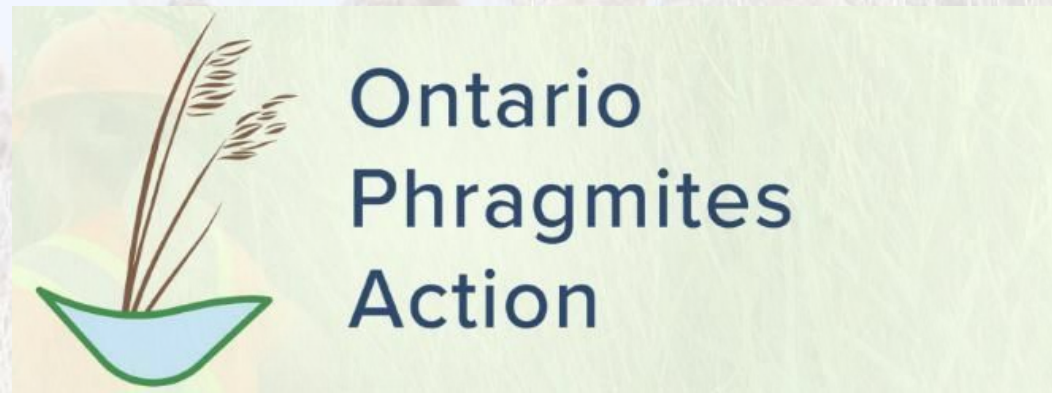


# Phragmites Management North Kawartha



Terry Reese, Ontario Phragmites Action Program  
Central Ontario Coordinator



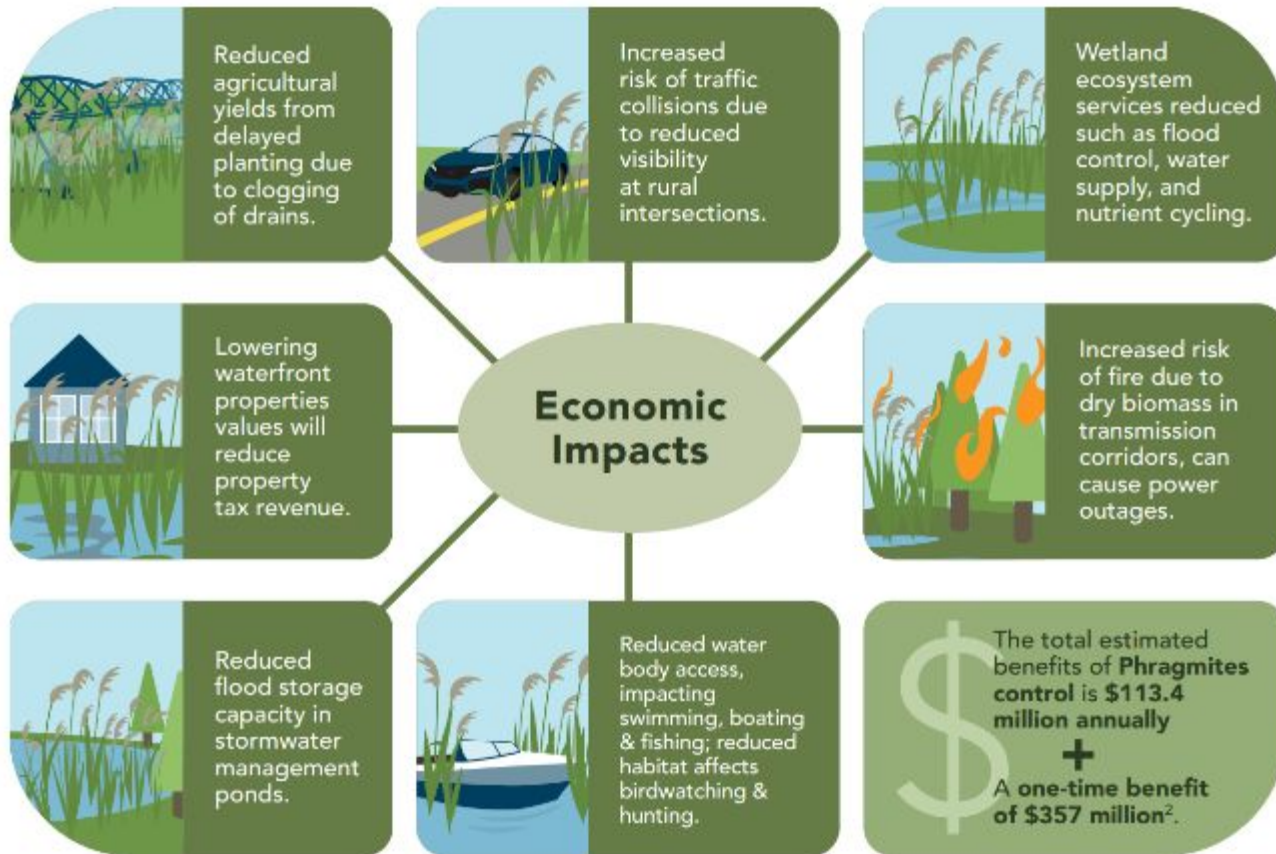
Thom Unrau, Director of Community Conservation, Kawartha Land Trust  
Kawartha Phragmites Management Area Lead



