

CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY

Mission Statement

*"To communicate and deliver resource management services and programs
in order to achieve social and ecological harmony for the watershed"*

Meeting of the Full Authority is to be held in the CCCA Boardroom on
Thursday, November 9th, 2017, commencing at 10:00 a.m.

A G E N D A

- 1) Welcome / Call to Order Rick Cerna
- 2) Adoption of Agenda
- 3) Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
- 4) Disclosure of Intention to Audio / Video Record Meeting
- 5) Adoption of Minutes of:
 - a) Full Authority Meeting #08/2017 (October 12, 2017) 3-5
- 6) Business Arising from Minutes
- 7) Public / Special Delegations
- 8) Reports:
 - a) Report FA 56/2017 - Monthly Staff Reports 6-7
(Ed Pietrzak, Tony Difazio, Peter Dragunas)
 - b) Report FA 57/2017 - October Summary of Revenue & Expenditures 8-9
(Susan Mann)
 - c) Report FA 58/2017 - Other Grants - Provincial and Federal 10
(Kim Smale)
 - d) Report FA 59/2017 - Accounts Payable 11
(Susan Mann)
 - e) Report FA 60/2017 - Special Projects Funding 12
(Kim Smale)

f)	Report FA 61/2017 - Environmental Protection Report (Kim Smale)	13-20
g)	Report FA 62/2017 - Bill 148, The Fair Workplaces / Better Jobs Act (Kim Smale)	21
h)	Report FA 63/2017 - Ice Breaking Quotations (Kim Smale)	22-24
i)	Report FA 64/2017 - Great Lakes Information (Kim Smale)	25-31
j)	Report FA 65/2017 - Catfish Creek Channel Sounding (Peter Dragunas)	32-34
9)	General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer's Report	Kim Smale
10)	Unfinished Business	
11)	Chairperson's / Board Member's Report	
12)	Notice of Motions / New Business	
13)	Correspondence:	
a)	Not Copied:	
	- Correspondence Register for October 1-31, 2017	
b)	Copied:	
	- Municipality of Central Elgin - a copy of the Resolution approving the appointment of Deputy Mayor Sally Martyn to represent Council on the CCCA Board to the end of Council's term in 2018.	
	- Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change - a copy of a letter from the Deputy Minister outlining the new organizational changes at MOECC effective December 5, 2017.	
14)	Committee of the Whole	
a)	Legal Matter	
b)	Personnel Matter	
15)	Next Meeting / Adjournment	

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE
CATFISH CREEK CONSERVATION AUTHORITY**

Thursday, October 12th, 2017

Meeting #08/2017

PRESENT:

Rick Cerna	Chairperson	Township of Malahide
Mark Tinlin	Vice-Chairperson	City of St. Thomas
Sally Martyn	Member	Municipality of Central Elgin
Arthur Oslach	Member	Town of Aylmer
Anne Vanhoucke	Member	Township of South-West Oxford

STAFF:

Kim Smale	General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer
Susan Mann	Financial Services Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jed DeCory	Lake Erie North Shore Landowners Association
David Harding	Lake Erie North Shore Landowners Association
Craig Bradford	Reporter, The Aylmer Express

WELCOME / CALL TO ORDER:

Chairperson Cerna welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at (10:00 a.m.).

ADOPTION OF AGENDA:

Motion # 105/2017 A. Vanhoucke M. Tinlin CARRIED

THAT, the Agenda for the October 12th, 2017, Full Authority meeting be adopted as circulated.

DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST:

No one had a pecuniary interest to disclose at this time.

DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO AUDIO / VIDEO RECORD MEETING:

The Chairperson asked for disclosures of intentions to audio or video record the meeting. No one indicated any such intentions at this time.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES:

Motion # 106/2017 M. Tinlin A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

THAT, the Minutes of Full Authority meeting # 07/2017 (September 14, 2017), be accepted as circulated.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES:

No one reported any outstanding business to discuss from the previous Minutes.

PUBLIC / SPECIAL DELEGATIONS:

None

REPORTS:

Report FA 50/2017 – Monthly Staff Reports, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 107/2017 A. Vanhoucke M. Tinlin CARRIED

THAT, Staff Reports for the month of September 2017, be noted and filed.

Report FA 51/2017 – September Summary of Revenue and Expenditures, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 108/2017 A. Vanhoucke M. Tinlin CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 51/2017, be noted and filed.

Report FA 52/2017– Accounts Payable, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 109/2017 A. Oslach A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

That, Accounts Payable totaling \$29,594.75, be approved for payment as presented in Report FA 52/2017.

Report FA 53/2017 – Approved Section 28 Regulation Applications, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 110/2017 A. Oslach A. Vanhoucke CARRIED

THAT, the Full Authority receive the staff approved Section 28 Regulation Applications Report FA 53/2017, as information.

Report FA 54/2017 – Conservation Ontario Council Meeting, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 111/2017 S. Martyn A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, Report FA 54/2017, be received as information at this time.

Report FA 55/2017 – C.A. Statistical Survey Results, was presented, discussed, and resolved.

Motion # 112/2017 A. Vanhoucke A. Oslach CARRIED

THAT, the 2016 Conservation Authority Statistical Survey Summary of Results attached to Report FA 55/2017, be received as information at this time.

GENERAL MANAGER / SECRETARY - TREASURER'S REPORT:

a) Cross-Country Meets:

The General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer informed the members that there are two (2) major cross-country meets being held at the Springwater Conservation Aea on October 12th and October 19th, 2017.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None

CHAIRPERSON'S / BOARD MEMBER'S REPORT:

a) Biennial Tour:

Member Vanhoucke thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend the 2017 Conservation Authorities Biennial Tour hosted by the Credit Valley and Halton Region Conservation Authorities. She noted the drastic differences in the types of conservation restoration activities being undertaken in large urban settings versus rural Ontario. Attempting to retrofit areas surrounded by pavement with a variety of innovative low impact development stormwater management technologies is proving to be a huge challenge. Many of the significant ecological restoration efforts which are currently underway in many of the urban areas are constantly facing development pressures created by urban sprawl. Member Vanhoucke concluded by saying how fortunate we are to live in a rural watershed that still has a large amount of natural habitat remaining.

NOTICE OF MOTIONS / NEW BUSINESS:

a) Land Management and Personnel / Finance Committee Meeting Date:

The meeting date for the Land Management and Personnel / Finance Committee meetings was changed to Thursday, November 16th, 2017, commencing at (10:30 a.m.).

CORRESPONDENCE:

a) Not Copied:

- Correspondence Register for September, 2017

b) Copied:

- None

<u>Motion # 113/2017</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Correspondence Register for September, 2017, be noted and filed.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE:

<u>Motion # 114/2017</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Full Authority adjourn to the Committee of the Whole to discuss two (2) matters of personnel at (10:38 a.m.).

<u>Motion # 115/2017</u>	S. Martyn	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the Committee of the Whole rise and report at (11:23 a.m.).

<u>Motion # 116/2017</u>	A. Oslach	A. Vanhoucke	CARRIED
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THAT, the Minutes of Personnel / Finance Committee meeting #02/2017 (September 29, 2017), be accepted as circulated.

<u>Motion # 117/2017</u>	A. Vanhoucke	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the revised Job Descriptions for the General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer and the Conservation Areas Supervisor be approved as discussed.

NEXT MEETING / ADJOURNMENT:

The next meeting of the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority will be held on Thursday, November 9th, 2017, commencing at (10:00 a.m.).

<u>Motion # 118/2017</u>	S. Martyn	A. Oslach	CARRIED
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THAT, the Full Authority be adjourned at (11:25 a.m.).

General Manager / Secretary –Treasurer

Authority Chairperson

REPORT FA 56/ 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Conservation Areas Supervisor
Resource Planning Coordinator
Water Management Technician

SUBJECT: Monthly Staff Reports

DATE: October 30, 2017

Conservation Areas Supervisor, Ed Pietrzak

Current Activities:

- Assisted with the delivery of the fall Environmental Education Programs at the Springwater Conservation Area.
- Provided ongoing training for students on the Cooperative Education Placement Program.
- Hosted the Thames Valley Regional Athletic Association cross-country meet at the Springwater Conservation Area on October 12th, 2017. The WOSSAA cross-country championships were also held at Springwater on October 19th, 2017.
- Woodlot management and hazard tree removal.
- Ongoing day-to-day operations, maintenance and security at the various Conservation Areas.

Upcoming Activities:

- Processing firewood in preparation for the 2018 maple syrup and camping seasons.
- Working with the students from the East Elgin Secondary School Environmental Leadership Program to complete a number of resource management projects on Conservation Authority lands.
- Preparing for the Annual Candlelit Christmas Spirit Walk in partnership with the Elgin Hiking Trail Club. The event is being held at Springwater on December 2nd, 2017.
- Winterization of all Springwater facilities.
- General maintenance and operations.
- Regular duties as assigned.

Resource Planning Coordinator, Tony Difazio

Current Activities:

- Completed a wetland restoration project at the Yarmouth Natural Heritage Area;
- Assisted with the removal of invasive species along Catfish Creek through the Town of Aylmer ;
- Completed a cleanup of Catfish Creek through the Town of Aylmer;
- Completed an erosion control project on the Simpson Drain in Springfield;
- All of the above noted projects were undertaken with the assistance of the students from the Environmental Leadership Program.

Upcoming Activities:

- Assist with the planning and delivery of upcoming stewardship restoration projects throughout the watershed;
- Supervision and coordination of the Ontario Municipal Drain Classification project for the Catfish Creek watershed;
- Supervision of the Environmental Leadership Program students who will be trained in chainsaw safety and will assist the CCCA with management of various plantations this fall; and,
- Regular duties as assigned.

Water Management Technician, Peter Dragunas

Current Activities:

- Continued 2017 Ontario Low Water Response monitoring and evaluation.
- Fall reviews and updates of the previous flood season are required to assist in threshold development for upcoming years to better understand the initial recognition of flood threats.
- Assisted landowners with initial planning and 2018 tree planting assessment.
- Completed the Provincial Groundwater Monitoring Network (PGMN) equipment service and repair schedule.
- Investigated two suspicious deleterious substance spill incidents.
- Assisted with the GIS mapping component of the DFO Drain Classification project.

Upcoming Activities:

- 2017 / 2018 flood criteria and threshold reviews.
- Continued site visits with landowners to discuss / assist with land reclamation and rehabilitation for the CCCA 2018 Tree Planting Program.
- Regular duties as assigned.

