



Board of Directors *Notice of Meeting*

April 17th - 10:00 a.m., Administrative Office

Tentative Agenda

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interests
3. Minutes
4. General Manager's Report
5. Chair & Conservation Ontario Report
 - (i) Report of March 31, 2014 meeting
 - (ii) Ontario Junior Ranger Program
6. Business Arising from last meeting
7. Conservation Area Reports
 - (i) Conservation Areas Update
8. Water Resources Reports
 - (i) Current Watershed Conditions
 - (ii) Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization Project
 - (iii) 2014-15 WECI Projects
 - (iv) Operating Criteria for W. Darcy McKeough
9. Biology Reports
 - (i) Healthy Watersheds
 - (ii) Summarized Municipal Drain Review activities
 - (iii) Water Quality and Biodiversity
 - (iv) Biology Department Funding Update
 - (v) Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Partnership
10. Conservation Services Report
 - (i) Conservation Services Report
 - (ii) Larvicide Report
11. Planning Department Reports
 - (i) Regulations Summary Report
 - (ii) Monthly Planning Activity Summary Report
 - (iii) 2014 PPS release
 - (iv) St. Clair River AOC update
 - (v) Dart Activity Report
12. Finance Reports
 - (i) Revenue & Expenditure Report
 - (ii) January, February & March disbursements
 - (iii) 2014 General Levy update
 - (iv) Investment Statements
 - (v) Accessibility Improvements and Draft Plan
 - (vi) Employment Program Report

13. Communications Reports
 - (i) Bus Tour
 - (ii) Conservation Education
14. New Business
15. Adjournment

Please contact Marlene (call 519-245-3710, 1-866-505-3710 or e-mail mdorrestyn@scrca.on.ca) at the Administration Office by April 14th, if you are unable to attend.

- 8.(iii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2014 on Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure Projects and approves the projects submitted for funding in 2014-2015 and further will assist staff in obtaining matching funds, where required, to support these projects upon confirmation of funding approval.
- 8.(iv) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2014 regarding the operating criteria for the W. Darcy McKeough and further directs staff to continue to seek funding the support a study which would review the accumulated 30 years of operations records and data and assess operating criteria, propose revisions to these criteria based on the principles of the existing operating criteria, and provide a legal review to determine any consequences resulting from the proposed revisions in regards to flood easements.
- 9.(i) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 on the Healthy Watersheds Program in Lambton Shores and the Sydenham Headwaters, and endorses staff efforts to engage private landowners in Best Management Practices to improve the surface water quality.
- 9.(ii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 summarizing Municipal Drain Review activities, and endorses staff efforts to help member municipalities meet regulatory requirements by issuing Letters of Review.
- 9.(iii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 on Water Quality and Biodiversity in the SCRCA, and acknowledges the value of continuing to support monitoring and reporting on the aquatic health of St. Clair Conservation watersheds.
- 9.(iv) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 on the Biology Department Funding Update, and applauds the success of staff in obtaining grants to support water quality monitoring and reporting, education and outreach, and Best Management Practices for watershed landowners.
- 9.(v) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 on the Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Partnership, and endorses continued staff involvement in youth education and community outreach and engagement at Kettle and Stony Point.

- 10.(i) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2014 regarding Conservation Services projects and programs.
- 10.(ii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 4, 2014 on the application of larvicide to catch basins in Lambton County for the control of West Nile Virus in 2013.
- 11.(i) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Summary Reports on “*Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses*” Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06), dated March 31, 2014.
- 11.(ii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports for February and March 2014.
- 11.(iii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 on the 2014 Provincial Policy Statement, to be effective April 30, 2014, and further directs staff to endeavour to acquire renewed municipal/CA plan review advisory service agreements based on the 2014 PPS and municipal needs.
- 11.(iv) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 2, 2014 regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC).
- 11.(v) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated April 9, 2014 on Drainage Act and Conservation Authority Act Protocol (DART) Municipal drain activities for February and March 2014.
- 12.(i) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the revenue and expenditure report to March 31, 2014, as it relates to the budget.
- 12.(ii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors approves the January, February and March 2014 disbursements as presented in the amount of \$535,596.07.

- 12.(iii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the status report on the 2014 general levy receipts to date.
- 12.(iv) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the 2013 Investment Statement and March 31, 2014 report.
- 12.(v) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report, dated April 7, 2014 regarding the grant of \$50,000 to the Authority for accessibility improvements and the draft plans for the improvements and further approves that the balance of the project costs estimated to be \$80,000 to be obtained from reserves with the Chair and General Manager to accept proposals and sign contracts subject to the project costs being within the estimate for the project.
- 12.(vi) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 10, 2014 on the approval from the Ministry of Training, Colleges and University for the JCP program involving eight participants.
- 13.(i) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 3, 2014 on the proposed project tour scheduled for June 26, 2014.
- 13.(ii) Moved by: Seconded by:
That the Board of Directors acknowledges the Conservation Education Report, dated April 2, 2014 including the winter programming, program development and expansion, Maple Syrup Festival, Sydenham River Canoe Race, Special Events, and Community Partnerships.
15. Moved by: Seconded by:
That the meeting be adjourned.

February 20, 2014

The 2014 Annual General Meeting of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority was held on the above date, at the Czech Hall in Dresden, at the hour of 10:00 a.m.

Present: Steve Arnold, Chair; Terry Burrell, Vice Chair; Bill Bilton, David Boushy, Tony Bruinink, Elizabeth Davis-Dagg, Joe Faas, Norm Giffen, Anne Gilbert, Ann Marie Gillis, Rod Glen, Larry MacKenzie, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Kevin Marriott, Don McCallum, John McCharles, Netty McEwen, Steve Miller, Frank Nemcek, John Romlewski

Absent: Ben Phay

Special Guests: Diane Brewer, Reeve, Village of Newbury; Don McGugan, Mayor, Township of Brooke-Alvinston; Lonny Napper, Mayor, Town of Plympton-Wyoming; Andy Bruziewicz, Past Chair; Bob Woolvett, Darrell Randell, Dean Edwardson, Jake Lozon, Anne McGugan

Media: David Gough, Barry Wright

Conservation Award Winners: Karen & Doug Opperman, Denise Shephard, Larry Cornelius, Sydenham Field Naturalists; Brandon Martin

The meeting was called to order by the Chairman, Steve Arnold, who on behalf of the directors and staff of the Conservation Authority welcomed everyone to the 2014 annual meeting. He advised that we had a very successful year in 2013 and encouraged everyone to take a look at our Annual Report. Mr. Arnold asked everyone to take special note of the many partnerships that the Authority has forged. It is through these partnerships that the Authority has moved the yardstick forward to create safer and healthier watersheds.

Joe Faas, director from Chatham-Kent welcomed everyone to Dresden and Chatham-Kent.

BD-14-020

Glen – Bruinink

“That the agenda for the Annual General Meeting be adopted.”

CARRIED

The Chair requested that each Director declare a conflict of interest at the appropriate time, on any item within this agenda in that a Director may have a pecuniary interest.

BD-14-021

Miller - Giffen

“That the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held February 6, 2014, be approved as distributed.”

CARRIED

Rick Battson and Erin Carroll made presentations.

BD-14-022

Bilton – Davis-Dagg

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the presentation highlighting the status of Keith McLean Conservation Lands and the development of the Peers Wetland.”

CARRIED

Three Conservation Awards were presented:

- the first award was presented to the Sydenham Field Naturalists for their extraordinary effort in raising funds for the purchase of the Peers Wetland.
 - numerous wetland areas on both the north and south side of Otter Creek have been drained for use as valuable farm land and is the only sizeable wetland - around 11 hectares - that remains along the lower reaches of Otter Creek.
 - while the Conservation Authority received funds from a number of government programs and from the Municipality. This would not have been possible without a strong show of support from the community gained through the leadership of the Sydenham Field Naturalists. They really beat the bushes to rally the community behind this project.
 - it is very gratifying to see the community so involved in this worthwhile project.
- the second award recognizes volunteerism in our Conservation Areas.
 - the success of our Conservation Area campgrounds is the result of a number of factors that combine to create a friendly family-oriented experience for our campers.
 - first amongst these are the campers themselves and from this group, once in a while, someone comes forward to really make a difference.
 - Karen and Doug Opperman have been campground hosts since 2000 at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.
 - as campground hosts, they welcome new campers and help visitors enjoy the Conservation Area to its fullest.
 - beginning in 2003, Karen and Doug spearheaded very successful fund raising events that have helped support the purchase of equipment, new facilities and programs.
 - their efforts have added greatly to the quality of camper experiences at the Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area.
- the final award went to an individual who contributed to the Conservation Authority in a very meaningful way.
 - in 2013 Brendan Martin, who is a student at the University of Guelph, worked on a volunteer basis with the biology staff as an intern.
 - he accumulated over 120 hours of volunteer time in just 3 months.
 - Brendan took initiative and demonstrated a great deal of independence in completing a number of projects for us.
 - overall Brendan produced high quality written reports, undertook data analysis, and even delved into graphic design in creating interpretive displays.
 - Brendan worked with other staff and the Strathroy-Caradoc Museum to create interpretive materials to go with an aquarium display of local Sydenham River fishes.
 - he also showcased his oral communication skills in a presentation he made to the Board of Directors on Eastern Foxsnake.
 - while this experience was certainly beneficial to Brendan and his studies, his contribution to the Conservation Authority as a volunteer is to be commended.

BD-14-023

Faas - Gillis

“That the Board of Directors congratulates the 2013 Conservation Award Winners and thanks them for their contributions to conservation.”

CARRIED

2014 service awards were presented:

5 Years of Service:

Stephen Clark, Water Resources Specialist

10 Years of Service:

Joe Faas, representing the Municipality of Chatham-Kent

Kevin Marriott, representing the Township of Enniskillen and the Village of Oil Springs

Shane White, McKeough Maintenance Foreman

15 years of service:

Chris Durand, IT/GIS Coordinator

20 years of service:

Larry MacKenzie, representing the Village of Point Edward

25 years of service:

Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services

Rick Battson, Director of Communications

BD-14-024

Bruinink - McEwen

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the service awards presented to the directors and staff and further that they be thanked for their years of dedicated service.”

CARRIED

Larry MacKenzie, representing Village of Point Edward is leaving the Board at this time. We have three other members who left the Board over the last year. Earlier in the term, both Helen Havelock and Tim Brown, representing the Town of Petrolia left us and were replaced by John McCharles and Tom McGregor representing the Municipality of Chatham-Kent, was replaced by Anne Gilbert. Special thanks to Larry, Helen, Tim, and Tom for their insight and contributions to the board. Your experience and dedication will certainly be missed.

The meeting then continued when Chair, Steve Arnold, welcomed John Romlewski, representing Village of Point Edward to the 2014 Board. The meeting continued with 2014 business.

BD-14-025

Miller - Marriott

“That Larry MacKenzie be appointed chairperson for the election of the 2014 Chairman and Vice Chairman.”

CARRIED

BD-14-026

Glen - Bilton

“That Dean Edwardson and Jake Lozon be appointed scrutineers in the event of an election.”

CARRIED

The positions of Chair and Vice Chair were declared vacant and nominations were called for the office of Chairman for 2014.

Norm Giffen nominated Steve Arnold for the position of chair.

BD-14-027

MacKinnon - Bruinink

“That nominations for the position of Chairman be closed.”

CARRIED

Steve Arnold accepted the nomination and was declared Chair of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for 2014.

Larry MacKenzie called for nominations for the office of Vice Chair for 2014.

Anne Marie Gillis nominated Terry Burrell for the position of Vice Chair.

BD-14-028

Miller – Davis-Dagg

“That nominations for the position of Vice Chairman be closed.”

CARRIED

Terry Burrell accepted the nomination was declared Vice Chair of the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority for 2014.

Joe Faas, Chair of the Nominating Committee presented the Nominating Committee report for 2014.

With the election of Terry Burrell as Vice Chair, an additional person was required on the Low Water and Executive Committees. Anne Marie Gillis volunteered for both positions.

BD-14-029

MacKinnon – Faas

“That the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority adopts the 2014 Nominating Committee's Report with changes as noted.”

CARRIED

BD-14-030

Nemcek - Faas

“That the 2014 Executive Committee for the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority be: Steve Arnold, Chairman; Terry Burrell, Vice Chairman; Bill Bilton, Tony Bruinink, Norm Giffen, Joe Faas, Betty Ann MacKinnon, Rod Glen and Anne Marie Gillis”.

CARRIED

The 2014 budget was considered. Two votes on the budget were required. The first vote for non-matching levy utilized a weighted vote. A recorded vote based on weighting on the non-matching general levy was held.

BD-14-031

Glen - Faas

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2014 budget of \$6,242,159 with a non-matching general levy of \$385,435 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the modified CVA of each municipality within the Authority’s area of jurisdiction.”

CARRIED

The final vote represented 100% in favour based on the total CVA in attendance.

The matching general levy was also considered.

BD-14-032

Romlewski - McCallum

“That the Board of Directors approves the 2014 budget of \$6,242,159 with a matching general levy of \$273,500 with all member municipalities deemed as benefitting and further that the levy be apportioned using the modified CVA of each municipality within the Authority’s area of jurisdiction.”

CARRIED

The 2014 borrowing bylaw was considered.

BD-14-033

Davis-Dagg - Bruinink

“That the Authority Chairman or the Vice Chairman and the General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer or Director of Financial Services be authorized to borrow from the Libro Credit Union, Strathroy for the general operations and capital program of the Authority, a sum not to exceed \$968,935 to be repaid from grants received from the Province of Ontario, Government of Canada, levies assessed the member municipalities and general revenue.”

CARRIED

The 2014 appointments to Conservation Ontario were considered.

BD-14-034

Miller - Giffen

“That the Authority's 2014 representatives to Conservation Ontario will be the Authority Chair, the Vice Chair will be the first alternate and the General Manager be the second alternate.”

CARRIED

The General Manager’s Report was presented:

- 2013 - last year was another very successful year in program development and delivery. The development of these diverse conservation programs at the St. Clair would not be possible without the support of our Board which encourages a progressive and entrepreneurial approach in the development of new opportunities that benefit our member municipalities and resource

management in the region. We take a business-like approach to public service and conservation in our region and in a financially responsible manner. Staff consistently and successfully seeks funding partners to support our programs and services. For every \$1 of municipal levy, we raise almost \$9 from other sources. Staff wishes to sincerely thank the Board members for their support and contributions to the Authority over the past year. We look forward to working with the Board, our member municipalities and our hundreds of partners in providing a comprehensive watershed management program throughout the region. One of our greatest strengths is that our conservation programs are locally driven. With issues such as climate change, a challenging economy, redistribution of responsibilities by upper levels of government, the responsibility of providing safe and healthy watersheds is becoming more complex. Your support in making the critical decisions needed is important for the environmental well-being and safety of the residents in the watersheds. The work we do today not only impacts ours, but future generations as well. Your continued interest and support is sincerely appreciated.

- Audit - Woods Pearson Associates have completed the 2014 audit. Ken Williams of Woods Pearson presented the audit to the Board of Directors on February 6, 2014. The audit produced no issues and the Board of Directors accepted the audit as presented. This was the final year of a five year agreement with Woods Pearson Associated. Staff are drafting a request for quotations which will be sent out to qualified firms that have experience with Conservation Authorities and a summary of quotes as well as a recommendation will be presented to the Board at their April 17th meeting.
- 2014 Proposed Budget - the draft budget was forwarded to member municipalities in November. Changes based on carry forwards, year-end audit adjustments, etc. have been included in the budget but there was no impact on general levy from the 2014 draft budget.
 - September 19, 2013 - Draft 2014 budget reviewed and recommendation for circulation by Board
 - November 2013 - Draft budget updated to include modified current value assessments to calculate municipal levy and circulated to member municipalities for information and input
 - December 12, 2013 - Board reviewed municipal feedback
 - February 6, 2014 - Board reviews minor amendments based on the audit and year-end adjustments and recommends the budget to the Annual General Meeting for approval
 - February 20, 2014 - Annual General meeting and final budget approval
 - Provincial Funding: the 2014 allocation for Provincial Grants to support Flood and Erosion Control Operations and Maintenance, Planning, Technical studies and Administration has not changed since 1997, (\$310,000 – annually) The province uses the Authority’s business plan for funding consideration.
 - the Authority budget is required to be passed prior to the end of February, however the Provincial grants will be unknown until later in the year. This will not affect the municipal levy.
- Voting Procedure - procedures for voting on Matching and Non-Matching levy have not changed.
- Members Orientation - an Orientation, open to all Board Members but focused on new members is scheduled for March 27th at 10:00 am at the Authority’s Administrative Offices in Strathroy. Please rsvp to Marlene at 519-245-3710 x257 or at mdorrestyn@scrca.on.ca to confirm your attendance.
- Updated Meeting Schedule - the Project Tour and Board Meeting in June has been moved to June 26, 2014, due to the conflict with the Great Lakes & St. Lawrence Cities Initiative Annual Conference has become an annual conflict with the third Thursday in June and merit consideration of a permanent change for future scheduling.

- Outstanding Farmer/Conservation Farm Award:
 - the Conservation Authority in partnership with the Lambton Soil and Crop Improvement Association (LSCIA) presented the award at the LSCIA Annual General Meeting held January 17th in Alvinston. Steve Arnold presented the award on behalf of the Conservation Authority. The award winners this year were Don and Irene VanGorkum.
- Municipal Presentations - staff is available, at your request, for presentations to council or committees on any programs and services of the Conservation Authority or Foundation. We would be pleased to address council on any issue of interest.

BD-14-035

Bilton - Nemcek

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the General Manager’s report dated February 11, 2014.”

CARRIED

A staff report on water levels, current and flood conditions was presented.

- Watershed Precipitation and Streamflow Conditions
 - winter conditions have been experienced across the watershed since early December with mean temperatures in December of minus 3.7 degrees and then significantly colder in January with minus 9.7 degrees. With lower temperatures significant snow accumulations were experienced in northern areas resulting from snowstorm events influenced by lake effect snow in early December and into January. A slight warming trend was experienced early in January resulting in some floodplain areas being inundated only to freeze again after a few days. Flows were increased at this time with the combined snow melt coupled with 20 to 30mm of rain received over the period. During the remainder of the month and into February temperatures have remained extremely cold with both snow and ice accumulation. This has minimized any significant changes flow conditions throughout the watershed as they revert to normal levels.
 - regional precipitation numbers indicate near normal monthly precipitation with the exception of Sarnia most likely due to the influence of lake effect snow accumulations. Quarterly numbers remain 22% and the last six month period remains on average at 99.9% and the yearly average is above average at 116% of normal.
- Snow and Ice Conditions and Flood Threat
 - snow and ice conditions are monitored on a bi-weekly basis together with the integrity of river ice at strategic locations. Currently snow depths range from 2 inches (5cm) in the south to 10 inches (25cm) at Warwick in the north (fig 3). Water equivalents (fig 4) range from 1 inch (20mm) to 2.5 inches (55mm) and are expected to continue to increase with the ongoing cold temperatures. Currently watercourses have approximately 8 to 12 inches of blue and white slightly deteriorated ice with some open sections near higher flow areas. All areas are anticipated to thicken into February with the extremely cold temperatures and increased snow cover. Some ice jams have been noted in the St. Clair River but ice remains solid and in place in the Chenal Ecarte, upstream into the Sydenham River and most of the watershed. With significant snowpack on the ground and lower temperatures there are no current issues regarding flooding however, with the current snow and ice conditions, there is potentially an elevated flood risk should temperature and precipitation conditions change suddenly as we move into the freshet period.

- Weather Forecast (Weather Network, Environment Canada, OFA)
 - February - Potential slight warming trend near end of the month with average snow accumulations
 - Winter - Temperatures will continue to be cooler overall with coldest periods in both mid-January and February. Snowfall will be reduced as Lake Huron freezes over reducing lake-effect snow conditions. Precipitation below normal into spring.
- Historical Overview – Great Lakes Levels (NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research 1948 - 2013)
 - when long term historical statistics are compared for the current month data with the entire period of record (96 years) for Lake Huron, the last ten years average is 41cm (16 ins) lower than the average for the entire period of record.
- Current Lake Levels (January 2014) - all three lakes continue to be close to the 10 year average however, as noted above, the last 10 year average is now lower than any previous 10 year period as well as the average for the period of record.

BD-14-036

Gillis - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 10, 2014, regarding current watershed conditions and Great Lakes water levels.”

CARRIED

A staff report regarding Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization project was reviewed.

- December 20th 2013 - Township and Authority staff met on site with the design engineer, site supervisor and representatives of the contractor (Van Bree Contracting)
- construction work started second week of January 2014.
- approximately 100 m of shoreline work will be completed in this phase.
- two habitat pods will be constructed along the shoreline to enhance the habitat features
- 25 working days have been provided for completion of the project under the contract (a working day is any day during which the conditions permit the contractor to be able to undertake work to greater than 60 percent of capacity).
- Shoreplan Engineering is providing supervision for the project and site meeting will be held weekly.
- construction of phase III - work is expected to be completed by end of February 2014.

BD-14-037

Davis-Dagg - Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 10, 2014, regarding Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization and the schedule for completion of the project.”

CARRIED

A staff report regarding Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects submitted for funding in 2014-15 was discussed.

- applications for grants have been submitted for funding for in 2014-2015 for the project in the table below
- applications will be reviewed by a committee of provincial and conservation authority staff representatives later this month and will be ranked in comparison to all submitted projects from across the Province
- list of approved projects is anticipated in May or early June

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
Cathcart Park	Cathcart Park Shoreline Protection - Phase 4	Design, tender and rehabilitate about 200 m of shoreline at Cathcart Park (Phase 4 construction).	600,000	300,000
Lambton area water supply system	Shoreline Repair	Rehabilitate about 280 m of shoreline at the mouth of St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	600,000	300,000
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick st) Phase 1	Carry out construction of Phase 1 from the recommendation of Engineering study.	500,000	250,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough Floodway Berm Repair	Perform repair work along the floodway	\$80,000	\$40,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough Dam Drop structure/ Gate house concrete repair	Repair several cracks in concrete slabs and barrier walls	\$60,000	\$30,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough -Hazard Tree Removal	Remove trees, shrubs and debris that have the potential to cause slope stability issues	\$8,000	\$4,000
Esli Dodge	Esli Dodge Repair Project	Repair of Concrete cable/ retaining wall	\$10,000	\$5,000
L.C.Henderson	L.C.H. Outfall repair [project	Spillway Repair	\$20,000	\$10,000

BD-14-038

McCharles - Boushy

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 10, 2014, regarding Water and Erosion Control Infrastructure projects submitted to the Ministry of Natural Resources for funding in 2014 - 15.”

