

**Excerpt from the Darlington Provincial Park Management Plan (Amended 2014) showing proposed amendments to Sections 5.2 and 5.3:**

## **5.2. Vegetation Management**

Management of existing vegetation and proposed projects will be subject to requirements under the class environmental assessment for provincial parks and conservation reserves.

Park management will protect significant vegetative communities and plants including those identified in the park's reconnaissance biological inventory (See Appendix A, A Reconnaissance Biological Inventory of Darlington Provincial Park in Darlington Provincial Park Management Plan - Background Information Document).

The vegetative communities in the park will typically be allowed to evolve with minimum management interference; however, vegetative communities may be managed as needed, including but not limited to, ~~except for~~ the following situations:

- management of forest cover in the campgrounds and day-use areas to ensure visitor safety, and the long-term health of the tree(s).
- management of native plant species to maintain, enhance, rehabilitate or restore habitat (e.g., vegetation thinning to maintain Piping Plover habitat in accordance with the *Endangered Species Act, 2007*).
- planting of native, local species may be undertaken in order to maintain or restore natural environments.

Insects and diseases which do not threaten ecological integrity will be allowed to develop undisturbed in all zones of the park. Acceptable vegetative management procedures involve controlling non-native insects and diseases that threaten the values within the park as well as values outside of the park. Where control is desirable, it will be directed as narrowly as possible to the specific insect or diseases as to have minimal effects on other components of the park's environment.

Where invasive alien species threaten park values, a control/eradication program may be undertaken if feasible and practical. These species will not be deliberately introduced into the park.

## **5.3. Wildlife Management**

Sport fishing will be encouraged in offshore park waters.

A controlled waterfowl hunt will be allowed on McLaughlin Bay within the boundaries of the park. The waterfowl hunt is sanctioned through regulation under the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act*.

Nuisance animal control, if necessary, may be carried out under the strict supervision of /or directly by Ontario Parks.

Native species with the potential to become hyperabundant (e.g., Double-crested Cormorants) may be managed, as required, to protect the park's values and ecological integrity.

Population management will consider the broader landscape and best management practices.