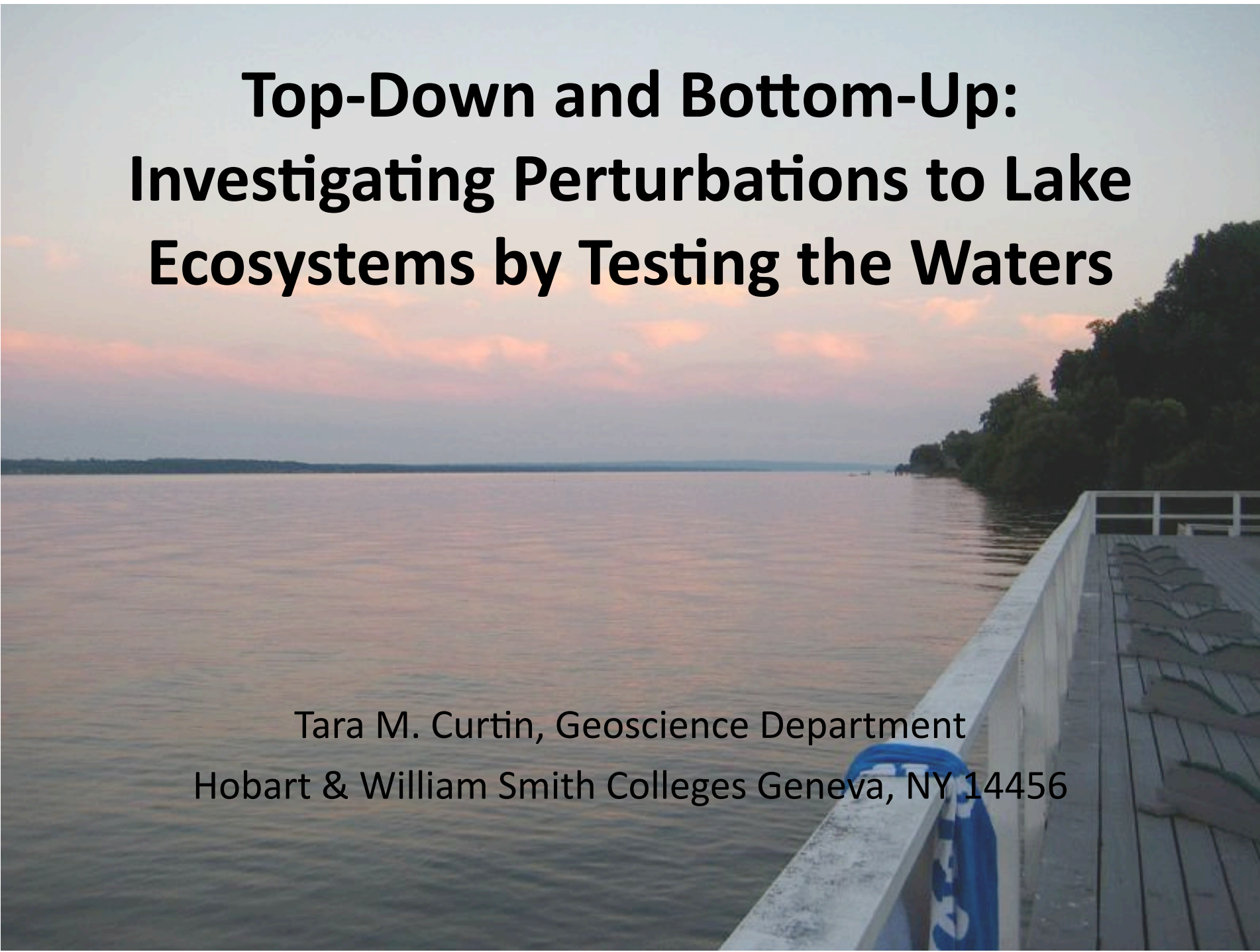




# **Top-Down and Bottom-Up: Investigating Perturbations to Lake Ecosystems by Testing the Waters**

Tara M. Curtin, Geoscience Department  
Hobart & William Smith Colleges Geneva, NY 14456

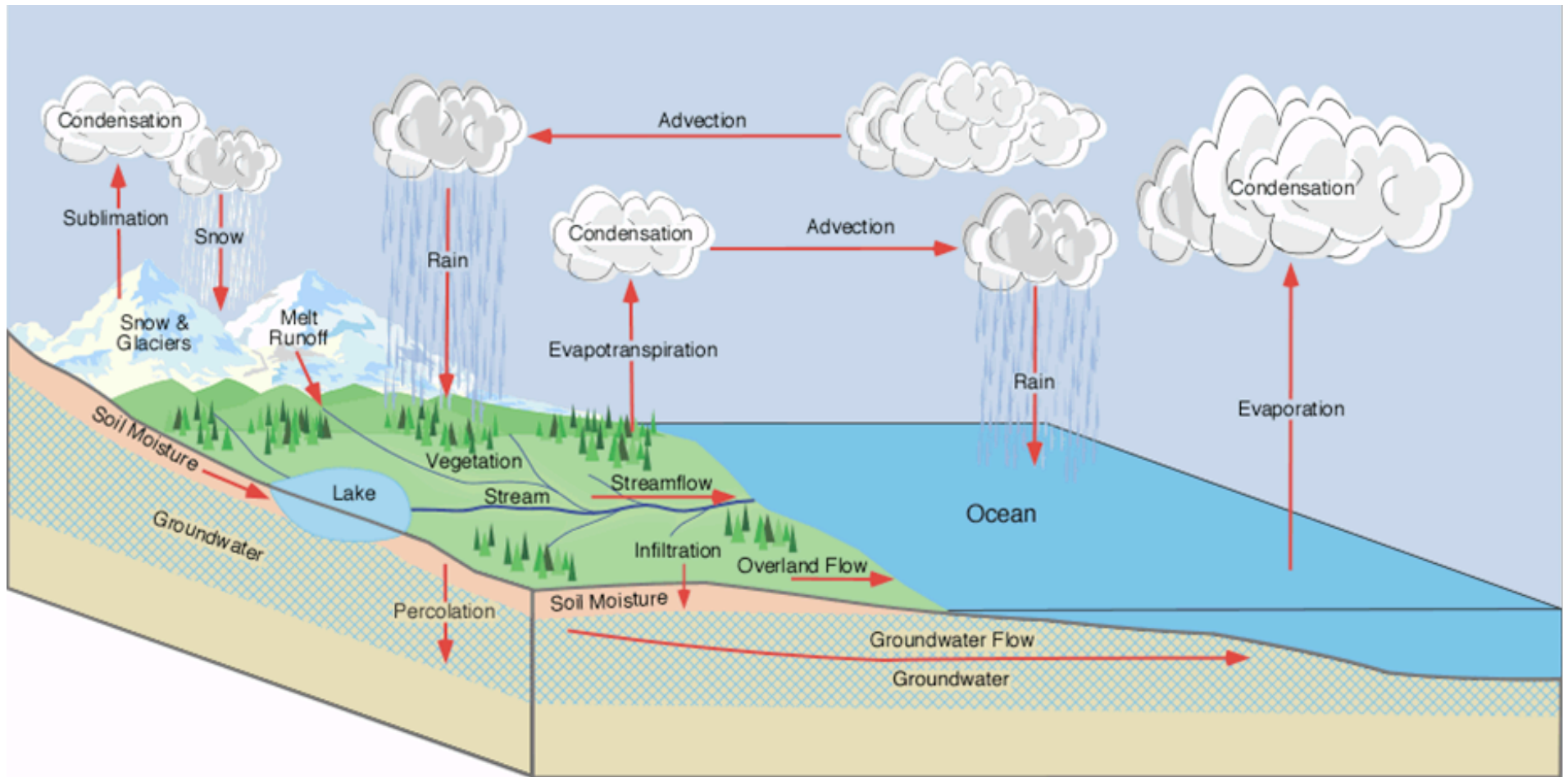
# Field-Based Introductory Water Cycle Course

