

Axis biosphere reserve, encompassing St. Lawrence Islands National Park. Using this example, the paper explores the role of a biosphere reserve in working towards ecological integrity in the greater landscape. The paper examines why national parks and other protected areas should be interested in biosphere reserves, and identifies several ways in which the development of a biosphere reserve can support the protection of ecological integrity in the greater ecosystem.

Ontario's Living Legacy (OLL) Regulations Project – Poster Presentation

John R. Fisher
OLL Regulations Co-ordinator
Ontario Parks, OMNR

The Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy (1999) recommends the establishment of 378 parks and conservation reserves by regulation covering approximately 2.4 million hectares of Crown Land within the planning area. These regulations are to occur over the next four years. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, more specifically Ontario Parks, is leading this process through the OLL Regulations implementation project. Since this project was initiated in mid-1999, MNR has regulated 91 parks and protected areas encompassing approximately 173,000 ha. of land.

The OLL Regulations implementation project is guided by an interdisciplinary MNR team with representatives from Ontario Parks; Northwest, Northeast, and Southcentral Regions; Native Affairs Unit; Ontario Surveyor General; Forest Industry Section; and the provincial Geomatics and Data Acquisition Services Centre.

The OLL regulations process involves a streamlined MNR administrative procedure to consult on the OLL site boundaries, prepare regulation documentation, amend forestry licences, and process draft Provincial Park, Public Lands, and Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act regulations through senior levels of government approval. It is a dynamic and complex process that, on one hand, must be sufficiently flexible to accommodate unique issues as they arise and, on the other hand, remain sufficiently consistent to ensure quality control and predictability across the planning area.

This poster presentation will provide a simplified overview of the digital maps and information transfer between various MNR offices as required by the OLL Regulations process. In particular, a regulated OLL site (i.e. C69 – Plastic Lake and Dawson Pond Conservation Reserve) will be reviewed at different stages of the regulation

mapping process with an emphasis on providing a commentary on how MNR addressed the need to include ecological integrity considerations during the boundary refinement process.

Ontario Parks Legacy 2000: From Morris Tract to Clear Creek - Poster Presentation

Tom J. Beechey¹, James Duncan², Sandy Turner²,
Michelle Kanter², Dianne Powell³

¹Ontario Parks, Bronte Creek Provincial Park

²The Nature Conservancy of Canada, Ontario Region

³OP/NCC Mapping and Documentation Partnership

In the spring of 1996, Ontario Parks joined with The Nature Conservancy of Canada to initiate Ontario Parks Legacy 2000—an ambitious partnership using public and private funds to help complete a system of parks and protected areas in Ontario in celebration of the new Millennium. In serving the protection mandates of both Ontario Parks and The Conservancy, Ontario Parks Legacy 2000 is helping to fulfill international obligations to the conservation of biodiversity as committed in the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity and the Canadian Biodiversity Strategy. Through this partnership, The Conservancy and Ontario Parks have been working with numerous other partners to acquire some of Ontario's most significant natural areas including: alvars, Carolinian forests, exceptional bogs and fens; habitats for species at risk, and other sites important for representing Ontario's natural heritage. From the securement of the Morris Tract Provincial Nature as the first acquisition in 1996, through the dedication of Clear Creek Forest Nature Reserve on April 21, 2001, The Nature Conservancy and Ontario Parks, with many other partners and project supporters, have been successful in protecting 24 significant properties with a total area of more than 11,000 hectares (+27,000 acres), valued at more than \$12.3 million. This presentation will feature a travelogue illustrating some of the key projects, including the final acquisition and dedication of Clear Creek Forest Nature Reserve, a superb 572 acre tract of Carolinian forest in the Kent-Chatham area.