



Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

Highlighting 4 Years of Protecting Drinking Water Sources

Latonnell - November 18, 2011

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MOE, Source Protection

Background & Legislative Framework

The Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program (ODWSP) was established by the Clean Water Act (CWA) and administered in accordance with O. Reg 287/07.

The CWA set in place the framework and requirements for the development of local source protection plans to protect municipal drinking water sources.

September 19, 2006: Ontario Premier announced 4 years of committed funding for ODWSP through to 2010-2011.



ODWSP 4 Year Model

Years 1 – 3 (2007/08 to 2009/10)

Early Actions: Voluntary landowner projects that directly help protect municipal drinking water sources.

Education & Outreach: Informing the public about the ODWSP, CWA and source protection in general.

Special Projects: Projects that complement Early Actions and Education and Outreach and protect drinking water sources.

Year 4 (2010/11)

Early Response: Financial assistance for early voluntary measures to address identified significant drinking water threats ahead of the preparation of source protection plans.

Land Securement: Financial assistance for municipalities to purchase land within the 100m radius of a municipal wellhead.

Alignment of ODWSP with Source Protection Planning

- In the first three years, the ODWSP provided financial assistance to projects that generally helped protect municipal drinking water sources from activities in the vulnerable areas.
- In 2010-11, the ODWSP re-aligned with the source protection planning process, which was in the stage of assessment report development.
- ODWSP shifted focus to fund projects to address significant drinking water threats identified in local assessment reports.
- Under the Early Response model, mirroring Early Actions, conservation authorities will be administering funding at a local level.
- In 2010-11 the ODWSP also provided over \$500K to support municipalities to purchase land around their municipal wellheads.

Early Actions Landowner Projects

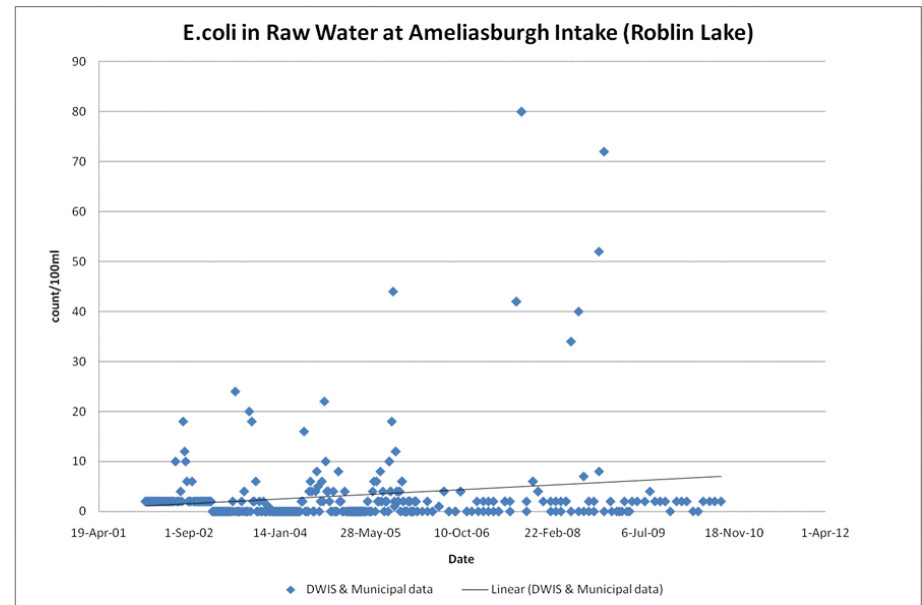


Early Actions

	Completed	In-Progress
• Septic System Inspections & Upgrades	1254	57
• Well Decommissioning & Upgrades	618	30
• Runoff & Erosion Protection	105	19
• Pollution Prevention Reviews	63	2
	2040	108

Yielding Early Results

- As Early Actions delivery is still ongoing, an evaluation of the results of this program has not been undertaken.
- To date, funding has been provided to local conservation authorities for projects to help protect 431 municipal residential drinking water systems.*
- The ministry has however begun to receive anecdotal information from conservation authorities highlighting the potential impacts of Early Actions under the ODWSP.