CARRIED

The Regulations Activity Reports dated January 31, 2014, was reviewed.

BD-14-039

Nemcek - Giffen

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges and concurs with the Regulations Activity Summary Report dated January 31, 2014 on "Development, Interference with Wetlands & Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulations (Ontario Regulation 171/06) for the months November 2013, December 2013 and January 2014.”

CARRIED

The Planning Department's November and December 2013 and January 2014 Planning Activity Summary Reports were discussed.

Director's Comments:

- there seems to be errors on the summary with the Lambton Shores entries – please check - *there were data entry errors for numerous municipalities that have been now been corrected in the database.*

BD-14-40

McCallum - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority’s monthly Planning Activity Summary Reports for November 2013, December 2013 and January 2014.”

CARRIED

A schedule of Special Events was reviewed:

- A.W. Campbell Maple Syrup Festival, March 15 - 16, 9:00 - 4:30 A.W. Campbell Conservation Area
- Sydenham River Canoe Race, April 13, Registration 10:00 - 11:00 (Mossie Line at the Sydenham River) Race ends at the Shetland Conservation Area
- Strathroy Water Trail Paddle Day, May 24, 9:00 - 3:00, Centennial Park, Strathroy
- Denning Bros. Funeral Home Memorial Forest Dedication, May 25, 2:00 Centennial Park, Strathroy
- Member's Project Tour, June 26
- McKenzie and Blundy Memorial Forest Dedication, September 21, 2:00 Wawanosh Wetlands Conservation Area
- Foundation Memorial Forest Dedication, September 28, 2:00 Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area
- Geocaching Event, September 21, 9:00 am Lorne C. Henderson Conservation Area

BD-14-041

Nemcek - Bilton

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the schedule of Special Events outlined in the attached flyer.”

CARRIED

A staff report regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern was reviewed.

- Sediment Management Options (SMO) Project:
 - the Sediment Management Options (SMO) project for the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC) continues to move toward finalization. The final SMO report prepared by ENVIRON consulting has been completed and received by the SCRCA. It was provided to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE), the Federal Department of the Environment (EC) and the local Sediment Technical Team.
 - the recommendations of the local Technical Team have also been forwarded to the government agencies. The Technical Team recommended that all three areas of interest be cleaned up by hydraulic dredging followed by a thin layer of sandy backfill. The executive committees of MOE and EC are reportedly actively considering the recommendations.

- a statement of works for the detailed engineering design phase of the project is being developed. This document will be used to support the acquisition of consulting engineering services to complete the design of the remedial measures. The MOE is considering taking over the project management of the next phases of the clean-up project.
- Progress towards delisting
 - Donna Strang prepared an assessment report on the restrictions on dredging activities impairment in the St. Clair River. The report reviewed sediment quality information for dredging projects undertaken over the past 10 years. Dredging was done at the Southeast Bend Cut-off channel, Stokes Point Shoal, Sarnia Harbour and Mitchell's Bay Marine Park. Chemical analysis results for 101 samples, each analysed for over 50 different chemicals were evaluated against federal and provincial criteria. A review of past uses of the dredged material was also conducted. Based on the results of this assessment it was concluded that the impairment has been resolved. The Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC) was presented with the evaluation and agreed with the conclusions of the report. The next step to declare this issue resolved is to undertake First Nations and public consultation on the report. This will begin within the next few months.
- Bald Eagles at Stag Island
 - over the last few weeks a large number of Bald Eagles (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) have been observed on Stag Island in the St. Clair River. Reportedly, upwards of over 20 eagles have been recorded sitting in trees or flying over the ice-free areas of the river. Historically, Stag Island was an important migration and feeding location for the eagles, however due to the past use of the now banned DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) pesticide, their populations severely declined. They are currently listed as a species of special concern under the Ontario Endangered Species Act. The presence of so many Bald Eagles this winter has captured the attention of local birders and First Nations. Their rebound in the area is just one of the positive outcomes from the work conducted along the St. Clair River and elsewhere to reduce pollution and enhance wildlife habitat.

BD-14-042

Gillis - MacKinnon

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated February 6, 2014, regarding the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC).”

CARRIED

A request to destroy documents as determined by the record retention schedule was considered.

BD-14-043

McCharles - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors approves the list of documents to be destroyed as determined by the record retention schedule.”

CARRIED

A staff report on the Warwick Conservation Area and land securement was explained.

- Background:
 - the Conservation Authority owns and operates the Warwick Conservation Area in the Township of Warwick

- the conservation area has over 200 campsites and is a busy camping destination between May and October.
- the main access roadway is currently owned by Warwick Township, St. Clair Conservation and a private individual
- this roadway is critical to the operation of the campground as it must safely facilitate large recreational and emergency vehicles.
- in late fall of 2011 a section of the roadway was eroded by high water levels on the adjacent Bear Creek.
- the resulting bank slump was caused by the stream undercutting the existing bank reducing the road to one lane
- the current roadway condition exposes each ownership party to a greater liability risk
- Shoreline Engineers were contracted to assess the damage and prepare a design to repair the eroded area; estimated cost to repair was approximately \$ 35,000.00
- to ensure that the erosion protection was completed properly a portion of the work would be required within the watercourse.
- an application and design was submitted for approval to DFO but was rejected due to the in-water works component of the project (rare mussels have been identified in the immediate water shed area and no in-water works was permitted)
- to protect the stream bank without in-water works, would require a wider work area so to permit for more gradual sloping of the erosion protection
- this would require a portion of the existing roadway to be completed and would result in the remaining roadway being too narrow to accommodate regular traffic.
- Committee Summary:
 - we have met with Municipal staff and the adjacent landowner a number of times over the past year and have discussed the options to ensure an Authority owned and long term reliable entrance to the conservation area
 - from these meetings and from review of all the information, it has been recommended to relocate the roadway by securing land from the municipality and the adjacent landowner
 - the municipality has agreed to lead in the land securement portion of the project, but has asked if the Conservation Authority is willing to commit to the costs associated with the purchase, transfer and construction of the roadway.
- Project Cost:
 - project cost to complete will consist of survey, legal, engineering and road construction, land securement and stream bank erosion repair.
 - cost estimates range between \$ 95,000.00 & \$ 110,000.00
 - this project has been proposed in our capital budget for 2014, with approximately \$75,000.00 budgeted
 - any overages to the above amount would be covered through conservation area profits or by the reserve account

BD-14-043

Glen - Marriott

“That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report on the Warwick Conservation Area and approves costs associated with land securement, legal fees and road construction.”

CARRIED

A staff report regarding the renovation of the house at the Keith McLean Conservation Lands was discussed.

- was reviewed at the December Board meeting, rough drawings and a request for proposals were created for the above noted project
- as per the maintenance agreement between the Authority and the Estate, projects undertaken prior to the transfer of the property to the Foundation will be reviewed and accepted by the Trustees and may be invoiced directly to the Estate where appropriate
- the property transfer and the dispersal of the estate is expected to occur later this year or in early 2015
- staff have reviewed with the Trustees, the alternative of receiving a portion of the financial component of the donation, however, the accountant for the estate recommended against such a transaction
- the trustees have been asked to review whether the estate may be prepared to directly pay the invoices for the work
- if not, the Authority or the Foundation could finance the project in the interim, until the dispersal of the estate
- staff hosted an open house for contractors on Jan 31st
- the project and the open house were advertised to local contractors both directly and in the community
- 6 contractors and subcontractors attended the open house and 7 (including 3 new subcontractors) attended a second review opportunity the following week
- two proposals were submitted for the renovation
- the proposals are quite similar in their detail and level of work proposed
- both proposals also require an additional month for completion of the work at the end of May rather than the 1st of May of outlined in the request for proposals
 - Faas Construction Limited \$137,255.00 plus HST
 - Mark Evans Building Contractor \$118,601.24 plus HST
- the proposal of Mark Evans Building Contractor also includes additional insulation as well as a new window in the kitchen to properly align the countertop

BD-14-044

Davis-Dagg - Burrell

“That the Board of Directors acknowledge the report dated February 19, 2014, regarding the renovation of the house at Keith McLean Conservation Lands and further accepts the proposal of Mark Evans Building Contractor for \$118,601.24 plus HST to complete the proposed renovation, and further that staff work with the Estate of Keith McLean and the St. Clair Region Conservation Foundation to cover the costs of the renovation as efficiently as possible.”

CARRIED

Under new business, Bill Bilton advised that former director and chair, Ted Butler, had broken his hip and was now out of the hospital.

The directors were also advised that former director and chair, Andy Bruziewicz was running for a director position on the Board of Good Roads.

BD-14-045
Miller - Marriott
“That the meeting be adjourned.”

Steve Arnold
Chair

Brian McDougall
General Manager

Attached to original minutes: weighted levy voting sheet

General Manager's Report 4.(i)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Brian McDougall, General Manager

- staff hosted 5 Board members at the orientation for new members on March 27th
 - a presentation regarding the Authority's projects and program was presented
 - several diverse questions and enlightening discussions provided a well-rounded introduction to the Authority

- the addition to the workshop at Clark Wright Conservation Area is all but complete
 - despite the difficult working conditions of the past two months the work was substantially complete within the schedule and on budget
 - final touch-ups and painting will be completed this week
 - septic system installation will be completed as soon as weather permits

- **Reminder:** *the next Board Meeting will coincide with the Authority's Annual Project Tour on June 26th*



Status Report



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Brian McDougall, General Manager
Subject: Conservation Ontario

- ☞ attached is the agenda from the March 31, 2014 Council Meeting
- ☞ also attached is the 2013 Annual Report for Conservation Ontario
- ☞ the 2013 Audited Financial Statements were reviewed and accepted

- ☞ the Chair, 2 Vice Chairs were re-elected
- ☞ two of three members of the Board of Directors were re-elected and Jane Mitchell was elected to fill the remaining seat on the Board



**Richard (Dick) Hibma
Chair**
Chair of the Grey
Sauble Conservation
Authority



**Mark Burnham
Vice Chair and Treasurer**
Chair of Mississippi
Valley Conservation Authority



**Lin Gibson
Vice Chair**
Chairperson of Conservation
Sudbury (NDCA)



**Jane Mitchell
Director**
Chair of Grand River
Conservation Authority
[More Information](#)



**Wayne Wilson
Director and Secretary**
General Manager of
Nottawasaga
Valley Conservation Authority



**Cliff Evanitski
Director**
General Manager of Long Point
Region Conservation Authority
[More Information](#)

- ☞ Conservation Ontario continues to inform and educate the Provincial Government on the state of Ontario's flood management programs
- ☞ in December, Conservation Ontario's Chair and staff met with both the Minister of Natural Resources and the Minister of Finance on separate occasions to continue to pursue funding to support aging infrastructure
- ☞ after significant flooding events in Calgary, Alberta and Toronto, Ontario in 2013, Public Safety Canada has been charged by the Federal Government with developing a National Disaster Mitigation Program, a new program focused on reducing the impact of natural disasters, including overland flooding
- ☞ the new program will focus on proactive disaster risk reduction approaches and has already commenced with
 - a review of floodplain mapping standards in six Countries
 - literature review and interviews by recognized experts in the fields of hydrology, hydraulics, mapping and flood risk assessment
 - a review of floodplain standards across Canada including the status of existing mapping
 - development of a framework and suggested standards to help formulate the development of new national standards
 - estimate of the cost to update existing mapping to future national standards

- ☞ Halton Region CA is moving forward to the Ontario Court of Appeals with a regulations issue
- ☞ this very complicated, but potentially precedent setting, case has already been before two different judges and while somewhat favourable decisions have been reached Halton Region CA is seeking support from the Ministry of Natural Resources and Conservation Ontario at the Court of Appeals

- ☞ for many years a pass was provided to all Board members and staff members of each of the 36 Conservation Authorities across the province which provided free access to all Conservation Areas across the province
- ☞ in the past few years the practice had fallen off due to a few hiccups in the system
- ☞ this year the program will be reinvigorated with the support of Conservation Authority Land Managers and better operating guidelines for the program
- ☞ more information and passes to be provided later this year

☞ Latornell Conservation Symposium will be undergoing some changes this year

☞ it has been rescheduled to a Tuesday – Thursday event (November 18-20, 2014) and it will be expanded to 3 full days

☞ some of the added conference time will be used to jump start Conservation Authority University

☞ Conservation Authority University is proposed to assist in providing education, experience and mentoring to young conservation professionals utilizing experienced Authority staff who have reached the pinnacle of their careers

☞ it is also proposed that some programs of CA University will be offered at other times of year and some will also be offered on a regional basis as it may be fitting with programs that are more regional in nature

☞ invitations to both the Great Lakes Mayors Conference (June 2014) and the Conservation Authorities Biennial Tour (September 2014 in the Grand River and Long Point Region watersheds) were extended to all Authorities by representatives of each of the host areas



LATORNELL
CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM



**Conservation
ONTARIO**
Natural Champions

MISSION

*To promote and
continually
strengthen a
watershed-based
conservation
coalition in
Ontario*

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

March 31, 2014

Registration: 8:30 a.m.

Meeting Time: 9:00 – 3:00

Black Creek Pioneer Village

1000 Murray Ross Parkway, Downsview

1. Welcome from the Chair
2. Adoption of the Agenda
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting
5. Business Arising from the Minutes
6. **Conservation Ontario's 2013 Annual Report & Presentation** 1-6
7. **Adoption of 2013 Audited Financial Statements, Audit Findings Report
& Appointment of Auditors for 2014** 7-39
8. Voting Delegates & Alternates; 2014 Committee Representatives 40-41
9. CO Council Orientation – Presentation
10. **Election of Conservation Ontario Chair, 2 Vice Chairs and 3 Directors**
11. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole
12. Committee of the Whole - Items for Decision
 - 1) ***Conservation Ontario's Business Case for Strategic Reinvestment
in Ontario's Flood Management Programs (J.Rzadki, K.Gavine)*** . . . 42-56
 - 2) ***Conservation Halton: Request for Intervenor Status (K.Gavine)*** . . . 57-59
 - 3) ***Election Strategy (K.Gavine, J.Lewington)*** 60-62
 - 4) ***Conservation Ontario's Member and Staff Pass (J.Crittenden)*** . . . 63-64
 - 5) 2014 Special Projects Budget (K.Gavine, J.Dunning). 65-68
 - 6) Conservation Ontario (CO) Representation and Conservation
Authorities' Program Discussion Groups – Amendments to CO Policy
and Procedure (C.W. #17/03) and 2013-2014 CO Representatives
and CA Discussion Group List (B.Fox, S.Dupre) 69-78
 - 7) New Ontario EcoHealth Collaborative (OEC) (J.Lewington) 79-80
 - 8) Draft Conservation Ontario (CO) – Fisheries and Oceans Canada
(DFO) Memorandum of Understanding (B.Fox, S.Dupre) 81-90

*Items where discussion is encouraged

9)	Conservation Ontario Comments on Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) Draft Letter to Municipalities on Species at Risk Act (SARA) (S.Dupre, B.Fox)	91-94
10)	Conservation Ontario’s comments on the proposed updates to provincial requirements for the location and management of dams under the Lakes and Rivers Improvement Act (EBR # 012-0562) and Conservation Ontario Representative on the Ontario Dam Owners Advisory Committee (S.Dupre, B.Fox)	95-101
11)	Conservation Ontario’s Comments on the Cornerstone Standards Council (CSC) Draft Responsible Aggregate Standards for Pits and Quarries (S.Dupre, J.Rzadki)	102-108
12)	Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement Update on Committees and Endorsement of Lakewide Action and Management Plan task group representatives and Climate Change Annex 9 Subcommittee Representative and CAO Great Lakes Advisory Committee Representative (B.Fox, S.Dupre)	109-116
13)	Junior Rangers Program (K.Gavine)	117-121
14)	CO Submission on Bill 69, The Prompt Payments Act, 2013 - An Act respecting payments made under contracts and subcontracts in the construction industry (S.Dupre, B.Fox)	122-124
15)	Representation on Forests Ontario Board of Trustees (K.Gavine)	125
16)	Board of Directors Meeting Minutes to be received	126-128
13.	Program Updates	
1)	Source Water Protection (E.Harkins)	129-138
2)	Marketing and Communications (J.Lewington, J.Crittenden)	139-141
3)	Watershed Stewardship (J.Rzadki)	142-145
14.	Presentations	
1)	Fast Flow Water Program: Councilor & Deputy Mayor Joscelyne Landry-Altman (City of Greater Sudbury) and Mr. Ray Croteau (Ambassador to the FFW Program), Lin Gibson, (Conservation Sudbury)	
15.	Committee of the Whole – Items for Information	
1)	*Status Update - Conservation Ontario Re-organization Assessment* (K.Gavine) . . .	146-152
2)	*Conservation Areas Workshop 2014* (Niall Lobley)	153-154
3)	General Managers Report (K.Gavine)	155-158
4)	Collaboration between Conservation Ontario (CO) and the Ontario OnSite Waste Water Association (OOWA) (J.Rzadki)	159-161
5)	Low Impact Development and Green Infrastructure Update (J.Rzadki)	162-209
6)	Conservation Ontario Members Survey of the 2013 Council Year (J.Lewington, J.Dunning).	165-175
7)	2014 Latornell Conservation Symposium Update (J.Lewington)	176-177
8)	Status Update – Drainage Act and Section 28 Regulations Team (Rheanna Leckie(MNR), B.Fox)	178
9)	Water Resource Information Program (WRIP) Update (R.Wilson)	179-182
10)	Provincial Government Response on the Aggregate Resources Act (J.Rzadki)	183-185
11)	Submission of Conservation Ontario’s Annual Effectiveness Report on the Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects (S.Dupre) . .	186
12)	Project Tracking	187-197

*Items where discussion is encouraged

13) Correspondence

- Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing to Conservation Ontario re Provincial Policy Statement 2014198-199
- Nottawasaga Valley CA re Navigable Waters Protection Act 200-209

16. Motion to Move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council

17. Council Business

- Council Adoption of Recommendations

18. New Business **Great Lakes Mayors Conference - June 2014**
Biennial Tour - September 2014

19. Adjourn



Conservation Ontario
Annual Report 2013

Conservation
ONTARIO
Natural Champions



Driving Innovation

Conservation Authorities: Leaders in Watershed Management



2013

www.conservationontario.ca
Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities

Driving Innovation

Conservation Authorities Develop Innovative, Practical Solutions to Address Growing Problems

Conservation Authorities and their municipal partners are often on the frontlines when addressing the costly impacts of climate change and rapid population growth. We struggle with maintaining water quality and supply, reducing the impacts from more frequent flooding, and building resilience into important ecosystems which are critical for helping us to adapt to higher temperatures and more frequent extreme weather.

The solutions to these growing challenges lie within the Conservation Authorities' ability to work with partners to leverage resources and adapt programs, identify new technologies, and develop innovative, practical solutions to continue to build local watershed resilience.

Ontario's water and land resources, and natural systems provide important ecological, economic and social benefits. Forests, lakes, rivers and other water resources, wetlands, soils, plants and wildlife are necessary to produce goods and services we rely on every day such as clean and sustainable water supplies, clean air, food, fuel, and energy. They drive Ontario's economy and help us to adapt to climate change.

A Green Economy is taking root in Ontario bringing more sustainable practices such as stormwater management, low impact

development, green infrastructure, and clean technologies - all of which help us to address the issues and continue to grow our economy within the limitations of our natural world. In 2013, we developed a Green Economy Roadmap for Conservation Authorities. This report looks for innovative ways to build efficiencies, use fewer natural resources and reduce the amount of waste we produce - in our offices and throughout Conservation Authority programs. We are designing more sustainable ways to work.

As well, throughout 2013 we saw several examples of the serious impact of flooding on people and communities in Calgary and Toronto. The loss of life, devastation, long-term social and economic disruption and the staggering clean up costs in the aftermath of these flood events clearly demonstrates how essential it is to develop more holistic solutions that address the impacts and prevent them from happening in the first place.

Working with Ontario's 36 Conservation Authorities, Conservation Ontario developed a Flood Business Case called "Dodging the Perfect Storm: Conservation Ontario's Business Case for Strategic Investment in Ontario's Flood Management Programs, Services and Structures". Reducing the impacts of more frequent flooding requires

a combination of developing new working relationships between conservation authorities and all levels of government, updated tools, and better resourced flood management programs. We also need to explore asset management strategies and ensure ongoing program support for emerging technologies and practices which reduce runoff, improve water quality, protect important natural heritage, protect water supply, and build watershed resilience.

We continue to talk with all levels of government, industry, other agencies and even landowners to promote a more integrated and holistic approach to building and implementing innovative solutions to problems threatening our important natural resources.



Dick Hibma
Chair




Kim Gavine
General Manager

CONSERVATION AREAS & OUTDOOR RECREATION

Available Activities Include




270+
Conservation Areas


6,800,000
Visitors in 2011


2,500 km
of Trails Owned and Operated

CALORIES
Burned on an Hour Long Hike
435 (*average for 153 lb female)

Watershed Checkup

A total of 29 Conservation Authorities launched a watershed report card in 2013. These report cards provide important and relevant information on local watershed conditions around surface water quality (rivers, lakes, streams), forest conditions, and groundwater quality. These are the first report cards of this kind launched in Ontario.

Generally, in the most populated areas of southern Ontario, the watershed report cards have revealed conditions primarily at the C and D levels – mainly in surface water quality and forest conditions. Groundwater conditions are generally As and Bs.

Some As and Bs, in watersheds with less development need to continue to be protected because of the multiple benefits they provide.

The watershed report cards provide a practical analysis of local conditions, explaining why these conditions exist, pointing out current activities underway to address conditions and suggesting additional activities that could be implemented to improve conditions. By doing so, the watershed report cards directly link human activities to watershed conditions, a first step in helping people to see their role and responsibilities in protecting water and land resources.

