



2010 Custodial Management Project Summary Report

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**2010 Carling Stewards – Jackson Kuhn (left) and Kevin Cooke
Rehabilitating a fire pit on Franklin Island**

Introduction:

The Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council (EGBSC) in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) and numerous community groups, have conducted custodial management work on Crown lands – and in particular Conservation Reserves (CRs) since 2006. This project was continued in 2010.

Partner community groups vary from year to year. In 2010, the Township of Carling (Carling Stewards Initiative) and White Squall Paddling Centre (Squallions Out Digging – SOD Initiative) were lead partner organizations in conducting two independent Crown land custodial operations. The EGBSC though the efforts of the Ontario Stewardship Rangers also conducted custodial activities.

The EGBSC receives funding support for this project via the Ministry's Conservation Reserve Program. Consequently, activities are generally – although not exclusively, concentrated on Conservation Reserve lands. In 2010, custodial activities occurred in the following areas:

- Carling Stewards Initiative encompassed Franklin Island (C-118 Franklin Island White Pine Forest Conservation Reserve) and Huckleberry Island
- White Squall SOD Initiative encompassed Crown islands stretching from the Sandy Island vicinity in the south to the McCoy Islands in the north (E39g Great Lakes Coastal Area Enhanced Management Area)
- Moon River area (C-90 Lower Moon River Conservation Reserve).

Custodial activities included:

1. Behind-the-scenes campsite clean-up. *(All campers are encouraged and expected to clean-up after themselves. However, for the small minority who fail to abide by this principle, behind-the-scenes clean-up is necessary.)*
2. Posting of high-use camp sites with 'Best Camping Practices' sign.
3. Installation and maintenance of bush latrines at high-use campsites to address human waste issues.

In the case of the Carling Stewards initiative, additional efforts are directed at public awareness and data collection (e.g. duration of stay; residence location; access method, etc.).

Note: Program goals, objectives and methodologies are well described in previous annual reports for this program. The following reports are available on the EGBSC website at www.helpourfisheries.com. Look under the "Reports and Documents" tab at the top of the home page.

- Franklin Island Custodial Co-management Summary Report 2006
- 2007 Custodial Management Summary Report
- 2008 Custodial (Campsite) Program Summary Report
- 2009 Custodial Management Summary Report

Project #1 – Carling Stewards Initiative

Administration and supervision of the Carling Stewards project was provided by Carling Township as the lead partner. As in the previous three years, Carling Township hired two students to conduct custodial work on Franklin Island and Huckleberry Island. The EGBSC contributed \$2000 towards this initiative. Other supporting partners included: Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, Georgian Bay Land Trust, White Squall Paddling Centre, West Carling Association, North Sound Association and Great Lakes Sea Kayaking Association (GLSKA).

In addition to the financial contribution towards this project, the EGBSC provided

- Bush latrines – as requested by Carling Stewards
- On July 22, worked with Carling Stewards to provide guidance and instruction with respect to campsite clean-up standards; including rehabilitation and decommissioning of fire pits; installation and maintenance of bush latrines; signage
- Provision of tools to assist with the above tasks.

The project summary report submitted by the Carling Stewards on September 29, 2010 was essentially a data base of their activities and observations. The following is a summary of data collected:

- A total of 539 campsite visitations were made over the course of the summer (June 24 – Aug. 29)
- 90.2% of campsites visited were deemed to be in “satisfactory” condition. (This was a rather subjective rating, but stewards were to answer the question: “If you were then next party to camp here would you be satisfied or unsatisfied with its condition?)
- 9.8% of campsites visited were deemed to be in “unsatisfactory” condition.
- Of the 53 campsites visited in unsatisfactory condition, 17 (or 32%) were on Huckleberry Island.
- On Franklin Island, campsites found to unsatisfactory:
 - On one occasion: Sites 4, 5, 9, 12 and 16
 - On two occasions: Sites 6, 8, 18 and 19
 - On three occasions: Site 11
 - On four occasions: Sites 2 and 15
 - On six occasions: Site 14
 - On eight occasions: Site 13 (This included sites the Carling Stewards designated as 13a and 13b, which we are unfamiliar with. We presume these represent close-by sites not previously designated with a number.)
 - Note: See Appendix A for campsite number designation
- On Huckleberry Island, campsites found to be unsatisfactory:
 - On three occasions: Sites 2 and 3
 - On four occasions: Site 4
 - On five occasions: Site 1
 - Note: See Appendix B for campsite designation
- The number of camping parties reporting occupancy:
 - For one night: 24
 - For two nights: 49
 - For three nights: 13
 - For four nights: 2
 - For five or more nights: 11

