

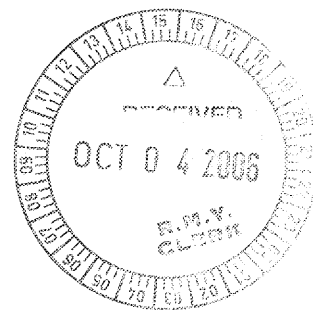


September 25, 2006

REGION OF YORK
CLERK'S OFFICE

FILE No. - 107

Chair
CRO
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The Hon. John Gerretsen
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
17th Flr
777 Bay St
Toronto ON M5G2E5

120 Bayview Parkway
Box 282
Newmarket, Ontario
L3Y 4X1

Dear Minister,

Re: Inter-Governmental Action Plan

On behalf of the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Board of Directors and staff, I wish to congratulate your Ministry in relation to developing sustainable growth options through the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP). We sincerely appreciate the opportunity to participate in this important exercise by developing the Assimilative Capacity Studies for the Lake Simcoe and Nottawasaga River watersheds by working with the Ministry of the Environment (MOE). We understand that the MOE has been extremely pleased with the work completed by both the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) and the Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority in relation to the Assimilative Capacity Studies.

However, in reviewing the various options for growth at the recent IGAP Open Houses, the LSRCA has concerns with the preferred option recommended by the consultant.

The Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's Board of Directors, at their meeting held on Friday, August 25, 2006, dealt with Authority Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD regarding the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) and passed the following resolution:

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: J. Young

BOD-06-117

RESOLVED THAT Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD regarding the results of the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) be endorsed; and

THAT the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) Board of Directors and LSRCA staff take a very strong position against the options recommended, as they are in direct opposition to the goals and objectives of the LSRCA Assimilative Capacity Study phosphorus targets; and

A

Watershed

For

Life



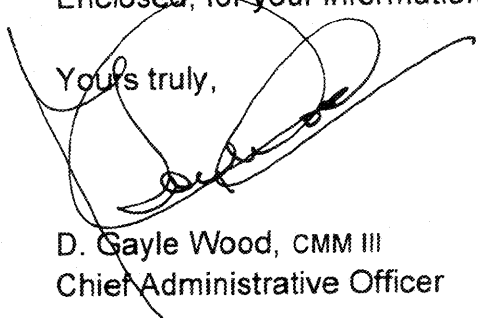
The Hon. John Gerretsen
Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing
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THAT the Board of Directors strongly support an option that would respect and match the targets established under the ACS; and
THAT the LSRCA requests a seat at the table of IGAP and receive all relevant documentation and meeting notifications; and
THAT IGAP accept the objectives as established over the past 16 years with the LSEMS project and take the appropriate steps to ensure that all four of the LSEMS primary objectives can be met; and
THAT this resolution be circulated to all member municipalities for endorsement; and
THAT copies of this resolution be sent to the Minister of Municipal Affairs & Housing and all MP's, MPP's, Foundation, and stakeholders within the Lake Simcoe watershed.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Enclosed, for your information, is a copy of Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD.

Yours truly,


D. Gayle Wood, CMM III
Chief Administrative Officer

Encl.

- c: The Hon. Laurel Broten, Minister of the Environment
The Hon. David Ramsay, Minister of Natural Resources
The Hon. David Caplan, Minister of Public Infrastructure Renewal
Mr. Garfield Dunlop, MPP, Simcoe-North
Mr. Wayne Arthurs, MPP, Pickering-Ajax-Uxbridge
Miss Laurie Scott, MPP, Haliburton-Victoria-Brock
Mr. Frank Klees, MPP, Oak Ridges



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Ms. Julia Munro, MPP, York-Simcoe
Mr. John O'Toole, MPP, Durham
The Hon. Greg Sorbara, MPP, Vaughan-King-Aurora
Mr. Joe Tascona, MPP, Barrie-Simcoe-Bradford
Mr. Jim Wilson, MPP, Simcoe-Grey
Mr. Lui Temelkovski, MP, Oakridges-Markham
Ms. Helena Guergis, MP, Simcoe-Grey
Mr. Peter Van Loan, MP, York-Simcoe
The Hon. Bev Oda, MP, Durham
Mr. Barry Devolin, MP, Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock
Ms. Belinda Stronach, MP, Newmarket-Aurora
Mr. Bruce Stanton, MP, Simcoe North
Mr. Patrick Brown, MP, Barrie
Mr. Maurizio Bevilacqua, MP, Vaughan
Lake Simcoe Watershed Regional/Municipal Clerks
Simcoe County - Clerk
Mr. Bob Matthews, President, Rescue Lake Simcoe Coalition
Rick Smith, Executive Director, Environmental Defence
Mr. Neal Rogers, Executive Director, Urban Development Institute
Lake Simcoe Environmental Management Strategy - Steering Committee
D. Beatty, President, Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation



Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD
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File No.
Agenda Item No. 6 BOD-08-06

TO : Board of Directors

FROM : Michael Walters, CMM III
Director, Watershed Management

DATE : August 7, 2006

SUBJECT: Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP)

RECOMMENDATION: THAT Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD regarding the results of the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) be received for information; and FURTHER THAT staff be directed to inform the IGAP partners that it cannot support the options as they exist, and request that the Province consider another option to evaluate where future growth could occur within the IGAP study area, while maintaining the Assimilative Capacity Study phosphorus targets.

Purpose of Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report is to inform the Board of Directors of the results of the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) and the proposed enforcement protocol. The protocol clearly defines the process and procedure for staff to follow regarding enforcement of the Authority regulations and policies, and provides a schedule for when certain enforcement activities need to be initiated.

Background:

The Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) is a joint study undertaken by the Province of Ontario, the County of Simcoe and its sixteen member municipalities and the cities of Barrie

and Orillia. It was developed to provide these municipalities with information and a set of implementation tools to assist in planning and development decision making. The Plan is intended to provide a long term strategy for growth; specifically, the plan has investigated the Lake Simcoe and Nottawasaga River watersheds and their ability to accommodate added usage of water and sewer systems that would come with additional urban development in the area. It has also examined the state of the water and sewer systems that serve the existing population.

