

Habitat

Summary and Accomplishments

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St. Clair River RAP Coordinator

St. Clair River AOC Symposium
“The Path to a Healthy River”
Working Towards Delisting the St. Clair
River

June 7, 2012
Sarnia, Ontario



Related Beneficial Use Impairments (BUIs)

Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat

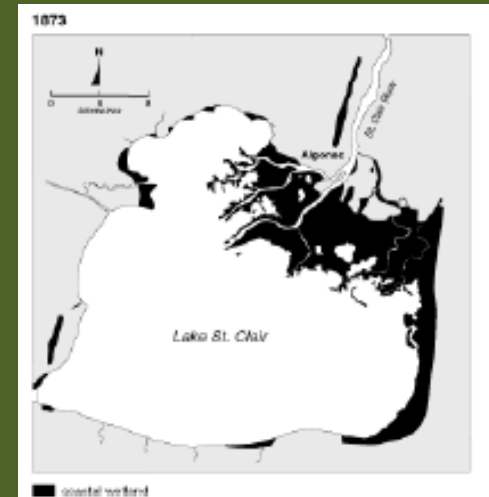
Degraded Fish and Wildlife Populations



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Physical Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat

- Between 1873 and 1973, over 90% of loss wetlands within Lake St. Clair. 72% in the U.S. and 34% in Canada
- Wetland habitat and function were altered by dykes construction
- Shoreline alteration reduced fish spawning and nursery habitat
- Loss of terrestrial habitat in early 1900's through conversion of forest for agricultural and industry development.



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Canadian Restoration Partnerships

- Rural Lambton Stewardship Network
- St. Clair Region Conservation Authority
- Private landowners
- Industry
 - Ontario Power Generation
 - Terra Nitrogen Incorporated
 - MTO
 - Enbridge Gas
 - Nova Chemical
 - Optisolar/First Solar
- Municipal
 - St. Clair Township Ducks Unlimited
- Friends of St. Clair River
- Hunt Clubs
- Walpole Island First Nation
- Aamjiwnaang First Nation



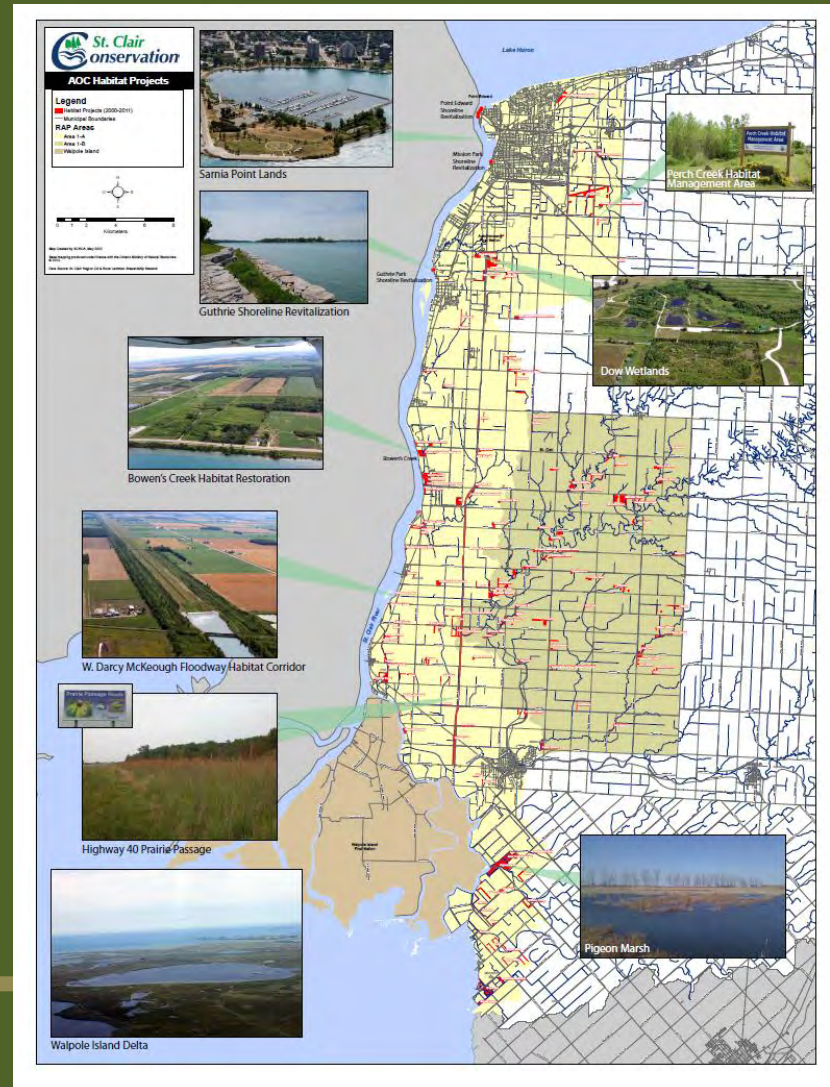
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Canadian Habitat Projects - St. Clair River AOC

