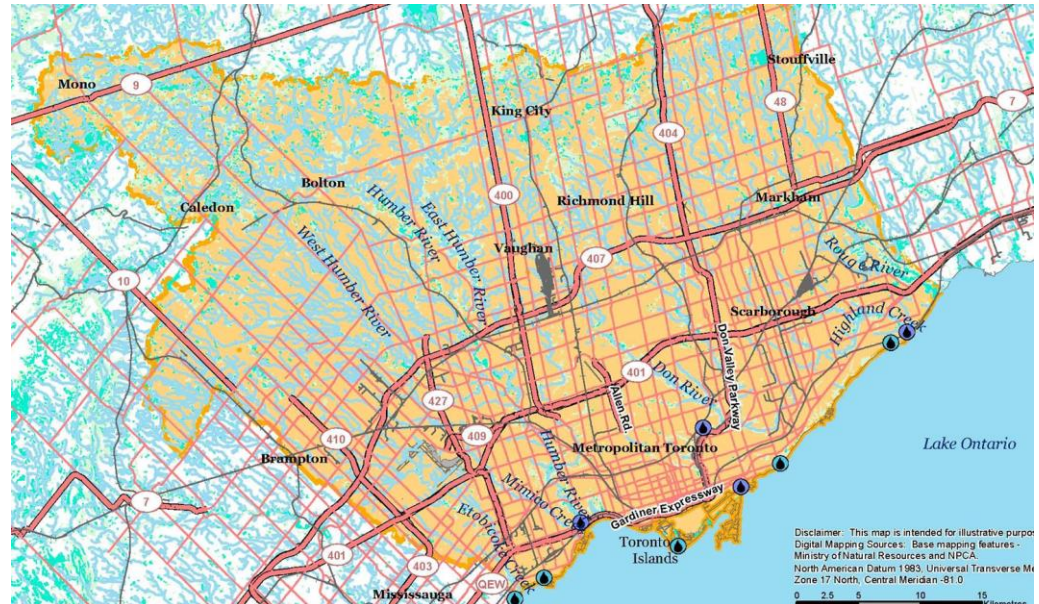


TORONTO & REGION REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN 2017 PROGRESS UPDATE



INTRODUCTION

Toronto & Region Area of Concern (AOC)



6 watersheds

Etobicoke Don
Highland Mimico
Humber Rouge

45 km
shoreline

59% hardscape

27% greenbelt

7% Agricultural & Rural

6% Designated Greenfield

Remedial Action Plan Milestones



EXISTING CONDITIONS AND TRENDS



Beneficial Use	1987 Status	2008 Status	2016 Status
Restrictions on fish consumption	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT
Degradation of fish and wildlife populations	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED
Fish tumors and other deformities	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	NOT IMPAIRED
Bird or animal deformities or reproductive problems	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	NOT IMPAIRED
Degradation of benthos	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	NOT IMPAIRED
Restrictions on dredging activities	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	NOT IMPAIRED
Eutrophication or undesirable algae	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED
Beach closings	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED
Degradation of aesthetics	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	NOT IMPAIRED
Degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton communities	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT
Loss of fish and wildlife habitat	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED	IMPAIRED

PROGRESS MADE SINCE 2007



Results

- Blue Flag certification for 8 of 11 Toronto waterfront beaches
- Phosphorus levels along the waterfront now meet RAP target
- Levels of contaminants in fish continue to decline
- Creation and restoration of habitats have increased diversity of fish & wildlife species
- Aesthetics of watercourses & waterfront excellent or good.

