



Lake Ontario/Mill Creek Watershed (0415010204)

Water Index Number	Waterbody Segment	Category
Ont (portion 3)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Eastern (0303 0026)	Impaired Seg
Ont (portion 3a)	Black River Bay (0303 0102)	Impaired Seg
Ont (portion 4)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Eastern (0303 0027)	Impaired Seg
Ont (portion 4a)	Henderson Bay (0303 0022)	Impaired Seg
Ont (portion 5)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Eastern (0303 0028)	Impaired Seg
Ont 19a thru 24 (select)	Minor Tribs to L. Ontario (0303 0101)	UnAssessed
Ont 25	Mill Creek and tribs (0303 0044)	UnAssessed
Ont 25a thru 39	Minor Tribs to Lake Ontario (0303 0045)	UnAssessed

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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.html). 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 Bull Rock Point to the point of mainland just east of Horse Island near Sackets Harbor, encompassing the shoreline of Black River Bay. The waters of this portion of the shoreline are Class C. Tribes to this reach/segment, including Black River Bay proper and Black River, are listed separately.

The Bay experiences impacts from 2 sewer overflow points. One is from the collection system serving the Madison Barracks complex; this overflow will be remediated once the replacement of the entire sewer collection system and installation of a new pump station (with no overflow) is completed. This is expected by 2008. However, the main pump station for the Village of Sackets Harbor system still has an overflow/bypass structure that directs raw sewage to the bay when flows exceed pumping capacity, which this occurs at least a few times a year. The village is under order to eliminate this, but a schedule to address the problem has not been developed. (DEC/DOW, Region 6, June 2007)

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This segment includes the portion of the Lake Ontario shoreline from the point of mainland just east of Horse Island near Sackets Harbor to the eastern point of Association Island, encompassing the shoreline of Henderson Bay. The waters of this portion of the shoreline are Class A. Tribes to this reach/segment, as well as Henderson Bay proper, are listed separately.

Henderson Bay (0303-0022)

Impaired Seg

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 04/12/2007

Water Index No: Ont (portion 4a) **Drain Basin:** Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code: 04140102/ **Str Class:** A Salmon R/Sandy Cr
Waterbody Type: Bay **Reg/County:** 6/Jefferson Co. (23)
Waterbody Size: 20.0 Acres **Quad Map:** HENDERSON BAY (F-16-1)
Seg Description: entire bay, see description

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information (CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Water Supply	Stressed	Known
Public Bathing	Stressed	Known
FISH CONSUMPTION	Impaired	Known
Recreation	Stressed	Known

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBs), PRIORITY ORGANICS (dioxin), PESTICIDES (mirex), Algal/Weed Growth, Nutrients, Pathogens
Suspected: ---
Possible: ---

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT, On-Site/Septic Syst
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/Henderson Bay is impaired by contamination from the past/historic discharge of organics (PCBs, dioxin) and pesticides (mirex). In addition, water supply and various recreational (swimming, boating, fishing) uses in Henderson Bay are known to experience impacts/threats as a result of inadequately treated sewage discharges from the Hamlet of Henderson Harbor and failing and/or inadequate on-site septic systems serving cottage communities and seasonal homes along the bay.

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).

Sanitary surveys conducted by NYSDOH and NYSDEC in 1993 have confirmed household discharges to the bay. These discharges contribute pathogens as well as nutrients that result in excessive aquatic weed and algal growth, increased oxygen demand and a general decrease in water quality and aesthetics. Two municipalities (Village of Sackets Harbor and the Town of Henderson) currently draw water for public supply from the bay. In addition, a number of private users (motels, campgrounds, marinas, restaurants) have either installed filtration equipment or are on legal notice to do so. Protection of public bathing and recreation at Westcott Beach State Park and several small private beaches is of concern due to pathogens and aquatic weed growth. Some private beaches have already been closed due to environmental concerns. Aesthetic complaints regarding weeds and odors have been received. (DEC/DOW, Region 6, May 2007)

A sewer district to serve Henderson Harbor in the Town of Henderson remains in the planning stage. The town has hired a consultant (Bernier, Carr & Assoc, Watertown) to develop a revised preliminary engineering report to address sewage problems in the area. The 1993 sanitary survey will be used to help develop alternatives. However, costs are prohibitive and the project has stalled due to lack of adequate funding. (DEC/DOW, Region 6, May 2007)

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