

BEAMER CONSERVATION AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN

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OPEN HOUSE #2 – JUNE 16, 2026

MAJOR REFRIGERATION PEACH KING CENTRE

AGENDA

- Opening Remarks & Housekeeping
- Presentation
 - Management Plan Update
 - What We Learned, Actions, Next Steps
 - Staircase Update
- Breakout Group Discussion
- General Q&A
- Closing Remarks
- Informal Discussion / Networking



WATERSHED

- 43 conservation areas and properties; over 3,100 ha
- Named after John and Anna Beamer who first settled on the property in 1790
- Acquired the property in 1964
- 64 ha conservation area in the Town of Grimsby
- Part of the Niagara Escarpment with significant ecological features
- Two distinct waterfalls that include a cascade and curtain waterfall

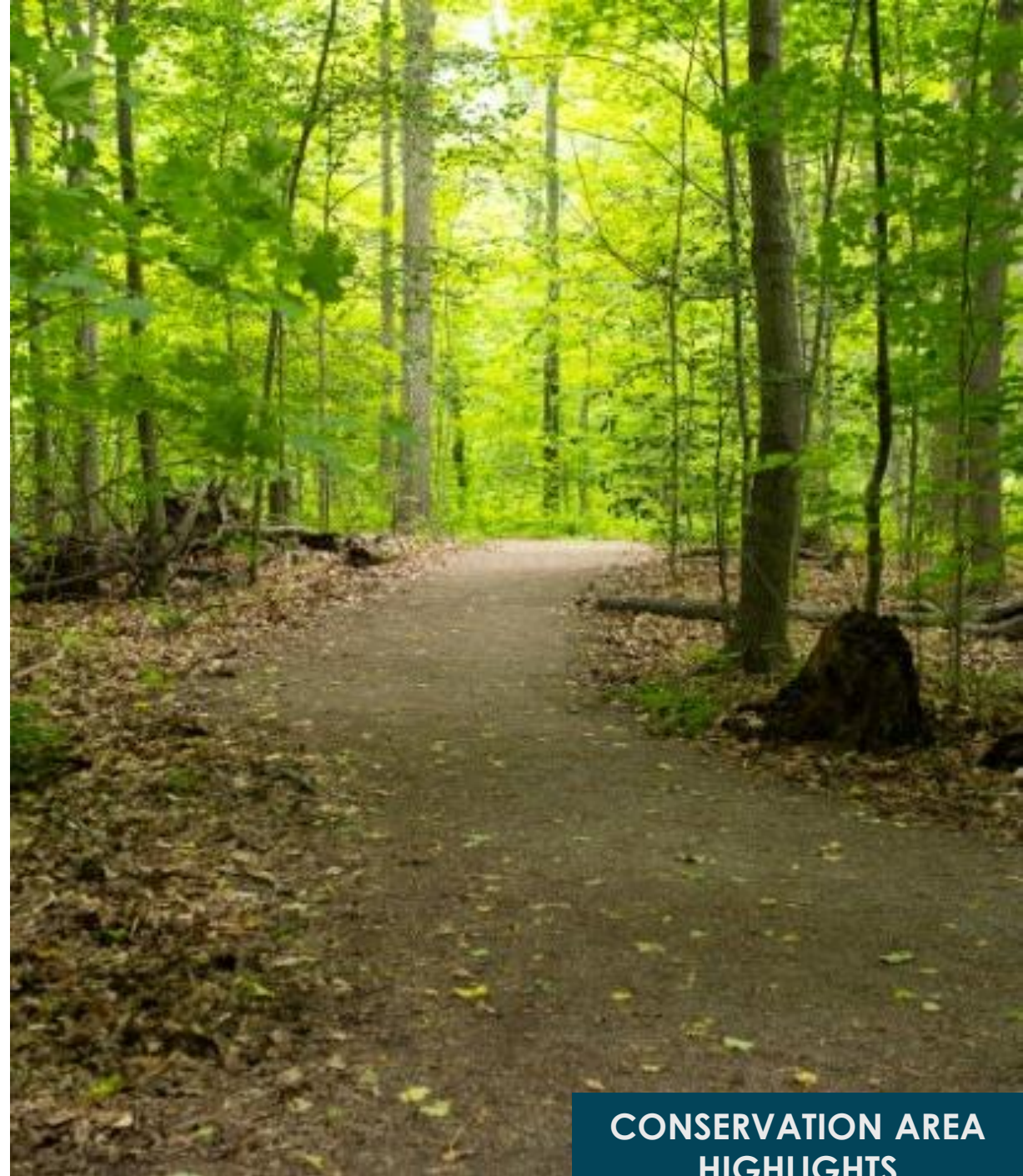


Niagara



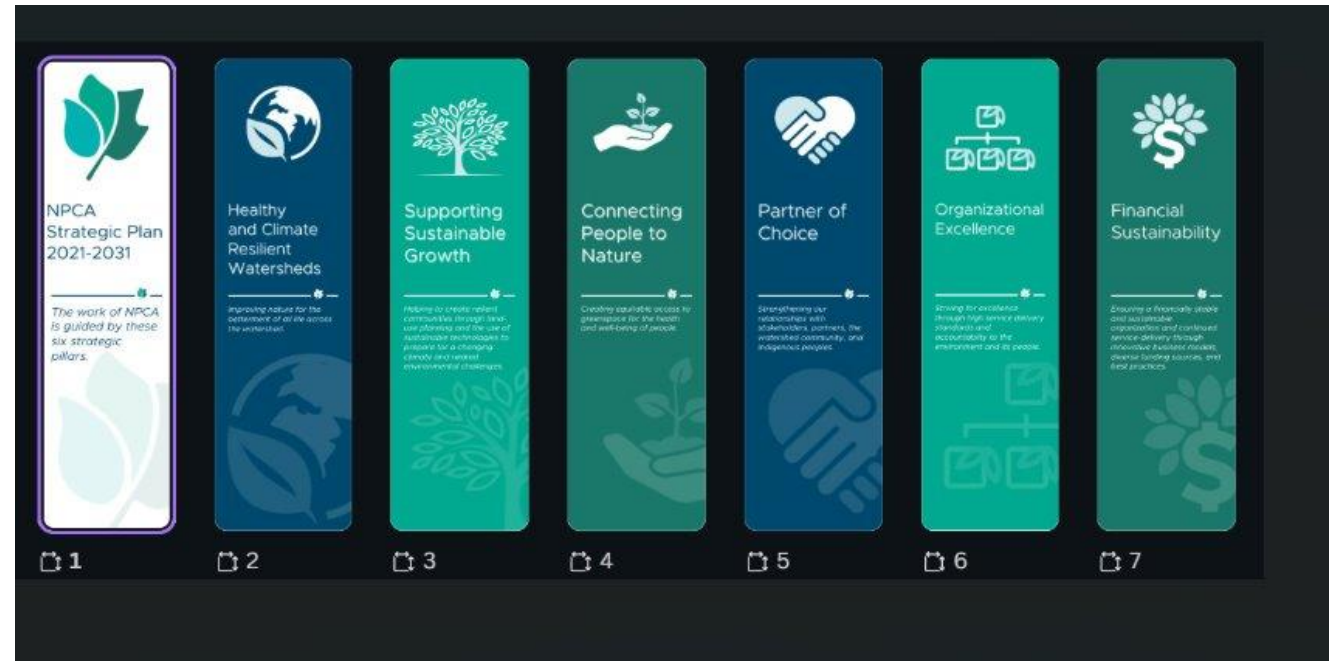
BEAMER MEMORIAL CONSERVATION AREA

- One of 11 NPCA conservation areas on the Niagara Escarpment
- Part OF NEPOSS which includes over 160 protected areas
- Bruce Trail Main and Side Trails
- Accessible trail to viewing platforms
- Multiple access points
- 2nd most visited passive CA, avg over 5,000 visits per month



STRATEGIC PLANS

- Strategic Plan 2021-2031
- Conservation Areas Strategy
- Multiple goals and objectives direct long- term planning for our CAs



NIAGARA ESCARPMENT PARKS & OPEN SPACE SYSTEMS

- Niagara Escarpment Planning & Development Act
 - Maintain and protect the Niagara Escarpment
