



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

## **Watershed Advisory Committee**

# **Meeting Agenda**

**Date:** November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Time:** 1:00 p.m.

**Location:** Watershed Room, SNC

**Address:** 38 Victoria Street, Finch, ON K0C 1K0



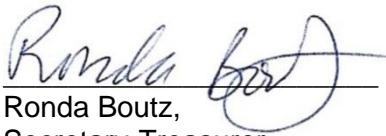


## Watershed Advisory Committee

# Meeting Agenda

November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

1. Traditional Land Acknowledgement and Traditional Opening: John
2. Chair's Remarks
3. Approval of Agenda (Supplemental Agenda)
4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest
5. Staff Update
6. Request for Approval: Approval of Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 3-7
7. New Business:
  - a. Request for Approval: Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy and Conservation Lands Strategy [Drafts]: Ronda and John 8
  - b. Update: Grants Sub-Committee: Ronda 9
  - c. Update: SNC Forests: 5-Year Operating Plan: Pat 10-30
  - d. Update: SNC 2025 Draft Budget: Ronda 31-32
  - e. Request for Approval: 2025 Committee Meeting Schedule: Ronda 33
8. Supplemental Agenda
  - a. Update: Public Consultation on SNC Strategies: John
9. Community Engagement: Roundtable
10. Dates of Upcoming Meetings: TBC
11. Correspondence (if any)
12. Adjournment

  
Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

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**WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**

Meeting No. 03/24

Tuesday, September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 1:00 p.m.

Watershed Room, SNC



- Members Present:** Bill Smirle, SNC Board of Directors, Committee Chair  
 Paul Allaire (for Erica Louttit) Miitig Healing Lodge  
 Sarah Burger, Member at Large  
 Steve Densham, SNC Chair, ex-officio  
 Greg Faaren, St. Lawrence Parks Commission  
 Jordan Graham, Member at Large  
 Dorothy Hamilton, Ontario Woodlot Association – SDG Chapter  
 Murray Inch, Volunteer of Oak Valley Pioneer Park  
 Alain Jaquemet, Member at Large  
 Louis Prevost, United Counties of Prescott & Russell  
 Tara Redpath, City of Ottawa  
 Jean Saint-Pierre, Bois  Est  
 Cindy Saucier, Member at Large  
 Fran ois St. Amour, SNC Board of Directors  
 Adrian Wynands, SNC Vice Chair, ex-officio  
 Peter Young, United Counties of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry
- Regrets:** Matt Alkerton, Member at Large  
 Emilie DeRochie, St. Lawrence River Institute  
 Dave Grant, Leeds and Grenville Municipalities  
 Larissa Holman, Ottawa River Keeper  
 Jackie Kelly-Pemberton, Member at Large, Committee Vice Chair  
 Genevieve Lajoie, SNC Board of Directors  
 Erica Louttit, Miitig Healing Lodge  
 Glenn Mackey, ALUS - Ontario East  
 Pamela O'Donnell, Member at Large  
 Fred Schueler, Fragile Inheritance Natural History  
 Erika Sheridan, Member at Large  
 Kayla Sunday, Mohawks of Akwesasne
- Staff Present:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Ben Colgan, GIS Database Analyst  
 Laura Crites, Environmental Planner  
 Claire Lemay, Senior Planner



Sandra Mancini, Managing Director, Natural Hazards and Infrastructure  
John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and  
Community Outreach  
Erin Thorne, Communications Specialist

**TRADITIONAL LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands and Community Outreach, read an Indigenous land acknowledgement.

**INDIGENOUS OPENING**

Paul Allaire, Miitig Healing Lodge, gave an opening prayer and song.

**CHAIRS REMARKS**

Bill Smirle, Committee Chair, welcomed everyone to the Watershed Advisory Committee meeting of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**APPROVAL OF WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AGENDA**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-019/24

Moved by: Dorothy Hamilton  
Seconded by: François St. Amour

RESOLVED THAT:

The Members approve the September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Watershed Advisory Committee meeting agenda as presented.

CARRIED

**DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Conflict of Interest.

**PRESENTATIONS**

**a. SNC PUBLIC MAPPING PORTAL**

Ben Colgan, GIS-Database Analysis, presented the SNC Public Mapping Portal.

**b. HOW TO “REPORT A CONCERN” ONLINE**

Laura Crites, Environmental Planner, presented how to “Report a Concern” Online.



**c. STAFF UPDATE**

Staff presented project and program updates.

**REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: APPROVAL OF WATERSHED ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF JUNE 25<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-020/24

Moved by: Tara Redpath  
Seconded by: Cindy Saucier

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee meeting minutes of June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

**The Watershed Advisory Committee recessed for a break at 2:49 p.m.**

**The Watershed Advisory Committee reconvened at 2:56 p.m.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**a. WATERSHED STRATEGIES**

**i. REQUEST FOR APPROVAL: COMMUNICATIONS PLAN – WATERSHED DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIES**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-021-/24

Moved by: Sarah Burger  
Seconded by: Jordan Graham

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee approved the Communications Plan for the Watershed-Based Resources Strategy and the Conservation Lands Strategy.

CARRIED

**ii. UPDATE: WATERSHED BASED RESOURCE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – RISKS AND OPPOTRUNITIES**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-022-/24

Moved by: Louis Prevost  
Seconded by: Jordan Graham



RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on the Watershed Based Resource Management Strategy risks and opportunities.

CARRIED

**iii. ACTIVITY: WATERSHED PROGRAMS AND SERVICES SWOT ANALYSIS**

Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer presented the Committee with a report on the Activity: Watershed Programs and Services SWOT Analysis for information only. John Mesman, Managing Director, Property, Conservation Lands, and Community Outreach led the Committee through a SWOT analysis exercise.

**Chair Bill Smirle left the meeting at 3:55 p.m., SNC Vice-Chair, Adrian Wynands, assume the Committee Chair position for the remainder of the meeting.**

**b. UPDATE: COMMUNITY ENVIRONMENTAL GRANTS**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-023/24

Moved by: Greg Faaren  
Seconded by: Jordan Graham

RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file an update on the Community Environmental Grant Program.

CARRIED

**Steve Densham, Louis Prevost, and François St. Amour left the meeting at 4:00 p.m.**

**SUPPLEMENTAL AGENDA**

None.

**COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT: ROUNDTABLE**

Committee members were asked to email any community engagement activities completed since the las meeting to Ronda Boutz to share with the Committee.



**DATES OF UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- a. **Watershed Advisory Committee**
  - November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., at SNC Office
  
- b. **Grants Sub-Committee**
  - September 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., Virtual
  - November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 9:00 a.m., at SNC Office

**CORRESPONDENCE**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT**

RESOLUTION NO. WAC-024/24

Moved by: Dorothy Hamilton  
Seconded by: Alain Jaquemet

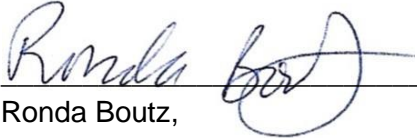
RESOLVED THAT:

The Watershed Advisory Committee meeting of September 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 be adjourned at 4:19 p.m.

