

**Supplemental Document Supporting Environmental Registry of
Ontario Proposal Notice Number 026-0904**

Proposed regulatory amendments under the *Provincial Parks and
Conservation Reserves Act, 2006*, to expand Ontario's protected areas
network

DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION

Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Introduction	3
Algonquin Zone (ALZ)	4
1. McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve Addition and Redesignation	5
Northeast Zone (NEZ)	7
2. French River Provincial Park Addition	8
3. Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve Addition	10
4. Glenn N. Crombie Conservation Reserve Deregulation	12
5. McLaren Forest Conservation Reserve Deregulation	14
Northwest Zone (NWZ)	16
6. Quetico Provincial Park Addition	17
7. Lake Superior Provincial Park Deregulation	19
8. Rainbow Falls Provincial Park Deregulation	21
Southeast Zone (SEZ)	23
9. Bon Echo Provincial Park Addition	24
10. Egan Chutes Provincial Park Addition	26
11. Groveton Bog Provincial Park	28
12. Indian Point Provincial Park Addition	30
13. Merrickville Bog Provincial Park	32
14. Ouse River Provincial Park	34
15. Oxford Mills Conservation Reserve	36
16. Sibbald Point Provincial Park Addition	38
Southwest Zone (SWZ)	40
17. Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park Addition	41
18. Hockley Valley Provincial Park Addition	43
19. Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park Addition	45
20. Kimberley Forest Conservation Reserve	47
21. Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve Addition and Deregulation	49

Introduction

Ontario is proposing to expand its protected area system under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006* (PPCRA) by proposing to establish five new protected areas, expand 12 existing protected areas, and allow hunting in one new provincial park and four provincial park additions. We are also proposing administrative amendments to deregulate portions of five protected areas, to support highway improvements and to correct mapping errors.

This document supplements Environmental Registry of Ontario (ERO) proposal notice 026-0904 by providing specific details and a map for each site noted in the related proposal. Through this consultation and with support from its partner ministries, the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP) is continuing to collect information to inform a list of sites to proceed to regulation.

The sites have been organized into geographic regions based on the five Ontario Parks Administrative Zones to better support this review and ability to provide feedback. These zones include:

1. Algonquin Zone (ALZ)
2. Northeast Zone (NEZ)
3. Northwest Zone (NWZ)
4. Southeast Zone (SEZ)
5. Southwest Zone (SWZ)

If the proposed sites are regulated as provincial parks or conservation reserves, this would not prohibit Indigenous communities from exercising their Aboriginal and treaty rights. Indigenous communities may still exercise these rights in the provincial parks or conservation reserves, subject to safety and conservation concerns.

Comments and feedback on the ERO proposal notice may be provided on any of the listed sites or be general in nature. Please see the ERO proposal notice for details on how to provide comments.

Algonquin Zone (ALZ)

Proposed Site List

1. McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve Addition and Redesignation

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve by adding 101 hectares (ha) (~ 250 acres (ac)) of Crown land and intervening portions of unopened road allowances to the existing conservation reserve.

In recent years, McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve has become increasingly popular, leading to greater pressure on the area's natural features and recreational opportunities. In addition to the boundary amendments proposed above, there is also a proposal to change the designation of McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve to a natural environment class provincial park, to support stronger management and protection of the area's recreational and natural values.

McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve is a 2,039 ha (~ 5,039 ac) protected area established in 2001 through Ontario's Living Legacy (OLL) Land Use Strategy. It is located in Gibson Ward and northern Baxter Ward of the Area Municipality within Ontario's Georgian Bay Ecoregion, in the [North Bay Ecodistrict](#) (5E-5). The proposed addition includes bedrock knolls with red oak, white oak, and white pine, containing a number of species at the northern edge of their range. The area has small wetlands and beaver ponds, providing habitat for several rare plant and animal species. Existing recreation opportunities in McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve Addition would be enhanced by the proposed addition and include hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting, cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

The proposed amendments would enhance the recreational and ecological values and improve the management and operation of the site.

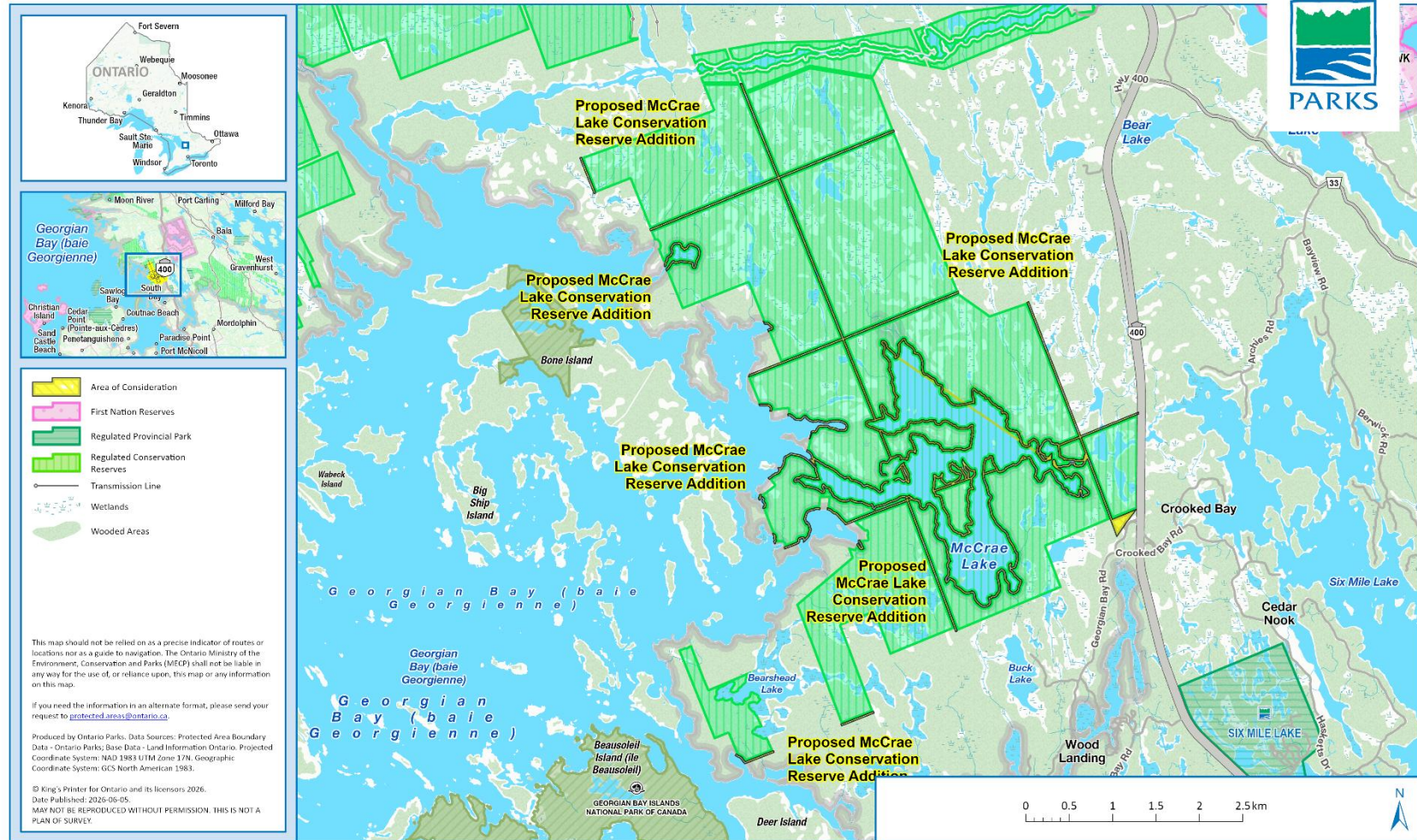
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is currently permitted in McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve and is proposed to be permitted in the proposed provincial park and addition. Hunting within the provincial park is proposed to occur in accordance with clause 110(b) of O. Reg. 665/98 of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act, 1997* (FWCA), which enables the hunting of game mammals (but not furbearing mammals), migratory game birds or game birds to occur beginning the later of the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or September 15 in any year until the last day of the open season for that mammal or bird.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Algonquin Zone (ALZ)

Proposed McCrae Lake Conservation Reserve Addition



Northeast Zone (NEZ)

Proposed Site List

2. French River Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

The proposal is to amend the boundary of French River Provincial Park by adding four (4) parcels totalling approximately 15 ha (~ 36 ac) using lands that were previously acquired by Ontario.

French River Provincial Park is an operating waterway class park established in 2006 that encompasses 73,530 ha (~ 181,697 ac). The park was first established in 1986 and occurs in the Georgian Bay Ecoregion within three of Ontario's Ecodistricts: [North Bay Ecodistrict \(5E-5\)](#), [Parry Sound Ecodistrict \(5E-7\)](#) and [Huntsville Ecodistrict \(5E-8\)](#). It is located approximately 60 km south of the Sudbury and 300 km north of Toronto. The French River was the first river to be designated as a Canadian Heritage River in Canada and is recognized for its scenic landscape and as a premium paddling and angling destination.

The French River Provincial Park Addition proposal is to include lands adjacent to Highway 69 that are affected by the ongoing twinning of Highway 69. The proposed addition does not include the snowmobile bridge west of the highway crossing.

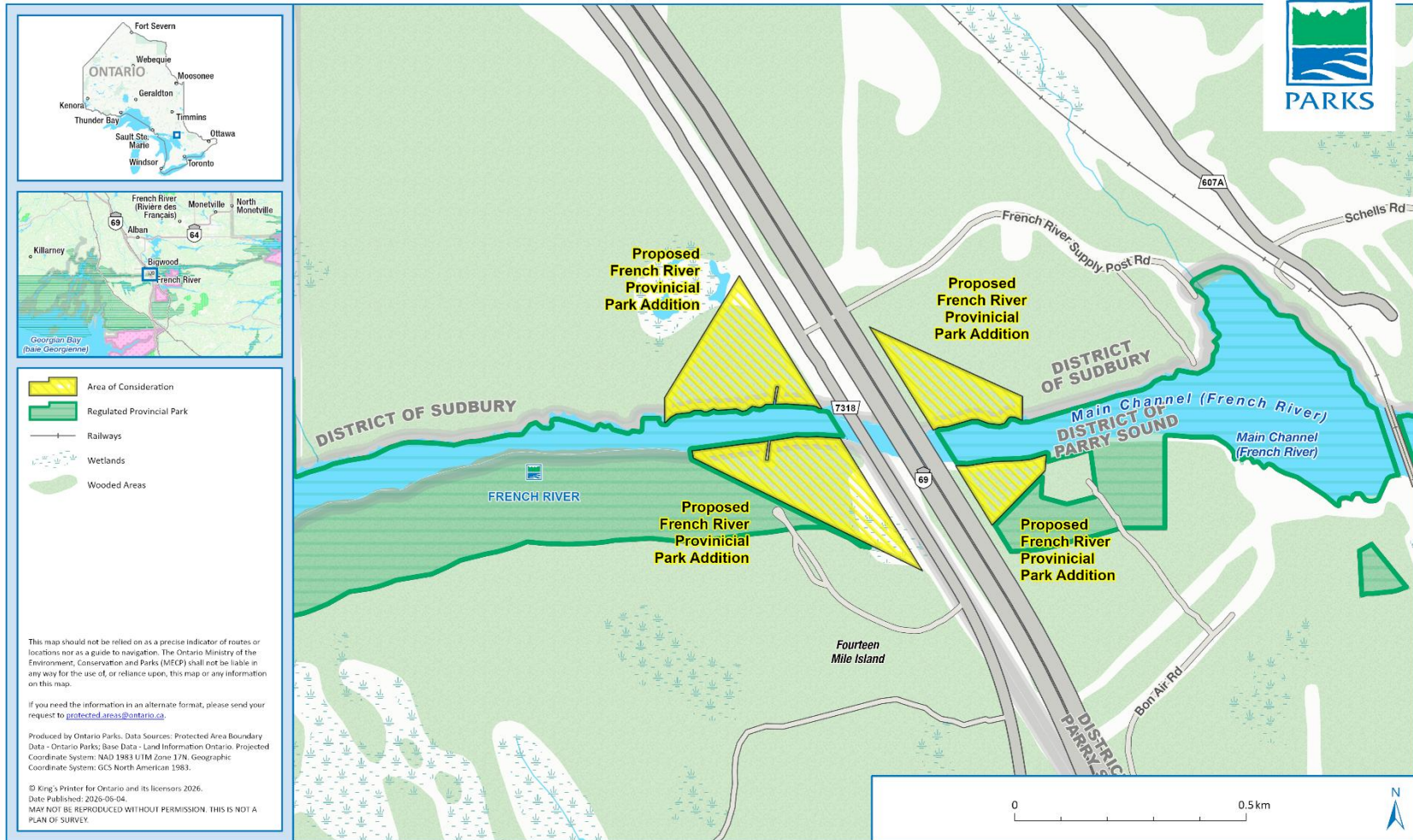
The proposed addition to this park would complement park management procedures and complement existing natural and cultural values.

Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is currently allowed in French River Provincial Park and is proposed to be allowed in the proposed addition. Hunting within the provincial park may occur in accordance with clause 110(b) of O. Reg. 665/98 of the FWCA, which enables the hunting of game mammals (but not furbearing mammals), migratory game birds or game birds to occur beginning the later of the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or September 15 in any year until the last day of the open season for that mammal or bird. The proposal is to continue to allow hunting in the proposed provincial park addition consistent with the rules that currently apply within the park boundary.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Proposed French River Provincial Park Addition



3. Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve by adding approximately 825 ha (~ 2,039 ac) of land and water that was previously identified for protection under OLL.

These lands are located 14 km west of the town of Dubreuilville and 47 km northeast of the town of Wawa in northeastern Ontario. The site can be accessed from the Canadian Pacific Railway line in the north and resource access roads on the west and south and Dog Lake on the east.

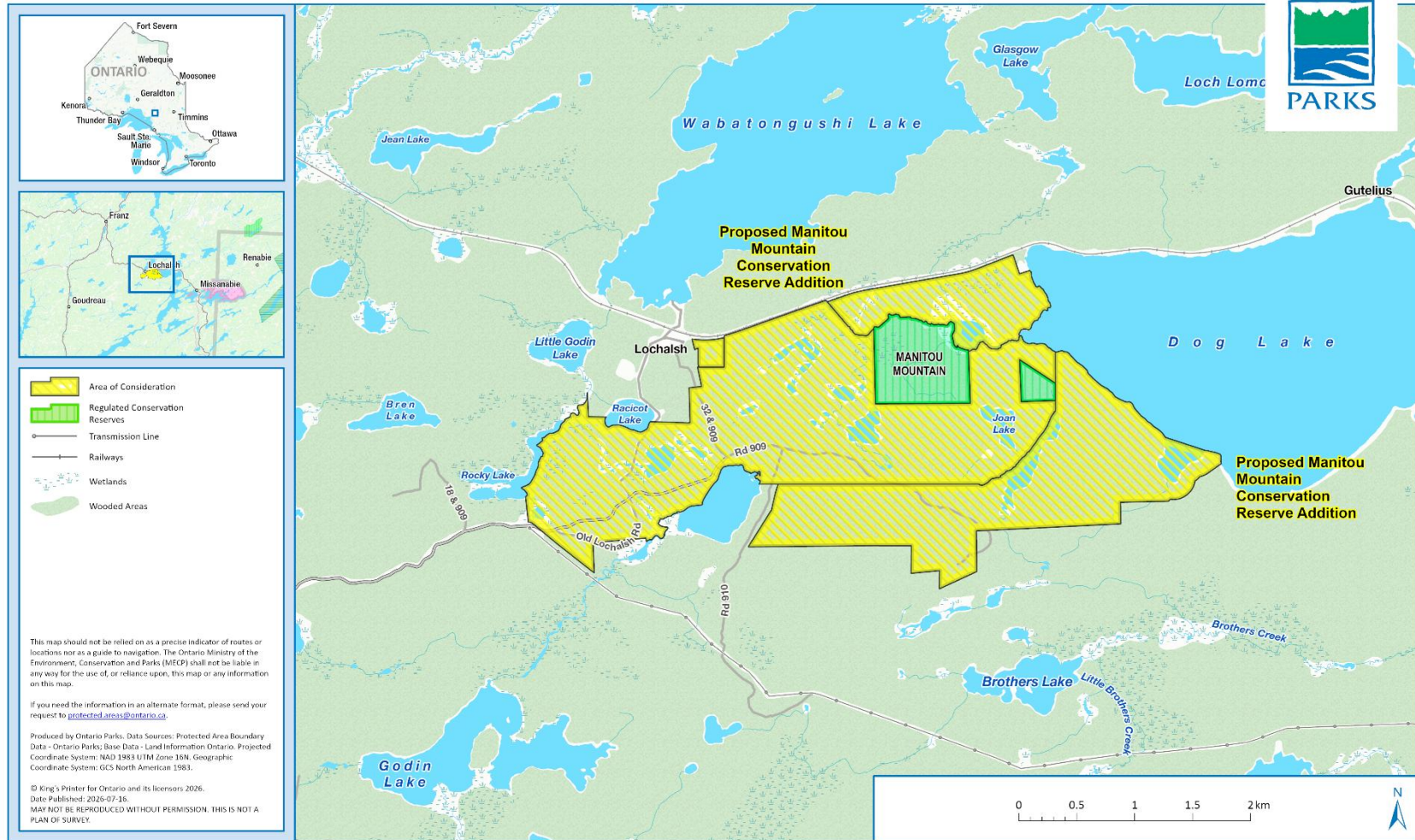
Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve is a 62 ha (~ 153 ac) conservation reserve located 14 km west of the town of Dubreuilville and 47 km northeast of the town of Wawa. It is representative of Ontario's Lake Abitibi Ecoregion, [Foleyet Ecodistrict](#) (3E-5). The topography is generally rolling with flats along rivers and lake sides. The proposed addition contains part of an interesting, previously unrecognized landform event that includes a proglacial lake, spillway and ice marginal deltas along the former ice margin of the Laurentide Ice Sheet. Manitou Mountain has culturally sacred and spiritually significant values to Indigenous communities. Existing recreation opportunities in the proposed addition include hiking, wildlife viewing, hunting, cross country skiing and snowshoeing.

Adding this land to the Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve would protect the existing ecological and cultural heritage values and complement existing uses.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Northeast Zone (NEZ)

Proposed Manitou Mountain Conservation Reserve Addition



4. Glenn N. Crombie Conservation Reserve Deregulation

Proposed site details

The proposed amendments would address boundary errors by deregulating one (1) parcel totalling 0.1 ha (~ 0.2 ac) from the northern edge of Glenn N. Crombie Conservation Reserve, where the conservation reserve incorrectly overlaps private property.

Ontario Parks does not actively manage this area due to its private ownership.

Please see below for a map of the proposed deregulation.

Northeast Zone (NEZ)

Proposed Glenn N. Crombie Conservation Reserve Deregulation



5. McLaren Forest Conservation Reserve Deregulation

Proposed site details

The proposed amendments would address boundary errors by deregulating one (1) parcel totalling 0.26 ha (~ 0.6 ac) from McLaren Forest Conservation Reserve (along the eastern edge of Highway 11), where the conservation reserve incorrectly overlaps private property.

Ontario Parks does not actively manage this area due to its private ownership.

Please see below for the maps of the proposed deregulation.

Northeast Zone (NEZ)

Proposed McLaren Forest Conservation Reserve Deregulation



Northwest Zone (NWZ)

Proposed Site List

6. Quetico Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Quetico Provincial Park by adding one (1) parcel totalling 16 ha (~ 41 ac) using land that was previously acquired by Ontario.

Quetico Provincial Park is a 471,942 ha (~ 1,166,194 ac) operating wilderness class park that was established in 1913. The park is representative of Ontario's [Pigeon River Ecodistrict \(4W-1\)](#) and lies on the southwestern portion of the Canadian Precambrian Shield approximately 12 kilometres south of the town of Atikokan, adjacent to the Canada-United States international border.

The park is a world-famous destination for backcountry canoeing and contains many known cultural heritage values. Quetico Provincial Park is also recognized as an International Dark Sky Park by the International Dark Sky Association.

The park protects some of the oldest rocks on earth, 2,943 lakes, many wetland types, and significant plant communities such as stands of old growth red pine and white pine. The park has a high species diversity when compared to other northwestern Ontario Parks, supporting several species considered to be provincially significant or at risk.

Adding the proposed addition to Quetico Provincial Park would improve connectivity and further protect the recreational, ecological, geological, and cultural values found within the park.

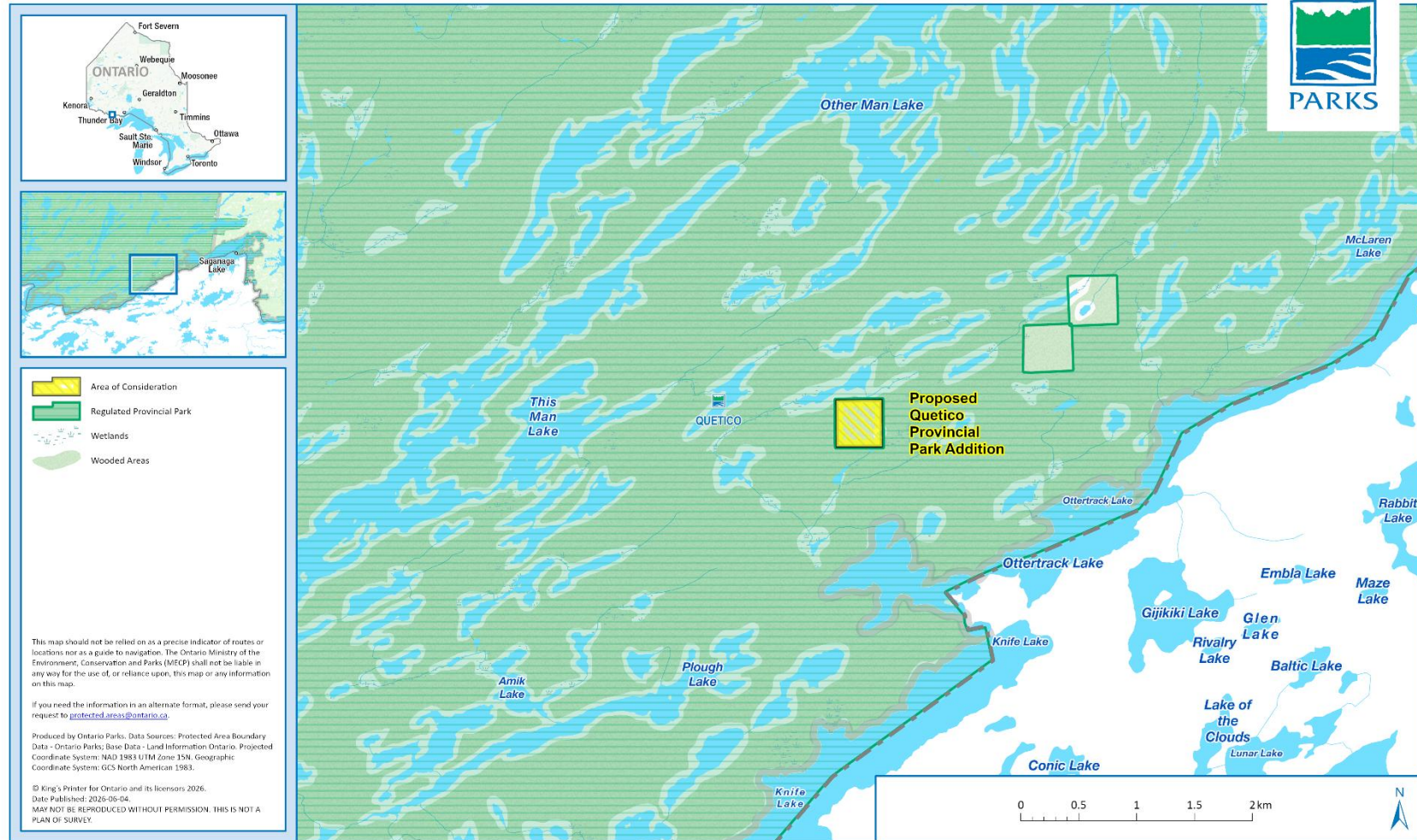
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is not currently allowed in this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed addition as Quetico Provincial Park is an operating wilderness, class park where hunting is currently restricted to protect the ecological integrity of the area. The parcel is also completely surrounded by the current park, and access to the parcel is limited. There is no evidence of hunting in the proposed area.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Northwest Zone (NWZ)