Recommendation:

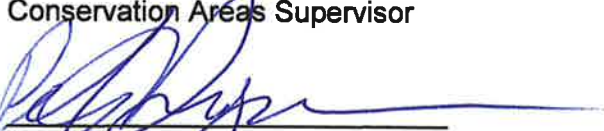
That, Staff Reports for the month of October, 2017, be noted and filed.



for Ed Pietrzak
Conservation Areas Supervisor



Tony Difazio
Resource Planning Coordinator



Peter Dragunas
Water Management Technician

REPORT FA 57 / 2017 : To The Full Authority**FROM: Susan Mann, Financial Services Coordinator****SUBJECT: October Summary of Revenue & Expenditures****DATE: October 31, 2017****SUMMARY OF REVENUE
for the period ending October 31, 2017**

	2017 Budget	2017 To Date	Difference	2016 To Date
MNRF Provincial Grants	\$ 79,835.00	\$ 79,835.00	\$ -	\$ 79,835.00
Other Provincial Grants	\$ 92,188.92	\$ 59,199.66	\$ (32,989.26)	\$ 41,828.91
Federal Grants	\$ 44,287.10	\$ 63,703.46	\$ 19,416.36	\$ 39,200.00
General Levy	\$ 263,481.94	\$ 263,481.95	\$ 0.01	\$ 244,124.45
Special Benefiting Levy	\$ 49,250.10	\$ 8,250.00	\$ (41,000.10)	\$ 8,250.00
Employment Program Grants	\$ 18,732.00	\$ 14,927.70	\$ (3,804.30)	\$ 12,228.36
Donations/Sponsorships	\$ 36,150.00	\$ 59,415.01	\$ 23,265.01	\$ 41,220.37
Conservation Areas Revenue	\$ 473,500.00	\$ 517,589.29	\$ 44,089.29	\$ 485,316.03
Maple Syrup Revenue	\$ 55,350.00	\$ 47,644.76	\$ (7,705.24)	\$ 54,539.36
Bank Interest Earned	\$ 5,400.00	\$ 75.68	\$ (5,324.32)	\$ -
Information & Education	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 5,576.50	\$ (1,923.50)	\$ 6,803.50
Legal Inquiries/Permit Applications	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,715.92	\$ 715.92	\$ 3,053.08
Trees/Planting/Spraying	\$ 3,750.00	\$ 5,330.42	\$ 1,580.42	\$ 2,790.40
Woodlot Management	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,460.17	\$ (39.83)	\$ 840.71
Watershed Stewardship Projects	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 18,500.00	\$ 8,500.00	\$ -
Water Quality/Quantity Programs	\$ 500.00	\$ -	\$ (500.00)	\$ -
Revenue from Other C.A. Lands	\$ 12,350.00	\$ 19,470.59	\$ 7,120.59	\$ 18,478.48
Other Revenue	\$ 6,723.42	\$ 5,491.53	\$ (1,231.89)	\$ 1,748.62
Contract Services	\$ 780.00	\$ -	\$ (780.00)	\$ 650.00
Vehicle & Equipment Rental Recoveries	\$ 38,175.00	\$ 27,988.51	\$ (10,186.49)	\$ 35,539.31
Previous Year Surplus (Deficit)	\$ (10,490.46)	\$ (10,490.46)	\$ -	\$ 376.83
Income Appropriation from Special Reserves	\$ 24,077.49	\$ -	\$ (24,077.49)	\$ -
Income Appropriation from General Reserves	\$ 88,832.59	\$ -	\$ (88,832.59)	\$ -
	\$ 1,305,873.10	\$ 1,192,165.69	\$ (113,707.41)	\$ 1,076,823.41

DONATIONS/SPONSORSHIPS	2017 Budget	Received To Date	Difference
Fish Stocking	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -
Springwater Event Sponsorships	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ (500.00)
Annual Report	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00	\$ -
Environmental Education	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ -
EESS ELP Sponsorships	\$ 7,500.00	\$ 7,284.80	\$ (215.20)
Community Forest	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ (250.00)
Forestry Projects	\$ -	\$ 20,540.00	\$ 20,540.00
Maple Syrup Program	\$ 5,500.00	\$ 7,650.00	\$ 2,150.00
Springwater Forest Trails	\$ 8,500.00	\$ 9,607.25	\$ 1,107.25
Archie Coulter C.A. Trails	\$ 650.00	\$ 726.26	\$ 76.26
YNHA	\$ 3,500.00	\$ -	\$ (3,500.00)
Springwater C.A. Development	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -
Ontario Police College Path of Honour	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 5,356.70	\$ 3,856.70
TOTAL Donations/Sponsorships	\$ 36,150.00	\$ 59,415.01	\$ 23,265.01

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

for the period ending October 31, 2017

	2017 Budget	2017 To Date	Balance	2016 To Date
ADMINISTRATION				
A-1 Wages & Benefits	\$ 97,676.87	\$ 82,067.81	\$ 15,609.06	\$ 82,280.50
A-2 Travel Exp. & Allow.	\$ 8,301.05	\$ 1,068.39	\$ 7,232.66	\$ 1,340.18
A-3 Equip. Purchase & Rental	\$ 9,025.00	\$ 6,611.70	\$ 2,413.30	\$ 6,770.36
A-4 Materials & Supplies	\$ 4,150.00	\$ 2,645.32	\$ 1,504.68	\$ 3,247.91
A-5 Rent & Utilities	\$ 15,909.64	\$ 9,173.57	\$ 6,736.07	\$ 9,677.31
A-6 General Expenses	\$ 37,107.00	\$ 36,022.50	\$ 1,084.50	\$ 34,843.93
TOTAL	\$ 172,169.56	\$ 137,589.29	\$ 34,580.27	\$ 138,160.19
FLOOD FORECASTING & WARNING				
F4-2 Flood Control Structures	\$ 11,692.00	\$ 9,245.14	\$ 2,446.86	\$ 9,622.82
F4-4 Flood Forecasting & Warning	\$ 152,964.81	\$ 119,845.86	\$ 33,118.95	\$ 125,850.48
F4-5 Ice Management	\$ 95,600.20	\$ 79,397.59	\$ 16,202.61	\$ 20,749.00
F4-6 Plan Input	\$ 34,034.62	\$ 28,086.76	\$ 5,947.86	\$ 28,191.26
F4-71 Watershed Planning	\$ 13,302.94	\$ 11,222.28	\$ 2,080.66	\$ 16,881.35
F4-72 Technical Studies (GIS)	\$ 9,119.26	\$ 5,091.66	\$ 4,027.60	\$ 5,238.12
TOTAL	\$ 316,713.83	\$ 252,889.29	\$ 63,824.54	\$ 206,533.03
OTHER PROGRAM AREAS				
B-1 Information & Education	\$ 27,570.29	\$ 13,119.98	\$ 14,450.31	\$ 18,523.87
E-1 Extension Services - Tree Planting Community Forest	\$ 29,433.27	\$ 38,944.68	\$ (9,511.41)	\$ 26,372.67
E-1 Extension Services - Woodlot Management	\$ -	\$ 300.00	\$ (300.00)	\$ -
E-1 Extension Services - Watershed Stewardship	\$ 7,422.44	\$ 4,682.70	\$ 2,739.74	\$ 7,313.11
E4-1 Fish & Wildlife Habitat	\$ 40,755.92	\$ 39,714.40	\$ 1,041.52	\$ 680.44
	\$ -	\$ 6,101.72	\$ (6,101.72)	\$ -
TOTAL	\$ 105,181.92	\$ 102,863.48	\$ 2,318.44	\$ 52,890.09
CAPITAL & SPECIAL PROJECTS				
Water Management Programs	\$ 32,388.92	\$ 19,014.15	\$ 13,374.77	\$ 22,053.54
Springwater C.A. Development	\$ 13,546.16	\$ 8,299.36	\$ 5,246.80	\$ 68,779.90
Special Projects	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 7,390.08	\$ (4,390.08)	\$ 402.42
TOTAL	\$ 48,935.08	\$ 34,703.59	\$ 14,231.49	\$ 91,235.86
CONSERVATION AUTHORITY LANDS				
Springwater Operation & Maint	\$ 488,348.80	\$ 417,654.08	\$ 70,694.72	\$ 444,668.57
Vehicle & Equipment Pool Exp.	\$ 57,455.00	\$ 42,448.06	\$ 15,006.94	\$ 87,375.78
Maple Syrup	\$ 57,522.11	\$ 48,450.75	\$ 9,071.36	\$ 49,316.68
Other C.A. Lands	\$ 59,546.80	\$ 27,240.93	\$ 32,305.87	\$ 71,718.54
TOTAL	\$ 662,872.71	\$ 535,793.82	\$ 127,078.89	\$ 653,079.57
APPROPRIATION TO GENERAL RESERVES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
APPROPRIATION TO SPECIAL RESERVES	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 1,305,873.10	\$ 1,063,839.47	\$ 242,033.63	\$ 1,141,898.74


 Susan Mann,
 Financial Services Coordinator

REPORT FA 58 / 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Other Grants - Provincial and Federal

DATE: November 2, 2017

PURPOSE:

To provide the members with a breakdown of the "Other Provincial Grants" and "Other Grants - Federal" categories in the 2017 Budget.

DISCUSSION:

The following lists provide a detailed breakdown of the Other Provincial Grants and Other Federal Grants line items shown in the monthly Summary of Revenue and Expenditures Report for October.