CARRIED

\_\_\_\_\_  
Bill Smirle,  
Committee Chair.

/rb

  
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Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.



**To:** Watershed Advisory Committee  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Date:** November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy and the Conservation Lands Strategy [Drafts]

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the update on draft Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy; and

FURTHER THAT: The Watershed Advisory Committee recommends the draft Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy and the Conservation Lands Strategy to the Board of Directors for approval.

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**DISCUSSION:**

Section 21.1 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* (the "Act") and Ontario Regulation 686/21 under this Act requires that each Conservation Authority develop a Watershed-based Resource Management Strategy and Conservation Lands Strategy by December 31, 2024.

South Nation Conservation ("SNC") has developed its draft strategies with input from the Watershed Advisory Committee throughout 2024. Staff would like to thank the Committee for their continued support and engagement on this process.

The draft strategies are currently posted on SNC's website for public consultation ([www.nation.on.ca/consultations](http://www.nation.on.ca/consultations)). Staff will bring a separate report to summarize comments received by the November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting. Committee members are encouraged to provide feedback through the online survey.

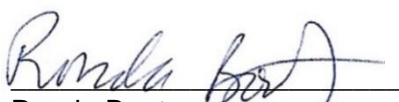
Staff will provide a brief overview of each strategy at the meeting. Final strategies will be presented to the Board of Directors at their December 12<sup>th</sup> meeting.

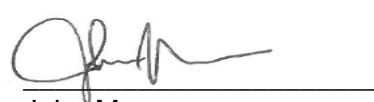
**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget: The preparation of the Strategies is included in the 2024 Budget under Approvals: Projects: Watershed Studies, pages 90-91, and Conservation Lands: Conservation Areas, pages 34-35.

SNC Policy Adherence: Ontario Regulation 686/21 sets the Mandatory Programs and Services which must be delivered by all Ontario Conservation Authorities. Subsection 12(1)3 of the Regulation requires the preparation of a "watershed-based resource management strategy" in accordance with subsections 12(4) through (9). Subsection 9(1)1 requires the preparation of a "Conservation Areas Strategy", in accordance with Subsection 10(1).

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs and Services

  
Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.

  
John Mesman,  
Managing Director, Property, Conservation  
Lands, and Community Outreach.





**To:** Watershed Advisory Committee  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Date:** November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Subject:** Update: Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Grants Sub-Committee Meeting of November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 update.

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**DISCUSSION:**

The Grants Sub-Committee held their final meeting of 2024 on November 18<sup>th</sup>. This report provides a summary of the meeting.

1. The Grants Sub-Committee approved:

- Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program Grants:
  - Committee approved final reports for the following projects:
    - Advancing Early Warning Tools in the SNR Watershed
    - Modelling Water Systems on Farms in the Bear Brook Watershed
    - 2024 Eastern Ontario Geoscience Open House
    - Eastern Ontario Children's Water Festival
    - Hazard Surveillance and Response in the SNC Jurisdiction
  - Committee approved an interim report and carry-over of unspent balance of grant to 2025 for project completion for one project:
    - Salt Responsibly Campaign
- Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program Projects:
  - Deferred 1 project for tile outlet erosion repair was reconsidered, project did not meet eligibility guidelines and was denied.
- Clean Water Program Projects:
  - Approved extension of a project completion deadline (septic system) to August 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025
  - Approved 3 project for \$6,500 in grants
  - Reviewed the 2024 waiting list, one erosion project, project was approved for \$5,000

2. The Grants Sub-Committee received an update on:

- Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program Financial Statement – as of October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024

Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.



**To:** Watershed Advisory Committee  
**From:** Pat Piitz, Team Lead Property  
**Date:** November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Subject:** Update: SNC Forest Five-Year Operating Plan

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the 2024-2028 SNC Forest Five-Year Operating Plan update.

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**DISCUSSION:**

The South Nation Conservation (SNC) Forest Five-Year Operational Plan (attached) summarizes activities on the SNC forest properties during the preceding five-year operating period and identifies forest compartments where operations may occur during the next five years. The plan reviews the current growing stock, additions/depletions to the forest area, and the eligibility of forest compartments for harvest.

Summary of Past Operations:

- Excellent performance regarding certification standards
- Acquired 19 new properties during operating period (488.9 ha.)
- Harvested over 15,000 m<sup>3</sup> timber valued at \$186,000
- Collected maple sap valued at \$16,079

The annual harvest area has decreased in the current forecast to 43.5 hectares from 50.0 hectares in the previous operating period. Although the total forest area has increased through acquisitions, minor changes in productive forest area (habitat restoration projects) and significant changes to the eligibility of forest for harvesting (losses due to Emerald Ash Borer infestations and the 2022 Derecho).

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget: Forest Management planning is included in the 2024 SNC Budget under Property: Conservation Lands: Lands, pages 36-37.

SNC Policy Adherence: Adheres to the approved SNC Forest Policy, Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative (SFI) certification requirements. All proposed activities are subject to the approval of SNC annual budgets.

Programs and Services Category: Category 1 – Mandatory Programs: Conservation Land Management

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Pat Piitz,  
Team Lead Property.

Attachment: 2024-2028 SNC Forest Five-Year Operating Plan

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# FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

FIVE-YEAR OPERATING PLAN  
2024-2028

October 2024



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## Introduction

The Forest Operating Plan summarizes activities during the last operating period (2018-2023) and sets forth a schedule of planned activities for the next operating period (2024-2028). The five-year operating period provides an opportunity to adjust the allowable harvest area based on new information accumulated during the past operating period.

## REPORT OF PAST FOREST OPERATIONS AND ACTIVITIES

### Forest Certification

The SNC Forest maintained Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) certification during the operating period under Group Certificate RA-FM/COC-000232. Member-forests are randomly subject to audit following internal monitoring requirements as per the new Group Standard (FSC-STD-30-005V2-0 FM Groups Standard). During the operating period, SNC was selected for field audits in 2021. Additionally, SNC submitted all documents required for independent annual audits, as required, under group certification when not selected for field audit during the operating period. Table 1 summarizes the findings of the compliance audits. There were no major non-conformities. Non-conformities and observations apply to all group members where applicable.

