Species at Risk Overall Benefit Catalogue
Overview of Presentation

- Background – why the catalogue was developed
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- Overview of the catalogue
- Examples of projects
- Next steps
Background – why the catalogue was developed

- The Endangered Species Act, 2007, 17. (2)(c) allows for a permit to be issued for an activity that would otherwise be prohibited (kill, harm, harass, capture or take a living member or damage or destroy the habitat) IF:
  - the Minister is of the opinion that an overall benefit to the species will be achieved within a reasonable time through requirements imposed by conditions of the permit.
Background – why the catalogue was developed

- We’re now a few years into the process of issuing 17(2)(c) permits and have learned many things along the way:
  - Recognition that not every proponent has the land available to achieve overall benefit
  - Trying to ‘fit’ overall benefit on or near the area being damaged or destroyed may not be appropriate for the species
- Led Aurora District to develop an overall benefit project catalogue
Objectives

• Create and maintain catalogue of projects that would contribute to overall benefit
• To integrate stewardship approaches and partnerships to support proponents requiring overall benefit for a species as part of a 17(2)(c) permit
• Create and maintain partnerships with organizations and individuals to assist in delivering beneficial projects that support species at risk protection and recovery
Overview of the Catalogue

• A place to track partner (CAs, stewardship groups, municipalities, land trusts, etc.) and MNR projects that would be suitable for overall benefit

• When a permit application is received from a proponent, staff will see if it can be ‘matched’ with a project in the database
  ▪ Majority of permit applications currently are for Redside Dace and Butternut

• MNR staff work with the proponent on the specifics of the permit requirements
Overview of the Catalogue

- Other partnerships including those with private landowners will also be included as appropriate.
- The partner would be required to oversee the completion of the project, however, the proponent will be named on the permit.
- The proponent can contribute funding, supplies, equipment, consultant expertise, labour, etc. towards the overall benefit project to meet the requirements of the permit.
  - The proponent will be required to pay for the development of the design for the project (e.g. engineering drawings, etc.).
Overview of the Catalogue

- MNR will ensure that the projects are appropriate for achieving overall benefit
- Catalogue includes details such as:
  - Location
  - Ownership
  - Project details
  - Description of benefit to the species
  - Approximate cost
  - Additional studies required
  - Other permits required
  - Etc.
Examples of Projects

• Ontario Streams and City of Brampton
  ▪ proposed construction of a bridge to accommodate widening of an existing road in Redside Dace habitat
  ▪ Once approved, Ontario Streams will rehabilitate approx. 700 m of habitat within the watercourse

• Ontario Streams is working with Brampton, Peel and MNR to map opportunities in several streams for overall benefit for Redside Dace
Next Steps

- MNR will continue to meet with partners to let them know about the catalogue and opportunities to work with proponents
- MNR will identify strategic priority areas for key species such as Redside Dace and grassland birds
  - To take a strategic landscape approach that considers the habitat of the species as well as the development pressures within the District
Questions?