

# The Thames River Anglers Association

traa@anglers.org



November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016

Rick Goldt – Upper Thames Conservation Authority

## **Re: Comments Regarding Harrington Dam Preferred Solution**

Rick

The Thames River Anglers has been dedicated to protecting and sustaining a viable multi-species fishery within the watershed for over 25 years through education, environmental advocacy and grassroots projects that help to rehabilitate the river.

We are strongly in support of the preferred approach to decommission Harrington Dam and create a naturalized channel along with an offline pond. We agree with the liability concerns and ongoing costs of maintaining outdated and unsafe dams highlight that they no longer present a strong business case to exist. Moving them and restoring the former reservoir area to a naturalized stream channel will enhance the surrounding parks along with the opportunity to enjoy the area by local residents and visitors. It is also worth noting that there are federal funding opportunities available to assist with the cost of removing dams and creating naturalized streams to restore sport fisheries: <http://www.dfo-mpo.gc.ca/pnw-ppe/rfcpp-ppcpr/index-eng.html>

As a group that advocates and works hard to protect these ecosystems we hope that those involved in making the future decisions regarding the Harrington Dam will see that the benefits of following the preferred approach; far outweigh the alternatives.

Thanks again,  
Paul

Paul Holmes  
Stream Restoration Committee Lead and Chairman  
Thames River Anglers Association



## Rick Goldt - Harrington Dam EA - ORA Comment

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**From:** Robert Huber [REDACTED]  
**To:** "goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca" <goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca>  
**Date:** 11/3/2016 8:40 AM  
**Subject:** Harrington Dam EA - ORA Comment  
**CC:** Linda Heron [REDACTED]  
**Attachments:** 2016-10-31-ORA Harrington Dam - final.pdf

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Rick,

Please find attached our comments on behalf of the Ontario Rivers Alliance regarding the preferred solution for the Harrington Dam Environmental Assessment.

Thank you again for the opportunity to participate in this process.

Robert

***Robert Huber***

Vice Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance  
[REDACTED]



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OntarioRiversAlliance.ca

3 November 2016

Rick Goldt, Supervisor, Water Control Structures  
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority  
goldtr@thamesriver.on.ca

Regarding: Harrington Dam Preferred Solution Comment

Dear Rick:

Ontario Rivers Alliance (ORA) is a Not-for-Profit grassroots organization acting as a voice for several stewardships, organizations, and private and First Nation citizens who have come together to protect, conserve and restore healthy river ecosystems.

ORA is in support of the preferred option to decommission Harrington Dam and rehabilitate the former reservoir to a natural channel and offline pond.

This Environmental Assessment was delivered with phenomenal detail and effort on behalf of Ecosystem Recovery Inc. We understand that the results leading to the preferred approach were fairly close and appreciate that they demonstrated how changing the weightings would impact the recommended option.

We trust that if council and the agencies involved in the follow-up stages approve the project; even those who would have liked to see the dam repaired will discover how much better it will be to enjoy the area with a healthy naturalized stream and offline pond.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate in this process!

Respectfully,

Robert Huber  
Vice-Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance