State of Ontario's Biodiversity

2025 Summary

Ontario Biodiversity Council

Foreword

From the State of Ontario's Biodiversity Report Sub Committee

As we mark the 20th anniversary of Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, we find ourselves at a turning point for nature. Reflecting on the past two decades of biodiversity collaboration, conservation, restoration, monitoring and reporting, gives us the opportunity to celebrate our collective successes, and to identify where more work is needed to protect what sustains us.

Over the last 20 years we have experienced biodiversity successes and challenges. More people in Ontario understand the vital role of biodiversity and its connection to their physical and mental well-being. There is also a growing awareness of the importance of biodiversity as a powerful nature-based solution for climate change mitigation and adaptation. Diverse perspectives and approaches are increasingly being used to restore and conserve biodiversity, and the critical contributions of First Nations and the business community have grown in impact. However, habitat loss, invasive species, and pollution, all compounded by climate change, continue to threaten biodiversity, especially in southern Ontario. While important progress has been made, it has not been enough to halt and reverse the loss of nature, and the benefits that it provides to people. This situation is not unique to Ontario, and mirrors global and national trends.

The renewed Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030 builds on our successes, aiming to empower individuals, break down barriers and transform the knowledge gained over the past two decades into action. Our continued work to monitor and report on the state of biodiversity in Ontario supports these efforts.

A turning point is a moment of profound change — one that defines the future. While much has been done to protect and restore biodiversity in Ontario, 20 years of observation and experience show that it has not been enough. There is a saying, "The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago, the second-best time is now." Likewise, the best time to make the transformative changes required to protect and restore Ontario's biodiversity was decades ago, but the second-best time is now.

This is our turning point for nature.

When we look back 20 years from now, what will we see? As relevant today as it was 15 years ago in the State of Ontario's Biodiversity 2010 report:

> "Let this report inspire Ontarians to step lightly on the Earth, protect and conserve biodiversity in their backyards and across the province."

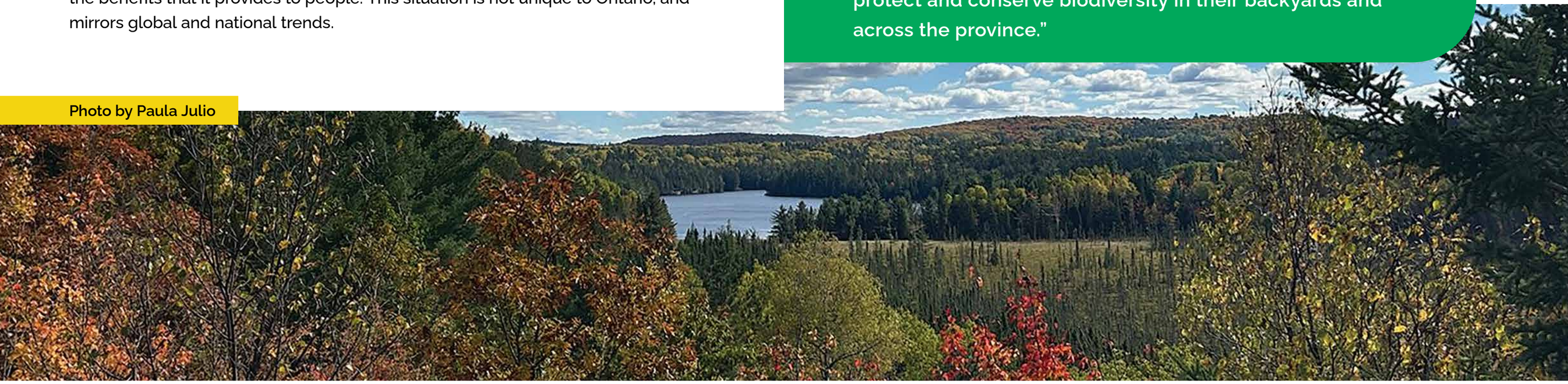


Photo by Paula Julio

Cover photos (left to right): Photos by Sarah Higginson, Alison Clark & Rachel Gagnon

Photo by Angelo Matela

Introduction

Biodiversity is essential to human survival and people in Ontario are more aware than ever that biodiversity is important to their health and well-being. As pressures continue, so too does our ability to ensure a healthy and prosperous future for the next generations. To protect and restore Ontario's biodiversity, we must understand its current state, identify the pressures and threats that can harm it, and work together to safeguard and sustainably manage it.

The State of Ontario's Biodiversity 2025 report helps us better understand biodiversity trends in our province. Through 27 assessed indicators, it serves as a report card on our progress towards achieving the 2025 and 2030 targets in Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy.

The indicators summarize biodiversity's state, impacts, pressures, and our efforts to protect, restore and sustainably manage it across the province. Some indicators link directly to biodiversity targets and others track important aspects of biodiversity.

