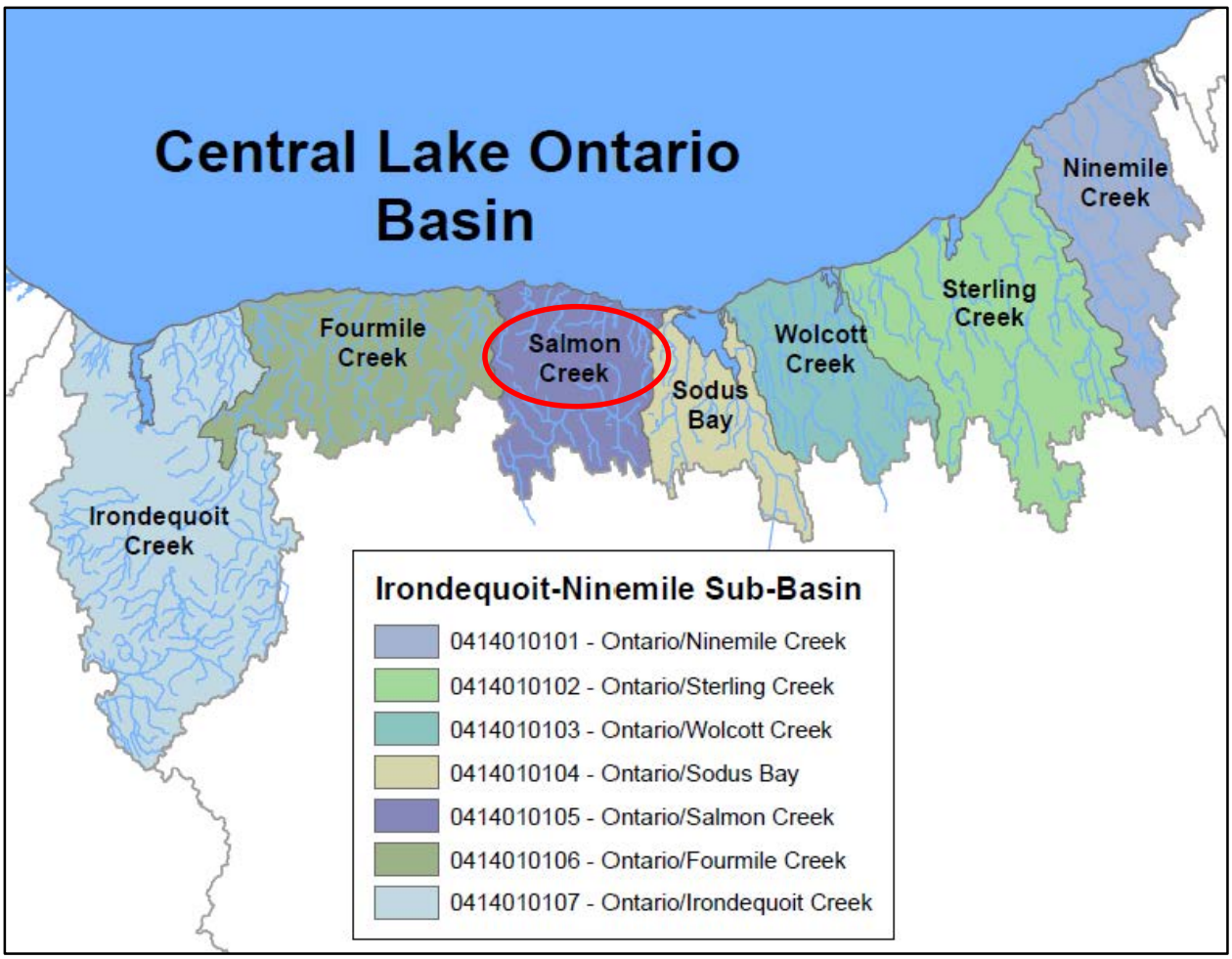

Lake Ontario/Salmon Creek Watershed
(0414010105)

Water Index Number	Waterbody Segment	Category
Ont (portion 14)	Lake Ontario Shoreline, Central (0302 0044)	Impaired Seg
Ont 85	Salmon Creek and tribs (0302 0064)	UnAssessed
Ont 85 9 P100a	Wildlife Marsh Pond (0302 0065)	UnAssessed
Ont 85 13 P101	Mud Pond (0302 0066)	UnAssessed
Ont 85 P100	Metz Pond (0302 0067)	UnAssessed
Ont 86 thru 92 (selected)	Minor Tribs to Lake Ontario, Central (0302 0016)	MinorImpacts

