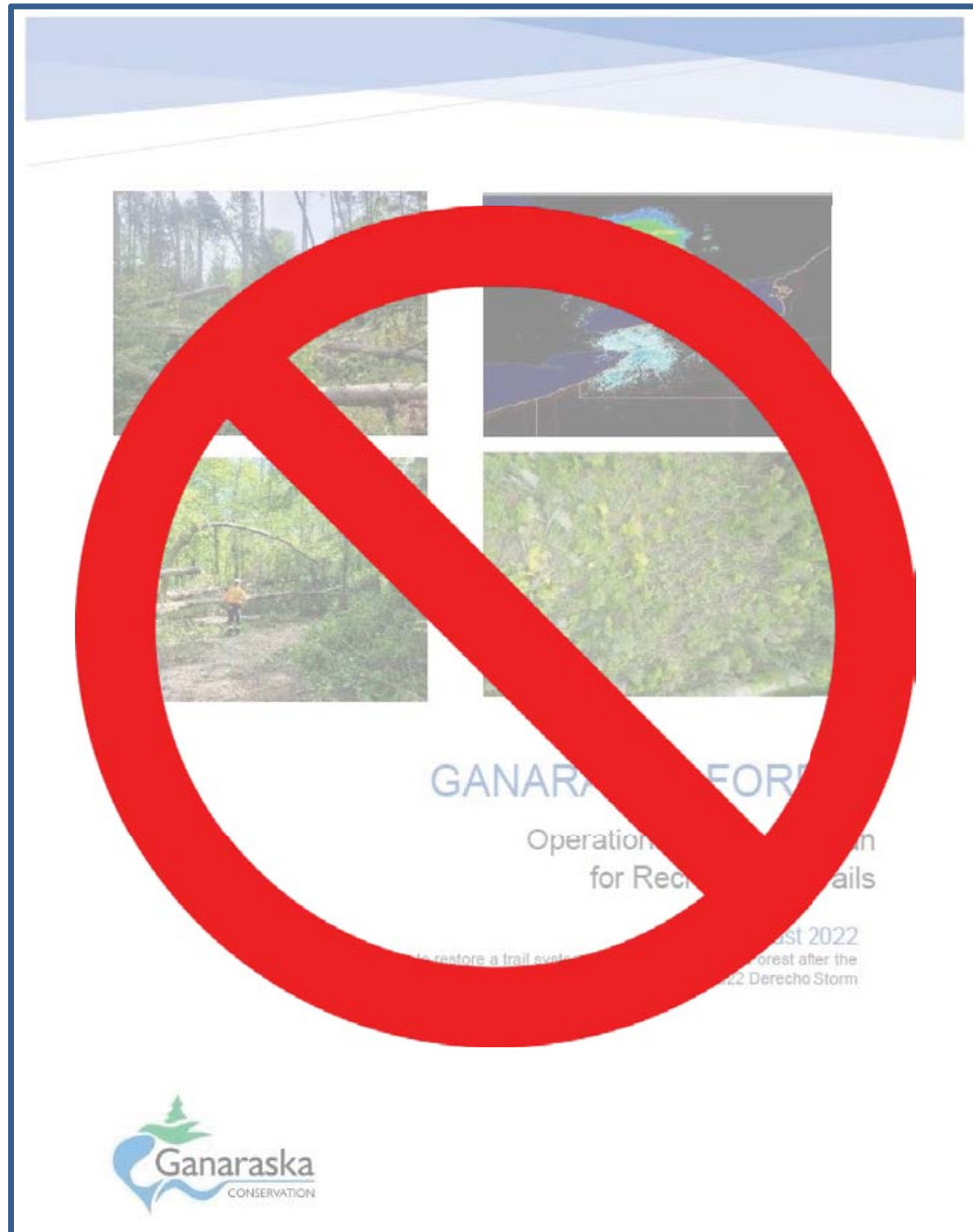


Port Hope GRCA Presentation to Council



Peter Swinton
December 20, 2022

2.4 Recording Secretary

A staff member of the Conservation Authority will be appointed by the CAO/Secretary-Treasurer and is a non-voting member of the Committee. In the absence of the Chair, the Recording Secretary role will be assumed by the Chair.

The agenda and minutes of each meeting will be posted on the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority website.

2.5 Amendments to Committee Structure and/or Terms of Reference

The Committee structure and the terms of reference will be reviewed annually at the first RUC meeting of the year, with recommendations being made to the GRCA Board of Directors regarding changes.

3.0 Rules of Order

All meetings will be conducted in a normal businesslike manner.

3.1 Public Participation (Delegation Policy)

The general public is welcome to attend all meetings, however to make representation to the Committee, a request must be made in writing to the Chair at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting. Such requests should include a brief summary of the nature of the presentation and the name of the person(s) making it. Presentations shall be limited to 10 minutes. Presenters should be prepared to answer questions from Committee members.

3.2 Correspondence

All correspondence pertaining to Committee business should be addressed to the appropriate member in care of the GRCA. Correspondence will normally be dealt with at the next meeting following receipt. Correspondence originating from the GRCA will be copied to the member(s) of the Committee, as appropriate.

3.3 Conduct of Business

At the discretion of the Chair, new business will be introduced by a notice of motion introduced at the meeting prior to when the business will be dealt with. This will permit members to solicit input prior to voting. Notices of motion require a mover and a seconder. All motions require a mover and a seconder. Discussions on motions will be limited to 10 minutes with extensions beyond this time at the discretion of the Chair. Members may speak twice on any motion. All motions will be decided by majority vote. A tie vote means that the motion is defeated. One half (50%) of the Committee's voting membership shall form a quorum for the transaction of business.

4.0 Meetings

Meetings of the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee shall normally be held on the first Thursday of the month for the months of April, June, September and November at the Administrative Office of the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority. Additional meetings will occur at the call of the Chair.

STAFF REPORT – September 1, 2022

To: Chair and Members of the Recreational Users Committee

RE: Ganaraska Forest Operational Recovery Plan of Recreational Trails

The Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) is viewing the disastrous Derecho Storm as an opportunity to improve recreational trail systems in the Ganaraska Forest while enhancing, restoring and protecting the ecological integrity of the Ganaraska Forest. In order to do so, the GRCA has developed an Operational Recovery Plan of Recreational Trails (ORP), that is adaptive to the ongoing challenges that storm recovery is posing. The implementation actions contained in the ORP considers the Ganaraska Forest ecosystem as the primary focus, with education and recreation programs as the secondary focal points.

Implementation of the ORP will result in the permanent closure of certain Forest areas, access points and trails to recreational users, but also the development of new trails/trail modifications where appropriate. Decision making will be based on ecological factors, as well as health and safety of recreational users and future trail maintenance and access considerations. The GRCA will preserve multi-use recreational opportunities.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee received the Ganaraska Forest Operational Recovery Plan of Recreational Trails as information.



Prepared by:

Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician

Table 1: Proposed Changes to Recreational Status

Ganaraska Forest Area	Proposed Recreational Status	Rational						
		Ecological	Health and Safety	Municipal	Neighbour	Infrastructure	Trails	Other
West Forest								
Wilcox Road WF1, 2,3, 4, 5, 10	Close	Mature hardwood stands, susceptible to compaction and invasive species. Wetlands in area. Unique topography.	Unauthorized trails up steep hills. Trails not monitored or maintained.	Only accessible via municipal right of way (ROW). Parking infrastructure is temporarily closed.	Concerns about parking and noise.	Parking infrastructure is temporarily closed.	Unauthorized trails. Topography challenges trail maintenance.	
Sandaraska Road WF27, 28	Close or Passive Use only	Reforestation area	Proper road crossings would need to be created to allow access to other Ganaraska Forest trails.	All trails lead to municipal ROW. Highway 115 crossing bisects parcel.	Provide noise barrier to neighbours.	No parking lots.		Significantly damaged by May 21 storm.
Parcels north of Boundary Road	Close	Mature hardwood stands, susceptible to compaction and invasive species.	Proper road crossings would need to be created to allow access to other Ganaraska Forest trails. Age of off-road vehicle user cause restrictions for driving on or crossing municipal ROW. Operators must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G1, M1 or greater.	Proper road crossings would need to be created to allow access to other Ganaraska Forest trails. The trail leading from P6 south, on the east side is on a municipal ROW.			Technically, no connection to trail system to south given municipal ROW divide. P6 connection on GRCA lands is only through two single track trails.	If municipalities allow motorized use on this section, then consideration may be given to use. Access considerations may be given to partners in this area through agreements.
McMillan Road WF55	Close	Provides access to sensitive, mature riparian habitat on private and GRCA land that has historically had regular evidence of recreational damage.		Trails leads to municipal ROW.	Private property access concerns.	No parking lots.	Still requires an operational road for forest management.	