OTHER PROVINCIAL GRANTS	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative - OMAFRA	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 9,000.00	\$ -
Low Water Response Program - MNRF	\$ 13,203.57	\$ 1,625.00	-\$ 11,578.57
Source Water Protection Program - MOECC	\$ 9,963.05	\$ 7,864.54	-\$ 2,098.51
Ice Management / Dredging - Port Bruce - OMAFRA	\$ 23,300.00	\$ 19,044.57	-\$ 4,255.43
YNHA Wetland Restoration - OPG	\$ 28,000.00	\$ -	-\$ 28,000.00
Precipitation Gauge - MNRF (PPR)	\$ 8,722.30	\$ -	-\$ 8,722.30
TOTALS	\$ 92,188.92	\$ 37,534.11	-\$ 54,654.81

FEDERAL GRANTS	BUDGET	ACTUAL	DIFFERENCE
Habitat Stewardship Fund - ERCA	\$ 20,987.10	\$ 44,658.89	\$ 23,671.79
Ice Management / Dredging - Port Bruce - OMAFRA	\$ 23,300.00	\$ 19,044.57	-\$ 4,255.43
TOTALS	\$ 44,287.10	\$ 63,703.46	\$ 19,416.36

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, Report FA 58 / 2017, be received as information at this time.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

REPORT FA 59 / 2017 : TO THE FULL AUTHORITY

FROM: Susan Mann, Financial Services Coordinator
SUBJECT: Accounts Payable
DATE: October 31, 2017

VENDOR	CHQ #	TOTAL	EXPLANATION
Hoskin Scientific Limited	27789	48.64	campground maintenance
Jury, David	27790	220.35	computer network support
Waste Connections of Canada Inc.	27791	1,427.76	campground maintenance
Eastlink	27792	1,360.02	phone, fax line, gauges, & internet
payroll October 14 (27793-27816)			
Telus Mobility	27817	96.95	mobile phones
Fairservice, George	27818	633.36	support for Springwater Operations
Hydro One	27819	7,795.00	campground, admin centre & gauges
Hydro One	27820	539.61	day use area
payroll October 28 (27821-27830)			
CBSC Capital Inc.	27831	989.09	photocopier lease
Francotyp-Postalia Canada	27832	198.32	postage metre lease
Fairservice, George	27833	452.40	support for Springwater Operations
Bell Canada	27834	88.07	gauge
Hydro One	27835	31.12	gauge
ALS Canada Ltd.	27836	141.02	campground maintenance
Aylmer Home Hardware	27837	154.14	campground & YNHA project supplies
Bear Adventures	27838	150.00	support for Education programs
Brower, Don	27839	3,164.00	watershed stewardship project
Canadian Tire	27840	125.61	campground supplies
Connon Nurseries - CBV	27841	1,214.75	trees for Springwater and Community Forest
Elgin Chrysler	27842	84.46	vehicle maintenance
Elgin Feeds Ltd.	27843	105.97	YNHA wetland project
Form & Build Supply Inc.	27844	424.88	YNHA wetland project
Frank's Maintenance Products	27845	265.89	campground supplies
Glenbriar Bottled Water Co. Ltd.	27846	84.44	water cooler service
Jury, David	27847	220.35	computer network support
Laemers Excavating	27848	4,486.10	conservation areas maintenance
LeBlanc, Lou	27849	84.00	camping refund
Molly Maid	27850	158.00	administration centre cleaning service
Purolator Courier	27851	27.41	courier fees
R Safety	27852	18.26	campground supplies
Secord Home Building Centre	27853	101.67	YNHA wetland project
Union Sports Sales Limited	27854	390.98	uniform items
Van Rooijen, John	27855	11,077.74	watershed stewardship project
Vandenbrink Farm Equipment Inc.	27856	505.10	equipment maintenance

\$ 36,865.46

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, Accounts Payable totalling \$36,865.46 , be approved for payment as presented in Report FA 59 / 2017.



Susan Mann,
Financial Services Coordinator

REPORT FA 60/ 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

SUBJECT: Special Projects Funding

DATE: November 1, 2017

Purpose:

To provide the Board with an update on some of the additional projects which have received funding approval since the presentation of Report FA 30/2017, at the June Full Authority meeting.

Discussion:

The following list provides a summary of the most recent special projects receiving funding in 2017. This brings the total amount raised for the year to approximately \$169,452.00, compared to \$188,380.00 in 2016.

<u>Name of Project</u>	<u>Primary Funding Source</u>	<u>Funding Amount</u>
DFO Drain Classification	Fisheries and Oceans Canada	\$8,800.00
Erie- Essex Fish Species at Risk	Environment and Climate Change Canada, Essex Region Conservation Authority	\$23,672.00

Recommendation:

THAT, the Full Authority acknowledge receipt of the additional list of 2017 Special Projects as outlined in Report FA 60/2017.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

REPORT FA 61/ 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

SUBJECT: Environmental Protection Report

DATE: November 1, 2017

Purpose:

To provide the members with a copy of the remarks made by the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario regarding the 2017 Environmental Protection Report.

Discussion:

On October 24th, 2017, the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario released the 2017 Environmental Protection Report – Good Choices, Bad Choices: Environmental Rights and Environmental Protection in Ontario.

The 289 page document reports on whether provincial ministries have fulfilled their responsibilities under the Environmental Bill of Rights, and whether their environmentally significant decisions were consistent with the purposes of the law.

The attached information from the Environmental Commissioner of Ontario, Dianne Saxe, provides a very high level summary of the 2017 Report.

Recommendation:

THAT, Report FA 61/2017, be received as information at this time.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer



Dianne Saxe, J.D., Ph.D. in Law
Commissioner

Dianne Saxe, J.D., Ph.D. en droit
Commissaire

Ontario government must tackle pollution affecting Indigenous communities

Environmental Commissioner also calls on the province to better protect threatened species and fight algae in Ontario's lakes

Toronto, October 24, 2017 – The Environmental Commissioner of Ontario (ECO), Dianne Saxe, today called on the provincial government to make environmental justice part of its reconciliation with Indigenous peoples. From species at risk, to algae, to environmental rights, her annual Environmental Protection Report, *Good Choices, Bad Choices: Environmental Rights and Environmental Protection in Ontario*, highlights both environmental successes and failures.

"The Ontario government has long turned a blind eye to pollution that adversely affects many Indigenous communities," stated the Commissioner. For over 60 years, the Grassy Narrows and Wabaseemoong First Nations, northwest of Dryden, have suffered devastating effects from mercury poisoning. The people of Aamjiwnaang First Nation continue to breathe air that is heavily polluted by the industrial facilities of "Chemical Valley" in Sarnia, contributing to serious health and environmental problems. Dozens of First Nation communities in Ontario lack access to safe drinking water. At the ECO's last count, 36 First Nation communities are affected by a drinking-water advisory that's been in place for more than a year, many being in place for over a decade.

"The conditions faced by these Indigenous communities would not be tolerated elsewhere in Ontario, yet have long been deemed unworthy of priority, effort or expense," Saxe observed. "After decades of neglect, the province is finally taking some steps, but the pollution that these communities still face is outrageous."

The Commissioner's report highlights how the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF) is failing to protect species at risk, like the Algonquin wolf. "It's illegal to kill threatened species in Ontario, but the MNRF has decided to strip the Algonquin wolf of this protection in much of its habitat," said Saxe. "There may be as few as 250 mature Algonquin wolves in the wild, and hunting and trapping are major threats to their survival. The Algonquin wolf stands little chance without full protection."

Good Choices, Bad Choices also reports on how two ministries overhauled their permitting processes with very different outcomes. The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) simplified its approvals process by shifting some low-risk activities from individualized permits to pollute to standard rules. The MOECC's permitting system has

.../2



successfully brought many previously unregulated facilities under consistent, up-to-date environmental standards, while also improving compliance. In stark contrast, the MNRF's permitting system under the *Endangered Species Act* is a failure; the MNRF's simplified approvals system generally lowers the standard of protection for species at risk, with little to no transparency, oversight or enforcement. In addition, in the almost 3,000 applications submitted since the act was passed, the MNRF has never turned down a single permit to harm or kill a species at risk.

Toxic algae is a growing threat to Ontario's lakes. Thick scums of algae can make lakes dangerous for swimming, drinking and fishing. Phosphorus is a major cause of algae growth. Yet the province relies almost exclusively on voluntary and unevaluated phosphorus control programs that have not worked. "The provincial government must tackle non-point sources of phosphorus, namely contaminated water from farms, streets and lawns. To start, the government should ban all spreading of phosphorus sources, including manure, fertilizer and sewage sludge, on frozen or saturated ground."

Other topics covered in the report include: report cards on the government's compliance with the *Environmental Bill of Rights*, showing improvements due to outreach by the Commissioner's office; implications of changes to the *Aggregate Resources Act*; and the 68,000 km² shortfall in Ontario's protected area system that is required to meet the national 17% target by 2020.

Good Choices, Bad Choices: Environmental Rights and Environment Protection in Ontario can be downloaded at eco.on.ca.

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For more information or to schedule interviews, please contact:

Michael Zupanic
Communications & Outreach Co-ordinator
416-325-3371
media@eco.on.ca

Aussi disponible en français

*The **Environmental Commissioner of Ontario** is an independent officer of the Legislature who reports on government progress on environmental protection, climate change and energy conservation. The ECO is the province's environmental watchdog and guardian of Ontarians' environmental rights.*

REMARKS

Dianne Saxe, Environmental Commissioner of Ontario

2017 Environmental Protection Report – Good Choices, Bad Choices

Legislative Media Studio, Queen's Park

10:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 24, 2017

Check Against Delivery

Bonjour à toutes et à tous.

My 2017 Environmental Protection Report, *Good Choices, Bad Choices: Environmental Rights and Environmental Protection in Ontario*, highlights some recent environmental successes and failures.

One of the most shameful is the unjust pollution affecting Indigenous peoples. Both governments and businesses have long turned a blind eye to pollution of Indigenous communities.

For example, for over 60 years, the Grassy Narrows and Wabaseemoong First Nation communities, northwest of Dryden, have suffered the devastating effects of mercury poisoning. In the most recent study, over 58% of the Grassy Narrows and Wabaseemoong community members examined were diagnosed with, or suspected of having, Minamata disease. This is a serious neurological syndrome caused by mercury poisoning. Mercury poisoning damages cognitive abilities and can cause tunnel vision; deafness; numbness; shaking; difficulty walking; and even death.

Numerous other First Nation reserve communities lack safe drinking water. At the ECO's last count, 36 First Nation communities in Ontario are affected by a drinking-water advisory that's been in place for more than a year, and of those, 17 communities have been affected for more than ten years. The federal government has the primary responsibility for water infrastructure and regulation for First Nation reserve communities, but the Government of Ontario can and should help by protecting water sources and providing more technical expertise and training.

The Aamjiwnaang First Nation, located in Sarnia and surrounded by heavy industry, suffers some of the worst air pollution in the country. Altogether, the industrial facilities of "Chemical Valley" release millions of kilograms of pollution into the Aamjiwnaang airshed each year. There is strong evidence this pollution is causing profound health problems. Aamjiwnaang is known for a 2005 study that confirmed a skewed sex ratio of babies – two girls are born for every boy. Other studies have found higher-than-average hospital admissions for respiratory and cardiovascular illnesses, and higher-than-average incidence of some cancers. In Aamjiwnaang, a "shelter-in-place" siren may go off at any time because of dangerous pollution. Residents must immediately go or stay inside, seal air intakes and await instructions. And even these warnings have proved unreliable.

Such conditions would not be tolerated elsewhere in Ontario. Yet, they have long been deemed unworthy of priority, effort or expense. After decades of neglect, the province is finally taking some steps, but the pollution that these communities still face is outrageous. The Ontario government must make environmental justice part of its pursuit of reconciliation with Indigenous people.

In a clear example of “*good choices, bad choices*,” the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC) and the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), each simplified their permitting processes, but with very different outcomes. Each ministry shifted some activities from individualized permits to standard rules. In principle, a well-designed simplified approvals process can save both businesses and government time and money, while raising the bar of environmental protection.

