



The Sampler

February 24, 2016

The Sampler is a monthly e-newsletter produced by the Volunteer Lake Assessment Program.

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Web Highlights

This month's featured lake website is [Deering Lake Improvement Association, Deering, N.H.](#)

[Lake Winnepesaukee Finally Freezes Over](#)

[1000's of Balls of Ice Floating in Sebago Lake in Maine](#)

[Could There be a Link Between Cyanobacteria and ALS?](#)

[This Plant Sucks! \(but how?\)](#)

[Major Storm Events Play Key Role in Biogeochemistry of Watersheds](#)

Upcoming Events

[2016 NH Water and Watershed Conference](#)
Friday, March 18, 2016
Plymouth State University
Plymouth, NH 03264

[2016 New England Association of Environmental Biologists \(NEAEB\) Conference](#)
March 23-26, 2016
Samoset Resort on The Ocean
Rockport, ME 04856

NHDES Jody Connor Limnology Center (JCLC) Annual Workload Summary

The JCLC serves many of the NHDES Watershed Management Bureau's (WMB) monitoring programs during the summer months. You may have noticed when you come to pick up sampling equipment or drop off samples that the JCLC is a very busy place. You will often see or be assisted by a young face you do not recognize; as the WMB hires about a dozen summer interns who are currently attending or have just graduated college. These summer interns support many programs beyond VLAP. The Volunteer River Assessment Program (VRAP), while not as old as VLAP, is both popular and successful as well as the Exotic Species Weed Watchers Program. There are also over a dozen other WMB programs and special studies that rely on the JCLC as a hub for analytical services and field equipment organization, care and deployment. These programs monitor rivers, lakes, wetlands, and beaches all over the state.

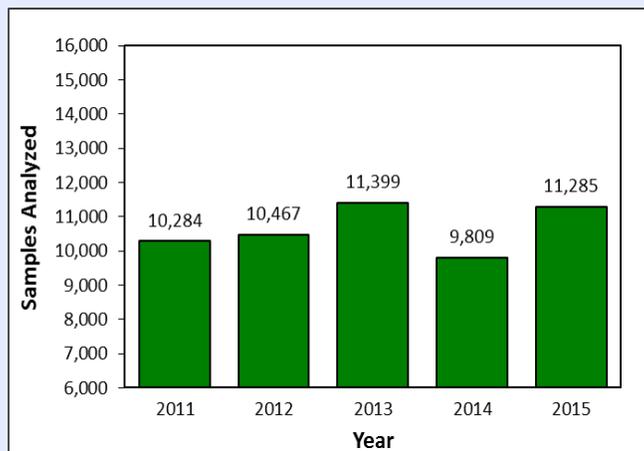


Figure 1. 2015 Total Chemical Analyses Processed by JCLC

The large numbers of monitoring programs generate a large annual work load for the JCLC, particularly from May through September. A look at the overall workload of the JCLC gives some perspective to all the summer hustle and bustle. In 2015, the JCLC performed 11,285 chemical analyses (Figure 1); which is an increase of approximately 1,500 analyses over 2014. If you combine that with the VLAP satellite laboratory lab located at Colby Sawyer College (CSC) then the workload rises to about 14,000 chemical analyses (Figure 2) in 2015.

2016 VLAP Workshop
Saturday, May 21, 2016
NHDES
29 Hazen Dr.
Concord, NH 03301

[2016 Lakes Congress](#)
June 2-3, 2016
Church Landing at Mills Falls
Meredith, NH 03253

Grants

[Healthy Watersheds Consortium Grant](#)
U.S. Endowment for Forestry and Communities, Inc.
Deadline: March 14, 2016

[New England Grassroots Environment Fund Grow Grant](#)
Deadline: March 15, 2016

Limno Lingo

Seiche: A standing wave oscillating in an enclosed body of water, such as a lake. Seiches typically occur at the lake's surface caused by strong wind or rapid changes in atmospheric pressure. The wind pushes water to one shore and when it stops, the water rebounds to the opposite shore. The waves, or seiches, will then continue to oscillate back and forth.

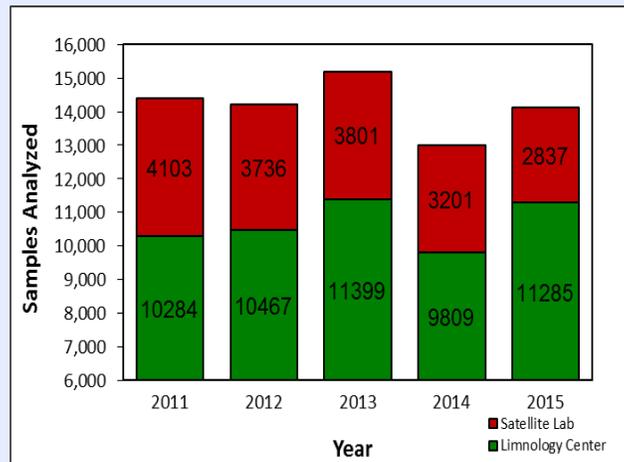


Figure 2. 2015 Satellite Lab vs. JCLC Analyses

The JCLC staff also perform specialized biological analyses of samples. This includes identification of aquatic plant species collected by volunteers, lake hosts, and other biologists; identification and quantification of phytoplankton and zooplankton in samples collected by VLAP and the Lake Trophic Survey Program; and identification of algal scums and blooms from public and private waterbodies throughout the state. These analyses are more time consuming than chemical analysis and require specialized microscopes, techniques and training. In 2015, the JCLC analysed 442 biological samples (Figure 3) which increased slightly from 2014.

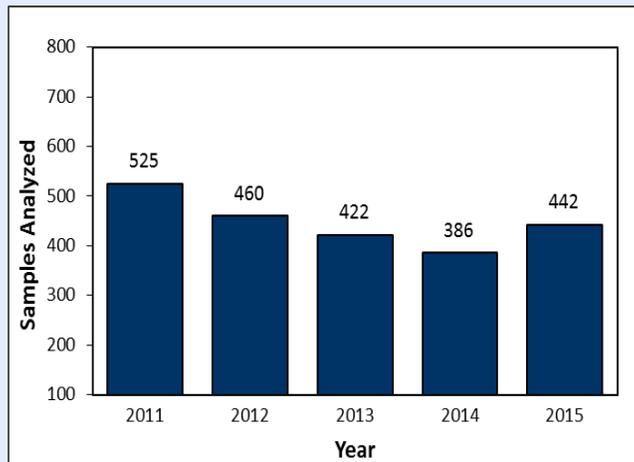


Figure 3. JCLC 2015 Biological Analyses

Data generated by the JCLC are utilized to inform the public, volunteers, local, state and federal governments about the health of the state's waterbodies and allows NHDES and local decision makers make sound management decisions state-wide.

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