

St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council
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Draft

MEETING MINUTES

November 20, 2019

**2nd - Floor Conference Room, Public Safety Complex
49½ Court Street, Canton, New York**

Action items in bold italics / Motions underlined.

Blue boxes indicate internal links to sections of these Minutes.

- Call to Order:** In the absence of the Chair, Secretary Pat Whalen called the meeting to order at 6:03 PM.
- Roll Call, Determination of Quorum:** ***There was NOT a quorum.***
Members present: Aaron Barrigar; Catherine Bennett; Ryan Burkum; Lance Rudiger; Nicole Terminelli, *BOL Liaison*; Rod Tozzi; Brian Washburn; Pat Whalen, *Secretary*.
Members absent: Joseph Brant, *Chair*; David Barnes; Jennifer Berbrich; Erica Leonard; Richard Marshall; Don O'Shea, *Vice Chair*; Sue Rau; Tiernan Smith.
Guest(s): Dawn Howard, EMC alumna; Lee Willbanks. Staff: John Tenbusch.
- Acceptance of Order of Business:** The Order of Business was accepted by consensus.
- Approval of the Minutes of the September and October 2019 EMC Meetings:** Since there was **NO QUORUM**, the Minutes of these meetings could not be approved.
- Hearings, Comments from the Public.**
The speakers were: Brian Washburn, EMC member and Professor Emeritus of Chemistry and Environmental Science at SUNY Canton; and John Tenbusch, CPO staff. Brian primarily gave the presentation, on the St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan (SLRWRP), a project that has been funded at \$225,000 by the NYS Department of State Office of Local Waterfront Revitalization Program (see <https://fcswcd.org/partnerships/st-lawrence-river-watershed-partnership-slrwp/>). John commented and provided some background information.



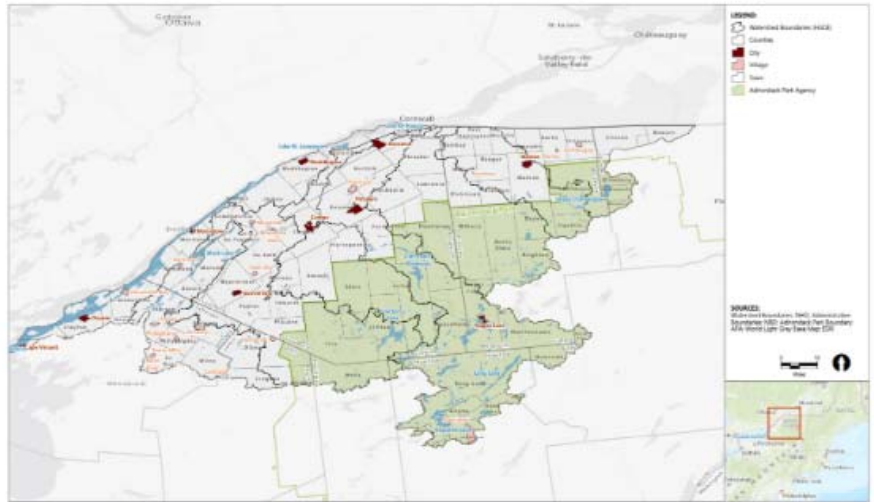
Washburn reported that he and Tenbusch had attended a meeting of the Watershed Advisory Committee for the SLRWRP, held in Tupper Lake on Nov. 4th. At that meeting, the consultants for the Project reported that they have completed a draft Watershed Characterization Report, and compiled Local Laws that regulate some aspects of watershed protection. In addition, they have produced 33 maps about the watershed.

There are links for both of these documents on the SLRWRP Web site referenced above; there is also a link for a survey that the consultants are asking everybody to complete.

The consultants also reported there will be a public meeting held in Gouverneur on December 3rd, at which time they will ask for community feedback on the documents prepared to date. They will also ask for peoples' plans, ideas, proposals, and dreams for the watershed; these will be incorporated into the final Revitalization Plan, which will be completed before the end of 2020.

To help prepare EMC members for the public meeting, Washburn presented his critique of the Project's Community Outreach Plan and Watershed Characterization Report; his comments included:

- Regarding the Community Outreach Plan, while St. Lawrence County has the most area within the SLR Watershed, there are only three representatives from the County serving on the Advisory Committee (which has 18 members).
- 44% of the SLR Watershed is within the Adirondack Park; however there is no one on the Advisory Committee that officially represents Park interests/constituencies (aside from the Adirondack Park Watershed Institute, at Paul Smiths College).
- The Local Laws section mentions three academic institutions within the Watershed; it does not include SLU, SUNY Canton or SUNY Potsdam.