***Institution:*** Small (~2,050 students), co-ed liberal arts institution

***Course Information:***

- No pre-requisites
- Meets 3x/wk for 55 min lectures and 1x/wk for 3 hr lab
- Enrollment:
  - ~40 students (20 per lab; 2 labs)
  - First years and sophomores only
  - Required for Geoscience major
  - Elective for Environmental Studies and Public Policy majors
  - Elective for lab science graduation requirement
- Course to attract potential Geoscience majors and meet graduation requirements

# Field-Based Introductory Water Cycle Course



# Seneca Lake, NY: Our Natural Laboratory



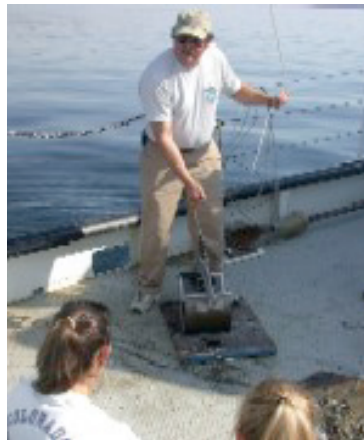


# *R/V William Scandling*



Captain John Nichols

Mate John Abbott



# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

Are zebra and quagga mussels beneficial  
to Seneca Lake?



Zebra Mussel

Quagga Mussel

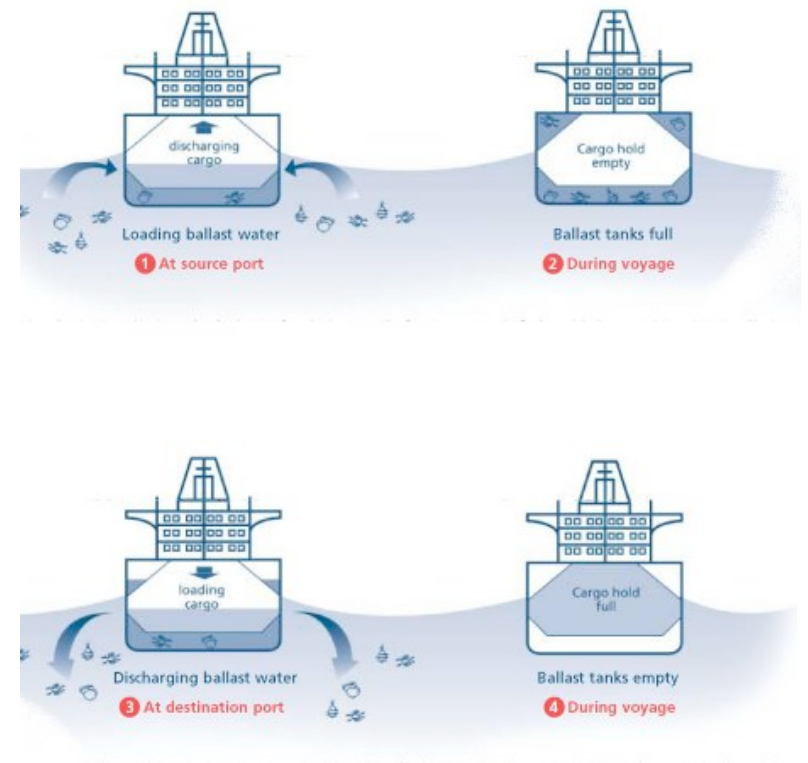
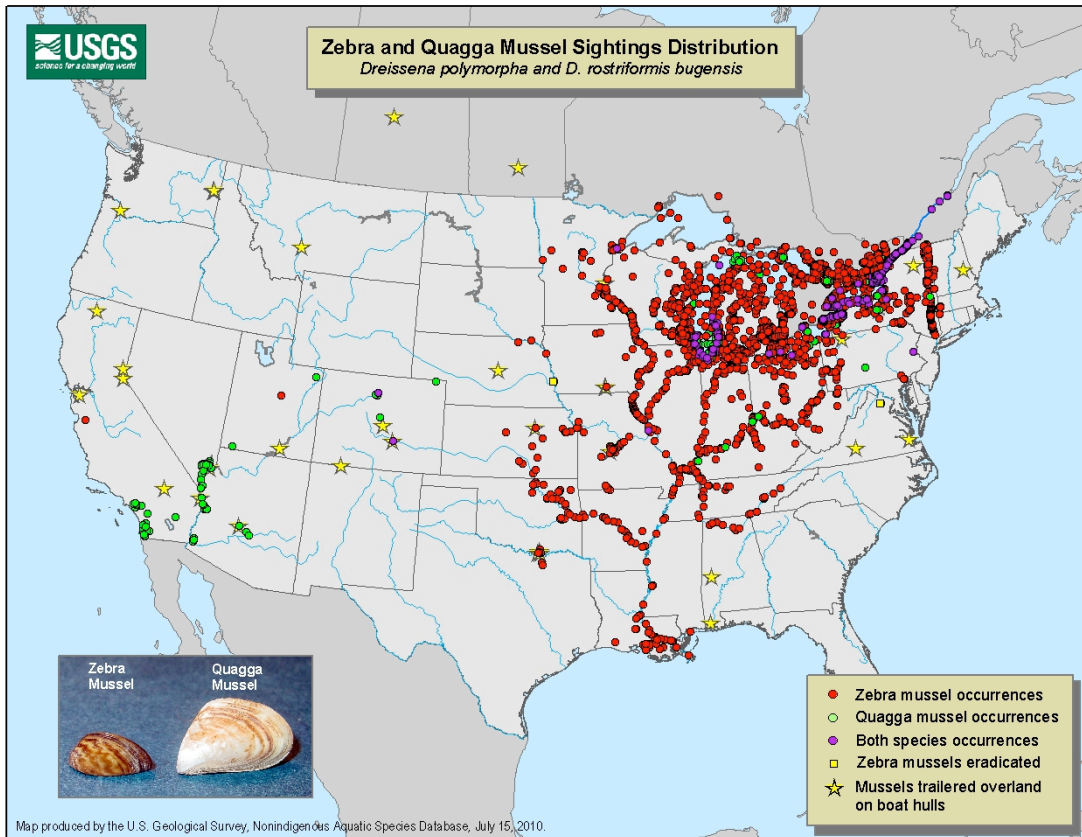