# Invasive Phragmites: Impacts

*Its impacts include:*

**Economic:** causes substantial damage to infrastructure, reduces agricultural yields, impedes drainage in agricultural lands, increases roadside maintenance costs for municipalities





# Invasive Phragmites: Impacts

*Its impacts include:*

**Social:** large, monoculture stands create a fire hazard, reduce sightlines on roads, lower property values, impact shoreline access and prevent boating, fishing, swimming





# Invasive Phragmites: Impacts

*Its impacts include:*

**Environmental:** pushes out native species, alters water flow, and degrades essential wildlife habitat and biodiversity





# Ontario Phragmites Action Program

An Exciting New Approach to Landscape Scale Phragmites Control in Ontario



- In 2024, the province of Ontario announced an exciting new investment of **\$11M over 3-years** to create a new program to coordinate enhanced action on Phragmites across Ontario.
- The program supports and expands on existing efforts in Ontario.
- Also allows for **coordination across jurisdictions** and involves important actors including municipalities, conservation authorities, Indigenous communities, and NGOs.



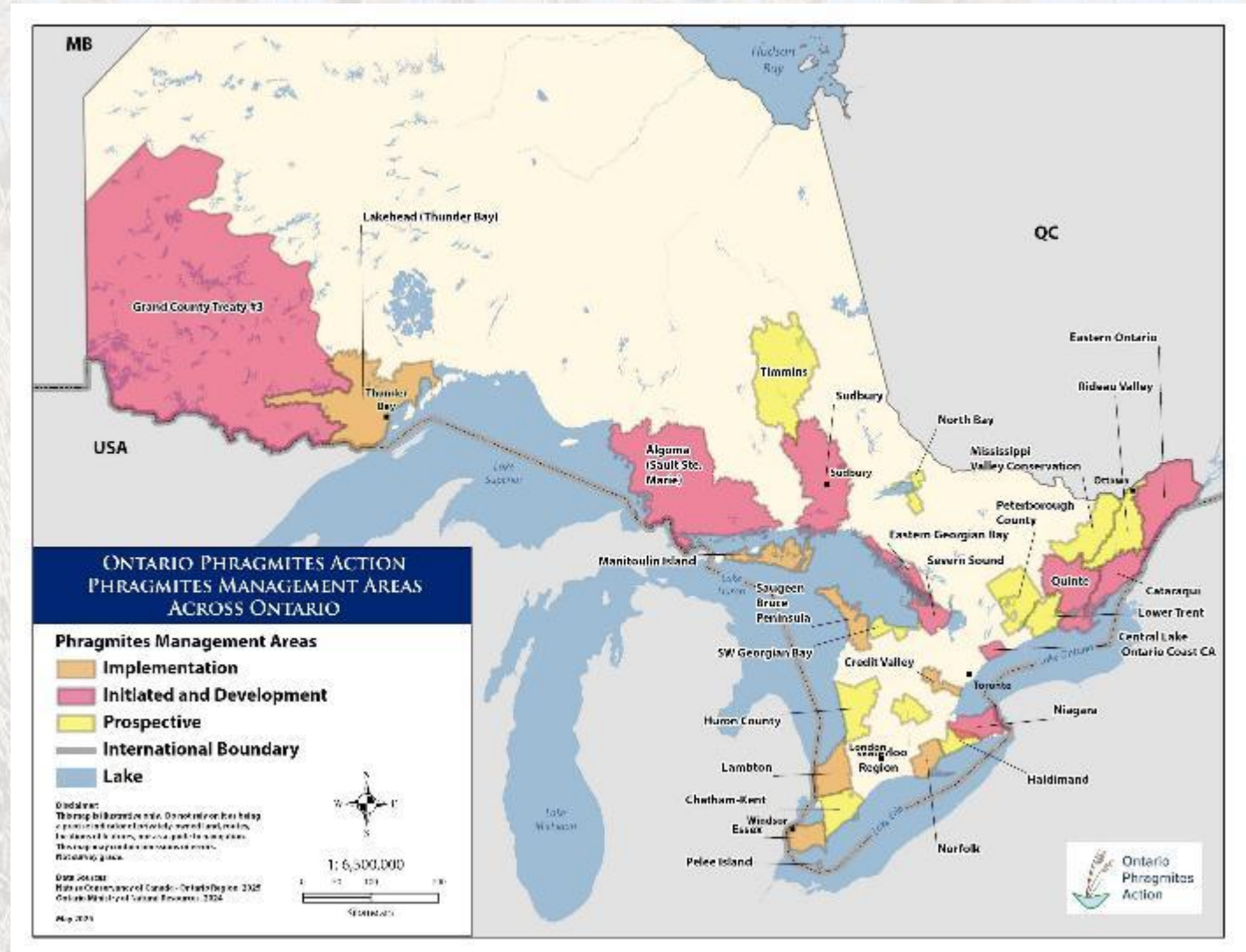


# Phragmites Management Areas

## What are they?

Phragmites Management Areas: spatial units where Phragmites monitoring and control activities are coordinated.

PMA Working Group: a collection of organizations, individuals, business/industry, and government representatives and other key implementation partners who contribute to a local implementation of the Phragmites Guidebook.





# The **Kawartha** Phragmites Management Working Group

- 15 land managers at 2 meetings in 2025
- May require 30+ orgs for a truly coordinated approach
- Scope: Peterborough County and City of Kawartha Lakes
