



**St. Clair River Canadian RAP Implementation Committee (CRIC)
Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 18, 2024
2:00 pm to 3:00 pm
MS Teams Meeting
Minutes produced by Mike Moroney**

Attendees:

April White, Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)
Courtney Jackson, Aamjiwnaang First Nation (AFN)
Donna Blue, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority (SCRCA)
Kris Lee, Binational Public Advisory Council (BPAC)
Mike Moroney, RAP Coordinator (SCRCA)
Naomi Williams, Walpole Island First Nation (WIFN)
Ted Briggs, Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)
Terry Burrell, City of Sarnia
Theresa Warren, Lambton Public Health

Regrets:

Jason Vaillant, Bluewater Association for Safety, Environment and Sustainability (BASES)
Stephen Marklevitz, Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR)

Actions Arising from Meeting

- a) Mike and April to follow-up with Courtney on a strategy for engaging Aamjiwnaang First Nation on BUI 14.
- b) Mike to amend the BUI 14 Status Assessment report as follows:
 - Insert wording into the "Conclusions" section of the report that specifies that the recommendation is with respect to the Canadian side of the AOC.
 - Insert a statement into the report about the need for monitoring fish and wildlife habitat in the future, after delisting of the AOC.
- c) Mike to consult with staff at the SCRCA for input in addressing a question related to requirements for assessing the clean-out of municipal drains.
- d) Mike to send out a doodle poll to CRIC members for their availability to meet during the month of October 2024.

Meeting called to order at 2:05 pm.

1. Welcome and Introductions:

Ted Briggs chaired the meeting and welcomed CRIC members to the meeting.

2. Approval of Agenda

The June 18, 2024, draft agenda was approved.

3. Acceptance of Minutes from April 25, 2024 Meeting

The minutes from the April 25, 2024, meeting were approved.

4. Review of Action Items from April 25, 2024 Meeting

- a) Mike to confirm what is currently permitted when constructing shoreline protection work – sheet pile walls vs armoured stone wall – **Completed**. Response provided in an email.
- b) Mike to confirm that wording is included in the BUI 14 draft status assessment report around limitations in tracking wetland loss and wetland gain. - **Completed**
- c) Mike to confirm how the 5-metre tributary buffer was determined in the assessment. – **Completed**
- d) April and Mike to have a discussion with Naomi to ensure that she has an opportunity to review and provide input on the BUI 14 draft status assessment report. - **Completed**
- e) Mike to finalize the draft BUI 14 status assessment report and share it with the CRIC for review. - **Completed**
- f) Mike to prepare a draft presentation for the IAGLR Conference and share it with Ted and April for review. - **Completed**
- g) Mike and April to follow-up with Courtney on a strategy for engaging Aamjiwnaang First Nation on BUI 14. – **Pending**
- h) Mike to send out a doodle poll to CRIC members for the next meeting. - Completed

5. Review of BUI #14 Status Recommendation Report – Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat– Mike Moroney

- Mike spoke to the BUI #14 Status Recommendation Report – Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat by providing an overview of the Executive Summary, Table of Contents, Introduction, Development of the Delisting Criteria, Assessment of the Delisting Criteria, and the Conclusions.

6. Questions/Discussion on BUI #14 Status Recommendation Report – Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat - All

- **Action:** Mike to insert wording in the ‘Conclusions’ section of the report clarifying that the recommendation is with respect to the Canadian side of the AOC.
- Kris noted that Heat Assessments were conducted by DFO staff on the shoreline restoration work to assess fish habitat gains, losses and modifications and inquired why similar assessments are not conducted/required when the clean-out of municipal drains is undertaken.
- **Action:** Mike to consult with staff at the SCRCA for input in addressing the question related to municipal drains.

- Kris commented on the need to ensure that monitoring of fish and wildlife habitat continues, and that funding is in place to support it, even after all the BUIs have been addressed and the St. Clair River has been delisted as an AOC. Ted advised that post-delisting monitoring was put in place in other AOCs that were delisted so that is something that should continue to be raised as a desire of the community as work progresses towards delisting the St. Clair River as an AOC.
- **Action:** Mike to add a statement into the report about the need for future monitoring.

7. Confirmation of CRIC Support with Recommendation to Redesignate BUI #14 – Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat - All

- **Moved by:** Terry Burrell
 - **Seconded by:** Kris Lee
- That the CRIC accept the recommendation in the report to redesignate BUI #14 - Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat from Impaired to Not Impaired, and that the redesignation process commence by seeking community feedback on the recommendation.

CARRIED

8. Next Meeting

- **Action:** Mike to send out a doodle poll to CRIC members for their availability to meet during the month of October 2024.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.