**Decision Support Tool – Screening Criteria**

All criteria in Tables 1 and 2 of the Decision Support Tool are intended to help practitioners determine whether an area meets the Pan-Canadian standards and is therefore eligible to be reported as a Protected Area or an “Other Effective Area-based Conservation Measure" (OECM) under the pan-Canadian standards. Criteria in Table 1 apply similarly to both Protected Areas and OECMs. Criteria in Table 2 help to both define and distinguish between Protected Areas and OECMs. All criteria in Table 2 must be met at the PA level for an area to be reported as protected, or at the OECM level or combination of OECM and PA levels for an area to be reported as an OECM. **This template is intended to be used in conjunction with the decision support tool and detailed interpretation guide.**

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| **BASIC INFORMATION** | |
| **Name of Site** | **Kawartha Land Trust – 6 Fee simple properties (Vincent Woods, Dance Nature Sanctuary, Ayotte’s Point Woods, Ingleton-Wells, Emily Creek and Falls)** |
| **Designation** | Land Trust Properties |
| **Province/Territory** | Ontario |
| **Year of Establishment / Securement** | Between 2006 and 2018 |
| **Area (ha)** | 542.4 |
| **Management Authority** | *e.g. for FPT governments: provide government, department and division/branch*  Kawartha Land Trust |
| **Explanation of Management Authority** *(optional)* | *Only provide description if management authority is very complex or not well understood. This is not necessary for most sites.* |
| **Governance Type *(CPCAD type*)** | Private |
| **Legal Basis / mechanism(s)** | Protection for this property is based on the following:  a) Site-specific Management Plans (Assessment Act)  b) Ecological Gift Program (Income Tax Act)  c) Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program restrictions - only applicable to Emily Creek only (Assessment Act) |
| **Explanation of legal basis / mechanism(s)** *(optional)* | *Only provide description if legal basis or mechanism(s) is very complex or not well understood. This is not necessary for most sites* |
| **Summary of Essential / Relevant natural, social and cultural values** | *maximum 3-4 sentences intended to provide overall site context and connection to in-situ conservation of biodiversity*  There is 100% natural cover (some regeneration from historical pasture use) with numerous vegetation communities represented. There are species at risk, as well as regionally and locally rare species. There is monitoring of trails during the open season, as well as mitigation (e.g. trails are closed in sensitive areas) and restoration (e.g. invasive species management for priority species) activities. |

| **TABLE 1: STANDARDS COMMON TO PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS** | | | | |
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| **CRITERIA:** | **INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION** | **SCREENING CHOICE** | **EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE  Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion** | **MEETS INTENDED EFFECT?** |
| **GEOGRAPHICAL SPACE** | Demarcates the area to facilitate the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. The geographical space has clearly defined and agreed-upon borders. | These properties are clearly defined in publicly available maps on the KLT website :  [Protected Properties - Kawartha Land Trust](http://kawarthalandtrust.org/protected-properties/) | Yes |
| **EFFECTIVE MEANS – 1** | Activities incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity do not occur and compatible activities are effectively managed. | A. The mechanism(s) provide(s) the ability to prevent incompatible activities and manage all other activities within the area, such that the in-situ conservation of biodiversity can be achieved | Site-specific management plans and certification under the Ecological Gift Program prevent activities which may have negative impacts on in-situ conservation of biodiversity.  Ecological Gifts by Environment Canada through provisions of the Income Tax Act of Canada. Section 207.31 of the Act ensures protection-based management of the property.  Ecological Gift Program (Income Tax Act):  207.31 (1) A charity, municipality in Canada or municipal or public body performing a function of government in Canada (each of which is referred to in this section as the “recipient”) shall, in respect of a property, pay a tax under this Part in respect of a taxation year if  (a) at any time in the year, the recipient  (i) disposes of the property, or  (ii) in the opinion of the Minister of the Environment, or a person designated by that Minister, changes the use of the property;  (b) the property is described in paragraph 110.1(1)(d) or in the definition *total ecological gifts* in subsection 118.1(1); and  (c) the disposition or change is made without the authorization of the Minister of the Environment or a person designated by that Minister.  Potential permitted uses for these properties are:   * Hiking, walking, cross-country skiing and related recreation * Recreational fishing, Swimming, and Picnics * Research and educational program   The prohibited uses are:   * Overnight camping * Hunting or commercial trapping * Vehicle or alcohol use * Harm to wildlife, vegetation or other features   For CLTIP program (Assessment Act)  The permitted uses are:   * Low impact recreational activities * Invasive species management * Infill planting of native species representative of the ecosystem * Planned prescribed burns * Planned trail maintenance * Tree felling/removal for health (i.e. infested or infected trees) or safety purposes, where the wood is not sold   Land uses, features or activities which are inconsistent with the natural heritage and biodiversity objectives for conserving land but are effectively managed are:   * Built Areas * Landscaped Areas * Farmed Areas * Unrepresentative Conditions * Non-timber Forest Products * Site Alteration * Motorized Vehicle Use | Yes |
| **EFFECTIVE MEANS – 2** | A. The mechanism(s) compel(s) the authority(ies) to prohibit activities that are incompatible with the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | KLT property-specific objectives to protect important ecological sites and connecting lands, and ensure excellence in stewardship of KLT lands compels them to protect important ecological sites and connecting lands while ensuring excellence in stewardship of their lands. KLT is also compelled by its mandate to ensure environmental protection of all KLT-owned lands.  KLT is compelled by Safeguards for Ecological Gifts under the Environment Canada Ecological Gift Program to maintain current land-use consistent with original objectives of the ecological gift or a federal tax equal to 50% of the current market value of the land will be imposed on them. These original objectives and restrictions of the EcoGift program compel KLT to prohibit activities that may disturb in-situ conservation of biodiversity such as overnight camping, hunting, vehicle use, harming wildlife and vegetation and having fires. | Yes |
| **LONG TERM** | The area is permanently protected or conserved and not easily reversed. | A. The mechanism(s) is/are intended to be in effect for the long term and not easily reversed. | Protection is permanent as there is fee-simple ownership.  Additionally, EcoGift protection provisions apply as long as the property is owned by KLT. | Yes |
| **TIMING** | Biodiversity is protected or conserved year-round. | A. The mechanism(s) is/are in effect year-round | The fee-simple ownership and management direction, along with provisions of the EcoGift program allows for year-round protection of this property. | Yes |