- Convened by Kawartha Land Trust under the Kawartha Climate and Conservation Partnership – as a strategic initiative that benefits people and nature.



# The **Kawartha** Phragmites Management Working Group



Ontario  
Phragmites  
Action



Invasive Phragmites  
Control Fund

## Goals:

- Access funding to increase control (or start).
- Share resources, data, knowledge
- Address capacity gaps

IE: MAKE IT EASY TO ACT, THROUGH A  
COORDINATED APPROACH

Catawagui Region Phragmites Management Area  
Invasive Phragmites Management Plan: 2025 - 2035



A collaborative effort by the Catawagui Region Invasive Phragmites Working Group, made possible by the Green Spaces Collaborative, and the Invasive Species Control Fund, is a collaborative effort by the Catawagui Region Invasive Phragmites Working Group, made possible by the Green Spaces Collaborative, and the Invasive Species Control Fund.



ENR-2025-08-19-2025





# 2026 Action plan

1. Control priority roadside patches
2. Control known public and conservation land patches
3. Monitor presence/absence on public and conservation land

- ✓ 50% covered by a to-be-submitted OPA grant
- ✓ Early action
- ✓ Future planning





# 2026 Action plan

1. Control priority roadside patches
2. Control known public and conservation land patches
3. Monitor presence/absence on public and conservation land

**Would North Kawartha join a 2026 co-ordinated action grant?**

- ✓ Easy
- ✓ Value for money





# Roads



A large fire at Tremblay Beach Conservation Area near Stoney Point broke out Friday night, March 14, 2025. It took Municipality of Lakeshore firefighters hours to extinguish the flames and ensure no hotspots caught fire again. PHOTO BY PHOTO COURTESY OF SAM MOODY /Windsor Star





# All roads surveyed in 2025 by phragmites management area members

Roads Surveyed 2025 (Ptbo. County  
Planning, Development & Public Works)



Roads Surveyed 2025 (Kawartha Land Trust)



