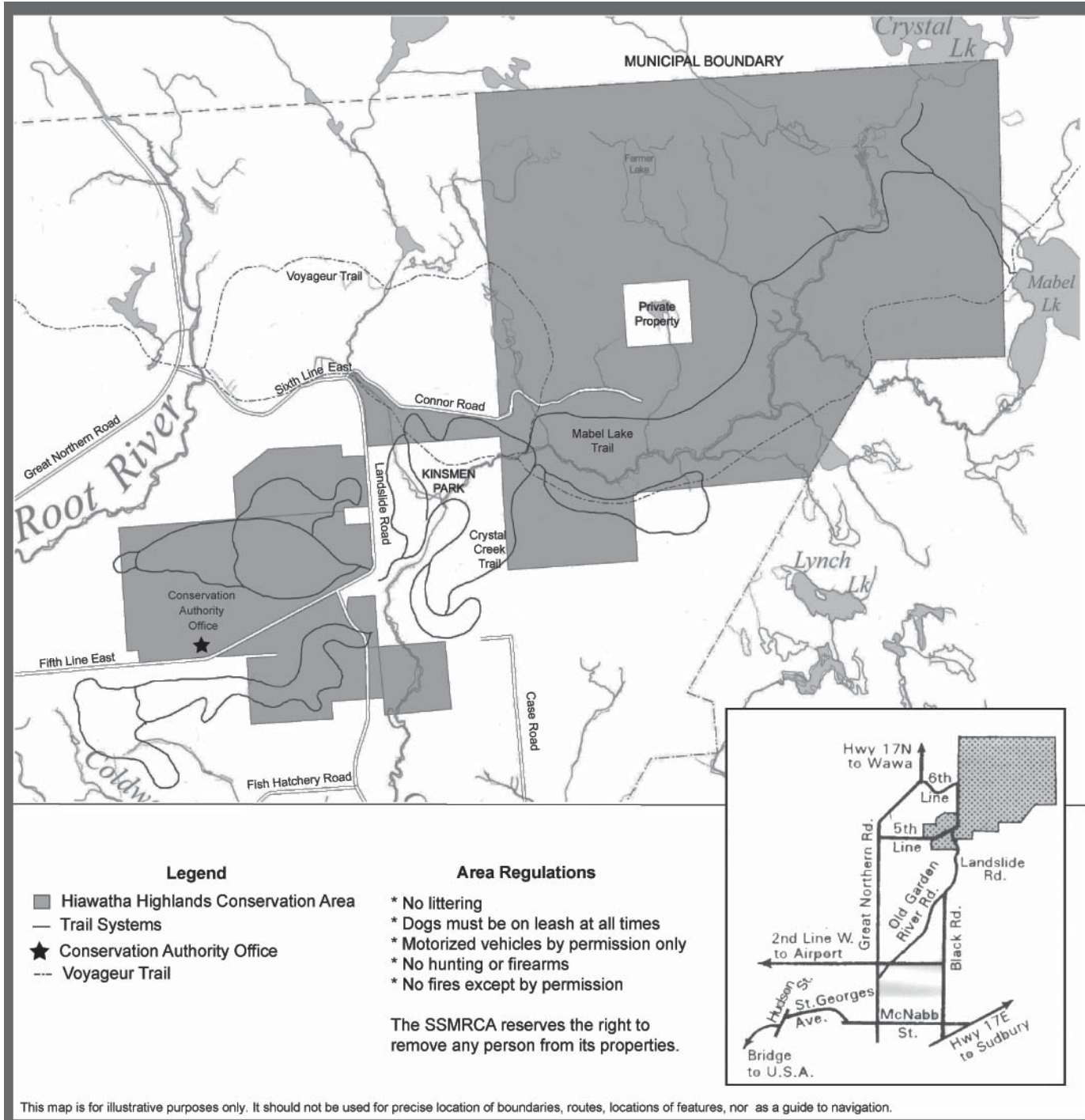


Hiawatha Highlands Conservation Area



**Enjoy the Splendor
of our Backyard**



This map is for illustrative purposes only. It should not be used for precise location of boundaries, routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation.

1100 Fifth Line East
Sault Ste. Marie, ON P6A 5K7
Tel: 705-946-8530
www.ssmrca.ca
nature@ssmrca.ca





Something for Everyone

Since 1963, the Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority (SSMRCA) has played an important role in developing and providing an integrated watershed management program to the City of Sault Ste. Marie and Prince Township.

One of five conservation areas owned by the SSMRCA, Hiawatha Highlands Conservation Area is located between Fifth and Sixth Lines, east of Great Northern Road (Hwy. 17 N). This day-use conservation area offers 892 hectares (2206 acres) containing trails, forests, creeks, lakes and wetlands.

Please respect this natural area and note that littering, hunting, firearms, motorized vehicles, open fires and dumping household garbage are not permitted. Dogs are welcome but must be on leash.

Diverse Forests

The Hiawatha Highlands contains a diverse forest with many fine examples of white pine, maple, a red pine Plantation as well as an area of old-growth forest with some trees more than 100 years old.

The variety of the plants and trees in this area create an ideal habitat for wildlife including hare, moose, black bear, deer, beavers, woodpeckers, grouse and owls. A range of outdoor education opportunities for local students of all ages can be found in this conservation area. It is also used for scientific research and staff training exercises by various agencies.

Physical Geography

The Hiawatha Highland's soil and rock types, weather conditions and unique natural features play an important role in the quantity and quality of our drinking water sources in Sault Ste. Marie. The Highlands are located in a groundwater recharge area. The layer of sand and gravel underlying the surface soil is important for recharging the water supply. The water infiltrates the spaces and moves downwards through the soil. The sand and gravel act as natural filters. The filtered water is retained in a groundwater aquifer that provides a portion of the municipal water supply.

Trail System

Many kilometers of trails wind their way through this majestic area. The trail network consists of the Lookout, Red Pine, Crystal Creek, Beaver and Mabel Lake trails and offer diverse recreational opportunities such as hiking, fishing, canoeing, mountain biking, bird watching, snowshoeing and cross country skiing. The Voyageur Trail system passes through the property and provides a direct link to the surrounding area.

Environmental Education & Club Events

The Hiawatha Highlands Conservation Area gives students, teachers and clubs the perfect outdoor setting. Activities can be centred in the SSMRCA classroom which offers shelter, washrooms, kitchen facilities and a lunch area. To make arrangements to use this facility, please contact the SSMRCA Office.

Hours of Operation

The SSMRCA office is open Monday through Friday from 8:30 am to 4:30 p.m.

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Area Attractions

Kinsmen Park - With 93 hectares (230 acres) of land, the park includes one of the most spectacular views of Crystal Falls from the Ecology Trail or Crystal Creek Trail.

Cross Country Ski Trails - During the winter months the Soo Finnish Nordic Ski Club maintain 50 km of Nordic, cross-country ski trails. For detailed trail information, pass and rental rates please visit www.hiawathahighlands.com.

Crystal Creek Mountain Bike Trail - This trail is a single-track mountain bike trail for intermediate to advanced riders. The approximate riding time is 45 minutes to 1 ½ hours.

Mockingbird Hill Farm - Visitors to the area can step back in time and explore a working pioneer farm. For detailed information on hours and admission fees please visit www.mockingbirdhillfarm.ca.