



## ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, February 15, 2024

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Administration Centre  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

10:00 a.m.

### AGENDA

1. Chair's Welcome and Land Acknowledgement
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest
4. Disclosure of intention to record this meeting by video and/or audio device
5. Adoption of Minutes from December 14, 2023
6. Business Out of the Minutes
7. **Elections**
  - (i) Appointment of Chairperson for Election
  - (ii) Appointment of Scrutineers for Election
  - (iii) Positions of Chair and Vice Chair declared vacant
  - (iv) Election of Chair
  - (v) Election of Vice Chair
  - (vi) Motion to Destroy Ballots (if required)
8. **Appointments**
  - (i) Auditor
  - (ii) Financial Institution
  - (iii) Solicitor
9. **Program Reports**
  - Report 1: (a) Development Review (OReg147/06) – Daniel King
  - (b) Violation/Appeals Update - Geoff Cade, Daniel King
  - Report 2: Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy - Kate Monk
  - Report 3: Conservation Lands Strategy – Kate Monk/Nathan Schoelier
  - Report 4: Stewardship Project Review – Ian Jean/Nathan Schoelier
  - Report 5: Unaudited Profit/Loss Statement – 2023 – Brian Horner
10. **Committee Reports**
  - Source Protection Committee – Donna Clarkson
  - Joint Management Committee – Donna Clarkson
  - Striking Committee – Abbie Gutteridge
11. Correspondence
12. Committee of the Whole – *personnel matter*
13. New Business
14. Adjournment

*Source Protection Authority Meeting to follow*

#### UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

March 21, 2024

Board of Directors Meeting at 2:30 p.m. Followed by Partner  
Appreciation Evening

April 18, 2024

Board of Directors Meeting at 10:00 a.m.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Thursday, November 16, 2023  
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Adrian Cornelissen, Steve Herold, Jaden Hodgins, Dave Jewitt, Greg Lamport, Dave Marsh, Wayne Shipley, Marissa Vaughan

### STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Tina Crown, Cassie Greidanus, Abbie Gutteridge, Brian Horner, Daniel King, Tracey McPherson, Kate Monk, Nathan Schoelier, Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

### OTHERS PRESENT

Bob Montgomery

### CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marissa Vaughan called the meeting to order at 2:34 p.m., welcomed everyone in attendance, and read the Land Acknowledgement Statement.

### ADOPTION OF AGENDA

#### **MOTION #BD 120/23**

**Moved Steve Herold  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the December 14, 2023 Board of Directors Meeting be approved as amended.”**

**Carried.**

### DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None.

### DISCLOSURE OF INTENTION TO RECORD

None.

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**MOTION #BD 121/23**

**Moved by Dave Marsh  
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on November 16, 2023 be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

Risk Management Official Servicing Agreement Update

Geoff Cade, Water and Planning Manager, provided a verbal update that the Risk Management Servicing Agreement for the continued implementation of the Drinking Water Source Protection Plans has been signed by all participating municipalities. This Agreement will remain in place for three years.

Investment Policy Statement

As requested by the Board of Directors, Brian Horner, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer, provided a report regarding the Investment Policy Statement and Discretionary Management Account Agreement that was signed in 2016 between the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority (ABCA) and Adam Skillen of Raymond James. The Board asked staff to work with Adam to make an addition to the policy regarding investment in ethical and environmental companies. As such, Adam suggested the attached wording under Unique Circumstances, which includes the ABCA’s mission and vision, noting that it should be included in the investment decisions made within the portfolio.

**MOTION #BD 122/23**

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins  
Seconded by Greg Lamport**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the additional wording, as presented, be included in the Investment Policy Statement & Discretionary Management Account Agreement.”**

**Carried.**

Vote on 2024 Proposed Operating Levies (Categories 1 and 3), and Budget

Brian Horner reviewed the operating levies for both Category 1 and 3 programs and services, and advised that approval is by weighted vote.

2024 Proposed Operating Levies Vote

**MOTION #BD 123/23**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the 2023 Operating Levy for Category 1 be approved at \$1,276,648.”**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Adelaide Metcalfe	✓		
Bluewater	✓		
Central Huron	✓		
Huron East	✓		
Lambton Shores	✓		
Lucan Biddulph	✓		
Middlesex Centre	✓		
North Middlesex	✓		
Perth South	✓		
South Huron	✓		
Warwick	✓		
West Perth	✓		

**“The result was Yea 100% based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.”**

**Carried.**

**MOTION #BD 124/23**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the 2023 Operating Levy for Category 3 be approved at \$163,974.”**

	<u>Yea</u>	<u>Nay</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Adelaide Metcalfe	✓		
Bluewater	✓		
Central Huron	✓		
Huron East	✓		
Lambton Shores	✓		
Lucan Biddulph	✓		
Middlesex Centre	✓		
North Middlesex	✓		
Perth South	✓		
South Huron	✓		
Warwick	✓		
West Perth	✓		

**“The result was Yea 100% based on the current value assessment apportionment schedule.”**

**Carried.**

It was recognized by the Board that Perth South did not sign the Category 3 Agreement.

2024 Proposed Budget

**MOTION #BD 125/23**

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins  
Seconded by Wayne Shipley**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the proposed 2024 overall budget be approved.”**

**Carried.**

PROGRAM REPORTS

1. (a) Development Review

Daniel King, Regulations Coordinator, presented the Development Review report pursuant to Ontario Regulation 147/06 *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alterations to Shorelines and Watercourses*. Through the application process, proposed developments within regulated areas are protected from flooding and erosion hazards. Staff granted permission for 8 *Applications for Permission* and 6 *Minor Works Applications*.

(b) Violations/Appeals Update

Geoff Cade, Water and Planning Manager, verbally reported that staff are in negotiations with some landowners in Lambton Shores and Bluewater in an effort to resolve ongoing violations. Staff were asked about the recent news release in partnership with Maitland Valley Conservation, regarding unsafe bluff. Geoff noted that this was released as a public service that this can be a dangerous time along bluffs, but we haven't recently experienced any catastrophic erosion.

**MOTION #BD 126/23**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand  
Seconded by Greg Lamport**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors affirm the approval of applications as presented in Program Report # 1 – a) Development Review and receive the verbal Violations and Appeals update as presented.”**

**Carried.**

2. Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Implementation Programs

Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator, presented an update on the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy (WBRMS), which is a mandatory programs in the Conservation Authorities Act. It will guide the management and operations of the ABCA. The programs, policies, and services

of the ABCA will implement the actions needed to achieve the ABCA's mission. All programs listed in the WBRMS have been identified in the Inventory of Programs and Services. No new programs have been recommended, but improvements have been identified. Programs include Corporate Services, Conservation Authority Lands, Drinking Water Source Protection, Education and Outreach, Healthy Watersheds, Water and Planning (Natural Hazards), Watershed Stewardship and Restoration.

In addition, a review of Category 1 programs and services was undertaken by senior staff at the ABCA, as a required component of the WBRMS. This review used the Inventory of Programs and Services and determined if the program meets the requirements of the Conservation Authorities Act, identified issues and risks that limit program effectiveness, note actions to address the issues and risks, and estimate costs to implement the actions. Some of the issues identified included aging infrastructure that will need major maintenance or repairs, additional stream gauges and a new hydrology model to aid in flood forecasting, community based subwatershed plans to address local environmental issues, additional funding for water quality monitoring where investigations are needed for specific issues, and additional funding to restrict prohibited uses on conservation lands through signage and enforcement. Funding is a common concern across all programs.

**MOTION #BD 127/23**

**Moved by Wayne Shipley  
Seconded by Greg Lamport**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Board of Directors receives the Category 1 Review results for information, and**

**“FURTHER, THAT the Board of directors approves the list of programs for distribution to the public for consultation.”**

**Carried.**

**3. Stewardship Update**

Angela Van Niekerk, Wetlands Specialist, provided an overview of the types of stewardship projects that ABCA staff help local landowners implement on their properties. She also went over the various funding programs and the projects implemented through them. Through the Ontario Community Environment Fund 21 wetland restoration projects and 24 fragile land retirement projects were funded. Through the Wetlands Conservation Partner Program, 16 wetlands and 9 fragile land retirement projects were funded. The Canada Nature Fund helped landowners implement 7 wetlands, two erosion control projects, 7 fragile land retirement projects, and 58 cover crop projects. Nature Smart Climate Solutions helped to fund 7 wetlands, 15 fragile land retirement projects, and 9 cover crop projects.

**MOTION #BD 128/23**

**Moved by Steve Herold  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Stewardship Reports be received as presented for information.”**

**Carried.**

**4. Tree Planting Program – 2023 Summary**

Ian Jean, Forestry and Land Stewardship Specialist, provided a summary report of the tree planting program for 2023. Tree planting programs occur in spring and fall, with the spring program typically being larger. ABCA also provides technical advice to landowners. The program operates on a cost recovery bases and is supported through technical service fees and tree sales. Project cost share funding is also available to landowners through the Huron Clean Water Project, and West Perth Healthy Forests Initiative, the Ontario Community Environmental Fund, the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks, as well as federal programs through Forests Ontario, Canada Nature Fund, and the Canadian Agricultural Partnership and EcoAction. In total, 42,770 trees were planted through the ABCA program, and 246 landowners participated. Types of projects include windbreaks, riparian buffers and forest restoration.

**MOTION #BD 129/23**

**Moved by Wayne Shipley  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Tree Planting Program – 2023 Summary be received as presented for information.”**

**Carried.**

**5. Conservation Education Update**

Cassie Greidanus, Conservation Education Coordinator, provided the Board with a summary for 2023. This was a transition year for the education department at ABCA and several staff members stepped up to help while the transition occurred. In 2023, ABCA staff delivered 31 non-profit programs, which are funded by the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation. Three special events have also been held since the summer, including a World Water Monitoring event, Owl Prowl and Make Peace with Winter. School programming was very high this year with 205 programs delivered in total, many of which were school yard programs. It is estimated that 6,476 students will have been reached by the end of 2023. In addition, five weeks of day camp were held at Morrison Dam Conservation Area.

Over the next year, conservation education staff will be working on program updates, including adding in more aspects of Indigenous Knowledge and connections to mental health and wellbeing. Staff will also be streamlining the booking and feedback process, offer four weeks of day camp, run the River Safety program, and host Envirothon for Huron Perth region.

**MOTION #BD 130/23**

**Moved by Dave Marsh  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT Conservation Education Summary Report be received as presented for information.”**

**Carried.**

**6. GNSS Purchase**

Tracey McPherson, GIS/IT Coordinator, reported that ABCA recently purchased a new survey grade GNSS/GPS unit with topped-up funding from Canada Nature Fund. This will be used to perform post-constructed surveys on wetlands to verify contractor design specification and to provide accurate storage calculations to determine the effectiveness of the design. Quotations were received for this unit, and staff purchased this new system for \$9,400 plus tax. This purchase was not identified in the budget.

**MOTION #BD 131/23**

**Moved by Jaden Hodgins  
Seconded by Greg Lamport**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the GNSS purchase report be received as presented for information.”**

**Carried.**

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**MOTION #BD 132/23**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand  
Seconded by Steve Herold**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Friends of the South Huron Trail meeting held on November 6, 2023 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

**MOTION #BD 133/23**

**Moved by Greg Lamport  
Seconded by Adrian Cornelissen**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation meeting held on November 29, 2023 and the motions therein be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

**CORRESPONDANCE**

- a) Reference: DWSP Program – 2024-2027 Call for Applications  
File: A.5.8  
Brief: An email from the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks announcing a call for applications to source protection authorities for the upcoming three-year period from

April 1, 2024 to March 31, 2027. This is the first time they have offered a three year work planning process.

NEW BUSINESS

1. Greg Lamport reported that the Turnbull's Grove community along the lake has applied to the Green Municipal Fund for a new, large septic system. He would like to thank Mari for her report on water quality, which highlights the importance of having these older systems replaced.
2. Brian Horner informed the Board of Directors that the Warner Property in Grand Bend has now been fully transferred to the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation, who is holding it in trust for the Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy. It was transferred to the Foundation as it applied for EcoGift status, meaning that it can only be transferred to an organization that holds charitable status.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:11 p.m.

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Marissa Vaughan  
Chair

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Abigail Gutteridge  
Corporate Services Coordinator

*Copies of program reports are available upon request.  
Contact Abigail Gutteridge, Corporate Services Coordinator*

# ***ABCA Program Report***

**To:** Board of Directors  
**Date:** February 15, 2024  
**From:** Daniel King, Water Resources Engineer  
**Subject:** Applications for Permission - Ontario Regulation 147/06 - *Development, Interference with Wetlands and Alteration to Shorelines and Watercourses*

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The following *Applications for Permission* have been issued by staff since the last Board of Directors Meeting.

\* A Coastal Assessment was required as part of the application

\*\* Work commenced without a permit

## **Major Permits**

- (1) PERMIT # 2022-83A (Renewal)  
NAME: Greg Dalgity  
MUNICIPALITY: Lambton Shores (Bosanquet)  
PERMISSION TO: develop multiple residential building lots  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: November 7, 2023  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
  
- (2) PERMIT # 2023-71  
NAME: County of Middlesex  
MUNICIPALITY: North Middlesex (East Williams)  
PERMISSION TO: undertake maintenance and partial replacement of bridge structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 18, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 6, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 35  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
  
- (3) PERMIT # 2023-74  
NAME: John and Donna Stollery  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a replacement residence and on site sewage system  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 15, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 19, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 4  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell

- (4) PERMIT # 2023-77  
NAME: Jeff Kints  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Hay)  
PERMISSION TO: reconstruct a residence with new septic system  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 19, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 2  
STAFF NAME: Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk
- (5) \*PERMIT # 2023-72A  
NAME: Karl-Helmut Memmel  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: install steel shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 31, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 36  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (6) \*PERMIT # 2023-72B  
NAME: Ingrid Sweeney  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: install steel shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 31, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 36  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (7) \*PERMIT # 2023-72C  
NAME: Nancy Pascua  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: install steel shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 31, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 36  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (8) \*PERMIT # 2023-72D  
NAME: David J Kee  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: install steel shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 31, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023

- NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 36  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (9) \*PERMIT # 2023-72E  
NAME: Janet Short  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)  
PERMISSION TO: install steel shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: October 31, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 36  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (10) \*PERMIT # 2023-73  
NAME: Barbara Carter  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Hay)  
PERMISSION TO: install a 4' overtopping shorewall structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 11, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 21, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 8  
STAFF NAME: Daniel King
- (11) PERMIT # 2024-01  
NAME: Mike Bast & Jodi Simons  
MUNICIPALITY: Lucan Biddulph (Biddulph)  
PERMISSION TO: construct and addition to existing house and garage  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 14, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 4, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 13  
STAFF NAME: Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk
- (12) PERMIT # 2023-75  
NAME: Estate of A. Charles Perego  
MUNICIPALITY: Lambton Shores (Bosanquet)  
PERMISSION TO: renovate a residential structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 19, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 9, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 12  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (13) PERMIT # 2023-79  
NAME: David Nelms  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley)

- PERMISSION TO: repair an existing steel groyne structure  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 21, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 10, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 13  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (14) PERMIT # 2023-78  
NAME: Chris Maloney  
MUNICIPALITY: Huron East (Tuckersmith)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a residential building addition  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 20, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 11, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 13  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (15) PERMIT # 2023-76  
NAME: Shannon Rice and Chris Fernandes  
MUNICIPALITY: North Middlesex (McGillivray)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a new residence and on site sewage system  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: November 15, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 18, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 40  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (16) PERMIT # 2023-81  
NAME: Mark Osment  
MUNICIPALITY: Lambton Shores (Bosanquet)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a detached shed  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: January 9, 2024  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 22, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 9  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (17) PERMIT # 2023-03A (Renewal)  
NAME: Bonnie & Greg Sadler  
MUNICIPALITY: Municipality of Lambton Shores  
PERMISSION TO: construct new dwelling  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 30, 2024  
STAFF NAME: Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk
- (18) PERMIT # 2023-04A (Renewal)  
NAME: Bonnie & Greg Sadler  
MUNICIPALITY: Municipality of Lambton Shores

