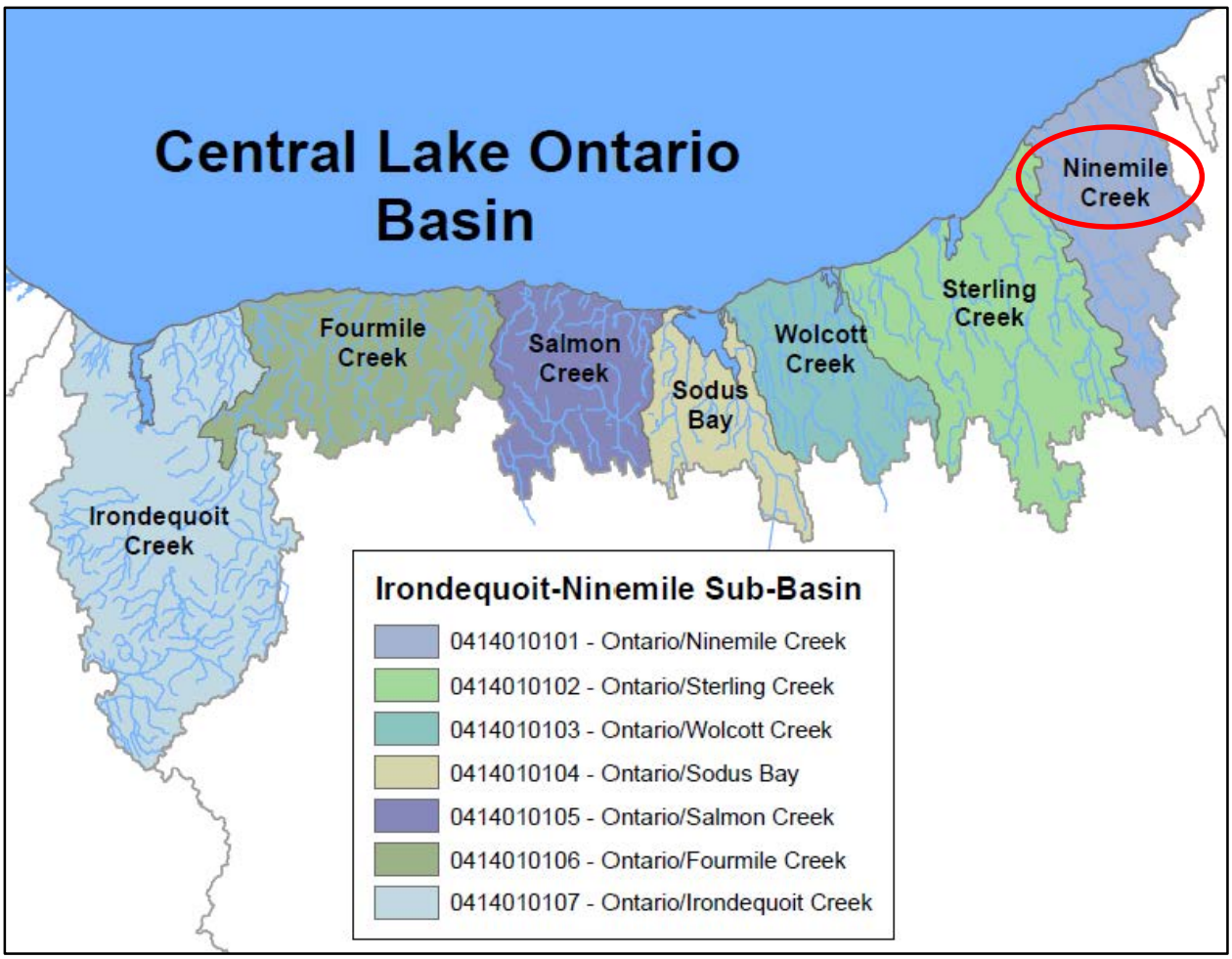

Lake Ontario/Ninemile Creek Watershed
(0414010101)

