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Protection & Conservation

Environmental Plan: Tobin Lakeside Hotel and
Marina Protection and Awareness for
Threatened Species



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Abstract

A commercial development project involves overseeing a lot of moving parts, oftentimes from different people. To have a successful rollout, project managers rely on a well-crafted project plan to ensure objectives are met on time and on budget. Clear requirements create a foundation for the success of the project.

An environmental plan is a critical moving part. This is especially true if the proposed development imposes or encroaches on an existing area of biological diversity. This plan is a formal approved document which is used to define environmental protection goals, outline the threatened species scope, monitor environmental needs, and mitigate risks that impact protected species. It must answer basic questions like what is the purpose of the plan, what activities are involved, who will be responsible for what, and when is it expected to be completed? It is not to be confused with the construction development project plan or Gantt chart, which shows project deliverables against a projected timeline.

Introduction

The Township of Tobin is considering a proposal for a new tourist attraction consisting of a lakeside hotel and marina.

The township is situated in an area of unspoiled natural beauty and biological diversity. Residents are opposed to this changing. They are concerned that the project will cause permanent damage to numerous threatened and protected species that live in the area around the proposed development site.

Problems to be Addressed

The first step to creating an effective plan is to set a baseline. The baseline is the foundation on which the other elements will be built on. This must include a scope statement.

This plan identifies the environmental protection requirements of several threatened species. Some of these are already protected under the Species at Risk Act, (SARA). It promotes and advocates for a sustainable environment where the species can continue to thrive in proximity to human activity and commercial development.

Goals/Objectives

This part of the environmental plan helps team members move toward project requirements with a protection and conservation responsibility.

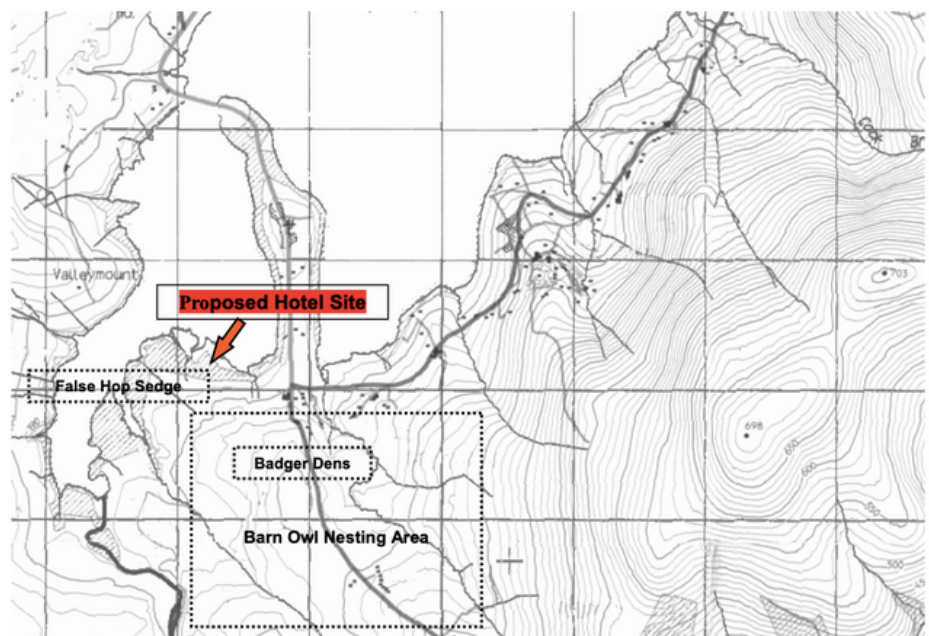
- Buildings, Bridges and Docks complement existing ecosystems and habitats.
- Low elevation structures include design plans for incorporated nesting boxes.
- Existing surrounding dams and sedge areas are kept intact.
- Building structures will be engineered for structure and size to not block full sun for a 50km range between hotel site and Valley Rock.
- Drainage infrastructure will include a design that does not impact existing swamp and marsh lands.

Scope of Protection

This project entails research, surveys, government engagement, and residential input.



Species	Characteristics	Population	Zones	Threats
False Hop Sedge	Grass like plant, grown in clusters 30 to 80cms long with another 50cm of underground spread. Privately owned land in Ontario – Quebec owns Marcel Reserve.	Propagates through seed release. Flowers from June to October Fruit July to September Protected under SARA	Swamps, marshes, temporary pools, large open areas with ample sunlight, forest edges and clearings. Flooding assists in seed dispersal	- Limited sunlight - Urban development - Agricultural drainage - Backfilling - Water level dams
American Badger Recovery strategy is in development	Heavy bodied, short legged, short tailed member of the weasel family. Nocturnal but can be active during the day. Common to hibernation but also might stay active. Prey includes rodents but also feed on mammals, birds, eggs, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates and even plants. Woodchucks and Eastern cotton tails are their many prey. Fierce fighters when cornered.	Estimated 0-200. Isolated from all other badger populations. Breed in July and August, but don't carry until later. Babies are born (1-5) in late March early April. Babies leave den around June to July. Protected under SARA Camera trapping records rarity of the species in Ontario provides leads to the OMNR with leads on active den sites as part of the recovery strategy.	Home ranges vary from 2 to 500 square kilometres. Males have larger home ranges. Home ranges are stable. Underground dens. Burrows are critical to their daily activities. Travel from 52 to 110kms through tuff terrain.	- Biggest predator = humans - High mortality rates - Farming operations - Vehicle collisions - Isolation of small populations - Habitat fragmentation - Agriculture - Prey reduction - Road kills In partnership with OMNR to provide valuable information on conditions and useful for population assessment.
Barn Owl Recovery strategy is in development	Secretive and nocturnal Solidary nesters Form loose colonies	Breed in the Niagara Peninsula, Thousand Islands. Begin breeding in their second year.	Low elevation, open country, with small rodent prey in abundance. Nests are located in buildings, hollow trees, cliff cavities.	Roadkill Loss of habitat and prey species



Endorsements and Approvals

We have partnered with a number of representatives under the Species at Risk act, (SARA) on this project.

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Project Advisor: _____

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Project Sponsor: _____

Signature: _____
Name: _____
Project Manager: _____