A new website was developed to feature the report cards and all the additional information on the benefits of healthy watersheds – www.watershedcheckup.ca. Additional report cards continue to be produced by the remainder of the Conservation Authorities. All Conservation Authorities will continue to refine and improve monitoring and reporting methods prior to launching a second set of report cards within five years (2018).



Streamlining Regulatory Activities by Conservation Authorities

Under Section 28 Regulations of the Conservation Authorities Act, Conservation Authorities regulate development and activities in or adjacent to river or stream valleys, Great Lakes, large inland lakes shorelines, watercourses, hazardous lands and wetlands in order to protect peoples' lives and property from natural hazards and to maintain the vitality of our watersheds. Further to a provincial review and amendment process, and in conformity with the Content Regulation (approved by the Province in March 2011), all 36 amended regulations were approved by the Minister in February of 2013 and will assist in providing timely review of applications. In 2013, Conservation Ontario continued participation on the multi-agency Drainage Act & Section 28 Regulations Team (DART) in support of a protocol to ensure coordination of legislative

requirements. Conservation Ontario participated in delivery of provincial training in January that was provided to Conservation Authority staff and drainage superintendents.

In 2013, Conservation Ontario and Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) worked towards a possible Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that would be consistent with the new Federal Fisheries Protection Program and would build upon a strong partnership history. This work was undertaken in anticipation of the existing partnership agreements not being consistent with the new program direction. Development of a MOU is ongoing in 2014 as program details are being clarified. As a result of the anticipated amendments to the Fisheries Act being enacted on November 25, 2013, Conservation

Authorities no longer provide regulatory review for works under the federal Fisheries Act and the partnership agreements between DFO and Conservation Authorities are no longer in effect. Notwithstanding development of an MOU, Conservation Authorities may still continue to undertake advisory reviews involving fisheries and aquatic resources under provincial legislation.

Finally, consultation on proposed amendments to Conservation Ontario's Class Environmental Assessment for Remedial Flood and Erosion Control Projects was finalized in early 2013 and the Minister of the Environment approved them in July 2013. These minor amendments were proposed as part of its five year review process to ensure that the Class EA remains current and relevant.

Step Into Nature Healthy Hikes

The Healthy Hikes 2013 Campaign

Research shows that we can drastically improve both our mental and physical health by getting outside more, being active or just visiting nature. To help more people do so, Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities hosted the first ever Healthy Hikes Ontario-wide campaign in 2013. The goal was to encourage more Ontarians to visit Conservation Areas to boost their physical and mental health as well as learn about connections between healthy people and healthy ecosystems through a new Healthy Hikes website.

Nine provincial level partners from both the health and environmental sector joined the campaign including: the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA), The Bruce Trail Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited, York Region Public Health, Trees Ontario (now Forests Ontario), Local Enhancement and Appreciation of Forests, Ontario Trails Council, David Suzuki Foundation, and Trail Swag.

The campaign challenged participants to log their time spent hiking or walking in a Conservation Area online for a chance to win prizes. Popular outdoor merchandising company, Merrell, provided a \$1,200 gift certificate grand prize.

- 439 participants signed up for the campaign and actively logged their hikes through the website
- Average age of the participants was 57 with a 3:1 ratio for females
- Just over 55,000 people visited the Healthy Hikes website which profiled the environmental and public health benefits of CA programs and projects. This new website received over 32,536 page views in six months
- There were over 220 events registered in the Healthy Hikes calendar between May- October; three partners also hosted events
- The Healthy Hikes Facebook page had nearly 130 users, and the campaign was profiled on Twitter from Conservation Authorities, our partners, and participants

This successful project will continue into 2014.



Source Protection

Continued Transition to Implementation

Source protection plan approvals began in 2013 and Conservation Ontario (CO) will continue to assist Conservation Authorities (CAs) in resolving issues that may arise out of the review process. In 2013, CO focused on supporting CAs in the transition to plan implementation by:

- supporting negotiation of CA responsibilities within source protection regions;
- facilitating discussion with the Province on implementation issues;
- supporting the management of Source Water Protection data and information through the development of standards and guidelines for data maintenance, development of information exchange protocols, data transfer to the province, etc.;
- facilitating the development of standards and processes for annual report;
- providing opportunities for CA staff to collaborate via regular working group meetings, and;
- coordinating the development of support materials for plan implementation such as guidance documents, communication products, etc.

MONITORING THE HEALTH OF OUR WATERSHEDS

489
GROUNDWATER
MONITORING
SITES

1,129
SURFACE WATER
MONITORING
SITES

Healthy land and water resources ensure safe drinking water and resilient forests, wetlands and wildlife

1,117
BENTHIC
MONITORING
SITES

Status of Source Protection Plans (2013)

Proposed Source Protection Plans (SPP) for all 38 Source Protection Areas were completed in 2013, and submitted to the Ministry of Environment for approval. Lakehead Region Conservation Authority's proposed SPP was approved in early 2013. It is expected that all plan approvals will be completed by end of 2015. CO continues to work with Conservation Authorities and the Province to resolve any issues that arise during the review process.

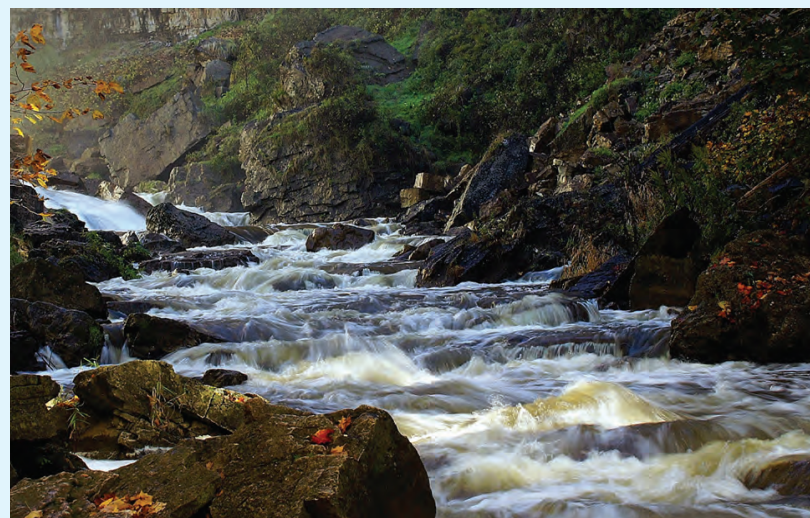
- In spring 2013, the Province announced that \$13.5 million would be made available as the Source Protection Municipal Implementation Fund to offset a portion of SWP implementation costs for small, rural municipalities. This multi-year program offers one-time funding over the December 2013 - December 2015 period.
- Conservation Ontario began releasing the Implementation Resource Guide modules, and created a members' site where the modules can be accessed, along with other implementation resources.
- Conservation Ontario developed the Risk Management Office (RMO) Responsibilities Map and Section 55 Options Table as a means to track, and report on, the detailed status of Part IV delegation agreements between SPAs and municipalities. These two products will be updated regularly, and circulated to SPAs as needed.
- Conservation Ontario continued to develop targeted SWP education and outreach materials for local communities to assist with understanding source protection plan policies. A real estate factsheet is under development for CAs to inform realtors and home owners of vulnerable areas and associated source protection policies. A SWP photo library is being developed to support CAs with the creation of various communications products.

Information Management

/ Information Technology

Conservation Ontario staff continued to work with Conservation Authorities and the Ministry of the Environment to complete the quality control review of the Assessment Report Database, and facilitate the transfer of information to the Province. Conservation Ontario conducted a QA/QC analysis on the provincial Assessment Report Database and continued to support the management of SWP data and information through the communication of standards and guidelines for data maintenance, development of information exchange protocols, and support for data transfer to the Province.

Work began on the implementation of an updated Drinking Water Threats Database to capture the data collected as part of the threat verification process. At the same time, Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities began to revise and simplify the Assessment Report database.





Conservation Authority Green Economy Roadmap

The Green Economy is the development of new and emerging renewable and energy efficient technologies, and other business strategies and collaborations that enable us to live more sustainable lifestyles while growing economically within the capacity of our natural world.

In 2013, Conservation Ontario and the Conservation Authorities finalized the Green Economy Roadmap for Conservation Authorities in Ontario. This Roadmap identifies the focus areas, assets, actions and partnerships that Conservation Authorities need to pursue in order to participate in the transition to a greener economy. With this guidance document, Conservation Authorities are able to identify and prioritize green economy initiatives, tools, and steps required to operate more sustainably.

The Green Economy Roadmap identifies a range of current and emerging business opportunities across key Conservation Authority priorities including climate change, Great Lakes and integrated watershed management. A series of environmental, economic and social outcomes are also identified.

Focus Areas for Conservation Authorities to pursue:

1. Re-thinking Conservation Authority current programs and business activities

Opportunities exist around land management, renewable energy, forest management, and water management

2. 'Greening' Conservation Authority operations

Reducing water and material consumption, energy efficiency upgrades, use of renewable energy options

3. Innovative land and resource management

Applying new and innovative approaches to managing land and watershed resources more efficiently through activities such as collaborations

4. Measurement and monitoring

Conservation Authorities are well positioned with long standing partnerships in data collection, with a variety of partners, to play a key role in the development, measurement, monitoring, and reporting of data and metrics around biodiversity, water and other resources

5. Promoting and facilitating collaboration

Leading the facilitation of new collaborations with partners not typically involved in their business but relying on healthy natural resources for their own priorities; also promoting greater leveraging of fewer financial and human resources

6. Health and the environment

Showing the connections between human health and environmental health; facilitating new partnerships and leveraging resources with public health sector

7. Environmental marketing, communication, education and outreach

Leverage and share successful Conservation Authority outreach and environmental marketing, communication, and education activities with other partners

Benefits to Conservation Authorities of moving to a greener economy:

- Lower operational costs
- Smaller environmental footprint - use of fewer resources and creating less waste
- Less carbon / greenhouse emissions
- More sustainable and smarter water and land resource use
- New sources of revenue and business partnerships



Conservation Ontario continues to demonstrate its commitment to ensuring that the protection of the Great Lakes is supported by our watershed management efforts. With a view to Ontario's Great Lakes Strategy Goal #1 to engage and empower communities, with funding support from the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation Ontario held a workshop for Conservation Authority staff who work directly in stewardship, education, communications, and foundation programs. Information and messaging linking watershed actions to Great Lakes - St. Lawrence benefits was shared and new ways to increase or leverage the impact were identified; products will be finalized in 2014. As well, Conservation Ontario continued to encourage collaborations in support of the provincial Strategy with regard to research, monitoring, accessible information, provincial guidance on low impact development techniques for stormwater management, and implementation of Great Lakes Guardian Fund projects and stewardship assistance programs.



As a member of the Great Lakes Executive Committee, in 2013 Conservation Ontario committed staff to contribute to the achievement of binational commitments by participating on the following Annexes of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement : Lake Action Management Plans and a Nearshore Framework (due 2016); Nutrient Management and Phosphorous Objectives for Lake Erie (due 2016); Groundwater (Science Report due 2015); Climate Change and Science. Conservation Authorities expect to continue to contribute to 'on the ground actions' in support of these annexes and additional binational commitments around habitat and species and invasive species. Overall, Conservation Ontario hopes that collaboration between all levels of government and watershed management agencies to share resources will lead to more effective outcomes for Great Lakes protection.

Finally, CO made presentations to the International Joint Commission about water level regulations for Lake Ontario and promotion of an Adaptive Management Plan for dealing with impacts from extreme water levels and we supported the Great Lakes Protection Act before the Standing Committee.

2013



LATORNELL
CONSERVATION SYMPOSIUM

Resiliency - the Ability to Adapt

The Latornell Conservation Symposium marked its 20th anniversary in 2013 and celebrated by modernizing its look and name for this popular event - two recommendations that came out of a year-long strategic review undertaken by the steering committee. This review included a survey of delegates and others plus two focus groups, and a scan of conference trends and current Symposium demographics.

As a result, moving forward, the Latornell Conservation Symposium will continue to focus on learning, provide good networking opportunities, incorporate more and emerging technologies, and ensure delegates enjoy themselves as well as learn.

The theme of the 2013 Symposium was Resilience: the Ability to Adapt to Change. Featured keynote speakers included climate specialist, Dr. Gordon McBean, Dr. Neil Hutchinson of Hutchinson Environmental Science Ltd, futurist and founder of Trendhunter.com Jeremy Gutsche, personal resilience coach Sue McKee, comedian Graham Chittenden and special guest and celebrity, Chris Hadfield, former commander of the International Space Station (sponsored by RBC).



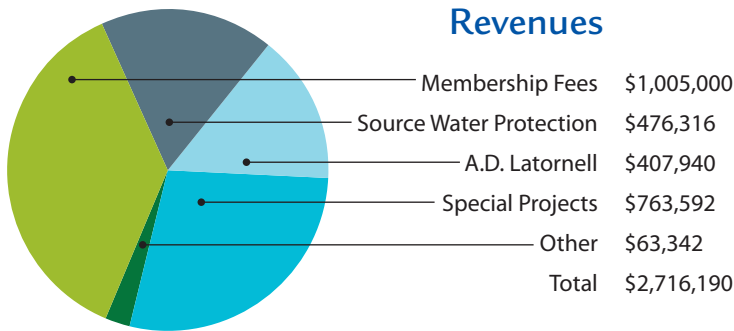
Chris Hadfield, Former Commander of the International Space Station

Protecting People and Property from Natural Hazards

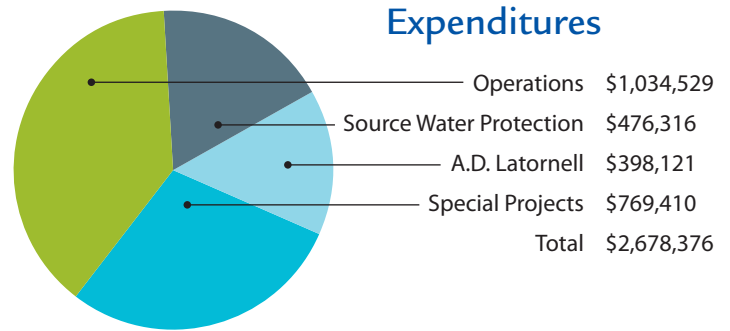
The Water Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Funding Program is designed to ensure that major maintenance projects are undertaken on aging infrastructure built to protect lives and property from natural hazards. As part of the Ministry of Natural Resources' efforts to contribute to the provincial deficit, provincial funding for this program was temporarily reduced by 50% for a two year period ending in 2013/2014. Total investment of \$5 million dollars into protection of life and property was made; \$2.5 million in provincial funding was available with matching local investment. The 2013/2014 \$5 million dollar investment supported 63 of the more than 120 projects submitted from 28 Conservation Authorities which were valued at a total cost of \$11.9 million.

2013 Financial Information

Revenues



Expenditures



Conservation Ontario
P.O. Box 11, 120 Bayview Parkway
Newmarket ON, L3Y 4W3

tel: 905 895 0716
fax: 905 895 0751

info@conservationontario.ca
www.conservationontario.ca

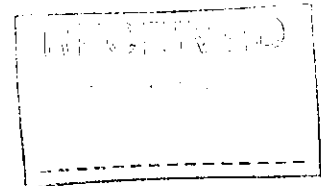
Let's Chat!





Andrew Brouwer
Director, Legislative Services and Town Clerk
Town of Newmarket
395 Mulock Drive
P.O. Box 328 Station Main
Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

abrouwer@newmarket.ca
tel.: 905-953-5300, Ext. 2211
fax: 905-953-5100



January 21, 2014

5.(ii)

St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
205 Mill Pond Crescent
Strathroy, ON
N7G 3P9

Dear Sirs:

RE: Motion - Ontario Junior Ranger Program

I am writing to advise that the above referenced matter was considered at the Committee of the Whole meeting held on January 13, 2014.

Council, at the regular meeting held on January 20, 2014 adopted the following recommendation:

Whereas in September 2012 the provincial government cancelled the 70 year old Ontario Ranger Program (ORP), formerly known as the Ontario Junior Ranger Program;

AND WHEREAS when the government cancelled the Ontario Ranger Program it claimed the Stewardship Youth Ranger Program (SYP), an existing day program would deliver the same experience and would offer more jobs;

AND WHEREAS this day program does not offer the same quality of experience youth gained under the previous ORP in respect to knowledge of resource management and without the distractions of daily life;

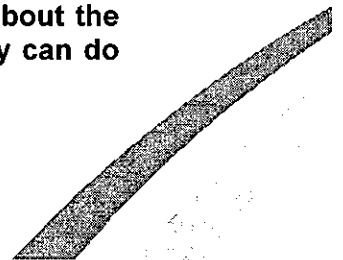
AND WHEREAS since 2012, 278 Ontario Ranger jobs have been eliminated;

AND WHEREAS in previous years more than half of the Ontario Rangers were students from large urban centres. By contrast this year, the current day program is just not accessible to those students in those urban centres;

AND WHEREAS when the government cancelled the ORP, many youths lost an opportunity for a once-in-a-lifetime experience because the ORP only required enrolment in an Ontario high school and acceptance into the program was based on a postal code lottery system;

AND WHEREAS cancellation of the 70 year old ORP does a disservice to public services in Ontario to those who have come to admire and respect the natural beauty of our province;

AND WHEREAS Conservation Authorities encourage students to learn about the importance of conserving our shared natural environment and what they can do to make a positive impact;





Andrew Brouwer

Director, Legislative Services and Town Clerk

Town of Newmarket

395 Mulock Drive

P.O. Box 328 Station Main

Newmarket, ON L3Y 4X7

abrouwer@newmarket.ca

tel.: 905-953-5300, Ext. 2211

fax: 905-953-5100

AND WHEREAS the provincial government committed \$295 million dollars in the 2013 provincial budget for youth employment;

THEREFORE be it resolved that the Town of Newmarket supports the Friends of the Ontario Ranger Program campaign to restore the Ontario Ranger Program in the 2014 provincial budget;

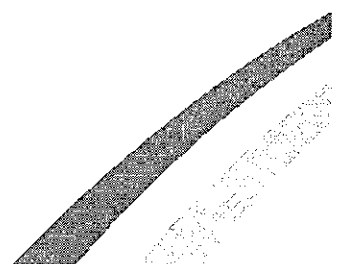
AND be it further resolved that the Town of Newmarket shall send a letter to Premier Kathleen Wynne and the Minister of Natural Resources, David Oraziotti, urging their government to restore the Ontario Ranger Program for future generations of young people;

AND be it finally resolved that the Town of Newmarket forward this resolution for support to the York Region municipalities and the other 35 Conservation Authorities.

Yours sincerely,

Lisa Lyons
Deputy Clerk

LL:lm



Staff Report

6.(i)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 8, 2014
From: Marlene Dorrestyn
Subject: Business Arising from February 20, 2014 meeting

- there seems to be errors on the summary with the Lambton Shores entries – please check - *there were data entry errors for numerous municipalities that have been now been corrected in the database.*
- Staff are drafting a request for quotations which will be sent out to qualified firms that have experience with Conservation Authorities – *process is underway, recommendations will be presented to the Board at their June 16th meeting.*

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors
Date: April 4, 2014
From: Kevan Baker, Director of Lands
Subject: Conservation Lands Update

Conservation Areas:

Background:

- the Conservation Authority owns 15 conservation areas in the watershed
- of those 15 conservation areas, 6 are managed by the local municipality and 9 are operated by the Conservation Authority
- of these 9, 3 conservation areas are regional campgrounds which attract campers from primarily Southwestern Ontario
- our three regional campgrounds have over 500 campsites and over 390 seasonal campers
- profits obtained from our campgrounds are used to offset capital improvements
- the camping season in 2014 runs from Friday, April 25th to Thanksgiving Day
- over the winter months we have accepted campsite reservations at the administration office for our 3 regional campgrounds; as of March 31st over 570 reservations have been taken, collecting over \$ 80,000.00 in revenue (GST adjusted)

Warwick Conservation Area:

- access roadway project is ongoing; currently negotiations are proceeding for land securement and designs are being prepared to complete the soil erosion protection works
- a new property identification sign has been installed
- 15 new picnic tables and 3 new benches have been constructed
- roads to be upgraded with gravel
- a new 600 meter trail has been developed; gravel surfacing and trail signage to be installed when ground conditions are suitable (supported by Foundation)
- gatehouse interior walls and trim have been repainted



L.C. Henderson Conservation Area:

- new property identification sign has been installed
- 15 new picnic tables and 2 benches have been constructed
- main washroom lobby doors and trim have been repainted
- a campsite reservation system has been purchased (Campground Master); it will be used on an experimental basis this year at LC Henderson and then implemented at the other campgrounds in 2015 if successful
- 450 meters of existing trails to be resurfaced with chip & dust (supported by Foundation)
- main reservoir weir to be improved with new cable concrete surfacing
- a number of dead ash trees have been removed

A.W. Campbell Conservation Area:

- new counter tops and sinks have been installed in the women's pool washroom
- 15 new picnic tables have been constructed
- a new property identification sign has been installed
- new campsite indicators to be installed on 20 campsites
- a number of dead ash trees have been removed in the day use and camping areas
- Lake trail to be improved with chip & dust surfacing and new boardwalks (supported by Foundation)
- new carpet to be installed on the mini golf course (supported by Foundation Bingo)



Wawanosh Conservation Area:

- a new property identification signs has been installed

Clark Wright & Strathroy Conservation Area:

- a new trail map sign has been installed and a number of dead and dangerous trees have been removed along the trails (Clark Wright)
- a number of dead ash trees have been removed and 6 new board walks to be installed along the trails (Strathroy)

C.J McEwen & Highland Glen Conservation Areas:

- Highland Glen - a new property identification sign has been installed; boat ramp and harbour area to be dredged in April
- C.J. McEwen – renovations to the washrooms have been completed, they included new washroom partitions and ceilings; and when temperatures permit floors and walls will be painted.

McKeough Upstream Lands:

- Properties 38, 40 and 103 will have soil erosion repair works completed
- Property 79/80 – a wetland to be developed
- Property 82/83 – two hikenbottoms to be repaired
- Property 97 – wildlife shrubs to be planted around the wetland and soil erosion repair works to be completed
- Properties 38, 39, 40, 83 north, 95 north – grass buffers strips have been planted along drains and natural water courses
- property management plans for each parcel are ongoing - it is anticipated that plans will be completed for most properties by years end
- consent (severance) applications have been submitted to St. Clair Township for the authority owned homes at 1323 and 1327 Wilkesport Line.