With biodiversity targets set for 2025 and 2030, this summary acts as a checkpoint, helping to assess current trends and determine whether we are on track to achieve the ambitious targets and goals needed to protect Ontario's biodiversity.

What is biodiversity and why is it important?

Biodiversity is the variety of life on Earth. It includes all living things and the ways they interact with each other and their environment. Simply put, biodiversity is about connection — all species rely on each other to survive.

Humans depend on biodiversity for clean air and water, food and fibre, and amazing outdoor experiences like hiking, fishing and canoeing. Conserving Ontario's biodiversity is important because healthy ecosystems are the foundation of thriving communities and sustainable economies. Moreover, biodiversity helps to better mitigate and adapt to the impacts of climate change, reinforcing its importance for a resilient future.

Beyond its practical benefits, biodiversity also has inherent value and should be recognized, appreciated, and conserved for its own sake.

Ontario is a vast province, larger than many countries in the world. Ecosystems across this province range from lush, deciduous Carolinian forests in the southwest to the Arctic tundra along the coast of the Hudson Bay. It is home to an exceptional array of ecosystems, flora and fauna, including over 70 million hectares of forest, over 30,000 known species, and more than 250,000 lakes.

The vast and varied environments across Ontario include some of the most intact and some of the most impacted ecosystems, making it a challenging place to report on biodiversity.

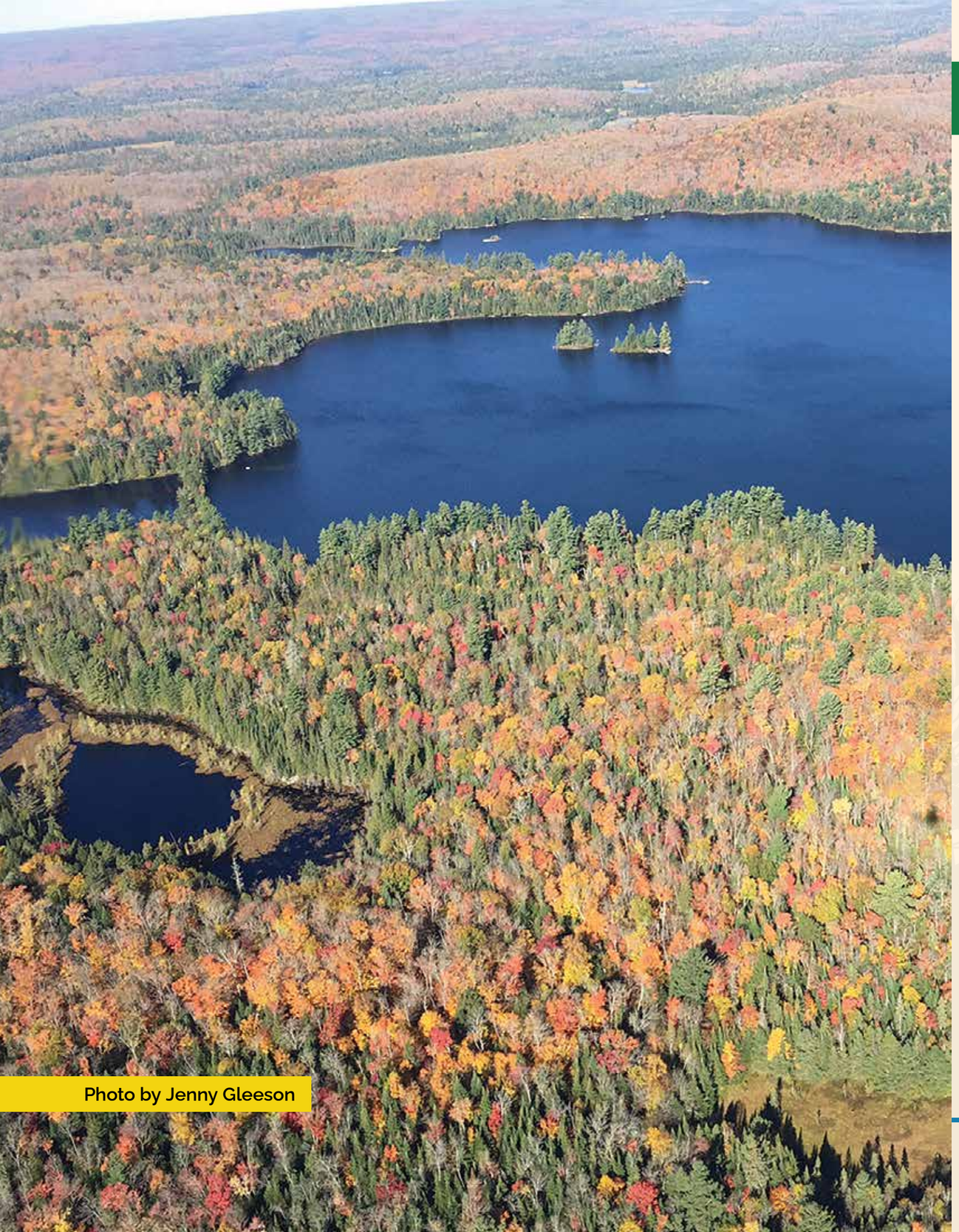
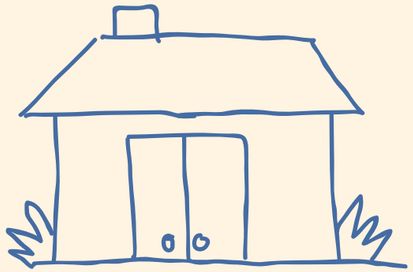