Kawartha Phragmites Management Area

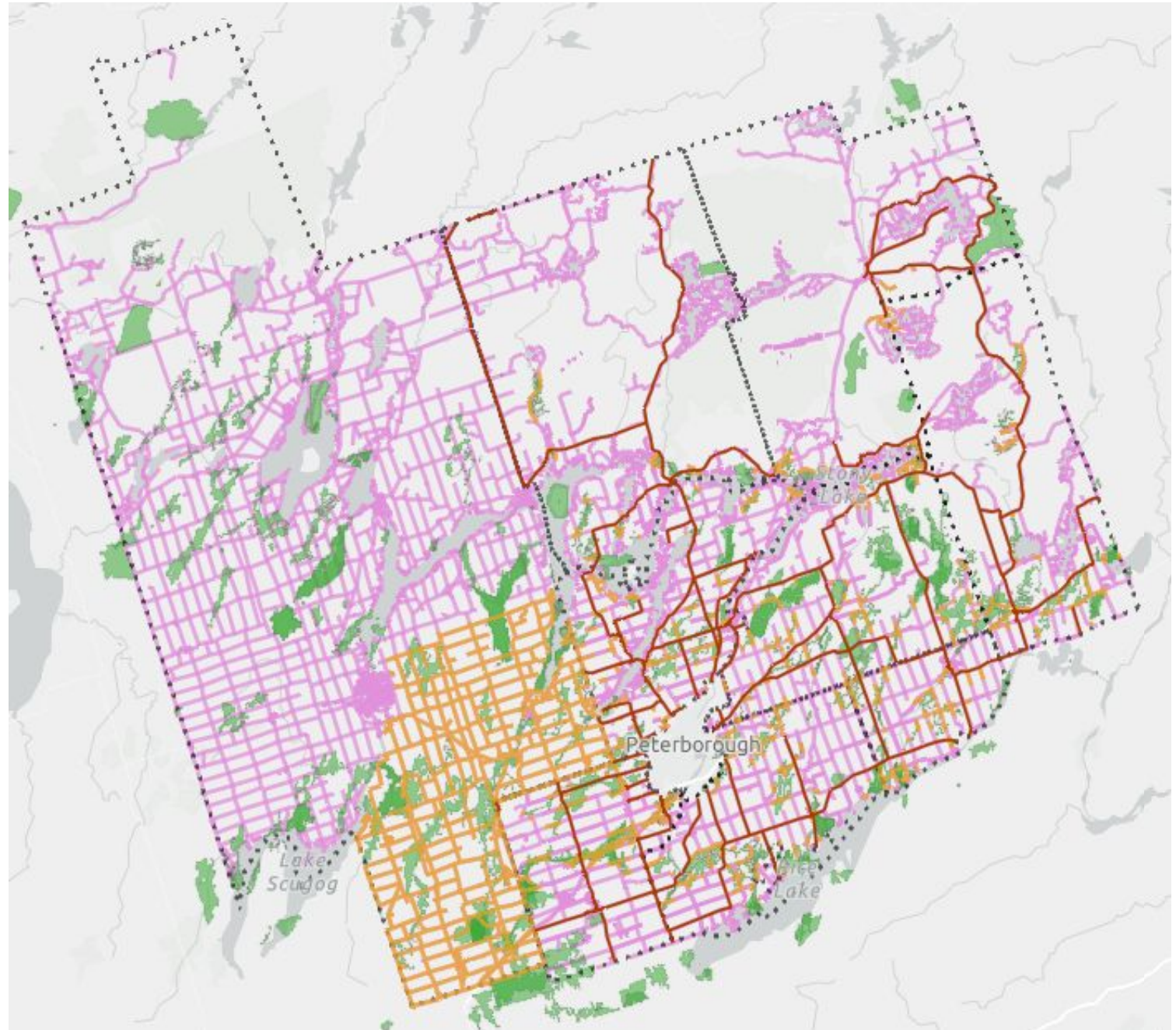
City of Kawartha Lakes & Peterborough  
County