**TABLE 1**  
**Summary of FSC Audits During the Operating Period**

Year	Minor Non-Conformities	Observations
2018	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. No reporting of gaps in protected areas in the appropriate ecological units(s).</li> <li>2. Lack of a credible external review of their HCVF assessments.</li> </ol>	None
2019	None	None
2020	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. None-compliance with minimum annual sample size requirements for internal monitoring of forest management units (FMUs) less than 1000 hectares.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of compliance with health and safety regulations, Workplace Safety and Insurance Act (WSIB) Regulation 1101 (logging company with no first-aid certified worker on site).</li> </ol>
2021	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of Species at Risk information in one management plan.</li> <li>2. Lack of forest management plan contact.</li> <li>3. Lack of public availability or knowledge of High Conservation Values Reports.</li> <li>4. Update of the group-level Forest Stewardship Standard.</li> <li>5. Inclusion of definitions for active and inactive forest management units.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Compliance with Standard Operating Procedures related to rutting.</li> <li>2. Outdated text in the Policy and Procedure Manual.</li> </ol>
2022	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lack of first-aid kits in machines involved in active operations.</li> <li>2. Lack of explicit wording in Memorandums of Understanding regarding certification body.</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Discrepancies between members regarding reporting of species at risk.</li> </ol>
2023	None	None

## Forest Accruals and Depletions

Table 2 summarizes accruals and depletion of the forest area during the 2018-2023 operating period. Through an active land securement program, the SNC Forest area increased by 342.8 hectares valued at over \$2.6 million.

There were no depletions of the forest area during the 2018-2023 operational period.

**TABLE 2**  
**South Nation Forest**  
**Summary of Forest Area Accruals and Depletions**

Year	Compartment	Municipality	Purpose	Type	Area (ha)	Value
2019	164	Edwardsburgh/Cardinal	Forest	Split Receipt	36.0	\$ 387,000
	165	City of Ottawa	Wetland	Donation	14.2	\$ 95,000
2020	166	North Stormont	Forest	Split Receipt	65.0	\$182,000
	167	Nation	Hazard	Fee Simple	1.1	\$ 56,000
2021	168	Nation	Infrastructure	Fee Simple	0.7	\$125,000
	169	Augusta	Park	Donation	3.4	\$ 8,500
	170	Alfred-Plantagenet	Forest	Fee Simple	40.4	\$ 275,000
	172	South Dundas	Forest	Fee Simple	30.5	\$ 105,000
2022	166	North Stormont	Forest	Split Receipt	13.4	\$ 142,000
	171	South Dundas	Forest	Fee Simple	10.4	\$ 102,800
	173	North Grenville	Wetland	Fee Simple	40.2	\$ 239,993
	174	North Dundas	Parkland	Donation	2.1	
	175	North Grenville	Wetland	Fee Simple	37.4	\$ 250,312
2023	176	Ottawa	Parkland	Donation	0.3	
	177	South Dundas	Forest	Donation	7.9	\$ 365,000
	178	North Dundas	Infrastructure	Donation	0.1	
	179	North Stormont	Forest	Split Receipt	40.8	\$ 700,000
	180	North Dundas	Forest	Fee Simple	70.0	\$ 395,000
	181	Clarence Rockland	Wetland	Fee Simple	75.0	\$ 259,500
<b>Total Accruals</b>					<b>488.9</b>	<b>\$ 2,623,105</b>
<b>Total Depletions</b>					<b>0.0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>

## FOREST OPERATIONS

### Timber Harvest

Table 3 summarizes harvest activities during the 2018-2023 operating period. The total five-year harvest was 15,109.0 m<sup>3</sup> valued at \$186,076.47.

The average annual harvest volume, not including salvage operations, during this period was 3,021.8 m<sup>3</sup>/year and the average annual value of forest products harvested was \$37,215.29 per year.

**TABLE 3**  
**SNC Forest**  
**Summary of Five-Year Harvest**  
**2018-2023**

Year	Comp. No.	Contract Award Date	Species	Estimated Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Actual Volume (m <sup>3</sup> )	Harvest Area	Value
2017-18	1	2016	Pr	1,560.0	2,080.7	13.4	\$34,539.45
			Pw	270.0	219.5	6.9	\$3,183.19
			Sw	740.0	1,584.9	19.2	\$18,648.89
			Po	400.0	480.9	Incidental	\$3,669.27
2018	156	2016	Sw	330	298.8	5.6	\$4,895.16
2019	25	2019	Pr	412.0	131.1	5.4	\$1,835.14
			Pj	222.0	750.0	20.0	\$9,750.00
			Sw	972.0			
			Hdwd	-	25.2	Incidental	\$90.34
2020	2/3	2020	Pr	1,209.8	609.8	32.2	\$10,122.61
			Pw	185.5	135.5		\$1,964.63
			Sw	1,170.0	1,935.2		\$28,060.64
			Po	112.9	224.6		\$404.35
2020	5/7	2020	Pr	600.8	598.6	31.4	\$8,673.37
			Pw	521.0	524.3		\$5,242.97
			Sw	366.4	828.7	7.9	\$8,287.29
			Po	-	142.7	Incidental	\$285.29
2021	16/17	2021	Pw	47.31	-	1.0	-
			Sw	561.07	1092.5	9.0	\$13,110.04
			Fuelwood	-	497.3	Incidental	\$994.69
2021	29	2021	Pr	175.6	236.2	10.5	3070.92
			Sw	392.5	417.4		4591.45
			Fuelwood	-	63.8	Incidental	223.17
2022	13/23/30	2023 2024	Pr	453.1	Pending	33.6	Pending
			Sw	1172.2			
			Fuelwood	-			
2023	75	2021	Pr	417.1	297.5	-	\$4313.21
			Pw	262.1	180.4		\$1442.81
			Sw	48.1	34.6		\$518.56
			Fuelwood	-	36.07	Incidental	\$180.36
			Biomass	-	33.59	Incidental	\$167.95
2023	105 (salvage)	2023	Pr	-	328.8	3.0	\$3,222.20
			Pw	-	58.6		\$500.40
			Sw	-	37.8		\$288.40
			Biomass	-	650.4		\$7,648.20
2023	69 (salvage)	2023	Pr	-	66.6	2.0	\$653.00
			Pw	-	79.7		\$681.00
			Sw	-	49.9		\$381.00
			Biomass	-	377.3		\$4436.52
<b>Total</b>					<b>15,109.0</b>		<b>\$186,076.47</b>
<b>Average</b>					<b>3,021.8</b>		<b>\$37,215.29</b>

## Non-Timber Forest Products

### Maple Syrup

SNC currently has one maple sap collection operation, which is located on the SNC Forest property 160, Oschmann Forest Conservation Area. In 2019, SNC proceeded with the installation of the necessary infrastructure to exploit a sugar bush for the purpose of maple syrup production. SNC has coordinated the new Hydro One connection to the site, installed a pumphouse with holding tanks, and coordinated the installation of the pipelines system to collect the sap.

SNC has been selling hard maple sap from the Oschmann Conservation Area since 2019. This provides an additional source of revenue for the SNC Forest, while contributing to a growing demand for maple products across Ontario and provide local producers with an opportunity to increase production. A mutual agreement with the purchaser has been established to provide payment for all collected maple sap from the Oschmann CA at the amount set by the Cornell University Maple Program Price Index.

Potential maple tapping stands are evaluated for their species composition, tree health, crown volume and position, stocking, potential taps, and physical characteristics of the site. The evaluation would help determine the feasibility of a maple tapping lease. SNC Forest currently has tapping potential on at least two other properties. Maple syrup producers already demonstrated interest into developing these properties.