The Board of Directors has already had some exposure to the IGAP process through the Assimilative Capacity Studies, which were the first of four phases in the development of the plan. Refer to Staff Report Numbers 25-05-BOD, 39-05-BOD, 62-05-BOD, 80-05-BOD and 30-06-BOD. The remaining phases dealt with infrastructure studies and the development of a master plan to accommodate approved growth and development, the assessment of future growth potential considering water capacity and findings on the capacity of existing infrastructure, and the final phase, an implementation strategy based on the recommendations from the previous three phases. It is notable to mention that, while the Authority has been fundamental in the development of the Assimilative Capacity tools, we are not an active partner involved in IGAP and have had no influence other than as any outside commenting agency.

At the present time the Province has released the third phase results which deal with a number of growth management scenarios and the selection of a preferred alternative for further consultation before moving into the final phase of the plan development: implementation. Detailed information regarding the plan can be downloaded directly at the Simcoe County website www.county.simcoe.on.ca/. A total of eight growth management scenarios have been completed which are described as follows:

- Option 1: Business as Usual
- Option 2: Barrie and Area Centred Single Node
- Option 2b: Barrie and Area Centred Single Node (Modified Lands)
- Option 2c: Barrie and Area Centred Single Node (Modified Lands Version 2)
- Option 3: Single Barrie Area Node with 40% Intensification in County
- Option 4: Multi Nodal Expansion
- Option 4b: Multi Nodal Expansion (Modified Lands)
- Option 5: Dispersed Expansion

Figures depicting these options and the resulting impact on phosphorus loads are attached. As shown in the associated tables, the phosphorus loading results within every option for additional growth exceed the established phosphorus loading targets for the individual subwatersheds as established in the Assimilative Capacity Study for Lake Simcoe.

The IGAP preferred Option is 2b, the Barrie and Area Single Node Scenario (Modified Lands), as it exists now. This option is considered by the consultants as the most logical choice based on available infrastructure and servicing, and the most reasonable total cost. Unfortunately, the scenario is not the preferred environmental option having detrimental impacts on the phosphorus loading to Lake Simcoe concentrating all of the waste water effluent into Kempenfelt Bay and exceeding the Lover's Creek phosphorus target.

It is staff's position that the phosphorus targets established through the Assimilative Capacity Study (ACS) for Lake Simcoe must be maintained, otherwise three of the four LSEMS objectives cannot be achieved (i.e. sustaining a cold water fishery, improving water quality and reducing phosphorus loads). Given that none of the growth options presented to date meet this criteria, the Authority cannot support any of the options as provided. It is recommended that the Province and IGAP partners be requested to develop a new option for consideration respecting the Assimilative Capacity Study targets. This option would evaluate where future growth could occur within the IGAP study area while maintaining the phosphorus targets. Upon its completion, issues associated with infrastructure, servicing and cost could be evaluated.

Issues:

The most significant issue associated with the proposed growth plan is that the proposed growth does not appear to be sustainable and will have significant impacts on the watershed natural features and functions. The IGAP has placed more emphasis on infrastructure, servicing and cost associated with future growth than the impact this might have on the environment. Should the option be permitted as proposed, the potential clearly exists to exceed the phosphorus targets established under the ACS and LSEMS. Therefore, staff cannot support the IGAP Options as presented.

Relevance to Authority Policy:

The Authority's mission is to provide leadership in the restoration and protection of the environmental health and quality of Lake Simcoe and its watershed with our Community, Municipal and other Government partners. The IGAP results need to be assessed in relation to the Conservation Authority mission and mandate.

Impact on Authority Finances:

There is no financial impact associated with this report.

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Summary & Recommendations:

THAT Staff Report No. 45-06-BOD regarding the results of the Inter-Governmental Action Plan (IGAP) be received for information; and
FURTHER THAT staff be directed to inform the IGAP partners that it cannot support the options as they exist, and request that the Province consider another option to evaluate where future growth could occur within the IGAP study area while maintaining the Assimilative Capacity Study phosphorus targets.

original signed by:

Prepared by: _____

Michael Walters, CMM III
Director, Watershed Management

original signed by:

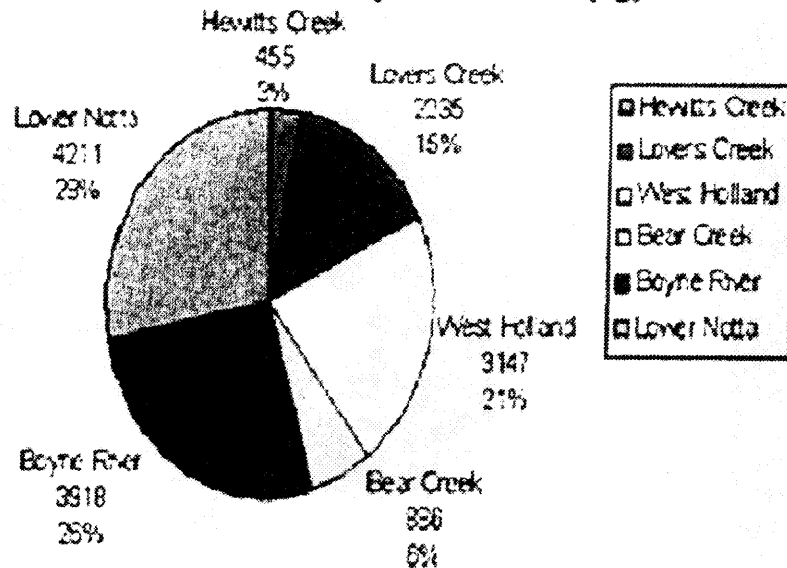
Recommended by: _____

D. Gayle Wood, CMM III
Chief Administrative Officer

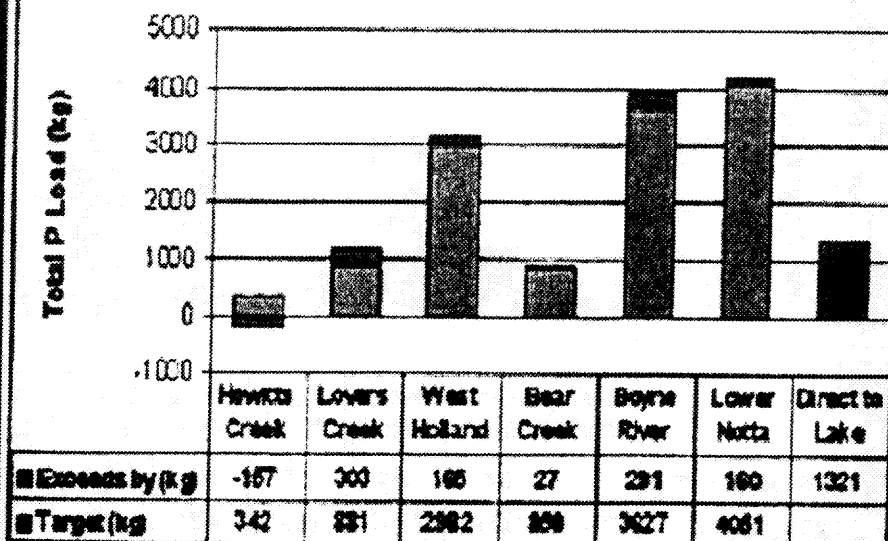
Attachment(s):