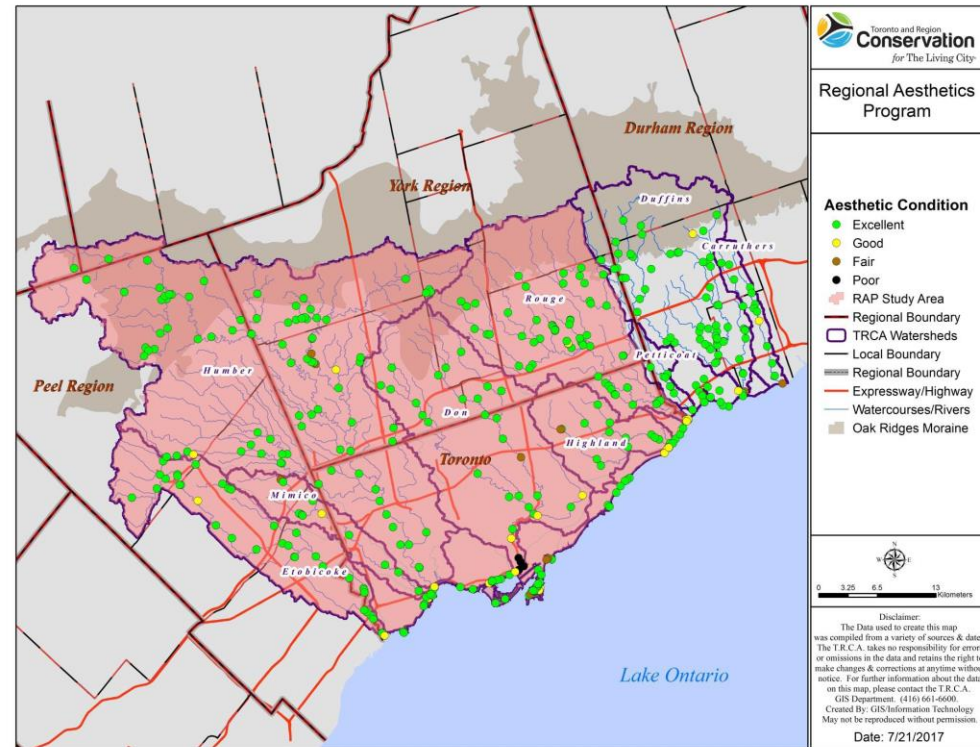
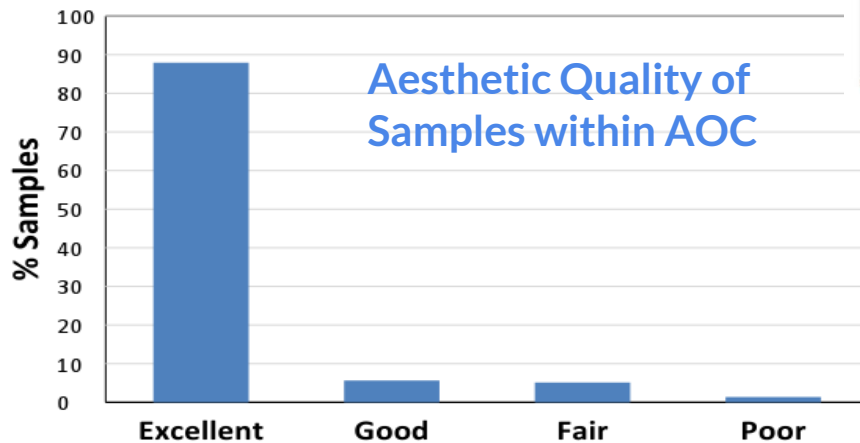


PROGRESS MADE SINCE 2007

Recent Accomplishments

- Status Report for Degradation of Aesthetics BUI – Aug 2017

“waters free of any substance that produces a persistent objectionable unnatural deposit, unnatural colour, objectionable odours, or unnatural turbidity”



EXISTING CONDITIONS AND TRENDS

Beneficial Use	2017 Status	Anticipated Assessment
Restrictions on fish consumption	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	2017 & 2019
Degradation of fish and wildlife populations	IMPAIRED	2017 – fish 2019 – wildlife
Fish tumors and other deformities	NOT IMPAIRED	
Bird or animal deformities or reproductive problems	NOT IMPAIRED	
Degradation of benthos	NOT IMPAIRED	
Restrictions on dredging activities	NOT IMPAIRED	
Eutrophication or undesirable algae	IMPAIRED	2020
Beach closings	IMPAIRED	2018
Degradation of aesthetics	NOT IMPAIRED	2017
Degradation of phytoplankton and zooplankton communities	REQUIRES FURTHER ASSESSMENT	2018
Loss of fish and wildlife habitat	IMPAIRED	2017 – fish 2019 – wildlife

KEY ACTIONS FOR DE-LISTING

A work plan was developed with actions for delisting AOC by 2020. Focus is on remaining BUIs designated as *Impaired*:

1

**Eutrophication &
Undesirable Algae**

3

**Degradation of Fish &
Wildlife Populations**

2

Beach Closings

4

**Loss of Fish & Wildlife
Habitat**



KEY ACTIONS FOR DE-LISTING

1

Eutrophication & Undesirable Algae

- Continue to support upgrades to **Ashbridges Bay Treatment Plant**
- **LID** and **stormwater management** projects
- **Rural Clean Water** program

