

April 21, 2020

Katarina Furlanetto, General Manager  
Cataraqui Region Conservation Authority  
1641 Perth Rd.,  
P.O. Box 160,  
Glenburnie, ON K0H 1S0

Dear Ms. Furlanetto,

Dear Katrina

Re: COVID 19 Mac Johnson Wildlife Area

Thank you for the background you provided in your email dated April 16 2020 which included options and the request for our decision regarding options.

“Mac Johnson wildlife area

- Trails are very not walk-through but circular (same entry point) and narrow so often not conducive to physical distancing throughout the property unless moving off-trail (with the exception of the boardwalk)
- There is an entrance at the south and north end but we temporarily close these seasonally due to road conditions and does not generally restrict property use
- Enforcement in general is challenging so we are relying on public responsibility
- Signage
  - As a non-profit we are faced with financial restrictions in purchasing larger and numerous number of signs but we have deployed signage across the properties at entrance points
- Travellers from outside the watershed have called and asked if they can come visit trails which we are discouraging”

It appears that there may be differences between Cataraqui Conservation properties between the two health units (KFLA and LGLDHU). Given your description above of the Mac Johnson wildlife area, it is our position to support the provisions set out in the Emergency Management Civil Protection Act, associated regulations and therefore, we support Option 3 (Full Closure) at this time.

The Premier has set the limits of the current extension of the Declaration of Emergency to May 12, 2020. This will give time to observe the continued impacts of the Full Closure. LGLDHU has not received complaints about the wildlife area being closed. There has been some criticism about the small size of the signs. Continued closure will also help with consistency in the surrounding areas over the next while. We would like to discuss some options which may discourage the public access over this next while.

Thank you for your request for our position on the options presented in the correspondence to your board.

Your partner in public health,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jane Lyster". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

E. Jane Lyster, BSW, D of T, CPHI(C)  
Director Community Health Protection Department  
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JL/zc