In practice, the Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change took a thoughtful and effective approach. Its simplified approvals process for some activities that it regulates under the *Environmental Protection Act* and the *Ontario Water Resources Act* has, so far, been a success. The ministry has brought many previously unregulated facilities under consistent, up-to-date environmental standards, while also improving compliance with the law. The MOECC also operates a website called Access Environment that lets the public see what approvals a company in their neighbourhood has.

In stark contrast, the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry’s permitting system under the *Endangered Species Act* is a failure: in the nearly 3,000 requests to harm a species or its habitat since the law was passed a decade ago, the MNRF has never – not once – said no. Instead of individual permits that, by law, require an “overall benefit” to endangered and threatened species, the MNRF’s simplified system generally only tells most proponents to *minimize* harm. To make matters worse, the MNRF turns a blind eye to whether proponents comply with these weakened rules. Meanwhile, the MNRF keeps the public in the dark about which activities the ministry has allowed to harm species at risk and where.

The Algonquin wolf is another example of the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry failing to protect species at risk. Algonquin wolves are a unique, threatened species that live only in central Ontario and southern Quebec. The *Endangered Species Act* specifically prohibits killing a threatened species, but the ministry stripped the Algonquin wolf of much of this protection. There may be as few as 250 mature Algonquin wolves left in the wild, and hunting and trapping allowed by the MNRF are central threats to their survival. Earlier this year, the ministry made much of its good choice to ban the hunting and trapping of a less imperiled species, the snapping turtle. The ministry should do at least the same for the more threatened Algonquin wolf, which stands little chance of recovery without protection.

We are fortunate in our province to have an abundance of water. But our lakes are in trouble. Toxic algae blooms are becoming more frequent and wide-spread. Thick scums of algae can make lakes dangerous for swimming, drinking and fishing, and can impose serious costs on communities. Algae problems affect not only Lake Erie, but also parts of Lake Huron and Lake Ontario and smaller lakes, especially on the Canadian Shield.

A key trigger for algae blooms is the nutrient phosphorus, typically from fertilizer, and animal and human excrement. Controlling phosphorus in sewage was the key to cleaning up Lake Erie in the 1970s. Today, phosphorus-contaminated water from farms, streets and lawns is the main cause of algae blooms.

The Ontario government relies almost exclusively on voluntary and unevaluated programs to control phosphorus from these non-point sources. These programs do not do nearly enough. The Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) and the MOECC need

to use their financial, regulatory and land use planning powers to slash non-point sources of phosphorus. For example, government should support farmers who deliver real, verified reductions in phosphorus run-off. The MOECC and the OMAFRA must ban the spreading of phosphorus sources, such as manure, fertilizer and sewage sludge, on frozen or saturated ground.

Last year, we called on all ministries to show more respect for the public by improving their compliance with the *Environmental Bill of Rights*. I'm glad to report that, with our help, ministries made real progress since last year. For example, ministries are giving the public more current and usable information about environmentally significant decisions. The *Environmental Bill of Rights* is everyone's tool, but the government must give it the attention and respect it deserves.

Thank you.

REPORT FA 62/ 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

SUBJECT: Bill 148, The Fair Workplace, Better Jobs Act, 2017

DATE: November 2, 2017

Purpose:

To update the members on the potential impacts of Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act, 2017, on the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority.

Discussion:

On June 1, 2017, the Ontario government introduced Bill 148, the Fair Workplaces, Better Jobs Act. If passed, Bill 148 would introduce a range of changes to the Employment Standards Act, 2000 (ESA) and the Labour Relations Act, 1995 (LRA).

Bill 148 would significantly increase the general minimum wage to \$14 / hour by January 1, 2018, and \$15 / hour by January 1, 2019. The new minimum wage increases will have the biggest financial impact on the CCCA with additional expenses for wages at the Springwater Conservation Area of \$20,600.00 in 2018, and \$10,000.00 in 2019. These figures do not account for any changes in compensation or scheduling required to meet the new standard of Personal Emergency Leave Days.

Other proposed amendments will have a much lesser impact financially on the CCCA than the suggested minimum wage changes.

Given the status of the current legislation, the aforementioned cost estimates are subject to change as amendments are introduced and greater clarification regarding implementation is provided.

Recommendation:

THAT, the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority send a letter to Premier Wynne expressing its concerns for the proposed changes to the minimum wage rates and the potential financial impacts on the not-for-profit sector.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

REPORT FA 63 / 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer

SUBJECT: Ice Breaking Quotations

DATE: November 3, 2017

Purpose:

To review the quotations to provide Ice Breaking Services in Port Bruce for 2018.

Discussion:

The Catfish Creek Conservation Authority (CCCA) received a Resolution from the Township of Malahide to confirm in writing the availability and cost of a dragline with a minimum of 100 foot boom to break ice during the spring thaw in Port Bruce in 2018 on the same basis as 2017. The dragline must be available to remain on-site for the months of January to March, 2018.

Four (4) contractors owning this type of specialized heavy equipment were contacted to submit a quotation. Two (2) bids were received prior to the November 3rd deadline. The Quotation Sheets submitted by Erie Draglines and Higgs Construction Ltd. are attached for your review and information

Recommendation:

THAT, the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority forward the Quotations for Ice Breaking Services to the Township of Malahide for Council's review and consideration.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer



QUOTATION SHEET

ICE BREAKING SERVICES

January – March, 2018

Name of Company Erie Draglines

Description Of Equipment To Be Used (Make, Model, Weight, Year): _____

Machine: Koehring 665 Year:1978 Weight: 55 Tonne

Length Of Boom: 100 feet

Maximum Reach: 120 feet

Working Hourly Rate: \$165.00

Standby Rate: Per Hour: \$85.00 Per Day (8 hours): \$680.00

Move In And Rigging Rate: \$2800.00

Additional Cost To Leave A Job To Respond To An Emergency Call: None

Lead Time Required To Move In And Fully Rig: Min: N/A Max: N/A

Emergency Phone Number: 519-280-1017 or 226-751-2262

Name Of Contact: Terrie Cox or Catherine Cox

Description Of Insurance Coverage (Minimum \$2,000,000.00): 5 million

Would you have a machine available to remain on-site in Port Bruce for the months of January – March?

Yes Yes No _____

If yes, what would be the cost? One (1) Month, Total Cost \$3000.00

Two (2) Months, Total Cost \$3000.00

Three (3) Months, Total Cost \$3000.00

Offered On Behalf Of The Contractor:

Name: Terrie Cox - Erie Draglines

Date: November 1st 2017

Address: 54745 Ottergate Line

Phone No.: 519-280-1017

Eden, ON, NOJ 1H0

Email Address: eriedraglines@gmail.com

Signature: 

Lowest or any quotation not necessarily accepted.



QUOTATION SHEET

ICE BREAKING SERVICES

January – March, 2018

Name of Company Higgs Construction Ltd.
Description Of Equipment To Be Used (Make, Model, Weight, Year): 50 ton Linkbelt crawler dragline equipped with 100' of boom and a 2yd.³ bucket.
Length Of Boom: 100'
Maximum Reach: 120'
Working Hourly Rate: \$150.00/hr.
Standby Rate: Per Hour: \$75.00/hr. Per Day (8 hours): \$600.00
Move In And Rigging Rate: \$1500.00 each move-in.
Additional Cost To Leave A Job To Respond To An Emergency Call: \$1500.00
Lead Time Required To Move In And Fully Rig: Min: 4.0 hr. Max: 8.0 hr.
Emergency Phone Number: 519-668-8658
Name Of Contact: Dave Higgs
Description Of Insurance Coverage (Minimum \$2,000,000.00): \$5,000,000.00

Would you have a machine available to remain on-site in Port Bruce for the months of January – March?

Yes ☒

No ☐

If yes, what would be the cost?

One (1) Month, Total Cost

\$2400.00/mo.

Two (2) Months, Total Cost

\$4800.00/mo.

Three (3) Months, Total Cost

\$7200.00/mo.

Offered On Behalf Of The Contractor:

Name: Higgs Construction Ltd.
Address: 2230 Webber Bourne
London, On. N6N-1L5

Date: Nov 2/17
Phone No.: 519-668-8658
Email Address: higgsconstruction@bellnet.ca

Signature: Dave Higgs

Lowest or any quotation not necessarily accepted.

REPORT FA 64 / 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary-Treasurer

SUBJECT: Great Lakes Information

DATE: November 6, 2017

PURPOSE:

To provide the members with copies of two (2) recent publications regarding the Great Lakes Region.

DISCUSSION:

Environment and Climate Change Canada recently released their 2017 Annual Report for the Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan and the Climate Impacts and Outlook Quarterly Newsletter for the Great Lakes Region.

Copies of both publications are attached for your information and perusal.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT, Report FA 64 / 2017, be received as information at this time.



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary – Treasurer



LAKE ERIE LAKEWIDE ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN 2017 Annual Report

In this Issue

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What is the Lake Erie LAMP?

Under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), the governments of Canada and the United States have committed to restore and maintain the physical, biological and chemical integrity of the waters of the Great Lakes.

The Lake Erie Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) is a binational action plan for restoring and protecting the Lake Erie ecosystem. The LAMP is developed and implemented by the Lake Erie Partnership, which is led by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) and which facilitates information sharing, sets priorities, and assists in coordinating binational environmental protection and restoration activities. The next Lake Erie LAMP will be issued in 2018; in the interim, the Lake Erie Partnership will be assessing the state of the lake, measuring progress against existing LAMP goals and objectives, and promoting management actions to address identified problems.

Overview

Lake Erie's shallow, productive waters support the highest species diversity and fish production of all the Great Lakes. The lake also provides drinking water for about eleven million people in Canada and the United States. This highly valuable resource has suffered from nutrient and bacterial pollution, chemical contamination, and watershed impacts to critical habitats and species. To combat the growing threat of toxic and nuisance algal development in Lake Erie, the United States and Canada committed, through the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), to establish binational phosphorus load reduction targets. Binational strategies and actions are also being implemented to protect and conserve the native biodiversity of Lake Erie. The Lake Erie Partnership's 2017 Annual Report provides information and updates on recent actions taken to restore Lake Erie including watershed nutrient management initiatives; coastal habitats and species protection efforts; Lake Erie science and monitoring; and other Lake Erie Partnership activities and deliverables.

Accomplishments

Nutrients

Great Lakes Restoration Initiative Nutrient Load Reductions

Through the Great Lakes Restorative Initiative (GLRI), U.S. federal agencies and partners are implementing focused conservation and watershed management activities to reduce sources of phosphorus loadings that threaten the Great Lakes nearshore regions. Projects undertaken in selected agricultural priority watersheds, including the Maumee River, are projected to prevent over 160,000 pounds (72,575 kg) of phosphorus from entering the Great Lakes annually. From 2010 through 2016, more than \$67 million in GLRI funding was invested in the Lake Erie Basin to reduce nutrient pollution and to support related science and monitoring. Together with agency base funding programs, a total cumulative reduction of over 2 million pounds (907,185 kg) of phosphorus from edge-of-field and watershed sources in the Lake Erie basin is expected to occur by 2020. To learn more, visit <https://www.glri.us/>.

