

THOUSAND ISLANDS WATERSHED LAND TRUST

# **CONSERVATION IN LBL**

CONSERVATION IN LOWER BEVERLEY LAKE

LOWER BEVERLEY LAKE ASSOCIATION AGM, JULY 2024









## WHAT IS TIWLT?

#### The Thousand Islands Watershed Land Trust

• A non-governmental, non-profit charitable organization

#### **Our Mission:**

"To permanently protect land in the Thousand Islands Watershed region through acquisition or conservation agreements, and to achieve good land management through stewardship agreements and education."





## WHY HERE?

**25%** Of SAR in Ontario live here

### 6M+

People live within a 4 hour drive 5%

Area currently under conservation





## WHAT THREATENS OUR FRESHWATER ECOSYSTEMS?





#### **Invasive Species**

Photo: Fisheries and Oceans Canada

#### Overdevelopment

Photo: Aleksandar Pasaric



#### Pollution

Photo: Tom Fisk



## **INVASIVE SPECIES**

- A living thing that is moved to a new area and has no natural predators or controls
- Can easily take over and dominate an ecosystem
- Clearest example for LBL zebra mussels





## IMPACTS OF ZEBRA MUSSELS

 Can release up to 1 million eggs each season

Populate areas as densely as 700 individuals/square metre

- Outcompete native mussels; many are species at risk alongside other ecological impacts
- Human and economic impacts



Photo: Invasive Species Centre



## OVERDEVELOPMENT

- Shoreline hardening impacts
- Waterfront development
- Impervious surfaces

Photo: Muhammed Zahid Bulut





## POLLUTION

- Pollutants can be anything from cottage maintenance chemicals to industrial waste
- Exacerbated by overdevelopment
- Often leads to eutrophication and a change of steady state