Proposed Quetico Provincial Park Addition



7. Lake Superior Provincial Park Deregulation

Proposed site details

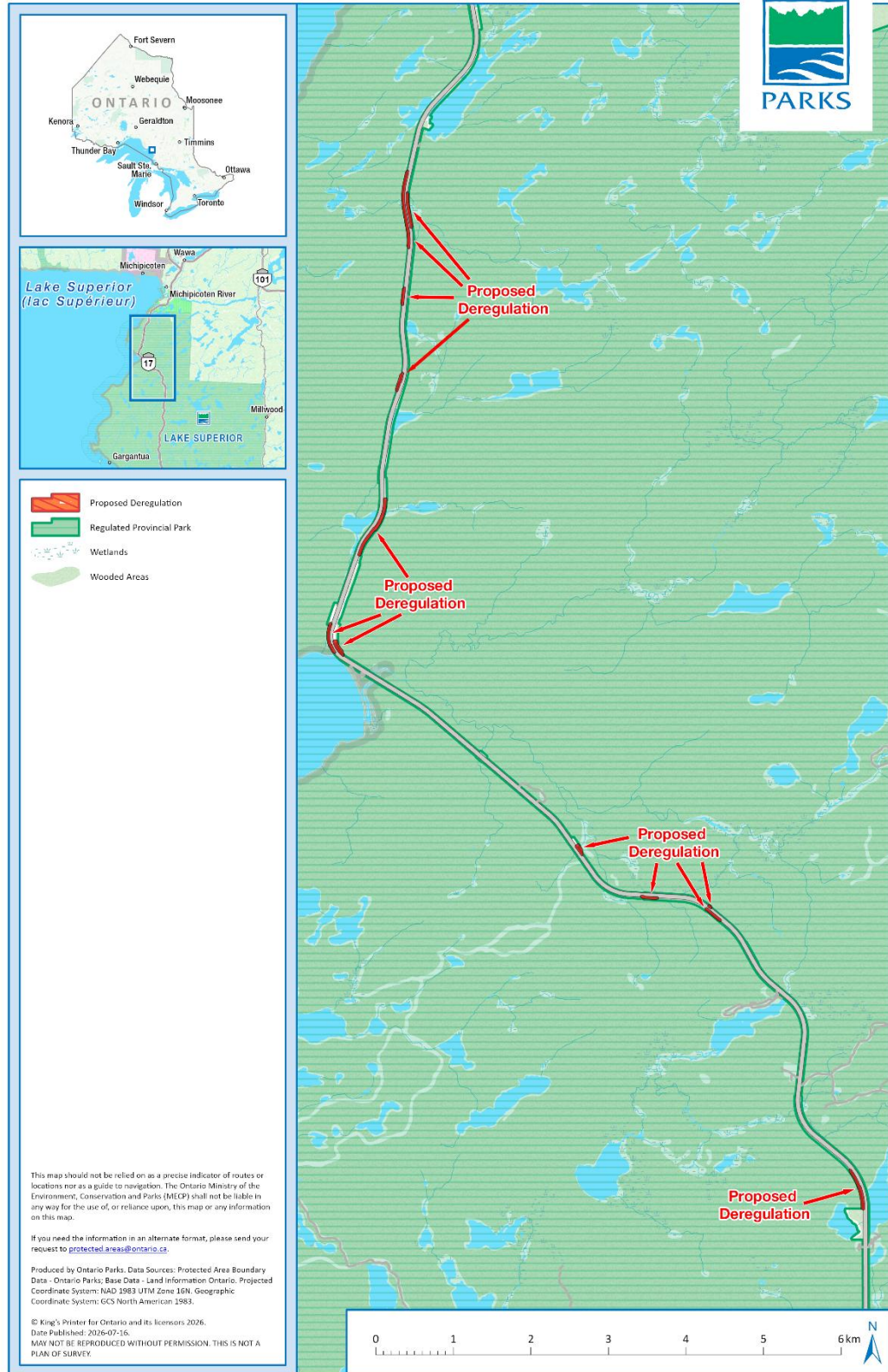
The proposed amendments would deregulate (remove) a cumulative 5.25 ha (~ 13 ac) of land from Lake Superior Provincial Park for culvert rehabilitation, the removal of rock fall hazards and to clear trees along Highway 17 at 12 separate locations.

Highway 17 is a key part of the Trans-Canada network, supporting supply chains, economic growth and access to jobs and services across the North. As part of its plan to protect Ontario, the government is continuing to invest in critical highway infrastructure. Northern Ontario has unique transportation needs that include long distances between communities, challenging winter driving conditions and difficult terrain.

Please see below for a map of the proposed deregulation.

Northwest Zone (NWZ)

Proposed Lake Superior Provincial Park Deregulation



8. Rainbow Falls Provincial Park Deregulation

Proposed site details

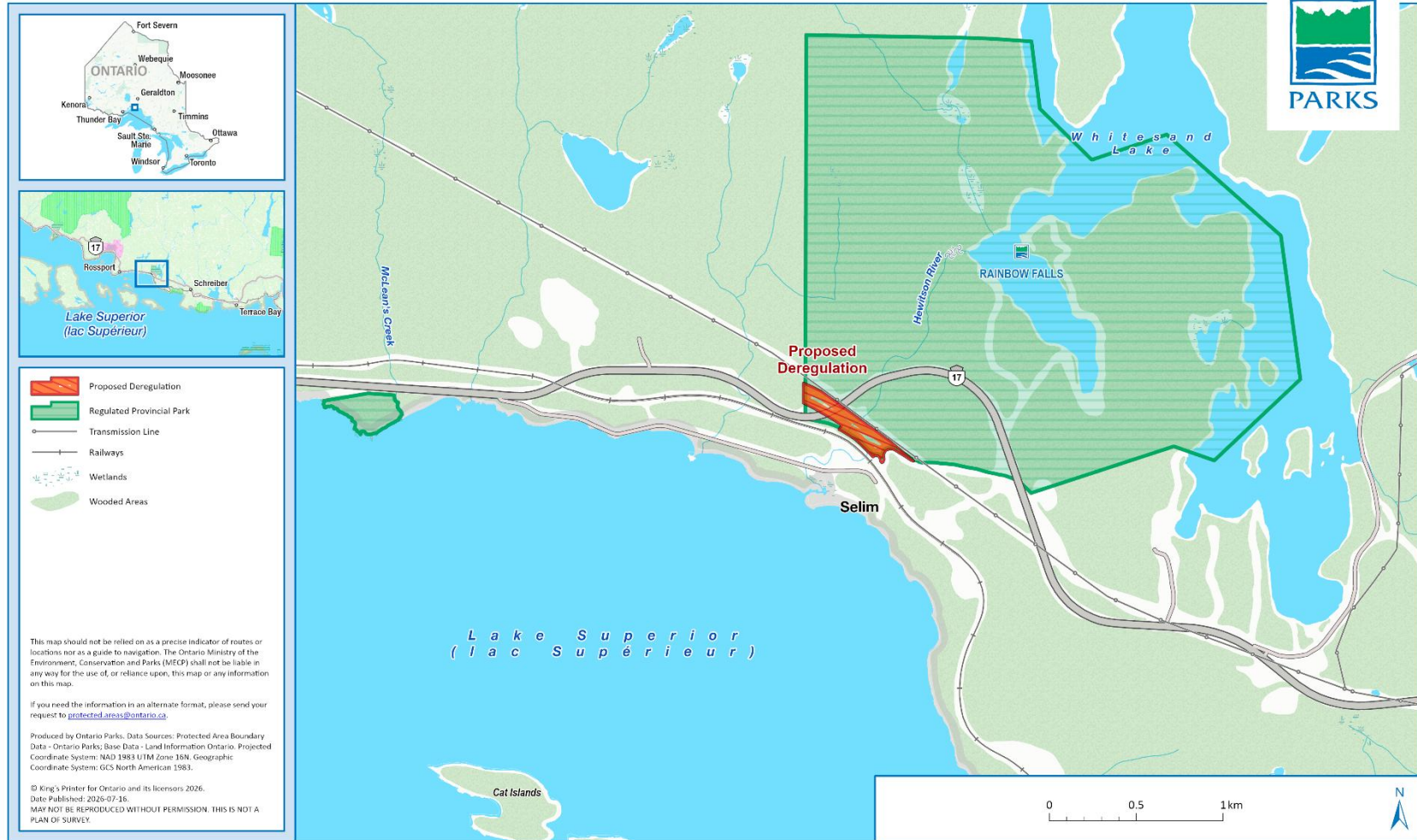
The proposed amendments would deregulate (remove) 5.25 ha (~ 13 ac) from Rainbow Falls Provincial Park to support the realignment of Highway 17, improving traffic flow and safety. It is anticipated that once the highway realignment is complete, the existing highway corridor that crosses Rainbow Falls Provincial Park would be closed and the land would be rehabilitated for future addition to Rainbow Falls Provincial Park, including a new parking lot, access road, and hiking trail constructed on this land.

Highway 17 is a key part of the Trans-Canada network, supporting supply chains, economic growth and access to jobs and services across the North. As part of its plan to protect Ontario, the government is continuing to invest in critical and safe highway infrastructure. Northern Ontario has unique transportation needs that include long distances between communities, challenging winter driving conditions and difficult terrain.

Please see below for maps of the proposed deregulation.

Northwest Zone (NWZ)

Proposed Rainbow Falls Provincial Park Deregulation



Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Site List

9. Bon Echo Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Bon Echo Provincial Park by regulating one (1) parcel totalling approximately 1 ha (~ 2.4 ac) using lands that were acquired by Ontario.

Bon Echo Provincial Park is an 8,298 ha (~ 20,505 ac) operating natural environment class provincial park located about 50 kilometres east of Bancroft. Bon Echo Provincial Park is representative of Ontario's [Bancroft Ecodistrict](#) (5E-11) and is known for its significant natural, scenic and cultural features, such as the scenic attraction of Mazinaw Rock. The park offers numerous recreation experiences including campground and backcountry camping, hiking and paddling along its picturesque canoe routes. The park protects uncommon mature hardwood stands, a spruce bog and provincially rare species of flora. Culturally, Bon Echo protects the largest collection of Indigenous rock paintings in southern Ontario. Mazinaw Rock and the surrounding area is a sacred place for many Indigenous peoples.

