

Rick Calhoun
District Planner
MNR North Bay District
3301 Trout Lake Road
North Bay, ON
P1A 4L7

John Salo
Park Superintendent
Ontario Parks
PO Box 38
Temagami, ON
P0H 2H0

RE: Temagami Integrated Planning

Dear Mr. Calhoun and Mr. Salo,

I am writing to express my concerns and provide input to the Temagami Integrated Planning Process.

I am concerned that the fracturing of the Temagami Backcountry and a proliferation of incompatible land use activities will ultimately result in a substantial loss of ancient travel routes commonly known as the Nastawgan.

These routes will be lost through a combination of road development and unregulated road usage, resource extraction activities, unauthorized ATV trails and their usage on historic portages, uncontrolled campsite development and spoilage of historic campsites, uncontrolled motorized usage and a general loss of wilderness integrity. Once the historic and wild character that makes this area so unique is lost, it will not be replaced.

There are many ancient Nastawgan routes that presently receive little use and other more commonly used routes that do not fall into any official zone of protection. Since backcountry travel follows these routes, it is imperative that the long term security and integrity of these historic areas be secured to allow seamless traditional travel across the district.

These routes provide the traditional canoeist with important connector routes, remote travel options and diversity and also represent much of the potential to expand and disperse usage and develop multi-season use.

I welcome the opportunity to participate in this process and I would like to thank-you for your time and considerations.

Sincerely,

Temagami Integrated Planning - Issues

Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Provincial Park

Roads

- The Liskeard Lumber Rd. should be permanently closed at Gamble Lake
- Remove Liskeard Lumber Rd. past Gamble Lake and rehabilitate area.
- Maintain road to Gamble Lake for Backcountry access with a suitable parking area and a self-serve kiosk.
- Remove bridges over the North and South branches of the Lady Evelyn River
- Other roads to be removed and areas rehabilitated
- No new road access should be permitted

-Snowmobiles

- Snowmobile access should be permitted via the existing OFSC trail only
- No new snowmobile trails should be permitted

ATVs

- ATVs should not be allowed in a wilderness class park

Floatplanes

- Commercial aircraft only for access purposes.
- Commercial pilots to require a landing permit to fly into designated access lakes; Smoothwater, Scarecrow, Florence, Makobe and Katherine.

Leases and Land-use Permits

- Crown should buy out at end of lease or when put up for sale
- Portage and campsite maintenance

- Increase maintenance in all areas
- Investigate potential for reopening Nastawgan routes
- Consider existing and potential historic linkages to other routes

Motorboats

- Only existing commercial users allowed, with a 10 HP restriction
- To be phased out with acquisition of LUP
- No private motorboats should be allowed
- Lakes without existing commercial motorboat use should have a ban on motorboats
- Boatcaches should not be allowed in a wilderness class park

Hunting

- No

Fishing

- Yes
 - Consider slot limits, shortened seasons and sanctuaries to maintain and ensure quality fisheries
 - Live bait ban to limit introduction of non-resident species
 - Strategy to protect area from exotic species; zebra mussels, spiny water flea
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Waterway Parks

Motorboats

- Private and commercial boaters should be restricted to 10 HP and in designated lakes only; Lady Evelyn, Willow Island, Diamond and Solace Lakes
- Motorboats should not be allowed on Wakimika Lake or River, nor the Obabika River for its length and the Sturgeon River upstream from Lower Goose Falls to Lady Evelyn-Smoothwater Park
- Private boatcaches should not be allowed
- Commercial boatcaches allowed with design restrictions; limits to numbers, size, location and also require a permit with vessel registration number

Leases and LUPs

- Crown should buy out at end of lease or when put up for sale

Snowmobiles

- Snowmobile access should be limited to OFSC trails

No new snowmobile trails should be permitted

ATVs

- ATVs should not be allowed in waterway class parks

Roads

- Improved roads to key access points on fringe or near Waterway Park with maintained access controls and parking area.

Examples;

-----Hwy 805 at Wawiagama Gate

-----Red Squirrel Road at Sandy Inlet on Lake Temagami

-----Mowat Landing

- Consider other potential key access points.
- Existing road access and use within Waterway Parks should be eliminated
- No new road access within Waterway Parks should be permitted
- No new road crossings over Waterway Parks should be permitted

Portage and campsite maintenance

- Increase maintenance in all areas
- Investigate potential for reopening Nastawgan routes
- Consider existing and potential historic linkages to other routes

Hunting

- No

Fishing

- Yes
 - Consider slot limits, shortened seasons and sanctuaries to maintain and ensure quality fisheries
 - Live bait ban to limit introduction of non-resident species
 - Strategy to protect area from exotic species; zebra mussels, spiny water flea
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Conservation Reserves

Motorboats

- Use will be determined on an area specific basis.
Example: No motor boats within the Pinetorch Conservation Reserve
- Existing use should only be allowed where it does not adversely affect other identified recreational values
- 10 HP restriction
- Boatcaches allowed with design restrictions; limits to numbers, size, location and

also require a permit with vessel registration number.

