



## Fish and Wildlife Committee

# Meeting Agenda

**Date:** March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022

**Time:** 3:00 p.m.

### Teams Meeting Coordinates:

*Meeting connection information will be provided  
48 hours in advance.*



## Fish and Wildlife Committee

# Meeting Agenda

March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

1. Chair's Remarks
2. Approval of Fish and Wildlife Committee Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
4. SNC Fish and Wildlife Project Update – PowerPoint Presentation: Staff
5. Approval of the Fish and Wildlife Committee virtual meeting minutes of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2022 3-6
6. New Business:
  - a. Update: 2022 Committee Chair and Membership: Ronda 7
  - b. Update: 2022 Stewardship Work Plan: Michelle 8-10
  - c. Update: Grassland Stewardship Initiative Partnership: Brent 11
  - d. Update: OPG Regional Biodiversity Program: Michelle 12-13
7. Supplemental Agenda (if any)
8. Correspondence (if any)
9. Roundtable Discussions
  - a. Community Engagement Activities
  - b. Watershed Monitoring Report
10. Date of Next Meeting:
  - June 7<sup>th</sup>, 2022, at 3:00 p.m., location to be confirmed
11. Adjournment

Ronda Boutz,  
Team Lead, Special Projects.



## FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE MEETING

Tuesday, November 30th, 2021, 3:00 p.m. – Meeting 04/21

By Electronic Participation

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- Present:**
- Frederick Schueler, Committee Chair
  - Malcolm Clark, Russell Fish and Game Club
  - Alvin Cluff-Clyburne, Russell Fish and Game Club
  - Doug Culver, Naturalist and Recreational Angler
  - Stephan Dubuc, Trapper
  - Aleta Karstad, Fragile Inheritance Natural History
  - Shawn Landriault, Public Citizen
  - Kirk Myelde, Public Citizen
  - Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Past Chair, ex-officio
  - Doug Thompson, Public Citizen
- Regrets:**
- Bruce Clarke, Ottawa Fly Fishers
  - Cyril Holmes, Grenville Fish and Game Club
  - Joffre Cote, Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Fish and Wildlife (non-voting)
  - Abraham Francis, Mohawks of Akwesasne
  - Susan Gallinger, Public Citizen (non-voting)
  - George Darouze, SNC Board of Directors, Chair, ex-officio
  - Pierre Leroux, SNC Board of Directors, Vice Chair, ex-officio
  - Larry Smith, South Nation Archery Supply
- Staff:**
- Angela Coleman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer
  - Carl Bickerdike, Team Lead, Corporate Services
  - Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects
  - Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship
  - Brent Harbers, Watershed Biologist
  - Naomi Langlois-Anderson, Senior Fish and Wildlife Technician
  - Dianne MacMillan, Administrative Assistant
  - Ryan Robson, Resource Technician
  - Katherine Watson, Water Resources Specialist - Monitoring



**CHAIR'S REMARKS**

Fred Schueler, Committee Chair, called the Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 to order at 3:00 p.m.

**APPROVAL OF FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-026/21

Moved by: Doug Thompson

Seconded by: Kirk Myelde

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting agenda of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as submitted.

CARRIED

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Conflict of Interest.

**SNC FISH AND WILDLIFE PROJECT UPDATE – POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**

Staff presented fish and wildlife project and program updates.

**APPROVAL OF THE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 2021**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-027/21

Moved by: Malcolm Clark

Seconded by: Shawn Landriault

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the Fish and Wildlife Committee virtual meeting minutes of September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021 as submitted.

CARRIED

**NEW BUSINESS**

**UPDATE: CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES ACT – PHASE 1 REGULATIONS**

Angela Coleman, General Manager/Secretary-Treasurer presented the Fish and Wildlife Committee Members with a Conservation Authorities Act, Phase 1 Regulations update.



**UPDATE: 2021 YEAR END REPORT**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-0/21

Moved by: Kirk Myelde  
Seconded by: Malcolm Clark

RESOLVED THAT:

The Fish and Wildlife Committee receive and file the 2021 Year End report.

CARRIED

**VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION: KIRK MYELDE**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-0/21

Moved by: Stéphane Dubuc  
Seconded by: Bill Smirle

RESOLVED THAT:

The Fish and Wildlife Committee recognize Kirk Myelde for his time, effort, and dedication to SNC for helping collect the Bourget vernal pool water levels and listening for Western Chorus Frog calls in 2021.

CARRIED

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: 2022 FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMITTEE MEETING DATES**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-0/21

Moved by: Doug Thompson  
Seconded by: Kirk Myelde

RESOLVED THAT:

The Fish and Wildlife Committee approve the Fish and Wildlife Committee 2022 meeting schedule as presented.

CARRIED

**ROUNDTABLE DISCUSSIONS**

**A. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

- Bill Smirle advised the Committee of his presentation to North Dundas every six weeks to keep them informed. SNC 2022 Budget is being circulated to



municipalities for comment before final approval scheduled for January 2022 Board meeting. Copy of the draft Budget is also available on the SNC website for public review. Bill congratulated staff on external fundraising efforts which account for approximately 40% of the SNC budget.

