

Lake Wah-Wash-Kesh

CONSERVATION ASSOCIATION

— FALL 2006 NEWSLETTER —



———— Status Quo Retained ———— With Respect to Sport Fishing Regulations on Wah-Wash-Kesh Lake

Summary of Public Consultation Results

Relating to the Proposal to Replace the Winter Sanctuary on the North Basin of Wahwashkesh Lake with a Closed Lake Trout Season.

Eric McIntyre,
Parry Sound Area Fisheries Biologist
November, 2006

1.0 Introduction:

In recent years, the Ministry of Natural Resources has undertaken a streamlining initiative to review Sport Fishing Regulation with the intention of eliminating redundant or unnecessary regulatory exceptions that unduly restrict fishing opportunities without a biological basis. One such regulation that exists in the Parry Sound Area is a winter sanctuary to protect a sensitive lake trout population on Wahwashkesh Lake.

Ministry studies conclude that the lake trout population is almost exclusively located in the

south basin (a.k.a. the Big Lake) of Wahwashkesh Lake. Consequently, the existing regulation prohibits winter angling for other species on the north basin (a.k.a. the Top Lake) where few lake trout exist.



From the fall of 2005 to September of 2006 the MNR conducted public consultation with respect to a proposal to replace the existing winter sanctuary on the north basin of Wahwashkesh Lake with a winter closure for lake trout. This regulatory change was intended to allow winter angling opportunities for species other than lake trout in the north basin, which MNR assessment survey indicate are in a healthy condition.

As the primary vehicle of public consultation, a discussion paper for the proposal (McIntyre, 2006) and questionnaire were circulated to garner public opinion.

Advertising for the existence of the proposal and solicitation for public input included:

- Insertion of an article into the Wahwashkesh Conservation Association fall (2005) newsletter
- Insertion of a public notice into a July 2005 issue of the Parry Sound North Star
- Attendance at Aug.5/06 Wahwashkesh Conservation Association to discuss the initiative.

2.0 Results

2.1 Residential Origin of Respondents:

A total of 41 questionnaire responses were received by the Ministry. The origin by residential group of those responding was as follows:

Residential Group	No. of Responses
Cottager on the north basin (the Top Lake)	24
Cottager on the south basin (the Big Lake)	8
Year round resident	4
Other (cottage location unspecified or 'Middle Lake')	5

2.2 Degree of Support / Opposition:

Respondents were asked to indicate their level of support (or opposition) for the proposal. Responses were as follows:

Level of Support / Opposition	No. of responses	% of responses
Strongly Oppose	29	72.5
Mildly Oppose	1	2.5
Neutral	1	2.5
Mildly Support	2	5.0
Strongly Support	5	17.5

- continued -



2.3 Rational for Opposition (Comments):

Respondents who opposed the proposal were asked to indicate why. We categorized their comments as follows:

Reasons for Opposition	No. of comments
I. Fisheries Concerns	
i Related to health of lake trout population	8
ii Related to health of other fish populations	17
II. Allocation (i.e. harvest preference should be given to open water anglers as opposed to winter anglers)	7
III. Social Issues	
i Concerns related to garbage deposition	5
ii Concerns related to vandalism / break-ins	12
iii Concerns related to public safety	10
IV. Loss of enjoyment or environmental quality	4
V. Lack of scientific knowledge or inadequate planning	4
VI. Philosophically opposed (moral or angling ethics)	5
VII. Concerns related to inadequate enforcement	8
VIII. Unspecified rationale to retain the status quo	5

Literature Cited: McIntyre, E. 2006. Wahwashkesh Lake – Lake Trout Sanctuary / Winter Closure Discussion Paper or Public Consultation. Unpublished OMNR Parry Sound District fisheries report. 5 p.

In light of discussions with the fish committee and responses received during the public consultation phase of this initiative, the Ministry of Natural Resources has decided to retain the status quo with respect to sport fishing regulations on Wahwashkesh Lake.

Eric McIntyre
A/Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Coordinator
Parry Sound District

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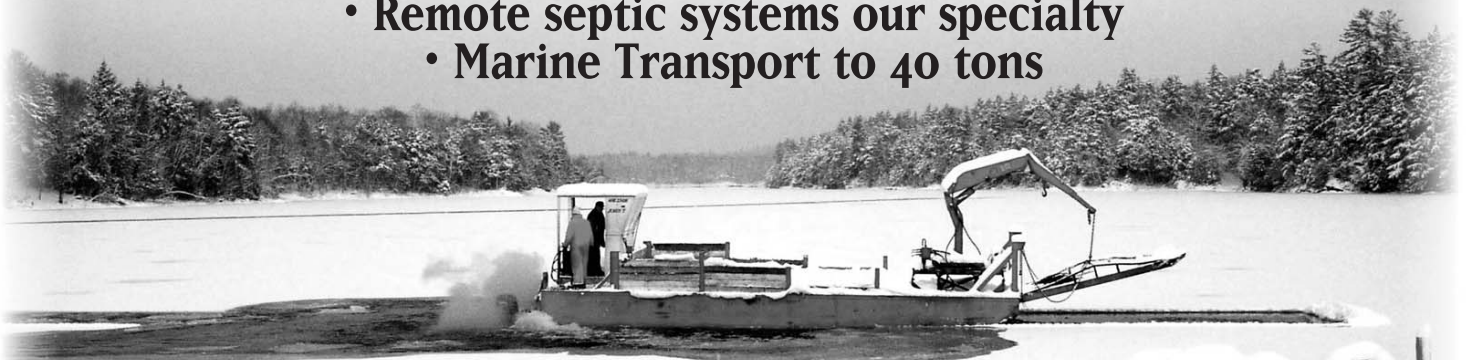
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Pileated Woodpecker



Pileated Woodpecker by J.J. Audubon, 1829

After listening to a recent CBC broadcast about current sightings of the supposedly extinct Ivory-billed Woodpecker, I could not help but think about our own close relative of the Ivory-billed—the Pileated Woodpecker (pill-ee-ated). The Crow-sized Pileated is the largest woodpecker in Canada, and any encounters with them are always memorable. Thus, the colloquial name of Good God Bird evolved not from any deification but from a person's astonishment at seeing the bird, (The Ivory-billed is similarly nicknamed the Lord God Bird).

