocation #6: Stormwater management	Reduced by \$60,000 (from \$800,000 to \$740,000)	To accommodate the increase in Allocation #3
Decreased ANR Allocation #8: Natural resources restoration	Reduced by \$19,600 (from \$265,000 to \$245,400)	To accommodate the increase in Allocation #3
Combined ANR stormwater allocations into one allocation, now ANR Allocation #6	Combined former ANR Allocations #6 (planning) and #7 (implementation)	To provide DEC greater flexibility in meeting municipal demand for stormwater management support

We look forward to discussing the draft at the next Board working meeting, scheduled for August 22nd.

DRAFT VERMONT CLEAN WATER FUND SFY18 DISTRIBUTION PRIORITIES

Purpose: As directed by Act 64 (2015) and modified by H.876 (2016), the Vermont Clean Water Fund Board is to develop an annual revenue estimate and propose a budget for the Clean Water Fund.

Implementation Policies: The Clean Water Fund provides additional state funds above current allocation levels to complement, enhance and leverage existing resources. The use of the Fund is to maximize opportunities for the restoration and protection of Vermont’s water ways by prioritizing and targeting resources. To maximize the effectiveness of this Fund, the Fund should strengthen and complement existing state assistance programs (e.g., grant and loan pass-through programs), wherever feasible.

Contingency to Avoid Overruns: Ten percent of the annual Clean Water Funds are set aside as a contingency to avoid the risk of spending more funds than the amount available for that fiscal year.

Priorities: The Board shall make its recommendation based on the following priorities, as stated in Act 64 Sec. 37 (10 VSA §1389(e)) and further described in Table One:

- A. Address sources of water pollution in waters listed as impaired (33 U.S.C. §1313(d));
- B. Address sources of water pollution identified as significant contributors of water pollution;
- C. Restore riparian (lands adjacent to waterways) conditions to minimize the risk of flood damage;
- D. Support state and municipal compliance with road-related stormwater permit requirements;
- E. Provide education and outreach regarding the implementation of water quality requirements;
- F. Support Innovative or alternative technologies or practices to improve water quality;
- G. Purchase land in order to take land out of practice when State requirements cannot be remediated through Best Management Practices;
- H. Assist municipalities in the establishment and operation of stormwater utilities;
- I. Prioritize awards to municipalities for compliance with water quality requirements during the first three years of the Clean Water Fund; and,
- J. After satisfying the above priorities, attempt to provide for equitable apportionment of awards to all regions of the State and for control of all point and nonpoint pollution sources in the State.

Table 1: Summary of Clean Water Fund Priorities

Priority	Description
A: Sources of water pollution in Impaired Waters	Restores surface water impairment through grants, contracts or loans, targeting sources of pollution that are contributing to the water quality impairment
B. Significant sources of water pollution	Promotes cost-effectiveness by targeting sources of pollution that are significant contributors to water quality degradation
C. Riparian buffer restoration	Purchases permanent conservation easements on lands adjacent to waterways (river corridors, wetlands, riparian areas) and establishes minimum of 50-foot buffers with native vegetation
D. Compliance with municipal and State road permits	Aids municipalities and the State in implementing stormwater control practices for compliance with the municipal roads general permit and the stormwater permit pertaining to state highways
E. Education, outreach	Provides technical and educational support to municipal officials and road crews, farmers, loggers, homeowners and others about sources of water pollution, cost-effective solutions to mitigate impacts and implementation support
F. Innovative technologies	Supports innovative technologies or practices to reduce water pollution from farms, municipalities’ developed lands, logging areas and other sources
G. Land acquisition	Purchases land in order to take land out of practice when water quality remediation is not achievable through agricultural Best Management Practices
H. Municipal Stormwater Utilities	Provide assistance for municipalities in establishing and operating stormwater utilities
I. Municipal assistance	Aids municipalities in understanding critical sources of water pollution, and in identifying, planning and implementing priority water pollution controls
J. Geographic equity	Adds to this set of priorities some consideration of location in the distribution of funds to support regional equity

Acronyms

AAFM: Vermont Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

ACAP: Vermont DEC's Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program, a program that provides support to partners in the delivery of agronomic (soil and nutrient management) assistance to farmers

ACCD: Vermont Agency of Commerce and Community Development

ANR: Agency of Natural Resources

BMP: Best Management Practices, activities to address water quality impacts from land-based sources that are the result of precipitation-driven runoff and erosion.

