

Environmental Assessment Registration Pursuant to section 48(1) (f) of The Environmental Act

Name of Undertaking: GBSA Snowmobile trail

The Green Bay Snowmobile Association's objective is to use an existing woods road to connect their club trails to the neighbouring clubs trails in order to connect with the T'railway primary trail as well as construct a warm up shelter in the area of Gummy Pond.

Proponent:

Green Bay Snowmobile Association
In Care of:
Newfoundland and Labrador Snowmobile Federation
7 Wellon Drive
Deer Lake, NL A8A 2G6

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Information Contact Person:

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The Undertaking:

Nature of undertaking

To maintain and improve the existing road system to create a snowmobile trail to access NLSF primary trails.

Purpose/Rational/Need for undertaking:

Maintain snowmobile trail from the Kippens Ridge cabin area and surrounding areas to access the NLSF primary trail during the winter season while avoiding water crossings and promote safe snowmobiling.

There is an existing trail currently accesses the NLSF primary trail however this route is not useable for a portion of the spring and early summer as part of the trail utilizes wet areas that are subject to flooding. This new connecting trail will have the trail useable for 12 months of the year.

There will also be a new warm up shelter constructed in the area of Gummy pond for the safety of snowmobilers and other trail users.

This trail is being installed primarily as a snowmobile trail but will also be accessible by ATVs during the off season.

A trail to connect with neighbouring club (Exploits Trail Network) will be constructed from Gummy Pond, down along the western side of North Twin Lake, to the existing trail on Twin Lakes Resource Rd. at a later date due to wood harvesting operations in the area.

Description of the undertaking:

See attached maps GBSA Trail Re-Route Proposal Map 1

Geographical Location

From existing Kippens Ridge trail connecting South Brook to Roberts Arm (49°23'28.98"N, 55°55'22.60"W) to Gummy Pond (49°20'43.01"N, 55°58'1.92"W)

This development will not interfere with adjacent land or properties of cabin owners.

Physical Features

All trails maintained will follow the strict national standards in place for snowmobile trails. This will involve the use of 6.7kms of existing road. The proposed snowmobile trails will be maintained to the width of the existing roads where possible to allow safe operation of snowmobiles and groomers. All reasonable attempts will be made to clearly mark trails as per the NLSF Trail signage guidelines to provide proper and clear traveller directions.

Construction

Any construction will be minimal except possibly brush cutting along the sides the existing wood roads and repair any washouts that interfere with safe snowmobile use. This would be in the form of trail ditching and possibly the installation of some culverts as required and would be accomplished using materials readily at hand such as gravel and stone. Due to the existing land surface there are no wetlands, bogs, or muddy land that would have to be corduroyed.

One new warm up shelter will be constructed along side of the trail for the safety and comfort of snowmobilers using the trail. This will be an above ground, wooden structure. There will also be an outhouse constructed on the site of the warm up shelter. The outhouse will be constructed in compliance to the proper sewage disposal standards.

During the construction phase we would be utilizing the following equipment: chain saws, Pickup Trucks, ATVs, and ATV trailers. Ongoing normal trail maintenance will begin when approval is given and continue while the Green Bay Snowmobile Association continues to offer groomed trails.

Operation

This proposed network of trails will connect to the T' Railway, which is considered part of the primary NLSF trails during winter months. These trails promote safety and provide clean recreational activity, while improving winter tourism and economic growth for nearby towns.

To ensure that sediments are contained and not permitted to run-off into nearby water bodies during operation and maintenance of the trail the following will be implemented:

1. Ensure proper ditching is in place and maintained along all trails,
2. Ensure as little disruption as possible to all existing waterways so as to not create water borne sediment,
3. Ensure any culverts or bridges that are required to be installed are done so as per current Water Resources Management Division and DFO regulations, policies and guidelines.

4. Sediment control barriers such as filter fabric and bales of hay will be placed in areas of potential erosion to prevent sediment from entering water courses and in areas where potential erosion may occur erosion control measures such as rip rapping and seeding of control vegetation will be used. Any equipment used near streams and other water bodies will be inspected for oil and fluid leaks.

During the winter season, NLSF snow groomers will be the primary maintenance equipment on the trails. During the summer period, on an as required basis, the NLSF may contract out heavy equipment if required to conduct trail repairs and vegetation control.

Vegetation debris removed during trail construction and maintenance will be deposited in the area outside the ditch line. Other waste will be disposed of via an approved waste management facility.