Water Index Number	Waterbody Segment	Category
Ont (portion 10)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Oswego (0302 0040)	Impaired Seg
Ont (portion 11)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Central (0302 0041)	Impaired Seg
Ont 66b thru 71 (selected)	Minor Tribs to Lake Ontario (0302 0046)	UnAssessed
Ont 67	Rice Creek and tribs (0302 0047)	NoKnownImpct
Ont 68 P65	Mud Pond (0302 0048)	UnAssessed
Ont 70	Eightmile Creek and tribs (0302 0049)	UnAssessed
Ont 71	Ninemile Creek, Lower, and tribs (0302 0005)	MinorImpacts
Ont 71	Ninemile Creek, Upper, and tribs (0302 0050)	UnAssessed
Ont 71 2 P67	McMullen Pond (0302 0051)	UnAssessed

Lake Ontario Shoreline, Oswego (0302-0040) Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 06/05/2007

Water Index No: Ont (portion 10)
Hydro Unit Code: 04140101/ **Str Class:** C
Waterbody Type: G.Lakes
Waterbody Size: 2.8 ShrMi
Seg Description: shoreline within Oswego Harbor

Drain Basin: Lake Ontario Irondequoit/Ninemile
Reg/County: 7/Oswego Co. (38)
Quad Map: OSWEGO WEST (H-14-2)

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known
Recreation	Stressed	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBs), PRIORITY ORGANICS (dioxin), PESTICIDES (mirex), Aesthetics (floatables), Pathogens
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT, Comb. Sewer Overflow
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA **Resolution Potential:** Medium
TMDL/303d Status: 2b (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Fish Consumption)

Further Details

Fish consumption in Lake Ontario, including this length of the lake shoreline, is impaired by contamination from the past/historic discharge of organics (PCBs, dioxin) and pesticides (mirex). Recreational uses of this portion of the shoreline also experience impacts from CSO discharges to the Lake and the Oswego River.

Fish consumption in Lake Ontario (and all tribs to the first impassable barrier) is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no American eel, channel catfish, carp, larger lake trout (over 25 inches), larger brown trout (over 20 inches) and chinook salmon and eating no more than one meal per month of white sucker, rainbow trout, smaller lake trout, smaller brown trout and larger coho salmon (over 25 inches) because of elevated levels of PCBs, dioxin and mirex. The advisory also recommends eating no more than on meal per month of white perch for portions of the lake east of Point Breeze. The source of organics/pesticides is contaminated lake sediments, the result of past/historic industrial discharges to the lake, the Niagara River and the Upper Great Lakes. The advisory for this lake was first issued prior to 1998-99. (2006-07 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DFWMR, Habitat, December 2006).

The governments of the United States and Canada made a commitment in 1987, as part of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), to develop a Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) for each of the five Great Lakes. The Lake Ontario LaMP is a binational, cooperative effort that also involves a large number of local, statewide and federal partners. The goals of the LaMP are to restore and protect the health of Lake Ontario by reducing chemical pollutants entering the lake and addressing the biological and physical factors impacting the lake. The LaMP evaluates use impairments, identifies sources of the identified impairments and recommends strategies for resolution of the impairments and restoration of beneficial uses.

An outline of the most recent Lake Ontario LaMP activities and progress can be found in the Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan Status 2006 Report (www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakeont/2006/index.ht ml). The LaMP 2006 Status Report is the latest, comprehensive compilation of existing LaMP reports. The document contains new/updated information on the current status of beneficial use impairments, sources and loads of critical pollutants, public involvement and communication and significant ongoing and emerging issues. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQM, January 2007)

The City of Oswego is served by a system of combined sewers originally designed to convey both stormwater and sanitary wastewater to local waterways for disposal. Subsequently, these sewers were redirected to sewage treatment facilities which were designed for dry weather flow conditions. As a result, the system's conveyance and treatment capacity is exceeded during wet weather, resulting in the overflow and discharge of untreated wastewater to local waterbodies. Although the City implemented a number of sewer separation projects, there are still locations where combined sewage overflows (CSOs) exist. An April 2004 Consent Order with NYSDEC requires implementation of the City's 2002 Combined Sewer Overflow Long Term Control Plan. The Long Term Control Plan consists of a number of phased improvements to enable the City's wastewater conveyance and treatment facilities to handle the increased volume of combined sewage that would result from eliminating the existing overflows of combined sewage. The Phase I work includes various improvements to the East Side Wastewater Treatment Facility to increase the volume of combined sewage that can be treated by the facility. Phase II of the LTCP includes components which are necessary to capture and convey more flow to the plant and eliminate sewage overflows. (DEC/DOW, Region 7, 2006)

This length of Lake Ontario Shoreline is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake is included on Part 2b of the List as a Fish Consumption Water.

