

Outer Island Project (OIP) 2019 Season Report - DRAFT

White Squall - December 2019

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 23 years. Our project area includes the outer islands from Cathcart group north to Big McCoy. We spend considerable time on Franklin Island as it gets intense visitation. Our efforts there and elsewhere should not be considered good enough. There is more stewardship needed beyond what we are able to do. This season we went out for ten days of activity. The stewardship work was completed primarily by using a motorboat with two Squall staff.

Public Education

At various times during the summer, White Squall staff have conversations with campers about island stewardship. Without exception there is 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 encouraging. The Great Lakes Sea Kayak Association particularly spent a weekend in September helping to clean up the island campsites. Local businesses are engaging customers in conversation about the fragility of the islands and what they can do to protect them. Paddle Canada has connected with their membership about no trace camping, emphasizing the importance of treading softly in this biosphere of land and water.

Stewardship Boat

White Squall's boat/motor are getting ever older. We can do a lot in a short period of time and are quite efficient, but there is no budget line for replacement. For the time being, we are still using our son's boat with his permission - with an agreement to maintain it, but down the road, this needs to be addressed to enable us to carry on safely and efficiently in years to come. We have identified this issue for several years and at some point, needs to be dealt with.

MNRF

The Junior Ranger programme spent a day out on Franklin and Huckleberry this summer for campsite stewardship and did a great job. Sadly, the ministry has chosen to take away/stop maintaining public docks at Huckleberry, Snakes and Regatta Bay. This is a loss to our area in terms of providing public access to crown islands.

Franklin Island/Huckleberry Stewardship

We have been left to try and maintain Franklin campsites, as there is little to no other stewardship activity that we can see happening out there. This is daunting, and we are not able to oversee it all properly. Either further funding is needed to increase stewardship, or perhaps another group takes it on. Again, this is a yearly refrain and needs a resolution.

Project Cost

Two Staff /Day x 10 Days	3850
Boat Gas, Maintenance, Repairs and Winter Storage	1200
Insurance	500
Equipment & Tools	100
Thunderbox Signs	150
Directional Signs (small plastic washroom type)	100
Project Admin.	500
Total	6400

Donations & Squall Contributions

White Squall Demo Paddles & Renters	2182
Online client contributions	855
Shortfall	3363

Community Partners - Anticipated Support for 2019 season - TBA

Great Lakes Sea Kayak Assoc.

Georgian Bay Land Trust

GBBR Outer Island Fund

Gillys of Snug Harbour

free launching

Respectfully submitted - Tim Dyer (info@whitesquall.com)

Outer Island Project Activity Report 2019

MAY 4

Kevin McMurray, Tim Dyer - motor boat
Dillon Cove - Big McCoy - Green - Snakes - Dillon
South side of Big McCoy - Checked, cleaned 4 sites- all ok
North McCoy sites - Checked, cleaned- all ok
Green Island - 4 sites checked - all need work
Snake Islands - middle sites need relocating

JUNE 6

Tim Dyer, Kathleen McGill, Jan Raymond - motor boat
Snug Harbour - Franklin - Snake islands
Main site (Savage Rocks) Closed - re-located 2 T-boxes - garbage p/u
North end of Snakes - Installed new T-box
Middle Snakes - Fixed first box Closed, re-located second middle box
South site - Snakes Picked up garbage, checked- needs better signage

JUNE 14

Hannah Goodings, Tim Dyer - motor boat
Sawdust Bay - Wall and Huckleberry Isles - Sawdust Bay
Wall Island West Site - Installed new box, picked up a lot of garbage
Totem Bay - Huckleberry - checked all three sites, east and south sites ok, picked up a lot of garbage on west site - box needs work but ran out of time

JUNE 19

Kevin McMurray, Ethan Curtis - motor boat
Snug Harbour - Green Island - Snake islands
East site Green Island - Stirred and repaired box, garbage p/u, signage and path clearing
South West site Green Island - Stirred box, garbage p/u, signage and path clearing, dismantled fire rings
West site Green Island - garbage p/u, dismantled fire rings, (box is in puddle from recent rain, should drain)
North West site Green Island - re-located T-box, garbage p/u
North site Green Island - garbage p/u, dismantled fire rings