- Fred Schueler updated the Committee on activities of the North Grenville Environmental Committee, including potential roadside pollinator projects

#### **B. WATERSHED MONITORING REPORT**

Fred Schueler reminded Committee members to submit their Watershed Monitoring reports by email.

#### **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

- March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 Joint Standing Committee Meeting at 1:00 p.m.
- March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022 Fish and Wildlife Meeting at 3:00 p.m.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. FW-0/21

Moved by: Doug Thompson

RESOLVED THAT:

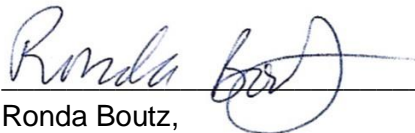
The Fish and Wildlife Committee meeting of November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2021 be adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

CARRIED

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Fred Schueler,  
Committee Chair.

/dm



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Ronda Boutz,  
Team Lead, Special Projects.



**To:** Fish and Wildlife Committee  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Team Lead, Special Projects  
**Date:** February 22, 2022  
**Subject:** Update: 2022 Committee Chair and Membership

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Fish and Wildlife Committee receive and file the 2022 Committee Chair and Membership report.

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**DISCUSSION:**

In 2021, the Board of Directors approved revisions to the "Terms of Reference: South Nation Conservation Standing Committees" to allow for a formal application process for membership recruitment and the addition of a 3-year term for Standing Committee members (BD-080/21).

Due to updates to *the Conservation Authorities Act* and upcoming municipal elections in Fall 2022 that will inform political and community appointments, the Board approved a temporary amendment to the Committee Terms of Reference to allow for an extension of current Committee membership into 2022 (BD-026/22).

Applications will be sought for Committee membership in Fall 2022 for the 2023-2025 term, subject to approval by the Board of Directors at SNC's Annual General Meeting in 2023.

The Board approval to extend the current membership term includes ratifying the current appointed Committee Chair in their position until the Board approves the 2023 Committee memberships and Chair appointments.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget: The 2022 SNC Budget includes funding for the Clean Water, Forestry, Fish and Wildlife, and Communications Committee meetings under Communications and Outreach: Corporate Communications pages 84-85.

SNC Policy Adherence: Standing Committees adhere to SNC Administrative By-laws, Part III, sections 20.1 to 21.0, pages 9 and 10.

Ronda Boutz,  
Team Lead, Special Projects.



**To:** Fish and Wildlife Committee  
**From:** Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship  
**Date:** February 24, 2022  
**Subject:** Update: 2022 Stewardship Work Plan

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## **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Fish and Wildlife Committee receive and file the 2022 Stewardship Work Plan update; and

FURTHER THAT: The Fish and Wildlife Committee provide comments for consideration on the 2023 Stewardship Workplan deliverables.

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## **DISCUSSION:**

The following activities have been planned for 2022, as per the Board approved 2022 Budget:

1. Resource Management: Water Response Programs
  - 20 data requests.
  - Complete 20 stream assessments and report on watershed health through one subwatershed report card.
  - Provide technical advice on drainage, erosion, natural heritage features, and stream health.
  - Assist the City of Ottawa with their Climate Change program.
2. Partner Programs: Water
  - Clean Water Program
    - 4 meetings.
    - 25 grants.
  - Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program
    - Administrative support.
    - Liaise with City of Ottawa and Conservation Authority Partners.
    - Assist City of Ottawa with Program Evaluation in preparation for request to renew the Program for another five years.
    - 1 interim report and a final report.
    - 1 meeting of program steering committee.
    - 60 grants between the three Conservation Authority Partners.
  - Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program
    - Administrative support and delivery through SNC Clean Water





Committee.

- Liaise with Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program funding partners.
- Administer Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program grants.
- Ottawa Baseline Monitoring
  - Monthly water quality monitoring at 12 sites within the City of Ottawa during ice-free conditions.
  - Annual benthic sampling and analysis at the 12 monitoring sites.

### 3. Projects: Habitat Restoration

- Leitrim Wetland
  - Host two Leitrim Wetland Advisory Committee meetings.
  - Support community stewardship projects and deliver annual shrub giveaway to Findlay Creek community residents.
- Ontario Power Generation Biodiversity Project
  - Remove invasive buckthorn and dead ash trees on Gamble and Garlandside Road properties.
  - Complete erosion repair at three locations within J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area.
  - Plant native trees and shrubs at all project sites.
- Ducks Unlimited Canada Partnership
  - Restore approximately 100 acres of wetlands within SNC's jurisdiction.
  - Provide project designs to Ducks Unlimited Canada for approval.
  - Projects to take place primarily on SNC-owned land.
- Species at Risk Benefits Exchange
  - Monitor vegetation growth and grassland quality on 86 acres.
  - Report to Lindsay Solar on any management actions.
- Grassland Stewardship Initiative
  - Restore and manage hayfields on SNC property for grassland birds and hay production.

