



The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

Keeping a Great Lake 'Great' Since 1998!

The Lake Huron Coastal Action Plan - What's new?



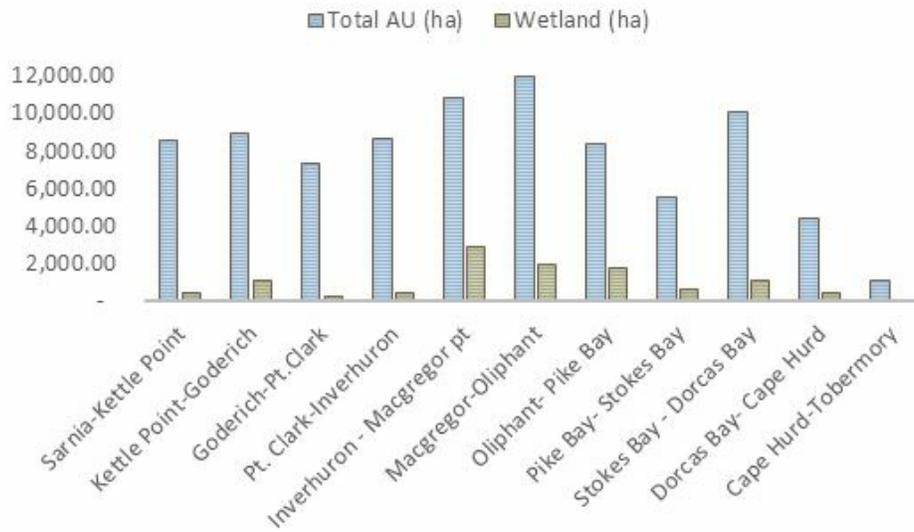
In 2017, we began developing a Coastal Action Plan for the southeastern shoreline of Lake Huron. After a year and a half, we are thrilled to say that the plan is halfway there! This year we have been focusing on three key ecosystems that can be found along the coast: wetlands, woodlands and river mouths. Whether you are a permanent resident or a seasonal goer, chances are you have spent some time in one of these places. Our project study area includes the coastal corridor from Sarnia to Tobermory, extending 1-4 km inland, and offshore to a water depth of 6m (see map). We have also divided

the shoreline into Assessment Units (AU); these were decided based on littoral cell nodes. In this section we will look at some of the information collected from our 11 Assessment Units.

Lake Huron's coastal wetlands were once more abundant than they are now and remain limited to a narrow corridor referred to as the Coastal Fringe. They make up approximately 13% of the Coastal Fringe and are a valuable buffer between the lake and upland areas, absorbing high wave power and providing critical habitat to rare species. The chart below shows the number of hectares of wetlands as compared to

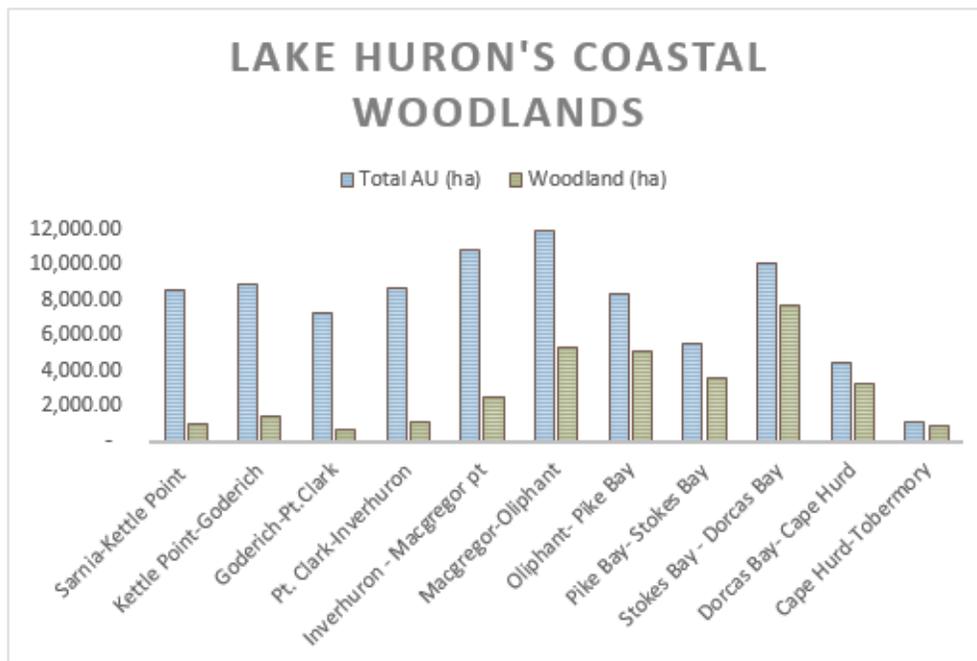
the total hectares within our Assessment Units.

