

Verbatim Excerpt from “Trashing the Economy”

A 650 page, extensively researched analysis of 25 powerful Non-Government Organizations currently aiding and abetting various North American government agencies to disguise legislated transfer of private land to public benefit by regulation without compensation as an environmental priority or, all else failing, as a “public good”.

The Nature Conservancy (U.S.) and The Nature Conservancy of Canada

The Nature Conservancy’s (TNC) Natural Heritage Program, a joint venture with more than 40 state (provincial) governments lists natural wonders, rarities and habitats of endangered plants and animals. The money to do this comes from state, (provincial), federal, foundation and private funds. TNC sends in a 4-person team to each state (province) – a botanist, a zoologist, an ecologist and a data processing specialist. They ransack all available records, texts, theses, and museum collections to establish just what the state (province) has to protect. They examine real estate records and potential preservation sites for government “acquisition”. Then they enter all this accumulated information into a database. TNC’s Biological and Conservation Data System is distributed across 76 locations in the U.S., Canada, the Caribbean and Latin America. It consists of 45 integrated files sub-divided into 2000 data fields. The database holds information on 65,000 plant and animal species in 400,000 locations. This database is “so fine grained” says the Wall Street Journal “that, in some cases, it records the precise location of individual eagle nests and clumps of globally endangered grass”.

The Conservation Data Centre Network is an elaborate TNC-owned system designed and operated to train government agents to identify and track private property to enforce land use controls. In essence, TNC constructs a land use control database in a state (province) or nation and then gives the system to the government. Getting a private tract of land listed on the Natural Heritage Program focuses government attention on the property. This creates the expectation that it will someday be declared an undevelopable preserve, thus destroying its marketability as productive land and severely distorting its price, inflating it if government purchase is certain or depressing it if not.

FACT:

1. In 1996 TNC Canada pocketed \$600,000.00 from the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) “to design a system by which the Ontario government could acquire more land for public parks”.
2. A Natural Heritage Information database was subsequently established at Peterborough, Ontario operated by MNR, TNC and the Federation of Ontario Naturalists (FON).
3. All Ontario properties on which alleged endangered plant, animal, bird or aquatic life as identified and reported by professional or amateur observers are detailed on that database.
4. Prior landowner knowledge/consent is not sought, requests for a total of affected acreage to date are refused and database statistics in general limited to its 3 partners or their approved agents.
5. In 1996 TNC assets in the U.S. exceeded \$ 1 billion, its annual budget was \$275 million, it rostered 1500 employees, it claimed 700,000 members world wide and its Canadian operation owned 45,000 acres of land in Ontario alone on which no property taxes will ever be levied.