PERMISSION TO: construct new dwelling

PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE:

January 30, 2024

STAFF NAME:

Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk

(19) PERMIT # 2023-80

NAME: Municipality of Bluewater

MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Bayfield)

PERMISSION TO: install armour stone shore protection

COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE:

December 13, 2023

PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE:

January 31, 2024

NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW:

32

STAFF NAME:

Andrew Bicknell

## Minor Permits

- (1) PERMIT # MW2023-82  
NAME: Brian & Anne Jonas  
MUNICIPALITY: Central Huron (Pine Lake Campground)  
PERMISSION TO: replace trailer and deck  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 18, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 3  
STAFF NAME: Meghan Tydd-Hrynyk
- (2) PERMIT # MW2023-79  
NAME: Carol Polcz  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Hay)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a replacement attached sun porch  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: November 15, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 7, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 16  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (3) PERMIT # MW2023-50  
NAME: BM Ross and Associates Ltd.  
MUNICIPALITY: Lambton Shores (Bosanquet)  
PERMISSION TO: install drainage works  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 6, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: December 20, 2023  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 10  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (4) \*\*PERMIT # MW2023-84  
NAME: Geoffrey Ash  
MUNICIPALITY: South Huron (Stephen)  
PERMISSION TO: construct an attached deck onto an existing residence  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 21, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 10, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 11  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell
- (5) \*\*PERMIT # MW2024-01  
NAME: Jason Harburn  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Hay)  
PERMISSION TO: construct an attached deck onto an existing residence  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: January 5, 2024

PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 17, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 8  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell

(6) PERMIT # MW2023-85 A through D  
NAME: Eastlink (Kenneth Stronach)  
MUNICIPALITY: Bluewater (Stanley); Central Huron (Goderich)  
PERMISSION TO: install watercourse crossings with communications utility – multiple locations  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: November 28, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 25, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 57  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell

(7) PERMIT # MW2023-83  
NAME: Marian Wyrzykowski  
MUNICIPALITY: Lambton Shores (Bosanquet)  
PERMISSION TO: construct a residential building addition  
COMPLETED APPLICATION RECEIVED ON DATE: December 13, 2023  
PERMISSION GRANTED BY STAFF DATE: January 31, 2024  
NUMBER OF BUSINESS DAYS TO REVIEW: 29  
STAFF NAME: Andrew Bicknell

# *ABCA Program Report*

**To:** Board of Directors  
**Date:** February 15, 2024  
**From:** Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator  
**Subject:** Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy – Consolidated Document

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The Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy is an overarching document for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority and is a requirement of the *Conservation Authorities Act*. During 2023, the board approved sections of this document for distribution for public comment. The consultation did not result in any changes to the information presented to the board.

This board report includes the main sections of the WBRMS: vision and mission statements, strategic priorities, guiding principles, objectives, strategy implementation. You are welcome to review the complete document if you wish.

The main body of the document is less than 40 pages. Supporting information is included in the appendices (50 pages). Rather than including all watershed information in a single document, the WBRMS contains links and references to other documents which have more detailed information. The ABCA is fortunate to have recent watershed conditions information from the Watershed Report Cards and Drinking Water Source Protection Watershed Characterization Report, and research projects. Staff can also access watershed maps and information through Geographic Information Systems (GIS) which means the document doesn't need to include a large number of maps.

It is proposed that the WBRMS be in effect for the period of 2024-2042 and will be reviewed and updated in conjunction with the renewal of the Cost Apportioning Agreements. It is recognized that changes in legislation may also result in a need to update the strategy.

## **Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy Table of Contents**

1. Introduction and Framework
  2. Indigenous Peoples and First Nations Communities
  3. ABCA Mandate and Priorities
  4. Integrated Watershed Management
  5. Watershed Conditions
  6. Category 1 Program Review
  7. Strategy Implementation
- Appendices

1. Legislation
2. Watershed Conditions
3. Summary of Studies, Reports and Strategies
4. 2023 Inventory of Programs and Services

## Vision and Mission

The vision and mission statements were developed by a diverse group of 34 community members who created *The Path Forward: Your Community Conservation Strategy for Ausable Bayfield Watersheds (2012)*. These statements are still valid.

Mission: Protect, improve, conserve, and restore the watershed in partnership with the community.

Vision: Healthy watersheds where human needs and the needs of the natural environment are in balance.

## Strategic Priorities

Conservation is a shared responsibility and the ABCA has four strategic priorities for watershed management.

- Protecting life and minimizing property damage from flooding and erosion.
- Improving the health of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority watersheds.
- Managing land holdings in a responsible and sustainable way.
- Protecting sources of drinking water for current and future generations.

## Guiding Principles

Guiding principles and objectives inform the design and delivery of the Conservation Authority's programs and services. Guiding principles are intended to be high-level strategic principles or values which establish the fundamental approach to driving decision-making for the Authority. These principles provide the context for the objectives.

1. The conservation, restoration, development, and management of natural resources is best implemented on a watershed basis.
2. The Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy provides the necessary framework for identifying and assessing resource conditions, trends, risks, and issues and implementing the delivery of programs to manage them.
3. The Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy informs policy and decision-making by the Conservation Authority, participating municipalities, and other partners.
4. Integrated watershed management is a shared responsibility among Conservation Authorities, municipalities, government agencies and citizens.

5. Integrated watershed management recognizes the cumulative impacts of land use. Actions on the land impact the health and sustainability of natural resources and downstream communities.
6. Integrated watershed management supports sustainable communities by integrating the environment, economy and society issues including health, safety, and sustainability.
7. Resource management decisions are integrated and transparent and take into consideration a broad range of community uses, needs, and values, including ecosystem needs.
8. Water and other natural resources are vital natural assets. They buffer the impacts of climate change, mitigate natural hazards, filter contaminants, assimilate waste, sustain biodiversity, and provide green spaces for recreation, among other community benefits.
9. Climate change has and will continue to have an impact on all aspects of watershed management including floodplain and shoreline management, water quality, aquatic and terrestrial species, development, and human health.
10. Indigenous communities have a unique relationship with the land and its resources. The ABCA recognizes the importance of consulting with Indigenous communities on watershed management initiatives that may affect their Section 35 Aboriginal or treaty rights.

## Objectives

The ABCA promotes an integrated watershed management approach to managing the watersheds based on the cause-effect relationship between human activities and the healthy state of the environment. Climate change effects all objectives.

1. Develop and maintain programs that will protect life and property from natural hazards such as flooding and erosion.
2. Ensure rivers, lakes and streams are responsibly managed and restored.
3. Preserve, protect, and enhance the ecological integrity of the watersheds.
4. Provide opportunities for the public to learn from, enjoy, and respect the watersheds.
5. Build community partnerships and engagement at all levels.
6. Demonstrate organizational excellence and sustainability.
7. Mitigate the potential risk to drinking water sources to assist in providing a sustainable and clean water supply for communities and ecosystems.
8. Implement land protection through land acquisition and sound management of lands owned and managed by the ABCA.

## Strategy Implementation

The strategy will be implemented through programs that have been identified in the 2023 ABCA Inventory of Programs and Services which was approved by the Board of Directors.

Program areas have teams of staff and resources to implement the programs and services. Integrated watershed management requires a coordinated approach and linkages between program areas. The new watershed strategy does not change the current ABCA program areas or staff structure. The following are the seven program areas, in alphabetical order.

- Corporate Services
- Conservation Lands
- Drinking Water Source Protection
- Education and Outreach
- Healthy Watersheds
- Water and Planning
- Watershed Stewardship, Restoration and Forestry

### Next steps

Upon approval by the Board of Directors, the document will be provided to Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation (CKSPFN) for their comments. This is not a regulatory “Duty to Consult” process but CKSPFN will be given the opportunity to provide comments if they wish. A report will be brought back to the board prior to the board’s final approval of the Strategy.

### Recommendation

“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive and approve the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy for the purposes of distribution to Chippewas of Kettle and Stoney Point First Nation (CKSPFN) for comment.

# ABCA Program Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**Date:** February 15, 2024  
**From:** Kate Monk, Projects Coordinator  
Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship and Conservation Lands Manager  
**Subject:** Conservation Lands Strategy

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The Conservation Authorities Act Update included new requirements for conservation authority properties including a conservation lands strategy and inventory of properties. These projects are to be completed by December 31, 2024. The Act calls the document a conservation *area* strategy, but all parcels owned and managed by the ABCA need to be included in the strategy, not only the properties identified as conservation areas (e.g. Morrison Dam Conservation Area).

The Conservation Lands Strategy will be an overarching document with sections on the various properties. The goals, objectives and land use recommendations will be consistent with the Watershed-Based Resource Management Strategy. Ontario Regulation 686/21 has requirements for the strategy but there is flexibility in how the requirements are achieved. Conservation Ontario has provided a guidance document and ABCA staff have participated in webinars. The board of directors approved the framework on September 15, 2022.

Please visit <https://www.abca.ca/recreation/> for information on ABCA properties and permitted uses.

## Significant Issues

Objectives and management plans strive to address significant issues. Issues on ABCA properties may be short-term and easily addressed, or long-term and a result of factors beyond the control of the ABCA. The following significant, long-term issues impact the health of the watershed, and the ability to provide areas for people to experience nature: threats to ecosystem health, funding, visitor use and climate change.

## Management Goals and Objectives

These goals and objectives define the overall approach to managing CA lands.

### **Conservation Lands Use**

**Goal:** To integrate ABCA properties as part of a sustainable watershed by planning for future development and achieving a balance between the demand for public use and need for protecting ecological function.

### **Objectives:**

1. To balance public use, and environmental protection through designation of categorization of properties and land use.
2. To consider the CA landholdings as a unit through this Conservation Lands Strategy.

3. To maintain property standards.
4. To augment and link to municipal greenspaces and nature-based recreation areas where appropriate.

### **Watershed Management**

**Goal:** To help fulfill ABCA goals and objectives for effective watershed management.

#### **Objectives**

1. To use CA lands to help implement recommendations of strategic plans (Conservation Strategy, Watershed Strategy).
2. To use CA landholdings for ABCA programs and services including education and outreach, flood control structures, stream gauges, demonstration sites, monitoring and research.
3. To contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.
4. To protect priority areas including Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs) Environmentally Significant Areas (ESAs), valley lands, wellhead protection areas, groundwater recharge, subwatersheds with cold water streams, and species at risk habitat.

### **Natural Hazards Management**

**Goal:** To protect life and property from natural hazards.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To keep facilities and amenities away from areas prone to flooding and erosion.
2. To protect and restore ecological function on the properties: to provide areas for water retention and attenuation, to mitigate the impacts of natural hazards within the watershed.

### **Terrestrial Resources**

**Goal:** to protect, restore and enhance the natural ecosystems and to ensure the health and diversity of native species, habitats, landscapes and ecological functions.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To restore and naturalize disturbed and degraded areas.
2. To maximize linkages and connectivity of the ecological features to one another and adjacent lands.
3. To establish and manage natural ecosystems on the properties.
4. To protect the health and biodiversity of native species.
5. To augment natural heritage features within ABCA's area of jurisdiction.

### **Aquatic Resources**

**Goal:** To protect and enhance the form and function of the aquatic system.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To protect aquatic resources by mitigating downstream erosion, and improving water quality, by protecting and restoring the properties to provide appropriate areas for water retention, attenuation, and infiltration.
2. To protect, restore and enhance the health and diversity of native aquatic habitats, communities and species.
3. To protect and restore surface water quality, with respect to toxic contaminants and other pollutants.
4. To provide for sustainable fishing opportunities and the safe consumption of fish.
5. To protect groundwater recharge and discharge.
6. To maintain natural hydrologic connections to the floodplain and in doing so eliminate or minimize risks to human life and property.

### **Stewardship**

**Goal:** To implement stewardship practices to improve the environment that are consistent with practices recommended to landowners for their properties.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To implement projects and practices to protect, conserve and regenerate ABCA properties.
2. To implement nature-based solutions for climate change mitigation and adaptation.
3. To provide information on stewardship practices undertaken on the properties to the public.
4. To undertake sound forest management practices.
5. To demonstrate conservation farming practices.

### **Nature-Based Public Use**

**Goal:** To encourage healthy living and provide opportunities for appropriate and accessible nature-based recreation by providing safe, enjoyable and sustainable trail experiences.

#### **Objectives:**

1. To focus public access and use on passive outdoor recreation with development limited to appropriate areas.
2. To provide access to diverse landscapes, places, wildlife habitats, programs and experiences.
3. Plan and manage outdoor nature-based recreation facilities in a manner that integrates ecological health and societal benefits.
4. To use principles of ecological integrity (having regard for all of a system's components, functions and linkages when planning trails).
5. To develop and enhance the trails systems to integrate with other provincially or municipally owned lands or other publicly accessible lands and trails within the authority's area of jurisdiction.

### **Conservation Education and Community Outreach**

Goal: To promote knowledge and understanding of the ecological values of the land and water, their protection and management requirements, as well as their significance, sensitivities, and interrelationships within the conservation lands and with surrounding areas.

Objectives:

1. To provide passive learning opportunities about the natural environment and sound conservation land management practices.
2. To foster outdoor educational learning.
3. To provide information on stewardship projects undertaken on ABCA lands.
4. To communicate with neighbouring landowners regarding access, encroachment, and the impact of their practices on ABCA lands.

**Cultural Heritage Resources**

Goal: To celebrate the diverse cultural heritage of the ABCA region and CA lands by protecting, conserving and interpreting archaeological and historic resources.

Objectives:

1. To protect and conserve archaeological sites and cultural landscapes.
2. To promote the cultural heritage features.

**Financial Management**

Goal: To manage conservation authority properties in a financially sustainable manner with a variety of funding mechanisms.

Objectives:

1. To generate revenue from user fees and product sales in a sustainable manner to offset the costs of maintenance, property taxes and restoration activities. The goal of forest management activities is to improve forest health, but activities may result in revenue that can be used for land management activities and expenses.
2. To apply for funding as required for projects and programs.
3. To collaborate with service clubs and volunteers to reduce the cost of property maintenance and raise funds while providing opportunities for citizens to use their skills and passion for conservation.