Ganaraska Forest Area	Proposed Recreational Status	Rational						
		Ecological	Health and Safety	Municipal	Neighbour	Infrastructure	Trails	Other
Area west of Cold Spring Camp Road WF60, 59, 58, 57	Close	Erosion prone trails.	Unable to maintain consistent road surface.	Access partially by municipal ROW.	Trails lead to private property.			Existing non-motorized area in portions. Area significantly damaged from derecho storm.
Area west and north-east of Carscadden Road WF21	Close	Very hilly/erosion prone. Hardwood location. Riparian zone impacted by unauthorized crossing.	Hill climb is unsafe.		Trails lead to private property.		Trail is already closed however significant non-compliance (trespass, access and trail use).	
Lookout Hill Area, P7, WF8, 7, 6, 11, 17, 18, 19	Close	Hardwood dominant Sensitive hills. Grassland /meadow potential. Significant invasive species presence along recreational trails. Extreme erosion.	Hill climbs unsafe.	Connection to municipal ROW.	Trails lead to private property. Neighbour issues with P7.	Parking lot P7 will not be required. .	Trails lead to closed sensitive areas.	Ongoing efforts to restrict access to hills. Ongoing non-compliance, trespass issues and vandalism. GRCA snow course within this area.
West property boundary between Boundary Road and Wilcox Road (West of WF 11 to 14)	Close	Mature hardwood stands, susceptible to compaction and invasive species.	User encroachment on neighbouring gravel pit.		This area is too close to private residences and leads to private property.			User access to closed private property trails.

Ganaraska Forest Area	Proposed Recreational Status	Rational						
		Ecological	Health and Safety	Municipal	Neighbour	Infrastructure	Trails	Other
Central Forest								
South of Oak Hill Road CF30	Close	Two Areas of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) at south end: <i>Ganaraska Forest West of Carmel</i> and provincially significant <i>Garden Hill Pitted Outwash</i> . Provincially significant wetland at south end (<i>Elizabethville North</i>)		Connection to municipal ROW.	Access to private property.	No parking lots.	Trails are operational only. No connection to the rest of the Ganaraska Forest trail system.	Trail overgrown Illegal (to GRCA rules) hunting structures present throughout.
Area east of CF 22 and 23 trail	Relocate hunting boundary to this location	Forest pool present that attracts lots of wildlife. Also used as horse watering station.	Move hunting line further east of current location.	Create a formal road crossing across the municipal ROW.	Access to private property.	Create a parking lot at CF29.	Existing trail network is usable.	Moving hunting boundary to allocate more space for passive use trails in Central Forest to allow for development of more inclusive trail system and bypass private property if required. Area will remain non-motorized.
Area around private property, CF 15, 17	Reroute (potential)	Old growth designate High Conservation Value (HCV) status in this area.			Considerations needed to private property in this area.		New trails cannot be established in old growth area.	

Ganaraska Forest Area	Proposed Recreational Status	Rational						
		Ecological	Health and Safety	Municipal	Neighbour	Infrastructure	Trails	Other
East Forest								
Woodvale School Road EF 23 to 34	Close EF 31, 32, 33 and 34. Passive use EF 23 through to 30.	Prairie restoration potential (several indication species present). 2 harvest cuts minimum left.	Road Crossings not formalized. Age of Off-Road Vehicle user causes restrictions for driving on or crossing municipal ROW. Operators must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G1, M1 or greater.	Multiple municipal ROW to cross/ consider.	Many trails lead to private property.	No formal parking areas.	Unauthorized use of trail network is significant. Historical connections to trails no longer used (OFSC).	Hydro corridor access cause challenges. High rate of vandalism (e.g., trail grading, fence cutting during storm closure).
Isolated parcels EF16, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22	Close or Passive	EF18 and 19 high quality mature oak/hemlock stand.		Every trail leads to municipal ROW, which does not support motorized use.	Trails lead to private property	No formal parking areas.	Trails are operational in nature.	No motorized connection between parcels. Will be heavily used by neighbours and those close to these lands. GRCA would authorize the OFSC use of certain trails.
EF17 Parcel	Close		Crosses private property.		Land locked by private property.		No publicly accessible trails, only operational trails.	Steep, difficult terrain (locally named Monkey Mountain)
Walker Road/10 th EF1 to 15	Open passive use only or passive and motorized use	High quality, mature oak and riparian stands present.	Road crossings need to be formalized Age of off-road vehicle user causes restrictions for driving on or crossing municipal ROW. Operators must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G1, M1 or greater.	Roads lead to municipal ROW.	Trails lead to private property. Some neighbours do not want motorized use within this area.	Parking lot exists but small.	Trails include rough terrain in spots.	Uncertain ownership of rail bed.

Table 2: Improvements to Recreational Trail System

Change	Rational	Implementation Process and (Timeline ⁴)
West Forest		
Creation of a ring trail within the West Forest to allow traversing of perimeter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Allow recreational use on GRCA lands, without needing to access or cross municipal ROW. • Eliminates unauthorized motorized traveling between the West, Central and East Forests. • Provides a buffer to private residences and property from trail system (sound and visual impacts). • Provides greatest connection of trails within the West Forest. • Reduces, through elimination, the number of access points from private property and ends of municipal open roads and ROW. • Allows Parking Lot P2 to be the controlled access location, which is off a maintained municipal road. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Map where trail creation needs to occur to create ring trail, verify digital trail to field conditions. (ST) • Have loggers harvest trees if required. (ST if operationally feasible) • Have trail bulldozed if required. (ST) • Signage installed. (ST) • Barriers of trails or trail decommission of those that lead to property edge. (ST) • Develop media / tourism promotional plan detailing what the Ganaraska West Forest has to offer. (ST)
Create formal emergency and operational access points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency response requires designated access points into the Forest for safe ingress and egress. • The GRCA requires operational access points for Forest management and recreational management and harvest operations. • The following locations that would be considered for restricted access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wilcox Road W10 • Carscadden Road WF9 • The Dell WF39 • Mercer Road WF52 • Langstaff Road WF55 • Boundary Road at P3/W13 • Boundary Road at Sandaraska Road WF26 • Boundary Road at Porter Road WF31 • Boundary and Glamorgan Road WF62 • Cold Springs Camp Road WF67 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Emergency Services and Municipalities to discuss. (ST) • Install restricted access barriers (e.g., gates) and signage. (ST to MT) • Fence areas of West Forest to limit unauthorized access. (MT to LT)
Enlarge P2 to become main recreational access point to the West Forest	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GRCA must provide parking for recreational users and allow this access to be controlled using gates. • Controlled access allows for improved compliance of users and allows consideration to facilities such as washrooms and gatehouse. • Road access is an open municipal road close to Highway 115. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enlarge area for additional parking. (ST to MT) • Install gates and signage. (ST to MT) • Complete parking enforcement process with the Municipality of Clarington. (ST) • Require that all motorized use accesses the West Forest through Parking Lot P2 (ST)
Closing or use change identified in Table 1	See Table 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize signage to inform of closures or change in use. (ST to MT) • Re-map areas for recreational trail maps. (ST and ongoing)

⁴ ST = Short Term (1 to 3 years), MT = Medium Term (4 to 5 years), LT = Long Term (5+years). Longer timeframes exist due to funding requirements or operational components needed to implement projects.

