

Stage 3 Supplementary Documentation for the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest
(Armstrong portion of the formerly amalgamated Lake Nipigon Forest)
2021-2023 Contingency Plan

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1 Primary Road Documentation

2 Use Management Strategy for Primary road Corridors for the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest 3 2021-2023 CP.

4 a) Maintenance Provisions:

5 These roads and each associated right-of-way will receive maintenance, which will be carried out as
6 required to maintain the road for forest management purposes (e.g. harvest, renewal, tending,
7 transportation and hauling activities). These roads will be maintained to minimize risk to road users and
8 minimize the potential for environmental damage.

9
10 Routine maintenance operations may include any one or combination of the following: summer grading,
11 ditching, drainage, brush clearing with mechanical or chemical methods (e.g. application of chemical
12 herbicides for vegetation control along road shoulders), gravelling, re-shaping of roadbed, dust control
13 measures, signage, snow plowing, sanding/salting and clearing existing right-of-ways including the
14 harvest of merchantable trees as required.

15
16 Maintenance may also include non-emergency repairs of existing water crossings to clean culverts,
17 remove blockages caused by beavers, and to apply material (e.g. gravel, riprap) to mitigate or enhance
18 long-term erosion protection around water crossings.

19
20 In cases where new and/or replacement water crossings are required during implementation of the FMP,
21 the replacement of culverts are permitted subject to the following conditions: the values must be reviewed
22 and updated for each location to ensure up-to-date values are considered, the applicable AOC must be
23 applied to address any value impacted at the location (if an appropriate AOC does not exist in the FMP
24 note that it will need to be amended into the FMP and then applied), and the planned water crossing
25 replacements are identified and approved (with all applicable conditions on the construction, including
26 preventative and mitigative measures) in the AWS for the year of construction.

27
28 For safety/engineering concerns minor road re-alignment and bypass construction may be also required
29 during the implementation of the FMP. This is permitted within the existing (cleared) right-of-way, subject
30 to the confirmation of values and the application of all applicable AOCs to the proposed work area. If an
31 appropriate AOC does not exist in the FMP note that it will need to be amended into the FMP and then
32 applied.

33
34 Emergency maintenance is defined as “road maintenance that requires immediate attention to restore
35 access and reduce the chance of personal injury, damage to equipment, inconvenience to road users and
36 further road damage (e.g., major washouts, blocked culverts, damaged bridges, etc.)” (2017 FMPM).
37 Emergency maintenance will be necessary where public safety and/or environmental damage have
38 occurred unexpectedly. Emergency repairs can proceed immediately without MNRF approval provided
39 the emergency works are limited in scope to only what is necessary to address essential public safety
40 concerns and restrict further environmental damage. All emergency actions will be reported to MNRF as
41 soon as practical and any further actions (e.g. restoration, reconstruction, abandonment) will be subject to
42 normal planning approvals. Where sediment has been released into a watercourse, the Ministry of the
43 Environment is to be informed, and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) is to be informed in
44 case of harm to commercial, recreational or aboriginal fisheries.

45
46 Where water crossings have been adversely impacted by unplanned events, water crossings may not be
47 restored in a timely manner and remedial work may be limited to only eliminating or reducing safety
48 hazards and/or interim measures to stop environmental damage. Access to areas impacted by unplanned
49 events could be disrupted at any time and there is no obligation on the Crown or the Forest Industry to
50 undertake repair work to restore infrastructure and access. However, all actions must be consistent with
51 the Use Management Strategy for the road/road network. Situations could also arise where it is
52 determined that a damaged/deteriorating infrastructure is unsafe and continued use must be prohibited
53 until a permanent solution is implemented.

54 b) Monitoring Provisions:

55 While the road/road network is in use for forest management purposes (e.g. harvest, renewal, tending,
56 transportation and hauling activities), it will be monitored on an ongoing basis for safety or environmental
57 concerns. Bridges used for 'heavy truck hauls' will be inspected at least once a year by a competent
58 person (following the inspection guidelines in Appendix E of the Crown Land Bridge Management
59 Guidelines or by a professional engineer).

60
61 When the road/road network is not in use for forest management purposes, monitoring will be based on a
62 yearly schedule of specific roads to be inspected. This yearly schedule will be based upon a risk
63 assessment approach with an emphasis on the potential values which could be impacted (i.e. fish habitat)
64 and the potential for public safety concerns and, at a minimum, these roads (including bridges open to
65 public travel) will be inspected at least once every three years. Monitoring may occur as part of aerial
66 assessments/surveys (e.g. regen assessment or performance surveys).