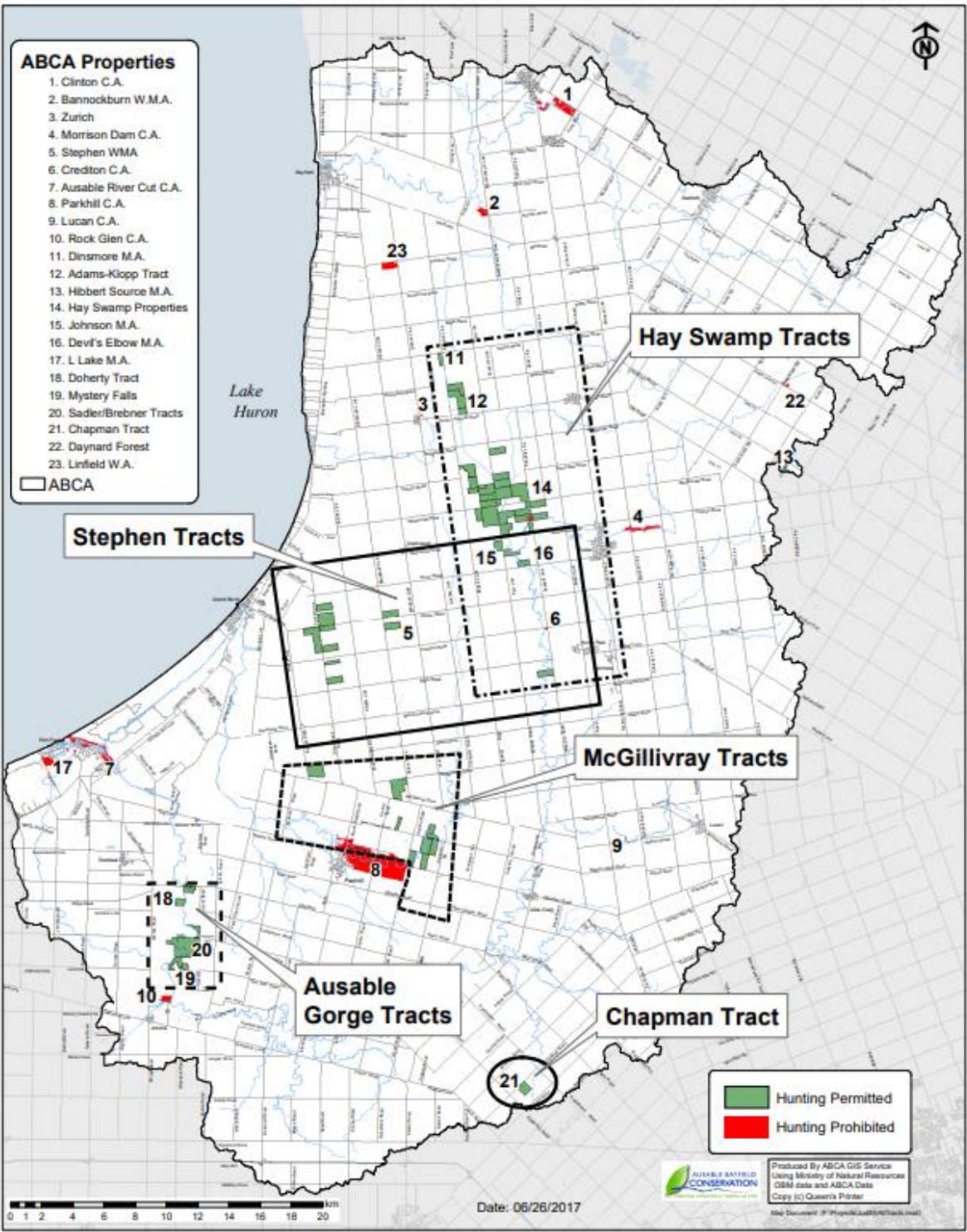
**Property Management Plans Contents**

The management plans for individual properties or groups of properties include the following sections:

1. Location information, purpose, goals, objectives
2. Environmental features
3. Strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, threats
4. Visitor Use
5. Property uses and plan implementation.

**Recommendation**

That the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Board of Directors receive the report on the ABCA Conservation Lands Strategy and approve the goals and objectives.



# ABCA Program Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Ian Jean, Forestry and Land Stewardship Specialist; Brooklyn Rau, Stewardship Technician; Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship and Lands Manager  
**Re:** Canada Nature Fund Projects (CNF)  
Restoration and mitigation for Ausable River Species at Risk (SAR) in Ontario  
**Date:** February 15, 2024

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## Background

The draft Ausable River Recovery Action Plan (2018) has reconfirmed that the two main threats to aquatic species at risk (SAR) in the Ausable River are nutrient enrichment and sediment deposition. The primary goal of this multi-year project is to improve aquatic habitat in the Ausable River and Bayfield River for SAR freshwater mussels and fishes.

Fisheries and Oceans Canada (DFO) is providing \$373,000 in funding for the 2023-2024 project year. Stewardship activities will include working with watershed residents for up to seven wetland restorations; up to 17 tree planting sites; up to 1,200 acres of cover crops; and up to five sediment and nutrient reduction activities (fencing out livestock and WASCOS). As well as monitoring SAR fish and the SAR mussel fish hosts at six long term index stations and education and outreach in the Ausable and Bayfield River watersheds. See below for Funding Breakdown by Activity.

Stewardship Project Funding	\$132,485
Stewardship Program Delivery	\$95,000
Environmental Monitoring	145,515
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$373,000</b>

## CANADA NATURE FUND: YEAR to DATE SUMMARY (April 2023- March 31, 2024)

Project Type	Available Funding	Approved Projects	Approved Funding	Remaining Funds
Wetland Restoration	\$23,000	7 wetlands	\$23,000	0
Sediment & Nutrient Reduction Activities	\$22,000	2 projects	\$4,000	18,000
Fragile Land Retirement	\$36,185	12	\$35,964	\$221
Cover Crops	\$51,300	58	\$44,985	\$6,315
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$132,485</b>	<b>79</b>	<b>\$107,949</b>	<b>\$24,536</b>

Funding rate is up to 50% of project costs. However, where projects meet the eligibility requirements of both programs the federal and provincial funding can be stacked to recover up to 100% of project costs.

Below is a summary of new projects approved by ABCA staff since the last Stewardship Report.

**Applications for funding: WETLAND RESTORATION**

The following applications for funding have been received and approved by ABCA staff since September Stewardship report.

CANADA NATURE FUND				
File #	Name	Location	Details	Grant

**Total Canada Nature Fund: \$23,000 of \$23,000 approved (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)**

**Applications for funding: SEDIMENT AND NUTRIENT REDUCTION ACTIVITES**

The following applications for funding have been received and approved by ABCA staff since September Stewardship report.

CANADA NATURE FUND				
File #	Name	Location	Details	Grant

**Total Canada Nature Fund: \$4,000 of \$22,000 approved (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)**

**Applications for funding: FRAGILE LAND RETIREMENT (Tree Planting)**

The following applications for funding have been received and approved by ABCA staff since the December stewardship report.

CANADA NATURE FUND				
File #	Name	Location	Details	Grant
AB-3536	Heather Lewis	CON 10 LOT 4, E Williams, North Middlesex	Establish two row windbreak corridor connecting woodlot to watercourse tributary of Ausable River. Length 200m. Proposal to plant 80 spruce, 2 ft trees. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1274  Matching funds secured from Middlesex Stewardship
AB-3537	Barry, Mary	CON 5 LOT 27 PT LOT 26, Hibbert, West Perth	Establish windbreaks between cropped fields. Length 800m. Proposal to plant 350 spruce and cedar, 2 ft trees. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$5000  Applied for Matching funds from Perth County Stewardship Program

**Total: \$6,274 at this review meeting / \$35,964 of \$36,185 approved for term.**

**Applications for funding: COVER CROPS**

The following applications for funding have been received and approved by ABCA staff.

<b>CANADA NATURE FUND</b>				
<b>File #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Grant</b>

**Total Canada Nature Fund: \$ 44,985 of \$51,300 approved (Fisheries and Oceans Canada)**

# ABCA Program Report

**To:** Board of Directors  
**From:** Ian Jean, Brooklyn Rau and Nathan Schoelier  
**Re:** Nature Smart Climate Solutions. A partnership of Environment and Climate Change Canada and Conservation Ontario  
**Date:** February 15, 2024

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## Background

Ausable Bayfield CA is one of 18 conservation authorities delivering projects for Conservation Ontario's Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund for Place-based Actions. Funding is from Environment and Climate Change Canada with administration provided by Conservation Ontario.

Projects take place on conservation authority-owned or managed lands as well as on private lands and requires long-term agreements, ensuring lasting benefits. The Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund is providing \$100,000 in funding for the 2023-2024 project year. \$30,000 is to support project delivery (ABCA staff time for landowner outreach and project coordination) and \$70,000 for project implementation.

Eligible Projects include wetland restoration, treed buffers, and cover crops.

Project type	Grant rate	Total Funds
Wetland Restoration	50%	\$20,000
Fragile Land Retirement	50%	\$50,000
Project Delivery	-	\$30,000

## NATURE SMART CLIMATE SOLUTIONS ENVIRONMENT CANADA AND CLIMATE CHANGE (ECCC) Fund: YEAR to DATE SUMMARY (April 2023- March 2024)

Project Type	Available Funding	Approved Projects	Approved Funding	Remaining Funds
Wetland Restoration	\$20,000	7 wetlands (5 sites)	\$20,000	0
Fragile Land Retirement	\$50,000	28	\$44,785	\$5,215
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$70,000</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>\$64,785</b>	<b>\$5,215</b>

The following pages provide a summary of new projects approved by ABCA staff since the last Stewardship Report.

### Applications for funding: **WETLAND RESTORATION**

Reviewed previously; none at this meeting.

**Applications for funding: FRAGILE LAND RETIREMENT (Tree Planting)**

The following applications for funding have been received and approved by ABCA staff since the December meeting. (Note: several projects were reviewed previously in September and December)

<b>Nature Smart Climate Solutions</b>				
<b>File #</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Details</b>	<b>Grant</b>
AB-3529	James Eddington	CON LRW PT LOT 22 Hay, Municipality of Bluewater	Establish treed buffer around restored wetland and watercourse. A variety of trees and shrubs proposed, 217 total. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$3,548.50  Matching funds from Huron Clean Water Project
AB-3532	Hugh Ryan	CON S BDY W PT LOT 21, Stephen, South Huron	Plant trees on erosion prone slope. A variety of trees and shrubs proposed, 550 total. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1105  Matching funds from Huron Clean Water Project
AB-3539	Ruth Adams	CON 19 PT LOT 3, East Williams, North Middlesex	Plant trees and shrubs to prevent bank erosion and establish buffer adjacent Nairn Creek. 75 trees and shrubs. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$942.50  Matching funds from Ministry of Environment, Climate Change and Parks (MECP)
AB-3540	Paul Alexander	CON 2 PT LOT 26, Hay Bluewater	Plant 100 cedar trees to infill buffer adjacent Forrest-Thompson drain. Mowed ROW available for cleanout. 100 trees, 2 ft stock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1400  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3541	Christine Brown	CON 8 ECR PT LOT 27 McGillivray, North Middlesex	Landowner to plant 200 seedlings to infill an ongoing forest restoration project in Ausable River valley.	\$256  Matching funds from landowner.
AB-3542	Carmen Brecklemans	CON 8 W PT LOT 1 East Williams, North Middlesex	Plant trees to enhance buffer along Ausable River. 250 seedlings. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1000  Matching funds from MECP

AB-3543	Paul Dietrich	CON NB PT LOT 11, Biddulph, Lucan Biddulph	Plant trees to establish buffer adjacent Wallis Drain. 110 trees, cedar, maple and oak tallstock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1870  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3544	HTLTC – Warner Nature Preserve	CON LRE PT LOT 4 & 5 Bosanquet, Lambton Shores	Plant 200 trees to infill forest restoration project buffering Parkhill Creek. Students from Grand Bend Public school to plant trees. ABCA to prep site.	\$2000  Matching funds from Sunset Foundation
AB-3545	John Godbolt	CON 4 PT LOT 16 Biddulph, Lucan Biddulph	Enhance buffer planting in Little Ausable River valley. A variety of trees and shrubs totaling 320 seedlings and 20 tallstock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1600  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3546	Neil Payne	CON 18 PT LOT 24, East Williams, North Middlesex	Enhance treed buffer along tributary of Ausable River. A variety of trees and shrubs totaling 315 tallstock and seedlings. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$2600  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3547	Van Loon	CON 3 LOT 21, Hibbert West Perth	Plant trees on steep slope. A variety of trees and shrubs totaling 200 tallstock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$2,685  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3548	Van Loon	CON 5 S PT LOT 1	Plant trees to establish buffer on south side of McGrath Drain, tributary of Bayfield River. 120 spruce trees, 2 ft stock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1776  Matching funds from MECP
AB-3449	Skylar Van Osch	CON 15 LOT 9, McGillivray, North Middlesex	Plant trees to establish buffer around restored wetland. 100 cedar, 2 ft stock. ABCA to provide trees, planting and follow up herbicide. Spring 2024.	\$1430  Matching funds from Middlesex Stewardship

**Total: \$22,213 for this review meeting. \$44,785 of \$50,000 approved for term.**



**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority**  
 71108 Morrison Line, RR 3  
 Exeter, ON NOM 1S5

**Statement of Profit & Loss**  
 January through December  
 (Unaudited) Accrual Basis

Table 1: Consolidated

	2022 Actual Twelve Months	2023				
		Six Months January to June	Six Months July to December	TOTAL		
				Twelve months	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Revenue</b>						
Grant, Provincial/Federal	476,006	176,951	278,191	455,142	373,313	122%
Levy, General	1,119,185	574,681	574,677	1,149,358	1,149,361	100%
Levy, Projects	249,595	126,676	126,671	253,347	253,340	100%
Levy, Special Benefit	82,691	0	84,400	84,400	83,506	101%
Levy, Special Benefit, WECl	5,625	0	0	0	0	0%
Rental	68,909	38,327	29,389	67,715	61,969	109%
Conservation Area User Fees	137,170	39,409	108,396	147,805	110,900	133%
Sales & Service	797,827	507,010	341,801	848,810	714,311	119%
Donations	10,931	170,736	16,164	186,900	1,000	18690%
Interest	44,844	42,253	40,531	82,785	25,000	331%
Partnership Contributions	1,042,467	544,641	855,799	1,400,440	1,039,196	135%
Sundry	880	0	0	0	0	0%
Deferred from Prior Year - Revenue	1,367,944	1,322,720	0	1,322,720	1,355,612	98%
Deferred to Future Year - Expense	(1,322,720)	0	(1,198,470)	(1,198,470)	(769,977)	156%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>4,081,353</b>	<b>3,543,403</b>	<b>1,257,549</b>	<b>4,800,952</b>	<b>4,397,531</b>	<b>109%</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Purchased Services	410,672	251,109	243,897	495,006	448,574	110%
Advertising	7,151	1,772	3,373	5,145	9,021	57%
Memberships, Dues, Licenses	52,542	41,593	20,535	62,128	58,095	107%
Maintenance and Repair	63,128	23,169	11,706	34,875	49,999	70%
Property Taxes	49,294	24,253	27,401	51,655	62,129	83%
Office Operations	115,307	66,901	55,290	122,191	122,396	100%
Rental	12,017	6,273	6,067	12,340	12,039	103%
Training and Development	10,985	6,098	3,847	9,945	19,603	51%
Travel Costs and Accommodations	7,386	6,362	9,420	15,782	12,937	122%
Uniforms	6,242	2,404	3,637	6,041	7,850	77%
Utilities	38,854	21,877	18,834	40,711	39,925	102%
Vehicles and Field Equipment	94,030	49,621	50,640	100,261	97,492	103%
Program	613,431	536,571	270,659	807,230	748,528	108%
Board Of Director's	21,567	12,701	24,218	36,919	26,027	142%
Wages and Benefits	2,679,609	1,327,869	1,419,810	2,747,679	2,707,640	101%
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>4,182,213</b>	<b>2,378,575</b>	<b>2,169,334</b>	<b>4,547,909</b>	<b>4,422,255</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(100,860)</b>	<b>1,164,828</b>	<b>(911,785)</b>	<b>253,043</b>	<b>(24,724)</b>	<b>-1023%</b>
<b>Other Expense (Income)</b>						
Capital	55,787	261,921	21,038	282,959	102,105	277%
Amortization	176,173	84,167	89,118	173,285	160,599	108%
Investment Income - Earned	(131,690)	(56,218)	(131,692)	(187,910)	0	0%
Investment Income - Unearned	747,283	(149,022)	(110,671)	(259,693)	0	0%
From Reserves - Revenue	(208,082)	(81,062)	(123,149)	(204,211)	(162,124)	126%
To Reserves - Expenses	65,233	117,648	44,994	162,642	35,295	461%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>704,704</b>	<b>177,434</b>	<b>(210,362)</b>	<b>(32,929)</b>	<b>135,875</b>	<b>-24%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(805,564)</b>	<b>987,394</b>	<b>(701,423)</b>	<b>285,972</b>	<b>(160,599)</b>	<b>-178%</b>



