

# Dufferin says rare species have settled at rehab site

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tem, which is essentially limited to the operation of the system of pipes and pumps in Dufferin's proposed Adaptive Management Plan on the assumption that everything goes according to Dufferin's plans. These plans are in turn based on a great number of assumptions, of which some critical ones are open to challenge."

Milton council, the Niagara Escarpment Commission and CH have given their conditional approval for Dufferin to expand its quarry site, but Dufferin can't proceed with the expansion until it receives final approval as well as approval from the Ministry of Natural Resources.

Dufferin's rehabilitation plan for the quarries was another point of contention among attendees, with some saying that Dufferin doesn't

restore the quarries to their original environments.

"It's a cheap way of doing rehabilitation," said Ms Halsall. "They're not planting anything — they make lakes. They're not returning (the land) to what it was before."

But Dufferin representative Anne MacMillan highlighted a number of rare species that she said have already settled on the partly-rehabilitated main quarry.

### Land to go to public

If the proposed extension gets the green light, the land will be handed over for public use after extraction and rehabilitation, according to Dufferin.

"It is a logical next step to transfer ownership of the rehabilitated lands," said Sarah Lowe, Dufferin's property and resource manager.

"What a wonderful opportunity to complement Hilton Falls Conservation Area next door."

Ms Lowe said Dufferin fully supports CH's involvement, and added that the AMP includes rigorous procedures to ensure the environment is protected.

At the end of the meeting — at nearly midnight — Dufferin representatives shook hands and congratulated each other.

"I thought (CH) staff did an excellent job presenting their report. It was a good discussion, and I'm pleased with the outcome," said Tony Crutcher, an engineer and hydrogeologist, who spoke on behalf of Dufferin.

Stephanie Thiessen can be reached at [sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com](mailto:sthiessen@miltoncanadianchampion.com).

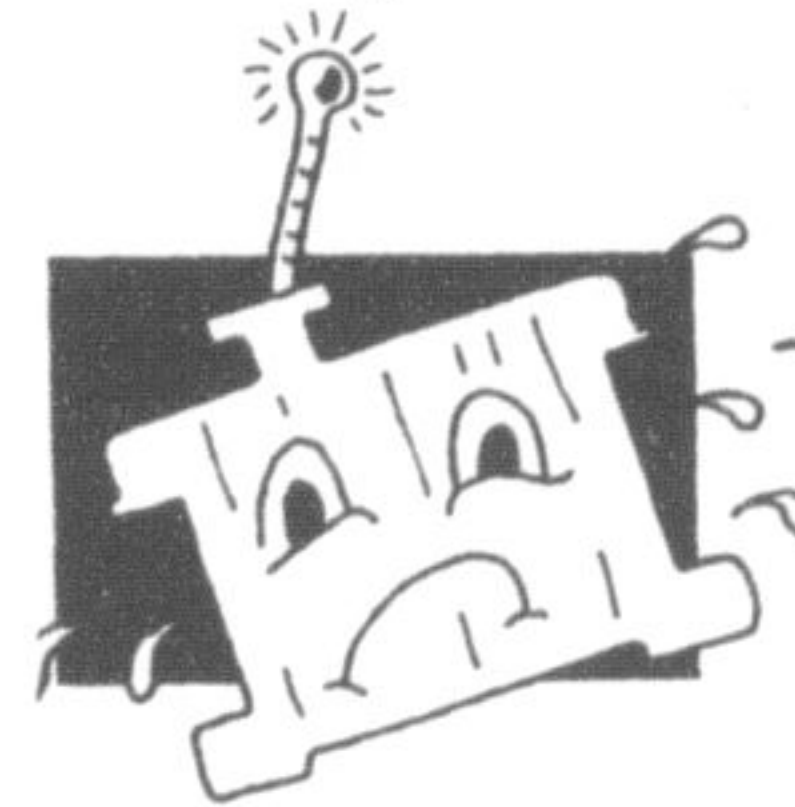


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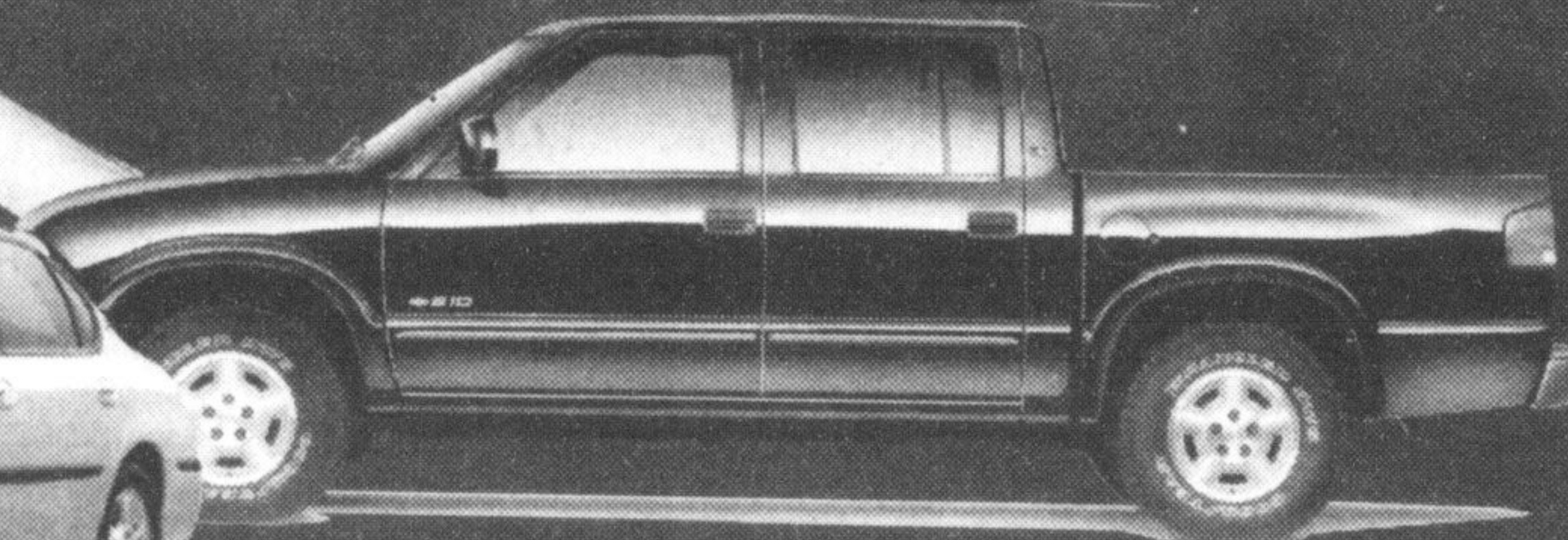
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