 - Development must be compatible with the environment
 - Niagara Escarpment Plan outlines policies for management of publicly-owned escarpment properties
- NPCA properties within Niagara Escarpment
 - Beamer Memorial
 - Woodend
 - Ball's Falls
 - Rockway
 - Mountainview
 - Louth
 - Woolverton
 - Lathrop
 - St. Johns
 - St. Johns Centre
 - Cave Springs
- Endorsement and approval required by MNR and NEC for these management plans



WHAT IS A MANAGEMENT PLAN?

- Long-term strategy that guides decision making for the use of the conservation area
- Assess current conditions and challenges for the property
- Sets goals to balance ecological preservation with infrastructure improvements and recreational opportunities
- Master vs Management Plan



CLASSIFICATION ZONES



Land use categories:

- Conservation Area - Active Recreation
- Conservation Area - Passive Recreation
- Natural Heritage & Hazard Lands
- Management plans will further refine these classification
- Specific zones within a property can be allocated for specific activities or programs

MANAGEMENT PLAN PROCESS

- Phases:
 - Background Report, Information Gathering
 - Plan Development
 - Implementation and Monitoring
- Each phase will include several steps
- Engagement included in every phase



RECAP:

SEPTEMBER 2025 PUBLIC MEETING

- What do you love about Beamer?
- How can we make Beamer better?
- What are the issues and challenges for Beamer?
- Who else should be involved or engaged and what additional details should we consider?