In July of 2006 Oswego Harbor was officially removed from the list of Great Lakes Areas of Concern. The harbor is the first and only one of 31 Areas of Concern in the US to be delisted. Pollution reduction activities in the Oswego Remedial Action Plan (RAP) to date that led to the delisting include remediation of State Superfund hazardous waste sites, upgrade of the Oswego WWTP and collection system, control of point and nonpoint water discharges, reduction of nutrients and stormwater runoff, implementation of river corridor enhancement projects and the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission's (FERC) re-licensing of the Oswego River power dam license to increase and better support the suitable fish habitat in the AOC. These actions have resulted in improved water quality, a more productive fishery, expanded recreational uses and a revitalized the river shoreline and downtown area. (DEC/DOW and USEPA, July 2006)

This segment includes the portion of the Lake Ontario shoreline from a point marked by the extension of the east harbor breakwater to the west harbor breakwater. The waters of this portion of the shoreline are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are listed separately.

Lake Ontario Shoreline, Central (0302-0041) Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 10/06/2004

Water Index No: Ont (portion 11) **Drain Basin:** Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code: 04140101/080 **Str Class:** A
Waterbody Type: G.Lakes **Reg/County:** 7/Oswego Co. (38)
Waterbody Size: 9.8 ShrMi **Quad Map:** OSWEGO WEST (H-14-2)
Seg Description: shoreline from Oswego to West Ninemile Point

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)
Known: PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBs), PRIORITY ORGANICS (dioxin), PESTICIDES (mirex)
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)
Known: TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: ext/EPA **Resolution Potential:** Medium
TMDL/303d Status: 2b (Multiple Segment/Categorical Water, Fish Consumption)

Further Details

Fish consumption in Lake Ontario, including this length of the lake shoreline, is impaired by contamination from the past/historic discharge of organics (PCBs, dioxin) and pesticides (mirex).

Fish consumption in Lake Ontario (and all tribs to the first impassable barrier) is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no American eel, channel catfish, carp, larger lake trout (over 25 inches), larger brown trout (over 20 inches) and chinook salmon and eating no more than one meal per month of white sucker, rainbow trout, smaller lake trout, smaller brown trout and larger coho salmon (over 25 inches) because of elevated levels of PCBs, dioxin and mirex. The advisory also recommends eating no more than on meal per month of white perch for portions of the lake east of Point Breeze. The source of organics/pesticides is contaminated lake sediments, the result of past/historic industrial discharges to the lake, the Niagara River and the Upper Great Lakes. The advisory for this lake was first issued prior to 1998-99. (2006-07 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DFWMR, Habitat, December 2006).

The governments of the United States and Canada made a commitment in 1987, as part of the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA), to develop a Lakewide Management Plan (LaMP) for each of the five Great Lakes. The Lake Ontario LaMP is a binational, cooperative effort that also involves a large number of local, statewide and federal

partners. The goals of the LaMP are to restore and protect the health of Lake Ontario by reducing chemical pollutants entering the lake and addressing the biological and physical factors impacting the lake. The LaMP evaluates use impairments, identifies sources of the identified impairments and recommends strategies for resolution of the impairments and restoration of beneficial uses.

An outline of the most recent Lake Ontario LaMP activities and progress can be found in the Lake Ontario Lakewide Management Plan Status 2006 Report (www.epa.gov/glnpo/lakeont/2006/index.ht ml). The LaMP 2006 Status Report is the latest, comprehensive compilation of existing LaMP reports. The document contains new/updated information on the current status of beneficial use impairments, sources and loads of critical pollutants, public involvement and communication and significant ongoing and emerging issues. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQM, January 2007)

This length of Lake Ontario Shoreline is included on the NYS 2006 Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The lake is included on Part 2b of the List as a Fish Consumption Water.