Thames River, Ontario

The Upper Thames River and Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authorities (CAs) are implementing initiatives to reduce nutrient loading to local water courses, and ultimately to Lake Erie, in support of binational



Conservation authority working with rural landowners to install BMPs to prevent soil and nutrient runoff. Credit: Upper Thames River CA.



LAKE ERIE LAKEWIDE ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

2017 Annual Report

nutrient reduction efforts and the [Canada-Ontario Agreement](#). These include on-farm nutrient reduction demonstration projects and low impact development projects which address urban non-point source runoff. As well, the CAs are studying the impact of best management practices (BMPs) on water quality in two sub-watersheds, Medway Creek and Jeanette's Creek. Recent results indicate that the majority of phosphorus loss occurs during the non-growing season, confirming the importance of BMPs that stabilize soil and sequester nutrients during the winter and early spring months.

Essex Region, Ontario

The Essex Region (CA) is participating in several projects related to phosphorus monitoring and reduction. Since 2012, their Kingsville Leamington Nutrient project has monitored temporal trends and quantified the difference in phosphorus concentrations between greenhouse and non-greenhouse influenced streams. The CA participates in the Great Lakes Agricultural Stewardship Initiative Priority Subwatershed Project by tracking improvements in water quality in Wigle Creek, a small watershed with intensive BMP implementation. The CA also works with academic partners to test the effectiveness of such BMPs as controlled drainage, cover crops and conservation tillage, with farmers and at the Essex County Demonstration Farm at Holiday Beach Conservation Area.

Western Lake Erie Basin CEAP Completed

The Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP), sponsored by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), assesses the effectiveness of agricultural conservation practices at reducing impacts on surrounding ecosystems.

In 2016, a 4-year CEAP Wildlife project was completed that focused on nutrient and sediment impacts on fishes in streams throughout the western Lake Erie basin (WLEB) watershed, which includes parts of Ohio, Michigan and Indiana. This project convened partners from The Nature Conservancy, USDA's Agricultural Research Service and NRCS, Ohio Sea Grant, The Ohio State University and Texas A&M University to develop a computer model that can assess in-stream ecological impacts of agriculture at spatial scales ranging from the entire WLEB down to small watersheds. The analysis also focused on the costs and benefits of conservation practices that reduce those ecological impacts. The research shows that many streams in the WLEB have high levels of sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen, which negatively affect stream health. To manage agricultural water quality impacts, a suite of practices is needed to achieve measurable improvements to fish communities. The models can help pinpoint the small watersheds where future changes in land use practices would have the biggest impact on stream fish communities. The report is available at <http://lakeerieceap.com/resources/>.

Areas of Concern

River Raisin AOC (Michigan)

The sediment clean up at the River Raisin AOC on the southeast portion of Michigan's Lower Peninsula in Monroe County is complete. Since 2010, U.S. EPA has provided more than \$27 million in GLRI funding to accelerate implementation of actions to restore the AOC. The GLRI funds have leveraged an additional \$18 million in state and private funding for AOC work. The federal, state, local, and private partnership projects have remediated over 150,000 cubic yards of PCB-contaminated sediment, restored over 300 acres (1.2 km²) of aquatic habitat, and opened up an additional 23 miles (37 km) of the River Raisin to fish migration and spawning.



Rock arch ramp in the River Raisin providing fish passage throughout the River Raisin AOC and beyond. Credit: City of Monroe.

Black River AOC (Ohio)

Originally called the "river of fish tumors", the Black River in Ohio now boasts sport fishing, kayaking and tour boats eager to view the Great Blue Heron rookery. Since 2010, more than \$23.5 million from the GLRI has been used to fund 20 projects to remediate and restore this AOC. In FY 2017, the Eutrophication and Restrictions on Fish and Wildlife Consumption Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs) were removed.

St. Clair River (Michigan/Ontario)

In Michigan, all management actions required for delisting have been completed. The Deformities and Reproductive Problems BUI was recently removed, and recommendation for removal of the Loss of Fish and Wildlife BUI is pending. Seven of 10 BUIs have been removed. Continued monitoring will determine when the remaining impairments can be removed. In Ontario, the Degradation of Aesthetics BUI was removed in 2016. Three of 12 BUIs have been removed to date. BUI Assessment Reports for Bird or Animal Deformities or Reproductive Problems; Restrictions on Dredging; and Beach Closures have been completed, including consultation with First Nations. Significant progress on restoration and monitoring to assess the remaining impairments was made.



LAKE ERIE LAKEWIDE ACTION AND MANAGEMENT PLAN

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Areas of Concern (Continued)

Detroit River (Michigan/Ontario)

In Michigan, major restoration projects at Stony Island, Belle Isle and Milliken State Park are well underway, and construction of Belle Isle reef is complete. A four-year effort to characterize contaminated sediment along the U.S. shoreline was completed, and a binational technical subcommittee has finalized the sites most likely to need remediation. In Ontario, five of 14 BUIs have been removed to date. Science assessment reports for Restrictions on Dredging and the Degradation of Benthos were completed. A report on Zooplankton assessments and phytoplankton surveys were completed. To encourage riverfront landowners to consider fish-friendly shoreline erosion protection techniques, a detailed guide including a decision-making spreadsheet was created.

Habitats and Species

Coastal Resilience Decision Support Tool

The Nature Conservancy in Michigan is developing the first Great Lakes application on the Conservancy's global CoastalResilience.org mapping platform. The tool will allow a user to select lake level and riparian flood level to display impacts on agricultural fields (acres inundated) and built infrastructure (value of loss, displaced population). The tool will also show Western Lake Erie Coastal Conservation Vision priority areas that may be affected by flooding and water level changes or that could – through planned conservation or restoration – provide options for reducing impacts to other values. The website describing the project is at <http://coastalresilience.org/project/western-lake-erie/>. The Conservancy expects this will be an important resource for WLEB coastal decision makers.

Detroit River-Western Lake Erie Cooperative Weed Management Area (CWMA)

The Detroit River-Western Lake Erie CWMA (Monroe and Wayne counties) was established in 2011 and currently has 16 members from local, state, and federal governments, land conservancies, academic institutions, and other entities. The goal of the CWMA is to manage invasive plants (primarily non-native *Phragmites*) in coastal wetlands from the Detroit River down to the Michigan-Ohio state line. During 2016, partners treated 550 acres (2.2 km²) of *Phragmites*, and surveyed 8,831 acres (36 km²) for a suite of 13 invasive plants, which resulted in 3,943 invasive locations for future action.

Ecosystem Services Valuation of Coastal Wetlands

The Upper Midwest and Great Lakes Landscape Conservation Cooperative – including many Lake Erie Partnership members – will estimate the value of various ecosystem services provided

by coastal wetlands in Saginaw Bay, the St. Clair-Detroit River System, and Western Lake Erie. Data from this project will be incorporated into existing decision support tools to estimate socioeconomic value of wetlands and restoration. Such information can be useful for guiding decisions on a range of topics such as wetlands restoration, recreation access, and protecting communities from storm damage.

Addressing Challenges

Nutrients and Algal Blooms

NOAA Analyzing Lake Erie Algal Toxins in Near Real-time

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory deployed the first Environmental Sample Processor (ESP) in a freshwater system in FY2016, to provide drinking water managers with data on harmful-algal toxicity in near real-time before the water reaches municipal water intakes. An ESP is an autonomous robotic instrument that works as a 'lab in a can' in aquatic environments to collect water samples and analyze them for algal toxins. The ESPniagara is located near the Toledo Water intake, allowing detection of concentrations of toxins as a drinking water early warning system. This toxicity data, coupled with NOAA's existing suite of Lake Erie HAB products (i.e. weekly Lake Erie HAB bulletin and the Experimental HAB Tracker), can provide water managers with more precise bloom location, projected direction, intensity, and toxicity.



A test deployment of the ESPniagara in June 2016. Credit: NOAA.

Domestic Action Plans

The Nutrients Annex (Annex 4) of the GLWQA is coordinating actions to manage phosphorus loadings and concentrations within the Great Lakes. Federal, state and provincial commitments under the Nutrients Annex include development of Domestic Action Plans (DAPs) for Lake Erie by 2018. The DAPs will provide focus for allocation of resources, identify actions and potential policy/program needs, and identify metrics for measuring and tracking progress needed to meet phosphorus reduction targets and lake ecosystem objectives. DAPs will be finalized in 2018, following stakeholder



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engagement through 2017. The draft DAPs are available on binational.net.

Non-native species

Non-native Invertebrate Zooplankton Species Confirmed in Lake Erie

In Fall 2016, U.S. EPA GLNPO and Cornell University confirmed the presence of a non-native invertebrate zooplankton species in the western basin of Lake Erie. The copepod *Thermocyclops crassus*, present throughout Europe, Asia, Africa and Australia, was found in EPA's Great Lakes Biology Monitoring Program samples collected in Lake Erie from 2014 through 2016. This is the first finding of an exotic species introduced into the Laurentian Great Lakes since the discovery of *Hemimysis anomala* in Lake Michigan in 2006. *Thermocyclops crassus* prefers warm waters that are rich in nutrients. It is still relatively rare in the lake, and it is currently unknown how important *T. crassus* could become in Lake Erie and elsewhere. Researchers are continuing to monitor the extent of the population and to look for this species in archived samples, including samples from the 2014 CSMI field year.



Non-native female *Thermocyclops crassus* (above), native *Mesocyclops edax* (below). Credit: Joe Connolly, Cornell University.

Lake Ecosystem Objectives

The Canadian and U.S. governmental agencies are exploring the development of "Lake Ecosystem Objectives" to guide and assess progress toward restoring Lake Erie. These could be used as a benchmark against which to assess status and trends in water quality and lake ecosystem health. As called for in the 2012 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, the Lake Ecosystem Objectives can help guide lakewide management actions needed to address current and potential threats to water quality.

Science Priorities

Each year, one of the Great Lakes is the focus of a binational cooperative science effort called the Cooperative Science and Monitoring Initiative (CSMI). The last CSMI field year on Lake Erie occurred in 2014, and the focus was on issues related to phosphorus in the nearshore of the lake's western basin, how that phosphorus is linked to the land and tributaries of the western basin, and the determination of specific management actions to curtail the development of algal blooms in the western basin. Results of the 2014 CSMI research were presented at the 8th binational meeting of the Lake Erie Millennium Network (<http://www.lemn.org/LEMN2017-presentations.htm>). Science priorities for the next Lake Erie CSMI in 2019 will be finalized by early 2018.