Middle Snakes - Stirred south middle box, re-located north middle box and improved signage, garbage p/u

South site - improved signage, stirred box

June 26

Tim Dyer, Peter Wassermann - motor boat

Winkler - checked box, picked up garbage

Gaspar - relocated box, installed new one, dismantled firepits

Franklin beach site - cleaned and checked

JULY 15

Ethan Curtis, Mark Fleming - motor boat

Pengally Bay - Cathcart - Lally - Stapley Islands Cathcart:

1. Engineered site - relocated T-box, cleaned up a bit

(site wasn't too bad except that some jerk had hacked up one of the big pines)

2. Northwest site - brought new box and dug a new hole for it

3. Rumble site - moved box

Lally:

Big site (2 boxes on site):

1. trimmed and flagged path to thunderbox A

2. dug new hole and replaced box for thunderbox B

Stapley:

Checked site (north side)

Box is full and needs to be moved! (sorry, we ran out of time)

Notes:

There a person keeping his/her belongings out on Stapley Island. They set up a sort of composting toilet on the shore (very visible from the water!) involving a large rubber maid that they presumably empty (into the thunderbox?) Also, they seem to store a bunch of their belongings in a cache in the woods.

July 25

Jocey and Kevin. - motor boat

South tip of Franklin, across from Savage Rocks

- Shifted box/stirred hole, it's good for another couple weeks I think

Henrietta Point

- checked all three boxes, closest two are good, newer boxes and lots of room still
- Furthest box from main site, we relocated but the box is in good shape

Inlet across from Lenice, very southern tip of Henrietta

- Cleaned up a little, box is in good shape, hole still has room for a few weeks

Lenice Island

- Relocated hole and put a new box on
- Dismantled and scattered the old box
- Picked up garbage
- Signed a little better and replaced OIP poster

July 26

Junior Rangers

Regatta Bay - picked up garbage, t-boxes ok

Regatta Bay to Burritt Point - checked, picked up garbage

Huckleberry Day Site - all ok and checked, but site needs new t-boxes

Totem Pole Bay - 4 discarded chairs, t-boxes ok

Boulder Bay - lots of garbage, t-box replaced

Wall Island - t-box ok, picked up garbage

August 11

Tim and Nick - motor boat

- North east end of Franklin before Corbman: checked, t-box ok
- Main island in Windsor Inlet: checked, picked up garbage, t-box ok, dismantled fire pits
- Back bay of Windsor inlet: checked, garbage picked up, no t-box
- Main point in Windsor inlet: picked up garbage, replaced/relocated t-box, dismantled fire pits
- Small island in Windsor inlet: picked up garbage, no t-box
- Point behind lenice: picked up garbage, replaced/relocated t-box, dismantled fire pits

August 22

Julia and Jocey - Canoe

- Burritt point: t-box was fine, we picked up garbage and resigned
- Point between Burritt and regatta bay: t-box was fine
- Sandy Site at start of Regatta: hole was fine, we did some repairs on the box
- Spot at the end of Regatta Bay: relocated t-box
- Flat site on other side of Regatta (around the corner from Franklin Islands Boater's Site) - looked for T-box, couldn't find one. There are two full sized wooden outhouses by the "Boater's Site"
- Horsley Island: t-box is fine, lots of room still

Sept 5

Izzy, Felicia, and Karine - Canoe

- Huckleberry island -> Boulder Bay: Cleaned up garbage at site, thunder box was fine
- Totem pole Bay: First site on L side: relocated thunder box and put up washroom marker, cleaned up lots of garbage.
- Second site: walked there from first site, cleaned up garbage. T-box is shared b/w site 1 and 2 so all good
- Third site: T-box is fine, lots of room still. Picked up garbage

Notes: Totem pole site #1 was well established and had lots of garbage and a ripped tarp partially set up (we took it down). Site #3 was also well established and covered in garbage too.