**ST. LAWRENCE RIVER WATERSHED
REVITALIZATION PLAN
PUBLIC MEETING**

TUESDAY, DEC 3 | 5:30 PM

GOVERNEUR COMMUNITY CENTER, 4673
STATE HWY. 58, GOVERNEUR, NY 13642

- The Characterization Report references the Moses-Saunders hydro dam, but does not mention the 27 dams on the Raquette River.
- The Report does refer to 12 dams on the Grasse River. Washburn and Tenbusch can only think of two: at Madrid and at Pyrites.
- Washburn reviewed the Water Use Classifications system used in the Report. He noted that this system is established in 6 NYCRR Part 701, while classification of individual bodies of water is found in 6 NYCRR Chapter x Parts 800 – 941.
- There is a series of very informative one-page reports on the overall watershed, and on sub-watersheds (at the HUC 10 level), including the Upper St. Lawrence River; Chateauguay-English; Grasse; Indian; Oswegatchie; Raquette; Salmon; St. Regis. These are not yet available on the Project Web site, but **are attached here.**

Dawn Howard was in attendance; in addition to having served on the EMC (1997-2014), she worked at the SLC Soil and Water Conservation District, and had been involved with the SLRWRP from the beginning. Dawn was able to provide important context about how and why this Project came about, how SWCDs in eight counties came to lead the project, repeatedly wrote grant applications until NYS DOS finally funded this study, and how the goals and objectives of the Project have evolved over time.

6. Report by the Representative of the Board of Legislators:

Nicole Terminelli reported that she has been appointed to two committees by the NYS Association of Counties (NYSAC). She will present two resolutions to the BOL to:

- Increase NYS funding for e-waste.
- Increase NYS funding for recycling.

Terminelli reported that NYSAC will meet again in January; she asked the EMC to consider ideas for NYSAC action.

7. Reports by EMC Members on Conversations with County Legislators: None.

8. Report of the Committees:

- Executive Committee:** No meeting; no report.
- Conservation of Resources Committee (CRC):** Pat Whalen reported. **See attached.**
- Environment + Economy Committee (E+E):** Rod Tozzi reported. **See attached.**
- Invasive Species Committee (ISC).** Aaron Barrigar reported. **See attached.**
- Watershed Management Committee (WMC).** Brian Washburn reported that he had attended the regional meeting of the Great Lakes Initiative on Nov. 12th. **See attached.**

9. Report of the Staff: Tenbusch reported that:

- He is working on a new application for Community Development Block Grant funding. If successful, this will provide \$440,000 to support the 3rd round of the Countywide Housing Rehabilitation Program.
- He is becoming involved with managing the County’s “Lead-Based Paint Hazard Reduction Grant”, which funds \$1,000,000 to help low- and moderate-income households to deal with lead-based paint in their housing units.

- Tenbusch is beginning to work on the County's Complete Count Committee for the 2020 Census.

10. Unfinished Business: None.

11. New Business: None.

12. Announcements: Tenbusch announced that there will be a public meeting held in Gouverneur on December 3rd, at which time consultants for the St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan will ask for community feedback on the documents prepared to date. They will also ask for peoples' plans, ideas, proposals, and dreams for the watershed; these will be incorporated into the final Revitalization Plan, which will be completed before the end of 2020.

13. Message to the Board of Legislators: EMC members were asked to tell their assigned BOL members here will be a public meeting held in Gouverneur on December 3rd, at which time consultants for the St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan will ask for community feedback on the documents prepared to date. They will also ask for peoples' plans, ideas, proposals, and dreams for the watershed; these will be incorporated into the final Revitalization Plan, which will be completed before the end of 2020.

14. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned by consensus at 8:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Patrick Whalen

Secretary

Minutes written by J. Tenbusch



St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

St. Lawrence River Watershed

Watershed Stats >>>

HUC6	041503
Area	5,578 square miles
Total Stream Miles	12,030 miles
Total Waterbody Acres	104,125 acres
% Natural Land Cover	76%
% Forest / Forest Remaining¹	59% / 74%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining¹	14% / 91%
% Agriculture	17%, 616,700 acres
% Human Use	20%
Population Density	20 persons/km²
% Unassessed (streams/lakes)	48% / 43%
% Assessed Streamlength Supporting - % Impaired	35%
% Assessed Waterbody Area Supporting- % Impaired	-54%
Point Sources	POTWs - 39 CSOs - 33 MS4 areas - 2 (Fort Drum, Leray) CAFOs - 69

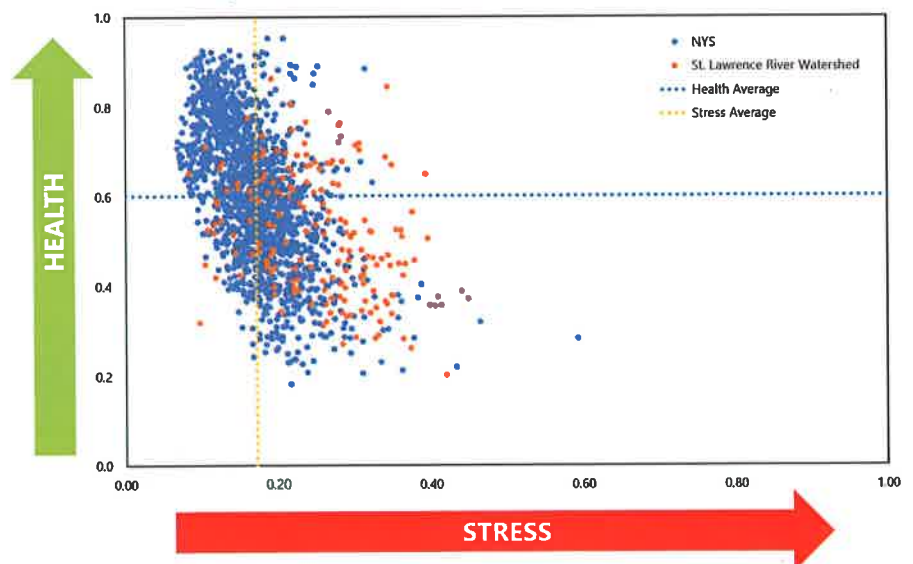
NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development

