

Outer Island Project (OIP) 2016 Season Report –White Squall

Overview

White Squall and key community partners have been involved in campsite rehabilitation and installation of wilderness thunderboxes on the crown islands of Georgian Bay in the Parry Sound region for over 17 years. As in 2015, we had to partly shift focus to the southwest coasts of Franklin Island as that area was not looked after well and gets considerable visitation. We also spent time on Huckleberry Island as sites there were needing attention. Our main target area was the outer islands from Cathcart group north to Big McCoy. The stewardship work was completed primarily by using a motorboat with two staff.

Public Education

At various times during the summer, our staff have conversations with campers about island stewardship. Without exception there was strong support from users. Beyond that, individual groups reaffirmed their commitment in minimizing impact and cleaning up sites they encounter. There are many examples of paddlers going out on their own and contributing to the overall effort which is really encouraging. Local businesses are engaging customers in conversation about the fragility of the islands and what they can do to protect them. Several provincial paddling clubs have been in touch with their membership, emphasizing the importance of treading softly in this biosphere land and waterscape.

Stewardship Boat

White Squall's boat and motor are getting older ☺. We can do a lot in a short period of time and are quite efficient, but there is no budget line for a replacement. At the moment, we are using our son's boat with his permission – with an agreement to maintain it, but down the road, this needs to change. Perhaps an outside organization could work towards securing one and loan it to us for the summer period. This needs to be addressed to enable us to carry on safely and efficiently in years to come.

Franklin Island Stewardship Problem

We have been left to try and maintain Franklin campsites, as there is no other stewardship activity that we can see happening out there. This is a daunting task and we are not able to oversee it all properly. We need help with further funding so we can hire our staff more for the island, or for another group to take it on.

Project Cost

Two Staff /Day x 12 Days	\$3750
Boat Rental, Gas, Maintenance	\$1200
Insurance	\$250
Equipment & Tools	\$250
Box Construction	\$500
Total	\$6590

Community Partners/OIP Donations 2016

Anne Wellnhofer	100
North Sound Association	200
Brenda	500
Great Lakes Sea Kayak Assoc.	250
Georgian Bay Land Trust	1000
Online Donations White Squall	365
Cash Donations – Free Paddling at White Squall	2588
Gillys	free launch
Total	\$5003

Georgian Bay Biosphere Reserve \$3000
(one-time contribution for 15 thunder box construction/installation)

Summary Note – we are not breaking even on this at the moment, so any suggestions for further revenue so we maintain a presence out there would be appreciated.

Site Check - Garbage Pickup - Relocation - New Installation - Firepit Removal

May 6	Franklin Isle	<i>Windsor Inlet – Windsor Island</i>
		-site checked, garbage picked up all ok
	Franklin Isle	<i>Bert's Bay</i>
		-sites checked, all ok
	Franklin Isle	<i>Just north of Henrietta</i>
		- extensive campsite burning from late last season, garbage picked up

May 14 Franklin Isle *Bay one south of Regatta*
 - needs replacing

May 21 Snake Island *Perimeter*
 -1 bag of garbage collected, all 3 sites ok

June 7 Franklin Isle *First bay south of Regatta*
 -picked up garbage, site fairly clean
 -repaired T-box, re-located with new pit

June 7 *Ledge site across from Peachy*
 -2 new installations with new pits

June 10 Franklin Isle *Phoebe Point*
 -1 bag of garbage picked up
 -removed and destroyed one T-box
 -installed new T-box in new location
 -removed two campfire rings with garbage

June 10 Franklin Isle *Site just east of Henrietta*
 -buried two bags of garbage
 -removed one campfire ring
 -installed new T-box

June 10 Franklin Isle *Savage Rock Site*
 -removed one campfire
 -checked T-box – ok but needs relocating next time (too close to campsites)
 -garbage picked up

June 27 Franklin Isle *Savage Rock Interior sites*
 -re-located T-box with new hole
 -removed over 30 cans and smashed glass
 -removed several campfire rings, toilet paper
 -checked one T-box – ok, half-full

June 27 Franklin Isle *Regatta Bay Sites Heading to Interior Channel*
 -removed several firepits
 -north side of Regatta Bay – dug new hole and relocated T-Box (needs fixing)
 -site #4 – canopy structure built from trees – needs removing
 -site #3 – just west of Burritt – firepit removed, T-box needs replacing

July 4 Snake Island *Northwest site*
 -main box – relocated, dug new pit
 -two firepits removed, along with tent rocks

Franklin Island *First Site North of Henrietta*
 -relocated pit
 -cleaned up firepit, removed significant garbage

Henrietta Point
 -checked t-box – ok
 -garbage removed, tent rocks moved
 -junipers torn up for fires, significant abuse

Site Just Before Henrietta
 -checked t-box, replaced lid – all ok

July 11 Franklin Isle & Lenice & Gaspar
 -re-located T-box on Gaspar Isle
 -checked Deadhead Bay sites – both holes ok – lids need fixing

- Lenice Isle – installed new T-box
- checked second one on Lenice, all ok
- some garbage removed
- checked Henrietta Point – will need replacing in next month

July 11 Big McCoy Isle – south end

- all three south end sites checked
- centre site – installed new box and new hole
- dismantled large fire pit
- checked eastern site – reflagged it – all ok
- western site – re-located box – new hole
- dismantled large firepit

July 16 Winkler Isle – west of Franklin Isle

- relocated box on new hole
- dismantled firepit and picked up garbage

July 16 Franklin – *Beach site west of Corbman Bay*

- relocated and dug new hole for box
- took garbage out of main firepit

Aug. 10 Cathcart - *West Cathcart proper*

- *relocated box and dug new hole (45.28 N 80.30 W)*

Aug. 10 Rumble

- New box, same hole
- Signed with blue washroom sign, reflagged

Aug. 10 Lally

- Fixed lid, spoke to camper about initiative (very happy about it)
- Signed with blue washroom sign
- Needs new box next year

Aug. 10 Stapley

- relocated one box, 2nd box was changed earlier (according to campers)
- Going to need a new box next year

Aug. 12 Green Isle – *East Storm Site*

- checked box, will need replacing end of season, but ok for now
- picked up garbage

- *South Campsite*

- found considerable garbage

Aug. 12 Dart Island

- checked box – all ok

Aug. 12 SW Big McCoy Site

- relocated box

Aug. 22 Snug Harbour Light

- checked garbage on site – needs a lot of work, old pits

Aug. 22 Corbman Bay

- installed one new box and relocated one box
- removed garbage from main firepit – old tarps

October 15 Huckleberry Isle

- Boulder Bay – checked all three sites
- relocated one box

-installed one new box
picked up garbage, but surprisingly clean

Oct 15 Wall Isle

-main site – checked – all good

Respectfully Submitted

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