67
68 In addition, all staff and contractors (harvest, renewal and tending contractors) are to report any existing
69 or potential concerns regarding the road/road network and water crossings encountered while travelling
70 on roads throughout the forest. Reports from the general public and other user groups will also contribute
71 to the monitoring of the condition of the roads and water crossings. Additional monitoring will be
72 considered based upon a risk assessment approach following severe weather conditions (e.g. heavy
73 rainfall)

Trail Lake Road Extension (New Primary Road)

The Trail Lake Road Extension will help provide access to the Dynamic Caribou Habitat Schedule (DCHS) Block AB-1 for the 2021-2033 Forest Management Plan of the Armstrong Forest. Due to the location of the selected DCHS block and the location of numerous water bodies in the area, there are no economically feasible alternative routes.

1. Alternative Corridor (s)

Road A (Extension of Trail Lake Road, Alternative 1)

The proposed Trail Lake Road Extension would be a continuation of Trail Lake Road and would lie on an existing roadbed. The extension of this road is currently in use for non-forestry related purposes and is drivable for hunters, trappers, fishermen, etc. However, resurfacing of this road may need to be done to make it suitable for forestry purposes. This primary road would be approximately 11.94 km in length and extend northwest from Trail Lake Road. It would pass north of Rocky Island Lake before ending approximately 1.5 km southwest from the head of the lake. It is intended that an eventual branch road will connect the end of this proposed primary road to access a DCHS AB block just north of the tracks. Because this proposed primary road is overlaying an existing roadbed, however, upgrades to water crossing might be needed following initial inspections.

This corridor is the only option as it would provide the most direct, and therefore the most cost-effective route to AB-1. The numerous large water bodies and the existence of the pre-existing roadbed make this alternative the preferred choice to provide principal access to the DCHS block.

This proposed route was located by evaluating and balancing several factors: terrain, soil conditions, and minimal water crossings. This provided the most direct cost-effective route which minimizes environmental concerns.

The Areas of Concern (AOC) within the corridor that can be identified at this stage are as follows: N/A

2. Environmental Analysis of Corridor (s)

Road A (Extension of Trail Lake Road, Alternative 1)

a) Preferred Corridor Description

This road starts from the existing Trail Lake Road and extends northwest above and around Rocky Island Lake, before ending approximately 1.5 km southwest from the head of the lake. See the map of the LTMD summary regarding this primary road.

b) Environmental Analysis

- i. Access to Areas Eligible for Harvest, Renewal, and Tending Operations
Advantages

- This road provides the most direct route into the DCHS blocks considering topography, water crossings and considering the existing roadbed that it will lay one.
- Direct route minimizes harvest, renewal and tending costs.
- No water crossings are required.

Disadvantages

- The road may require resurfacing.

ii. Potential Effects on Non-Timber Values

Advantages

- Improved access for non-forestry users.

Disadvantages

- There may be short-term impacts on fish habitat and water quality.

iii. Providing access to any remote Aboriginal communities which were previously inaccessible by road

- This corridor will not provide access to any remote Aboriginal communities which were previously inaccessible by road.

iv. Use Management Strategy:

- (a) Maintenance Provisions: Refer to the list of Maintenance Provisions at the beginning of this primary road documentation.
- (b) Monitoring Provisions: Refer to the list of Maintenance Provisions at the beginning of this primary road documentation.
- (c) Access Provisions/Restrictions:

Trail Lake Road: Notice Unauthorized use of this road for travel to Doe, Fawn and Caribou Lakes is prohibited under the Public Lands Act. Vehicle access restrictions apply in Wabakimi Provincial Park.

(d) Management Intent to transfer responsibility to MNRF within the next 20 years:

- Not applicable – there is no intent to transfer at this time.

(e) Where the sustainable forest licensee has indicated an intent to transfer responsibility beyond the period of the FMP, MNRF will provide a preliminary indication for the management intent for the road or road 20 network:

- Not applicable– there is no intent to transfer at this time.

v. Estimated Cost:

At this time, it is unknown what the extent of realignment/bypasses would be on this roadway. However, an estimate of \$28,500/km may be applied to the sections of the road which would require a primary road bypass. Additionally, maintenance costs would be \$12,000/km annually.

3. Summary of Public Comments

Road A (Extension of Trail Lake Road, Alternative 1)

- Not applicable at this stage.

4. Proposed Corridor

Road A (Extension of Trail Lake Road, Alternative 1)

- (a) Description: Not applicable at this time.
- (b) Rationale: Not applicable at this time.
- (c) Use Management Strategy: Not applicable at this time.

5. Summary of Public Comments

Road A (Extension of Trail Lake Road, Alternative 1)

- Not applicable at this time.