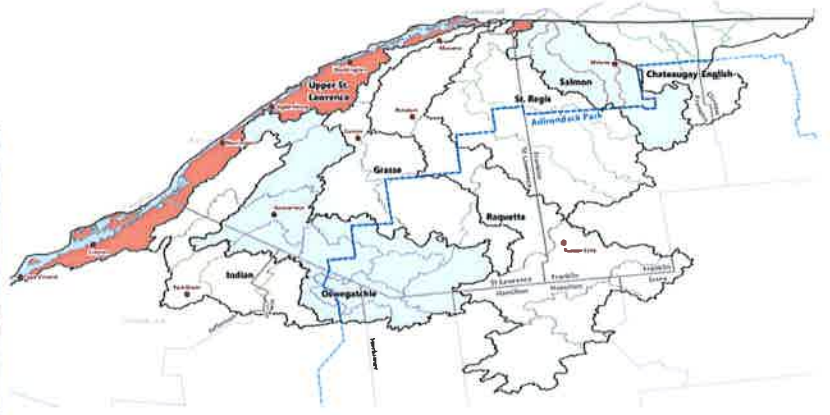
Watershed Characteristics

The waters of the St. Lawrence River watershed flow from upland rivers in the Adirondacks down to the St. Lawrence River and ultimately to the Atlantic Ocean. In addition to the 12,030 miles of freshwater rivers and 104,125 lake acres, the St. Lawrence River receives water from the Great Lakes via Lake Ontario.

This watershed is unique in that it contains densely forested woodlands with large peatland complexes in the southern portion of the basin along the slopes of the Adirondack Mountains; and more flat, agricultural plains along the St. Lawrence at the northern end of the basin. The watershed is primarily challenged by nonpoint sources such as water level and floodplain management, mercury and acid deposition, excess nutrients, invasive species, meeting human needs for energy and recreation, and climate change.

How does my watershed compare to NYS?





St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

Upper St. Lawrence

By the numbers >>>

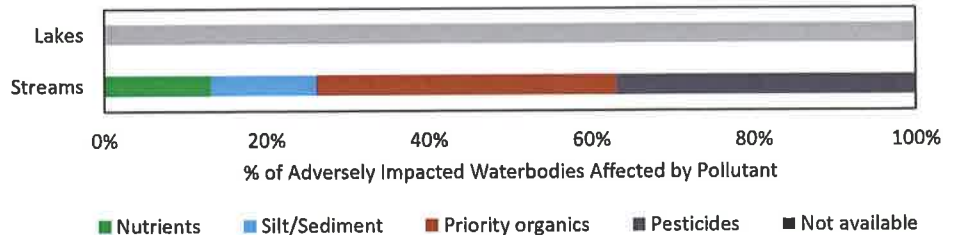
HUC8	04150301
Area, % of SLR Watershed	392 square miles, 7%
Stream Miles	624 miles
Lake Acres	1,736 acres
% Natural Land Cover	55%
% Forest / Forest Remaining ¹	36% / 50%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining ¹	15% / 51%
% Agriculture	35%, 86,800 acres
% Human Use	41.8%
Population Density	37 persons/km ²
Unassessed (Streams/Lakes)	27% / 100%
% Assessed Streamlength - % Impaired	-55%
% Assessed Waterbody - % Impaired	NA
Point Sources of Pollution	POTWs – 9 CSOs – 7 CAFOs – 16

Watershed Description

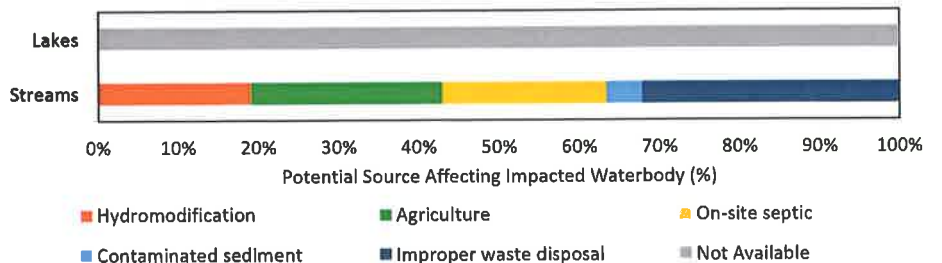
The Upper St. Lawrence consists of 7% urban land cover, accounting for urban centers Ogdensburg, Alexandria Bay, Clayton, and Cape Vincent. It has the highest density of agricultural lands. The Upper St. Lawrence hosts the largest dams of the watershed; the Long Sault and Robert Moses-Saunders Dams. The watershed has experienced debilitating flooding in recent years and is challenged by water level management of the St. Lawrence River. Segments of the St. Lawrence River are listed on Part 2B of the NYS 2016 303(d) List as impaired with respect to fish consumption due to historical legacy contaminant disposal of dioxins, PCBs, and Mirex.

What impacts my watershed?