Foundation Lands:

Keith McLean Conservation Lands:

- this property is still with the McLean Estate, however the Foundation (through the Authority) has signed a management agreement with the estate
- McLean Overseer position was advertised and 5 candidates were interviewed, Kelly Johnson and Matt Caron were hired for this position; they have had a long time attachment with Keith McLean and the property and bring a positive, resource and technical background to this position.
- Kelly and Matt will be living in the home and it is anticipated that they will move in June 1st
- over the past few months, the Authority has hired a local contractor (Mark Evans Building Contractor, Ridgetown) to perform renovations on the home; the interior of the home was redone to bring the home up to current building code standards.
- it is anticipated the renovations will be completed by May 31st.



Lambton County Lands:

Lambton County Heritage Forest:

- staff regularly inspect and perform maintenance on the 8 kms of trails
- forestry staff have inventoried, marked and tendered a section of the woodlot for commercial thinning; there was only one quotation received so it has been decided to retender again this year

Marthaville:

- a new trail sign has been installed
- 200 feet of property line fencing to be installed along the north side of the property
- staff regularly inspect and perform maintenance

Bowes Creek:

- 8,100 seedlings to be planted and 43,000 previously planted seedlings to be sprayed with herbicide to control grass and weeds
- subsurface drainage tile to be repaired

Perch Creek

- trail improvements to include widening and extending the existing trail; and developing a plan for future trails
- staff regularly inspect and perform maintenance
- existing trails will be cut by a local grass contractor

Staff Report

To: SCRCA Board of Directors

8.(i)



Date: April 4, 2014

From: Steve Clark, Water Resources\SWP Data Technician

Subject: Current Watershed Conditions

Highlights:

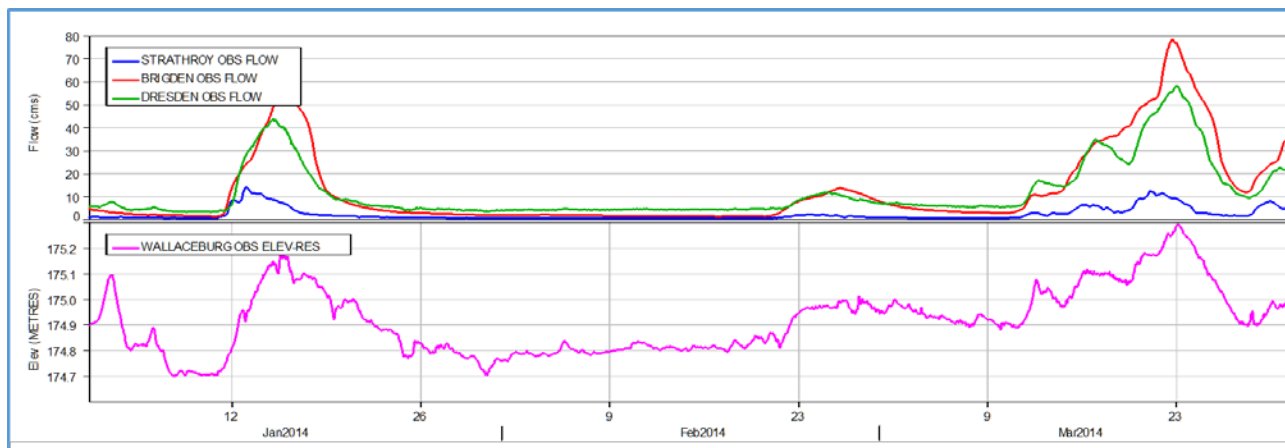
- Continued cool temperatures into spring
- Gradual spring melt with moderate flows
- Lower than average precipitation in March
- Slightly increased lake levels over last year

Watershed Precipitation and Streamflow Conditions

Cold weather conditions are finally moderating with the anticipation of spring. A shift into daytime temperatures above zero has resulted in much of the

snowpack being gradually lost. These conditions have also been coupled with significantly lower than average precipitation throughout March with most stations being recorded at below 50% of the normal monthly average. This lower precipitation trend has helped to balance the impact of the spring thaw with cooler nights and moderate daytime temperatures limiting sudden flow changes across the watershed. Fig 1 identifies that the peak flows during thaw periods are not only below the normal anticipated spring thaw flows but were very gradual and extended over a longer period since the first week of March. With the snow

Fig 1. Comparison by Station – (January 2014 to February 2014) SCRCA data.



pack essentially gone across the region

Fig 2. Regional Precipitation – (Source: Environment Canada)

some ice remained on the rivers but is has now moved out of all watercourses during the week of March 31st. Regional precipitation numbers (fig 2) indicate near lower monthly precipitation across the region in March. Quarterly numbers remain close to normal at **95%** and the last six month period remains on average at **97.9%** and the yearly average is above average at **117%** of normal. Most precipitation is expected as rain into spring months and the extensive snowmelt will result in excellent recharge to the groundwater system.

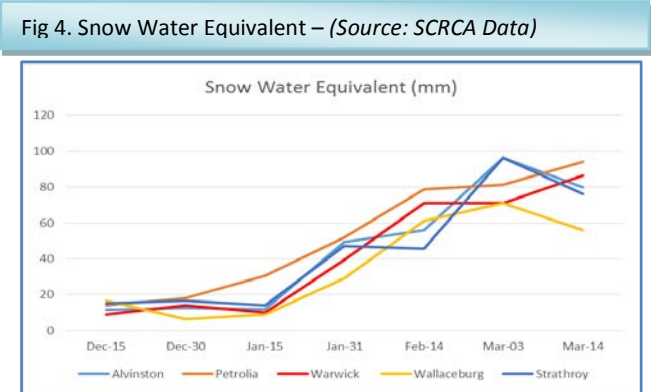
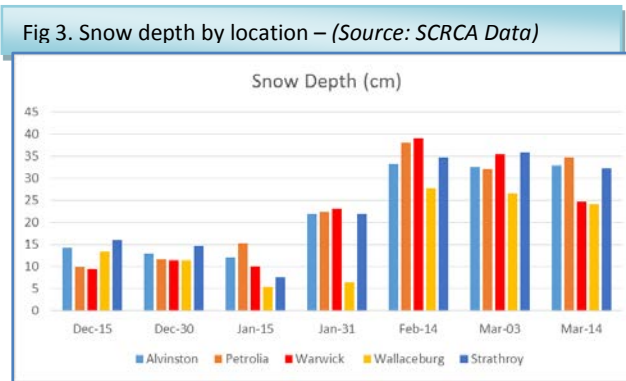
Precipitation (mm)	Sarnia		Strathroy		London		Windsor	
Last Quarter	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal	Actual	Normal
March	16.1	62.6	24.8	74.9	25.5	78.4	44.6	75
February	100.6	47.7	50	61.1	49.5	60	70.4	57.3
January	118	50.1	79	75.3	49.6	74.2	79.6	57.6
Averages								
last 3 month totals	234.7	160.4	153.8	211.3	124.6	212.6	194.6	189.9
last 3 month % of normal	146.3%		72.8%		58.6%		102.5%	
regional average	95.0%							
last 6 month totals	440.7	370.8	416.8	469	398.6	469.9	400.6	405
last 6 month % of normal	118.9%		88.9%		84.8%		98.9%	
regional average	97.9%							
last 12 month totals	1099.2	846.8	1128	945.1	958.8	987	1125.8	918.4
last 12 month % of normal	129.8%		119.4%		97.1%		122.6%	
regional average	117.2%							



Snow and Ice Conditions and Flood Threat*

Ice has gradually deteriorated with the warmer days but has remained in place with the reduced flows. With additional rain events into mid-April flows will begin to degrade and shift the ice cover as well as melt it in place with the higher daytime temperatures. Snow and ice conditions will be monitored on a bi-weekly basis into April together with the integrity of river ice at strategic locations. Currently snow depths have been significantly reduced range from zero in the south to small areas in woodlots in the northern parts of the watershed. Currently watercourses have approximately 2 to 5 inches of extremely deteriorated ice with some open sections near higher flow areas. All areas are anticipated to continue to degrade to the point where flows will begin to move broken ice downstream. No immediate flood impact is anticipated from ice jams however water levels remain high with rapid flows in all areas. Increasing daytime temperatures and precipitation conditions may change overall conditions suddenly as we move into the spring months.

(* Note: Data was current as of the writing of this report however watershed conditions and data may change rapidly at this time of the year)

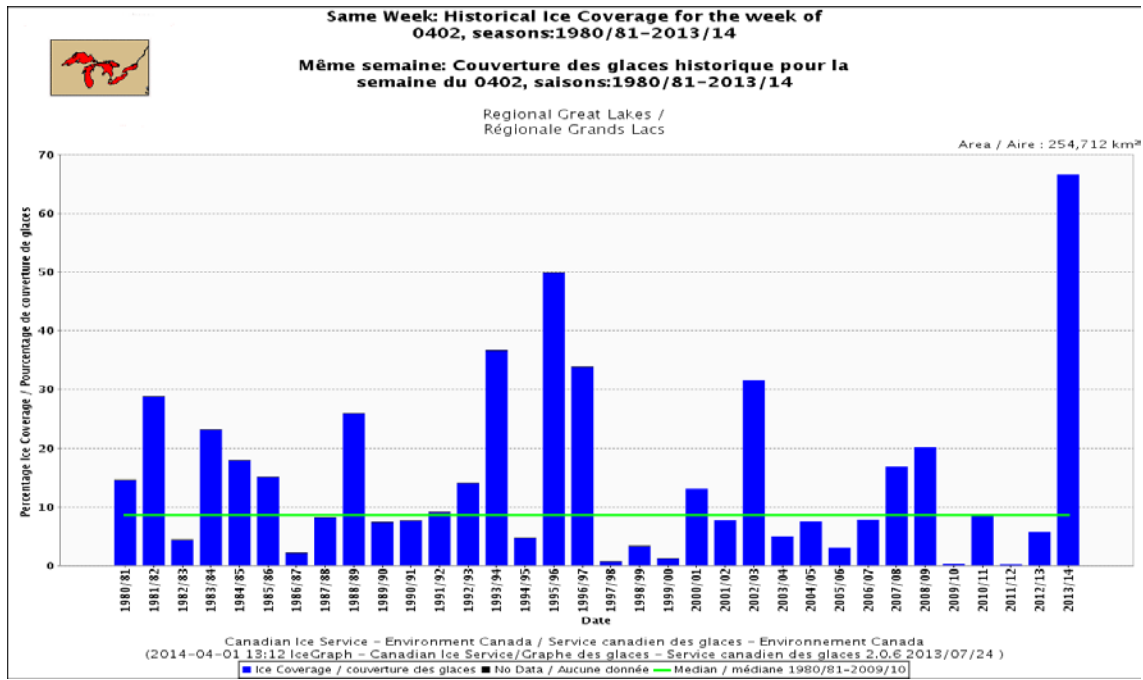


Weather Forecast (Data: Weather Network, Environment Canada, OFA)	
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initially lower temperatures but warming to above average later in the month
Spring	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Temperatures will continue to be cooler initially with a late start to spring and the continued ice cover over the Great Lakes. May will be sunny but cooler with showers throughout the month. Precipitation below normal into spring.
12 Month Outlook	

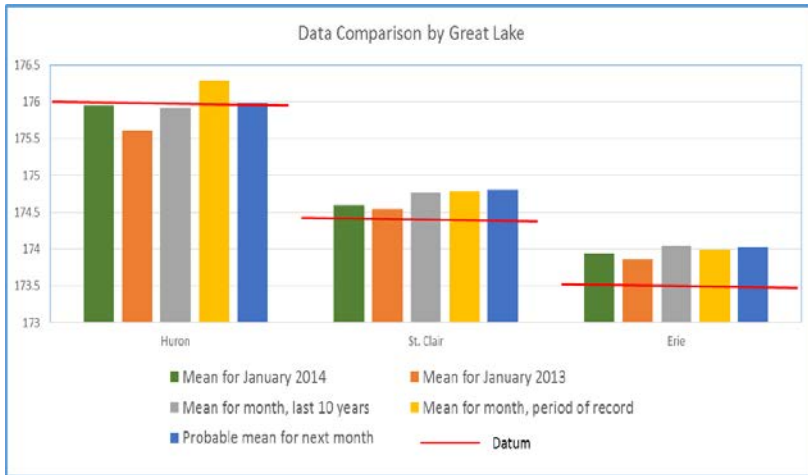
Great Lakes Levels (NOAA Great Lakes Environmental Research 1948 to 2014)

Lake levels are slightly improved over the same month last year and are expected to improve into 2014. Lake Huron levels are now much closer to the 10 year long term average than reported over the past several months. Factors such as significant ice coverage has limited excessive evaporation over the winter months and continues into the spring. Comparison of the percentage of ice cover for the same given week of the year over the past 35 years is illustrated in fig 5. Yes...it's been a cold winter !!!

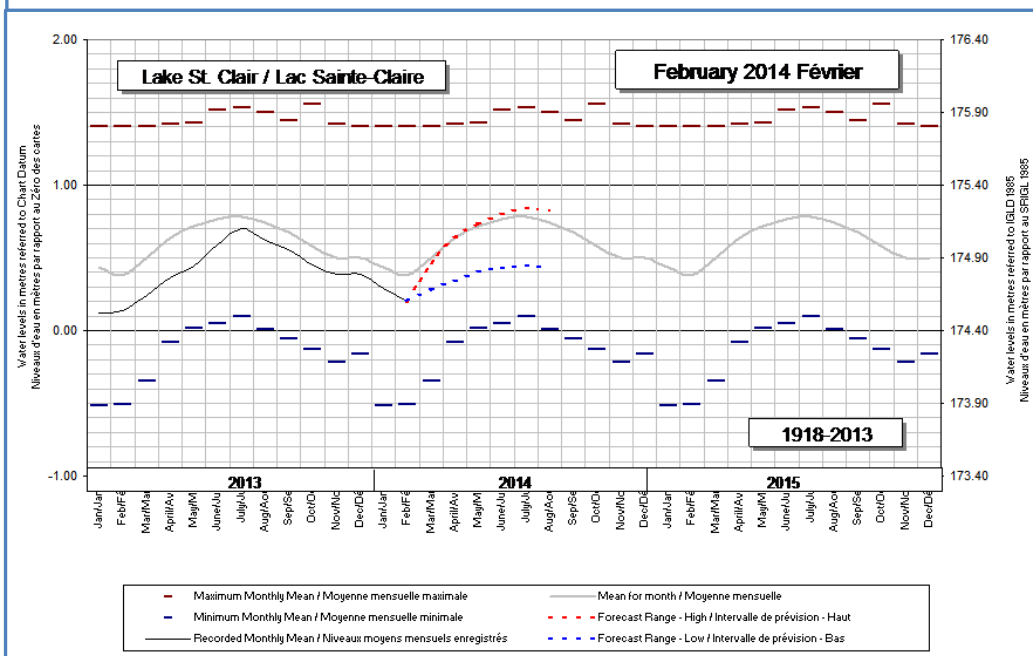
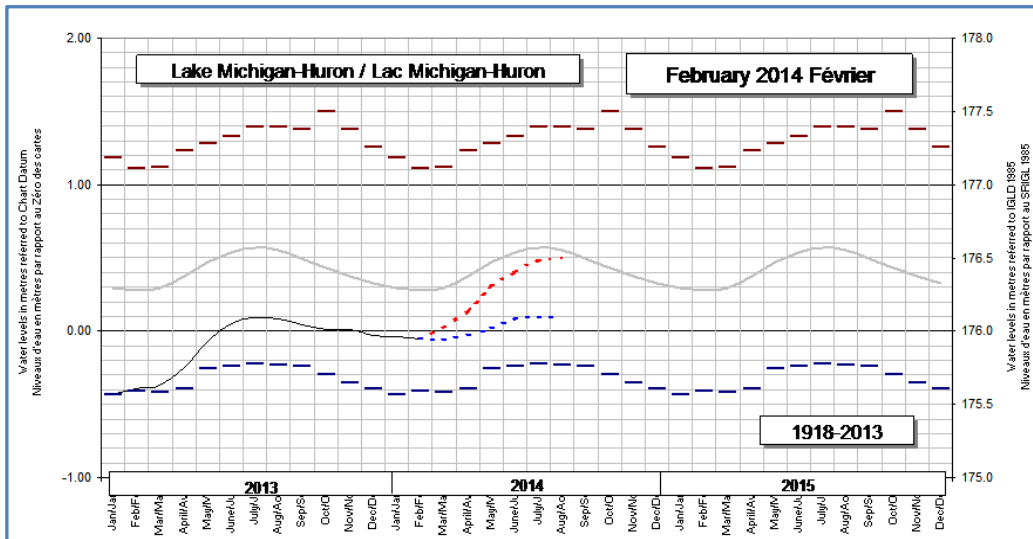
Fig 5. Percentage of Ice Coverage for Week– (Source: Canadian Ice Service)



Current Lake Levels (Data: February 2014 – Canadian Hydrographic Service, NOAA)



Units	Current Monthly Level	Monthly Level Last Year	Change 2013/2014	Current Month Average for Last 10 Years	Change Current compared to 10 year	Anticipated Next Month	Average for Period of Record
Lake St. Clair							
Metric (m)	174.6	174.54	0.06	174.76	-0.16	174.80	174.78
Imperial (ft)	572.83	572.64	0.20	573.36	-0.52	573.49	573.42
Lake Huron							
Metric (m)	175.95	175.61	0.34	175.9	0.05	175.98	176.28
Imperial (ft)	577.26	576.15	1.12	577.10	0.16	577.36	578.34

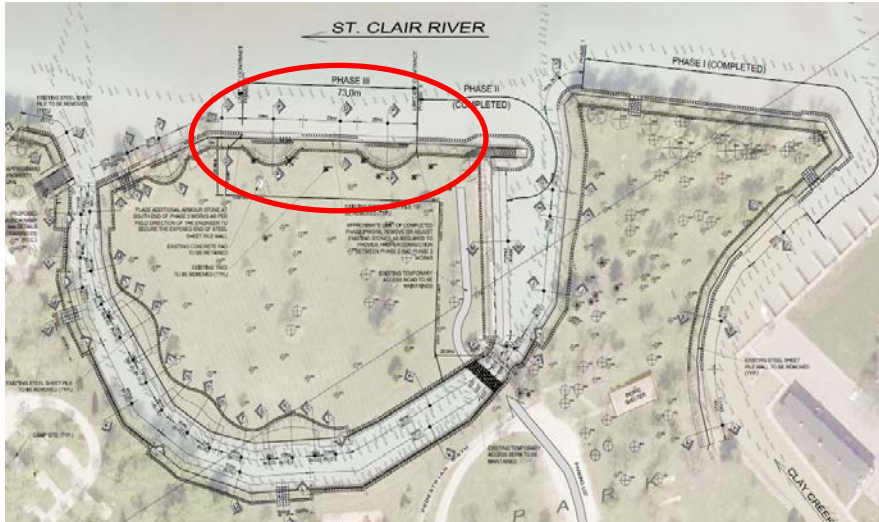


Staff Report

8.(ii)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 3, 2014
From: Girish Sankar, Water Resources Engineer
Subject: Cathcart Park Shore Protection Revitalization, Phase III



- December 20th 2013 - Township and Authority staff met on site with the design engineer, site supervisor and representatives of the contractor (Van Bree Contracting)
- Construction work started second week of January 2014.
- Approximately 100 m of shoreline has been completed in this phase.
- Two habitat pods have been constructed along the shoreline to enhance the habitat features
- Construction work was completed as of March 8, 2014
- Spring inspection is planned for 3rd week of April.
- Site restoration and landscaping will be completed in May 2014.

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors
 Date: April 3, 2014
 From: Girish Sankar, Water Resources Engineer
 Subject: Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) Projects

- applications for grants have been submitted for funding for in 2014-2015 for the project in the table below
- applications will be reviewed by a committee of provincial and conservation authority staff representatives later this month and will be ranked in comparison to all submitted projects from across the Province
- list of approved projects is anticipated in May or early June

Structure	Project Name	Description of Work	Total Project Cost (\$)	Grant Requested (\$)
Cathcart Park	Cathcart Park Shoreline Protection - Phase 4	Design, tender and rehabilitate about 200 m of shoreline at Cathcart Park (Phase 4 construction).	600,000	300,000
Lambton area water supply system	Shoreline Repair	Rehabilitate about 280 m of shoreline at the mouth of St. Clair River using armourstone and riprap.	600,000	300,000
Sarnia Shoreline Protection	Shoreline Repair (Helen and Kenwick St) Phase 1	Carry out construction of Phase 1 from the recommendation of Engineering study.	500,000	250,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough Floodway Berm Repair	Perform repair work along the floodway	\$80,000	\$40,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough Dam Drop structure/ Gate house concrete repair	Repair several cracks in concrete slabs and barrier walls	\$60,000	\$30,000
McKeough Floodway	McKeough -Hazard Tree Removal	Remove trees, shrubs and debris that have the potential to cause slope stability issues	\$8,000	\$4,000
Esli Dodge	Esli Dodge Repair Project	Repair of Concrete cable/ retaining wall	\$10,000	\$5,000
L.C. Henderson	L.C.H. Outfall repair project	Spillway Repair	\$20,000	\$10,000

Other WECI Projects

Structure	Project Name	Status
Cathcart Park	Erosion Protection Revitalization	Phase III of this project is complete with topsoil, sod and landscaping completed in May 2014.
Petrolia Dam	Minor crack repair	Scheduled to complete in May 2014
Coldstream Dam	Shrub and tree removal	completed in June 2013
Running Creek Dyke	Erosion Control	Erosion work will be completed by Envirolok in Spring 2014

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors
Date: April 3, 2014
From: Girish Sankar, Water Resources Engineer
Subject: McKeough Operating Criteria

8.(iv)



Introduction: The W. Darcy McKeough Floodway is intended to mitigate flooding in Wallaceburg. The control gates remain open under normal flow conditions, but when Wallaceburg is threatened by flooding, they are closed and divert the flow down the diversion channel into the St. Clair River. The McKeough Floodway controls all flood water upstream of the dam by diversion and temporary storage. The diversion channel is capable of diverting high flows from both the Bear and Black creeks when the dam is closed.

