

Conservation Areas Strategy

Grand River Conservation Authority
September 23, 2024



Overview

Ontario Regulation 686/21: Mandatory Programs And Services

- [Conservation Areas Strategy](#)
- Land Inventory
- Asset Management Plan
- Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy
- Ice Management Plan
- Operational Plans



Purpose of the Strategy

- High-level framework that helps guide and inform decision making on all GRCA-owned lands
- Direct programs and resources on all GRCA landholdings
- Provides future direction and actions to meet objectives
- Satisfy Provincial Regulations



Regulatory Requirements

- Objectives to inform decision-making
- Identifying the mandatory and non-mandatory programs and services
- Assessment of how the lands:
 - Augment natural heritage
 - Integrate with other provincial/municipal owned lands
- The establishment of land use categories

Section 10, O. Reg 686/21



Overview of GRCA Landholdings

- The GRCA owns approximately 50,000 acres
- Used to support the GRCA's programs and services:
 - lands for water control infrastructure
 - outdoor recreation
 - environmental education
 - natural areas
 - agricultural and commercial leases
 - rental properties
 - lands under maintenance agreements



What's in the Strategy

Introduction

- Vision, Mission, GRCA Strategic Priorities
- Purpose

The Grand River Watershed

- A Canadian Heritage River

GRCA Landholdings

- History of Land Acquisition
- Current Landholdings & Land Use Categories
- Contribution to Watershed Health
- Challenges and Pressures
- Land Disposition

Objectives

- Outcomes
- Future Direction & Actions

Programs and Services

- Program 1, 2 and 3

Looking Forward

- Updates to the Strategy & Consultation

Strategy Objectives

1

Manage GRCA landholdings in compliance with relevant Federal, Provincial and Municipal regulations, policies, and guidelines.

2

Consider ecosystem health and resilience when making land management decisions

3

Provide sustainable outdoor recreational and educational opportunities and connections with the natural environment.

4

Enhance community partnerships on GRCA properties.

5

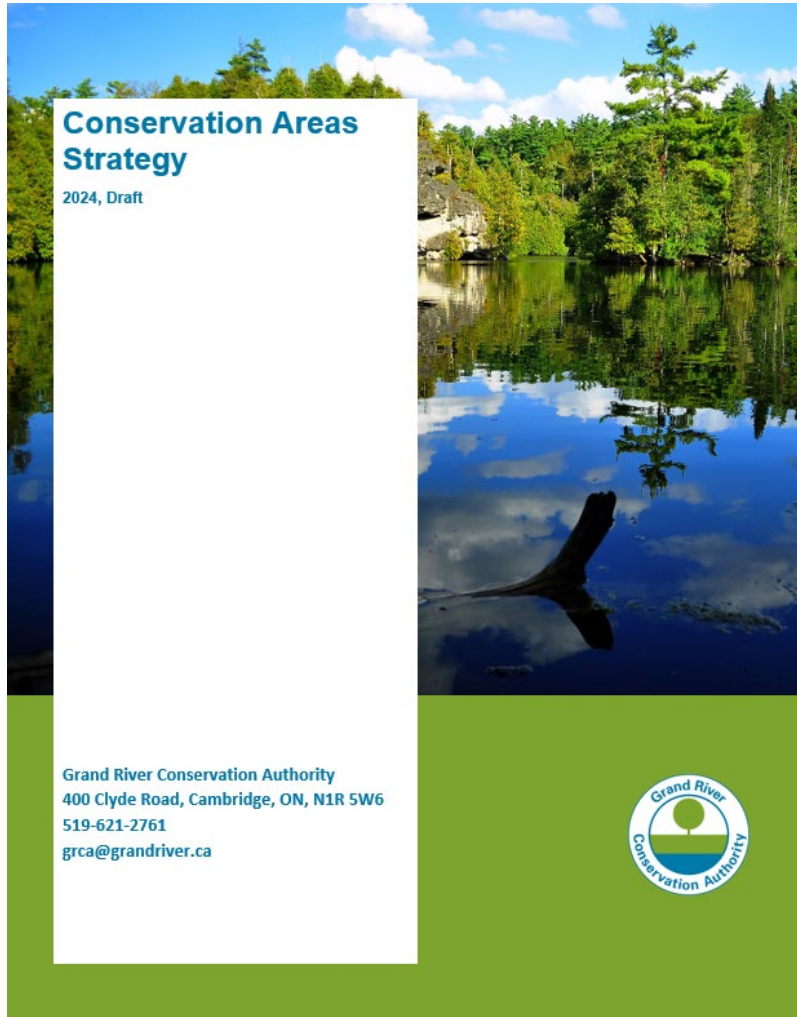
Manage GRCA landholdings in a strategic, fiscally responsible, and sustainable way.

Public Consultation

- Review period August 28 to Oct 4
 - Letters to participating municipalities
 - Letters to First Nations
 - 2 public information sessions
 - Draft Strategy available on website with public survey
- Summary of comments and final Strategy to GRCA Board
- Final version of the Strategy will be posted on GRCA website



Public Consultation Continued



- Survey open until October 4, 2024
- Next public webinar on September 24th at 6:30pm, registration required
- Webinar will also be posted on the website

For more information:

www.grandriver.ca/ConservationAreasStrategy