

## St. Marys River AOC BPAC Meeting Agenda

**Place:** Algoma University, CC202  
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

**When:** March 13th, 2017  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

### 1. Call to order/introductions

### 2. Approval of Last Meetings Minutes

- February 1, 2017

### 3. Business arising from previous minutes

- BPAC Terms of Reference and update member and participant list
- Discussion of IJC meeting and follow-up

### 4. Presentations

- DRAFT Beach Closings Re-designation report – Lisa Derickx, St. Marys River Remedial Action Plan Coordinator

### 5. Office Reports

#### **LSSU BPAC office** –

Continuing to look at both the kayak tour script for the AOC and planning for some time in the future to work with DEQ and EPA on celebrating the delisting of the tannery site.

#### **RAP Ontario office** –

The RAP Coordinator has been working on the BPAC annual report (Ontario), will be attending the TRIECA conference next and will be soliciting BPAC input on the DRAFT beach Closures re-designation report.

#### **SPAC update** –

Next Statewide Public Advisory Council (SPAC) meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 28 in Grand Rapids (12pm- 5pm). The SPAC meeting is being held on this date in Grand Rapids to make it easy for participants to also attend the AOC Conference (<https://www.epa.gov/great-lakes-aocs/2017-great-lakes-areas-concern-conference>) jointly sponsored by the U.S. EPA and the Michigan Office of the Great Lakes at the Eberhard Center in downtown Grand Rapids on March 29-30.

### 6. Agency Updates

#### **Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC)**

##### ***Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat BUI***

- For the Canadian side of the AOC, the delisting criteria for the fish habitat component of the BUI is to, “*enhance rapids/aquatic habitat conditions through feasible conservation and restoration measures identified in the Stage 2 RAP*”. Building on the 2015 feasibility study that evaluated options noted in the RAP, in January 2017 ECCC and the Batchewana First Nation signed a contract to advance a proposed aquatic habitat restoration project on Whitefish Island. Staff from ECCC and the Batchewana Natural Resources Dept. met on March 2 to discuss project planning and design and community

- consultation and approvals.
- As discussions continue, BPAC will be engaged and kept informed throughout the process, including a future presentation to discuss proposed activities. Conceptual drawings have been prepared to illustrate possible features for Whitefish Island habitat enhancement (PDF provided). These are draft, and meant to illustrate what may be possible based on proven habitat restoration approaches and techniques used elsewhere.

### **Ontario Ministry of the Environment & Climate Change (OMOECC)**

- The OMOECC funding agreement with Algoma University for the Coordination of the St. Marys River RAP has been renewed for 2017-18.

### **United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) & Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (MDEQ)**

- John Perrecone from the Great Lakes National Program Office will be taking over responsibility from Ted Smith for the St. Marys River AOC.

## **7. Memberships**

- For new members, applications must be received & prospective members present for confirmation – standard procedure.
- Alexia Whisler has submitted a letter.

## **8. New Business**

## **9. Public Comments**

## **10. Next Meeting**