

## Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands Management Plan

### EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The purpose of this Management Plan is to develop a set of management directions for the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands, which is one of six Heritage Lands within the Cootes to Escarpment EcoPark System. The Heritage Lands are owned by Royal Botanical Gardens, City of Hamilton and the Hamilton Conservation Authority. This Management Plan will inform the protection, enhancement and communication of the important natural and cultural features within the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands. This Management Plan is a compilation of detailed information about the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands and the articulation of the partner agencies’ joint vision for the holistic management of their lands. It provides a framework for future planning and implementation actions at the individual site level.

Development of this Management Plan involved community consultation to identify management issues and concerns as well as compilation of information on the recreational, natural and cultural resources of the Heritage Lands (detailed in the Inventory, Issues and Opportunities report for the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands, North-South Environmental Inc. et al. 2018). This Management Plan also applied the Niagara Escarpment Parks and Open Space System planning framework to identify classifications and zones (detailed in the Classification and Zoning report for the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands, Appendix 1).

This Management Plan contains a summary of the background and context of the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands area followed by a summary of significance. Further detailed information can be found in the Inventory, Issues and Opportunities Report (North-South Environmental Inc. et al. 2018). Section 3.0 discusses issues and opportunities. Section 4.0 summarizes the management recommendations for the Heritage Lands, including the classification and zoning of the Heritage Lands, followed by implementation recommendations in Section 5.0 and monitoring recommendations in Section 6.0.

This Management Plan recommends several actions for future management of the Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands. The recommendations are organized into three categories:

- Approach to Management Recommendations;
- Overarching Management Recommendations; and
- Cootes Paradise Heritage Lands Management Recommendations.

An outline for implementing the recommended management actions is provided in Section 5.0 after which monitoring, and evaluation are identified in Section 6.0.

For the full report please visit: <https://www.cootestoescarpmentpark.ca/cootes-paradise-plan>