Change	Rational	Implementation Process and (Timeline ⁴)
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Install barriers (infrastructure or natural) where required to restrict access. (ST and ongoing) • Close parking lots using fences and/or gates. (ST and as needed) • Installation of power/internet and kiosk, possibly gatehouse staff. (MT to LT) • Implementation of operating hours (e.g., dawn to dusk). Gates close and open at specific times. (ST to MT) • Fence West Forest. (LT)

Central Forest		
Shift the no hunting boundary to the east (CF20 to just east of southern hunting boundary) and install a parking lot at CF29.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shifting of hunting boundary east allows for future trail expansion in Central Forest. • Existing parking potential exists, and expansion of this area could allow for additional parking areas access this section of the Central Forest. Doing so will help to ensure hunters have walkable access to hunting area without crossing no-hunting areas or driving unauthorized motorized vehicles into the non-motorized Central Forest. • Parking lot is off an open municipal road. • Protect / provide barrier for private property boundary. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move signage. (ST) • Improve existing area for parking. (ST) • Expand CF29 area to facilitate a parking lot. (MT to LT) • Communicate the rules regarding operating motorized vehicles (not allowed) within Central Forest and outlining the new hunting boundary. (ST)
Improve trail system by addressing trouble areas (sharp bends, steep hills), through trail re-routing and closures.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certain dangerous trail sections will be closed to reduce safety concerns of staff and users. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Utilize logging activity to remove trees that cause sharp bends and other issues. (ST and ongoing as needed) • Utilize logging activity to create trail bypasses. (As operationally possible) • GRCA staff are working to identify areas of concern and address issues where use of logging contractors is unfeasible. (ST and ongoing)
Restrict recreational access points from Fire Route 3 and 101 in the Township of Cavan Monaghan.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • One access point into the non-hunting section of the Central Forest is required. This location is at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. All other recreational access points will be considered for closure along Fire Route 3 and 101. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with the Township of Cavan Monaghan to install signage, fencing and barriers to separate GRCA property from unauthorized users coming from the Millbrook Valley Trail system (ST to MT). • Work with partners to reroute all single track away from Fire Route 3 (consider a 100m buffer) and close/ block all trails within that buffer zone (ST to MT).
Create formal emergency and operational access points.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency services require designated access points into the Forest for safe ingress and egress. • The GRCA requires operational access points for Forest management and recreational management and harvest operations. • Consider the following locations that would have restricted access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carmel Line CF21 and CF8 • Trew Road CF16 • Oak Hill Road CF27 • 10th Line CF25 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with Emergency Services and Municipalities to discuss. (ST) • Install restricted access barriers (e.g., gates) and signage. (ST to MT).

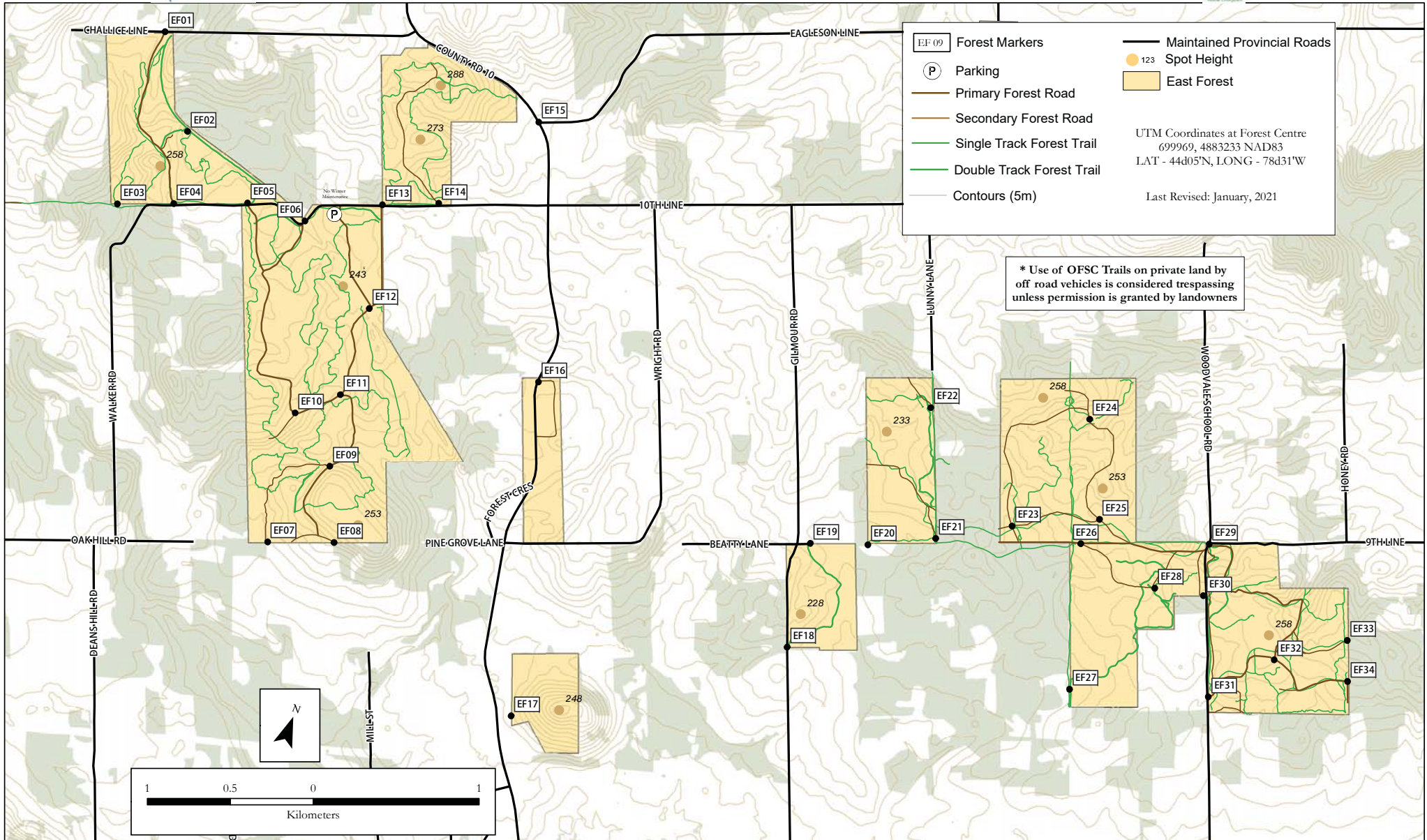
Change	Rational	Implementation Process and (Timeline ⁴)
Create formal crossings along the 10 th Line ROW	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow for non-motorized trail connection between south and north parcels along 10th line (municipal ROW). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with the Municipality of Port Hope to discuss (ST). Install signage (ST).
East Forest		
Create a loop trail within the Walker Road/10 th Line GRCA parcels.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allow recreational use on GRCA lands, with formal road crossings. Provides a buffer to private residences and property from trail system (sound and visual impacts). Provides connection of trails within this section f the East Forest. Eliminates the number of access points from private property and ends of municipal roads/ROW. Parking lot P5 remains official parking lot. Age of Off-Road Vehicle user causes restrictions for driving on or crossing municipal ROW. Operators must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G1, M1 or greater. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Map where trail creation needs to occur to create ring, verify digital trail to field conditions (ST). Have loggers harvest trees if required. (ST if operationally feasible) Have trail bulldozed if required. (ST) Signage installed. (ST) Barriers of trails or trail decommission of those that lead to property edge. (ST to MT) Create an East Forest rule that requires all motorized operators must be in possession of a valid G1, M1 or greater licence to access this area. Limit youth riding to West Forest or require all motorized users to hold a valid licence to purchase a pass. (ST)
Create formal emergency and operational access points	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Emergency services require designated access points into the Forest for safe ingress and egress. The GRCA requires operational access points for Forest management and recreational management and harvest operations. Consider the following locations that would have restricted access: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10th Line EF4, P5, EF14 County Road 10 EF16 Gilmour Road EF18/EF19 Lunny Lane EF22, EF21 Woodvale School Road EF29, EF31, EF26 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet with Emergency Services and Municipalities to discuss. (ST) Install restricted access barriers (e.g., gates) and signage. (ST to MT)
Consider turning all parcels east of County Road 10 into non-motorized trails or closing some to use.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> These parcels are isolated, small in size and have no infrastructure to support recreational use access. The feasibility of these parcels as part the Ganaraska Forest recreational program needs to be evaluated with public consultation. Municipality does not authorize the use of off-road vehicles on roads. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Re-open as passive only. There is no infrastructure to support trailering off-road vehicles or users who drive to the area (ST). Install signage to support passive use only (ST). Create options for East Forest East of County Road 10 to support public consultation (ST). Age of Off-Road Vehicle user causes restrictions for driving on or crossing municipal ROW. Operators must be 16 years of age and hold a valid G1, M1 or greater (ST)

