

PROJECT UPDATE:

Bobcaygeon Dam Aquatic Habitat Assessment Project

Nancy Aspden, Director, Integrated Watershed Management

Brett Tregunno, Aquatic Biologist

November 4, 2025



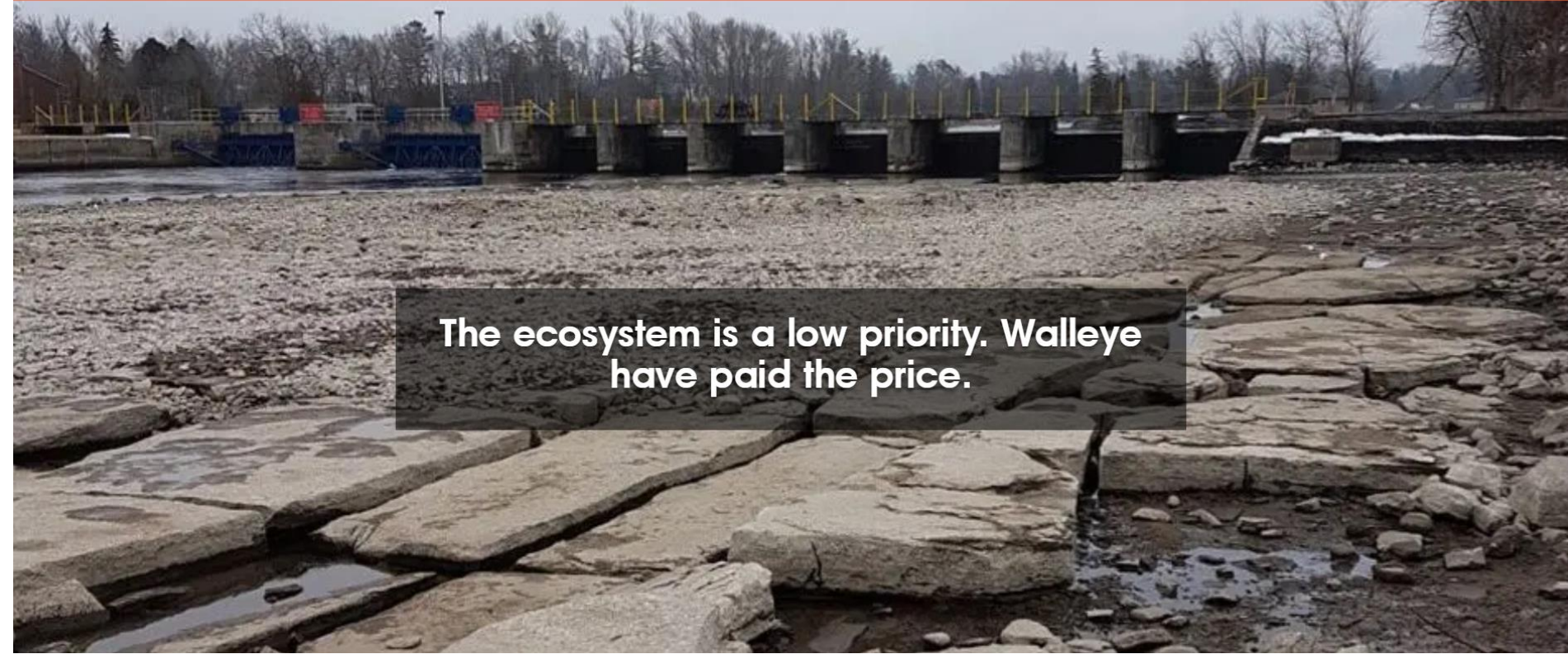
There is Community Concern...



[ADD YOUR SUPPORT](#) [THE PROBLEM](#) [THE PLAN](#) [STUDIES](#) [STORIES](#) [PHOTOS](#) [UPDATES](#) [CONTACT](#) [WHERE DID THE WALLEYE GO?](#)

Where did the walleye go?

