

“A Response Will Be Forthcoming” :

Geospatial Information, Provincially Significant Wetland Boundaries
and the Fight to Protect Wetlands in Ontario

The logo for Scholars GeoPortal, featuring the text "Scholars GeoPortal" in a blue sans-serif font. The background of the logo is a stylized map showing a blue body of water, a green landmass, and a white road or path.

NETWORK IN CANADIAN HISTORY & ENVIRONMENT

NICHE

NOUVELLE INITIATIVE CANADIENNE EN HISTOIRE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

Important Acronyms + Context

PSW = A Provincially Significant Wetland (PSW) is a wetland that the province considers most valuable using a science-based ranking system called the Ontario Wetland Evaluation System (OWES)

Bill 23 = [More Homes Built Faster Act](#) which came into effect in January 2023

OLT = Ontario Land Tribunal (link to the hearing [summary](#) by Vicki Schmolka). For context, the OLT was the impetus of the reference question requiring geospatial data





Oblique air photo of Belle Park from 1924 (showing tannery and woolen mills) before the wetland was filled and served as the municipal dump (Source: National Air Photo Library). This site has a complicated history.



Belle Park Project (SSHRC) <https://belleparkproject.com/>



The research question:

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

From: Laura Cameron <cameron@queensu.ca>

Subject: Greater Cataraqui Provincially Significant Wetland map prior to 2nd January 2024 update?

Dear Fran

Re: the OLT stuff, we really need to see a map of the boundaries of the Greater Cataraqui Provincially Significant Wetland map prior to the 2nd January 2024 update. I can't access historical data on Ontario Geo Hub. A high resolution map of the PSW would be really helpful.

Thanks thanks thanks!

LJ



Queen's
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Scholars GeoPortal

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Data Place or address

Anywhere ?

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Date published: 2001-00-21 (publication), 2014-00-10 (publication)
Type of data layer: Vector

Found 30 results
showing results 1 to 10

Sort by:
Relevance

Producers

- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (23)
- DMTI Spatial Inc. (2)
- Ducks Unlimited Canada (2)
- Canadian Wildlife Service (1)
- Natural Resources Canada (1)
- Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food, and Rural Affairs (1)

Scale

- 1:1 - 1:100 (1)
- 1:101 - 1:1000 (2)
- 1:50001 - 1:250000 (1)

Beaver Dam
[Add](#) [Details](#)
Producer: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Date published: 1976-01-01 (creation), 2008-07-02 (revision)
Type of data layer: Vector

Land Information Ontario (LIO) File Geodatabases
[Download - 40](#) [Details](#)
Producer: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Date published: 2011-02-01 (publication), 2023-02-03 (revision)
Type of data layer: Vector

Dam and Barrier
[Add](#) [Details](#)
Producer: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Date published: 2009-01-01 (creation), 2009-09-03 (revision)
Type of data layer: Vector

Oak Ridges Moraine - Land Use Designations
[Add](#) [Details](#)
Producer: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Date published: 2002-04-17 (creation), 2002-04-17 (revision)
Type of data layer: Vector

[More](#)

Greater Cataraqui Marsh

OBJECT_ID	1250871776
DESCR	n/a
GUT_NUMBER	0
LABEL	
UNIT_TYPE	Marsh
EVAL_IND	Yes
NAME	Greater Cataraqui Marsh
SIGNIF	Provincial
EVAL_ID	1251547458
GNL_CMT	
GUNT_DES	
LOCATION	
ACCURACY	AC Accurate (to 10m)
VERISTT_FL	Verified
VERISTT_DT	6/10/1998
BUSEFFDTFL	Estimated
BUS_EFF_DT	6/10/1998

[Zoom to](#)

Select identify layer:
Wetland Unit

Screenshot of wetland data on the Scholars Geoportal from 2011, used to compare with current boundary

Piece in NiCHE outlining
our quest to verify if PSW
boundaries highlighting
the importance of
libraries and repositories
for time-sensitive
requests



Belle Park Cattails 2: PSWs and Healing

Co-author on NiCHE blog post Laura Cameron holding cattails from the significant wetland made into cordage. The picture links to a blog post with more information



Thank you!

francine.berish@queensu.ca



Belle Park Cattails 2: PSWs and Healing