# Top-Down Perturbations



Zebra and quagga mussels

# Top-Down Perturbations





# Bottom-Up Perturbations





# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

## Field Work

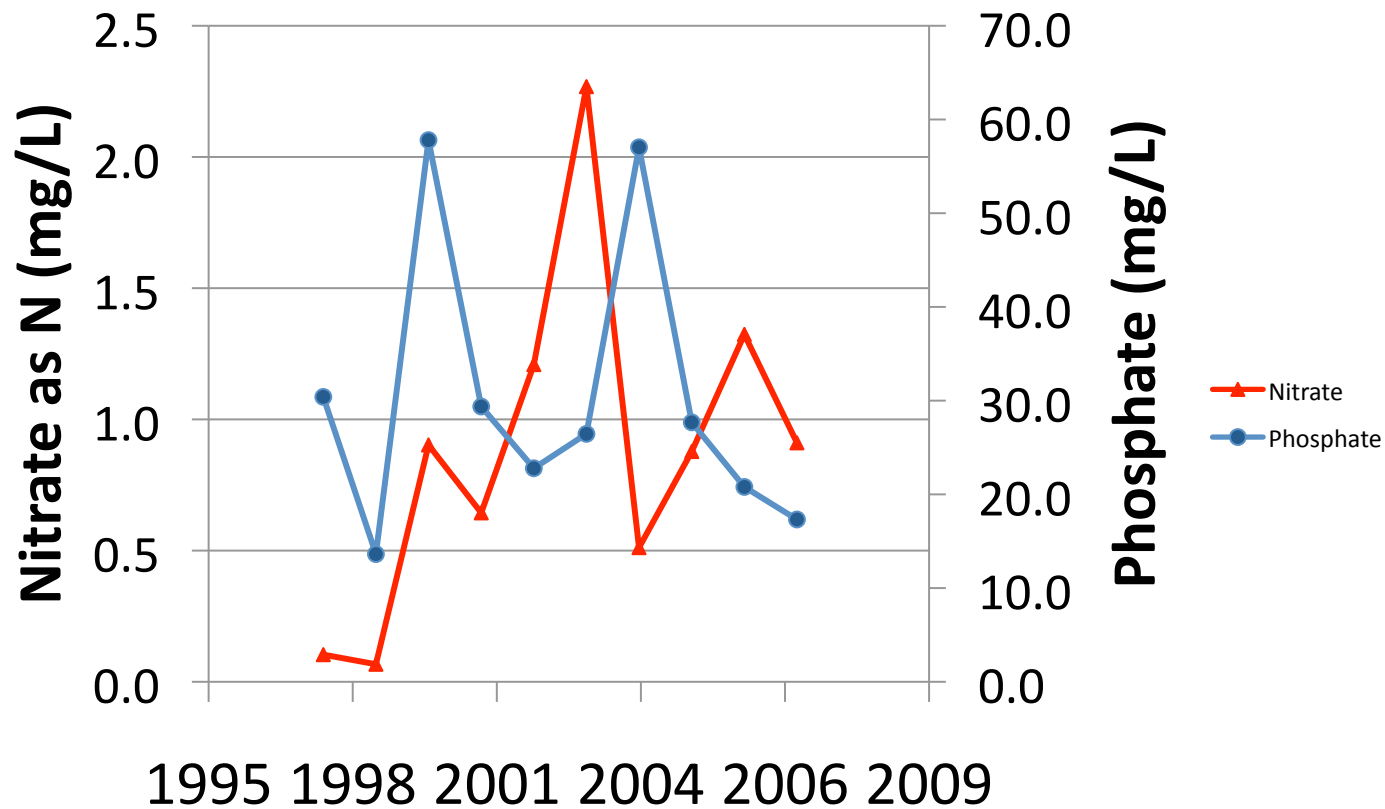
Week 1: Tributary stream chemistry

Weeks 2, 3: Seneca Lake- chemistry & invasives

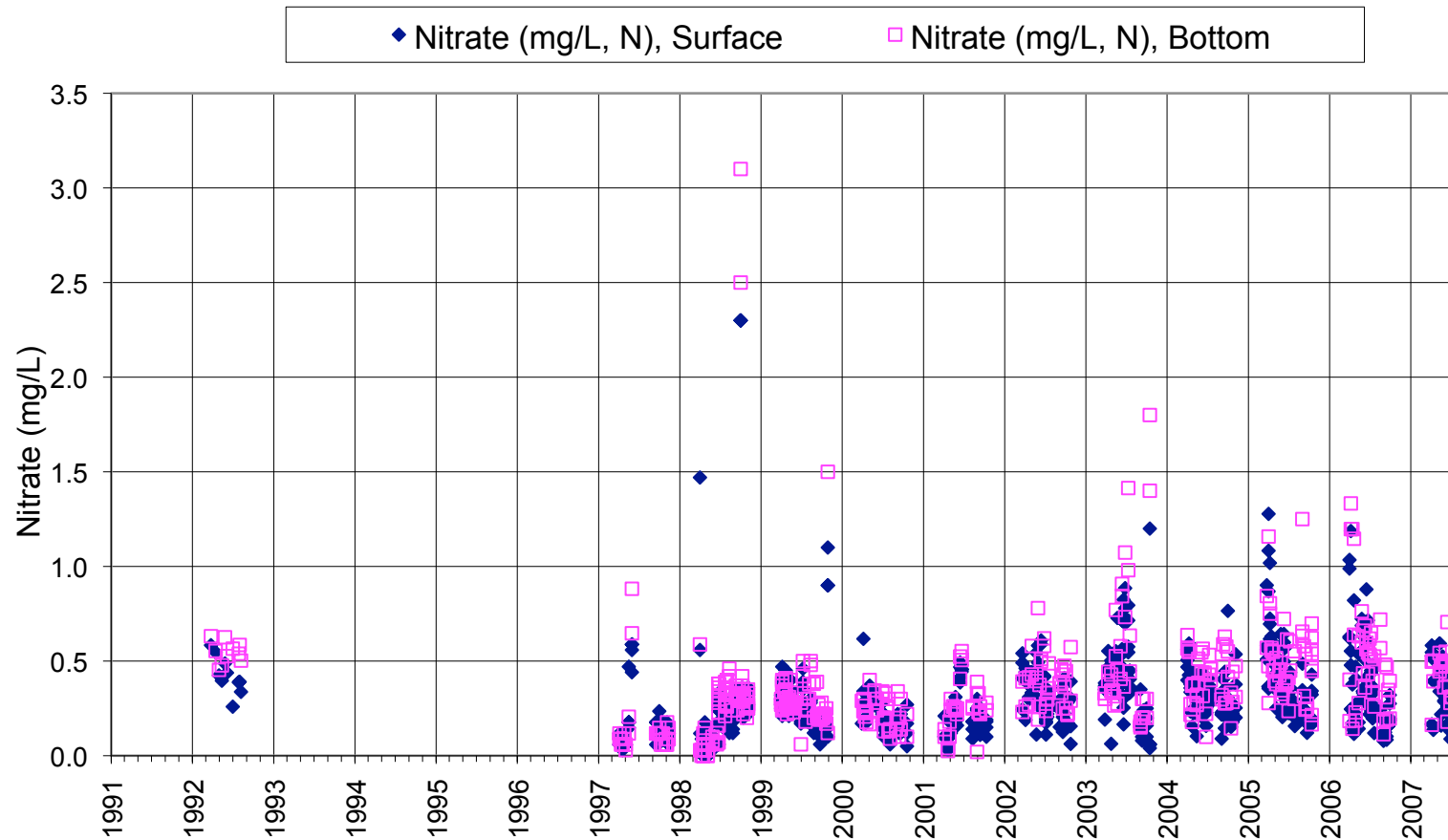


# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

Wilson Creek, a small tributary of Seneca Lake

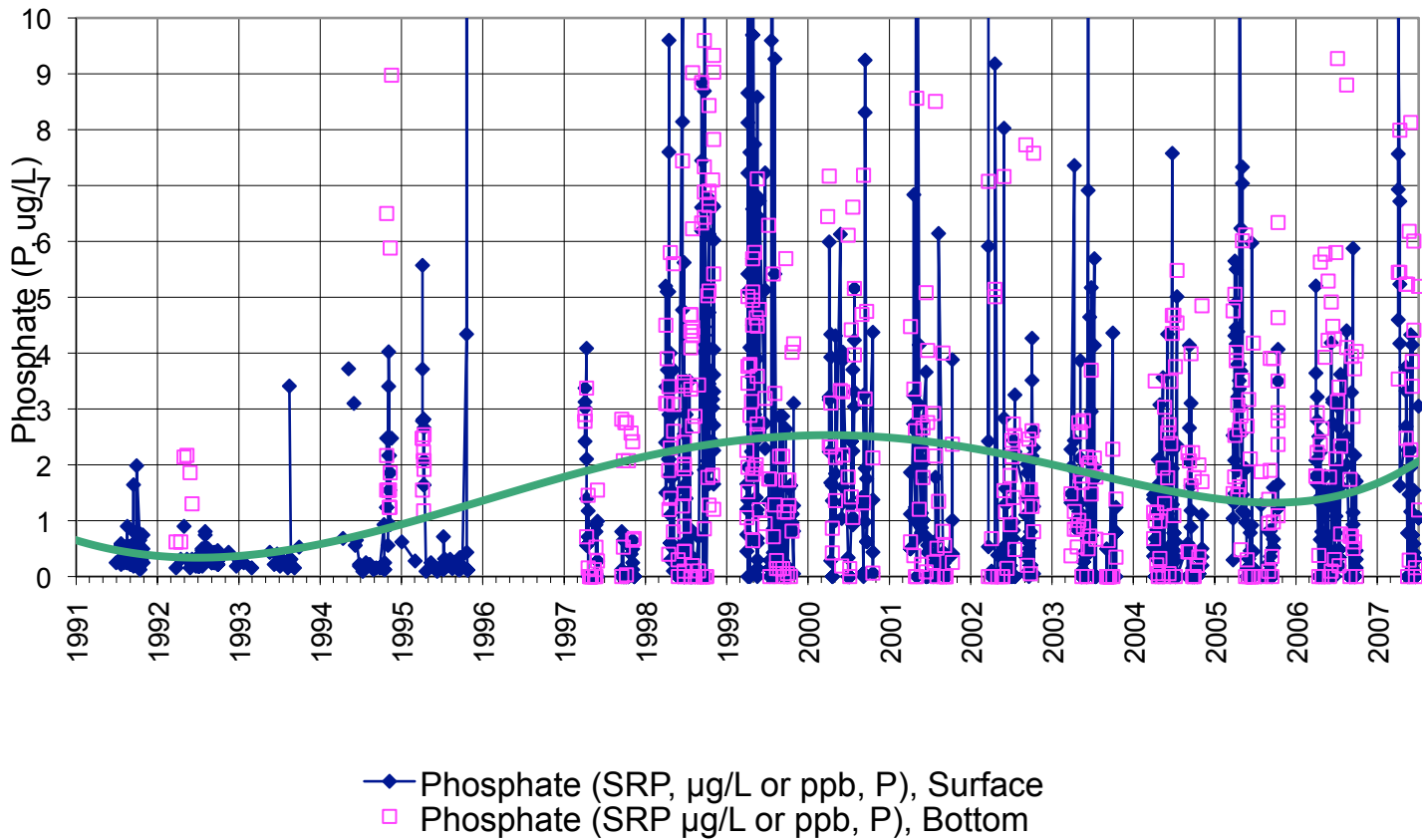


# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations





# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



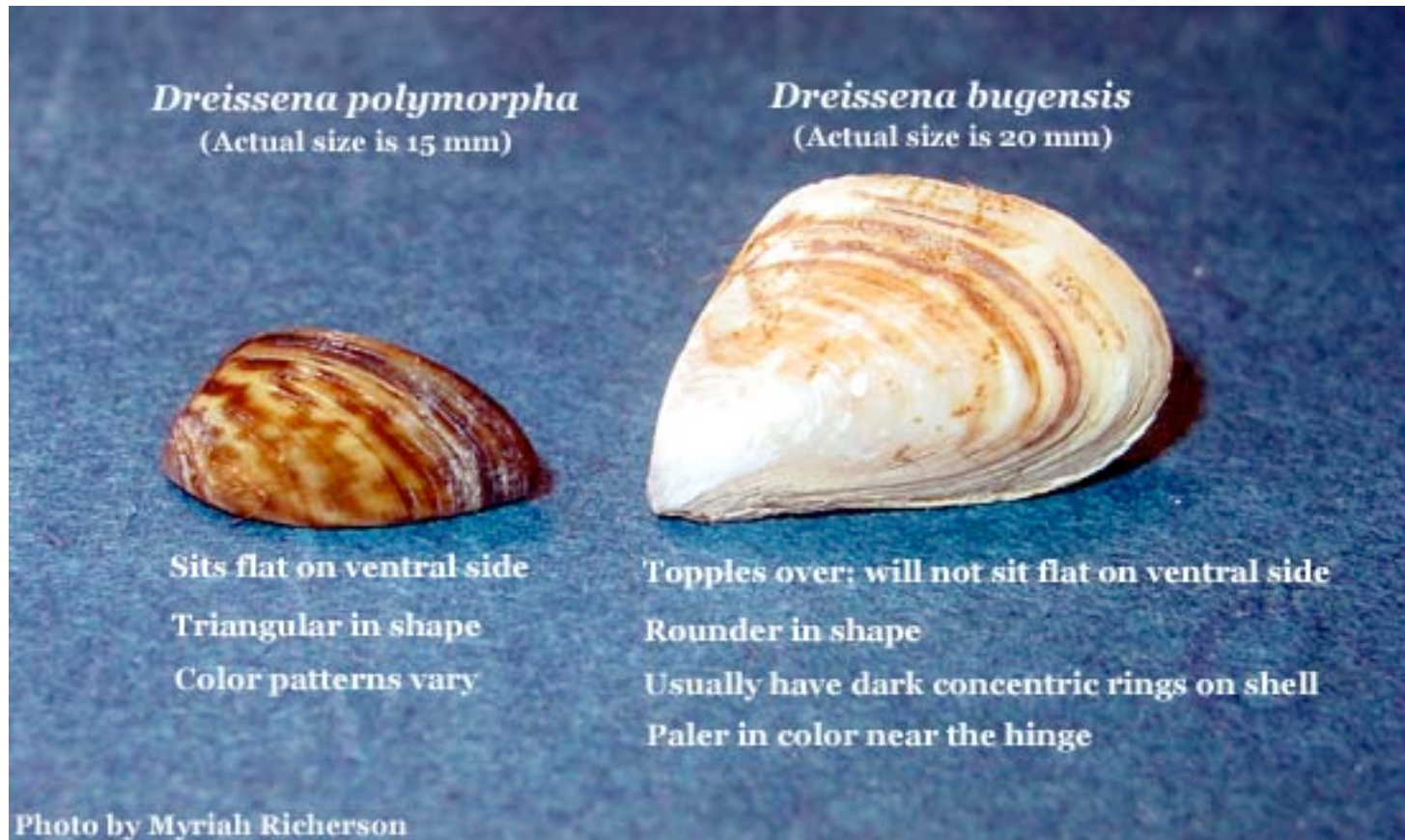
# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