GRCA Website – Interactive Forest Map



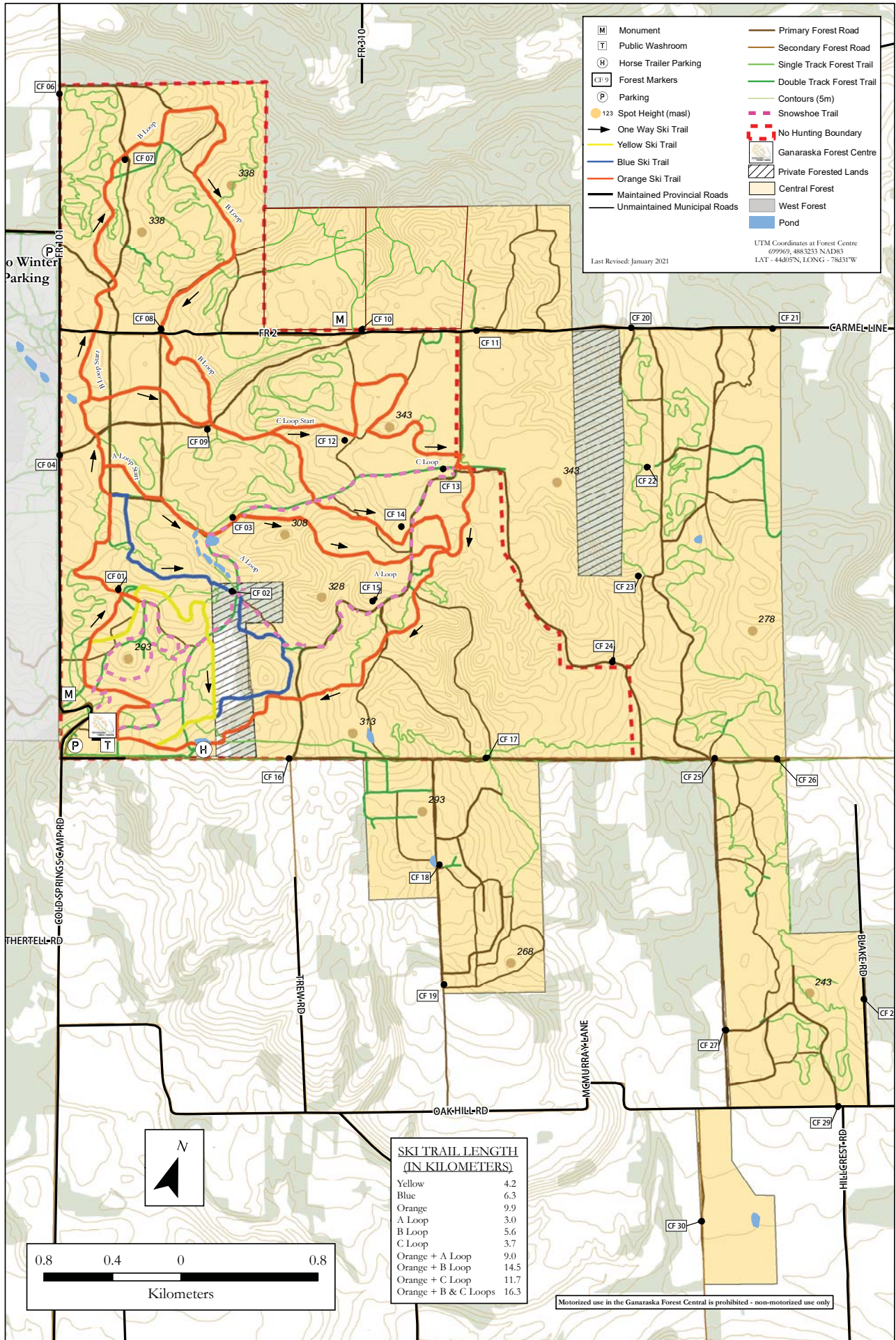
As of November 27, 2022

The Ganaraska Forest - East Forest

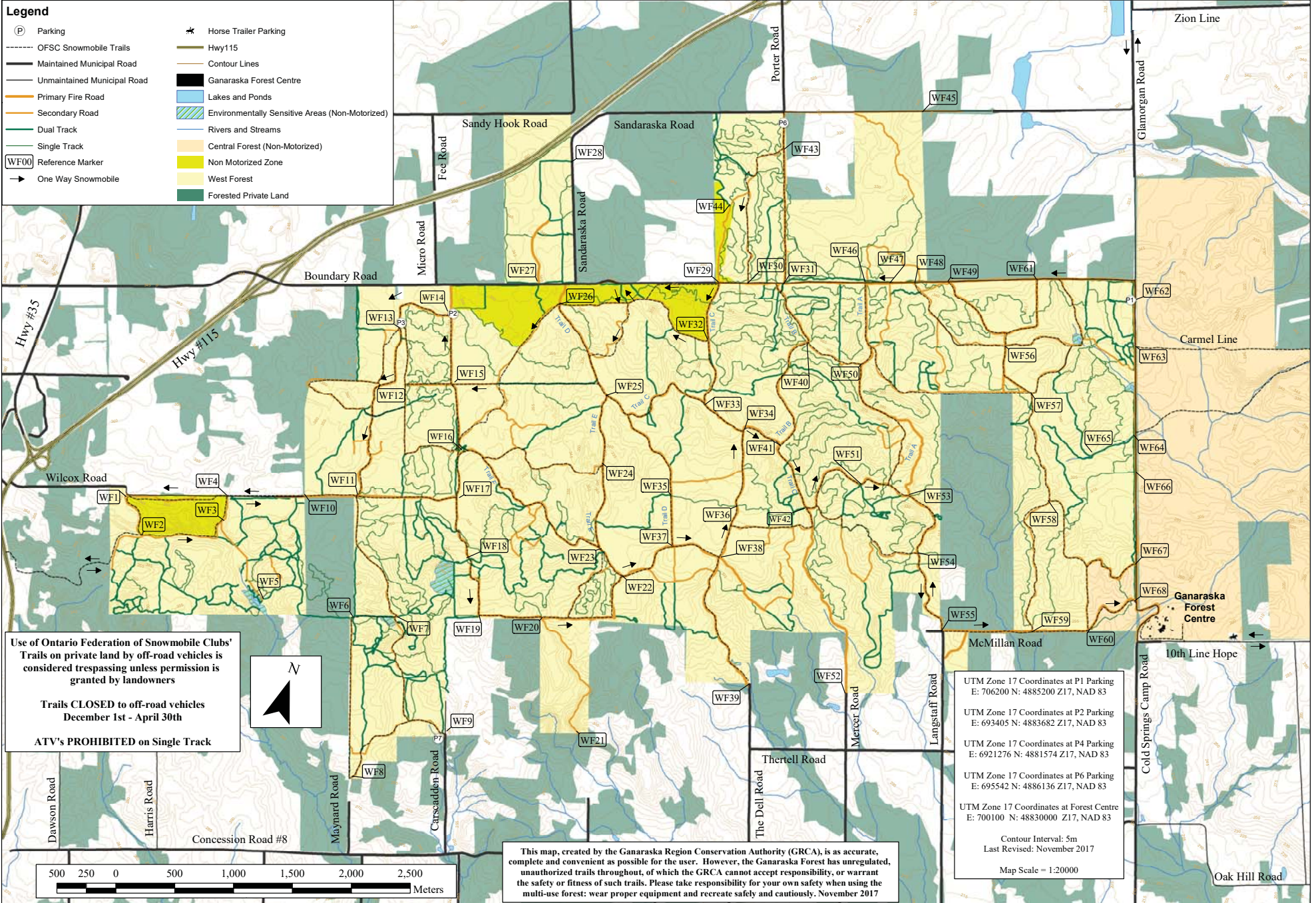


EF 09	Forest Markers	—	Maintained Provincial Roads
(P)	Parking	● 123	Spot Height
—	Primary Forest Road	■	East Forest
—	Secondary Forest Road		