Pileated Woodpeckers chisel out dead trees with gusto producing large rectangular holes, and because they make a new home every spring, other species use the abandoned cavities for feeding or nesting—they are environmental engineers. Unlike the Ivory-billed, the conservation status of the Pileated is a comforting least concern. However, loss of habitat could put pressure on their numbers, so try to leave a few dead trees standing on your property.

Both male and female Pileated Woodpeckers sport a red crest, although the male has an additional red moustache and larger crest. Still, Hairy and Downy female woodpeckers have no red at all! Although the pileated woodpecker is adapted to clinging to the sides of trees, it is a strong flyer and it will even hop around on the ground. The Pileated Woodpecker drums on hollow trees to claim its territory, which is about 1,000 to 4,000 acres in size. The drumming sound apparently inspired Walter Lantz's Woody Woodpecker cartoon ("Heh-heh-heh-HEH-heh!"). The male and female mate for life, and defend their territory all year round. We have a pair of Pileated Woodpeckers residing near our cottage, and we observed them feeding young in July and August of 2006. Film producers often use the call of the Pileated Woodpecker as background effect in jungle movies, but it is not a bird found in the tropics. To hear the Pileated Woodpecker's calls and drumming, go to <http://www.pileated-woodpeckercentral.com/audio.htm>

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Lake Partner Program Report

The Ministry of the Environment has published Lake Partner Program results that include data from the spring of 2005. The following report is specific to Wah-Wash-Kesh Lake. Based on the results our lake has a healthy nutrient content that is neither too high nor too low. Both nutrient level and water clarity results indicate no trends.

NUTRIENT LEVEL

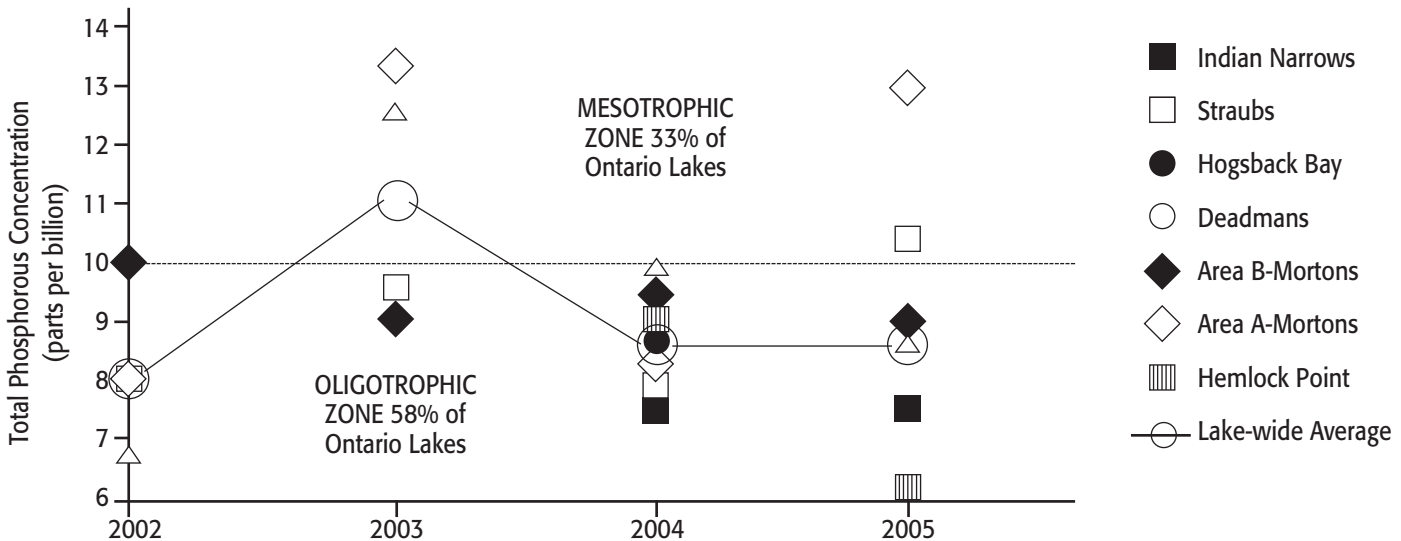
The Total Phosphorous concentration of a lake is one of the best indicators of its nutrient level. The nutrient level of a lake determines its potential for algal growth (the base of the food chain for aquatic life). There are three levels of nutrient status of lakes;

1. **Oligotrophic** (<10ppb Total Phosphorous)
2. **Mesotrophic** (>10ppb and <20ppb Total Phosphorous)
3. **Eutrophic** (>20ppb Total Phosphorous)

Oligotrophic lakes generally tend to be clear and have less aquatic life. Mesotrophic lakes have a good level of nutrients and can support relatively large populations of game fish. Eutrophic lakes tend to be susceptible to algal blooms which are detrimental to a lakes game fish population and general aesthetics.

Figure 1 shows Total Phosphorous concentrations from indicated locations on our lake over time. We can see from the figure that Wah-Wash-Kesh straddles the dividing line between oligotrophic (< 10 ppb) and mesotrophic (>10 ppb but < 20 ppb).

