

## Projects in 2024

Each year, when possible, SOOS makes a donation to a conservation project from the proceeds of our annual Show and Sale in February. In 2024, we had the capacity to fund two projects.

In April, SOOS was awarded the AOS (American Orchid Society) Conservation Recognition Award. Part of the award was a grant of \$1,000 US. We looked at this as an opportunity to partner with other organizations on a conservation project. Along with the COC (Canadian Orchid Congress) and other partners, SOOS helped to fund the removal of a boardwalk on an Ontario Nature property at Petrel Point on the Saugeen Bruce Peninsula. Several years ago, Ontario Nature had replaced and upgraded the boardwalk on the south side of the fen where all the orchids may be viewed, making it wheelchair accessible. Their progress report for September is below. At the end of October, we received an email to let us know that the work had been completed.

One of the areas that SOOS has consistently supported is property acquisition. In order to preserve our native orchids, we need to ensure that they have places to grow and flourish. In 2024 SOOS was approached by the Thunder Bay Field Naturalists Club to assist in the acquisition of the McTavish Wetland near Thunder Bay. Their final report is below.



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