IGAP Options and Phosphorus Loading Results

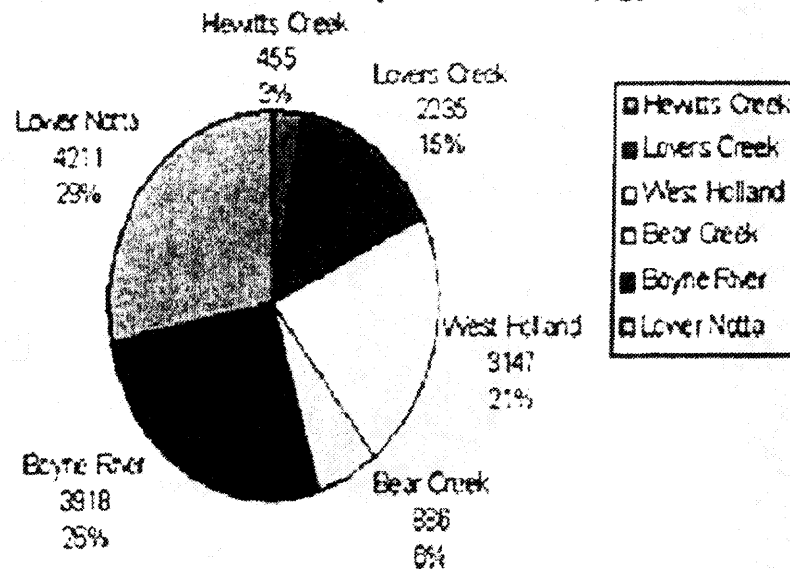
IQAP Growth with BMPs Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)



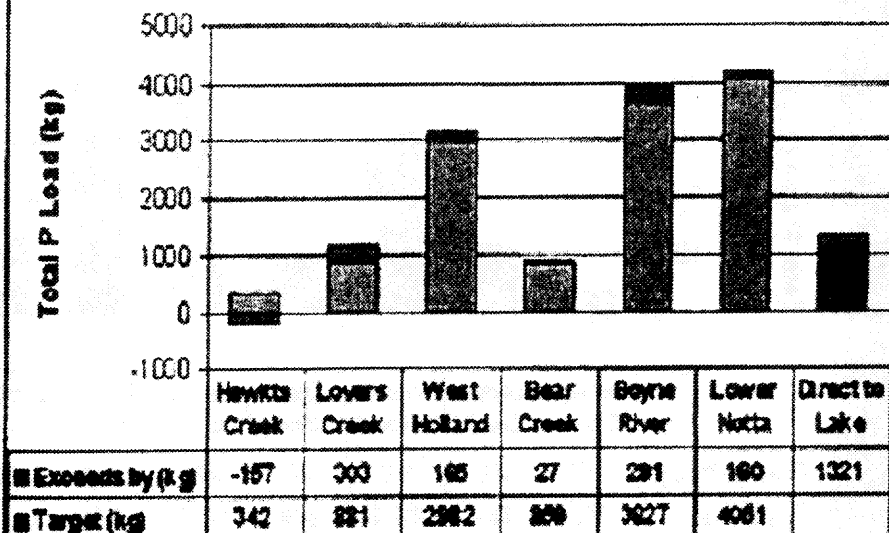
Targets and IQAP Exceedances (Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)



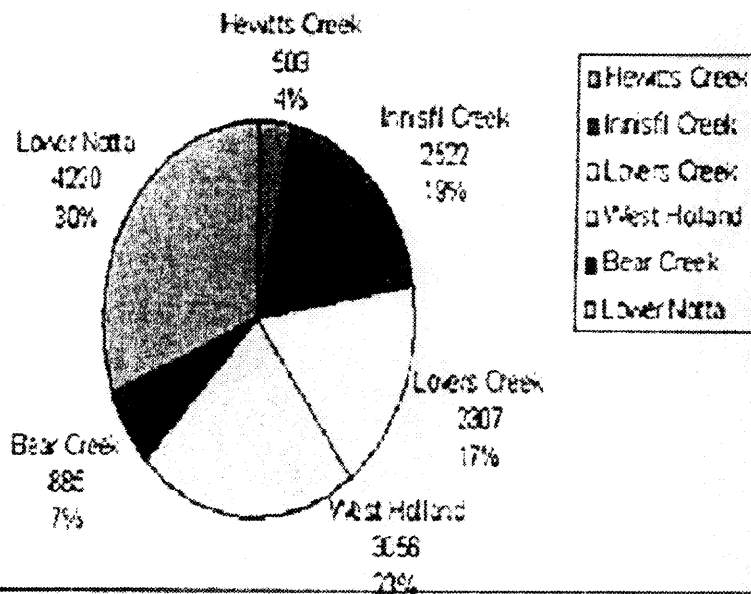
IGAP Growth with BMPs Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)



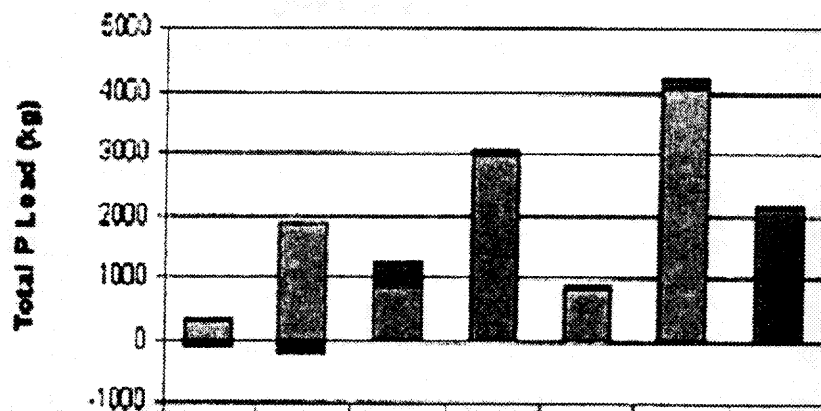
Targets and IGAP Exceedances (Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)



