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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Sault Ste. Marie Region Conservation Authority would like to remind all residents that in November of 2014, a section of the Plateau Trail in the Fort Creek Conservation Area that connects to the East Side Loop was closed. The closure was due to the severe erosion in the ravine caused by large rainfalls over the past few years. As a result of the erosion, the ravine had widened considerably and the unsafe bridge structure was removed and the trail blocked with fencing and signage.

Since that time, although the trail was closed, fenced off and signs erected, vandals have continued to damage and remove the fencing and the signs. Removal of the fencing and signage places the public at risk.

Individuals continuing to use the trail are placing themselves at risk. Concern for the safety of all potential users of the trail, especially those unfamiliar with the trail and terrain are the reasons for erecting the barriers.

The trail itself has been rendered unusable through the placement of large trees along the path. Most of the trees used for the blockage were dead or hazard trees from the surrounding area.

Public safety is of prime concern for the SSMRCA.

Until such a time as funding becomes available to erect an engineered raised bridge for the Plateau Trail, it will remain closed. We apologise for the inconvenience to area residents.

The SSMRCA will initiate Roundtable discussions with Fort Creek area residents in the New Year in an attempt to determine the best path forward.

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For further information:

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