Photo by Jenny Gleeson

Timeline

2005

- The Ontario government developed Ontario's first Biodiversity Strategy.
- The strategy was based on the idea that the protection and sustainable use of biodiversity is a shared responsibility for all Ontarians, not only the government. Recognizing this, the Ontario Biodiversity Council was established to guide implementation through shared responsibility and collective action.
- Reporting on the State of Ontario's Biodiversity every 5 years was identified as an action in Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy.



2010

- The first State of Ontario's Biodiversity report was released in 2010, it assessed the status and trends of 29 indicators.
- The 2010 Report showed that Ontarians were placing large demands on the province's biological resources and that biodiversity losses were occurring, especially in southern Ontario.

2011

- Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy was updated to reflect new knowledge and targets, broadly aligning with the global Strategic Plan for Biodiversity 2011-2020 and associated Aichi Targets. Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, 2011 included 15 targets.

Continued

2015

- The State of Ontario's Biodiversity 2015 Report was released and made available on a **dynamic website** where indicators could be updated as new information became available.
- This report included 45 indicators and assessed progress in meeting the Ontario Biodiversity Strategy,
- The Ontario Biodiversity Council hosted its first summit event, to accelerate progress towards achieving Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2011 goals and targets.

2021

- This State of Ontario's Biodiversity 2021 Report included 45 indicators and assessed progress in meeting Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, 2011 targets.
- The Ontario Biodiversity Council hosted its second summit event to accelerate progress towards achieving Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, 2011 goals and targets.

2023

- Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy was updated. It includes 13 targets and 43 actions to protect and conserve biodiversity through a whole-of-society approach.

Continued

13 targets &
43 actions
to protect and conserve biodiversity through a whole-of-society approach

2025

- The State of Ontario's Biodiversity 2025 Report was released, including updates on progress towards the targets of Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy.
- The 2025 report includes 27 assessed indicators — some indicators have been reported on in previous State of Ontario's Biodiversity Reports, and other new indicators were created to align with the new targets and actions in Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030. Other indicators will be released in the future as they are developed.

Photo by Sonia Cacoilo

An updated strategy for Ontario

The 2023 update to Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy was shaped by the best available information and extensive public engagement, ensuring a wide range of perspectives were considered. People contributed their insights through an online workbook and webinars, while Ontario Biodiversity Council members hosted information sessions to encourage participation and collect feedback. More than 1,100 comments were received, leading to refinements in the strategy's mission, vision, goals, targets and actions to reflect the voices of the community.

The renewed strategy guides conservation efforts across the province using five strategic directions to drive efforts: **empower people, reduce threats, enhance resilience, improve knowledge and transform investment.** Two of these themes — empower people and transform investment, are new to Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy. The 'empower people' theme recognizes that many people in Ontario understand the concept and importance of biodiversity and have opportunities to take action. The 'transform investment' theme promotes changes to improve the ways biodiversity is valued, generating economic growth and funding conservation. Each strategic direction is supported by long-term objectives, outcomes, actions and targets.

For the full strategy, visit **www.ontariobiodiversitycouncil.ca**.

Photo by Paula Julio

Photo by Jon Clayton

Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy and global biodiversity targets

Biodiversity doesn't know borders. As we implement Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy, we are part of a larger global effort to acknowledge the importance of biodiversity to our lives and take steps to protect it. Working together across diverse groups to achieve the targets in Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy contributes to Canada's 2030 Nature Strategy and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework (2021–2030).

Subnational and regional governments, along with various organizations have an important role to play in helping to achieve national and international biodiversity goals and targets. The Edinburgh Declaration emphasizes the critical role of subnational governments, cities, and local authorities in managing biodiversity. The Ontario Biodiversity Council has endorsed the Declaration.

Reporting on biodiversity

The Ontario Biodiversity Council leads efforts to monitor and report on the state of Ontario's biodiversity every five years. By tracking the health of biodiversity and assessing progress towards the 2030 targets, we gain a clearer understanding of conservation priorities, identify areas where more work is needed, and celebrate achievements in halting and reversing the loss of biodiversity.