2

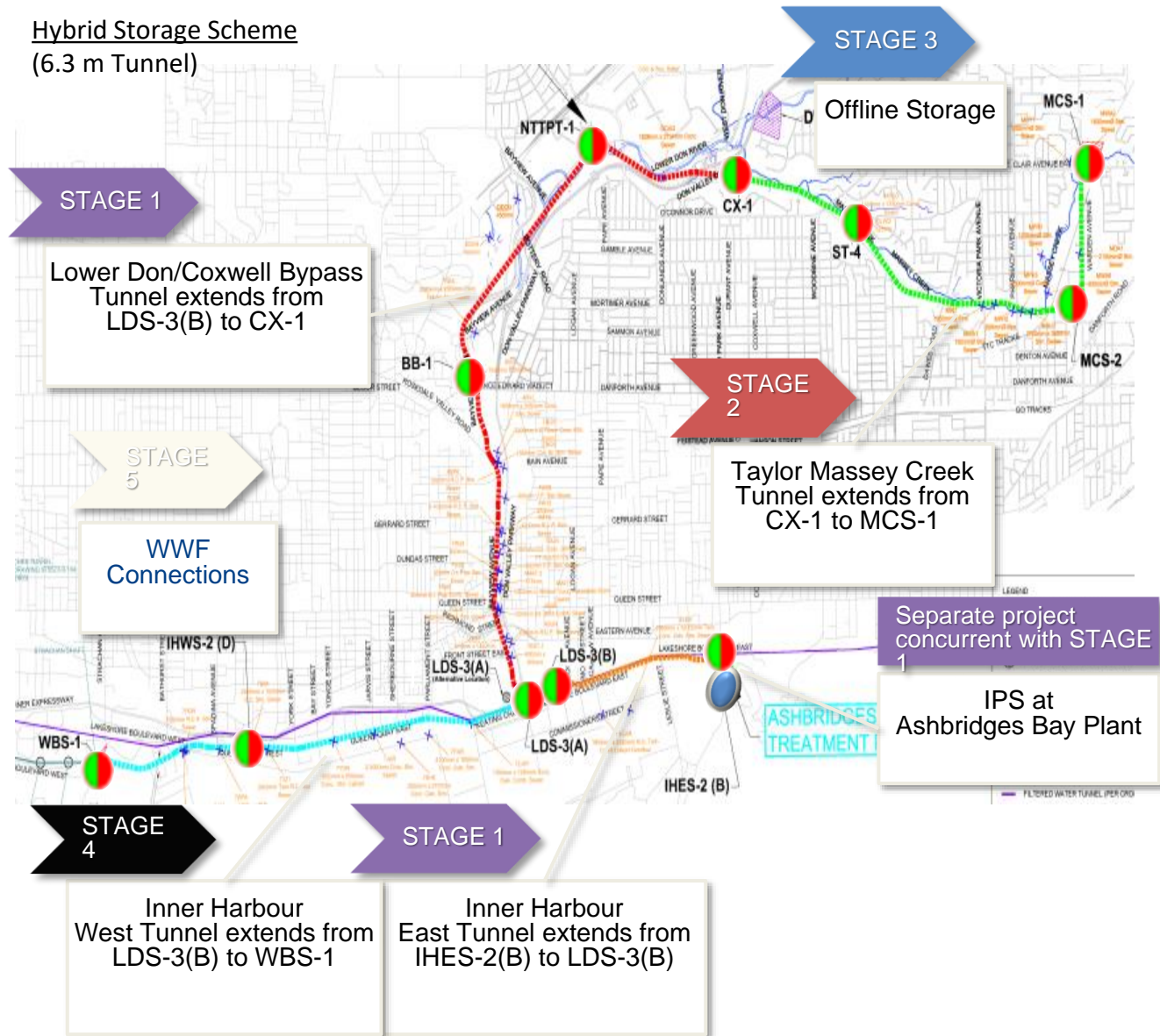
Beach Closings

- Continue to support **Blue Flag, Toronto Beaches Plan, City of Toronto's Don River and Central Waterfront CSO** project
- 2018 BUI status assessment



KEY ACTIONS: DON RIVER AND CENTRAL WATERFRONT PROJECT

Hybrid Storage Scheme
(6.3 m Tunnel)



