

Implementation and Key Findings of the Lake St. Clair Regional Monitoring Project

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Abstract

The Lake St. Clair Regional Monitoring Project (LSCRMP) conducted extensive water quality monitoring of tributaries to Lake St. Clair and assessed their impacts on the Lake. A comprehensive water quality database for the Lake and tributaries was developed, providing public access to water quality data through an interactive project website. Key findings were identified that are intended to inform policy decisions and stimulate preventive and remedial actions. Findings include: a) the adverse impacts of pollutant flows from tributary rivers and streams to Lake St. Clair; b) the several-fold increase of *E. coli* concentrations throughout much of the study area during and after rain events; c) nutrient concentrations which still exceed federal standards or criteria despite decades-long decline of their concentrations; and d) chloride concentration trends that continue to increase, especially in more urbanized areas.