Table 1. Assessment of progress on Ontario's biodiversity targets

Target	Progress since 2020	
Empower People		
1. By 2025, sectors have developed action plans in support of Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy and by 2030 those plans are being implemented.	**Little Progress** – Some businesses and industries include biodiversity considerations in their corporate plans. Policies and legislations that support biodiversity were not assessed in this indicator.	
2. By 2025, the capacity for people to conserve biodiversity is increased and by 2030 people are taking action to protect and care for biodiversity in their daily lives.	**Some Progress** – 79% of people living in Ontario are aware of biodiversity and its importance to human health, however, volunteer efforts decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic and have not yet recovered.	
3. By 2030, biodiversity conservation programs and actions are inclusive, equitable and reflect Indigenous knowledge and diverse perspectives.	**Little Progress** – An assessment of inclusion of Indigenous knowledge and leadership is anticipated for 2030. Some targeted programs have been developed to encourage diverse and equitable inclusion in biodiversity conservation including exploring nature, learning to camp, and learning to fish.	

Target	Progress since 2020	
Reduce Threats		
4. By 2030, land use planning approaches to maintain and enhance biodiversity, such as natural heritage systems, are implemented at local, regional, and provincial levels.	**Little progress** – Commitments to the Edinburgh Declaration and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework have been made by some organizations and municipalities in Ontario. Some cities and municipalities have biodiversity strategies, and some are developing them.	
5. By 2030, the harmful impacts of invasive species on biodiversity are further reduced.	**Some progress** – Invasive species introductions in the Great Lakes have decreased significantly and efforts to prevent, detect and manage invasive species are ongoing. Investments in invasive species work is a priority for many organizations and agencies, and efforts across aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems are underway. However, invasive species continue to impact many of Ontario's ecosystems.	
6. By 2030, the release of ecologically damaging pollutants is reduced to a level that is not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem services.	**Some progress** – Reductions of harmful pollutants continue, but there are still issues with large industry emitters and contaminants in the environment.	

Target	Progress since 2020	
Reduce Threats		
7. By 2030, the impacts of climate change on biodiversity are minimized and biodiversity is enhanced to support climate mitigation and adaptation.	**Little progress** – GHG emissions in Ontario are declining, however, the effects of climate change are increasingly impacting the natural environment. There is an increasing number of programs and initiatives to use nature-based solutions to support climate mitigation and adaptation.	
8. By 2030, Ontario's per-capita resource consumption and waste generation is reduced and is within Ontario's biocapacity limits.	**Little progress** – Ontario's average per-person ecological footprint of consumption has declined, but its sum for the entire population remained above Ontario's biocapacity limits. Current consumption patterns and demographic projections are expected to result in Ontario's ecological footprint of consumption remaining in overshoot of Ontario's biocapacity by 2030.	