—	Single Track Forest Trail		UTM Coordinates at Forest Centre 699969, 4883233 NAD83 LAT - 44d05'N, LONG - 78d31'W
—	Double Track Forest Trail		Last Revised: January, 2021
—	Contours (5m)		

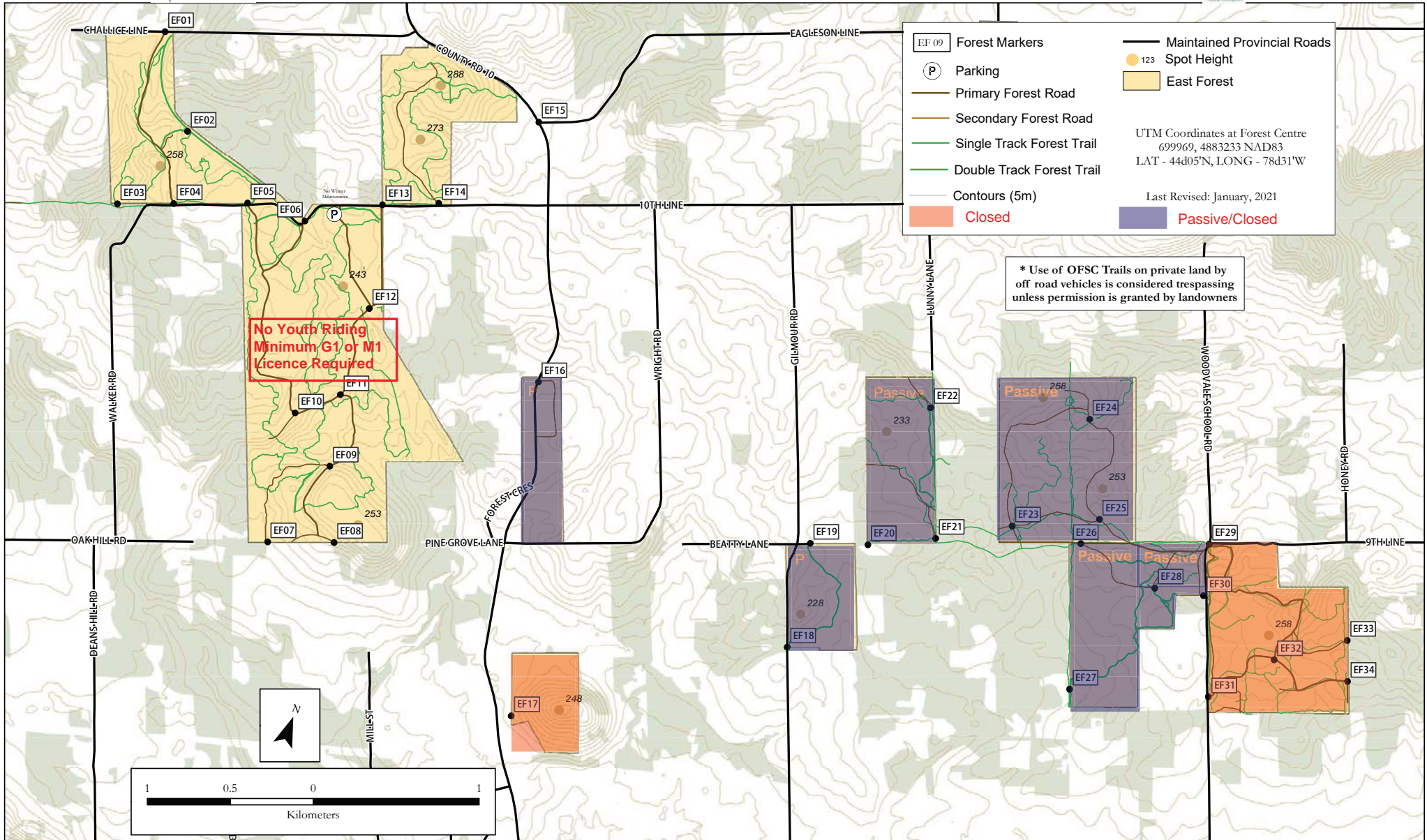
*** Use of OFSC Trails on private land by off road vehicles is considered trespassing unless permission is granted by landowners**