WHAT WE LEARNED

5 priorities emerged across all feedback:

1. Improved trails & amenities
2. Visitor management & access
3. Education & community engagement
4. Protecting natural heritage
5. Supporting passive recreation

READ THE FULL REPORT:

<http://getinvolved.npca.ca/beamer-management-plan>



PRIORITY #1

IMPROVED TRAILS & AMENITIES

- Signage – wayfinding, maps, permitted uses
- Trail and property maintenance
- Washroom facilities
- Accessibility



PRIORITY #2

VISITOR MANAGEMENT & ACCESS

- Visitor safety
- Emergency access
- Quarry Road and Gibson St. access points need improvements to address traffic
- Accessibility
- Unsanctioned use/vandalism
- Gates



PRIORITY #3

EDUCATION & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

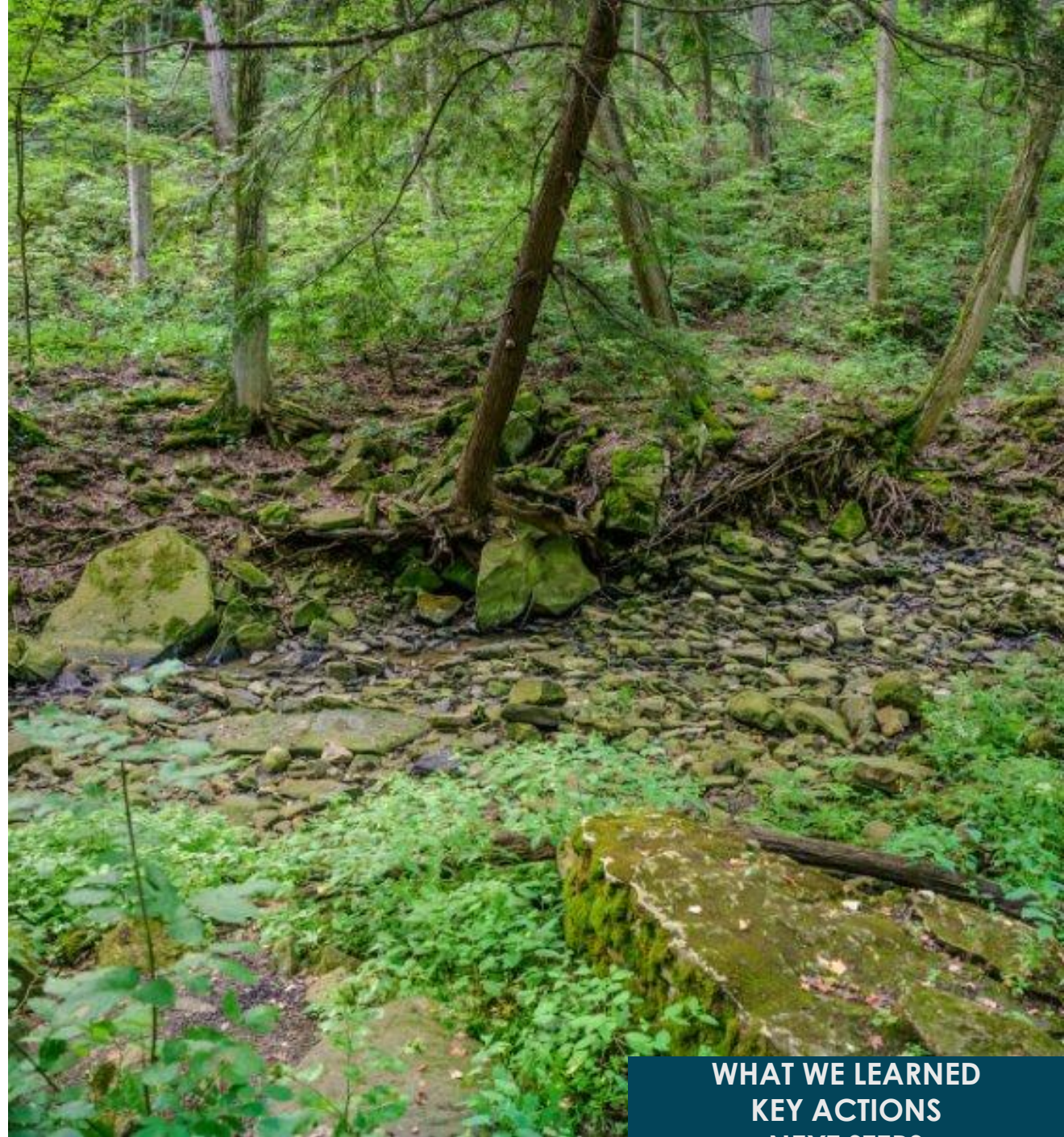
- Interpretive signage (cultural, natural, Indigenous)
- Education about invasive species and natural heritage
- Community involvement in restoration / stewardship activities
- Nature-based education, with facilities
- Repurposing existing spaces, facilities for education



PRIORITY #4

PROTECTING NATURAL HERITAGE

- Significant Niagara Escarpment conservation area
- Carolinian forest with old oaks and cedars
- Consider less manicured space
- Unsanctioned uses impact the environment
- Invasive species management
- Infrastructure should be appropriate for the environment, visitor needs
- Design considerations that are appropriate for the natural conditions



PRIORITY #5

SUPPORTING PASSIVE RECREATION

- Hiking, wildlife viewing, enjoying nature are the most valued activities
- Family environment
- Signage, washrooms, accessibility, other amenities are very important to users
- Education and interpretation
- Peaceful, serene location for mental health and wellness benefits