- **Quinte Conservation received over \$200K over three years under the Early Actions module of the ODWSP.**
- **Among other projects, the CA funded 24 septic projects around Robin Lake.**
- **Early results indicate a decline in E.coli levels at the municipal drinking water intake since the projects were completed**

On-the-Ground Action

- The ODWSP funded numerous projects for on the ground work that helped protect local municipal drinking water sources.



Essex Region SPA:

- CA received funding for the removal of an underground gasoline fuel storage tank on the banks of the Detroit River within the IPZ-1 for the Amherstburg drinking water system.
- By removing the tank the potential threat of contamination to the drinking water system as a result of fuel leakage was eliminated

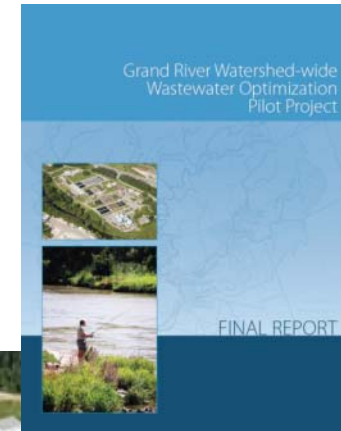


Innovative Projects

- The ODWSP funded numerous innovative pilot and research projects for the protection of drinking water sources or the development of universal tools that may be applied to municipal drinking water source protection.

GRCA Optimization Study

- CA received funding for a pilot project to engage supervisors and operators of 28 waste water treatment plants to identify limiting factors in producing high-quality effluent.
- Used results to put in place test processes at some plants to optimize operations.
- Optimized waste water treatment performance has resulted in financial savings for municipalities due to:
 - Deferred capital investments
 - Fewer bypasses
 - Improved effluent quality



