

# Media Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **CONSERVATION AUTHORITIES APPROVED FOR SPECIES AT RISK PROJECTS**

NEWMARKET (September 5, 2007) - Conservation Ontario and ten Conservation Authorities have been approved for provincial Species at Risk funding to recover and enhance a number of fish, wildlife and plant species and their habitats.

The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources recently announced 85 projects among many organizations located throughout Ontario for a total \$3 million. The goal of the funding is to prevent species from declining by providing on the ground recovery and enhancement projects as well as encouraging wider community stewardship support through outreach and education.

The twelve Conservation Authority projects will concentrate on creating Species at Risk inventories, rehabilitating and enhancing habitats, identifying species at risk habitats, establishing landowner contacts, conducting a demonstration project and providing landowners and the general public with information on actual programs currently underway and how to get involved.

Some of the specific species which have been identified in the Conservation Authority projects include fish, red mulberry, Eastern Massasauga rattlesnake and the Jefferson salamander.

Ontario's Conservation Authorities have a long history in working directly with both farm and non farm landowners to protect, enhance and restore species and their habitats. Many Conservation Authority stewardship projects are coordinated in partnership with other organizations, as well.

Conservation Authorities use a watershed approach to develop Species at Risk stewardship initiatives.

"Because Conservation Authorities use an integrated watershed management approach, habitat for species at risk is able to be addressed more effectively in concert with other initiatives such as clean water, woodlot management, and natural heritage protection," said Don Pearson, General Manager of Conservation Ontario.

For More Information, [www.conservation-ontario.on.ca](http://www.conservation-ontario.on.ca)

**Conservation Ontario**

**P.O. Box 11, 120 Bayview Parkway, Newmarket ON L3Y 4W3  
(905) 895-0716**

Spokespersons

Don Pearson, General Manager, Conservation Ontario ext 231

[dpearson@conservation-ontario.on.ca](mailto:dpearson@conservation-ontario.on.ca)

Jo-Anne Rzadki, Watershed Stewardship Coordinator, Conservation Ontario ext 224

[jrzadki@conservation-ontario.on.ca](mailto:jrzadki@conservation-ontario.on.ca)

Jane Lewington, Marketing & Communications Specialist  
ext 222

[jlewington@conservation-ontario.on.ca](mailto:jlewington@conservation-ontario.on.ca)

### Conservation Authority Approved Projects for 2007/2008

Organization	Project
Ausable Bayfield Conservation Foundation	Ausable River Management Plan for Fishes at Risk
Catfish Creek Conservation Authority	Inventory of Species at Risk in Carlton Swamp
Credit Valley Conservation	Habitat Mitigation and Enhancement of Jefferson Salamander Breeding Pond
Conservation Ontario	Communication Products about Species at Risk Activities Geared towards Landowners
Essex Region Conservation Authority	Essex-Erie Fishes at Risk Recovery Project
Grand River Conservation Authority	Dunnville Marsh Rehabilitation
Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority	Identifying SAR Habitat and Establishing Landowner Contact
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority	Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake Habitat Improvement
Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority	Red Mulberry Recovery Population Enhancement
Rideau Valley Conservation Authority	Perth Wildlife Reserve - Species at Risk Demonstration and Education Project
St. Clair Region Conservation Authority	St. Clair Region - An Inventory of Species at Risk
Upper Thames River Conservation Authority (UTRCA)	Community Approach to Species at Risk in Upper Thames River