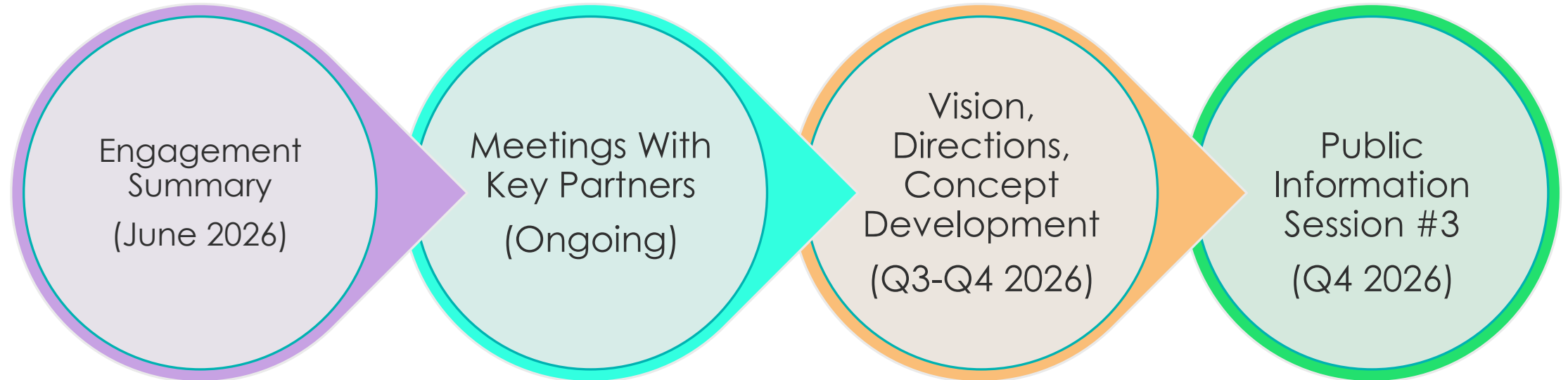


KEY ACTIONS SINCE FALL OPEN HOUSE

- Get Involved portal updates
 - Key documents updated and available
 - New content and engagement features
- Meetings with key partners with more to come
 - Town of Grimsby
 - Bruce Trail Conservancy
 - GeoPark
 - Indigenous Partners
 - Joint Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Seeking landscape design services



SHORT-TERM ACTIONS



- Get Involved Portal
- Meeting Summary
- Survey

- Indigenous Community
- NEC, MNR staff
- Municipal staff
- Bruce Trail Conservancy
- Interest Groups
- Community Groups

- Key management plan aspects
- Artistic renderings
- Guiding statements
- Directions/actions

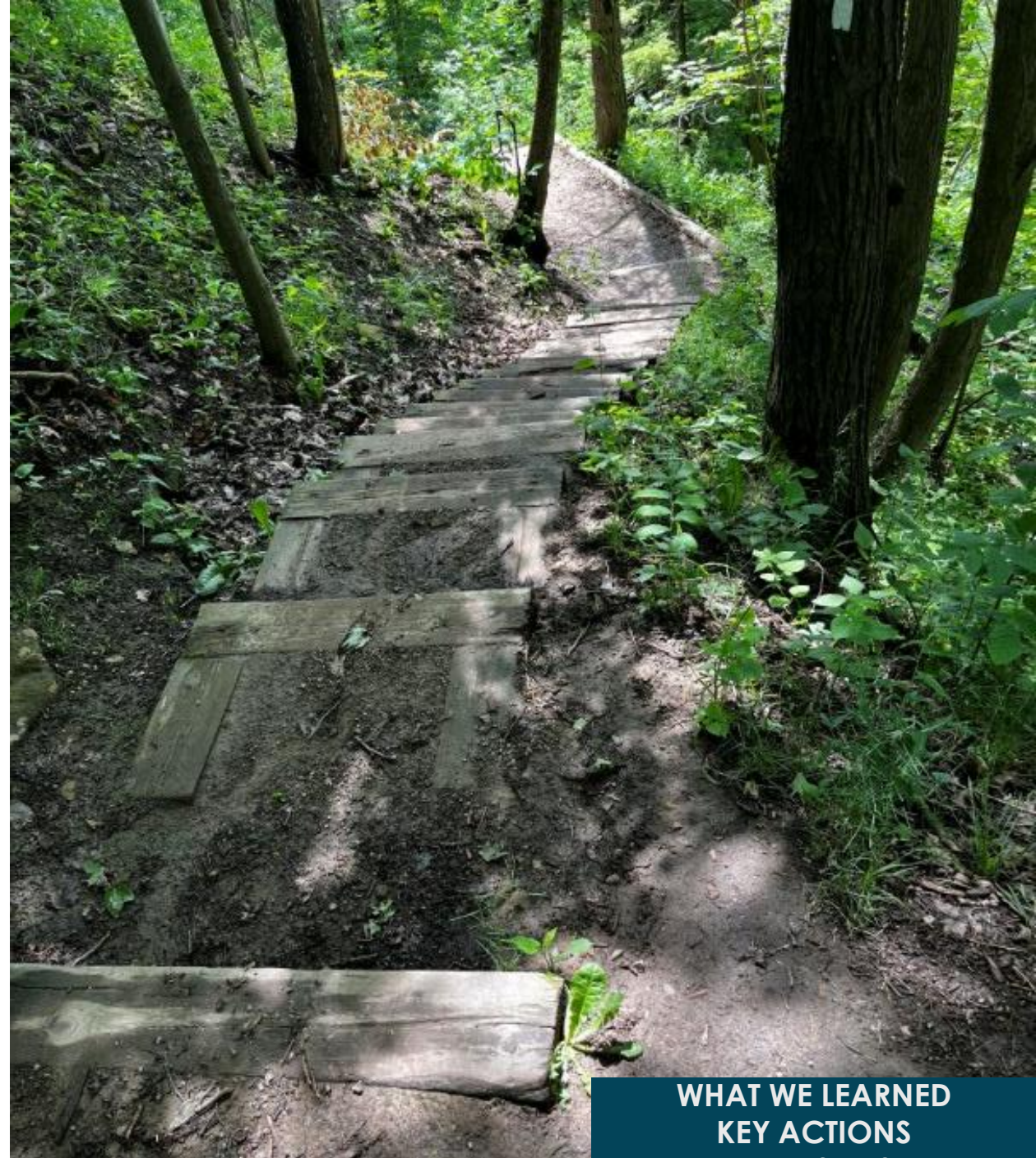
- Review Session #2
- Concept review
- Looking ahead to draft plan