Figure 1: Wah-Wash-Kesh Lake Nutrient Level vs. Time
WWK NUTRIENT LEVEL (TOTAL PHOSPHOROUS CONCENTRATION)



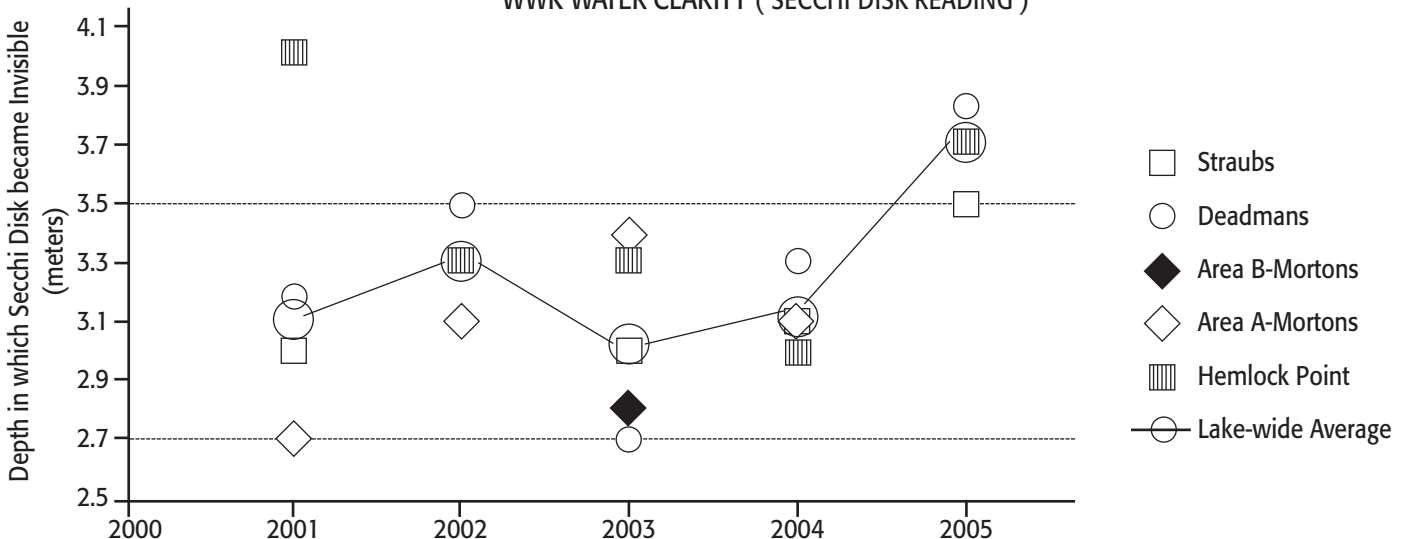
WATER CLARITY

The purpose of tracking clarity is to observe trends in a lake that may not be revealed by Total Phosphorous alone. Water clarity is affected by many factors:

- Nutrient Level
- Dissolved Organic Carbon (DOC) Level
- The presence of Zebra Mussels
- Turbidity
- Increased Acidity

Figure 2 shows water clarity readings at indicated locations on our lake over time.

Figure 2: Wah-Wash-Kesh Lake Water Clarity vs. Time
WWK WATER CLARITY (SECCHI DISK READING)



Water clarity and nutrient levels of lakes are influenced by many factors that are beyond our direct control. Some of the factors that we can control are:

- The installation and maintenance of septic systems
- Refraining from using soaps or shampoos in the lake, if unavoidable consider environmentally friendly products
- The limitation of shoreline development
- Being aware of your existing shoreline/dock areas for sources of contamination: - Gasoline spills - Pressure treated wood - Induced Erosion

LIFE JACKETS - WEAR THEM!

This is how the chain of events, and not staying focused on safety, could have lead up to a disastrous holiday for our family. We arrived at the cottage on Saturday July 15th. With our family of three in tow, our eldest and her two children Anthony 1-1/2 years and kylie at 6 months old. Our son is 19 years and his sister at 18 years and with her boyfriend.

We no sooner arrive, when I was asked if they could launch the 12-foot boat so they can go out in it. It was not even ready, having still been in storage at this point and without a motor on it. I said Sunday is better, I will find the time to do it then. On Sunday we all got the boat in the water and mounted my dads 9hp motor on it. This is the first time that this motor has been on this boat and we have never used it before. Under a lot of pressure from the kids to use it (like now), I had not taken it out to see how it performed. Big mistake.

The lake at midday was a little rough for this size of boat and we told them so. The two youngest and the boyfriend ventured out anyway to go to the store. Our cottage is on Arbor Vitae Island; the boat launch is off Paddy's Bay. They set off and I

went back to the cottage for a swim with our grandchildren, unaware of the events unfolding. The cottage faces Summerville bay and we cannot see or hear anything from this side. The plan for the kids outing was to go over to Taylor Bay, park the boat near the road and then walk to Bennett's Store.

After our swim we retired to the deck for some sun and dry off. It was about this time that the kids should be returning. The three of them arrived, they walked up to me dripping with water and said "Dad I think you will need to dry out the motor, it is a little wet".

With out me testing the boat first, the motor had been trimmed out so that the front of the boat was plowing in the water. They were not even a third of the way across when they caught a wave. The front of the boat dove straight into the wave and under it went. My daughter flew over her boyfriend and they all ended in the lake. Her first reaction was to save the boat from sinking. All that could be seen of the boat was the nose bobbing up and down with the waves. With the motor and the anchor still attached, there is not a lot to hang onto. If it had not been for the kids wearing life jackets, they told me that they would not have survived. There would have been no way to keep themselves afloat, in the waves and the white caps. This is where having the safety kit that we as boaters are to have in the boat, comes to the rescue. First, they are all wearing lifejackets, with whistles attached, second the air horn floats. They made good use of them. Can you all imagine trying to stay afloat, fully clothed with waves crashing over your head attempting to blow a whistle and the horn without a life-jacket? Now we know the meaning of the word "life jacket".

