

Record of Proceedings - Meeting Minutes Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Meeting Date: Wed. Dec. 1, 2010

Recorded by: E. McIntyre

Meeting Location: Twp. Of the Archipelago

Status: Approved (at Jan. 15/11 meeting)

Caveat: Unless statements are in quotations, they have been paraphrased to express the intent of remarks made by individuals to whom they are attributed. For brevity, only discussion and comments of a significant nature as well as 'action items' arising from discussion are included herein. These minutes represent a true and accurate summary of proceedings to the best ability of the recorder.

Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.	Full Member	Pres.	Regrets	Abs.
John Bell		√		Bill McRobb	√		
Brian Emery	√			Eric McIntyre	√		
Dave Bulger	√			Doug Wright	√		
Terry Crawford, Pres.	√			Mike Palmer	√		
Ray Hachigian	√			Karl Schiefer	√		
Greg Mason	√			Gerry Haarmeyer	√		
John Crawford	√			Glenda Clayton	√		

Guest: Dave Reid and Arunas Liskauskas – UGLMU
Dan Duggan – OMNR Parry Sound Area Supervisor

Handouts provided to Council members included:

- GBA Update (Fall 2010)
- Georgian Bay Forever Newsletter (Fall 2010)
- Trumpeter Swan Article – North Star Nov. 19
- Financial Report – to end of October 2010

Previous handouts provided by e-mail only:

- Lake Trout Rehabilitation Plan for Lake Huron (Nov. 17)
- Wah-Wah-Taysee ESTN Survey Report (Draft)
- Killbear Channel and Parry Sound Lake Trout Egg Collection for Thiamine Analysis
- Tadenac Bay 2010 Walleye Culture Summary Report

1.0 Guest Introductions & Welcome – Dave Reid and Arunas Liskauska of the UGLMU and Dan Duggan, PS Area Supervisor (MNR)

1.1 UGLMU Presentation: Status of Geo. Bay Walleye Populations

- The previous 2002 UGLMU report on the status of E. Geo. Bay stocks painted a dismal picture throughout. There currently are positive signs of improvement (Port Severn and Shawanaga), but other areas (Moon River, Magnetawan R., Whalesback Channel,) not so.
- Based on tag returns, 2010 Port Severn walleye spawning population estimate was around 45,000; in 2003 & '04 it was 12 – 15,000
- 80% of walleye caught in the 2010 ESTN survey were in the protected slot; in 2 years they will become legal harvest size
- 2005 a bumper year class at Port Severn

- Notwithstanding the tremendous jump in population size, the 2010 ESTN survey CUE remained low at less than 5 fish per trap net set. The Provincial bench mark for walleye abundance is probably not applicable to large, open-bodies of water such as Geo. Bay. A Geo. Bay benchmark is recommended.
- 2009 Shawanaga Area ESTN – 58% of walleye captured were in the protected slot. Strong 2003 year class – not evident at Port Severn.
- Moon River stock amongst the lowest genetic variability of GB stocks
- Low genetic variability compromises the populations ability to adapt to changing conditions and environmental stressors. Fish stocking contributes to low genetic variability due to the genes from a few fish being concentrated in the year class.
- 2005 and 2008 Moon River ESTN shows no significant rehabilitation of walleye stocks.

1.2 **UGLMU / Magnetawan FN Meeting re Walleye Culture and stocking (Meeting took place Dec 1 at Magnetawan FN)**

- Existing data indicates stock status in the Magnetawan River and area is extremely low
- UGLMU: this is a multi-faceted problem involving habitat issues and exploitation (harvest levels). Stocking is perhaps an antidote ... but there are genetic concerns

1.3 **Request by EGBSC to UGLMU to get Moon River and/or Port Severn walleye into the Provincial Fish Culture System (letter dated Oct. 15/10)**

- UGLMU: the Fish Culture System has no capacity to accept more stocks
- Council dismay expressed that the FCS production figures for salmonids is high but walleye numbers are low. Production seems to be focused on a species (lake trout) that has low angler preference while according low priority to walleye, which has high angler preference.

1.4 **Musquash River – EA (Category A) Assignment**

- UGLMU acknowledged they have received the project proposal and Environmental Screening Report, but have not had the opportunity to conduct a review.

1.5 **Xeneca waterpower project proposal**

- UGLMU acknowledge they are aware of the project.