PROJECT TIMELINE



STAIRCASE UPDATE

- An initial professional assessment has been completed.
- Detailed geotechnical and slope stability investigations have also been completed.
- The consulting team is currently analyzing the results and preparing recommendations.
- NPCA expects to receive the final report following completion of this technical review.





THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION – CONCEPT AREAS

- **Breakout Activity Overview**
- **Facilitators:**
 - Concept Area A – Eric Baldin
 - Concept Area B – Natalie Green
 - Concept Area C – Kerry Royer
 - Concept Area D – Allegra Caballero

CONCEPT AREA A

QUARRY ROAD ACCESS

Key Considerations:

- Enhanced access area needed
- Emergency access and other safety issues
- Accessibility
- Washrooms
- Other visitor amenities
- Bruce Trail reroutes
- Maintenance access
- Site security

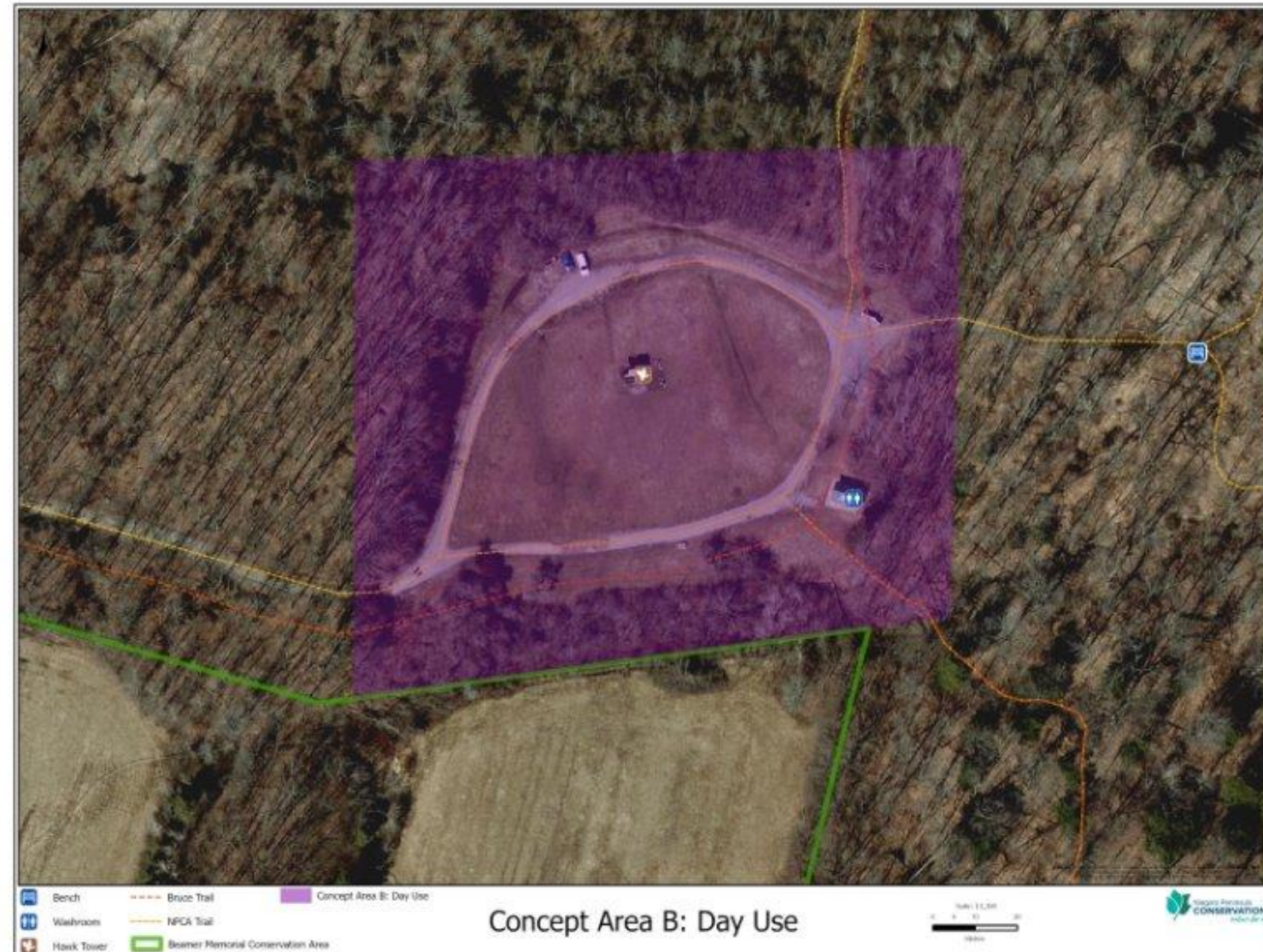


CONCEPT AREA B

DAY USE AREA

Key Considerations:

