

**CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
HESPELER WEST SUBWATERSHEDS STUDY**

WORKING COMMITTEE

MEETING AGENDA

Thursday, January 15, 2004

Allan Reuter Seniors Centre, 507 King Street, Cambridge (Preston)

3:30 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

1. Introductions
2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest
3. Confirmation of Minutes (attached)

THAT the Minutes of the Hespeler West Subwatersheds Study Working Committee meeting held December 18, 2003 be considered for errors and/or omissions.

4. Provincially Significant Wetlands
 - (a) Discussion – Ken Cornelisse, MNR

5. Other Business

- (a) Follow-up List

Attached

Next Meeting Date – Thursday, February 5, 2004
Allan Reuter Seniors Centre
507 King Street
3:30 to 5:30 p.m.

- b) **Background Information: Provincial Policy Statement Policy 2.3 Natural Heritage** was handed out by Ken Cornelisse at the meeting and an excerpt from the Natural Heritage Reference Manual for Policy 2.3 of the Provincial Policy statement was part of the meeting agenda package.
- c) **Discussion:** There was discussion about Provincial Policy 2.3.4 regarding agricultural uses in wetlands (versus land uses regulated by the Planning Act). The Provincial Policy Statement is to be attached to the minutes for clarification about the definition of “development” in that document. Ken Cornelisse explained that MNR wetland evaluation files are “open files” and that the Maple Grove Wetland Complex had previously been evaluated as locally significant, but the more recent evaluation done as part of the Hespeler West Subwatersheds Study found it to be provincially significant. The emerging accuracy of new techniques used to map wetlands using digital air photography was explained. He also explained that PSWs which are privately owned remain in private ownership and that a property tax rebate is available through the Conservation Land Tax Program. April Souwand explained that through the development approvals process, some natural heritage features, such as PSWs come into public ownership as they are non-developable and the owner deeds them over to the municipality.

Some of the committee members had questions remaining for Ken Cornelisse about PSWs, which they will endeavour to get to him before the next meeting so that he can come prepared with answers.

6. Other Business

- a) Follow-up List – for information
- b) Updated List of Committee Members – for information
- c) List of Alternate Committee Member – for information
- d) Minutes and Agendas on the City Website – agendas and minutes will continue to be e-mailed to members before the meeting and posted on the City’s website after each meeting.

John Vasiga motioned to adjourn.

Meeting adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

Next meeting – Allan Reuter Seniors’ Centre – 3:30 to 5:30 pm, January 15, 2004

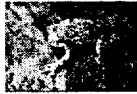
Definition

- Wetlands Are "Lands that are seasonally or permanently flooded by shallow water as well as lands where the water table is close to the surface; in either case the presence of abundant water has caused the formation of hydric soils and has favoured the dominance of either hydrophytic or water tolerant plants".



Definition (continued)

- boundary is where 50% of the plant community consists of upland species
- Marsh, swamp, fen and bog
- Areas of hyper-diversity & high productivity



Wetland Evaluations

- Historically recognized loss (70%) and inherent value of wetlands
- Started in the early 1980's (1984 first manual)
- Developed Primarily to serve the needs of Ontario's Planning Process
- Protecting areas of Provincial Interest
 - social benefits
 - moderating storm flows
 - improving water quality
 - protecting rare species



Provincial Policy

- Under Section 3 of the Planning Act
- Policy Direction on matters of Provincial Interest related to land use planning
- Comprehensive Set of Policy Statements (June 1992)
- Current is the Provincial Policy Statement - Revised February 1, 1997



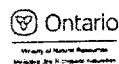
Provincial Policy Statement

- Principles
- efficient cost effective - land use patterns - stimulates economics and protects environment and public health
- protecting resources for their economic and environmental benefits
- reduce potential public cost and risk
- environmental, economic and social factors
- wise use concept




Provincial Policy Statement

- Section 2 - Resources
 - 2.1 Agricultural
 - 2.2 Mineral Resources
 - 2.3 Natural Heritage
 - 2.4 Water Quality and Quantity
 - 2.5 Cultural Heritage and Archaeological Resources




**Provincial Policy Statement
2.3 Natural Heritage**

- 2.3.1 Natural Heritage features and areas will be protected from incompatible development
- A) Development and site alteration will not be permitted in:
 - significant wetlands S & E of the Canadian Shield; and
 - significant portions of the habitat of endangered or threatened species.

 Ontario
Ministry of Natural Resources
Ministère des Ressources Naturelles

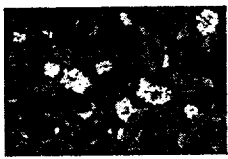
**Provincial Policy Statement
2.3 Natural Heritage**


- 2.3.2 Development and site alteration may be permitted in adjacent lands if it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or on the ecological functions for which the area is identified.
- 2.3.3 The diversity of natural features in an area, & the natural connections between them should be maintained, and improved where possible
- 2.3.4 Nothing in policy 2.3 is intended to limit the ability of agricultural uses to continue

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**Southern Ontario Wetland
Evaluations System**

- Areas > 2 ha evaluated
- Complexing within 750 m (of smaller areas) - (handout)
- Components
 - 1 Biological
 - 2 Social
 - 3 Hydrological
 - 4 Special Features



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Wetland Evaluations

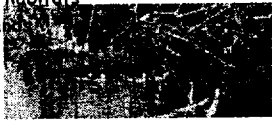
- "Points" system
- >600 points overall or >200 points in Special Features or Biological Component = Provincially Significant
- Open files



Biological

Linkage btwn productivity, biodiversity, hydrology

- Productivity
 - Size, growing degree days, type (bog, fen, swamp, marsh)
 - Lacustrine, riverine, palustrine, isolated
- Biodiversity
 - # of wetland types
 - vegetation communities (>25% cover; 16 forms)
 - Diversity of surrounding habitats
 - Proximity to other wetlands
 - Interspersion



