

Thrust 1: Goal 1.1a Model stormwater infrastructure

# **BREE Ecological Research**

### Extreme Events: Daily P loads from tributaries, 2011



# Water Quality Resilience

The ability of a soil, river, or lake to maintain or recover similar water quality as prior to the event.



### Extreme Events: Daily P loads from tributaries, 2011



# Missisquoi River Riparian Area



# Otter Creek Riparian Area



## Urban watersheds: Stormwater







Focus on Extreme Events and Resilience –

What makes some waters, watershed soils and streams resilient?

What are the properties and processes critical to maintaining water quality resilience?

Tropical Storm Irene, Aug. 27, 2011 (Gordon Miller)

# Thrust 1: Ecological Research

Goal 1.1: Determine and model properties & processes critical to maintaining water quality

- Objective 1.1a: Enhance the hydrology model to include representation of urban stormwater infrastructure
- Objective 1.1b: Develop Biome-BGC model for Rhessys in Missisquoi

Goal 1.2: Develop new lake model for projecting impacts of climate change & extreme events on water quaility

• Objective 1.2: Develop and calibrate Lake Model



Resilience to Extreme Events Across Soil-River-Lake Continuum





Resilience to Extreme Events Across Soil-River-Lake Continuum



Cutting edge sensor network



High frequency essential for capturing episodic events





# Hydrology & Stormwater



Thrust 1: Obj. 1.1a Model stormwater infrastructure



# Major Features of the BREE Integrated Assessment Model



AZ [15]3 For structural uncertainties, it will be useful to engage stakeholders in a discussion, or even have them do an exercise. Asim Zia, 5/22/2017

Goal: Determine and model properties & processes critical to maintaining water quality

- River, riparian and lake sensor network
- <u>Sensor and grab sample data (2017-present)</u>
- <u>Added P cycling to watershed model (Biome-BGC in RHESSys)</u>
- Develop new lake models for Missisquoi and St. Albans
  Bays



# Major Features of the BREE Integrated Assessment Model



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### Watershed



Thrust 1: Obj. 1.1b: Model watershed to lake nutrient flows



# Major Features of the BREE Integrated Assessment Model



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# Yr 1-2 Missisquoi watershed site installations (2016-17)







## Riparian zones as water "filters"



# Riparian zones as water "filters"



Schultz et al. 2004



# Not so clear cut: dissolved $O_2$ is variable



#### Yr 1-2 Missisquoi river sensors



- Flow
- Sensor data:
  - DOC, POC, fDOM
  - NO<sub>3</sub>, turbidity (Phosphorus)
  - Temperature, DO, pH, conductivity
- ISCO: nutrients and sediment
  - Targeted Water 'Grab' Sampling







Thrust 1: Obj. 1.1b: Model watershed to lake nutrient flows

# What controls water quality resiliency in the Missisquoi watershed?





# What controls water quality resiliency in the Missisquoi watershed?



0.6-

0.7-

Discharge 0.6 - 0.5 - 0.

0.3

May 11 12:00









# What controls water quality resiliency in the Missisquoi watershed?

Same location Different dynamics

In watersheds, what

- Conditions
- Properties
- Human activities account for these

differences?









# Event-scale NO<sub>3</sub> fluxes





- Largest single event contribution to annual loads occurred during ROS event
- Combined spring events: 55% of measured annual loads
  - ROS: 22% of measured annual loads
  - Spring melt/precip: 31% of measured annual loads



## Year 1-2 modeling: P incorporation





# Major Features of the BREE Integrated Assessment Model



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#### Land use impacts P loads more than climate





## Lake



Thrust 1: Goal 1.2: Develop lake model



# Major Features of the BREE Integrated Assessment Model



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# Lake Research Objectives Thrust 1.2 Develop Lake Model

- Model is developed and calibrated with sensor data
  - Monitoring network deployed and maintained
  - Event water quality sampling
- Lake model selected, structure developed, calibration ongoing







#### Lake Champlain Monitoring Sites Missisquoi Bay Mississquoi R. Jewett Br. VT DEC Sites Land Use Stevens Br EPSCOR High Frequency Sites CLASS Lake Champlain Depth (ft) Wetland St. Albans Bay Value Water 0 Urban-Open 200 400 Urban Forest St. Albans Bay Basin Brush 8 Mile Missisquoi Bay Basin Barren e Champlain Basir Agricultu

Shallow eutrophic systems that differ in terrestrial and open water connectivity What processes drive water quality response to events?

#### Year 1-2 Deployment of Saint Albans and Missisquo Bay Advanced Biogeochemical and Hydrodynamic Observatory







Thrust 1: Goal 1.2 Develop Lake Model

Sensors Measure-ChIA/PC, T, Cond, pH, DO, FDOM, Turbidity every hr. at 0.5 meter depth intervals at 3 Sites

#### Year 1-2 Saint Albans Hydrodynamic

#### **Monitoring Array**





# Sensors reveal 2017 blooms were late and had different timing



# Satellite mostly confirms 2017 differences, provides spatial context



New collaboration with NOAA, early warning system proposal development



10/15

# 2018 bloom earlier than 2017 and similar timing between bays



# Satellite mostly confirms 2018 similarities, different peaks for MB



\*Composite images of weekly maximum values for each pixel



# Lake Modeler Hired, Model Selected and Under Development





Thrust 1: Ecological Systems Objective 1.2a: Develop lake model

#### Lake Model (AEM3D; ELCOM-CAEDYM) 3D coupled Hydrodynamic-Aquatic Ecosystem Model

#### **Processes Simulated**

**Hydrodynamics:** Motions of the water body and the transport and mixing of all simulated constituents due to these motions.

**Biogeochemical processes:** Primary and secondary production, nutrient and metal cycling and sediment interactions.



#### Ongoing Lake Modeling: Climate Change, Response to Events, Watershed Management







Thrust 1: Goal 1.2: Model lake