



# 2010 Work Plan

## Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

This document constitutes a preliminary overview of the work plan of the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council for 2010. This work plan may be subject to considerable modification, additions and deletions as circumstances warrant throughout 2010.

**Table 1. EGBSC 2010 – Work Plan Overview**

#	Project	Time Frame	Comments
<b>Core EGBSC Projects:</b>			
1	Lake Stewardship Workshop	Summer – July or August	Workshop Theme: Climate Change – What it means to YOUR environment.
2	Moon River walleye index netting / egg collection / culture / rehabilitative stocking project	Mid April – Early summer	Project Lead – Bill McRobb. Eggs to go to Moon R. hatchery & Cedar Brook Farms for advanced culture; to be stocked at Moon River, Tadenac Bay and Go Home Bay
3	Advanced walleye culture and rehabilitative plantings	May - July	30,000 eggs to Cedar Brook Farm – raise 15,000 to summer fingerling stage: plant 7500 @ Moon River and 7500 @ Go Home Bay
4	(Experimental) In-situ walleye culture at Tadenac Bay	May – Aug.	Plant 20,000+ emergent fry in cordoned-off embayment at Tadenac Bay; raise to fall fingerling stage for release into Tadenac Bay
5	Moon River Sturgeon Spawning Count	May - early June	Using multiple volunteers – visual enumeration of spawning sturgeon at Moon River falls
6	Custodial Management of CR / Crown land campsites	Summer July-Aug	MOU agreement with Carling Township re Carling Stewards initiative at Franklin Is. and Huckleberry Island.  Utilize OS Rangers for work at Moon River, Severn River, 12-Mile Bay, Six-Mile Lake and in the Ardbeg Area  Partner with White Squall Paddling Centre re their S.O.D. proposal to maintain campsites on offshore Geo. Bay islands

7	Ontario Stewardship Ranger Program	Summer – July & Aug	Work on multiple partner projects as per Program guidelines & 2009 experiences
8	Economic / Fisheries Revitalization Initiative	On-going	Use \$7.5k Opportunity Funding to advance project to the implementation phase
9	Conduct spawning enhancement site evaluation for 2011	On-going	Primary candidate site: Musquash River
10	ESTN Fish Community Assessment @ Wah-Wah-Taysee	June	OMNR standard fish community assessment protocol
11	Bass Nest Creation Project	Summer July & Aug	On a passive basis continue project by providing instructional flyer and pea gravel to those who request it.
12	Fishing Regulation Stickers for FMZ-14	Early summer	Produce 10,000 stickers indicating size and catch regulations for primary game species
13	Species At Risk Identification Guide & What you should know about the law	Fall / Winter	SAR identification guide with life history; how the law applies to landowners
<b>Partner Projects:</b>			
14	Georgian Bay Coastal Trail Feasibility Study	On-going	Provide partnership funding to complete feasibility study
15	Geo. Bay Biosphere Reserve (GBBR)	On-going	Support GBBR initiatives including: Educator's Network, Cons. Action Plan, SAR program, Public conferences, Educator's Network, Stewardship Manual and workshops / symposia.
16	Lake Trout egg thiamine level monitoring	October	Partner with the Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office (OMNR) to collect Big Sound lake trout eggs for thiamine analysis
17	White Squall S.O.D. Project	Summer	Custodial maintenance on outer islands fronting Carling Township



Project # 1: **Lake Stewardship Workshop – Theme: “Climate Change and what it means to YOUR environment.”**

**Objectives:**

- Increase public awareness of science and environmental indicators of climate change
- Increase public awareness of adaptation strategies by humans
- Increase public awareness relating to climate change impacts on species at risk and invasive species
- Dissemination of related stewardship messages

**Description and Deliverables:**

- Workshop format with scheduled presentations, questions and answers
- Summary report to be posted on EGBSC website under “2010 Lake Stewardship Workshop” tab

**Partners:**

- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve
- Parry Sound Nature Club
- Ontario Parks – Killbear Provincial Park



Project #2: **Moon River Walleye Index Spawners Survey / Wild Egg Collection / Culture and Rehabilitative Stocking**

**Objectives:**

- Rehabilitative plantings of native walleye to promote sustainability
- Assessment of walleye spawning population status
- Continued 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. A portion of eggs collected to be transferred to Tadenac Bay and a private hatchery for rearing to advanced fingerling stage for rehabilitative plantings at Tadenac Bay 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
- Tadenac Fishing Club / Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay / Georgian Bay Association



Project #3: **Advance Culture of Moon River Walleye at Cedar Brook Farms for rehabilitative plantings at Moon River and Go Home Bay**

**Objectives:**

- Raise walleye to advanced stage for rehabilitative purposes

**Description and Deliverables:**

- Raise to summer fingerling stage 15,000 walleye
- Rehabilitate Plantings: 7500 for Moon River; 7500 for Go Home Bay (Note: Moon River eggs to be used for Moon R. planting; Port Severn stock eggs to be used for Go Home Bay planting)

**Partners:**

- Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office
- Madawaska Club at Go Home Bay / Georgian Bay Association
- 



Project # 4: **Tadenac Bay Experimental Walleye Culture in-situ.**

**Objectives:**

- 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.