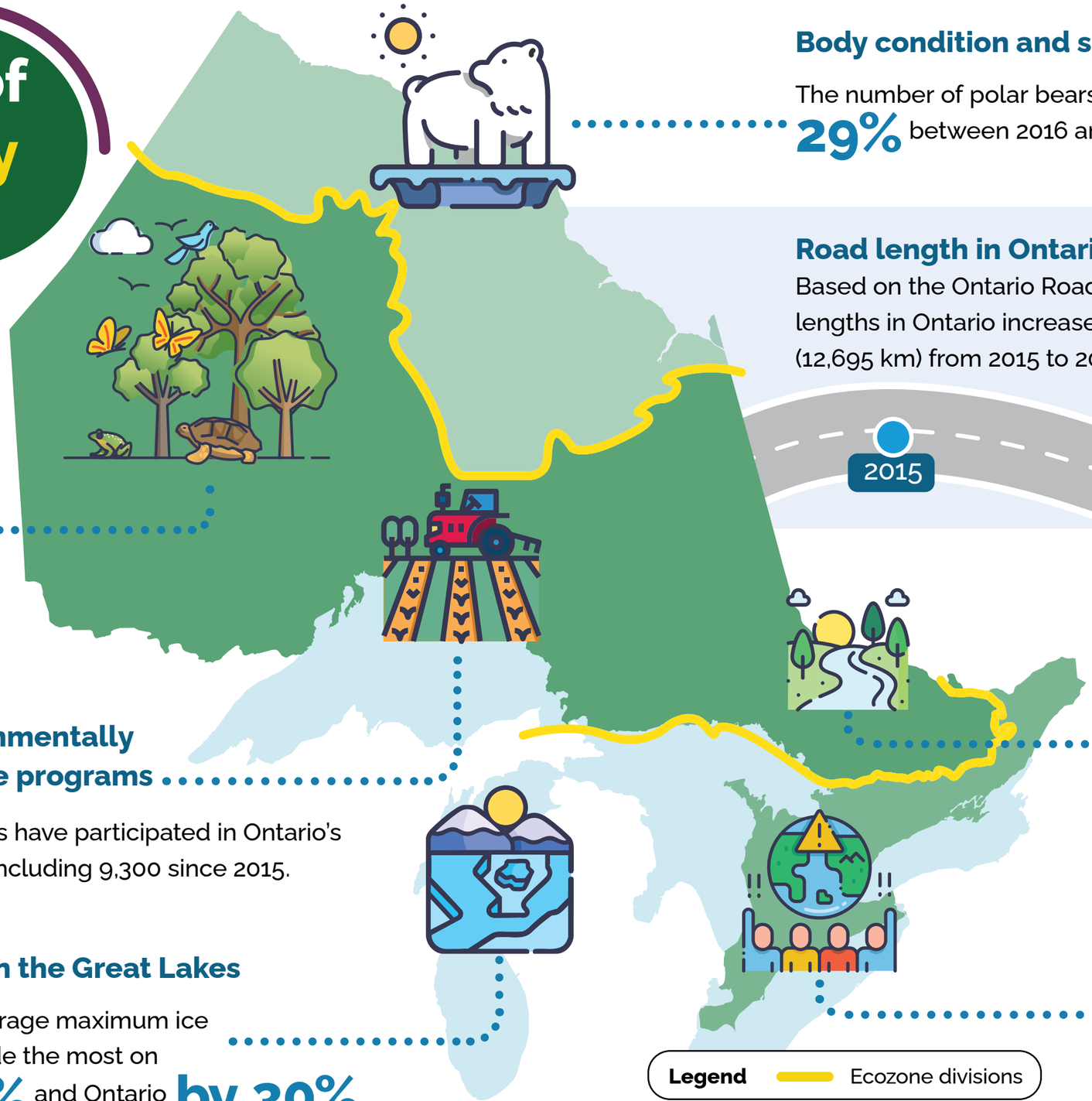
Target	Progress since 2020	
Enhance Resilience		
9. By 2025, priority restoration areas are identified and by 2030 efforts are underway to restore biodiversity to at least 30 per cent of priority areas.	**Some progress** – New tools have been developed to prioritize areas for restoration. Some conservation organizations continue to perform prioritization exercises to help guide conservation and restoration decision-making. Progress towards the 30% by 2030 target was not assessed this time and will be measured for the 2030 report.	
10. By 2030, at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems are conserved through well-connected networks of protected areas and conservation lands.	**Little progress** – An assessment of protected and conserved lands is anticipated in 2030. Based on available information in the Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database, as of December 2023, protected and conservation areas in Ontario total 10.9% of the province, up slightly from 2020 but still below the target.	

Target	Progress since 2020	
Enhance Resilience		
11. By 2030, the conservation of species and ecosystems in Ontario is improved.	**Little progress** – As of January 2024, 268 species are listed under Ontario's Endangered Species Act, representing an increase of 25 species since the 2020 report. While the status of some species at risk have improved, others have declined. The status of species of conservation concern and the area of rare ecosystems that are protected remain largely unchanged since 2020.	
Improve Knowledge		
12. By 2030, Ontario's biodiversity research, monitoring and reporting framework is improved, accessible and reflects diverse knowledge systems and perspectives.	**Some Progress** – Ontario continues to monitor and report on biodiversity through a well-developed, online biodiversity reporting system. Open access to data and new tools are available to help monitor and report throughout the province.	

Target	Progress since 2020	
Transform Investment		
13. By 2030, biodiversity considerations are integrated into the public and private sectors including through budgeting, funding, investments and financial disclosure.	**Assessment underway** – An assessment of investments in the public and private sectors is anticipated in 2030. Biodiversity considerations are being increasingly integrated into strategies and corporate plans. New tools such as the Taskforce on Nature-related Financial Disclosures' initiative can help guide financial planning.	

Photo by Paula Julio

The State of Biodiversity in Ontario



Genetic diversity

Out of 115 populations assessed, **56%** had effective population sizes below 500 — too small to maintain healthy levels of genetic diversity.

Participation in environmentally sustainable agriculture programs

Over **53,000** farmers have participated in Ontario's Environmental Farm Plan – including 9,300 since 2015.

Changes in ice cover on the Great Lakes

Between 1973 and 2020, average maximum ice coverage declined by decade the most on lakes Superior **by 34%** and Ontario **by 30%.**

Body condition and survival of polar bears

The number of polar bears in southern Hudson Bay rose **29%** between 2016 and 2021 – from 780 to 1,119 bears.

Road length in Ontario

Based on the Ontario Road Network, road lengths in Ontario increased by **6%** (12,695 km) from 2015 to 2024.