Cited Pollutants and Stressors (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



Potential Sources of Pollutants (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development




St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

Chateaugay- English

By the numbers >>>

Watershed Description

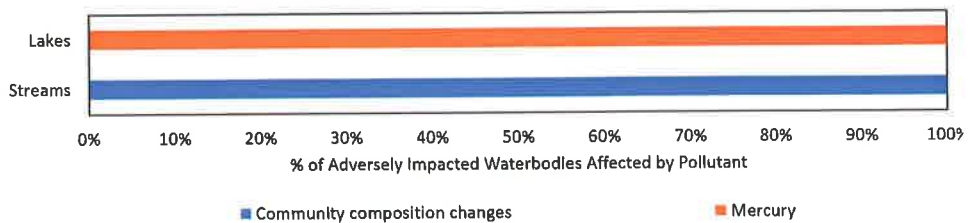
HUC8	04150308
Total Area; % of SLR Watershed	411.6 square miles; 7.4% of Watershed
Stream Miles	937 miles
Waterbody Acres	3,497 acres
% Natural Land Cover	77%
% Forest / Forest Remaining¹	53% / 69%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining¹	20% / 28%
% Agriculture	20%, 51,800 acres
% Human Use	22%
Population Density	9 persons/km²
% Unassessed (Streams/Lakes)	45% / 11%
% Assessed Streamlength Supporting - % Impaired	42%
% Assessed Waterbody Supporting- % Impaired	-58%
Point Sources of Pollution	POTWs - 3 CAFOs - 7

The Chateaugay-English subbasin is located in the northeastern corner of the St. Lawrence River watershed, spread across Clinton and Franklin counties. It has the smallest waterbody area and second to least amount of stream miles. The southern half of the watershed within the Adirondack Park remains mostly forested, while the northern half hosts agricultural plains.

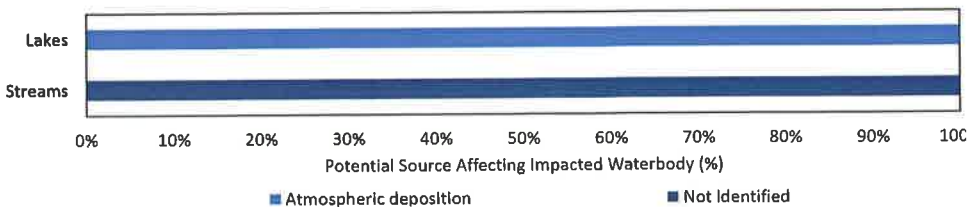
Upper Chateaugay Lake, accounting for 2,564 of the subbasins' 3,497 lake acres, is impacted by atmospheric mercury deposition and its consequential contamination of fish tissue, affecting human consumption. This watershed is also challenged by water level and floodplain management, particularly along the St. Lawrence River shoreline, invasive species, and road salt contamination.

What impacts my watershed?

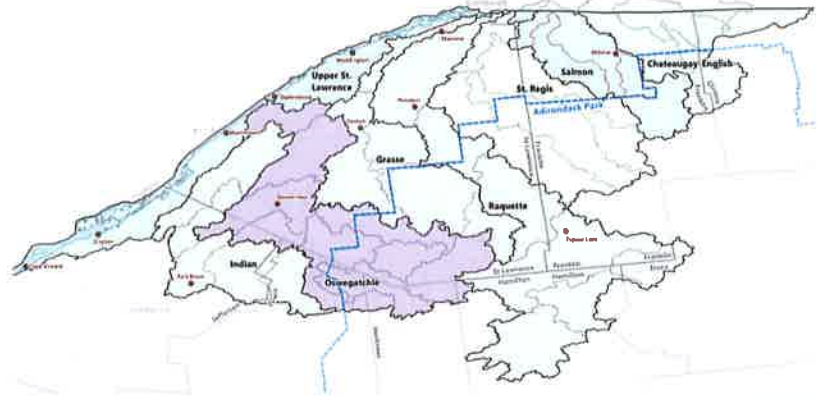
Cited Pollutants and Stressors (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



Potential Sources of Pollutants (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development



St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

Oswegatchie

By the numbers >>>

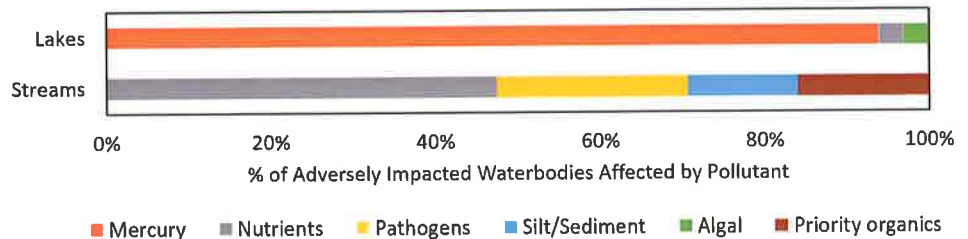
HUC8	04150302
Area, % of SLR Watershed	1,050 square miles, 18.8%
Stream Miles	2,580 miles
Lake Acres	17,736 acres
% Natural Land Cover	76%
% Forest / Forest Remaining¹	66% / 72%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining¹	12% / 51%
% Agriculture	14%, 93,000 acres
% Human Use	17%
Population Density	12 persons/km²
% Unassessed (Streams/Lakes)	49% / 48%
% Assessed Streamlength Supporting - % Impaired	-11%
% Assessed Waterbody Supporting- % Impaired	-86%
Point Sources of Pollution	POTWs – 6 CSOs – 11 CAFOs – 10

