

AGENDA : ST.MALO LAKE STEWARDSHIP WORKING GROUP

MEETING THURSDAY MAY 21, 2009

1) *TOUR of St-Malo lake stewardship plan study area. Marc H. to make a short presentation on how tour will proceed before we leave.*

Present: Kristy-Layne Carr, Patrick Watson, Luc Lahaie, Marc Hamonic, Jules Gosselin, Neil Loughran, George Beaudry, Jodi Goerzen

Absent: Gerry Maynard

Chairman distributes agenda and explains purpose of group, which is to come up with projects to bring to the Rat River Watershed sub-district.

*#1 Tour of Main Issues*

*#2 Develop lists of project priorities*

**SITE 1 : 1958 PFRA damage (outlet) "SPILLWAY"**

- A. Possibilities: Fish Ladder (Gerald) – St-Malo wildlife
  - Requires financing (FEF?)
- B. Using St. Malo Lake as Retention Area
  - To mitigate downstream effects
  - Structures in place already
- C. Issues:
  - a. Lagoon discharges 3 miles downstream directly into Rat River
  - b. Neil – designed for water retention originally, bank erosion may occur if water levels rise more than currently
  - c. Gate hardly ever open, used once 20 years ago
  - d. Sediment builds up high in lake?
    - no place for sediment to go downstream
  - e. Algae at beach
  - f. Retention – how beneficial?
  - g. St. Malo Wildlife Association – Walleye stocking program
  - h. Outlet condition of sediment on intake to advent of outlet at spillway
    - Design plan of original Riverbed
  - i. Weak Ice issues?

## **SITE 2 : “BOAT LAUNCH”**

- A. Bank Erosion
  - a. High water levels cause undercuts
  - b. Westerly winds; wave action
  - c. Assist cottagers with information on bank stabilization
  - d. Worst action for banks are fluctuating water levels
- B. Public Access Points (lack thereof)
  - a. 4 public access points to lake (not including park)
  - b. MIT, St. Malo Lake Plan, owner, RM, private owners
    - Encourage buffers of riparian areas.
  - c. LUD of St. Malo mows and maintains winter roads
    - And drainage ditches into the lake
  - d. St. Malo Wildlife Association willing to beautify

## **SITE 3 : “INLET”**

### **Background – Sandbars are moving to recreate the river channel**

- A. Nutrients in the Lake
  - a. Cottages with water use off lake and back into lake
    - Septic discharges
  - b. Development along Rat River upstream
  - c. Cattails
  - d. Intensive livestock in surrounding area
- B. Study of Nutrients into lake, what can be done and how (landowners cutting bush upstream)
- C. Cattails to filter water?
  - a. Do we need to harvest? – 7 years?
  - b. Dredging will occur here
- D. Weir to deposit sediment here, silt trap, possibly further upstream, put on RM land, easier to maintain
- E. Awareness of cottagers benefit Lake irrigation

## **SITE 4 : “CHARLIE’S CREEK”**

### **Background – Coulee des Nault water diverted to here.**

- A. Most dramatic point to demonstrate water entering the lake
  - a. Speed (rpm) 2 day cycle, was 20 day
  - b. Amount (volume)

- B. Silt damn possibility? (none upstream)
- C. Animal nutrients entering?
  - a. River Mill drain enters Charlie's Creek 100' upstream
- D. Riparian improvements?
  - a. Willow planting on natural spots

**SITE 5 : Friesen Road and Mile North of Topeka "TOPEKA FARMS" BERM**

- A. Dyke created at ditch to divert water North to the Lake, to prevent overflow of hog manure spread acres into the Lake directly East
  - a. Water overland floods at Topeka farm homestead
  - b. Possibility to extend berm?
  - c. How much is the water purified through the ditch run?
  - d. Swamp turned into spread acres drains into River Mill drain, into Charlie's Creek from South side of farm

**SITE 6 : "216 and RIVER MILL Rd"**

- A. Retention to take place on crown lands, 1 mile East
  - a. Causes problems upstream on Lake because goes directly into Charlie's Creek, rather than flowing north?

**SITE 7 : "DeSALABERRY CROWN LAND" (one mile East is Hanover land)**

- Hanover land 2 miles (included into what stays suspended, what can be take out)
- Lake Winnipeg Nutrient deposits from Rat River
- Volume and speed of water drainage from the East
- Question of Nutrient deposition into Lake through suspended sediment
- St. Malo Lake – deposit sediment before lake?
- Water Retention to slow water

**2) FORMAL MEETING**

1. Review of the agenda
2. Review of the minutes (Feb. 19, 2009)
3. Review of the terms of reference; with changes if needed
  - Pat will email to all members

4. Kristy-Layne elaborates on arrangement between SRRCD and St. Malo working group
  - Purpose of group is to identify main issues to bring as recommendations to SD3/4 to implement.
5. Review of lists of issues and concerns with Lake, recommendation of priority projects from today's tour
  - For members to digest, bring priority to table next meeting
  - Bring any other items for discussion next meeting
6. Kristy-Layne will write a letter to notify government departments of our existence
  - Will email to MIT, WS, Provincial Parks, etc.
7. Next meeting
  - June 16 Tuesday (possibility of change)
8. Adjournment 2:08 pm

Discussion follows:

#### Advertising

- Community news letters
- Carillon
- Local grocery stores
- Website, live links from partners
- News releases on radio
- George Beaudry -communications liaison

#### Resources

- Request that Arvid bring information to the group from MIT
- PFRA library on Main Street (Winnipeg)
- Dwane Botain, engineer (call for information)