



The Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative

Landowner Survey Report



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Executive Summary

In 1999, a group of landowners, naturalists, agency representatives and scientists formed the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative (LWCC). The LWCC was created to provide woodlot owners with educational resources, and to promote the sustainable management of large woodlands in southern Ontario.

While Southern Ontario contains a great deal of fragmented woodlots, a few large forests remain intact. Like most of southern Ontario, these woodlands are largely under private ownership. The LWCC therefore, chose to focus its outreach efforts on landowners who own parcels of large woodlands in the counties of Peterborough, Northumberland, Durham, and the City of Kawartha Lakes.

With funding from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, and Human Resources Development Canada, the LWCC developed a landowner survey, to help determine the interests, concerns, and stewardship needs of local woodlot owners.

In 2001, the LWCC mailed the survey to the approximately 600 landowners who own parcels of the six large woodlands, which the LWCC chose as focal sites. 93 landowners (14% of those contacted) completed the survey.

In 2005, a separate survey was created and distributed to LWCC member organizations and agencies. This survey was designed to determine the resources available, and allow the LWCC to provide locally relevant information to woodlot owners.

Information generated from both these surveys, is enabling the LWCC and its member organizations to tailor their outreach efforts in response to the needs, interests and concerns of local woodlot owners.

Landowners were asked to report on issues such as:

- Uses of forested and non-forested portions of property
- Concerns or threats to property
- The subject areas they would like to receive information on
- The best modes of delivery for that information

Landowners were asked to report on both the primary and secondary uses of their forests. The top five *primary* uses of the forested portions were as follows:

Top 5 primary uses of Forests:

1. Recreation (Non-Motorized)
2. Wildlife
3. Tree Harvest (Personal Use)
4. Nature Appreciation
5. Scenery (aesthetics)

Landowners were asked to list any threats to their property or concerns they had. The top five concerns reported by landowners were as follows:

Top 5 Concerns:

1. Trespassing & Vandalism
2. Forest Pests
3. Forest Disease
4. General Forest Health
5. Fire

Landowners reported on the topics they would most like to receive information on, or assistance with:

Top 5 Subject Areas:

1. Options for conserving land in long term
2. Financial Options & Benefits
3. Tree ID & Forest Ecology
4. Wildlife
5. Harvesting/Selling Timber Sustainably

Landowners reported on the ways they would most like to receive assistance and information:

Top 5 Modes of delivery:

1. How to Fact Sheets & Pamphlets
2. Financial Incentive Program Assistance
3. Workshops/Presentations
4. Personal Visits
5. Websites

This report contains detailed information on these and additional questions, as well as some background information on the development of the LWCC, and issues facing large woodlands in southern Ontario.

For more information on the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative, or if you require further copies of this report, please contact:

The Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative
c/o Trent University
Peterborough Ontario, K9J 7B8

Tel : (705) 748-1011 ext: 5068
Fax: (705) 748-1205

E-mail: lwcc@trentu.ca
Web: www.trentu.ca/org/woodlands

Introduction

The Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative

In 1999, a group of people created an organization dedicated to the conservation and enhancement of large woodlands in south central Ontario. This volunteer cooperative is made up of landowners, naturalists, scientists, and agency representatives with an interest in forest conservation. The purpose of the Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative (LWCC) is to help landowners sustainably manage their piece of larger forests, by providing educational resources and encouraging stewardship initiatives.

The objective of the organization is to integrate public outreach, education, and scientific research in order to provide local landowners with the tools and resources for sustainable forest management. The LWCC also aims to promote an understanding of the important role landowners have in the management and stewardship of Ontario's forests.

How and Why the Forests were Chosen

The LWCC identified six forested areas to focus efforts on. These areas were selected based, in part, on their size of 200 ha or greater, and because they provide connected forest cover of predominantly Eastern deciduous woods. In two instances (Stewart's Woods, and Brackenridge Woods); smaller, but well studied areas were also included. Research from Trent University on forest fragmentation and habitat requirements of forest birds helped determine these areas of priority, and provided baseline data.

LWCC's six areas are located in the counties of Peterborough, Northumberland, Durham, and the City of Kawartha Lakes. The focus areas contain species common in southern Ontario woodlands. Sugar Maple is often the dominant species, with American Beech, White Ash, and smaller stands of White and Red Pine.

History of Ontario's Forests

The landscape of Southern Ontario has undergone extensive changes during the past 200 years. What used to be an area covered in large expanses of hardwood forests is now heavily developed, with the remaining forests often found in smaller, fragmented patches.

