Cattaraugus Creek
Integrated Watershed Action Plan

Watershed Stakeholder Committee
Meeting #1

November 10\textsuperscript{th}, 2021
Welcome!
Reminder of Zoom Controls

You are not alone! Shows participants in meeting—let us know if anyone is missing to include in future discussions.

Toggle whether your **video** is on or not. Limiting video use can optimize performance.

Toggle whether you are **muted** or not. Keep yourself muted when not speaking.

Look for **links and share questions or comments** in the chat.
Ice Breaker

In the Zoom Chat:

• Please share your name and affiliation

• Question: What is your favorite place or thing about the Cattaraugus Creek Watershed?
Today’s Speakers

Liz Moran
President
EcoLogic LLC

Shannon Dougherty
Great Lakes Watershed Coordinator
NYSDEC

Tony Eallonardo
SME/Technical Manager
Ramboll

Andrew Brainard
Aquatic Ecologist
Ramboll
Meeting Agenda

- Introduction to Integrated Watershed Action Plan (IWAP)
- Watershed Stakeholder Committee
- Ecosystem Values and Benefits
- Look & Listen Tour
- Discussion and Interactive Feedback
- Closing Remarks and Next Steps
Introduction to Integrated Watershed Action Plan (IWAP)

Shannon Dougherty (NYSDEC)

- Project background
- Great Lakes Action Agenda (GLAA)
- Ecosystem-Based Management (EBM)
NY’s Great Lakes Action Agenda (GLAA)
Ecosystem-based Management (EBM)

A systems approach that strives to balance the needs of people, nature, and the economy through science-based decision making.

- Place-based
- Protection of ecosystem structure, function and key processes
- Interconnectedness within and among systems
- Integration of ecological, social, economic and institutional perspectives
- Sustainable human uses of the ecosystem
- Stakeholder involvement & collaboration
- Scientific foundation for decision-making
- Adaptive Management
Why Cattaraugus Creek Watershed?

- Keep it healthy!
- Key opportunity areas: water quality & erosion, flooding, outdoor recreation, native species protection, fishing, etc.
- Strong foundation of planning and partnerships
- Largest NY tributary to Lake Erie
### Watershed Interests and Threats - 2018 Stakeholder Survey

**Percentage of Responses Mentioning Concern**

- **Water Quality**: 80%
- **Protection of Fish/Aquatic Species Habitat and Survival**: 70%
- **Wildlife Preservation**: 50%
- **Eco-Based Recreation and Tourism**: 40%
- **Sustainable Land Use and Floodplain Management**: 30%

**Percentage of Responses Mentioning Goal**

- **Habitat and Survival Management**: 80%
- **Agricultural/Rural Runoff Impacts on Water Quality**: 70%
- **Wastewater/Pollution**: 60%
- **Invasive Species**: 50%
- **Streambank Erosion**: 40%
- **Lack of Community Awareness of Watershed Issues and Best Practices**: 30%
Integrated Watershed Action Plan (IWAP)

- Improve shared **understanding and values** of the Cattaraugus Creek watershed and the ecosystem services we all benefit from
- Develop **indicators of ecosystem benefits** (e.g., water quality, recreation, forest health, habitat & connectivity) to track progress
- Identify **“best bet” management actions and projects** that maintain ecosystem services
- Increased **local community involvement, partnerships and funding opportunities**

_Healthy, resilient ecosystems for communities into the future!_
IWAP - Potential Outcomes & Actions

- Identify key areas to protect drinking water sources, restore fish & wildlife habitat, forest management best practices, implement nature-based flood mitigation, etc.
- Highlight priority areas for nutrient and sediment best management practices
- Identify strategies to enhance sustainable outdoor recreational opportunities
- Restore and revitalize community “waterfronts”
- Create climate resilient land use planning and zoning recommendations
Cattaraugus Creek
Integrated Watershed Action Plan

Existing and Ongoing Planning Efforts

- Drinking Water Source Protection Program (DWSP2)
- Lake Erie Nine Element Watershed Plan (9EP)
- Resilient NY Flood Studies
- Fisheries Management Plans
- NYS Open Space Plan

Develop shared goals, indicators, strategies, and actions for ecosystem benefits

Community and stakeholder input

Inform and Integrate
Watershed Stakeholder Committee (WSC)

Liz Moran (EcoLogic LLC)

- Roles
- Schedule
- Logistics
Watershed Stakeholder Committee

- Local experts (personal experiences, knowledge of area)
  - Need information about specific areas
- Members from various backgrounds with different specialties
Expectations and Overall Schedule

- Nov. 2021: WSC Meeting 1
- WSC Meeting 4: Q1 2023
- WSC Meeting 3: Q4 2022
- Public Meeting 2: Q1 2023
- Public Meeting 3: Q2 2023
- WSC Meeting 2: Q1 2022
Ecosystem Values and Benefits

Andrew Brainard and Tony Eallonardo (Ramboll)

- Ecosystems support ecological, social, and economic well-being
- Value of watersheds
# Values and Benefits

> Ecosystems provide MANY benefits to us!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Direct benefits:</th>
<th>Indirect benefits:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>- Fresh water</td>
<td>- Habitat formation</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Food (e.g., crops)</td>
<td>- Climate regulation</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Raw materials (e.g., timber)</td>
<td>- Nutrient cycling</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Medicinal resources</td>
<td>- Disturbance regulation (e.g., flood protection)</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Aesthetics</td>
<td>- Soil formation / retention</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Recreation</td>
<td>- Primary production</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Scientific discovery</td>
<td>- Carbon sequestration</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Educational value</td>
<td>- Pollination</td>
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<tr>
<td>- Energy</td>
<td>- Purification of air</td>
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Types and extent of benefits depend on scale and setting …
Watersheds  
an area or ridge of land that separates waters flowing to different rivers, basins, or seas
Watershed Look and Listen (L&L) Tour

Opportunity to inform us about your values and concerns!
Discussion and Interactive Feedback

Liz Moran (EcoLogic LLC)

- Google JamBoard
Google JamBoard

*Interactive Feedback:*

What priorities and goals would you like us to focus on in developing the IWAP for the Cattaraugus Creek Watershed?
Google JamBoard

How to use JamBoard:

• Click on the link provided in the Zoom chat: https://jamboard.google.com/d/1-tUmN2VKTBOjFYILDc-WRQYxHBDKWoktEUTwKQ_t5yg/edit?usp=sharing

• To navigate through the frames, click on the arrows located on the top of your screen

• To comment, click on sticky note icon on the left side of your screen
  ✓ Type your comment, then press save to post your comment on the slide

→ JamBoard will remain open for a week after this meeting to allow time for comments and feedback
Thank you!

Final questions or comments?

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