2018 LAMP in Development

The Lake Erie Partnership will be spending the next year developing the Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP), scheduled for completion in December, 2018. The priorities of the Partnership are to continue to study, report out on, and address key issues such as excess nutrients, algal blooms, beach closings, contaminants in fish and wildlife, biodiversity and ecosystem change, and fish and wildlife habitat. Opportunities for interested agencies, organizations, and individuals to provide their perspective on the environmental conditions, issues, or concerns that should be considered during the Lake Erie LAMP drafting process and to offer suggestions on the prioritization of those issues or approaches for addressing them will be posted on binational.net and the Great Lakes Commission's GLIN-Announce.

Outreach and Engagement

You can keep up to date on Great Lakes Water Quality engagement opportunities in the [Engagement Opportunities Happening Now](http://binational.net) section of binational.net. Information on many of our partner organization's upcoming outreach and engagement opportunities can also be found at the Great Lakes Information Network Regional Calendar of Events.

Contact Information

For more information, please visit www.binational.net or contact:

In Canada:
Luca Cargnelli
Environment and Climate
Change Canada
Phone: (905) 336-4476
ec.grandslacs-greatlakes.ec@canada.ca

In the United States:
Elizabeth Hinchey Malloy
U.S. Environmental
Protection Agency
Phone: (312) 886-3451
hinchey.elizabeth@epa.gov

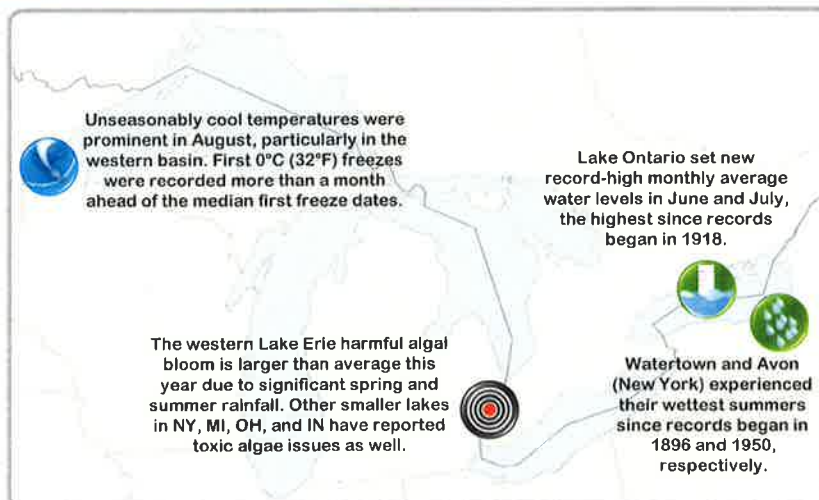
Great Lakes Significant Events - for June - August 2017

Many locations in the Great Lakes basin received above-normal precipitation this summer, with some locations receiving record-breaking precipitation. For example, Avon and Watertown (NY) experienced their wettest summer since records began in 1896 and 1950, respectively.

Bouts of heavy precipitation resulted in several flash flooding events across the basin, with notable events in all three months. One such event occurred from August 28-29, when rainfall totals of 220 to 290 mm (8.7 to 11.4 in) fell in Essex County, Ontario and resulted in significant flooding to roads and basements.

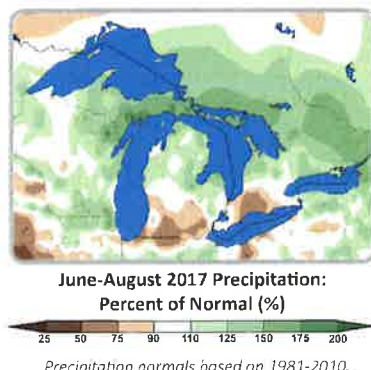
Wet conditions in the basin resulted in water levels of all the Great Lakes remaining well above average throughout the summer. Lake Ontario set new record-high monthly average water levels in June and July, the highest since records began in 1918. Record high outflows were released from the Moses-Saunders Dam throughout the summer to provide relief to Lake Ontario shoreline interests. As a result, and despite the wet weather and continuing high inflows from Lake Erie, Lake Ontario water levels dropped 64 cm (25 in) from the start of June to the end of August, the 2nd largest drop during this three-month period on record.

On July 20, an EF2 tornado touched down in Hamburg (NY), resulting in millions of dollars in damage (estimated) at the Erie County Fairgrounds, as well as significant home damage and power outages. The last time Erie County had an EF2 or stronger tornado was in 1987.



Regional Climate Overview - for June - August 2017

Precipitation



Summer precipitation was near or above average for all lake basins, with the overall basin receiving 110% of average. June was the wettest month this summer, with the overall basin receiving 135% of average precipitation. In July, all lake basins but Ontario saw near- or below-average precipitation, with the overall basin receiving 89% of average. The Erie and Ontario basins were slightly drier than average in August, while the Superior and Michigan-Huron basins were wetter than average. The overall basin saw 105% of average precipitation in August.

Great Lakes Water Levels

Lake	End of August 2017 Compared to:		Change since June 1st	
	Average	Last Year	2017	Average
Superior	+25 cm (+9.8 in)	+9 cm (+3.5 in)	+16 cm (+6.3 in)	+13 cm (+5.1 in)
Michigan-Huron	+44 cm (+17.3 in)	+16 cm (+6.3 in)	+11 cm (+4.3 in)	+1 cm (+0.4 in)
Erie	+48 cm (+18.9 in)	+24 cm (+9.4 in)	-17 cm (-6.7 in)	-11 cm (-4.3 in)
Ontario	+41 cm (+16.1 in)	+43 cm (+16.9 in)	-64 cm (-25.2 in)	-21 cm (-9.1 in)

Water level statistics based on 1918-2016.

Temperature

Air Temperature: Summer temperatures generally ranged from 2°C (3.6°F) below normal to near normal. The greatest temperature departures this summer were in August, when some areas were as much as 3°C (5.4°F) below normal. Portions of Minnesota and Michigan recorded 0°C (32°F) between August 24-25, which is more than a month ahead of the median first freeze dates for these areas (based on 1981-2010 normal). In July, temperatures ranged from 2°C (3.6°F) below normal to 2°C (3.6°F) above normal. June was up to 2°C (3.6°F) warmer than normal for a majority of the basin.

Water Temperature: Surface water temperatures on lakes Erie and Superior were cooler than the long-term average (LTA) by 0.5 to 2°C (0.9 to 3.6°F) for June through August while the other lakes were 0.5 to 1.5°C (0.9 to 2.7°F) higher than the LTA. In contrast, during the same period last year, all lakes were 1 to 3.5°C (1.8 to 6.3°F) higher than the LTA.



Regional Impacts - for June - August 2017

Agriculture



Flooded farm north of Toronto in late June (Dorsey Farms).

The weather conditions this summer caused significant issues for farmers across the basin. A farm near Toronto lost hundreds of acres after a late-June heavy rainfall event, resulting in an **estimated \$2.5 million in damages**. The wetter and cooler conditions have resulted in delayed planting and crop development, unseeded acres, reduced field access, and loss of crops due to flooded fields. As

a result, reduced crop yields and quality are anticipated.

Water Quality

Several beaches and lake access points were closed temporarily at various points throughout the summer due to positive tests for harmful blue-green algae. One lake that tested positive was **Cayuga Lake**, which is a popular tourist destination in the Finger Lakes Region of New York.



Harmful algal bloom in western Lake Erie on 8/14/17 (NOAA GLERL).

Lake Ontario High Water Level Impacts

Lake Ontario water levels have declined during summer but still remained well above average and continued to impact communities and **businesses** within the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River system with **widespread flooding** and erosion issues. Tourism suffered due to

extensive flooding and high water damage to shoreline communities, beaches, and parks, which negatively impacted local businesses. High water damage along the **waterfront in Ogdensburg (NY)** is estimated to cost \$1.5 million to repair and it could be well into next year before public access is allowed. The **Toronto Islands were closed** to the public until July 31 due to flooding, costing the City of Toronto an estimated \$8 million in revenue. While higher water levels allowed some commercial ships to carry heavier loads, the high flows this year increased velocities and cross currents in the St. Lawrence River considerably. This presented difficult conditions for mariners and required significant mitigation measures for safe navigation, all of which substantially slowed cargo shipments. The measures are provided in notices from the **St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation**.

Societal

Several flash flooding events this summer caused damage and disruption to many areas in the basin. Portions of central Michigan received up to 178 mm (7 in) of rainfall from June 22-23. As a result, more than **5 million gallons** of partially-treated wastewater was discharged into the Tittabawassee River and in the **hardest hit counties**, public and private property flood damage is estimated at over \$100 million. Portions of Ohio and New York experienced flash flooding from July 13-14. The Blanchard River near Findlay (OH) had its **fifth highest crest on record**.

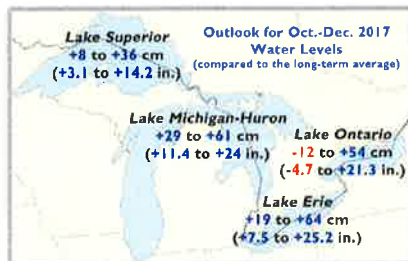


Flooding in Findlay, OH (City of Findlay, Brian Thomas).

Regional Outlook - for October - December 2017

Great Lakes Region Partners

Water Levels



Potential range for water levels for Oct-Dec 2017 compared to the long-term average (1918-2016).

All of the Great Lakes typically begin or continue their seasonal decline at this time of the year, as lake evaporation rates are at their highest. As cold, dry air passes over a lake, it is warmed by the lake's water surface and picks up water vapor as a result. With more water leaving the basin - in the form of evaporation - than entering, **water levels can continue to decline**. This year, water levels are still expected to remain above average for all the Great Lakes unless exceedingly dry conditions are experienced.

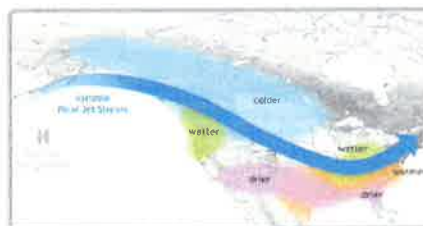
Temperature & Precipitation

Outlook

The Climate Prediction Center (CPC) and Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC) are forecasting a greater chance for above-normal temperatures and equal chances for above-, near-, or below-normal precipitation across the Great Lakes basin for October-December. However, **NOAA now says** there is an increasing chance (55-60%) of La Niña during fall and winter 2017-18. For the Great Lakes basin, La Niña could mean wetter and cooler conditions in December-February. Current outlooks can be found through **CPC and ECCC**.

