Michigan Case Studies in Nearshore Protection and Restoration

Erick Elgin, MSU Extension & Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership

Change in vegetation Increase in impervious surfaces Increase in hardening

Loss of habitat Increase runoff Increase erosion Increase in pollutant loading Sediment •

- Nutrients •

Loss of shoreline habitat is a regional issue

~70% of lakes in southern MI are intensely developed - Wehrly et al. 2012





Michigan Natural Shoreline Partnership

Protecting Michigan lakes through conservation and restoration of natural shorelines





MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT, GREAT LAKES, AND ENERGY



Balance homeowner needs with the protection of the waterbody



Fish & Wildlife Habitat

Modified from Wisconsin Healthy Lakes

Outline

- Low Energy
- High Energy

UPLAND

- Wood addition
- Macrophyte planting
- Macrophyte assessment

SHORELINE

LAKE

BUFFER

Bioengineering: Low Energy Designs



Ryerson Lake





Bioengineering: High Energy Designs











Fish sticks and Turtle logs

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Portage Lake

















Eric Calabro



Aquatic Plants

Species and Planting Methods

Plant Species

- Sago pondweed
- Illinois pondweed
- Chara

Planting methods

- Push-in
- Staple
- Weighted burrito







Results

Chara

Pondweeds increased by more than 100% for each method

Loss of aquatic plants

Potential Impacts of Docks on Littoral Habitats in Minnesota Lakes

SHERIES SCIE

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Thank You! Eric Calabro Sarah LeSage Craig Kivi Joe Nohner EGLE DNR GLRI Tip of the Mitt Watershed Council

Questions

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