Table 4 provides of summary of maple sap production during the operating period.

**TABLE 4**  
**Summary of Maple Sap Production**  
**2018 - 2023**

Year	Number of Taps	Volume of Sap (Imperial Gallons)	Sugar Content (%)			Value
			Min.	Max.	Avg.	
2019	508	7,330	3.0	4.0	3.3	\$4,497.55
2020	508	8,600	2.2	4.0	2.9	\$2,500.00
2021	508	2,450	2.9	3.3	3.1	\$1,451.91
2022	508	5,500	2.6	3.8	3.0	\$3,304.12
2023	508	7,075	2.2	3.0	2.5	\$4,325.14
						<b>\$16,078.72</b>

## FOREST REGENERATION

### Seed Collection

Climate change impacts all facets of our forests – including seed production. Seed is the critical element of afforestation and reforestation in the jurisdiction. South Nation will look to incorporate

climate change projections into its seed collection targets to ensure resilient forests planted through our programs and will take a holistic, ecosystem management approach to seed collecting.

Using a mixture of local and non-local seed sources to increase genetic diversity is encouraged as it may improve forest resilience. South Nations seed collecting efforts will follow the best available science and expertise by referring to the provincial tree seed transfer policy, and knowledge and expertise from Forest Gene Conservation Association (FGCA) and Forests Ontario.

The authority currently has 5 certified seed collectors who will use database tools and property knowledge to identify stands of desirable species and suitable species populations for seed collection. Opportunities may arise for staff to collect seed or to permit local nurseries and partners to collect seed on authority land.

### **Tree Planting**

Approximately half the current forest area was established under artificial means. Natural regeneration, where it can occur, is the preferred option. After harvest treatments, however, there are situations where desirable regeneration stocking is insufficient or where suitable seed sources to meet biodiversity and cultural objectives are not available. In these cases, to meet the long-term objectives for the site, additional silvicultural treatments may be required. Tree planting may be undertaken to ensure the SNC forest is successfully regenerated to desirable species after harvesting, or salvage operations following extreme storm events.

SNC secures funding through various tree planting subsidy programs, these include the 50 Million Tree Program, the 2 Billion Tree Program and the Ontario Power Generation Regional Biodiversity Program. Properties planted through the 50 Million Tree Program (50MTP) will be assessed at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> growing seasons for survival and re-filled should the survival fall below 60%, as per the program allowances.

For the 2021 planting, following a second thinning undertaken in 2020, SNC secured funding to under plant portions of SNC 7 in South Dundas. The purpose of the planting was to enhance the natural ability of the forest ecosystem, to sequester carbon and increase biodiversity. Refer to Table 6 for a summary of tree planting of SNC property from 2018 to 2022.

For the 2021 planting, following a second thinning undertaken in 2020, SNC secured funding to under plant portions of SNC 7 in South Dundas. The purpose of the planting was to enhance the natural ability of the forest ecosystem, to sequester carbon and increase biodiversity.

Properties planted through the 50 Million Tree Program will be assessed at the end of the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> growing seasons for survival and re-filled should the survival fall below 60%, as per the program allowances.



## **Invasive Species Control and Monitoring**

Invasive species are widely considered to be the second greatest threat to biodiversity after habitat loss. Invasive species such as Buckthorn, dog strangling vine, phragmites and garlic mustard compete with desirable regeneration for space, light and nutrient requirements resulting in suppressed growth or mortality of desirable native regeneration. To ensure the health and growth of native regeneration, invasive species must be controlled.

Once invasive species have become established, economic costs associated with managing invasive species varies greatly depending on the species, population size and extent and the mechanism used to manage the species. Invasive species will be identified in all management areas planned in this operating period. Priority for management and control should be given to areas planned for harvest operations to reduce spread of the species throughout the authority's forest properties.

During the previous operating plan, SNC continued a partnership with the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) which included monitoring and control of several invasive species. Invasive species monitoring and control activities. SNC continues to monitor and control incidental populations of Dog-Strangling Vine and extensive populations of Common Buckthorn. Garlic mustard is a known local invasive plant but has not been discovered on SNC property.

## FIVE-YEAR OPERATING PLAN 2024-2028

To ensure long-term sustainability, an annual harvest level that could be continued indefinitely without exceeding the productive capacity of the forest is determined. One method is to use forest area by forest unit (single or groups of species with similar biological characteristics) to determine an Allowable Harvest Area (AHA). The AHA is calculated as follows:

$$\text{AHA (ha./yr.)} = \frac{\text{Area of Forest Unit (ha.)} \times \text{Harvest Eligibility (\%)}}{\text{Cutting Cycle (yrs.)}}$$

Cutting cycle is the term used to describe the length of time between treatments. The length of time between treatments varies by species and silvicultural treatment. The proportion of eligible harvest or harvest eligibility is an estimate of the area that is likely to support a commercial harvest. Access, drainage, and current forest condition may all affect the harvest eligibility.

### Annual Harvest Area

The harvest area was calculated for the current operating period based on changes to the forest area (acquisitions/depletions), recent inventories and changes to forest management objectives. The AHA by forest unit for the 2024-2028 operating period is presented in Table 5.

**TABLE 5**  
**South Nation Forest**  
**Annual Harvest Area (AHA) By Forest Unit**

Forest Unit	Silvicultural Treatment	Productive Area (Ha.)	Eligibility (%)	Cutting Cycle (years)	AHA (Ha.)	Five-Year Harvest Area (Ha.)
Red Pine	Selection Uniform Shelterwood	228.4	40	15	6.1	30.5
White Pine	Selection	168.5	40	15	4.5	22.5
White Spruce	Selection/Clear-cut	745.0	25	20	9.3	46.5
White Cedar	Selection	202.6	40	20	4.1	20.5
Other Conifer	Selection	83.8	20	20	0.8	4.0
Intolerant Hdwd	Thinning Clear-cut	847.6	15	60	2.1	10.5
Lowland Hdwd	Single Tree-Selection Group Selection Uniform Shelterwood	1366.7	20	20	13.7	68.5
Tolerant Hdwd.	Single-Tree Selection Group Selection	228.37	25	20	2.9	14.5

## Selection of Harvest Areas

Table 6 provides a summary of areas that were selected for harvest during the 2024-2028 operating period. Priority was given to areas that have not received treatment or carried forward from the previous operating period. Individual harvest area maps are provided in Appendix A.

