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Scott Dingwall
District Planner
Ministry of Natural Resources
Regional Operations Division
Northeast Region
Sudbury District
3767 Highway 69 South, Suite 5
Sudbury, Ontario
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scott.dingwall@ontario.ca

Dear Mr. Dingwall,

Re: Proposed Major Amendment to the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (Wolf Lake)
EBR Registry Number 010-7775

The Ontario Rivers Alliance was formed earlier this year to speak as a unified voice for the protection, conservation, and restoration of healthy river ecosystems. Our goals include advocating for economically and environmentally sustainable and responsible development, as well as meeting challenges and solving problems in the best interests of rivers and watersheds. ORA members represent thirty plus river, watershed, and other related organizations across Ontario.

We are concerned about a proposed major amendment to the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas in the Chiniguchi River and Wolf Lake area of the Sudbury District. As the world's largest old growth red pine forest¹, the Wolf Lake area is ecologically unique and simply irreplaceable. As a popular tourist destination, the Wolf and Matagamasi Lake areas are an integral linkage for the Chiniguchi Waterway Park.

The ORA would like to provide the following comments on this issue:

1. We support the MNR proposal to maintain Forest Reserve designation for the mining claims within that portion of F175 in Mackelcan Township, and to add them to the Chiniguchi Waterway Park should they lapse.
2. We oppose the removal of Forest Reserve designation for the mining leases within that portion of F175 in Mackelcan Township and their re-designation to General Use Area.

¹ Quinby, P. 1996. Forest Landscape Baseline No. 14, Status of Old Growth Red Pine Forests: A Preliminary Assessment. Ancient Forest Exploration and Research. <http://www.ancientforest.org/flb14.html>

3. We support the proposal to convert the east side of Chiniguchi Lake from Forest Reserve to Park, but suggest that all of Chiniguchi Lake should become park.
4. The Ontario Rivers Alliance would like to encourage the Government of Ontario to protect all of the Wolf Lake Old Growth Forest and Chiniguchi Lake within the Chiniguchi Waterway Park.

Please register the ORA as a stakeholder in this matter, and place us on your list to receive all related information, notices, and decisions. Thank you for the opportunity to provide input!

Sincerely,



Linda Heron
Chair, Ontario Rivers Alliance

Cc: The Honourable Dalton McGuinty, Premier of Ontario - DMcGuinty.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
The Honourable Linda Jeffrey, Minister of Natural Resources - ljeffrey.mpp.co@liberal.ola.org
Gord Miller, Environmental Commission of Ontario - commissioner@eco.on.ca