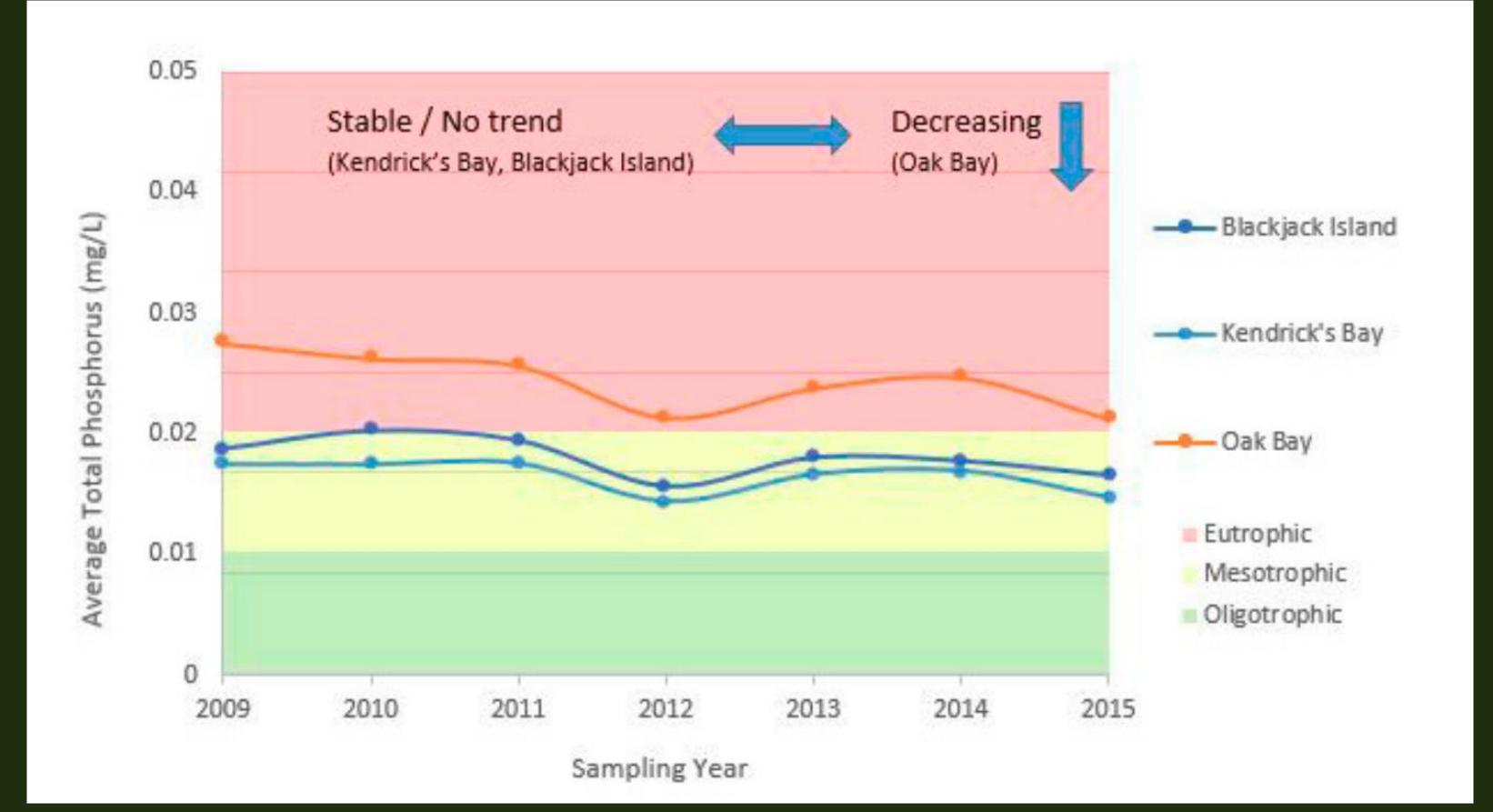


## **STEADY STATES: A PRIMER**

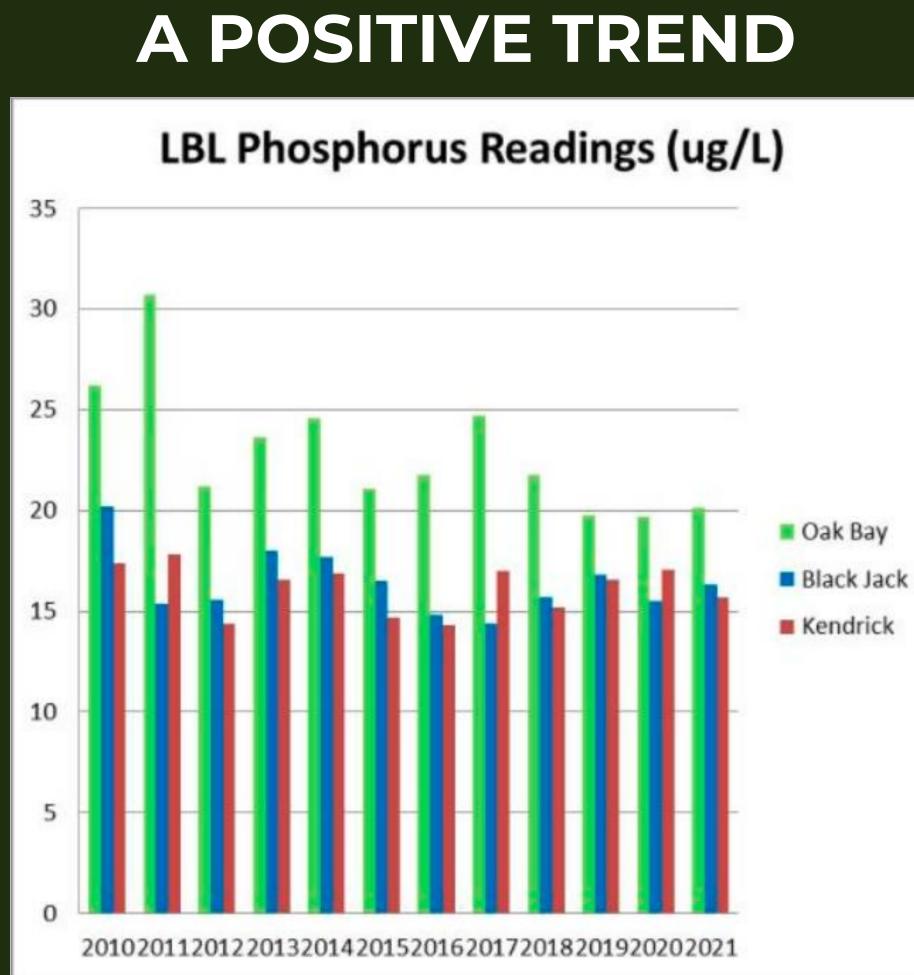
### State 1



### WHY DOES THIS MATTER?









## WHAT CAN YOU DO TO HELP?

#### **Dry and Drain**

Ensure you drain ballast and allow vessels to dry fully if transporting them between bodies of water

#### Act Natural

Limit the impervious surfaces at your cottage, and maintain a natural shoreline; let the water flow where it wants



### Limit Pollutants

Seek environmentally friendly outdoor products to minimize the pollutants in the lake



