




2009 Work Plan

This document constitutes a preliminary overview of the work plan of the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council for 2009. This work plan may be subject to considerable modification, additions and deletions as circumstances warrant over the duration of 2009.

Table 1. EGBSC 2008 – Work Plan Overview

#	Project	Time Frame	Comments
1	Lake Stewardship workshop	June 22.	Workshop Theme: Water Quality – More than Cottage Life depends upon it.
2a	Carling (Crown Land Custodial) Stewards	May – Sept.	Partnership MOU with Carling Township for Crown Land stewardship activities
2b	Great Lakes Sea Kayak (Crown Land Custodial) Stewards	May – Sept.	Partnership MOU with Archipelago Twp and GLSKA for Crown land stewardship activities
2c	Conservation Reserve Custodial Project	May – Sept.	EGBSC lead projects relating to custodial stewardship activities in Conservation Reserves
3	Moon River walleye egg collection / walleye culture & rehabilitative stocking; index netting project; assess 2008 spawning bed enhancement project	Mid April – Late May	On-going Moon River walleye rehabilitation effort. Partner: OMNR, Moon River Walleye Association.
4	Moon River sturgeon spawning investigation	Late May – Early June	Experimental project to index abundance of spawning sturgeon at Moon River falls
5	Tadenac Bay – Experimental walleye culture project	May – early July	Culture walleye to summer fingerling stage in cordoned off embayments in Tadenac Bay. Partner: Tadenac Fishing Club.
6	Contract for walleye rearing to advanced stages for rehabilitative plantings	On-going	Contract a private hatchery to raise walleye for s.e. Georgian Bay rehabilitative plantings (Moon River / Tadenac Bay / Go Home Bay).
7	Go Home Bay Index Spawners Survey; Characterization / Assessment of spawning habitat	Late April – Early May	Pre-treatment assessment of Go Home Bay walleye spawning population. Multi-partners.

8	Go Home Bay walleye spawning bed enhancement project	Summer And/or Fall	Spawning enhancement work as part of walleye rehabilitation program. Multi-partners.
9	Regional Economic Development Project – Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan	On-going	Cooperative project with Sault Ste. Marie and Manitoulin Area Stewardship Councils.
10	Georgian Bay Coastal Trail	On-going	EGBSC support partner for feasibility study for Coastal Trail initiative
11	Chimney Swift Nesting Structure	Summer	EGBSC support partner for Chimney Swift nesting structure; lead by Parry Sound Nature Club
12	Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve Conservation Action Plan	On-going	EGBSC a supporting partner of Action Plan formulation and execution.

	<p>Project # 1</p> <p>Project Title: 2009 Annual Lake Stewardship Workshop (This years' theme: Water Quality – Cottage Life and more depend upon it)</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase public awareness / participation relating to water quality stewardship 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 four guest presentations relating to water quality stewardship • Workshop presentations with hand-out materials • Summary report to be posted on EGBSC website under "2009 Workshop" tab 	
<p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Invitations are sent to approximately 70 cottage associations, municipalities and stakeholder groups as well as interested individuals. 	



Project No.: 2a

Project Title: **Carling Stewards (Custodial Crown Land camping) Co-management initiative**

Objectives:

- Mitigate the negative social and environmental impacts of unregulated crown land camping on islands fronting Carling Township
- Reduce conflicts between crown land campers and other interest groups

Description and Deliverables:

- Installation of bush latrines and 'best camping practices' signs at intensively used sites
- 'Behind-the-scenes' campsite cleanup
- Education and awareness messages through direct communication with campers in situ
- Year-end project summary report

Partners:

- 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 # 2b

Project Title: **Great Lakes Sea Kayaking Stewards (Crown Land Custodial Co-management Initiative)**

Objectives:

- Mitigate the negative social and environmental impacts of unregulated camping on Crown lands extending from Massassauga Prov. Park to French River Prov. Park and especially those fronting the Township of the Archipelago.
- Reduce conflicts between crown land campers and other interest groups

Description and Deliverables:

- Installation of bush latrines and 'best camping practices' signs at intensively used sites
- 'Behind-the-scenes' campsite cleanup
- Education and awareness messages through direct communication with campers in situ
- Year-end project summary report

Partners:

- Great Lake Sea Kayaking Association (GLSKA)
- Township of the Archipelago



Project # 2c

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
- Reduce conflicts between crown land campers and other interest groups
- Target Areas: Severn River, Gibson River, Moon River, McCrae Lake, Pointe Au Baril, Six-Mile Lake

Description and Deliverables:

- Installation of bush latrines and 'best camping practices' signs at intensively used sites
- 'Behind-the-scenes' campsite cleanup
- Formulate partnerships with voluntary groups to implement above described actions
- Year-end project summary report to be posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

- Barrie Kayak and Canoe Club
- Attempting to cultivate partnerships with: Severn River Association of Property Owners, Six-Mile Lake Cottagers Assn., Woods Bay Community Assn., Pointe Au Baril Islanders Assn.