6. Selected Corridor

- Not applicable at this time.

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BAT-R

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: 1
 - b) Description: 60 metre radius AOC centered on the bat roosting site.
 - Harvest, renewal, and tending operations are not permitted within the AOC.
 - When an unidentified bat roosting site value is encountered during operations, this AOC will be applied and no further harvesting will occur within the AOC. Operations may continue only to immediately remove previously harvested trees from the area within the AOC. Removal of previously harvested trees will be done in such a manner as to not knock down any standing residual trees.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential Effects: This prescription provides protection for bat roosting sites by implementing a reserve area and prohibiting continued forestry operations near the roosting site.
 - ii) Advantages/Disadvantages: The prescription protects bat roosting sites while permitting some level of forest operations on the forest management unit. There are no known disadvantages to the value by applying this prescription.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) See alternative 1.
 - b) Rationale: Only 1 alternative has been proposed as it was developed by a district MNRF working group and the Northwest Region Endangered Species Network. This prescription was developed by the Planning Team and carried over from the past FMP.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative 1.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within this area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BAXT-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a 120 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT), plus a modified (no roads) zone as mapped. This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area outside of the reserve and within the mapped modified zone. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area have been completed and are not planned in the 2021-2023 CP period.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 120 metre reserve and the modified zone. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value, thereby reducing the sense of remoteness. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Same as alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this A mosaic block and results of negotiations with the RBT operator at that time to determine the level of tourism protection required for the mini-moose camp on Baxter Lake. According to the above-mentioned document, this lake could also have a 1.5 kilometre seasonal operations zones, however, this has been waived by the RBT operator to allow for this mosaic block to be harvested as quickly as possible. As per the prescription from the past

FMP, a 300 m no roads zone (measured from the edge of the reserve) was reduced on the northwest side of the lake to allow for a main operational road into the block. Therefore this has been identified as a modified (no roads zone) as mapped in this prescription.

The application of a 120 metre reserve and additional zone (as mapped) of modified operations ensures the protection of the values. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies and associated prescriptions will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BIGL-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 500 metre modified (no roads) zone and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measure from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations are permitted as per the SGRs outside of the reserve area but within the 500m and 1.6 kilometre modified operations zones.

Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 6 sections (refer to map with AOC DALT-TR), and harvest operations will commence in either sub-block 2 or sub-block 3 and gradually work out of the block finishing in either sub-block 1 or 6 where possible, depending upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, road building progress).

Overall, the forest management operations within this AB block (ORB-DALT) are to be completed by 2033. The intent is to finish each of these sub-blocks within a year in order to facilitate renewal operations and road decommissioning.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Both the no roads zone and temporary roads zone as well as proposed decommissioning strategies provide additional protection to limit the creation of new access to the value.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's

and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). A 3 km seasonal harvest zone which is part of the ‘Draft Approach’ for designated lakes with an outpost camp has been waived by the RBT operator. Therefore regular operations can occur year-round.

The minimum reserve of 200 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from adjacent points on the lake. This will not prevent gaps in the treeline in cutover areas further away from the lake, which may be in view from the lake. The 500 m no roads zone and 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone (bordered by Big Lake Road to the west), existing access controls and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the value. There are access restrictions (both gates and signs) on Big Lake Road prohibiting unauthorized access. New road standards and decommissioning work will limit recreational vehicular traffic in this area.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BGR-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

5) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 500 metre modified (no roads) zone and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measure from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC.

Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations are permitted as per the SGRs outside of the reserve area but within the 500m and 1.6 kilometre modified operations zones.

Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 6 sections (refer to map with AOC DALT-TR), and harvest operations will commence in either sub-block 2 or sub-block 3 and gradually work out of the block finishing in either sub-block 1 or 6 where possible, depending upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, road building progress).

Overall, the forest management operations within this AB block (ORB-DALT) are to be completed by 2033. The intent is to finish each of these sub-blocks within a year in order to facilitate renewal operations and road decommissioning.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as portions of the harvest area may be visible from the river, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the river. There is the potential to create new access to the river.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures the protection of rivers with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Both the no roads zone and temporary roads zone as well as proposed decommissioning strategies provide additional protection to limit the creation of new access to the value.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the river. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

6) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). A 3 km seasonal harvest zone which is part of the 'Draft Approach' for designated lakes with an outpost camp has been waived by the RBT operator. Therefore regular operations can occur year-round.

