

4.0 Introduction to Management Unit Descriptions and Recommendations

This section contains very detailed descriptions and specific recommendations for the Schoharie Creek, from the headwaters at Prediger Rd. in Hunter at the top of the watershed, downstream to the Schoharie Reservoir. The Schoharie mainstem has been organized into 18 Management Units (MUs), defined using physical stream characteristics, historical channel alignments, location of bridges and road infrastructure, and valley characteristics (Fig. 4.0.1). A more detailed explanation of the criteria used to delineate management units can be found in Section 3.3. These MU descriptions outline stream conditions (its bed and banks), general streamside (riparian) vegetation condition, and proximity and arrangement of roads, bridges and culverts.

Each MU begins with a brief description of its extents and a summary of recommendations specific to the unit, including additional assessment where appropriate. Four levels of intervention are used in these recommendations:

Preservation: The unit is characterized as being moderately to highly stable, and is functioning effectively. Stream management activities should focus on maintaining and protecting the current character of the reach and its contributing drainage area.

Passive: The unit is limited by some impaired constituent, but assessments indicated that natural processes will most likely repair form and functions without assistance. Passive intervention may include mitigation of some factor(s) which is directly or indirectly impacting stability.

Assisted Self-Recovery: The unit is attempting to recover, but doing so slowly and uncertainly. Management strategies may facilitate natural processes already occurring and may involve more active intervention including riparian plantings, minor bank grading, or the construction of isolated structures. This does not include significant changes in the stream's planform or channel morphology.

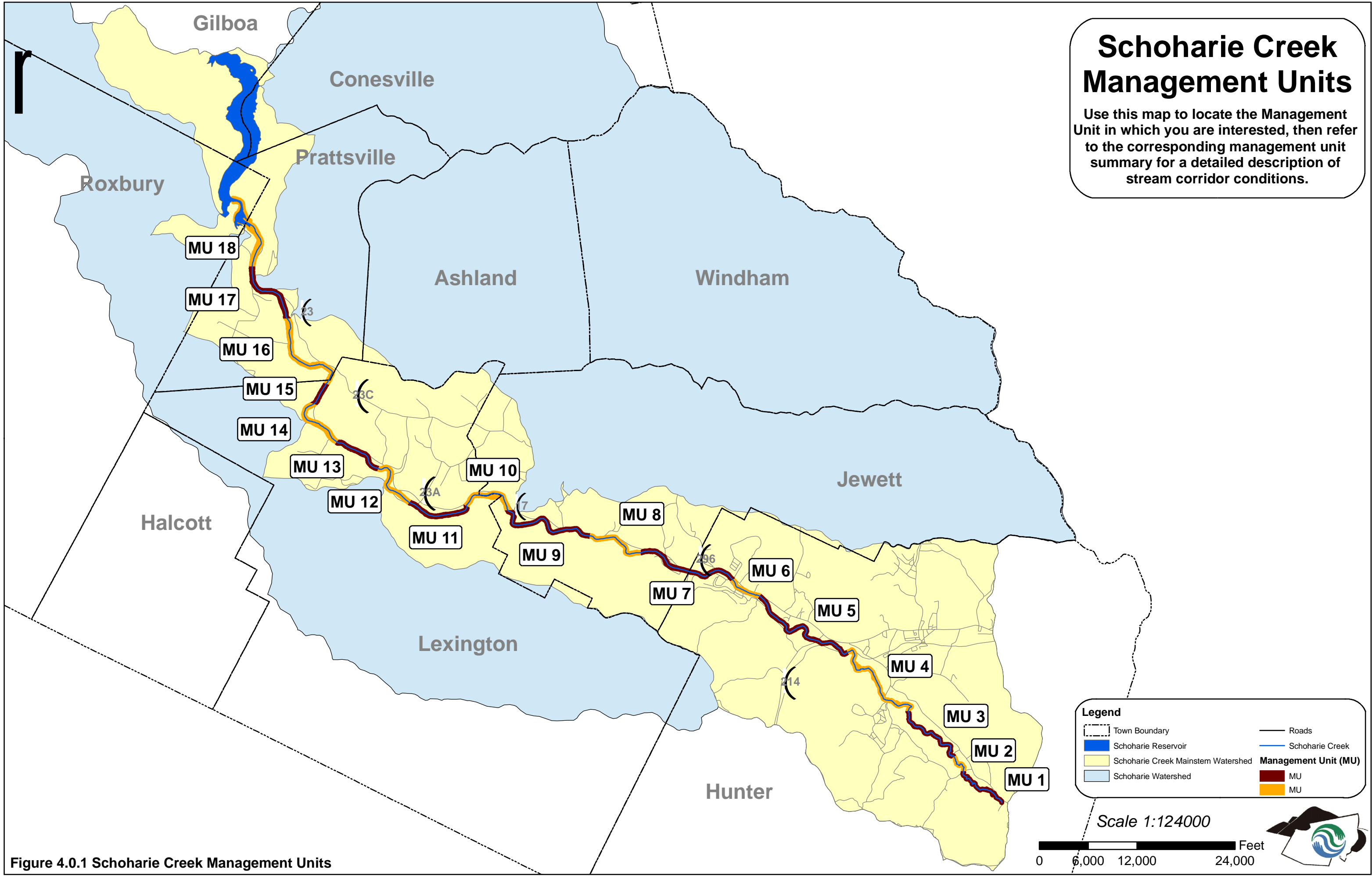
Full Restoration: The unit requires restoration of stream function and capacity through extensive reshaping of channel form. Extensive survey, design and construction work are required for this level of intervention.

This recommendation summary table is followed by a detail map of each MU with 2006 Stream Feature Inventory overlaid on 2006 aerial photography (Figure 4.X.1). The management unit description of stream channel conditions references insets in this foldout map. Stream stationing presented on this map is measured in feet and begins at the Schoharie Reservoir. “Left” and “right” streambank references in the text are oriented looking downstream, photos are also oriented looking downstream unless otherwise noted. Italicized terms are defined in the glossary.

Some information is repeated in each of the management units, with the expectation that many readers will focus on a single unit of interest (e.g., landowners reading about their own stream “neighborhood”), and that critical information would therefore be lost if it were not repeated.

Schoharie Creek Management Units

Use this map to locate the Management Unit in which you are interested, then refer to the corresponding management unit summary for a detailed description of stream corridor conditions.



Legend

Town Boundary	Roads
Schoharie Reservoir	Schoharie Creek
Schoharie Creek Mainstem Watershed	Management Unit (MU)
Schoharie Watershed	MU
	MU

Scale 1:124000

0 6,000 12,000 24,000 Feet

Figure 4.0.1 Schoharie Creek Management Units