**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority**  
 71108 Morrison Line, RR 3  
 Exeter, ON NOM 1S5

**Statement of Profit & Loss**  
 January through December  
 (Unaudited) Accrual Basis

Table 2: Drinking Water Source Protection

	2022	2023				
	Actual Twelve Months	Six Months January to June	Six Months July to December	TOTAL		
				Twelve months	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Revenue</b>						
Grant, Provincial/Federal	306,340	0	148,833	148,833	251,504	59%
Interest	2,037	1,494	2,269	3,762	1,000	376%
Deferred from Prior Year - Revenue	47,261	120,595	0	120,595	31,150	387%
Deferred to Future Year - Expense	(120,595)	0	0	0	(15,755)	0%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>235,043</b>	<b>122,089</b>	<b>151,102</b>	<b>273,191</b>	<b>267,899</b>	<b>102%</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Purchased Services	22,373	11,052	10,109	21,161	23,500	90%
Advertising	258	172	31	203	800	0%
Memberships, Dues, Licenses	634	436	76	512	0	0%
Maintenance and Repair	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Property Taxes	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Office Operations	14,938	13,774	2,485	16,260	20,604	79%
Rental	7,461	3,563	3,754	7,317	7,000	105%
Training and Development	41	46	0	46	300	15%
Travel Costs and Accommodations	258	663	1,447	2,110	1,100	192%
Uniforms	86	0	178	178	350	51%
Utilities	1,380	690	690	1,380	1,407	98%
Vehicles and Field Equipment Program	124 165	107 0	276 791	383 791	1,020 50	38% 1582%
Board Of Director's Wages and Benefits	6,399 180,926	4,731 96,277	5,206 116,637	9,937 212,914	13,689 198,079	73% 107%
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>235,043</b>	<b>131,511</b>	<b>141,679</b>	<b>273,191</b>	<b>267,899</b>	<b>102%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,423)</b>	<b>9,423</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
Other Expense (Income)						
From Reserves - Revenue	0	0	0	0	0	0%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>(9,423)</b>	<b>9,423</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0%</b>



**Statement of Profit & Loss**  
January through December

(Unaudited) Accrual Basis

Table 3: ABCA Excluding DWSP

	2022	2023				
	Actual Twelve Months	Six Months January to June	Six Months July to December	TOTAL		
				Twelve months	Budget	% of Budget
<b>Revenue</b>						
Grant, Provincial/Federal	169,667	176,951	129,358	306,309	121,809	251%
Levy, General	1,119,185	574,681	574,677	1,149,358	1,149,361	100%
Levy, Projects	249,595	126,676	126,671	253,347	253,340	100%
Levy, Special Benefit	82,691	0	84,400	84,400	83,506	101%
Levy, Special Benefit, WECl	5,625	0	0	0	0	0%
Rental	68,909	38,327	29,389	67,715	61,969	109%
Conservation Area User Fees	137,170	39,409	108,396	147,805	110,900	133%
Sales & Service	797,827	507,010	341,801	848,810	714,311	119%
Donations	10,931	170,736	16,164	186,900	1,000	18690%
Interest	42,807	40,760	38,263	79,022	24,000	329%
Partnership Contributions	1,042,467	544,641	855,799	1,400,440	1,039,196	135%
Sundry	880	0	0	0	0	0%
Deferred from Prior Year - Revenue	1,320,683	1,202,125	0	1,202,125	1,324,462	91%
Deferred to Future Year - Expense	(1,202,125)	0	(1,198,470)	(1,198,470)	(754,222)	159%
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>3,846,310</b>	<b>3,421,314</b>	<b>1,106,447</b>	<b>4,527,761</b>	<b>4,129,632</b>	<b>110%</b>
<b>Expense</b>						
Purchased Services	388,298	240,057	233,787	473,844	425,074	111%
Advertising	6,893	1,600	3,342	4,942	8,221	60%
Memberships, Dues, Licenses	51,908	41,157	20,459	61,616	58,095	106%
Maintenance and Repair	63,128	23,169	11,706	34,875	49,999	70%
Property Taxes	49,294	24,253	27,401	51,655	62,129	83%
Office Operations	100,369	53,127	52,805	105,932	101,792	104%
Rental	4,556	2,710	2,313	5,023	5,039	100%
Training and Development	10,944	6,052	3,847	9,899	19,303	51%
Travel Costs and Accommodations	7,128	5,699	7,973	13,672	11,837	116%
Uniforms	6,156	2,404	3,459	5,863	7,500	78%
Utilities	37,474	21,187	18,144	39,331	38,518	102%
Vehicles and Field Equipment	93,907	49,514	50,365	99,878	96,472	104%
Program	613,265	536,571	269,868	806,439	748,478	108%
Board Of Director's	15,168	7,970	19,013	26,983	12,338	219%
Wages and Benefits	2,498,683	1,231,592	1,303,173	2,534,765	2,509,561	101%
<b>Total Operating Expense</b>	<b>3,947,171</b>	<b>2,247,063</b>	<b>2,027,655</b>	<b>4,274,718</b>	<b>4,154,356</b>	<b>103%</b>
<b>Net Operating Income</b>	<b>(100,860)</b>	<b>1,174,251</b>	<b>(921,208)</b>	<b>253,043</b>	<b>(24,724)</b>	<b>-1023%</b>
<b>Other Expense (Income)</b>						
Capital	55,787	261,921	21,038	282,959	102,105	277%
Amortization	176,173	84,167	89,118	173,285	160,599	108%
Investment Income - Earned	(131,690)	(56,218)	(131,692)	(187,910)	0	0%
Investment Income - Unearned	747,283	(149,022)	(110,671)	(259,693)	0	0%
From Reserves - Revenue	(208,082)	(81,062)	(123,149)	(204,211)	(162,124)	126%
To Reserves - Expenses	65,233	117,648	44,994	162,642	35,295	461%
<b>Total Other Expense</b>	<b>704,704</b>	<b>177,434</b>	<b>(210,362)</b>	<b>(32,929)</b>	<b>135,875</b>	<b>-24%</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>(805,564)</b>	<b>996,817</b>	<b>(710,846)</b>	<b>285,972</b>	<b>(160,599)</b>	<b>-178%</b>

**SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING MINUTES**

**October 25, 2023**

**Walkerton Clean Water Centre, Walkerton ON**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mary Ellen Foran, Dave Frayne, Paul Heffer, Rowland Howe, Philip Keightley, Matt Pearson, Jennette Walker

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bert Dykstra, John Graham, Doug Hocking, Alyssa Keller, Allan Rothwell, John Thompson

**LIAISONS PRESENT**

Huron Perth Public Health Liaisons – Lori Holmes

Jennifer McKay – Manager, Source Protection Section, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

**DWSP STAFF PRESENT**

Donna Clarkson, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Aaron Clarke, Abigail Gutteridge

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Lauren Turner – Policy Development Intern, MECP

Riel Fournier-Altman – Program & Service Delivery Intern, MECP

Danielle Walker – Source Protection Coordinator, Wellington Region

Sandy Edelsward – Program Coordinator, Drinking Water Testing, Public Health Ontario

Patrick Landry – Huron Perth Public Health

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Matt Pearson called the meeting to order at 10 :45 a.m. and introductions were made for the visitors in attendance.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION #SPC: 2023-10-01**

**Moved by Rowland Howe  
Seconded by Dave Frayne**

**“That the agenda for the October 25, 2023 meeting be approved.”**

**Carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #SPC: 2023-10-02**

**Moved by Mary Ellen Foran  
Seconded by Philip Keightley**

**“THAT the SPC minutes from August 30, 2023 be approved as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES**

None

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. A draft letter from Conservation Ontario to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks regarding stormwater environmental permissions and how it will affect Source Protection.

**CHAIR’S UPDATE**

Chair Matt Pearson thanked the staff from Walkerton Clean Water Centre for the facility tour that they provided prior to the meeting. He noted that the Amendments to the Source Protection Plans were submitted to the Province and that we will now be waiting on approval. He also mentioned the new videos that were created with Philip Keightley and Doug Hocking. Chair Pearson also thanked staff and SPC members for their work on the successful Water Wise Events in partnership with local Lions Clubs and Mid-Huron Beach Lakeshore Association.

**PROGRAM UPATE**

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Co-DWSP Program Supervisor, reported on several Water Wise events to help promote source water protection best practices in the region. Staff made

application to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) for funding to support these events, and funds totaling \$12,000 were approved. These funds will allow up to ten events before March 31, 2024. A recent event was held in Dublin on October 17 in partnership with the Dublin Lions. In total, 43 water samples were returned the night of the event and delivered to Huron Public Health the next morning. Another event is planned in partnership with the Monkton Lions for October 25. Tim Cumming and Mary Lynn MacDonald were asked to present to the provincial Drinking Water Source Protection Communications group about the success of the first two events.

Tim Cumming, Communications Coordinator, has produced several videos, including one to promote participation in Water Wise events. He has also been working with Philip Keightley on a new video called “The Worth of Water,” which highlights how important a clean and reliable source of water is to local businesses and the economy. A third video has been produced featuring Doug Hocking, entitled “Your Well – Your Responsibility,” which will be promoted with Water Wise events.

#### **SECTION 51 AMENDMENT TO REMOVE ZURICH WELLS AND WHPA**

Donna Clarkson, Co-DWSP Program Supervisor, reported on the changes to the Zurich well supply. As the Village of Zurich has switched their municipal drinking water supply to the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply pipeline, their two groundwater wells were decommissioned in October 2023 in compliance with R.R.O. 1190, Reg 903: Wells. The Municipality of Bluewater approved the decommissioning and requested that staff inform the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Water Protection Committee for any action needed. A Section 51 amendment does not require consultation or provincial approval and can be completed relatively quickly, as it is mostly an administrative change. A notice of the amendment needs to be posted online and circulated to implementing bodies as well as the MECP. Landowners with existing Risk Management Plans will be contacted and their plans rescinded. Proposed updates to the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Plan include the removal of technical information on the Zurich municipal well systems, and updates to maps to remove the Zurich WHPA.

**MOTION #SPC: 2023-10-03**

**Moved by Philip Keightley**

**Seconded by Dave Frayne**

**“THAT the Source Protection Committee endorse the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority’s decision to undertake an administrative amendment to**

**the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Plan and associated Assessment Report to remove references to the Zurich municipal well systems.”**

**Carried**

**CENTURY HEIGHTS WHPA UPDATE – SOURCE PROTECTION PLAN AMENDMENT**

Donna Clarkson also reported concerning the updates to the Century Heights wellhead protection areas (WHPA). The Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) drilled a new well at the Century Heights community in Saltford, and Matrix Solution Inc. provided a draft technical report to identify changes to the WHPA. A new groundwater flow model was developed for the new well, which informed the new WHPA delineation. Combining this model with existing aquifer vulnerability mapping determines the draft groundwater vulnerability scoring for each draft WHPA.

Preliminary findings note that, as land use in the WHPA-A is residential, the only anticipated significant threats are septic systems. In WHPAs B and C there are low vulnerability scores, and the only significant threat may be dense non-aqueous phase liquids (DNAPLs). Considering the land use in these areas, such significant threats are not anticipated. Staff believe that no changes are needed to the Source Protection Plan policies. However, there are several proposed updates to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report, including updated mapping and an updated risk assessment and descriptions of the Century Heights water supply system. Staff plan to complete these updates through the Section 34 process, bundled with the changes to the Lucknow system reviewed at the last meeting.

**MOTION #SPC 2023-10-04**

**Moved by Jennette Walker  
Seconded by Rowland Howe**

**“THAT the Source Protection Committee agree that proposed amendments to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report are advisable, and direct staff to proceed with the amendment process.”**

**Carried.**

**LIAISON UPDATES**

Jennifer McKay, Source Protection Section Manager MECP, provided some updates to the SPC. She noted that as there have been a number of staffing changes at the MECP,

they are not currently sending specific liaison officers to SPC meetings, but rather will send whichever staff member currently has the SPC file. The MECP also has a new IT system to help track Section 36 and 34 Amendments, which should help the process go smoothly. They currently have 16 amendments in process. She also noted that they will either be keeping two-year budget agreements, or perhaps move to a three-year agreement. Kirsten Service from the Source Protection Section continues to meet with SPC Chairs and Project Managers, and the new MECP Minister Andrea Khanjin has had a briefing on Source Protection. Finally, the MECP is busy with several regulatory changes regarding Storm Water Management Ponds on private properties, and the registry for Permits to Take Water.

Lori Holmes, Huron Perth Public Health, noted that they have been working with Source Protection staff on the Water Wise events, and trying to address barriers for water sample pick up and drop off. They have also updated their website so the public can see inspection reports.

Danielle Walker, Wellington Source Water Protection, noted that there are several developments in the Minto/Harriston/Palmerston areas, and that they are working on outreach for mandatory septic inspections. In general, they want to increase their education and outreach to the public.

#### **VIDEO RELEASE**

Staff presented an abbreviated version of the new outreach video, “The Worth of Water” featuring SPC Member Philip Keightley.

#### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting may be on January 31, 2024, pending on several items. Location to be determined.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 12:01 p.m.

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Matt Pearson  
Chair

Abigail Gutteridge  
Secretary

**SOURCE PROTECTION COMMITTEE (SPC) MEETING MINUTES**

**January 31, 2024**

**Libro Community Hall, Clinton ON**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mary Ellen Foran, Dave Frayne, Paul Heffer, Doug Hocking, Rowland Howe, Philip Keightley, Alyssa Keller, Matt Pearson, Allan Rothwell, John Thompson, Jennette Walker

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Bert Dykstra, John Graham

**LIAISONS PRESENT**

Brian Horner – Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority (SPA) Liaison  
Phil Beard – Maitland Valley SPA Liaison

**DWSP STAFF PRESENT**

Donna Clarkson, Mary Lynn MacDonald, Aaron Clarke, Abigail Gutteridge

**MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Hannah Cann – Stewardship and Resiliency Specialist, Perth County  
Derry Wallis – Climate Change and Energy Specialist, Huron County

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Matt Pearson called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**AGENDA**

**MOTION #SPC: 2024-01-01**

**“That the agenda for the October 25, 2023 meeting be approved.”**

**Carried by Consensus.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION #SPC: 2024-01-02**

**Moved by Rowland Howe**

**Seconded by Paul Heffer**

**“THAT the SPC minutes from October 25, 2023 be approved as presented.”**

**Carried.**

**BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES**

None

**DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST**

None

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None

**CHAIR'S UPDATE**

Chair Matt Pearson noted that the Province has been quiet for the past few months as they continue to work on Section 36 Amendments. Staff have been working on the workplan and budget for the next three years, which will be presented today. He also reminded Source Protection Committee (SPC) members and liaisons to fill in the waiver form for the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply, which will be toured at the upcoming SPC meeting in March.

**PROGRAM UPATE**

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Co-Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) Program Supervisor, provided a program update to SPC members. MECP provided staff a three year template for the funding application for the DWSP program. The Joint Management Committee reviewed the application on January 11, 2024 and directed staff to submit to the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) by the deadline. Key workplan items included legislated activities such as SPC meetings, annual reporting, and updates to Source Protection Plans. Also included are non-legislative activities such as providing advice and support to municipal staff, participating in provincial working groups, promoting best practices for private wells, technical work for

revisions and updates to source protection plans. Targeted municipal support included facilitation assistance in developing salt management plans and hiring a consultant to review municipal systems for updated technical data, Master Servicing or other plans and to report back as to where Source Protection Plan updates may be required now or in the future. Once submitted, the plans will be reviewed by MECP staff. MECP aims to have Transfer Payment Agreements in place by May 2024.