The three men that came to their rescue saved them and we are all grateful for that and thank them. Jeff Bray (Arbor Vitae). Jeff apparently sprained his ankle while jump

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Est. 1975

ing in his boat. Ken Taylor (Red Gate Lane) and Robert Darlington (Robertson's Point). These fellow cottagers heard the whistles and the horn. With the strong wind and waves they would have gone unnoticed.

My wife and I have been coming to this lake for the past 30 years and we are still the only adults to be wearing lifejackets. We see the other boaters with children wearing them but not the adults. We read in

the newspaper of children left without parents that did not have a preserver on. Think about it. Could you swim to shore with a child in tow?

I think about this ordeal from time to time. I look at life a little different now and enjoy every moment I have with them. They are the loves of my life.

Dennis Ahrens

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Inaugural Speech By Mayor Armstrong

(December 2006)

Before we get started this evening, let me first say welcome all of you to your new positions on the Whitestone Council. You four have been given a clear mandate by the people of the Municipality of Whitestone to make decisions on their behalf, which includes decisions on how best to spend their tax dollars. This is a serious and honoured position that they have entrusted in you and I as well, as they are looking forward to your creative ideas in this regard.

I on the other hand, have been given a mandate as well by the ratepayers of the Municipality of Whitestone to do a very different job. I have been elected to execute the platform that I ran on, and give this Council leadership and direction. It is my job to organize and lead this Council for the betterment of Whitestone, and as your conduit to the Whitestone staff, I will ensure the decisions that you four have made or the information that you might have requested gets dealt with in a timely fashion.

For us to execute our decisions and maintain public trust, we need a UNITED Council, we need to pull

together as a team, be completely transparent and open with the public yet close in ranks and support this Council as a whole if an unpopular decision needs to be made.

As apparent by the new faces and positions in this room the ratepayers have clearly asked for a change, and as per my platform change is what I will endeavor to give them. We have a ton of work ahead of us and so as to avoid unruly long and clumsy Council meetings I shall be running a formal Council meeting where I can ensure equal and timely input from each of you. You four have been elected to decide upon or vote upon issues of great importance to the ratepayers of Whitestone, and I would urge you to vote your conscience and not your alliances on all issues, this is why you have been given a trusted mandate by friends and neighbours. Remember your conscience and the historical record of what we do will always be with you whereas alliances can come and go.

For the new guys at the table, the format here is simple..... at every meeting we will deal with the issues brought forward on the agenda, and only the issues brought forward on the agenda, so as to keep the meetings focused and reasonable in length. For this reason we shall need to modify our procedural by-law at the next meeting which a draft by-law will be included in your packages Friday for you to review prior to the meeting. One of the changes proposed will be the deleting of the new business section. The reason for this is that if all four of you decide to bring major issues to the table at one meeting after having dealt with all the items already on the agenda, the meeting will become rushed and someone is going to inevitably go home feeling their issue was not properly addressed. The best thing that we can do for all the people of Whitestone is to get the issue to me by the preceding Wednesday if possible and I will insure it gets to the agenda where other Councillors as well as the people of Whitestone can preview that agenda and research and/or respond as required. If a member of the public comes unscheduled to a meeting with an issue, we will provide a

few minutes at the beginning or at the end of the meeting where we can listen to their concerns politely and I will either issue either a staff direction to assist them or get them on the agenda for the very next meeting where you four will have had time to make an informed decision.

Please get any new correspondence or issues to me in my bin that you would like to discuss at future meetings. Or if you feel staff needs to be addressed or called to a meeting get that too to my bin and I will ensure that your requests are fulfilled. Having only one person deal with staff through the CAO is a much more efficient, professional way of doing business and presents to the staff and the public at large a united, organized Council.

Remember you four are the only ones voting on any given issue unless of course there is a tie and even if there is a tie, unless the issue appears crystal clear to me I will likely not vote but instead defer the issue to a future meeting where more information can be provided. Although this chair is the only one that can request a motion to be tabled to vote on an issue, you four are the ones who will decide upon the outcome of that motion.

You are going to have to make unpopular decisions for the good of the Municipality but again I urge you to vote with what is good for the Municipality in the long term instead of what is popular today.

As for the public they have clearly requested more accountability, more communication, and more economic growth and development which I noted was also reflected in all of your platforms as well as my own. To that end I intend to speak for this united Council as a committed leader and I will:

1. Ensure that all meeting agendas and minutes are published on the website if possible 3 days prior to the meeting for agenda's and 3 days following the meeting for the minutes.
2. Do everything in my power to make sure we have a happy and contented staff at Whitestone that are well paid and are proud of their jobs and feel that they are an essential part of this community whether



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they live here or not.

3. Publish a minimum quarterly newsletter which will be posted on the website and available at the office for all to see regarding our major issues that we have dealt with in the past quarter.

4. Encourage and seek out good economic development projects for our Municipality so as to provide good paying jobs for our residents and help share the load of our tax burden.

5. Ensure the infrastructure for example roads, buildings and recreational facilities etc. of our Municipality are in the best condition that we can reasonably afford. I will be instructing staff to seek out whatever grants may be available and I will lobby both levels of government to successfully obtain these grants.

In short, I am providing you with an agenda for growth and prosperity based upon my vision and platform, staff requirements and most of all the requirements and deeds of the ratepayers of the Municipality of Whitestone. I am the "guy" implementing your decisions through our staff, the public or other levels of government. You are the "guys" bringing forward your creative ideas as well as investigating all of the issues as they may be presented to us at our Council meetings and making good sound decisions on behalf of your friends and neighbours.

I look forward to the next four years working with you all.

Thank-you

Fish Enhancement Committee Report

The Fish Enhancement Committee would like to thank the five members of the WWK Conservation Association Executive who donated the beer that was sold after the AGM. This resulted in \$300.00 being raised for the Fish Committee. We would also like to thank the members and friends of the Association who supported this endeavour.

