

Potential Project Scenarios

Perhaps the best way to visualize the work the Centre for Conservation Policy will do, and why, is to consider a variety of real-world, but theoretical scenarios where the Centre could play a role.

1

A **provincial agency** is working to implement a **land use plan**, engaging **municipalities** as delivery agents, and basing the management actions on ecological science. A body that speaks all of these languages can help characterize stakeholder needs, assess policy options, identify gaps and traps, and actively facilitate processes.

2

A **group of conservation NGOs** with similar mandates but different operating models and areas of focus recognizes a **need for collaboration and coordination** but lacks capacity. A body that is a neutral third-party and understands the ENGO community, the conservation issues at play, and the policy environment in which they exist can help by providing background research and facilitation tailored to the group's expressed needs.

3

A senior **municipal staff member** recognizes there are both **fiscal and environmental liabilities** associated with allowing development in certain areas. A body that knows planning, finance, municipal governance, and conservation science can help by finding and collating data on the insurance costs and municipal liability associated with building in flood-prone areas, and overlay that with wildlife movement needs, riparian sensitivity, and municipal conservation policy.

4

An **economic development agency** recognizes that investment in the local economy can increase by aligning local standards with **disclosure reporting** that identifies both corporate impacts on, and opportunities for, biodiversity protection and enhancement. A body that understands financial disclosures and biodiversity science can help by bringing together conservation biologists and portfolio managers to develop measures for biodiversity that are both scientifically meaningful and capable of being incorporated into disclosure reporting.

5

A **group of rural municipalities** identifies opportunities for **wetland restoration**, but **lack the internal capacity** to realize

them. A body that understands wetland science, restoration practice, program management, funding agencies, and municipal governance can help by working with a municipality to design and deliver a locally-relevant and effective wetland restoration program.

6

A **planning body** is charged with understanding how to protect the environment while **facilitating growth** and

development. A body that understands **natural infrastructure**, the ecosystem services it provides, the ecological science of how they function, and how they can be incorporated into asset management plans can help by cataloguing the natural infrastructure assets, and assisting in the development of policy that can effectively guide their sustainable use.

7

A **gap in conservation policy** arises, sometimes unknowingly, and exists between two provincial agencies, between

two land uses, just outside of a mandate, or just **beyond the capacity** of the affected parties, but has the potential to harm biodiversity. A group that has policy knowledge, awareness of the conservation implications, research capability, and not-for-profit / charitable status can help by securing philanthropic funding and undertaking research to explore the questions that decision makers cannot devote resources to, work with the affected parties and other researchers to make it relevant, then make the results available to all.

8

'Policy' is boring, and no one wants to talk about it despite its pervasive impact on all aspects of conservation. A group that

has policy knowledge, communications expertise, and conservation goals can help by ensuring the **dialogue around conservation policy** constantly highlights how this affects all of us directly, exists in places we didn't expect, and is a route to protecting all the things we don't find boring.