IGAP Growth with BMPs Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)

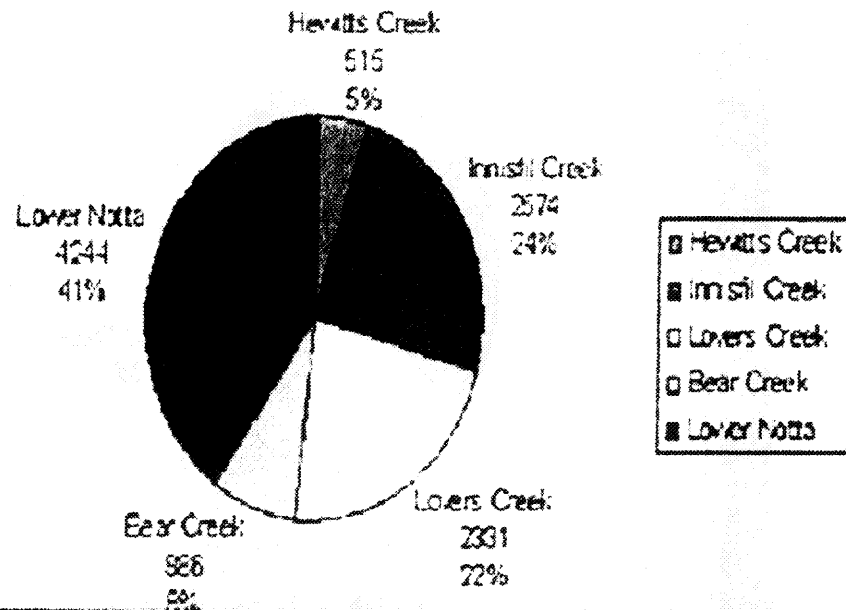


Targets and IGAP Exceedances (Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)

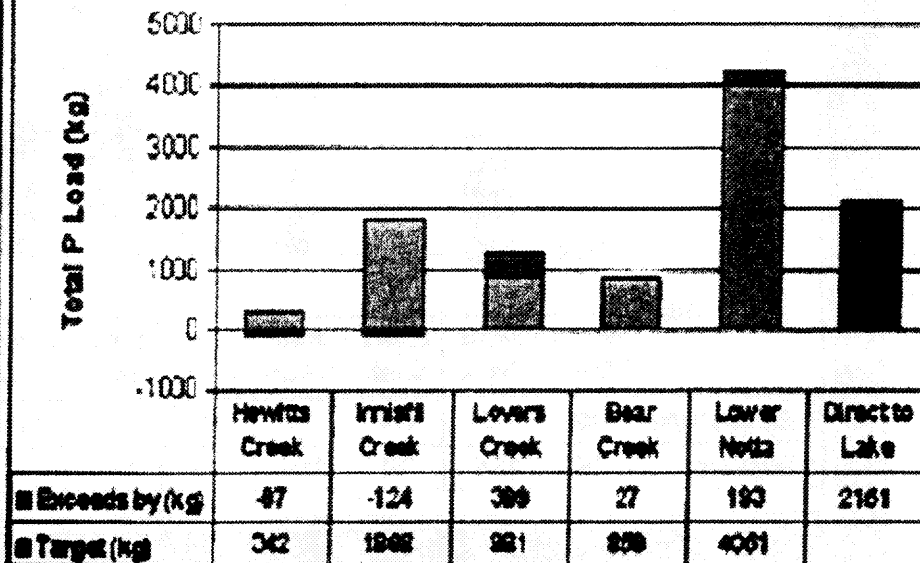


	Hewitts Creek	Innisfil Creek	Lovers Creek	West Holland	Bear Creek	Lower Nottawasaga	Direct to Lake
Exceeds by (kg)	-108	-178	375	74	26	169	2181
Target (kg)	342	1983	881	2982	859	4051	

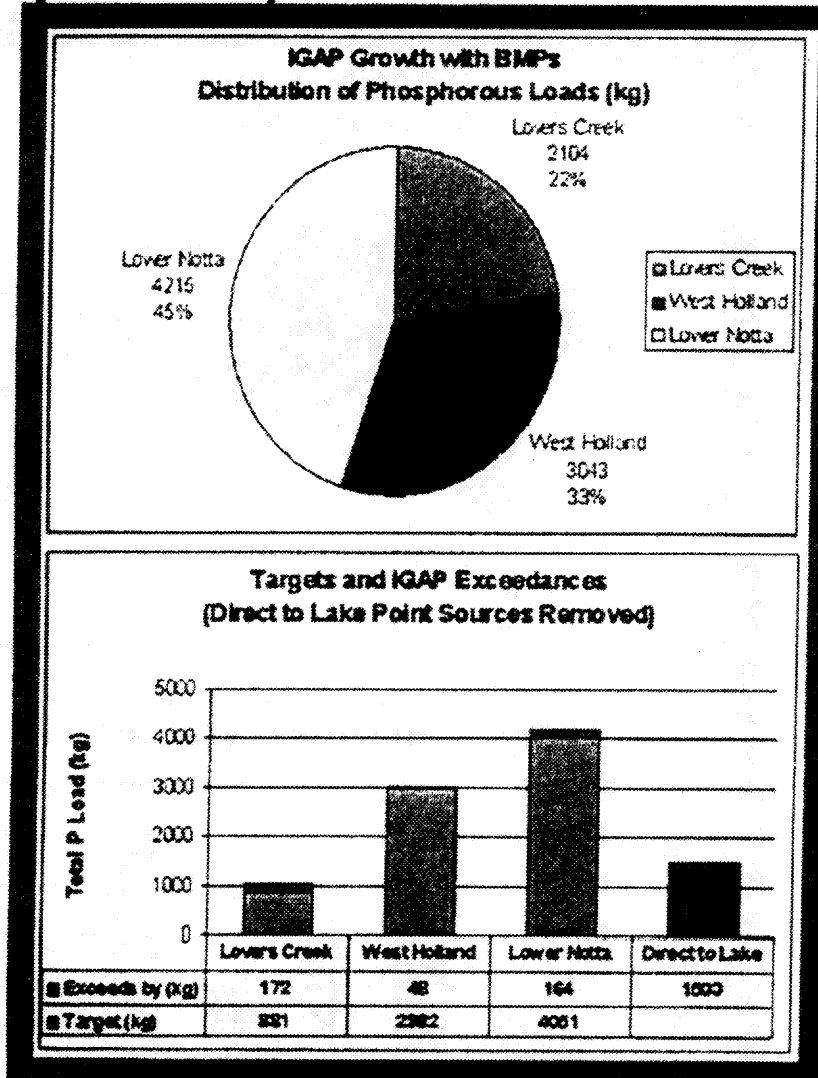
IGAP Growth with BMPs Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)



