

Appendix A

Definitions and Acronyms

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ANSI	Areas of Natural or Scientific Interest
Connectivity	Arrangements of natural areas that encourage movement of species, communities or ecological processes across the landscape. Connectivity or linkages can occur as stepping stones (intermittent connections) or as corridors (linear vegetated patches that connect core areas)
Core areas	Natural features of sufficient size and/or quality that they provide key ecosystem function and act as foundation blocks for natural heritage systems.
COSEWIC	Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada
COSSARO	Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans
Ecosystem Services	"Ecosystem Services are the benefits people obtain from ecosystems. These include provisioning, regulating, and cultural services that directly affect people and supporting services needed to maintain other services. Many of the services listed here are highly interlinked (Primary production, photosynthesis, nutrient cycling, and water cycling, for example, all involve different aspects of the same biological processes.) Ecosystems and Human Well-being A Framework for Assessment, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2001
EMG	Environmental Management Guideline (Established with Vaughan OPA 600)
ESA	Environmentally Significant Areas OR Endangered Species Act
GGH	Greater Golden Horseshoe
Matrix	In natural heritage planning, the matrix is the land use between the patches of natural areas such as forests, wetlands, meadows, wildlife habitat and aquatic habitat
MNR	Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Natural Areas	An area of land dominated by native vegetation in naturally occurring patterns. (Edmonton 2007)
Natural Cover	Natural cover refers to lands with vegetation that may be modified but has not been converted to a different land use. Plantations may be included in this category as well as naturally occurring vegetation communities. (TRCA TNHSS)
Natural Capital	A society's "natural capital"—its living and nonliving resources—is a key determinant of its well-being. The full wealth of a nation can be evaluated only with due consideration to all forms of capital: manufactured, human, social, and natural Ecosystems and Human Well-being. (A Framework for Assessment, Millennium Ecosystem Assessment, 2001) Natural capital is a way of expressing the resources and flow of services provided by the earth's natural ecosystems as assets that can be evaluated. These are services that if not performed by natural systems must be engineered to protect human health.
NHRM	Natural Heritage Reference Manual, MNR
ORMCP	Oak Ridges Moraine Conservation Plan
PPS	Provincial Policy Statement
PSW	Provincially Significant Wetland
SAR	Species at Risk
SARA	Species at Risk Act
TNHS	Terrestrial Natural Heritage System
TRCA	Toronto and Region Conservation Authority

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Valley corridor	<p>The boundaries of a valley corridor are determined as follows:</p> <p>If the valley slope is stable, the boundary is a minimum of 10 metres inland from the top of valley bank; or,</p> <p>If the valley slope is <u>not</u> stable, the boundary is a minimum of 10 metres inland from the predicted long term stable slope projected from the existing stable/stabilized toe (base) of the slope, or from the predicted location of the toe of slope as shifted as a result of stream erosion over a 100 year period.</p> <p>Where a Significant Area as defined within this document is within and or is immediately adjacent to a valley or stream corridor the corridor boundary is extended to include the Significant Area and a minimum 10 metres inland (TRCA 1994)</p>
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