



Parks  
Canada

Parcs  
Canada

Canada

# Canso Bomber Trail Feasibility Study

Pacific Rim National Park Reserve



# Today's Presentation

25 Minute Presentation

- Introductions
- Project Overview
- Preliminary Project Findings

10 minute Question and Answer





# Our Goal For Today

- Provide key partners and stakeholders with an overview and update on the Canso Bomber Trail project;
- Identify any concerns / issues by members of the West Coast Committee and
- Identify if there is a need for further input at the feasibility / early conceptual stage.



# Canso Bomber Trail Location





# Canso Bomber Trail Location

- New parking provided at Lower Radar Hill.
- Safe access now provided via new multi – use pathway.
- Existing trailbed to communications building.
- From communications building through shorepine bog to crash site.





# Project Background

- Increased visitation year over year despite no public promotion (11,000 hikers in 2017).
- Safety concern for PRNPR (unmarked, numerous search and rescue / evacuations).
- Ecological damage (trail braiding, damaged sensitive bog habitats).
- Unsanctioned trail.





# Project Purpose

- To remedy the safety concerns associated with the unsanctioned trail;
- To prevent ongoing degradation / restore sensitive wetland habitat;
- To see the Canso A wreck preserved and the site secured to ensure future preservation;
- To show understanding of the historical and cultural significance of the area and
- To meet visitor experience standards.



# Existing Improvements

- Materials utilized from multi-use pathway in summer 2019.
- Approx. 500m puncheon boardwalk installed along shorepine bog.
- Puncheons provide much clearer wayfinding (no lost hikers since installation).
- Environmental monitoring already showing slow regeneration in test plots along trail.





# Scope of Feasibility Study

## 4 Key Components

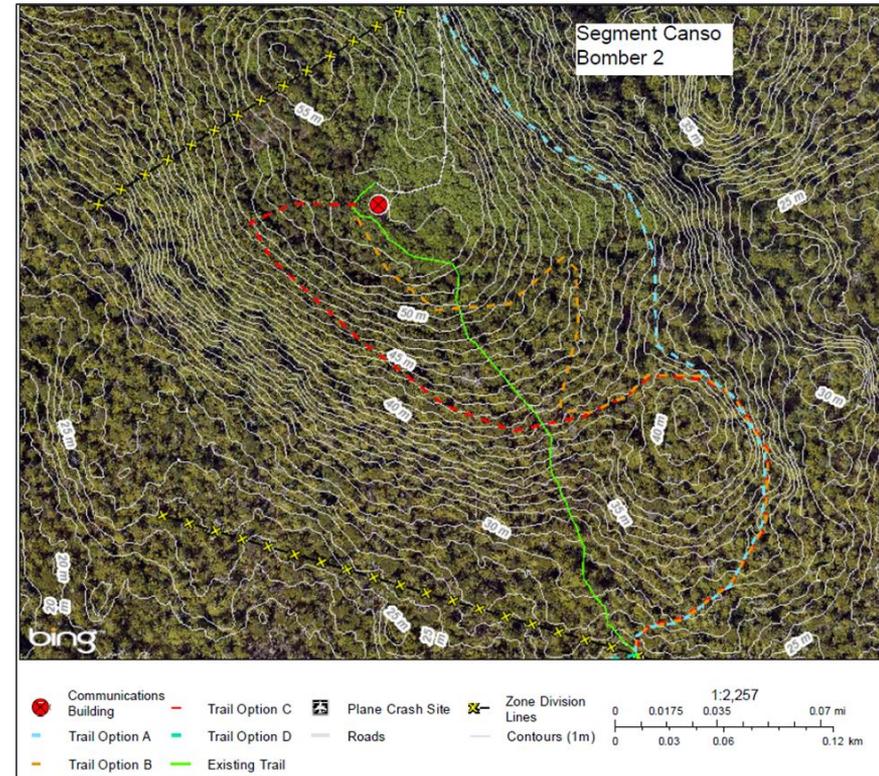
- Trail alignment options and related improvements.
- Viewing platform concepts.
- Interpretive opportunities and signage design.
- Circle route feasibility.

Project overseen by Advisory Committee including Tla-O-Qui-Aht First Nation representative.



# Trail Alignment Options

- Avoid fall line from communications building.
- Reroute option away from communications building.
- Use bench cut techniques where possible.
- Allow for adequate drainage.
- Minimize further environmental impact.





# Trail Improvements

- Complete the boardwalk improvements undertaken in 2019.
- Widen sections of boardwalk to allow for passing.
- Upgrades could include more durable composite materials, traction improvements, improved bracing and fastening hardware.
- Rock armouring option for soft/wet/rutted areas between boardwalks segments.





# Viewing Platform Concepts

Rationale for doing the work:

- Reduce risk;
- Protect environment;
- Educate visitors and
- Promote respect.

Analysis of existing conditions:

- Wreckage;
- Topography;
- Hazard trees and
- Erosion when wet.