Operating procedure: The Flood Coordinator shall present the facts on the circumstances of the flood threat to the General Manager. Where there is a probability that operation of the gates should be considered, the General Manager will present the facts with a recommendation to the Chair and a decision will be made and the gates at the dam shall be operated accordingly. The operating procedures for the gates are based on the following three observed/measured parameters:

- water levels in Wallaceburg
- rate of rise in Wallaceburg; and
- Bear Creek flow at the Brigden gauge

The table below shows the current operating guidelines established by consulting engineers; this is used as a criterion to operate the Floodway.

The McKeough Dam has 2 concrete gates that are lowered into place to divert flows from the north branch of the Sydenham River down the channel to the St. Clair River. The gates can operate individually, however, it is recommended that both gates be opened or closed slowly and with the same opening. The exception to this would be when the gates are used on a temporary basis to break-up ice cover or to assist in releasing an established ice jam. It is a general practice to raise/lower them in intervals of about 0.5 to 1m. The opening of the dam gates is a slow process and usually continues over a period of 72 hours.

Sydenham River in Wallaceburg	
Water Level	Rate of Rise
176.000 m (577.5 ft)	and 50 mm/hr or greater
or	
176.060 m (577.7 ft)	and 40 mm/hr or greater
or	
176.120 m (577.9 ft)	and 30 mm/hr or greater
or	
176.180 m (578.1 ft)	and 20 mm/hr or greater
or	
176.240 m (578.2 ft)	and 10 mm/hr or greater
or	
176.300 m (578.4 ft) regardless of rate of rise	

+

Flow Upstream of Wallaceburg
Flow of Bear Creek at Brigden at least 18 m ³ /sec (635 ft ³ /sec)

=

Closure of the Gates of the McKeough Dam

Since the operation of the McKeough Floodway impacts properties upstream of the dam, courts have ruled that the Floodway can only be operated for the purpose of alleviating flooding in the community of Wallaceburg and for no other purpose whatsoever. The above guidelines, established by the consulting engineers is used as the criteria to operate the Floodway.

Previous Operations: The extent of rising and lowering of gates would depend on the intensity of flooding. The design engineers estimated that the structure would be operated in a flood event once in every seven years. The floodway/diversion channel has been operated 6 times since its construction in 1984.

Operating Criteria Review: Requests to review the operating criteria have been brought forward on several occasions from the Town of Wallaceburg (previously) and now from Chatham-Kent. Concern has most often been focused on the fact that some minor flooding is already occurring in Wallaceburg before the criteria for gate closure is met.

Further, there have been multiple requests for the review of the criteria to permit operation of the floodway to reduce flooding in areas beyond the boundaries of Wallaceburg – although these can also be reviewed, the expropriations certificate which provided the basis for acquiring upstream easements and properties appears to close off this option.

In the mid 1990’s, a review was undertaken with a committee of Authority Board Members consummating in a decision to maintain the existing criteria.

Subsequent to the February 2009 Flood in Wallaceburg, it has been requested that the operating criteria be reviewed and recommendations be brought forward to improve the data available to assist in decision making. Ice jamming in 2008 & 2009 further highlighted the need for additional monitoring stations in or near Wallaceburg to provide more data to improve the understanding of water levels in Wallaceburg.

Twenty five years of data on water levels, flows, wind conditions and lake effects as well as a quarter century of experience in operating the floodway could provide significant input into an engineer’s review of the operating criteria of the structure.

Flood easements purchased upstream of the dam were acquired based on the understanding that the dam would only be operated when Wallaceburg was in “imminent” threat of flooding. Any change to the criteria must reflect this and a legal review should be sought to confirm that there would not be legal and/or financial implications to any change to the operating criteria. (2022????)

An effort to seek funding through the Water & Erosion Control Infrastructure (WECI) fund under the Ministry of Natural Resources was made in 2012. However, this application for a study to incorporate an engineering and legal review of the operating criteria was considered ineligible for this grant. Details of the application is provided below:

W. Darcy McKeough Dam	McKeough Floodway Functional Review	Engineering study and legal review to assess current functional standards, existing easements and recommend potential changes based on 25 years of accumulated data and experience in dealing with extreme events.	75,000	37,500
-----------------------	-------------------------------------	--	--------	--------

In addition the Authority continues to receive calls from residents closer to the floodplain in Wallaceburg **demanding** a review of the operating criteria.

Staff Report

9.(i)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Jessica Van Zwol, Healthy Watershed Specialist
Subject: Healthy Watersheds Program

Lambton Shores Healthy Lake Huron Program

- Lambton Shores Tributaries (LST) Watershed received funding from Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Environment Canada as part of the Healthy Lake Huron – Clean Water, Clean Beaches campaign, for immediate action to improve beach and inland surface water quality.

Healthy Sydenham Headwaters Initiative (HSHI)

- SCRCA and Middlesex Stewardship Council have partnered on this Initiative to guide conservation and restoration efforts in the Headwaters of the Sydenham River.

These stewardship programs have three main components: water quality monitoring, outreach and education, and providing grants to landowners implementing best management practices (BMPs) and/or stewardship projects on their property.

Water quality monitoring – to understand the current status of water quality in our creeks and rivers and contribute to long-term data sets that may show how stewardship projects and BMPs benefit the watershed. We monitor nutrient levels including phosphorus and nitrogen (Figure 1).

Outreach and Education – using workshops, planting days, letters to landowners, and bus tours to raise awareness of water quality concerns, stewardship projects, and the link between nutrient runoff (primarily phosphorus) and blue-green algae in the Great Lakes.

Stewardship projects – **Grants available**

SCRCA secures funding from many sources to support landowner implemented stewardship projects including riparian buffers, block tree planting, windbreaks, wetlands, and erosion control measures. Staff meet with landowners and offer expert advice and project design and where applicable, support individual projects with grants.

Upcoming events:

- May 10, 2014, 9-11am: Forest Sewage Lagoon - Wetland Community Planting

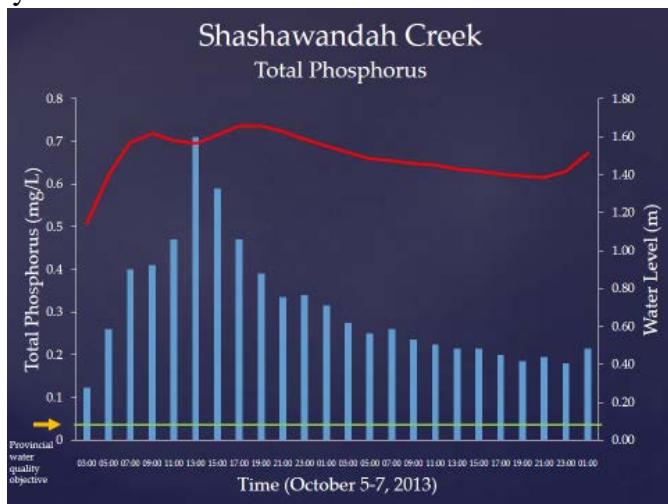


Figure 1: Total phosphorus and water levels in Shashawandah Creek in Lambton Shores during a storm event (October 5-7, 2013). As the water level (red line) rose because of rain and runoff, phosphorus levels (blue columns) increased. Prior to and during the event, phosphorus levels were much higher than the Provincial Water Quality

Staff Report

9.(ii)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Erin Carroll, Aquatic Biologist and Kelli Smith, Biological Technician
Subject: SCRCA staff help member municipalities meet regulatory requirement by issuing Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs) and Letters of Review (LoR).

Conservation Authorities (CAs) regulate activities that change, divert, or interfere in any way with the existing channel of a river, creek, stream or watercourse, or that interfere with wetlands. Municipal drains are generally watercourses as defined under the CA Act and are therefore regulated by CAs.

Staff help member municipalities meet regulatory requirements by issuing Standard Compliance Requirements (SCRs) as per the Drainage Act and Conservation Authorities Act (DART) Protocol and Letters of Review (LoR) for projects where DART does not apply (Drainage Act, S. 4: Petition Drains and S. 78: Improvements). If drain projects are carried out (with or without a CA Act S. 28 permit) and impact, with respect to the CA's regulatory responsibilities under the CA Act, areas that are regulated, the CA could be held liable for not undertaking or enforcing its regulatory responsibilities.

SCRs and LoRs outline project specific sediment and erosion measures for all projects. Upstream and downstream flooding are considered where appropriate (e.g., culverts and enclosures) and appropriate advice is incorporated into review letters and SCRs. Interference with wetlands is discouraged by negotiating project specific mitigations. St. Clair Conservation staff work with municipalities to try to find solutions that meet the requirements of both the Drainage Act and the Conservation Authorities Act.

Since November 25, 2013, 42 drain files have been submitted to SCRCA for review. 16 files have been reviewed under the DART protocol and proponents have received Standard Compliance Requirements permissions. 17 files have been reviewed by staff and have received Letters of Review. Letters of Review are issued when the project does not fall under the DART protocol. In most cases these are engineer's reports under section 78 of the Drainage Act for improvements, and advice is provided to further the conservation and management of the existing natural heritage features of the designated watershed. The remaining 9 files are under review.

Categories of Drain Review	January – April 2014
DART Protocol – SCR issued	16
Letter of Review Issued	17
Requires Letter of Review	4
Other Types of Files (e.g., Environmental Assessment, sign-off, Assessment changes)	5
Total Files from January to April 2014	42

Other ways the SCRCA works with Municipal Drain Projects

In some cases St. Clair Conservation is able to offer grant money towards measures that are above and beyond the legal requirements. A newly launched *Municipal Drain Habitat Enhancement Program* funded by the federal Great Lakes Sustainability Fund supports drain projects that increase fish habitat and mitigate sediment and erosion in agricultural watercourses of the St. Clair River Area of Concern. Projects that qualify include buffers, fish refuge pools, and two-stage (“benched”) drainage ditches.

In early March, two SCRCA staff who review drain projects took the Drainage Superintendent (DSAO) course. The five day course covered the Drainage Act in detail including:

- Role and responsibilities of the engineer under the Drainage Act
- Process for developing new municipal drains
- Process for improving existing drains
- Municipal drain management
- Roles and responsibilities of the Drainage Superintendent
- Environmental regulations that impact municipal drains.



Drain re-location project in Township of Dawn. By using mitigations such as erosion control blanket, seeding of banks and timing construction to allow vegetation to re-establish, erosion is greatly reduced.

By attaining a thorough understanding of the Drainage Act, CA staff are better prepared to find solutions that meet all legislative requirements.

As the CO representative on the Board of Directors for the Drainage Investment Group (DIG) since July 2013, Brian McDougall has been proactively involved with drain management issues across Southern Ontario. One of the main goals of DIG is to help municipalities, engineers and other agencies reduce overall costs to projects and landowner’s while enhancing environmental features.

Recommendation: That the Board of Directors acknowledges the report dated April 7, 2014 summarizing Municipal Drain Review activities, and endorses staff efforts to help member municipalities meet regulatory requirements by issuing Letters of Review.

Formatted: List Paragraph, Bulleted + Level: 1 + Aligned at: 0.25" + Indent at: 0.5"

Staff Report

9.(iii)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Erin Carroll, Aquatic Biologist
Subject: Drain Review

Benthic Diversity of the Middle East Sydenham

The Middle East Sydenham station at Mawlam Road, south of Florence had better than average benthic scores in 2013. Previous Report Card averages were 6.35 and 5.33 for 2001-2005 and 2006-2010 respectively. In 2013, the benthic score for the site is 4.69. A lower benthic score is a good thing, indicating that the biota are less impacted by organic pollution.

When benthic scores are low, we typically find a greater species diversity. This year, a total of 18 different families were found at the Mawlam Road site, including mayflies, riffle beetles, caddisflies, fishflies, stoneflies and clams. We typically see anywhere between 5 and 19 different families at sites across the St. Clair Region. The Mawlam Road site had the greatest diversity in 2013.

A conservative approach is taken in interpreting water quality results. One year good benthic sample is not enough to conclude that water quality is improving. Instead, a bigger picture which includes an analysis of water chemistry, including nutrients and *E. coli* in combination with biological indicators such as benthic or fish sampling, is required to give a more complete picture of water quality. Nonetheless, it is always a good sign to see such an assortment of pollution intolerant animals.



Stoneflies nymphs found in the Middle East Sydenham River are indicative of good water quality.



Caddisfly larva (bottom) with its case made of small pebbles (top) is also an indicator of good water quality.

Watershed	2005 Result	2010 Result	2013 Only Result
Sydenham Headwaters	5.64	5.40	5.54
Upper Sydenham River	5.89	5.75	5.21
Brown Creek	5.45	5.52	5.56
Middle East Sydenham	6.35	5.53	4.69
Lower East Sydenham	5.50	5.53	5.36
Bear Creek Headwaters	5.74	5.74	5.60
Lower Bear Creek	5.51	5.81	5.92
Black Creek	6.06	5.83	5.95
Lower North Sydenham	6.40	6.21	5.63
Lambton Shores Tributaries	--	5.77	4.01
Plympton Shoreline Tributaries	5.73	5.97	5.46
Cow and Perch Creeks	5.69	6.02	5.85
St. Clair River Tributaries	7.03	6.83	5.80
Lake St. Clair Tributaries	7.24	7.02	7.56

Road Salt and Freshwater Mussels on the Sydenham

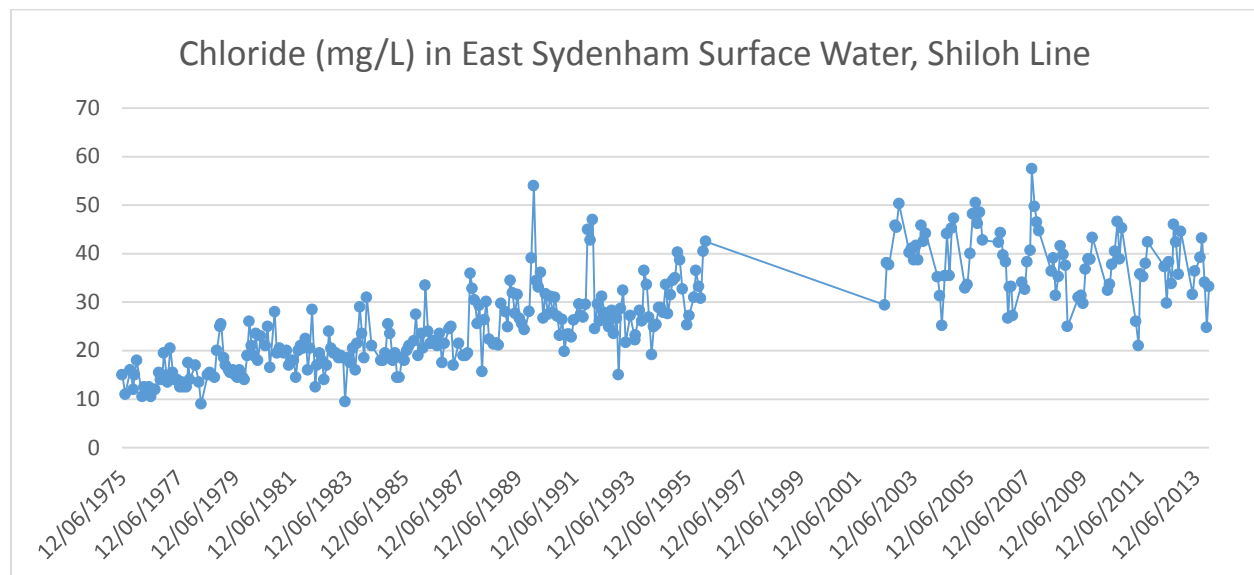
Surface water in the Sydenham River has been monitored by St. Clair Conservation since 1967. The station where the East Branch Sydenham intersects Shiloh Road near Alvinston, upstream of the richest freshwater mussel beds in Canada, shows an upward trend in chloride (see table below). The slope is increasing at a rate of 0.9 mg/L/year from 1975 to 2009. In 2007, a maximum chloride concentration of 58 mg/L was recorded at the station. Research indicates that chloride can become toxic to mussel larvae (glochidia) at levels as low as 153 mg/L.



Packet of Mussel larva (glochidia) of Mapleleaf Mussel, a threatened species, is found in Sydenham River benthic samples. The glochidia packet looks like a small fish but is actually full of sticky larva that attached host fish.

Increasing concentration of chloride is not unique to the Sydenham. There is an increasing trend in many of the southern Ontario streams where freshwater mussels inhabit. A recent study of 24 long-term water quality stations shows a link between road density and chloride concentration. The exposure of sensitive glochidia to increasing chloride concentrations may negatively affect mussel populations.

Many Ontario road authorities have developed plans to better manage road salt use to reduce the environmental impacts of chloride while maintaining road safety; however, less attention has been paid to identifying areas that are vulnerable to salt loading. Recognizing the biological uniqueness of Sydenham River, extra precaution might be considered to protect the unique biodiversity of the river. Intersections of salted roads and these critical stream habitats represent potentially vulnerable areas where the road authority might consider additional salt management measures.



Chloride in water samples collected at Shiloh Line (near Alvinston) on the East Sydenham surface water station show an upward trend (increasing at 0.9 mg/L/year). Note: Gap in sampling from 1996 to 2002 due to suspension of surface water sampling program.

Phosphorus in Surface Water

Phosphorus is a common constituent of agricultural fertilizers, manure, and organic wastes in sewage and industrial effluent. Phosphorus values were lower in 2013 than average at most of the monitoring stations in the St. Clair Region. Although phosphorus averages were lower, values were still about 2-4 times the provincial standard for phosphorus in surface water (0.03mg/L).

75th Percentile Total Phosphorus (mg/L) (2005-10) (unfiltered total)	2001-05	2006-10	2013 Only
SHASHAWANDA LAMBTON SHORES RAWLINGS RD	n/d	0.10	0.11
BEAR CREEK-ZION LINE- WARWICK TWP	n/d	0.11	0.10
BROWN CREEK - ROKEBY LINE - BROOKE TWP	0.09	0.15	0.09
LOWER EAST SYDENHAM DAWN MILLS ROAD CAMDEN TWP	n/d	0.07	0.09
COW CREEK LAKESHORE ROAD SARNIA	0.15	0.24	0.13
HICKORY CREEK ELMSLEY ROAD PLYMPTON TWP	n/d	0.07*	0.57 ⁺
N. SYDENHAM - LAMBTON LINE - SOMBRA TWP	0.15	0.14	0.12
BEAR CREEK BEAR LINE ROAD DOVER TWP	0.08	0.09	0.08
TALFORD CREEK LASALLE LINE MOORE TWP	n/d	0.08	0.06
BABY CREEK MOORE LINE MOORE TWP	n/d	0.19	0.18
CLAY CREEK WHITE LINE SOMBRA TWP	0.08	0.16	0.26
Hickory Drive	0.09	0.06	0.04
Katesville	n/d	0.09	0.07
Bear Creek (Marthaville Rd.)	0.22	0.22	0.13
Black Creek (Marthaville Rd.)	0.21	0.14	0.14
Bear Creek (Bickford Line)	0.23	0.19	0.15
Wallaceburg (HWY. 40)	0.13	0.08	0.08
Shiloh Ln (Alvinston)	0.09	0.08	0.08
Florence (Lambton Line)	0.08	0.08	0.07
St. Clair Region	0.13	0.12	0.13

*Only 10 data points from 2006 to 2010

+Only 4 data points for 2013. Samples taken from Hickory Creek at Elmsley Road had phosphorus readings on average about 20 times the provincial standard. Reasons for increased phosphorus levels at the sample station are unknown at this time. SCRC is looking into possible causes and solutions. With only 14 data points for water quality at the site, it is too soon to draw conclusions.

Staff Report

9.(iv)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7, 2014
From: Erin Carroll, Aquatic Biologist
Subject: Biology Department's Successful Grants

We have had great success with proposals again this year, with active grants totaling **\$923,000** for projects valued at approximately **\$5,000,000**.

There are a number of new grants for 2014:

- funding from Ontario Trillium Foundation to conduct fish and mussel inventories in Lake Huron Tributaries with a complementary education and outreach program that builds on the program delivered at Kettle Stony Point First Nation. **\$58,000** over two years was awarded.
- Wildlife Habitat Canada awarded **\$22,000** for wetland and riparian buffer projects on McKeough Lands.
- a three year, **\$75,900** grant from the Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Stewardship Fund to continue to deliver Reptiles-at-Risk Program. The grant will help pay for snake and turtle monitoring, and related outreach and education activities.



Trillium grant will allow SCRCA staff to continue to deliver education program at Kettle Stony Point. SCRCA will also monitor fish and mussels at 10 sites over two years.



SCRCA will continue to work with high school students from Sarnia teaching. In the photo above students installed basking logs for turtles.

- Ontario Land Trust Alliance Program grant **\$10,000** to support restoration of Bowens Creek Habitat Management Area and **\$2,000** to support erosion protection on McKeough Lands.

- **\$1000** from Friends of the St. Clair River for Water Quality Monitoring in St. Clair River Tributaries.

- about **\$70,000** from Trees Canada towards planting about 40,000 trees.

- **\$8,000** from Ministry of Natural Resources for Phragmites treatment at Stag Island.

- **\$17,800** from Ministry of Natural Resources for Lambton Shores Coastal Wetland Restoration and riparian buffer restoration.



Funding from Friend of the St. Clair River goes toward analysis of benthics in Clay Creek. This photo shows a caddisfly nymph in its case made of sand. These animals are used to indicate water quality.

There are also many ongoing projects:

- 2014 is the third year of a three year, **\$117,500** grant from the Environment Canada's Great Lakes Sustainability Fund for wetlands creation and tree planting at Bowen's Creek Habitat Management Area.

- 2014 is the third year of a 3 year **\$173,400** grant from Ontario Trillium Foundation for landowner/community engagement, headwater wetland construction and other wildlife BMPS in the Upper Sydenham Watershed.

- 2014 is the third year of a three year, **\$38,000** grant from Showcasing Water Innovation towards Rural Stormwater Management in the Lambton Shores Priority Watershed

- 2014 is the second year of a three year **\$244,050** grant from Environment Canada to implement best management projects through the Sydenham River Habitat Stewardship Program.

