

## The Nature Conservancy of Canada

### Natural Areas Conservation Program Other Qualified Organizations

October 28, 2009



### Natural Areas Conservation Program – Other Qualified Organizations

- Natural Areas Conservation Program – a \$225 million match funding initiative sponsored by Environment Canada.
- \$25 Million allocated to Ducks Unlimited Canada.
- \$15 Million allocated to Other Qualified Organizations ("OQOs").
- OQO Program commenced in April 2009.
- 3 Funding Windows: Application submission deadlines
  - April 30, 2009
  - October 30, 2009
  - April 30, 2010
- OQO Guidelines: Please refer to NCC Website for more detail.
- **Guiding Principle:** Property must be recognized as a priority for securement within an existing approved Natural Area Conservation Plan ("NACP").
- Contact NCC regional staff to determine if target property qualifies.



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- Organization Eligibility:
  - Applicant must be a registered Canadian charity.
  - Listed on Environment Canada Ecological Gifts Program website as a charity eligible to receive Ecogifts.
  - Associate Membership in the Canadian Land Trust Alliance.
- OQOs must execute a Funding Agreement and a Landholding Agreement, the latter of which is registered on title.
- OQOs must contribute 15% (based on land value) to a Stewardship Endowment Fund, investment proceeds from which are used first for the property, and if not fully required for the property, then for other properties owned by the OQO or other Conservation Organizations within the NACP.
- Up to 50% of total **eligible** project costs may be funded under the Program. For a list of eligible expenses, please refer to NCC website, but these must be direct costs necessary for securement of the property and as approved by NCC.
- The rest (i.e. at least 50% of total project costs) must be contributed by way of matching funds or expenses from the OQO.



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- With the initial application must also be included:
  - Appraisal letter from AACI appraisal for the property, clearly showing acres and appraised value.
  - Copy of Board resolution or by-law evidencing existence of stewardship endowment fund or acceptable equivalent arrangement.
  - Copy of OQO's most recent financial audit.
- Applications are reviewed by an independent external Program Committee which makes recommendations to NCC.
- If approved, ancillary documentation required 30 days prior to closing (i.e. Agreement of Purchase and Sale, Survey, Baseline Documentation Report, preliminary title report from lawyer, signed agreements, CLTA letter, etc.).
- Funding will take place by way of 3 invoices – 1<sup>st</sup> on closing, 2<sup>nd</sup> post-closing for expenses, 3<sup>rd</sup> for preparation of audit and Property Management Plan within one year of closing.



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### Natural Areas Conservation Program – Other Qualified Organizations

- **Results To Date:** (Approximately \$725K approved to date)
  - **Thunder Bay Field Naturalists:** Pine Bay; Northwestern Lake Superior Coast NACP
  - **Ontario Nature:** Lost Bay; Frontenac Arch NACP
  - **Alberta Fish & Game Association/Alberta Conservation Association:** Thomson; Milk River Ridge-Foothills Fescue NACP



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