**TABLE 6**  
**Summary of Selected Harvest Area**

Compartment	Treatment	Working Group (Hectares)							Total Area (Ha.)
		Pr	Pw	Sw	OC	IH	LH	TH	
9	Selection Thinning			7.7					7.7
41	Selection Thinning	19.4		11.4					30.8
52	Selection Thinning						31.4		31.4
55	Selection Thinning							20.6	20.6
56	Selection Thinning				18.9				18.9
61	Selection Thinning						17.9		17.9
64	Selection Thinning	13.3					2.3		15.6
94	Selection Thinning		23.5						23.5
102	Clearcut					3.8			3.8
147	Selection Thinning			23.8					23.8
<b>Total</b>		<b>32.7</b>	<b>23.5</b>	<b>42.9</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>3.8</b>	<b>51.6</b>	<b>20.6</b>	<b>194.0</b>
<b>Target</b>		<b>30.5</b>	<b>22.5</b>	<b>46.5</b>	<b>24.5</b>	<b>10.5</b>	<b>68.5</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>217.5</b>



**Appendix A**  
**South Nation Forest**  
**Forest Operating Plan**  
**2024-2028**

**Maps of Selected Harvest Areas**



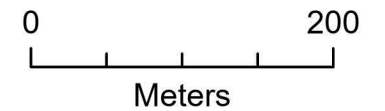
# SNC 009

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-20

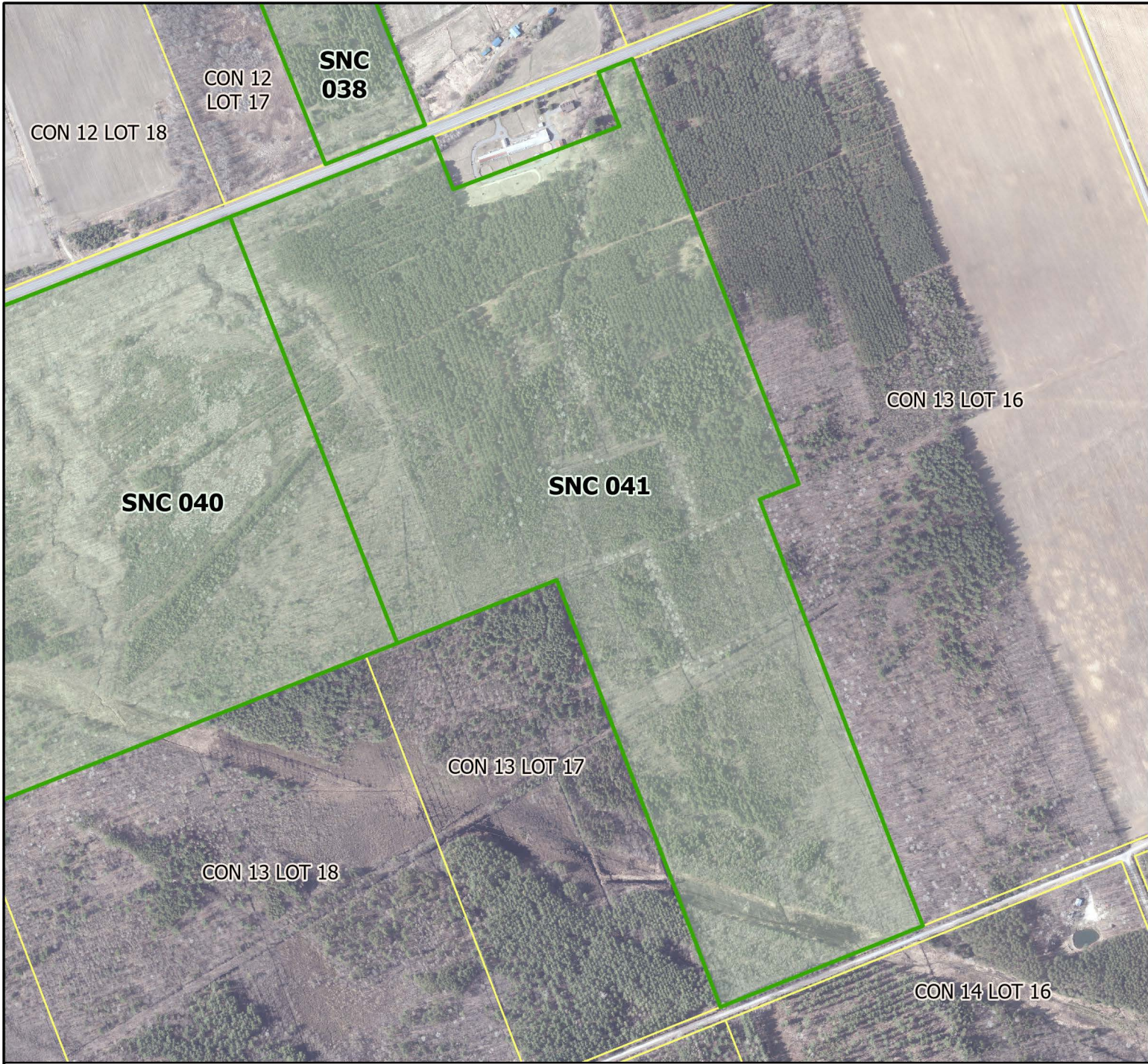


SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