The years between 1850 and 1920 were among the worst years for Ontario forests, with 94% of the original upland forests cleared. Since then, there has actually been a slight increase in overall forest cover. This is due to replanting efforts as well as natural regeneration.

Why Large Woodlands?

While the overall cover of forests may have increased since the early 20th century, there are concerns about the quality of the remaining forests. Years of heavy forest clearing have resulted in southern Ontario containing a great deal of relatively young forest; primarily what is known as "original" and "replacement woodlands". Original woodlands are forests that have been previously logged. Older, larger trees were often removed, leaving behind fewer and smaller trees. "Replacement woodlands" refer to those wooded areas that were once cleared, but through replanting or regeneration, are once again forested.

The remaining forests are often isolated from one another, resulting in “Landscape Patchiness”. This refers to a patchwork of smaller woodlands, intersected by roads, trails, agriculture and development, and unconnected to one another.

Fragmented woods have a higher degree of “edge”. Edges can create more favorable habitat for certain species, but are likewise more vulnerable to invasive and exotic species. One example of this is the Brown Headed Cowbird, whose nest parasitism often displaces native forest dwelling birds. Similarly, when forest plant species are near the edge, they are exposed to the drying effects of more light, higher winds, and greater temperature changes. Forests with a high degree of edge are also less resilient to damage, disease, and pests, than larger woodlands. The shape of woodlands also determines how much “edge” habitat is present. Rectangular or linear forests tend to have more “edge” than circular woodlands.

Conversely, larger woodlands are more likely to contain “forest interior”, (area located at least 100 meters from the edge). This habitat is necessary for the survival of many forest species, particularly interior birds.

The LWCC originated, in part, from research demonstrating that the preservation of large tracts of forests, with sufficient interior, are necessary to prevent further losses of forest interior species.

Forest size also effects biodiversity. The smaller the woodlot, the smaller the populations of species within it. Smaller populations are more susceptible to pressures, local extirpation, and even regional extinction. Conversely, large forested areas are better equipped to withstand pressures, such as drought and pests.

The *Natural Heritage Reference Manual* asserts the importance of large woodlands this way: “Larger woodlands are more likely to contain a greater diversity of plant and animal species and communities than smaller woodlands and are better buffered against the harmful edge effects of agricultural or urban activities than smaller areas.”

It has been argued that conservation efforts focused on small, fragmented woodlots, is often ineffective, and therefore, a more holistic “ecosystem approach” is necessary. This approach may include focusing on large forests, or groups of woodlands, and working to maintain the processes, functions, and linkages associated with them. By concentrating on large woodlands, this is precisely what the LWCC hopes to do.



Water, Air & Soil Quality

The LWCC focuses on forests, but the health of our forests is intricately connected to the water, air, soil, and wildlife habitat quality. Efforts aimed at improving forest health can therefore have indirect benefits as well.

A forested landscape helps to ensure healthy water quality. Forests help protect recharge areas, by acting as “sponges”, capturing rain and snow. This helps to protect groundwater, headwaters and other watercourses. This is particularly noteworthy for the large tracts of forests located on the Oak Ridges Moraine,

which is a major recharge area, and home to the headwaters of over 60 streams and rivers (two of the LWCC's focal sites are located on the moraine).

Forests alongside streams and rivers act as a riparian buffer. These buffer areas help to protect waterways from the impacts of surrounding land uses, by filtering excess nutrients, as well as slowing flood waters, and enabling groundwater recharge. Older growth trees can also provide deep root systems, which help to stabilize soils and reduce shoreline erosion.

Research by the World Bank and the World Wildlife Fund, urges the preservation of forests around catchment areas as a cost effective means of ensuring clean drinking water. New York State supports a Watershed Forestry Program which recognizes the links between forests and water quality. This program includes the creation of Model Forests, in order to study the relationship between various forest management strategies and water quality.

Forests contribute to air quality as well. According to the Canadian Forestry Association, one large healthy tree can absorb as much carbon as produced by the average car. One *acre* of trees, can absorb the carbon produce by once car driving 40000 kilometers. Healthy trees also act as an air filter; with leaves trapping pollutants and dust. Alternately, cutting down a hectare of trees has the same effect on the environment as emitting 350 tonnes of carbon dioxide.



Forest conservation is also good news for biodiversity. The Environmental Commissioner's annual report states that "Protecting wooded areas in this region (*southern Ontario*), could make a significant contribution to biodiversity in Ontario and Canada."