Other program updates included an update on the Stormwater Master Plan being developed for Grand Bend, which will encompass the current Intake Protection Zone (IPZ)-2. The modelling for the IPZ-2 urban footprint was done conservatively and included the presumption of storm water systems, which are currently not in place. This may mean that no changes will be required but it will depend on the Master Plan recommendations as to whether a revision to this zone is required. The Source Protection Branch will now consider funding the cost of remodeling the IPZ-2, and while it was not included in the three-year budget, there will be opportunity to open and update the Transfer Payment Agreement if needed. In addition, the project to incorporate a new reservoir and UV treatment unit to the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System is on hold while there is a reassessment of future needs for the system due to development pressure.

Mary Lynn also provided an update on the SPC video releases and the reach they have had. These videos have been viewed just under 36,000 times, so she commended the SPC on their work for these excellent outreach materials. Finally, Mary Lynn reported that the Section 36 Amendment for the Source Protection Plan that was submitted to the MECP in March 2023 is still under review, but MECP staff have indicated that approval is anticipated soon.

### **SECTION 34 AMENDMENT PROCESS UPDATE**

Donna Clarkson, Co-DWSP Program Supervisor, reported on the progress to update the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan to incorporate the changes to the Lucknow and Century Heights drinking water systems. In 2023, the SPC was presented with the draft updated wellhead protection areas for these two systems, as provided by Matrix Solutions Inc., and directed staff to complete the required updates to the Source Protection Plan. The key changes include a new municipal well #3 for the Century Heights wellhead Protection Area (WHPA); a revision to the Lucknow WHPA to reflect increased Permit to Take Water for the at system; updated mapping for both WHPAs;

and revisions to Chapter 4 of the Source Protection Plans for these updates. In Century Heights, it is anticipated that the only significant threats will be found in the WHPA-A. In the Lucknow System, there will be some vulnerability scored of 10 in WHPA-B, which will primarily be the wastewater treatment facility, several residential properties, and a farm.

Staff will be entering the public consultation phase for this amendment in February. Public consultation must be at least a 35-day period, meaning it will last until mid-March. This can all be done via notice and mailing to affected landowners, and no public meeting will be required. Early engagement with the MECP was in 2023, and pre-consultation with municipalities and other implementing bodies occurred from January 9 – 29. No comments were received.

**MOTION #SPC: 2024-01-03**

**Moved by Jennette Walker  
Seconded by Allan Rothwell**

**“THAT the Source Protection Committee directs staff to begin public consultation on the proposed updates to the Source Protection Plan.”**

**Carried**

### **WATER WISE EVENTS UPDATE**

Mary Lynn MacDonald provided an update on the Water Wise outreach events, which has been a successful means of promoting best practices for private water wells. Both staff and partner organizations have been pleased with the response to these events.

To date, events have been held at:

- Mid-Huron Beach with the Ashfield Colborne Lakefront Association
- Goderich with the Goderich Lions Club
- Dublin Community Centre with the Dublin Lions Club
- Monkton Community Centre with the Monkton Lions Club
- Londesboro Lions Hall with the Londesboro Lions Club

Including the recent Londesboro event, 199 water samples were received for analysis. Working in partnership with Huron Perth Public Health and the London Public Health Lab staff were able to incorporate a tracking code on all the sample bottles distributed through these events. The number of bottles received with the tracking code indicates that some samples were delivered to the London lab outside of the events. Staff have included more similar events in the three-year workplan. Mary Lynn also noted that she

has received calls from other Source Protection Regions to find out more about organizing these events.

SPC Members were pleased with these results and had suggestions for other areas to target, such as the Wroxeter/Gorrie/Fordwich area, as well as Atwood.

### **POSSIBLE FUTURE OF FREE PRIVATE WATER TESTING**

Mary Lynn MacDonald reported that one of the recommendations in the 2023 Auditor General's Value-for-Money Audit of Public Health Ontario includes streamlining laboratories' operations. Part of this would include closing six public health laboratories, and gradually discontinuing private drinking water testing. This is of concern, as Source Protection Regions have been directed to deliver education and outreach to private well owners under the Best Practices initiative. One of the goals of the Water Wise events is to encourage well owners to test their well water more frequently. Phasing out testing would require private well owners to pay a fee to have their water tested at a commercial laboratory, which disincentivizes testing. Staff recommend that the SPC direct a letter to Minister Thompson requesting that this phase out not proceed.

**MOTION #SPC: 2024-01-04**

**Moved by Philip Keightley**

**Seconded by Mary Ellen Foran**

**“THAT the Source Protection Committee direct a letter to Minister Thompson requesting that the province not proceed with the recommended phase out of free private well testing in Ontario, and**

**“FURTHER, THAT area municipalities, the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks, the Minister of Health and Long-Term Care, other Source Protection Committees, and local health units be forwarded the letter and asked for their support.”**

**Carried.**

### **PRESENTATION – LOCAL UPDATES TO CLIMATE CHANGE INFORMATION & PROJECT INITIATIVES**

Derry Wallis, Huron County Climate Change and Energy Specialist, and Hannah Cann, Perth County Stewardship and Resiliency Specialist, presented on various county initiatives that have been in place or will be implemented to mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. Initiatives include the Huron Clean Water Project, which has

been in place for 20 years, and the newly established Perth County Stewardship Project. They also highlighted the Rural Recharge program, which aims to install a network both Level 3 and Level 2 electric vehicle charging stations across 6 counties. They are looking toward implementation of this initiative in 2025. Each county also has a number of other initiatives including greenhouse gas reduction plans, conservation and demand management plan for energy usage, evaluating natural assets and looking at operations of the county and lower tier municipalities through a climate change lens, among other initiatives.

**LIAISON UPDATES**

There were no liaison updates at this time.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting is planned for March 27, 2024. A tour is planned for the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System facility prior to the meeting. The meeting location is to be determined.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55a.m.

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Matt Pearson  
Chair

Abigail Gutteridge  
Secretary



**Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region**

**JOINT MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE (ABCA-MVCA)**

**Tuesday, January 11, 2024  
2:00 p.m.**

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom  
VIA VIDEOCONFERENCE**

MEMBERS PRESENT

Phil Beard, Ray Chartrand, Matt Duncan, Brian Horner, Ed McGugan, Matt Pearson, Marissa Vaughan

DWSP STAFF PRESENT

Donna Clarkson, Mary Lynn MacDonald

OTHERS PRESENT

Abigail Gutteridge, Recording Secretary

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. Acting Chair Matt Duncan welcomed everyone to the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION #JMC: 2024-01-01**

**Moved by Marissa Vaughan  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“That the agenda for the January 11, 2024 meeting of the Joint Management Committee be approved as circulated.”**

**Carried.**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**MOTION #JMC: 2024-01-02****Moved by Adrian Cornelissen****Seconded by Ed McGugan**

**“That the minutes of the January 31, 2023 Joint Management Committee meeting be approved.”**

**Carried.**

BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES

None

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION WORK PLAN AND FUNDING 2024-2027

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Co-Program Supervisor reported that staff were provided with a three-year template to prepare the next funding application. This is the first time the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has offered a three-year work plan and budget opportunity. Included in the work plan are a number of legislated activities, including:

- Local governance including Source Protection Authorities, reporting, budgets, etc.
- Maintenance of the Source Protection Committee (SPC)
- Implementation Reporting including the Annual Progress Report
- Records Retention
- Section 48 Notices of well changes
- Section 34 Amendments to Source Protection Plans, which may include possible changes in Atwood, Harriston, Belgrave and Listowel
- Section 36 Source Protection Plan review
- Consultation Requirements

A number of non-legislative activities are also included in the three-year workplan. These include:

- Providing Municipal advise and support with Source Protection implementation
- Providing policy advice and support to building official and county planners
- Providing system owner advice and support to all stakeholders involved in changes to municipal water supplies
- Providing advisory support for proposals, legislation and guidance
- Providing Municipal Council and Staff support
- Program maintenance
- Working group participation at the provincial level
- Promoting Best Practices for private water wells
- Provide support on climate change issues
- Technical work
- Technical pilot projects

- Targeted municipal support.

Staff will once again ask the MECP for 1.95 full time staff equivalents, which includes time for project managers, GIS and data support, communications, and planning and administration support. The full budget amount for 2024-2027 is \$811,236.

**MOTION #JMC 2024-01-03**

**Moved by Ed McGugan**

**Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“That the Joint Management Committee approves the 2024-2027 Work Plan Application for Funding for submission to the Conservation and Source Protection Branch of the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks.”**

**Carried.**

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The next meeting will be at the call of the SPC Chair or staff. Ray Chartrand adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

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Matt Duncan  
Acting Chair

Abigail Gutteridge  
Recording Secretary

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# MINUTES

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## STRIKING COMMITTEE

Friday, January 19, 2024  
9:00 a.m.

Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Boardroom  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area

### DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Dave Jewitt, Marissa Vaughan

### OTHERS PRESENT

Brian Horner, Abigail Gutteridge

### APPOINTMENT OF RECORDING SECRETARY

#### **MOTION #SC 01/24**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT Abigail Gutteridge be appointed recording secretary for the Striking Committee meeting.”**

**Carried.**

### APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR

#### **MOTION #SC 02/24**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT Marissa Vaughan be appointed Chair for the Striking Committee meeting.”**

**Carried.**

### STANDING COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

The committee reviewed the ABCA Standing Committee appointments for 2023 and 2024. The committee also reviewed the Terms of Reference, or guiding documents for each committee.

### Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation

The Foundation has 9 volunteer Directors and each year the Authority reviews the appointments. The following individuals have agreed to sit on the ABCF Board of Directors: *Janet Clarke, Dave Frayne, George Irvin, Roger Lewington, David McClure, Anne Melady, Charlie Miner, Bob Radtke, Robert Norris, Abigail Gutteridge-Secretary, and Tina Crown-*

### ***Treasurer.***

The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation established the **Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy** in 2011. The following individuals agree to sit on the HTLTC volunteer Board of Directors: ***Don Farwell, Steve Bowers, Alison Lobb, Max Morden, Jessica Smeekens, Paul Spittal, Kerry Teskey, Philip Walden, Roger Lewington, Abigail Gutteridge-Secretary, Tina Crown-Treasurer, and Brian Horner-Staff Advisor.***

The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation developed a mandate as a guiding document, that was updated in 2022. The Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy developed its Administration By-Law 1, which was also recently updated in 2023 to include terms for Chair and Vice Chair.

### **Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee**

Arkona Lions Club and the ABCA have an agreement regarding operation and maintenance of the Museum and Information Centre. The Committee meets 2 times per year. Staff are represented by Nathan Schoelier, Stewardship & Conservation Lands Manager, Mike Bax, Rock Glen CA Superintendent, Cassie Greidanus, Conservation Educator and Abigail Gutteridge, Recording Secretary.

It is recommended that the following continue to be on the Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee for 2024: ***Representatives from Adelaide-Metcalf/Middlesex Centre and Lambton Shores/Warwick.***

No Terms of Reference or guiding document could be found for the Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee; however, the duties of each organization are laid out in the agreement. Abigail Gutteridge will look through some of the older files to determine if Terms of Reference were developed at the time the committee was formed.

### **Clinton Conservation Area Management Committee**

Clinton Lions Club disbanded in 2021 and are no longer maintaining the Clinton Conservation Area. Thus there is no longer a need for a committee. This committee will not be included in the next Striking Committee review and appointment recommendations.

### **Conservation Ontario**

Each conservation authority is permitted two voting delegates on Conservation Ontario Council. It is recommended that our representatives continue to be the ***Chair and Vice Chair with General Manager as alternate.***

### **Human Resources Management Committee**

A Human Resources Management Committee meets at such times as deemed necessary by the Chair of the Committee. The committee is to ensure employment equity, pay equity, a healthy and safe work environment and maintain a positive workplace environment. The Terms of Reference for the Human Resources Committee were developed in 2006. Staff are represented by General Manager Brian Horner and Recording Secretary Abigail Gutteridge.

It is recommended that the **Chair, Vice Chair and Past Chair** continue as members to the HR Management Committee for 2024. In 2023, the Board of Directors agreed to an Alternate for the Human Resources Committee and Appointed Adrian Cornelissen as alternate for 2023 and 2024.

### Source Protection Authority

Established in 2007, the role of the Source Protection Authority is one of reviewing and consultation for the Source Protection Committee. Staff are represented by Co-Program Supervisors Mary Lynn MacDonald and Donna Clarkson, General Manager Brian Horner and Recording Secretary Abigail Gutteridge. The Source Protection Authority appointed General Manager Brian Horner as Liaison to the Source Protection Committee.

It is recommended that the **ABCA Board of Directors** continue as the *Source Protection Authority*.

The Source Protection Authority is governed by an agreement with the Maitland Valley Source Protection Authority, which lays out the Terms of Reference for both Source Protection Authorities, as well as the Joint Management Committee.

### Drinking Water Source Protection Joint Management Committee

The Joint Management Committee was formed in 2005 with representation from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority and Maitland Valley Conservation Authority to oversee development and implementation of Source Protection Plans for the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley source protection regions. Staff are represented by Co-Program Supervisors Mary Lynn MacDonald and Donna Clarkson, General Manager Brian Horner and Recording Secretary Abigail Gutteridge.

It is recommended the following be representatives from the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority continue on the DWSP Joint Management Committee: **Chair and Vice Chair, (alternate - Adrian Cornelissen)**.

### Source Protection Committee

The Source Protection Committee is made up of members of the public who represent different sectors (*i.e.*, Public at Large, Environment, Industry, etc.). **The ABCA General Manager is appointed by the Source Protection Authority as Liaison to the Source Protection Committee. Staff representatives include Mary Lynn MacDonald and Donna Clarkson, Co-Program Supervisors, and Abigail Gutteridge as Recording Secretary.**

The Source Protection Committee is governed by Ontario Regulation 288/07, and the Rules of Procedure were adopted by the Committee in 2007.

### Striking Committee

The Striking Committee meets to recommend appointments to the Standing Committees and review the schedule of Board meetings for the upcoming year. Staff are represented by General Manager Brian Horner and Secretary Abigail Gutteridge.

It is recommended the following continue on the Striking Committee: ***Chair, Vice Chair and Past Chair*** for 2024.

At present, no Terms of Reference could be found for the Striking Committee. Abigail Gutteridge will continue to search through older files to determine if Terms were developed for the Striking Committee.

### Water Response Team

The ABCA appoints three municipal representatives and a Secretary to the Ausable Bayfield Water Response Team (WRT). An ABCA representative will be Chair of the WRT which addresses low water conditions in the Ausable, Bayfield and Parkhill watersheds by reviewing precipitation, stream flow and groundwater data collected by the ABCA. The Committee meets when deemed necessary under the direction of the Ontario Low Water Response Plan. It is recommended that the following individuals be appointed to the Ausable Bayfield Water Response Team for 2024: ***Representatives from South Huron, West Perth and Lucan Biddulph. Staff are represented by Davin Heinbuck, Water Resources Coordinator and Abigail Gutteridge as WRT Secretary.***

Terms of Reference for the Water Response Team are reviewed yearly.

### RECOMMENDATION

**MOTION #SC 03/24**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the recommendation for appointments to the ABCA Standing Committees be presented to the Board of Directors at the February 15, 2024 Annual Meeting for their consideration and approval.”**

**Carried.**

### 2024 MEETING SCHEDULE

Abigail Gutteridge, Corporate Services Coordinator presented the proposed schedule of dates for the 2024 Board of Directors meetings (attached). A schedule for staff and management team meetings is also available as the Board is invited to attend any of the meetings.

### RECOMMENDATION

**MOTION #SC 04/24**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt  
Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**RESOLVED, THAT the 2024 schedule of Board meetings be recommended for approval to the Board of Directors.”**

**Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

Brian Horner, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer reminded the Human Resources Committee that elections will take place at the Annual General Meeting of the ABCA in February, and that the current Chair is eligible to stand as Chair for another year.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 a.m.