Provincially Significant Wetlands



In progress





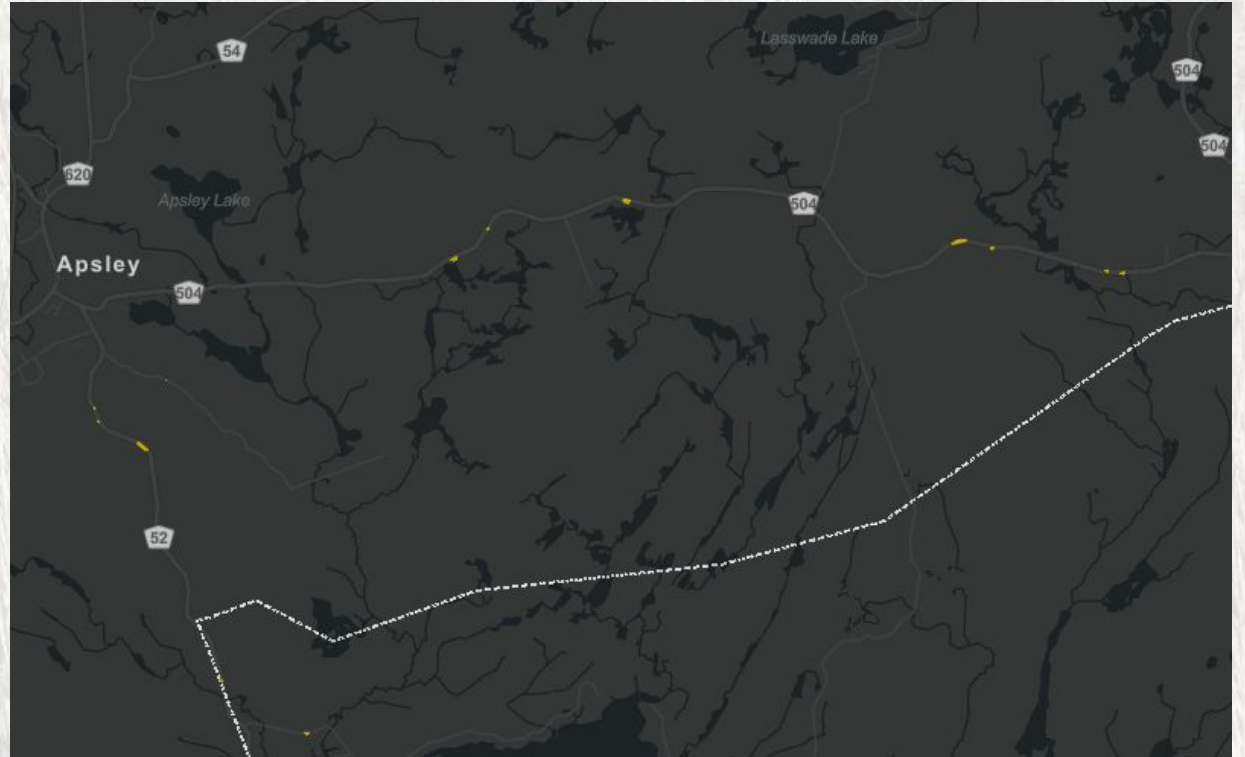
# North Kawartha Roadside Phragmites

County Roads & township roads

- **15 locations**
- **~19,000 m<sup>2</sup>**

Estimated cost of all roadside spraying  
( @ \$0.29/m<sup>2</sup> (estimation by County Operations staff)

**\$5,510**





# Parks and public land





# North Kawartha Parks, Boat Launches, etc

**Do park's staff have a spot they know  
Phragmites is invading?**

- Put it in our group grant application!
- Control contracts will be centrally administered

**Want a clear picture of all the Phragmites on  
public land?**

- Agree to have your lands monitored
- Direct our monitoring staff to all NK public lands.
- Receive actionable descriptions of absence, extent and cost to control.





# Budget

| Item                                                                 | Request from OPA grant or other sources | Outstanding | Contribution from North Kawartha? |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------|
| North Kawartha roadside Phragmites spray (township and county roads) | \$2,700                                 | \$2,700     |                                   |
| Control at known North Kawartha park or boat launch                  | \$2000??? (if applicable)               | \$2000???   |                                   |
| Survey of North Kawartha parks and trails - as directed by staff     | \$ 1500                                 | 0           |                                   |
| Prep and admin                                                       | \$1000                                  |             |                                   |
| Total                                                                | \$7,200                                 | \$4,700     |                                   |

## Timeline

- Notional interest expressed by 28 November
- Final agreement to collaborate by end of January
- Send staff to PMA meeting in 2026 if possible



# Summary

## **1) Would North Kawartha join a group submission for funding to:**

- Control Phragmites along NK roadsides and NK public lands; and
- Monitor all NK owned public lands?

## **2) Would North Kawartha contribute (up to) \$5000 to support this work on your lands and roadways?**

### **Timeline**

- Notional interest expressed by 28 November
- Final agreement to collaborate by end of January