### 4. Property: Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas

- Create a new pollinator meadow at the Mill Run Conservation Area

### 5. Approvals: Projects: Planning Studies

- Complete the South Bear Brook Catchment Study.
- Complete the North Castor Catchment Study Planning Guide
- Watershed studies for the Bear Brook development area.
- Environmental Impact Study for the Long Sault East Industrial Park.



**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget: All activities listed in the 2022 Stewardship Workplan are included in the Board approved 2022 Budget under:

- Resource Management: Water Response Programs, pages 14-15
- Resource Management: Partner Programs, Water, pages 18-19
- Resource Management: Projects, Habitat Restoration, pages 24-25
- Property: Conservation Lands, Conservation Areas, pages 32-33
- Approvals: Projects, Planning Studies, pages 68-69

SNC Policy Adherence: All activities required to undertake the 2022 Stewardship Team Workplan will adhere to SNC's Purchasing and Health and Safety Policies.

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Michelle Cavanagh,  
Team Lead, Stewardship.



**To:** Fish and Wildlife Committee  
**From:** Brent Harbers, Watershed Biologist  
**Date:** February 24, 2022  
**Subject:** Update: Grassland Stewardship Initiative Partnership

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Fish and Wildlife Committee receive and file the Update: Grassland Stewardship Initiative Partnership report.

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### **DISCUSSION:**

Grasslands Ontario is a recently created organization that works as a division of the not-for-profit Forests Ontario. Grasslands Ontario provides awareness and support towards creation, enhancement, and maintenance of grassland habitat.

In 2021, SNC applied for and received funding from Grasslands Ontario under the Grassland Stewardship Initiative (GSI) to restore productivity of the hay forage fields at SNC 164 (The Healing Place) in a bird friendly way. Work in 2021 included bird surveys, soil testing, vegetation surveys, and drafting of a forage management plan for the property. Work in 2022 will include cutting ash trees from hedgerows, fertilizing the fields, and working with a local farmer to late-cut the hay. In total, 40 acres of fallow fields are being returned to a bird-friendly and productive hay forage system.

Due to the ongoing success of this project, Grasslands Ontario approached SNC to be a local delivery agent for grassland projects in SNC's jurisdiction. As a result, SNC will be coordinating two grassland projects in 2022 for private landowners who wish to harvest hay from their properties in a bird-friendly way. The two projects will result in an additional 60 acres of grassland bird-friendly hay being produced in the SNC watershed.

SNC will work to further the restoration of grasslands in the watershed and promote late-cut hay through the partnership with Grasslands Ontario in 2022. Further, SNC will continue to work with landowners to apply for funding for land stewardship projects.

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Brent Harbers,  
Watershed Biologist.



**To:** Fish and Wildlife Committee  
**From:** Michelle Cavanagh, Team Lead, Stewardship  
**Date:** February 24, 2022  
**Subject:** Update: OPG Regional Biodiversity Program

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### **RECOMMENDATION:**

The Fish and Wildlife Committee receive and file the OPG Regional Biodiversity Program update.

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### **DISCUSSION:**

SNC was successful in applying for funding from Ontario Power Generation through their Regional Biodiversity Funding Program for a combined Lakes/Rivers and Woodlands project. The funding awarded is \$200,000 divided over 3 years. 2022 is the final year of the three-year project.

The Lakes/Rivers component of the project consists of shoreline stabilization and instream habitat creation along a stream which flows through J. Henry Tweed Conservation Area. This is a continuation of similar work completed on the property in 2019. The overall objective is to increase riparian and instream biodiversity, which will improve the ecological features and functions in the Conservation Area.

Activities planned for 2022 include:

- Completion of hazard tree removals in project areas
- Completion of shoreline stabilization at 3 sites as per designs
- Prepare and carry out planting plans for the project areas
- Design and installation of permanent interpretive signage
- Project communications plan

The Woodlands component of the project consists of invasive species control on SNC's Gamble and Garlandside Road properties. Using drone-acquired low-level aerial photography approximately 1 hectare of area will have Glossy Buckthorn felled and removed, and stumps will be treated with a systemic herbicide. Any dead Ash trees will also be removed from the target area. A planting plan will be prepared, and native trees and shrubs will be planted within each target area.



Activities in-progress for 2022 include:

- Glossy Buckthorn removal within the target areas
- Removal of infected Ash trees within the target areas
- Replanting target areas with native trees and shrubs
- Project communications plan

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget:

This project is included in the 2022 Budget under Resource Management: Projects: Habitat Restoration, pages 24-25.

SNC Policy Adherence:

All expenditures will adhere to SNC's Purchasing Policy, including seeking three quotes and required authorizations according to purchasing limits. All work undertaken to complete the projects will adhere to SNC's Health and Safety Policies and Procedures.

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Michelle Cavanagh,  
Team Lead, Stewardship.