

REGION OF PEEL

REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN

REGIONAL OFFICIAL PLAN AMENDMENT  
NUMBER 21 (ROPA 21)  
NATURAL HERITAGE, AGRICULTURE, AIR  
QUALITY AND INTEGRATED WASTE  
MANAGEMENT POLICIES

## **PART A – THE PREAMBLE**

### 1. Purpose of the Amendment

To revise and add policies related to natural heritage, agriculture, air quality and integrated waste management to the Region of Peel Official Plan.

### 2. Location

This Amendment applies throughout the Regional Municipality of Peel.

### 3. Basis

In September 2007, Regional Council endorsed a work program to proceed with a five-year review of the Regional Official Plan (ROP) through the Peel Region Official Plan Review (PROPR) process. The review is considering amendments that are necessary to bring the ROP into conformity with relevant legislation, plans and policies including the Provincial Policy Statement (2005 PPS), the Greenbelt Plan (2005) and the Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (2006). The Regional Official Plan Amendment 21 (ROPA 21) is a component of the Peel Region Official Plan Review that addresses four of the 15 focus areas that are identified in the PROPR work program: natural heritage, agriculture, air quality and integrated waste management.

The Region of Peel Official Plan was initially adopted by Council on July 11, 1996 and approved with modifications by the Minister of Municipal Affairs and Housing on October 22, 1996. The Regional Plan was subsequently updated through the ROP Strategic Update (ROPSU) process that was initiated in 2002, as a scoped review of the Official Plan. This scoped review included two amendments to the ROP related to natural heritage – ROP Amendment 7 (Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan Conformity) and ROP Amendment 13 (update of Schedule A, Core Areas of the Greenlands System), which is currently subject to appeal. Air quality policies were also included in an amendment related to transportation policy in ROP 16 (Transportation Network and Policies). Since it was initially adopted in 1996 and updated through ROPSU, there have been no further updates or amendments to the ROP's natural heritage, agriculture, air quality and waste management policies.

Through PROPR, revisions to the Plan's text, schedules and figures are being proposed to ensure that policy is up-to-date and conforms with provincial policy requirements. Individual components of the basis for the amendment are set out below.

#### **Natural Heritage**

The natural heritage component identifies where mapping and policy updates are required to bring the Plan into conformity with the 2005 Provincial Policy Statement and to update existing policies where new information, mapping data and terminology has identified policy gaps since the Plan was approved and last

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updated. The key policy gaps include policy and mapping updates for the natural heritage features policies of the Greenlands System including amendments to address policy direction in the PPS for significant woodlands, significant wildlife habitat and significant valleylands.

Supporting research for the policy review began in early 2008, with the *Peel-Caledon Significant Woodlands and Significant Wildlife Habitat Study*. Initial draft recommendations for the identification and evaluation of significant woodlands and significant wildlife habitat for Peel Region were presented to Councilors, stakeholders and the general public through a public consultation process. In addition to the technical study, Regional staff collected updated mapping data for other Core Areas of the Greenlands System and prepared a recommended approach for the identification of Core valley and stream corridors as further input to the policy review. A Natural Heritage Discussion Paper was prepared for further consultation on draft policy options for the ROP.

The recommended policies contained in ROPA 21 consider input received through the *Peel-Caledon Significant Woodlands and Significant Wildlife Habitat Study* and Natural Heritage Policy Review Discussion Paper consultations. The proposed amendments to achieve provincial conformity and which respond to public comments received during the consultation process address the following policy areas:

- Mapping updates for Core wetlands, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs), Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas (ESAs) and Escarpment Natural Areas;
- Significant valleylands;
- Significant woodlands;
- Significant wildlife habitat;
- Greenbelt conformity for natural heritage; and
- Greenlands management and stewardship.

### **Agriculture**

The Region of Peel is committed to protecting the agricultural industry as a major contributor to the economy and health of communities, which is consistent with the Province of Ontario's policy direction. Through PROPR, amendments to the ROP are being proposed to address policy requirements in the 2005 PPS and that respond to the current needs of the agricultural community in Peel. The policies in ROPA 21 will provide a comprehensive strategy to address issues related to the viability and sustainability of farming as an economic activity in Peel.

This amendment builds on the existing Official Plan policies to minimize rural-urban land use conflicts, and to increase certainty for the agricultural sector to foster long-term investment in, improvement to, and management of the agricultural sector. The main purpose is the continued protection of prime agricultural areas by preventing further fragmentation and loss of the agricultural

land base; as well as to provide appropriate flexibility to allow for agriculture, agriculture-related and secondary uses, normal farm practices and an evolving agricultural/rural economy. Policy will also provide a Regional role to support the agri-food sector and strengthen stewardship programs to achieve both agricultural and environmental objectives.

### **Air Quality**

The Air Quality Policy Review component of PROPR addresses the air quality policies in the Official Plan and brings it into conformity with new provincial legislation. The existing Airshed section of the ROP is being amended for the following reasons:

- to conform with Provincial legislation;
- to consider air quality in the context of the rapid growth in population and employment in Peel;
- to address growing concerns related to air quality impacts on human health, the environment and economy;
- to address climate change and the use of fossil fuels; and
- to support sustainability objectives of the ROP.

As part of the air quality policy review process, a discussion paper was completed which included the following information:

- an overview of air pollutants, sources and impacts;
- an assessment of the current air quality situation in Peel Region;
- a summary of best practices and key policy directions; and
- recommendations for Official Plan policy.

Regional staff consulted with the PROPR Air Quality Advisory Committee, which included representatives from all three area municipalities. In addition, a half day consultation workshop was held with key stakeholders to obtain comments on the discussion paper and recommended draft Official Plan policies.

Based on the policy directions outlined in the discussion paper and comments received during the consultations, air quality policies for the Regional Official Plan were developed. The policies contained in ROPA 21 strengthen the current Airshed section of the existing Official Plan and bring the plan into conformity with new provincial legislation. Due to the complex, integrated nature of air quality, there are direct inter-relationships with other PROPR focus areas which are proposing additional air quality related policy amendments. The additional policies are being considered in the sustainability, energy and transportation focus areas.

### **Integrated Waste Management**

The Integrated Waste Management component of PROPR reviews the existing waste management policies in the ROP and brings the Plan into conformity with the Provincial Policy Statement (2005) and Growth Plan (2006). The Growth Plan

emphasizes planning for a culture of conservation with references for municipalities to develop the following integrated waste management (IWM) policies: enhanced waste reduction, composting, and recycling; a comprehensive plan with integrated approaches to waste management; promotion of reuse and recycling of construction materials; consideration of waste management initiatives within the context of long term regional planning and collaboration with the neighbouring municipalities.

A consultation meeting was held with the area municipalities, Waste Management staff, Real Property Assessment staff, Purchasing staff, and external stakeholders for input on the draft discussion paper and draft Official Plan policies. ROPA 21 modifies out of date policies in the existing Official Plan and brings the plan into conformity with new provincial legislation in the following areas: innovative source reduction and reuse measures, industrial, commercial and institutional waste, construction and demolition waste management, impacts of intensification on IWM planning, energy from waste and residual waste, and municipal collaboration.

## **PART B – THE AMENDMENT**

All of the Amendment entitled PART B – THE AMENDMENT, consisting of the attached text, schedules, tables and figures constitute Amendment No. 21 to the Region of Peel Official Plan, 1996. The renumbering in the amendments is based on the latest office consolidation which incorporates approved Regional Official Plan Amendment Numbers 15, 16 and 17 to the Regional Official Plan and Regional Council adopted Amendment Number 20, and proposed Draft Official Plan Amendment Numbers 21, 22, 23 and 24.

### a. Amendments to Text

1. Chapter 1, Section 1.3.3, is amended by deleting the second paragraph and replacing it with the following:

“Chapters 1 to 7, Tables 1 to 3, Schedules A to H, and the Glossary, constitute the *Region of Peel* Official Plan. Except as expressly noted in Policies 7.2.2.3 and 7.2.2.7, any changes, additions, or deletions to these elements will require an amendment to this Plan.”

2. Chapter 2, Section 2.1.1, is amended by adding the following after the first sentence in the fourth paragraph:

“These efforts contribute to ecological sustainability and a healthy environment for the residents of the Region. This is accomplished by promoting sustainable development in accordance with the policies of this Plan and through decisions that integrate social, economic, environmental and cultural considerations which affect the environment.”

3. Chapter 2, Section 2.1.1, is amended by adding the words “Provincial Policy Statement” and “Growth Plan for the Greater Golden Horseshoe (Places to

- Grow)” before the words “Niagara Escarpment Plan” in the last sentence of the fourth paragraph.
4. Chapter 2, Section 2.2.1.2 is amended by deleting the words “conserve and maintain” and replacing them with the words “conserve, restore and enhance”.
  5. Chapter 2, Section 2.2.2.1 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:  
  
“Study, recognize and protect the overall integrity of Peel’s ecosystems which are part of connected biotic (living) and abiotic (non-living) systems providing local and larger scale natural functions”.
  6. Chapter 2, Section 2.2.3 amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

### **“2.2.3 Air Quality**

Air quality is a significant issue which can negatively affect human health, the environment and economy. Peel is part of a Great Lakes Basin climatic system or airshed. Peel’s air quality is affected not only by local sources of air pollution, but also regional, national and international sources. Larger weather systems may flush out, bring in, or trap polluted air. On average, approximately fifty per cent of the air pollution experienced in Peel comes from sources in the United States. In addition, Peel’s emissions also affect our neighbours downwind.