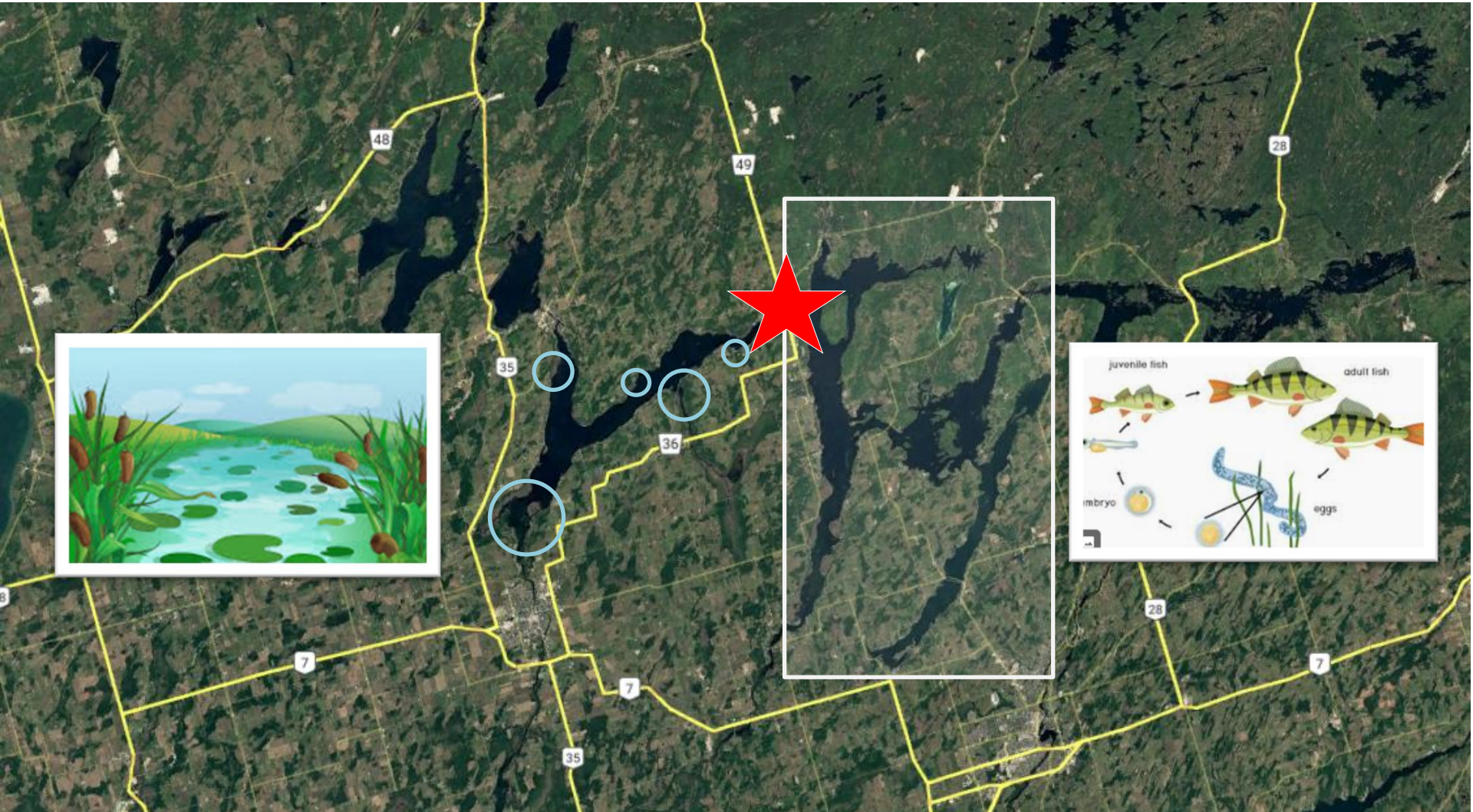
BOBCAYGEON SPAWNING BED DURING SPAWNING —COMPLETELY OUT OF THE WATER!



The ecosystem is a low priority. Walleye have paid the price.



Bobcaygeon is important for City of Kawartha Lakes fishery



Lake Management Implementation Action Plan (2024-2028)

Work with partners to identify
LIMITING FACTORS, and
IMPROVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- Map high quality habitats.
- Conduct fish use surveys.
- Monitor water quality and water levels.
- Test alternative flow regimes.

... OVER MULTIPLE (3-5) YEARS



Funding in 2025 Was Secured

Work in 2025 was possible through:

- \$15,000 cash from Parks Canada
- \$15,000 in-kind support from Parks Canada
- \$20,000 deferred revenue from 2024.



Outstanding Information Gaps Remain



Map high quality habitats.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Detailed drone imagery and videography.
- Substrate habitat classification into high, medium, and low quality.

