



This past year was the fifth-year of operation of the Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council (EGBSC). By its very nature, the work of a stewardship council cannot be conducted in isolation. The success our council achieved in 2010 is directly attributable to the many partners and volunteers who are the true 'worker-bees' of *Ontario Stewardship*. To them we say 'thank you' for a job well done, and please join us for another successful year of stewardship in 2011!

5th Annual Lake Stewardship Workshop: This year's workshop theme was *Climate Change and what it means to YOUR environment*. Keynote speaker for this year's workshop was renowned scientist – Dr. David Pearson, co-chair on the Expert Panel on Climate Change Adaptation, speaking on the science of climate change. Other topics include: Impacts on local flora and fauna; Invasive Species and Climate Change; and impacts on water levels and wetlands.



Go Home Bay Walleye Rehabilitation (Stocking) Project:

In 2009 walleye spawning bed enhancement work was conducted at the Go Home Chutes. In 2010, it was time to "seed the site" with walleye fingerlings with the intention in 3 to 5 years they will form the nucleus of spawning population. This was a bumper year for walleye production and over 17,000 walleye fingerlings were planted in the summer. It is intended rehabilitative plantings will continue for another 2 – 3 years. (Adjacent photo: Summer fingerling walleye just prior to planting in Go Home Bay)



Moon River Walleye Egg Collection and Rehabilitative Plantings:

Rehabilitative walleye plantings at the Moon River have been an on-going and multi-year initiative. In 2010 over half a million fry and almost 5,000 summer fingerlings were planted with the help of private donors, the Moon River Walleye Association and the Ministry's Community Fisheries/Wildlife Involvement Program (CF/WIP).



Bill McRobb and a million incubating walleye eggs

Crown Land Custodial Management: Since our inception in 2006, the EGBSC has annually been involved in various partnerships to help address the negative social and environmental impacts related to unregulated camping activities on Crown land and in particular Conservation Reserve lands. In 2010 we were a supporting partner for two initiatives lead by the Township of Carling and White Squall Paddling Centre. Areas of activity included Franklin Island, Huckleberry Island and far off-shore islands adjacent to Carling Township. Our own Ontario Stewardship Ranger crew also participated in custodial activities in the Lower Moon River Conservation Area. (Adjacent photo: Carling Stewards Kevin Cooke and Jackson Kuhn)



Ontario Stewardship (OS) Ranger Program:

Our five-person Ranger crew has become a vital tool for connecting and helping with our partner's projects. They have forged great ties of cooperation and acted as excellent ambassadors for both the Stewardship Council and the Ministry of Natural Resources. Featured projects included: work with the Aspen Valley Wildlife Centre, walleye spawning habitat enhancement, rattlesnake fence construction, dam maintenance, urban tree survey, Rose Point trail clean-up, chimney swift survey, custodial work on Crown and private land, trail marking and bridge repairs, trail construction; plus educational and personal development experiences.

(Adjacent photo: 2010 OS Ranger Crew: (L to R) Evan Holmes, Cody England, Darren Bonenberg (Crew Leader), Tyson Pamajewon and Trent Nevin)



Site Selection, Planning and Preparation for future Walleye Spawning Bed Enhancement Work: Our next walleye rehabilitation project is intended to be in the Cognashene area of southeast Georgian Bay. Additional site characterization data as well as further population assessment work will be conducted in 2011. We are hoping spawning bed enhancement work will be conducted in 2012 with three to four years of rehabilitative walleye plantings to follow. *(Adjacent photo: Prospective spawning bed enhancement site on the Musquash River at Georgian Bay)*



Parry Sound and Killbear Channel Lake Trout Egg Collection for Thiamine Analysis: Conducted in partnership with the Ministry of Natural Resources and Michigan DNR, lake trout eggs are collected to monitor for thiamine (B vitamin) levels. Lake trout whose diet is high in smelt and alewife have low thiamine levels that reduce reproductive success. Eggs from 12 gravid females were collected for analysis. *(Adjacent photo: Volunteer, David Sweetnam assisting with netting and sampling operations)*



Trumpeter Swan Monitoring Project: The reintroduction of Trumpeter Swans to Ontario is one of great North American wildlife success stories. In cooperation with the reintroduction project coordinator – Harry Lumsden, Wye Marsh Wildlife Centre and Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve, we conducted aerial monitoring surveys and polled our many partners for reports throughout eastern Georgian Bay. Although widely scattered in our area, it appears little nesting is being conducted along the eastern shore.



Rino Ouellette Memorial Scholarship Award: The EGBSC is pleased to announce that Jackson Kuhn was the recipient of this award in 2010. The award is given to a graduating Parry Sound high school (PSHS) student who demonstrates a passion and dedication to the Ontario Stewardship ethic.

(Adjacent photo: Moira and Rino Ouellette. Rino was a founding member of the EGBSC who passed away in 2006.)



For reports on the above and many other EGBSC projects, please visit our website at www.helpourfisheries.com