- 2014 is the second year of a two year **\$85,000** grant for Sediment and Erosion Mitigation and Fish Habitat Enhancement of Agricultural Watercourses of the St. Clair River Area of Concern (AOC).

A number of projects were completed in the first part of 2014:

- **\$40,000** grant from Ministry of Natural Resources Species at Risk Stewardship Fund to benefit Reptiles-at-Risk in the region. The grant helped pay for snake and turtle monitoring, and related outreach and education activities over the last two years.



Talfourd water quality monitoring and education program offered at Aamjiwnaang now complete. Newly planted banks of Talfourd Creek Pictured above.

- Ministry of Environment's Great Lakes Guardian fund allocated **\$22,000** toward five education events coordinated with Aamjiwnaang First Nation Environment Committee, and pre and post restoration benthic monitoring at Talfourd Creek.



Grant from GLSF allowed SCRCA staff to restore Peers Wetland. Restoration included upgrades to the wetland itself and planting of trees and Tallgrass Prairie.

- Wildlife Habitat Canada allocated **\$28,000** to landowner/community engagement, headwater wetland construction and other wildlife BMPS in the Upper Sydenham Watershed.

- Great Lakes Sustainability Fund allocated **\$45,000** towards the second stage of Peers Wetland Restoration.

- Environment Canada allocated **\$8,500** to implementation of workshops and landowner engagement in the Lambton Shores Tributary area.

- Ministry of the Environment allocated **\$50,000** to a study and project to look at improving water quality in Lambton Shores including BMPs.
- OMAFRA-COA allocated **\$58,000** to drafting soil and erosion nutrient management programs for 500 acres of SCRCA-owned cropland, design and implementation of erosion berms on the McKeough Properties 82, 83, 95 and 97, collection of water quality and soil sample analysis.
- Ministry of Natural Resources allotted **\$17,800** for Lambton Shores Coastal Wetland Restoration / Phragmites Control Watershed Wetland Riparian Buffer Restoration

We are still waiting to hear on a few grants:

- an application to the Ontario Community Environment Fund for **\$20,000** to support surface water sampling including water chemistry and benthic organism analysis.
- applications to the Land Stewardship and Habitat Restoration Program: **\$20,000** for wetland creation and erosion control projects in the Black Creek watershed and **\$5,640** for wetland creation and Tallgrass Prairie Restoration in the Upper Sydenham Headwaters.

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors
Date: April 7 2014
From: Muriel Andreae, Manager of Biology
Subject: Kettle Stony Point First Nation Partnership

- the SCRCA is one of eight partners working with KSPFN to provide monitoring, habitat enhancement, stewardship and outreach with respect to Species at Risk on Kettle Stony Point lands
- last fall Outdoor Education and Biology staff members visited the Grades 3, 4 and 5 classes at Hillside Elementary School to teach about the significance of the KSPFN area to species diversity
- this included visiting work stations about Birds, Turtles and Snakes; playing the “Survivor Game” in the playground to illustrate the web of life; and hiking through a meadow to collect insects with sweep nets and then examine and discuss their relationships with other animals
- for a third year our Biology staff attended the KSPFN Species at Risk Community Meeting, on March 26 2014, and spoke about the SCRCA staff involvement in their community
- we staffed a display on stewardship and Reptiles at Risk monitoring activities and our museum specimen of an Eastern Fox Snake sparked much interest
- residents at KSPFN are very familiar with their natural environment, and proud of the species diversity on their lands
- the KSPFN Species at Risk Project newsletter is attached, and we were very pleased to read, in the article on pg. 3 by Chief Thomas Bressette, that:

“The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority representatives always receive a very warm welcome from our Hillside Elementary School students as they run their annual in class programs and nature walks.”

October 2013

Dear Erin, Melissa and Jacob,

We appreciate that you came to Hill Side School to teach us about food chains. We had fun playing games in the woods and searching for bugs.

We discovered that snakes have smooth skin. We know that

Kettle Point is a special habitat. We know that it is

our responsibility to take care of Mother Earth. You

have an interesting job.

Chi-miigwech! ☺ Grade 3, Hillside School



Siraj

Kaylann

Kaylann

Keahira



Lily

ps: saven

Race

Jalen

Larissa



Anabel

Gianna

THE **KSPFN** Species at Risk Project

This project was undertaken with the financial support of the Government of Canada through the Federal Aboriginal Fund for Species at Risk.

Implementation of the project has been enabled through generous matching financial and in-kind support from:

Chippewas of Stony and Kettle Point First Nation (KSPFN)

Carolinian Canada Coalition

Bird Studies Canada

Dover Agri-Serve

St. Clair Region

Conservation Authority

The Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA)

Gilbert & Dunn Wetland Specialists

Scott Gillingwater, Species at Risk Biologist

The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Darren Jacobs

Alf Rider, Naturalist

Countless KSPFN Volunteers:

Dwayne Cloud

Tim Shawnoo

Talon Bressette

Bev Cloud

Sandy Bressette

Becky Larocque

Len Cloud and the volunteer fire department

Pete Cloud Sr.

Brian Monague

Connie Milliken

Naomi Bressette

Special Thanks to:
Tania Morais,
Environment Canada

Canada

PROJECT OVERVIEW

The purpose of the overall project is to assess important Species at Risk (SAR) habitat on the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation (KSPFN) lands and build community awareness and protection capacity for Species at Risk (SAR). This is being accomplished through a comprehensive multi-component assessment of the existing habitat, surveys for species presence, examinations of existing threats and the overall health of the wetlands, and the control of invasive *Phragmites australis* in coastal and interior wetlands. This project will enable members of the KSPFN Band Council, Administrators, Students, Elders, and community members to acquire, develop, and use knowledge and skills that will help them to play an active role in restoring and protecting the highly valued habitat on their lands.

SUMMARY OF THE ASSESSMENT WORK UNDERTAKEN IN 2013

By Janice M. Gilbert, Wetland Ecologist

Between April and September, 2013 a number of areas within the coastal meadow marsh and interior habitats were traversed to record vegetation, wildlife, non-native species and impacts. Water level stations were also installed within interior wetlands and monitored throughout the spring, summer and fall to understand the impact of roadside ditching and excavation channels on water retention in these systems. Accompanying me on many of these excursions were Darren Jacobs, Manny Cloud, Bev Cloud, Sandy Bressette, Talon Bressette, Becky Larocque, Forrest Wolfe and Alf Rider. Pete Cloud Sr. was always available to provide logistical support and was instrumental in getting roadside signs posted to remind drivers to watch for animals crossing the roads.

During our assessments we were lucky enough to see six Species at

Risk which included Endangered Bald Eagles, Butternut trees and American Ginseng, and Species of Special Concern Green Dragons, Monarch Butterflies and Snapping Turtles. The Bald Eagles were a common and thrilling site 'hanging out' on a platform that Brian Monague had built especially for them at the end of his boat channel. Monarch Butterflies were often observed in the coastal meadow marsh obtaining nectar from plants such as Swamp Milkweed and Spotted Joe Pye Weed. These butterflies were a welcome site given their severely depleted population across North America over the past couple of years. Both adult and juvenile Snapping Turtles were found in the coastal wetland, boat channels, interior wetlands and riparian habitats. Their relatively common occurrence and range in sizes suggests that this population is doing fairly well at Kettle Point. The Butternut trees, American Ginseng and Green

Dragon were very elusive and we felt like we had "won the lottery" when we did come across them. All three species were quite low in number, but appeared healthy and hopefully will be able to reproduce and flourish within the protected interior habitats we found them in.

We also noticed numerous other intriguing species including Devil's Tooth, which are mushrooms that appear to be bleeding, an Eastern Redback Salamander protecting its eggs, and a Flat-backed Millipede. The diversity of plants and wildlife were noticeably reduced in the habitats that have been overtaken by invasive *Phragmites* or have undergone extensive human disturbance due to logging, excavation, and ATV use. However, within the relatively undisturbed areas the habitats remain diverse and provide an invaluable refuge for many species, including those at risk.



Sandy Bressette, Talon Bressette, Forrest Wolfe & Pete Cloud Sr. with one of the roadside signs being posted throughout Kettle Point to try to reduce road kill

PHRAG CONTROL CREW 2013

Our First Nation utilizes funding provided by both the Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk (AFSAR) and the Canada / Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA) to control and eradicate the invasive Phragmites, thereby restoring our lakefront and interior wetlands to their natural state.

This past year Tim Shawnoo and Dwayne Cloud received their pesticide technicians training and certification. They joined Becky Larocque, Sandy Bressette and Bev Cloud as our local "Phrag Busters". The training was provided by pesticide specialist Frank Latourneau. A portable sprayer and two backpack sprayers were purchased in 2012, and this past year two more backpack units and a trailer were obtained for use on this project.



KP 'Phrag Busters' L-R Pete Cloud Sr., Bev Cloud, Becky Larocque, Dwayne 'Manny' Cloud, Tim Shawnoo, Fall 2013.

In 2012 a demonstration plot in front of Lucille Bressette's was mechanically treated using Frank's "Argo". The following year, more lakefront areas extending from the ball park to the south side of Bonnie & Fred Bressette's channel were treated using the same method. This past year, work was continued from this point north along the lakefront to the south side of Joe George's channel also using the same method. Our "Phrag Busters", using backpacks and the portable sprayer, then touched up any areas of re-growth along the lakefront from the creek to the old pump house. With the purchase of the trailer, they were able to treat the creek from below the hill to Kick's corner, the drainage ditches along Center and Middle Side Roads, areas along the west side of West Ipperwash Road and phrag cells invading areas back the old dump. More work is envisioned for this year, the fourth year of our five year control plan as the Phragmites invasion is quite extensive on our First Nations lands.



Scott Gillingwater, Species at Risk Biologist

In previous years we have had tremendous success with locating a number of turtles, snakes, frogs and salamanders, including some species of Special Concern, though Threatened and Endangered reptiles and amphibians had eluded us. The potential for finding threatened species such as Eastern Foxsnake, Eastern Hog-nosed Snake, Eastern Musk Turtle and the Endangered Spotted Turtle remained, but when a species is rare, and exceptionally well adapted at avoiding detection, the search can be difficult! Throughout April and May, the singing choruses of frogs and toads such as Western Chorus Frog, Northern Green Frog, Spring Peeper, Wood Frog, Leopard Frog and American Toad filled the wetland areas in and around Kettle Point. The spring bird migration brought countless species through the area, and forests came alive with the songs of warblers, vireos, grosbeaks and so many others. At the same time, the silent denizens of the area, Blue Spotted Salamanders, Red-backed Salamanders, Eastern Newts, Midland Painted Turtles, Snapping Turtles, Northern Brown snakes and Eastern Garter snakes were emerging from their long winter rest and beginning mating rituals of their own.

Although invasive Phragmites australis (European Reed) made some searches very difficult, we were thrilled to find that some wetland areas were still functioning in a relatively natural way, and the invasive reed had not yet taken over. It was in these natural areas that the greatest hope for finding Threatened and Endangered species remained. With work being done to take back coastal wetlands from invasive Phragmites, we began seeing significant positive changes to the landscape; however, it will take time to renaturalize and attract species that may have been displaced when the reed took hold. Though, in addition to the coastal wetlands, another natural gem exists here: the interior forested wetlands of Kettle and Stony

Point! These interior wetlands are a treasure that cannot be overstated. Their beauty, biodiversity, filtering potential and wildlife habitat are something to be proud of, but more importantly, they are something in need of our protection. It is within these expansive wet areas that birds, mammals, amphibians, reptiles, fish and invertebrates can breed, find safety from danger, prowl for food and to the best of their abilities, remain wild. It is also within these wetlands that some of the rarer species can maintain a foothold, usually when they have been lost from more disturbed sites. As luck would have it, we were successful in our efforts and after three seasons of searching, we were thrilled to finally have found not one, but two Blanding's Turtles hidden within these natural areas!!

Listed as Threatened both provincially and federally, the Blanding's Turtle is exceptionally rare in Lambton County. The turtle's highly domed shell is black, often with yellow flecks and spots and the chin and throat are bright yellow. This medium-sized turtle reaches an adult size of 15 to 27cm (6 to 10.5 inches) in shell length. It matures at an age of 18 to 20 years and can potentially reach over 100 years in age. They prefer to live in heavily vegetated areas with soft mud, spending their days basking, feeding and hiding... though in April and May a fair amount of mating also occurs!! The Blanding's Turtle can be quite terrestrial, often making large overland movements to nest in June, or simply to locate and eventually settle into a new weedy wetland. It is because of these movements though that many are killed on roads, illegally collected or get hit by farm machinery.

While the search continues for other Threatened and Endangered species, we are exceedingly happy to know that the Blanding's Turtle, as well as some of the more common species, still call Kettle and Stony Point home! The work being done to control invasive Phragmites and efforts to raise awareness about local wildlife species in the community will only help to secure the Blanding's Turtle in this area. We hope that this species and many others will remain here, as they have for countless generations.



Adult Male Blanding's Turtle



Chief Thomas Bressette

Over the past few years our First Nation has been engaged in a Species at Risk project sponsored by Environment Canada through the Aboriginal Funds for Species at Risk (SAR) program and enhanced with additional funding from the Union of Ontario Indians under the Canada Ontario Resource Development Agreement (CORDA).

Our project co-ordination headquarters is located in our First Nation Youth Centre situated right next to our Lake Huron shoreline. To date we have established a very good inventory of listed SAR and have also vastly improved specific areas of habitat through our invasive species program. First Nation volunteers have increased their wildlife and plant knowledge by participating in various assessments with Dr. Janice Gilbert, Scott Gillingwater, Darren Jacobs, Alf Rider and Jarmo Jalava. Our First Nation members are becoming very aware of the state of our current environment as compared to that of years past. Our members have gained more environmental knowledge through our annual workshops and are learning how to identify various birds and frogs through the Marsh Monitoring Program conducted through Bird Studies Canada. The St. Clair Region Conservation Authority representatives always receive a very warm welcome from our Hillside Elementary School students as they run their annual in class programs and nature walks.

The overall purpose of the project is the protection of our environment and the native species within it, and to remove the invasive species that disrupt the natural balance of our local ecosystem. We have been given a great responsibility to care for our earth and community, and we will continue to do so.

Doug Tozer, Bird Studies Canada

I have been involved with the project since 2012. At that time, we expanded Bird Studies Canada's Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program across Kettle Point to get a snap shot of the number of bird and frog species using local marshes each year. When the lake rises again and the Phragmites thin out we hope to see increases in numbers. The larger the increase, the healthier the wetlands have become. But unless we monitor the number of birds and frogs using the marshes now, we will have only a vague sense of the size of increases we expect to see later on.

To date a dedicated group of Kettle Point members has joined me in surveying 7 points for birds and 8 points for frogs (see accompanying map). The points are visited 2 times per year in the evening to count birds and 3 times per year at night to count frogs. An Mp3 player with a loud speaker is used to play calls of secretive birds during each bird survey. These species are normally extremely difficult to detect, but during spring and summer when they hear the call of their own species coming from the loudspeaker they call back loudly or come running towards the sound, making them quite conspicuous if they are present. Frogs, by contrast, do not need any prodding. They readily call on their own.

The group has documented 49 species of birds and 5 species of frogs, including 3 bird species at risk. We had several dozen Bank Swallows and as many Barn Swallows feeding over the marshes along the edge of the lake one evening, and a lone male Wood Thrush belted out his loud song from the forest along Salamander Creek throughout

the summer. Both of the swallows and the thrush are designated as threatened with extinction in Canada.

We also noted large populations of Spring Peepers all up and down the shoreline, plus healthy numbers of Wood Frogs at an inland location. These two frog species are not designated at risk, but they are considered good indicators of healthy environments. Both species require forest leaf litter in which to hibernate by nearly freezing solid, so it is likely that the large amount of forest cover here is supporting these healthy populations.

It is encouraging to see high numbers of the species noted above, a tribute to the healthy state of Kettle Point compared to surrounding areas. However, it is troubling that the Kettle Point marsh bird community appears to be unhealthy. For instance, we have yet to document any of the secretive marsh bird species, such as Virginia Rail, Sora, and Least Bittern, which historically spent the spring and summer at Kettle Point. Their absence likely has a lot to do with low water levels on the lake and extensive Phragmites, because all of these species prefer wet patches of native plants like cattails.

Continued and expanded bird and frog monitoring at Kettle Point will increase our



understanding of the state of the health of Kettle Point wetlands. Hopefully future surveys will show increases in numbers of birds. I look forward to spending more time with the community, to learn more from you about marsh birds and frogs and to witness the rebirth of the thriving marsh bird community that once was in this truly remarkable and unique part of southern Ontario.

WHY KSPFN IS SO ECOLOGICALLY SPECIAL!

By Jarmo Jalava,
Carolinian Canada Coalition



The territory of the Chippewas of Kettle and Stony Point First Nation is part of one of the most ecologically significant areas in southern Ontario. It is near the northern edge of the Carolinian life zone, an ecological region that extends across southwestern Ontario from Grand Bend to Toronto. This is one of Canada's most threatened ecosystems because so much of the landscape has been turned into farms, cities, towns and roads. Most of the forests have been cut down, and many of the

wetlands, savannahs and prairies that were once so common, have been converted to agriculture.

Before Europeans arrived, there was an abundance of mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish and plants, providing a healthy livelihood for the people who lived sustainably on the land. Bear, cougar, moose and elk used to roam the landscape, and the rivers and Great Lakes teemed with fish. The Anishinaabe people used fire and cutting to keep some tracts of land open and scrubby, to grow corn and squash and other crops, and to maintain optimum conditions for wildlife, but most of the land was still wild forest, stream and wetland.

Many of the animals and plants that used to be common have disappeared altogether, or their numbers are now perilously low. Situated within one of the largest remaining natural areas in Carolinian Canada, KSPFN Territory is one of the last refuges for many of these species. In fact, more than 30 federal Species at Risk have been recorded in the KSPFN area

or nearby. Many of these are found at Kettle Point, in the forests, along the streams, and in the wetlands.

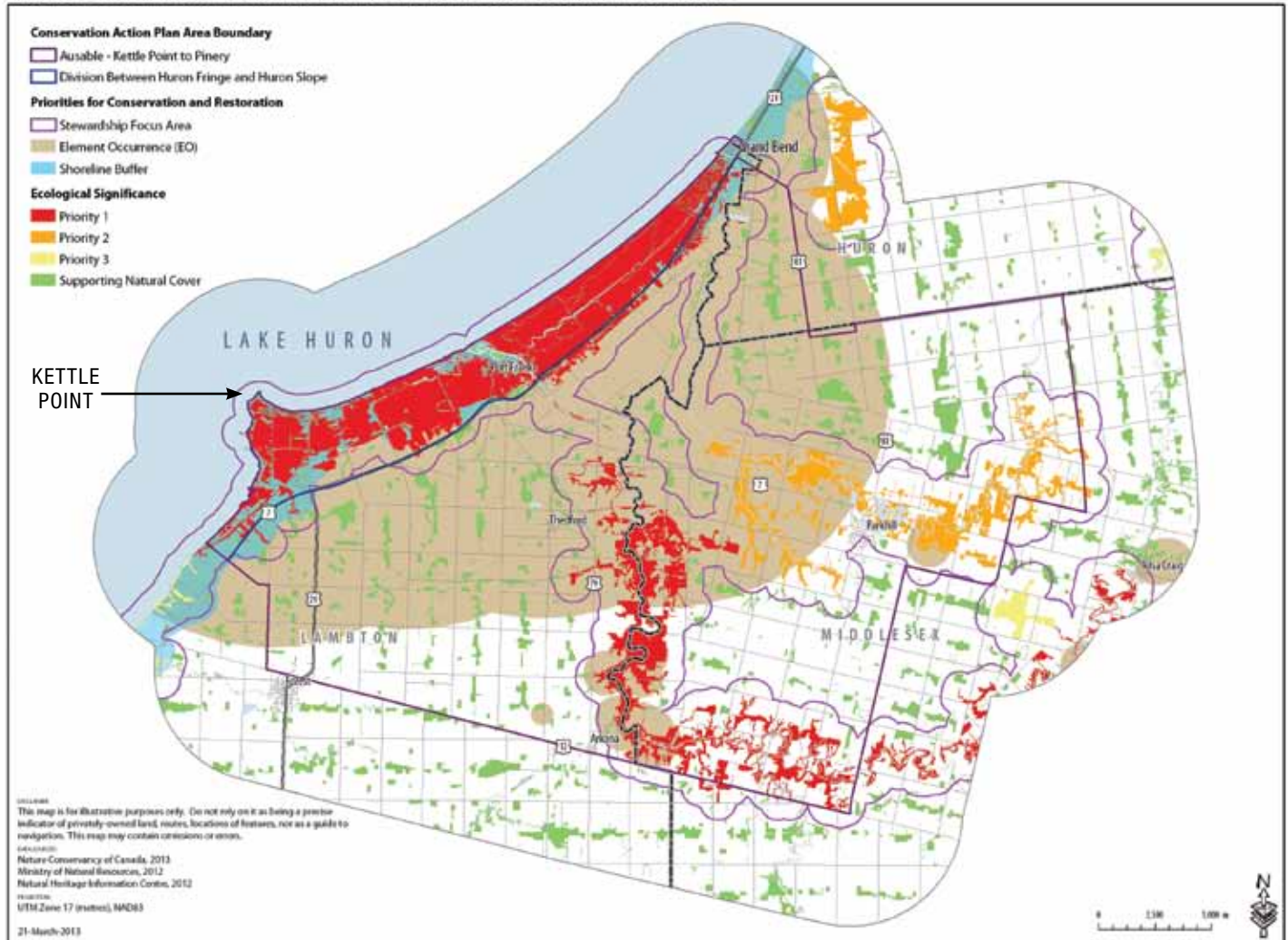
KSPFN includes part of the largest forested area south of the Bruce Peninsula on the Canadian shore of Lake Huron. Kettle Point also has the only coastal wetland on Lake Huron in the Carolinian life zone. The dunes at Ipperwash that extend just inland from Lake Huron's shore are one of the largest and best-preserved dune systems in the region. The back-dune areas support some of these best examples of Black Oak tallgrass savannah in Ontario and North America.

