

# NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS FOR A CHANGING CLIMATE

## CONSERVATION MATTERS

Forests, wetlands, healthy soils, clean lakes, rivers and streams, diverse habitats and the insects, birds and wildlife that live in them are needed to:



Grow our Food



Provide our Water



Support our Economy



Protect our Health & Well-being

Climate change impacts are affecting our natural resources and this affects us.

### WHAT ARE WE SEEING IN ONTARIO'S WATERSHEDS?



Rising Temperatures, Heat Waves, Warmer Surface Waters



Threatened Water Quality & Supply



Drought



Lower Flows in Rivers & Streams



Extreme Rainfall & Flooding



Stressed Biodiversity



Species Loss

## NATURE-BASED ACTIVITIES ADDRESS CLIMATE CHANGE

Improves Water Quality + Restores Habitats + Protects Drinking Water + Improves Soil Quality  
Supports Farmers + Conserves Water + Protects Insects, Fish and Wildlife + Reduces Flood Risk

## CONSERVATION AUTHORITY NATURE-BASED SOLUTIONS



### Agricultural Beneficial Management Practices

Nutrient storage, buffer strip establishment, erosion prevention, shelterbelt planting, fencing of livestock from streams



### Rehabilitation, Restoration and Enhancement Projects

stream & wetland rehabilitation, wildlife habitat enhancement, species at risk protection and restoration



### Reforestation, Tree & Shrub Planting/Woodlot Management

tree/shrub planting, tree/shrub sales, site planning, site assessment, monitoring



### Water Supply and Septic Management



## LANDHOLDINGS

Collectively  
**Conservation  
Authorities** own

**146,809**  
Hectares  
of Land

Second only to  
the **Province  
of Ontario**

INCLUDING:

- Forests
- Wetlands
- Recreational Lands
- Natural Heritage
- Areas of Natural & Scientific Interest
- Cultural Sites
- Land for Floor & Erosion Control

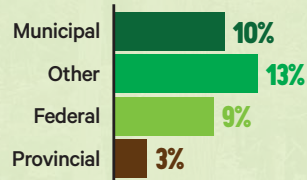


### Reforestation / Tree Planting Programs

**1,300,000** Trees  
Planted

with **1,710** Landowners

#### Funding Partnerships



**35%**  
of the projects were  
**AGRICULTURAL**

#### CAs also Reported

**105,046** hectares  
**UNDER FOREST  
MANAGEMENT PLANS**

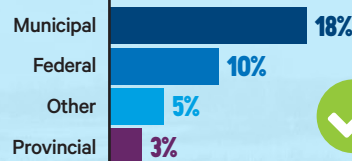


### Water Quality Improvement Projects

**\$2.1M**  
in grants



FROM



**586**  
Water Quality  
Improvements



**553** Landowners  
Engaged



**91%**  
of the projects were  
**AGRICULTURAL**



### Habitat Rehabilitation / Restoration Projects

**515**  
Landowners  
Engaged

Resulting  
in  
**1,004**  
Projects

**120**  
Wetland  
Projects

**297**  
Habitat  
Projects

**531**  
Shoreline  
Riparian  
Projects

**56**  
Stream /  
Fish Habitat  
Projects

**724** hectares  
**20 km of stream**  
Restored or Rehabilitated

**\$21M**  
in grants



**55%**  
of the projects were  
**AGRICULTURAL**



Of the Habitat-  
Restoration /  
Reforestation  
Projects Listed

**69** aimed at  
**INVASIVE  
SPECIES**

**158** aimed at  
**SPECIES  
AT RISK**

## BENEFITS OF WORKING WITH CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES

### Conservation Authorities:

- › Develop technical tools to monitor and assess the state of our watersheds
- › Provide technical advice and assistance to agencies, communities and landowners
- › Engage local communities

- › Leverage funding with larger partnerships across all levels of government, environmental groups, businesses, residents and landowners
- › Help all levels of government (municipalities, Province and Federal governments) and non-government partners to deliver important stewardship projects that protect the Great Lakes and adapt to climate change
- › Create science-based educational resources