CWF: State of Vermont Clean Water Fund

DEC: Vermont Department of Environmental Conservation, a department under ANR

FAP: Farm Agronomic Practices, a set of practices for farmers to employ to minimize losses of soil, nutrients and agricultural waste from runoff and erosion to enhance soil health

FED: Vermont DEC's Facilities Engineering Division

LCB: Lake Champlain Basin. Vermont's portion of the LCB represents approximately half the land mass of Vermont

LiDAR: Standing for "Light Detection And Ranging," is a state-of-the-art mapping technology that produces high resolution maps as baseline information to aid in identifying priority water quality needs. Other applications include flood and erosion hazard mapping, landslide hazard mapping and transportation project support

LCBP: Lake Champlain Basin Program

Stormwater Utilities: is a system adopted by a municipality or group of municipalities under 24 V.S.A. chapter 97, 101 or 105 for the management of stormwater runoff.

TMDL: Total Maximum Daily Load; a pollution budget that establishes the maximum amount of a pollutant a waterbody can receive from many different sources of that pollutant while still meeting water quality standards. Federal Water Pollution Control Act of 1972, 33 U.S.C. Section 1251 et seq., Section 303(d)

USDA: United States Department of Agriculture, which, as part of the federal Farm Bill, offers a number of conservation programs to protect water quality and improve soil health

VTrans: Vermont Transportation Agency

Table 2: Recommendations – Agency of Agriculture, Food and Markets

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	Other Funds	Priorities										State FY18			
					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J				
1	Agriculture (AAFM)	On-Farm Implementation (Grants & Contracts)	Farm water quality capital improvements, matching USDA funds in Lake Champlain Basin (LCB) and supporting priority projects outside of the LCB; Farm agronomic practices (FAP) that exceed existing state and USDA funding resources	USDA ¹	X	X												\$400,000
2	Agriculture (AAFM)	Grants & Contracts	Incentives for farmers to implement phosphorus reduction practices above regulatory requirements, including riparian and wetland restoration programs; Technology or other infrastructure that facilitates nutrient management development, data management and record keeping on farms; Creation of a Research Farm to study water quality runoff impacts from farm management systems and conservation practices; Alternative phosphorus reduction strategies (e.g., grassed-based farms, phosphorus separation strategies); Support for farm acquisition in order to overlay a conservation easement to establish agricultural practices that reduce phosphorus loading	USDA ¹	X	X					X							\$450,000
SUBTOTAL (FY18) =																	\$850,000	

1. Funds are complementary, supporting implementation of similar projects.

Table 3: Recommendations – Agency of Natural Resources

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	Other Funds	Priorities										State FY18	
					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J		
3	Agriculture (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Support for the Agronomy and Conservation Assistance Program (ACAP) – contract to continue delivering agronomic (field-based) technical support to farmers in the Lake Champlain Basin		X	X	X		X						X	\$234,600 ²
4	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Partner support for project implementation (partners include conservation districts, extension services, watershed groups, farmer coalitions), involving delivery of technical and implementation services for projects that are identified and prioritized in Tactical Basin Plans		X	X	X		X	X				X	X	\$370,000
5	All Sectors (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Improved water quality monitoring, mapping and tracking to evaluate effectiveness of implementation, including the use of watershed associations and the LaRosa Partnership		X	X	X	X	X					X	X	\$300,000
SUBTOTAL (FY18) =															\$904,600	

2. DEC is currently managing this program in the Lake Champlain Basin using federal funds from the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP). Since these funds will no longer be available to support this program, this allocation is necessary to transition the management of this program using state funds. DEC will manage these funds using a competitive process.