Kettle Point is an important staging area for migrating water and shore birds in spring and fall, and a good place to see land birds as well. Endangered species such as the Acadian Flycatcher nest in the swamp forest, rare reptiles are found in the wetlands, and rare plants such as the endangered Heart-leaved Plantain still cling to life in small numbers. The nearby Ausable River supports a diversity of fish, mussel and reptile Species at Risk.



Heart-leaved Plantain

AUSABLE - KETTLE POINT TO PINERY: Priorities for Conservation and Restoration



The areas shown in red on the Ausable – Kettle Point to Pinery Conservation Action Plan map are considered to be the highest priority for conservation and restoration, based on the presence of rare species and ecosystems. The KSPFN community is part of the solution, having helped to develop the Conservation Action Plan.

KSPFN is working in partnership with conservation groups such as Carolinian Canada, St. Clair Region Conservation

Authority, Bird Studies Canada, the Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation, as well as expert consultants and volunteers, to find ways to protect and restore the fragile habitats that were once so common and healthy.

One way the community can help is by trying to reduce the impact of recreational use and invasive species on sand dunes and beaches. Establishing designated paths in beach areas will help reduce disturbance

of dune ecosystems. Forests will remain healthy and productive if logging is done carefully and sustainably. You can also create habitat for rare species by building a snake hibernaculum, putting up a bird house, and planting native shrubs and trees along streams. Instead of planting foreign varieties, which may become invasive, plant native species in your garden as well. You can learn more about rare species and habitat and how to help protect the unique nature of Carolinian Canada by visiting caroliniancanada.ca.

Alf Rider, Naturalist

Prior to 1969 North American birders went out for a day's birding by driving around their favourite places which was a good way of finding rare birds. For myself from the UK, where motor transport was uncommon, the bus was the way to get around by most birders. That meant that one got the first available bus and stayed until the last one back home. Spurn Point was the 'local' migrant trap. In many ways it is similar to our Point Pelee in that it is a migrant catching place on the east side of Yorkshire in England.

Birds crossing the North Sea from Scandinavia and the rest of Europe during the Fall migration end up at Spurn after they move South West out of the continent. So weekenders caught the first available bus to Kilnsea and walked to 'The Warren' where we stayed until the last bus home. Fairly 'Primitive' by American standards but we all enjoyed 'Birding' there and finding migrants. For those Brits' who came here in the 1960's travel was easy because gas was 10cents a gallon! A full sized station wagon was \$500.

Kettle Point is special. It sticks out into Lake Huron on the south-east shore. In the Fall many thousands of migrant birds of all kinds leave the land above Lake Huron in the late evening and head southwards down this 'Inland Sea' to arrive in North West Lambton County in the area of Kettle Point.

It seems that the first to arrive are the female shorebirds, after leaving the males to look after the youngsters. They are followed by the Warblers. A North West gale will bring seabirds that prefer to be over deep-water down the lake and close to our viewing sites. So Jaegers and Kittywakes are found in those conditions here, birds that are normally found out over salt water.

The rarest bird has been a recent adult ROSS' GULL from the Arctic that should have left going westwards towards the Pacific Ocean instead of heading southwards where it was also seen the same afternoon in Ohio. SANDHILL CRANES have re-nested on Kettle Point as well as in 3 other near-by locations, and an Endangered species the ACADIAN



Alf Rider; Summer 2013

FLYCATCHER has nested fairly recently when the woodland is flooded. As many as 28 BALD EAGLES have been seen sitting peacefully on the reef after the first big frost. Only two were adult.

I have not mentioned any of the rare plants or other things of interest of which there are many. Kettle Point is a very special place for me and for All of Us.

These Kids Like Their Snakes!!

St. Clair Conservation staff had the opportunity to offer an education program to Hillside School students for the third consecutive year. The concepts of connectivity, food chains, habitat and rare species were demonstrated by playing games, drawing, collecting insects, exploring natural areas and sharing experiences.

It was motivating for me to interact with students so enthusiastic about nature. I was impressed that the boys and girls could show me where to find butterflies, beetles, and spiders. For my first time ever, students brought snakes to me, rather than the other way around. Together we took turns feeling the smooth skin of a wild Eastern Garter snake. The children learned how to properly hold and support its delicate back.

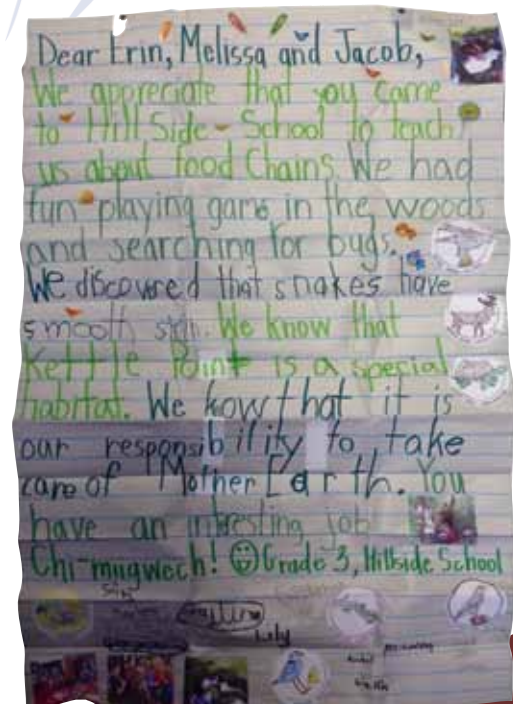
In the classroom, one of the biggest concerns was which students would be first to visit the station with the Eastern Fox snake display. I was surprised. I had anticipated the usual response of fear and dislike, but observed the complete opposite.

Over the years, I have found that the students at Hillside understand and treasure the uniqueness of the natural areas around them. Most have personal connection and stories to share about reptiles in the area. I am thankful to be invited to Hillside each year to share these exceptional experiences with students.

Chi-Miigwetch!

Erin Carroll

Aquatic Biologist, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority



COASTAL WETLANDS – ECOSYSTEMS OF WONDER

By Karen Alexander and Geoff Peach
Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Lake Huron's coastal wetlands are extremely productive and diverse communities of plant and animal life. They are vital to the well-being of the Great Lakes ecosystem.

The role that wetlands play in our environment is much like the way kidneys work in the human body: they act as purifiers, filtering out pollutants and other 'gunk' that could lead to poor health. The quality of Lake Huron's nearshore waters depends significantly on coastal wetlands.

Protecting coastal wetlands should be an important priority for all of us. People often don't consider the full range of ecosystem services when valuing our coastline, or estimating what is at stake when coastal ecosystems become damaged by human activities and invasive species. These are some of the values, or ecosystem services, that coastal wetlands provide to us (free of charge!):

- Home for many unique plants and animals
- Filter pollution from water
- Help prevent flooding through slow release of water and by absorbing wave activity
- Reduce erosion, as plants collect and bind soil

- Recreation, such as canoeing, fishing, bird watching
- Carbon storage in soil and vegetation
- Educational opportunities
- Spiritual enrichment

Anyone who observes coastal wetlands for any length of time knows that they are dynamic environments. They change in size and extent as water levels change seasonally and over cycles of several years. When water levels are high, waves can penetrate the wetland and plants can be eroded or killed by too much water. When lake levels fall, buried seeds in the soil gradually emerge.

A significant threat to coastal wetlands is ATV use, especially during periods of low lake levels which expose bare shoreline areas. These areas of new growth and extensions are vulnerable to the damaging results of all-terrain vehicles. One pass through a coastal wetland can have devastating effects such as crushing emerging plants and buried seeds, and running over animals or nests that might be in the area. Tire ruts can alter the movement of water, and soil disturbance can promote the spread of invasive plants like European Reed (*Phragmites australis*). Curtailing this activity will protect the

important values and functions of coastal wetlands.

Alterations to the shoreline by creating drainage ditches or boat slips, clearing rocks and boulders, can seriously impact the function of a wetland by altering the flow of water. These activities essentially form a barrier to water flow which can lead to the accumulation of nearshore water pollution, changes to native vegetation communities, and increased vulnerability to invasive species.

People who are lucky enough to live near a Great Lakes coastal wetland could help protect these rare ecosystems by being mindful of the values and functions of a coastal wetland, and actively participating in stewardship. A few simple things people could do on their own property include replacing grass lawns with diverse native species gardens, keeping sewage systems well maintained and serviced, eliminating the use of fertilizers which can wash into the wetland and feed the growth of algae, and by telling friends and family about why coastal wetlands are important to protect. For more tips on coastal wetland stewardship visit the Coastal Centre's website, www.lakehuron.ca.



Aerial photos of Kettle Point

Butternut



Eastern Gartersnake



Wood Frog



Snapping Turtle Nesting



Sandy Bressette, Forrest Wolfe, Talon Bressette



Five Lined Skink



Green Frog



Carolinian Canopy at Kettle Point



Thanks to the
Project Partners!



Canada

Aboriginal Fund for
Species at Risk



Gilbert & Dunn
Wetland Specialists



Dover Agri-Serve



Canada Ontario Resource
Development Agreement
(CORDA)

KSPFN

(Chippewas of Kettle &
Stony Point First Nation)

6247 Indian Lane
Kettle & Stony Point FN
ON, Canada N0N 1J1

Phone: 519-786-2125
Fax: 519-786-2108

fdesk@kettlepoint.org

www.kettlepoint.org

Kettle and Stony Point First Nation Home to Species at Risk

(E-niizaanag Wii-ngoshkaag)

A few of the Species At Risk that are known presently or historically from in and around Kettle and Stony Point First Nation.

Reptiles

(Wesiinyag E-moodejig)

- Blanding's Turtle
- Blue Racer
- Eastern Foxsnake
- Eastern Hog-nosed Snake
- Eastern Musk Turtle
- Eastern Ribbonsnake
- Five Lined Skink
- Milksnake
- Northern Map Turtle
- Snapping Turtle
- Spotted Turtle

Plants

(E-zaak'kiig)

- American Ginseng
- Bluehearts
- Broad Beech Fern
- Butternut
- Green Dragon
- Heart-leaved Plantain
- Pitcher's Thistle

Birds

(Bineshiinyag)

- Acadian Flycatcher
- Chimney Swift
- Hooded Warbler
- Least Bittern
- Prothonotary Warbler
- Whip-poor-will



Eastern Musk Turtle



American Ginseng



Least Bittern



Staff Report

10.(i)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 4, 2013
From: Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services
Subject: Spring Activities

Tree Planting Program

- tree seedling suppliers are reporting slow spring thaw conditions and later than usual tree lifting dates. Normal tree lift date is around April 10th.
- with an estimated minimum 1 week tree nursery startup delay we do not expect delivery of stock until April 30th from the three individual private nurseries supplying 84,000 trees.
- planting program uptake for 2014 for SCRCA is close to record high numbers with most CA's across the province reporting well below average numbers this year.
- SCRCA crews will be planting 75,000 trees this spring
- an additional tree planting crew will be added this year due to the quantity of trees and sites. Three tractor mounted machine planters and possibly one small hand planting crew will be needed to plant 75,000 trees on 27 properties over a 3 week time frame.
- \$180,000 has been secured through 8 separate funding sources this year to offset planting costs for most landowners taking part in this year's program.



Vegetation Control Program

- approximately 120,000 trees require spray maintenance this spring (under the 3 year vegetation control program) plus the 75,000 newly planted trees scheduled this year. Two machine sprayers will start herbicide applications mid to late April pending spring soil conditions.
- most of the 3 year tending work is paid in advance and carried forward each year to cover the cost of the labour and material.

Large Stock Trees

- there are 730 large stock trees on order this spring for approximately 10 landowners and one large bulk order from Brooke-Alvinston
- the Municipality of Brooke-Alvinston is providing a subsidized rate for landowners wanting to plant trees on their property. This resulted in a large landowner uptake for a second year in a row.
- trees range in size from 1 metre for the evergreen trees to 1.8 metres for the hardwood trees. Most of the trees ordered for spring are either potted or balled and burlap stock.
- trees are expected to arrive sometime around the week of April 22nd depending on spring conditions.

Stewardship projects

- there are 23 stewardship projects that are being funded through the provincial species at risk stewardship fund and federal habitat stewardship program (2013-2014 funding year) in the combined amount of \$99,000
- projects include riparian buffers, stream bank stabilization, wetland enhancement or creation and upland habitat improvements
- estimated project value with landowner in-kind and financial contribution is \$639,000
- construction will begin in April for most projects and completed by the end of May
- verbal confirmation has also been received from MNR-SARF to continue with project funding for 2014-2015 as per approved 3 year funding agreement sign in 2013.



Phragmites

- efforts to control phragmites that has invaded a Lake Huron coastal wetland area, approximately 120 acres in size just south of Stoney and Kettle Point will start this spring. Burning and spraying is planned for this year on approximately 30 acres of the area.
- COA funding in the amount of \$10,000 was awarded by MNR for SCRCA to use toward phragmites control work in this area
- we will be working with the Lambton Shores Phragmites volunteer group on this long term project as well as partnering with them for additional funding through to the Great Lakes Community Guardian Fund.
- local MPP Monte McNaughton has been very supportive with the volunteer group by attempting to place Phragmites australis on the noxious weed list in order to make it easier to control this invasive plant without the need of special spray permits.

**Ministry of Agriculture
and Food**

Office of the Minister
77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3
Tel: (416) 326-3074
Fax: (416) 326-3083

**Ministère de l'Agriculture
et de l'Alimentation**

Bureau de la ministre
77, rue Grenville, 11^e étage
Toronto (Ontario) M7A 1B3
Tél. : (416) 326-3074
Télééc. : (416) 326-3083



NOV 22 2013

Mr. Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex
Room 202 North West
Legislative Building
Toronto, Ontario
M7A 1A8

Dear Mr. McNaughton:

Thank you for your letter expressing your concerns regarding *Phragmites australis* and requesting that it be designated as a noxious weed under the *Weed Control Act, 1990*. I appreciate that you have taken the time to write to me on an issue of significance within your riding.

The *Weed Control Act* is intended to counter the potential negative impact that noxious weeds can have on agricultural production. While this is provincial legislation, it is the municipalities that enforce the act within their jurisdiction and pay for that enforcement. Therefore, the province looks for municipal support through the Association of Municipalities of Ontario (AMO) before making changes to the list. For more information on AMO's role in this matter I would encourage you to contact Ms. Pat Vanini, Executive Director of AMO by calling 416-971-9856, ext. 316 or e-mailing pvanini@amo.on.ca.

In order to be considered for inclusion on the list, weeds must have a demonstrated negative impact on agricultural lands. As the Ministry of Natural Resources is the government lead on invasive species control, I am sending a copy of this letter to the Honourable David Oraziotti, Minister of Natural Resources for his information.

Once again, thank you for bringing your concerns to the attention of the government. Please accept my best wishes.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Kathleen".

Kathleen Wynne
Minister of Agriculture and Food

c: The Honourable David Oraziotti, Minister of Natural Resources



Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

Constituency Offices:

☐ 81 Front Street West
Strathroy, ON N7G 1X6
Tel. (519) 245-8696
Fax (519) 245-8697

☐ 360 James Street
Wallaceburg, ON N8A 2N5
Tel. (519) 627-1015
Fax (519) 627-7174

Queen's Park Office:

☐ Rm. 202 NW, Legislative Bldg.
Toronto, ON M7A 1A8
Tel. (416) 325-3362
Fax (416) 325-3275

March 14, 2014

The Hon. Kathleen O. Wynne
Minister of Agriculture and President of the Council
77 Grenville Street, 11th Floor
Toronto, Ontario M7A 1B3

Dear Premier,

Last October I wrote to you with the suggestion that, in light of the rapid spread of the invasive species *Phragmites Australis* and the slow response from the Ministry of Natural Resources, you might consider as Minister of Agriculture adding *Phragmites* to the list of noxious weeds. Your response of November 25, 2013 indicated that additions to the noxious weed list are made after consultation with municipalities ("...the province looks for municipal support through the Association of Municipalities (AMO) before making changes to the list.")

Today I read with full approval that you have found the authority to amend the noxious weeds list and remove from the list common milkweed, that essential ecological support for our beautiful monarch butterflies, and add to the list dog-strangling vine. Minister I commend these actions.

Now that you have confirmed your ability to take direct action on this important file, I would again ask that you immediately add *Phragmites Australis* to the list of noxious weeds.

Sincerely,

Monte McNaughton, MPP
Lambton-Kent-Middlesex

Thanks for looking
into this.
J

- cc. the Hon. David Oraziotti, Minister of Natural Resources
the Hon. Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing
Mr. Ernie Hardeman, MPP Oxford
Mr. Jerry Ouellette, MPP Oshawa
Mr. Jim McDonell, MPP Stormont-Dundas-South Glengarry



Staff Report

10.(ii)



To: Board of Directors
Date: April 4, 2013
From: Steve Shaw, Manager of Conservation Services
Subject: Lambton County Larvicide Program

West Nile Virus Program

- larvicide operations will take place in Lambton County in the summer of 2014.
- the County of Lambton operates a West Nile virus (WNV) surveillance program including a larvicide application program to control mosquito populations in catch basins.
- 70% of the positive samples of WNV are found in the mosquito species *Culex pipiens* (the house mosquito) and related species of *Culex*. The house mosquito breeds mostly in stagnant water that is heavy in organic content. Therefore, catch basins in urban areas are the most common breeding grounds for WNV carrying mosquitoes.
- last year several WNV positive mosquito pools were found in the County of Lambton along with several birds that tested positive for the virus.
- less than 1% of people infected with the virus will get seriously ill, however, there have been a total of seven confirmed human cases of the virus in Lambton County since 2000, including one death in 2005 and a second death in 2006.
- the Conservation Authority has been treating catch basins since 2006 under its Pesticide Operators Licence for the County of Lambton under direction of Community Health Services Department. SCRCA obtains permits each year from the Ministry of the Environment
- approximately 16,000 catch basins are treated in all towns and rural communities with 3 separate applications of methoprene (a mosquito larvicide) between July 1st and August 30th. Approximately 65% of the catch basins are within the City of Sarnia.
- Methoprene disrupts the life cycle of mosquitoes, preventing them from maturing and reproducing and is used in many cities and municipalities throughout South-western Ontario.
- Health Canada studies indicate methoprene is of low toxicity and poses little risk to people when used according to the label instructions.

Catch Basin Samples for Larvicide Efficacy – 2013

- last year SCRCA staff sampled a number of randomly chosen catch basins treated with pellets and long term briquettes.
- ten samples were collected in three different areas (Sarnia, Forest, and Petrolia).
- the samples contain mosquito pupae that were then monitored for several days for the emergence of adult mosquitos
- the goal was to collect 25 pupae for each sample cup. This was difficult to obtain and in order to reduce the influence of smaller sample sizes having an impact on the overall emergence rate the data was filtered so only samples that contained 20 or more pupae were looked at.
- in total there were 21 samples collected with 20 or more pupae.
- the average mosquito emergence rate for all testing was 12.9% which represents an 87.1% effective rate for larvicide application.



ST. CLAIR REGION CONSERVATION AUTHORITY REGULATIONS ACTIVITY REPORT

March 31, 2014

TO: SCRCA Chair and Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Administration – Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

FROM: Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner / Regulations Officer

A summary of staff activity related to the Conservation Authority's *Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation* (Ontario Regulation 171/06 under Ontario Regulation 97/04) is presented below. This report covers the period from February 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014.