| **TABLE 2: STANDARDS THAT FURTHER DEFINE AND DISTINGUISH BETWEEN PROTECTED AREAS AND OECMS** | | | | |
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| **CRITERIA:** | **INTENDED EFFECT OF THE CRITERION** | **SCREENING CHOICE** | **EVIDENCE-BASED RATIONALE:**  **Rationale/evaluation of how area meets or does not meet the intended effect of the criterion** | **OUTCOME** |
| **SCOPE OF OBJECTIVES** | Objectives have sufficient scope to result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. The objectives are for the in-situ conservation of biodiversity as a whole, or for indigenous values accomplished through the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | Kawartha Land Trust is dedicated to natural environment and quality of life in the Kawartha Region, through fundraising to purchase ecologically significant properties, accepting ecologically significant land donations, and promoting stewardship throughout the region. The primary objective for these KLT properties is focussed on in-situ conservation of biodiversity by maintaining and restoring the natural diversity of habitats and species; and ensuring long-term integrity by establishing linkages to surrounding lands. | Yes - PA |
| **PRIMACY OF OBJECTIVES** | Objectives are such that they result in the in-situ conservation of biodiversity. | A. Conservation objectives are stated as primary and overriding of other objectives. | The general conservation objectives for the KLT properties are as follows:  1. To conserve the biological features and functions, natural linkages with surrounding lands and waters, and cultural features;  2. To foster research, understanding, education and appropriate community engagement;  3. To enable compatible recreational activities; and/or  4. To promote stewardship on neighbouring properties to ensure site integrity.  The objectives for each property with site-specific direction reflect the general objectives above. | Yes - PA |
| **GOVERNING AUTHORITIES** | The in-situ conservation of biodiversity is not jeopardized by relevant governing authorities. | A. All relevant governing authorities acknowledge and abide by the conservation objectives of the area. | KLT acknowledges and abides by the conservation objectives of the area as their mandate dictate environmental protection and their strategic planning highlights the first objective as protecting important ecological sites and connecting lands. | Yes - PA |
| **BIODIVERSITY CONSERVATION OUTCOMES** | Biodiversity is conserved in-situ. | A. The area is achieving the conservation objectives. | Effective biodiversity conservation is being achieved within these properties through protection, trail management, and ecological restoration activities.  Site-specific management plans clearly outline the inventory and monitoring activities for each area. Depending on the site values, the following may be monitored and managed:  a) Species at risk  b) Invasive and Nuisance species  c) Tree and vegetation composition  d) Wildlife species  e) Water quality  f) Cultural and archeological features  Active stewardship and protection of the conservation values is a requirement of the Ecological Gifts program. Environment Canada monitors and reviews the lands and the stewardship regime employed by KLT to ensure that there is no diminution of the ecological condition or protection of the ecological gift and reasonable action to manage and protect the ecological condition. | Yes - PA |

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| **SUMMARY OF ASSESSMENT** | |
| **OUTCOME / EVALUATION** | **Screening Outcome:** Protected Area (meets all criteria)  Is this an Interim Target 1 area: no  Is this a candidate Target 1 area: yes  **Currently reported to CPCAD/CARTS?** No  **Total Area (ha) to be reported to CPCAD/CARTS:** 542.4 ha |
| Identify deficiencies that could be overcome in order to report as PA or OECM | *What, if any, actions could be undertaken to meet the Pan-Canadian criteria and standards for reporting?* |
| Lead evaluator / assessor | *Names and organizations of lead evaluator and contributors, date of contribution, relationship to site*  Ontario Parks officer (March 2019) |
| Communications / Engagement | *Names of governing authorities and others consulted, including names and positions of contact people and dates*  Corina Brdar, Ontario Parks  ZuZu Gadallah, ECCC-CWS-PAD |
| Approvals | *Names of governing authorities (including landowners, right holders and the responsible jurisdiction) that have approved the content and results of this screening as being accurate and complete to the best of their knowledge and agree to reporting of data.* |

Tags: Ontario, ON, Private, Protected Area, PA, Land Trust, Deciduous forest, Wetland, River, Bog, Riparian, Marsh, Swamp, Fen, Old Growth, Open fields, 2019