



Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan  
c/o Lower Trent Conservation

Trenton, Ontario

June 26, 2006

Canadian Section Secretary  
International Joint Commission  
234 Laurier Avenue West, 22nd Floor  
Ottawa, ON K1P 6K6

Dear IJC Canadian Section Secretary:

The Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan Restoration Council would like to take this opportunity to comment on the final report of the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence River Study Board, regarding the regulation of water levels in Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River. The position asserted in this letter is a reflection of the Council as a whole, and does not necessarily reflect the viewpoint of individual members.

When the Bay of Quinte was listed as a Great Lakes Area of Concern in 1985, degradation of fish and wildlife populations and loss of fish and wildlife habitat were identified as Impaired Beneficial Uses (IBUs 3 and 14 respectively). The historical loss and degradation of coastal wetland habitat, attributable to infilling, development pressure and lake level regulation was a major factor in the designation of IBU 14. Since that time, much has been done to prevent the further loss of coastal wetland habitat, however, lake level regulation continues to degrade coastal wetlands by reducing natural restorative processes and is an ongoing impediment to restoring fish and wildlife habitat in the Bay of Quinte.

Based on a review of the final report of the Lake Ontario-St. Lawrence Study Board, the Council is most supportive of Plan B+ (Balanced Environmental). This option would directly support the restoration of natural vegetation communities, coastal wetland functions and fish and wildlife populations and help to delist the Bay of Quinte as a Great Lakes Area of Concern.

Thank you for considering our submission. The Council appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed plans for water level management on Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River, and credits the IJC for commissioning such a thorough, inclusive and transparent process.

Sincerely,

Barry Jones  
Implementation Manager  
Bay of Quinte Remedial Action Plan