- 280 ha of restored habitat
- 29 km of riparian buffer habitat
- Expansion of Prairie Passage by 29 km
- Improved biological connectivity between St. Clair and Sydenham Rivers



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Ministry of Transportation

Highway 40 Prairie Passage



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Terra Nitrogen Project



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Municipal Partnerships

Branton Cundick Park



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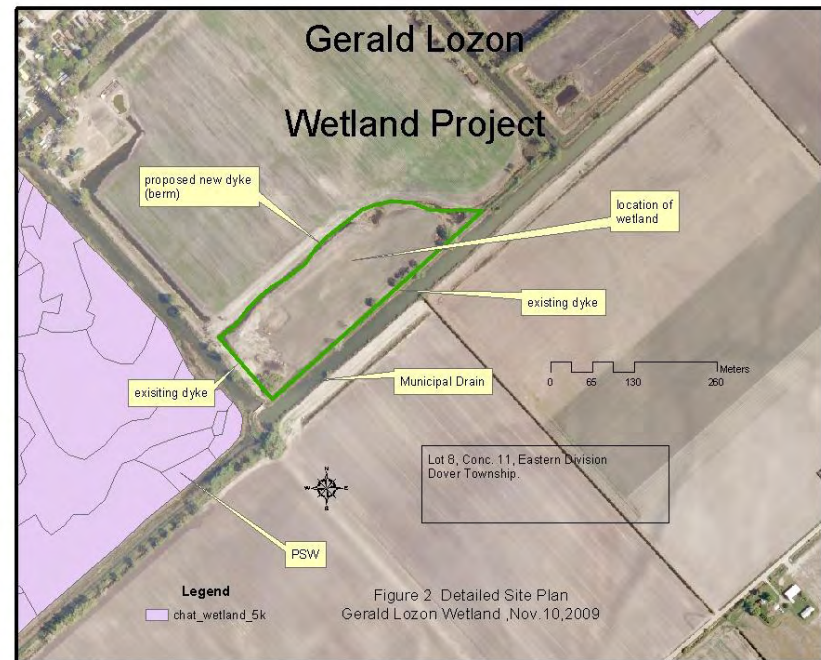
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Port Lambton Lagoons



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Gerald Lozon Wetland Project



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Highlights of Completed U.S. Habitat Work

St. John's Marsh

Algonac State Park

Harsens Island



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Highlights of U.S. Habitat Work in Progress



- Ducks Unlimited three year project to remove phragmites from 12,000 acres on Dickenson Island.
- Port Huron has almost completed the Lincoln Street habitat improvement and shoreline stabilization project; vegetation plantings will be done early summer.
- Marysville has improved shoreline in area of Cuttle Creek for habitat and stabilization.

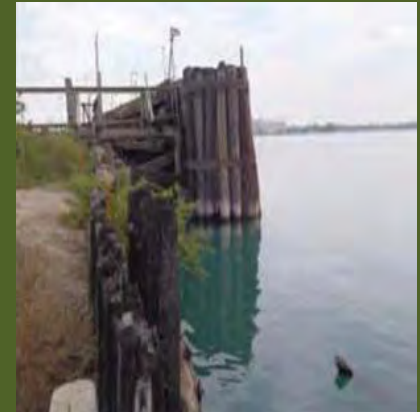


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Upper St. Clair River Shoreline Restoration

St. Clair County Community Foundation

Acheson Ventures – 0.8 miles of shoreline
Bay to Bridge Trail
Habitat Creation and Restoration



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Marine City Drain Restoration Project

- St. Clair County Drain Commission applied for 2011 GLRI grant for planning and design
- Habitat creation and restoration; establish corridor between fragmented wetlands
- Remove barriers to fish passage, restore spawning and nursery habitat



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Marysville Living Shoreline Project



- 2010 and 2011 GLRI grant, \$1.5 million project
- Restore 2500 feet of degraded seawall to natural shoreline
- Restore shallow-water fish habitat at mouth of Cuttle Creek



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Port Huron Habitat Restoration

- 2010 GLRI grant, \$1.3 million project
- End of Lincoln Street, south of Pine Grove Park
- Remove debris and pavement
- To provide shallow-water fish habitat and stabilize and restore badly eroded shoreline with soft erosion control



ANTICIPATED COMPLETION
SUMMER 2012



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U.S. Habitat Wish List

Cottrellville Township
1st Phase APPROVED

Bunce Creek Daylighting

Delta Land Acquisition
\$3 Million APPROVED

Cuttle Creek Restoration

PH Keifer Park

In-River Spawning Habitat



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Questions and Discussion

Mary Bohling – Michigan Sea Grant

Brian McDougall – St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

April White – Environment Canada



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