



**Research Needs Workshop 3.01**  
**Aquatic Habitat Assessment - Predicting the Effects of Changing Water Levels**  
**in the Huron-Erie/Lake St. Clair Corridor**  
**Thursday February 2 - 3, 2005**  
Alumni Hall - University of Windsor, Windsor, Ontario, Canada

**AGENDA**

**Wednesday - February 2, 2005 (Preliminary Discussion)**

1800 **Dinner (provided)**

1930 **HEC Roundtable Discussion (open forum) - Critical Issues and Research Needs**

**Thursday – February 3, 2005 (Research Needs Workshop)**

0745 **Registration and Coffee**

0815 **Welcome and introduction - Purpose, Organizational Framework, and Goals (Jan Ciborowski)**

0830 **Presentation Session 1 – Water Levels and Habitat - Defining the Issues**

Moderator: Jeff Reutter

Brief summary presentations will review some of the key issues that relate to habitat, including: introducing operational concepts and definitions; linking structural habitats to biological communities; and identifying challenges and issues that are common to the different habitat zones of the HEC.

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
0830	HEC Physical Integrity and Habitat	Scudder Mackey, University of Windsor
0845	HEC Wetlands: Extent & Characteristics	Susan Doka, DFO
0900	HEC Fish/Macrophyte Associations	Bob Haas, Michigan DNR
0915	Climate Change & HEC Water Levels	Andrea Hebb, Environment Canada
0930	Discussion	

1000 **Break**

1015 **Presentation Session 2 – Existing Initiatives, Activities and Projects**

Moderator: Scudder Mackey

Brief presentations will summarize the local efforts of key agencies/organizations.

	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Speaker</u>
1015	USGS Restoration Initiative	Bruce Manny, USGS – GLSC
1030	MDNR Environmental Objectives	Gary Towns, MDNR
1045	DFO Biodiversity & Species-at-Risk	Nick Mandrak, DFO
1100	Lake St. Clair Watershed Assessment	Victoria Pebbles, GLC
1115	USACE Open Channel Activities	Jim Selegean, USACE
1130	Discussion	

1215 **Lunch (provided)**

1300 **Breakout session I-- Habitat, Environmental Characteristics, and Critical Variables**

Moderator: Jan Ciborowski

In groups of four to six, participants will be asked to: propose operational working definitions and characteristics of 'high quality habitat' in terms of environmental variables; consider how to classify habitats within their zone of interest; assess the most relevant scales of investigation; identify the types of data that are needed to delineate such habitats and their likely availability; identify the key environmental variables whose levels and fluctuations permit us to predict the distribution and quality of a 'habitat' of interest.

1430 **Break**

1445 **Breakout Session II – Expertise and Geospatial Datasets - Availability and Gaps**

Moderator: Scudder Mackey

In groups of four to six, participants will be asked to summarize geospatial datasets that could be used to delineate the current distribution of habitat types, and environmental variables that could be used to describe current/predict future distributions and extents of characteristic habitat types.

1600 **Summary findings, Next Steps, Invitation to Modelling Workshop (LEMN 3.0.2)**

1630 **Adjourn Workshop**