The minimum reserve of 200 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from adjacent points on the river. This will not prevent gaps in the treeline in cutover areas further away from the river, which may be in view from the river. The 500 m no roads zone and 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone, existing access controls and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the value. There are access restrictions (both gates and signs) on Big Lake Road prohibiting unauthorized access. New road standards and decommissioning work will limit recreational vehicular traffic in this area. Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

7) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

8) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within this area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BRNS

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
Not applicable: Conditions only apply to roads, landings, and forestry aggregate pits.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
Not applicable.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: N/A

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

ROAD NAME/IDENTIFIER:

All existing primary and branch roads.

1. Proposed crossing location:

a. Identification of 100 metre wide road location (i.e. individual AOC identifier) for the road (Refer to operations maps for the proposed crossing locations).

b. Rationale for the crossing location: The Barn Swallow is listed as Threatened on the Species at Risk in Ontario (SARO) list. Given that this species may nest on man-made structures such as outbuildings and bridges, there is the potential for Barn Swallow nesting to be present under bridges on this forest.

As a component of the required 3-year inspection on forestry bridges and prior to any major bridge maintenance activity (i.e. deck and/or bridge replacement), the Company will also be required to examine the underside of bridges to determine if Barn Swallow nesting activity is present. If it is determined that Barn Swallow are nesting on a respective bridge, the Company will notify the MNR District Biologist as soon as it is identified. The Company will work with the MNR District Biologist to address respective Barn Swallow nesting occurrences. There are no other natural resource features, land uses or values impacted by this AOC crossing.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BROD-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a 120 metre reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending), and a 1.5 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.5 kilometre modified operations zone.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential Effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the reserve and modified zone. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone and proposed decommissioning strategies provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value and there is a potential, at times when users (canoeists) may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this prescription was developed based, in part, on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest)) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest included in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. The minimum reserve of 120 metres for a mini-moose hunt camp was applied which will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The 1.5 kilometre temporary road zone was based on the above-noted document and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the

value (refer to FMP-18 for more details). There is also an access restriction on Lee Lake Road prohibiting unauthorized use of this road.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and provides a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Same as Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within this area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: BUKM-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metres plus a variable-width viewshed reserve to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - (ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. However, through discussions between the Planning Team and the canoe outfitter in the area, the original 3.0 km seasonal restriction has been removed. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. Since this part of the Kopka river is close to the highway, has larger water bodies and at the end of most canoe trips, the noise impact was not deemed too critical in that area. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed through negotiations with Canoe route outfitter on September 15 2020 and presented to the LCC on October 14th 2020.

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can diminish impacts to canoeists. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. To provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations if requested. The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will provide access control to the value.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c)Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within this area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CARI-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum of 750 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve as mapped, a 1 kilometre modified (seasonal operations) zone and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone. The modified zones are measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest and site preparation operations as per the SGRs are only permitted from October 1 to April 30 outside of the reserve and within the 1 kilometre zone. There are no timing restrictions on regeneration activities and tending operations in this area, but these operations should be of low/moderate impact (tree planting, aerial/ground tending) in order to minimize noise/human disturbance. Regular harvest operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the 1 kilometre zone and within the 1.6 kilometre modified zone at any time. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area (ORB-DALT) will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 6 sections (see attached map under DALT-TR AOC), and harvest operations will commence in either sub-block 2 or sub-block 3 and gradually work out of the block finishing in either sub-block 1 or 6 where possible, depending upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, road building progress). Overall, the forest management operations within this A block (ORB-DALT) are to be completed by 2023. The intent is to finish each of these sub-blocks within a year in order to facilitate renewal operations and road decommissioning.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (noise, aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and the modified zone. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the caribou calving reserve (750 to 1,000 metres) and the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures the protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone and proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the