Reaching Out



DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION
ACT FOR CLEAN WATER

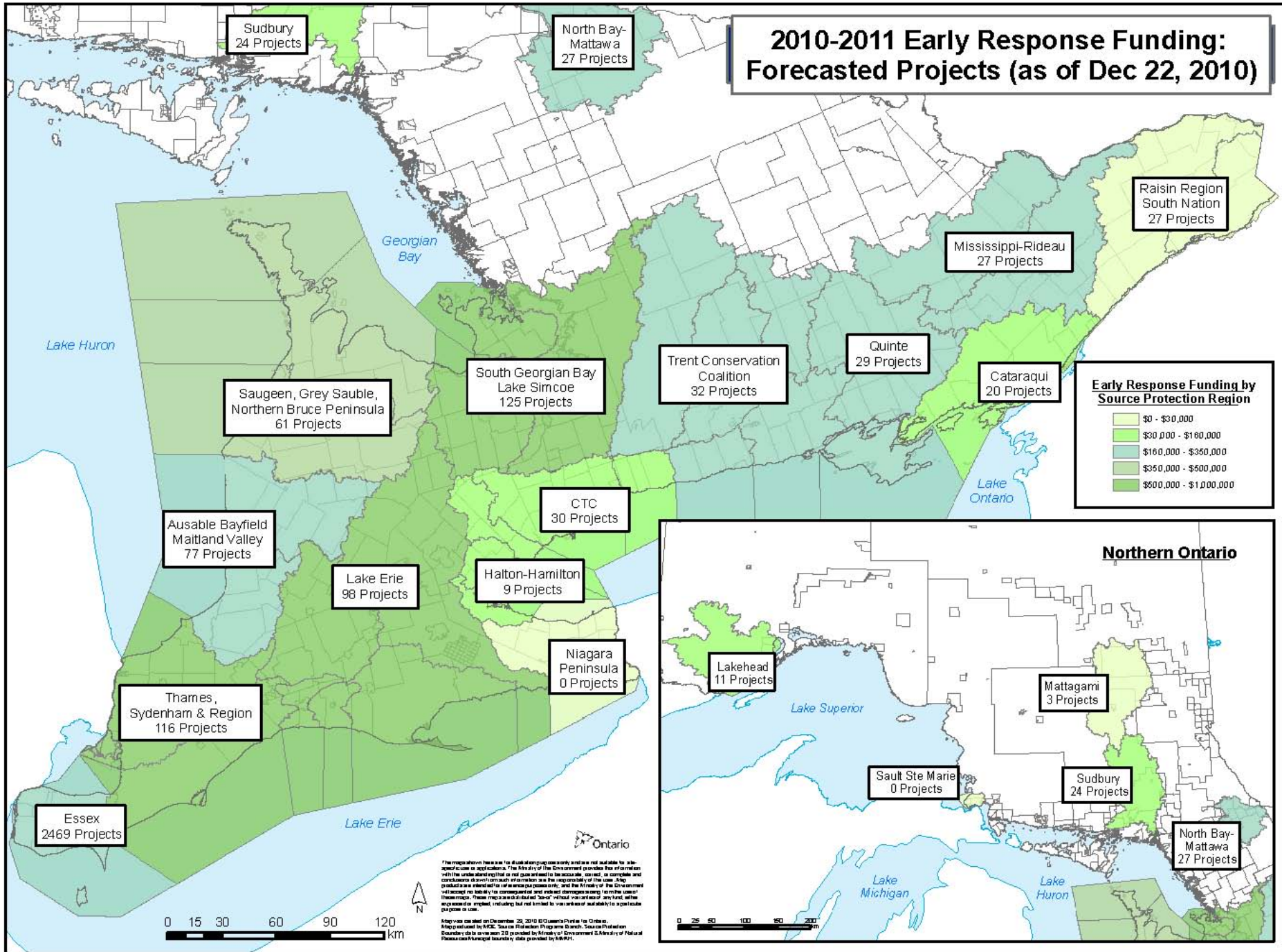
Protection Area

REPORT SPILLS

1-800-268-6060

Essex Region Conservation Authority
Ontario
essexregionsourcewater.org

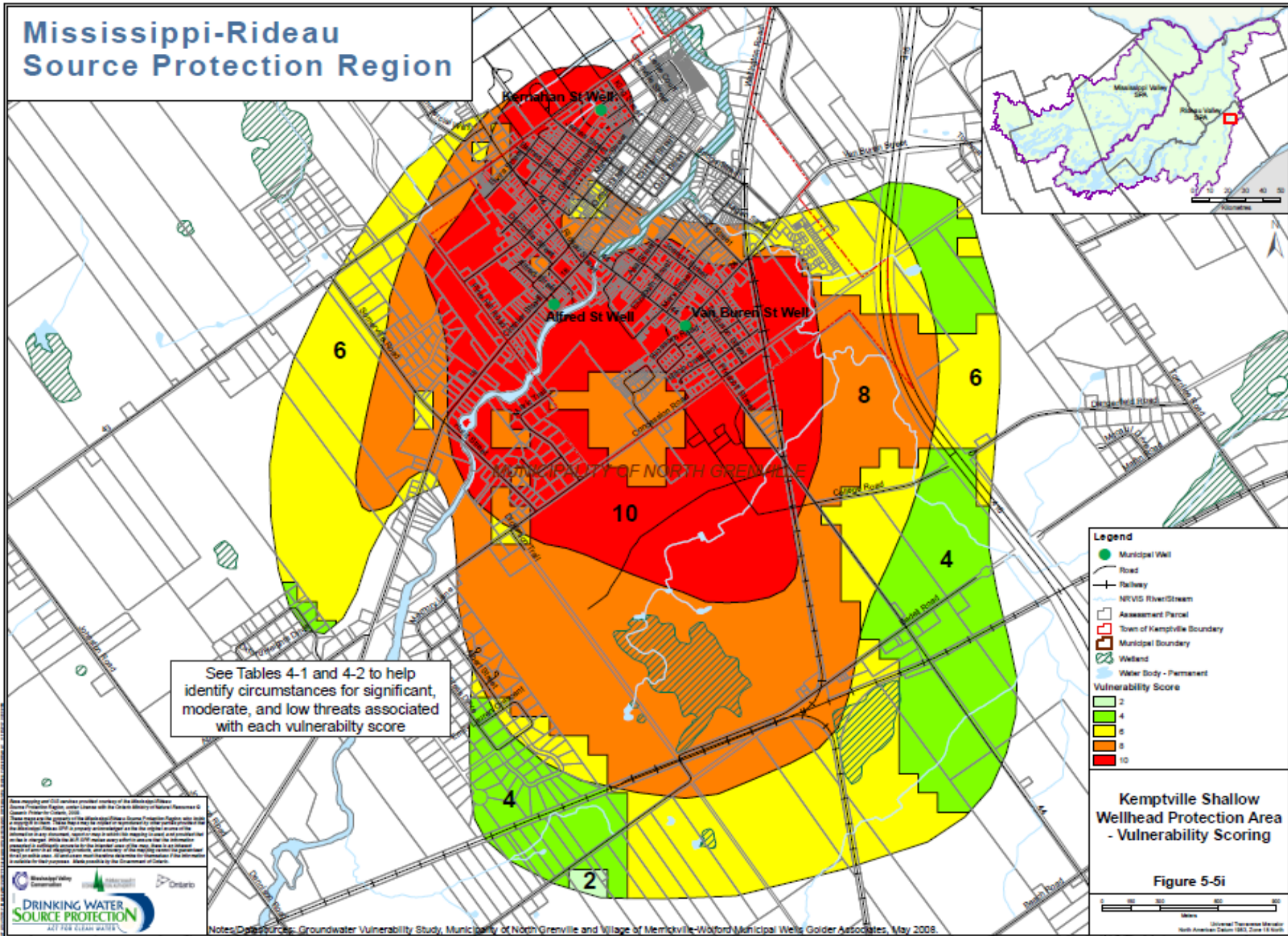
2010-2011 Early Response Funding: Forecasted Projects (as of Dec 22, 2010)



Addressing Threats by Reducing Areas of Vulnerability

- The ministry provided financial assistance to the municipalities of Merickville-Wolford and North Grenville in Eastern Ontario to deepen the well casings of 5 water production wells.
- The results of the well casing extension will be to:
 - Decrease the vulnerability of the drinking water supply
 - Decrease the geographic extent of the areas classified as having high-vulnerability
 - Decrease the number of significant threats to the municipal drinking water source and
 - Decrease the number of properties that may be impacted by significant threat policies in a source protection plan.

Mississippi-Rideau Source Protection Region



Notes: Data Sources: Groundwater Vulnerability Study, Municipality of North Grenville and Village of Memphrainsville-Wolford Municipal Wells, Golder Associates, May 2008.

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Mississippi Valley Conservation
DRINKING WATER SOURCE PROTECTION
 GET THE CLEAN WATER

Ontario

Universal Transverse Mercator
 North American Datum 1983, Zone 18 North

Four Years in Retrospect

- Over the last four years, the Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program has been an important tool in the protection of municipal drinking water sources in Ontario, ahead of source protection plans being completed.
- The Program has:
 - Over 2000 on-the-ground voluntary landowner projects to help protect drinking water sources
 - Supported local and provincial education and outreach initiatives on drinking water source protection
 - Funded research initiatives and innovative projects to support drinking water source protection
 - Offered financial assistance to address approximately 3000 identified significant drinking water threats, and
 - Supported municipalities to purchase land around their drinking water wells.

Contacts and More Information



Source Protection Programs Branch

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Ontario Drinking Water Stewardship Program

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