This segment includes the portion of the Lake Ontario shoreline from the west harbor breakwater to West Ninemile Point, just west of Ninemile Creek. The waters of this portion of the shoreline are Class A. Tribs to this reach/segment are listed separately.

Rice Creek and tribs (0302-0047) NoKnownImpct

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 05/04/2007

Water Index No:	Ont 67			**Drain Basin:**	Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code:	04140101/080	**Str Class:**	C(T)		Irondequoit/Ninemile
Waterbody Type:	River			**Reg/County:**	7/Oswego Co. (38)
Waterbody Size:	30.9 Miles			**Quad Map:**	OSWEGO WEST (H-14-2)
Seg Description:	entire stream and tribs				

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
NO USE IMPAIRMNT		

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 8 (No Known Use Impairment)
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: n/a **Resolution Potential:** n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a

Further Details

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Rice Creek in Fruit Valley (at Route 104) was conducted in 2001. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. Impact Source Determination indicated nonpoint source nutrient enrichment to be the primary source of impacts, although the less than ideal substrate (bedrock) and upstream ponded area also likely influence the results of this sample. Nutrient biotic evaluation determined these effects on the fauna to be fairly minor. Aquatic life support is considered to be fully supported in the stream, and there are no other apparent water quality impacts to designated uses. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, June 2005)

This segment includes the entire stream and all tribs. The waters of the stream are Class C,C(T). Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C,C(T).

Ninemile Creek, Lower, and tribs (0302-0005) MinorImpacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 06/25/2007

Water Index No:	Ont 71			**Drain Basin:**	Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code:	04140101/080	**Str Class:**	C		Irondequoit/Ninemile
Waterbody Type:	River			**Reg/County:**	7/Oswego Co. (38)
Waterbody Size:	22.2 Miles			**Quad Map:**	OSWEGO WEST (H-14-2)
Seg Description:	stream and tribs, from mouth to Hannibal				

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Known
Recreation	Stressed	Known
Aesthetics	Stressed	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: PATHOGENS, Aesthetics
Suspected: D.O./OXYGEN DEMAND, NUTRIENTS (phosphorus)
Possible: - - -

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: ON-SITE/SEPTIC SYST (Hannibal), OTHER SANITARY DISCH
Suspected: - - -
Possible: - - -

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: 1 (Needs Verification/Study (see STATUS))
Verification Status: 4 (Source Identified, Strategy Needed)
Lead Agency/Office: DOW/Reg7 **Resolution Potential:** Medium
TMDL/303d Status: n/a

Further Details

Aquatic life support and recreational uses in this portion of Ninemile Creek are known to experience impacts due to residential septic discharges to the creek. Whether conditions are sufficiently severe to be considered impaired needs to be verified.

Previously, it was reported that residential septic wastes from house connections to storm sewers and failing and/or inadequate on-site wastewater treatment systems result in discharges to the creek that cause odor and aesthetic problems discouraging recreational and other uses. During warm weather odors can be very strong. The greatest overflows occur during wet periods of the year when existing undersized septic systems backup and drain into the stream. Additional problems are posed by mobile homes without any septic systems. Some village lots in Hannibal are too small to accommodate both a well and septic system.

A biological (macroinvertebrate) assessment of Ninemile Creek farther downstream in Sterling (at Irwin Road) was conducted in 1995. Sampling results indicated slightly impacted water quality conditions. Impact Source Determination

indicated municipal/industrial inputs were the most likely source of impacts, which is consistent with the known problems in the creek. Although aquatic life is supported in the stream, nutrient biotic evaluation indicates the level of eutrophication is sufficient to stress aquatic life support. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/SBU, June 2005)

This segment includes the portion of the stream and all tribs from the mouth to/including unnamed trib (-7) in Hannibal. The waters of this portion of the stream are Class C. Tribs to this reach/segment are also Class C. Upper Ninemile Creek is listed separately.