

Port Franks Area Biodiversity – Welcome to the Public Meeting

Saturday, September 12, 2009

L Lake, Outer Drive



A Biodiversity Strategy for the Port Franks Area



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Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

Presentation Outline:

*** What is a Biodiversity Strategy for the Port Franks Area?**

*** General Intro to Pt Franks species, habitat and threats**

*** Project Scope – what will be included**

A Biodiversity Strategy for the Port Franks Area



Biodiversity

- **Biodiversity refers to the variety of species and ecosystems within a particular area**
- **The Port Franks area is home to a rich biodiversity of plants, animals and habitats**



Biodiversity Strategy

- **A biodiversity strategy will conserve and manage the unique biodiversity of the area**
- **Success of a strategy is linked to community involvement and technical stakeholders working together**



Need for the Strategy

- **Successful community based Old Ausable Channel Management Plan**
- **Complement to two Conservation Action Plans in progress**
- **Unique biodiversity, special place**



Project Goal

- **Produce a strategy that provides recovery actions to protect species at risk and habitats in the area**
- **Involve the community so they become aware of the importance of the area and learn how to improve and protect habitat**

Biodiversity Strategy Outcomes:

- **Unified vision among stakeholders**
- **Long-term actions**
- **Education and recreation Opportunities**
- **Guidelines for land use**
- **Significant species and habitat protection**

A scenic view of a lake with a forested shoreline and reeds in the foreground. The sky is clear blue, and the water reflects the surrounding greenery and sky. The text is overlaid on the image.

Important recommendation from other studies:

**Coordinate the management of the area
with all property owners and
natural areas**

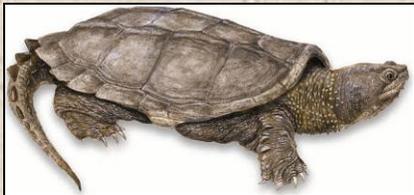
The Special Biodiversity of the Port Franks Area – Species and Habitat



Five-lined Skink

The Port Franks Area

- Located at northern edge of Carolinian Zone – southern location and climate of this area allows it to support flora & fauna found no where else in Canada
- Supports unique habitats, a rich species variety including many species at risk



A Special Place

- **Thousands of species within area**
- **2008 Pinery Park study found 300 at risk or rare species— not found anywhere else**
- **On par with other areas – Long Point, Pelee, Rondeau**



Port Franks Species



Habitat Types in the Area

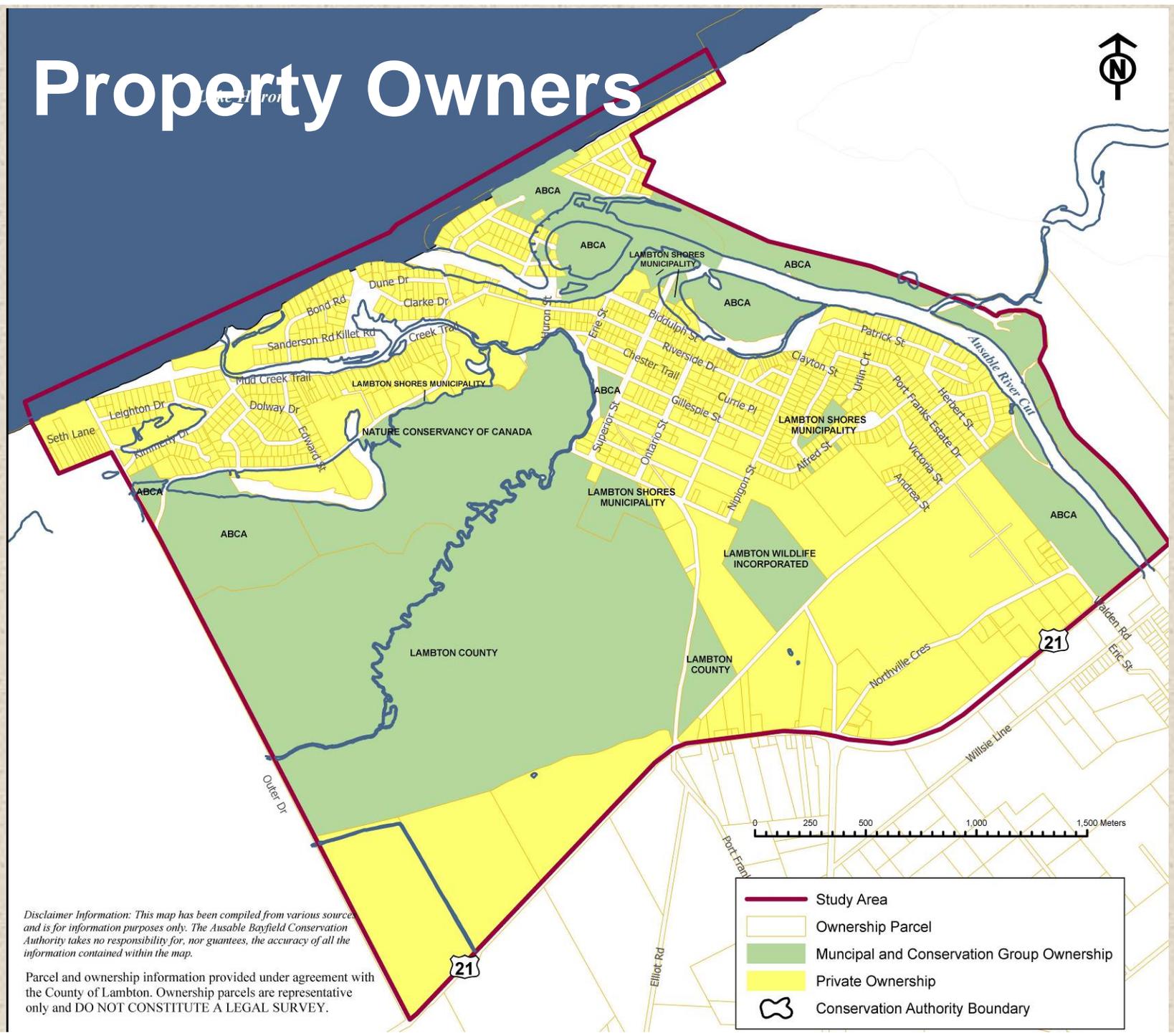
- **Extremely diverse in relatively small area**
- **Aquatic – small lakes, creek, river**
- **Coastal – dunes, beaches**
- **Terrestrial – savanna, woodlands, forest**
- **Wetlands – large complex, different types**