Why Focus on Private Landowners?

After all is said and done, southern Ontario is fortunate in that it has retained a number of large tracts of forests. Much of this land is in the hands of private landowners. In fact, over 90% of land in southern Ontario is privately owned.

The good news is that landowners can make forest management decisions that will improve the overall health of their forests. Planting trees and connecting isolated patches for instance, can reduce the amount of edge, and increase interior habitat. This is why the LWCC focuses its outreach efforts on private woodlot owners. The LWCC understands that recognition of landowner rights, education and assistance are all key to the conservation of smaller, privately owned parcels that make up larger woodlands.

LWCC endeavors to compile the information, resources, and expertise of member organizations, and through outreach efforts, promote these tools to landowners.

Economic Issues

Often larger scale economic systems dictate how we have treated our forested areas. Woodlot owners face pressures from increasing tax rates, severance and development and poor logging practices. Landowners therefore, require access to information on financial incentives, and programs aimed at conserving and sustainably managing their woodlots.

The LWCC recognizes that healthy forests can have significant financial as well as ecological advantages. Well managed forests can stimulate economic benefits, including an increase in forest products (both wood and non timber), increased recreation and tourism opportunities, as well as increased property values and local tax revenues.

Policy Issues

Landowners have indicated that they are often unsure of who the appropriate agencies are, and how to get in touch with them when they require land management assistance.

The LWCC hopes to increase landowners' familiarity with existing sources of assistance, and help them maneuver the array of policies and regulating bodies associated with forest management.

Accomplishments of the LWCC

The LWCC, through its members, and staffing through Human Resources Canada, and the Ontario Trillium Foundation, have accomplished a great deal since its formation in 1999.

Accomplishments to date include:

- Selection of six focal sites
- Compilation of landowner information for the six sites, including contact and location information
- Creation of a map illustrating the six forested areas
- LWCC brochure created and mailed to all landowners with property in the six focal sites
- Landowner survey designed and distributed to 660 landowners
- Creation and maintenance of website
- Workshops, talks and displays presented to: Ontario Woodlot Association, Peterborough Field Naturalists, Kawartha Field Naturalists, Federation of Ontario Naturalists
- Articles on forest fragmentation, submitted to newsletters of the Ontario Woodlot Association, Ontario Nature, and Peterborough Field Naturalist
- Organized and hosted a forest hike, and talk on forest birds, and a forest management workshop

The LWCC is currently in the process of developing and delivering a 3 year outreach program, which will include further mail outs and information packages, workshops, as well as a natural history guide and local natural history database. The LWCC is able to undertake this outreach program with the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

Larger Context

The LWCC is one of several organizations focusing on woodlands in southern Ontario. Local Stewardship Councils, Conservation Authorities, and Naturalist clubs, along with regional organizations are all working on facets of this issue. The Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, The Ontario Woodlot Owners Association, Ontario Forestry Association, Wetland Habitat Fund, Eastern Ontario Model Forest, LandOwner Resource Centre, Ontario Nature, Canadian Forestry Association, and Canadian Wildlife Service are examples of agencies working towards forest conservation. There is a great deal of research, information and educational material available, and the LWCC would like to help local landowners access these existing resources, as well as directing them to locally relevant assistance.

Purpose of the Survey

LWCC members agreed that a survey would be an efficient way to gain an understanding of the issues and concerns important to woodlot owners. Additionally, the LWCC wanted to establish the best methods for disseminating resources and information. Surveys were also believed to be an effective venue for landowners to share their knowledge of their properties, adding to the growing body of information on the ecology of, and issues facing local woodlands.

The information collected is intended to help LWCC best focus their efforts, and to be of the most use to landowners.

This survey report will be made available to all LWCC member organizations, city and county planning staff, as well as interested landowners and agencies. A summary of key findings has been mailed to all landowners with property in the LWCC focal sites.

A separate survey will be created and distributed to organizations involved with the LWCC. This will help to create a database of available resources, tools and expertise.

Methodology

Planning staff from Peterborough, Durham, Northumberland, and the City of Kawartha Lakes, provided the LWCC with information on lots and concessions for properties in each of the six focus areas. This enabled the LWCC to compile a database of landowners with woodlots within the focal sites.

In 2001, surveys were mailed out to each of the 660 woodlot owners. Landowners were offered an information package of extension notes for returning completed surveys, as well as having their names entered in a draw to win 100 bare-root tree seedlings. In total, 93 surveys (14%) were completed and returned.

