2 SOURCE PROTECTION REGIONS IN ONTARIO

With the *Clean Water Act, 2006* and its first regulations coming into force in 2006, Source Protection Areas, Source Protection Regions (SPR) and the 19 corresponding Source Protection Committees (SPC) were established. Source Protection Regions were initially established using the existing Conservation Authority boundaries as outlined under the *Conservation Authorities Act*, *1990.* Ontario Regulation 284/07 made under the *CWA*, alters the boundaries of each of these Source Protection Areas so that they better encompass watersheds. The *CWA* allows for one SPC for each SPR. It is the members of the SPCs who are ultimately responsible for preparing local SPPs – plans which establish local policies on how significant drinking water threats will be prevented, reduced or eliminated, who is responsible for taking action, when action must be taken and how progress will be measured. **Figure 2.1** shows the 19 SPRs in Ontario.

It is the source protection committees who are ultimately responsible for preparing local source protection plans.

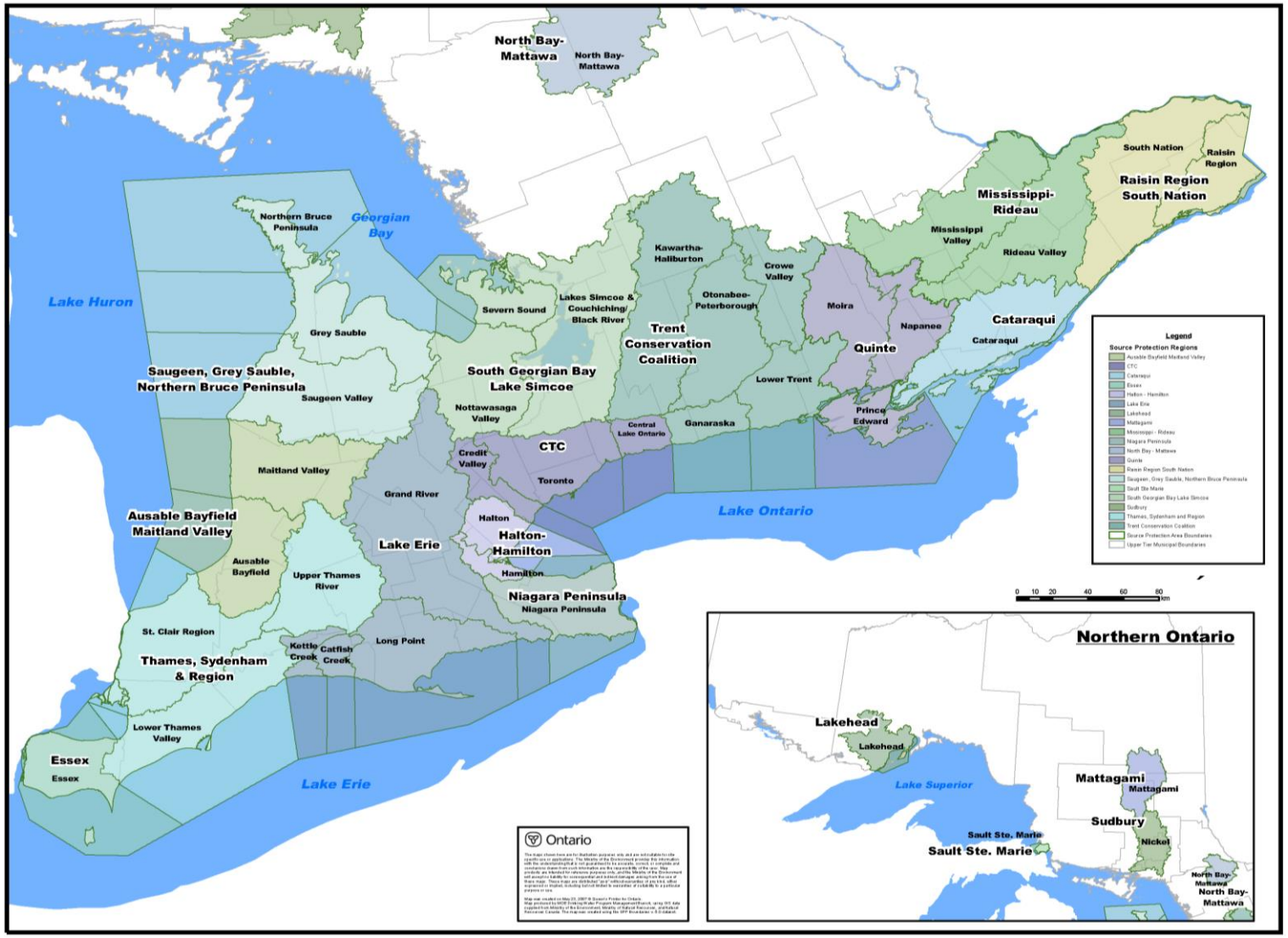

Figure 2-1: Source Protection Areas and Regions in Ontario

2.1 CTC SOURCE PROTECTION REGION