No storage of fuel or oils will occur along the trail during either the operation or maintenance phases. During the maintenance phase, fuel and oils will be transported on an as required basis in CSA/ULC approved containers. Any and all spill, no matter how insignificant, will be dealt with promptly to ensure no environmental contamination occurs. During grooming operations and any repairs and maintenance of the trail a spill kit will be on site.

The NLSF and associated clubs have been in the business of planning, developing and implementing snowmobile trail development for the past 25 or so years. We do not foresee any potential sources of pollutants, including airborne emissions, liquid effluents and/or solid waste materials during the development/construction and operating periods.

The NLSF Emergency Contingency Plan is attached and included with this document.

Occupation

In addition to the use of existing NLSF equipment, it is anticipated that a number of volunteers will be utilized to complete the construction of the new warm up shelter and outhouse. All workers will be required to wear appropriate safety clothing (safety boots, gloves, goggles, hard hat, safety vests, etc.).

Project Related Documents

The existing trail in the area is covered under Crown Lands Licence to Occupy 132588. As this project develops we will be applying for additional permits as required to meet all environmental requirements.

If any projects for trail repairs are approved, then any related documentation will be provided upon request.

Schedule

This project will commence immediately during the first construction season following the approval of this project, projected to be summer 2020. It is anticipated this project will be completed during one construction season.

Approval of the undertaking

At this time there is no approved funding for trail maintenance. It will be funded by the sale of trail permits and other fund raisers. It is anticipated that the following organizations/departments will be contacted for permits/approvals where and as required:

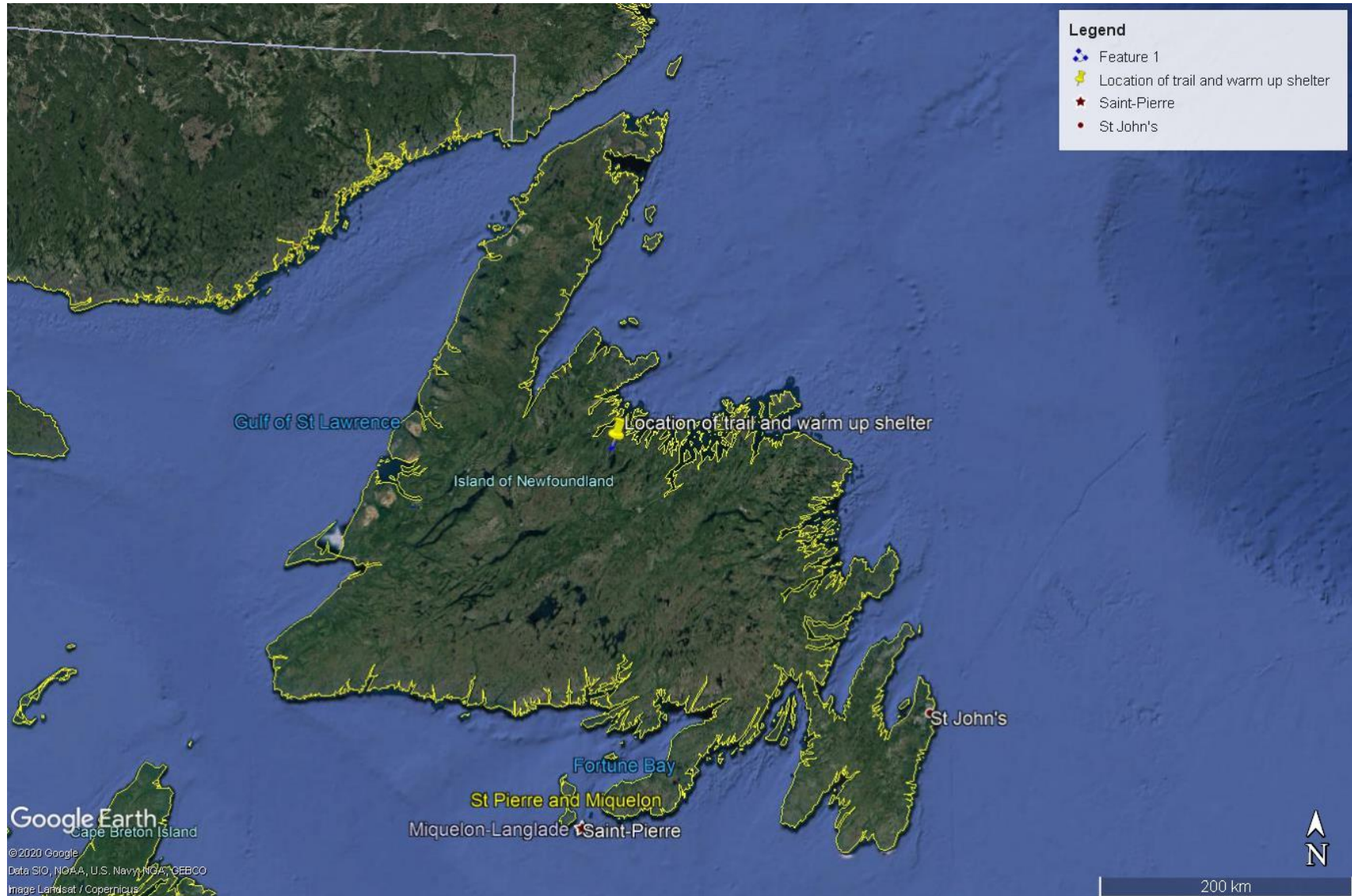
1. Department of Municipal Affairs and Environment,
2. Water Resources Management Division –
 - a. a permit for development within a protected water supply area;
 - b. a permit for any alteration to a water body for any stream crossings, bridges, culverts, etc.
3. Crown Lands - permission to occupy trail.
4. Department of Government Services
5. Department of Natural Resources,
6. Forestry Branch (cutting permit)