- Opportunities and potential
- Site security
- Trail head and wayfinding signage
- General signage
- Manicured space
- Existing uses (e.g., hawkwatch tower)
- Accessibility
- Educational opportunities
- Naturalization

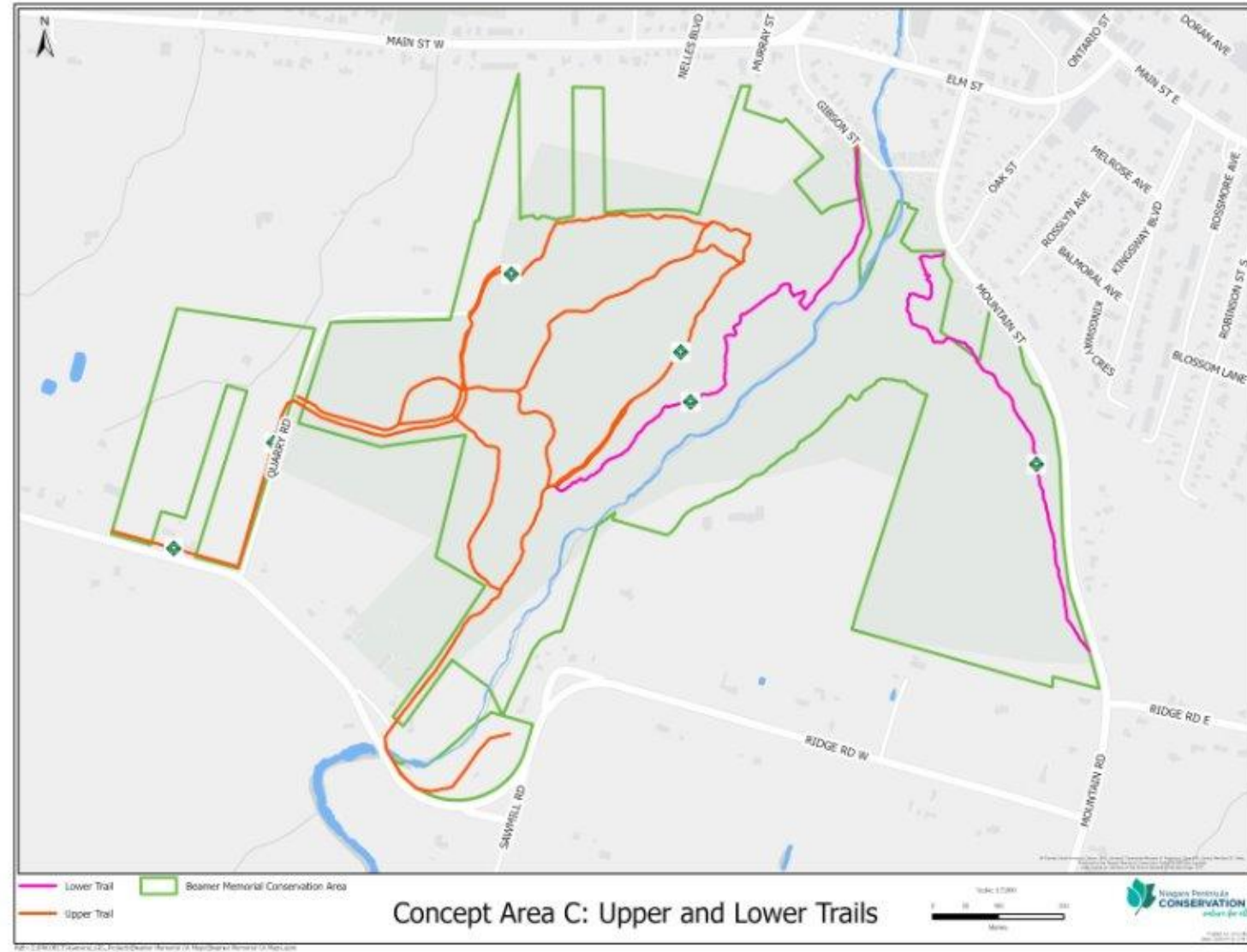


CONCEPT AREA C

UPPER & LOWER TRAILS

Key Considerations:

- Staircase improvements
- Lookouts
- Gibson Street access point
- Other secondary trail access points
- Quarry Road access
- Interpretive opportunities
- Accessibility improvements
- Reroutes, closures, etc.
- Wayfinding signage
- Invasive species management



CONCEPT AREA D

WATERFALL ACCESS

Key Considerations:

- Parking area improvements
- Scout hut access
- Unsanctioned trails
- Waterfall access and viewing options
- Bruce Trail side trail