#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	Other Funds	Priorities										State FY18
					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	
6	Municipal Stormwater (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Municipal stormwater planning and implementation including: (a) project identification, prioritization and planning for implementation; (b) Planning assistance for municipalities pursuing stormwater utilities; and (c) Project implementation to mitigate impacts from stormwater runoff being generated from municipalities' developed areas		X	X		X	X			X	X	X	\$740,000
7	Municipal Stormwater (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Municipal Capital Equipment Assistance help purchase equipment that enhances local water quality-focused Best Management Practice implementation, such as hydroseeders	Local funds as match	X	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	\$100,000
8	Natural Resources (ANR)	Ecosystem Restoration Grants & Contracts	Flood resilience/Water Quality and Forest Health Projects, targeting the restoration of wetlands, river corridors, floodplains and riparian areas as well as forest health projects. Projects will focus on: (a) improvements in resilience and water quality; (b) restoration of unstable stream channels to natural stability (equilibrium conditions); (c) portable skidder bridge rental program to reduce nonpoint source pollution associated with logging operations; (d) urban forestry water quality projects; and (e) trainings in compliance with logging practices that protect water quality	USDA ³	X	X	X		X		X			X	\$245,400
9	Wastewater Treatment (ANR)	Facilities Engineering Division	Municipal assistance in compliance with TMDLs, such as asset management – a process to determine how, where and when to make clean water infrastructure improvements		X	X				X			X		\$100,000 ⁴
SUBTOTAL (FY18) =														\$1,185,400	

3. As described in Footnote 1 above, the USDA funds are complementary, supporting implementation of similar projects.

4. DEC is able to support a second year of this program using federal funds (totaling \$190,000) from the Lake Champlain Basin Program (LCBP).

Table 4: Recommendations – Agency of Commerce and Community Development																
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	Other Funds	Priorities								State FY18			
					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H		I	J	
10	Technical Support (ACCD)	Vermont Center for Geographic Information	LiDAR Mapping of the State of Vermont, Next Phase, to support agriculture, stormwater, river, forest road mapping	Federal (USGS)	X	X	X			X	X					\$460,000
SUBTOTAL (FY18) =														\$460,000		

Table 5: Recommendations – Agency of Transportation															
#	Sector (Agency)	Funding Program	Activities	Other Funds	Priorities								State FY18		
					A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H		I	J
11	Municipal Roads (VTrans)	Municipal Mitigation Grant Program	Inventory, prioritization and implementation to address municipal gravel and non-gravel road-related stormwater mitigation projects, in compliance with state road general permit, and including replacement of undersized culverts	Local funds as match	X	X		X	X	X			X	X	\$1,025,000
12	State Roads (VTrans)	Municipal Mitigation Grant Program	Stormwater incentive payments to municipalities with stormwater utilities (\$25,000 per municipality with a stormwater utility)	Local funds as match		X		X		X		X	X		\$75,000
SUBTOTAL (FY18) =														\$1,100,000	

Table 6: Recommendations by Sector*	
	State FY18
Agriculture	\$1,084,600
Municipal (roads and stormwater management)	\$1,940,000
Municipal Wastewater	\$100,000
Natural Resources	\$245,400
All Sectors – LiDAR Mapping	\$460,000
All Sectors – Partner Support	\$670,000
10% Contingency Reserve*	\$500,000
TOTAL	\$5,000,000

Table 7: Recommendations by Administering Agency*	
	State FY18
Agency of Agriculture	\$850,000
Agency of Natural Resources	\$2,090,000
Agency of Commerce and Community Development	\$460,000
Agency of Transportation	\$1,100,000
10% Contingency Reserve*	\$500,000
TOTAL	\$5,000,000

* As mentioned on page one, ten percent of the annual Clean Water Funds are set aside as a contingency to avoid the risk of spending more funds than are available in the fiscal year.