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**00021**



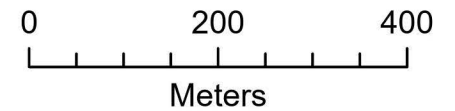
# SNC 041

MUNICIPALITY OF THE NATION

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23

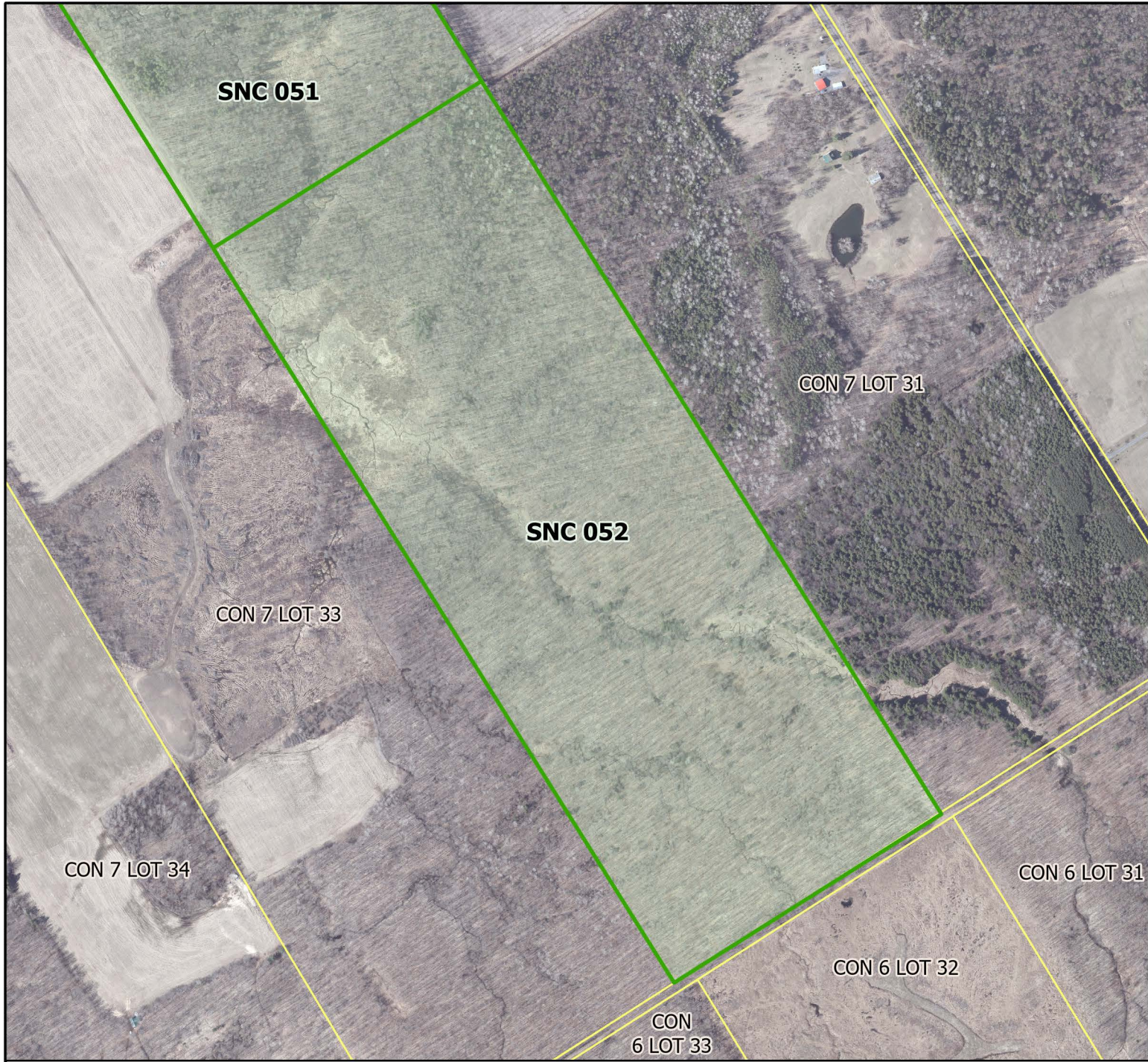


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**00022**



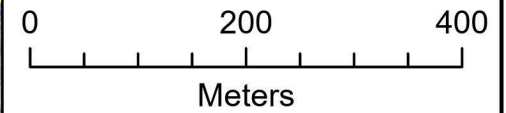
# SNC 052

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH  
GLENGARRY

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

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**00023**



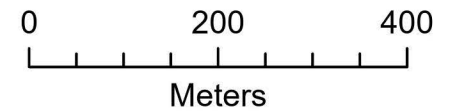
# SNC 055

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH  
GLENGARRY

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



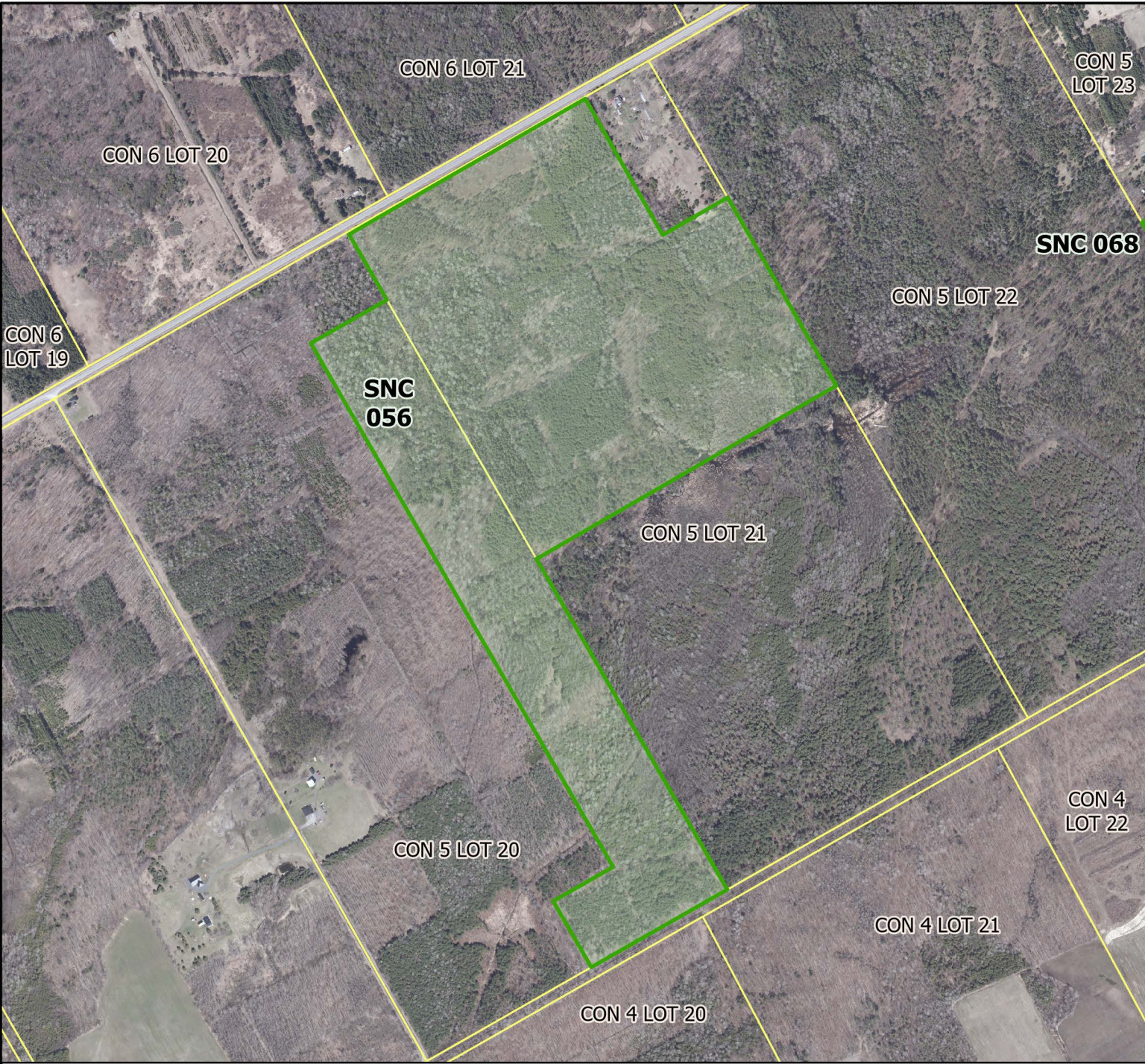
SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

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**00024**







# SNC 056

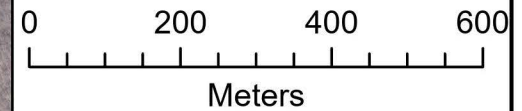
TOWNSHIP OF NORTH  
STORMONT

**SNC 068**

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
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**00025**