2.0 Review of Oct. 27/10 Minutes / Action Items:

- 2.1 Action: Eric to submit Env. Canada Species-At-Risk application to fund production of signage at Moon River, French River and Port Severn re Lake Sturgeon Status / public awareness. (Done; application submitted Nov. 22)
- 2.2 Action: Eric to invite Dan Duggan, PS Area Supervisor to next meeting for ‘meet-and-greet.’ (Done)

Motion by Brian to accept the minutes of Oct. 27, 2010; second by Bill; carried.

3.0 Updates:

3.1 First Nation Relation Training

- Training took place Nov. 4; Huronia Museum in Midland; attended by: Eric, Ray, Karl, Greg, Glenda and John.
- Training very well received and appreciated by those in attendance.
- A big 'thank-you' to Leslie Joynt, Laura Heidman and Rolanda Elijah for putting on this training session!
- Next step is to have MNR set up an introductory meeting between FNs and EGBSC representatives (John Bell and Greg Mason)

3.2 2011 Musquash River Walleye Spawning Bed Creation Project

- EA process has commenced.
- Project Proposal and Environmental Screening Report have been completed and sent to Dave Reid and Dan Duggan for approval / assignment as a Category A project. Currently under MNR review.
- Invitation has been sent to John Letherby at OPG for them to become a partner in the project.
- \$30k from COA; we will probably need additional funding

3.3 Big Sound Lake Trout Egg Collection for thiamine analysis

- Summary Report now complete and circulated to members via e-mail Nov. 24
- Action: Members to review report and forwards comments / corrections to Eric

3.4 2011 Wah-Wah-Taysee ESTN Survey

- Summary Report complete; circulated to members via e-mail
- Action: Members to review report and forward comments / corrections to Eric

3.5 Moon / Muskoka River – Bala Workshop

- Eric scheduled to address the Muskoka Watershed Council in February
- E-mail from Trevor Griffin (Nov. 26) requesting further details about agenda / audience / outcomes – read to Council
 - Action: Eric to prepare project outline; circulate to Council for comment then forward to Trevor

3.6 Economic / Fisheries Revitalization Initiative

- FYI - Contents of e-mail string up-dating Council read

3.7 Upcoming GB-5 Meeting :

- Scheduled for Dec. 2; Eric & Terry to attend on behalf of Council
- Will report on proceedings at next meeting

3.8 Tadenac Walleye Culture Project:

- Summary Report Complete (sent to Council Nov. 30)
- Council members to forward any comments, corrections, etc. to Eric
- Project deemed unsuccessful for 2nd year in a row; recommend using pond-cultured fish for future stocking

4.0 Financial Report

- Financial statement presented to Council for review. Motion to accept by Mike P.; seconded by Dave B.; carried.
- John C. and Dave B. agreed to act as trustees for review of the 2010 books.

5.0 Business Arising / New Business

- 5.1 Request by Louise Goulding (Moon River Metis Council) to attend a future meeting for presentation on Metis governance
- Action: Eric to invite Louise to attend a future meeting; 20 minute time limit; Louise welcome to stay for subsequent meeting.
- 5.2 UGLMU – Lake Trout Rehabilitation Plan
- Document sent to EGBSC members Nov. 17
 - If anyone would like to make comment; please fwd to Eric who will collate responses and sent on to the UGLMU
- 5.3 Proceedings re Nov. 27 FMZ-14 Council meeting
- Topics discussed:
 - Lake Huron - Lake Trout Rehabilitation Plan (Item 5.2)
 - Revision of previous 1996 document
 - Boundaries of rehabilitation zones enlarge; bathymetry taken into consideration; stocking density increased from 2.5 to 4.5 fgl / ha.
 - 3 goals: short, medium & long term; successful in Parry Sound
 - Lake Huron Stocking Plan Update
 - Dave Gonder currently working on it; hope to have it available early in 2011
 - Great Lakes Commercial Fishing (Program) Policy
 - Hard copies and electronic copies available – should you wish to review and make comment; fwd. to Eric for collation
- 5.4 **Walk on Items**
- 5.4.1 Concern and discussion about the slow pace of advancement of the Regional Economic / Fisheries Revitalization Initiative.
- Action: Eric to request Ivan set out a work plan with benchmarks (tasks to be completed) and timeline
 - Action: Eric to confer with Bob Florean about the MASC feelings on this
 - A general consensus amongst Council to try to move various components of this initiative ahead simultaneously. If one component – such as First Nation partnership takes more time ... the other components continue on. It is hoped this approach will move this initiative along.

6.0 In camera session

7.0 Date for Next Meeting: Saturday, January 15, 2011. Start time 9:30 am.