



Conservation Action Planning for Carolinian Canada Biodiversity Hotspots

What is Conservation Action Planning?

- Conservation Action Planning (CAP) is an effective and efficient way to conserve many species and habitats at the same time.
- CAP focuses on areas where conservation efforts are most urgent and most likely to be successful.
- The process brings together local partners that have an interest in protecting the area:
 - ✓ Municipalities
 - ✓ Land Trusts
 - ✓ First Nations
 - ✓ Corporations
 - ✓ Conservation Authorities
 - ✓ Naturalist Clubs
 - ✓ Stewardship Councils
 - ✓ Government agencies
- CAP was developed by The Nature Conservancy (US) and has been used for more than 30 years in many cultural and political settings.
- CAP is a clear, achievable and measurable approach that appeals to funders.

What is a Biodiversity Hotspot?

- Biodiversity is the diversity of life, and it includes genes, species, habitats and entire ecosystems. A biodiversity hotspot is an area where such diversity is highly concentrated. In Canada such hotspots are often home to many rare species.

Some Species at Risk in the Carolinian Zone:
American Badger, Eastern Flowering Dogwood
and Acadian Flycatcher



What is Carolinian Canada?



- Carolinian Canada covers less than 1% of Canada's area but has the nation's highest diversity of plants and animals:
 - 2000+ species of plants
 - 400+ species of birds
 - 50 species of amphibians and reptiles
- Many of the species and habitats occur nowhere else in Canada and are in danger of disappearing:
 - 150+ Species at Risk
 - 400+ additional rare species
 - 58 rare ecosystem types
- The region is also unique in human terms:
 - 25% of Canada's population lives here
 - More than 80% of what used to be "natural" landscape is now agricultural, residential or industrial land
 - Private landowners protect most of the remaining natural areas.

Did you know?

Carolinian Canada is sometimes called the "banana belt" because of its warm climate.

Conservation Action Planning in Carolinian Canada

Saving Species at Risk

Coordination

Bringing together experts and stakeholders from the CAP community

Collaboration

Many different types of groups work together to prepare and implement the CAP

Integration

Many Species at Risk are protected at the same time with one CAP

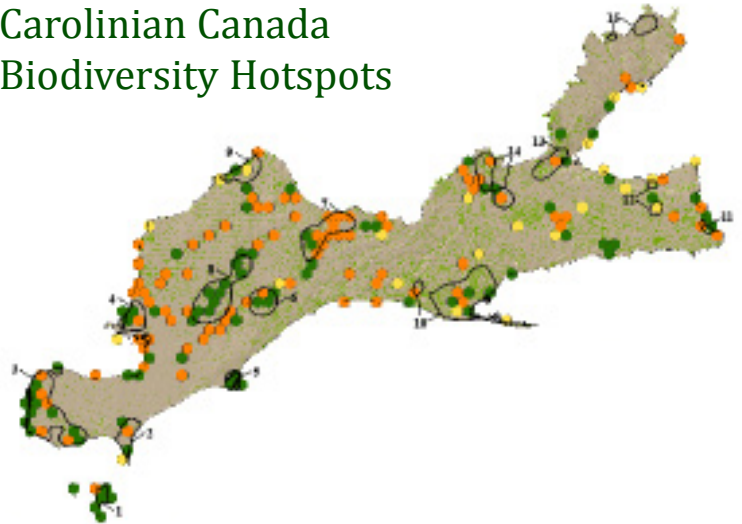
Did you know?

More than 70 partners have participated in the CAP process in Carolinian Canada.

Accomplishments

- CAPs have helped us take action on more than 80% of the recommendations from the Carolinian Woodlands Recovery Strategy.
- Projects to restore lands for rare species are underway across 100's of hectares.
- Land trusts have purchased strategic properties to help protect biodiversity.
- Places where Species at Risk live are being surveyed and monitored.
- Fact sheets for dozens of Species at Risk are available to help you save rare species.
- Caring for Species at Risk workshops across Carolinian Canada teach landowners how to protect rare species and habitats.
- CAPs help municipalities design natural heritage systems and official plans.
- CAPs provide a common vision and strategy for communities to implement together.

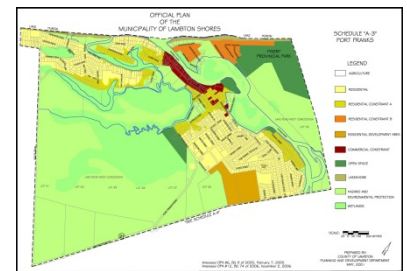
Carolinian Canada Biodiversity Hotspots



Each coloured dot represents a place where many Species at Risk live. Carolinian Canada Coalition and our partners are developing CAPs for areas where lots of dots are concentrated.

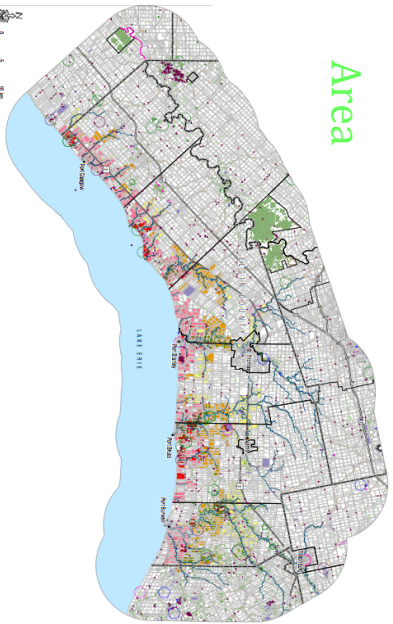


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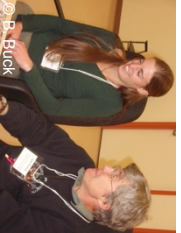
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Area



Defining Your Project:

First: Select the focal area for the project and a team representing the key community groups who have a stake in its future.