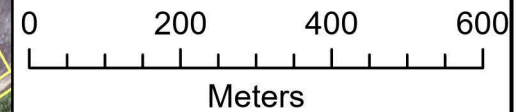
# SNC 061

TOWNSHIP OF EDWARDSBURGH/CARDINAL

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
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**00026**



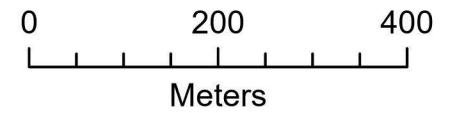
# SNC 064

MUNICIPALITY OF THE NATION

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23

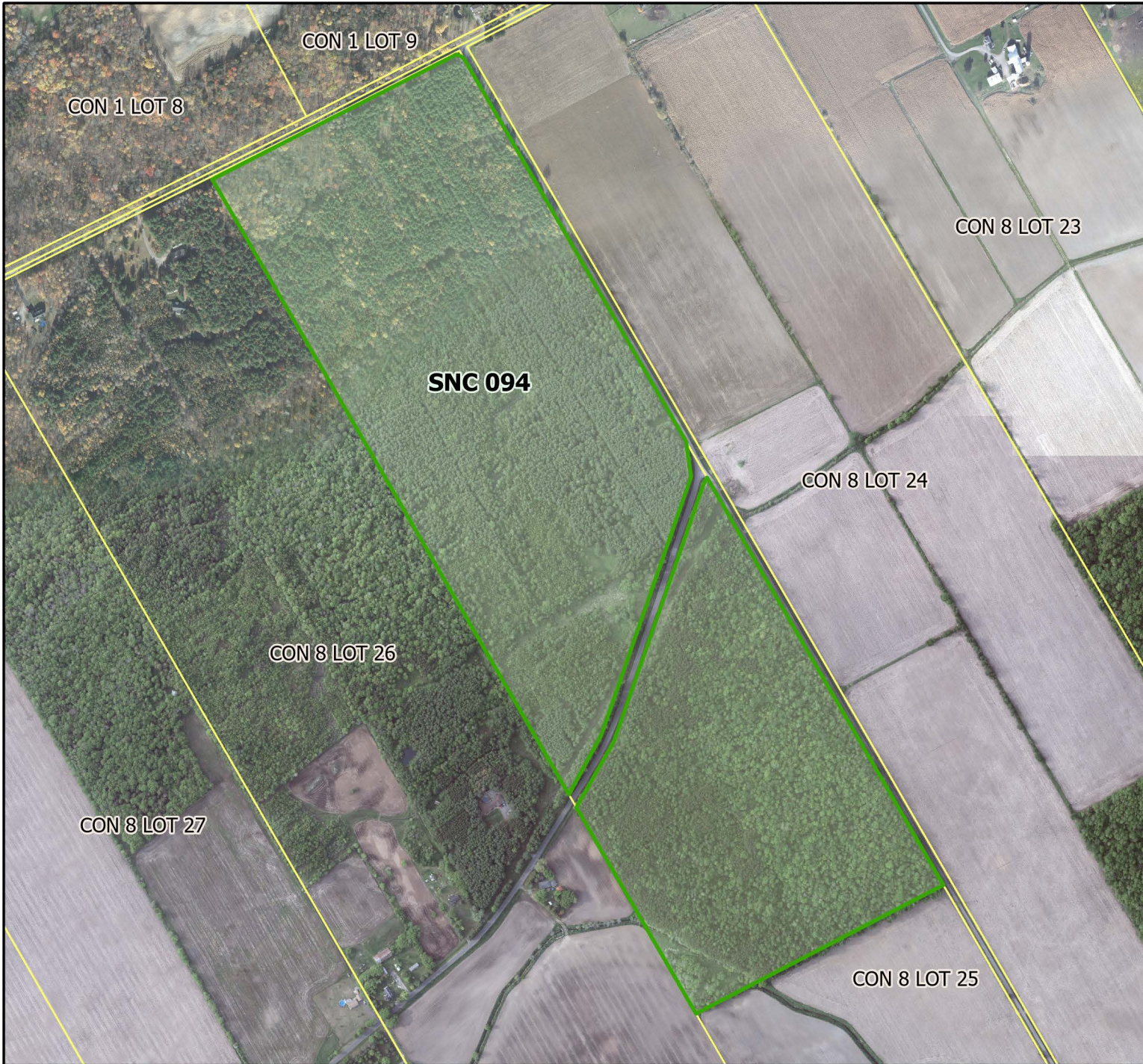


**SOUTH NATION  
CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

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**00027**



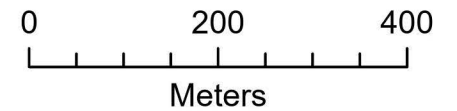
# SNC 094

MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
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**00028**