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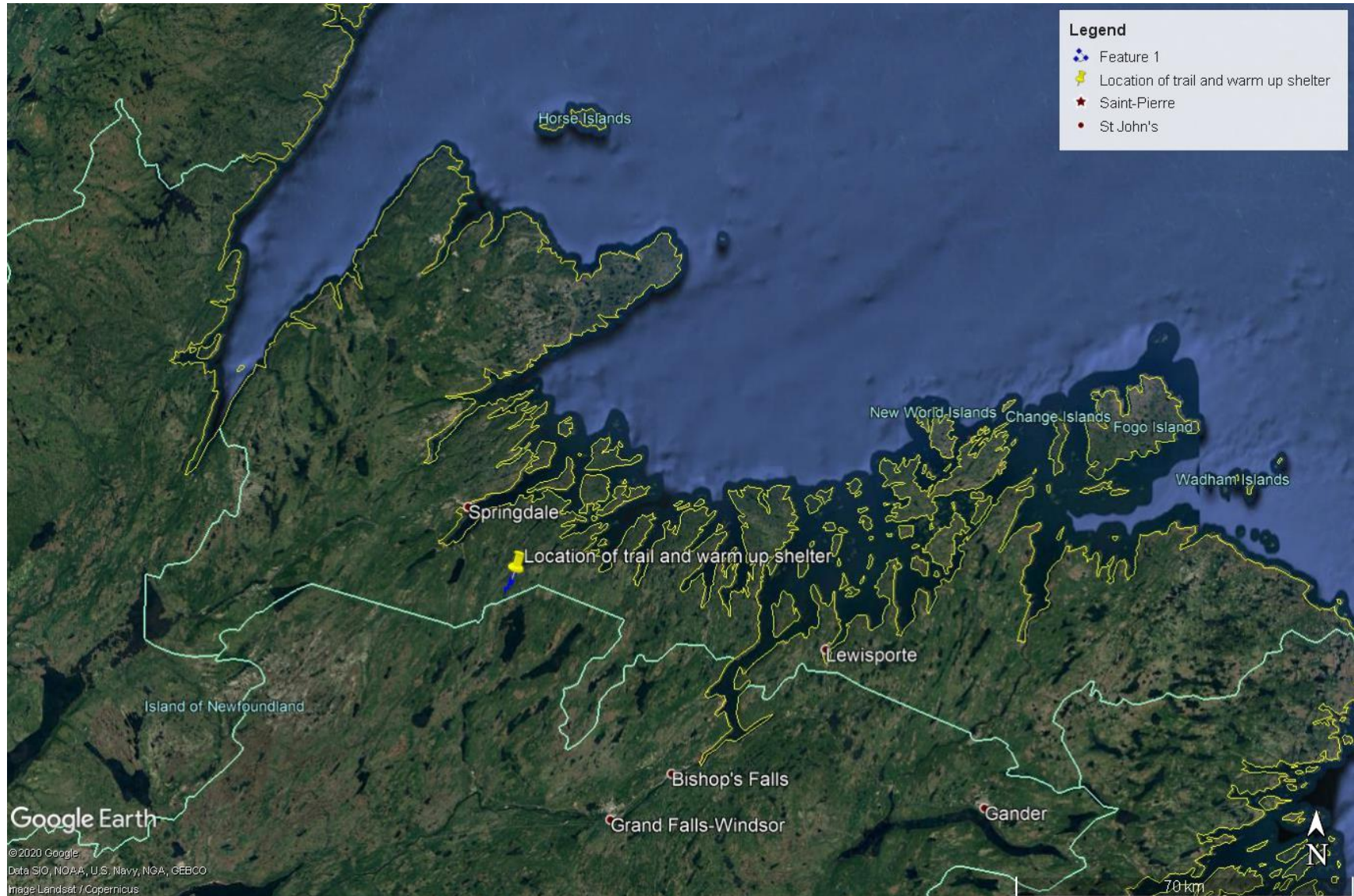
Date