Air pollution comes from a number of natural and man made sources which include industry, transportation, heating and cooling, dust and forest fires. Poor air quality affects everyone, including healthy individuals. Certain groups of people however, face a greater health risk from poor air quality and are referred to as vulnerable populations. These vulnerable populations include: children, seniors, people with allergies, asthma, heart and/or lung conditions and people who work or exercise outside.

Air has no boundaries and is constantly moving. The Region does not have the authority to regulate air emissions. However, the Region in conjunction with the area municipalities plays a significant role in creating healthier and sustainable communities. Air quality can be improved by the Region through the land use and infrastructure planning processes and through leadership in reducing emissions associated with corporate operations. Policies to improve air quality are also valuable in mitigating the effects of climate change, as both issues require changes to land use, minimizing use of fossil fuels, decreasing auto modal share and shifting towards alternative energy sources. Policies related to air quality are captured below. However, due to the interrelationships with other sections including transportation, energy and sustainability; policies to address air quality can also be found in other sections of the Official Plan.

**2.2.3.1 Goal**

To create healthier and sustainable communities by improving local air quality and reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

**2.2.3.2 Objectives**

- 2.2.3.2.1 To improve local air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- 2.2.3.2.2 To promote sustainable development and land use patterns which address public health, transportation systems, energy conservation and environmental concerns.

**2.2.3.3 Policies**

It is the policy of Regional Council to:

- 2.2.3.3.1 In consultation with the area municipalities, develop tools to assess the air quality implications of development that minimize adverse human health effects. These tools would be applied to but not limited to development applications and projects that may be insignificant by themselves, but cumulatively are significant.
- 2.2.3.3.2 Develop a multi-stakeholder air quality management plan to provide more detail on policies and strategies for reducing air pollution.
- 2.2.3.3.3 Raise awareness of local air quality issues and climate change through partnerships with all levels of government and the private sector.
- 2.2.3.3.4 In consultation with area municipalities and other levels of government, develop outreach programs to promote air quality and to encourage behaviour change in order to reduce air pollution.
- 2.2.3.3.5 Proactively engage all levels of government and the private sector to promote more health protective emissions standards for vehicles, industries and energy producing facilities.
- 2.2.3.3.6 Establish corporate targets for greenhouse gas emissions and air pollution reductions to improve local air quality and address climate change.
- 2.2.3.3.7 Support the development of area municipal official plan policies including, but not limited to, setbacks for residential developments, transportation corridors and the separation of sensitive land uses from both planned and existing sources of harmful emissions.

- 2.2.3.3.8 Monitor and model air quality to accurately establish local air emissions in Peel and report on the findings from the monitoring and modelling.”
7. Chapter 2, Section 2.3 is amended by adding the following new paragraph after the eighth paragraph:
- “The Regional Official Plan implements the Provincial Policy Statement’s (PPS) natural features policies through the Greenlands System’s Core Areas, Natural Areas and Corridors (NAC) and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors (PNAC) policy framework. Core Areas represent provincially and regionally significant features and areas and are considered a sub-set of what would be *significant* under the PPS. NAC and PNAC natural features and areas may also be evaluated and identified to be *significant* in *area municipal official plans* and through the local study process required during planning approvals in accordance with Regional, area municipal and provincial policy. Core, NAC and PNAC features and areas may also be identified and subject to policy in provincial plans. Where such features and areas coincide with features and areas identified in a provincial plan, the policies in the provincial plan shall also apply. Where the province has provided criteria for the identification of natural features, the provincial criteria shall apply, unless municipal criteria achieve or exceed the same objective in which case the municipal criteria will apply.”
8. Chapter 2, Section 2.3, tenth paragraph describing the elements of the Greenlands System in Peel, is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “The elements of the Greenlands System in *Peel* include *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)*, *Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas (ESAs)*, *Escarpment Natural Areas*, *Escarpment Protection Areas*, *fish and wildlife habitat*, *habitats of threatened and endangered species*, *wetlands*, *woodlands*, *valley and stream corridors*, *shorelines*, *natural lakes*, *natural corridors*, *groundwater recharge and discharge areas*, open space portions of the Parkway Belt West Plan, and other natural features and functional areas. These elements are to be interpreted, identified and protected in accordance with the policies of this Plan. Brief descriptions of the elements outlining their importance to the Greenlands System are provided below. Formal definitions are provided in the Glossary.
- Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest***
- Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSIs)* are areas of land and water containing natural landscapes or features that have been identified as having life science or earth science values related to protection, scientific study or education. ANSIs are evaluated and identified as either provincially or regionally significant by the Ministry of Natural Resources. Two types of ANSIs are identified: life science and earth science. Life science ANSIs are significant representative areas of Ontario’s biodiversity and natural landscapes. Earth science ANSIs contain significant representative examples of bedrock, fossil and

landform features which are important to the scientific understanding of ongoing geologic processes.

### ***Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas***

*Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas* (ESAs) are places where ecosystem functions or features warrant special protection. These may include, but are not limited to, rare or unique plant or animal populations or habitats, plant or animal communities, or concentrations of ecological functions.

*Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas* are identified by the conservation authorities according to their established criteria.

### ***Escarpment Natural Areas***

Escarpment Natural Areas include Escarpment slopes and related landforms in a relatively natural state; the most significant stream valleys and wetlands associated with the Escarpment, provincially *significant* life science ANSIs; and forested lands 300 metres back from the Escarpment brow. These areas are designated in the Niagara Escarpment Plan as Escarpment Natural Areas because they contain the most significant natural and scenic areas of the Escarpment.

### ***Escarpment Protection Areas***

Escarpment Protection Areas are important because of their visual prominence and their environmental significance. Included in this designation are Escarpment features that have been significantly modified by land use activities such as agriculture or residential development, land needed to buffer prominent Escarpment Natural Areas, and natural areas of regional significance.

### ***Fish Habitat and Wildlife Habitat***

*Fish habitat and wildlife habitat* are areas of the natural environment where plants, animals, fish and other organisms derive life support functions such as cover, protection, reproductive support, food and water. These habitats may be important on a year-round or seasonal basis. In addition to providing ecological functions that support species survival and biodiversity, *fish and wildlife habitat* contributes to the Region's economy and quality of life through wildlife-based tourism, wildlife viewing, nature appreciation, fishing and hunting. *Fish and wildlife habitat* that are afforded protection include *wetlands, woodlands, Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas, Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest, portions of the Niagara Escarpment and the Oak Ridges Moraine, and valley and stream corridors.*

### ***Habitats of Threatened and Endangered Species***

Habitats of *threatened and endangered species*, and other species of concern are habitats of those species which have been listed by the Ministry of Natural Resources as occurring in sufficiently low population numbers, restricted

geographic areas, or are sufficiently threatened by human activities, that their continued occurrence in Ontario is a matter of general conservation concern. The actual species falling into this category of conservation concern vary from region to region in the province, as well as over time, depending on ongoing research, recovery or mitigation efforts. Endangered and threatened species are listed in the Regulations under the provincial Endangered Species Act. Current lists of extirpated, endangered, threatened and special concern species are maintained by the Ministry of Natural Resources.

### ***Natural Corridors***

*Natural corridors* are lands that are naturally vegetated or that have the potential to be revegetated that connect, link or border natural features and areas and also provide ecological functions such as habitat, migration routes, hydrological flow, connections or buffering from adjacent impacts. Certain *woodlands*, waterbodies, watercourses, valleylands, riparian zones, shorelines, and portions of the Niagara Escarpment natural heritage system, and intervening lands function as *natural corridors* in the Greenlands System. *Natural corridors* on lands that are not vegetated, but have the potential to be revegetated to improve the integrity and function of the Greenlands System, are identified through the preparation of natural heritage studies in accordance with *area municipal official plan* policy.

### ***Shorelines***

The *shorelines* include bluffs and lands in immediate contact with, or in seasonally inundated areas adjacent to, lakes, rivers and streams. The *littoral zone* is the area along the shore of a lake from the water's edge into the water to a depth where there is a 2 percent loss of light at the bottom. Both the *shoreline* and *littoral zone* are important habitats at the boundary between terrestrial and aquatic *ecosystems*. Due to height and location, *shorelines* may in some instances also be associated with slope and/or erosion hazards. (Also see the definition of *Regulatory Shoreline* in the Glossary).

### ***Valley and Stream Corridors***

*Valley and stream corridors* are the natural resources associated with river systems and are characterized by their landform, features and functions, and include associated ravines. Valley corridors and their associated ravines are distinguished from stream corridors by the presence of a distinct landform. Due to the inherent hazards of valley lands they have remained mainly undeveloped and vegetated. *Valley and stream corridors* are natural linkages in the *landscape* having important ecological functions, providing habitat for fish and wildlife and acting as corridors for movement.