lake. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is similar to the prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with the Caribou Lake Outfitters Association (CLOA) used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP, and it was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. There is a slightly larger reserve on portions of the lake in this FMPs' prescription due to caribou calving values. The caribou calving portion of the reserve ranges from 750 metres to 1,000 metres, and the addition of a viewshed reserve ensures the protection of the values. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. Distant harvest areas may be visible from the lake, however adjacent harvest areas will be screened from view to provide visual/aesthetic protection. The reserve will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The 1.6 km temporary roads zone (as specified by G2619 for designated tourism lakes) and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the value. There is also an access restriction (sign and gate) on D'Alton Road prohibiting unauthorized use of this road.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within this area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CARS-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 120 metre minimum plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (seasonal and temporary roads) zone and a 3.0 kilometre modified renewal operations zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Outside the reserve and within the 1.6 kilometre zone harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted from the opening of pickerel season (usually end of May) to June 30 every year. This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Notice) with the RBT outfitters on Caribou Lake to determine if the camps are in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Outside of this time period, regular harvest and renewal operations (except aerial tending - see below) as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the reserve. These operations will be completed in a timely manner in order to limit impacts to the value. Harvest operations in this area should be completed in a timely manner including the removal of marketable roadside wood within two years of the time it was harvested. Slash piles in these areas should be burned if possible and in a timely manner, as long as this does not conflict with potential use of slash piles for other commercial/business interests. Aerial tending operations are not permitted within 3.0 kilometres of the lake at any time. All other tending operations are limited as per the timing restrictions for harvest and renewal operations. Renewal operations within the 3.0 kilometre zone must be completed in a timely manner. If renewal operations are completed within 3 years of harvest and the subsequent plantations require aerial tending, the RBT operator is willing to waive this restriction. This restriction may only be changed after consultation with the RBT outfitter at Bear Paw Lodge (closest RBT operator to these blocks) on Caribou Lake.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (noise, aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and the modified zone. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a restriction and buffer from aerial tending activities in this area. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Only those areas that have been renewed to conifer species and surveyed to assess the need for tending operations will be considered.

- iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- iii) Disadvantages: It is essential to utilize the aerial application of herbicides in some cases in order to protect the silviculture investment and meet a number of CP and FMP objectives including caribou habitat levels and planned intensive silviculture program. The loss of this tool may result in a failure in meeting the desired future forest condition and a lack of sufficient habitat for wildlife species.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
- a) Description: Same as Alt A.
- b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that had been developed through discussions with CLOA members and RSA negotiations for the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP regarding tending operations and the aerial application of herbicide. This has been carried over to the 2021-2023 CP. In addition, an added provision regarding pre-assessment of the block (to determine the status of the regeneration and level of competition) and notification/consultation with the RBT operators regarding the timing of the proposed operations. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values while considering the need to balance concerns of the outfitters and protect the silviculture investment (plantations) and meet FMP guidelines and objectives to ensure and maintain sufficient future caribou habitat levels. There are no proposed harvest or site preparation activities planned for this area, therefore the prescriptions for these activities from the past FMP are not included. The only operations planned for this area are tending activities, as addressed in this prescription.
- c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CARS2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a modified renewal operations as mapped. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Areas identified on the map as modified (red pattern) will not be aerially tended. Areas identified on the map as modified (blue pattern) will be tended as per the SGRs, but wherever possible tending operations will be undertaken using manual methods (i.e. not aerial). These areas are in close proximity to a tourism establishment, and if aerial tending operations are determined to be required after an assessment of the regeneration status, (e.g. due to economic feasibility, access, status of plantations, etc.) then the adjacent RBT outfitters will be notified/consulted regarding the timing of these proposed operations. The results of this will be documented and copied to MNRF.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is a limited potential to impact the value with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the restriction on the use of aerial tending on sites closest to the RBT operator, and consideration of other tending methods on adjacent areas and consultation with the RBT operators regarding timing to limit impact to the use of the value.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a restriction and buffer from aerial tending activities in this area. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Only those areas that have been renewed to conifer species and surveyed to assess the need for tending operations will be considered.

iii) Disadvantages: It is essential to utilize the aerial application of herbicides in some cases in order to protect the silviculture investment and meet a number of FMP objectives including caribou habitat levels and planned intensive silviculture program. The loss of this tool may result in a failure in meeting the desired future forest condition and a lack of sufficient habitat for wildlife species.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that had been developed through discussions with CLOA members and RSA negotiations for the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP regarding tending operations and the aerial application of herbicide. In addition, an added provision regarding pre-assessment of the block (to determine the status of the regeneration and level of competition) and notification/consultation with the RBT operators regarding the timing of the proposed operations. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values while considering the need to balance concerns of the outfitters and protect the silviculture investment (plantations) and meet

FMP guidelines and objectives to ensure and maintain sufficient future caribou habitat levels. There are no proposed harvest or site preparation activities planned for this area, therefore the prescriptions for these activities from the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP are not included. The only operations planned for this area are tending activities, as addressed in this prescription.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: COLL-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 300 metre reserve (this 300 metre reserve also encompasses the aesthetic provisions that would be required of a viewshed) of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) within the Term 2 allocated harvest area, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the 120 metre reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This exceeds the level of protection (200 metres) that is provided to Provincial Waterway Parks, and also provides protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because it provides a level of protection to the value similar to other AOC prescriptions, which will ensure its continued use. It also acknowledges the importance of this value to other forest users.