Developing Strategies & Measures:

Next: Assess the condition of target ecosystems and species in the area, and evaluate the key threats to their health. Develop plans to improve their viability.

Viability

Table 2.1 Viability Summary

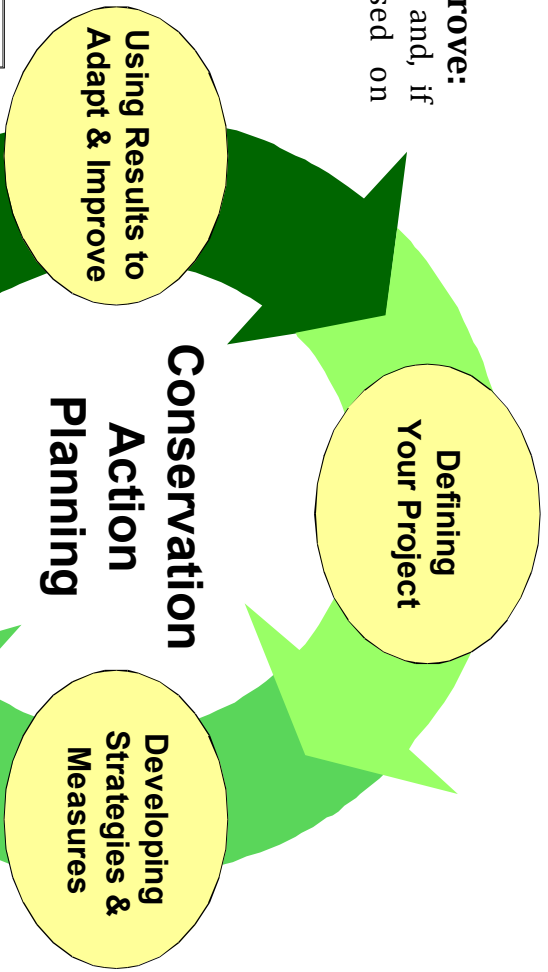
Conservation Target	Landscape/Consent			Condition			Viability		
	Code	Threat	Code	Threat	Code	Threat	Code	Threat	Code
1. Wetland and Riparian	Good	1	Fair	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good
2. Wetland/riparian	Good	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good
3. Forest	Fair	1	Fair	1	Good	1	Fair	1	Fair
4. Lakes, Rivers, Estuaries	Good	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good
5. Wetlands, Riparian and Estuaries	Fair	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good	1	Good

Threats

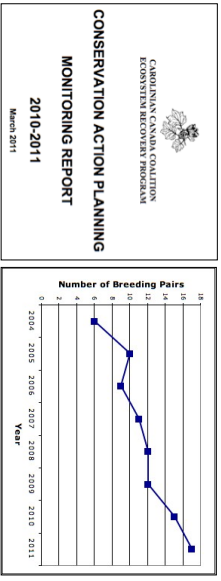
Table 2.2 Summary of Threats

TABLE 2.2. Summary of Threats (continued from Table 2.1) (continued)

Threats Across Targets	Wetlands	Lakes, Rivers, Estuaries	Forest	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian	Wetlands/riparian
1. Wetlands/riparian	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
2. Wetlands/riparian	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
3. Forest	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
4. Lakes, Rivers, Estuaries	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High
5. Wetlands, Riparian and Estuaries	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High	High



Using Results to Adapt & Improve:
 Finally: Report on progress made and, if necessary, adapt strategies based on findings.



Implementing Strategies & Measures:
 Then: Implement the strategies and measure their effectiveness.

Education

Caring for Nature in Niagara
 Landowner Action in Carolinian Canada

The Nature of Farming in Niagara

The Unique Nature of Niagara

Good Things, Clean Water

Monitoring



Management



Restoration



Be sure to identify the key attributes that can be measured to assess effectiveness of strategies (e.g. total size of habitat patches, presence of indicator species, population trends).

Measures



CAROLINIAN CANADA COALITION



*Collaborating
for a
Healthy Ecoregion*

Our mission: Protect and restore natural heritage in the Carolinian Life Zone for healthy, sustainable landscapes through stewardship, cooperation and research.



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What can you do? *Get involved!*

- Learn more about Conservation Action Planning for Biodiversity Hotspots
- Attend Caring for Species and Habitats at Risk workshops
- Read our factsheets about Species at Risk in your area and what you can do to help
- Participate in Species at Risk Camps and summer Student Internship programs for youth
- Create a stewardship trail in your area
- Find out how helping biodiversity is good for business
- Spread the word with our Social Marketing and Outreach Programs for the Conservation Crowd
- Walk, hike, paddle, bike or volunteer to enhance Lake Erie's Carolinian Coast
- Plant a native tree or shrub

To find out about great membership and volunteer opportunities please visit:

www.carolinian.org

**Leave a Legacy -
Find out more about
major gifts or bequests**



Species at Risk Youth Camp

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