Watershed Description

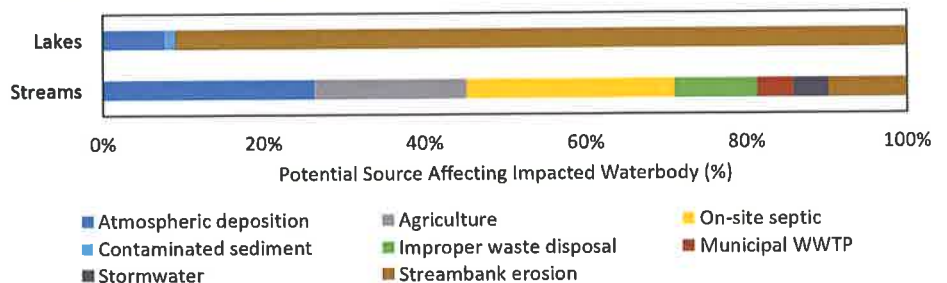
Urban areas such as Gouverneur and Ogdensburg account for the 2% of urban land cover in the watershed. The Adirondack Park covers 44% of the watershed. Soils classified as prime farmland are found in the northern branch of the watershed, accounting for the cluster of agricultural lands along the St. Lawrence plains. This watershed has the highest percentage of impaired lake acres relative to lake acres assessed. Ten waterbodies are listed on the NYS 2016 303(d) list, Part 2A, as impaired due to acid deposition. In addition, Little River and its tributaries are listed on Part 1 of the 2016 303(d) list due to priority organic contamination from industrial disposal practices.

What impacts my watershed?

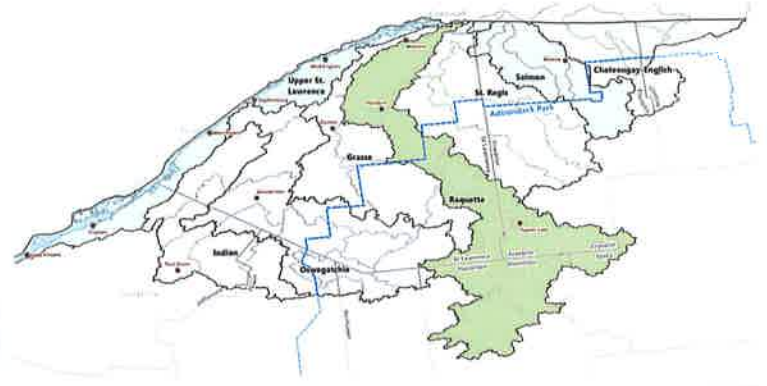
Cited Pollutants and Stressors (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



Potential Sources of Pollutants (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development



St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

Raquette

By the numbers >>>

HUC8	04150305
Area, % of SLR Watershed	1,260 square miles, 22.6%
Stream Miles	2,407 miles
Lake Acres	49,271 acres
% Natural Land Cover	81%
% Forest / Forest Remaining¹	77% / 73%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining¹	9% / 41%
% Agriculture	3%, 27,800 acres
% Human Use	5%
Population Density	16 persons/km²
% Unassessed (Streams/Lakes)	70% / 43%
% Assessed Streamlength Supporting - % Impaired	54%
% Assessed Waterbody Supporting- % Impaired	-53%
Point Sources of Pollution	POTWs – 6 CSOs – 9 CAFOs - 3

NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development

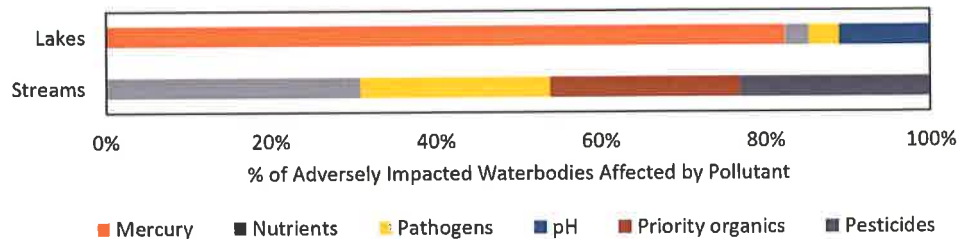
Watershed Description

The Raquette watershed is the largest, most extensively forested, and least agriculturally intensive land in the St. Lawrence River waterbasin. Urban areas such as Massena, Potsdam, and Tupper Lake, account for 2% of the land cover. 75% of the watershed is within the Adirondack State Park.

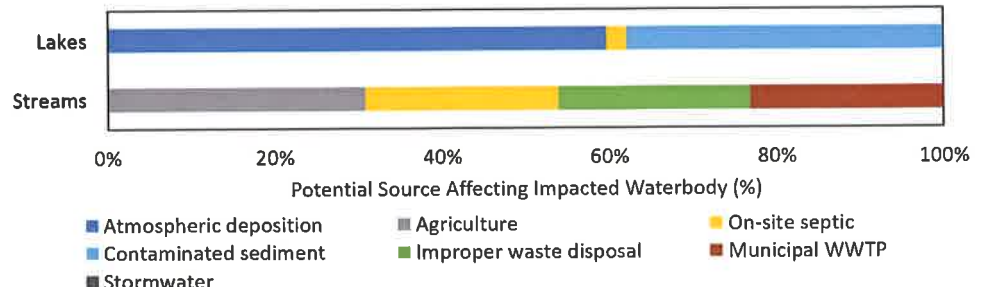
The Raquette River and its tributaries are listed on Part A of the NYS 2016 303(d) list for pathogen contamination, citing onsite water treatment systems as a potential source. Ten additional waterbodies are listed within Part 2A, impaired due to acid deposition.