The reserve of 300 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. A viewscape analysis for the value was completed and it was found that the 300 metre reserve portion ensured the screening of harvested areas as per the intent of the

viewshed reserve. This reserve, therefore, ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the value. There is also an access restriction on Collins Road prohibiting use of Collins Road to access Rushbay Lake, Boulder Lake, Collins Lake, McIntyre Lake, McCauley Lake and Shawnabis Lake. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: COLL2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A.

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 70 to 120 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve up to a maximum of 700 metres and a 200 metre modified (temporary roads) zone, as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of high potential canoe routes identified in MNRFs LIO database. There is also a 200 metre modified operations (temporary road) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the reserve is based on the following slope-based calculations:

0-30% 70 m

31-45% 100 m

>46% 120 m

There are no harvest, renewal or tending operations in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations are permitted outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 200 metre modified operations zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the 120 metre reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This exceeds the level of protection (200 metres) that is provided to Provincial Waterway Parks, and also provides protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also

a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. The only difference is that the minimum width of the reserve has been increased to 70 metres and is measured from forested polygons, thus supplying a larger reserve area. This prescription was also developed, in part, with input from the planning team for the 2011 FMP and 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

The minimum reserve of 70 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route, and screens forest management operations from areas directly adjacent to the river.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: COLL3-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A.

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 30 to 90 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve up to a maximum of 700 metres. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of high potential canoe routes identified in MNRFs LIO database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the reserve is based on the following slope-based calculations:

0-15% 30 m

16-30% 50 m

31-45% 70 m

>46% 90 m

There are no harvest, renewal or tending operations in the reserve portion of the AOC.

No contamination of lakes or ponds by foreign materials is permitted. Specifically,

- The use of fuels will be carried out in accordance with the Liquid Fuels Handling Code.
- No equipment maintenance (e.g. washing or changing oil) is permitted within 30 m of lakes or ponds.
- Aerial application of pesticides for renewal, tending, or protection is permitted within the AOC but will follow spray buffer zones for significant areas or sensitive areas (as appropriate) as prescribed in the Ontario Ministry of Environment /Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Buffer Zone Guidelines for Aerial Application of Pesticides in Crown Forests of Ontario (1992). Machine-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. air-blast sprayers mounted on skidders) is permitted within the AOC, spray buffer zones will be 30 m for significant areas and 60 m for sensitive areas. Hand-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. back-pack sprayers) is permitted within the AOC; spray buffer zones will be 3 m. All spray buffer zones will be measured from the inner boundary of the AOC.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the 120 metre reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-

harvest blowdown events. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This exceeds the level of protection (200 metres) that is provided to Provincial Waterway Parks, and also provides protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was also developed, in part, with input from the planning team for the 2011 FMP and 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value. The viewscape reserve metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat, archaeological potential areas and aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route, and screens forest management operations from areas directly adjacent to the river.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: COLL4

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a 300 metre reserve as mapped, of no operations (harvest, renewal, or tending) bordering between Dynamic Caribou Habitat Schedule (DCHS) blocks U-7 and AB-1. The prescription is only to be applied on the east side of the DCHS line. This information is determined from the 2023-2033 Long-Term Management Direction DCHS line work, 1:20,000 maps including associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential Effects: There is limited potential to impact the value of this reserve, as there are no operations permitted within this AOC.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription allows for a barrier between DCHS block U-7 and AB-1.
 - iii) Disadvantages: There are no disadvantages to this prescription.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Through discussion with the community of Collins, it was determined that an AOC would be needed separating the DCHS block U-7 and AB-1. AB-1 is scheduled to be fully allocated in the 2023-2033 FMP, where the U-7 block will be partially allocated. The community uses the area identified as U-7 for traditional activities such as hunting, fishing, and other recreation. The AOC negotiated is the same AOC prescription that has been applied on the eastern shores of the Collins Lake.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CRC

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 100 metre radius no-operations reserve measured from the plot centre as identified in LIO and confirmed in the field (indicated on 1:20,000 operations maps). No harvest, renewal or tending operations permitted within the AOC.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: This prescription will ensure the continued availability and use of the value and will limit any adverse effects that may be associated with harvest, renewal and tending operations adjacent to the value. The prescription will alleviate any potential natural damage (from windthrow) to the plot as well as human disturbance. There is a potential, at times, to impact the use of the value by noise from forestry operations.
 - ii) Advantages: The 100 metre no-operations reserve as measured from the plot centre will provide an aesthetic and noise buffer from potential impacts of forestry operations and limit any possible damage (i.e. through windthrow). Thereby maintaining the value for future use.
 - iii) Disadvantages: There are no disadvantages with the application of this prescription for the value.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was proposed because this prescription was developed with input from concerned stakeholders and public consultation. This prescription minimizes any potential aesthetic/noise impacts to the value from forest management operations and provides a sufficient buffer from the establishment of latrine sites which must be located a minimum of 65 metres from the water body.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CR1

