

TERMS OF REFERENCE
FOR THE
LAKE HURON TECHNICAL COMMITTEE (LHTC)

ADOPTED January 19, 1999.

SPECIALIZED TASK GROUPS

TITLE: St. Marys River Fisheries Task Group

PURPOSE:

1. Develop a coordinated fisheries assessment and review program to enhance understanding of the St. Marys River fish community and associated habitats within the watershed, and the factors which may impact those populations
2. To facilitate agency cooperation to assess fish populations, aquatic habitat, water and sediment chemistry, primary productivity, predator/prey relations, and forage in the St. Marys River.
3. Report findings on issues and stressors to the LHTC and member management agencies for review and action.

PARTICIPATION:

Chair: -from any member agency as selected by the Lake Huron Technical Committee.

Membership: -a maximum of two individuals from each fish management and research agency, with legislative or mandated policy and implementation obligations for fish management on the St. Marys River as follows:

Chippewa/Ottawa Treaty Fishery Management Authority (COTFMA)
Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR)
United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
United States Geological Survey - Biological Resources Division (BRD)
Batchewana First Nation (BFN)
Garden River First Nation (FN)

In addition, one representative from:

United States Fish and Wildlife Service - Sea Lamprey Control
Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada - Sea Lamprey Control

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Resource Persons: Any number as required from any agency or institution as selected by members of the task group.

AGENCY COMMITMENTS: To ensure accomplishment of Lake Committee objectives and assignments, agencies are encouraged to commit appropriate personnel and resources as regular components of agency work plans. Additional commitment may be necessary to complete tasks related to the Strategic Plan for Management of the Great Lakes Fisheries (e.g. State of the Lake Report, Environmental Objectives). Work assignments shall be distributed between members and resource persons as equally as possible and in a manner consistent with their expertise.

Advisory Group: Following a period of time required to establish a functioning task group, members will discuss the need for and function of a public advisory group.

Consensus Approach: Issues are resolved by consensus of the members. If consensus cannot be achieved on an issue, then it will be referred to the Lake Huron Technical Committee for resolution.

COORDINATION: The Chair will coordinate activities and progress with the Technical Committee Chair.

FREQUENCY OF MEETINGS: Meetings will be every other month or as deemed necessary by task group members.