KEY ACTIONS FOR DE-LISTING

3

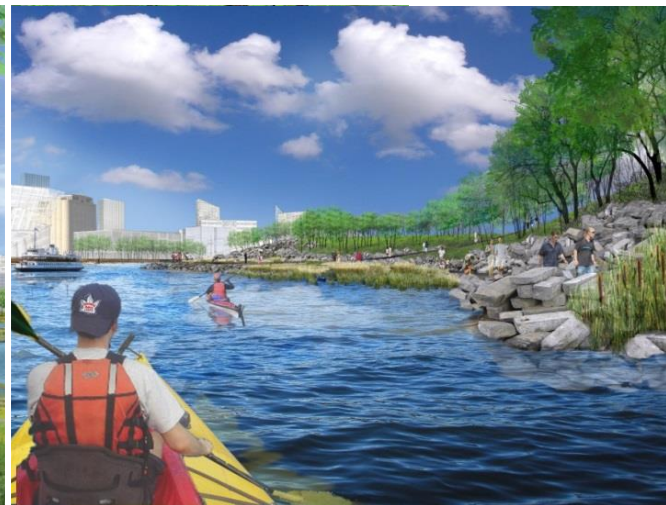
Degradation of Fish and Wildlife Populations

4

Loss of Fish and Wildlife Habitat

Includes:

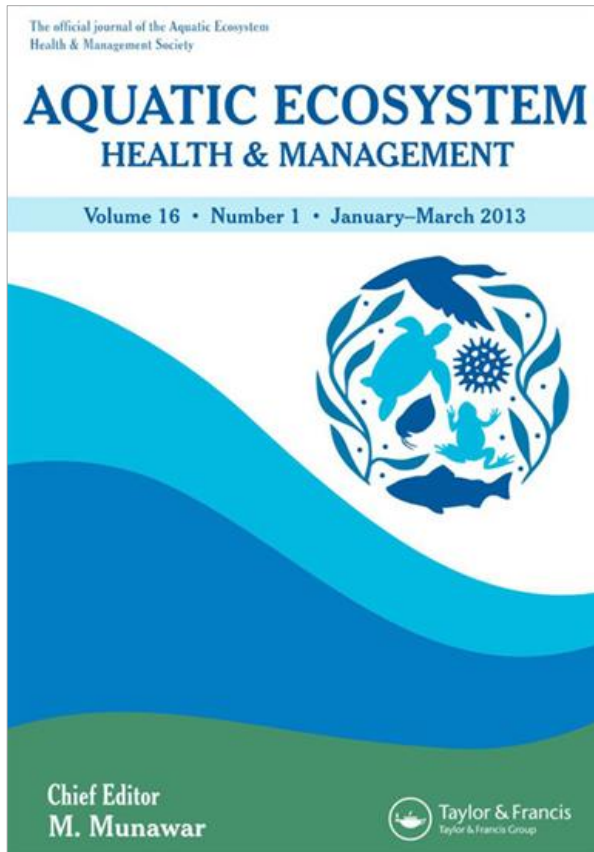
- Major infrastructure projects like **Don River and Central Waterfront** and **Don Mouth Naturalization** projects
- Support **Aquatic Habitat Toronto (AHT)** in implementation of Toronto waterfront aquatic habitat restoration projects.





AQUATIC ECOSYSTEM
HEALTH & MANAGEMENT

AEHM Special Issue (expected 2018)



Ecosystem Recovery in the Toronto and Region Area of Concern

- Restrictions on fish consumption
- Phytoplankton & zooplankton communities
- Water quality (eutrophication, beach closures)
- Degradation of aesthetics
- Fish habitat
- Fish populations

LOOKING TOWARDS 2020



Engaging the public & communicating progress Sharing Good News Stories

How Toronto's Fish Are Making a Comeback

Conservation efforts have shown impressive results, but there's still more to do.

BROUGHT TO YOU BY TORONTO AND REGION CONSERVATION.

BY CATHERINE MCINTYRE



Toronto and Region is a vibrant ecosystem

*- an environmental jewel worth
protecting and preserving*



Lake Ontario – a natural wonder of the world and a source of pride for the millions of people who live alongside it. In Toronto and Region, 200,000 hectares of shoreline and 42 km of waterfront connect more than 4 million residents and 11 municipalities.

In the mid 1980s, the governments of Canada and USA identified Toronto and Region waterfront as one of the Great Lakes Areas of Concern (AOC).

Together, Environment Canada, Ontario Ministry of the Environment and Climate Change (MOECC), Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (MNRF), and Toronto and Region Conservation (TRCA) are focused on restoring the waterfront through the Remedial Action Plan (RAP).