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 70 metre minimum to 120 metre maximum variable-width and slope-dependent, no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve and an edge of reserve to 200 m modified operations zone (temporary roads), as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. (Note the 200 metres is measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons.) This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of the high use canoe routes identified in MNRFs NRVIS database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operational scale maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the slope-based reserve is based on the following calculations:

0-30% 70m

31-45% 100m

> 46% 120m

In areas where this AOC overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest operations.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. It also provides some visual screening of cutover areas which may be visible from the lake/river and may reduce noise impacts from forest management operations. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use. This prescription also exceeds the requirements in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales' (MNR 2010) for the protection of water quality and fish habitat. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area close to the waterbody may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: This prescription provides an aesthetic buffer from noise and some visual screening of forest management operations from the lake/river. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/rivers/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving "Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, therefore the intent to screen forest management operations only from areas directly adjacent to the canoe route is appropriate. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible, and possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations. This prescription was developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP and discussed again in 2020, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CR2

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 30 to 90 metre variable-width and slope-dependent, no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve, plus an additional 20 metres of reserve, as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of the potential canoe routes identified in MNRFs NRVIS database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operational scale maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Reserve widths on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the AOC will be the width of the WQWA1 AOC which is a slope-based reserve plus an additional 20 metres, as follows:

0-15% 50 m (30m plus 20 m)

>15-30% 70 m (50m plus 20m)

>30-45% 90m (70m plus 20m)

>45% 110m (90m plus 20m)

No contamination of lakes or ponds by foreign materials is permitted. Specifically,

- The use of fuels will be carried out in accordance with the Liquid Fuels Handling Code.
- No equipment maintenance (e.g. washing or changing oil) is permitted within 30 m of lakes or ponds.
- Aerial application of pesticides for renewal, tending, or protection is permitted within the AOC but will follow spray buffer zones for significant areas or sensitive areas (as appropriate) as prescribed in the Ontario Ministry of Environment /Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Buffer Zone Guidelines for Aerial Application of Pesticides in Crown Forests of Ontario (1992). Machine-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. air-blast sprayers mounted on skidders) is permitted within the AOC, spray buffer zones will be 30 m for significant areas and 60 m for sensitive areas. Hand-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. back-pack sprayers) is permitted within the AOC; spray buffer zones will be 3 m. All spray buffer zones will be measured from the inner boundary of the AOC.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales' (MNR 2010). As this canoe route

is recreational rather than a wilderness route, partial screening of cutover areas from the lake/river is appropriate.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area close to the waterbody may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: This prescription provides protection for the value while allowing for limited forest management operations. It also provides an aesthetic buffer from noise, and some visual screening of forest management operations from the lake/river. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/rivers/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, therefore the intent to screen forest management operations only from areas directly adjacent to the canoe route is appropriate. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible, and possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations. This prescription was developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP and discussed again in 2020, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: CR-Z10

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A no harvest, renewal or tending reserve of 120 metres and a 120 - 200 metre modified operations zone (temporary roads) as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. (Note the 200 metres is measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons.) This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of the high potential canoe routes in CLUPA area G2616, and identified in MNRFs LIO database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operational scale maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use. This prescription exceeds the requirements in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales' (MNR 2010) for the protection of water quality and fish habitat. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas.
 - ii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: This prescription provides an aesthetic buffer from noise, and some visual screening of forest management operations from the lake/river. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the AOC prescriptions for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, therefore the intent to screen forest management operations only from areas directly adjacent to the canoe route is appropriate. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible, and possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations. This prescription was developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP, and discussed again in 2020, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association.
 - c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: DALT-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewscape reserve as mapped, a 500 metre modified operations zone (no roads), a 1 kilometre modified operations zone (true winter roads), and a 3 kilometre modified operations (seasonal operations and temporary roads) zone as mapped. The widths for the modified zones are measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT).