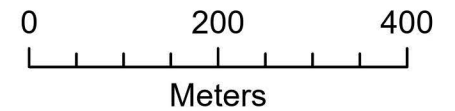
# SNC 102

TOWNSHIP OF NORTH  
STORMONT

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-20

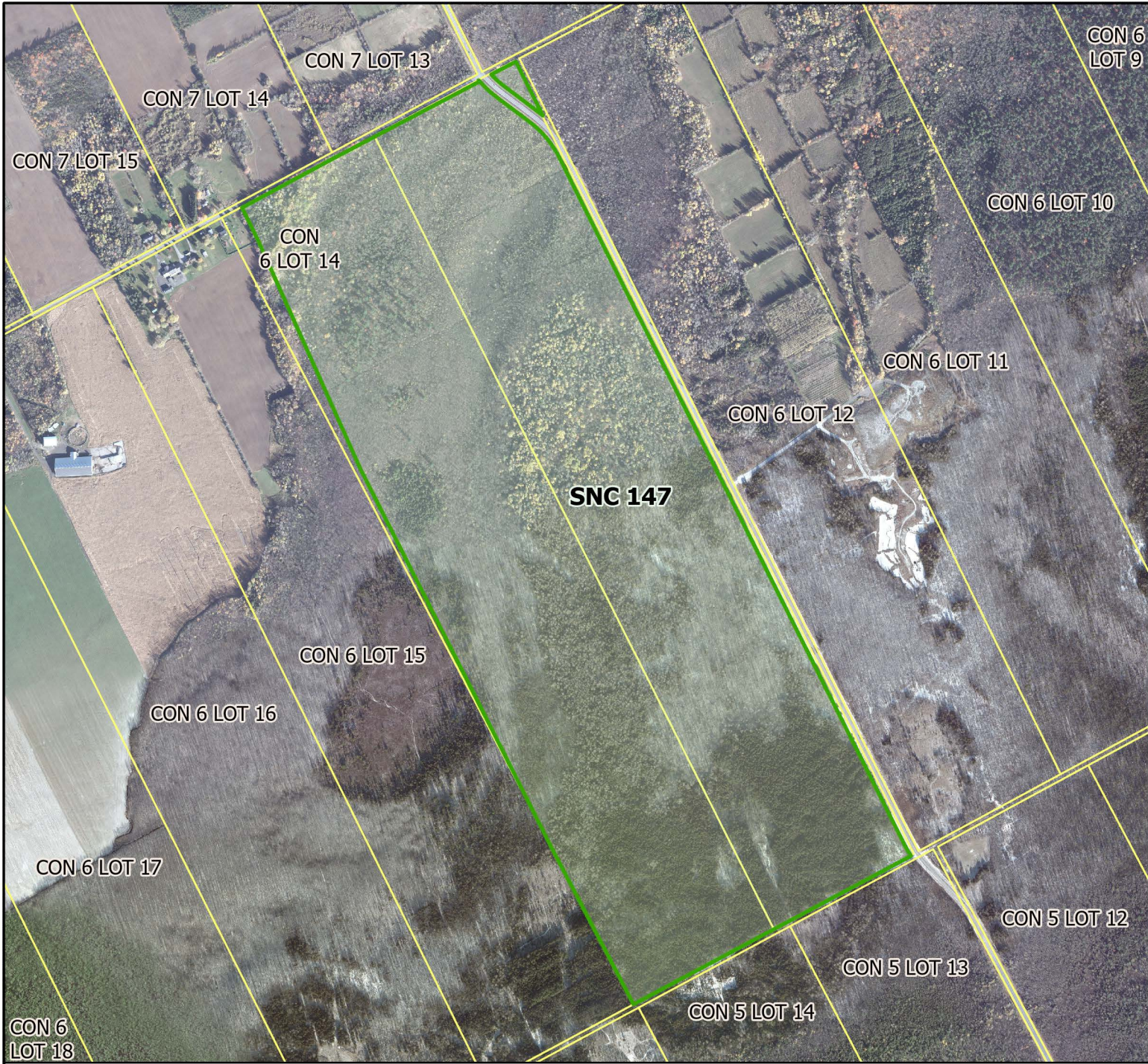


SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

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**00029**



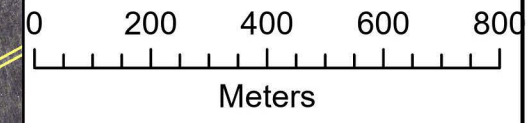
# SNC 147

MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH DUNDAS

-  South Nation Conservation Property Boundary
-  Lot and Concession



Version: 2024-09-23



SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
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**00030**



**To:** Watershed Advisory Committee  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Date:** November 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
**Subject:** Update: Draft 2025 SNC Budget and Levies

---

**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Watershed Advisory Committee receive and file the Draft 2025 SNC Budget and Levies update.

---

**DISCUSSION:**

**2025 General Levy and Capital Levy**

Sections 25 and 27 of the *Conservation Authorities Act* grants the Board of Directors the ability to (1) establish a minimum levy and (2) apportion the capital cost of projects that benefits one, several, or all member municipalities.

South Nation Conservation's (SNC) general levy is based on the Modified Current Value Assessment (MCVA) provided by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Using the assessment values provided by MNR for the prior year (2024), the proposed SNC General Levy and Capital Levy for 2025 is estimated at \$6.26 per \$100,000 in assessment.

Many Conservation Authorities maintain a capital levy which is separate from general levy. With the completion of a Corporate Capital Asset Management Plan in 2025, SNC will require a separate capital levy to properly plan for the replacement of capital assets.

On October 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024, the Board of Directors approved a proposed 2.9 % cost of living increase to the General Levy, plus 1.5% in assessed growth, and a proposed \$200,000 Capital Levy (BD-183/24). Staff prepared the Draft 2025 Budget based on this direction.

**2025 City of Ottawa Special Levies**

SNC delivers several programs within the City of Ottawa at the City's request, funded 100% by the City through annual special levies.

The Ottawa Rural Clean Water Program special levy remains unchanged from 2024 at \$200,000. SNC collects this levy on behalf of the three Conservation Authorities in Ottawa.

The Ottawa Tree Replacement Program special levy remains unchanged from 2024 at \$200,000. The program assists Ottawa residents with removal and replacement of trees lost due to invasive species and extreme weather events.

The Eastern Ontario Water Resources Program supports projects that protect water resource within Eastern Ontario. The special levy remains unchanged from 2024 at \$50,000.

The Ottawa Baseline Monitoring Program 2025 special levy is at \$47,000. This program supports water quality monitoring for the City of Ottawa.

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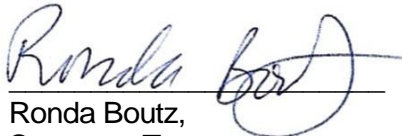


SOUTH NATION  
**CONSERVATION**  
DE LA NATION SUD

**Next Steps**

The Board of Directors will review the Draft 2025 Budget at their November 21<sup>st</sup> meeting; if approved, the draft Budget and levies notice will be sent to member municipalities. The final approval of the 2025 Budget and Levies is anticipated at the January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Board of Directors meeting.

Staff will provide a brief summary of the Draft 2025 Budget at the meeting, a copy can be found on SNC's website at: <https://www.nation.on.ca/about/governance-board-directors-committees/board-directors-meetings>.

  
Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.





**To:** Watershed Advisory Committee  
**From:** Ronda Boutz, Secretary-Treasurer  
**Date:** November 15, 2024  
**Subject:** Request for Approval: 2025 Committee Meeting Schedule

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

The Watershed Advisory Committee set a meeting schedule for 2025.

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**DISCUSSION:**

As per the Watershed Advisory Committee Terms of Reference, the Committee will meet at least 4 times per year. The Committee is also required establish meeting dates for the next year at the last meeting of the year. The Terms of Reference allows for additional meetings to be called if there is 75% concurrence of the Committee at which there is quorum, subject to Board approval.

In 2024, meetings dates were approved by the Committee for Tuesday afternoons; however, several members had regrets for meetings due to conflicts. Staff request that the Committee discuss preference for day of week and time of day for meetings and set a meeting schedule for 2025.

Staff recommend scheduling meetings in each quarter of the year, if the Committee followed a similar timeline to 2024, the dates would be as follows:

**Watershed Advisory Committee**

- Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Tuesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025
- Tuesday, November 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025

**Grants Sub-Committee**

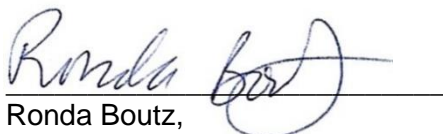
- Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Monday, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025
- Monday, November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025

In 2024, the Watershed Advisory Committee meetings were scheduled for 1:00 p.m. and the Grants Sub-Committee meetings at 9:00 a.m. All meetings are held at the SNC office unless otherwise stated on the Agenda.

**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS/ADHERENCE TO SNC POLICY:**

Compliance with Budget: Committee expenses for the Watershed Advisory Committee are included in the draft 2025 Budget.

SNC Policy Adherence: Watershed Advisory Committee meeting schedule adheres to the Watershed Advisory Committee Terms of Reference.



Ronda Boutz,  
Secretary-Treasurer.