



KAWARTHA LAND TRUST

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December 17, 2021

Ontario Wildlife Foundation
PO Box 1598 Stn. Main
Peterborough, ON, K9J 7S4

Re: Kawartha Land Trust (KLT) Report to the Ontario Wildlife Foundation for The Invasive Species Removal Project - Dance Nature Sanctuary, Mckim-Garsonnin (Ballyduff Trails). Fleetwood Creek Subwatershed

Dear Ontario Wildlife Foundation,

We are pleased to provide you with this report detailing the progress of removing invasive species and restoring habitat at Dance Natura Sanctuary and the Mckim-Garsonnin property (Ballyduff Trails) in the Fleetwood Creek Subwatershed. KLT staff, volunteers, and community members have been hard at work over the past year to enhance habitat for the Eastern Whip-poor-will among other species at risk.

Grant Deliverables:

1. To continue the recovery of critical habitat for the Eastern Whip-poor-will
2. To contribute to restoring degraded woodland which helps advance Canada's SDG Goal 15.2

Summary of Activities:

To achieve these deliverables:

- KLT staff and interns from the Canadian Conservation Corps removed the following two primary invasive species on both properties:
 - Dog-strangling vine (DSV) *Vincetoxicum rossicum*). Its removal significantly helped to open previously dense understory to allow for higher quality nesting habitat for Eastern Whip-poor-will to become available.





- Dense stands (20 trees/sq m) of invasive Scots Pine (*Pinus sylvestris*). Its removal opened previously unreachable forest habitat beside restored grasslands to provide excellent foraging and nesting grounds for Eastern Whip-poor-will and other species at risk.
- KLT staff and volunteers propagated and planted native species in several areas to increase biodiversity and protect against the reinvasion of invasive species. Staff and volunteers:
 - Planted large caliper hardwood trees were in areas cleared of dense Scots Pine and European Buckthorn (*Rhamnus cathartica*)





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- Prepared tallgrass plugs for planting in spring 2022 and broadcasted seed in areas cleared of DSV to speed up habitat restoration efforts and increase the total acreage of Eastern Whip-poor-will habitat.



- Conducted surveys for populations of Eastern Whip-poor-wills. The surveys took place to better understand the population distribution and to assist work with property neighbours to expand the habitat. Surveys were also conducted for species at risk insects, including moths, to determine populations before and after planting host plants.



We sincerely thank the Ontario Wildlife Foundation for their support in helping to fund this work. Without your support, we would face significant challenges in completing our goals to protect vulnerable species and their habitats.

Hayden Wilson

Land Stewardship Coordinator

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