Natural Areas around Pt Franks

- **Port Franks Forested Dunes & Wetland Complex ANSI**
- **L Lake Management Area**
- **Karner Blue Sanctuary**
- **Lambton County Heritage Forest**
- **Ausable Cut Conservation Area**

Property Owners



Disclaimer Information: This map has been compiled from various sources and is for information purposes only. The Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority takes no responsibility for, nor guarantees, the accuracy of all the information contained within the map.

Parcel and ownership information provided under agreement with the County of Lambton. Ownership parcels are representative only and DO NOT CONSTITUTE A LEGAL SURVEY.

	Study Area
	Ownership Parcel
	Municipal and Conservation Group Ownership
	Private Ownership
	Conservation Authority Boundary



Image from Bing Maps

Threats to Ecosystem: Identified by CAP

- **Water quality**
- **Invasive, non-native, alien species**
- **Tourism, recreation**
- **Urban development, roads**
- **Collecting species (terrestrial and aquatic)**
- **Forestry practices**
- **Fire suppression (prairie, savanna ecosystems)**

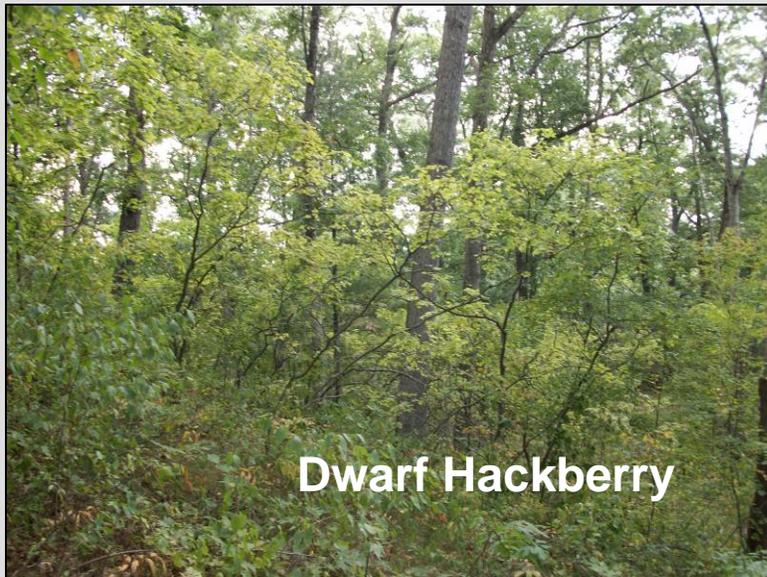
Project Scope



Lake Chubsucker



Blazing Star



Dwarf Hackberry



Red spotted Purple

Proposed Study Area for the Strategy



Project Components

- **Compilation of existing info on species, habitat and recommendations**
- **Summary of key issues in the area – community**
- **Identify studies to fill data gaps**
- **Identify restoration sites, landowner programs**
- **Coordinate management objectives**
- **Create a plan for implementation, monitoring**

What's Happening Currently?

- **A background report summarizing current understanding about species and habitat in the PF Area**
- **Public meeting to support the development of the Management Strategy**
- **Guiding Document created**
- **Formation of steering committee, meetings to aid in development of strategy**

Biodiversity Strategy will Provide:

- **Background info summary regarding species and habitat**
- **Documentation of important community issues for this area**
- **Relevant management recommendations**

**Thank you –
What are your
concerns for this
unique area?**



Project Partners: Port Franks Residents, Ministry of Natural Resources, ABCA, Lambton Wildlife Inc., Nature Conservancy of Canada, Carolinian Canada, Pinery Provincial Park, Municipality of Lambton Shores, St. Clair Region Conservation Authority, Lambton County, First Nations, Lake Huron Centre for Coastal Conservation

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Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority

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