Ponar Dredge Sampling

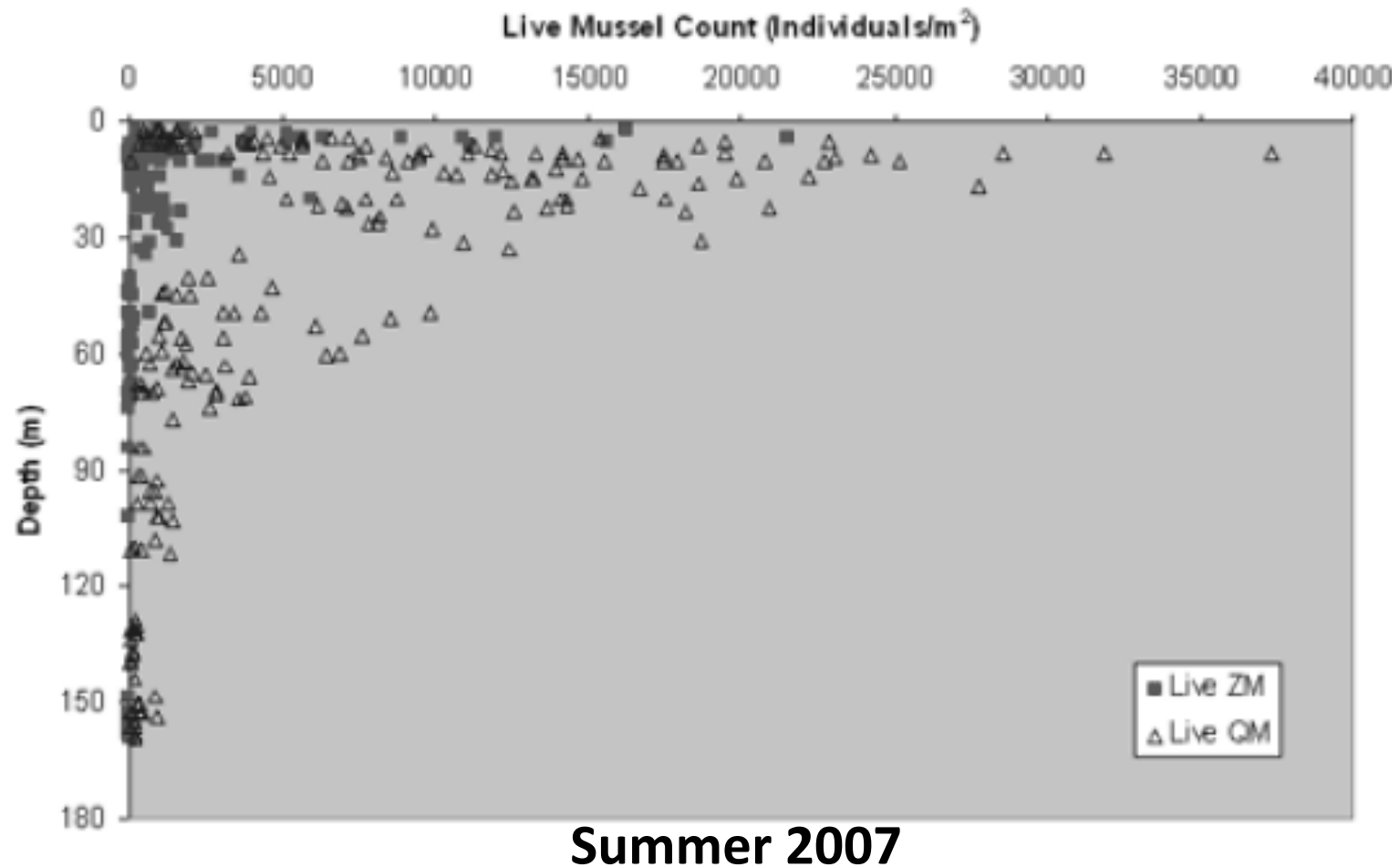


# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations





# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



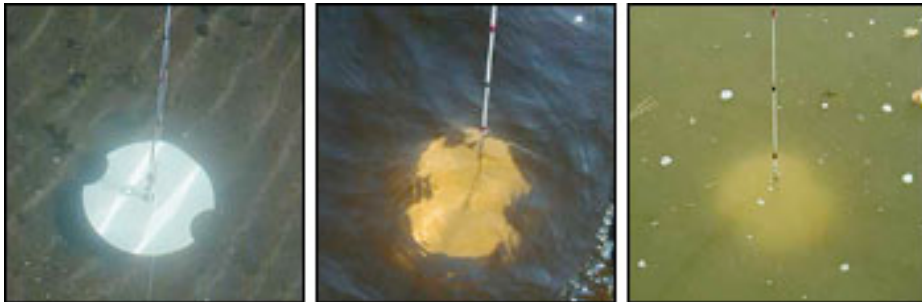
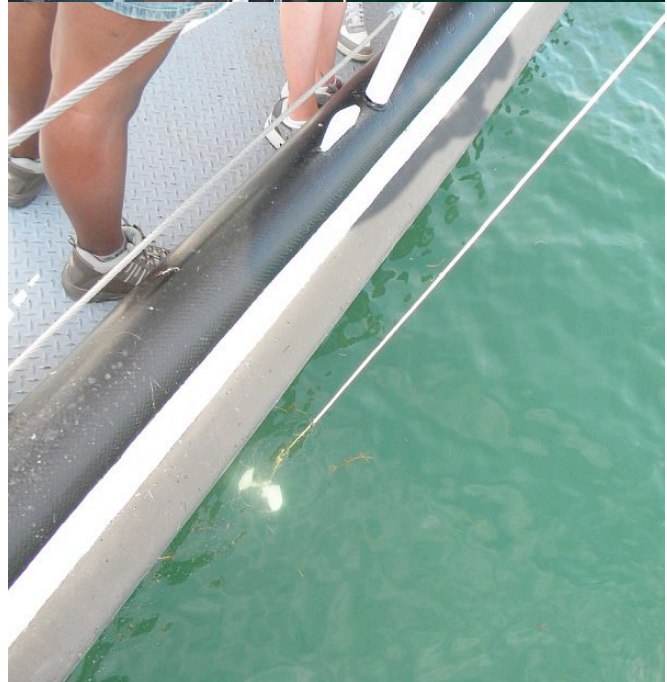
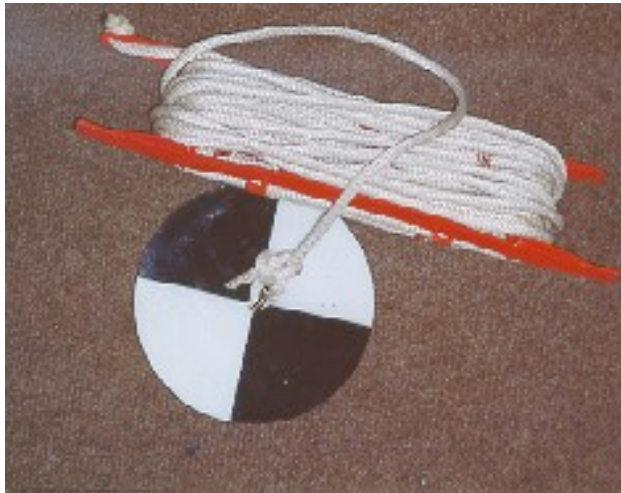
**Data:** Dr. Bin Zhu, Finger Lakes Institute, Hobart & William Smith Colleges

# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

1. Estimate how many mussels are in Seneca Lake.
2. How much water can these mussels filter feed in one day if they each can filter  $\sim 1\text{L}$ ?
3. How long would it take these mussels to completely filter all the water in Seneca Lake?

