

# ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS

P.O. Box 2800, 4601 Guthrie Drive, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8L5  
Phone: (705) 748.6324 • Fax: (705) 748.9577 • Visit: [www.ofah.org](http://www.ofah.org) • Email: [ofah@ofah.org](mailto:ofah@ofah.org)



*Ontario Conservation Centre*

December 1, 2023

Subject: **OFAH Letter of Endorsement for the Highlands Corridor**

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) is Ontario's largest, non-profit, fish and wildlife conservation-based organization, representing 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 725 member clubs. The intent of this letter is to establish our support for the proposed Highlands Corridor project, provided that redesignation of the lands as a Conservation Reserve does not impede existing fishing, trapping, hunting and associated practices,

The Highlands Corridor initiative aims to permanently protect the critical ecological functions of one of southcentral Ontario's largest wildlife corridors under the *Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act, 2006*. The corridor currently extends across southern Haliburton and northern Peterborough counties, within the territory of the Williams Treaties First Nations, and covers over 100,000 hectares of unceded Crown land, municipal land, and private land. It is made up of a variety of important habitat types and allows for the natural and uninhibited movement of many species, from recreationally significant species like white-tailed deer and ruddy ducks, to species at risk like the eastern meadowlark. The various ecologies of this landscape also represent a significant source of carbon sequestration for the region, an increasingly important consideration in our changing climate.

In addition to maintaining this landscape-level continuity, the proposed Conservation Reserve would provide continued opportunity for a wide array of recreational activities. Understanding that Conservation Reserve designation would not change allowances with respect to existing hunting, fishing, and trapping practices, the OFAH feels strongly that the Highlands Corridor initiative is a true win-win for conservation and for the people of Ontario.

Yours in Conservation,

Matthew Robbins  
Fish & Wildlife Biologist

MR/jb

cc: OFAH Board of Directors  
OFAH Big Game Advisory Committee  
OFAH Land Use/Access/Trails Advisory Committee  
OFAH Small Game/Migratory Birds/Wetlands Advisory Committee  
Angelo Lombardo, OFAH Executive Director  
Matt DeMille, OFAH Director, Policy & Programs  
Mark Ryckman, OFAH Manager, Policy  
Policy & Programs Staff