

1. A lady addressed the State of Lake Nipissing group a few years ago and complained - " in the last 50 years the water level has dropped and places where we fished and swam before are now covered with sand. Spawning walleye and other water creatures no longer come there."
2. I had another chance to be in a meeting with her lately and enquired where this had happened - the reply was the mouth of Duchesnay Creek.
3. I live 0.8 km. north of the Kings Wharf and have noticed the same thing - well over a half metre of sand has come in and there is no longer any spawning here either
4. At that I was worried that the longshore drift being held up at the dock/marina have been negatively impacting the beaches south of here. If the the increased the footprint this would cause further erosion of those starved beaches!
5. I wrote a comment "river of sand" and was challenged by a similar mockup saying that this was impossible which lead me to more research and the recent conclusion

6. I HAVE NOW COME TO BELIEVE THE GROUYNE CALLED THE WATERFRONT MARINA HAS SERIOUSLY IMPACTED AT LEAST 8 KILOMETRES OF PICKERAL SPAWNING AREA (PROBABLY MORE!) AND SOMETHING SHOULD BE DONE! ONE OPTION IS TO COMPLETELY REMOVE THAT MARINA/WHARF ALLOWING THE DRIFT TO CONTINUE BUT NATURAL FORCES HAS BEEN BUILDING UP SAND THESE LAST 38 YEARS AND IT IS ON THE VERGE OF GOING AROUND IT! IT SEEMS LOGICAL TO FOLLOW NATURE'S LEAD AND DIRECT THAT SAND AROUND THIS OBSTRUCTION - THERE ARE A GREAT MANY BENEFITS TO THIS!

Back Map Options

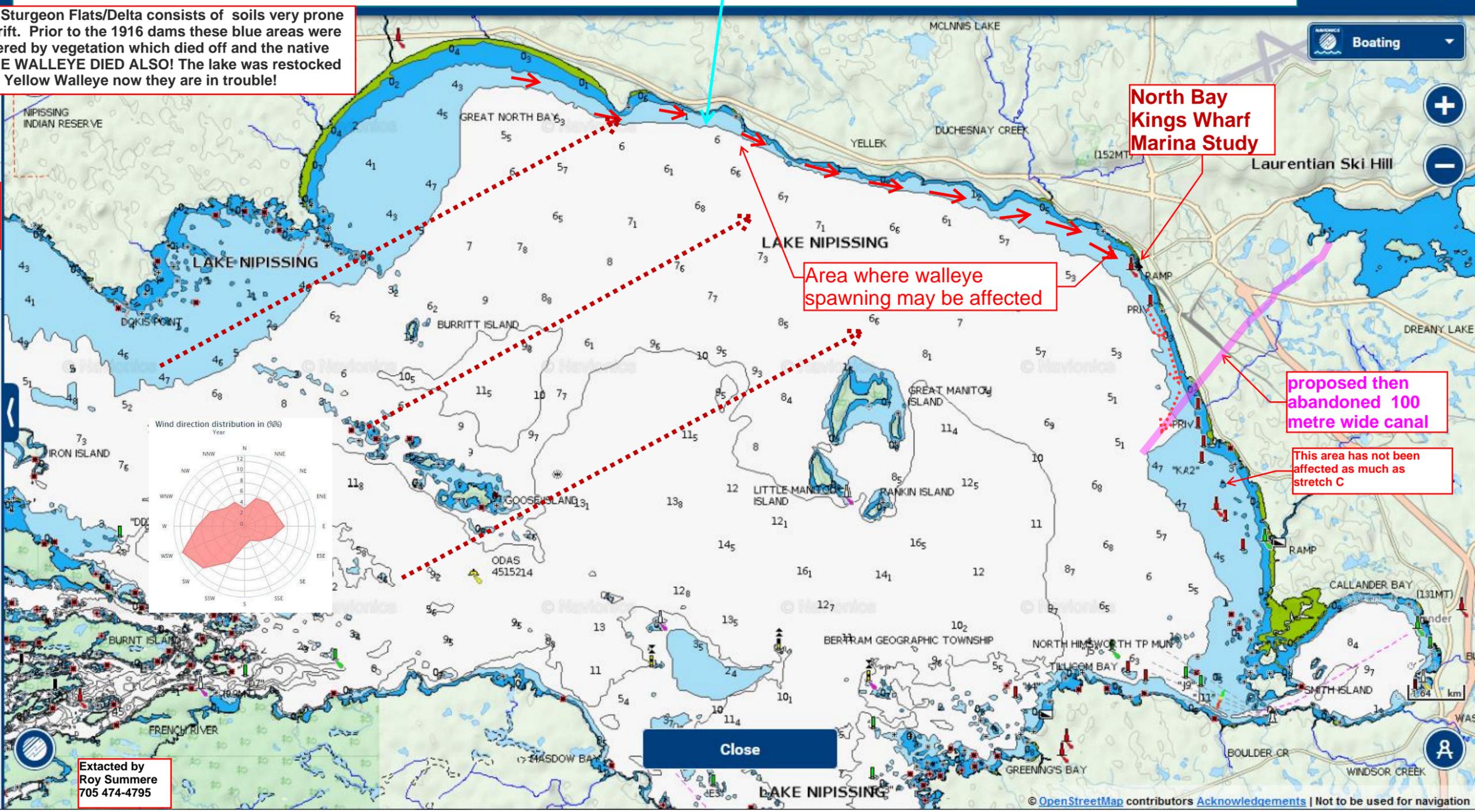
No overlay Satellite Terrain

Safety Depth 3 m >

0 m 20 m

It should be noted that the dams put in at the outlet of the lake (French River) was done to start the Georgian Bay Canal and this raised the lake level in the summer time by 10 foot or 3 metres. The border between the light blue and white is what Lake Nipissing was before the installation of those dams

The Sturgeon Flats/Delta consists of soils very prone to drift. Prior to the 1916 dams these blue areas were covered by vegetation which died off and the native BLUE WALLEYE DIED ALSO! The lake was restocked with Yellow Walleye now they are in trouble!



North Bay Kings Wharf Marina Study

Area where walleye spawning may be affected

proposed then abandoned 100 metre wide canal

This area has not been affected as much as stretch C

In 1908 - the federal government published a report and plans for the Georgian Bay Ship Canal.

In 1916 in preparation for that they installed the French River dams raising the waters level less than 3m thus killing the vegetation (in the area (cyan or light blue) so that the longshore resumed. They also built Kings Wharf which on piers allowing drifting sand to through maintaining the exceptional beaches found on the West Ferris shoreline. The primary reason for this was to accommodate a massive dipper dredge and it's two tugs and 2 scows needed to build and maintain the expected 300' wide Canal.

I suspect that this drift had something to do with the extinction of the native blue walleye.

Other than that things seem to go along well.

Before 1930 all of the land on the West Ferris shoreline had been developed up to the La Vase River.

A "rip current" with a west to northwest wind.

In 1985 the Kings Wharf Marina was finished and it proved to be a groyne. I tried to tell the people at the 2009 Baird PIC about this longshore drift but they rejected this.

Extracted by Roy Summere 705 474-4795

Close