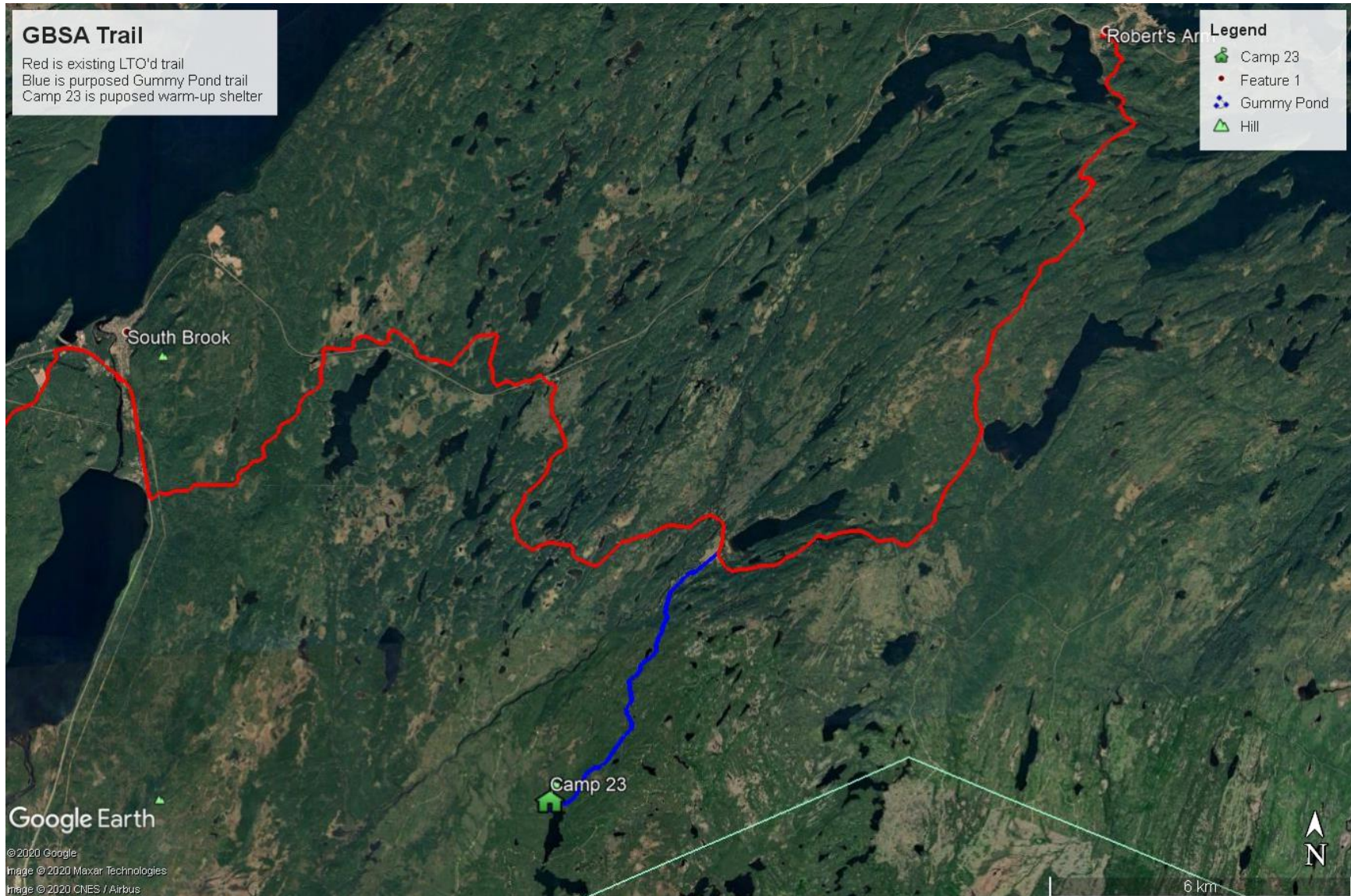
GBSA Gummy Pond Trail Map 1



GBSA Gummy Pond Trail Map 2



GBSA Gummy Pond Trail Map 3



GBSA Gummy Pond Trail Map 4