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Marissa Vaughan  
Chair

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Abigail Gutteridge  
Recording Secretary

## 2024 Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Meeting time will be 10:00 a.m. with the exceptions of March and December

February 15, 2024	Annual Meeting at 10:00 a.m.
March 21, 2024	Board of Directors at 2:30 p.m. followed by Partner Appreciation Evening
April 18, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
May 16, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
June 20, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
July 18, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
August 15, 2024	Board of Directors (if needed)
September 19, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
October 10, 2024	Budget Committee Meeting at 9:30 am
October 17, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
November 21, 2024	Board of Directors at 10:00 a.m.
December 19, 2024	Board of Directors at 2:30 pm followed by Christmas Dinner

NOTE: as per Regulations of the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority, December 21, 2000  
*The Chair shall call regular meetings of the Board of Directors, 4 days written notice, at least ten times each year, including one meeting prior to March 1st and one meeting after November 1st.*

**Office closed..... Tuesday, December 24 at noon and reopen Thursday, January 2, 2025**

## 2024 Conservation Ontario Meetings and Conferences

Conservation Ontario Council Meetings..... April 15 (AGM), June 24, September 23, December 9  
ROMA Conference (Toronto).....January 21-23 (*In-Person*)  
Association of Municipalities of Ontario (Ottawa).....August 18-21 (*In-Person*)

## **2023-2024 ABCA Standing Committees (updated)**

Appointments recommended by Striking Committee to Board of Directors

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### **Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation**

(Board members are appointed by ABCA)

Janet Clarke  
George Irvin  
Roger Lewington  
David McClure  
Anne Melady  
Bob Radtke  
Robert Norris

Dave Frayne, Chair  
Charles Miner, Vice Chair  
*Abigail Gutteridge- Secretary*  
*Tina Crown- Treasurer*  
*Brian Horner - Staff Advisor*  
*Sharon Pavkeje - ABCF Assistant*

### **Huron Tract Land Trust Conservancy**

(HTLTC was established by ABCF and Board members are appointed by ABCA)

Steve Bowers  
Don Farwell  
Alison Lobb  
Jessica Smeekens  
Paul Spittal  
Kerry Teskey  
Philip Walden

Max Morden, Chair  
Roger Lewington, Past Chair  
*Abigail Gutteridge - Secretary*  
*Tina Crown- Treasurer*  
*Brian Horner - Staff Advisor*  
*Nathan Schoelier- Property Management*  
*Advisor*

### **Arkona Lions Museum Management Committee**

Municipality of Lambton Shores/Warwick - *Dave Marsh*  
Municipality of Adelaide-Metcalf/Middlesex Centre - *Wayne Shipley*  
*Staff - Nathan Schoelier, Mike Bax, Cassie Greidanus, Abigail Gutteridge*

### **Conservation Ontario**

Chair, Vice Chair, and General Manager as Alternate

### **Human Resources Management Committee**

Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair and Alternate - *Adrian Cornelissen*  
*Staff - General Manager, Abigail Gutteridge*

### **Source Protection Authority**

ABCA Board of Directors

*Staff - General Manager, Mary Lynn MacDonald/Donna Clarkson-Co-Program Supervisors,*  
*Abigail Gutteridge - Recording Secretary*

### **Source Protection Committee**

ABCA General Manager, Liaison appointed by the Source Protection Authority  
*Staff - Mary Lynn MacDonald/Donna Clarkson Co-Program Supervisors,  
Abigail Gutteridge - Recording Secretary*

### **Joint Management Committee (DWSP)**

Chair & Vice Chair or Alternate - *Adrian Cornelissen*  
*ABCA General Manager, Mary Lynn MacDonald/Donna Clarkson-Co-Program Supervisors,  
Abigail Gutteridge-Recording Secretary*

### **Striking Committee**

Chair, Vice Chair, Past Chair and Alternate - *Greg Lamport*  
*Staff - General Manager, Abigail Gutteridge*

### **Low Water Response Team**

Chair - Marissa Vaughan, Steve Herold, Jaden Hodgins  
*Staff - Davin Heinbuck, Abigail Gutteridge*

(Chair is Ex-officio member on all Standing Committees)

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority**  
**Source Protection Authority Meeting**

Thursday, February 15, 2024

11:45 a.m.

Administration Centre Boardroom

Morrison Dam Conservation Area

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## Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Adoption of Agenda for February 15, 2024
3. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest
4. Adoption of Minutes from October 19, 2023
5. Business Out of the Minutes
6. Program Reports – Donna Clarkson
  - Program Update
  - Proposed Update to Maitland Source Protection Plan: Revised Century Heights and Lucknow Wellhead Protection Areas
  - Notice of Public Consultation - attached
7. New Business
8. Adjournment

**DRINKING WATER**  
**SOURCE PROTECTION**

Our Actions Matter

Ausable Bayfield  
Maitland Valley  
Source Protection Region

**SOURCE PROTECTION AUTHORITY**

Thursday October 19, 2023

**Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Administration Centre  
Morrison Dam Conservation Area**

DIRECTORS PRESENT

Ray Chartrand, Adrian Cornelissen, Steve Herold, Jaden Hodgins, Dave Jewitt, Greg Lamport, Marissa Vaughan

DIRECTORS ABSENT

Dave Marsh, Wayne Shipley

STAFF PRESENT

Geoff Cade, Abbie Gutteridge, Brian Horner, Mary Lynn MacDonald

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Marissa Vaughan called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

**MOTION #SPA 16/23**

**Moved by Ray Chartrand  
Seconded by Dave Jewitt**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the agenda for the October 19, 2023 Source Protection Authority meeting be approved.”**

**Carried.**

DECLARATION OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

None

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

**MOTION #SPA 17/23**

**Moved by Greg Lamport**

**Seconded by Steve Herold**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the minutes of the Source Protection Authority meeting held on September 21, 2023, and the motions therein be approved as amended.”**

**Carried.**

**BUSINESS OUT OF THE MINUTES**

None

**PROGRAM UPDATE**

Mary Lynn MacDonald, Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP) Program Co-Supervisor, presented a brief update on the program. On September 29, 2023 the Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley (ABMV) Source Protection Region was approved for almost \$12,000 in funding to continue with the education and outreach efforts with local community groups, specifically the Water Wise events to encourage more well water testing throughout the region.

Additionally, the next Source Protection Committee meeting is planned for October 25, 2023 and will be held at the Walkerton Clean Water Centre. SPC members and guests will be touring the facility prior to the meeting.

**PROPOSED UPDATE TO LUCKNOW WELLHEAD PROTECTION AREA**

Mary Lynn MacDonald reported that the Municipality of Bluewater Council passed a resolution at their meeting on June 19, to decommission the two municipally operated wells serving the Zurich Drinking Water System and inform the ABMV Source Protection Committee. Residents of Zurich had been connected to the Lake Huron Primary Water supply for several months, and the well system is no longer needed. Final decommissioning was completed on October 4. As Section 51 of the Clean Water Act, 2006 allows for administrative amendments to the Source Protection Plan to remove municipal drinking water systems, consultation is not required for this process. Notice will be posted and circulated to implementing bodies, and all reference to the Zurich wellhead protection area will be removed from the Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report. Landowners in the former Zurich wellhead protection area that hold risk management plans for threats related to the wellhead protection area will be informed that they are no longer required.

**MOTION #SPA 18/23**

**Moved by Dave Jewitt**

**Seconded by Ray Chartrand**

**“RESOLVED, THAT the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority receive Source Protection Updates as presented, and that staff be directed to undertake an**

**administrative amendment to the Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report to remove references to the Zurich municipal well systems.”**

**Carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:44 p.m.

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Marissa Vaughan  
Chair

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Abigail Gutteridge  
Secretary

DRAFT

**AB SPA REPORT # 1-2024**

To: Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority (AB SPA)  
From: Donna Clarkson and Mary Lynn MacDonald, DWSP Co-Supervisors  
Date: February 15, 2024  
Subject: Program Update – Drinking Water Source Protection (DWSP)

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**For information.**

**1. Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley (ABMV) Source Protection Committee (SPC)**

October 25: A SPC meeting was held on October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at the Walkerton Clean Water Centre (WCWC). WCWC staff gave a presentation and facility tour prior to the meeting. SPC, MECP and staff visited the Well 5 Memorial after meeting. Agenda items included the following:

- Staff report on DWSP program updates: Summary of recent Education and Outreach, including 'Water Wise' events and SPC videos
- Staff report on changes to Zurich drinking water supply. The community is now on the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply pipeline and has decommissioned their municipal wells. The Source Protection Plan was updated to remove the Zurich Wellhead Protection Area and related information
- Staff report on the technical work to re-define the Century Heights Wellhead Protection Area, to include new Well # 3 serving the Salford community in ACW
- Updates from SPC Liaisons Lori Holmes, Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH) and Jennifer McKay, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP)

January 31: A SPC meeting was held on January 31, 2024, in Clinton. Agenda items included the following items:

- Staff report on DWSP program updates including possible Grand Bend Intake Protection Zone changes and a pause of planned construction at the Lake Huron Primary Water Supply System as future needs are reassessed.
- Staff report on recent 'Water Wise' events and results of the private water testing
- Staff report on consultation of proposed updates to the Source Protection Plan, per section 34 of the Clean Water Act
- Discussion of an item in the 2023 Auditor General's Value-for-Money Audit of Public Health Ontario (PHO), which recommended that testing of private drinking water

be gradually phased out. If the recommendation is approved, private well owners would have to use a commercial lab for a fee, which will disincentivize testing. The SPC directed staff to send a letter to Ministers of Agriculture, Environment, and Health requesting that the province NOT proceed with the recommended phase out of free private well testing in Ontario, and circulate to local municipalities, public health and other Source Protection Authorities.

- Presentation by Derry Wallis, Climate Change & Energy Specialist at Huron County, and Hannah Cann, Stewardship and Resiliency Specialist at Perth County on updated local climate change data, programs and future plans.

Details on the SPC members and composition can be found at the [committee web page](#) on the ABMV source protection website at [sourcewaterinfo.on.ca](http://sourcewaterinfo.on.ca).

## 2. DWSP Funding and Workplan Application for 2024 to 2027

The Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) has provided staff with a 3 - year template for the funding application for the DWSP program. This is the first time that MECP offered 3-year funding.

The Joint Management Committee for Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region met January 11, 2024 to review the funding application prepared by DWSP staff. The Committee directed staff to submit the application to MECP by the January 18<sup>th</sup> deadline. A summary of the proposed funding request is provided below.

### A. Proposed Staffing for DWSP (same as previous year)

Position	FTE *	Staff
Program Manager	1.0 (Split duties)	Donna Clarkson & Mary Lynn MacDonald
GIS/Data/Tech	0.35	ABCA staff
Communications	0.30	Primarily Tim Cumming; support by Jayne Thompson
Planning and support	0.30	AB/MV Planning and Admin
<b>Proposed Annual Staffing 2024-2027</b>	<b>1.95</b>	<b>*Full Time Equivalents; same as previous year</b>

### B. Proposed DWSP Budget, April 2024-March 2027

Year	Staff	Non-Staff	Key Items
2024-2024	\$207,716		Includes salaries and benefits and overhead
2025-2026	\$213,947		
2026-2027	\$220,366		
2024-2027 (3 year)		\$553,242	Source Protection Committee; meetings; Events (e.g. 'Water Wise'); Training; Travel,

		IT, website, audits; <b>Technical work (subject to MECP funding of approx. 250,000)</b>
<b>2024- 2027 funding request</b>	<b>\$ 1,195,272</b>	<b>For 3 years</b>

(for comparison, approved 2-year funding for 2022-2024 is \$503,098. Technical work was not an eligible cost in previous workplans)

### C. Key Workplan Items:

<b>Legislated Activities</b>	<b>Project Tasks</b>
Local Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Source Protection Authorities (SPA)</li> <li>• Joint Management Committee: interview new SPC members; workplan/budget review</li> <li>• Technical Team - staff from ABCA and MVCA</li> </ul>
Source Protection Committee (SPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 4 SPC meetings per year</li> <li>• Renew or recruit and train new SPC members</li> <li>• SPC Engagement with sectors, presentations, videos</li> <li>• Provincial SPC chairs meetings</li> </ul>
Annual Reporting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist Source Protection Plan (SPP) implementing bodies with reporting responsibilities</li> <li>• Prepare Annual Progress Report for submission to MECP</li> </ul>
Update Source Protection Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prepare amendments to the Source Protection Plans and Assessment Reports as needed (e.g. for new wells)</li> <li>• Complete consultation as per Clean Water Act</li> <li>• ABMV Technical Team reviews technical reports related to new or altered wells (WHPAs) and issue s.48 Notice</li> </ul>
<b>Non-Legislated Activities</b>	<b>Project Tasks</b>
Municipal Advice/Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assist municipal staff with SPP implementation and reporting</li> <li>• Provide training on Source Protection to new municipal staff</li> <li>• Presentations to staff and/or council; Newsletters</li> </ul>
Advisory Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participation, coordination and review of technical proposals, legislation, and guidance</li> </ul>
Working Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued involvement in provincial working groups related to DWSP</li> </ul>
Promote MECP's 'Best Practices' for Private Wells	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue with 'Water Wise' water sampling and education events for private well owners in partnership with community groups and support from Huron Perth Public Health</li> <li>• Partner with municipalities on Outreach (e.g. septic and wells)</li> </ul>
Technical work	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Proposed technical work to revise wellhead protection areas due to changes to water system, such as addition of wells or increased pumping rates</li> <li>• Technical work to update existing source water protection data</li> </ul>

Targeted Municipal Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Facilitate a working group for municipal roads managers to develop salt management plan as required per SPP policy</li> <li>• Review all municipal systems in conjunction with Master Servicing or other plans, where available, to determine when water supply changes will require Source Protection Plan updates.</li> </ul>
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### 3. Communications and Outreach

a. 'Water Wise' events: Promoting source water protection to non-municipal water users through partnered water well sampling events.

DWSP staff have organized several 'Water Wise' water sampling events in partnership with local Lions and lakeshore association groups, and Huron Perth Public Health (HPPH). The goal is to provide convenience in water sampling and to promote awareness and education of source water protection to private well owners in the Region. Typically, only 2% of landowners in this area test their water.

HPPH provides water sample bottles with a tracking number and the London Public Health Lab tests private landowners samples free of charge. Partnering groups distribute bottles in packages to a designated community with instructions plus the event place and time. These community groups help with signage, posters, social media, group emails and provide the event space. DWSP staff and SPC members are on hand to collect the bottles; water well and septic experts also attend to offer their expertise. All attendees leave with information on water sample results, well and septic systems maintenance. DWSP staff drop off the water samples to HPPH after the event.

These events have been very well received and  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of bottles distributed are returned for testing. At the Londesborough event, ABCA educator, Cassie Greidanus presented a water program to all 250 students at Hullet Public School and 144 bottle packages were sent home to rural families.

The table below provides a summary of the five Water Wise events held in the Region to date.

Date	Event Host	Number of water sample bottles distributed	Number of bottles submitted for testing	Number attendees
Aug 27, 2023	Ashfield Colborne Lakefront Assoc.	90	30	34
Sep 14, 2023	Goderich Lions	22	3	70

Oct 17, 2023	Dublin Lions	115	43	34
Oct 25, 2023	Monkton Lions	110	55	30
Jan 25, 2024	Londesboro Lions	282	68	48
<b>Total</b>		<b>619</b>	<b>199</b>	<b>216</b>

Preliminary laboratory results, August to November:

- 74% of water samples had no bacterial contamination;
- 4% were unsafe

Recent media posting about the Water Wise events:

[Nearly 50 participate in Londesborough Lions well water testing event - Lakeshore Advance](#)  
Lakeshore Advance

[Well water testing event in Londesboro huge success - Midwestern Newspapers](#)  
Midwestern Newspapers

#### b. Source Water Protection Videos

Two more videos featuring our Source Protection Committee (SPC) members were completed in late 2023. In the “The Worth of Water”, SPC member Philip Keightley highlights how important a clean, plentiful source of water is for residents, businesses and the local economy.