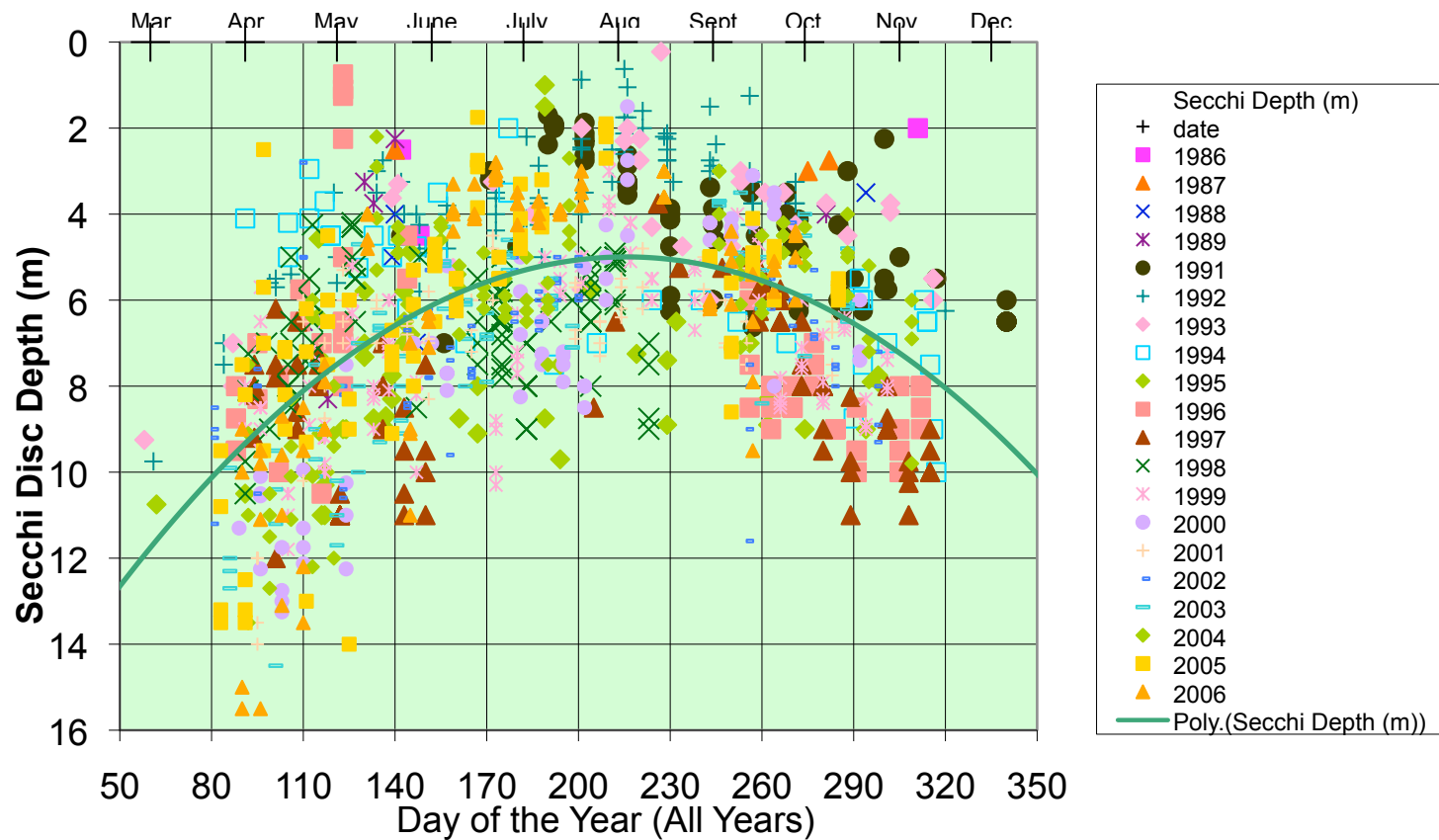
# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