Outstanding Items:

- **Mapping lake-bed conditions at provincially significant wetlands.**



Conduct Fish Surveys

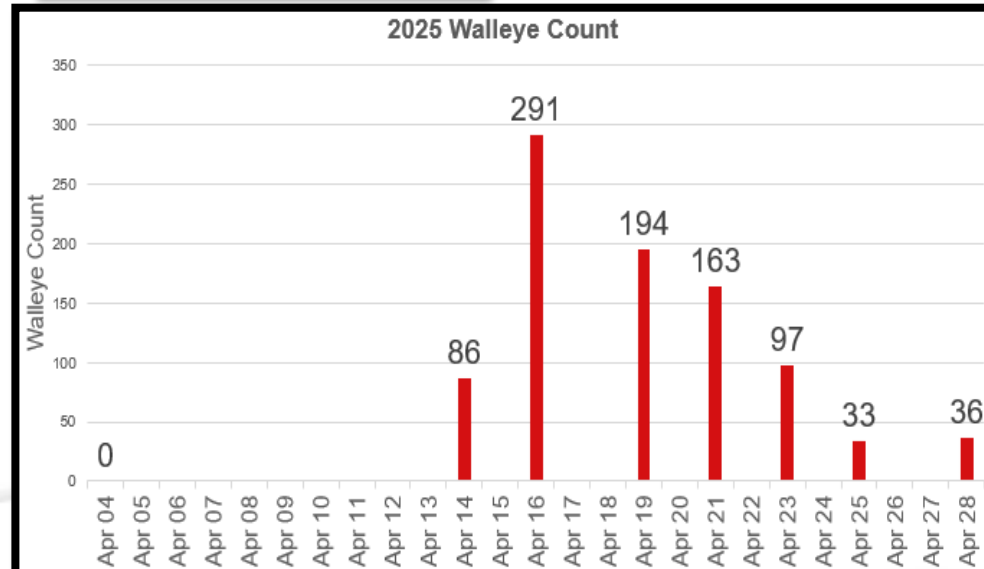
2025 Accomplishments:

- Spawning Walleye population estimates at easy-to-access locations.
- Profiled project through social media (>30,000 views).



Outstanding Items:

- **Difficult-to-access locations, to see if better habitat exists somewhere else.**



Monitor water quality and water levels.

2025 Accomplishments:

- One year of surface water data: dissolved oxygen, water temperature, and water levels.
- Sediment quality results.

Outstanding Items:

- **Extra year(s) to capture annual variation of surface water quality.**



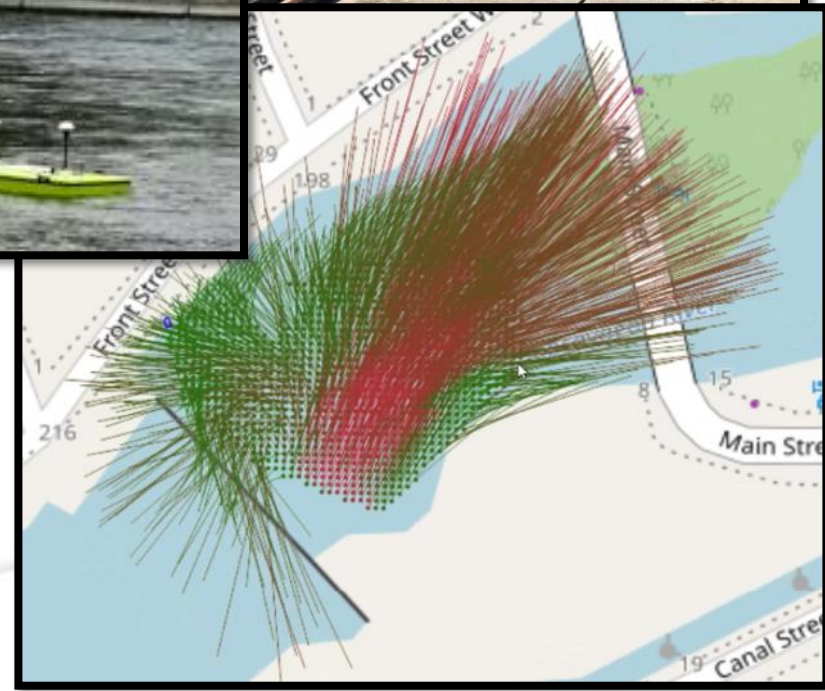
Test alternative flow regimes.

2025 Accomplishments:

- Fall flow manipulation (stop log removal) under low-flow conditions.
- Before and after flow direction, depth, and velocity data.

Outstanding Items:

- **Flow manipulation and testing under high-flow conditions, specifically the vortex conditions.**



Priorities for 2026

- Continue to map lake-bed conditions at provincially significant wetlands.
- Continue to capture annual variations of surface water quality.
- Use drone technology to access difficult locations within the Bobcaygeon river, to see if better habitat exists somewhere else.
- Flow manipulation and testing under high-flow conditions, specifically the vortex conditions.



Next steps re Project Financing

To address outstanding data gaps for 2026:

- Confirmed 2026 in-kind support from Parks Canada (approximately \$15,000).
- Seeking \$32,100 from City of Kawartha Lakes.





Thank You For Your Time