Over the past three decades, significant work has been done to improve the environmental conditions in the Areas of Concern (AOC) within the Great Lakes.

Examples of actions taken to protect the waterfront:

- Protecting wildlife habitat and wetlands; Tommy Thompson Park, Mimico Waterfront Park, Spadina Quay, Rouge Marshes.
- Ensuring swimmable beaches; 8 out of 11 local beaches are open 80% of the swimming season.
- Improving water quality; regulations requiring reduction of harmful elements discharged into the Lake Ontario.
- Enhancing stormwater and sewage infrastructure; construction of City of Toronto's western and eastern Beaches Stormwater Detention Facilities
- Improving fish community; increased number and variety of fish species that are safe to eat.

For more information on AOC environmental targets visit www.torontorap.ca



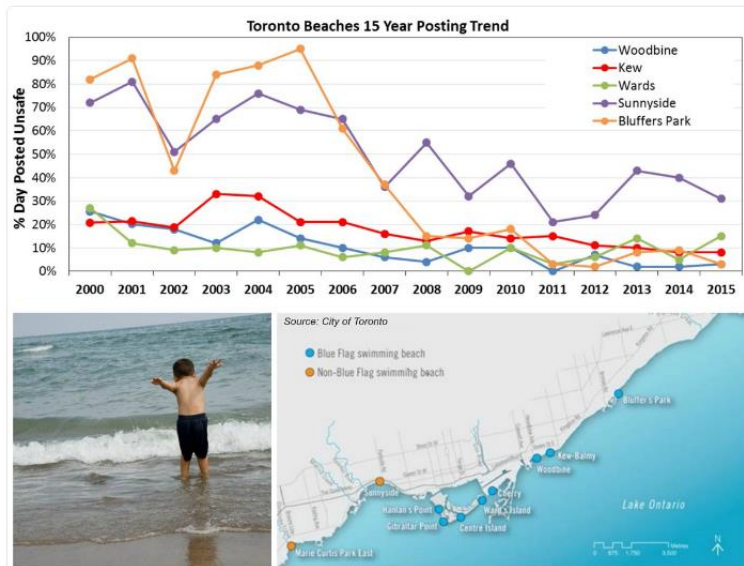

**TORONTO & REGION
REMEDIAL ACTION PLAN**

LOOKING TOWARDS 2020



Toronto RAP
@RAP_Toronto

#Beach closings in #Toronto have declined thanks to a substantial reduction in E.coli loadings to #LakeOntWaterfront #swimdrinkfish



RETWEETS 7
LIKES 14



11:50 AM - 2 Nov 2016



@RAP_Toronto

www.torontorap.ca



Toronto RAP
@RAP_Toronto

Creation & restoration of #habitat along streams & #LakeOntWaterfront have increased diversity of #fish & #wildlife species



RETWEETS 6
LIKES 13



8:55 AM - 2 Nov 2016

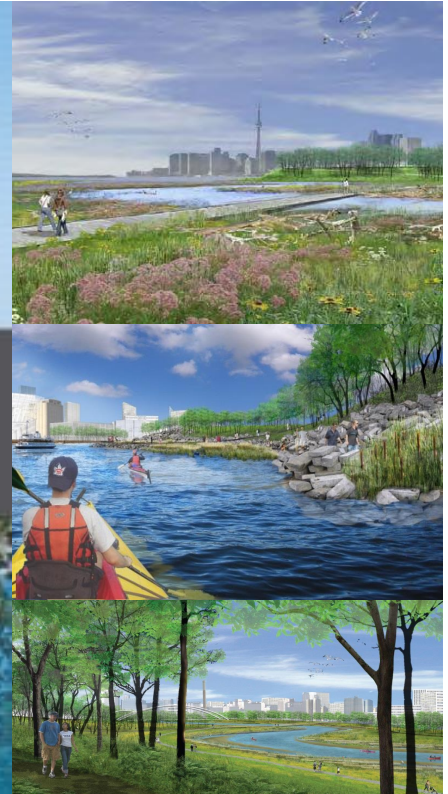


LOOKING TOWARDS 2020



WITHIN REACH: RESTORING TORONTO'S WATERS

Toronto's waters, fish, wildlife and habitats are improving and completing all restoration actions by 2020 is within reach.



Acknowledgements



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



Ontario

Ministry of the Environment
and Climate Change



Ontario

Ministry of Natural Resources
and Forestry