### ***Wetlands***

*Wetlands* perform many functions, including the provision of groundwater recharge and discharge, attenuating *flood* flows, trapping sediment, preventing

coastal, shoreline and bank erosion and providing wildlife habitat for a diversity of species. The four major types of wetlands are swamps, marshes, bogs and fens.

### **Woodlands**

*Woodlands* are complex *ecosystems* comprised of communities of trees, shrubs, ground vegetation and immediate environmental conditions on which they depend. *Woodlands* that provide a range of *ecosystem* functions including: attenuating *flood* flows; trapping air and water borne sediment; preventing erosion and stabilizing steep slopes; providing shade for cold water fisheries; enhancing *groundwater recharge areas*; providing habitat; and supporting species diversity. *Woodlands* are important because of their scarcity in *Peel* and the rest of the *Greater Toronto Area*. In addition to their ecological functions, woodlands are valued for their economic, social, and aesthetic benefits.”

9. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Core Areas” to the beginning of the section after Section 2.3.2.1.
10. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2, Clause a) is amended by deleting “provincially” and “(Class 1-3)”.
11. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2 is amended by adding the following new clause after Clause a) and by renumbering Clauses b) to g) as c) to h):  

“b) *significant coastal wetlands*”
12. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2, renumbered Clause c) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:  

“c) Core *woodlands* meeting one or more of the criteria in Table 1”
13. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2, renumbered Clause f) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:  

“f) *significant habitats of threatened and endangered species*”
14. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2, renumbered Clause h) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:  

“h) Core *valley and stream corridors* meeting one or more of the criteria in Table 2. The limit of Core *valley and stream corridors* shall be determined jointly with the area municipalities in consultation with relevant agencies in accordance with the definition in the Glossary of this Plan and the criteria in Table 2 to recognize the unique urban and rural character of the Region. Core *valley and stream corridors* include the main branches, *major tributaries* and other *tributaries* associated with the Credit River, the Etobicoke Creek, the Mimico Creek, the West Humber River and the Humber River and with the other identified watercourses draining directly

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to Lake Ontario; except for those portions in the Rural Service Centres and the rural settlements in the Rural System as designated in an *area municipal official plan*. These *valley and stream corridors* are continuous linkages connecting to other elements of the Greenlands System Core Areas.”

15. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.2 is amended by adding the attached Tables 1 and 2 at the end of the section.

16. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.3 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“Direct the area municipalities, in consultation with the conservation authorities, the Province and the Niagara Escarpment Commission, to include objectives and policies in their official plans for the interpretation, protection, *enhancement*, proper management and *stewardship* of the Core Areas of the Greenlands System in *Peel* which conform to the intent of this Plan, consistent with provincial policy, the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and the Greenbelt Plan, where applicable.”

17. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.5 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“Prohibit *development* and *site alterations* within the Core Areas of the Greenlands System in *Peel*, except for:

- a) forest, fish and wildlife management;
- b) conservation and flood or erosion control projects, but only if they have been demonstrated to be necessary in the public interest and after all reasonable alternatives have been considered;
- c) *essential infrastructure* exempted or authorized under an environmental assessment process;
- d) *passive recreation*;
- e) *minor development* and *minor site alteration*; and
- f) *existing uses, buildings or structures*; expansions to existing agricultural buildings and structures, single residential dwellings, and accessory uses, buildings and structures to both; new buildings and structures that are accessory to existing agricultural and residential uses; and a new single residential dwelling on an *existing lot of record*, provided that the dwelling would have been permitted by the applicable planning legislation or zoning by-law on the date of approval of this Plan.

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The above exceptions may be permitted through an approved *area municipal official plan* or the Niagara Escarpment Plan where applicable, in consultation with *the Region*, the conservation authorities, the Niagara Escarpment Commission and other relevant agencies, provided that the policies which permit such uses and activities are in conformity with the objectives and policies of this Plan.

The area municipalities are directed to adopt appropriate policies to allow the exceptions subject to it being demonstrated that:

- i) there is no alternative location outside of the Core Area and the use, *development* or *site alteration* is directed away from the Core Area feature to the greatest extent possible; and
- ii) the impact to the Core Area feature is minimized and any impact to the feature or its functions that cannot be avoided is mitigated through restoration or enhancement to the greatest extent possible.

Notwithstanding the above exceptions, no new *development* or *site alteration* shall be permitted within the *significant habitat of endangered and threatened species, significant wetlands* and *significant coastal wetlands* except as may be authorized in accordance with provincial legislation.”

18. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2 is amended by deleting Sections 2.3.2.7, 2.3.2.8 and 2.3.2.9 in their entirety and by renumbering Sections 2.3.2.10 to 2.3.2.19 as 2.3.2.7 to 2.3.2.16.
19. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.7 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:  
  
“Allow the continuation of *existing agricultural uses* in accordance with *normal farm practices* within the Greenlands System.”
20. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.8 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Natural Areas and Corridors” to the beginning of the section after renumbered Section 2.3.2.7.
21. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.8, Clause a) is amended by deleting the words “Class 4 to 7 wetlands” and replacing them with “evaluated non-provincially significant wetlands”.
22. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.8, clause b) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with following:  
  
“NAC *woodlands* meeting one or more of the criteria in Table 1”
23. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.8 is amended by adding the following new clauses after Clause b) and by renumbering clauses c) to g) as f) to j):

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- “c) *significant wildlife habitat* meeting one or more of the criteria in Figure 5”
  - “d) regionally significant life science *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest*”
  - “e) provincially significant earth science *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest*”
24. Chapter 2, renumbered Clause 2.3.2.8 g) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “any other *valley and stream corridors* that have not been defined as part of the Core Areas”
25. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.9 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Potential Natural Areas and Corridors” to the beginning of the section after renumbered Section 2.3.2.8.
26. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.9 is amended by renumbering the reference to Section 2.3.2.11 (g) as 2.3.2.8 (i).
27. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.9, is amended by adding the following new clause after Clause a) and by renumbering clauses b) to i) as c) to j):
- “b) *cultural woodlands and cultural savannahs within the Urban System and Rural Service Centres meeting one or more of the criteria in Table 1. The evaluation of cultural woodlands and cultural savannahs is also subject to policy 2.3.2.18.*”
28. Chapter 2, renumbered Clause 2.3.2.9 c) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “any other woodlands greater than 0.5 hectares (1.24 acres)”
29. Chapter 2, renumbered Clause 2.3.2.9 d) is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “regionally significant earth science *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest*”
30. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.9, clause f) is amended by deleting it in its entirety and by renumbering clauses g) to j) as f) to i).
31. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.10 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Direct the area municipalities, in consultation with the conservation authorities, and the Niagara Escarpment Commission, to include objectives and policies in their official plans for the interpretation, protection, *restoration, enhancement,*

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- proper management and stewardship of the Natural Areas and Corridors and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors which conform to the intent of this Plan, consistent with provincial policy, the Niagara Escarpment Plan, the Greenbelt Plan, and local considerations, where applicable.”
32. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.12 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Wetlands” to the beginning of the section after renumbered Section 2.3.2.11.
33. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.14 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Valley and Stream Corridors” to the beginning of the section after renumbered Section 2.3.2.13.
34. Chapter 3, renumbered Section 2.3.2.15 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Direct the area municipalities, in consultation with the conservation authorities, to continue to refine the boundaries of *valley and stream corridors*; establish setbacks and buffers for watercourses, and valley and stream corridors; and define headwater areas through subwatershed or broad scale environmental studies. Alterations to valley and stream corridors identified as Natural Areas and Corridors may be considered subject to recommendations in a subwatershed or broad scale environmental study and on the basis of detailed site specific environmental, engineering or planning studies and field work where such alterations contribute to the overall enhancement of the Greenlands System.”
35. Chapter 2, renumbered Section 2.3.2.16 is amended by deleted it and replacing it with the following:
- “Permit the following within Core valley and stream corridors unless an area municipal official plan is more restrictive than the Regional Official Plan:
- i) compatible active *recreation* within the Urban System as shown on Schedule D;
  - ii) *development* permitted within approved Two Zone and *Special Policy Area* flood plains; and
  - iii) new *agricultural, agricultural-related* and *secondary uses*, buildings and structures,
- These exceptions may be permitted within Core valley and stream corridors except within *significant wetlands* and *significant habitat of endangered and threatened species*; and except within other *significant* natural features unless it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural features or their ecological functions.”
36. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2 is amended by adding the following new sections and sub-heading after renumbered Section 2.3.2.16:

### **“Woodlands**

- 2.3.2.17 Direct the area municipalities to interpret *woodlands* to include plantations except where a more detailed environmental study has demonstrated that the plantation does not exhibit the characteristics necessary to satisfy the definition of *woodlands* in this Plan, in which case, the plantation shall not be considered to be a *woodland* for the purposes of this Plan.
- 2.3.2.18 Direct the area municipalities to interpret woodlands to include *cultural woodlands* and *cultural savannahs*. The interpretation, significance and level of protection of *cultural woodlands* and *cultural savannahs* shall be determined in accordance with the criteria in Table 1. Within the Urban System and Rural Service Centres, as shown on Schedule D, the significance and protection of these woodlands will require an additional evaluation through natural heritage studies required by the area municipalities in consultation with relevant agencies to evaluate and confirm the quality and function of the woodlands. *Cultural woodlands* and *cultural savannahs* within the Urban System and Rural Service Centres that are confirmed to have ecological values that contribute to the *integrity* and function of the Greenlands System are to be identified and protected in accordance with the policies of this Plan.
- 2.3.2.19 Direct the area municipalities to include or develop criteria and thresholds for woodlands identified as Natural Areas and Corridors and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors in accordance with the criteria in Table 1 and to consider criteria and thresholds based on environmental, physiographic, social and economic factors.”
37. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2.20 is amended by adding the sub-heading “Landforms” to the beginning of the section after new Section 2.3.2.19.
38. Chapter 2, Section 2.3.2 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 2.3.2.21:

### **“Environmental Impact Studies**

- 2.3.2.22 Direct the area municipalities to require environmental impact studies for *development and site alteration* within and on *adjacent lands* to the Greenlands System and to include policies in their official plans that *development and site alteration* shall not be permitted unless the ecological functions of the adjacent lands have been evaluated and it has been demonstrated that there will be no negative impacts on the natural feature or its functions or the requirements of Section 2.3.2.5 have been satisfied.

