

Board of Directors
Meeting No. BOD-09-21
Friday, September 24, 2021
9:15 a.m.

Amended Agenda

Meeting Location:

To be held virtually by Zoom
Minutes and agendas are available at www.LSRCA.on.ca

Upcoming Events

Board of Directors' Meeting

Friday, October 22nd at 9:00 a.m.
To be held virtually by Zoom

A full listing of events can be found at www.LSRCA.on.ca

I. Acknowledgement of Indigenous Territory

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest and Conflicts of Interest

III. Approval of Agenda

Pages 1 - 5

Recommended: That the content of the Agenda for the September 24, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved **as amended** to include Item VIIIb), a Deputation by Mr. Mike Rabeau, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery at the Regional Municipality of York, regarding an update on the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility.

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors' Meeting

Pages 6 - 13

Included in the agenda is a copy of the draft minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-08-21, held on Friday, July 23, 2021.

Recommended: That the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-08-21, held on Friday, July 23, 2021 be approved as circulated.

b) Conservation Ontario Council Meeting

Pages 14 - 20

Included in the agenda is a copy of the minutes of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held on Monday, June 21, 2021.

Recommended: That the minutes of the Conservation Ontario Council meeting held on Monday, June 21, 2021 be received for information.

V. Announcements

VI. Presentations

There are no Presentations scheduled for this meeting.

VII. Hearings

There are no Hearings scheduled for this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

Pages 21 - 32

a) Georgina Island Fixed Link Project

Mr. Michael Jacobs of Cambium Indigenous Professional Services will provide a deputation regarding the Georgina Island Fixed Link project.

Recommended: That the presentation by Mr. Michael Jacobs of Cambium Indigenous Professional Services regarding the Georgina Island Fixed Link project be received for information.

b) Holland Marsh Treatment Facility Update

Mr. Mike Rabeau, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery at the Regional Municipality of York, will provide an update regarding the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility.

Recommended: That the update by Mr. Mike Rabeau, Director, Capital Planning and Delivery at the Regional Municipality of York, regarding the Holland Marsh Treatment Facility be received for information.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

(Reference Pages 4 and 5 of the agenda)

X. Adoption of Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

XII. Closed Session

The Board will move to Closed Session to deal with confidential land and human resources matters.

Recommended: That the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential land and human resources matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Coordinator BOD/CAO remain in the meeting for the discussion.

The Board will rise from Closed Session and report findings.

Recommended: That the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings.

a) Confidential Land Matter

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 48-21-BOD regarding a confidential land matter be received; and

Further that the recommendations contained within the report be approved.

b) Confidential Human Resources Matter

Recommended: That Confidential Staff Report No. 49-21-BOD regarding a confidential human resources matter be received; and

Further that the recommendations contained within the report be approved.

XIII. Other Business

The next meeting of the Board of Directors will be held at @ 9:00 a.m. on Friday, October 22, 2021. This meeting will be held via Zoom, access details to be provided prior to the meeting.

XIV. Adjournment

Agenda Items

1. Correspondence

Page 33

- a) July 23, 2021 letter from the Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry regarding the withdrawal of request for Minister's review of Authority Permit No. OP.2021.027 - Oro Station.

Recommended: That Correspondence Item 1a) be received for information.

2. Update: Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal and *Conservation Authorities Act* Amendments

Pages 34 - 37

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 45-21-BOD regarding Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal and *Conservation Authorities Act* Amendments be received for information.

3. Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study for the Proposed Highway 400 – Highway 404 Link (Bradford Bypass)

Pages 38 - 69

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 46-21-BOD regarding the Environmental Assessment Study for the proposed Bradford Bypass be received for information.

4. Kennedy Street, Aurora, Stream and Wetland Creation Project

Pages 70 - 73

Recommended: That Staff Report No. 47-21-BOD regarding the Kennedy Street Stream and Wetland Creation Project in Aurora be received; and

Further that funding for the project through the Authority's Ecological Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Restoration Assistance as outlined in this report be approved.

Board of Directors' Meeting

Board of Directors' Meeting No. BOD-08-21

Friday, July 23, 2021

Held virtually via Zoom

Meeting Minutes

LSRCA Board Members Present

Regional Chairman W. Emmerson (Chair), Councillor K. Aylwin, Mayor D. Barton, Mayor B. Drew, Councillor A. Eek, Councillor K. Ferdinands, Councillor W. Gaertner, Councillor R. Greenlaw, Mayor V. Hackson, Councillor S. Harrison-McIntyre, Councillor C. Pettingill, Councillor C. Riepma, Regional Councillor T. Vegh

LSRCA Board Members Absent

Councillor P. Ferragine (Vice Chair), Deputy Mayor J. Gough, Mayor M. Quirk, Councillor A. Waters, Councillor E. Yeo

LSRCA Staff Present

S. Auger, R. Baldwin, T. Barnett, M. Bessey, K. Christensen, M. Critch, P. Davies, J. Doyley, N. Hamley, S. Jagminas, B. Kemp, B. Longstaff, G. MacMillan, G. Peat, C. Sharp, C. Taylor, B. Thompson, K. Toffan, F. Tonto, K. Yemm, K. Zeppieri

I. Land Acknowledgement

II. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest or Conflict of Interest

None noted for the meeting.

III. Approval of Agenda

Moved by: K. Aylwin

Seconded by: T. Vegh

BOD-111-21 **Resolved That** the content of the Agenda for the July 23, 2021 meeting of the Board of Directors be approved as presented. **Carried**

IV. Adoption of Minutes

a) Board of Directors' Meeting

Moved by: V. Hackson

Seconded by: W. Gaertner

BOD-112-21 **Resolved That** the minutes of the Board of Directors' Meeting, No. BOD-07-21, held on Friday, June 25, 2021 be approved as circulated. **Carried**

V. Announcements

- a) CAO Rob Baldwin advised that a meeting was held on July 21st at Scanlon Creek Conservation Area with the Hon. David Piccini, Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks. The meeting was arranged and attended by Parliamentary Assistant and Barrie-Innisfil MPP Andrea Khanjin. In attendance from the Authority were Rob Baldwin, Nicole Hamley, Ben Longstaff and Kristen Yemm. He advised that they walked the trails together while discussing salt management, our innovative stormwater work and low impact development, an overview of our education program, as well as the importance of passive recreation and the need for it to be incorporated in the changes to the *Conservation Authorities Act*. Staff very much appreciated this opportunity to showcase some of the Authority's work.
- b) CAO Baldwin advised that discussions with staff regarding return to the physical offices in the Fall have begun, and more information will be provided to the Board as plans evolve.
- c) CAO Baldwin advised of an upcoming meeting regarding the Georgina Island Fixed Link Project, a planned causeway and bridge to connect the island with mainland Georgina, noting that he appreciates the opportunity to discuss this project in the early planning stages. As more information becomes available, it will be brought back to the Board.
- d) Chair Emerson offered best wishes to the City of Barrie residents after their recent tornado damage. City of Barrie Councillors Aylwin and Riepma updated on the situation, noting that thankfully all injured citizens have been released from hospital. They also praised the entire community for rallying together to support one another.

VI. Presentations

a) **Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast**

General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, provided a presentation on the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast. He reviewed the Executive Summary, noting that Authority business operations are recovering from some impacts seen in 2020 due to COVID-19. The Authority's 14 Annual Operating Priorities for 2021 are progressing as expected, with one exception due to Federal funding. He noted the financial condition of the Authority is strong, a surplus is forecast for 2021, and staff will monitor the use of reserves and deferred revenue for year end.

GM Critch updated on business operations, noting staff continue working from home with anticipated return to the office in the Fall. Some additional costs will be incurred related to

cleaning, supplies and equipment, as well as renovations to the Mabel Davis offices in preparation for staff's return. He went on to note that overall, revenue and expenditures are in line with mid-year expectations. Some Provincial and Federal funding is below year-to-date expectations mainly related to timing of project work. Revenue generation is trending just above year-to-date expectations due to higher volume of applications in Planning & Regulations, and tree planting and education programs have gone ahead as planned during the first two quarters.

GM Critch noted a few factors contributing to the surplus include variances due to staff turnover and recruitment for open positions, variances in operational spending which will be offset with some additional spending in the third and fourth quarters for return to office, as well as asset management. Other contributors are timing variances on capital work at Authority properties, with expenditures expected in second half of 2021.

Looking forward, GM Critch noted that the forecast at the second quarter is used to identify key trends and to monitor the remainder of the year. The forecast will help inform the development of the 2022 Budget and will ensure the adequacy of reserves in the short term. Staff will continue to monitor the impacts of Bill 229/108 and implement changes as needed.

To view this presentation, please click this link: [2nd Quarter 2021 Financial Update](#)

For more information on the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report, please contact Mark Critch at 905-895-1281, ext. 297 or m.critch@lsrca.on.ca.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-113-21 **Resolved That** the presentation by General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, Mark Critch, regarding the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Year-End Forecast be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 37-21-BOD regarding the Authority's Second Quarter 2021 Financial Report and Forecast was included in the agenda.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-114-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 37-21-BOD regarding the Second Quarter Financial Report and Year-End Forecast for the period ending June 30, 2021 be received for information. **Carried**

b) Program Update: Implementation of Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies

General Manager, Integrated Watershed Management, Ben Longstaff, advised that the Authority's Climate Change Program is gaining strength due in large part to the completion of the Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation Strategies, as well as having a dedicated climate change specialist on staff. He was pleased to introduce the Authority's Climate Change Specialist, Fabio Tonto, to provide an update on these initiatives.

Mr. Tonto advised that climate change projections for 2028 are for temperatures to rise 6.8 degrees Celsius, which will translate to several additional days above 30 degrees Celsius. In addition, rain events are expected to be more frequent, more intense, and longer in duration. In response, the Authority has completed climate change mitigation and adaptation strategies, which have several recommendations. There are eight themes and in total 46 actions in the implementation plan, a few of which were highlighted during the meeting:

- Raising Awareness and Engaging the Watershed: Led by the Authority's Education team, five free themed guided hikes on three Authority properties are scheduled for Fall 2021. For more information on these hikes or to register, please click this link: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/Pages/Climate-Change-Hikes.aspx>.
- Exploring the Potential of Carbon Sequestration within Grassland Habitats: Efforts include wetland restoration projects to support the idea of net zero communities and no new carbon being released into the atmosphere.
- Supporting Municipal Readiness: Authority staff participate in regional and municipal working groups and collaborate with municipal staff to gain a better understanding of the challenges of climate change among our municipal partners. Authority staff hosted a webinar series to connect practitioners from the municipalities and to inform and share information. Four interactive webinars were held in May and June with over 150 attendees. The feedback was very positive, and lots was learned about increasing efficiency by collaborating and sharing information, plans and actions.

Authority staff continue to look for ways to move climate change initiatives forward and assist in further collaboration with municipal partners. To view this presentation, please click this link: [Climate Change Program Update](#). For additional information, please visit the Authority's Climate Change webpage: <https://www.lsrca.on.ca/watershed-health/climate-change> or contact Fabio Tonto at 905-895-1281, ext. 239 or f.tonto@lsrca.on.ca.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-115-21 **Resolved That** the presentation by Climate Change Specialist, Fabio Tonto, regarding the Authority's Climate Change Initiatives be received for information. **Carried**

Staff Report No. 38-21-BOD regarding an update on the Authority's Climate Change Initiatives was included in the agenda.

Moved by: A. Eek

Seconded by: R. Greenlaw

BOD-116-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 38-21-BOD regarding the Authority's initial work to implement the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation Strategies be received for information. **Carried**

VII. Hearings

There were no hearings at this meeting.

VIII. Deputations

There were no deputations at this meeting.

IX. Determination of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

Item No. 4 was identified under items requiring separate discussion.

X. Adoption of Items not Requiring Separate Discussion

Items No. 1, 2, and 3 were identified under items not requiring separate discussion.

Moved by: K. Ferdinands

Seconded by: D. Barton

BOD-117-21 **Resolved That** the following recommendations respecting the matters listed as "Items Not Requiring Separate Discussion" be adopted as submitted to the Board, and staff be authorized to take all necessary action required to give effect to same. **Carried**

1. Correspondence

BOD-118-21 **Resolved That** no Correspondence items be received. **Carried**

2. Monitoring Report – Planning and Development Applications for the Period January 1 through June 30, 2021

BOD-119-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 39-21-BOD regarding monitoring of planning and development applications for the period January 1 through June 30, 2021 be received for information. **Carried**

3. Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Offsetting Policies Housekeeping Updates

BOD-120-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 40-21-BOD regarding the Housekeeping Updates to the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Offsetting Policies be received; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Ecological Offsetting Policy, as attached, be approved; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Phosphorus Offsetting Policy, as attached, be approved; and

Further that the updated Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority Water Balance Recharge Policy, as attached, be approved. **Carried**

XI. Consideration of Items Requiring Separate Discussion

4. Project Update: Tamarac Park - Stormwater Management Pond Retrofit

In response to Councillor Gaertner's question regarding whether the consultant should have known about the unforeseen conditions on this project, CAO Baldwin noted that investigations were done but the project did not go as planned due to water pressure being greater than anticipated, but the end result will be a better stormwater pond than previously on site. He went on to note that ground water is one of the biggest challenges, and sometimes conditions turn out to be worse than originally thought.

Councillor Gaertner asked if the expected phosphorus reduction in this pilot project was achieved. CAO Baldwin advised that monitoring efforts at this site will be ongoing, and this is one of many pilot projects that will evaluate what can be achieved with these types of retrofit projects. He also noted that a dry pond was added to this project to increase the overall storage and performance of the facility.

Moved by: W. Gaertner

Seconded by: S. Harrison-McIntyre

BOD-121-21 **Resolved That** Staff Report No. 41-21-BOD regarding the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority's efforts with the York Region Phosphorus Removal

Demonstration Project Partnership: Tamarac Park - Stormwater Management Pond Retrofit be received; and

Further that the Board of Directors authorize the Purchase Order increase to \$1,621,087, to ensure compliance with the Authority's Purchasing Policy and associated signing authority provisions. **Carried**

XII. Closed Session

The Board moved to Closed Session to deal with confidential matters.

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: V. Hackson

BOD-122-21 **Resolved That** the Board move to Closed Session to deal with confidential matters; and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, the Event and Marketing Specialist and the Coordinator BOD/CAO remain in the meeting for the discussion on Item a); and

Further that the Chief Administrative Officer, members of the Executive Leadership Team, and the Coordinator BOD/CAO remain in the meeting for the discussion on Items b) and c). **Carried**

The Board rose from Closed Session and reported findings.

Moved by: B. Drew

Seconded by: W. Gaertner

BOD-123-21 **Resolved That** the Board rise from Closed Session and report findings. **Carried**

a) 2021 Conservation Awards Recipients

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-124-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 42-21-BOD regarding the 2021 Conservation Awards recipients be approved. **Carried**

b) Confidential Legal Matter

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-125-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 43-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information. **Carried**

c) Confidential Legal Matter

Moved by: D. Barton

Seconded by: C. Pettingill

BOD-126-21 **Resolved That** Confidential Staff Report No. 44-21-BOD regarding a confidential legal matter be received for information. **Carried**

XIII. Other Business

XIV. Adjournment

Moved by: T. Vegh

Seconded by: C. Riepma

BOD-127-21 **Resolved That** the meeting be adjourned at 10:24 a.m. **Carried**

Original to be signed by:

Regional Chairman Wayne Emmerson
Chair

Original to be signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

CONSERVATION ONTARIO COUNCIL MINUTES
June 21, 2021 (Meeting via Zoom)

Voting Delegates Present:

Chair: Andy Mitchell, Otonabee

Brian Horner, Ausable Bayfield
Alan Revill, Cataraqui Region
Katrina Furlnetto, Cataraqui Region
Chris Wilkinson, Catfish Creek
Chris Darling, Central Lake Ontario
Tom Adams, Credit Valley
Deb Martin-Downs, Credit Valley
Tim Byne, Essex Region
Linda Laliberte, Ganaraska Region
Chris White, Grand River
Scott Greig, Grey Sauble
Andrea Matrosovs, Grey Sauble
Tim Lanthier, Grey Sauble
Moya Johnson, Halton
Hassaan Basit, Halton
Santina Moccio, Hamilton
Lisa Burnside, Hamilton
Andy Letham, Kawartha
Mark Majchrowski, Kawartha
Grant Jones, Kettle Creek
Wayne Emmerson, Lake Simcoe Region
Rob Baldwin, Lake Simcoe Region
Donna Blunt, Lakehead Region
Tammy Cook, Lakehead Region
Michael Columbus, Long Point Region
Judy Maxwell, Long Point Region
Mark Peacock, Lower Thames
Eric Sandford, Lower Trent

Rhonda Bateman, Lower Trent
David Vallier, Mattagami Region
Janet Mason, Mississippi Valley
Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley
Sally McIntyre, Mississippi Valley
Bruce Mackenzie, Niagara Peninsula
Chandra Sharma, Niagara Peninsula
Carl Jorgensen, Nickel District (Con.Sudbury)
Mariane McLeod, Nottawasaga Valley
Gail Little, Nottawasaga Valley
Doug Hevenor, Nottawasaga Valley
Dan Marinigh, Otonabee Region
James Flieler, Quinte Region
Martin Lang, Raisin Region
Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley
Sommer Casgrain-Robertson, Rideau Valley
Maureen Couture, Saugeen Valley
Jennifer Stephens, Saugeen Valley
Corrina Barrett, Sault Ste Marie Region
George Darouze, South Nation
Angela Coleman, South Nation
Joe Faas, St. Clair Region
Larry Gordon, St. Clair Region
Brian McDougall, St. Clair Region
Jennifer Innis, Toronto and Region
John Mackenzie, Toronto and Region
Alan Dale, Upper Thames River
Tracy Annett, Upper Thames River

Guests:

Brad McNevin, Quinte Conservation
Phil Beard, Maitland Valley Conservation
Bill Smirle, South Nation Conservation

Members Absent:

Crowe Valley

CO Staff:

Kim Gavine
Deborah Balika
Kristin Bristow
Lauren McPherson
Nicholas Fischer
Bonnie Fox

Jane Lewington
Nekeisha Mohammed
Patricia Moleirinho
Leslie Rich
Jo-Anne Rzakki
Rick Wilson

1. Welcome from the Chair

Chair Mitchell welcomed everyone in attendance.

2. Adoption of the Agenda

**#29/21 Moved by: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Maureen Couture, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority**

THAT the Agenda be adopted.

CARRIED

3. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

There was none declared.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the Previous Meeting

**#30/21 Moved by: Bruce McKenzie, Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent Conservation Authority**

THAT the minutes from the December 14, 2020 meeting be approved.

CARRIED

5. Business Arising from the Minutes

There was none.

6. Motion to move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole

**#31/21 Moved by: Michael Columbus, Long Point Region Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority**

THAT the meeting now move from Full Council to Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

7. Items for Discussion

a. Strategic Plan 2021-2025 Summary and Five Year Workplan

Kim Gavine presented the report.

**C.W. #32/21 Moved by: Marianne McLeod, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Scott Grieg, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority**

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

b. General Manager's Report

Kim Gavine presented the report.

**C.W. #33/21 Moved by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Jeff Atkinson, Mississippi Valley Conservation Authority**

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

c. Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act" (ERO#019-2986)

Kim Gavine and Bonnie Fox provided an update and the presentation that is attached to the minutes.

There was discussion on some areas that members thought could use further clarification related to enforcement matters, water quality testing (Drinking Water Source Protection in particular), conservation area lands infrastructure (structures and comfort stations), and low water systems and new reservoirs/infrastructure for drought management.

Bonnie Fox noted that enforcement matters are reflected in attachment 3 and lists tools for enforcement, and that attachment 1 reflects infrastructure in conservation areas, but that staff could provide examples, including comfort stations. Bonnie Fox noted that low water situations are covered as part of the mandatory Natural Hazards program, and the expropriation must be done with the Municipality or the Province as that ability has been removed from the CAs to do independently.

There was a comment made on the coordinated approach for comments, and that 45 days is a small window to coordinate comments. The NPCA has sent letters to Municipal CAOs with suggested comments asking Municipal Councils to send their comments to the Province. They encourage other CAs to follow the same approach.

There was a comment made about natural hazards under section 8 with regard to communications and public awareness; it was noted that this should be mandatory across all areas (land management, Drinking Water Source Protection, etc.) as consultation and public awareness will need to be undertaken in all areas. It was agreed that this would be added by CO to the comments.

**C.W. #34/21 Moved by: Maureen Couture, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Scott Greig, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority**

THAT Conservation Ontario's comments as amended on the "Regulatory Proposals (Phase 1) under the Conservation Authorities Act" (ERO#019-2986) (proposed positioning in summary table and referenced attachments 1, 2a, 2b, 3) be endorsed for submission to the Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks.

CARRIED

d. Draft Updated Memorandum of Understanding between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Incorporated (2021)

Nicholas Fischer provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

There was discussion on if this MOU could be adapted for use in other areas of business, like natural gas lines. CO staff noted that although the MOU could be adapted for future use in other areas, that this MOU is specific to Hydro One as a partner.

There was discussion on the staff time and funding for this project. It was confirmed that some CO contract staff time is supported through the Hydro One contract.

There was discussion on enhanced restoration and recreational uses for Hydro One corridors, and it was noted that coordinated efforts between CAs and Hydro One on restoration of corridors is not explicitly part of the MOU, but that nothing precludes individual CAs and Hydro One from entering into separate agreements to undertake this type of work. There was further discussion about wanting to see not just mitigation efforts from Hydro One but also enhancement of their worksites as a guiding principle for Hydro One. Nicholas Fischer noted that this can be taken back to Hydro One for further discussion.

There was further discussion about the co-management of the GTA corridors being managed by Hydro One, Infrastructure Ontario, cities, CAs, and other bodies for the Meadoway project, and there was a suggestion that any interested CAs contact Lisa Turnbull at TRCA for further insights and assistance.

**C.W. #35/21 Moved by: Scott Greig, Grey Sauble Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority**

THAT the DRAFT Memorandum of Understanding (including the “Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities” and the “Hydro One Application Form for Permissions from Conservation Authorities”) between Conservation Ontario and Hydro One Networks Incorporated be endorsed for signing by the General Manager of Conservation Ontario;

AND THAT the Memorandum of Understanding, once finalized, be circulated to all CAs to notify the CAs of the updated agreement and allow for consideration of the local use of the “Protocol for Obtaining Permission under Section 28 of the Conservation Authorities Act for Common Hydro One Maintenance and Construction Activities” and the “Hydro One Application Form for Permissions from Conservation Authorities” relative to their administration of section 28 regulatory responsibilities. THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

e. Group Insurance and Benefits Committee Update

Denyse Landry, Chair of the Group Insurance and Benefits Committee provided an update.

**C.W. #36/21 Moved by: Carl Jorgensen, Conservation Sudbury (Nickel District)
Seconded by: Michael Columbus, Long Point Region Conservation Authority**

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

f. Update on the Conservation Ontario Governance Accountability and Transparency Initiative

Kim Gavine and Bonnie Fox provided an update and presentation which is attached to the minutes.

C.W. #37/21 Moved by: Martin Lang, Raisin Region Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Eric Sandford, Lower Trent Conservation Authority

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

g. Budget Status Report for the period ending May 31, 2021

Kim Gavine provided an update on the budget status to May 31, 2021.

C.W. #38/21 Moved by: Alan Reville, Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Alan Dale, Upper Thames River Conservation Authority

THAT Council receives this report as information.

CARRIED

14. Consent Items:

C.W. #39/21 Moved by: Carl Jorgensen, Conservation Sudbury (Nickel District)
Seconded by: Maureen Couture, Saugeen Valley Conservation Authority

THAT Council approve the consent agenda and endorse the recommendations accompanying Consent Items 7 h-q and Ri-Riv.

CARRIED

h. Conservation Ontario's 2021 Mid-Year Workplan Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.

i. Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Consultation on growing the size of the Greenbelt" (ERO#019-3136)
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on the "Consultation on growing the size of the Greenbelt" (ERO#019-3136) submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on April 14, 2021 be endorsed.

j. Conservation Ontario's Comments on the "Proposed changes to certain land division provisions in the Planning Act" (ERO #019-3495)
THAT the comments submitted to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing on the "Proposed changes to certain land division provisions in the Planning Act" (ERO #019-3495) dated May 25, 2021 be endorsed.

k. Update on the CO Client Service and Streamlining Initiative and Endorsement of Committee and Taskforce Representatives
THAT the update on the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative be received;
THAT Tracy Annett (UTRCA) be endorsed as a member of the Client Service and Streamlining Initiative Steering Committee;
AND THAT Jenna Allain (UTRCA) be endorsed as a member of the CO Timely Review and Approvals Taskforce.

- l. Conservation Ontario Representative for Lake Erie Partnership Management Committee
THAT Tim Byrne, Essex Region Conservation Authority and Mark Peacock, Lower Thames Valley Conservation Authority be endorsed as Conservation Ontario's representatives on the Lakewide Partnership Management Committee for Lake Erie.
- m. Conservation Ontario's comments on the DRAFT: Canada's Great Lakes Strategy for PFOS, PFOA, and LC-PFCAs Risk Management
THAT Conservation Ontario's comments on DRAFT: Canada's Great Lakes Strategy for PFOS, PFOA, and LC-PFCAs Risk Management, submitted to The Great Lakes Environment Office on May 26, 2021 be endorsed.
- n. Conservation Ontario's comments on The House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development's Fresh Water Study
THAT Conservation Ontario's brief to The House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development's Fresh Water Study submitted to The House of Commons Standing Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development on May 25, 2021 be endorsed.
- o. Growing Canada's Forests: A request for Information on the 2 Billion Tree Program
THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorses the Letter supporting Request for Information (RFI) submission of the Ontario Collaborative led by Forests Ontario entitled: Growing Canada's Forests.
- p. Conservation Ontario's Recommendations to Ontario's Advisory Panel on Climate Change
THAT Conservation Ontario Council endorses Conservation Ontario's Recommendations to Ontario's Advisory Panel on Climate Change entitled: Ontario's Conservation Authorities-Natural Champions for Watershed Resilience.
- q. Release of New Research by EcoHealth Ontario, Green Analytics and the Greenbelt Foundation – Estimating the Health Care Savings from Greenspaces and Urban Green Infrastructure
THAT Council receives this report for information.
- r. Program Updates
 - i. Drinking Water Source Protection Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - ii. Business Development and Partnerships Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - iii. Marketing and Communications Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.
 - iv. Information Management Program Update
THAT Council receives this report as information.

15. Motion to Move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council

#40/21

**Moved by: Donna Blunt, Lakehead Region Conservation Authority
Seconded by: Tom Adams, Credit Valley Conservation Authority**

THAT the meeting now move from Committee of the Whole to Full Council

CARRIED

16. Council Business – Council Adoption of Recommendations

**#41/21 Moved by: Mariane McLeod, Nottawasaga Valley Conservation Authority
 Seconded by: Michael Columbus, Long Point Region Conservation Authority**

***THAT Conservation Ontario Council adopt Committee of the Whole (C.W.) Recommendations:
C.W. #32/21 to C.W. #39/21.***

CARRIED

17. New Business

None identified

18. Adjourn

**#42/21 Moved by: Andy Letham, Kawartha Region Conservation Authority
 Seconded by: Pieter Leenhouts, Rideau Valley Conservation Authority**

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

FIXED LINK PROJECT INTRODUCTION

LSRCA BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Chippewas of Georgina
Island First Nation



September 24, 2021
Virtual Meeting

COMMITMENT TO THE FIXED LINK



Pre - 2008

Federal commitments for a bridge were in place but changes in government resulted in changes in priorities.



2008 - Neegan Burnside Report

The community has Neegan Burnside assess and document the potential for a fixed link to Georgina Island

- Well received
- No commitments to proceed

2018-19

Community Mandate

Community formally supports leadership to make the Fixed Link a priority at community meeting



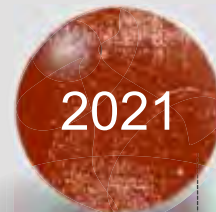
2019 CIPS Engaged

CIPS Engaged to manage the 'idea' and develop the community project understanding

2019

WSP Engaged

WSP engaged to develop the GIFL Fixed Link Project Plan



2021 Council Resolution

GIFN Chief and Council formally resolve to complete a Fixed Link by 2030.



COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT FIXED LINK COMMUNITY VISIONING (2019-2020)

Community Understanding of what would be involved

- The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation adopted the following Project Vision:

“Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation is a responsible and sustainable community that values safety and community health. A fixed link will offer the community with safe passage during all seasons while protecting the environmental, cultural, social and economic future of the community.”

Key Community Engagement Directives

- Build it now – don’t wait
 - Should be on a route we are used to
- Keep us safe (While In Transit / From Outsiders)
 - Protect Lake Simcoe
 - Protect our environment



THE COMMUNITY DIRECTIVE

'PROTECT THE LAKE AND ENVIRONMENT'

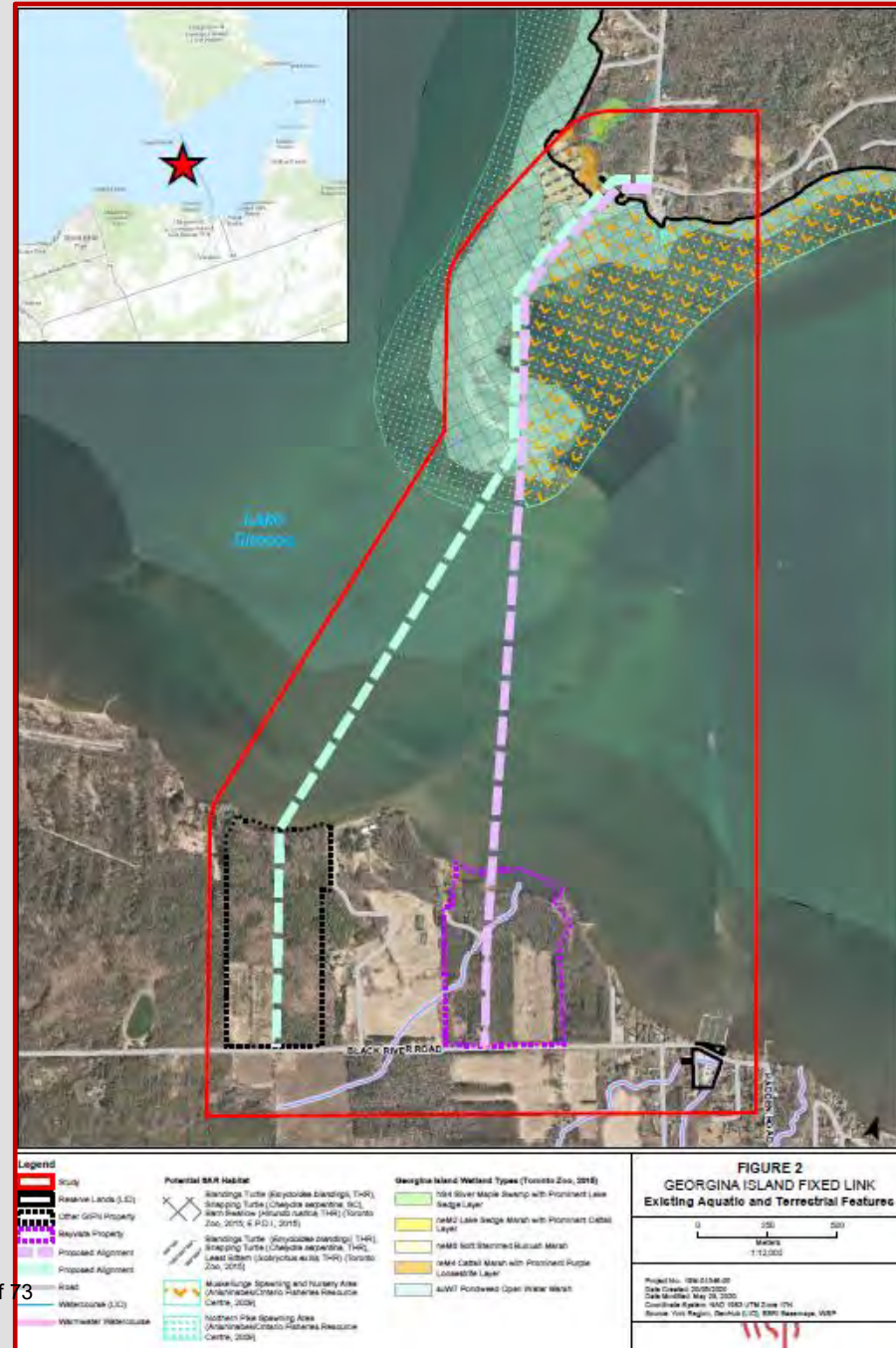
- The Chippewas of Georgina Island First Nation take the impacts this project may have on Lake Simcoe and the environment seriously.
- The community has been very clear during engagements:
 - We understand that our current transportation system negatively impacts the Lake and environment now.
 - We understand that this project will impact Lake Simcoe through all phases of assessment, design, construction and use.
 - We must work with Mother Earth, traditional knowledge and western science to ensure we:
 1. Understand the impacts to the Lake and environment
 2. Investigate impact avoidance measures whenever possible
 3. Ensure comprehensive mitigation measures are used when required
 - We do not have the human resources or fulsome skills in the community to fully comprehend the impacts that may result from this project and therefore must look to others to support us.
 - Lake Simcoe Stakeholders
 - Lake Simcoe Regional Conservation Authority
 - CIPS / WSP (Other professional service firms)



TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT FIXED LINK TECHNICAL VISIONING

WSP Technical Review

- No ground based investigation or reviews conducted
- Review 2008 Neegan Burnside Study
- Desktop review of potential 'deal-breakers':
 - Environmental Planning Needs
 - Ecology Factors
 - Traffic Factors
 - Civil Road Understanding
 - Hydrogeology Understanding
 - Geotechnical Desktop reviews
 - Contamination research
 - Archaeology needs assessment
 - Natural Heritage understanding
 - Air/Noise requirements



FIXED LINK PROJECT – TECHNICAL VISIONING CONTINUED

Technical Assumptions Developed

- The Fixed Link will connect:
 - Black River Road to existing section of Bear Road and Chief Joseph Snake Road on the Island.

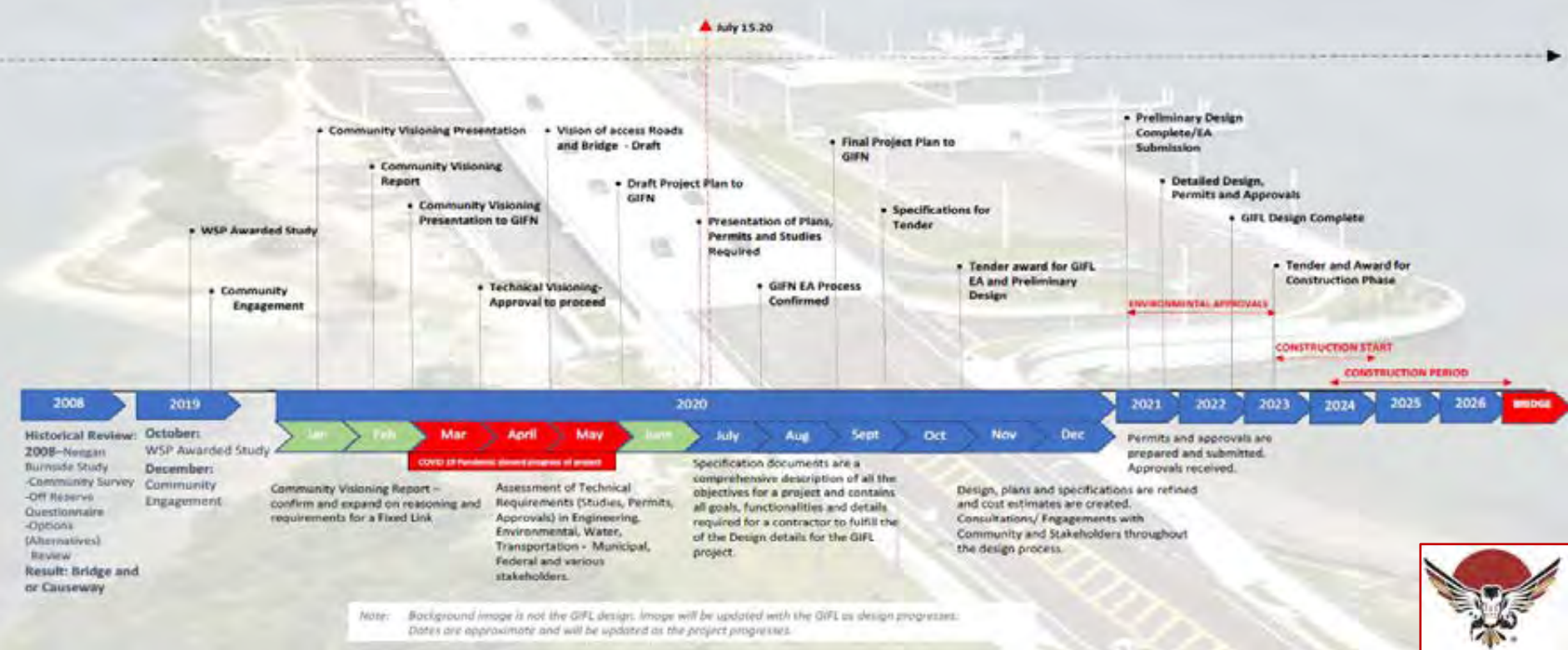
- Will require 3.3 km of roadway –
 - 1 km of roadway + 2.3 km of Fixed Link:
 - 800m causeway to bridge
 - 700m elevated Bridge
 - 800m causeway to mainland

- These are assumptions
 - Design based on vision has been examined, but not fully studied – why?
 - Need to fully evaluate the impacts of the project prior to investing heavily in design
 - Rerouting due to species at risk
 - Soils insufficient in certain space





GEORGINA ISLAND FIXED LINK STUDY TIMELINE



CHIPPEWAS OF GEORGINA ISLAND FIRST NATION

COUNCIL RESOLUTION

FEBRUARY 17, 2021

The Chief and Council...

1. **Reaffirm that ancestors used a natural land link**
2. **Reaffirm the loss of the land link during Trent Severn construction**
3. **Confirmation that there is not a single, safe, secure and reliable all weather transportation method currently**
4. **Confirmation that the community feels unsafe crossing the Lake during the winter months**
5. **Confirming that community members have lost their life attempting to cross the Lake**
6. **Affirming that climate change is affecting the Lake and making crossing unpredictable**
7. **Affirming that a safe, secure and reliable all weather transportation method is of paramount importance**
8. **Affirming that research has indicating that a Fixed Link, comprised of causeway and bridge will offer safe passage**
9. **Affirm that the GIFN Members, through consultation and engagement have directed the Council to proceed with the planning, design and construction of a Fixed Link as the most desired solution**

And therefore resolved:

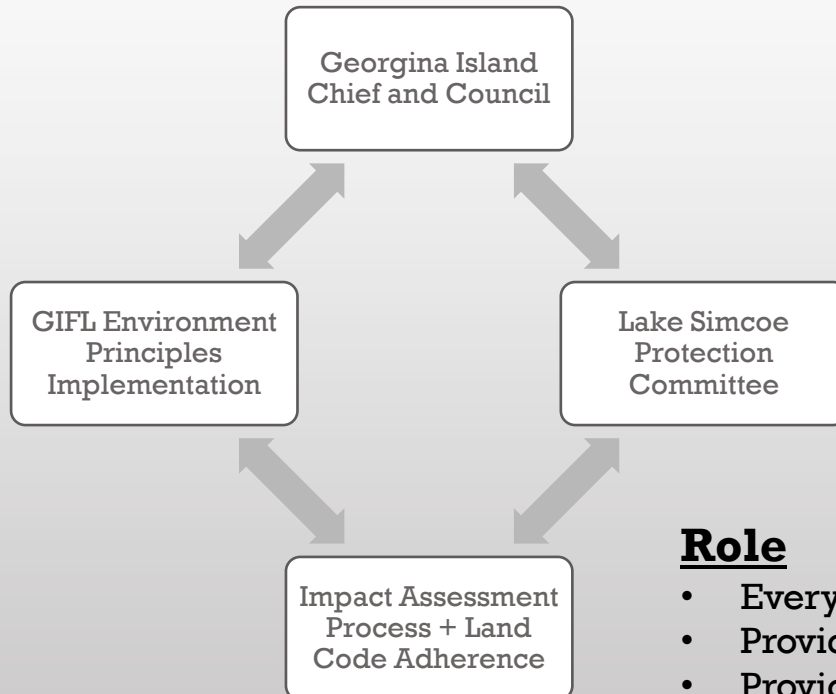
- **The Chief and Council of the Georgina Island First Nation intend to build a Fixed Link that will connect Georgina Island to the mainland**
- **The Chief and Council desire to complete the Impact Assessment by December 31, 2024**
- **The Chief and Council intend to have the Fixed Link operational by December 31, 2026**



FROM RESOLUTION TO TODAY



DESIRED LAKE SIMCOE/ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION PROCESS



Lake Simcoe Protection Committee

- Community Members of GIFN (2)
- Lake Simcoe Stakeholders
- GIFL Secretariat Technical Team
- Who else?

Role

- Every study or evaluation will go through the committee 2x
- Provide input into study design (protect & forethought)
- Provide comment, concern and alternatives into impacts and proposed avoidance or mitigation
- Advice will be promoted to Chief and Council for review
- Point of contact for all LS Stakeholders?
- Two meetings will be built into every RFP



DESIRED LAKE SIMCOE/ENVIRONMENT PROTECTION PROCESS

LSRCA Relationship

- We desire your professional, science-based eyes.
 - To confirm to our community that we are protecting the Lake
 - To affirm our protection processes are valid and accepted beyond the FN community
- We need your information
 - To ensure we are not reinventing a process or redoing work that has already been done
 - To confirm our Traditional Knowledge for third party reviewers (as a development proponent)



DISCUSSION – Q&A

Subscribe at:

www.gifixedlink.com

Contact the Secretariat

gifl@indigenouseaware.com



**Ministry of Northern
Development, Mines,
Natural Resources and
Forestry**

Office of the Minister

99 Wellesley Street West
Room 6630, Whitney Block
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tel: 416-327-0633
Fax: 416-327-0665

**Ministère du
Développement du Nord,
des Mines, des Richesses
naturelles et des Forêts**

Bureau du ministre

99, rue Wellesley Ouest
Bureau 6630, Édifice Whitney
Toronto ON M7A 1W3
Tél.: 416 327-0633
Télééc.: 416 327-0665



354-2021-1014

July 23, 2021

Geoffrey Campbell
Managing Partner
OroStation/2639025 Ontario Inc.
gc@orostation.ca

Dear Geoffrey Campbell:

Re: Withdrawal of request for Minister's review of permit conditions under Subsection 28.0.1(9) of the *Conservation Authorities Act*: Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority – Permit No. OP.2021.027

I would like to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 18, 2021, withdrawing your request for a Minister's review of permit conditions issued by the Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority (LSRCA) under Permit No. OP.2021.027 for the Oro Station Automotive Innovation Park (Oro Station) development project.

I am pleased to learn that you have been able to work with the LSRCA to clarify details for the Oro Station development project and that, as a result, an updated permit has been issued. This highlights the importance of economic development and employment opportunities, especially during Ontario's recovery from COVID-19, while also keeping environmental protections and natural heritage considerations at the forefront within the Township of Oro-Medonte.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Greg Rickford".

The Honourable Greg Rickford
Minister of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry

c: Wayne Emmerson, Chair, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority
Rob Baldwin, Chief Administrative Officer, Lake Simcoe Region Conservation Authority

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Rob Baldwin, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: September 15, 2021

Subject

Update: Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal and *Conservation Authorities Act* Amendments

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 45-21-BOD regarding Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal and *Conservation Authorities Act* Amendments be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 45-21-BOD is to update the Board on the current status of Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal Consultation and *Conservation Authorities Act* amendments and outline the primary future actions for implementation.

Background:

On December 8, 2020, the Province approved by royal assent Bill 229, Protect, Support and Recover from COVID-19 Act (Budget Measures), 2020 which includes Schedule 6. This approval has already brought forth a slew of amendments and requirements under the *Conservation Authorities Act* (Act) including changes to governance and issuing permits for projects subject to a Minister's Zoning Order. Several Board reports have addressed these matters over the past year.

A further series of amendments and requirements were established through legislation in Schedule 6 of Bill 229 but require the creation, consolidation and/or amendment through regulations under the Act.

To facilitate the development of these regulations, a Minister's Working Group was established and is led by the Minister of Environment, Conservation and Parks (Environment). The Working Group was comprised of Environment staff, Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (Natural Resources) staff, several representatives from various conservation authorities, Conservation Ontario, BILD, Association of Municipalities of Ontario, municipal and agricultural sectors. The Working Group is chaired by Hassaan Basit, CEO of Conservation Halton. The Authority's Chief Administrative Officer was fortunate to be asked to be a member of this working group and has participated since inception.

The Working Group began meeting in early January 2021 and meets approximately every two weeks to discuss and review various topics and proposed regulatory additions, consolidations and/or amendments. The initial timeline was for the Working Group to conclude their respective work in early Summer 2021, but this timeline has currently been extended to the end of 2021.

Status Update:

Phase 1

The principal work required in Phase 1 is generally completed with the Working Group now principally focused on Phase 2. The final activity for the Working Group to undertake in Phase 1 is a final review of the required draft regulations that include revisions under S.28 and S.29 of the Act, as well as other aspects being implemented through the regulations. This is to occur in the immediate future with the subsequent release of the final proposed regulations this Fall. A detailed synopsis of the results of Phase 1 and the supporting regulations will be provided to the Board upon release to the public of the draft regulations.

Phase 2

The focus of Phase 2 relates primarily to funding mechanisms of conservation authorities including levy, agreements, memorandums of understanding, user fees and any other potential funding or revenue aspect. The initial work has only just begun as recently as the week of this Board report. This phase also includes consultation regarding overhead and corporate costs.

One unique area of discussion in Phase 2 is the requirement to levy non-participating (members of the Authority) and the municipal area of member municipalities not included in the Authority's jurisdiction for activities undertake as core activities under the Lake Simcoe Protection Plan.

Action Items:

Inventory of Programs and Services

The Authority is to prepare a detailed inventory of the Authority's programs and services defined by the categories developed in Phase 1 such as Core (mandated), Municipal requested, Authority requested, Lake Simcoe Protection Plan, and other. This task is required for completion for the end of 2021. Staff will be bringing this inventory to the Board for the October meeting to accelerate the timelines, as initial discussions will be beginning with municipal partners. The early completion of this inventory provides some detailed information that is beneficial during the Phase 2 work and consultation.

The inventory will be provided to our member municipalities after the October board meeting, which is well in advance of the provincial requirements.

Transition Plans

The proposed regulation will require conservation authorities to develop a detailed transition plan by December 31, 2021 to be provided to the Environment Minister. The transition plan will include a detailed inventory for both mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services provided, identification of the programs and services that require a municipal agreement and consultation with municipalities.

The transition plan will be brought forward to the Board at the December meeting. If the Phase 2 process occurs at a faster rate, the transition plan may possibly come forward at the November meeting. The details included in Phase 2 directly influence aspects of the transition plan, and the intent is to incorporate these details to ensure clarity in the transition plan.

The transition plan will set out a timeline for actions and activities building towards the 2023 budget. Staff will be focused on completing the primary activities by early summer 2022, respecting the municipal election in the Fall.

Municipal Agreements and Memorandums of Understanding

Programs and activities undertaken by a conservation authority that are funded by a member municipality will require that an agreement be in place. The agreements must include financial details, termination dates, provisions for early termination or addressing breaches of the agreement, and transparency aspects. These agreements are intended to allow for flexibility and can include multiple municipalities, multiple programs, or services. The prescribed date for all municipal agreements to be in place is January 1, 2023.

Relevance to Authority Policy:

The changes to the Act and subsequent regulations will require that the Authority's Administrative By-Laws be amended to ensure consistency and compliance. A review and edit of the by-laws will occur, and updated by-laws will be brought to the Board at a future date for consideration. Financial and other related internal Authority policies may need to be modified upon formal approval of the subsequent regulations. This will occur on an as needed basis.

Impact on Authority Finances:

There are no direct immediate impacts to Authority finances anticipated based on these recent proposed changes and requirements. There may be some minor legal expenses if there is a need for substantial changes to the Administrative By-laws.

The future impact or benefit to Authority finances will take time to be identified and understood following implementation of regulations when approved. There is no impact to Authority finances predicted for 2022, as it will be considered a "business as usual" budget.

The potential for change both positive and negative will be determined in the budget for fiscal 2023.

Summary and Recommendations:

Staff will begin consultation with member municipal staff as required, and updates on the completion of Phase 1 and status of Phase 2 consultation will be provided to the Board as they become available.

It is therefore recommended that Staff Report No. 45-21-BOD regarding Bill 229 Regulatory Proposal Consultation and Conservation Authorities Act amendments be received for information.

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Ashlea Brown, Director Regulations and Taylor Stevenson, Sr. Environmental Regulations Analyst

Date: September 16, 2021

Subject

Preliminary Design and Class Environmental Assessment Study for the Proposed Highway 400 – Highway 404 Link (Bradford Bypass)

Recommendation

That Staff Report No. 46-21-BOD regarding the Environmental Assessment Study for the proposed Bradford Bypass be received for information.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of Staff Report No. 46-21-BOD is to provide information to the Board of Directors on the proposed Highway 400 – Highway 404 Link (Bradford Bypass), specifically the Authority's role with regards to the Preliminary Design and Environmental Assessment Study being conducted by the Ontario Ministry of Transportation.

Background:

The Ministry of Transportation has retained AECOM Canada Ltd. to undertake the Preliminary Design and Environmental Assessment Study for the proposed Bradford Bypass. The Ministry of Transportation previously completed a route planning study for the Bradford Bypass in 1997 and a subsequent Environmental Assessment Study. Recommended plans were approved in 2002. The project was ultimately put on hold until 2019 when the Ministry of Transportation approved the re-initiation of design activities.

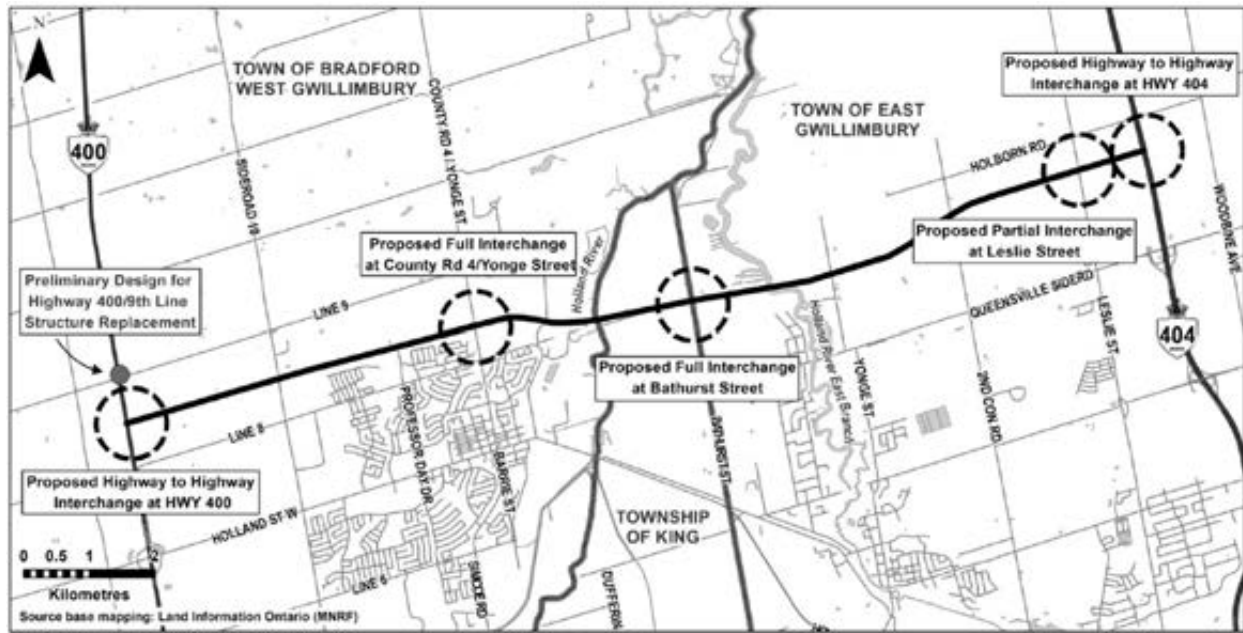
The Authority previously had limited involvement and would have commented based on applicable legislation and guidelines at the time of the original applications. During that time the Authority regulation focused primarily on floodplains and did not include wetlands.

The Authority's involvement to date for the 2020 Class Environmental Assessment has been limited to providing general comments through the Public Information Centers on the preliminary design.

The proposed Bradford Bypass highway is a new 16.2 km rural controlled access freeway. The proposed highway will extend from Highway 400 between Lines 8 and 9 in Town of Bradford West Gwillimbury, will cross a small portion of Township of King and will connect to Highway

404 between Queensville Sideroad and Holborn Road in the Town of East-Gwillimbury (see map Attachment 1).

There are proposed full and partial interchanges, as well as grade-separated crossings at intersecting municipal roads and watercourses, including the Holland River and the Holland River East Branch.



The Ministry of Transportation and other Crown corporations are exempt from permissions required under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. As such, the Authority has no regulatory authority over the proposed development. However, as a commenting agency the Authority provided comments outlining areas of interest to the Project Team on May 5, 2021.

Issues:

Within the study area, there are 11 locations within the area of interest for the Authority, as listed below and shown on the attached corresponding series of maps (Attachment 2):

Location 1

At this location the highway crosses Frasier Creek watercourse and its associated flooding and erosion hazard. There is also an identified Wetland and Significant Groundwater Recharge area.

Location 2

This location has an identified watercourse (Frasier Creek) and associated erosion hazard limit.

Location 3

A wetland feature adjacent to Frasier Creek exists at this location. Based on the design, the wetland area is being avoided.

Location 4

A watercourse, erosion hazard and wetland existing at this location. The area is also identified as a significant ground water recharge area.

Location 5

This location contains a watercourse with associated erosion hazard limit.

Location 6

Within this section, there is provincially significant wetland, unevaluated wetlands (as identified by the Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry), floodplain, and erosion hazard. This area will require a Metrolinx crossing, as well as a crossing for East Holland River.

Location 7

This area includes provincially significant and unevaluated wetland, Simcoe Greenlands, floodplain and erosion hazard limits. The area is also identified as significant groundwater recharge area.

Location 8

This area includes floodplain, provincially significant wetland, unevaluated wetland, watercourse and associated erosion hazard limit.

Location 9

Two watercourse crossings of the Holborn Drain and the Ravenshoe/Boag Drain exist at this location.

Location 10

Erosion hazard limits of Ravenshoe/Boag Drain are within this stretch.

Location 11

This area contains a watercourse (Ravenshoe/Boag Drain) and associated erosion hazard limit, wetland.

Through the public information center, the Authority reviewed the preliminary details and recommended further consultation through the detailed design stage including:

- Drainage and Hydrology;
- Erosion and Sediment Control Risk Assessment;
- Fish and Fish Habitat Existing Conditions and Impact Assessment Report;
- Fluvial Geomorphology;
- Groundwater Impact Assessment;

- Preliminary Landscape Composition Plan; and
- Terrestrial Ecosystems Existing Conditions and Impact Assessment Report (including an assessment of vegetation and vegetation communities, wildlife and wildlife habitat, species at risk and designated natural areas.

In addition, the Authority recommended the Ministry of Transportation avoid or mitigate impacts associated with the proposed highway development within our areas of interest by considering the following measures:

- Wherever possible, the floodplains, valleylands and wetlands be spanned to avoid impacts to the features;
- Any significant woodlands (map attached) be avoided, or impacts mitigated;
- Existing drainage and conveyance be maintained and or improved with no changes to upstream or downstream flows;
- Quantity and quality stormwater management controls be implemented to avoid impacting erosion, floodplains or pollution;
- Any fill placement in the floodplain be avoided or compensated for with an incremental cut;
- All culverts be properly embedded and sized to avoid erosion of the banks; and
- Proper erosion and sediment control measures be undertaken to prevent sediment migration and impact to watercourses.

AECOM reached out to the Authority's engineering staff in July 2021 to schedule a meeting to discuss the floodplain modelling and technical requirements for development in the polder areas along the potential route. On September 10, 2021, the Bradford Bypass team responded to the Authority's comments and requested that staff participate in the Governmental Advisory Group. Authority staff will provide technical advice on our mandated requirements, as requested through this forum.

Participation in the Governmental Advisory Group is warranted considering the scale of the proposed highway project and its location within a variety of ecological habitats and expansive floodplain. The Authority will provide objective technical and scientific input to assist in a better design and eliminate and/or reduce impacts wherever possible. Specific focus will also include mitigation options.

At this somewhat preliminary stage elements such as salt management, light management, and impacts to significant waterfowl hunting have not been raised but will be as consultation continues. This area of the Holland River has a long-standing waterfowl hunting tradition and is well utilized.

Relevance to Authority Policy:

Ministry of Transportation and other Crown Corporations are exempt from requiring permission under the *Conservation Authorities Act*. The Authority is strictly a public commenting agency in this matter. There is no formal requirement for the Ministry of Transportation to consult but based on previous experience with the Highway 404 extension the Ministry has worked with the Authority on various aspects including stormwater and terrestrial mitigation.

Impact on Authority Finances:

There are no direct impacts to Authority finances associated with the recommendations in this report. Currently the input of the Authority is as a watershed stakeholder and agency. The Ministry of Transportation has requested that the Authority participate in the Governmental Advisory Group, but currently there is no cost recovery for this important work. Staff time for participation will be required to be covered from existing funding including general levy. Staff will encourage the Ministry of Transportation to enter into a formal Voluntary Services Agreement.

Summary and Recommendations:

The proposed Bradford Bypass has been a long-standing project that has ebbed and flowed over the past few decades. Much has changed since the original concept was considered but the role of the Authority remains principally the same. Authority staff will participate in the process of assessment and design providing detailed and objective technical input where required and appropriate. There will absolutely be more details to come as this proposed project is advanced, and updates will be brought forward to the Board as needed.

It is therefore recommended that Staff Report No. 46-21-BOD regarding the Environmental Assessment Study for the proposed Bradford Bypass be received for information.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Planning, Development and Restoration and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

Glenn MacMillan
General Manager Planning, Development
and Restoration

Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer











Attachments:

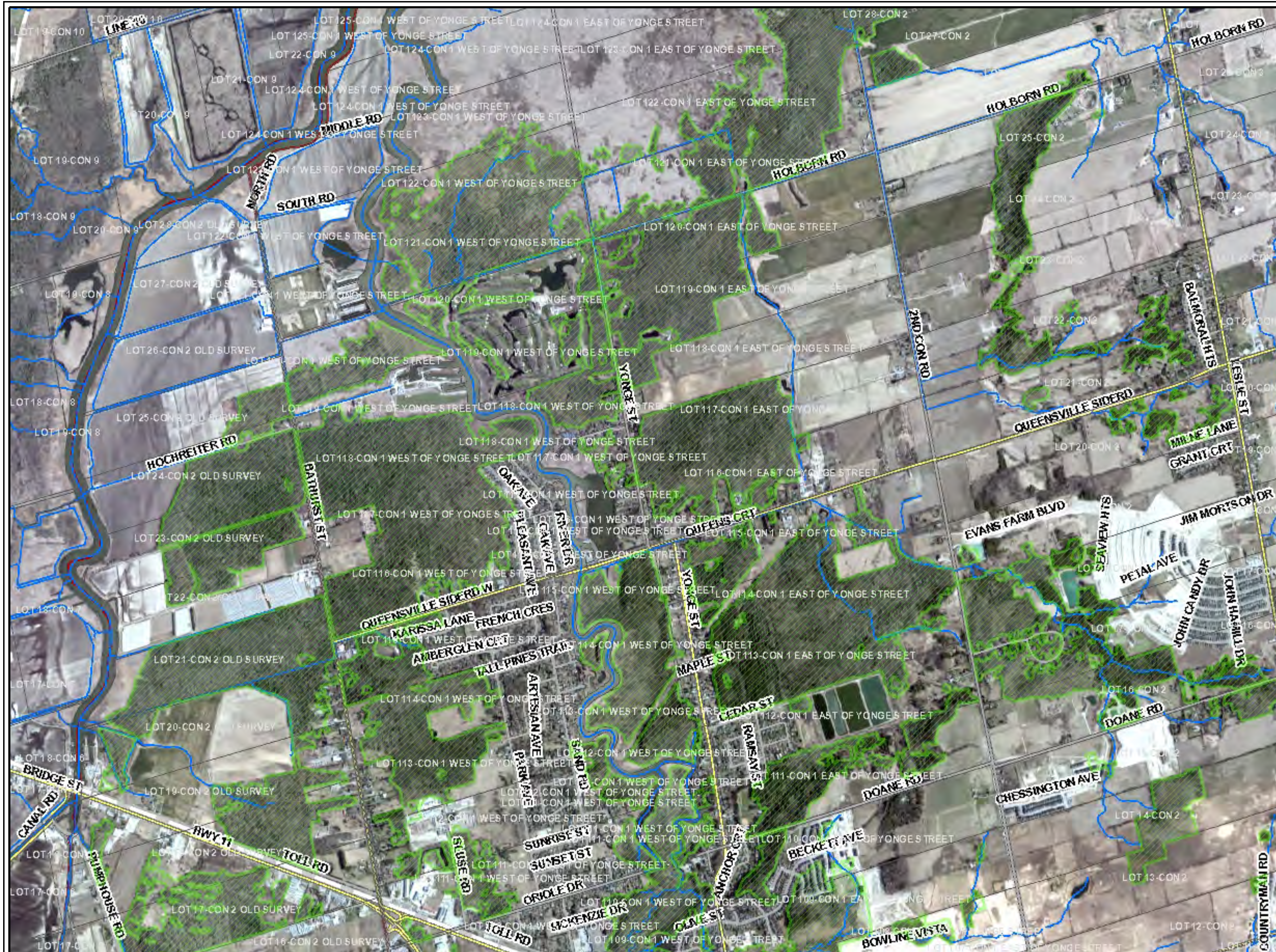
- i) Town of East Gwillimbury area of interest map
- ii) Locations 1-11 areas of interest maps (26 maps)


Attachment 1

York Region Significant Woodland

Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  York Signif Woodland
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
- Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

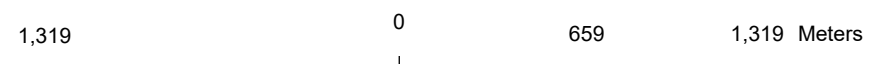


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Attachment 2 (26 maps)

**Location 1 -
LSRCA Regulated Area**

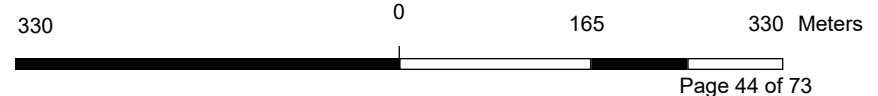
Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Regulation Boundary
-  Regulation Area
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

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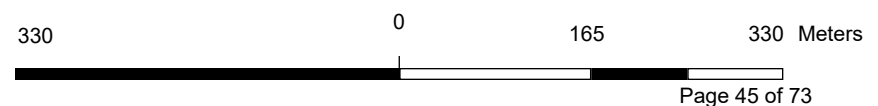
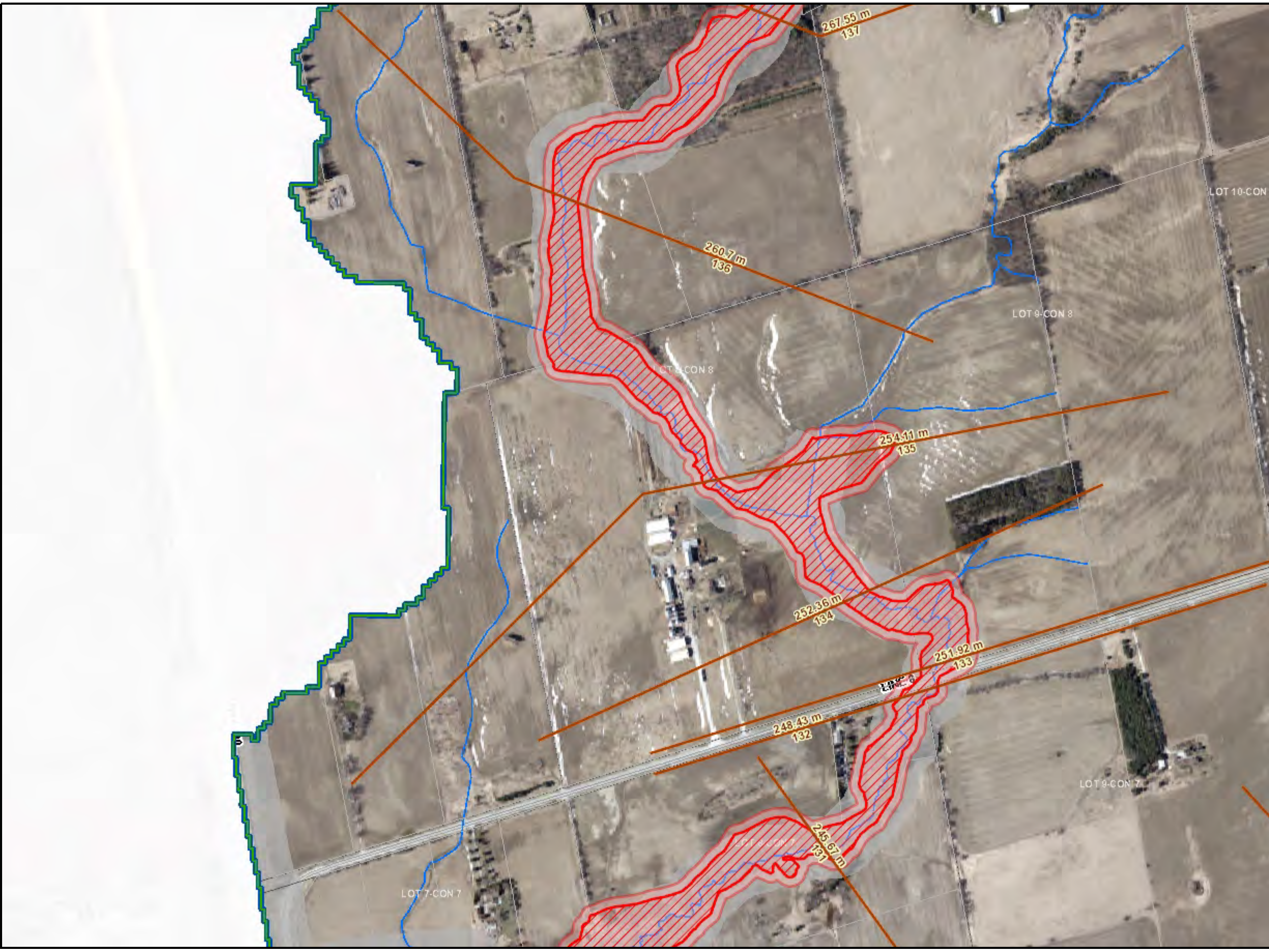
Location 1 - Floodplain

- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Cross Sections - Planning
 - Floodplain**
 - Floodplain
 - Spill
 - Floodplain Setback
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

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Location 1 - Erosion hazard

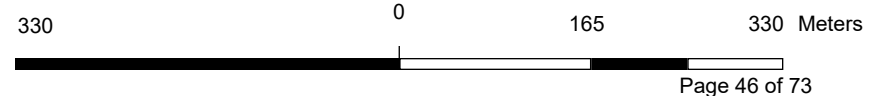
Features

-  LSRC Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Apparent Valleyland With Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

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















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Location 1 - Wetland

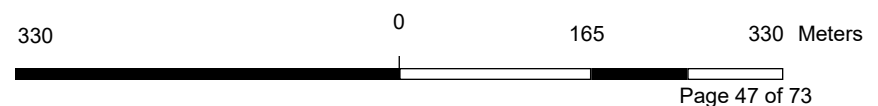
Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
- Regulated Wetland
 -  PSW
 -  Non PSW
- Wetland With Adjacent Lands
 -  PSW
 -  Other Evaluated
-  MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality















Mapped By: 
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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- Features
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 -  LSPP Watershed Boundary
 -  Regulation Boundary
 -  Apparent Valleyland With Setback
 -  Regulation Area
 -  Assessment Parcel
 -  Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 -  Watercourse
 -  Lake Simcoe
 - Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
 -  Railway
 -  Lower Tier Municipality

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Scale 1: 6,491





- Features
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 -  LSPP Watershed Boundary
 -  Meanderbelt
 -  Meanderbelt Setback
 -  Apparent Valleyland With Setback
 -  Assessment Parcel
 -  Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 -  Watercourse
 -  Lake Simcoe
 - Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
 -  Railway
 -  Lower Tier Municipality

Printed On:
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Mapped By:

















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Scale 1: 6,491






Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
- Regulated Wetland**
 -  PSW
 -  Non PSW
-  Apparent Valleyland With Setback
-  Wetland With Adjacent Lands
- MNRF Evaluated Wetland**
 -  PSW
 -  Other Evaluated
-  MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels**
-  Watercourse
- Roads**
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
- Railway**
-  Lower Tier Municipality

Printed On:
5/3/2021

 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
Mapped By:













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Scale 1: 3,246



location 4 - erosion hazard

Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
- Railway**
-  Lower Tier Municipality

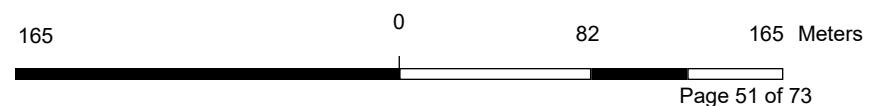


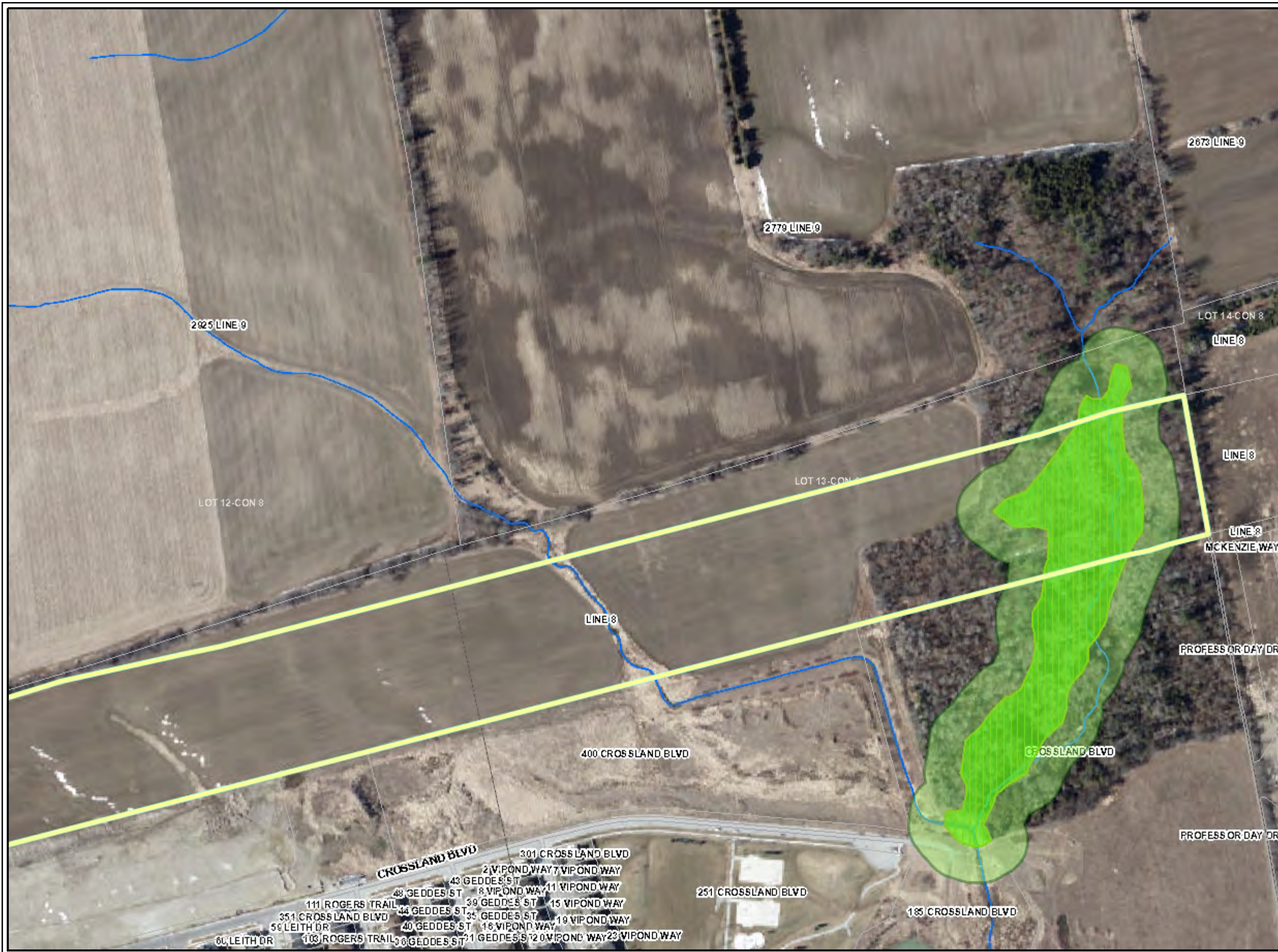
Mapped By:
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 3,246

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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location 4 - wetland

Features

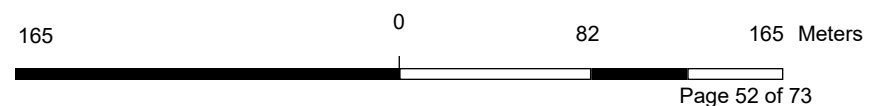
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
- LSPW Watershed Boundary
- Regulated Wetland
 - PSW
 - Non PSW
- Wetland With Adjacent Lands
 - MNRF Evaluated Wetland
 - PSW
 - Other Evaluated
 - MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
- Assessment Parcel
- Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
- Watercourse
- Roads
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
- Railway
- Lower Tier Municipality

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WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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location 5-LSRCA regulated area

- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Regulation Boundary
 - Regulation Area
 - Simcoe Greenland
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 - Watercourse
 - Roads
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By:

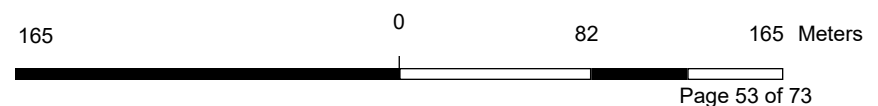
Printed On: 5/3/2021

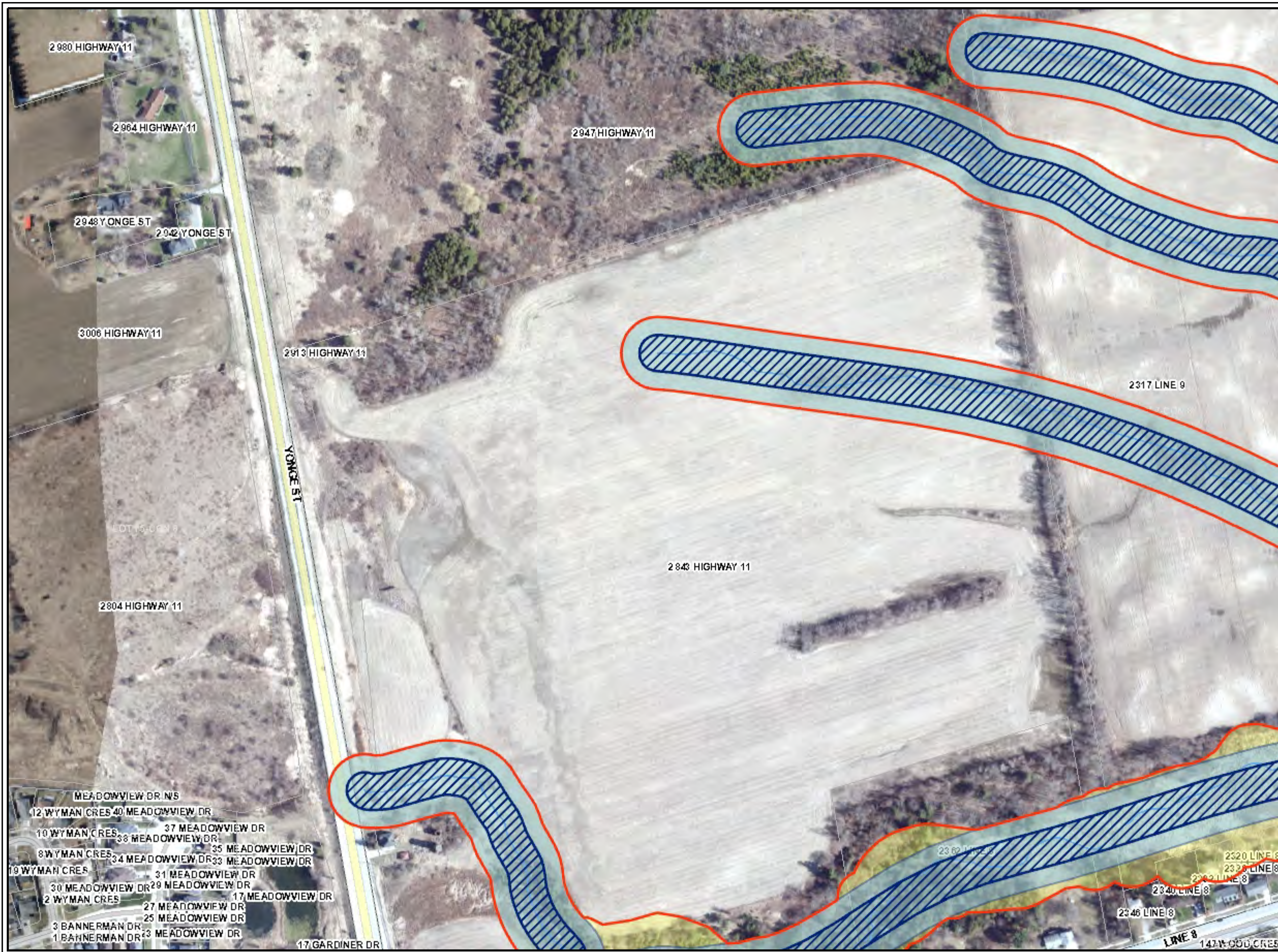
Scale: 1: 3,246

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere


















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location 5- erosion hazard

Features

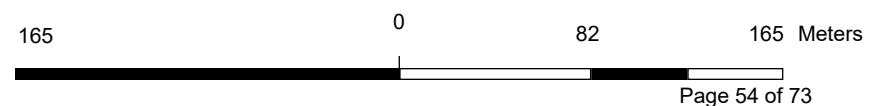
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Regulation Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Regulation Area
-  Simcoe Greenland
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
- Railway**
-  Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By:
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 3,246

WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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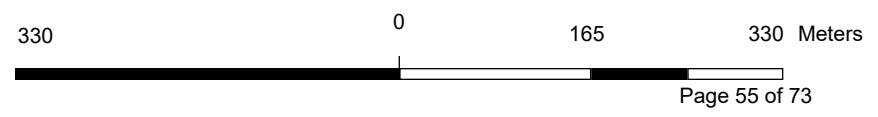
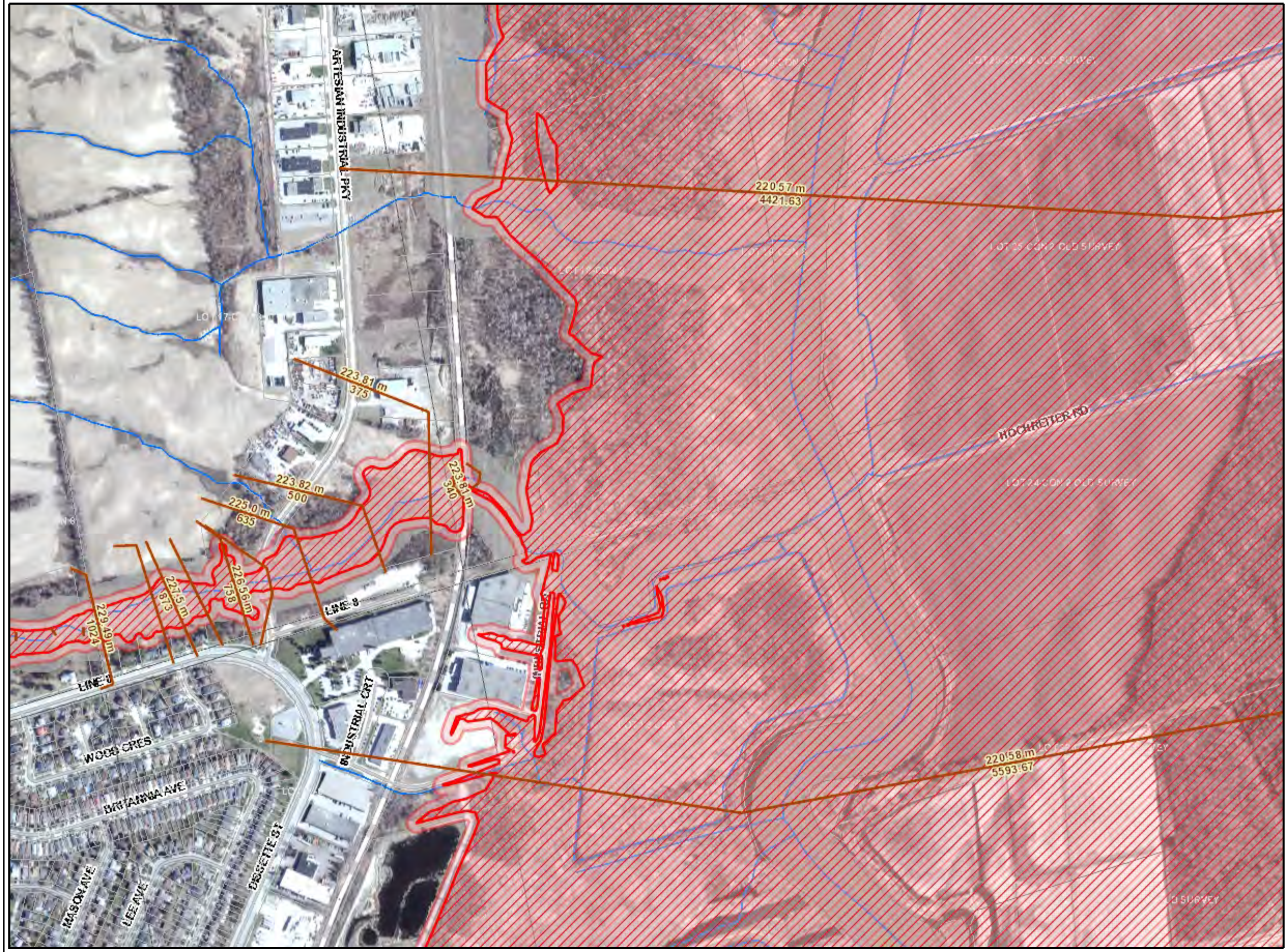
location 6 -Floodplain

- Features**
- LSRC Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Cross Sections - Planning
 - Floodplain**
 - Floodplain
 - Spill
 - Floodplain Setback
 - Simcoe Greenland
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By: Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere















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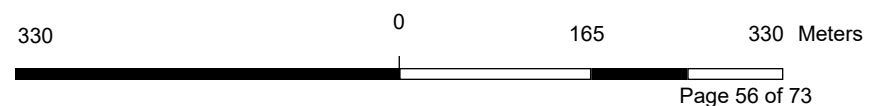
location 6 -erosion hazard

- Features**
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 -  LSPP Watershed Boundary
 -  Meanderbelt
 -  Meanderbelt Setback
 -  Simcoe Greenland
 -  Assessment Parcel
 -  Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
 - Railway
 -  Lower Tier Municipality

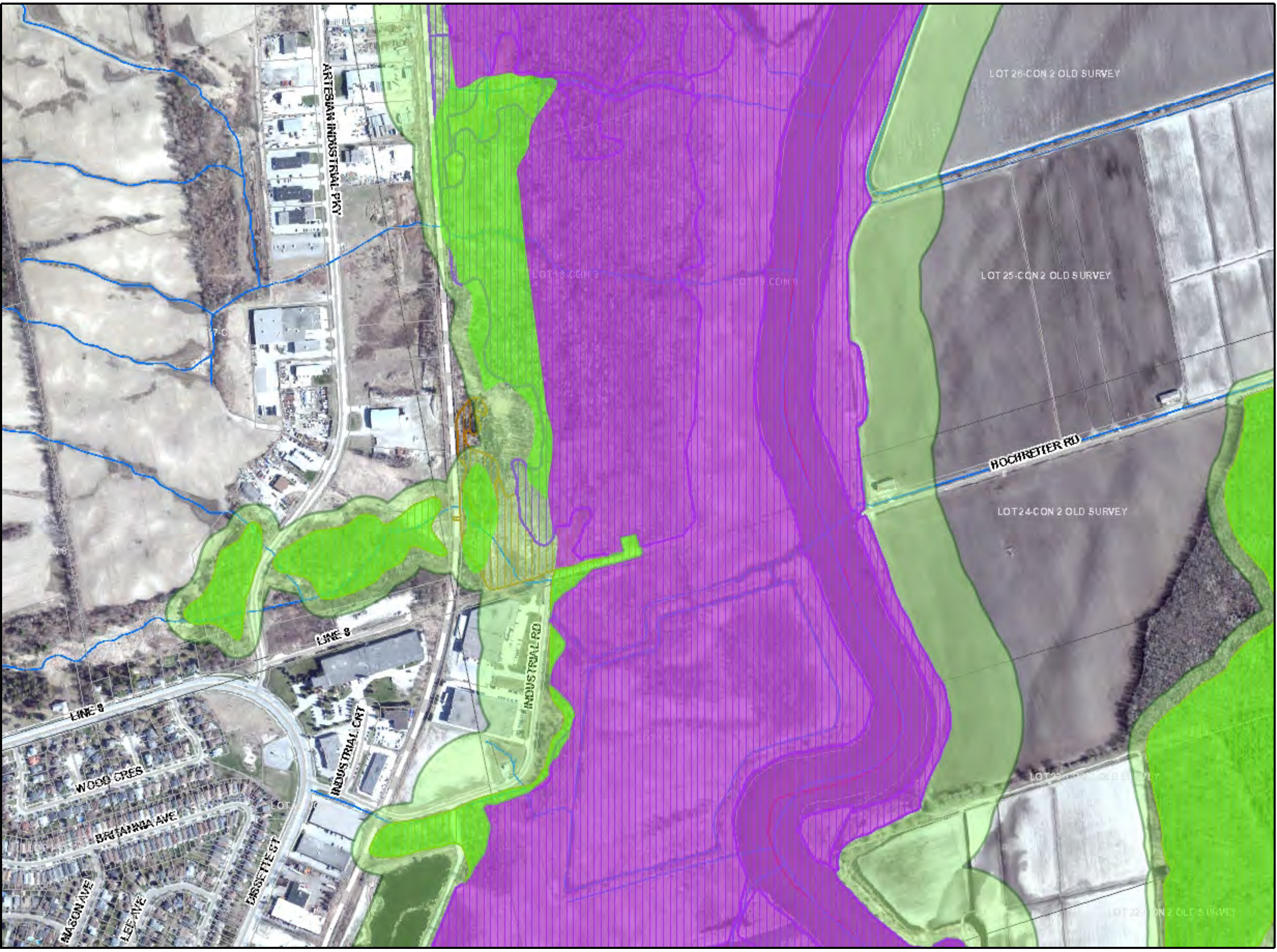
Mapped By: 
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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location 6 -wetland

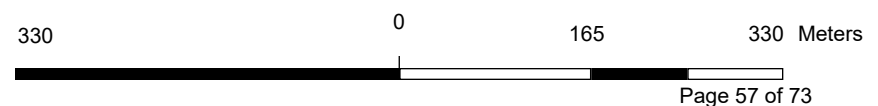


- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Regulated Wetland**
 - PSW
 - Non PSW
 - Wetland With Adjacent Lands
 - MNRF Evaluated Wetland**
 - PSW
 - Other Evaluated
 - MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
 - Simcoe Greenland
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

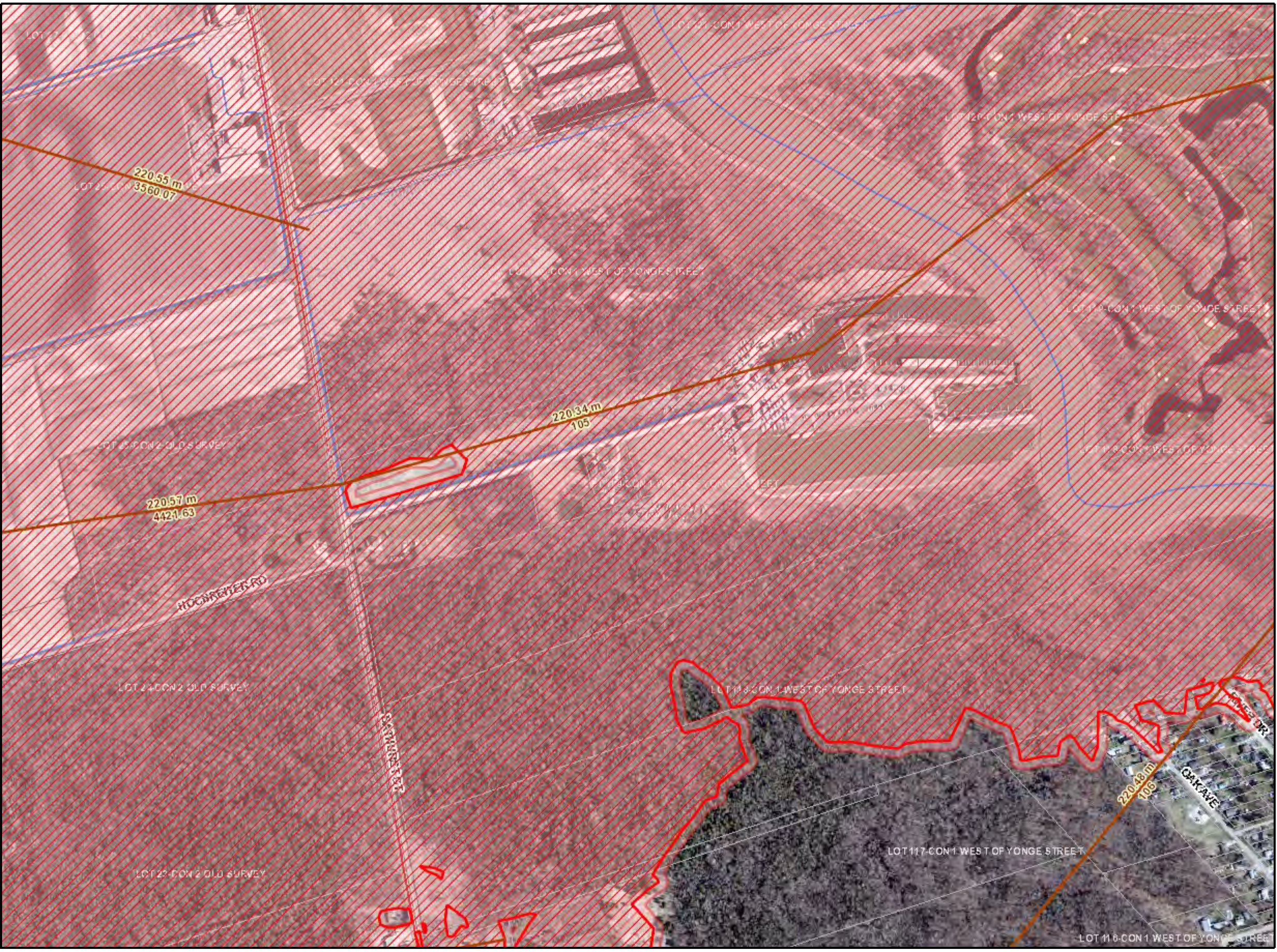
Mapped By: Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere



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location 7 - Floodplain

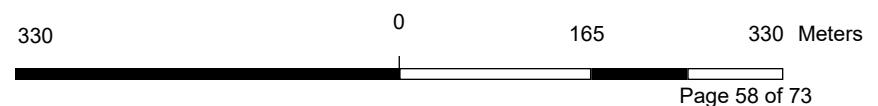


- Features**
- LSRC Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Cross Sections - Planning
 - Floodplain**
 - Floodplain
 - Spill
 - Floodplain Setback
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

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location 7 - erosion hazard

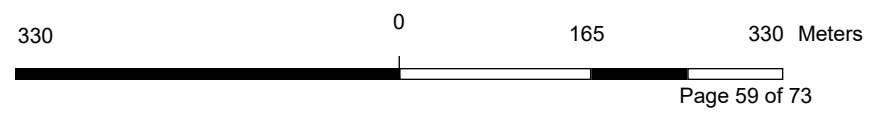


- Features**
- LSRC Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Meanderbelt
 - Meanderbelt Setback
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By: Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere




















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location 7 - wetland

Features

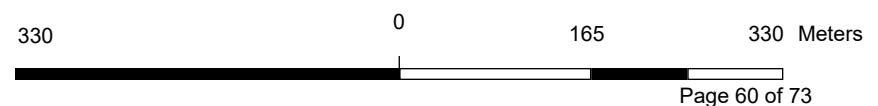
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
- Regulated Wetland**
 -  PSW
 -  Non PSW
-  Wetland With Adjacent Lands
- MNR Evaluated Wetland**
 -  PSW
 -  Other Evaluated
-  MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels**
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads**
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

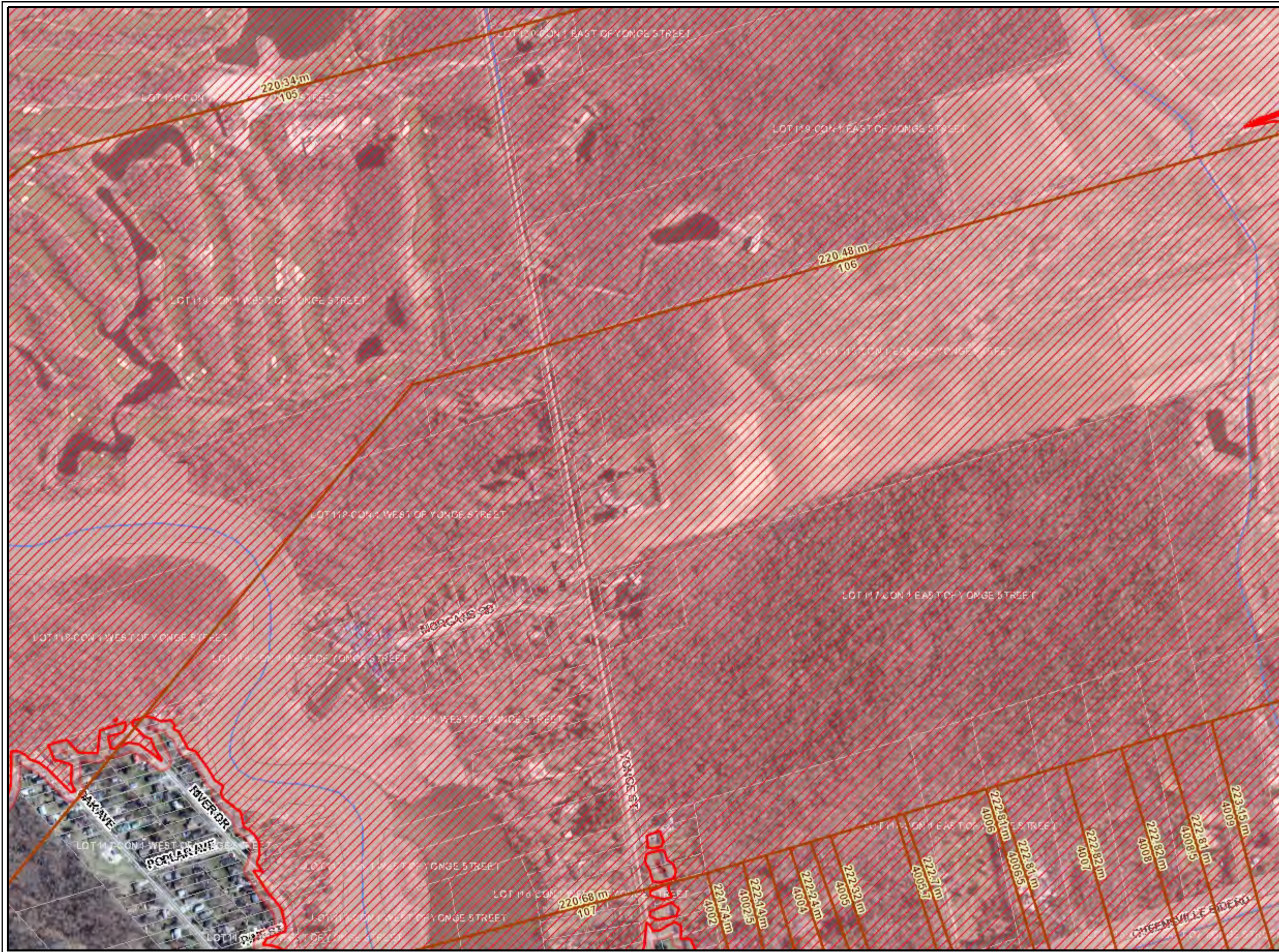
Mapped By:
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
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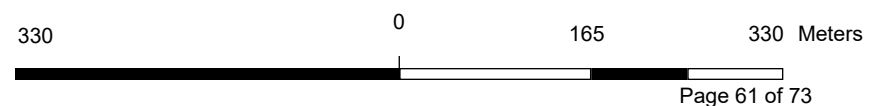
location 8- floodplain

- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Cross Sections - Planning
 - Floodplain**
 - Floodplain
 - Spill
 - Floodplain Setback
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By: Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere

















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location 8- erosion hazard

Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By:



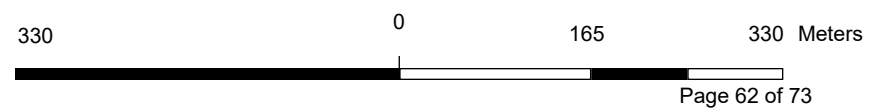
Printed On: 5/3/2021

Scale: 1: 6,491

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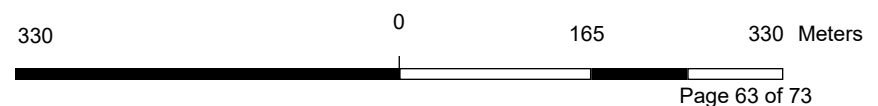
location 8- wetland

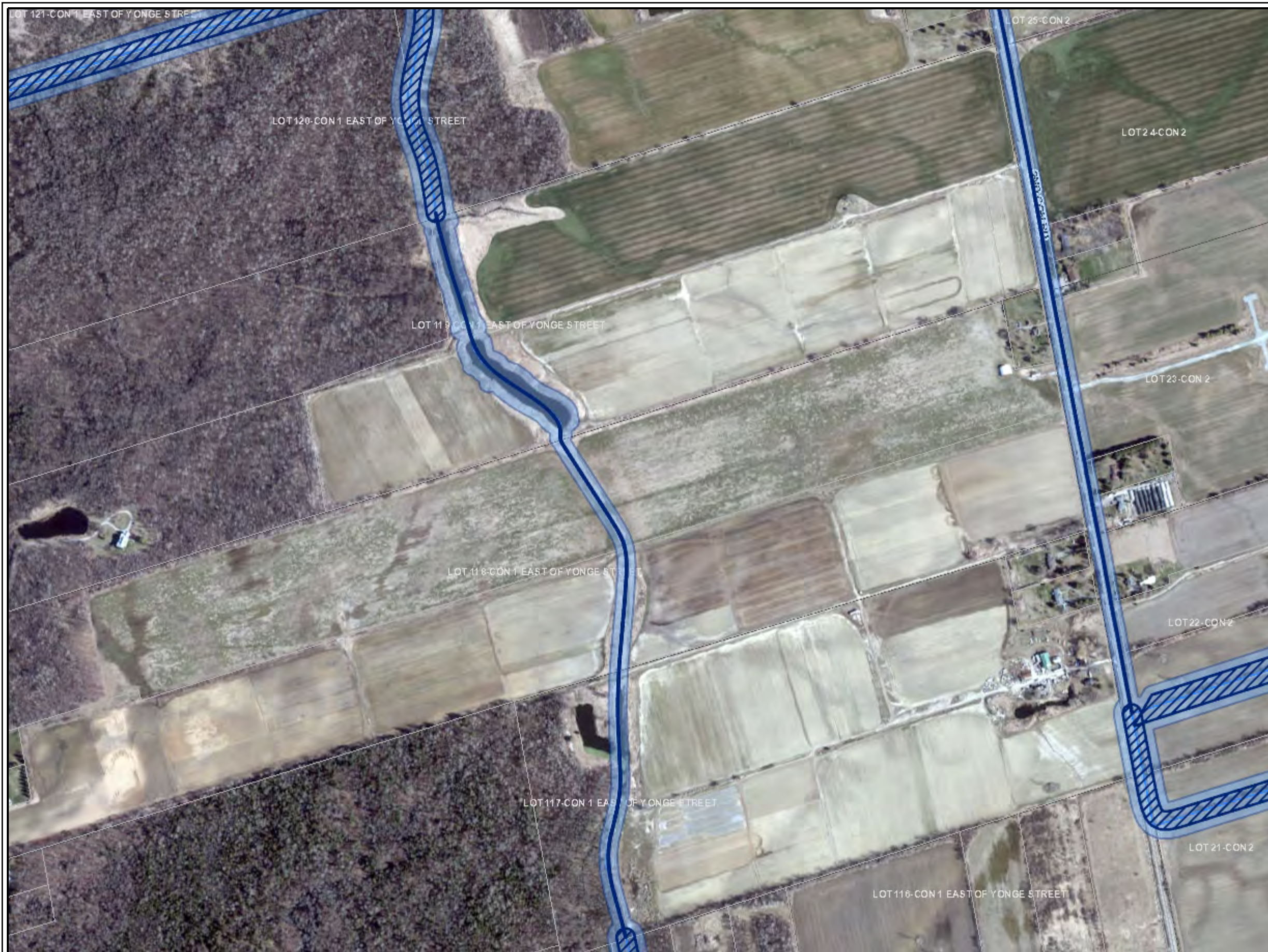
- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Regulated Wetland**
 - PSW
 - Non PSW
 - Wetland With Adjacent Lands**
 - MNRF Evaluated Wetland
 - PSW
 - Other Evaluated
 - MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels**
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By:
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 6,491
 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere
















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location 9- erosion hazard

Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality



Mapped By:

Printed On: 5/3/2021

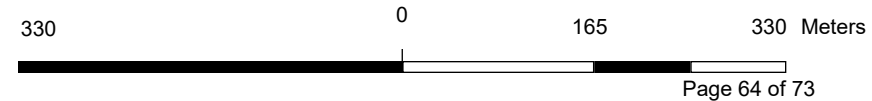
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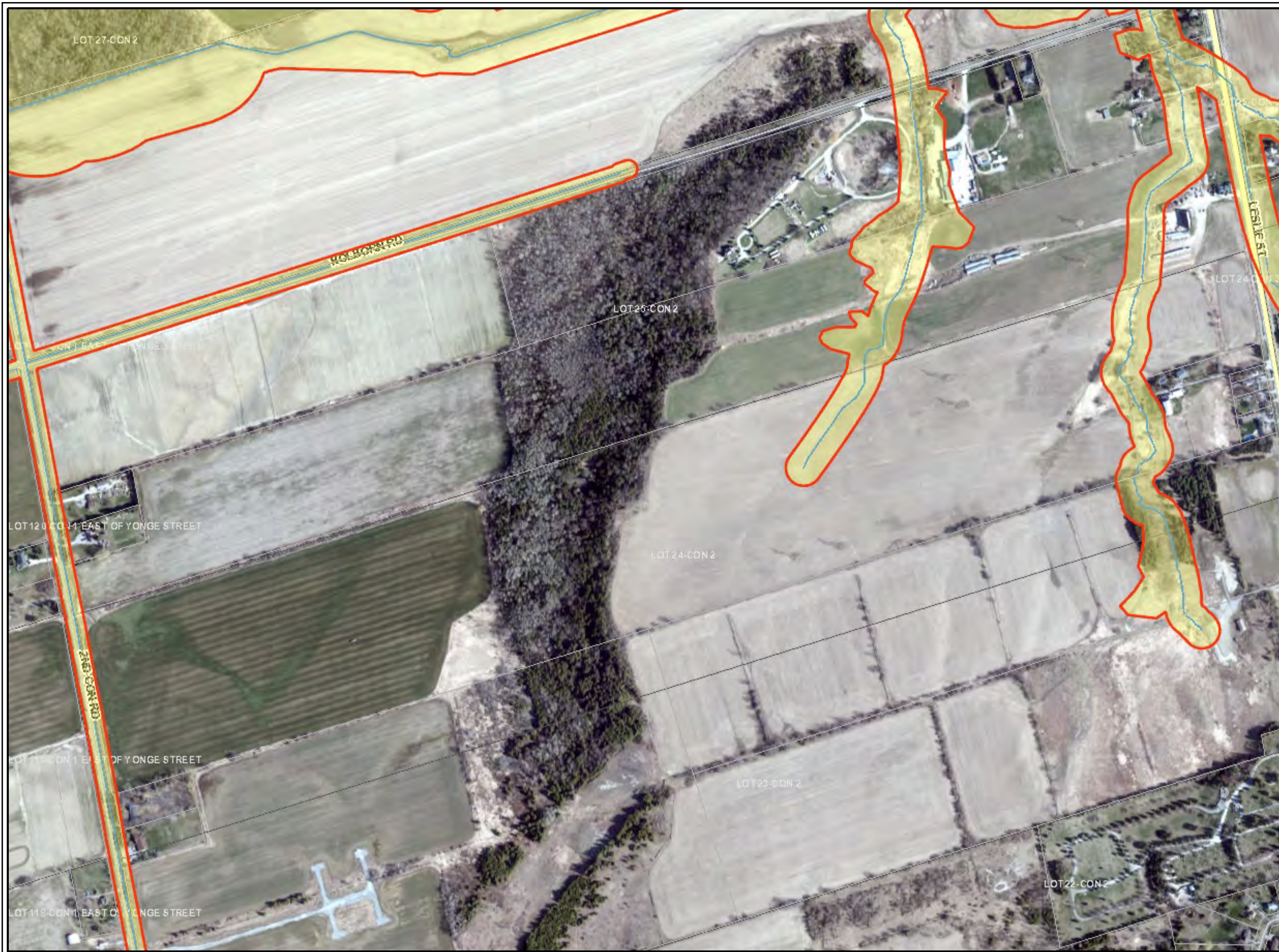
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Lake Simcoe Region
conservation authority

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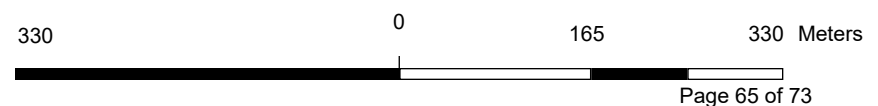
Location 10 - LSRCA regulated area

- Features**
- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 - LSPP Watershed Boundary
 - Regulation Boundary
 - Regulation Area
 - Assessment Parcel
 - Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 - Watercourse
 - Lake Simcoe
 - Roads**
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
 - Railway
 - Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By: Printed On: 5/3/2021
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 WGS_1984_Web_Mercator_Auxiliary_Sphere

















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Location 10 - erosion hazard

Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
-  Road Labels
-  Watercourse
-  Lake Simcoe
- Roads**
-  Hwy 400 Series
-  Highway, Arterials
-  Local Road
-  Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

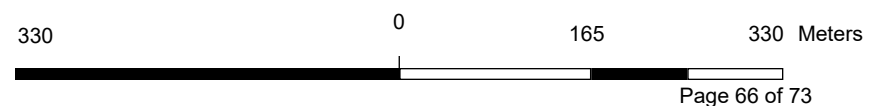


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Location 11 - LSRCA regulated area

Features

- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
- LSPP Watershed Boundary
- Regulation Boundary
- Regulation Area
- Assessment Parcel
- Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
- Watercourse
- Roads
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
- Railway
- Lower Tier Municipality

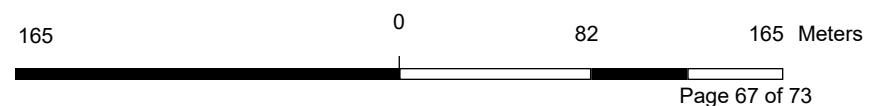


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


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Location 11 - erosion hazard

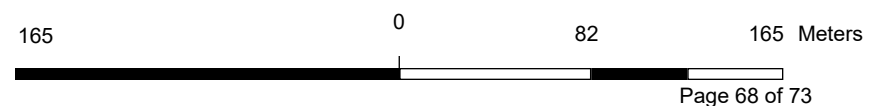
Features

-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
-  LSPP Watershed Boundary
-  Meanderbelt
-  Meanderbelt Setback
-  Assessment Parcel
-  Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
- Watercourse
- Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
 -  Local Road
- Railway
-  Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By: 
 Printed On: 5/3/2021
 Scale: 1: 3,246
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Location 11 - wetland

Features

- LSRCA Watershed Boundary
- LSPP Watershed Boundary
- Regulated Wetland
 - PSW
 - Non PSW
- Wetland With Adjacent Lands
 - MNRF Evaluated Wetland
 - PSW
 - Other Evaluated
 - MNRF Unevaluated Wetland
- Assessment Parcel
- Lot and Concession
- Road Labels
- Watercourse
- Roads
 - Hwy 400 Series
 - Highway, Arterials
 - Local Road
- Railway
- Lower Tier Municipality

Mapped By:

Printed On: 5/3/2021

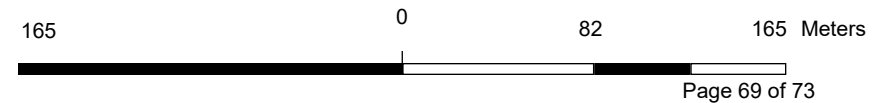
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Staff Report

To: Board of Directors

From: Christa Sharp, Manager, Restoration Services

Date: September 16, 2021

Subject:

Kennedy Street, Aurora, Stream and Wetland Creation Project

Recommendation:

That Staff Report No. 47-21-BOD regarding the Kennedy Street Stream and Wetland Creation Project in Aurora be received; and

Further that funding for the project through the Authority's Ecological Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and Restoration Assistance as outlined in this report be approved.

Purpose of this Staff Report:

The purpose of this Staff Report No. 47-21-BOD is to obtain approval from the Board of Directors for the Kennedy Street Stream and Wetland Creation Project in Aurora to be funded through the Authority's Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds from Ecological Offsetting and Restoration Assistance.

Background:

The Authority's ecological offsetting policy addresses loss of natural heritage features. This policy is implemented by Planning and Development staff through review of applications made under the *Planning Act*. The offsetting policies are tiered plans - avoid, minimize, mitigate, and compensate. Through the compensation tier, the Authority receives cash in lieu payments which are allocated to eligible restoration projects.

The Authority's Restoration Assistance funding is General Levy funding from member municipalities to be utilized on private landowner restoration projects.

Through the implementation of wetland and stream restoration projects, the ecological offsetting projects achieve gains in biodiversity and improvements to our natural heritage system. Other achievable co-benefits include but are not limited to water quality improvement, peak flow reduction, flood reduction, groundwater recharge in significant recharge areas, carbon mitigation, protection of infrastructure, thermal mitigation, urban heat reduction and social/community impacts.

The purpose of this project is to restore over 100m of stream and install wetlands in an urban area in the Town of Aurora that is highly susceptible to the negative impacts of climate change. The wetlands will create areas for flood attenuation during storm events, as well as help filter and improve water quality. The project will also increase the biodiversity in the area with the removal of an invasive species and the planting of a wide variety of native plants, shrubs and trees with the help of community volunteers. Habitat structures will also be installed, such as basking logs, root wads and bird nesting boxes.

This project will occur between September 2021 and December 2023.

The total estimated cost of this project is over \$641,000. Based on the internal review committee approvals, the project is eligible for the following:

Ecological Offsetting: **\$147,200**

Restoration Assistance: **\$39,000**

The Lake Simcoe Conservation Foundation has also approved this project for an additional \$25,000, and the Foundation has a pending application to EcoAction in the amount of \$100,000.

This would bring the total Authority and Foundation contribution to \$311,200 if the Foundation is successful in obtaining the EcoAction grant. The private landowner (property owner) would be covering the remaining \$329,800.

Issues:

This project will allocate available funds to this project using Ecological Offsetting and Restoration Assistance monies. If the project does not move forward, these funds would be deferred until the following year and would become available for other eligible projects.

Relevance to Authority Policy:

One of the goals of the Authority's Strategic Plan, *Vision to Action, Action to Results*, is to support a safer, healthier and livable watershed through exceptional integrated watershed management. The development and implementation of the offsetting policies assist in achieving this goal by providing a consistent approach to enhancement and restoration throughout the watershed.

The Authority's Purchasing Policy requires that procurement over \$100,000 be approved by the Board of Directors.

Impact on Authority Finances:

This approval will allocate funds from Ecological Offsetting, Restoration Assistance and Foundation budgets. As previously provided to the Board of Directors, a record of the collection and allocation of offsetting funds is made available annually to watershed municipalities, Building Industry and Land Development Association and other interested stakeholders through a report to the Board of Directors.

Summary and Recommendations:

It is therefore **Recommended That** Staff Report No. 47-21-BOD regarding the Kennedy Street Stream and Wetland Creation Project in Aurora be received; and **Further That** funding for the project through the Authority's Ecological Offsetting Cash in Lieu funds and from Restoration Assistance as outlined in this report be approved.

Pre-Submission Review:

This Staff Report has been reviewed by the General Manager, Corporate and Financial Services/CFO, General Manager, Planning, Development & Restoration and the Chief Administrative Officer.

Signed by:

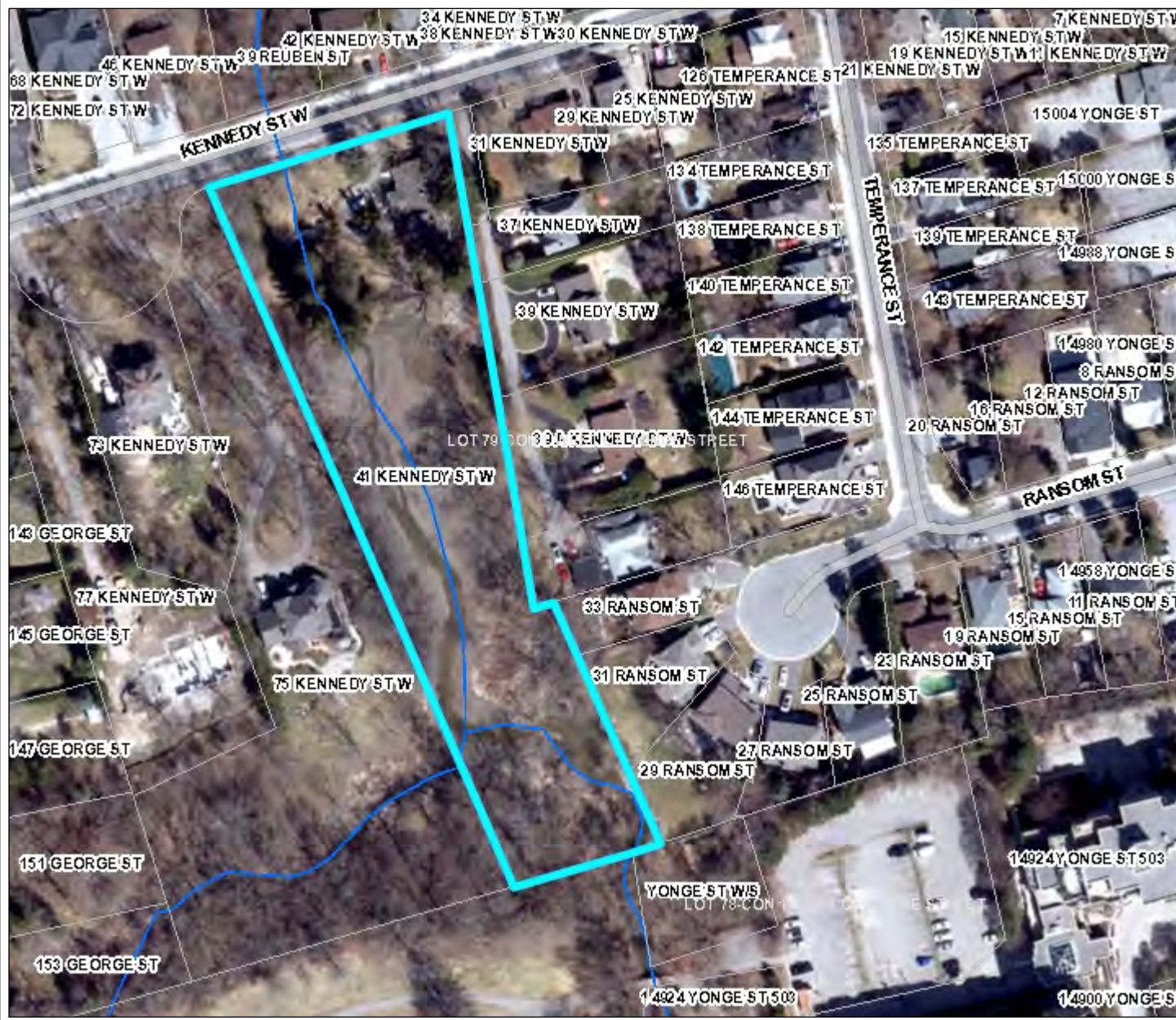
Glenn MacMillan
General Manager, Planning, Development
and Restoration











Signed by:

Rob Baldwin
Chief Administrative Officer

Attachments

- i) Map of project location



- Features
-  LSRCA Watershed Boundary
 -  LSPP Watershed Boundary
 -  Assessment Parcel
 -  Lot and Concession
 - Road Labels
 -  Watercourse
 - Roads
 -  Hwy 400 Series
 -  Highway, Arterials
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 -  Lower Tier Municipality

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