Several members of the Association also made donations to the Fish Committee before the Meeting. Both are greatly appreciated since we have planned projects and as other sources of revenue such as CFVIP grants cannot be relied upon, this enables the Committee to proceed.

Rubble to enhance the pickerel spawning bed at Farm Creek has been purchased and delivered to Bennett's barge site. We will be applying shortly for a CFVIP grant to cover the expense of the barging in the Spring. As was done this year, volunteers will be needed. Further details will be provided in the Spring Newsletter.

On behalf of the Committee I would like to wish everyone a safe, healthy, and happy Holiday season.

Ken Taylor, Ed Bennett, Dalton Ferris and Don Comrie

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Crownland Campsites

You will recall in 2004 and early 2005 that the Association initiated communications with the MNR with a view toward association volunteers caring for crown land campsites on the north shore of WWK and on Maple Lake. These campsites are those on the north shore of WWK that are in the Island Lake Forest and Barrens Conservation Reserve and those sites that are around Maple Lake in the Wahwashkesh-Naiscoot Conservation Reserve. We estimate that there are a total of 12-16 campsites that are frequently used.

You will recall in 2003 that we had a fire in the immediate area of a campsite just north of Morgan's and Elliott's. This fire burned a couple of acres and caused great concern along the north shore (emergency fire fighting services came to assist). This fire started from a campfire not being completely watered down prior to vacating the campsite. This caused us to wonder what we might do to make these campsites better and the overnight campers more aware.

The MNR is now launching a stewardship initiative the goal of which is to involve organizations such as our association in activities that in the past were MNR activities. Eric McIntyre is the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Coordinator and reports to a volunteer board. WE heard a little about this when Eric visited and reported at our 2006 annual meeting

Well because of this stewardship strategy by the MNR there is strong interest in getting our campsite care initiative off the ground this year. Recently Wayne Lennox and I had a conference call with the MNR regarding this campsite initiative. Actions at the campsites would involve:

- Posting a sign/check list at each site
- Installing boom boxes—making a fire pit
- Doing any clean up that appears necessary. The MNR will provide all signs and money to make the boom boxes. The association will provide the volunteers, to do the initial set up at each site, and to conduct spring and fall visits to each site.

The MNR is forwarding to me a MOU—(memo of understanding) that would outline our joint responsibilities. This agreement would need the approval of the association executive. Regarding liability—it is the opinion of the MNR that seeing as we will either be on crown lands or road allowances—liability (whatever it might be) would fall to the MNR and or the Municipality and therefore would not affect our insurance. I have kept the Association Executive, through John Nelson, informed as we proceed with the MNR on this initiative and will forward the MOU to our exec as soon as it is received. Meanwhile we hope to build the boom boxes over the winter.

Well we will need volunteers—I would guess 6 for Lake WWK and 6 for Maple Lake. This will allow use to conduct the onsite work this summer—June/July hopefully—likely will schedule a weekend. We are creating a volunteer list for this project. To be included as a volunteer on this great initiative please call and or e-mail as follows:

Wayne Lennox: 1-705-325-4123 home

email: lynnandwayne@rogers.com

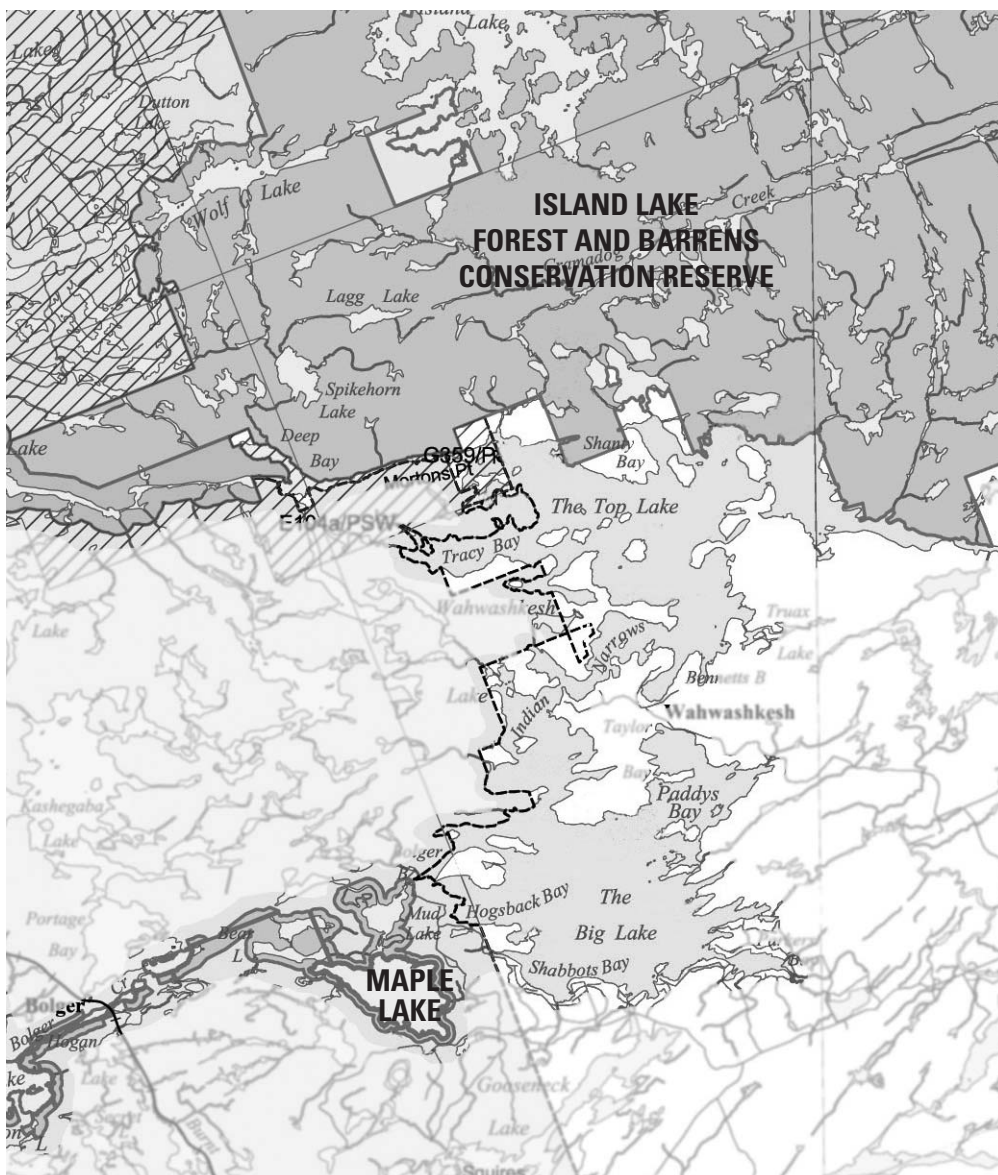
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Dalton Ferris and Wayne Lennox