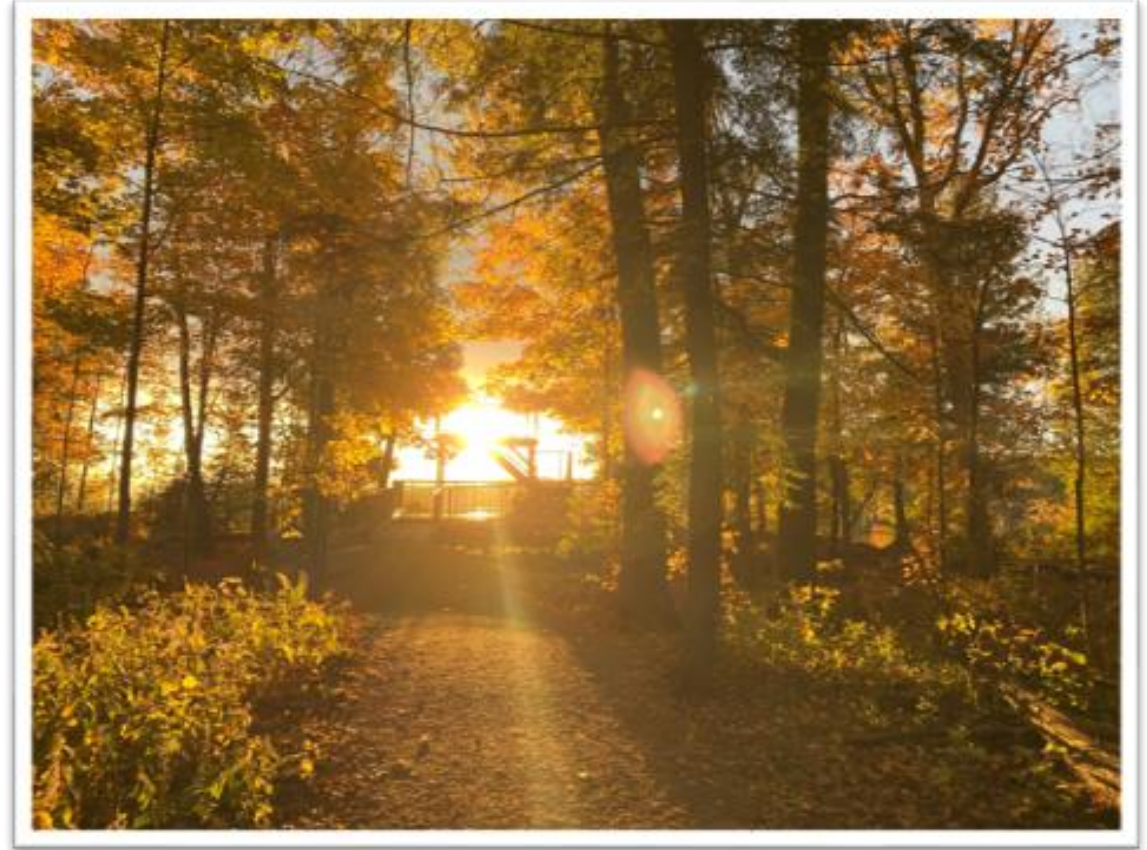




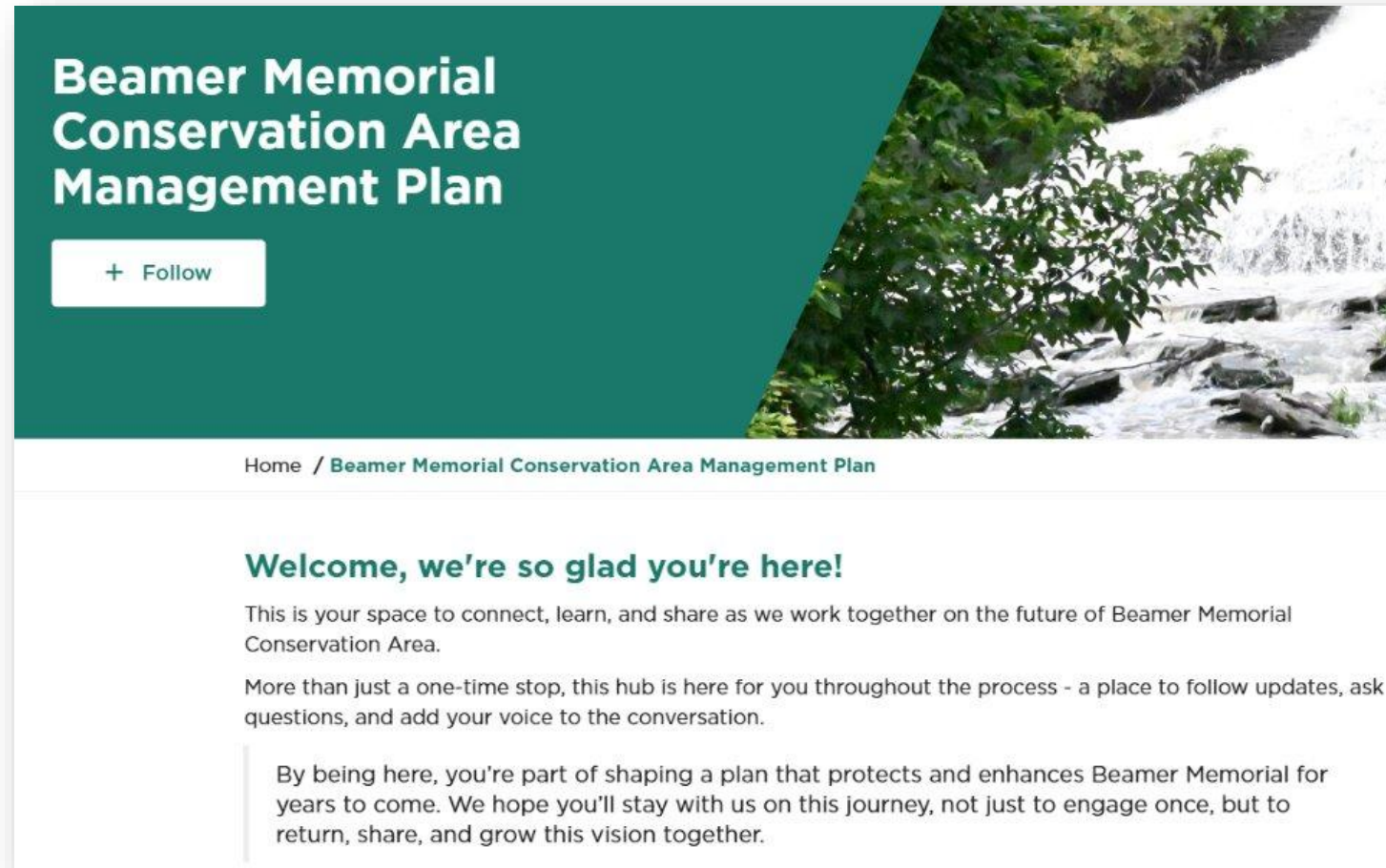
WHAT WE HEARD!

