

## **APPENDIX G – Focus Group Results**

### **NEW FOCUS GROUP 2**

#### **St. Clair County Northeastern Watersheds**

Public Meeting #2 (March 8, 2006)

#### **Compiled Results – In order of priority**

(The numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of “votes” or dots given to an item.)

#### Group #1:

1. Coordinated/uniform planning and standards. Enforcement of standards throughout the watershed. (9)
2. Creating a monitoring plan for the watershed. (9)
3. Increased tourism appeal. (4)
4. Conduct MNFI inventories in the NEW (obtain grants in coordination w/MPC). (4)
5. Protect and improve the warm water and cool water fishery and conditions for other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife. (3)
6. Ensure sustainable growth and development. (3)
7. Preserve high-quality natural areas including forested areas, floodplains, riparian buffers, wetlands, open space, and greenways. (3)
8. Eliminate all beach closings. (2)
9. Ensure St. Clair River RAP goals tie into NEW goals. (1)
10. Protect and improve partial and total body contact recreation. (1)
11. Protect public health and the drinking water supply (public and private). (1)
12. Invasive species? Zebra mussels / phragmites. (0)

#### Group #2:

1. Preserve the rural character (farmland and open space) of the area. (5)
2. Public education and involvement (How systems are connected, signage, dumping, household hazardous waste drop-off, clean-ups). Include public officials. (4)
3. Protect and improve the warm water and cool water fishery and conditions for other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife. (4)

4. Preserve high-quality natural areas including forested areas, floodplains, riparian buffers, wetlands, open space, and greenways. (3)
5. Protect public health and the drinking water supply (public and private). (3)
6. Protect and improve partial and total body contact recreation. (3)
7. Regional coordination (such as Rouge Assembly) with regulatory and financial mechanisms. (3)
8. Setbacks for development and wells (none within ¼ mile of a stream). (2)
9. Ensure sustainable growth and development. (2)
10. Increase recreational opportunities (parks and other facilities), including public access to Lake Huron, the Black River, and the St. Clair River. (1)
11. Control and manage invasive species. (0)
12. Maintain and/or increase the aesthetics of the water resources. (0)

Group #3:

1. Preserve high-quality natural areas including forested areas, floodplains, riparian buffers, wetlands, open space, and greenways. (8)
2. Ensure sustainable growth and development. (7.5)
3. Agricultural practices. SCC soil rental rates very low. Low rates don't support fallow buffer strips. Funding programs are there. Lack of enforcement – providing funding or it won't happen. Agricultural-only zoning. (5)
4. Increase recreational opportunities (parks and other facilities), including public access to Lake Huron, the Black River, and the St. Clair River. (3)
5. Lack of consistent standards/development rules. Need unity between SCCDC & SCCRC. (2.5)
6. Creation of floodplains & drain standards to reduce flows. Create regional storage for flows. (2)
7. Preserve the rural character (farmland and open space) of the area. (2)
8. Maintain and/or increase the aesthetics of the water resources. (1.5)
9. Protect and improve the warm water and cool water fishery and conditions for other indigenous aquatic life and wildlife. (1)
10. Protect and improve partial and total body contact recreation. (1)

11. Protect public health and the drinking water supply (public and private). (1)
12. Reduce flows. (.5)
13. People buy land in SCC primarily for hunting (?). Sanilac has found these people to be interested in cutting tiles, creating & preserving wetlands, etc. May be contacts for regional detention? (0)