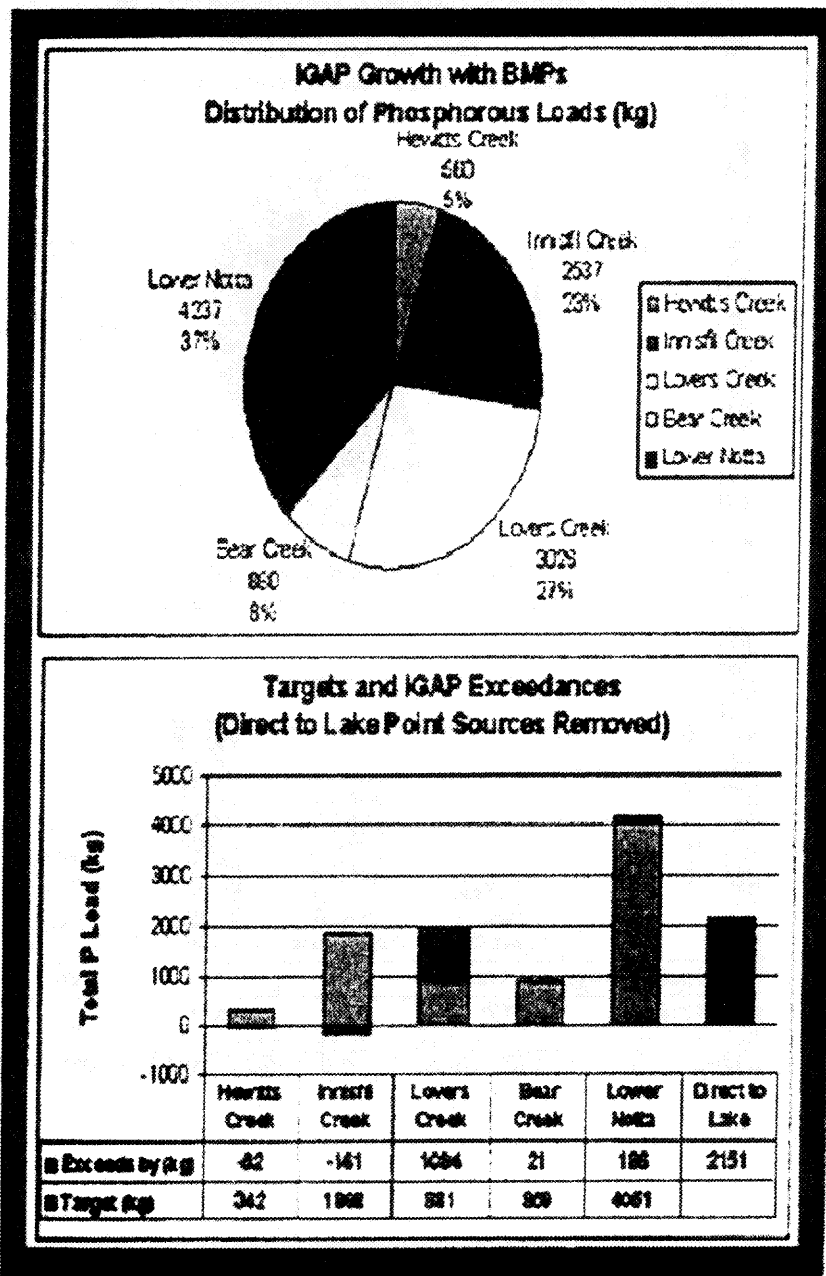
Targets and IGAP Exceedances (Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)