The following letter was sent to the Association Executive along with a copy of the flyer reprinted on pages 10 and 11 of the Newsletter.

Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

www.helpourfisheries.com

January 5, 2007

Dear Cottage Association Representative:

On behalf of the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council, I wish to advise you of the recent (April 2006) formation of our Council under the auspices of the Ontario Stewardship Network of the Ministry of Natural Resources.

For information purposes, please find enclosed a copy of our flyer: 'Who are we and What are we?' This flyer is intended to provide you with background information on what we are trying to accomplish and the type of projects we are involved with.

In our inaugural year of operation, it was readily apparent to us that our Council cannot meet the demand of attending individual cottage association meetings to spread our messages of conservation and lake stewardship. Consequently, we formulated a plan whereby we would hold an annual lake stewardship workshop and have cottage association representatives attend. It is intended that they will in turn take our stewardship messages back to their own association members.

Our initial workshop in June of 2006 contained a mix of interesting and informative topics that were highly relevant to cottagers (bass biology and nest construction project, OMNR's Bear Wise program, Species At Risk, and living in cottage country with wildlife). Our intention for 2007 is to greatly expand the number of participants and include cottage associations from inland lakes in the Parry Sound area. There is no charge to participants and a light lunch is provided.

Our 2007 workshop is still in the planning stage and we have not yet formulated an agenda or set a time and location. The purpose of this letter is to introduce your association to our Stewardship Council and the concept of this workshop series. Your e-mail address has been obtained from a listing provided on your Municipalities web site. Tentatively, your association's invitation will be sent to your e-mail address unless you advise us otherwise. If you would like the invitation sent to an alternate address, please advise us with the name and address to whom you would like it sent. (Up to two members from an association are welcome to attend but typically only one invitation is sent.) For expeditious and cost-saving reasons, it is most convenient if your association representative has an e-mail address through which we could direct our correspondence.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me at (705) 773-4218, or by e-mail at eric.mcintyre@mnr.gov.on.ca.

Yours truly,
Eric McIntyre

A/Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Coordinator
c/o Ont. Ministry of Natural Resources
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Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council

Who are we & What are we?

What is Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council (EGBSC)?

In 2006, the **EGBSC** came into existence when the former "Georgian Bay - North Channel Fisheries Stewardship Council" was split into two councils and brought into the Ministry of Natural Resources' **Ontario Stewardship Network**. The Ontario Stewardship Program was initiated by MNR in 1995. It was formerly the Ministry's *Private Land Resource Stewardship Program*.



Council activities and interests are primarily water related, but they also comprise the land base of townships bordering Eastern Georgian Bay. The Council area extends from Severn Sound to the French River delta area.

The EGBSC is one of over forty Community Stewardship Councils that are made up of interested and active community members who share a strong commitment to sustainable resource management. They provide a forum to recognize and influence community involvement in private and crown land stewardship projects. Councilors are apolitical and non-partisan.

The Ministry of Natural Resources provides funding for Council operations as well as 'seed money' to help leverage additional funding from partners involved in council projects.

What is Stewardship?

Stewardship is caring for the land and water as one natural system and making a personal commitment to sustain and enhance this natural system for future generations." (www.OntarioStewardship.org)

The Purpose of the EGBSC is:

1. To bring together landowners, community associations and resource agencies to collectively discuss and define stewardship goals for their community.
2. To foster and develop working relationships between these groups.
3. To develop and deliver projects that achieve those defined stewardship goals.

It is intended that the EGBSC will integrate with existing community groups - not duplicate or replace their efforts. Together, these groups compliment one another and will work together to focus on land and resource management projects of shared interest through mutual support and effort.

The EGBSC is not a government controlled council. Program initiatives originate at the community level. Nonetheless, Council goals and objectives should be compatible with MNR's long-term strategic documents (*Beyond 2000*, *SPOF II* and *Our Sustainable Future*). Ecological sustainability is MNR's corporate mission and this is shared by the Council.

Essential Relationships:

The EGBSC will operate by exerting influence primarily at the community level, but also at various levels of government when appropriate. Cooperative interests will be achieved through the strength of relationships and common interests of its members - not through legislation and other forms of control.

It is vital that mutually cooperative working relationships be established with the following stakeholders:

- Communities including First Nations
- Municipalities
- Landowner & Cottage Associations
- Industry (Tourism, Marinas, Sport and Commercial Fishing interests, Land Development, Boating interests, Forestry, Water Management)
- Resource Agencies (Governments, Game and Fish Clubs, Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve)

A council is established when:

- A group of 8 - 15 people committed to sustainable resource management represent a broad spectrum of land and resource interests.
- Terms of Reference / General Operating Guidelines / General strategy outlining specific goals, objectives, priorities, candidate activities and opportunities are formulated.
- Administrative guidelines including appropriate (auditable) means for handling money are in place.
- An annual Work Plan is prepared.
- A means of tracking community and agency participation and contribution to the attainment of the work plan is in place.
- Agreements are in place with respect to funding guidelines established by partner agencies and groups.

