

December 24, 2009

Dear Stakeholder,

This letter is a follow-up to a previous letter sent in May 2009 by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) regarding the proposal to create a habitat regulation for Engelmann's Quillwort under the Endangered Species Act, 2007 (ESA).

After reviewing all the comments received during the consultation period, the MNR has decided to proceed with regulating the habitat of the following species: American Badger, Barn Owl, Eastern Prairie Fringed Orchid, Engelmann's Quillwort, Few-flowered Club-rush, Jefferson Salamander, Peregrine Falcon, Western Silvery Aster, and Wood Turtle. A decision notice was posted on the Environmental Registry (ER) at www.ebr.gov.on.ca [Registry # 010-6490] on November 24, 2009.

We understand that you may have an interest in one or more of the species listed above. If you would like to obtain additional information we invite you to attend one of our open houses (See enclosure for a list of locations and dates). At the open house you will have an opportunity to view the final habitat regulation as well as general information on the ESA. MNR staff will be available to answer specific questions you may have and to provide advice on how to avoid activities that may damage or destroy protected habitat. Not all activities constitute damage or destruction. If you are unable to attend one of these sessions please contact your local MNR district office or visit the Species at Risk website at ontario.ca/speciesatrisk to obtain further information.

It is important that human activities do not damage or destroy endangered and threatened species habitat. In some cases, you may be allowed to proceed with activities that could damage or destroy the habitat if you first obtain authorization under the ESA. We recommend that you talk to MNR staff about activities you may be planning on your land, to help ensure they do not harm the protected species or its habitat, and if so whether modifying the way in which these activities are carried out could avoid harm. This habitat protection will come into force on February 18, 2010.

Please call Jeremy Rouse at 705-773-4205 if you have any questions about this letter or the habitat regulation.

By working together, we can all help Ontario's species at risk.

Sincerely,



Rob Viejou
Area Supervisor
Ministry of Natural Resources, Parry Sound District

Enclosures: List of Open House Locations
Englemann's Quillwort Habitat Map, Severn River
Endangered Species Act, Regulations

Open House Locations and Dates

The Government of Ontario has passed a habitat regulation for the following nine endangered and threatened species: American Badger, Barn Owl, Eastern Prairie Fringed-orchid, Engelmann's Quillwort, Few-flowered Club-rush, Jefferson Salamander, Peregrine Falcon, Western Silvery Aster and Wood Turtle.

Interested parties are invited to an **Open House** to learn more about the regulation and to receive advice on how to avoid damage or destruction of habitat when undertaking activities.

Aurora

Location: Aurora Public Library
15145 Yonge Street

Date: January 21, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Bracebridge

Location: The Riverside Inn
300 Ecclestone Drive

Date: February 3, 2010

Time: 3:00 - 7:00 pm

Burlington

Location: Royal Botanical Gardens
680 Plains Road West

Date: January 20, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Casselman (Eastern Ontario)

Location: Centre André Deguire,
653 Chemin St Isidore

Date: January 7, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Coniston (Sudbury)

Location: Colonial Inn
28 Cedar Street

Date: February 2, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Guelph

Location: Provincial Government Building
1 Stone Road West

Date: January 19, 2010

Time: 3:00-8:00 pm

London

Location: Best Western Lamplighter Inn
591 Wellington Road (Cambridge Room)

Date: January 14, 2010

Time: 4:00 -8:00 pm

North Gower (Ottawa)

Location: Alfred Taylor Centre
2300 Community Way

Date: January 5, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Sault Ste. Marie

Location: Water Tower Inn
360 Great Northern Road

Date: January 28, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 7:00 pm

Thunder Bay

Location: Victoria Inn
555 Arthur Street West

Date: February 4, 2010

Time: 4:00 – 8:00 pm

Vineland

Location: Ministry of Natural Resources
Niagara Area Office
4890 Victoria Ave. N

Date: January 11, 2010

Time: 3:00 – 8:00 pm

If you have any questions about these sessions please contact Jeremy Rouse, Parry Sound District Species at Risk Biologist at 705-773-4205.