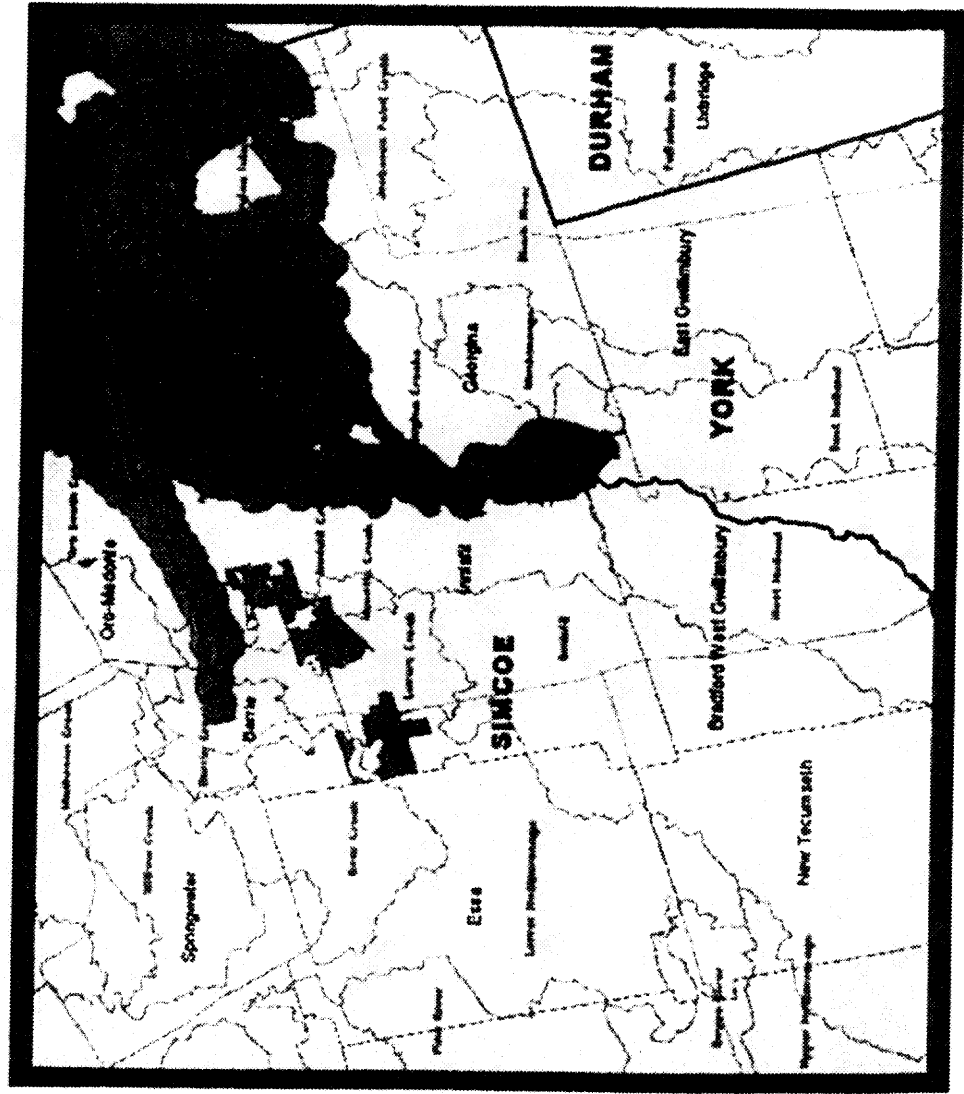


Option1: Business As Usual **(Existing Designations for** **Residential Uses and Employment** **Expansion)**

