



Today, the Bay of Quinte is a healthy and vibrant ecosystem.
Now, we must focus on keeping it that way.
The RAP is developing long-term monitoring and management strategies
to ensure the Bay remains healthy in the future.

TECHNOLOGY HELPS AREA OSPREYS



The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is looking for volunteer citizen scientists to help locate and monitor Osprey's nests around the Bay of Quinte. The goal is to establish a long-term monitoring program to ensure the Osprey population remains healthy and abundant.

This pilot project utilizes 21st Century Social Media and Geo-Location technologies to help preserve our cherished habitat. Citizen scientists are being challenged to use their smart phones to capture details about Ospreys that include: nest locations, whether the nest is active or not, the number of fledglings and departure dates for the fall migration. It's a simple process. First ensure that "location settings" are activated on the smart phone, then using Twitter, and the hashtags #bqrap and #osprey post your photos or comments. Make sure that you complete your post from the nest site, otherwise the post will not be accurately located. Now, you are a citizen scientist!

Why monitor ospreys? Because Ospreys eat fish almost exclusively, they are considered a sentinel species, serving as indicators of water quality health. Changes in the number of nesting pairs and number of chicks produced and fledged can reflect changes in aquatic ecosystem health.

Once, the widespread use of DDT brought these great raptors to the brink of extinction. But with a ban, in the 1970s, on this toxic pesticide and the efforts of federal and provincial governments, conservation authorities and groups, and individuals the Ospreys have made a dramatic comeback.

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan is in the process of changing the status of several of the fish and wildlife environmental challenges identified for the Bay to unimpaired. One way the public can help maintain healthy and diverse fish and wildlife populations and habitats is by participating as citizen scientists.

The return of this top predator to the Bay of Quinte and their successful nesting is a sign of a healthy ecosystem. By collecting data on how the Ospreys are doing, we can ensure the Bay doesn't return to the conditions that required a Remedial Action Plan in the first place.

Visit the nest sites throughout the season and post comments and photos of the birds for everyone to enjoy. Visit the Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan web site for details www.bqrap.ca

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In partnership locally with Lower Trent Conservation and Quinte Conservation

THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING

The comments period for

- Degradation of fish and wildlife populations
- Degradation of benthos (Underwater bugs)
- Loss of fish and wildlife habitat

has closed.

The comments will be reviewed by Restoration Council and included in the reports sent to our Federal and Provincial partners.

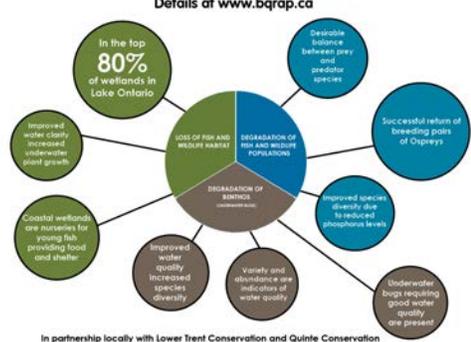
Thanks to everyone who submitted comments.

Everyone has a role to play in maintaining the Bay's water quality. Whether it's becoming an advocate for water quality issues, volunteering as a citizen scientist, or talking to your local politicians and municipalities about actions to keep the Bay a healthy and vibrant ecosystem. Maintaining water quality is everyone's responsibility.



Do you think these environmental challenges are ready to be removed from the impaired list?

<p>Degradation of fish and wildlife populations The Bay, now, has a balance of prey and predator species due to fisheries management, improved habitat, and reduced phosphorus levels.</p>	<p>Degradation of benthos Underwater bugs tell us about water quality. Bugs requiring good water quality are present in the Bay.</p>	<p>Loss of fish and wildlife habitat Underwater plants provide habitat for smaller prey fish like perch and sunfish and hunting grounds for top predators like walleye, bass and pike.</p>
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STEWARDSHIP PROGRAMS



Re-wild your shoreline and restore wildlife habitat

By re-wilding your shoreline you will be providing homes and food for wildlife.

We can provide cost-sharing incentives and technical assistance.

SHORELINE NATURALIZATION - create a more natural shoreline, e.g removal of a retaining wall or other man-made structure.
Grant Rate - 50% up to \$7500.

WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENTS - Projects must contribute to improving water quality in the Bay of Quinte. A variety of projects will be considered.
Grant rate 50% up to \$7500.

WATERWAY PLANTINGS - a minimum planting zone 5 metres from the shoreline is required. Only native plants are funded and a plant list is provided by the BQRAP. Staff will assist with a planting plan.
Grant rate 100% up to \$1000.

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STAY CONNECTED

