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7 Acronyms and Abbreviations

Acronym / Abbreviation	Definition
BMP	Best management practices
CCA	Canonical correspondence analysis
CCGCM	Canadian Coupled Global Circulation Model
CFIA	Canadian Food Inspection Agency
cfs	Cubic feet per second
cms	Cubic metres per second
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide
COA	Canada-Ontario Agreement Respecting the Great Lakes Basin Ecosystem
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
COSSARO	Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario
CPUE	Catch per unit effort
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
DO	Dissolved oxygen
EC	Environment Canada
EGBSC	Eastern Georgian Bay Stewardship Council
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ESTN	Early Spring Trap Netting
FRI	Forest Resources Inventory
GBA	Georgian Bay Association
GBBR	Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve
GBF	Georgian Bay Forever
GBINP	Georgian Bay Islands National Park
GBLT	Georgian Bay Land Trust
GIS	Geographic Information System
GLC	Great Lakes Commission
GLCWC	Great Lakes Coastal Wetland Consortium
GLERL	Great Lakes Environmental Research Laboratory
GLNA	Great Lakes Nearshore Assessment
GLNS	Great Lakes Navigation System
GLWQA	Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement
ha	Hectare
HM	High marsh
IAS	Invasive alien species
IGLD	International Great Lakes Datum
IJC	International Joint Commission
IKONOS	IKONOS is a commercial earth observation satellite, and was the first to collect publicly available high-resolution imagery at 1- and 4-meter resolution
ISC	Invasive Species Centre
LM	Low marsh
LPP	Lake Partner Program

State of the Bay

Acronym / Abbreviation	Definition
MCWI	McMaster Coastal Wetland Inventory
MHF	Muskoka Heritage Foundation
MNR	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
MoE	Ministry of the Environment
MTA	metric tonnes per annum
MWC	Muskoka Watershed Council
NCC	Nature Conservancy of Canada
OBM	Ontario Base Map
ppmv	parts per million by volume
RAP	Remedial Action Plan
RES	Riverstone Environmental Solutions Inc.
SARA	Species at Risk Act
SotB	State of the Bay
TP	Total phosphorus
UN	United Nations
UNESCO	United Nations Scientific, Educational and Cultural Organization
UP	Upstream wetland
USACE	United States Army Corp of Engineers
VAPS	Volunteer Aquatic Plant Survey
WMI	Wetland Macrophyte Index
WQI	Wetland Quality Index
µg/L	micro gram per litre

8 Glossary

Word	Definition
Advection (in a water context)	Horizontal movement of water.
Alkalinity	Acid neutralizing or buffering capacity of water; a measure of the ability of water to resist changes in pH caused by the addition of acids or bases.
Ambient	Of or relating to the immediate surroundings of something: "ambient temperature".
Anoxia	Condition of being without dissolved oxygen (O ₂).
Anoxic	Completely lacking in oxygen.
Atmospheric deposition	Sedimentation of solids, liquids, or gaseous materials from the air.
Benthic	Refers to being on the bottom of a lake.
Biodiversity	The number and variety of organisms in a particular habitat or ecosystem.
Chlorophyll	A green pigment, present in all green plants and in cyanobacteria, responsible for the absorption of light to provide energy for photosynthesis.
Cladophora	Scientific term for green algae (non-toxic).
Coastal wetland	Wetlands that occur within 2 km of the 1:100 year floodline of the Great Lake/channel shoreline, and include all four wetland types (bog, fen, swamp, and marsh) identified in the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System.
Conductivity	The degree to which a specified material conducts electricity, calculated as the ratio of the current density in the material to the electric field that causes the flow of current.
Cyanobacteria	Scientific term for blue-green algae (toxic).
Dimictic lake	Lakes with a pattern of two mixing periods.
Dissolved organic carbon	Dissolved organic carbon (DOC) is a broad classification for organic molecules of varied origin and composition within aquatic systems.
Dissolved oxygen	The concentration of free (not chemically combined) molecular oxygen (a gas) dissolved in water, usually expressed in milligrams per liter, parts per million, or percent of saturation. Adequate concentrations of dissolved oxygen are necessary for the life of fish and other aquatic organisms and the prevention of offensive odors.
Dreissenid mussels	Zebra and quagga mussels (both of which are invasive species).
Ecosystem	A system that includes all living organisms in an area as well as its physical environment functioning together as a unit.
Ecosystem resilience	Ecosystem resilience is the ability of the ecosystem to recover from negative impacts.
Ecosystem resistance	Ecosystem resistance is the ability of a given ecosystem to withstand negative impacts.

State of the Bay

Word	Definition
Embayment	A recess in a coastline forming a bay.
Epilimnion	The upper layer of water in a stratified lake.
Eutrophic lake/water body	A very biologically productive type of lake due to relatively high rates of nutrient input.
Eutrophication	A process by which a body of water acquires a high concentration of nutrients, especially phosphorus and nitrogen.
Evapotranspiration	Evaporation from plant leaves.
Hypolimnion	The layer of water in a thermally stratified lake that lies below the thermocline, is non-circulating, and remains perpetually cold
Invasive alien species	Invasive alien species are species of plants, animals, and microorganisms introduced by human action outside their natural past or present distribution.
Isostatic rebound	The 'bounce back' of the earth's crust following the retreat of the glaciers during the last ice age.
Limnology	The study of the biological, chemical, and physical features of lakes and other bodies of fresh water.
Littoral	Nearshore out from shore to the depth of the euphotic zone where it is too dark on the bottom for macrophytes to grow.
Macrophyte	A member of the macroscopic plant life especially of a body of water.
Median	Denoting or relating to a value or quantity lying at the midpoint of a frequency distribution of observed values or quantities.
Mesotrophic	Moderately productive; relating to the moderate fertility of a lake in terms of its algal biomass.
Metalimnion	The middle layer of a thermally stratified lake or reservoir.
Morphometry	The quantitative measurement of the form especially of living systems or their parts.
Net basin supply	Net water supply in the basin resulting from precipitation on the lakes' surfaces, runoff from their tributary drainage areas, groundwater flow into or out of the lakes, and evaporation.
Oligotrophic	Having a deficiency of plant nutrients that is usually accompanied by an abundance of dissolved oxygen.
Pelagic	Of, relating to, or living or occurring in the open water.
pH	Potential hydrogen: negative 10-base log (power) of the positive hydrogen ion concentration; measure of acidity.
Phytoplankton	Photosynthetic or plant constituent of plankton; mainly unicellular algae.
Secchi disk	A circular disk used to measure water transparency.
Seiche	A temporary disturbance or oscillation in the water level of a lake, esp. one caused by changes in atmospheric pressure.
Species at Risk	Species at Risk refers to any naturally-occurring plant or

State of the Bay

Word	Definition
	animal in danger of extinction or of disappearing from the province. Once a species is classified as “at risk”, it is added to the Species at risk in Ontario list
Thermal stratification	A process whereby layering occurs in the water column due to temperature-dependent density gradients.
Thermocline	The middle layer of a thermally stratified lake or reservoir.
Trophic	Of or relating to nutrition.
Watershed	A region or area bounded peripherally by a divide and draining ultimately to a particular watercourse or body of water.
Wetland	Generally, wetlands are lands where saturation with water is the dominant factor determining the nature of soil development and the types of plant and animal communities living in the soil and on its surface.

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