This requirement for environmental impact studies may be reduced if detailed development criteria have been applied to a site through

a subwatershed study, a comprehensive environmental impact study, or if an appropriate scoping exercise has been completed by the area municipality in consultation with the relevant agencies.”

39. Chapter 2, Section 2.4.4 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 2.4.4.2.4:

“2.4.4.2.5 Direct the area municipalities to obtain the necessary approvals from the Province prior to establishing a new Special Policy Area or prior to making any revision to the site-specific policies or boundaries applying to an existing Special Policy Area.”

40. Chapter 2, Section 2.5.2.5 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“Encourage the area municipalities to restore and enhance the natural heritage features and functions within the Parkway Belt West Plan Area.”

41. Chapter 2, Section 2.5.2 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 2.5.2.8:

“2.5.2.9 Work *jointly* with the agencies and area municipalities to develop urban forest strategies and to encourage and support programs and initiatives that maintain and enhance the urban forest canopy.”

42. Chapter 2, Section 2.5 is amended by adding the following after Section 2.5.2:

### **“2.5.3 Invasive Species Management**

A major issue facing natural heritage management within the Region is the threat of non-native species invading woodlands, wetlands and other natural areas. If left unmanaged, invasive species pose a risk to the ecological integrity of the Region’s natural areas through the displacement of native species and the subsequent alteration to the genetic diversity and structure of local native species populations.

#### **2.5.3.1 Objective**

To minimize the impacts of invasive species through the proper management and control of non-native invasive species to promote native species plantings in the Region.

#### **2.5.3.2 Policies**

It is the policy of *Regional Council* to:

- 2.5.3.2.1 Acknowledge and support the role of the area municipalities, conservation authorities, provincial agencies and conservation organizations in carrying out invasive species management.
- 2.5.3.2.2 Support and encourage the area municipalities in consultation with the conservation authorities to develop policies and programs that require or promote measures to eliminate and/or manage non-native invasive species and discourage the use of non-native invasive species plantings in new developments adjacent to the Greenlands System.
- 2.5.3.2.3 Encourage the use of native species plantings at Regional and municipal facilities and along transportation and utility corridors and, wherever feasible and appropriate, include native species plantings along Regional roads and on properties owned by the Region.”

43. Chapter 2 is amended by adding the following after Section 2.5:

**“2.6 GREENLANDS MANAGEMENT AND STEWARDSHIP**

Active management, *securement* and *stewardship* of the Regional Greenlands System are necessary to ensure the sustainability and ecological integrity of its natural heritage features and areas. Greenlands *securement* involves the protection of natural heritage features and functions through a range of tools, including planning policy, *stewardship*, monitoring and land acquisition. *Stewardship* is a key component of the Region’s natural heritage policy framework which promotes voluntary action and cooperative planning by organizations, communities and residents to protect, restore and enhance the Region’s environment and resources.

2.6.1 Objective

To protect, restore and enhance the natural environment in Peel through Greenlands management, *securement* and *stewardship* opportunities in cooperation and partnership with area municipalities, conservation authorities, provincial agencies and conservation organizations.

2.6.2 Policies

It is the policy of *Regional Council* to:

- 2.6.2.1 Support Greenlands *securement* initiatives in Peel through planning policy, *stewardship*, monitoring and land acquisition;
- 2.6.2.2 Acknowledge and support the role of the area municipalities, conservation authorities, provincial agencies and conservation

organizations in carrying out *stewardship* programs for natural heritage.

- 2.6.2.3 Implement Greenlands *securement* strategies, programs and actions including *stewardship* that directly support Regional policy goals and objectives.
- 2.6.2.4 Work with the area municipalities, conservation authorities and other agencies to leverage funding from various sources for Greenlands *securement*.
- 2.6.2.5 Support the *securement* of natural areas through planning policy, *stewardship* and monitoring before land acquisition is considered.
- 2.6.2.6 Encourage environmental education to support land stewardship and to promote the value of natural heritage conservation to residents.
- 2.6.2.7 Support the area municipalities and conservation authorities to encourage landowners and applicants for development and site alteration to support the Region's Greenlands *securement* efforts by enhancing lands adjacent to the Greenlands System in Peel.
- 2.6.2.8 Research and consider other incentives for the *securement* of natural heritage features and areas including tax rebates, incentive payments and cost-shared *stewardship* programs."

44. Chapter 3, Section 3.1.2 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

"To protect, manage and utilize the renewable and non-renewable resources of *Peel* in an efficient manner that conserves and *protects* environmental features and functions, and the character of rural *Peel* including its social, cultural heritage, *community* and economic aspects."

45. Chapter 3, Section 3.2, is amended by deleting the words "outside the urban area" in the third sentence of the first paragraph and by adding the following new paragraph after the first paragraph:

"The agricultural industry is diversifying to include, in addition to primary production, a *value added chain*, as well as health and nutrition, sustainability, environmental management and conservation themes. Support for farming operations in Peel will contribute to building a stronger agricultural industry, bringing benefits to those communities that depend on the industry as well as the larger society. In this regard, the policies aim to promote within the Region's new sustainability framework, an increased and diversified production of healthier local produce to improve health, mitigate climate change and strengthen the

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- Regional economy The Region supports the continuation of a thriving and viable agricultural industry in Peel including diversification, agricultural innovation and new practices in all aspects of the industry.”
46. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.1.1 is amended by adding the words “for long-term use for agriculture” after the words “Prime Agricultural Area”.
47. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.1.2 is amended by adding the words “the loss and” after the words “or result in”.
48. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.1.3 is amended by adding the word “diversified” before the word “healthy”.
49. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.1 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 3.2.1.3:
- “3.2.1.4 To work in cooperation with the Town of Caledon to increase and support diversification in local farming as a source of local food supply.”
50. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2.3 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Require compliance with the minimum distance separation formulae in the Prime Agricultural Area.”
51. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2.4 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Encourage, where appropriate, the phasing of development in accordance with the area municipal plans so that agricultural activities and related uses continue for as long as practical in the area that lies within the 2031 Regional Urban Boundary but outside the Greenbelt in the City of Brampton, and within the approved boundaries of the Rural Service Centres in the Town of Caledon.”
52. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2.7 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Direct the Town of Caledon, in its official plan, to designate and protect the *Prime Agricultural Area* as shown on Schedule B.”
53. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2.8 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- Direct the Town of Caledon in its official plan to allow in the *Prime Agricultural Area*, *primary agricultural uses*, and where deemed appropriate by the municipality, *secondary uses* and *agriculture-related uses*; provided all new uses are limited in scale and compatible with surrounding agricultural activity, meet the

- requirements of the minimum distance separation formulae, and the Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan.”
54. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2 is amended by adding the following new sections after Section 3.2.2.8 and by renumbering Sections 3.2.2.9 to 3.2.2.12 as 3.2.2.11 to 3.2.2.14:
- “3.2.2.9 Support the Region’s long-term economic prosperity by promoting the sustainability of the agri-food sector and by protecting agricultural resources and minimizing land use conflicts.”
- 3.2.2.10 Promote agricultural opportunities such as niche markets and community gardens of suitable scale that are compatible with the adjacent urban land uses within near-urban and urban areas to supply local markets, support health and protect the environment.”
55. Chapter 3, renumbered Section 3.2.2.11 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Direct the Town of Caledon, in the Prime Agricultural Area, only to permit a non-residential use, subject to an *area municipal official plan* amendment and provided that:
- a) there are no reasonable alternative locations which avoid the *Prime Agricultural Area*;
  - b) there are no reasonable alternative locations in the *Prime Agricultural Area* with lower priority agricultural lands;
  - c) there is a demonstrated need for the use, which has been justified in the context of applicable growth management policies;
  - d) impacts from any new non-residential use on surrounding agricultural operations and lands are minimal or will be satisfactorily mitigated.
- This policy may not be used to address a proposal that has the effect of adjusting the 2031 Rural Service Centre boundary. Such applications must continue to be addressed in the context of Section 7.9 of this Plan.”
56. Chapter 3, renumbered Section 3.2.2.12 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Direct the Town of Caledon, in its official plan, to recognize in the *Prime Agricultural Area* existing non-residential uses, the residential use of existing and approved vacant severed lots, and the residential use of lots that may be approved in accordance with this Plan and applicable Provincial policies.”
57. Chapter 3, renumbered Section 3.2.2.14 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

