



# RIVERSTONE

ENVIRONMENTAL SOLUTIONS INC.

**Jennifer T. Szczerbak, B.Sc., EMPD**  
**Senior Ecologist**

## CAREER AND ACADEMIC HISTORY

<b>2010 – Present</b>	<b>Senior Ecologist, RiverStone Environmental Solutions Inc.</b>
2005 – 2010	Ecologist, AECOM, Bracebridge, Ont.
2000 – 2005	Aquatic Ecologist / Project Manager, ESG International Inc., Guelph, Ont.
1999 – 2000	Assistant Conservation Planner, Credit Valley Conservation, Meadowvale, Ont.
1999 – 2000	Writer-Editor, Ministry of Natural Resources, Aurora, Ont.
1999	Stewardship Coordinator, Rouge Park, Aurora, Ont.
1998 – 1999	Community Planner, Aurora, Ont
1998	Assistant Coordinator for Waste Reduction Week, Recycling Council of Ontario, Toronto, Ont.
1998	Technical Report Writer/Researcher, Gesner & Associates Environmental Learning, Caledon, Ont.
1998	B.Sc., University of Guelph, Natural Resource Management

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Summary

Jennifer Szczerbak has over ten years of experience as an ecological consultant. Prior to joining AECOM, Jennifer applied her technical and communication expertise in a variety of public and private sector roles, including positions with conservation authorities, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and environmental consulting firms. She built broad experience through her participation in large-scale resource management investigations, field work in river and forest ecosystems, Ecological Land classification projects, OMNR's stream assessment protocol and greenland systems planning. Jennifer also gained experience in public consultation through her involvement in liaison committees and NGOs. At RiverStone, Jennifer is a Project Manager focusing in the areas of aquatic surveys and preparation of Environmental Impact Studies (EISs) and Environmental Implementation Reports (EIRs) in support of land development applications. As an aquatic ecologist, she is a qualified Ontario Stream Habitat Assessor and electrofishing operator. Project experience includes proposed urban residential, resort, and golf course developments, road widening and upgrades, and route selection for utility corridors and roads. Jennifer has also assisted in co-ordinating multi-disciplinary projects such as subwatershed plans.

## **Experience**

### **Land Use Planning and Environmental Assessment**

- Responsible for conducting Feasibility Studies in support of proposed developments
- Responsible for the identification, investigation and evaluation of natural heritage features positioned on or adjacent to lands proposed for development on over 30 projects. In addition to the preparation of an Environmental Impact Study (EIS) or Environmental Implementation Report (EIR), tasks often included developing constraint mapping, establishing development limit lines and designating ecological buffers and setbacks. The following are representative of her EIS and EIR experience:
  - McMahan Woods EIS in support of draft plan of subdivision, Tiny Township (2008)
  - Lake Manitouwabing EIS in support of a cottage resort development (2008)
  - Springbrook EIR in support of large-scale residential development, Brampton (2004)
  - Responsible for developing and undertaking the aquatic habitat components of EISs in both river and large lake environments (i.e. Georgian Bay). Features assessed included water quality and fish community investigations and habitat surveys.
  - Project management duties include overseeing large-scale multi-disciplinary development projects.
  - Experience conducting MNR's Class EA (Category C).
  - Management and writing of Environmental Impact Studies and Environmental Implementation Reports
  - Training in Phase 1 Environmental Site Assessments, Environmental Compliance Audits and Pollution Prevention Audits
  - Preparation of biophysical/environmental impact assessment mosaics for TransCanada Pipelines
  - Organization and completion of fisheries/habitat assessments, including research and writing
  - Training in bioremediation and rehabilitation practices
  - Inspecting and evaluating site conditions associated with the review of applications
  - Assisted in data collection and writing of conservation plans and fisheries assessments for numerous projects
  - Prioritizing private properties for acquisition (Natural Areas Protection Program)
  - Creditview EIR in support of large-scale residential development, Brampton, Ontario (2003)
  - Big Gull Lake ESR, Arden, Ontario (2008)

### **Environmental Approvals**

- One of Jennifer's primary roles is the co-ordination and successful negotiation of environmental approvals. Previous public sector experience has greatly assisted her familiarity with current submission standards and inventory requirements of a variety of approval agencies including Conservation Authorities, MNR and DFO. The following are representative of her recent environmental approvals acquisition experience:
  - Big Bay Point Marina Redevelopment (2007 – Present). Obtaining agency approvals for major expansion of decommissioned marina
  - Muskoka River Sewer Crossing (2008). Completed the environmental / fisheries components of Taylor Road Siphon and obtained the necessary approvals from the MNR and DFO
  - Port Severn Marina Development (2005 – 2007)
  - Environmental Study in Support of Beaver Creek Crossing (2006). Provided a determination and evaluation of potentially affected natural heritage features within each proposed crossing alignment in order to develop constraints and opportunities for each alternative road crossing. The Environmental Study also outlined impacts and provided recommendations for conceptual mitigation and compensation measures.

## Public Sector

- Co-authored *The Credit Valley Trail Report*, for Credit Valley Conservation (CVC)
- Experience in recommending conservation programs, writing conservation plans and implementing strategies complete with cost estimates and timelines
- Initiated research on CVC's *Greenland's Protection Strategy*, including developing criteria for areas that will contribute to watershed health
- Significant knowledge of environmental laws and regulations
- Conducted extensive research for the development of new Provincial forest policy
- Planned and undertook fish habitat restoration in numerous watercourses within the Credit River watershed.

## Communication

- Liaised with client's, OMNR staff and conservation authorities
- Negotiation of HADD with DFO
- Formed a professional group to assist in the development of a Greenland's Strategy
- Initiated research on Burlington's State of the Environment Report
- Experience in public consultation
- Excellent presentation and client-relation skills
- Member of numerous committees and working groups
- Liaised with landowners, municipal and provincial governments, and organization
- Administered the Rural Clean Water Program for the Rouge watershed
- Former member of the Town of Halton Hills Trails Advisory Committee

## Relevant Certification or Training Courses

- Emergency First Aid, and CPR
- NAUI SCUBA certification
- First Class, Crew Leader Electro-fishing license