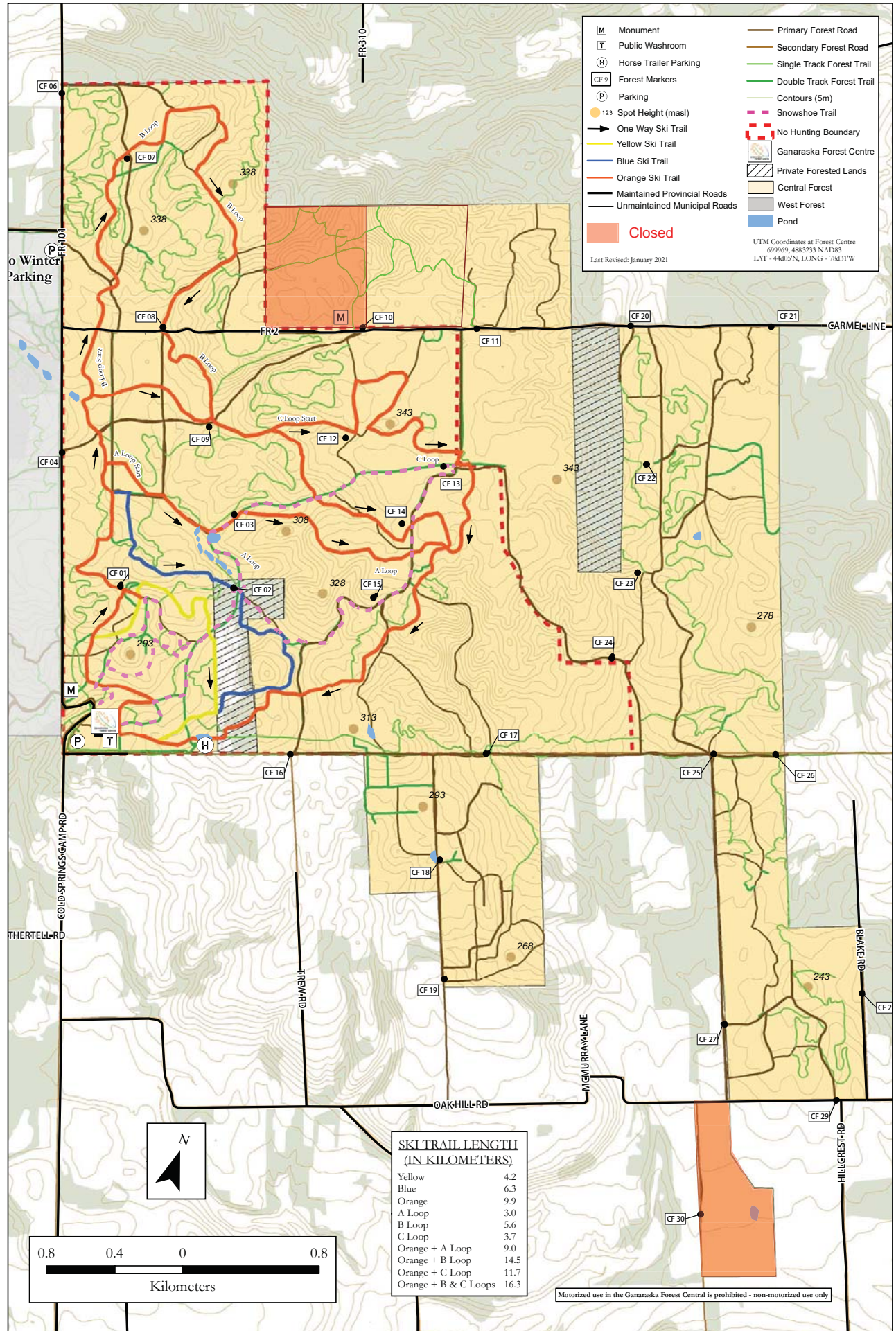


The Ganaraska Forest - West Forest

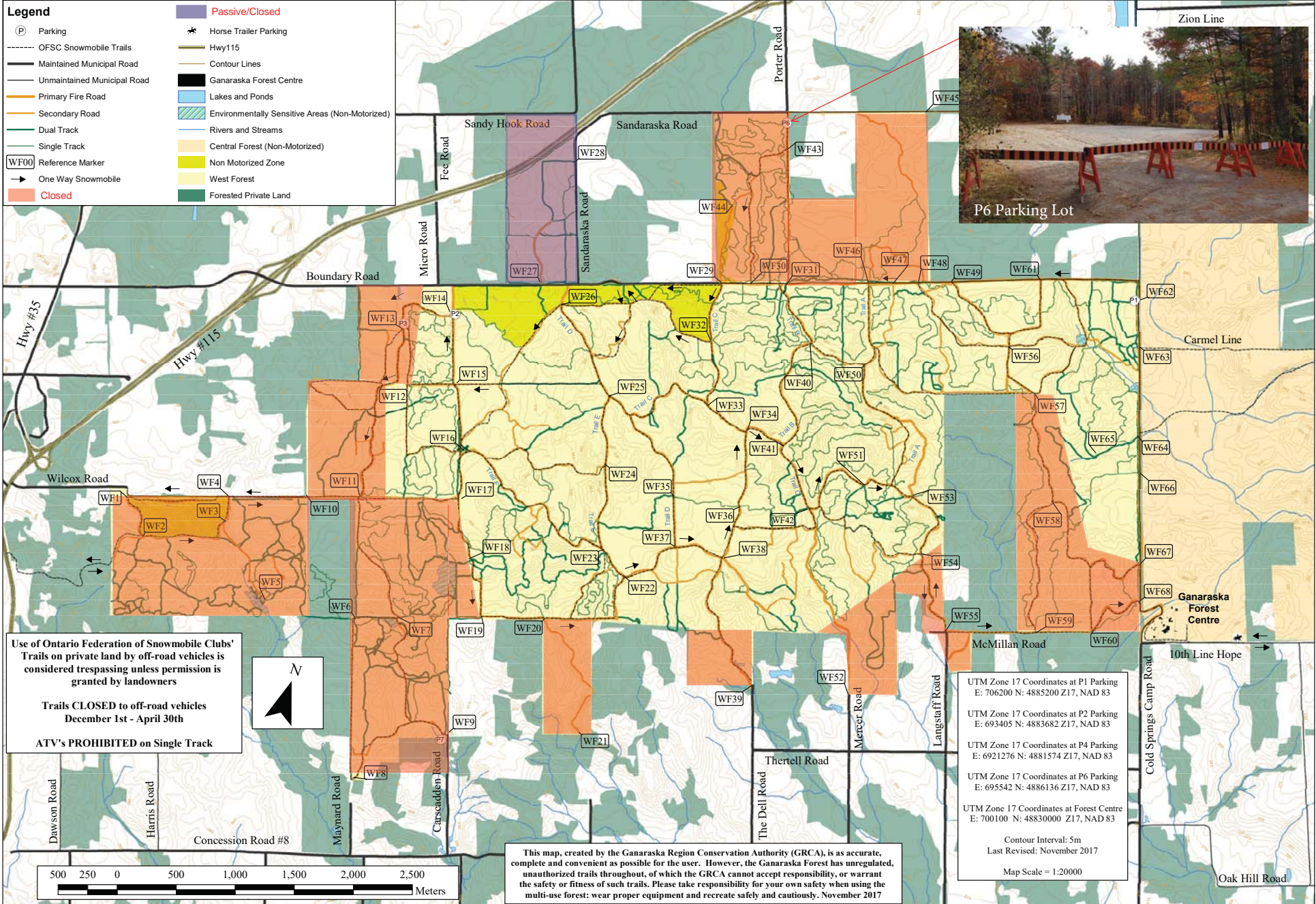


The Ganaraska Forest - East Forest





The Ganaraska Forest - West Forest



STAFF REPORT – November 3, 2022

To: Chair and Members of the Recreational Users Committee

RE: Review of the Ganaraska Forest Trail System

The Derecho Storm of May 21, 2022 has provided the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority (GRCA) with an opportunity to study the functionality and feasibility of the current trail network offered at the Ganaraska Forest. During preliminary surveys, staff identified several areas of concern with the current trail network. Utilizing the Operational Recovery Plan as a guideline, GRCA plans to address challenging areas in order to provide a safe and inclusive trail system.

The following is a non-inclusive **list of problematic areas Staff have identified:**

- **Existence of unofficial trails within the GRCA owned Ganaraska Forest.** The official origin of most of these trails is undocumented.
- GRCA does not maintain or authorize the use of these unofficial trails.
- Safety hazards caused by extreme erosion on GRCA sanctioned trails
- Unofficial trails may lead users into environmentally sensitive areas and/or no-trespassing areas or onto neighbouring lands.
- GRCA is unable to provide site specific trail maintenance on a large portion of the unofficial trail network
- There is an over abundance of unofficial and unauthorized access points into the Ganaraska Forest
- Several Parking areas and trails infringe on municipal road use rules

GRCA plans to address these and other trail concerns through consultation with the Recreational User Committee (RUC). GRCA is developing a plan to implement trail restructuring with the intent of enhancing the Forest user experience. Implementation of this redevelopment is under the Ganaraska Forest Operational Recovery Plan (ORP). Over the coming months, the GRCA will look to the RUC and representatives from authorized user categories to provide feedback on specific areas of concern. **In advance of consultation, GRCA is taking immediate action to curtail significant challenges.** The following is a list of actions requiring immediate action.

Immediate response to trail concerns:

- All trails infringing on GRCA neighbours, do not meet GRCA standards or are unauthorized by municipal rules will be blocked and/ or signed as closed.
- GRCA has removed all unofficial trails from current GRCA mapping this mapping is found at [Ganaraska Forest Recreation Trails | GRCA \(ganaraskaforestcentre.ca\)](https://www.ganaraskaforestcentre.ca)
- GRCA is restricting parking areas to help control access.
- GRCA is increasing the overall capacity of Parking Lot P2 in order to offer authorized access to the trail network.
- Staff are addressing immediate winter trail safety and operational concerns

Restoring and protecting the ecological integrity of the Ganaraska Forest is of utmost priority to the GRCA. In order to ensure the Ganaraska Forest remains a healthy ecosystem for future generations, the GRCA and RUC need to act now and provide a sustainable Recreational Trail system plan that meets the needs of tomorrows multi-use trail requirements.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Ganaraska Forest Recreational Users Committee received the Redevelopment of the Ganaraska Forest Trail System report as information.