Lake Ontario Shoreline, Central (0302-0044) Impaired

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: 7/30/2015

Water Index No:	Ont (portion 14)			**Drain Basin:**	Lake Ontario
Unit Code:	04140101	**Class:**	A		Lake Ontario Central
Water Type/Size:	G Lakes Shore	12.4	Miles	**Reg/County:**	8/Wayne (59)
Description:	shoreline from Sodus Bay to Pultneyville				

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Pollutants/Sources)

Uses Evaluated	Severity	Confidence
Water Supply	Fully Supported	Known
Public Bathing	Impaired	Known
Recreation	Impaired	Known
Aquatic Life	Fully Supported	Known
Fish Consumption	Impaired	Known
Conditions Evaluated		
Habitat/Hydrology	Fair	
Aesthetics	Fair	

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known:	PATHOGENS, PESTICIDES (MIREX), PRIORITY ORGANICS (PCBS), PRIORITY ORGANICS (DIOXIN)
Suspected:	- - -
Unconfirmed:	- - -

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known:	TOX/CONTAM. SEDIMENT, Atmospheric Deposition
Suspected:	On-Site/Septic Syst, URBAN/STORM RUNOFF
Unconfirmed:	- - -

Management Information

Management Status:	Verification of Source Needed
Lead Agency/Office:	DEC/GLks
IR/305(b) Code:	Impaired Water Requiring a TMDL (IR Category 5)

Further Details

Overview

This portion of the Lake Ontario Shoreline is assessed as an impaired waterbody due to public bathing and other recreational uses as well as fish consumption that are considered to be impaired. Recreational uses are impaired by indicators of pathogens that result in periodic public bathing beach advisories and/or closures, while fish consumption is impaired by contamination from the past/historic discharge of organics (PCBs, dioxin) and pesticides (mirex).

Use Assessment

This waterbody segment is a Class A waterbody, suitable for water supply, public bathing and general recreation use and support of aquatic life.

Public water supply use of Lake Ontario is fully supported. The waterbody is used as a public supply for numerous municipalities in Wayne and Monroe Counties, including Rochester. The most recent annual water quality reports indicate no contaminants in finished (treated) water exceed regulatory limits. A Source Water Assessment by the NYSDOH conducted in the early 2000s found that, in general, public water supplies that use Great Lakes sources are not very susceptible to contaminants because of the size and quality of the Great Lakes. (NYSDOH, Source Water Assessment Program, 2005)

Public bathing and general recreational uses of this waterbody are considered to be impaired based on monitoring at area beaches that show elevated levels of pathogen indicators that result in occasional beach advisories or closures. In recent years during which beach monitoring results are available, advisories/closures have been issued for ten or more days at some beaches (Pultneyville Mariners Beach). Beaches within this reach include Pultneyville Mariners Beach and Sodus Point Park Beach. (NYSDOH and OPRHP, Sanitary Beach Survey, 2010)

Lake Ontario supports a diverse and world-class recreational sporting fishery which includes trophy-sized trout, salmon and walleye in the open lake, as well as superb near-shore angling for smallmouth bass and panfish. However fish consumption in this portion of Lake Ontario (and all tribs to the first impassable barrier) is impaired due to a NYS DOH health advisory that recommends eating no channel catfish or carp, and eating no more than one meal per month of white sucker, larger lake trout (over 25 inches), or larger brown trout (over 20 inches) because of elevated levels of PCBs, dioxin and mirex. The advisory also recommends eating no more than on meal per month of white perch for portions of the lake east of Point Breeze. Harvest/possession of American eel is also prohibited. Restrictions for some species have been reduced in recent years. The source of organics/pesticides is contaminated lake sediments, the result of past/historic industrial discharges to the lake, the Niagara River and the Upper Great Lakes. The advisory for this lake was first issued prior to 1998-99. (2014-15 NYS DOH Health Advisories and DEC/DFWMR, Habitat, January 2014)

Habitat concerns include the impact of invasive species, including zebra/quagga mussels, round goby, fishook and spiney waterflea, on the biologic community, as well as on other uses of the waterbody.

Water Quality Information

The Great Lakes are the focus of considerable national and international study. This assessment relies on monitoring data and information from the USEPA Great Lakes Program, the NYSDEC Great Lakes Program, and other participants in the binational Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement, as well the work of numerous academic researchers. Monitoring of public bathing beaches along the Lake Ontario shore is conducted by NYS and local health departments.

Source Assessment

The primary sources of chemical pollutants that have the greatest impact on the waterbody include contaminated sediments and atmospheric deposition that result in health advisories for fish consumption. Pathogen sources are assumed to be result of wet-weather nonpoint sources, given the intermittent nature of the beach advisories. Habitat alteration, specifically the presence of ecosystem-altering invasive species, is also a source of impacts.