Aquatic stress index

Aquatic stress levels are highest in the Mixedwood Plains Ecozone where human impact is highest.

Awareness of biodiversity and its importance to human health

82% of Ontarians believe biodiversity plays an important role in maintaining their health and well-being.

Summing it all up for 2025

Progress toward Ontario's biodiversity targets was measured in 2025 to identify the 2030 targets that are on track and which require more effort.

Overall, the 2025 biodiversity indicators reveal mixed results (Figure 1). More than half (54%) of the assessed targets show little progress, and 38% indicate some progress, underscoring the need for increased action. While work is underway, accelerating conservation efforts is crucial to achieving Ontario's biodiversity targets.

Assessing progress within the 'enhance resilience' theme presents unique challenges, as ecosystem restoration and resilience-building efforts often spans decades. While some improvements and on-the-ground action are underway, progress may not be evident for many years.

Monitoring and reporting on Ontario's biodiversity has improved and accessible information and tools are more available, however, further broad-scale monitoring is necessary.

Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030 includes a target for the new theme 'transform investments'. Work towards this target is underway and an assessment is planned for the 2030 summary report.

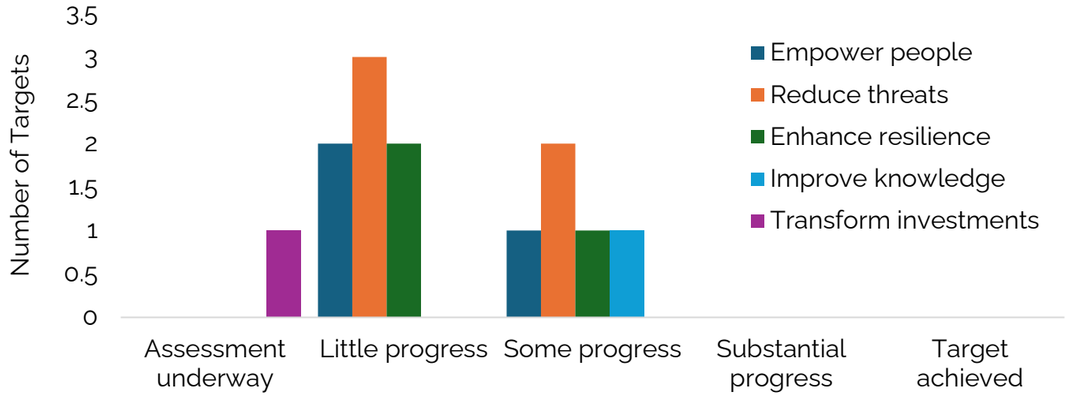


Figure 1. 2025 progress of Ontario's biodiversity targets by theme.

State of Ontario's biodiversity

Tracking the State of Biodiversity in Ontario over time provides valuable insight into changes in trends. In 2025, as in previous reports, most indicators fall within the mixed trend (41%) and the improving trend (26%) (Figure 2). The proportion of indicators with a deteriorating trend is 15%, higher than previous assessments of 12% (in 2020 and 2015).

The increase of indicators with deteriorating trends underscores the need for strengthened conservation efforts.

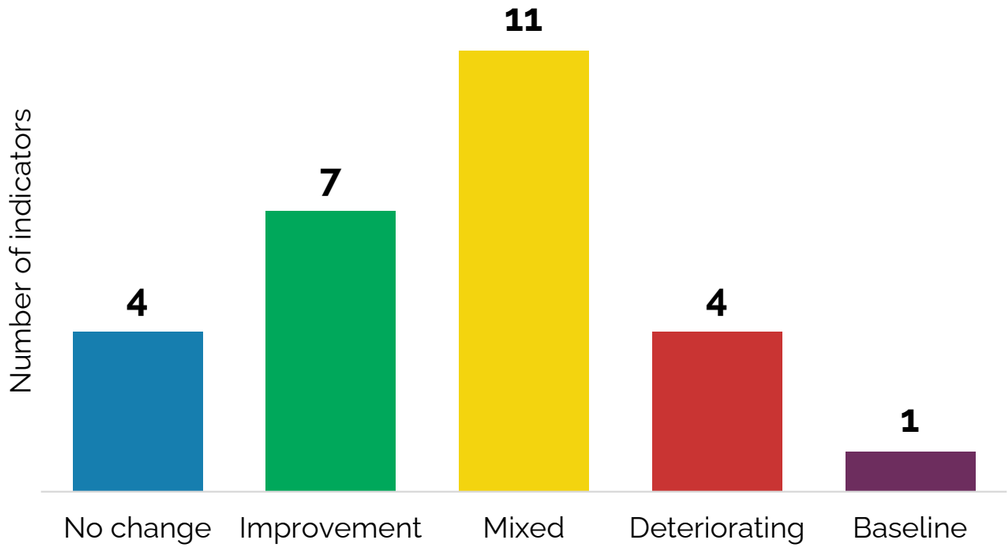


Figure 2. 2025 trend assessments for biodiversity indicators.