# Viewing Platform Concepts





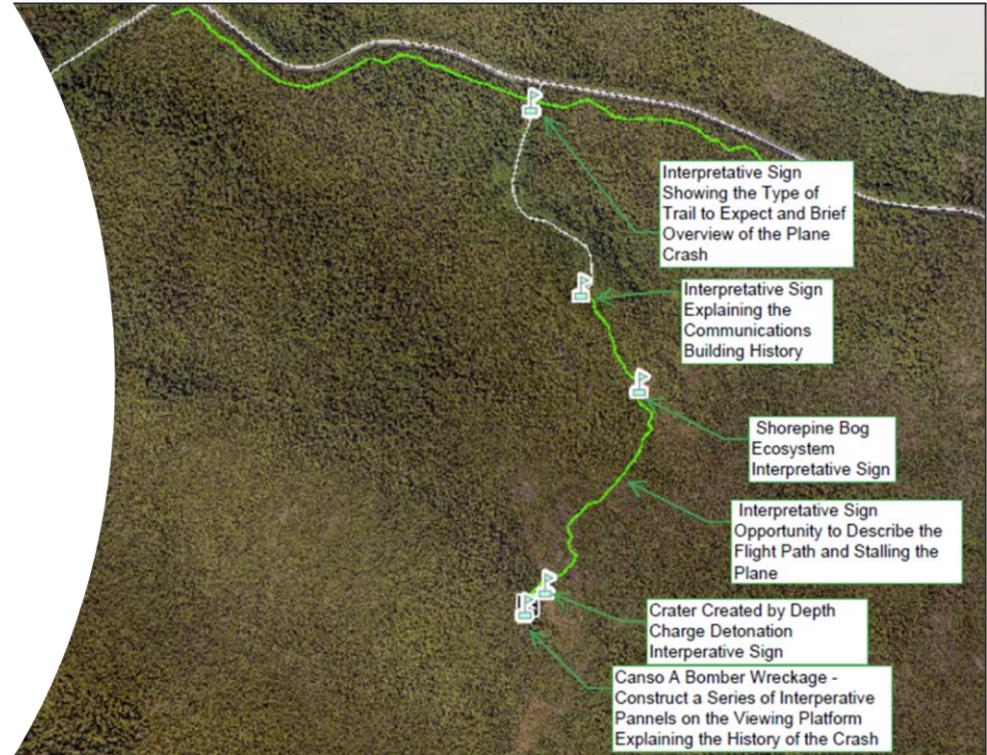
# Interpretive Opportunities & Signage Design

Overarching theme:

- Respect.

Subthemes:

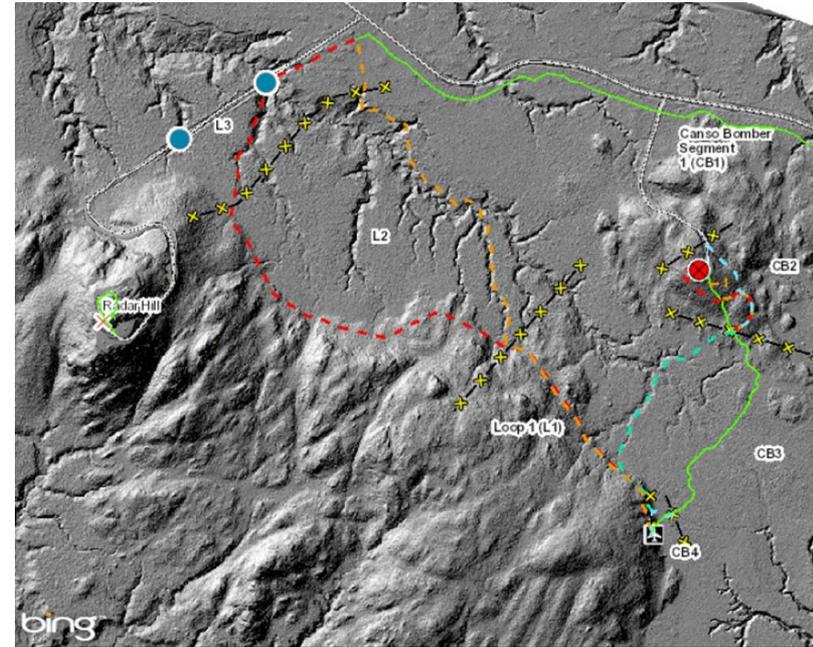
- Canso Bomber History
- Natural History
- Cultural history and values (if deemed appropriate by TFN)





# Circle Route Options

- Investigated 2 options from crash site to Lower Radar Hill.
- Bench cut technique on top of bank utilized for both options.
- Site visit conducted by consultant to ground truth proposed routes.
- Deemed not feasible due to significant environmental constraints (old growth forest / watercourse drainage).





# Next Steps

- Final report due from consultant by end of February.
- Work with Tla-O-Qui-Aht First Nation on options explored.
- Further stakeholder engagement (if identified as need).
- Further concept development and associated engagement opportunities (not currently funded).



# Thank You...

Questions and Discussion