Management Actions

Efforts to restore and protect the waters of Lake Ontario are coordinated by the NYSDEC Great Lakes Program. Working with stakeholders throughout the basin, the Program has developed a new, fully integrated action plan that guides restoration and conservation activities in New York's Great Lakes region. This action plan, or interim Great Lakes Action Agenda, is a multi-agency, multi-program, and cross-region strategic plan to support innovative programs and build new partnerships at multiple levels of local, state, and federal government across the state's Great Lakes basin. The plan identifies high priority actions and focuses federal and state funding opportunities to address the most critical challenges unique to this region, including contamination clean-up, restoration of fish and wildlife, waterfront and economic development, climate change resiliency strategies, and recreation and tourism development.

(DEC, Great Lakes Program, July 2015)

The NYSDEC Great Lakes Program supports the commitments made by the governments of the United States and Canada, as part of the 1987 Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement (GLWQA) as amended in 2013, to develop a Lakewide Action and Management Plan (LAMP) for each of the five Great Lakes. The Lake Ontario LAaMP is a binational, cooperative effort that also involves a large number of local, statewide and federal partners. The goals of the LAMP are to restore and protect the health of Lake Ontario's water and aquatic ecosystem by reducing chemical pollutants entering the lake and addressing the biological and physical factors impacting the lake. The LAMP is being revised to reflect new Lake Ecosystem Objectives that will assess and address specific environmental stressors that adversely affect water quality and ecosystem health. (DEC, Great Lakes Program, July 2015)

Section 303(d) Listing

This portion of Lake Ontario shoreline is included on the current (2015) NYS Section 303(d) List of Impaired/TMDL Waters. The waterbody is included on Part 1 of the List as an impaired waterbody requiring the development of a TMDL or other strategy to address pathogens, and on Part 2b due to fish consumption restrictions related to PCB, dioxin and mirex contamination. This waterbody was first listed for pathogens in 2010, and for organics in 1998. (DEC/DOW, BWAM/WQAS, January 2015)

Segment Description

This segment includes the portion of the Lake Ontario shoreline from the inlet of Sodus Bay at Sodus Point Park Beach to mouth of Salmon Creek in Pultneyville. The waters of this portion of the shoreline are Class A. Tribs to this reach/segment are listed separately.

Minor Tribs to Lake Ontario, Central (0302-0016) MinorImpacts

Waterbody Location Information

Revised: / /

Water Index No: Ont 85 thru 92 (selected) **Drain Basin:** Lake Ontario
Hydro Unit Code: 04140101/040 **Str Class:** C
Waterbody Type: River **Reg/County:** 8/Wayne Co. (59)
Waterbody Size: 32.7 Miles **Quad Map:** SALMON CREEK (H-12-3)
Seg Description: total length of select tribs, Sodus Bay to Pultneyville

Water Quality Problem/Issue Information

(CAPS indicate MAJOR Use Impacts/Pollutants/Sources)

Use(s) Impacted	Severity	Problem Documentation
Aquatic Life	Stressed	Known
Aesthetics	Stressed	Suspected

Type of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: - - -
Possible: NUTRIENTS, Aesthetics, D.O./Oxygen Demand

Source(s) of Pollutant(s)

Known: - - -
Suspected: - - -
Possible: AGRICULTURE, Industrial

Resolution/Management Information

Issue Resolvability: ()
Verification Status: (Not Applicable for Selected RESOLVABILITY)
Lead Agency/Office: **Resolution Potential:** n/a
TMDL/303d Status: n/a

Further Details

Aquatic life support in the tribs of this segment may experience impacts due to excessive nutrient loads and resulting low dissolved oxygen. Nonpoint sources, including agricultural activities, are the suspected sources of the impacts.

Previously, it was reported that elevated nutrient loading and low oxygen demand limit the fishery in this stream. Periodic fish kills of minnows have been reported in the past. Apple orchard operations in the Mink Creek watershed that land spread apple pomace at high rates during the spring are a suspected source of the nutrient and oxygen demand loading. Wastewater treatment facilities at the East Williamson food processing facility may also be contributing to the load in Mink Creek. (DEC/DOW, Region 7, 2000)

This segment includes the total length of selected/smaller tribs to Lake Ontario between Sodus Bay and Salmon Creek in Pultneyville. Tribs within this segment, including Sill Creek (-86) and Mink Creek (-92), are Class C. Sodus Bay (P96), Salmon Creek (-85) and Salmon Creek (-93) are listed separately.