- Longest camping duration reported: 17 nights
- Number of camping parties consisting of:
 - One member: 4
 - Two members: 23
 - Three members: 8
 - Four members: 16
 - Five members: 16
 - Six members: 9
 - Seven members: 5
 - Eight members: 11
 - Nine members: 3
 - Ten or more members: 24
 - Reported party size included: 14, 15, 17, 18 and approximately 40 members!
- Point of Access:
 - Dillon – 36
 - Snug Harbour – 32
 - Parry Sound – 13
 - Private Cottage – 16
 - Other – 8 (included Midland, Spanish Harbour, Pointe Au Baril, Killbear Park and Honey Harbour)
- Mode of water transport:
 - Boat – 62
 - Kayak – 41
 - Canoe – 17
 - Sailboat – 1
- Permanent Residence:
 - Parry Sound and area – 18
 - Greater Toronto Area – 11
 - Other S. Ontario Cities -23
 - Other Central Ontario Cities – 3
 - Other Northern Ontario Cities – 7
 - United States – 3
 - Other than above - 4
- Number of garbage bags the Carling Stewards reported collecting and disposing of: 60 bags
- The data base (excel spreadsheet) provided by the Carling Stewards is available upon request.

Project #2 – White Squall Paddling Centre S.O.D. Initiative

White Squall Paddling Centre conducted a custodial project on the 'outer islands' in the vicinity of Parry Island and Carling Township. (The term 'outer islands' generally encompassed islands in the vicinity of Sandy Island in the south to the McCoy Islands in the north.)

This project was led by White Squall who provided the manpower and equipment. Financial support was provided by various partners (EGBSC - \$1k; Geo. Bay Land Trust - .5k; Great Lakes Sea Kayak Assn - .15k; and private financial donations. Outstanding costs were borne by White Squall. Supporting partners contributed \$1.85k of the total project cost of \$4.22k.)

Two White Squall staff spent nine days during the summer of 2010 working on the project. They had the use of large motor boat. The summary report for the project indicated they cleaned and/or monitored 30 campsites; relocated 12 bush latrines and installed four additional latrines.

They further reported: "... the entire archipelago seems to be in good shape. The only island sustaining notable damage was Snake Island, and with the assistance of the Great Lakes Sea Kayak Association the cleanup was effective. Staff have reported normal campsite usage and people seem to be exercising good wilderness camping etiquette."

We (Eric McIntyre and Bob Gilman) had occasion to camp on or inspect campsites on Cathcart Island, Rumble Island, Snake Island, Green Island, Elmtree Island, Dart Island and Big McCoy Island – and invariably found campsites at these locations to be in excellent condition when we were there.

Project #3 – Ontario Stewardship Rangers

This year's EGBSC Ontario Stewardship Ranger crew consisted of crew leader Darren Bonenberg and crew members Tyson Pamajewon, Trent Nevin, Cody England and Evan Holmes.

The rangers were very helpful in constructing approximately 16 bush latrines that were distributed to the Carling Stewards, the White Squall SOD project as well as a number installed by the Rangers at the Moon River.

On August 5 and 6, the Ontario Stewardship Ranger Crew along with Eric McIntyre of the EGBSC had occasion to conduct custodial work at the Moon River of eastern Georgian Bay.

Campsite clean-up activities were conducted at sites 1, 2, 4, 6, 7, 8, 9, and 10. Site #5 was decommissioned as it had been posted closed to camping due the presence of a species at risk. An exceedingly large fire pit was removed. Bush latrines were installed at sites 1, 6, 7 and 8. Site 3 was the only well-used campsite not visited; it was occupied at the time. (See Appendix C for campsite locations.)

The amount of 'historical garbage' (that which has lay in the bush for many years) is much reduced at the Moon River due to repetitive clean-up efforts through this project. Nonetheless, we were quite dismayed that sites 1 and 2 continue to be problem sites with new garbage continually being added to them. The condition we found these sites in was deplorable.



2010 EGBSC Ontario Stewardship Ranger Crew (left to right): Evan Holmes, Cody England, Darren Bonenberg (crew leader), Tyson Pamajewon and Trent Nevin. The crew is about to commence rehabilitating a fire pit at campsite #9 on the Moon River.