Indicators summarize our progress towards achieving targets by assessing pressures on biodiversity; the state of ecosystems, species, and genetic diversity; and, the conservation response.

The greatest number of deteriorating or mixed trend indicators fall within the pressures on biodiversity theme. Threats such as habitat loss, climate change and resource consumption continue to contribute to the irreversible loss of Ontario's

biodiversity. While some improvement is happening, such as fewer invasive species introductions in the Great Lakes and reduction of harmful pollutants, they are being outpaced by growing and cumulative threats.

None of the seven indicators assessing the state of ecosystem, species and genetic diversity show an improving trend. Most show mixed result, including the state of the Great Lakes ecosystems, changes to species at risk, and the status of species of conservation concern. Wetlands in Ontario continue to show a deteriorating trend, consistent with previous reports. While efforts are underway to improve the state of species and ecosystems, more action is needed to address the cumulative impacts of pressures.

Most trends for indicators related to conservation response were assessed as improving, owing to increased societal awareness about the importance of biodiversity to our lives and communities. More people in Ontario are aware of biodiversity, its importance to their health, and agree that there should be investment in biodiversity restoration and protection. Participation in incentive programs that help contribute to conservation such as the Managed Forest and Conservation Land Tax Incentive Programs, and the Environmental Farm Plan continue to grow. Although improvements are being made, the number of volunteers for biodiversity conservation decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic and have not quite recovered to pre-pandemic numbers. While survey respondents agreed that investment is important, many felt unable to commit to volunteering or paying more for biodiversity friendly products on their own.

Photo by Paula Julio

Health of wildlife and habitats

State of biodiversity refers to the current condition of the species and ecosystems, including the health and diversity of species, quality of air and water, and extent of natural habitats.

Despite the large human population in southern Ontario, much of the province remains dominated by natural landscapes. While the status of most species is secure, some populations are declining, and ecosystems are facing negative pressures. New tools to assess genetic diversity within a species are being developed and used. Genetic diversity within a species allows it to survive and adapt to rapidly changing environmental conditions.

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Ecosystems – State of Great Lakes	6	Despite some successful restoration efforts, the cumulative impacts of many pressures continue to threaten the Great Lakes.	⇅
Ecosystem – Wetland cover	9	Wetland loss in southern Ontario continues with over 10,000 ha lost over the last decade.	↓
Ecosystem – Rare ecosystems	11	The total area protected for rare ecosystems include 24% for alvars, 70% of Great Lakes coastal dunes, 57% of prairies, and 37% of Great Lakes coastal meadow marshes. 76% of the protected rare ecosystems are ranked as good or high quality.	=

Trends ↑ Improvement ↓ Deterioration = No change ⇅ Mixed ↔ Baseline

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Species – Species at risk status changes	11	Of the species reassessed by the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario between 2018-2022, most showed no change, 27% were moved to a lower risk category, and 9% moved to a higher risk category. Since 2021, 25 species were added to the Species at Risk in Ontario List.	
Species – Species of conservation concern	11	The majority of species of conservation concern showed no change in general status. Of those that did change more species moved to a higher risk category than lower risk category between 2015-2020.	
Species – Genetics	11	Of the 115 populations assessed for effective population size, 56% fell below the 500 individual threshold indicating the population is not large enough to maintain genetic diversity.	
Ecosystems – Alterations to stream flow	n/a	Four of the seven streamflow alteration indicators showed a likelihood of change in 50% or greater of the stream gauge stations in the most recent 30-year reporting period (1991-2020). The most prevalent changes in streamflow included increases in the magnitude of the 3-day maximum streamflow, 7-day minimum streamflow, mean annual streamflow, and the flashiness of streamflow.	

Pressures on biodiversity

Over the last 150 years, human activities have rapidly transformed ecosystems worldwide, adversely impacting the vital services they provide. Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy highlights key pressures threatening ecosystems including habitat loss, invasive species, population growth, pollution, unsustainable resource use, and climate change.

This theme area includes indicators that evaluate trends in the primary threats to Ontario's biodiversity. Monitoring and assessing these pressures can help to understand how they lead to environmental changes.

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Habitat loss – Terrestrial fragmentation and roads	4	Landscape fragmentation, including new roads and other infrastructure, continues to be highest in southern Ontario.	
Invasive species – Alien species in Great Lakes	5	The rate of newly established aquatic alien species in the Great Lakes continues to decline.	
Pollution – Release of harmful pollutants	6	The release of harmful pollution decreased over the past 20 years.	
Pollution – Ground level ozone	6	Over the last 30 years, seasonal means of ground-level ozone increased, while annual peak concentrations decreased.	