NEXT STEPS

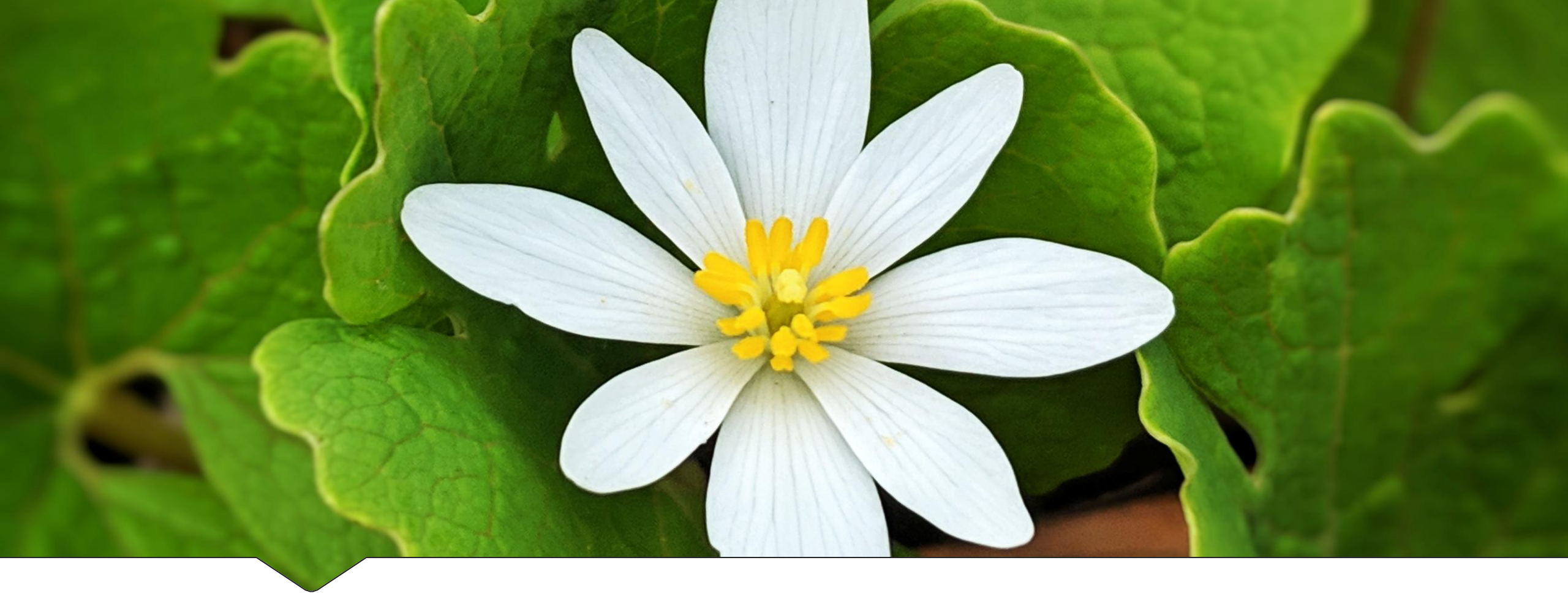
- Begin drafting key components of management plan
- Developing concepts, artistic renderings, engineered design (as needed)
- Staircase analysis, concepts, design
- Continued collaboration and engagement with key partners
- Engagement #3 in the Fall 2026



STAY INVOLVED



getinvolved.npca.ca/beamer-management-plan



THANK YOU! QUESTIONS?