Social

Measure of direct human uses of wetlands

- Economically Valuable Products
 - Wood, wild rice, fish, bullfrogs, snapping turtles, furbearers (list)
- Recreational Activities
 - Hunting
- Educational and Public Awareness
 - Educational uses, facilities, research
- Proximity to Settlements
- Ownership
- Size
- Aboriginal Values
- Cultural Heritage



Hydrological

Role wetlands play in the maintenance, control, and/or modification of quantity or quality of water passing through the drainage basin

60 functions - 5 key areas

- Flood attenuation
 - Isolated vs 50% of upstream detention
 - Wetland Attenuation - 10% of drainage basin
- Water quality improvements
 - Nutrients
 - Pollution uptake
 - Long-term nutrient trap
 - groundwater discharge



Hydrological (con't)

- Carbon sink
- Erosion Control
- Groundwater Recharge



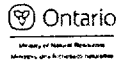
Special Features

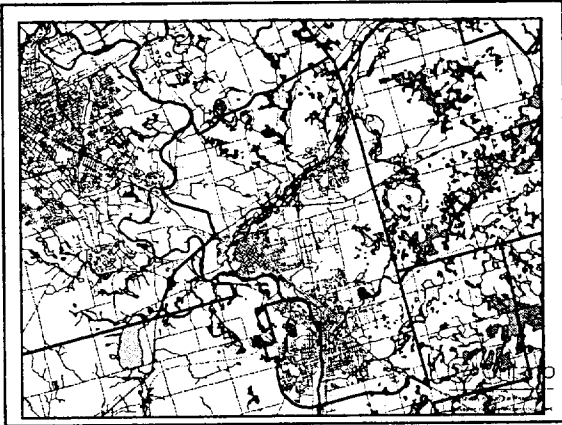
- Rarity
 - Wetland Type (Bog, Fen)
 - Species
 - Breeding/feeding habitat for endangered / threatened species
 - Traditional Migratory / feeding for endangered / threatened
 - Provincially Significant Plants & Animals
 - Mammals, Birds, Amphibians, Reptiles, Plants (S1, S2, S3, SH or tracked by NHIC)
 - Regionally / Locally Significant Species
 - Based on Region Municipality of Waterloo



Special Features (con't)

- Significant Features and Habitats
 - Colonial Waterfowl
 - Winter cover for wildlife
 - Waterfowl staging and moulting areas
 - Waterfowl breeding
 - Fish habitat
- Great lakes coastal wetlands





Hespeler West Wetlands

- Historically estimated to be 25.5% Wetland in S. Ont
- Watershed = 896 Ha
- Wetlands = 129.7 Ha
- 14.5% Wetland



**CITY OF CAMBRIDGE
 HESPELER WEST SUBWATERSHEDS STUDY WORKING COMMITTEE
 FOLLOW-UP LIST**

SOURCE/ MEETING DATE	ITEM	ASSIGNED TO	COMMENTS	DUE DATE	DONE
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Provide full hard copy versions of the HWSS to working committee	April Souwand	Nov. 2003 version to be distributed as soon as it is available from PEIL	Nov. 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Finalize Terms of Reference: <i>Section 7 Time Frame and Work Plan</i> - process for review of community concerns - meetings with individual property owners - review of revised report <i>Section 8 Public Consultation/Information</i> <i>Section 12 Dispute Resolution</i>	Wendy Wright	Wording to be revised based on discussion at meeting	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Choose representative of small property owners	Wendy Wright and Erich Ritzmann	Choose someone who is not represented by MGWA	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Follow-up List
City of Cambridge
Hespler West Subwatersheds Study Working Committee

SOURCE/ MEETING DATE	ITEM	ASSIGNED TO	COMMENTS	DUE DATE	DONE
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Provide name of an alternative representative to committee	Each committee member	An alternative is necessary in cases where member is not able to attend meeting	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Process for review of community concerns	Wendy Wright	Item for discussion on Nov. 19, 2003 Review draft with MGWA – Approved per memo dated Nov. 19, 2003	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Provide list of people wanting site visits	MGWA/City	City has provided MGWA will provide, if needed	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Produce a map of property owners in the study area	April Souwand	Map will be used to keep track of site visits	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Invite City Clerk to next meeting to discuss pecuniary interest	April Souwand	City Clerk attended meeting	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Produce list of previous studies done in HWSS	April Souwand	Examples are Cambridge Business Park Stormwater Management Report	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Develop media protocol	April Souwand	See Pesticides Working Group Protocol	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Follow-up List
City of Cambridge
Hespeler West Subwatersheds Study Working Committee

SOURCE/ MEETING DATE	ITEM	ASSIGNED TO	COMMENTS	DUE DATE	DONE
HWSSWG Oct. 30/03	Schedule of Meetings	April Souwand	Next committee meeting	Nov. 19, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Updated List of Members and Alternates	April Souwand		Dec. 18, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Establish a Lending Library of Reports	April Souwand		Dec. 1, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Add media protocol to Terms of Reference	Wendy Wright	See Revised Terms of Reference	Dec. 18, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Invite Ken Cornelisse to present Wetland Evaluation and Classification info.	April Souwand		Dec. 18, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Inquire into using City's website to distribute agendas	Wendy Wright/ April Souwand	Will continue to send .pdf files by e- mail due to administrative difficulties	Dec. 18, 2003	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
HWSSWG Nov. 19/03	Terms of Reference Section 7.3 – Review of Specific Areas of Community Concern	Wendy Wright	Review following Presentation/ Discussion of Provincially Significant Wetlands		