To tie in with the ‘Water Wise’ promotions, Doug Hocking lent his years of stewardship expertise to a video “Your well - your responsibility”. The video shows different types of wells and provide tips for water protection. Well and septic maintenance are also highlighted.

All current members of the SPC have participated in videos and they have been viewed almost 36,000 times.

## **AB SPA REPORT # 2-2024**

To: Ausable Bayfield Source Protection Authority (AB SPA)  
From: Donna Clarkson and Mary Lynn MacDonald, DWSP Co-Supervisors  
Date: February 15, 2024 Members meeting  
Subject: Proposed update to Maitland Source Protection Plan: Revised Century Heights and Lucknow wellhead protection areas

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### **Purpose: For information**

Summary: An amendment to the Maitland Source Protection Plan (SPP) is required in order to incorporate recent changes to the Lucknow and Century Heights (Saltford) drinking water systems. The Township of Huron-Kinloss has applied for an increase in PTTW (permit to take water) for the Lucknow drinking water system; there is no change to the municipal wells. The Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) has drilled a new additional well for the Century Heights water supply serving the community of Saltford. The technical work to re-define the Century Heights and Lucknow wellhead protection areas (WHPA) was completed by Matrix Solutions Inc., with project coordination by B.M. Ross and Associates.

DWSP staff have drafted updates to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan and Assessment Report to incorporate the changes to the Lucknow and Century Heights systems. There are no proposed policy changes. The SPP amendment process will be conducted as per section 34 of the Clean Water Act. Pre-consultation with implementing bodies was completed in January. Public consultation will be conducted from February 5 to March 14. (**see attached notice with WHPA maps**).

### **A. Background**

The Source Protection Plan (SPP) includes policies intended to protect sources of municipal drinking water - for our region that's groundwater aquifers and Lake Huron. The associated Assessment Report provides the technical foundation to the Source Protection Plan. It includes a description of the municipal drinking water systems, a vulnerability assessment and identifies potential significant drinking water threat activities to which policies in the SPP will apply. The SPP must be updated to incorporate new or altered drinking water systems.

#### **Proposed update for Lucknow drinking water system and WHPA:**

The Lucknow municipal water supply is located in Township of Huron-Kinloss and consists of two bedrock wells – # 4 (north) and # 5 (south). Huron-Kinloss applied to the province for an increase in PTTW (permit to take water) from current 1,500 m<sup>3</sup>/day to 2,000 m<sup>3</sup>/day, to accommodate future growth. As the increased rate affects the extent of the wellhead protection area (WHPA), a technical report was prepared to identify changes to the WHPA. The

modeling work to delineate the WHPAs and determine the vulnerability scores was completed by Matrix Solution Inc. Note that the SPC and the SPA do not approve the technical work; the Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is the approval authority. The re-defined WHPA map is included at the end of this report.

**Proposed update for Century Heights (Saltford):**

The Century Heights municipal water supply is located in Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh (ACW) and consists of two bedrock wells – # 1 and # 2. A third well, located south-east of Century Heights Wells 1 and 2, has been drilled to accommodate a planned residential development in the community of Saltford. The modeling work to delineate the WHPAs and determine the vulnerability scores was completed by Matrix Solution Inc., report dated November 22, 2023.

**See figures below for the proposed redefined WHPAs.** The WHPA for Wells 1 and 2 extends east of the well site near Dunlop Drive. The WHPA for new Well 3 extends east from the new well site located on Maitland Avenue. The vulnerability score for WHPA-A, the 100 metre zone, is always 10; land use is residential. WHPA-B, C and D have low vulnerability scores of 6, 4 and 2, respectively. Land use is primarily residential, agriculture and natural environment. The only anticipated significant drinking water threat is septic systems located in WHPA-A. The septic systems will require inspection every five years as per the Clean Water Act.

**Risk Assessment:**

A risk assessment to identify potential significant drinking water threats (SDWT) in the redefined WHPAs must be included in the Assessment Report. Note that activities deemed SDWTs are subject to policies in the Source Protection Plan (e.g. may require a risk management plan). The threats were identified based on the circumstances in the 2021 provincial Technical Rules, the WHPAs, vulnerability scores and potential activities determined via aerial photography and zoning designations.

The threat categories and number of properties with potential of significant drinking water threats are summarized in Table 1. They are all located in WHPA-A (100 metre zone) or in WHPA-B (2-year time-of-travel) with high vulnerability score of 10. Numbers are subject to change as threats are verified or activities change.

Table 1- Century Heights and Lucknow WHPA: Enumeration of Potential Significant Drinking Water Threats (SDWT)

Threat Category (per Clean Water Act)	Century Heights		Lucknow	
	Chemicals	Pathogens	Chemicals	Pathogens
1. Waste Disposal Site (include waste storage)				
2. Sewage System / septic systems		20	1	6
3. Agricultural Source Material Application				1
4. Agricultural Source Material Storage				0
5. Agricultural Source Material - Aquaculture				

Threat Category (per Clean Water Act)	Century Heights		Lucknow	
	Chemicals	Pathogens	Chemicals	Pathogens
6. Non-agricultural Source Material Application				
7. Non-agricultural Source Material Storage				
8. Commercial Fertilizer Application			2	
9. Commercial Fertilizer Handling/Storage				
10. Pesticide Application			2	
11. Pesticide Handling/Storage				
12. Application of Road Salt	1		2	
13. Handling and Storage of Road Salt			2	
14. Storage of Snow			0	
15. Fuel Handling/Storage			9	
16. Dense Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid Handling/Storage (DNAPL)	0		0	
17. Handling and Storage of Organic Solvents				
18. Runoff from Aircraft Deicing				
21. Grazing/Pasturing Livestock			3	3
22. Establishment/Operation of Pipelines				
<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>10</b>

## B. Clean Water Act (CWA) section.48 Notice:

Per section 48 of the Clean Water Act, the Source Protection Authority (SPA) must issue a Notice to the municipality, identifying amendments to the Source Protection Plan (SPP) due to changes to the water supply wells and/or intakes. The ABMV Technical Team reviewed the Matrix WHPA studies and staff issued the required s.48 notices to:

- s.48 Notice 2-2023 to the Township of Huron-Kinloss, dated August 31, 2023, regarding Lucknow update
- s.48 Notice 3-2023 to the Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh, dated December 19, 2023, regarding Century Heights / Saltford update

## C. Source Protection Plan Amendment Process

It is the role of the Source Protection Committee and Source Protection Authority to ensure that vulnerable areas identified in the Assessment Report remain current, and that Significant Drinking Water Threats remain addressed. Due to recent changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow drinking water, an update to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan amendment via section 34 of the Clean Water Act is necessary.

### Key changes:

1. Revision to the Century Heights Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) to include new municipal well #3 in the community of Saltford, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh

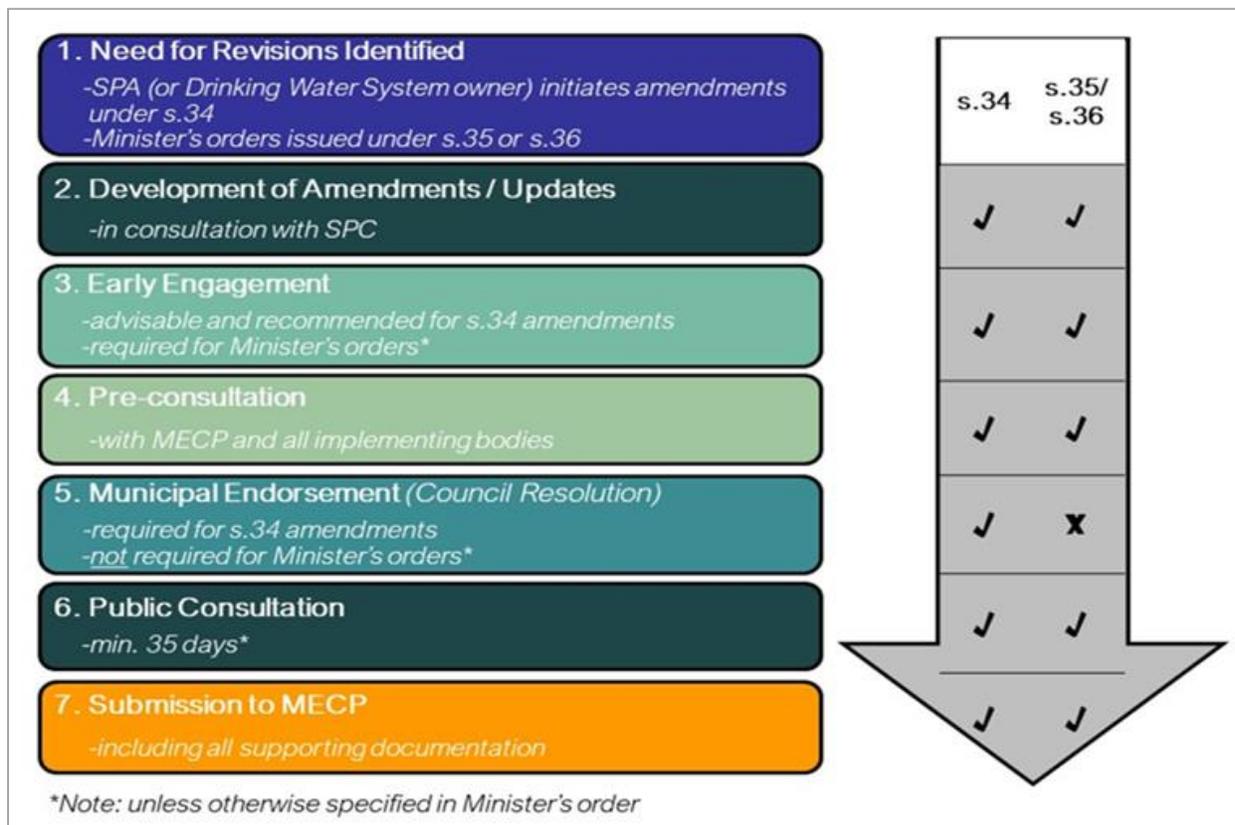
2. Revision to the Lucknow Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) to reflect increased Permit to Take Water for the Lucknow drinking water system in the Township of Huron-Kinloss
3. Revisions to chapter 4 of the Maitland Valley Assessment Report to reflect the changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow drinking water systems, including updated risk assessment (see Table 1)
4. Updated mapping for managed lands, livestock density and impervious surfaces as a result of the changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow WHPAs

The draft updated documents and revised maps can be accessed at this site:

<https://www.sourcewaterinfo.on.ca/consultation/>

**Amendment Process:**

The image below outlines the amendment process. We are at stage 6 - Public consultation. No comments were received during the pre-consultation period in January. The SPC reviewed the proposed SPP update at their January 31 meeting, with no further changes identified.



Amendment Process, from Oct. 2019 MECP Bulletin

Next steps:

- February 5: begin 35-day public consultation, including emails to implementing bodies; newspaper advertisement; mailout to affected landowners; social media. See enclosed notice of consultation.
- **March: acquire Ausable Bayfield SPA approval to submit the updated SPP to the MECP for approval**

#### **D. Summary**

Due to recent changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow drinking water, an update to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan (SPP) via section 34 of the Clean Water Act is necessary. The various maps and water system description in the SPP and associated Assessment Report will be updated. No policy revisions are anticipated, as the source of water is adequately protected by the current SPP policies. Pre-consultation with implementing bodies was completed in January, 2024. No comments were received. Public consultation began February 5; deadline for comments is March 14, 2024. See attached notice of consultation circulated to Source Protection Plan implementing bodies.

#### **Recommendation:**

THAT the Source Protection Authority receives this SPA report, with attached notice of Source Protection Plan consultation, for information.

(Enclosure: Notice of SPP consultation)

February 6, 2024

**Subject: Notice of Source Protection Plan Public Consultation,  
Ontario Clean Water Act, Section 34 amendment  
Deadline for comments: March 14, 2024 at noon**

On behalf of the Ausable Bayfield and Maitland Valley Source Protection Authorities, please be advised of the proposed updates to the Source Protection Plan for the Maitland Valley Source Protection Area. This notice of is being posted for public consultation and circulated to ministries, affected municipalities, and other implementing bodies as required under the Ontario *Clean Water Act, 2006* (CWA). The regulation requires the Source Protection Authority to consult with bodies responsible for the implementation of Source Protection Plan. The proposed updates are prepared as per section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and the 2021 Technical Rules, with direction from the Region's Source Protection Committee.

This letter follows the pre-consultation notice circulated in January, 2024. The documents posted for pre-consultation remain unchanged.

The proposed updates include new technical work and revised vulnerable area maps to incorporate recent changes to the Century Heights and the Lucknow municipal drinking water systems. **There are no proposed policy changes to the Source Protection Plan.** However, the existing Source Protection Plan policies would now apply to the revised wellhead protection areas (WHPAs) for these two systems.

Following the consultation process, the proposed updates will be submitted to the Ontario Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) as an amendment under Section 34 of the *Clean Water Act, 2006*.

Summary of proposed updates to the Maitland Valley Source Protection Plan and associated Assessment Report:

1. Revision to the Century Heights Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) to include new municipal well #3 in the community of Saltford, Township of Ashfield-Colborne-Wawanosh
2. Revision to the Lucknow Wellhead Protection Area (WHPA) to reflect increased Permit to Take Water for the Lucknow drinking water system in the Township of Huron-Kinloss

3. Revisions to chapter 4 of the Maitland Valley Assessment Report to reflect the changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow drinking water systems, including updated risk assessment
4. Updated mapping for managed lands, livestock density and impervious surfaces as a result of the changes to the Century Heights and Lucknow WHPAs

The draft updated documents and revised maps can be accessed at this site:

<https://www.sourcewaterinfo.on.ca/consultation/>

Comments regarding the proposed changes to the Source Protection Plan may be submitted via email to [dclarkson@abca.ca](mailto:dclarkson@abca.ca) or mailed to the address below. **Please provide any consultation comments in writing by noon of March 14, 2024.**

If questions arise, please contact DWSP Co-Supervisors, Donna Clarkson [dclarkson@abca.ca](mailto:dclarkson@abca.ca) 519-335-3557 ext.224 or Mary Lynn MacDonald [mmacdonald@abca.ca](mailto:mmacdonald@abca.ca) 519-235-2610 ext. 247.