Responses per woodland

Pigeon River	21
Ganaraska	38
Long Sault	26
Fleetwood Creek	5
Brackenridge	3
Stewart's Woods	0

The process of compiling the surveys was begun by members of the Peterborough Field Naturalists. Once Trillium Funding was secured, the job of compiling and summarizing the findings was assumed by the LWCC coordinator. Results are generally presented as a portion of the total (93) respondents. Distinct difference between forested areas is highlighted.

Results

Land Ownership

In most cases, landowners reported owning their land for quite some time; the property often having been passed down through generations. The average years owned was as follows:

Average Years Property has been in family

FOREST	YRS
Ganaraska	22
Long Sault	20
Pigeon River	23
Fleetwood Creek	28
Brackenridge *	58

*One landowner in Brackenridge reported that their property had been in the family for 140 years.

Property Size

Landowners were asked to report on both the size of their overall properties, and of the forested areas (in acres).

Ganaraska

In the Ganaraska Forest area, the largest proportion of landowners reported property sizes between 51-100 acres (33%), followed by 18% with land 26-50 acres, and 18% with 1-10 acre properties. 13% reported 11-25 acres, as did 101-250. Only 3% reported property larger than 250 acres.

In the Ganaraska area, forested areas were most often recorded between 1-10 acres (26%), and 51-100 acres (26%). Only one respondent reported forest greater than 250 acres.

Fleetwood

Total property size was most commonly reported between 101 and 250 acres, in the Fleetwood Creek properties (60% of respondents). Following that was 20% reporting 51-100 acre properties, and 20% with properties 1-10 acres.

Forested portions of the Fleetwood Creek properties, was listed most often as 101-250 acres, and 51-100 acres, both reported by 40% of respondents. One respondent reported forest of 1-10 acres.

Brackenridge

There were only 3 responses from the Brackenridge forest area. One listed their total property between 1 and 10 acres, 1 at 51-100, and another one at larger than 250 acres.

Results for the forested area are similar; 1 property owner listed the forested area between 1 and 10 acres, 1 at 26-50 acres and a third at 101-250 acres.

Long Sault

Out of 26 responses from Long Sault properties, the greatest number (31%) reported properties between 26 and 50 acres. Both 1-10 acres and 51-100 acre properties were reported by 19% of respondents. 15% each listed 11-25, and 101-250 acre properties.

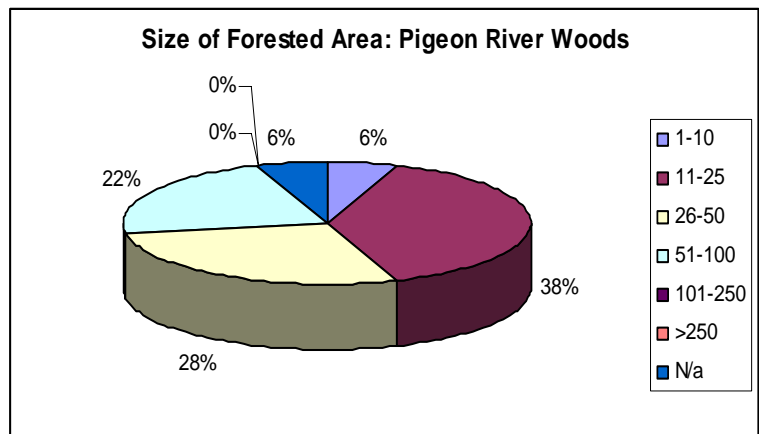
Forested portions of land were reported as follows: 27% of landowners reported forested areas between 1 and 10 acres, another 27% reported forest between 11 and 25 acres. Forested area between 26 and 50 acres was reported by 15% of respondents, 23% have forests between 51 and 100 acres, and only 8% reported woodlands between 101 and 250 acres.

Pigeon River

Out of 21 landowners, 43% reported their total property between 51-100 acres, followed by 33% reporting 26-50 acres, 14% reporting between 101 and 250 acres, and only 1 landowner (5%) reporting 11-25 acres.

Forested portions were listed as follows:

- 33% reported between 1 and 25 acres
- 24% at 26-50 acres
- 19% between 51-100 acres
- 5% at 1-10 acres of forest
- 19% (4 respondents) did not record the size of the forested portions of their land.



Forest Types

Landowners were asked to report on what types (and how much of each) of forest cover their property contained; upland, lowland, and plantation. Not all respondents were able to give specific acreage for each forest type, but a general picture can be created.