Trends Improvement | Deterioration | No change | Mixed | Baseline

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Pollution – Water quality in inland lakes	6	More than 90% of lakes sampled had phosphorus, pH, and calcium levels within acceptable ranges. 2% of sampled lakes had critically low calcium levels.	
Climate change – Greenhouse gas emissions	7	Total GHG emissions are variable year to year but overall have declined and remain below 1990 levels following coal-fire electricity generation phase-out and the COVID-19 pandemic. In 2022, emissions began to increase in alignment with Ontario's population growth.	
Climate change – Great Lakes ice cover	7	Ice cover on the Great Lakes has declined since 1973 despite inter-annual variation. Lake Superior and Lake Ontario have experienced the greatest loss.	
Climate change – changes in Vegetative phenology	7	Growing seasons continue to lengthen in the Boreal Shield Ecozone, forested areas of the Mixed Wood Plains, and southern portion of the Hudson Bay Lowlands. The coastal portion of the Hudson Bay Lowlands. experienced a later start and shorter growing season.	
Climate change – Changes in polar bear health and population	7	Polar bear populations declined from 2011-2016 and increased from 2016-2021. Survival estimates suggest a high variability of cub survival and reproduction in 2021.	
Consumption – Ecological footprint and biocapacity	8	Ontario's ecological footprint of consumption has declined on a per-capita basis, while it increased on a population-total basis. It remains larger than biocapacity within Ontario. On a per-capita basis, Ontario's ecological footprint is very high in a global context, while it is below the Canadian average. This pattern is expected to hold under current consumption patterns and demographic projections.	
Habitat loss – Land cover	n/a	Between 2015 and 2020, natural land cover declined slightly in southern Ontario, while remaining relatively stable in the north.	
Ecosystems – Aquatic stress	n/a	Between 2000 and 2015, the number of Ontario watersheds impacted by human modification by approximately 64%, with the greatest changes in southern Ontario.	

Trends Improvement Deterioration No change Mixed Baseline

Conservation response

Despite the challenges, there is a strong and growing network of individuals and organizations working hard to protect and restore Ontario's biodiversity. From protecting and conserving public lands to stewarding private properties, the people of Ontario are deeply committed to preserving biodiversity.

This theme includes indicators that evaluate the conservation efforts of individuals and organizations to enhance Ontario's biodiversity.

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Financial conservation – Biodiversity in Business	1	Of the companies assessed, most reported on environmental issues. Few companies have biodiversity monitoring systems and only one company did not consider biodiversity or environmental issues in their corporate policy or programs.	
Stewardship – Volunteer efforts	2	Between 2006 and 2023, the number of people who volunteered to conserve Ontario's biodiversity decreased slightly. Efforts were increasing until 2019 but decreased during the COVID-19 pandemic and have not yet recovered.	
Education – Elementary/ secondary curricula	2	Regular updates to Ontario's curriculum reflect new biodiversity concepts. The revised curriculum includes learning in environmental education, climate change and biodiversity loss and strategies to maintain or restore ecosystems.	
Education – Post secondary curricula	2	Biodiversity has been partially integrated into postsecondary curricula in Ontario, including schools of business. Reference to biodiversity was indicated in 68% of undergraduate programs in 2020.	
Awareness	2	In 2024, 79% of respondents were aware of the term biodiversity, a 19% increase since 2014. 88% of respondents were supportive of investment in biodiversity restoration and protection.	
Stewardship – Tax incentive programs	3	Between 2004 and 2024, the number of properties participating in Conservation Land Tax Incentive Program (CLTIP) and Managed Forest Tax Incentive Program (MFTIP) continued to increase. The area under MFTIP increased by 21% while areas under CLTIP increased by 58%.	
Sustainable management – Sustainable agriculture	3	Since 2020, participation in the Environmental Farm Plan program has remained relatively stable (approximately 4600 farms since 2020). From 1992 to 2024, over 53,000 farms participated in the program. Participation varied year to year.	

Trends Improvement Deterioration No change Mixed Baseline

Indicator	Related target	Status	Trend
Stewardship – Restoration area	9	The amount of land with stewardship and restoration activities in Ontario has increased, however, it is variable year to year.	

Photo by **Christoph Ng**

What's next?

This report is an important checkpoint in assessing progress towards achieving the goals and targets set out in Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030. Indicators will be updated online at **sobr.ca** as new information becomes available. Interested people, organizations, and governments can better understand, conserve and protect biodiversity when they have access to the best and most recent data and information.

The next State of Ontario's Biodiversity Report is anticipated in 2030. It will continue to detail the progress and efforts to implement Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy 2023-2030.

For additional information about the state of Ontario's biodiversity, and Ontario's Biodiversity Strategy visit **Ontariobiodiversitycouncil.ca** and **sobr.ca**.

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Photo by Sandra Johnson