




2008 – Work Plan


Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

This document constitutes a quick overview of the work plan of the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council for 2008. The work plan will be subject to considerable modification, additions and deletions as circumstances warrant over the duration of 2008.

Table 1. EGBSC 2008 – Work Plan Overview

#	Project	Time Frame	Comments
1	Invasive Species Community Outreach & Education Project	Late May – Sept.	Partnership project with OFAH (lead partner) and GBBR.
2	Lake Stewardship Workshop	Late June	
3	Custodial Co-Management of Crown Land campsites (specifically Conservation Reserves)	May – Sept.	Partnership MOUs currently set up with Carling Township and Township of the Archipelago.
4	Moon River walleye egg collection / stocking and Index netting project	Late Apr. – Mid May	OMNR Community Fisheries Involvement project
5	Moon River walleye spawning bed enhancement project	Planning: on-going Construction: Summer	Multi-partner project
6	Bass Nest Creation Project	July – Aug.	Multi-partner project primarily with cottage associations
7	Harris Lake walleye culture / stocking and Index Spawners Project	Mid- April – Mid-May	OMNR Community Fisheries Involvement Project with Harris Lake Hatchery
8	Almaguin Fish Improvement Assn. walleye culture / stocking and index spawners project	Mid-April – Mid-May	OMNR Community Fisheries Involvement Project with AFIA as partner
9	Early Spring Trap-Net Survey	Late-May – June	Location subject to UGLMU approval
10	Socio-Economic Study	Feb. – Dec.	Valuing a rehabilitated fishery along eastern Geo. Bay and the North Channel
11	Support Partner (GBBR) lead projects	On-going	Species-At-Risk Education/Awareness Project and Env. Can. 'Pilot Project'
12	Fish Habitat Enhancement and Rehab.	On-going	Need to identify location of next project; commence planning and EA requirements
13	Tadenac walleye pond rearing site assessment	Summer	Evaluate conversion of existing bays to walleye fingerling culture ponds
14	French River Water Quality Stewardship Council (FRWQSC)	On-going	Support FRWQSC initiatives to improve water quality in the French River

	<p>Project # 1</p> <p>Project Title: Invasive Species Awareness / Education and Community Outreach Project</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness and promote preventative action related to invasive species. • Invasive species monitoring • Project provides a concurrent opportunity to disseminate other stewardship messages to the general public 	
<p>Description and Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Public Outreach including: Dissemination of brochures, fact sheets, ID cards, etc. at: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cottage Association annual general meetings (AGM) ○ Public School Presentations and local clubs ○ Community events • Promoting media coverage of invasive species topics from local perspective • Participate / promote OFAH invasive species monitoring activities • Active engagement in above mentioned activities with completion of project summary report to document activities 	
<p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters (Lead Partner) • Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR) 	

	<p>Project No.: 2</p> <p>Project Title: Lake Stewardship Workshop</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness / participation through the dissemination of stewardship messages • Participants are intended to act as 'messengers' – taking back to their cottage associations messages received at the workshop • 	
<p>Description and Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Workshop format with several guest presentations • EGBSC projects such as Bass Nest Creation project are promoted • Workshop presentations with hand-out materials • Summary report to be posted on EGBSC website under “2008 Workshop” tab 	
<p>Partners:</p> <p>Invitations are sent to approximately 70 cottage associations, municipalities and stakeholder groups as well as interested individuals.</p>	



Project # 3

Project Title: **Custodial Co-Management of Crown Land Camping Sites in Conservation Reserves and Enhanced Management Areas.**

Objectives:

- Mitigate the negative social and environmental impacts of unregulated crown land camping

Description and Deliverables:

- Installation of bush latrines and 'best camping practices' signs at intensively used sites
- 'Behind-the-scenes' campsite cleanup
- Reduce conflicts between crown land campers and other interest groups
- Formulate partnerships with voluntary groups to implement above described actions
- Year-end project summary report

Partners:

- Township of the Archipelago
- Township of Carling (The Franklin/Huckleberry Islands initiative is lead by Carling Township with support from the West Carling Association, Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, White Squall, Great Lakes Sea Kayaking Assn., Georgian Bay Land Trust, North Sound Association and the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council.



Project No.: 4

Project Title: **Moon River Walleye Egg Collection / Stocking and Index Spawners Project**

Objectives:

- Rehabilitative plantings of native walleye to promote sustainability
- Assessment of walleye spawning population status

Description and Deliverables:

- 6'-Trapnets used to capture gravid walleye for wild egg collection and for index netting purposes
- Eggs cultured at the Moon River CFIP Hatchery (Moon River Cottages) to fry and fingerling stage and released into the Moon River
- Rehabilitative plantings of native walleye
- Assessment report on status of walleye spawning stock

Partners:

- Moon River Walleye Association / Ministry of Natural Resources – Parry Sound District Office and Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office.
- Moon River Walleye Association



Project # 5

Project Title: **Moon River Walleye Spawning Bed Enhancement Project**

Objectives:

- Improved reproductive success to promote rehabilitation of walleye population

Description & Deliverables:

- Completion of EA requirement for project
- Completion of tendering process for construction
- Proposed deposition of approximately 4500 cubic metres of spawning rubble and boulders to create 5000 square metres of high quality spawning habitat.

Partners:

- Ministry of Natural Resources: Parry Sound District Office and Upper Great Lakes Management Unit
- Ontario Power Generation (Gravenhurst Office)
- Georgian Bay Land Trust
- Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve



Project # 6

Project Title: **Bass Nest Creation Project**

Objectives:

- Increase smallmouth bass production
- Public awareness / participation and stewardship related to the fishery resource

Description & Deliverables:

- Participants are provided pea gravel and an instructional flyer advising how to construct smallmouth bass nests.
- Project is promoted at our Lake Stewardship Workshop and on our website.
- Project also has an assessment component to evaluate usage of nests created
- Project summary report is prepared and posted on EGBSC website.