Sincerely,

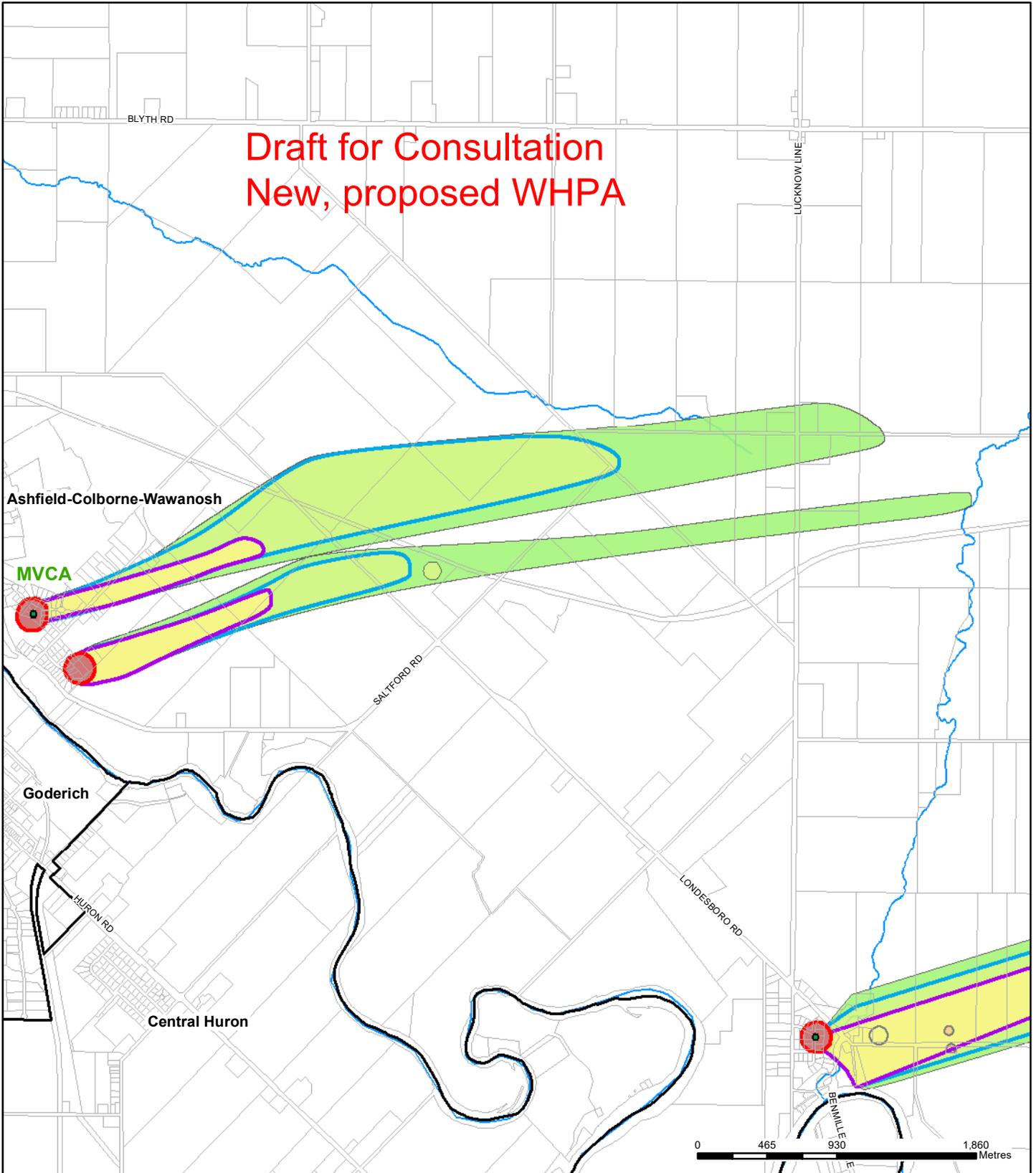


Donna Clarkson, Drinking Water Source Protection Co-Supervisor  
Ausable Bayfield Maitland Valley Source Protection Region  
c/o Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority  
71108 Morrison Line, RR #3, Exeter ON N0M 1S5

Enclosure (Maps of Century Heights and Lucknow WHPAs)

1. Draft updated Schedule: ACW-Cent (Century Heights Wellhead Protection Area)
2. Current approved Schedule: ACW-Cent (Century Heights Wellhead Protection Area)
3. Draft updated Schedule: HK-Luck (Lucknow Wellhead Protection Area)
4. Current approved schedule: HK-Luck (Lucknow Wellhead Protection Area)

# Schedule: ACW-Cent (Century Heights)



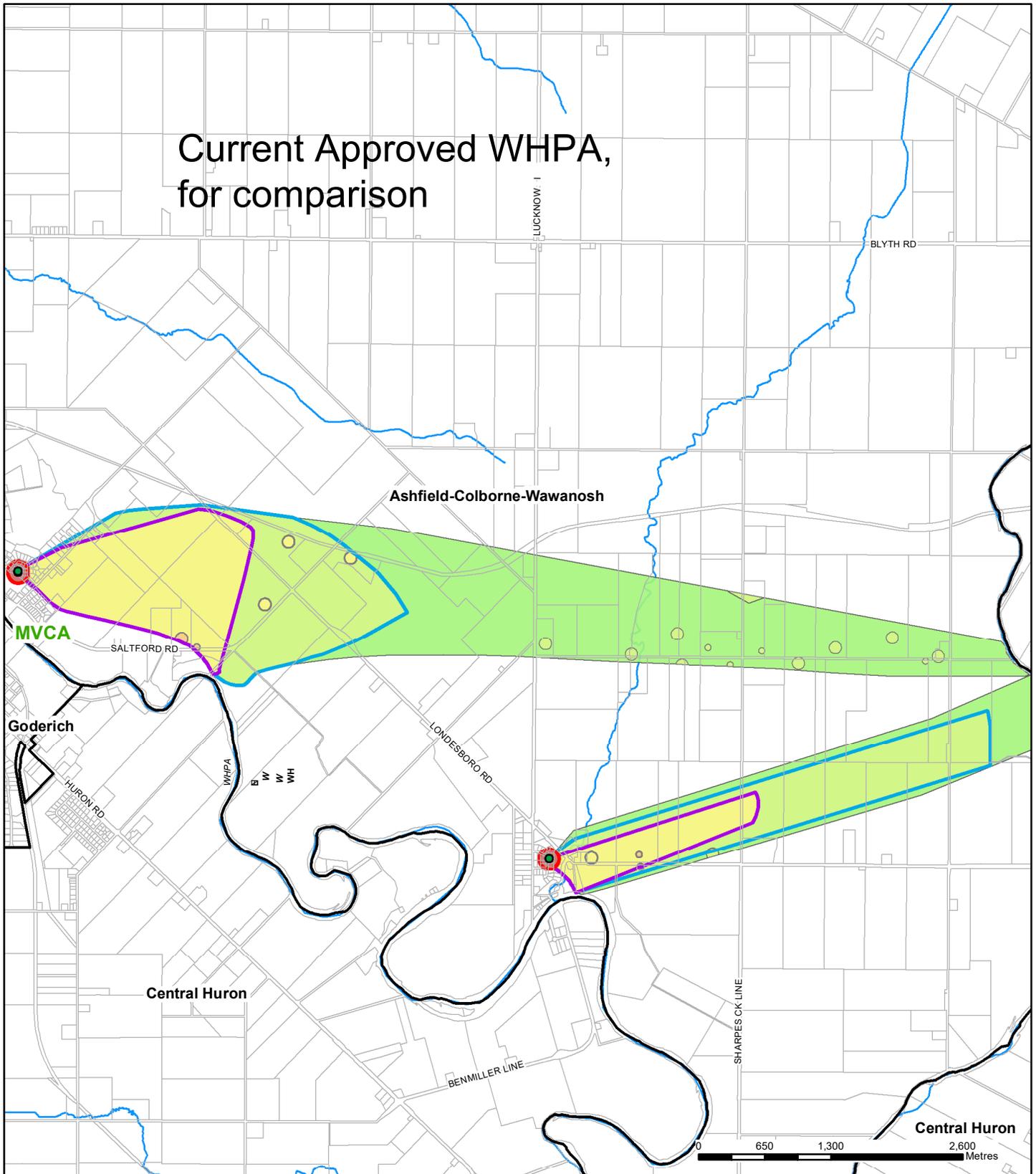
Draft for Consultation  
New, proposed WHPA

<b>Groundwater Vulnerability</b>			<b>Wellhead Protection Area</b>			Major Watercourse Municipal Boundary CA Boundary Parcels	
10	8	6	WHPA - A	WHPA - B	Well Head		
4	2		WHPA - C				

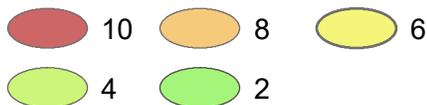
# Schedule: ACW-Cent (Century Heights)



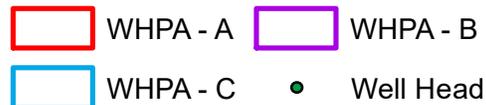
Current Approved WHPA,  
for comparison



## Groundwater Vulnerability



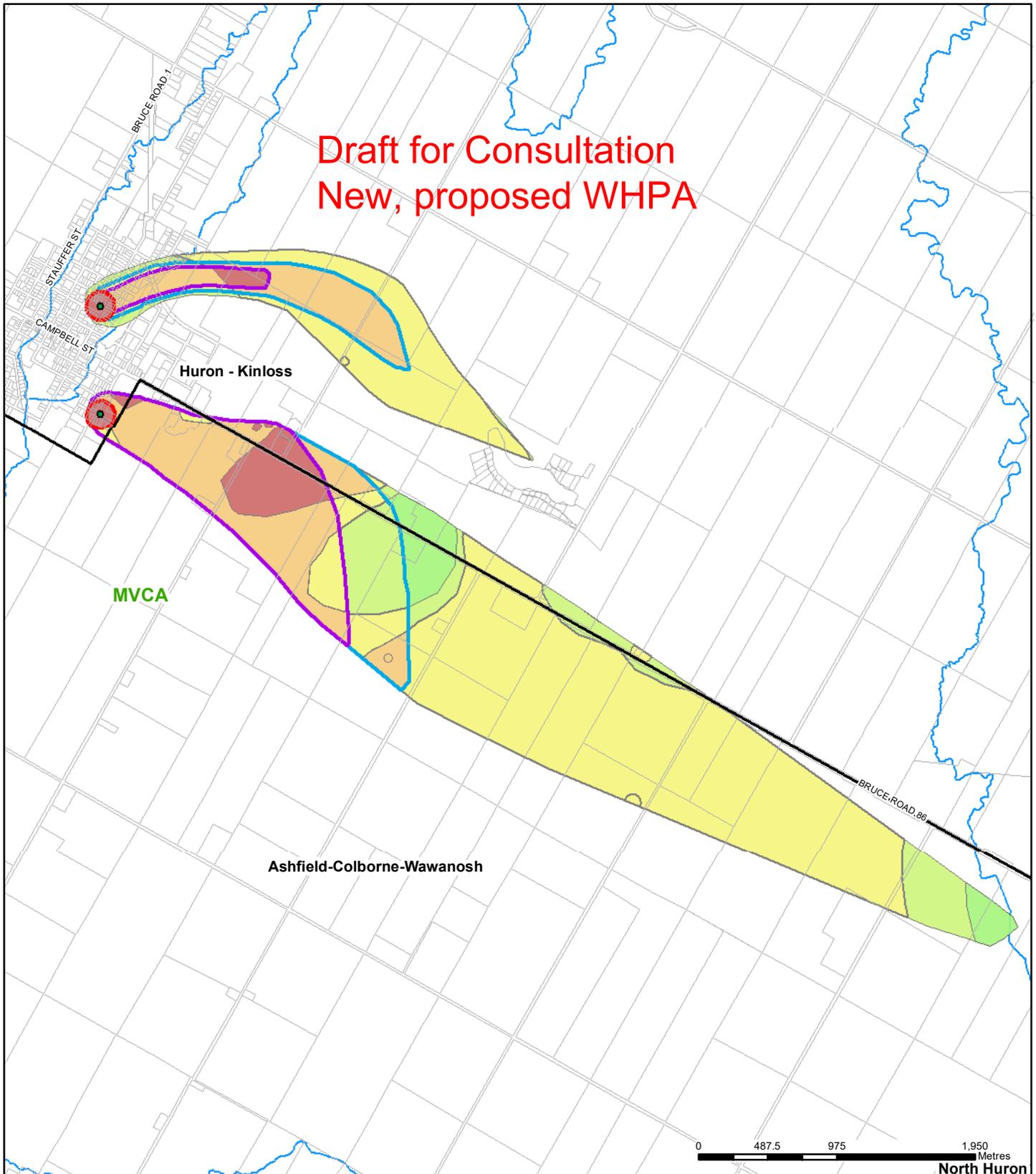
## Wellhead Protection Area



# Schedule: HK-Luck (Lucknow)



**Draft for Consultation  
New, proposed WHPA**

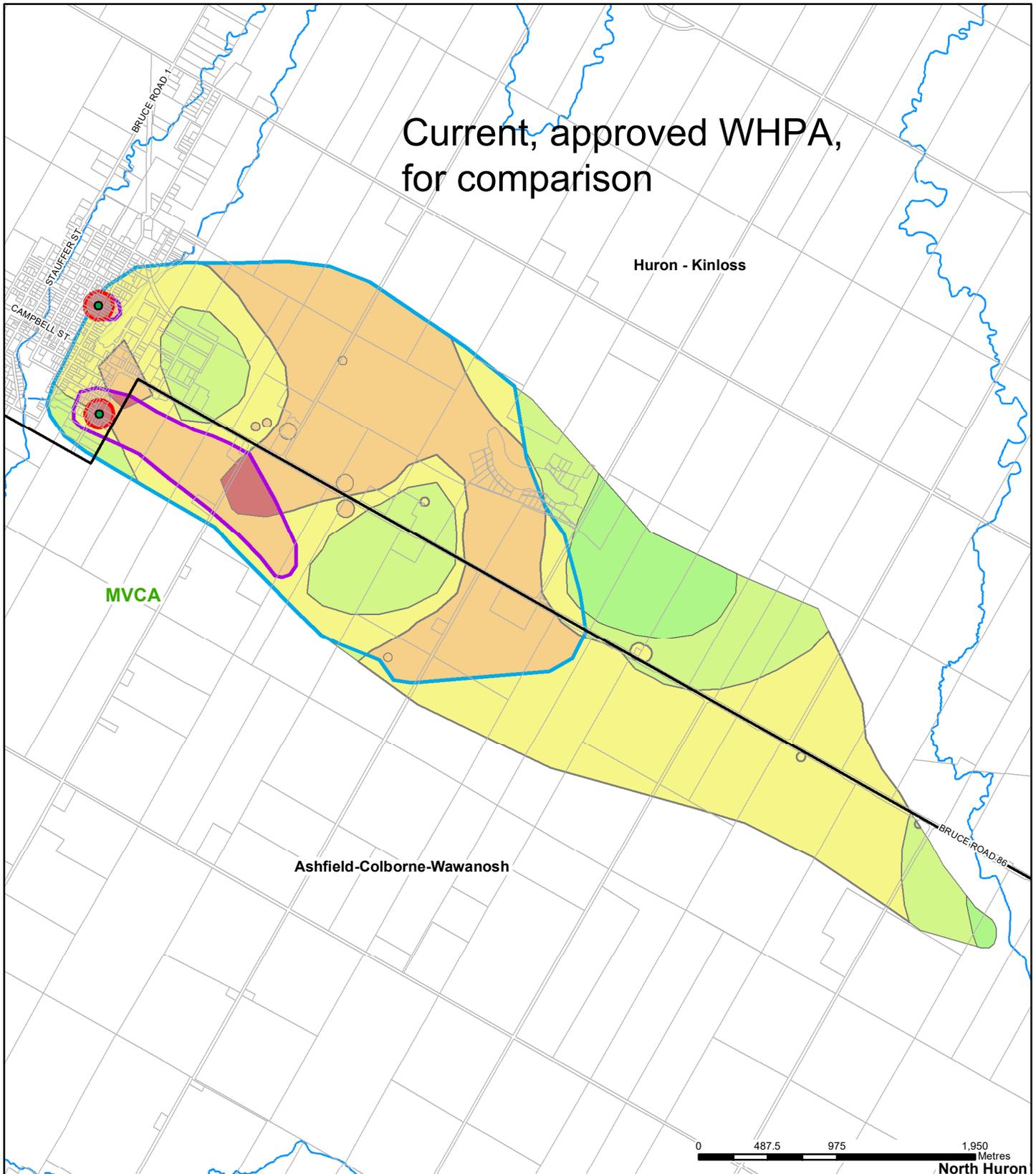


<b>Groundwater Vulnerability</b>			<b>Wellhead Protection Area</b>			Major Watercourse Municipal Boundary CA Boundary Parcels	
10	8	6	WHPA - A	WHPA - B	Well Head		
4	2		WHPA - C				

# Schedule: HK-Luck (Lucknow)

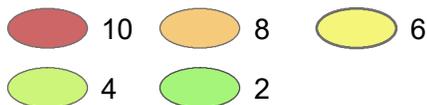


Current, approved WHPA,  
for comparison



North Huron

## Groundwater Vulnerability



## Wellhead Protection Area