## Secchi Disk

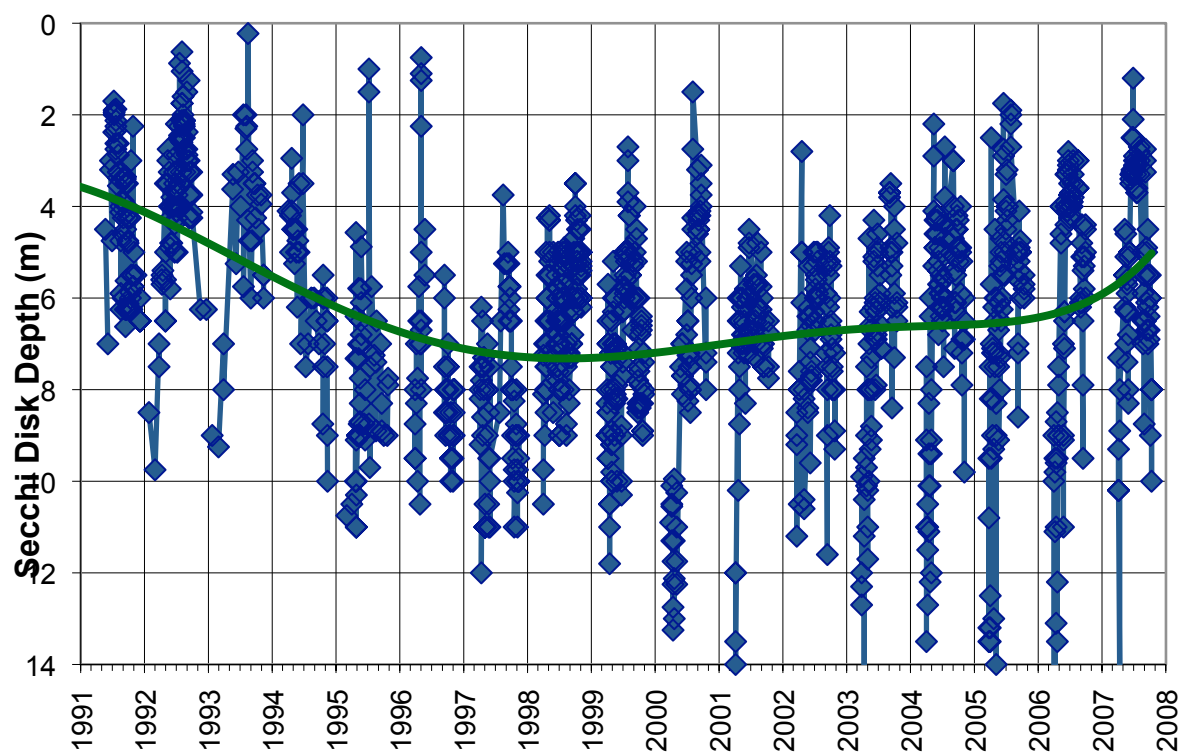




# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



1992: Zebra mussel

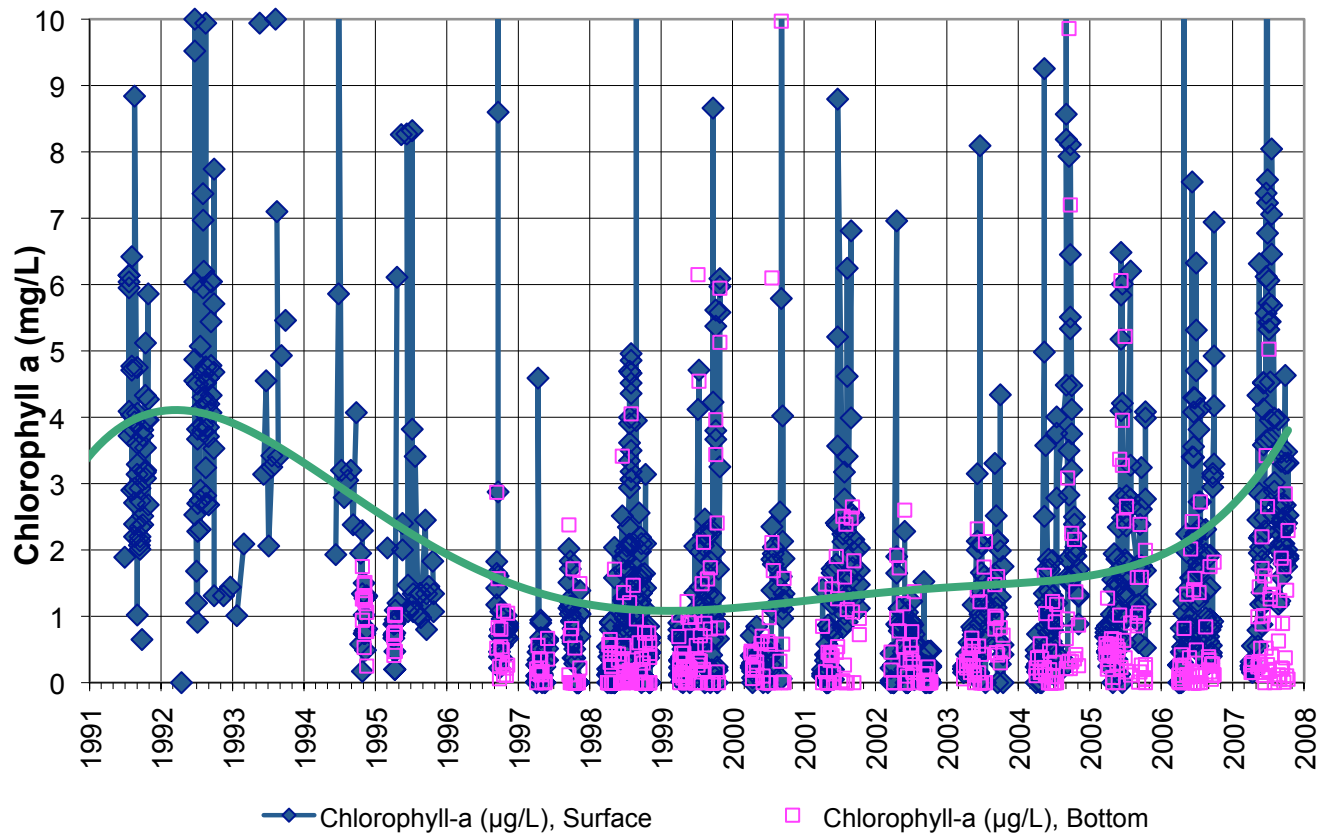
2000: Quagga mussel

# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