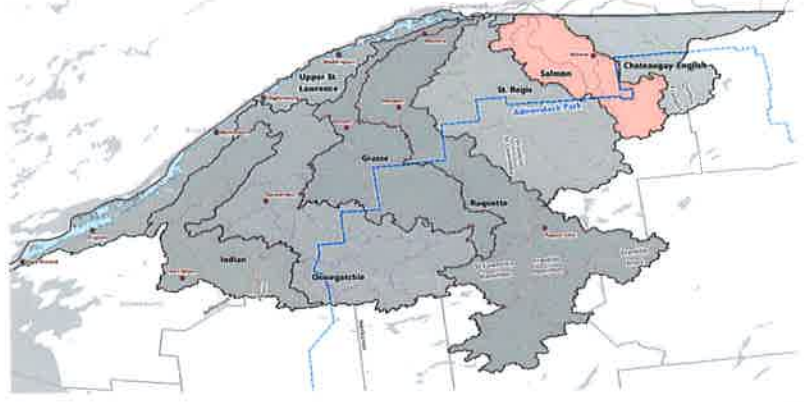
What impacts my watershed?

Cited Pollutants and Stressors (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



Potential Sources of Pollutants (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)





St. Lawrence River Watershed Revitalization Plan

Salmon River

By the numbers >>>

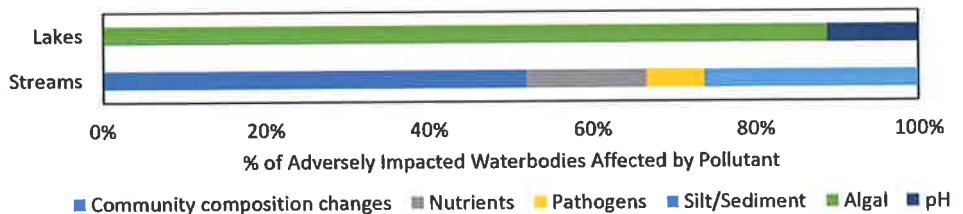
Watershed Description

HUC8	04150307
Area; % of SLR Watershed	405.6 square miles, 7.3%
Stream Miles	916 miles
Waterbody Acres	2,561 acres
% Natural Land Cover	73%
% Forest / Forest Remaining¹	56% / 59%
% Wetlands / Wetlands Remaining¹	14% / 55%
% Agriculture	23%, 59,100 acres
% Human Use	26%
Population Density	28 persons/km²
% Unassessed (Streams/Lakes)	36% / 46%
% Assessed Streamlength Supporting - % Impaired	24%
% Assessed Waterbody Supporting- % Impaired	24%
Point Sources of Pollution	POTWs – 2 CAFOs - 11

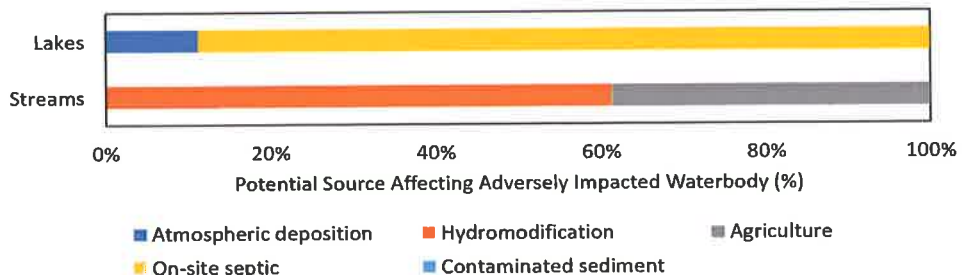
The Salmon River watershed drains approximately 400 miles of forested and agricultural lands from the Adirondack foothills to the international border. The northern 2/3 of the watershed are characterized by rolling terrain on gentle slopes while the southern area is hilly and mountainous. The watershed supports a world-class fishery of wild brook and brown trout populations, and a warmwater fishery at the confluence with the St. Lawrence River. Lands along portions of the Salmon River, Branch Brook, and other watercourses in the Town of Malone have experienced extensive flooding in recent years. This watershed has a NYSDOS approved Watershed Management Plan (2016).

What impacts my watershed?

Cited Pollutants and Stressors (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



Potential Sources of Pollutants (NYSDEC, WI/PWL 2016)



NOTE: 1; percent of land cover remaining relative to pre-development



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council Conservation of Resources Committee Meeting Wednesday November 13th, 2019

Purpose of the *Conservation of Resources Committee*.

- “Conservation” can mean “saving” or “effective/efficient/wise use”.
 - Thus, “conservation of resources” might include topic areas including solid waste management; household hazardous waste management; recycling; energy efficiency; wise use of natural resources of St Lawrence County
 - Conservation might also mean “preservation”, as in preservation of endangered/ rare/ significant flora (plants) or fauna (animals/creatures).
 - “Conservation” also means addressing issues such as the climate crisis that threatens environmental devastation for our region.
-

Present: Pat Whalen, Chair. Catherine Bennett. J. Tenbusch attended as staff.