The CTC Source Protection Region **(Figure 2-2)** contains 25 large and small watersheds and spans over 10,000 km^2, from the Oak Ridges Moraine in the north to Lake Ontario in the south. The region contains portions of the Niagara Escarpment, Oak Ridges Moraine, Greenbelt, Lake Ontario and the most densely populated region of Canada.

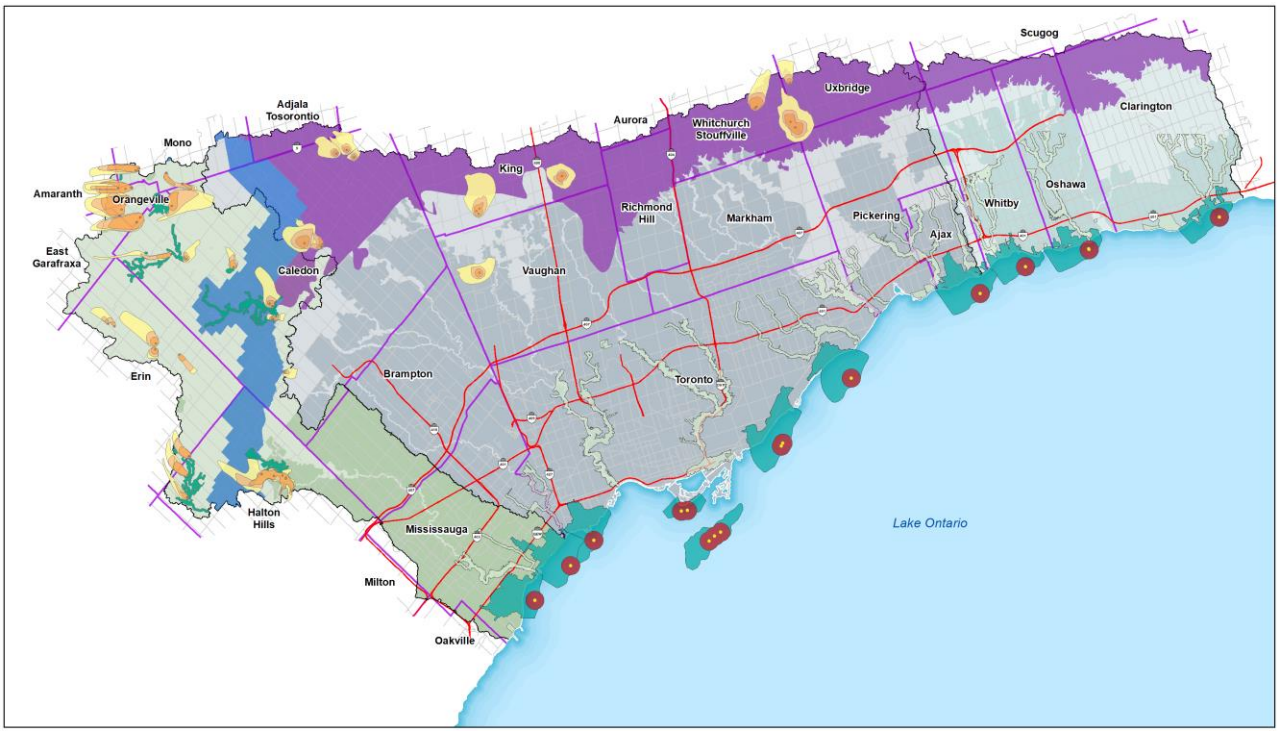

Figure 2-2: Map of CTC Source Protection Region

The CTC Source Protection Region includes:

- 25 local municipalities and eight single tier, regional or county municipalities;
- 66 municipal supply wells; and
- 16 municipal surface water intakes on Lake Ontario.

The region is complex and diverse in terms of geology, physiology, population, and development pressures, with many, often conflicting, water uses including drinking water supply, recreation, irrigation, agriculture, commercial and industrial uses, as well as ecosystem needs. This diverse setting

represents a significant challenge for the development of the SPP because of the variability of available information upon which to base the technical work, the differing stresses on water resources related to development pressure and population growth, and the differences in the nature, density and locations of threats to the quality and quantity of water resources.