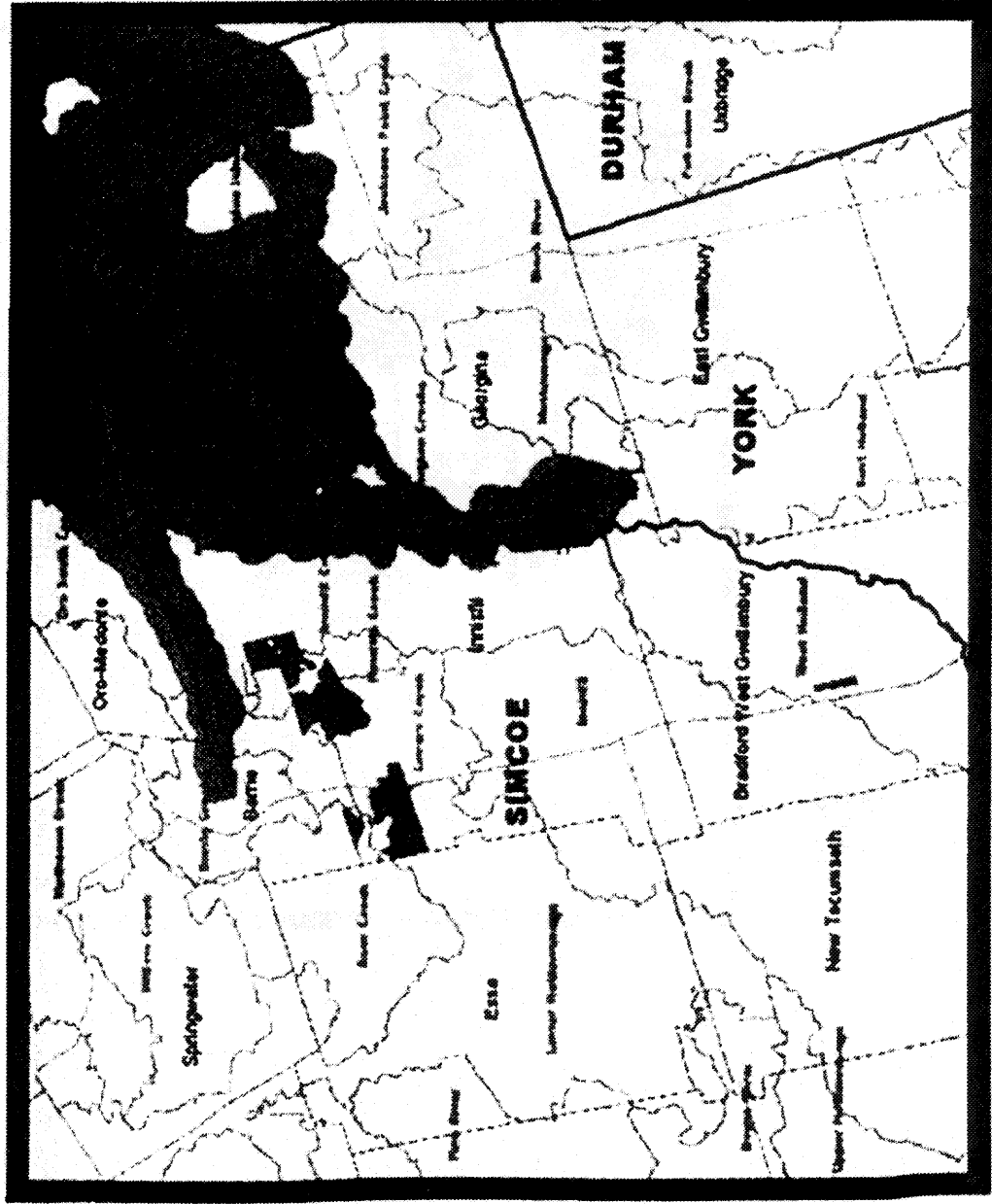


Option2: Barrie and Area Centered Single Node

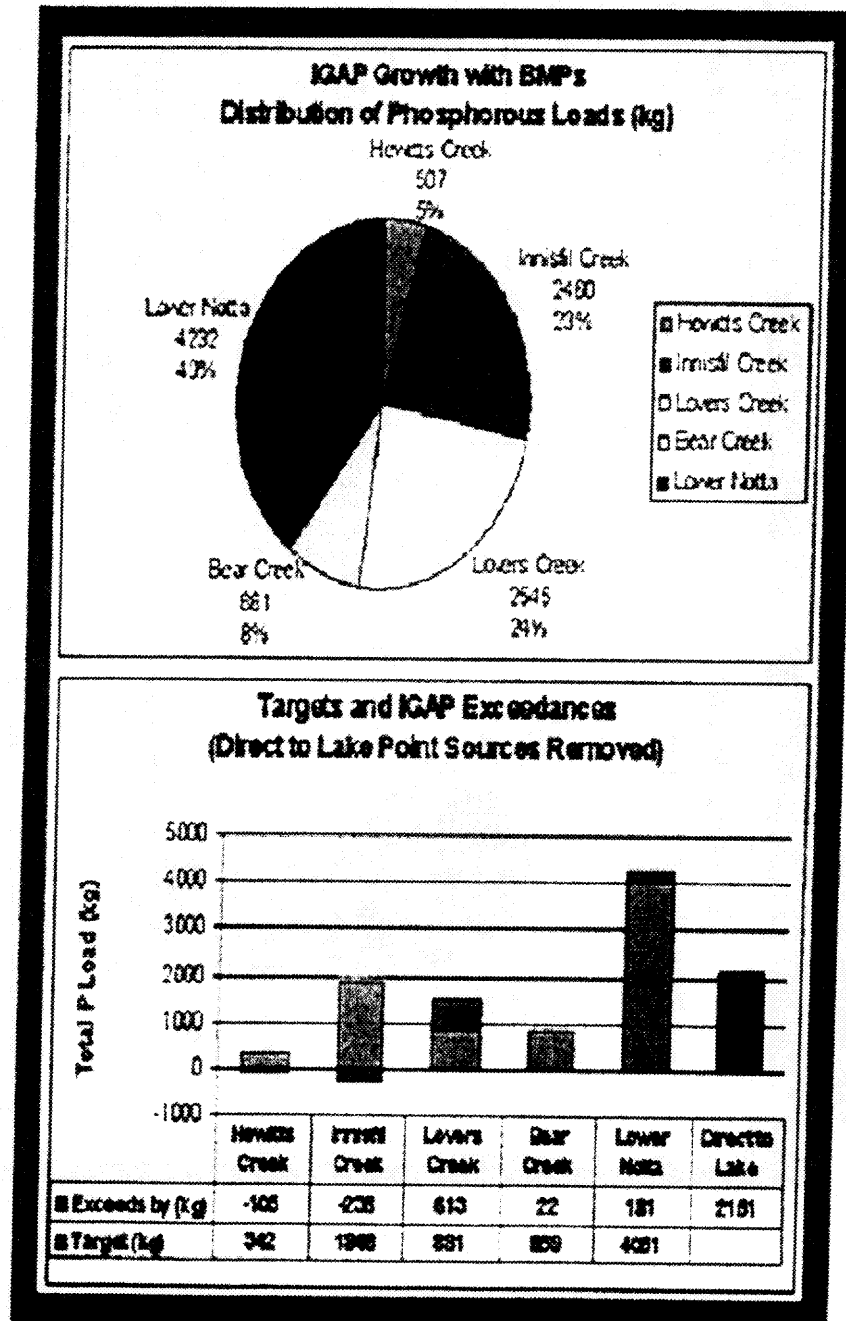


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Preferred Option2C:



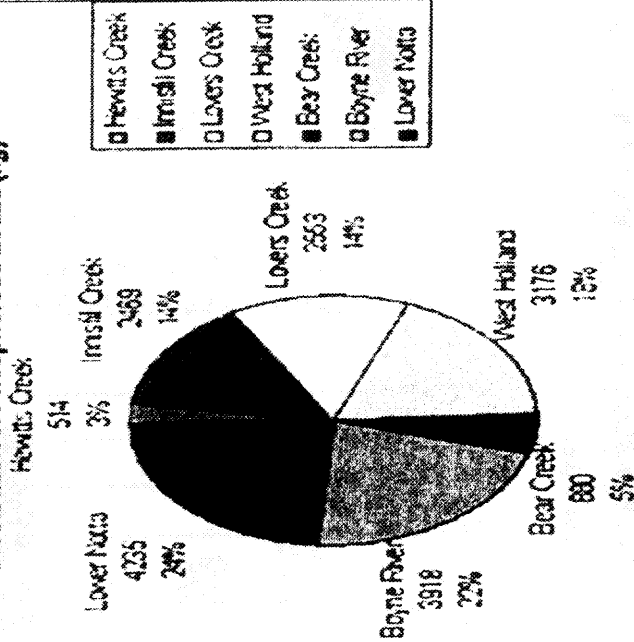
Option3: Single Barrie Area Node with 40% Intensification in County



Option4: Multi Nodal Expansion

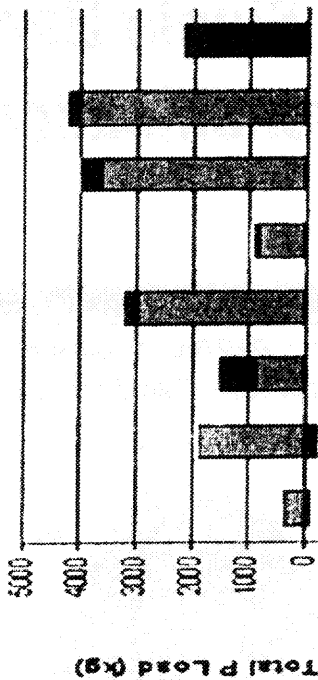
IGAP Growth with BMPs

Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)