February 1, 2014 to February 28, 2014

FA #	Applicant and Subject Property	Permit Required to:	Section 28 of the Conservation Authority's Act "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulation Permissions may be granted where in the opinion of the CA, the control of Flooding, Erosion, Dynamic Beach, Pollution, or the Conservation of Land will not be affected by the development.	Date Permit Issued
10725	Pollutech EnviroQuatics Ltd./ Shell Canada Products 130 St. Clair Parkway Lots 69, 70, Concession Front Geographic Township of Moore County of Lambton	Modifications to the Shell Canada Products' Commercial Dock	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Modifications to existing structure; • Works to be completed on land and from barge (no in water work); • No impact on flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to watercourse or slope are required; • Proposed structure is consistent with existing dock in the area and does not project or encroach within the river channel in such a manner that it effects, aggravates or creates ice jamming or interferes with ice breaking activities; • Watercourse flows will not be obstructed, restricted or otherwise negatively altered in any way by the placement of the dock and deck structures. 	Feb 11
10814	Enbridge Pipelines Inc. c/o Erin Sanford Lot 11, Concession 4 Geographic Township of Sarnia County of Lambton	Conduct an Integrity Dig (MP 1745.9587)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verifying and repairing an existing pipeline is considered minor works; • Works will be conducted at least 15m from the open watercourse; • Appropriate sediment and erosion control measures will be utilized; • Proposed work will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope or grade are required; • The site will be restored to original or better condition upon completion of works; 	Feb 19
10815	Enbridge Pipelines Inc. c/o Erin Sanford Lot 11, Concession 4 Geographic Township of Sarnia County of Lambton	Conduct an Integrity Dig (MP 1745.9695)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Verifying and repairing an existing pipeline is considered minor works; • Works will be conducted at least 5m from the open watercourse; • Appropriate sediment and erosion control measures will be utilized; • Proposed works will have no impact on flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope or the grade are required; • The site will be restored to original or better condition upon completion of works; 	Feb 19
10847	Rural Lambton Stewardship	Complete a Wetland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; 	Feb 11

	Network (Lindsay Buchanan) 27018 Winterline Road Lot 12, Concession 14 Geographic Township of Dover Municipality of Chatham-Kent	Restoration project. Eradicate phragmites and create/enhance approximately 10 acres of wetland habitat, as well as install 4 free-span bridge crossings to allow public access trail on the subject property.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proper sediment and erosion control measures including best management practices will be utilized; • All work will be conducted in the dry and will not be conducted when flows are present due to local rain events, storms or seasonal flooding; • A minimum 100m vegetated buffer will be maintained between the work site and the St. Clair River; • All disturbed areas will be stabilized immediately and re-vegetated as soon as possible; • No in water works will be conducted 	
10850	Daviduurma Between 3933 & 3947 Petrolia Line Part 2 & 3 of Lot 10 Lot 10, Concession 10 Geographic Township of Enniskillen County of Lambton	Construction of a New Single Family Dwelling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proposal will not aggravate the erosion process; • Proposal will not be impacted by the erosion hazard; • Excess fill will be removed from property; • Proposed works do not increase risk to life and/or property; • Geotechnical Slope Stability Review was completed by exp Service Inc; • Structural Engineering Drawings were completed by Dave Polowick Design; • Works are located outside the Regulatory Floodplain and will have no adverse effect to flooding; • Dwelling is to be dry passive floodproofed; • The lowest opening will be at a minimum elevation of 198.5m (C.G.D) and the area around the building will be filled to a minimum elevation of 198.5 m (C.G.D) for a horizontal distance of 2m; 	Feb 11

March 1, 2014 to March 31, 2014

FA #	Applicant and Subject Property	Permit Required to:	Section 28 of the Conservation Authority`s Act "Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines & Watercourses" Regulation Permissions may be granted where in the opinion of the CA, the control of Flooding, Erosion, Dynamic Beach, Pollution, or the Conservation of Land will not be affected by the development.	Date Permit Issued
10788	Susanne McRae Vacant Lot between 4328 and 4338 Bluepoint Drive Lot 15, Plan 448 Lot 40, Concession Front Geographic Township of Plympton County of Lambton	Construction of a new single family dwelling with loft, unfinished basement and attached 1 ½ car garage) approximately 1707 sq. ft.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The new dwelling and all construction activities at its closest location to the shoreline will be situated outside of the stable slope allowance plus 50yr. RR (greater than 78m from the toe of the shoreline) • No grading changes, excavation, fill placement, site alterations etc. will be required between the proposed dwelling and the top of the bank of the bluff slope; • All surface and subsurface drainage will be controlled on the subject property as per the certified lot grading plan prepared by Monteith & Sutherland Ltd., File No. PLY-1079, Plan File No. F-6543, dated February 25, 2014, titled Lot 15 Registered Plan No. 448 (PY) Town of Plympton-Wyoming, County of Lambton and directed away from the shoreline bluff and towards the sewers on Bluepoint Drive; • Proposal meets requirements of the SCRCA Shoreline Development Policy; Section 1; • Excess fill will be removed from site; 	Mar 21

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ingress/Egress is maintained; 	
10851 A	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. John & Deborah Gilliard 8097 Jericho Road Lot 7, Concession 8 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER1037) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11
10851 B	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Allan & Phyllis Williamson 9345 Army Camp Road Lot 50, Concession W of Lake Road Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER1077) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11
10851 C	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Doris Gilliard 7764 Kinnaird Road Lot 30, Concession Southern Boundary Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Installation of Collection Lines (JER1095) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11
10851 D	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Jack Van Engelen 7728 Northville Road Lot 1, Concession 5 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER3325) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11

<p>10851 E</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. David & Jo-Ann Gilliard 7962 Army Camp Road Lot 5 , Concession 9 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER3401) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 11</p>
<p>10851 F</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Joseph, Marlyn, John & Nancy Marcinov 8051 Jericho Road Lot 6 , Concession 8 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER3405) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 11</p>
<p>10851 G</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Townsend View Farms Ltd. 7681 Northville Road Lot 15, Concession Southern Boundary Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads; Installation of Collection Lines; Potential Turbine Construction Area Disturbance (JER3326) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 11</p>
<p>10851 H</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Gary, Randy, & John Gilliard 8056 Jericho Road Lot 6, Concession 7 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER1082) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 11</p>

108511	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. David & Jo-Ann Gilliard 8009 Army Camp Road Lot 6, Concession 10 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of Roads & Collection Lines (JER3157) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11
10851 J	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Jo-Ann Gilliard 8009 Army Camp Road Lot 6, Concession 10 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Installation of Collection Lines and Ground Disturbance as the Result of Turbine Construction (JER3158) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 11
10851 K	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Jennifer Soetemans 7389 Townsend Line Lot 14, Concession 7 Geographic Township of Warwick County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of a Watercourse crossing; construction of roads and collection lines; creation of turbine construction disturbance for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 14
10851 L	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Adrian VanEngelen 7680 Townsend Line Lot 16/17/18, Concession Southern Boundary Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of watercourse crossing; Construction of Roads and collection lines (JER3435) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 14

<p>10851 M</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. David & Jo-Ann Gilliard 0 Kinnaird Road Lot 5, Concession 11 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of watercourse crossing; Construction of roads and collection lines (JER3245) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 14</p>
<p>10851 N</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Allan & Phyllis Williamson 7680 Lakeshore Road Lot 51, Concession West of Lake Road Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of a Wind turbine; Construction of access road and collection line; Potential ground and area disturbance from turbine construction (JER1001) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 14</p>
<p>10851 O</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Rick & Julie Deweerdt 6492 Elarton Road Lot 7, Concession 2 NER Geographic Township of Warwick County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of a wind turbine; construction of access road and collection line; potential ground and area disturbance from turbine construction (JER1364) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; • All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	<p>Mar 14</p>
<p>10851 P</p>	<p>Jericho Wind Inc. Earl & Alice Thomas Jericho Road Lot 4, Concession 7 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton</p>	<p>Construction of a wind turbine; construction of access road and collection line; potential ground and area disturbance from turbine construction</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; • Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; • Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; • Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; • No alterations to the slope are required; 	<p>Mar 14</p>

		(JER3411) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	
10851 Q	Jericho Wind Inc. Gary, Randy & John Gilliard Jericho Road Lot 5, Concession 7 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton	Construction of a wind turbine; construction of a waterbody crossing; construction of an access road and installation of collection lines; potential ground and area disturbance as a result of turbine construction (JER1021) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; No alterations to the slope are required; All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 14
10851 R	Jericho Wind Inc. Lyle & Alice Slaughter Hickory Creek Line Lot 11, Concession 6 Geographic Township of Warwick County of Lambton	Construction of a Wind Turbine; Construction of a waterbody crossing; Construction of an access road and installation of collection lines; potential ground and area disturbance as a result of turbine construction (JER1706) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; No alterations to the slope are required; All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings submitted with application; 	Mar 14
10851 S	Jericho Wind Inc. Carabob Farms Ltd Army Camp Road Lot 7, Concession 10 Geographic Township of Bosanquet County of Lambton	Construction of a Wind Turbine; Construction of a Waterbody Crossing; Construction of an access road and installation of collection lines; Potential ground and area disturbance as	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appropriate sediment and erosion control will be installed prior to the commencement of construction and maintained throughout the works; Construction area will be restored to original condition and all debris will be removed off site; Disturbed soils are to be stabilized and re-vegetated immediately after completion of the works; Existing grades will be maintained and therefore proposed works will have no impact to flood flows or elevations; No alterations to the slope are required; All construction to be completed as per detailed engineered drawings 	Mar 14

		a result of turbine construction (JER3156) for the proposed Jericho Wind Inc. Jericho Wind Energy Centre	submitted with application;	
10853	Sarnia Yacht Club c/o Richard DesRosiers 1220 Fort Street Lot 69, Concession 0 Geographic Township of Sarnia County of Lambton	Complete routine maintenance hydraulic dredge approximately 30m wide x 213m long x 3m deep.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The slurry will be broadcast into Lake Huron into the same dumping area used in the 2013 dredge and the depth of the dumping area will be no less than 3m deep; Appropriate mitigation measures will be employed to control sediment and erosion; Proposed works will have no impact on flood flows or elevations; No alterations to the slope or grade are required; The site will be restored to original, or better, condition upon completion of works. 	Mar 11
10852	Nick and Chantelle Core Proposed Dwelling Relocation/Redevelopment 4090 Bluepoint Drive Lot 39 and 40, Concession Front Geographic Township of Plympton County of Lambton	<p><u>UPDATE</u></p> <p><u>Board Hearing Decision Feb, 6, 2014:</u></p> <p>BD-14-017 MacKinnon – Faas</p> <p>That the Hearing Board, in accordance with the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act, held a hearing regarding Nick & Chantelle Core, Application #10852 on February 6, 2014, and hereby approves the application as per Lot Grading Plan of Lot 46, Registered Plan 28(PY) Town of Plympton-Wyoming, County of Lambton, completed by Nisbet, Robertson, Drawing Number 13-234-C, dated September 3, 2013, conditional on the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Total square area (the total area of all floors above grade measured between the outside surfaces of exterior walls, including interior parking) is not greater than 164 sq. m; The approval is based on relocation of the existing dwelling as per the application; All other standard SCRCA staff approval permit requirements (i.e. proper grading/drainage, hazard on title). <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice of Decision sent to the proponents from staff of the SCRCA dated February 18, 2014; SCRCA received correspondence from Patton Cormier and Associates dated February 25, 2014, addressed to The Honorable David Orazietti, that their clients (Nick Core and Chantelle Core) hearby appeal condition #1 to the St. Clair Conservation Authority's approval of Application #10852; Authority staff contacted lawyer Grant Inglis on February 27, 2014, and forwarded copy of appeal. Authority staff asked if Grant would represent the Authority on this matter; April 3, 2014, the SCRCA received correspondence from Patton Cormier and Associates dated April 3, 2014, addressed to The Honourable David Orazietti, noting that their office has contacted the office of the Minister of Natural Resources on at least four occasions in an effort to confirm that their appeal letter was received and to determine the status of the appeal. The letter went on further to say that to date, no one at the Ministers office has been able to assist them in this regard, and that it is imperative that they receive an answer to these inquires so that they may advise their clients as to the next steps in the appeals process; 		

March 31, 2014

TO: SCRCA Chair and Board of Directors

SUBJECT: Enforcement- Section 28 Status Report – Development, Interference of Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses Regulation

FROM: Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/Regulations Officer

File	Background
<p>FV # 201216</p> <p>2894 Old Lakeshore Road Lot 4, Concession 9 Geographic Township of Sarnia, County of Lambton</p> <p>Official Violation Notice Sent</p> <p>Notice of Violation Letter sent to agent (son of landowner) September 27, 2012</p> <p>Notice of Violation Form sent to agent (son of landowner) September 27, 2012</p> <p>Formal Letter outlining Authority Requirements sent March 13, 2013;</p> <p>Deadline for Action</p> <p>Statute of Limitations 2 years from date Authority made aware of violation;</p> <p>September 27, 2012 Authority sent notice of violation;</p> <p>September 27, 2014 statute of limitations expires;</p> <p>5 months and 4 days until Sept 27, 2014;</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Conducted site investigation October 4, 2012;• Unauthorized deck construction works along the Lake Huron Shoreline on the subject property had occurred in violation of Section 28 of the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>, as landowner did not apply or receive approval to carry out these works;• Authority staff met with the proponents on October 26, 2012 and outlined Authority's role in hazard land management and reasons for concerns with deck structure;• Authority staff advised that deck must be removed, and discussed options for relocating to area of decreased risk;• Authority Staff contacted the City of Sarnia to determine ownership of land where the deck has been constructed;• Deck appears to be off the landowners property and on an area of land between the water's edge and the subject property;• City of Sarnia to look into ownership of the land and determine if city owns the land in the location of the constructed deck;• Authority staff awaiting confirmation from City of Sarnia on landownership situation before proceeding accordingly;• City responded to the Authority that the Registry Office indicated any unpinned property belonged to the Crown, therefore it is not City property. While some maps may indicate the structure extends beyond the homeowners' property, the only way to know for sure would be to have a surveyor go out there;• Authority staff to proceed with formal letter to the proponent outlining Authority requirements;• Proponent responded to the Authority March 27, 2013 via solicitor that they will be proceeding with an application for the works undertaken with modifications to meet SCRCA policy;• CA Staff met with Landowner and solicitor on Tuesday, May 21, 2013 on site to discuss;• Landowner was quite adamant that removing the structure is not an option for them;• Discussion was mostly on what investigations/reports/modifications/etc. needed to be completed to allow deck structure to remain somewhere on the property;• Following the meeting the solicitor responded formally with a written response to the Authority (received May 25, 2013), that they will be retaining the services of a qualified professional coastal engineer to review the works undertaken and complete a report on the dynamic beach, structure, coastal processes, impacts, and recommendation, etc.;• Follow up correspondence sent September 4, 2013 stating;• The Authority requires that you provide written correspondence to the Authority by October 6, 2013, indicating if you have indeed retained the services of Shoreplan Engineering, and the date at which you will be submitting an application for the works undertaken with modifications to meet SCRCA policy as per correspondence sent to you from the Authority dated March 13, 2013, including an assessment completed by a qualified professional engineer with experience in coastal processes (Shoreplan) ensuring that deck is not negatively impacting coastal processes (Deck must be located outside defined portions of the Dynamic Beach Hazard and design must minimize impact to dune area). Confirmation from Shoreplan Engineering that they are working on Shoreline Hazard Assessment

	<p>should be submitted to the Authority with your correspondence.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Authority requires that subject violation is resolved. If the Authority is not satisfied that adequate measures are being undertaken to submit an application for the works undertaken with modifications to meet SCRCA policy as outlined in correspondence from the Authority to the proponent March 13, 2013, or the unauthorized deck construction is not removed from the property by October 6, 2013, the Authority will proceed with further legal action as specified under the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>. • Letter from solicitor received October 2, 2013; • Noted that Shoreplan Engineering visited the property and will be retained, they attached a letter they sent to Shoreplan stating this; • Letter stated that their still remains an issue with respect to the location of the important northerly boundary of the property which in the solicitors legal view would be approximately 10 ft. north of the bank; • They asked that the Authority allow them until the end of November to obtain and review the Shoreplan Engineering Report and to allow them to provide a legal opinion with respect to confirming the northerly limits to the property in question; • Shoreplan Engineer contacted the SCRCA in Late November to confirm he had been retained and that he would be working on Shoreline Assessment in December; • Staff from SCRCA sent Shoreplan background on file and the shoreline hazard information; • Jan 24, 2014, Staff of SCRCA emailed Shoreplan for update on shoreline assessment, no response from Shoreplan to date; • February 4, 2014 staff contacted solicitor of the landowner for status in respect to providing a legal opinion with respect to confirming the northerly limits to the property in question; • Solicitor to contact the landowner and see where they are at with Shoreplan review, and provide legal letter to SCRCA on this and property ownership issue; • Authority staff re-iterated that structure needs to be removed from the hazard (dynamic beach limit) and that the Authority requires that subject violation be resolved; • If the Authority is not satisfied that adequate measures are being undertaken to submit an application for the works undertaken with modifications to meet SCRCA policy as outlined in correspondence from the Authority to the proponent March 13, 2013, or the unauthorized deck construction is not removed to a location outside the dynamic beach hazard, the Authority will proceed with further legal action as specified under the <i>Conservation Authorities Act</i>.
<p><u>UPDATE</u></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Feb 21, 2014, staff of the SCRCA received survey and legal opinion that the deck and boardwalk are located on the subject property from the solicitor; • March 28, 2014, staff of the SCRCA received letter from the Solicitor that the report from Shoreplan Coastal Engineers is complete and in their possession. They are forwarding a copy of the report to the SCRCA for our records, solicitors view is that the Shoreplan report and the survey with previous correspondence will address the concerns of the SCRCA; • April 7, 2014, staff called the solicitors office as the Shoreplan report has not been received to date; • Staff to review the Shoreplan report when received;

Recommended and approved by:

Dallas Cundick, Environmental Planner/Regulations Officer

Melissa Deisley, Regulations Officer

Patty Hayman, Director of Planning

SCRCA Monthly Planning Activity Summary 2014 February

11.(ii)

File Ref.	Municipality	Geographic Twp.	Concession	Lot	Street
FI 2014	CHATHAM-KENT	CAMDEN	CON 5 GORE	LOT 3	WELLINGTON STREET
FI 2014	DAWN-EUPHEMIA	DAWN	CON 8	LOT 24	OIL HERITAGE ROAD
FI 2014	ENNISKILLEN	ENNISKILLEN	CON 2	LOT 30	OIL SPRINGS LINE
VAR A01/2014	LAMBTON SHORES	BOSANQUET	CON WEST	LOT 72	BROADVIEW AVE
FI 2014	MIDDLESEX CENTRE	LOBO	CON 8	LOT 16	IVAN DRIVE
OPA 33	MIDDLESEX CENTRE	LOBO	CON 1	LOT 1	
FI 2014	PETROLIA	ENNISKILLEN	CON 10	LOT 12	PRINCESS STREET
FI 2012	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON 9	LOT 10	CAMLACHIE ROAD
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON 2	LOT 1	CONFEDERATION LINE
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 30	LAKESHORE ROAD
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 16	QUEEN STREET
ZBA 2013	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 22	BONNIE DOONE ROAD
FI 2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON 6	LOT 13	BLACKWELL SIDEROAD
SEV B1/2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON FRONT	LOT 31	LAKESHORE ROAD
SEV B2/2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON 9	LOT 32	LAKESURE ROAD
VAR A4/2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON 9	LOT 32	LAKESHORE ROAD
LL 2014	ST. CLAIR	SOMBRA	CON 14	LOT 1	BASELINE ROAD
SEV B01/2014	ST. CLAIR	SOMBRA	CON 5	LOT C	ST. CLAIR PARKWAY
VAR A1/2014	ST. CLAIR	SOMBRA	CON 13	LOT B	ST. CLAIR PARKWAY
FI 2014	STRATHROY-CARADOC	CARADOC	CON 10	LOT 23	HICKORY DRIVE

SCRCA Monthly Planning Activity Summary 2014 March

File Ref.	Municipality	Geographic Twp.	Concession	Lot	Street
LL 2014	CHATHAM-KENT	CAMDEN	CON 4 GORE	LOT 3	HUGES STREET
LL 2014	CHATHAM-KENT	CHATHAM	CON 2 GORE	LOT 11	RUNNING CREEK DRIVE
SEV B13/14	CHATHAM-KENT	DOVER	CON 12	LOT 10	CAST LINE
FI 2014	ENNISKILLEN	ENNISKILLEN	CON 13	LOT 13	LA SALLE LINE
LL 2014	ENNISKILLEN	ENNISKILLEN	CON 11	LOT 5	PETROLIA LINE
SEV B5/2013	LAMBTON SHORES	BOSANQUET	CON 19	LOT 2	EAST PARKWAY DRIVE
FI 2014	MIDDLESEX CENTRE	LOBO	CON 5	LOT 11	EGREMONT ROAD
FI 2014	MIDDLESEX CENTRE	LOBO	CON 8	LOT 7	ILDERTON ROAD
SEV B20/2011	MIDDLESEX CENTRE	LOBO	CON 8	LOT 6	
FI 2014	PETROLIA	ENNISKILLEN	CON 9	LOT 11	MAUDE STREET
GI 2014	PETROLIA	ENNISKILLEN	CON 11	LOT 12	CENTRE STREET
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON 5	LOT 2	LONDON LINE
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 13	EGREMONT ROAD
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 6	DANA STREET
FI 2014	PLYMPTON-WYOMING	PLYMPTON	CON FRONT	LOT 24	BONNIE DOONE ROAD
EA 01-2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON 4	LOT 15	
FI 2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON FRONT	LOT 2	ST. CLAIR PARKWAY
FI 2014	SARNIA	SARNIA	CON 7	LOT 12	LONDON LINE

File Reference Codes:

CZ - Comprehensive Zoning
 ZBA - Minor Zoning Bylaws and Amendments
 OP(A) - Official Plan (Amendments)
 TC - Tree Cutting

SEV - Severances
 VAR - Variances
 EA / PLEA - Environmental Assessment
 SUB - Subdivision Plans

GI - General Inquiry
 LL - Legal Letters
 SP - Site Plan
 DAR - Development Assessment Review

FI - Regulations (Fill) Inquiry
 NM - Nutrient Management
 PTTW - Permit to Take Water
 SPA - Site Plan Amendments

FI 2014	ST. CLAIR	MOORE	CON FRONT	LOT 57	
FI 2014	ST. CLAIR	MOORE	CON 5	LOT 28	COURTRIGHT LINE
FI 2014	ST. CLAIR	SOMBRA	CON 10	LOT C	ST. CLAIR PARKWAY
LL 2014	STRATHROY-CARADOC	CARADOC	CON 4	LOT 20	CENTURY DRIVE
LL 2014	STRATHROY-CARADOC	CARADOC	CON 8	LOT 8	SUTHERLAND ROAD

Meetings

Feb 6 – Walpole Island Heritage Centre, Strathroy Office, A .Seidler, B. McDougall
Feb 6 – City of Sarnia, Proposed Severance on Lakeshore, Pre-Consultation – D.C, and P.H.
Feb 12-13 – 2014 AOC Workshop, Burlington – C. Lafrance, D. Strang
Feb 25 – Committee of Adjustment Sarnia re: B1/14 Longo – P. Hayman
Feb 26 – AOC Symposium Planning Meeting, Port Huron, Michigan – D. Strang
Feb 28 – Lambton Shores Terms of Reference and preconsultation mtg re Ipperwash – M. Andreae and P. Hayman
Mar 5 – Friends of the St. Clair River Meeting, Mooretown – C. Lafrance, D. Strang
Mar 5 – Augerman Drain Information Meeting, Strathroy-Caradoc Town Hall – M. Andreae, M. Deisley
Mar 13 – Cedar Point Wind Project, Teleconference – D. Cundick, M. Deisley
Mar 17 – Lecture – Ridgetown College – C.Durand
Mar 20 – Lambton College Research Day, Sarnia – D. Strang
Mar 20 – Detroit River Fish Populations BUI Update Meeting, Windsor – C. Lafrance
Mar 20 – PPS 2014 Training Session and Webinar – M. Deisley, P. Hayman, D.C.
Mar 25 – Provincial CA Coastal working group mtg @ Halton – P. Hayman
Mar 25 – Binational Public Advisory Council Meeting, Port Huron, Michigan – C. Lafrance
Mar 26 – MNHS Update, Komoka Wellness Centre – M. Deisley, M. Andreae
Mar 28 – Preliminary MOA SCRCA Planning Services – D. Posliff, P. Hayman, B. McDougall, M. Andreae

File Reference Codes:

CZ - Comprehensive Zoning
ZBA - Minor Zoning Bylaws and Amendments
OP(A) - Official Plan (Amendments)
TC - Tree Cutting

SEV - Severances
VAR - Variances
EA / PLEA - Environmental Assessment
SUB - Subdivision Plans

GI - General Inquiry
LL - Legal Letters
SP - Site Plan
DAR - Development Assessment Review

FI – Regulations (Fill) Inquiry
NM - Nutrient Management
PTTW- Permit to Take Water
SPA – Site Plan Amendments