Project Criteria: Council projects should meet the following criteria:

- Have regard for MNR's broad strategic directions and programs as well as appropriate and applicable municipal, provincial and federal legislation and regulations.
- Have broad community benefit.
- Have broad ecosystem benefit and value
- Incorporate cost sharing partners.
- Demonstrate a clear link to sponsoring agencies and associations
- Have community participation and support.
- Promote education and awareness
- Are not considered research work.
- Have a detailed project proposal and budget with measurable outputs.

Things we're working on in 2007:

- Rehabilitation of the Moon River and Southern Geo. Bay Walleye Fisheries
- 'Smallmouth Bass Nest Creation Project' with partner GBA & inland Cottage Associations
- Co-management Agreements related to Crown Land Camping in Conservation Reserves
- Assisting with MNR's Cormorant research and monitoring program
- Annual Lake Stewardship Workshop
- Socio-economic study valuing a rehabilitated sport fishery for Eastern Georgian Bay and the North Channel
- One of multiple partners involved with the "Wild Life Awareness Project" being spearheaded by the Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve



For more information check us out at
www.helpourfisheries.com

Book Reviews by N. Glenn Perrett

Bird Songs: 250 North American Birds in Song

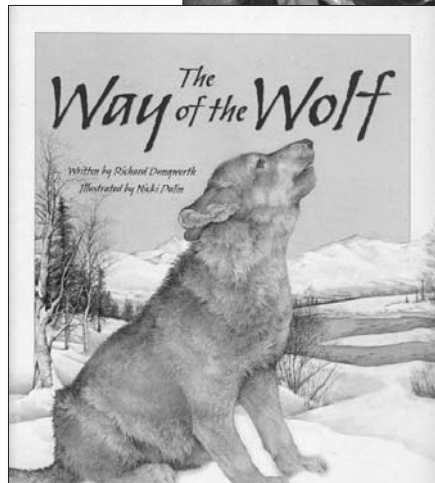
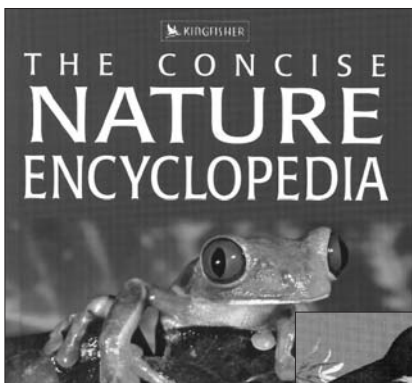
Les Beletsky Chronicle Books, 2006, 368 pages ISBN: 1932855416

Bird Songs: 250 North American Birds in Song provides information on 250 species of birds in North America. The book is divided into sections on "Seabirds, Shorebirds, and Waterbirds," "Forest Birds," "Woodland Birds" and "Open-Country Birds." While the text is informative and the illustrations impressive, the main feature of this book is the birds' songs. The reader can quickly access bird calls from each of the 250 birds featured in the book including the rediscovered Ivory-billed Woodpecker. The audio comes from The Cornell Lab of Ornithology.

The Concise Nature Encyclopedia

David Burnie, distributed in Canada by Thomas Allen & Son, 2006, 320 pages ISBN: 0753459493

The Concise Nature Encyclopedia is an informative and interesting book that is ideal for the cottage. With sections on the Earth, living things and wildlife habitats, author David Burnie covers the plant and animal groups, the formation of the Earth, food chains and webs, the biomes of the world as well as many other interesting topics pertaining to



nature. Numerous colour photographs complement the text.

The Way of the Wolf (ages 4-8)

Richard Dungworth, illustrated by Nicki Palin, Scholastic Canada Ltd.

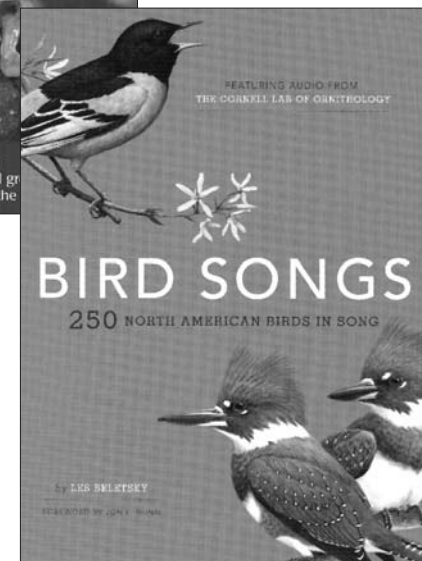
2005, 24 pages ISBN: 0439952638

The Way of the Wolf is an entertaining, informative children's book about a wolf pack in a northern forest. The book's main character is Kolta who is left in charge of protecting his five new brothers and sisters while the rest of the pack goes off in search of food. At the end of the story there is an informative section pertaining to wolves, their body language, howling, pups and how this much maligned animal has received an unfair, inaccurate image.

Astronomy/365 Days

Jerry T. Bonnell & Robert J. Nemiroff Abrams, 2006 ISBN: 0810957159

The beauty of the universe is illustrated in *Astronomy: 365 Days* (Abrams) by Jerry T. Bonnell and Robert J. Nemiroff. Those interested in astronomy will enjoy this fascinating book which features stunning colour photographs of planets, galaxies, stars and many other fascinating parts of the universe with informative text accompanying each photo.



Mayan Hammock Chair

(Lee Valley Tools Ltd.)

Relaxing and not doing something that impacts the environment is good for the planet. The Mayan Hammock Chair is a great place to relax, unwind and do very little – except maybe read. Hand made by the Amerindian people, this chair is a great place to hangout making it ideal for the cottage.