Snowmobiles

- Snowmobile access should be limited to OFSC trails
- No new snowmobile trails should be permitted

ATVs

- Use will be determined on an area specific basis.
- Example; No ATVs in Pinetorch Conservation Reserve
- Existing use should be allowed where it does not adversely affect other identified recreational values
- No new ATV trails or roads should be permitted
- Establish an ATV use policy that buffers ATV use from canoe routes
- No ATVs on portages

Portage and campsite maintenance

- Extend maintenance from Parks into CRs
- Investigate potential for reopening Nastawgan routes
- Consider existing and potential historic linkages to other routes
- Consider how other uses may limit potential and damage historic routes

Hunting

- Yes

Fishing

- Yes
 - Consider slot limits, shortened seasons and sanctuaries to maintain and ensure quality fisheries
 - Live bait ban to limit introduction of non-resident species
 - Strategy to protect area from exotic species; zebra mussels, spiny water flea
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Crown Land

ATVs

- Establish an ATV use policy
- Identify trail network
- Establish/maintain network
- Buffer ATV use from traditional use
- No ATV use on portages
- ATVs to remain on trails at all times
- New ATV trails should only be permitted within scope of trail network needs
- ATVs will not be allowed to use portages

- ATVs should be allowed to use roads in IMAs only
- Consider establishing zones for unlimited use within areas with heavy concentrations of roads and no other traditional uses

Motorboats

- Motorboats allowed with area specific exemptions/controls
- Examples:
 - Obabika Lake - Limited motorized access
 - Wasaskina Lake – no motorized use
- Boatcaches allowed with design restrictions; limits to numbers, size, location and also require a permit with vessel registration number.

Roads

- Improved roads to key access points with maintained parking areas
- Existing road closure system should be maintained with enhanced controls
- Enhanced road closure and access controls to ensure integrity of remote lakes on popular canoe routes.
- Examples:
 - Obabika Lake - limited
 - Wasaskina Lake - restricted
- New road should be placed with minimal disruptions to other users, present and future
- New road access should only be permitted after impacts to other user groups have been assessed - present and future

Establish and Enforce a Crown Land Camping Policy

- Identify and post campsites – along roads and interior
- Littering/garbage/grey water
- No damage to live trees
- Camp only in designated areas
- Respect other users
- Latrines installed maintained/used
- Closure of sites as needed
- Opening new sites as needed
- Fires only in designated locations/sites

Portage and campsite maintenance

- Recognize the historical significance of this district within a larger traditional travel area
- Ensure the integrity and continuity of traditional travel routes which cross the district regardless of Land Use Classification
- Buffer all ancient Nastawgan travel routes, summer and winter with a minimum of a 150 meter allowance from all other uses, including roads and resource extraction
- Maintain and enhance seamless passage throughout the district
- Extend maintenance onto Crown Land

- No ATV use on Portages or within 150m of traditional route
- Enter partnerships with public and groups for maintenance issues
- Investigate potential for reopening Nastawgan routes
- Consider existing and potential historic linkages to other routes
- Consider how other land uses may limit potential and damage historic routes
- Enforce Crown Land Camping Policy

Hunting

- Yes – to conform to access, use and camping criteria

Consider shortening season to minimize conflicts with other user groups and enhance wildlife

- Users to pay respective fee for camping or day use

Fishing

- Yes – to conform to access, use and camping criteria
 - Consider slot limits, shortened seasons and sanctuaries to maintain and ensure quality fisheries
 - Live bait ban to limit introduction of non-resident species
 - Strategy to protect area from exotic species; zebra mussels, spiny water flea
 - Users to pay respective fee for camping or day use
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User fees

- The Temagami District should have a name for use in management and tourism marketing, similar to the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota, such as the Temagami Recreation Management Area
- Fees should be collected from all recreation users in the TRMA
- Establish TRMA offices in Marten River, Elk Lake, River Valley or Field and Latchford, similar to the Highway 60 entry points to Algonquin Park
- Establish self-serve kiosks
- Annual passes, and resident, family and commercial discounts
- Discounted seasonal fee offered to youth camps located in the district
- Hunting/Fishing – to pay appropriate day use or camping fee
- ATV – trail permits, day use, camping permits and a discounted combined use permit
- Canoeing – Park Permits also cover Conservation Reserves, day use, Crown Camping permits and a discounted combined use permit