

	<b>Fisheries and Oceans Canada</b>	<b>Pêches et Océans Canada</b>
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## **MEDIA RELEASE**

### **SEA LAMPREY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM ON THE GREAT LAKES – 2014**

Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario -- Fisheries and Oceans Canada's Sea Lamprey Control Centre released the following information pertinent to the 2014 field program on the Great Lakes. Fisheries and Oceans Canada, acting as the Canadian Agent for the Great Lakes Fishery Commission, has the responsibility for sea lamprey management in the Canadian waters of the Great Lakes basin, as well as in the United States' tributaries of Lake Ontario.

Application of selective lampricides to streams and lentic areas harbouring larval sea lampreys continues to be the primary method of control. Treatments are normally conducted every three to five years and are very effective in reducing the number of larval lampreys before they migrate to the lake and kill fish important to the Great Lakes sport and commercial fisheries.

Portions of the following tributaries and lentic areas to lakes Superior, Huron, Erie and Ontario are scheduled for lampricide treatment in 2014:

#### ***LAKE SUPERIOR***

#### ***LAKE HURON***

***LAKE ERIE***

***LAKE ONTARIO – CANADA***

***LAKE ONTARIO – UNITED STATES***

Treatments will be conducted during the period of April to November 2014.

Provincial and state agencies are notified of treatment dates, as are municipalities and individuals that may use these streams as a source of potable water. Agriculture irrigators will also be notified and asked to suspend irrigation for a 24-hour period surrounding the treatment.

Lampricides are lethal to lampreys but harmless to other fish species when delivered in appropriate concentrations. Non-target fish species may be affected if they are weakened through spawning activities or by environmental stress, disease or pollution.

Bait fish or other aquatic organisms that are confined artificially may be susceptible to the lampricide due to stress caused by crowding and handling.

Barriers designed and constructed to prevent migrating adult sea lampreys from accessing spawning areas also play an important role in controlling sea lampreys and reduce the need for application of lampricides. Thirty-one barriers have been constructed on Canadian tributaries to the Great Lakes, many of which incorporate traps to capture and assess populations of spawning-run sea lampreys. Some barriers are designed with adjustable crests to facilitate fish passage while others are constructed with fish passage capabilities.

Great Lakes tributaries are systematically surveyed to detect and evaluate larval sea lamprey populations. Stream surveys using portable electro-fishing gear or applications of Bayluscide granules will be conducted on approximately **xx** Lake Superior, **xx** Lake Huron, **xx** Lake Ontario and **xx** Lake Erie tributaries and/or their associated bays in 2014 to identify and evaluate new or re-established populations of sea lamprey.

To evaluate the effectiveness of the control program, spawning runs of adult sea lampreys will be monitored through the operation of trapping devices on the following **xx** streams:

***LAKE SUPERIOR***

***LAKE HURON***

***LAKE ERIE***

***LAKE ONTARIO - CANADA***

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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