Prepared by:

Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician

Missing Single-Track Trail Markers



STAFF REPORT – October 20, 2022

TO: Chair and Members of the Gnaraska Region Conservation Authority

Re: Delegation – Peter Swinton

Peter Swinton has requested to be a delegation at the October 20, 2022 Board of Directors meeting. He will be speaking to the September 30th partial reopening of the forest, and the extension of memberships.

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT the Board of Directors receive the delegation for information and refer information from the presentation to staff.

Prepared by:



**Linda J. Laliberte, CPA, CGA
CAO/Secretary-Treasurer**

2. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

GRCA 37/22

MOVED BY: Vicki Mink

SECONDED BY: Jeff Lees

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority approve the minutes of the September 15, 2022 meeting.

CARRIED.

4. Adoption of the Agenda

GRCA 38/22

MOVED BY: Greg Booth

SECONDED BY: Tracy Richardson

THAT the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority adopt the agenda.

CARRIED.

5. Delegations

a) Delegation – Judith Blakely and Dave Millier

Judith Blakely and David Millier addressed the Board of Directors on behalf of the Ganaraska Members Action Group. Their presentation spoke to the concerns of the group regarding the management and reopening of the Ganaraska Forest. The presentation also made reference to a petition that has been circulating.

b) Delegation – Peter Swinton

Peter Swinton addressed the Board of Directors speaking to the September 30th partial reopening of the forest, and the extension of memberships.

Board members asked for confirmation of bylaws and provincial regulations.

GRCA 39/22

MOVED BY: Brian Darling

SECONDED BY: Tim Belch

THAT the Board of Directors receive the delegations for information and refer the information from the presentation to staff.

CARRIED.

6. Presentations

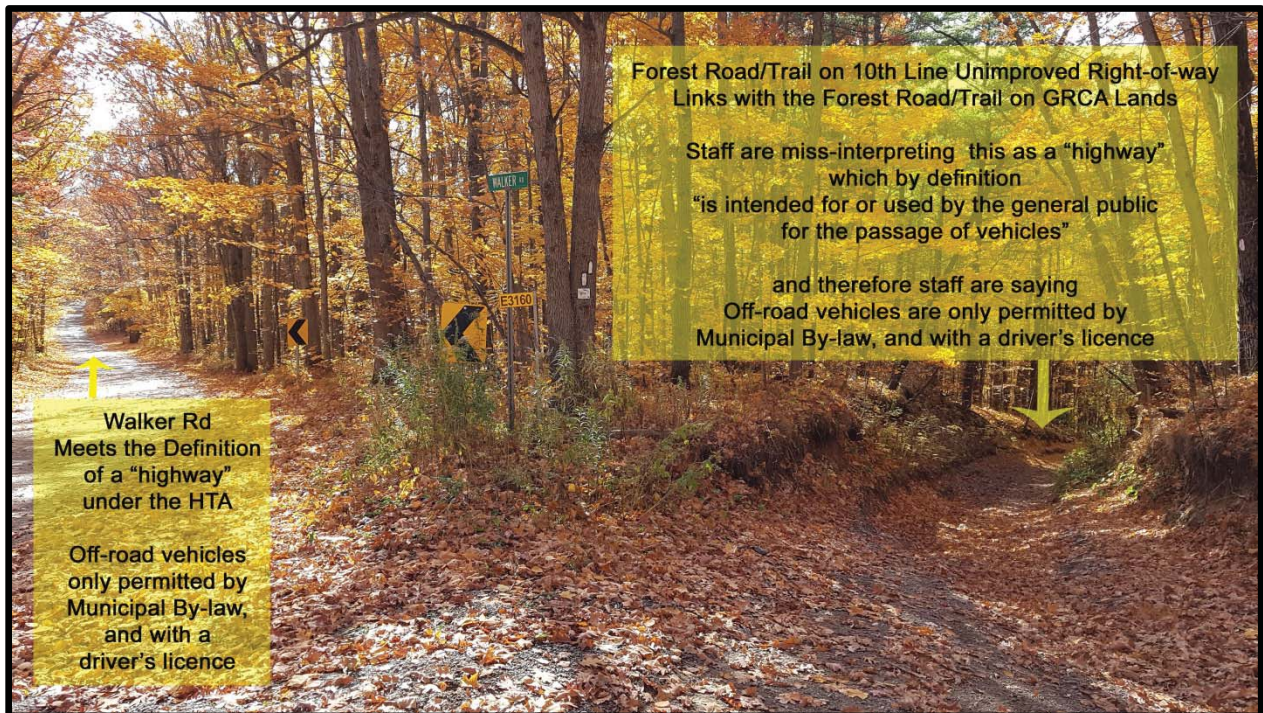
a) Ganaraska Forest Update

Pam Lancaster, Conservation Lands Coordinator, Gus Saurer, Forester and Ed Van Osch, Forest Recreation Technician, provided the Board members with an update on the storm damage, clean up and reopening of the Forest following a derecho storm of May 21, 2022. Staff also spoke to the Ganaraska Forest Operational Recovery Plan for

Municipal Rights of Way – How Staff Justify Closing Major Sections of the Forest



10th Line at Walker Rd – Looking East, East Forest



10th Line at Walker Rd – Looking West, East Forest

- Red pine polewood compartments (younger stands of plantation) are all to be thinned within the next 5 years.
- White pine polewood compartments are all to be thinned within the next 5 years.
- Red pine and white pine sawlog compartments that have a basal area measured in 2017 of greater than 32 m²/ha are all to be thinned within the next 10 years.
- Ensure that the mixed pine compartments are being managed and that the compartments greater than 32 m²/ha are being thinned and regenerated over the next 10 years.
- Ensure that the larch and white spruce compartments are being managed and they are regenerating to white pine or white spruce and all are thinned within the next 5 years.
- Ensure that the average annual allowable harvest for all conifer plantations is less than 235 ha/year for the next 10 years.
- Ensure that all hardwood stands are being managed to move towards an all aged stand structure. Ensure that the development and protection of species diversity and late stage successional species are major objectives for this management. The harvest area target for hardwood will not exceed a total of 500 ha over the next 10 years.
- Wherever and whenever possible, remove poplar from stands. Poplar will always be part of the Ganaraska Forest but in most cases it is competing with and overtopping white pine and hardwood regeneration. As markets develop, thin and remove poplar as a competing force within these stands.

5.7 Recreation Within the Forest

The Ganaraska Forest will be maintained, enhanced and restored over the long term in recognition of the many ecological, economic and social benefits that it provides. The Ganaraska Forest Management Plan will support access to the Ganaraska Forest by families and individuals recognizing the value of the Ganaraska Forest from a human health, wellness and active living perspective. Forestry operations will be integrated into the multi-use program for the Ganaraska Forest, and road and trail closures will only be implemented when and if there are public safety concerns between harvest operations and users. Other trail closures will only occur when ecological attributes of the forest are being significantly impacted by continued trail use.

6.0 FOREST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

6.1 Silviculture

The *Forestry Act (1990)* defines Good Forestry Practices as: “*the proper implementation of harvest, renewal and maintenance activities known to be appropriate for the forest and environmental conditions under which they are being applied and that minimize*

d) Member Accountability

Participating Municipalities appoint Members to the Authority as their representatives. Members have the responsibilities of Directors of the corporation that is the Authority. While the administration is responsible for the day-to-day operations, the General Membership is responsible for matters of governance, ensuring compliance with applicable legislation, and ensuring appropriate policies are in place and for financial soundness of the Authority.

All Members have the responsibility to be guided by and adhere to the Code of Conduct (Appendix 1) and Conflict of Interest Policy (Appendix 2), as adopted by the Authority.