Of those who did report on acreage, Long Sault landowners reported the greatest acreage of plantation, with 432 acres of forest described as plantation, followed by 449 of upland forest, and only 81 acres of lowland forests.

The five respondents from Fleetwood Creek Forest reported their woodlands most often as upland forests (235 acres in total, compared with 130 acres of lowland forest, and 25 acres of pine plantation).

Respondents from Ganaraska forest reported a large amount of upland woods (20%), with 13% lowland, and 6% plantation. Pigeon River landowners also reported a fair amount of plantation (24%), with 16% upland, and 20% lowland.

Uses of Property

Landowners were asked to list three primary uses of the *forested area* of their properties. Almost half of all respondents reported using their woodlots for non-motorized recreation (this includes activities such as hiking, cycling, skiing, and camping). A small number of landowners reported *Motorized Recreation* as one of their primary forest uses (5%).

A quarter of respondents reported “For Wildlife” as one of the top three forest uses. Harvesting trees for personal use is an important feature of many landowners’ woodlands (24%), indicating that information on logging and sustainable harvesting may be beneficial to local landowners.

Top 5

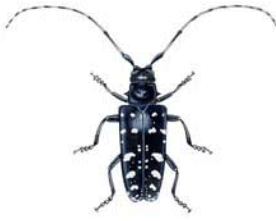
1. Non Motorized Recreation (40%)
2. For Wildlife (25%)
3. Tree Harvest (personal use) (24%)
4. Nature Appreciation (13%)
5. Aesthetics- Scenery (12%)



Landowners were also asked if there were any other, secondary uses made of their forests *not* included in their top three. Their responses were similar to those found in the first question. “For Wildlife” was the highest ranked secondary forest use (54%), with Nature Appreciation (including bird/wildlife viewing) a close second at 52%. A significantly larger number of landowners reported motorized recreation as a secondary forest use (31%, compared with only 5% who recorded it in their top 3).

The third question landowners were asked regarding the use of their property, was, what uses are made of the rest of their property (excluding forested areas). Again, a large proportion of landowners did not report on this question (44%). Those that did respond listed livestock and specialty crops most frequently (16% and 15% respectively). “Other” was reported by landowners in 10% of surveys. The “other” uses described included vegetable and flower gardens, cottage or personal residences, keeping horses, and one Pigeon River resident listed “habitat for brown trout, and osprey” as one of their property uses.

Concerns



Almost 40% of respondents did not indicate any particular concerns about their forests, or properties.

“Forest Health”, including pests, diseases, invasive species, and general forest health, was listed by 35% of all respondents as a concern, and several landowners asked for some type of assistance on these matters.

18% named trespassing and vandalism on their properties, as a top concern. Landowners in the Ganaraska, Long Sault, and Fleetwood Creek Forest areas were most likely to list this as a problem. Particular issues of concern included unauthorized motorized vehicle use, and hunting on property, as well as dumping of garbage. Car theft and burning of stolen cars was listed by many landowners, particularly those in the Ganaraska, and Fleetwood Areas.

5% of respondents listed broader issues that may affect their woodlots and wetlands, such as housing developments, highway expansions, and air pollution (specifically, acid rain and smog).

Several landowners expressed the desire for more collaboration with neighbors, as well as increased involvement of local government agencies.

Landowners' Interests

When asked to report on the subject areas they require information on, it is clear that landowners are looking for input on the economic health of their property, and financial options available to them.

Over half of all respondents indicated they are interested in long term conservation options for their woodlots. Roughly, 50% indicated an interest in financial incentive programs such as the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program.