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- “3.2.2.14 Encourage greater diversity of permitted uses, such as secondary uses and agriculture-related uses within prime agricultural areas, and value-added industries such as agricultural research institutes, feed mills and fertilizer depots to aid the farm industry, and to maintain the cultural heritage and way of life of the farming community.”
58. Chapter 3, Section 3.2.2 is amended by adding the following new sections after renumbered Section 3.2.2.14:
- “3.2.2.15 Investigate with the area municipalities, stakeholders and in consultation with the Province, the objective of providing financial incentives to farmers for the provision, protection and enhancement of *ecological goods and services*.
- 3.2.2.16 Investigate with the area municipalities and the Province, the need, feasibility and implications of a land taxation system that provides financial incentives to farmers to continue farming.
- 3.2.2.17 Investigate with the area municipalities and the Province, various supplementary and financial options and incentives to make it attractive to farmers to keep their lands in agricultural production and allow greater flexibility to have a variety of on-farm secondary or agriculture-related secondary uses.
- 3.2.2.18 Investigate with the area municipalities, the challenges and emerging needs of near urban agriculture including: complaints from non-farm residents about farm practices; problems regarding movement of farm equipment on congested roads; the adequacy of infrastructure; farm parcel sizes; the shortage of rental land or lack of affordable land to purchase; and trespassing.
- 3.2.2.19 Encourage area municipalities to consider the development of viable advanced technologies as necessary where appropriate, to promote year-round agricultural production of ethnic and market garden fresh fruits and vegetables for the local fresh market trades.
- 3.2.2.20 Prohibit the Town of Caledon, in its’ official plan, from permitting lot creation and lot adjustments in the Prime Agricultural Area, unless it is consistent with the Provincial policies.”
59. Chapter 4, Section 4.2.2.1, Table 1, Population and Employment Forecasts for Peel is amended by renumbering it as Table 3, and by replacing all references to “Table 1” throughout the text with “Table 3”.
60. Chapter 6, Section 6.4 is amended by deleting the first paragraph and replacing it with the following:
- “The municipal *waste* generated in *Peel* is managed by means of reuse, recycling, composting, incineration and landfill. In keeping with the sustainability

theme of this Plan (environmental, social, economic, and cultural imperatives) *the Region* promotes reductions in material consumption and *waste* generation, and the recognition of *waste* as a valuable resource that, if fully utilized, can have minimal negative impacts on the environment. *The Region* will continue to focus on reduction, reuse, and recycling programs (3Rs), examine and implement *waste* management alternatives that recover resources from the residual waste stream, explore the resource potential of *waste*, strive for a cost-effective *waste* management system, and recognize waste as a valuable source of alternative energy. *Waste* will be managed so as to minimize environmental impacts and emphasize the responsibility of *waste* generators to reduce the amount and type of *waste* generated and bear the costs of collection and management.”

61. Chapter 6, Section 6.4 is amended by deleting the second paragraph and replacing it with the following:

“*Peel* is also committed to maintaining the Long Term Waste Resource Management Strategy to meet the needs of citizens and businesses.”

62. Chapter 6, Section 6.4 is amended by deleting the third and fourth sentences and by deleting the second sentence in the last paragraph and replacing it with the following:

“The Caledon landfill site is the only active public landfill site in *Peel*.”

63. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.1.2 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“To promote the integration of the principle and hierarchy of reduction, reuse, and recycling into the decision making of residents, including consumers, businesses, and governments.”

64. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.1 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 6.4.1.2 and by renumbering Section 6.4.1.3 as Section 6.4.1.4:

“To maximize the recovery of resources from residential and non-residential residual *waste* prior to landfill.”

65. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.1.3 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“To establish and maintain an environmentally responsible and cost-effective system for managing municipal solid *waste*, including *municipal hazardous or special waste*, generated within *Peel Region*.”

66. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2.1 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

- “Maintain, in cooperation with the area municipalities, the Long Term Waste Resource Management Strategy to achieve the *waste* management objectives by focusing on reduction, reuse, and recycling programs, and recovering resources of residual waste prior to landfill.”
67. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2.2 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following
- “Actively encourage, promote and support the efforts of government, the area municipalities, the private sector and the general public which reduce waste, or emphasize reuse, recycling, composting and other minimization options including extended producer responsibility.”
68. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2.3 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Require new *development* to comply with the Peel Waste Collection Design Standards Manual to ensure safe and efficient *waste* collection and diversion through consultation with the area municipalities and applicants.”
69. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2.4 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Require the area municipalities to develop, review, and amend official plan policies to permit waste facilities, including processing and storage in appropriate locations so that the policies do not present unreasonable barriers to development of waste facilities.”
70. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2.5 is amended by deleting the word “disposal” and replacing it with the word “management”.
71. Chapter 6, Section 6.4.2 is amended by deleting Sections 6.4.2.6 to 6.4.2.15 and replacing them with the following new sections and sub-headings after Section 6.4.2.5:
- “6.4.2.6 In partnership with the area municipalities, use *procurement* as a method to promote *source reduction* through the significant purchasing power of the Region and the area municipalities.
- 6.4.2.7 Develop specifications where possible for all Regionally funded projects to incorporate materials from *waste* diversion programs where viable to help create stable, sustainable markets for materials from Regional diversion programs.
- 6.4.2.8 Encourage the area municipalities to require developers and contractors to incorporate materials from *waste* diversion programs into construction projects where practical.

### **Energy from Waste**

- 6.4.2.9 Recognize energy from *waste* facilities and other technologies as options for recovering resources from residual *waste* generated within *Peel Region* prior to landfill.
- 6.4.2.10 Maximize to the extent reasonably practical, the recovery of resources from the *waste* stream such as extracting energy from the residual *waste* stream prior to final disposal.
- 6.4.2.11 Monitor and evaluate technology developments and consider options for recovering energy from *waste* on an on-going basis.
- 6.4.2.12 Request the provincial government to recognize energy from waste as a method of waste diversion to ensure that the maximum resources are extracted from all municipal waste prior to final disposal.
- 6.4.2.13 Encourage the area municipalities to develop guidelines to permit energy from waste facilities in appropriate locations.

#### **Industrial, Commercial & Institutional Waste and Construction & Demolition Waste**

- 6.4.2.14 Encourage the area municipalities to use their authority to issue site approvals and building permits as a means to require materials generated at construction and demolition sites to be diverted and reused.
- 6.4.2.15 Develop *procurement* specifications where possible for all new construction and demolition projects which the Region funds to maximize diversion and reuse requirements and encourage the reuse of construction materials through economic and other incentives.
- 6.4.2.16 Encourage the area municipalities to adopt *procurement* specifications for maximizing diversion and reuse of construction and demolition *waste* for all new construction and demolition projects which the area municipalities fund. Economic and other incentives should be considered to encourage high reuse of construction and demolition *waste*.
- 6.4.2.17 Explore and consider options to address industrial, commercial and institutional waste diversion such as mandatory recycling plans, pay-as-you-throw, and waste hauler reporting programs.

#### **Intensification**

- 6.4.2.18 Consider economic and policy tools for all multi-residential buildings to encourage *waste* diversion.

### **Partnerships and Collaboration**

- 6.4.2.19 When exploring the development of new waste management infrastructure, consider potential partnerships with neighbouring municipalities and private industry. The partnership can involve a contribution of land, capital, or a commitment to tonnage which will improve the economics of a new facility.