Partners:

- Primary target group is cottage associations.
- Ministry of Natural Resources – Community Fisheries Involvement Program



Project # 7

Project Title: **Harris Lake Walleye Culture /Stocking and Index Spawners Project**

Objectives:

- Promote/enhance the sustainability of walleye in Harris Lake and South Magnetawan River
- Assessment of walleye spawning population

Description & Deliverables:

- 6'-Trapnets used to capture gravid walleye for wild egg collection and index netting purposes
- Eggs cultured to the fry stage at the Harris Lake Hatchery (Harris Lake Marina) and released into Harris Lake and South Magnetawan River
- Project summary report prepared and posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

- Harris Lake Hatchery Association
- Ministry of Natural Resources – Community Fisheries Involvement Program



Project # 8

Project Title: **Almaguin Fish Improvement Association (AFIA) walleye culture and stocking project.**

Objectives:

- Promote/enhance the sustainability of walleye in Lakes Cecebe, Ahmic and Poverty Bay of the Magnetawan River
- Assessment of walleye spawning population

Description and Deliverables:

- 6'-Trapnets used to capture gravid walleye for wild egg collection and index netting purposes
- Eggs cultured to the fry stage and released into Ahmic Lake, Cecebe Lake and Poverty Bay. Walleye may also be planted in nearby lakes requiring rehabilitation.
- Project summary report prepared and posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

- OMNR – Parry Sound District (Community Fisheries Involvement Project)
- Almaguin Fish Improvement Association.



Project # 9

Project Title: **Early Spring Trapnet (ESTN) Survey**

Objectives:

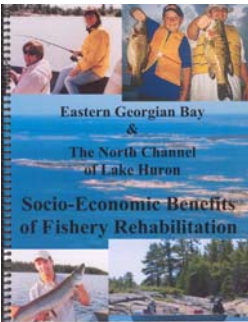
- Near-shore fish community assessment with walleye population assessment a primary objective
- (Note: Specific location for survey has not yet been determined. This will be done in consultation with UGLMU – Lake Huron Office.

Description & Deliverables:

- Data analysis indicating relative abundance and population health of various species captured during the survey.
- Data entry in to OMNR's Fish-Net III program (provincial database)
- Project summary report prepared and posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

- OMNR – Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office
- OMNR – Parry Sound District Office
- Local partner (cottage association) to be sought once location finalized



Project # 10

Project Title: **Socio-Economic Study**

Objectives:

- Provide socio-economic data/perspective to assist MNR with fisheries management decisions
- Tool to leverage dollars for rehabilitation action

Description and Deliverables:

- Use Phase I scoping report as a template to populate social and environment benefits of a rehabilitated fishery along Eastern Georgian Bay and the North Channel
- Develop a computer model to forecast social and economic benefits of various rehabilitation scenarios. Hence, results generated from the model will assist fisheries managers in the decision making process.

Partners:

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources: UGLMU and Socio-Economic Network (NRSEN); Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council; Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council; (at this time additional partners are being sought).



Project # 11

Project Title: **Support Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve Projects**
(Species At Risk – Public Awareness & Education Project and Environment Canada 'Pilot Project')

Objectives:

- Increase public awareness / community action related to Species At Risk
- Continued strategic planning and public awareness relating to GBBR conservation action

Description and Deliverables:

- DVD (“Working in Massassauga Habitat”), brochure, poster, Power-Point presentation, GBBR website updates and public workshop relating to Species At Risk
- Reprint & purchase of species ID sheets (public dissemination of above)
- Annual partners/stakeholder meeting; GBBR Conservation Strategic Plan

Partners:

Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve and a compendium of over 20 environmental community organizations (e.g. GBA, GBLT, NCC, OMNR, Parks Canada, Parks Ont., cottage associations, municipalities, First Nations).



Project # 12

Project Title: **Fish Habitat Enhancement and Rehabilitation Program**

Objectives and Description:

- Improve fish population sustainability through the provision of high quality habitat – especially spawning habitat

Description and Deliverables:

- At the present time, the next site for habitat enhancement has not been selected – although priority is given to south-eastern Geo. Bay walleye populations. Once the next site is selected, work will commence on planning and EA requirements for the project.

Partners:

- Pending site selection



Project # 13

Project Title: **Tadenac walleye pond rearing site assessment**

Objectives:

- The EGBSC continues to pursue various options to increase its capability to produce walleye for rehabilitative stocking purposes; to this end it is continuing to seek pond culture facilities.

Description and Deliverables:

- Inspect and assess the potential to convert existing shallow bays on Tadenac Club property into walleye culture ponds (or in this case – confinement areas).
- Prepare assessment report.

Partners:

- Tadenac Fishing Club



Project # 14

Project Title: **French River Water Quality Stewardship Council initiatives**

Objectives:

Promote good stewardship and improve water quality in the French river

Description and Deliverables:

- Improve mailed information packages focused on shoreline rehabilitation and controlling nutrient inputs
- Continue water sampling / nutrient monitoring. Improve sophistication of sampling protocols.
- Liaise with other groups, academia, government agencies to understand and control triggers of blue green algal events
- Utilize a GIS platform to map land use throughout the French River watershed.
- Conduct landowner surveys to identify presence of invasive species.

Partners:

- French River Water Quality Stewardship Council