



Sandbanks

Notice of Completion for a Category B Project Evaluation

Dunes Interpretive Trail

The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), Ontario Parks has completed a project evaluation for its proposal to undertake the creation of a self-guided interpretive nature trail. This trail will allow park visitors to experience, learn about and appreciate the dunes while encouraging users to stay on a set trail loop rather than wandering throughout the dunes and impacting these sensitive natural environments. This work will be undertaken in accordance with the approved park management plan and applicable policies and guidelines.

The new trail will mainly follow existing trails with approximately 650 metres of new trail being created to complete the approximately 2.4 kilometre loop. The route has been chosen to minimize impacts to the dune and panne environment. Two viewing platforms will be built for the interpretation of the pannes and dunes. The trail will be for non-motorized recreational use.

Category B project evaluations and consultation processes were carried out in accordance with the Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves (Class EA), which identified a minimal potential for negative environmental effects. One comment was received but no public concerns were expressed. Ontario Parks proposes to undertake the work during fall 2010. Any potential effects on natural environment values will be mitigated.

For further information on the projects, to submit comments or to inspect the project files during regular office hours, please contact:

DON BUCHOLTZ
PARK SUPERINTENDENT
SANDBANKS PROVINCIAL PARK
RR#1, Picton, Ontario K0K 2T0
613-393-3319
613-393-3404
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If there are concerns about these projects that cannot be resolved in discussion with MNR, interested parties may request that the Minister of the Environment issue a Part II Order requiring an individual environmental assessment under the Environmental Assessment Act. For information on what a Part II Order request should contain, consult the Class EA. Requests must be received by the Minister of the Environment within the 14-day comment period, which **expires on September 13, 2010**, and copied at the same time to MNR at the above address. The address of the Minister of the Environment is: 135 St. Clair Avenue West, 10th Floor, Toronto, ON M4V 1P5.

If no request for an individual environmental assessment is received within the 14-day period, or if a request is successfully resolved, MNR may proceed to implement the projects without further public notice.

The Ministry of Natural Resources is collecting your personal information and comments under the authority of Ontario's Environmental Assessment Act and Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006. Any personal information you provide (address, name, telephone, etc.) will be protected in accordance with the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, however, your comments will become part of the record of consultation and may be shared with the general public. Your personal information may be used by the MNR to send you information about future planning initiatives in the park area. If you have questions about use of your personal information, please contact Lesley Baird, Park Management Planner at 613-536-7374.