### **Maintaining Existing and Closed Landfill Sites**

- 6.4.2.20 Recognize the Caledon landfill site, as shown on Figure 10 of the Appendix, as the only active landfill site in *Peel Region*.
- 6.4.2.21 Maintain the operating landfill site in a manner which protects the environment, public health and adjacent land uses.
- 6.4.2.22 View the use of land for landfill during the operational life of the site as an interim land use, until such time the landfill is deemed by the Ministry of the Environment and *Regional Council* to be closed and the land is suitable for other uses.
- 6.4.2.23 Review proposed *development* in proximity to the Caledon landfill site for consistency with the objectives and policies in this Plan, the Town of Caledon Official Plan, and any applicable provincial legislation, policies, standards and guidelines.
- 6.4.2.24 Carefully manage those closed landfill sites which *the Region* owns and rehabilitate them to appropriate uses, determined *jointly* with the area municipalities.
- 6.4.2.25 Direct the area municipalities to develop policies for development including land use compatibility within or on lands in close proximity to active and closed waste management facilities including landfills.”
72. Chapter 7, Section 7.2.2.1 is amended by deleting the reference to “Table 1” and replacing it with the word “tables”.
73. Chapter 7, Section 7.2.2.2 is amended by deleting the reference to “Table 1” and replacing it with “tables”.
74. Chapter 7, Section 7.2.2.3 is amended by adding the following after the first sentence:
- “The boundaries of the Core Areas of the Greenlands System shown on Schedule A are intended to be general in nature. More detailed mapping of the Core Areas of the Greenlands System will be provided in the area municipal official plans and will be further determined on a site specific basis through studies, as may be required by the area municipalities through the local planning

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- approval process, in consultation with the Region and relevant agencies. Due to the general nature of the Core Areas boundaries on Schedule A, an amendment to the Plan is not required for minor boundary adjustments to the Core Areas of the Greenlands System as determined through required studies or field investigations.”
75. Chapter 7, Section 7.6.2.10 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “Work collaboratively with the area municipalities, conservation authorities, neighbouring municipalities, other government agencies, stakeholders and the public to review the Region’s natural heritage systems policy framework; identify policy gaps; and develop a Regional Greenlands Strategy outlining tools, actions and resources to address future natural heritage systems planning needs in the Region, including:
- a) development of a workplan describing the project organization and management, process, consultation methods and intended outcomes to be endorsed by Regional Council;
  - b) the need to identify a Regional natural heritage system based on modelling which considers the Region’s future ecological requirements and targets;
  - c) the consideration of natural heritage systems studies, watershed plans and tools being completed by the conservation authorities and Province; and
  - d) the consideration of approaches contained in existing natural heritage systems within the Region including the Greenlands System, Niagara Escarpment Plan, Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan and Greenbelt Plan and area municipal official plans.”
76. Chapter 7, Section 7.6.2.12 and Section 7.6.2.15 are amended by deleting them in their entirety and by renumbering all subsequent sections accordingly.
77. Chapter 7, Section 7.6.2 is amended by adding the following new section after Section 7.6.2.16 and by renumbering all subsequent sections accordingly:
- “7.6.2.17 Undertake jointly with the Town of Caledon, a Land Evaluation Area Review (LEAR) to ensure the protection of the *Prime Agricultural Area* for long-term use for agriculture and to undertake research with the Town to review and assess the application of the Minimum Distance Separation (MDS) formulae in Peel.”
78. Chapter 7, Section 7.9.2.8 is amended by adding the following new clause after renumbered Clause c) and by renumbering all subsequent clauses accordingly:

- “d) Impacts from new or expanding settlement areas on agricultural operations which are adjacent or close to the settlement area, and if impacts are identified, the analysis is to identify mitigation of the impacts to the greatest extent feasible.”
- b. Amendments to Glossary
79. The Glossary definition of “adjacent lands” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “**Adjacent lands:** those lands contiguous to a specific natural heritage feature or area where it is likely that development or site alteration may have a negative impact on the feature or area. The extent of the adjacent lands may be recommended by the Province or based on municipal approaches which achieve the same objectives.”
80. The Glossary definition of “agriculture-related uses” has been deleted and replaced with the following:
- “**Agriculture-related uses:** those farm-related commercial and farm-related industrial uses that are small scale and directly related to the farm operation and are required in close proximity to the farm operation.”
81. The Glossary definition of “areas of natural and scientific interest” is amended by adding the words “and regional” after the word “provincial”.
82. The Glossary definition of “development” is amended by deleting “the subdivision of land” and replacing it with “means the creation of a new lot, a change in land use”.
83. The Glossary definition of “fish and wildlife habitat” is amended by deleting it in its entirety.
84. The Glossary definition of “flood plain” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- “**Flood plain:** for river, stream and small inland lake systems, the area, usually low lands adjoining a watercourse which has been, or may be covered by flood water subject to flooding hazards.”
85. The Glossary definition of “infrastructure” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:
- Infrastructure:** physical structures (facilities and corridors) that form the foundation for development. Infrastructure includes: sewage and water systems, stormwater management works, septage treatment systems, waste management systems, electric power generation and transmission, communications, telecommunications, transit and transportation corridors and facilities, oil and gas pipelines and associated facilities.”

86. The Glossary definition of “municipal hazardous waste” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

**“Municipal hazardous or special waste:** has the same meaning as in the Waste Diversion Act, 2002, Ontario Regulation 542106 Municipal Hazardous or Special Waste.”

87. The Glossary definition of “municipal special waste” is amended by deleting it in its entirety.

88. The Glossary definition of “prime agricultural uses” has been amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

**“Primary agricultural uses:** the growing of crops, including nursery and horticultural crops; raising of livestock; raising of other animals for food, fur or fibre, including poultry and fish; aquaculture; apiaries; agro-forestry; maple syrup production; and associated on-farm buildings and structures, including accommodation for full-time farm labour when the size and nature of the operation requires additional employment.”

89. The Glossary definition of “protect” is amended by adding the words “areas including their ecological” after the words “natural features and”.

90. The Glossary definition of “provincially significant wetland” is amended by deleting it in its entirety.

91. The Glossary definition of “significant” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

**“Significant:** means:

- a) in regard to wetlands, coastal wetlands and areas of natural and scientific interest, an area identified as provincially significant by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time;
- b) in regard to the habitat of endangered species and threatened species, means the habitat, as approved by the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, that is necessary for the maintenance, survival, and/or the recovery of naturally occurring or reintroduced populations of endangered species or threatened species, and where those areas of occurrence are occupied or habitually occupied by the species during all or any part(s) of its life cycle;
- c) in regard to woodlands, an area which is ecologically important in terms of features such as species composition, age of trees and stand history; functionally important due to its contribution to the broader landscape because of its location, size or due to the amount of forest cover in the

planning area; or economically important due to site quality, species composition, or past management history;

- d) in regard to other features and areas, ecologically important in terms of features, functions, representation or amount, and contributing to the quality and diversity of an identifiable geographic area or natural heritage system;
- e) in regard to mineral potential, means an area identified as provincially significant through comprehensive studies prepared using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time, such as the Provincially Significant Mineral Potential Index;
- f) in regard to potential for petroleum resources, means an area identified as provincially significant through comprehensive studies prepared using evaluation procedures established by the Province, as amended from time to time; and
- g) in regard to cultural heritage and archaeology, resources that are valued for the important contribution they make to our understanding of the history of a place, an event, or a people.

Criteria for determining significance for the resources identified in clauses (c) to (g) are recommended by the Province, but municipal approaches that achieve or exceed the same objective may also be used.”

92. The Glossary definition of “site alteration” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

**“Site alteration:** activities, such as grading, excavation and the placement of fill that would change the landform and natural vegetative characteristics of a site.”

93. The Glossary definition of “special policy area” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

**“Special policy area:** an area within a *community* that has historically existed in the *flood plain* and where site specific policies, approved by both the Ministers of Natural Resources and Municipal Affairs and Housing, are intended to provide for the continued viability of existing uses (which are generally on a small scale) and address the significant social and economic hardships to the *community* that would result from strict adherence to provincial policies concerning *development*. The criteria and procedures for approval are established by the Province. A *Special Policy Area* is not intended to allow for new or intensified development and site alteration, if a community has feasible opportunities for development outside the *flood plain*.”

94. The Glossary definition of “valley and stream corridor” is amended by deleting “The limit of *valley and stream corridors* shall be determined, jointly with the area municipalities, on a site specific basis by the conservation authorities.”

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95. The Glossary definition of “vulnerable, threatened and endangered Species” is amended by deleting it in its entirety.
96. The Glossary definition of “waste” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“**Waste:** includes anything discarded for collection from any source and litter.”

97. The Glossary definition of “wetlands” is amended by adding the following after the last sentence:

“Periodically soaked or wet lands being used for agricultural purposes which no longer exhibit wetland characteristics are not considered to be wetlands for the purposes of this definition.”

98. The Glossary definition of “woodlands” is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the following:

“**Woodlands:** complex *ecosystems* comprising communities of trees, shrubs, ground vegetation and the immediate biotic and abiotic environmental conditions on which they depend. *Woodlands* provide environmental and economic benefits to both the private landowner and the general public, such as erosion prevention, hydrological and nutrient cycling, the provision of clean air and the long-term storage of carbon, the provision of wildlife habitat, outdoor recreational opportunities, and the sustainable harvest of a wide range of woodland products. *Woodlands* include treed areas, woodlots, naturalized plantations and forested areas and may also contain remnants of old growth forests.

*Woodlands* are further defined as any area greater than 0.5 ha that has:

- a) a tree crown cover of over 60% of the ground, determinable from aerial photography, or
- b) a tree crown cover of over 25% of the ground, determinable from aerial photography, together with on-ground stem estimates of at least:
  - 1,000 trees of any size per hectare, or
  - 750 trees measuring over five centimetres in diameter, per hectare, or
  - 250 trees measuring over 20 centimetres in diameter, per hectare (densities based on the Forestry Act of Ontario 1998)

Treed portions with less than the required stocking level will be considered part of the woodland as long as the combination of all treed units in the overall connected treed area meets the required stocking level. Woodlands experiencing changes such as harvesting, blowdown or other tree mortality are

still considered woodlands. Such changes are considered temporary whereby the forest still retains its long-term ecological value.