The meeting began at 4:49 PM.

Items on the “To-Do” List:

- Movie Series. John Tenbusch reported on showing the movie “Plastic Paradise” in Ogdensburg on October 21st. Only 2 people attended; they were very influential representatives of the environmental community in St. Lawrence County. Tenbusch stated that he considered the showing a success because he was able to network with them.
 - It was suggested that a showing of the movie might be scheduled at the Nicandri Nature Center in Massena at some point over the holiday season.
- Mapping Areas to Exclude Application of Herbicides. Cat Bennett is still looking for alternatives to spraying herbicides such as Roundup.
 - She will communicate with Keith Zimmerman re this mapping project.
- Proposed policy for speakers at EMC meetings: From last month’s Committee Report:
 - Cat Bennett referenced an earlier discussion at an EMC meeting, where an opinion had been expressed that EMC members were not courteous to a member of the public who was making comments during the “Comments From the Public” portion of the EMC meeting.
 - After some discussion, the Committee proposed that the EMC adopt this policy:
“When a member of the public is speaking during the ‘Comments From the Public’ portion of an EMC meeting, we will allow him/her at least XXX minutes to speak without interruption before we begin to ask questions/make comments.

- The Committee also recommended that the Chair of the meeting might ask the speaker if s/he is willing to take questions during his/her comments.

This Committee will re-introduce this proposal during Old Business at the next EMC meeting and ask members to adopt it as official policy.

- Climate Crisis
 - C. Bennett suggested that we partner with established programs. She proposed reaching out to the Canton Composting program. We might help to expand their program to other communities
 - Tenbusch proposed that the EMC might help to promote *North Country 350 Alliance's* (<https://northcountry350.org/>) monthly climate vigils in Canton (1st Friday of each month).
- Trashpresso. Cat Bennett had sent to John Tenbusch the beginnings of a draft proposal for bringing a Trashpresso to SLC for a demonstration. Tenbusch will look at it, flesh it out, and send it to Larry Legault for comment.

New Items.

- Bennett suggested EMC send a letter to the editor of local paper asking people to reduce or eliminate their reliance on single-use plastics.
 - It was suggested that we find and highlight one local business or program that has made a commitment to reducing single-use plastics.
- Shoreline Resiliency Study. Pat Whalen asked the status of that project. John Tenbusch reported that the study is complete; **he will attach the recommendations from Resiliency Study to this Committee Report.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:20 PM.

There will NOT be a Committee meeting in December.

The next meeting of this Committee will be on Wednesday January 8, 2020.



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council Environment + Economy Committee Meeting Tuesday, November 12th, 2019

Purpose of the Environment + Economy Committee.

- To explore the relationship and interactions of the environmental resources of St. Lawrence County with the local and regional economy.
 - To reach out to individuals, business, and organizations involved in the use of natural resources in an economic capacity and to learn from these individuals and organizations about the challenges and opportunities in their endeavors.
 - To act as the interface between business, residents, and lawmakers of St. Lawrence County with regards to the role of natural resources in the economy, with an emphasis on sustainable use.
-

Meeting started at 5:05 PM. Present: Rod Tozzi. J. Tenbusch attended as staff.

Item 1: Review Report of last meeting

- Fish ladder proposal in Madrid.
 - Tenbusch reported that he had spoken to Tony Cooper, Supervisor Town of Madrid, about the proposed fish ladder. Cooper has given permission to conduct any studies needed to determine the feasibility of a fish ladder at the dam in the hamlet of Madrid.



- Tenbusch will begin to investigate possible funding sources to conduct a preliminary study of costs/benefits for a fish ladder.
- Tozzi volunteered to assist in whatever way he can.

Item 2: Develop List of Priority Projects for 2020.

- Develop workshop to include reps from various parts of the agriculture industry
- Outreach to / meet with reps from Clarkson to develop local technical solutions to some environmental problems.
- Invite Curran Renewables to speak at EMC meeting
- Speaker regarding bass tournaments.

The meeting adjourned at 5:35 PM.

No meeting will be held in December. Next meeting will be held Monday, January 6, 2020.



St. Lawrence County Environmental Management Council Invasive Species Committee Meeting Tuesday November 12th, 2019

Overview of the Invasive Species Committee.

- The Committee decided that the variety of “invasive species” topics is so large, that it might be best for this committee to work on specific areas.
 - Emerald Ash Borer
 - Eurasian Watermilfoil
 - Wild Parsnip
 - Others
-

Meeting started at 1:03 PM.

Present: Don O’Shea, Chair. Aaron Barrigar. John Tenbusch attended as staff.

Review Previous Committee mtg report:

- Tenbusch reported no progress regarding the plaque for the tree planted in memory of Andrew Soutar. This will probably be on hold until spring, since Sue Rau will be in California until spring.
- Re: Blue green algae, Boyer’s presentation was informative. No discussion about how to prevent/control cyanobacteria, other than macro-level controls: e.g., reduce nutrient levels overall in a given body of water.