Members are responsible for:

- i. Attending all meetings of the Authority;
- ii. Understanding the purpose, function and responsibilities of the authority;
- iii. Being familiar with the Authority's statutory and other legal obligations;
- iv. With the administration, setting strategic direction for the Authority.

e) Applicable Legislation

In addition to the Act, the Members are subject to other legislation including, but not limited to:

- Municipal Conflict of Interest Act
- Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act

If any part of the by-law conflicts with any provision of the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act or the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act or a provision of a regulation made under one of those acts, the provision of that act or regulation prevails.

f) Relationship Between Members and Staff

The General Membership relies on the Chief Administrative Officer and/or Secretary-Treasurer to manage the operations of the organization, including all employees of the Authority. The Chief Administrative Officer and/or Secretary Treasurer is accountable to the Authority, working cooperatively to achieve the goals established by the Authority.

The General Membership will ensure that a process exists for regular performance evaluations of the Chief Administrative Officer and/or Secretary-Treasurer.

2. Officers

The Officers of the Authority, and their respective responsibilities, shall be:

CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT

This program area includes all expenses associated with land or buildings either owned or managed by the Authority. This area is divided into passive recreation and programmed recreation.

Passive Recreation – The costs associated with lands and buildings that do not have active programming. The expenses included are the costs for owning or managing the land.

Programmed Recreation – The direct costs associated with delivering active programming on Conservation Authority lands. This includes the Ganaraska Forest Centre and the Ganaraska Forest.

Ganaraska Forest Centre - For over forty years, the Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority has provided a unique outdoor education experience to elementary and secondary students at the Ganaraska Forest Centre. The outdoor education facility offers both day and overnight education programming. Such programs offered are: map reading, orienteering, forest studies and stream and pond study. As well, the facility is rented out to Scouts and Girl Guides for weekend use. COVID-19 continues to impact the Forest Centre revenues areas including but not limited to outdoor education programming as well as wedding venue rentals.

Ganaraska Forest – On April 1st, 1997, the Conservation Authority took back management of the Ganaraska Forest from the Ministry of Natural Resources. Revenue from the forest comes from the sale of timber and membership fees. For 2023, the revenue from timber contracts are estimated at \$250,000.00. The membership revenue expected to be significantly decrease given that 2022 memberships will be extended as a result of the forest closure caused by the derecho storm of May 21, 2022. It is anticipated that the damage caused by this storm will impact future forest timber management revenues. The partnership with Treetop Trekking continues and revenues are estimated at \$36,000.00.

	Category (1,2,3)	2022 Budget	2022 Projected Total	2022 Grant	2022 Levy	2022 Other Funds	2023 Budget	2023 Grant	2023 Levy	2023 Other Funds	
CONSERVATION LAND MANAGEMENT:											
PASSIVE RECREATION											
	1										
Wages & Benefits		175,000	167,900			10,000	191,500			10,000	Employment Program
Staff Expenses, Training		500	0				500				
Maintenance of C.A.'s		47,000	2,000				37,000				Hazard trees, invasive species
Equipment Fuel & Repairs		5,000	1,500				5,000				
Motor Pool		6,000	10,000				10,000				
Taxes		8,000	5,500				8,000				
Insurance		13,000	14,197				14,900				
Signage		20,000	0				20,000				
Capital Asset Replacement		54,896	41,230			30,000	34,896			20,000	Capital Asset Replacement
TOTAL		329,396	242,327	0	289,396	40,000	321,796	0	291,796	30,000	
PROGRAMMED RECREATION:											
Ganaraska Forest Centre											
	3										
Wages & Benefits		238,240	234,991			198,700	267,940			208,700	GFC Bookings
Training and Development		400	340				400				
Books, Equipment (inc.donations)		3,200	5,300				3,300				
Office Services (Stationary, Copier)		1,400	1,200			5,000	1,400			5,000	Employment Program
Building Maintenance		39,700	58,541			12,000	20,000			12,000	Cabin Rental
Hydro		14,000	6,288			54,900	14,000			54,900	Nature Nuts Camps
Propane		8,000	2,000				8,000				
Postage		300	100				200				
Telephone		1,800	1,277			5,000	1,600			5,000	TTT
Internet Charges		1,500	1,069			2,000	1,500			2,000	Solar Generation
Motor Pool		1,100	700			135,000	1,100			135,000	Wedding
Credit Card Services		2,800	3,200			1,800	3,000			1,800	Internet charge Out
Advertising & Publications		800	0			2,000	800			2,000	Donations
Staff Expense		100	0				100				
Waste Disposal		1,300	2,927				1,800				
Security		3,000	2,800				3,000				
Kitchen Equipment		2,400	500				1,900				
Food/Catering		34,177	23,000				33,977				
Public Programs		200	0				200				
Insurance		14,000	14,000				14,000				
Nature Camp Supplies & Expenses		2,500	2,616				2,500				
Taxes		5,000	5,149				5,200				
Capital Asset Replacement		62,483	15,736			22,000	40,483				
TOTAL		438,400	381,734	0	0	438,400	426,400	0	0	426,400	

Category (1,2,3)	2022 Budget	2022 Projected Total	2022 Grant	2022 Levy	2022 Other Funds	2023 Budget	2023 Grant	2023 Levy	2023 Other Funds	
Ganaraska Forest & Trail Head Centre	1,3									
Wages & Benefits	549,594	506,367			320,000	457,315			180,000	Memberships
Training and Development	1,600	500			4,400	900			4,400	Employment Program
Equipment Purchase	4,000	3,000				3,500				
Equipment Maintenance	9,000	4,000			36,000	6,000			36,000	Treetop Trekking
Motor Pool	6,900	6,800				6,900				
Road Maintenance & Tree Maintenance	20,000	8,000				10,000				
Pay Duty/Volunteer Program	12,000	6,000				8,000				
Advertising	400	100				400				
Invasive Species Control	8,000	1,500				5,000				
Tree Marking	8,000	10,000			341,000	2,000		250,000		Forest Contracts
Telephone	2,900	2,300				2,900				
Hydro & Propane	42,000	39,944				42,000				
Supplies & General Expenses	17,955	8,000				8,000				
Building Repairs & Maintenance	60,000	13,867				20,000				
Taxes	41,000	38,456				40,000				
Insurance	20,000	22,391				23,000				
Signage/Maps/Brochures	68,250	2,000			48,250	20,000				
Special Events/Public Programs	200	0				200				
Garbage Disposal	2,100	2,900				3,200				
Office Services	1,800	2,700				2,700				
Credit Card Services	16,000	10,000				13,000				
Membership, Remote Site & Kiosk	26,131	12,000			150,000	12,000		100,000		Deferred Gym
Capital Asset Replacement	186,142	48,142			113,000	128,142		100,000		
TOTAL	1,103,972	748,967	0	91,322	1,012,650	815,157	0	144,757	670,400	
TOTAL PROGRAMMED RECREATION	1,542,372	1,130,701	0	91,322	1,451,050	1,241,557	0	144,757	1,096,800	
TOTAL CONSERVATION LAND MGMT	1,871,768	1,373,028	0	380,718	1,491,050	1,563,353	0	436,553	1,126,800	

Ganaraska Region Conservation Authority
2023 Preliminary Budget

Category (1,2,3)	2022 Budget	2022 Projected Total	2022 Grant	2022 Levy	2022 Other Funds	2023 Budget	2023 Grant	2023 Levy	2023 Other Funds
PROGRAM AREAS:									
Watershed Management & Health Monitoring	1,265,333	1,101,120	51,863	202,652	936,818	960,186	51,863	203,052	705,271
Environmental Advisory Services	306,708	302,482	0	106,708	200,000	323,112	0	108,112	215,000
Watershed Stewardship	506,319	375,866	0	10,435	495,884	390,092	0	4,515	385,577
Conservation Land Management	1,871,768	1,373,028	0	380,718	1,491,050	1,563,353	0	436,553	1,126,800
Corporate Services	699,737	576,449	0	508,237	191,500	573,337	0	486,737	86,600
TOTAL BUDGET	4,649,865	3,728,945	51,863	1,208,750	3,315,252	3,810,080	51,863	1,238,969	2,519,248