And, which have a minimum average width of 40 metres or more measured to crown edges.

*Woodlands* include *cultural woodlands*, *cultural savannahs* and naturalized plantations and exclude plantations that are:

- a) managed for production of fruits, nuts, Christmas trees or nursery stock;
- b) managed for tree products with an average rotation of less than 20 years (e.g. hybrid willow or poplar); or
- c) established and continuously managed for the sole purpose of complete removal at rotation, as demonstrated with documentation acceptable to the Region or area municipality, without a woodland restoration objective.”

99. The Glossary is amended by adding the following new definitions:

**Active farming:** farmers engaged in on-going farming that can be clearly substantiated and demonstrated.

**Agri-food sector:** sector of the economy involved in the production, processing, assembly and sale of agriculture goods and services.

**Confluence:** the point where two or more water bodies meet.

**Cultural savannahs:** a treed vegetation community originating from, or maintained by, anthropogenic influences and culturally based disturbances; often containing a large proportion of non-native species and having 25 to 35% cover of coniferous or deciduous trees. Cultural savannahs may be second or third growth woodlands that occur on land where the forest was completely or partially removed at various points in time. These woodlands vary in composition and quality depending on the length of time that the forest has been re-establishing, the nature and duration of the land use while it was cleared, and the underlying environmental characteristics such as soil type, moisture, exposure and seed bank all of which influence natural succession processes and species composition.”

**Cultural woodlands:** a treed vegetation community originating from, or maintained by, anthropogenic influences and culturally based disturbances; often containing a large proportion of non-native species and having 35 to 60% cover of coniferous or deciduous trees. Cultural woodlands may be second or third growth woodlands that occur on land where the forest was completely or partially removed at various points in time. These woodlands vary in composition and quality depending on the length of time that the forest has been re-establishing, the nature and duration of the land use while it was cleared, and the underlying environmental characteristics such as soil type, moisture, exposure and seed

bank all of which influence natural succession processes and species composition.

**Ecological goods and services (EG&S):** are the benefits which accrue to all living organisms resulting from the ecological functions of healthy ecosystems. Ecological goods and services include clean air, and abundant fresh water, maintenance of biodiversity, and provide for health, social, cultural, and economic needs. The products and processes of ecological goods and services are complex and occur over long periods of time.

**Endangered species:** a species that is listed or categorized as an “Endangered Species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time.

**Essential:** necessary to the public interest after all reasonable alternatives have been considered.

**Existing lot of record:** a lot held under distinct and separate ownership from all abutting lots as shown by a registered conveyance in the records of the Land Registry office at the date of approval of this Plan.

**Existing use, building or structure:** a use, building or structure that lawfully existed on the date of approval of this Plan. For further clarity, an existing use is interpreted to include only the currently occupied limits of the use as it existed on the date of approval of this Plan.

**Fish habitat:** spawning grounds and nursery, rearing, food supply, and migration areas on which fish depend directly or indirectly in order to carry out their life processes.

**Greenlands securement:** the protection of natural heritage features and areas through a range of tools including, but not limited to planning policy, stewardship, monitoring and land acquisition.

**Invasive species:** are plants, animals and micro-organisms that spread when introduced outside of their natural distribution and cause serious and often irreversible damage to ecosystems, the economy and society.

**Land acquisition:** the transfer of interest in title of land through a variety of means such as fee simple purchase, conservation easements and land donations.

**Major tributaries:** are tributaries having direct confluence with the Credit River, Etobicoke Creek, Mimico Creek, West Humber River and the Humber River.

**Minor site alteration:** site alteration, which due to its scale or intensity, can demonstrate no significant incremental or cumulative impacts on the landform, features or ecological functions of the Greenlands System in Peel, as set out in further detail in the *area municipal official plans*.

**Minimum distance separation formulae:** formulae developed by the Province to separate uses so as to reduce incompatibility concerns about odour from livestock facilities.

**Normal farm practice:** a practice, as defined in the Farming and Food Production Protection Act, 1998, that is conducted in a manner consistent with proper and acceptable customs and standards as established and followed by similar agricultural operations under similar circumstances; or makes use of innovative technology in a manner consistent with proper advanced farm management practices. Normal farm practices shall be consistent with the Nutrient Management Act, 2002 and regulations made under that Act.

**Plantation:** a treed community in which the majority of trees have been planted or the majority of the basal area is in trees that have been planted, often characterized by regularly spaced rows. With time and forest management, natural regeneration can become established and eventually convert the community to natural forest.

**Procurement:** preferable goods and services that have a lesser or reduced impact on the environment over the life cycle of the good or service, when compared with competing goods and services serving the same purpose.

**Significant feature:** for the purpose of applying criteria for the identification of Core and Natural Area and Corridor (NAC) *woodlands*, all *wetlands*; all life science *Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest* (regionally and provincially significant); all *Core valley and stream corridors*, *Environmentally Sensitive or Significant Areas* (ESAs), and Core and NAC *woodlands* that satisfy the size criterion (*i.e.*, *woodlands* that are identified as Core and NAC *woodlands* based solely on criteria other than size are not considered to be *significant features* with respect to the application of the “proximity criterion”).

**Source Reduction:** changes in the design, use of materials and energy used during the manufacturing or distribution of products and packages to reduce their amount or toxicity before they become municipal solid waste.

**Stewardship:** the voluntary actions and cooperative planning by organizations, governments, landowners and residents to protect, restore and enhance land, air and water for long-term ecological sustainability.

**Surface water features:** for the purpose of applying criteria for the identification of Core and Natural Area and Corridor (NAC) *woodlands*, includes lakes, woodland ponds, *watercourses*, springs, seeps, and reservoirs that provide ecological functions. *Surface water features* do not include small surface water features such as farm ponds or stormwater management ponds that have limited ecological function.

**Threatened species:** a species that is listed or categorized as an “Threatened Species” on the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources’ official species at risk list, as updated and amended from time to time.

**Tributary:** a river or stream that flows into a larger river or stream.

**Value added chain:** is a chain of activities. Products pass all activities in the chain in sequential order and at each activity the product gains some value. The chain of activities gives the product more added value than the sum of added values of all activities.

**Watercourse:** for the purpose of applying criteria for the identification of Core, Natural Area and Corridor and Potential Natural Area and Corridor woodlands, a body of water flowing in a reasonably defined channel with bed and banks.

**Wildlife habitat:** are areas where plants, animals and other organisms live and find adequate amounts of food, water, shelter and space needed to sustain their populations. Specific wildlife habitats of concern may include areas where species congregate at a vulnerable time in their annual life cycle; and areas which are important to migratory or non-migratory species.

100. Where sections have been renumbered by this amendment, the Regional Official Plan is amended by replacing all references to the renumbered sections throughout the Plan accordingly.

c. Amendments to Schedules

101. Schedule A, Core Areas of the Greenlands System is amended as shown in the attached Schedule A.

d. Amendments to Tables

102. The List of Tables is amended by adding the attached Table 1, Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core, Natural Areas and Corridors (NAC) and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors (PNAC) Woodlands and Table 2, Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core Valley and Stream Corridors to the Regional Official Plan and by renumbering all subsequent tables accordingly.

e. Amendments to Figures

103. The List of Figures is amended by adding the attached Figure 5, Recommended Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Significant Wildlife Habitat to the Regional Official Plan.

104. Figure 10 is amended by deleting it and replacing it with the attached new Figure 10.

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## **Schedule A to ROPA 21 - Core Areas of the Greenlands System**

**Table 1**

**Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core, Natural  
Areas and Corridors (NAC) and Potential Natural Areas and  
Corridors (PNAC) Woodlands**

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**Table 1 - Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core, Natural Areas and Corridors (NAC) and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors (PNAC) Woodlands**

ROP Category	Size	Age	Linkage	Proximity	Surface Water Quality	Significant Species <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>
<p><b>Core</b> Maintains Integrity of the System</p>	<p>Rural System: Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 16 ha</p> <p>Urban System: Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 4 ha</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 4 ha and containing at least 0.5 ha of <i>woodland</i> that is older than 90 years</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 4 ha that supports any of the following:</p> <p>i. any G1, G2, G3, S1, S2 or S3 plant or animal species, or community as designated by NHIC; or</p> <p>ii any species designated by COSEWIC or COSSARO as <i>Threatened, Endangered</i> or of Special Concern; or</p> <p>iii. The following forest communities: FOD 1-2, FOM 2-1, FOM 2-2, FOC 1-2, FOD 1-3, FOD 1-4, FOD 2-2, FOD 2-3 or FOD 6-2</p>
<p><b>NAC</b> Supports Integrity of the System</p>	<p>Rural System: Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 4 ha up to 16 ha</p> <p>Urban System: Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 2 ha up to 4 ha</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 0.5 ha and less than 4 ha and containing at least 0.5 ha of <i>woodland</i> that is older than 90 years</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 0.5 ha supporting a linkage function, as determined through a natural heritage study approved by the Region or area municipality</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 0.5 ha within 100 m of another <i>significant feature</i></p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 0.5 ha within 30 m of a <i>watercourse, surface water features</i> or any <i>wetland that is or can be identified as a wetland in accordance with the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES)</i>.</p>	<p>Any <i>woodland</i> <math>\geq</math> 0.5 ha up to 4 ha that supports any of the following:</p> <p>i. any G1, G2, G3, S1, S2 or S3 plant or animal species, or community as designated by NHIC; or</p> <p>ii any species designated by COSEWIC or COSSARO as <i>Threatened, Endangered</i> or of Special Concern; or</p> <p>iii. The following forest communities: FOD 1-2, FOM 2-1, FOM 2-2, FOC 1-2, FOD 1-3, FOD 1-4, FOD 2-2, FOD 2-3 or FOD 6-2</p>