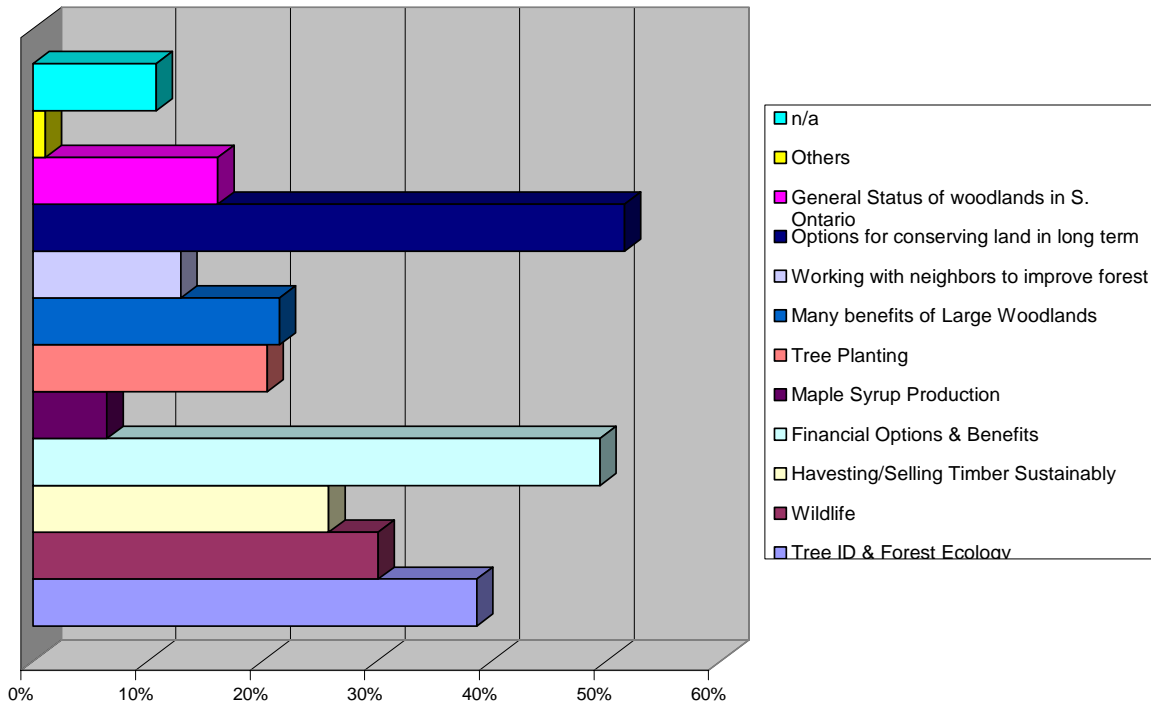
Landowners also want to learn more about the ecology and wildlife of their properties. 39% of respondents want to learn more about tree identification & forest ecology. Another 30% would like information about the wildlife found on their land.

Over a quarter of respondents would like to receive information on “harvesting and selling timber sustainably”.

Top 5

1. Options for conserving land in long term (52%)
2. Financial Options & Benefits (49%)
3. Tree ID & Forest Ecology (39%)
4. Wildlife (30%)
5. Harvesting & Selling Timber Sustainably (26%)

Landowners' Interests



Sources of Information

Landowners were asked to list the three modes of delivery by which they would most like to receive information and assistance.

The preferred methods for obtaining information are, “How to” fact sheets and pamphlets in the mail (49%), followed by workshops and presentations (30%).

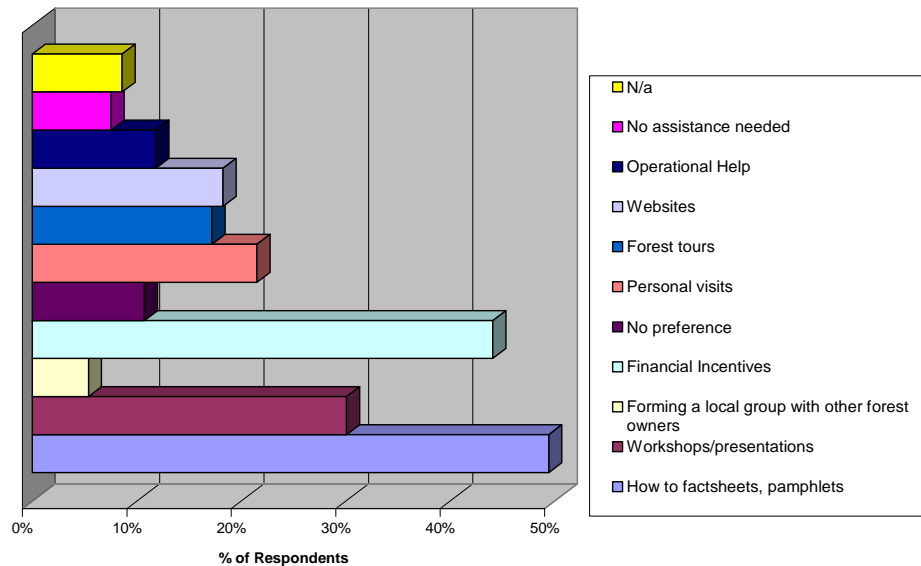
Almost half of all respondents requested more information on financial incentives (44%).

