St. Lawrence Environment Trustee Council (SLETC)

Summary of Preferred Restoration Projects

December 2012

Cultural Projects

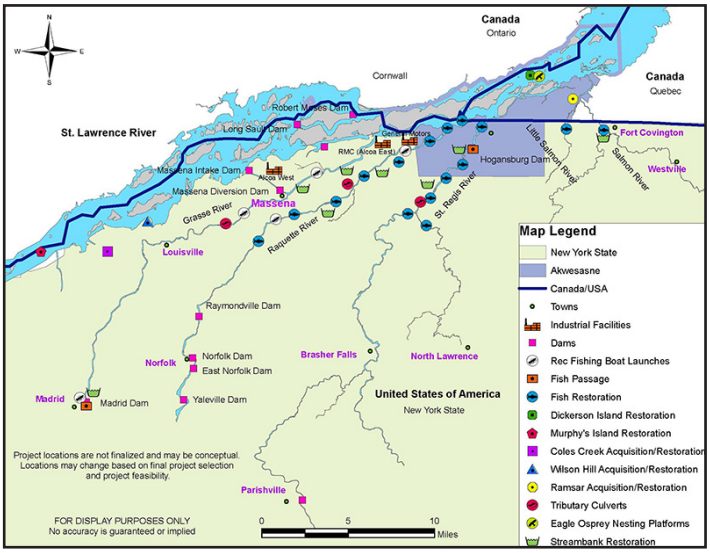
Akwesasne's approach to cultural restoration seeks to promote the restoration of land-based cultural practices and traditional economic activities within the community. For example, Akwesasne will establish and directly support long-term master-apprentice relationships in the four areas of traditional cultural practice (use of the river, horticulture, medicinal plants, hunting/trapping) that were harmed by the release of hazardous contaminants. The plan will also support the enhancement of existing programs and institutions that demonstrate an ability to promote intergenerational cultural knowledge transfer in the identified areas of harm.

Ecological Projects

The Trustees are proposing a suite of restoration projects that provide benefits to offset harm to fish and wildlife resources as a result of exposure to environmental contaminants. Proposed projects will include restoration of wetlands and native grasslands; stream restoration; fishery enhancements for northern pike, lake sturgeon and Atlantic salmon; island restoration for nesting waterbirds; habitat protection for Blandings turtles and fish passage.

Restoration Project Planning

This fact sheet summarizes the types of projects to be implemented with funds from the St. Lawrence Environment Natural Resource Damage Assessment. Proposed projects are shown on the map, with additional details provided for selected projects. For a more complete description of proposed projects, see websites listed on reverse.



Fund Akwesasne programs that work to regenerate traditional cultural practices.

Acquisition of 337 acres at Coles Creek provides nesting habitat for Blandings turtles.

Recreational Fishing Projects

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) contamination has resulted in fish consumption advisories for areas including the St. Lawrence River, Bay at St. Lawrence (Franklin County line), Grasse River and Massena Power Canal. These advisories have adversely affected recreational fishing, reducing the number of fishing trips taken to this river system.

Compensation for these impacts will be provided by installing or upgrading five boat launches and fishing piers in the Massena area: Grasse River (Madrid, Rte. 37, Rte. 131) and Raquette River (Massena Springs, Massena).

Lake sturgeon stocking and spawning habitat restoration in St. Lawrence River and tributaries: Salmon, Grasse, St. Regis and Raquette Rivers.

Dickerson Island predator control for Great Blue Heron restoration.

Proposed boat launch and fishing pier site on the upper Grasse River at Madrid.

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