Projects for 2020:

- EAB
 - ISC to continue as liaison between EAB Task Force and EMC / BOL.
- Eurasian watermilfoil
 - Looking to see demonstration of mechanical cutters/pullers.
- Wild parsnip
 - Follow-up to last year’s distribution of PSA to local highway departments; Survey?
 - Public outreach/education
- Spotted lanternfly
 - Public outreach/education
- Hemlock Woolly Adelgid
 - Public outreach/education

Aaron Barrigar suggested that the Committee seek funding to deal with one or other invasive species. Discussion ensued. Barrigar will send information on possible grants to Tenbusch; it may be advisable to look at grant opportunities and then prioritize our activities for 2020.

Miscellaneous:

- Barrigar reported finding EABs in Chase Mills and in Louisville, approx. 3.5 miles inland from the St. Lawrence River.
 - The infestation in Chase Mills was extensive; evidence that EABs have been there for a long time.
 - The infestation in Louisville seemed more recent.
- Barrigar planted trees along the median strip for the Arterial roadway in Ogdensburg.

The meeting ended at 1:30 PM.

Next ISC meeting will be held on Tuesday January 7, 2020.

Summary/Comments/Questions

Great lakes Initiative Meeting

November 12, 2019

Present (aside from Emily Sheridan and myself) (no names):

Representatives From:

- NYSDEC staff (from Emily's office)
- NYSDEC Regional Fisheries Manager
- NYSDEC Wildlife Biologist
- Nature Conservancy
- Black River Watershed Committee
- REDI Liaison
- Thompson Zoo Director
- Jefferson County Planning Department
- Jefferson County SWCD
- Region 6 NYSDOT Director
- Region 6 Trout Unlimited Chair
- Two Citizens from the Black River watershed and the Glenfield area

Topics

- Grants available
- Presentation of the Black River Watershed Committee activities
- Presentation by Jefferson SWCD on MS4 Compliance efforts funded by ~ 200K grant. Very well done providing explanation why the need for the grant and its outcomes specifically the planting of over 1,200 trees, construction of 2 rain gardens, and a bioswale. Apparently the lower reach of the Black River up to and including Carthage has been designated a MS4 area requiring storm water runoff permitting and mitigation. Likely these MS4's are of the small scale category but in close proximity to each other. Most MS4's are based on census data. I think St. Lawrence County needs to investigate the potential of MS4 designation for the municipalities in the watershed and MS4's are likely applicable for prisons and public colleges/universities. I am quite sure SUNY Canton does not have a MS4 permit. I personally know of the locations of 6 storm water outflows from the SUNY Canton campus directly draining into the Grasse River. For decades my Env. Sci. Laboratory students collected statistically valid samplings of effluent in both the spring and fall semesters. The samples were analyzed for total conductivity (a measure of total ionic material content) and Chloride ion by Chloride Ion specific electrode techniques. With the Grasse River evaluated at less than 100 ppm total conductivity and approximately 35 ppm chloride the effluents typically during spring snowmelt exceeded several thousand ppm for both measured parameters. The fall semester analysis was usually conducted after the fall rains begin. Surprisingly the fall samplings still exhibited higher parameter levels compared to the river. The only probable hypotheses are either significant road salt is being retained in the lands of the

campus or road salt effluent is being retained in the system's catch basins and only released as the volume of water increases with the fall rains. Is St. Lawrence SWCD active in grants procurement?

- The Region 6 NYSDOT director reported on NYSDOT culvert and bridge projects which sparked a lengthy discussion of NYSDOT procedures, construction techniques used for culvert repair, and legal issues associated with construct/replacement of culverts to address aquatic life movement. A significant amount of time was spent on the issue of culvert repair along town roadways compared to NYSDOT and county highway departments. Are there any individuals in county government or others that have completed the required culvert evaluation certification? Another topic discussed was the removal of dilapidated dams and locks on the former Black River Canal system.
- Proposed projects form watershed improvement in the Easter Great Lakes.

Questions to and from DEC Representatives

NYSDEC Fisheries Manager

- I asked her about the issue of contaminated fish from the lower reach of the Grasse River being served at restaurants. She is aware of the issue and has received correspondence from Don Lucas. Fish processors are not required to know the water body origin of the fish they process. She reinforced DOH requirements. Apparently there have been two legislative efforts to ban fishing completely in this area. To her recollection one did not pass both houses of the legislature and the other passed both houses but was not signed into law by the governor at the time. She is aware of the lack of enforcement of catch limits which was stated at the last EMC. It was stated that the number of DEC enforcement officers is limited and that it is imperative that violations be reported.
- I asked her if she knew of any salmon spawning occurring in the Grasse River watershed. She stated it could happen either by Pacific salmon (stocked) or Atlantic salmon but would be highly unlikely on a regular basis. She asked me why the inquiry and I explained the Madrid dam discussion. She became very concerned since the Madrid dam is the first upstream obstacle in the river. Her concern is about opening the upstream waters (albeit small in stream miles) to the Pyrites dam to invasive species. I think any further discussion of the fish ladder must include DEC from the get go.

NYSDEC Wildlife Biologist

She mentioned the observation of EAB in Jefferson County. I commented earlier in the discussion on state/county/town relationships the tree inventory of SLC roadways including EAB infestation and stated how few miles in the county were evaluated compared to total road mileage. Surprisingly she was unaware of EAB in SLC. I gave her Arron's name to get more information.