Personal visits and forest tours were a preferred source of information for 22% and 17% of respondents, respectively. 18% of respondents would like to obtain information via websites.

Top 5

1. “How to” Fact Sheets and Mail Outs (49%)
2. Financial Incentives (44%)
3. Workshops & Presentations (30%)
4. Personal Visits (22%)
5. Websites (18%)

Preferred Sources of Information



Sources of Land Management Assistance

The LWCC wanted to determine landowners’ knowledge of and involvement in various funding and stewardship programs. Landowners were therefore asked to list any sources of support they had received; any organizations, neighbors, friends or family members who have aided with projects landowners might not have carried out on their own.

The majority of landowners reported receiving assistance from either the Ministry of Natural Resources (32%), or a Forestry Consultant (38%). Several respondents expressed dissatisfaction at having to rely on commercial consultants, instead of the Ministry, as a resource for forestry assistance.

A further 32% of landowners reported that assistance comes from family members, friends, or neighbors. A large number (31%) reported receiving no assistance at all. This may indicate that some landowners prefer to tackle projects on their own, and that valuable assistance may be more “hands off”.

Long Term Plans for Property

Many landowners plan to continue with their current land use approach. Almost a quarter of respondents did report they plan to plant trees (24%), and another 23% said that they were planning to harvest some of their property. 14% plan to transfer land to family (which relates to several respondents requesting information on intergenerational transfers). 11% of landowners reported that their plans include selling their property.

Management Plans

20% of respondents reported having a current MFTIP (Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program) in place for some or all of their forested areas. 14% reported involvement with CLTIP (Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program). Many more landowners are interested in learning more about these types of programs.

Membership in other organizations

To gain an understanding of the interests and needs of landowners, respondents were asked to report on membership or involvement with land management agencies. 19% reported membership in either the Ontario Woodlot Owners' Association or the Ontario Forestry Association, indicating an existing interest in forestry and woodlot management. Involvement in hunting and fishing is indicated by 11% reporting membership in the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters.

7% of respondents are members of either Ontario Nature, or the local Peterborough Field Naturalists.

Other agencies with members from the LWCC areas include the Maple Syrup Producers Association (1%), and the Ont. Soil & Crop Improvement Association (3%).

Summary

Several general impressions can be gathered from these survey results. Landowners have a strong interest in financial and long term options for their properties. Equally prominent, is an interest in and concern over the wildlife and environmental features of their woodlots.

Landowners *use* their woodlots. Recreation, particularly non-motorized forms, is a common use of local forests. Local woodlots are also being actively harvested, both for personal and commercial use.

Concerns generally focused on forest health, trespassing and vandalism. There is also a general concern about broader land use planning and pollution issues and their effects on local woodlands.

What is being done with this information?

The information generated through this survey, is enabling the LWCC to tailor outreach efforts, such as upcoming workshops and mail outs, to landowners' interests and concerns.

The winter 2005 workshop on Forest Management and Planning was, for example, designed based on survey respondents' strong interest in financial options and planning tools. Similarly, the spring workshop will focus on tree and bird identification, based on landowners request for information on the wildlife and vegetation on their properties. The LWCC aims to continue seeking landowner input, and design outreach materials accordingly.

This information is also meant to be of use to other agencies and organizations. Results from this survey, while focusing on a relatively small group of landowners, can provide some indication of the needs and interests of local residents.

In particular, LWCC member agencies will be able to utilize this information in order to help determine future LWCC endeavors, as well as facilitating partnerships with, and between landowners.

LWCC members include:

Forest Gene Conservation Association, Ganaraska Conservation Authority, Kawartha Heritage Conservancy, Local Landowners, Northumberland Stewardship Council, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Otonabee Conservation Authority, Peterborough County Stewardship Council, Peterborough Field Naturalists, Trent University, Victoria Land and Water Stewardship Council, and Wetland Habitat Fund.



The Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative gratefully acknowledges the support of the Ontario Trillium Foundation

**THE ONTARIO
TRILLIUM
FOUNDATION**



**LA FONDATION
TRILLIUM
DE L'ONTARIO**

Appendix A

Large Woodlands Conservation Cooperative Landowner Survey



Landowner Survey

Please Return To:
LWCC Coordinator
c/o Trent University
Biology Department
Peterborough, Ontario
K9J 7B8

This Survey should take you about 20 minutes to complete. Your survey results will be held completely confidential - we do not require your name and address.