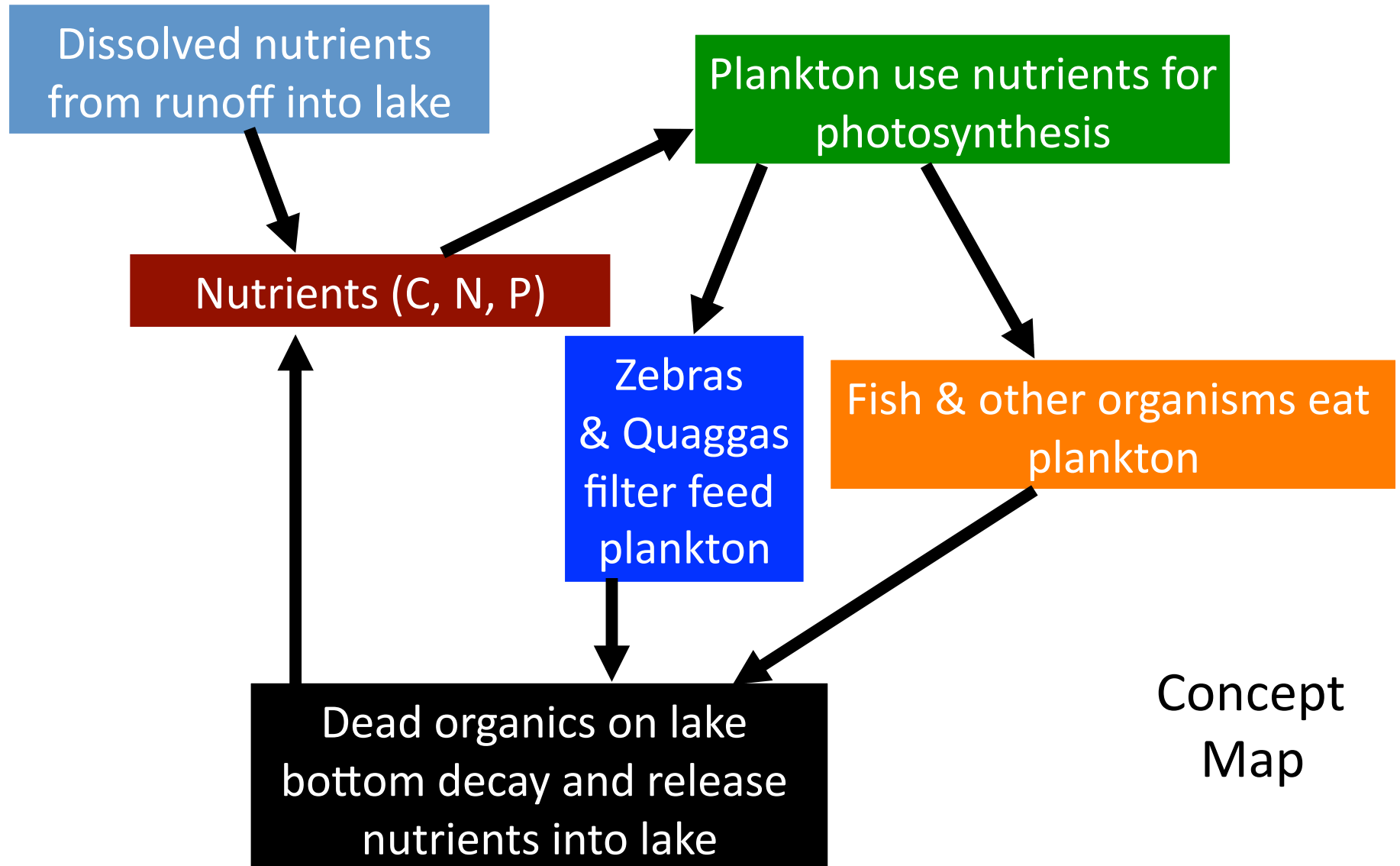




# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations



Concept  
Map

# Top-Down and Bottom-Up Perturbations

Are zebra and quagga mussels beneficial  
to Seneca Lake?



Zebra Mussel

Quagga Mussel