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Use Moon River walleye stock for fry plantings into embayments
- Hold walleye within embayments until the summer fingerling state.
- Assess abundance through 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

**Partners:**

- Tadenac Fishing Club



Project # 5: **Moon River Sturgeon Spawning Investigation and Enumeration**

**Objectives:**

- On an experimental basis, use a variety of visual observation methods (snorkelling, kayaking, shore-based observations) as a non-obtrusive method to determine presence and abundance of spawning sturgeon at Moon River falls.
- Secondary objective: Assessment of 2008 walleye spawning bed enhancement project and the degree to which sturgeon are utilizing this habitat

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Documentation of number of sturgeon seen per unit of search time
- Project summary report to be posted on EGBSC website

**Partners:**

- Moon River Walleye Association
- Local volunteers



Project #6: **Custodial Crown Land camping initiative**

**Objectives:**

- Mitigate the negative social and environmental impacts of unregulated crown land camping on Crown lands, particularly those in Conservation Reserves
- 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
- Year-end project summary report

**Partners:**

- Township of Carling (The Franklin/Huckleberry Islands initiative is led 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. )
- White Squall Paddling Centre – re their S.O.D. project proposal



Project #7: **Ontario Stewardship Ranger Program**

**Objectives:**

- Work with partners on their projects to promote healthy, sustainable natural ecosystems
- Tangible biological benefits
- Enriching employment and personal development experience for crew members
- Ambassadors for the Ontario Stewardship program and the EGBSC

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Participate with partners in assisting with their projects. (In 2009 our OS Ranger Crew worked on 28 ecological and education related projects with nine different partner organizations.)
- Project summary report; posted on our website.
- Education, natural resource management, healthy and safety training for crew members.

**Partners:**

- Ontario Stewardship Network – Youth Programs
- Parry Sound District – Ministry of Natural Resources
- Ontario Parks
- Non-government partner groups: Muskoka Wildlife Centre, Parry Sound Nature Club, Longhorn Cons. Assn., McKellar Cons. Assn., Geo. Bay Land Trust, Park-to-Park Trails,



Project # 8: **Regional (North Channel and Eastern Georgian Bay) Economic / Fisheries Revitalization Initiative**

**Objectives:**

- Consolidate background data and Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan as a pre-requisite for submissions to funding agencies to commence implementation

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Two phase project: Phase I – Funding ad awareness campaign; Phase II – Socio-economic background synopsis and formulation of Fisheries Rehabilitation Action Plan
- Hire project coordinator; post project progress reports on website

**Partners:**

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



Project #9: **Conduct Spawning Site Enhancement Evaluation for 2011 project**

**Objectives:**

- Conduct site evaluation to select spawning bed enhancement project for 2011

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Conduct on-site evaluation to identify need for enhancement work
- Finalize enhancement design
- Conduct Environmental Assessment for 2011 project

**Partners:**

- UGLMU – Ministry of Natural Resources
- Other partners contingent upon evaluation results



Project # 10: **ESTN (End-of-Spring-Trap-Netting) Fish Community Assessment**

**Objectives:**

- Conduct fish community assessment using OMNR standard ESTN survey protocol

**Description and Deliverables:**

- Conduct ESTN survey assessment – catch and biosampling analysis
- Survey Wah-Wah-Taysee area of E. Georgian Bay
- Write up project summary report / post on website

**Partners:**

- Wah-Wah-Taysee Cottage Association / Georgian Bay Association
- Moose-Deer Point Environmental Protection Group
- UGLMU – Ministry of Natural Resources



Project # 11: **Bass Nest Creation Project**

**Objectives:**

- Engage cottagers to construct bass nests fronting their properties to increase bass production and as a tool for enhanced stewardship

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Provide pea gravel and instructional flyer to cottage association members in order for them to construct bass nests
- Write up project summary report and post on website

**Partners:**

- Moose-Deer Point Environmental Protection Group

Project # 12: **FMZ-14 Regulation fish stickers**

**Objectives:**

- Increase public awareness of key sport fish regulations for FMZ-14
- Include value-added stewardship messages relating to MNR-tips line; lake sturgeon as a species at risk; promote catch and release fishing

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Produce 10,000 fish stickers for distribution to general public
- Utilize as a fund raising item by requesting donation for sticker

**Partners:**

- GB-5 (Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve; Georgian Bay Association; Georgian Bay Forever; Georgian Bay Land Trust)
- Manitoulin Area Stewardship Council
- Township of the Archipelago



Project # 13: **Species At Risk – Identification guide and what you should know about the law**

**Objectives:**

- Increase public awareness of Species At Risk

**Description & Deliverables:**

- Provide ID guide with life history of subject species; include human interest angle for various species to increase 'readability'
- Provide legal guidelines for landowners

**Partners:**

- Moose-Deer Point Environmental Protection Group

## Partner Projects:



Project # 14

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

	<p>Project # 15: <b>Support Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve Projects pursuant to their Conservation Action Plan</b></p>
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public awareness / community participation in conservation projects</li> <li>• Continued strategic planning and public awareness relating to GBBR conservation action</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Description and Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue community-based Species-At-Risk awareness &amp; education program</li> <li>• Support community-based Biosphere Action Group</li> <li>• Support Educator's Network / Education Advisory Committee and Education Facilitator</li> <li>• Support public conferences relating to environmental awareness and stewardship</li> <li>• Participate as member of Conservation Committee</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Partners:</b></p> <p>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).</p>	

 <p><small>Eyed Lake Trout Eggs USFWS</small></p>	<p>Project # 16: <b>Lake Trout egg thiamine level monitoring</b></p>
<p><b>Objectives:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collect lake trout eggs to monitor thiamine levels</li> <li>• Monitor lake trout spawning population status; catch &amp; biosampling data</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Description and Deliverables:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Set 6' trapnets at index locations during the Lake Trout spawning period</li> <li>• Collect approx. 50 eggs from 30 individuals</li> <li>• Forward eggs to UGLMU for thiamine analysis</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Partners:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Upper Great Lakes Management Unit – Lake Huron Office</li> <li>• OMNR – Parry Sound District</li> </ul>	