The proposed addition is an inholding located on the northeast side of Joeperry Lake. Adding this land to the park would enhance recreation activities and ecological connectivity in the park.

Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is currently permitted in portions of this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed addition as it is located within a portion of the park where hunting is currently restricted to protect the ecological integrity of the area. The parcel is also completely surrounded by the current park and access to the parcel is limited. There is no evidence of hunting in the proposed area.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Bon Echo Provincial Park Addition



10. Egan Chutes Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to expand Egan Chutes Provincial Park, by regulating four (4) parcels of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and adjacent sections of unopened road allowance totalling approximately 6.6 ha (~ 16.3 ac).

Egan Chutes Provincial Park is a 1100 ha (~ 2718 ac) non-operating protected area that consists of a 322 ha (~ 796 ac) nature reserve class park and a 778 ha (~ 1922 ac) waterway class park, extending along and connected by the York River. The proposed addition would be added to the waterway class portion of the park. This park occurs within the Georgian Bay Ecoregion in [Bancroft Ecodistrict](#) (5E-11). The park is located 16 km east of the Town of Bancroft along Highway 28.

The existing park offers a variety of recreational activities such as canoeing, kayaking, hiking, angling and backcountry camping.

The proposed additions are within the Egan Chutes Area of Natural and Scientific Interest (ANSI) and contain wetlands, wet shrub thickets, and deciduous swamp forests along the York River. Adding these lands to the park would protect important riparian habitat.

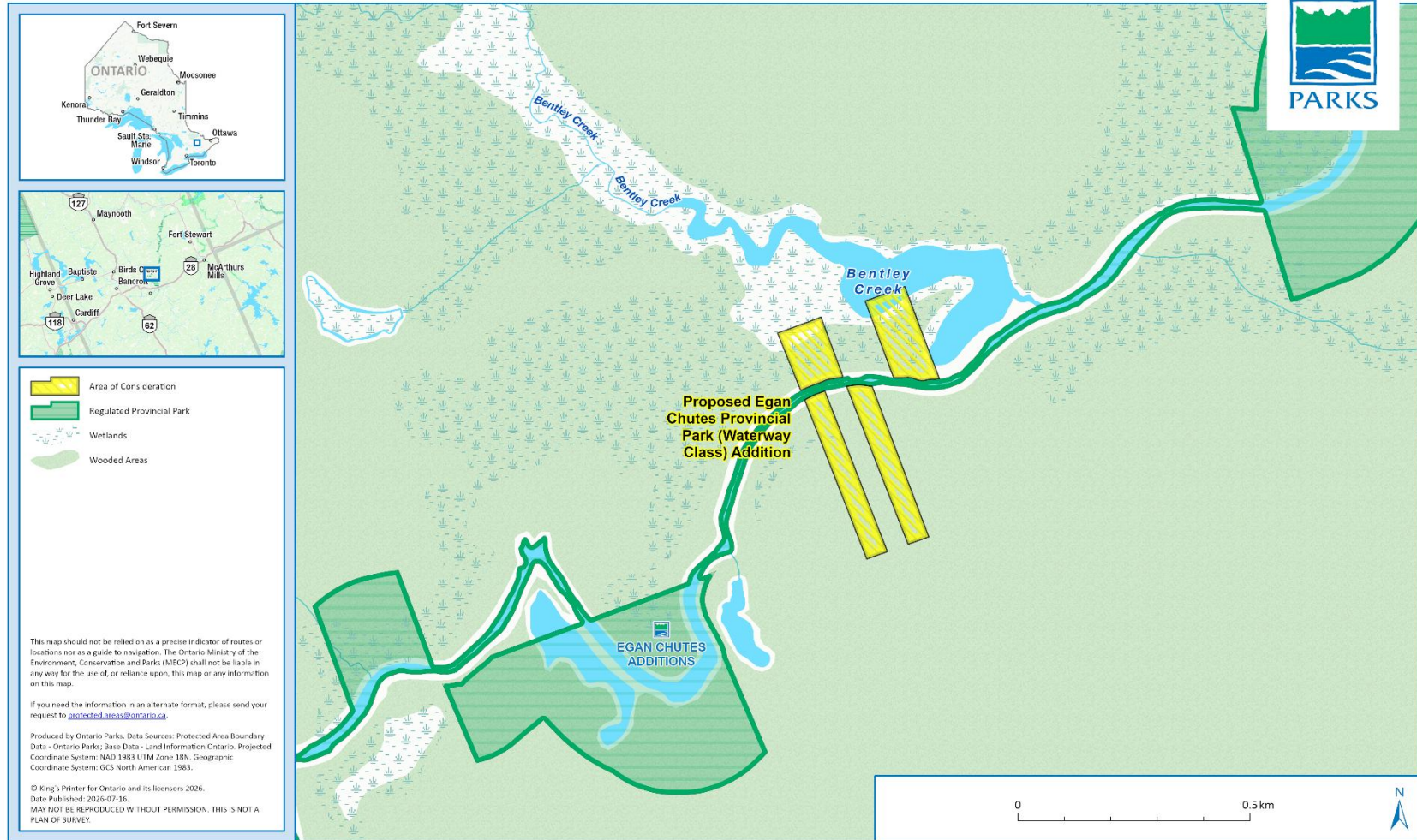
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is currently permitted in the waterway class portion of Egan Chutes Provincial Park. The proposal is to permit hunting in the proposed addition, which is adjacent to a section of the park in which hunting is already permitted to occur. Hunting within the proposed addition is proposed to occur in accordance with clause 110(b) of O. Reg. 665/98 of the FWCA, which enables the hunting of game mammals (but not furbearing mammals), migratory game birds or game birds beginning the later of the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or September 15 in any year until the last day of the open season for that mammal or bird.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Egan Chutes Provincial Park (Waterway Class) Addition



11. Groveton Bog Provincial Park

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish a new nature reserve class provincial park, Groveton Bog Provincial Park, by regulating one (1) parcel totalling 419 ha (~ 1,035 ac) using land that was previously acquired by Ontario. These lands are located approximately 15 km south of Kemptville and fall within the provincially significant Limerick Indian Creek wetland complex.

Groveton Bog is a wetland located within a candidate provincially significant Life Science ANSI and the provincially significant Limerick Indian Creek wetland complex, which contains a mix of bog, swamp, and marsh habitat types. This site is representative of Ontario's [Kemptonville Ecodistrict \(6E-12\)](#). Bogs in this region typically develop in poorly drained depressions where peat gradually accumulates, producing low-nutrient, acidic conditions dominated by sphagnum mosses, ericaceous shrubs, and scattered tamarack or black spruce.

The area may be suitable for low impact recreation such as bird watching, photography and nature appreciation.

Within the Limerick Indian Creek complex, Groveton Bog contributes to a broader network of wetland functions and increased connectivity. This wetland provides habitat for numerous species, including species at risk in an intact wetland complex.

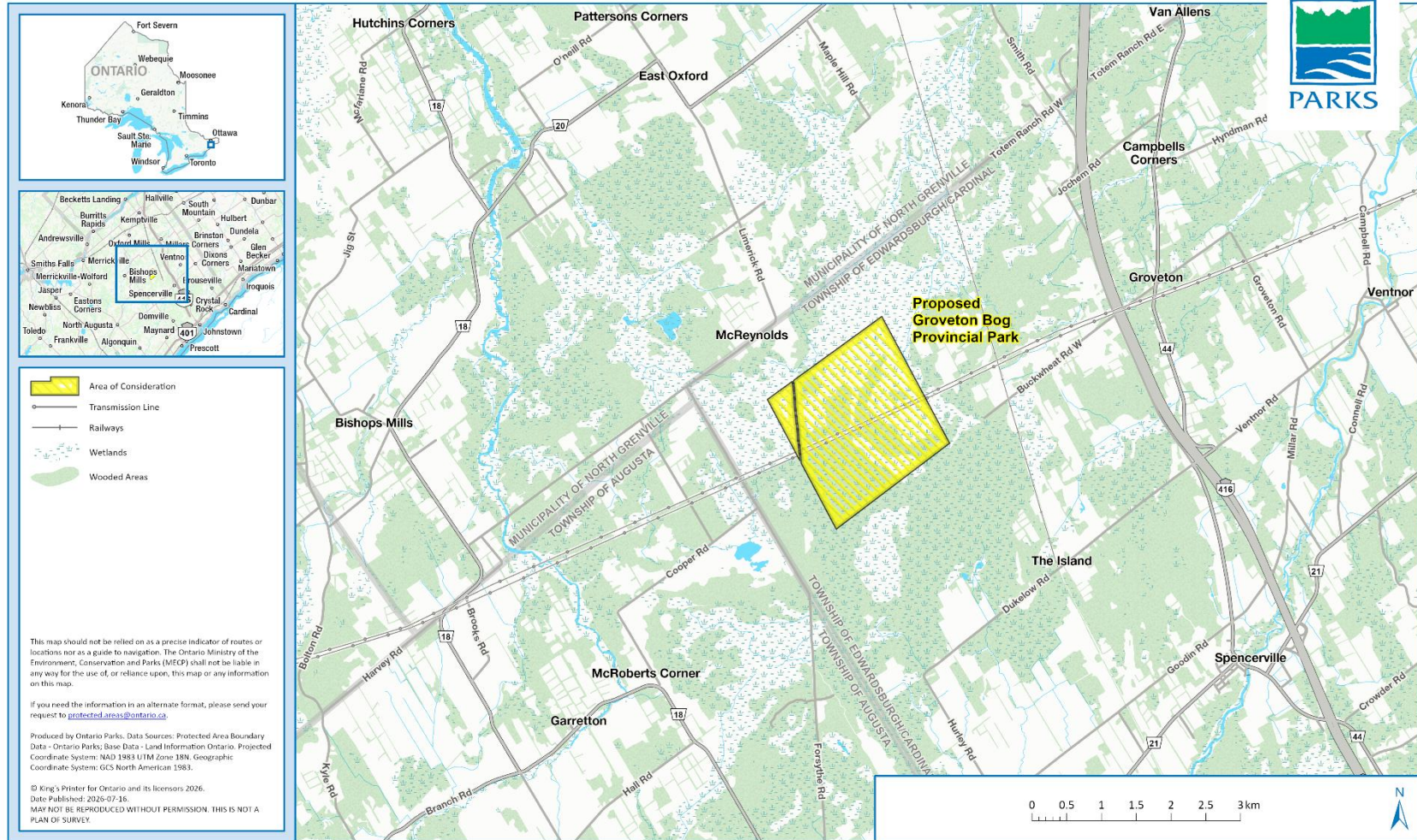
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed Groveton Bog Provincial Park as the park is proposed as a nature reserve class park. There is limited opportunity and no evidence of hunting in the proposed area as it is a wetland and difficult to access due to thick vegetation growth.

Please see below for a map of the proposed provincial park.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Groveton Bog Provincial Park



12. Indian Point Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to expand Indian Point Provincial Park by regulating three (3) parcels of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and one section of road allowance totalling 68 ha (~ 168 ac).

Indian Point Provincial Park is a 947 ha (~ 2340 ac) natural environment class park within the [Havelock Ecodistrict](#) (6E-9) of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion. The park is located on the north shore of Balsam Lake, in the City of Kawartha Lakes, approximately 38 km northwest of Lindsay, Ontario.

The proposed park addition is within the Carl Sedore deer yard, and contains mixed forest, limestone pavement alvar, and wetland habitats. Existing recreation opportunities in the proposed addition include hunting and ATV use. The area would also support low-impact recreational opportunities, including wildlife viewing and nature appreciation, consistent with a natural environmental class provincial park.

The proposed addition to Indian Point Provincial Park would enhance existing recreation opportunities, protect terrestrial ecosystems, and improve ecological connectivity.

Regulation of this park addition would contribute to the expansion of Indian Point Provincial Park, supporting long-term protection of natural heritage values under the PPCRA.

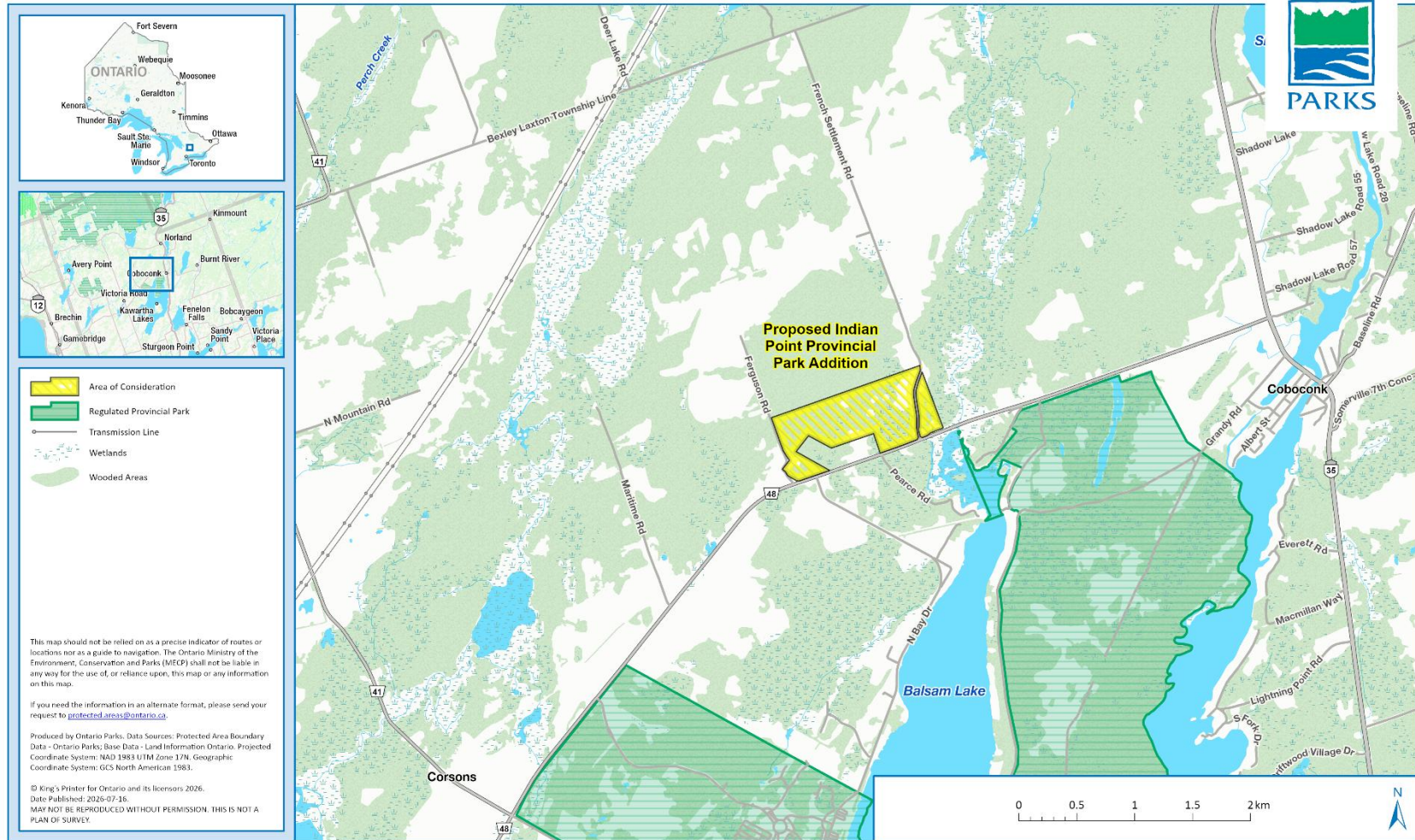
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is not currently allowed in Indian Point Provincial Park. The proposal is to allow hunting in the proposed addition. Hunting within the proposed provincial park addition is proposed to occur in accordance with clause 110(b) of O. Reg. 665/98 of the FWCA, which enables the hunting of game mammals (but not furbearing mammals), migratory game birds or game birds beginning the later of the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or September 15 in any year until the last day of the open season for that mammal or bird.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Indian Point Provincial Park Addition



13. Merrickville Bog Provincial Park

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish a new nature reserve class provincial park, Merrickville Bog Provincial Park, by regulating two (2) parcels of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and (1) one section of unopened road allowance, collectively totalling 316 ha (~ 780 ac). These lands are located approximately 4 km southeast of the Village of Merrickville and approximately 17 km southwest of Kemptville.

The site is within the [Smiths Falls Ecodistrict](#) (6E-11) of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion in Ontario. The proposed new provincial park is within the Merrickville Bog Provincially Significant ANSI and is a provincially significant wetland, containing an extensive bog and swamp complex.

The proposed Merrickville Bog Provincial Park may provide opportunities for low-impact recreation, including wildlife viewing and nature appreciation while protecting a large, relatively undisturbed peatland ecosystem and associated wetlands that support specialized plant communities and wildlife species.

Regulation of this area would contribute to the long-term protection of provincially significant wetland and peatland ecosystems and enhance the representation of bog habitats within Ontario's protected areas system under the PPCRA.

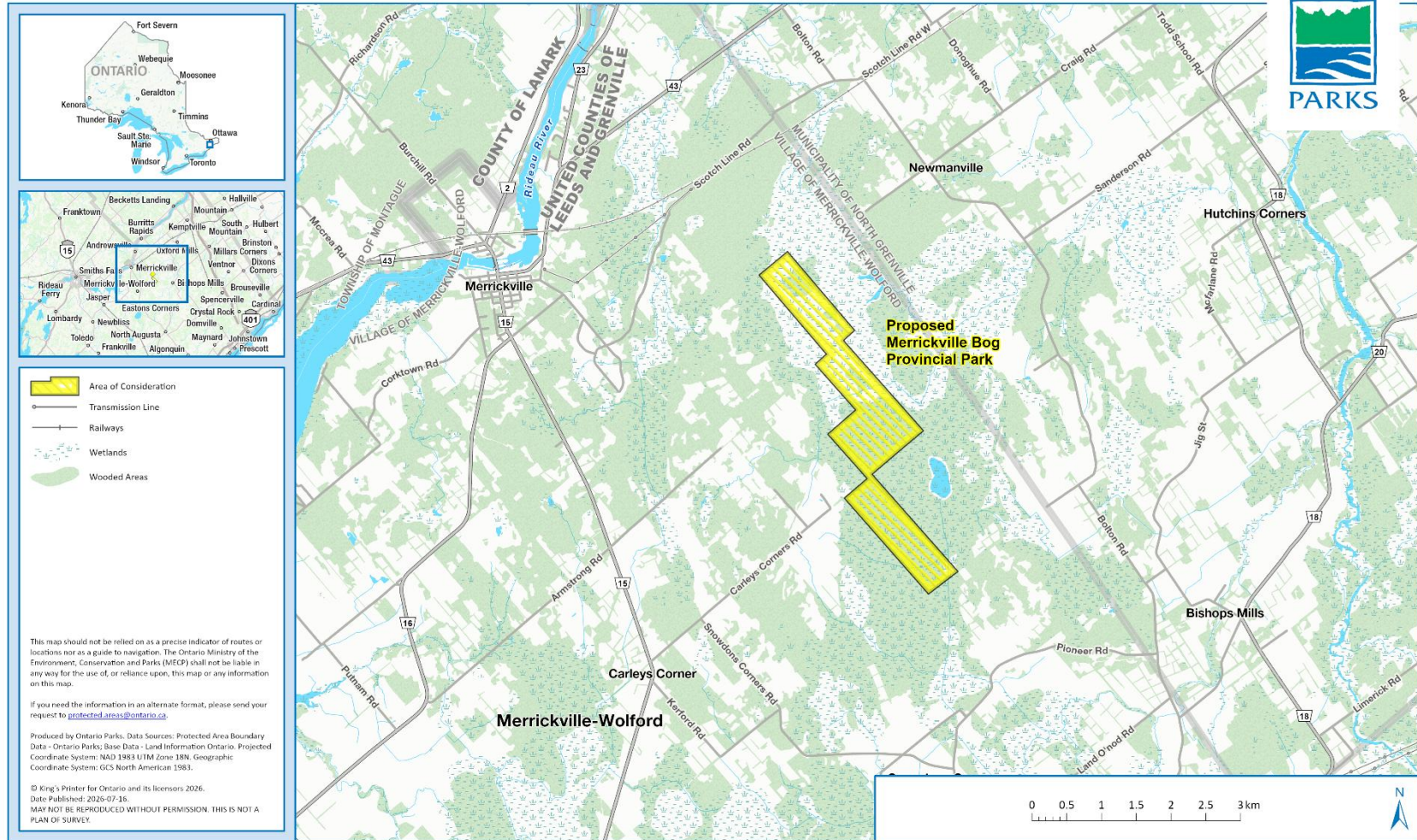
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed Merrickville Bog Provincial Park as the park is proposed as a nature reserve class park.. There is limited opportunity and no evidence of hunting in the proposed area as it is a wetland and difficult to access due to thick vegetation growth.

Please see below for a map of the proposed provincial park.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Merrickville Bog Provincial Park



14. Ouse River Provincial Park

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish a new natural environmental class provincial park, Ouse River Provincial Park, by regulating one (1) parcels of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and two sections of unopened road allowance totalling 47 ha (~ 116 ac). These lands are located approximately 31 km northeast of Peterborough.

The site is within the Ouse (East) River North provincially significant wetland complex, in the [Havelock Ecodistrict](#) (6E-9) of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion in Ontario. The proposed new park contains a portion of the Ouse River corridor and associated riparian environments, including floodplain forest, wetland areas, and riverine habitats.

The proposed Ouse River Provincial Park would offer recreation activities such as wildlife viewing, nature appreciation and other passive use compatible with a natural environment class park. It would also protect important riverine and wetland ecosystems, contribute to watershed-level ecological integrity, and support habitat for a variety of aquatic and terrestrial species.

Regulation of this area would enhance the representation of river corridor habitats within Ontario's provincial parks system and contribute to the protection of natural heritage values under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act (PPCRA).

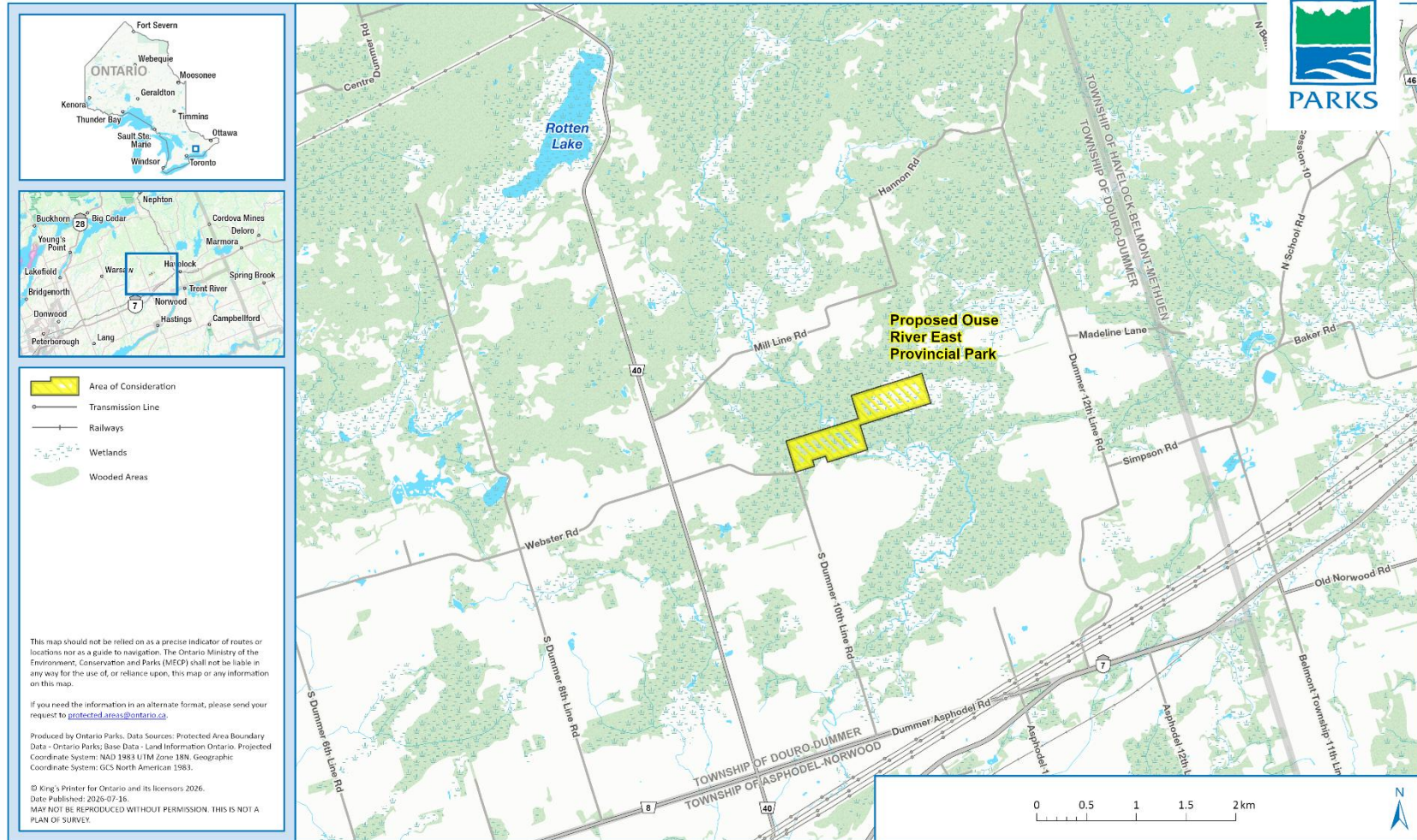
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

The proposal is to allow hunting in the proposed new provincial park. Hunting within the proposed provincial park is proposed to occur in accordance with clause 110(b) of O. Reg. 665/98 of the FWCA, which enables the hunting of game mammals (but not furbearing mammals), migratory game birds or game birds beginning the later of the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or September 15 in any year until the last day of the open season for that mammal or bird.

Please see below for a map of the proposed provincial park.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Ouse River East Provincial Park



15. Oxford Mills Conservation Reserve

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish a new conservation reserve, Oxford Mills Conservation Reserve, by regulating two (2) parcels of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and one section of unopened road allowance totalling 74 ha (~ 183 ac). These lands are located approximately 11 km southeast of Kemptville in the municipality of North Grenville.

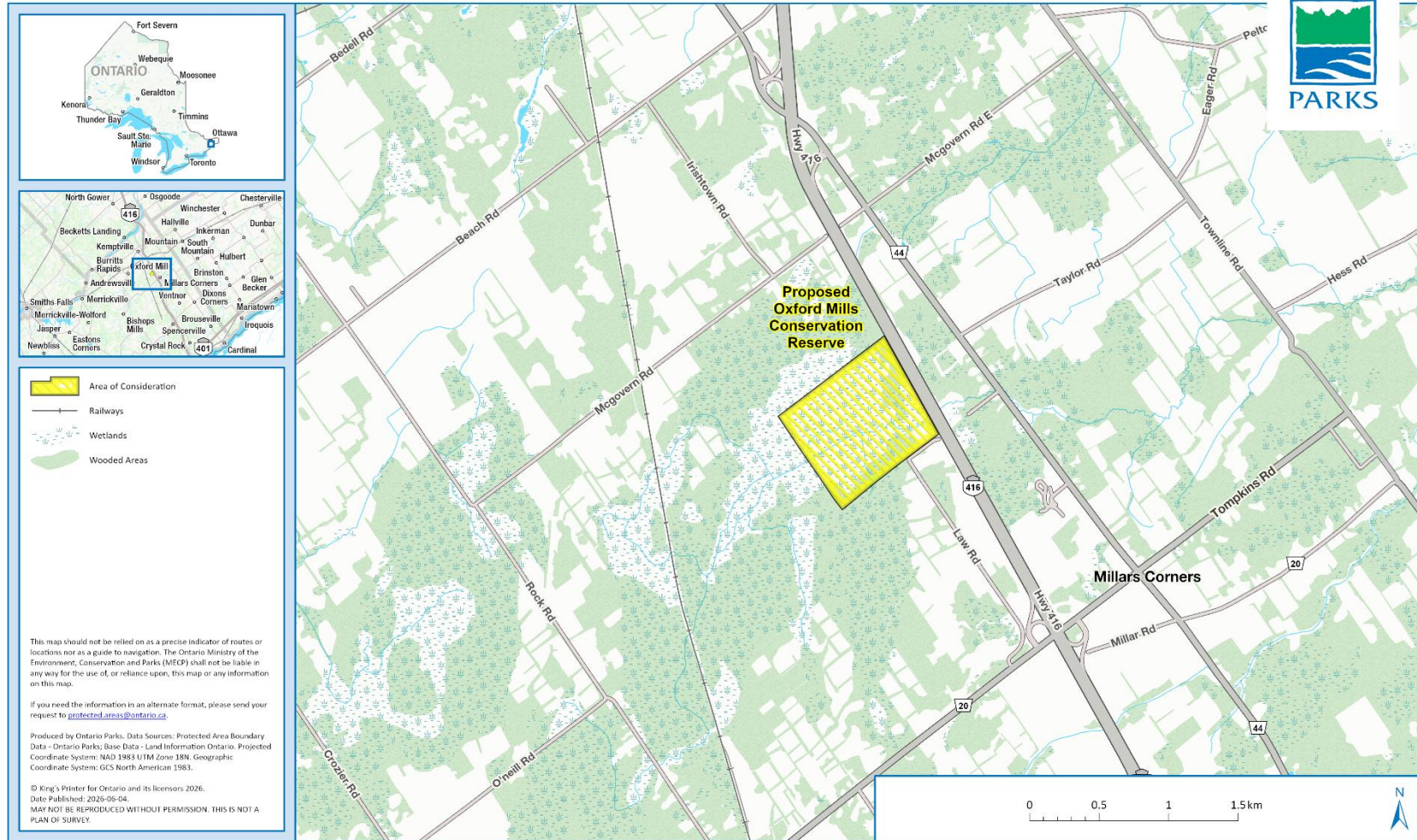
The site is within the [Kemptville Ecodistrict](#) (6E-12) of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion in Ontario. The proposed new conservation reserve within the provincially significant Oxford Mills Wetland complex. Existing recreation opportunities in the area proposed to be regulated include hiking, hunting, ATV use, and snowmobiling. The area may also be suitable for passive recreation such as birdwatching, photography and nature appreciation.

Regulation of the proposed Oxford Mills Conservation Reserve would increase the total area of provincially significant wetland protected under the PPCRA.

Please see below for a map of the proposed conservation reserve.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Oxford Mills Conservation Reserve



16. Sibbald Point Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish an addition to Sibbald Point Provincial Park by regulating one (1) parcel of lands that were previously acquired by Ontario and adjacent lakebed totalling 5 ha (~ 12 ac). The proposed addition is located adjacent to the eastern boundary of Sibbald Point Provincial Park, on the shoreline of Lake Simcoe.

The site is within the [Havelock Ecodistrict](#) (6E-6) of the Lake Simcoe-Rideau Ecoregion in Ontario. The proposed park addition would enhance the protection of shoreline and aquatic habitats, improve ecological integrity, and strengthen continuity of protection along the Lake Simcoe waterfront.

Sibbald Point is known for its large sandy beach on Lake Simcoe, and offers a variety of recreation opportunities such as swimming, picnicking, hiking and touring the Sibbald family museum.

The proposed addition to Sibbald Point Provincial Park is identified in the park's management plan as an area requiring inclusion to support long-term protection and management objectives.

Regulation of this park addition would contribute to the completion of the Sibbald Point Provincial Park boundary, and support effective implementation of the park management plan and long-term protection of natural heritage values under the PPCRA.

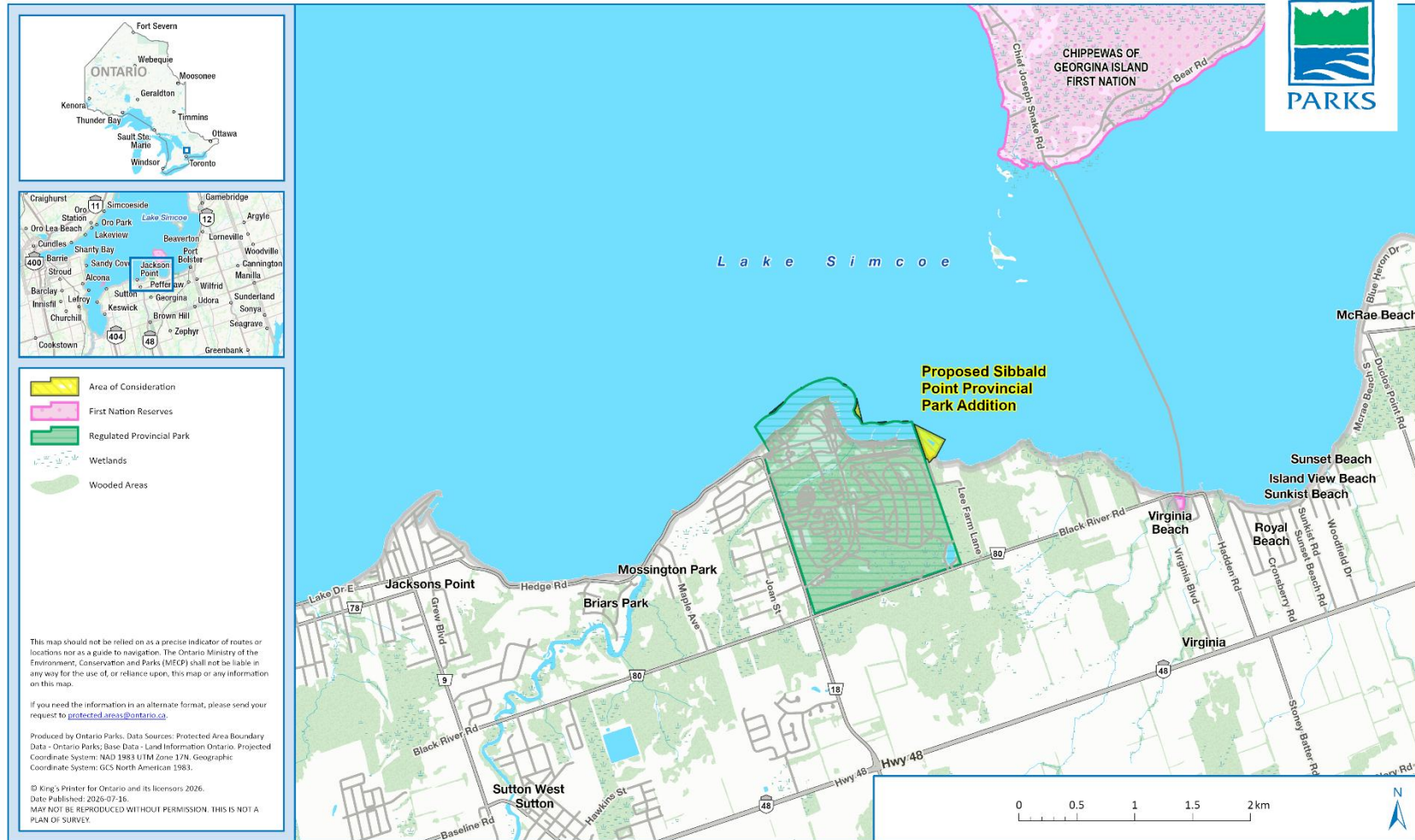
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is not currently permitted in this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed additions, as Sibbald Point is an operating park where hunting is currently restricted to ensure public safety.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southeast Zone (SEZ)

Proposed Sibbald Point Provincial Park Addition



Southwest Zone (SWZ)

Proposed Site List

17. Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park by adding one (1) parcel totaling approximately 8 ha (~ 20 ac) of land that was previously acquired by Ontario.

Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park is a 439 ha (~ 1,085 ac) non-operating, nature reserve class park that was established in 1985. The park is located 10 km northwest of the Municipality of Meaford. Existing recreation opportunities in the park include hiking and snowshoeing.

The park is located in [Meaford Ecodistrict](#) (6E-4) and overlaps with the Bayview Escarpment ANSI which protects a large, diverse, well-preserved example of the Niagara Escarpment slopes, cliffs and plain forests typical of the Grey County of the escarpment. Ecological communities include rich mixed, broadleaf and conifer talus forests and extensive Mountain Maple talus thickets, sugar maple bedrock forests and open cliff communities.

The proposed additions to Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park would increase habitat connectivity between provincially significant sites.

Proposed changes to regulate hunting

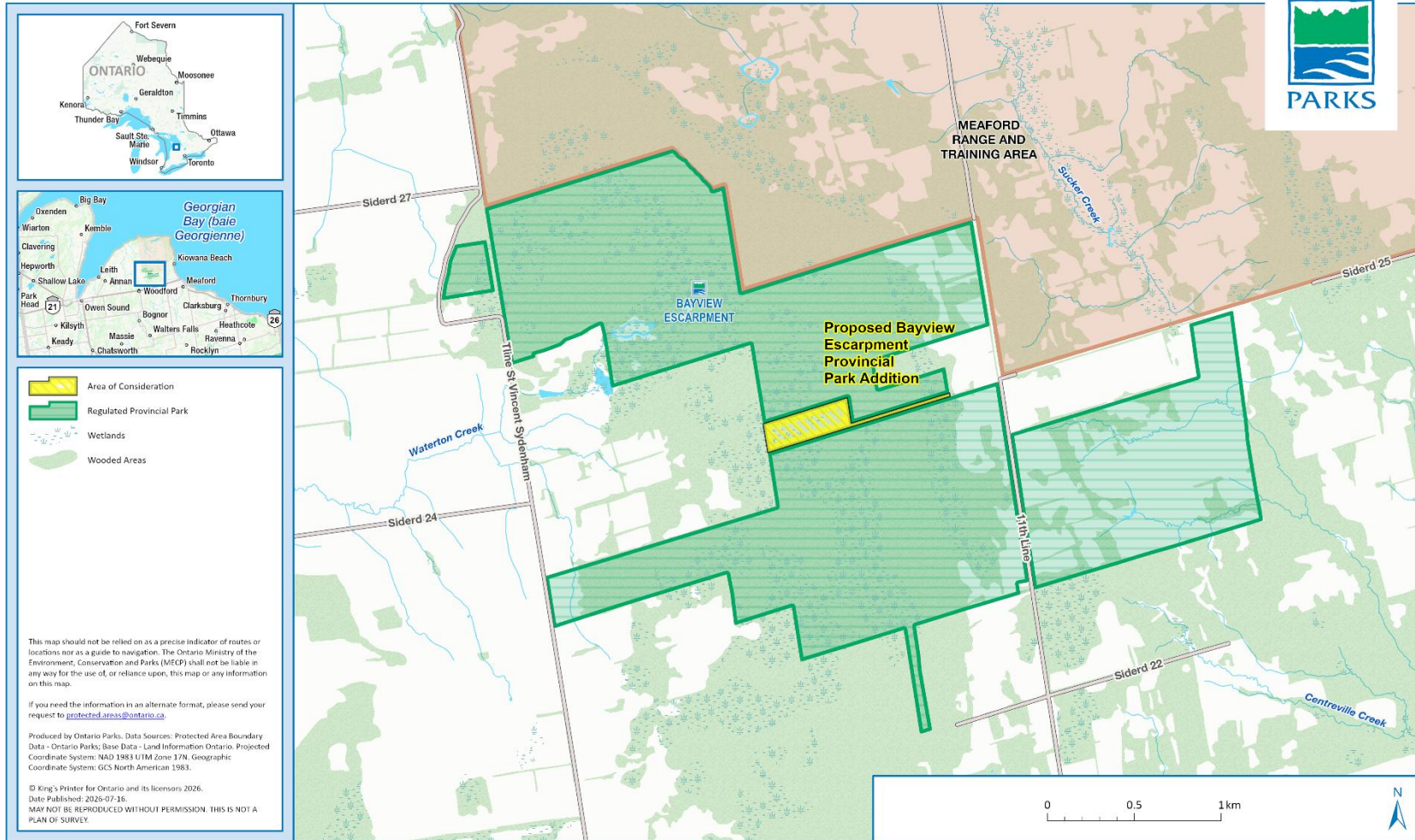
Hunting is not currently permitted in this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed additions as Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park is a nature reserve class park where hunting is currently restricted to protect the ecological integrity of the area. There is no evidence of hunting in the proposed addition, and it is accessible only by trail.

Previous consultation

Note: this site was previously consulted on in 2025 (see ERO posting [019-9306](#))

Please see below for a map of the proposed additions.

Proposed Bayview Escarpment Provincial Park Addition



18. Hockley Valley Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Hockley Valley Provincial Park by adding five (5) parcels totaling approximately 7 ha (~17 ac) of intervening road allowances and land that was previously acquired by Ontario.

Hockley Valley Provincial Park is a 388 ha (~ 933 ac) non-operating, nature reserve class park established in 1989. The park is 5 km northeast of Orangeville, in the Town of Mono, County of Dufferin. Recreational opportunities in the existing park include hiking and snowshoeing.

The park overlaps the [Oak Ridges \(6E-7\)](#) and [Stratford \(6E-1\) Ecodistricts](#). The park and proposed additions overlap with the Cannings Falls ANSI and part of the proposed addition also overlaps with the Caledon Meltwater Deposits ANSI. The park contains a tributary valley leading to the Nottawasaga River and is part of the Orangeville Moraine. There have also been several species at risk observations within the park.

The proposed additions to Hockley Valley Provincial Park would increase the representation of these two ANSIs within the parks system.

Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is currently not allowed in this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed additions due to safety concerns, as Hockley Valley Provincial Park is a highly-visited nature reserve class park. There is no evidence of hunting in the proposed addition.

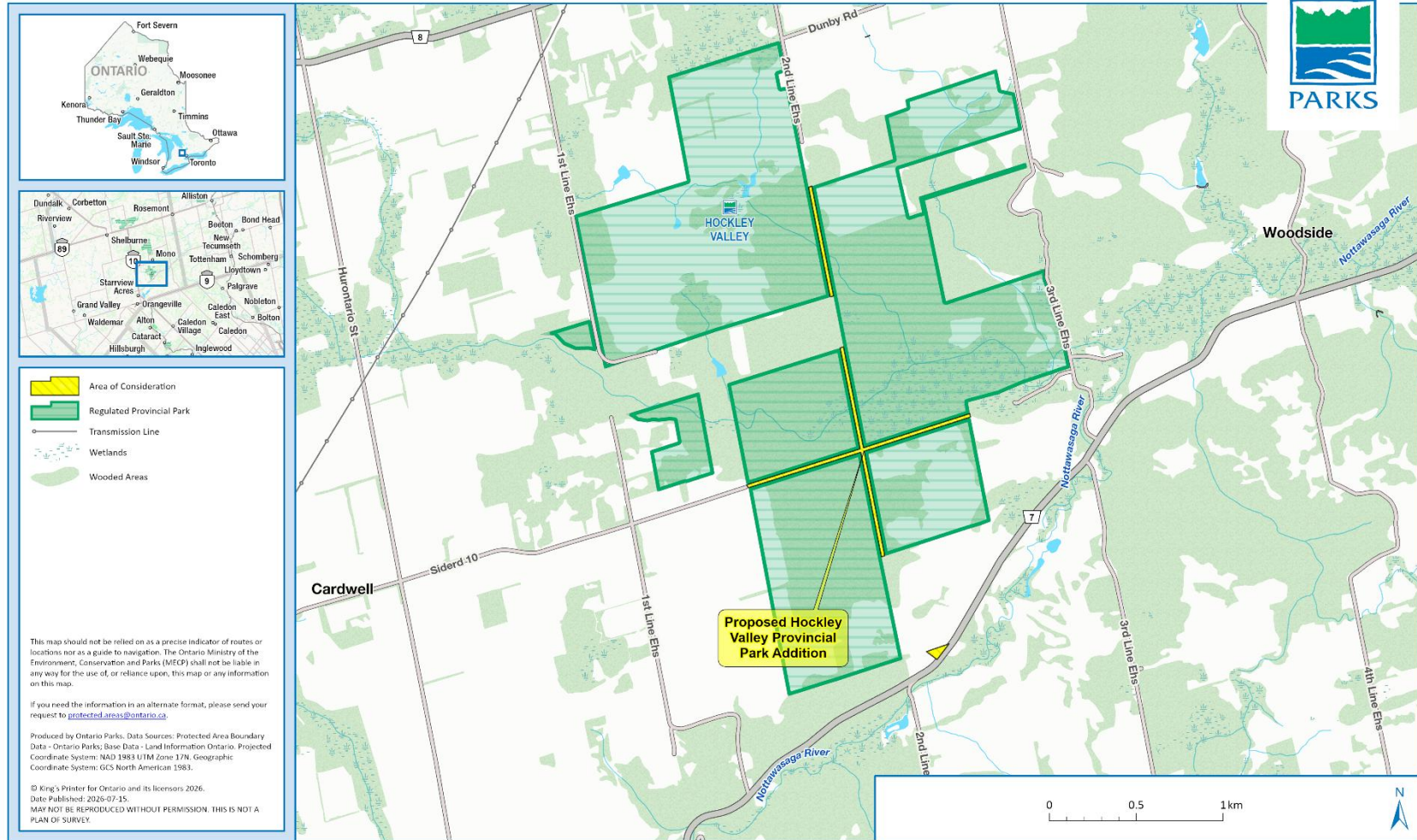
Previous consultation

Note: this site was previously consulted on in 2024 (see ERO posting [019-8618](#)).

Please see below for a map of the proposed additions.

Southwest Zone (SWZ)

Proposed Hockley Valley Provincial Park Addition



19. Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park Addition

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park by regulating one hundred and one (101) parcels of land totaling approximately 126 ha (~ 311 ac) using lands that were previously acquired by Ontario.

Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park is a 64 ha (~ 158 ac) nature reserve class park that was established in 1977. The park is located within the city limits of Windsor, Ontario.

Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park provides visitors with the opportunity to explore and appreciate a landscape and ecosystem that once dominated larger portions of extreme southwestern Ontario and vast areas of the midwestern part of North America.

The park is located in the [Essex Ecodistrict](#) (7E-1) and offers an interesting landscape for nature appreciation and wildlife viewing. A number of areas with tallgrass prairie vegetation are found adjacent to or nearby the nature reserve, which form part of the Ojibway Prairie Remnants Life Science ANSI. The ANSI has also been identified as a Carolinian Canada site. Altogether, 533 flowering plant species have been documented in and around Ojibway Prairie Provincial Nature Reserve, of which more than 60 are of prairie and western affinity. The nature reserve's southerly location has encouraged the growth of limited areas of forest dominated by pin oak, black oak and small stands of red hickory. Animal species representative of prairie habitats and found in the nature reserve include Butler's Garter Snake, Eastern Fox Snake and Eastern Massasauga Rattlesnake.

Regulation would protect additional portions of the provincially significant Ojibway Prairie Wetland Complex and the majority of the Prairie Remnants (Southeast of Nature Reserve) provincially significant Life Science ANSI.

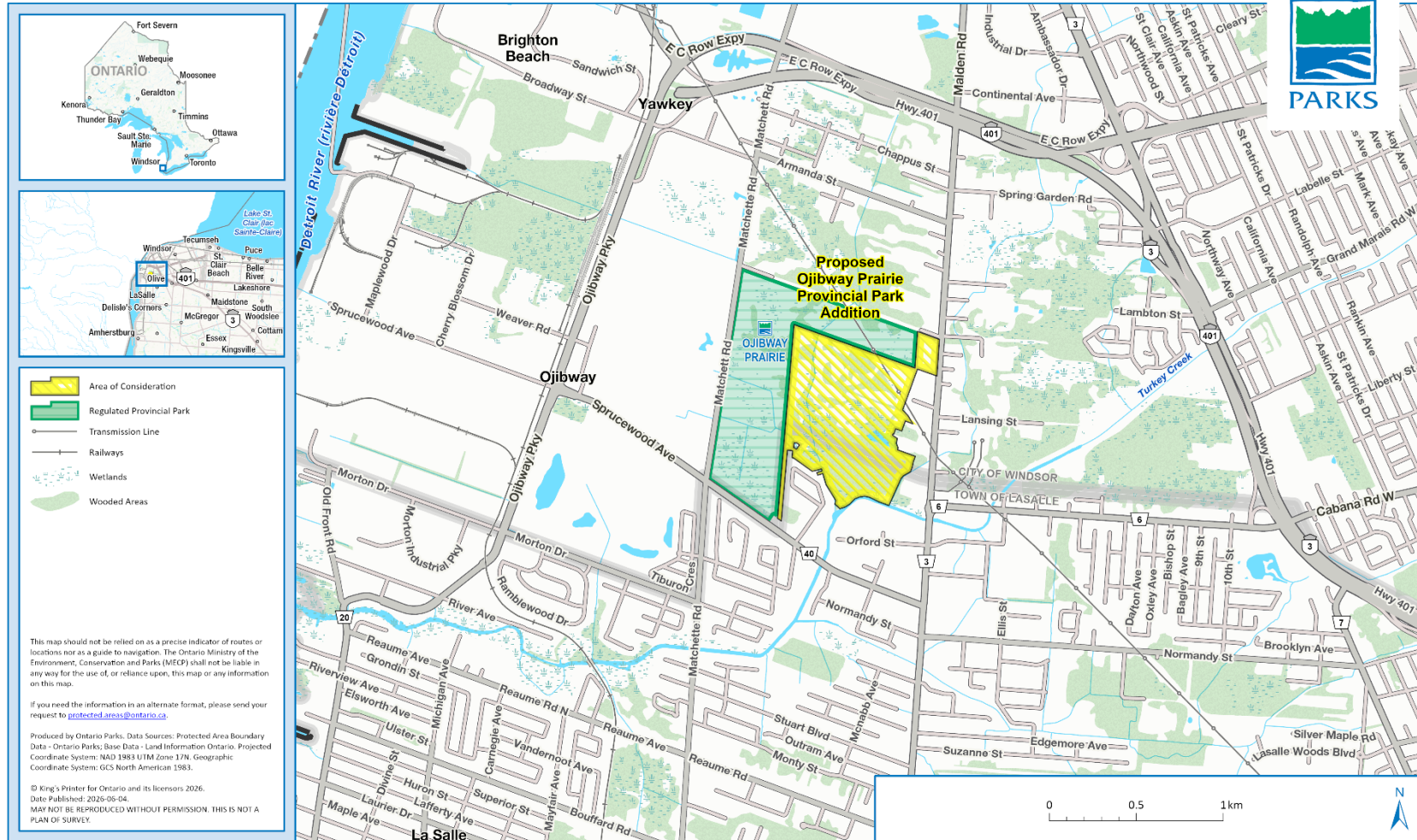
Proposed changes to regulate hunting

Hunting is not currently permitted in this provincial park. The proposal is to not allow hunting in the proposed additions, as Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park is a nature reserve class park where hunting is currently restricted due to its proximity to urban areas. There is no evidence of hunting in the proposed addition.

Please see below for a map of the proposed additions.

Southwest Zone (SWZ)

Proposed Ojibway Prairie Provincial Park Addition



20. Kimberley Forest Conservation Reserve

Proposed site details

This proposal is to establish a new conservation reserve, Kimberley Forest Conservation Reserve, by regulating two (2) parcels totalling 303 ha (~ 749 ac), using lands that were previously acquired by Ontario. These lands are located just west of the village of Kimberley, and approximately 21 km southwest of the town of Thornbury.

The site is representative of Ontario's [Meaford Ecodistrict](#) (6E-4). The Beaver River flows north across Kimberley Forest and presents one of Ontario's most significant hardwood swamp ecosystems. The site features natural geological phenomena such as geological sinkholes and a disappearing creek.

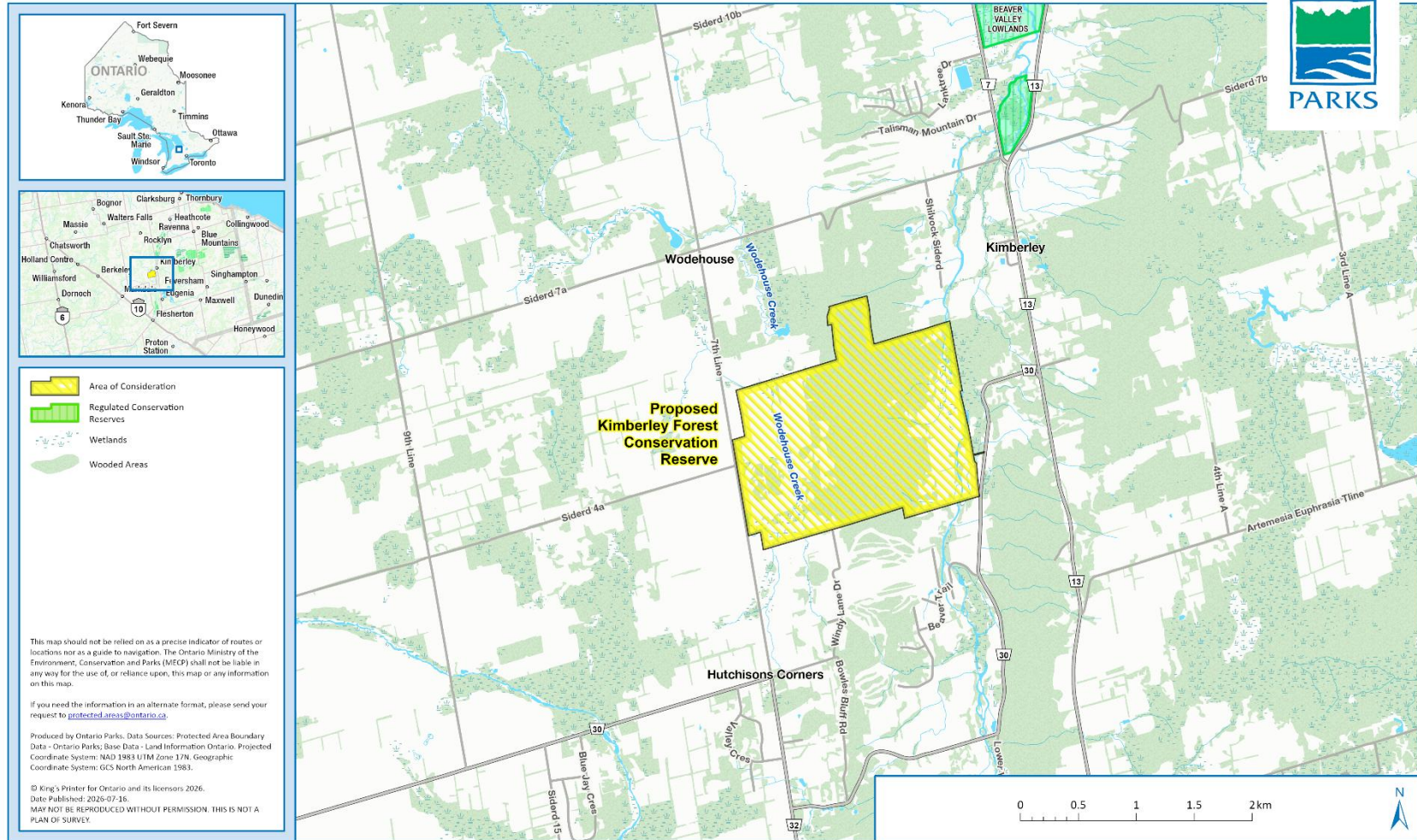
The Bruce Trail is well-established in the area, as is a network of hiking trails that function as track-set, groomed Nordic trails in the winter. Other uses permitted in the Crown-owned portion of the forest include biking, horseback riding, birdwatching, geocaching, snowmobiling, hunting and fishing, among others.

Regulation of this area would increase the total area of Niagara Escarpment protected under the PPCRA.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southwest Zone (SWZ)

Proposed Kimberley Forest Conservation Reserve



21. Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve Addition and Deregulation

Proposed site details

This proposal is to amend the boundary of Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve by adding approximately 7 ha (~ 17 ac) of intervening road allowances. In addition, the proposed amendments would correct a boundary error by removing a 5.3 ha (~ 13.1 ac) area from the conservation reserve, where the conservation reserve incorrectly overlaps private property. Ontario Parks does not actively manage this area due to its private ownership.

Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve is a 318 ha (~ 786 ac) conservation reserve established in 1997 and is located 8 km northwest of Port Colborne. The conservation reserve is representative of Ontario's [Niagara Ecodistrict](#) (7E-5). Existing recreation opportunities include activities such as hiking, birdwatching, photography and hunting.

Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve protects part of the larger Wainfleet bog complex, the largest peatland area within the Carolinian region of Ontario. The wetland is considered provincially significant and features shrub bog, treed bog, and deciduous swamp ecosystems.

The proposed additions feature wetland, and regulation of these lands under the PPCRA would protect habitat for bog and swamp communities.

Please see below for a map of the proposed addition.

Southwest Zone (SWZ)

Proposed Wainfleet Bog Conservation Reserve Addition and Deregulation