Project No.: 3

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
- Assessment of 2008 spawning bed enhancement project


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. In 2009, a portion of eggs collected to be transferred to Tadenac Bay and a private hatchery for rearing to advanced fingerling stage for rehabilitative plantings
- Rehabilitative plantings of native walleye at Moon River and Go Home Bay
- Assessment report on status of walleye spawning stock to be posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

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

	<p>Project # 4</p> <p>Project Title: Moon River Sturgeon Spawning Investigation</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On an experimental basis, use snorkelling gear as a non-obtrusive method to determined presence and abundance of spawning sturgeon at Moon River falls. • Secondary objective: Assessment of 2008 walleye spawning bed enhancement project 	
<p>Description & Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Underwater photographs of sturgeon encounters • Documentation of number of sturgeon seen per unit of search time • Project summary report to be posted on EGBSC website 	
<p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moon River Walleye Association 	

	<p>Project # 5</p> <p>Project Title: Tadenac Bay Experimental Walleye Culture in-situ.</p>
<p>Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate the feasibility of raising walleye in-situ (cordoned-off embayments) to the summer fingerling stage as a method of increasing walleye stocking for rehabilitative purposes. 	
<p>Description & Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Use Moon River walleye stock for fry plantings into embayments • Hold walleye within embayments until the summer fingerling state. • Assess abundance though recapture using various netting / sampling gears • Release walleye by removing cordon net at summer fingerling stage • Repeat for 3-4 years; conduct con-current assessment with Tadenac Fishing Club • Project summary report to be posted annually on EGBSC website 	
<p>Partners:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tadenac Fishing Club 	



Project # 6

Project Title: Walleye Culture (Private Hatchery) to advanced fingerling / yearling stages for rehabilitative plantings at Moon River and Go Home Bay

Objectives:

- Rehabilitation of Moon River walleye population
- Rehabilitate / restore Go Home Bay walleye population the 'seeding' the Go Home Bay Chutes walleye spawning site with the future breeding stock

Description & Deliverables:

- Eggs to be collected as part of Moon River walleye egg collection
- Transfer eye-eggs (or emergent fry) to private hatchery for stocking into culture ponds.
- Walleye to be raised to fall fingerling and yearling stage for rehabilitative plantings into the Moon River and Go Home Bay of Eastern Georgian Bay.
- Pre and post-stocking assessment to be conducted as per project plans for both sites

Partners:

- OMNR (Parry Sound District and Upper Great Lakes Management Unit)
- (Prospective partners: Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, Georgian Bay Association, Georgian Bay Area Foundation, Georgian Bay Land Trust, Wah-Wah-Taysee Association, Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay, Cognashene Cottage Association, Georgian Bay Township, District Municipality of Muskoka)



Project # 7

Project Title: Go Home Bay Index Spawners Survey

Objectives:

- Assessment of Go Home Bay walleye spawning population status
- This study will act as a benchmark or pre-treatment assessment against which progress towards rehabilitation will be compared.

Description and Deliverables:

- 6'-trapnets used to capture walleye - walleye CPUE to be used as index of spawning population abundance; size sampling as index of recruitment / mortality
- Assessment report on status of walleye spawning stock to be posted on EGBSC website

Partners:

- Ministry of Natural Resources – Parry Sound District Office and Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office.
- Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay



Project # 8

Project Title: **Go Home Bay Chutes Walleye Spawning Bed Enhancement Project**

Objectives:

- Improved reproductive success to promote rehabilitation of Go Home Bay walleye population

Description & Deliverables:

- Completion of EA requirements
- Formulate enhancement design (spring 2009)
- Construction as per design (summer or fall – 2009)

Partners:

- Ministry of Natural Resources: Parry Sound District Office and Upper Great Lakes Management Unit
- (Prospective partners: Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, Georgian Bay Association, Georgian Bay Area Foundation, Georgian Bay Land Trust, Wah-Wah-Taysee Association, Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay, Cognashene Cottage Association, Georgian Bay Township, District Municipality of Muskoka)



Project # 9

Project Title: **Regional Economic Development Project – Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan for the North Channel and Eastern Georgian Bay**

Objectives:

- Formulate Background data and Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan as a pre-requisite for submissions to funding agencies to actually implement rehabilitative tactics within the plan

Description & Deliverables:

- Two phase project: Phase I – Funding ad awareness campaign; Phase II – Socio-economic background synopsis and formulation of Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan

Partners:

- Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council / Sault Ste. Marie Stewardship Council
- Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve
- Ontario Federation Anglers & Hunters
- OMNR (Upper Great Lakes Management Unit)



Project # 10

Project Title: **Georgian Bay Coastal Trail**

Objectives:

- Support the production of a feasibility study for the proposed Georgian Bay Coastal Trail

Description and Deliverables:

- Feasibility study to include: business plan, implementation plan, construction estimate, public consultation, management plan and marketing plan.

Partners:

- Georgian Bay Coastal Trail (Lead Partner)
- Mountain Equipment Co-op
- Georgian Bay Biosphere
- Other to be sought by GB Coastal Trail group



Project # 11

Project Title: **Chimney Swift Nesting Structure
(Project Lead: Parry Sound Nature Club)**

Objectives:

- Provide nesting structure to promote the rehabilitation of the chimney swift population

Description and Deliverables:

- Construct and install chimney swift nesting structure at strategic location on the Seguin River in the town of Parry Sound

Partners:

- Lead partner: Parry Sound Nature Club
- Parry Sound High School
- Town of Parry Sound



Project # 12

Project Title: **Support Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve Projects pursuant to their Conservation Action Plan**

Objectives:

- Increase public awareness / community participation in conservation projects
- Continued strategic planning and public awareness relating to GBBR conservation action

Description and Deliverables:

- Continue community-based Species-At-Risk awareness & education program
- Support community-based Biosphere Action Group
- Formulate wetlands and Crown land stewardship strategies
- Complete Eastern Georgian Bay (property-owners) Stewardship Manual
- Develop tourism accreditation program for Best Practices in commercial enterprises
- Education Advisory Committee and Education Facilitator

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).