LAKE HURON'S WETLANDS



Coastal Woodlands cover approximately 38% of the Coastal Fringe. Much of our coastal forests are located in Bruce County; nonetheless there are some large intact forests throughout our Counties (E.g. Pinery Provincial Park). The chart above shows us the number of hectares of woodlands compared to the total land-use of each Assessment Unit.

LAKE HURON'S COASTAL WOODLANDS



We may not think of River mouths (where the lake meets a river) as an ecosystem, but they provide a unique habitat for both aquatic and terrestrial species that become reliant on this inter-connectedness for breeding, feeding, and nesting. Our river mouths are areas of drastic change through the year and over time as the surrounding landscape, and the lake levels changes. There are 12 major river mouths on the southeastern shoreline of Lake Huron. Next time you have a chance, take the time to admire these unique ecosystems!

Stay Tuned! In 2019, we will be focusing our efforts on our last three ecosystems: Alvars, Islands and Nearshore habitats. For more information on the Coastal Action Plan development please contact the [Coastal Stewardship Coordinator](#).

COMPLETE OUR GREEN PEOPLE SURVEY FOR A CHANCE TO WIN a \$50 MEC GIFT CARD !

Through our generous funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation we are working to create a healthy coastline with vibrant communities on Lake Huron. In order to learn and share our learning with communities, the foundation has requested that we ask our communities what they value about Lake Huron and their connection with nature.

We'd like to welcome you to fill out the Green People Survey- it will take about 5 minutes to complete. You will be entered for a chance to win a \$50 gift card for Mountain Equipment Co-op!

Thank you for sharing your thoughts with us!

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

"It's Only One Straw"

"It's just one straw". Globally, there is a push to adopt the "straw-free lifestyle" in an attempt to reduce single-use plastics. Many of the staff at the Coastal Centre have jumped on board with this movement, sporting our trendy (and adorable!) glass Piping Plover straws at every opportunity possible. This usually provokes a number of different conversations, most of which are filled with positivity and support for actively choosing to reduce our impacts, but the most rewarding reactions are surprisingly the confusion with what we are trying to accomplish. The people who are asking "Do you really think refusing a straw will make an impact?" are the people that we want to talk to.



Does one straw make a difference? Maybe not in the grand scheme of the millions of straws being disposed of every day, but the conversation that surrounds the refusal of a straw does. By bringing a reusable straw to family barbeques or dinner with friends, I have opened a window of opportunity to be engaged about why I actively choose not to use them. I can't count how many times I have received a message from a friend or

family member proudly sharing their experience about how they refused a straw, or bought a reusable cup, or made the switch to reusable grocery bags. These actions might seem like small scale victories, but we never know who will be inspired over a conversation about refusing a straw. Maybe it is one straw, but it could be “the straw that broke the camel’s back” on people’s perspective on single-use plastics.

Take the pledge today to show your commitment to reducing plastic pollution in our Great Lakes. Use [#PlasticFreeHuron](#) to show us how you are making small changes to keep our Great Lake Great!

Take the Pledge

Did you know there have been ticks in Huron County that have tested positive for Lyme Disease? Check out Huron County Health Unit’s article about how to keep yourself and others safe around ticks.

Huron County Health Unit's Article

As a non-profit, charitable organization, The Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation supports environmental efforts along the Canadian coast of Lake Huron. Thank you for supporting our Coastal Centre!

We rely on donations from people like you to keep doing the amazing work we do along the shores of Lake Huron. Your contributions help engage communities, educate individuals, and create change for a brighter environmental future on our Great Lake!

DONATE TODAY!