Potential Impacts

Despite the outlook for warmer-than-normal temperatures in October-December, the delayed planting, unseasonably cool late-summer temperatures, and wetter soils have led to concerns that plants will not mature before the first killing frost. In Ontario, crop development was estimated to be about one week behind normal at the end of the August. The first fall 0°C (32°F) freeze typically occurs in late September and early- to mid-October across the Great Lakes basin.



Typical impacts of La Niña on U.S. winter temperature and precipitation (NOAA Climate.gov).

Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
www.ec.gc.ca
 Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
www.agr.gc.ca
 Midwestern Regional Climate Center
mrcc.isws.illinois.edu
 Northeast Regional Climate Center
www.nrcc.cornell.edu
 Great Lakes Region State Climatologists
www.stateclimate.org
 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
www.noaa.gov
 National Centers for Environmental Information
www.ncei.noaa.gov
 Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
www.glerl.noaa.gov
 NOAA Great Lakes Sea Grant Network
www.seagrant.noaa.gov
 North Central River Forecast Center
www.crh.noaa.gov/ncrfc
 Ohio River Forecast Center
www.weather.gov/ohrfc
 Climate Prediction Center
www.cpc.noaa.gov
 Office for Coastal Management
<http://coast.noaa.gov/>
 Great Lakes Integrated Sciences & Assessments
www.glisu.umich.edu
 US Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District
www.lre.usace.army.mil
 National Integrated Drought Information System
www.drought.gov
 USDA Midwest Climate Hub
<https://www.climatehubs.ocs.usda.gov/midwest>

Contact Information

Contact for NOAA:

Molly Woloszyn: mollyw@illinois.edu
 Samantha Borisoff: samantha.borisoff@cornell.edu

Contact for ECCC: ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca

Archive: goo.gl/3WA5QZ



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changements climatiques Canada

Great Lakes Region
 Quarterly Climate Impacts and Outlook
 - September 2017 -

<http://mrcc.isws.illinois.edu/pubs/pubsGreatLakes.jsp>
www.ec.gc.ca/eau-water/default.asp?lang=En&n=F5329B03-1

#regionalclimateoutlooks

REPORT FA 65 / 2017: To The Full Authority

FROM: Peter Dragunas, Water Management Technician

SUBJECT: Catfish Creek Channel Sounding

DATE: November 6, 2017

Purpose:

To update the Full Authority with regard to the results of the November 2017, Catfish Creek channel sounding at Port Bruce.

Discussion / Background:

Please find attached copies of the Catfish Creek Channel Sounding maps at Port Bruce for October 2016 and November 2017.

At the time of the November survey, the Lake Erie water level extrapolated from the Fisheries and Oceans Canada web site at Erieau and Port Dover stations, was 0.894m above the Chart Datum (CD) of 173.5m. In contrast, the lake level in October 2016 was 0.781m. On a fall to fall seasonal comparison (October to November) the Lake Erie water level is up 0.113m (11.3 cm). Since the Catfish Creek Channel Sounding data and information is evaluated relative to CD, lake levels during survey do not affect the channel sounding bathymetric results and are included for information purposes only.

Typically when seasonal sounding data is compared (fall to spring or spring to fall) the deposition / erosion patterns should indicate erosion in the spring (May sounding) when flows are generally higher, and deposition during the summer months (October sounding) when flows are generally lower.

Based on the October 2016 and November 2017 sounding results, it is evident that sediment has migrated through the sounding reach of the Catfish Creek at Port Bruce. The sounding results indicate that a well defined thalweg exists from Levis Street to the outlet at the Port Bruce harbour. A general migration of sediment appears to have occurred, resulting in a sediment net loss within the sounding reach of the channel.

The November 2017 sounding illustrates that a well defined thalweg exists in the lower reaches of the sounding area for hydrological conveyance within the Catfish Creek.

Thalweg Rationalization

This spring and early summer greater than usual flows provided the opportunity for the channel to transport sediment through some of the typical deposition zones and through the Flood Control Sediment Retention Structure locale. This migration of sediment may allow the channel to maintain a suitable hydrological conveyance of ice along the thalweg within the lower reaches of the sounding area of the Catfish Creek in Port Bruce.

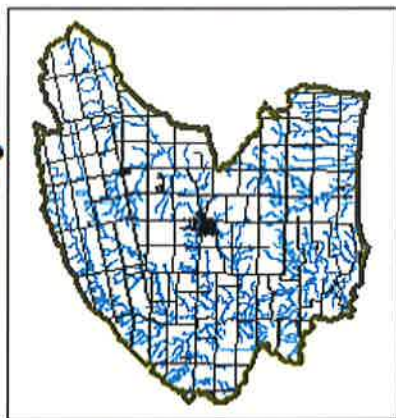
Recommendation:

That, the channel sounding observations described in Report FA 65 / 2017, be received as information at this time.

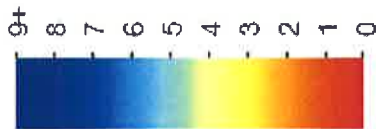

Peter Dragunas,
Water Management Technician



Port Bruce October 2016 Sounding



Feet

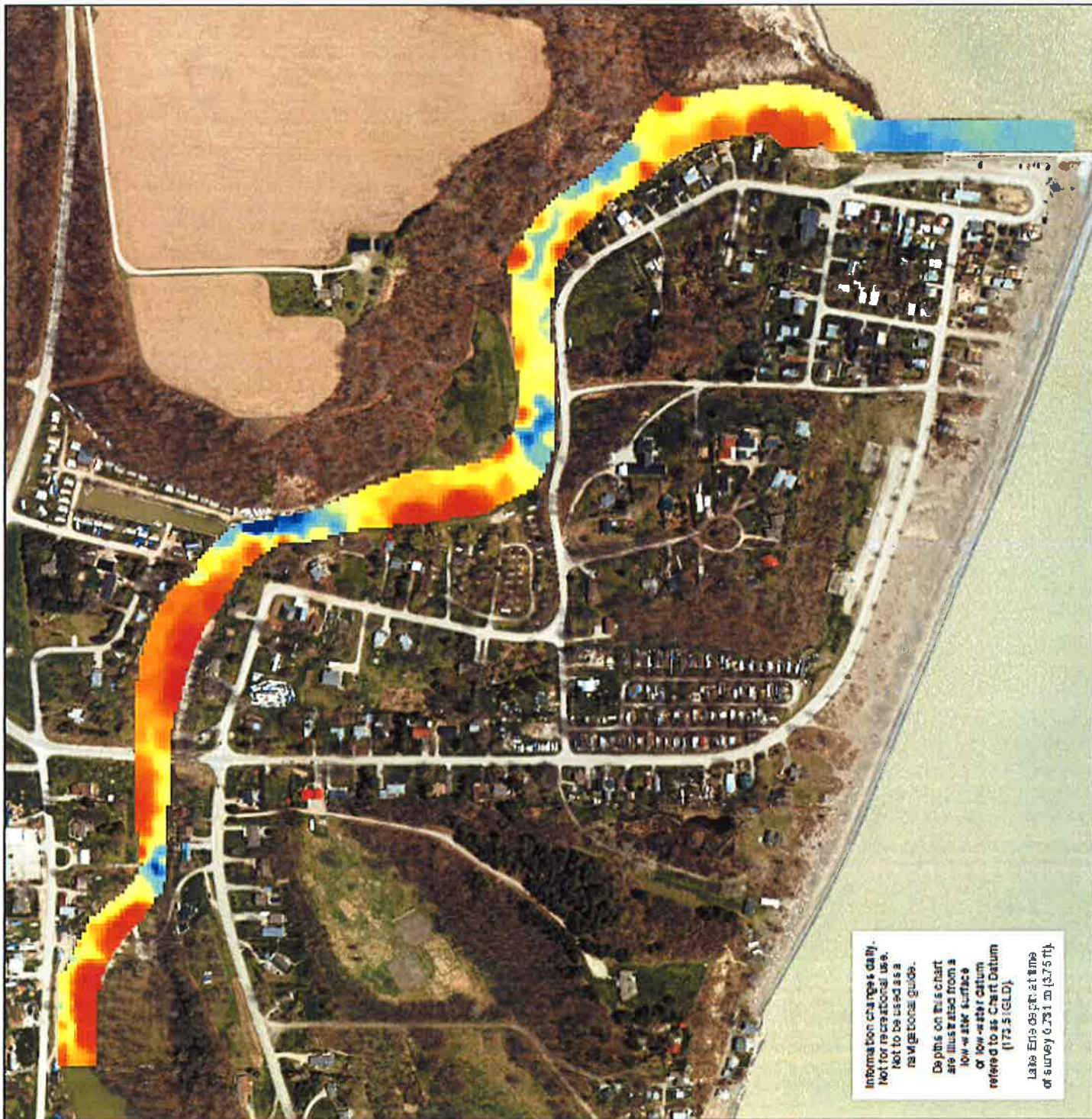


Data Sources: NRVIS, DFO, CCCA

CCCA GIS

October 2016

This map should not be relied on as a precise indicator of route or locations, nor as a guide to navigation. Cateish Creek Conservation Authority (CCCA) is not liable in any way for the use of, or reliance upon, this map or any information on this map.



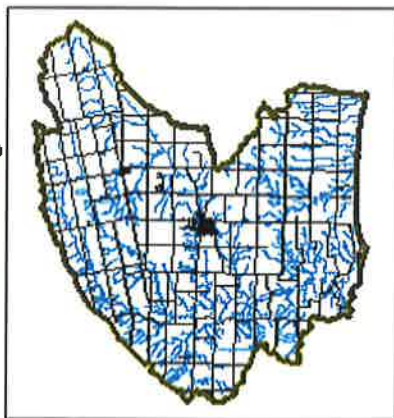
Information changes daily.
Not for recreational use.
Not to be used as a
navigation guide.

Depths on this chart
are illustrated from a
low water surface
or low water datum
referred to as Chart Datum
(172.5 IGLD).

Latest data as of time
of survey 6.731 m (22.07 ft).



Port Bruce November 2017 Sounding

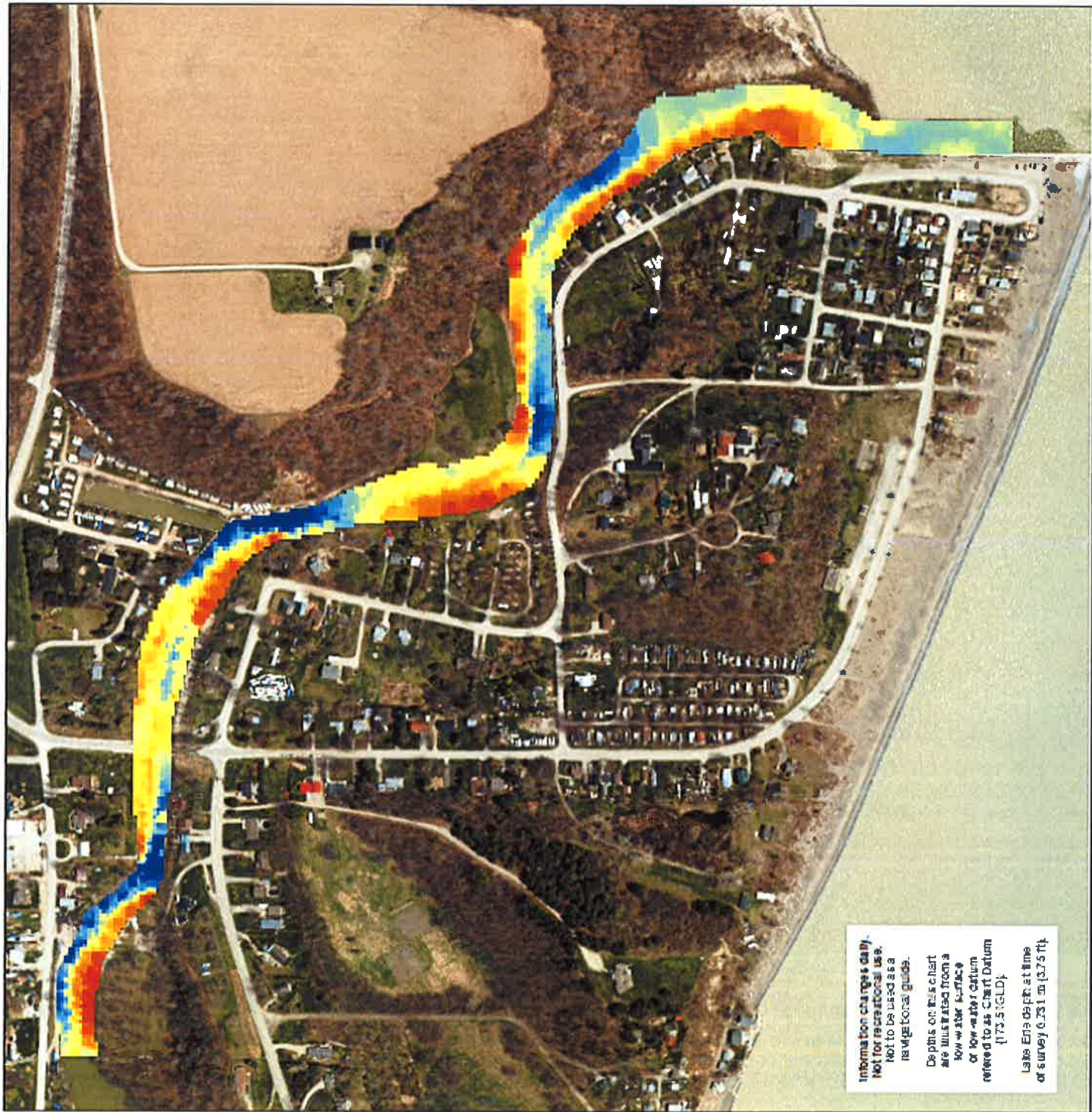


Feet



Data Sources: NRVS, DFO, CCCA
November 2017

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Information changes daily.
Not for recreational use.
Not to be used as a
navigational guide.

Depths on this chart
are illustrated from a
low water surface
or low water datum
referred to as Chart Datum
[173.5 MGLD].

Lake Erie depth at time
of survey 6.751 m (22.15 ft).

Correspondence: To The Full Authority

FROM: Kim Smale, General Manager / Secretary - Treasurer

SUBJECT: Correspondence Register, October 1-31, 2017

DATE: October 31, 2017

GOVERNMENT AGENCIES

Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry, Peterborough

- a letter requesting a copy of our 2016/17 Section 39 Year-End Summary Report.

Service Canada, Gatineau

- notice that our application to the Enabling Accessibility Fund is currently under assessment.

CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES

Conservation Ontario

- e-mail "CO Comments on the Criteria, Methods and Mapping of the Proposed Natural Heritage System for the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (EBR # 013-1014)"
- e-mail "CO Comments on the Release of Draft Agricultural System Mapping and Implementation Procedures for Consultation (EBR # 013-0968)"
- e-mail "General Managers' Meeting Agenda – October 16, 2017"
- e-mail "WSIB Technical Rate Session"
- e-mail "Standing Committee on Social Policy Submission"
- e-mail "CO Webinar: Trust, Transparency and Accountability: A CA Guide to the Best FOI Response"
- e-mail "Ontario's Voluntary Carbon Offsets Program"
- e-mail "CA Actions – Lake Erie Plan"

Lower Thames Valley C.A.

- notice that Don Pearson will be retiring at the end of 2017.
- Media Release "LTVCA Announces the Hiring of Mark Peacock, P.Eng., to Succeed General Manager Don Pearson"

Toronto and Region C.A.

- notice that John MacKenzie has been selected as the new CEO replacing Brian Denney who has recently retired.

MUNICIPALITIES

Municipality of Central Elgin

- an invitation to attend the 2017 Citizen Achievement and Celebrate Central Elgin Awards being held at the Plains Baptist Church on October 25th, 2017.
- a copy of the Resolution approving the appointment of Deputy Mayor Sally Martyn to represent Council on the CCCA Board to the end of Council's term in 2018.

Township of Malahide

- a copy of a Resolution requesting the CCCA to confirm in writing the availability and cost of a dragline to break ice in Port Bruce in 2018.
- a copy of a Resolution requesting the CCCA to order trees for the 2018 Roadside Tree Planting Program in the amount of \$750.00.

GENERAL CORRESPONDENCE

Hardy Stevenson and Associates Limited, Toronto

- e-mail "Interview Questions – CA Engagement Practices"

Hydro One Networks Inc., Toronto

- a notification letter regarding a Class EA subject to a screening process that Hydro One is initiating for a routine maintenance project under the Wood Pole Replacement Program for 2018 in our area.

Magazines

- Ontario Heritage Trust, Parks & Rec Business, Bird Studies Canada

Minutes

- Conservation Ontario Council

Newsletters

- Maple Syrup Digest, Conservation Ontario



Kim Smale
General Manager / Secretary - Treasurer



The Corporation of the Municipality of
Central Elgin



450 Sunset Drive, 1st Floor, St. Thomas, Ontario N5R 5V1 P: 519.631.4860 F: 519.631.4036

October 3rd, 2017

Kim Smale
General Manager/Secretary Treasurer
8079 Springwater Road
Aylmer, ON N5H 2R4

Dear Mr. Smale:

Re: Catfish Creek Conservation Board Appointment

Please be advised that Central Elgin Council discussed the above noted matter at their Regular Meeting of Council dated Monday, September 25 and the following resolution was passed:

THAT: The Council of the Corporation of the Municipality of Central Elgin approve the appointment of Deputy Mayor Sally Martyn to represent Council on the Catfish Creek Conservation Authority Board to the end of Council's term in 2018. CARRIED.

Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions or require additional information.

Yours truly,

Dianne Wilson
Deputy Clerk/Records Management Coordinator



**Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change**

Deputy Minister

77 Wellesley Street West
11th Floor, Ferguson Block
Toronto ON M7A 2T5
Tel.: 416 314-6753
Fax: 416 314-6791

**Ministère de l'Environnement
et de l'Action en matière de
changement climatique**

Sous-ministre

77, rue Wellesley Ouest
11^e étage, édifice Ferguson
Toronto ON M7A 2T5
Tél: 416 314-6753
Télééc: 416 314-6791



Dear Ministry Stakeholder,

The Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change has provided outstanding environmental protection for more than 40 years. The work we do touches every corner of the province and improves the health and well-being of all Ontarians.

Today, I am pleased to share with you some exciting changes that will happen in the ministry, effective December 5, 2017.

The new organizational changes include re-alignment of some existing and creation of new divisions which includes:

- **Environmental Economics and Analytics Division (new):** Responsible for economic analysis and advanced analytics to support evidence-based decision making for environmental protection and climate change from a cross-ministerial perspective and with a forward-thinking approach.
- **Policy and Program Division (new):** Responsible for developing policy, regulations and legislation to support the ministry's mandate of environmental protection. Also, responsible for designing programs to protect the environment, and ensure resources are used efficiently and are recaptured and reused to achieve the prosperous circular economy. Responsible for leading intergovernmental and indigenous relations.
- **Climate Change Directorate (new):** Responsible for leading the long-term strategy and action plan to reduce Ontario's greenhouse gas emissions and drive the transition to a resilient, low carbon economy, including the Climate Change Action Plan. Consolidate all climate change-related activities under one management umbrella and streamline like activities e.g. Climate Change Action Plan, Cap & Trade, Climate Change Adaptation.
- **Environmental Sciences and Standards Division:** Responsible for providing research as well as scientific, technical and laboratory expertise to support policy and operational decision-making and also for monitoring and reporting on the state of Ontario's environment.

- **Environmental Assessment and Permissions Division (new):** Responsible for providing the single point of access for, and leading, the transformation of ministry permissions using risk-based approaches and customer service standards. Consolidate the issuance of all approvals, licences, permissions, certificates, etc., under one management umbrella to drive accountability, create efficiencies, increase focus and better align service delivery.
- **Drinking Water and Environmental Compliance Division (new):** Responsible for developing and integrating innovative, risk-informed approaches to improve compliance and the environmental performance of the regulated community. Also responsible for protecting and supporting clean air, water and land, and for improving the natural environment and human health. Fulfills the ministry's commitment under Justice O'Connor's recommendations to have a Chief Drinking Water Inspector who will continue to have oversight of safe drinking water for the province of Ontario.
- **Corporate Management Division:** Serves as a one window to the ministry and provides strategic administrative support services to ensure compliance with government legislation, policies and procedures. CMD is the primary liaison to central agencies (Ministry of Finance/Treasury Board Office and Ministry of Infrastructure) in the fulfillment of central agency requirements and planning across government, including the development of the provincial budget and long-term strategic plans.

The reorganization creates a structure to enhance our services and helps us deliver on our commitments to the people of Ontario that protect our environment, public health and fight climate change.

This ministry-wide transformation will make us more effective in our delivery of innovative and risk-based compliance and enforcement services. We remain committed to developing modern, outcome-focused and evidence-based programs that support healthy ecosystems and prosperous communities.

Our ministry structure may be changing but the value and importance of our relationship with you will not change. We will ensure you're made aware of any changes in programs or key ministry contacts in a timely manner, making sure you continue to receive the same seamless, excellent service and support from our ministry that you've come to expect.

With your help, our reorganization creates a structure of support and collaboration that will help us deliver on our commitments to the people of Ontario and protect our environment for generations to come.

Sincerely,

Paul Evans
Deputy Minister