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**Table 1 - Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core, Natural Areas and Corridors (NAC) and Potential Natural Areas and Corridors (PNAC) Woodlands**

ROP Category	Size	Age	Linkage	Proximity	Surface Water Quality	Significant Species <sup>(1)(2)(3)</sup>
PNAC May Support Integrity of the System	<i>Cultural woodlands and cultural savannahs</i> => 4 ha in the Rural System and => 2 ha in the Urban System and Rural Service Centres	Core and NAC criteria apply				
	all other woodlands > 0.5 ha	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Notes: (1) The rankings G1, G2, G3, S1, S2 and S3 refer to the conservation status of species assigned by the Ministry of Natural Resources' (MNR) Natural Heritage Information Centre (NHIC). G or Global ranks (GRANKS) are assigned by a consensus of the network of Conservation Data Centres, including the NHIC, scientific experts and The Nature Conservancy to designate a rarity rank based on the range-wide status of a species. S or Sub-national ranks (SRANKS) are assigned by the NHIC for species and vegetation communities in Ontario. The rankings specific to Table 1 are as follows:

G1 – extremely rare	S1 – critically imperiled
G2 – very rare	S2 – imperiled
G3 – rare to uncommon	S3 – vulnerable

(2) The following acronyms are described by the Ecological Land Classification for Southern Ontario: First Approximation and its Application (MNR, 1998)

FOD 1-2 – Dry-Fresh White Oak Deciduous Forest  
 FOD 1-3 – Dry-Fresh black Oak Deciduous Forest  
 FOD 1-4 – Dry Fresh Mixed Oak Deciduous Forest  
 FOD 2-2 – Dry Fresh Oak-Hickory Deciduous Forest  
 FOD 2-3 – Fresh Hickory Deciduous Forest  
 FOD 6-2 – Fresh Moist Sugar Maple – White Elm Deciduous Forest  
 FOM 2-1 – Dry-Fresh White Pine-Oak Mixed Forest  
 FOM 2-2 – Dry-Fresh White Pine-Sugar maple Mixed Forest  
 FOC 1-2 – Dry-Fresh White Pine-Red Pine Coniferous Forest

(3) COSEWIC – Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada  
 COSSARO – Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario

**Table 2**

**Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Core Valley and  
Stream Corridors**

<b>Table 2</b> <b>Criteria and thresholds for the identification of Core valley and stream corridors</b>	
<i>Core Valley and Stream Corridor Component</i>	<i>Mapping Criteria</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Main branches, major tributaries, other tributaries and identified watercourses draining directly to Lake Ontario</li> <li>▪ Valley and stream corridors are the natural resources associated with the river systems characterized by their landform, features and functions, and include associated ravines.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Main branches, major tributaries and watercourses having direct drainage to Lake Ontario are to be mapped from their outlet to the furthest upstream extent of their defined valley landform (i.e., mapped to limit of crest of slope)</li> <li>▪ Other tributaries are to be included and mapped to the limit of their defined valley portion if they meet the following criteria:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contains habitat of aquatic endangered or threatened species; or</li> <li>• watercourse crosses municipal boundaries and provides linkage to other Core Areas of the Greenlands System.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▪ Excludes ill-defined headwater drainage features including created headwater valley/stream corridors, discontinuous defined valley features and other non-valley landforms</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ill-defined sections of major valleys</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Ill-defined sections are to be illustrated using regulatory floodplain and meander belt hazards whichever is greater unless site specific assessment has determined valley width in accordance with text of Plan</li> <li>▪ Shown schematically and subject to site specific evaluation to confirm width of Core valley and stream corridor</li> </ul>

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ Associated Ravines</li></ul>	<p>Associated ravines within the Urban System are to be included if meeting one of the following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ important ecological functions related to the valley landform;</li><li>▪ habitat for endangered/threatened species;</li><li>▪ linkage to other natural features of the Greenlands System;</li><li>▪ flood and erosion hazards; or</li><li>▪ restoration potential.</li></ul> <p>Associated ravines within the Rural System are not considered Regional Core valley and stream corridors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▪ significance is determined in accordance with the Town of Caledon Official Plan policies.</li></ul>
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## **Figure 5**

### **Recommended Criteria and Thresholds for the Identification of Significant Wildlife Habitat**

<p align="center"><b>Figure 5</b>  <b>Criteria and thresholds for the identification of</b>  <b>significant wildlife habitat*</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended with</b>  <b>a threshold</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended</b>  <b>without a</b>  <b>threshold</b></p>
A1. Deer wintering area	√	
A2. Colonial bird nesting sites ( <i>e.g.</i> , heronry, gull colony)	√	
A3. Waterfowl nesting habitat	√	
A4i. Migratory Landbird Stopover Areas – Criteria applies within Cities of Brampton and Mississauga	√	
A4ii. Migratory Bat Stopover Areas		√
A4iii. Migratory Butterfly Stopover Areas – Criteria applies within Cities of Brampton and Mississauga		√
A4iv. Migratory Waterfowl Stopover and/or Staging (Terrestrial)	√	
A4v. Migratory Waterfowl Stopover and/or Staging (Aquatic)	√	
A4vi. Migratory Shorebird Stopover Areas	√	
A5. Raptor wintering areas ( <i>i.e.</i> , used for feeding and/or roosting)		√
A6. Snake hibernacula	√	
A7. Bat maternal roosts and hibernacula		√
A8. Bullfrog concentration areas (see details under B8ii)	√	
A10. Turkey Vulture summer roosting areas		√
B1. Rare vegetation communities	√	
B2. Forests providing a high diversity of habitats (captured by significant woodlands)	√	
B3. Old-growth or mature forest stands (captured by significant woodlands)	√	
B4. Foraging areas with abundant mast ( <i>i.e.</i> , nut bearing trees)	√	

<p align="center"><b>Figure 5</b>  <b>Criteria and thresholds for the identification of</b>  <b>significant wildlife habitat*</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended with</b>  <b>a threshold</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended</b>  <b>without a</b>  <b>threshold</b></p>
B5. Highly diverse areas	√	
B6. Cliffs and caves	√	
B7. Seeps and springs	√	
B8i. Amphibian breeding habitat - Forested sites ( <i>e.g.</i> , vernal pools)	√	
B8ii. Amphibian breeding habitat - Non-forested sites ( <i>e.g.</i> , marshes)	√	
B9. Turtle nesting habitat and turtle overwintering areas	√	
B10. Habitat for area-sensitive forest interior breeding bird species	√	
B11. Habitat for open country and early successional breeding bird species	√	
B12. Habitat for wetland breeding bird species	√	
B13i. Raptor nesting habitat - wetlands, ponds, and rivers	√	
B13ii. Raptor nesting habitat - woodland habitats	√	
B14. Mink, River Otter, Marten, and Fisher denning sites	√	
C1. Species identified as nationally Endangered or Threatened by COSEWIC which are not protected in regulation under Ontario's Endangered Species Act.	√	
C2. Species identified as Special Concern based on Species at Risk in Ontario List that is periodically updated by OMNR.	√	
C3. Species that are listed as rare (S1–S3) or historical in Ontario based on records kept by the Natural Heritage Information Centre in Peterborough.	√	

<p align="center"><b>Figure 5</b>  <b>Criteria and thresholds for the identification of</b>  <b>significant wildlife habitat*</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended with</b>  <b>a threshold</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>recommended</b>  <b>without a</b>  <b>threshold</b></p>
C4. Species whose populations appear to be experiencing substantial declines in Ontario.		√
C5. Species that have a high percentage of their global population in Ontario and are rare or uncommon in the Regional Municipality of Peel / Town of Caledon.		√
C6. Species that are rare within the Regional Municipality of Peel/Town of Caledon, even though they may not be provincially rare		√
C7. Species that are subjects of recovery programs.		√
C8. Species considered important to the Regional Municipality of Peel / Town of Caledon, based on recommendations from a local Conservation Advisory Committee.		√
D. Animal movement corridors		√

\* The Peel-Caledon Significant Woodlands and Significant Wildlife Habitat Study (June 2009) provided a methodology for identifying and evaluating criteria and thresholds for the identification of significant wildlife habitat. Draft thresholds have been recommended for criteria where they could be based on sufficient data, available research and/or expert opinion to be considered defensible. Where this information did not exist, criteria were recommended without a threshold. Criteria that were not relevant or applicable to the Region of Peel or Town of Caledon are not included in Figure 5.

**Figure 10**  
**Waste Management Sites**