Name of Large Woodland Block: _____

Name (optional): _____

Address (optional): _____

Please keep me informed of upcoming events (optional): Yes No

1. How big is your property in this large woodland area? Please Circle.

Acres: 1-10 11-25 26-50 51-100 101-250 >250

2. How much of this is forest? Please Circle.

Acres: 1-10 11-25 26-50 51-100 101-250 >250

3. How long have you owned your forest? _____ (years)

4. Of the total forest in Question #2, how many acres are in the following forest types?

Acres: _____ Upland natural forest

_____ Lowland natural forest

_____ Plantation

5. Please list the top 3 uses of your forest.

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

6. Check off the uses of your forest, other than the top 3 you listed in question #5.

Uses: Recreation - hiking, skiing, camping

Motorized Recreation – ATV, snowmobile, dirt bike

Nature appreciation - bird/wildlife viewing

Hunting/fishing/trapping

A buffer or to give privacy

For wildlife

For aesthetics - scenery

For environmental protection - soil, water, etc

For investment - for resale

Tree harvest for personal use - firewood etc.

Tree harvest for income

Maple syrup production

Other

7. What other uses do you make of your entire property?

- cash/specialty crops
- livestock
- resort or camp owner
- leased land
- hunting access
- Christmas trees
- other - _____

8. Which of the following statements best describes your situation?

- I am very interested in the future of my forest and have plans for it.
- I am interested in the future of my forest but have not made any plans for it.
- I haven't given much thought to the future of my forest.

9. Do you have a written management plan for your forest?

- no yes

10. Do you participate in the Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program or the Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program?

- MFTIP CLTIP neither

11. Choose the 3 subject areas that you would be most interested in learning more about:

- Tree identification and forest ecology
- Wildlife
- Harvesting and selling timber sustainably (future harvests likely)
- Financial options and benefits from the forest
- Maple syrup production
- Tree planting
- The many benefits of large woodlands
- Working with your neighbours to improve forest
- Options to conserve your land in the long term
- General state of forests in Southern Ontario
- Other(s) _____

12. There are many ways to get information to help you manage your forest. What 3 are you most interested in?

Check Off 3:

- how to fact sheets, pamphlets
- personal visits
- workshops/presentations
- forest tours
- forming a local group with other forest owners
- websites
- financial incentives (MFTIP, CLTIP)
- operational help
- no preference
- no assistance needed

13. What are your future plans for your forest? In the next 5 to 10 years, will you

- Continue on as is
- Plant trees to increase forest area
- Harvest
- Sell
- Transfer to Family
- Other _____

14. Are you concerned about any particular threats to your forest? Please list.

15. Please check which group has helped you with projects on your property that you might not have done on your own.

- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Friends
- Conservation Authority Neighbours
- Stewardship Council Family
- Forest Consultant Naturalist Club
- University or College courses No one
- Other _____

16. Are you a member of a provincial or local body of any land or forest related organizations?

- Ontario Woodlot Association
- Ontario Forestry Association
- Ontario Maple Syrup Producers Assoc.
- ON Soil & Crop Improvement Assoc.
- Ontario Federation of Angler and Hunters
- Federation of Ontario Naturalists

Other organizations:

17. Would you like to be actively involved in the LWCC efforts?

- I have particular knowledge or expertise to share
- I would consider hosting a workshop in my forest
- I would consider volunteering to assist neighbours or other LWCC group efforts

Appendix B

*Large Woodlands
Conservation Cooperative
Members' Survey*



LWCC MEMBER PROGRAM SURVEY

Name of Organization:

Main Contact person(s):

1. What are the resource issues that are the greatest importance to your organization?
2. In what way is your organization working (directly or indirectly) on forest management issues?
3. How many staff/ volunteers/ members do you have?
4. How long has your organization been involved with the LWCC?
6. How many staff or volunteer members are, or could be considered LWCC contacts?

7. What areas of expertise does your organization provide?
(I.e.: Restoration/ Funding and financial programs/Organizational planning and development/ Proposal writing/ Public outreach and communication).

8. What staffing resources do you now, or could you in the future, provide towards LWCC projects? (I.e. workshop speakers/ content review/ planning direction/ organizing events/restoration projects)

9. What is the time commitment (monthly), your organization is able to provide towards LWCC efforts?

10. What period of time do you see your organization involved with LWCC? (i.e., Short term/ Long term – after coordinator's position is finished?)

11. How can involvement with the LWCC contribute towards *your* organizations' goals and mission?

12. What other organizations have you formed partnerships with?

13. Other Comments: