



ONTARIO
PARKS

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July 30, 2009

The Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park Approved Park Management Plan was released on October 24, 2008. Since that time, Ontario Parks has begun to address the implementation priorities found in Section 10.0 of the plan. I would like to take this opportunity to provide you with some important information surrounding the work being undertaken:

Boat Cache program:

The KHSSP Approved Park Management Plan, Section 8.3.1.2 provides direction for boat caches within the park. Following this direction, boat caches are permitted for any user, and a permitting system is being implemented as follows:

- Owners are required to apply for a boat cache permit (decal) for each boat cached on park land. These initial permits will be issued free of charge.
- To obtain a boat cache permit, please contact the park at (613)332-3940 ext. 261
- Boat cache decals must be displayed on cached boats by **August 31, 2010**.
- After this date, any boat found within Kawartha Highlands without an affixed authorized boat cache decal will be removed.
- In the future, Ontario Parks will work with stakeholders and the Management Advisory Board to develop an approach for boat caches, which will include authorized cache sites and, if required, quotas. This approach will consider any impacts to park ecological integrity. Boats cached for access to private property or tenured lands will continue and no fee will apply. Boats that are cached and used for recreational purposes will be subject to fees.

Definition of a Boat Cache: when a boat is stored at a backcountry location, thereby avoiding the necessity for portaging it in each time it is used.

Pre-existing Road and Trail appeal process:

The *KHSSP Act* outlines specific direction regarding the “pre-existing roads and trails” to be authorized for motor vehicle use in Kawartha Highlands. The Minister of Natural Resources has approved the “pre-existing roads and trails” as recommended by the Management Advisory Board (MAB) and this network is shown as Figure 6 of the Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park Management Plan.

As also recommended by the MAB, an appeal process has been established to confirm the accuracy and completeness of the approved pre-existing road and trail network for motor vehicle use. The appeal period will end on **October 24, 2010**, twenty-four months from the day that the approved pre-existing road and trail network was released to the public as part of the Park Management Plan.

Appeals must be based on one of the following categories:

- a) roads or trails which Ontario Parks staff were unable to find during the trail inventory;
- b) roads or trails which Ontario Parks staff inventoried but the MAB did not recommend for approval;
- c) roads or trails included in the approved pre-existing road and trail network which the applicant has reason to believe should not have been approved: or
- d) roads or trails which the applicant has reason to believe are incorrectly classified (i.e. a trail that should be classified as a road or a road that should be classified as a trail).

To place an appeal, an applicant must:

- a) submit a written request to the MAB through the park office that the road or trail in question be reviewed;
- b) provide an explanation of why the road or trail should or should not be included in the approved pre-existing road and trail network, or should be reclassified;
- c) provide a map of the location of the road or trail in question; and
- d) accompany park staff to locate and geo-reference the road or trail.

Once an applicant has completed the steps necessary to place an appeal, including the site visit with park staff, the MAB will review each application and determine whether to recommend approving or denying the application. Based on recommendations from the MAB, the MNR will consider amendments to the Road and Trail Network Map in accordance with current park management plan amendment procedures..

Please contact the park at 613-332-3940 ext. 262 if you wish to place an appeal.

Parking Lot improvements:

The Class Environmental Assessment (EA) notice included with this letter provides information on proposed parking lot improvements and construction. Please review the information provided. If you would like to receive future EA planning notices please contact the park office. Only those who wish to continue receiving EA planning notices, or who provide comments on the current projects will receive future EA planning notices.

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park,
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Management Advisory Board membership:

The Management Advisory Board (MAB) continues to play an integral role in the implementation of the Park Management Plan. Over the next few years, the MAB will administer the appeal process for pre-existing roads and trails, as well as provide ongoing advice regarding the boat cache strategy, motor boat use, park fees, advertising and marketing, matters relating to the long term sustainability of the park, and other matters as may be specified by the Minister.

MAB members are appointed by the Minister through the Management Board Secretariat for a term of 3 years. Meetings are held quarterly (at a minimum), and members may also sit on MAB subcommittees. If you are interested in becoming a Board member, please visit the Public Appointments Secretariat website at: <http://www.pas.gov.on.ca/scripts/en/BoardDetails.asp?boardID=140657> for more information and to apply.

Approved Park Management Plan:

If you have not obtained a copy of the Approved Park Management Plan, it is available on the Ontario Parks website at: http://www.ontarioparks.com/english/planning_pdf/kawa/kawa-pmp-2008.pdf or you may contact the park office for a hard copy.

Yours sincerely,

David A. Coulas
Park Superintendent
Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Park