Submitted: Olena - March 31, 2026

Progress Report on the Parties 2025

Dear IJC Commissioners:

Severn Sound Environmental Association (SSEA) appreciates the opportunity to review the 2025 Progress Report of the Parties under the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement. We commend the Parties for their comprehensive reporting, clear presentation of progress, and emphasis on collaboration across federal, state, provincial, and local agencies.

We particularly value the synthesis of long-term monitoring data, the integration of multiple indicators, and the reporting of trends across all Annexes. The continued focus on nutrient management, habitat restoration, control of invasive species, chemical reduction, and climate adaptation demonstrates a strong commitment to protecting the ecological health of the Great Lakes.

Annex 7: The SSEA strongly encourages additional financial investments in protecting habitat and species, and provision of funding to adequately resource and support organizations in planning and implementing on-the-ground habitat enhancement and restoration projects.

A number of sub-indicator trends for habitat/species in Lake Huron are fair or poor and deteriorating or are fair and unchanging. The SSEA strongly encourages additional financial investments in protecting habitat, and provision of funding to adequately resource and support organizations in planning and implementing on-the-ground habitat enhancement and restoration projects, to support improving trends in habitat and species conditions for Lake Huron.

Sincerely, Olena Volik, Water Scientist / Limnologist (on behalf of the SSEA Team)