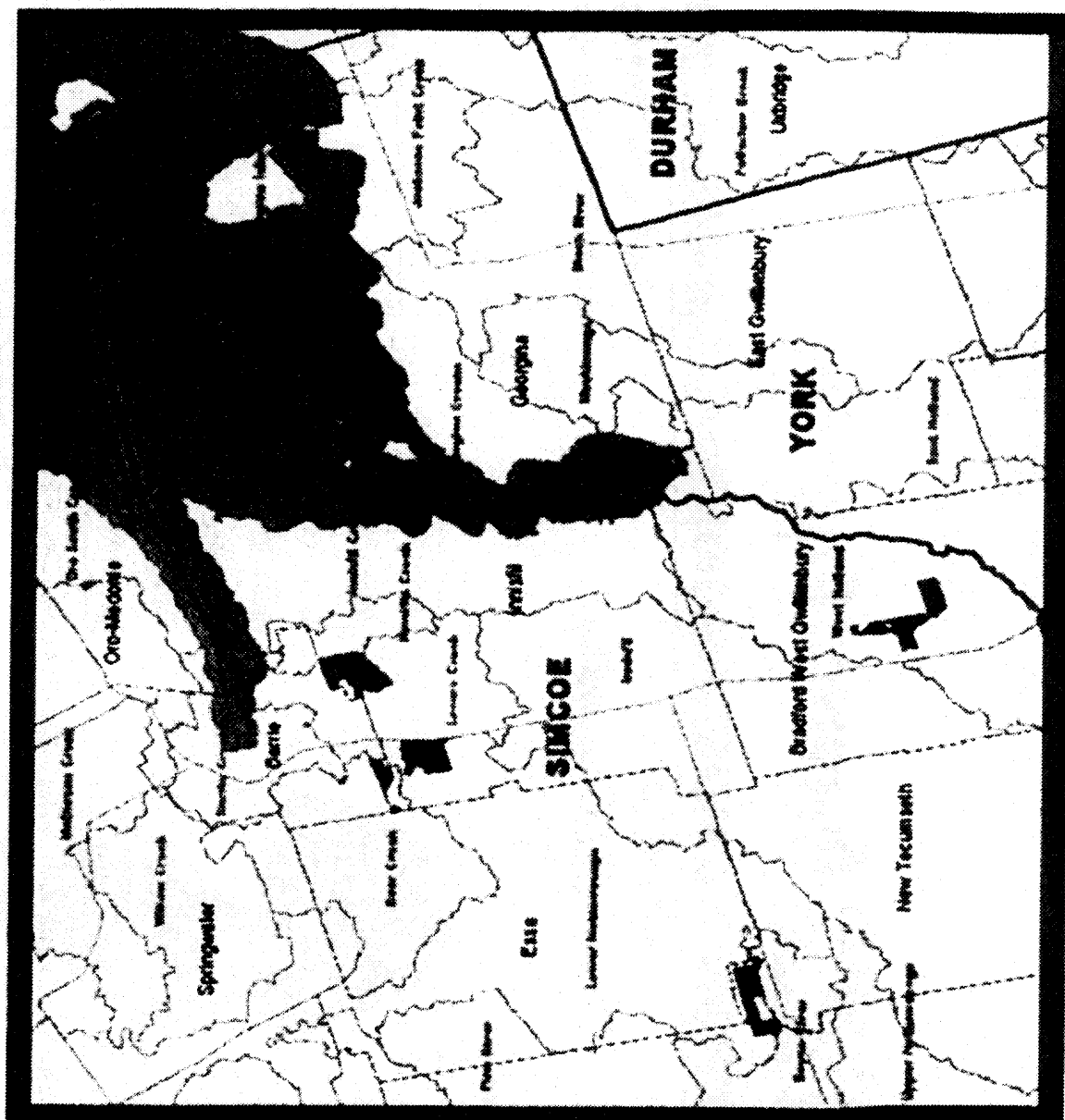
Targets and IGAP Exceedances

(Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)



Exceeds by (kg)	Target (kg)	Exceeds by (kg)	Target (kg)	Exceeds by (kg)	Target (kg)	Exceeds by (kg)	Target (kg)	Exceeds by (kg)	Target (kg)
342	1868	881	2982	859	3627	184	2151	2151	2151

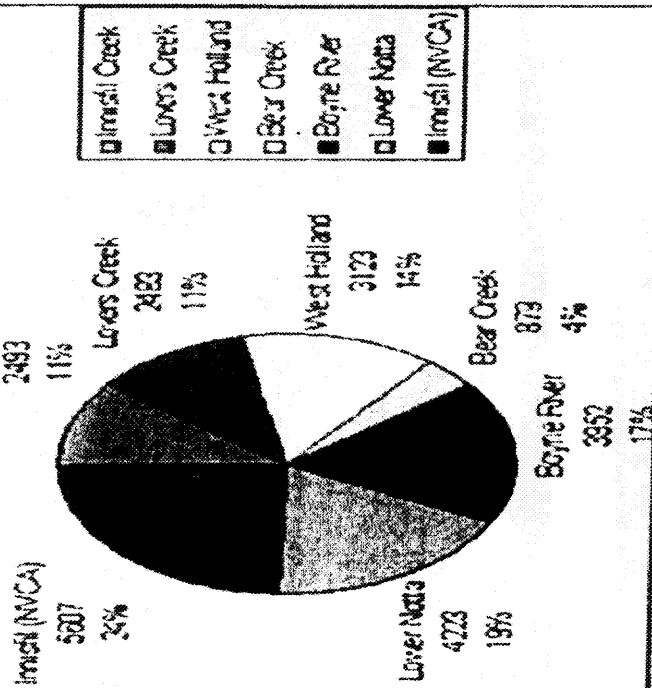
Option4B:



Option5: Dispersed Expansion

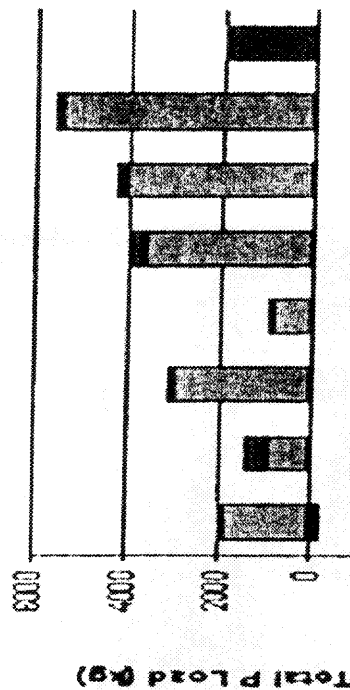
IGAP Growth with BMP's

Distribution of Phosphorous Loads (kg)



Targets and IGAP Exceedances

(Direct to Lake Point Sources Removed)



Inland Creek	205	551	141	20	325	172	180	1881
Lovers Creek	1858	881	2962	859	3627	4851	5427	
West Holland								
Bear Creek								
Boyne River								
Lower Nottawasaga								
Inland (NVCA)								
Inland (NVCA)								
Direct to Lake								

Exceeds by (kg)

Target (kg)