

Met in County (Tim, Anne, Bruce, Jason)
Sept 24 to discuss County interest to trim boundary of Alvar/SWH in Braeride Area. See Karen + Al's notes.

Gaweda, Joanna (MNR)

From: Gaweda, Joanna (MNR)
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2007 3:57 PM
To: 'Bruce Howarth'
Cc: Handford, Karen (MNR)
Subject: RE: Alvar Area

* these scientific criteria may not help county to trim much from Met there's no detailed info./ recent photography/ENC.

Bruce,
I probed Daryl, our ecologist, regarding the 120 acre municipal parcel that came up in discussion this morning (next to Sullivan Subdivision). He put forward that it is alvar worth keeping (variable in disturbance/impacts - needs restoration efforts). There is potential to partner with conservation groups for ownership/management of the site; Township could pursue.

*

Regarding some scientifically based criteria to help you focus the boundary of the SWH/Alvar:

Keep parcels that:

- 1) are covered with/contain natural vegetation community and/or naturally exposed bedrock of > 0.5ha (based on Ecological Land Classification System standards); AND are
- 2) located on geologic and physiographic bedrock feature with thin or no soils.

Also, as discussed this morning, currently developed lands / parcels could be removed (ex. areas in golf course use, approved subdivisions)... basically those lands that are or will soon be paved, drastically logged or disturbed. (lets call this criteria 3)

Lastly, you may wish to look into lands that have been drained in the past for cropland; this may help with screening out land currently classified as Farmland/Farm within this area, which would be expected to contain thick soils and therefore not Alvar vegetation communities.

Please note that there are two provincial projects ongoing that should yield additional information in the next few months. One being the 6E-16 report which will involve a reconnaissance flight over this area of McNab. Second being new digital forest resource inventory (E-FRI). Both of these would be valuable in focusing the boundary of this feature.

I believe Ted shared the shapefile.

Thanks

Joanna

-----Original Message-----

From: Bruce Howarth [mailto:BHowarth@countyofrenfrew.on.ca]
Sent: Monday, September 24, 2007 12:18 PM
To: Gaweda, Joanna (MNR)
Subject: Alvar Area

Hi Joanna,

With your email of the criteria for alvar habitat and polygon layer, can you also include the second alvar area located in the southern portion of the Township?

Thanks again

Bruce

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McNab OP

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Anne McVean
Al Hyde
Jason Davis
Bruce Howarth

Joanna Clavada
Karen Hardford
Jim Hutton

Karen's Notes

Goal → Find Alvar areas that have been developed & remove these from the significant habitat areas.

Joanna → remove pre-approved subdivisions ^{areas} but difficult to tell where alvar actually exist from photos w/o site inspection by qualified ecologist.

Jim H → ^{proposers} Appendice = study needs to be done as development proposals come forward (similar to candidate

Bruce → ^{ANSI} Appendice: can show areas which would be difficult to describe in a policy alone.

Joanna → Alvar areas defined by topography (ridge), geology & soils. but difficult: alvars ^{typically} exist in 40-60% wetland cover; primarily ^{considered}

Step 1 Remove ^{bldg} lots w/ structures → "can't just by any policies to restrict development (ie only remaining approval for devel't would be bldg permit)

2 Jim H will draft policies & Jason to make devel't ^{area}

3 Joanna to provide descriptive indicators for Alvar existence by PM today.

^{ie remove vacant areas} → 5 ac or larger MNR will require EPS review

4 Jim H → ^{include} special policy area for Alvar area.

→ Ted H to send JD the current Alvar area (SHP)

Q: Does Council want specific MNR classification of mun. lands? ^{but} Yes - any way to protect the lands. Funding to protect?

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Action's significant
~~TF~~ ~~Alvar~~ areas in the Alvar meet the criteria
→ COR should justify why vacant lands were
removed

Timing → COR wants to go to public end Nov. (Note: Joanna
away as of Nov 29). AI suggested Paul ^{Karen's} ~~Maclean~~ ^{have knowledge} ~~no.~~ ^{Planning}
→ MNR to respond w/ comments w/in 2 wks of receiving
revised Alvar area. SD to send Ted the revised
shapefile + indicate reasons for removal of vacant
lands that meet all criteria & alvar habitat.

Q: ^{Bruce} Which takes precedence → Aggregate or Alvar?

A: ^{11th} Treatment of alvars are addressed via EIS through Agg.
licensing.

AL'S Notes

Sept 24 Renfrew County Office.

- Joanna Haver, Bruce, Anna, Jim, Jason
Re: Braeside Alvar

- how to defend?

- how to provide conservation

* Daryl - what is the min. size to protect?
- what are the criteria to determine
alvar?

- ID the factors/criteria important
to the Alvar (ie. Red Trillium)
(include indicator species)

• MNR provide County with criteria
info asked above.

• County provide MNR a straw dog attempt
to delineate alvar; ID designated
development area(s).

growth/settlement areas.

- Ted send Jason shape file for boundary
- How to deal with conflict between block and aggregate designation.
- Jason provide last use codes.