Traditional Turkish Grill (Lee Valley Tools Ltd.)

The Traditional Turkish Grill is made of recycled copper and wrought iron. The stainless-steel cooking grill is heavy-duty. This item is easily assembled to cook food outdoors (useful when the power is out) or it can be used as a fire pit (provided that such use of this grill is permitted by the municipality where you use it.) The grill comes with a copper lid to extinguish the fire and to keep rain out of the bowl.

Handy Eco-Flashlights

(Lee Valley, C. Crane Company)

Flashlights are an important item in our house and cottage and they are becoming more environmentally-friendly. Three that we have been impressed with are the "Super Dynamo LED Flashlight" (Lee Valley), the "LED Lenser Flashlight" and the "NightStar Magnetic Force Flashlight" (C. Crane Company).

The "Super Dynamo LED Flashlight" is impressive in that not only does it use LED (light-emitting diode) bulbs, but there are no batteries. Pumping the handle generates the energy and the see-thru flashlight allows you to watch kinetic energy turn into electricity!

Green Corner *by N. Glenn Perrett*

The following are some eco-products that I've tried recently and been impressed with.

Another good flashlight which doesn't use batteries is the "NightStar Magnetic Force Flashlight." This flashlight features LED technology and is recharged simply by shaking it making it handy for the home, cottage, car or emergency kit.

Looking for a small, powerful LED flashlight? The "LED Lenser Flashlight" is approximately 4.5" by 1" and provides a good beam of light using three AAA batteries. This flashlight comes with a case and belt clip.

Ecofan *(Lee Valley)*

Recently we tried the Ecofan which sits on our woodstove and works using the difference in temperature between the ambient air and the stove-top. Don't expect the quiet fan (available in two sizes) to strongly blow warm air across the room, but it does gently circulate the warmer air from around the woodstove.



LED Light Bulbs

(C. Crane Company)

Although the initial cost of LED light bulbs is more than conventional light bulbs, their long life and energy efficiency makes them cost effective and good for the environment. The C. Crane Company offers several LED bulbs. We like the soft "blue-white light" of the LED spotlight which is made of 60 ultra-bright white LEDs. We're also impressed with C. Crane's other LED light bulbs including their newest bulb – the "CC Bright Night LED Bulb."

Freeplay Ranger

(C. Crane Company)

The Freeplay Ranger radio can be recharged in various ways including using the wind-up generator or by the built-in solar panel. Compact in size, this radio is ideal for the beach or down by the dock. I used it at the cottage last summer and was impressed with the reception that it got as well as how well the solar panel and generator charged the radio.



Quality, Eco-Products Made of Hemp *(Downbound)*

Downbound, an Ontario-based company, offers hemp clothing, bags, hats, shoes and other products. Their hemp boots are comfortable and we've also been impressed with a hat and duffel bag that we acquired from Downbound. Hemp items last a long time, are comfortable and have minimal impact on the environment – and Downbound has an impressive selection of hemp products!

Where to Find These Products

Downbound Inc. www.downbound.ca

Lee Valley Tools Ltd. www.leevalley.com

C. Crane Company www.ccrane.com

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Wiener and Corn Roasts - 2006

It was a beautiful sunny day for the wiener roast and it was disappointing that there were not more in attendance. The tasty hot dogs were cooked on the open fire. Special thanks to the Rauh family for all their help — Kelly, Steve, Andrew and Benjamin. Also Stu and Janine Price, Brenda Boese and all the other helpers.

The Corn Roast was very successful and well attended. The weather cooperated again and it was a beautiful warm but overcast day. The corn was delicious and cooked to perfection by Chef Stu Price. Special thanks to: Frank Camenzuli, Bert Ellingham, Tim Maheu, Stu Price and Rod Russell and last but not least the corn huskers — Mark Camenzuli, Mycha Maheu, Janine Price and Carroll Russell. Thanks to all the people who helped make both events a success. Many thanks to Cathy Bennett for the excellent job taking care of all the necessities for these functions, Also Eleanor Arbour for doing a great job on the posters.

These events are held at Straub's Beach and we would like to thank Nancy and Mike Busenhardt for allowing the Association to use their beautiful beach. Many thanks to all who made donations and again this year there will be no cost to the Association.

Thank you for your support and assistance and we look forward to seeing you all again next summer.

**Ross and Patty Willett,
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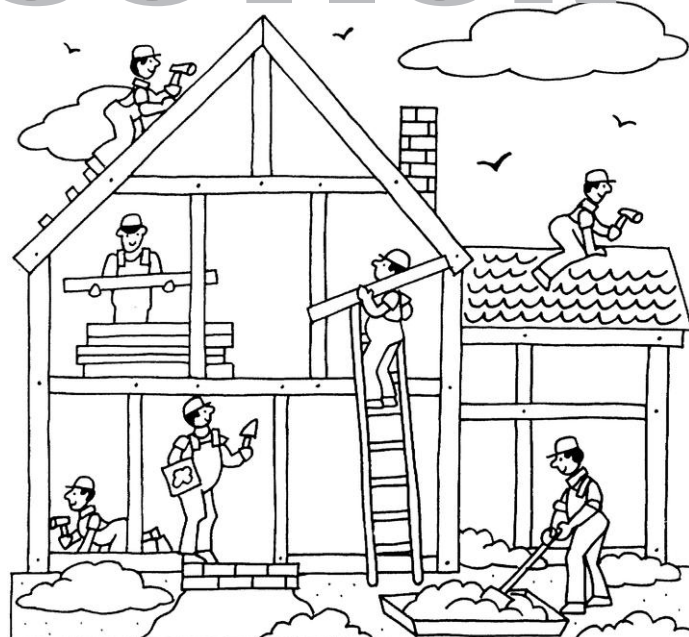
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