In addition to the above projects, as opportunity arose while crown land camping ourselves, we utilized these occasions to assess the state of various campsites.

In August we attended several campsites amongst the Mink and McCoy Islands and found them to be in excellent condition. In late August we also attended several sites on Franklin Island; also in excellent condition. In October we again visited Crown land campsites on Mink and McCoy Islands and found them all to be in excellent condition.

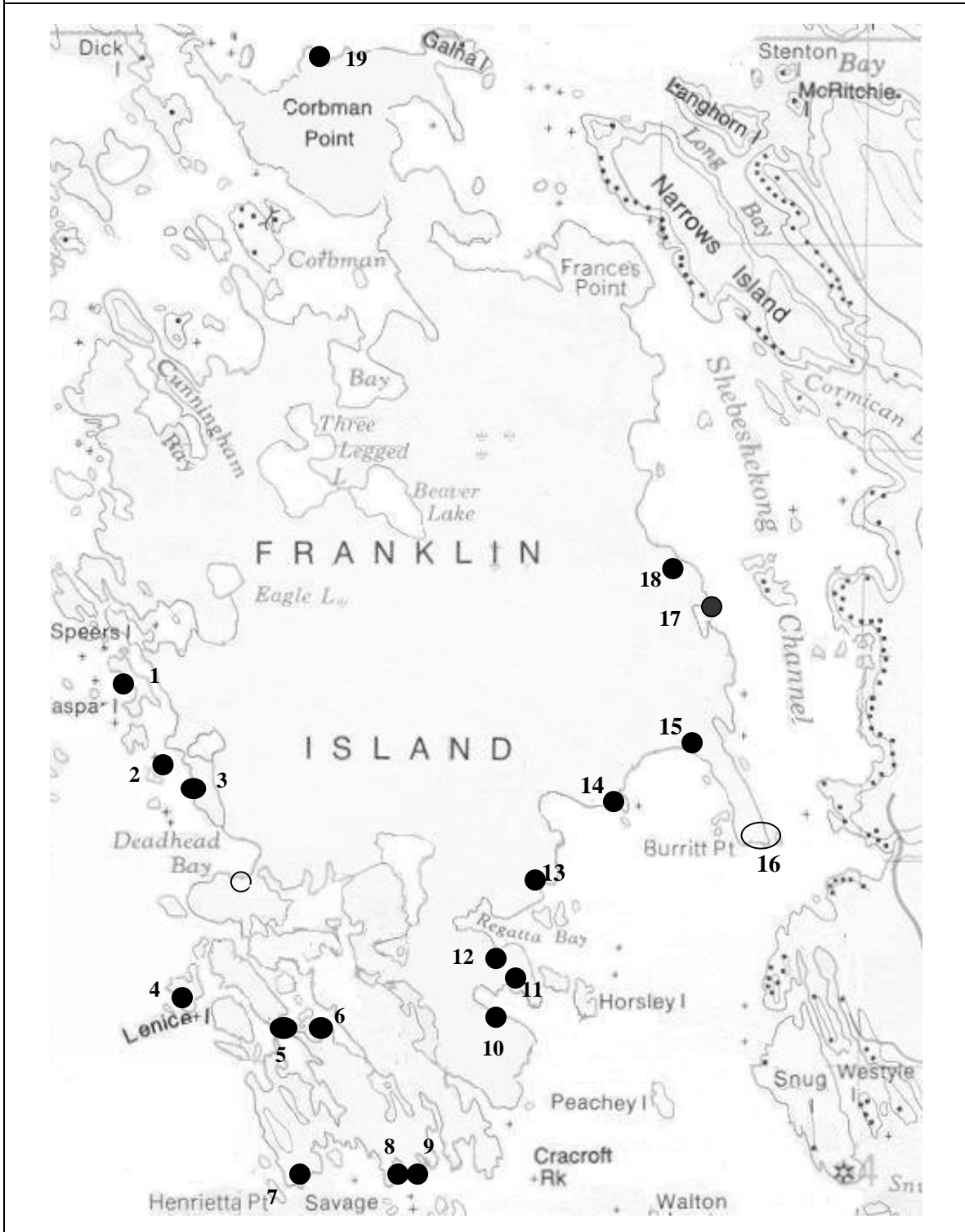
Financial Report:

2010 Income and expenditures are as shown in the following table:

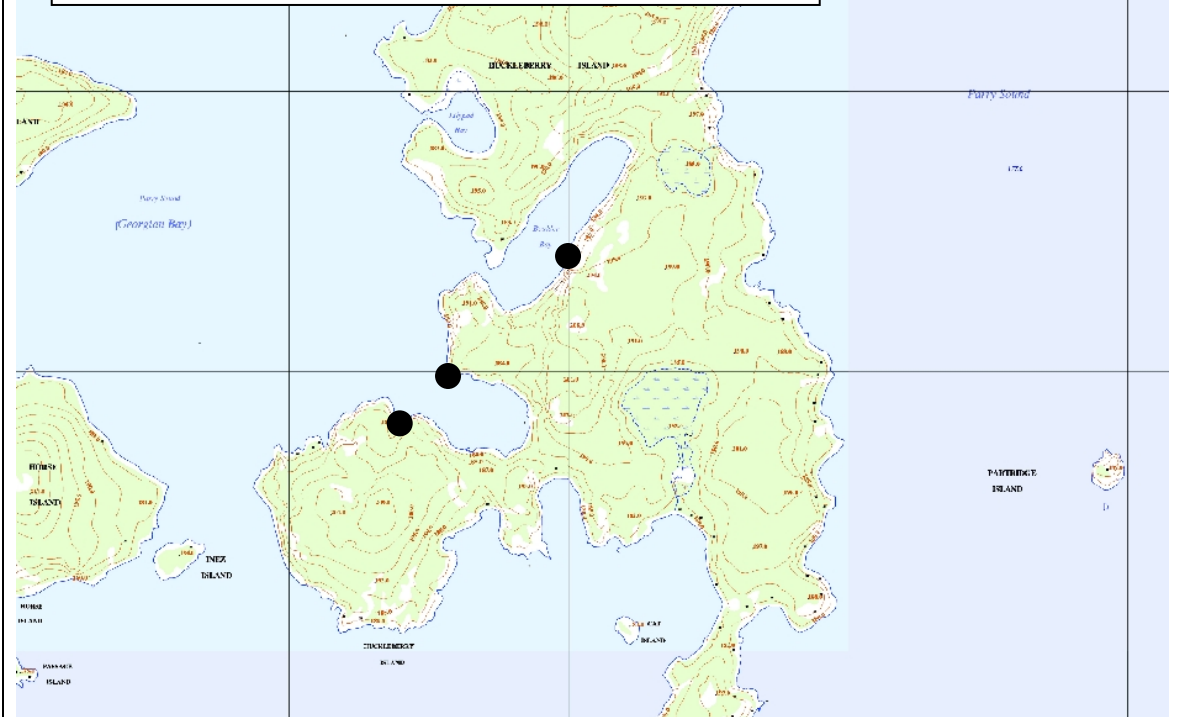
Transaction Record for 2010 Custodial Management Project			Income	Expense	Balance
2010 opening balance (balance forward from 2009)					3328.23
Line 11 - 2010 gen acct	Feb. 24	OSS - Re Carling Partnership	1500.00		4828.23
Line 28 - Gen acct.	May-19	White Squall (support SOD project)		1000.00	3828.23
Line 37 - 2010 gen acct	21-Jun	SciCorp International (Biologic decomp)		417.59	4410.64
Line 24 - 2010 petty cash acct	Jul-23	Cdn Tire (tools for Carling Stewards)		65.52	4345.12
Line 52 - Gen. acct	31-Jul	Home Lumber (bush latrine supplies)		255.95	4089.17
line 59 - Gen. acct	Aug-31	Home Lumber (bush latrine supplies)		168.78	3920.39
Line 63 - Gen. acct.	Sep-26	Carling Twp. (Carling Stewards contribtn)		2000	1920.39
Line 68 - Gen acct.	Oct. 29	OSS re invoice 2010-22	3060.81		4981.20
2010 Final Balance - Forward to 2011					4981.20

(Details regarding the above expenditures are available from the EGBSC upon request.)

Appendix A – Franklin Island – Major Crown Land campsites



Appendix B – Huckleberry Island Campsites



(Note: We are uncertain about the numbering designation assigned to the Huckleberry Island campsites by the Carling Stewards and omit it here. Furthermore, the stewards indicate four Crown land campsites present, but we are only aware of three. These are noted by the black circles above.)

Appendix C – Moon River Area Campsites

