

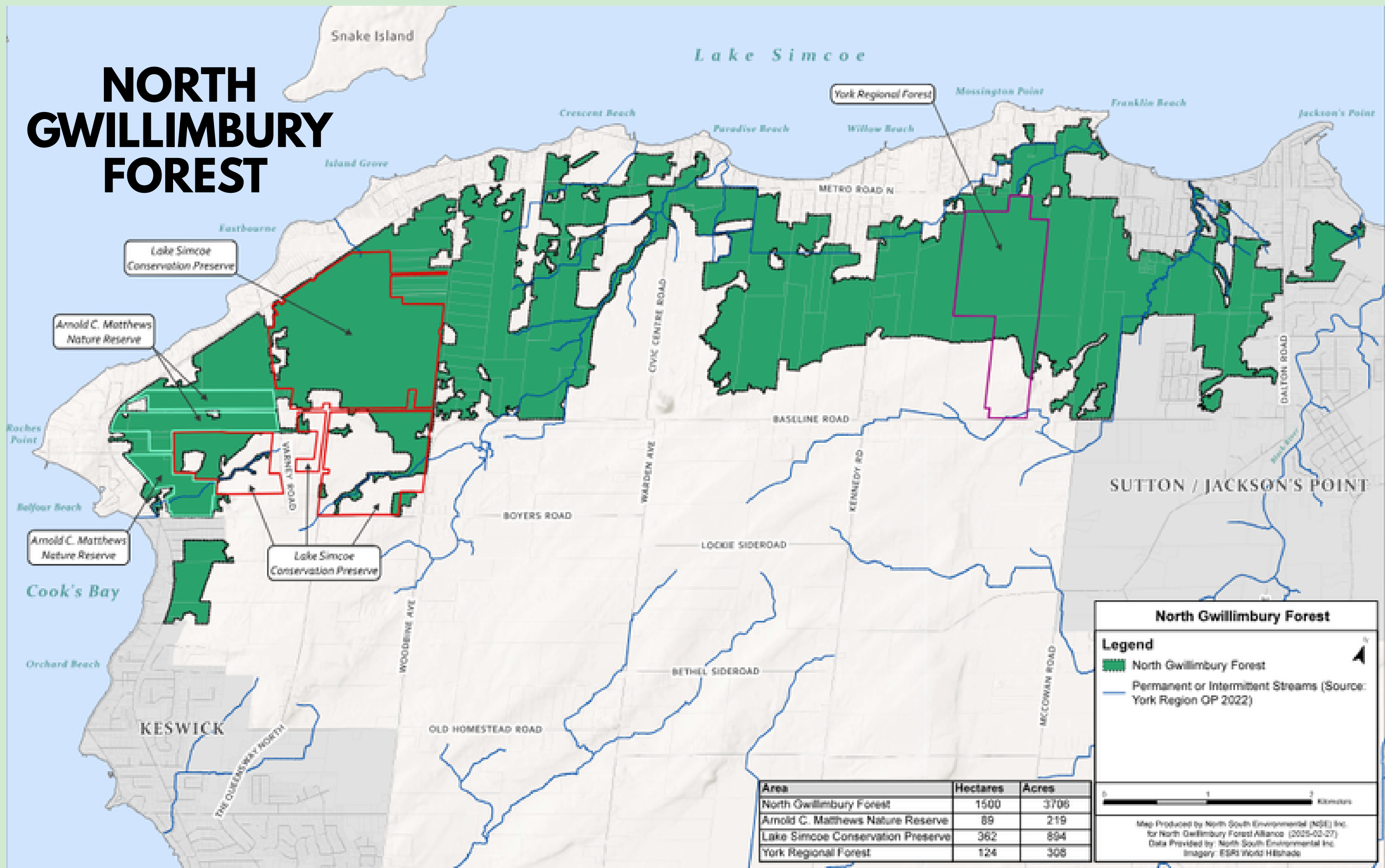
OPENING SOME OF THE LAKE SIMCOE CONSERVATION PRESERVE'S EXISTING TRAILS TO THE PUBLIC

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North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance

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NORTH GWILLIMBURY FOREST



LSCP Potential Trails System

North Gwillimbury Forest Alliance
May 2026

- Existing trails
- Potential link
- LSRCA trail concept (location approximate)



WHY SHOULD SOME OF THE EXISTING TRAILS BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC?

1. **Health Benefits** of Walking in Forests:

- Boosts the immune system
- Lowers blood pressure
- Reduces stress
- Improves mood
- Increases ability to focus, even in children with ADHD

[Learn More: Immerse Yourself In A Forest For Better Health](#)



2. The public wants strict environmental protection *and* trails

LSRCA, *Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve Consultation Summary*,
(May 2026), page 5.

Figure 2-1: Average level of agreement per Likert statement



WE CAN HAVE STRICT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND TRAILS

- North-South Environmental (NSE) has identified **three constraint categories: high, medium & low** [*pages 32 & 33*]
- **Walking trails** are suitable in **medium and low constraint** areas [*pages 35, 37-38 and 43*]
- In highly constrained areas, a **boardwalk can be acceptable as a trail connector** [*page 33*]

[Link to NSE Report](#)

WE CAN HAVE STRICT ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND TRAILS

- Most of existing trails in **North Tract** are in **medium constraint areas**. NSE identifies a **few small sections** which would **require short boardwalks** [*page 50*]
- Existing trails in **Varney Tract** are all located in **medium or low constraint areas** [*page 53*]

[Link to NSE Report](#)

RECOMMENDED NEXT STEPS FOR LSRCA BOARD

- Ask LSRCA staff to **develop a plan and budget** to open some of the Lake Simcoe Conservation Preserve's existing trails in the North & Varney Tracts asap
- If necessary, the **LSRCA should seek funding from the local community** for opening the trails

[Link to NSE Report](#)