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. No harvest or mechanical site preparation operations are allowed within the 1 km modified zone between May 1 and August 15

Regular harvest operations outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1 kilometre modified zone are allowed, however slashing and loading activities are restricted to the months of January, February and March only. Regular harvest operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the 1 kilometre modified zone and within the 3 kilometre modified zone, but are only permitted after the second week of the resident moose hunt to the opening of pickerel season (usually mid-May). This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular renewal operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the reserve and within the 3 kilometre modified zone. However, the specific timing of site preparation activities will be determined through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zones that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area (ORB-DALT) will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 6 sections (see attached map), and harvest operations will commence in either sub-block 2 or sub-block 3 and gradually work out of the block finishing in either sub-block 1 or 6 where possible, depending upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, road building progress). Overall, the forest management operations within this block are to be completed by 2023. The intent is to finish each of these sub-blocks within a year in order to facilitate renewal operations and road decommissioning.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (noise, aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and the various modified zones. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

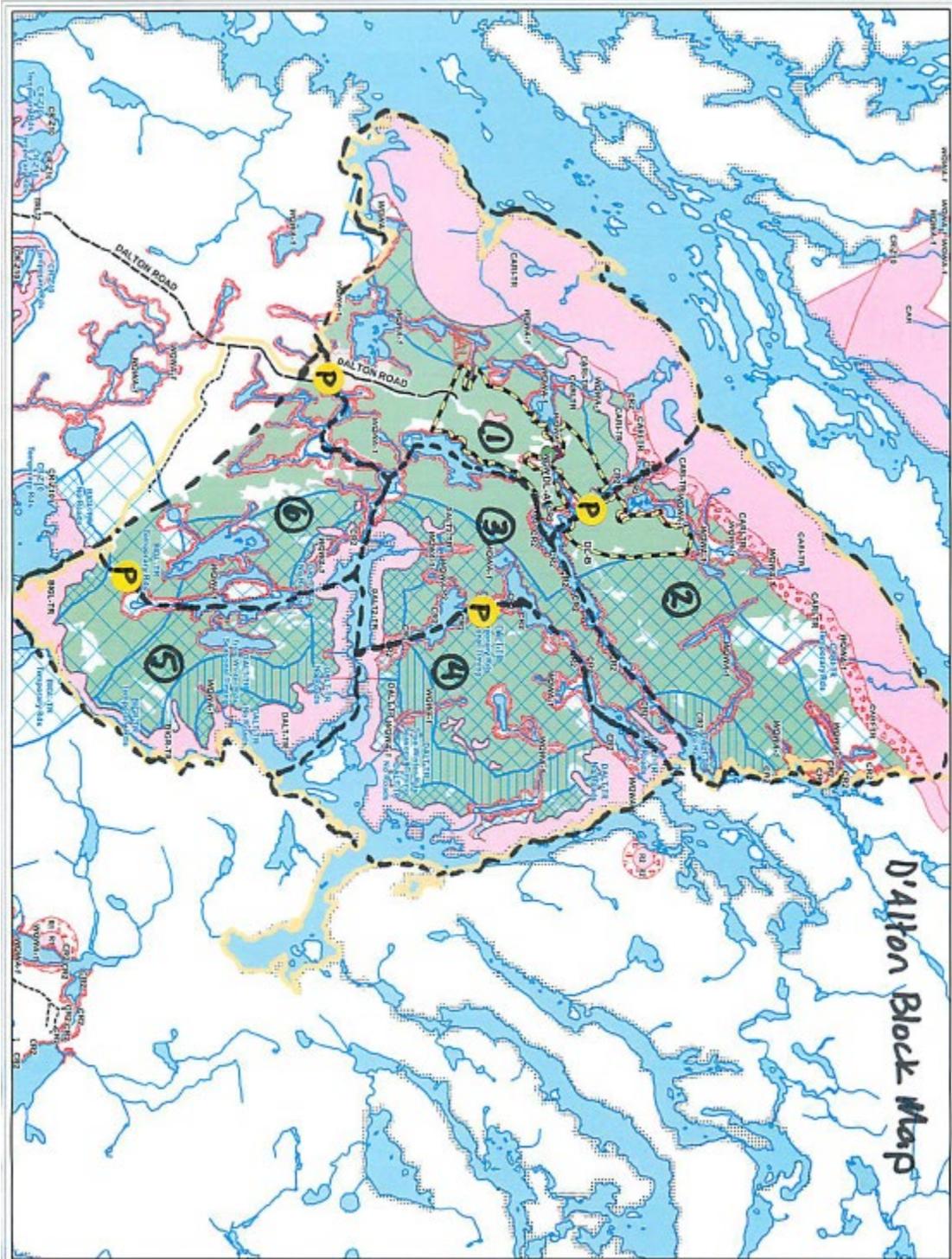
- ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the 200 metre minimum reserve and the application of a viewshed reserve. The seasonal restriction zone (AOC DALT-TR) also limit any impacts to the outfitter from forest management operations when the camp is in use. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads and temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.
- iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
- a) Description: same as Alternative A.
- b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest).
The application of a minimum 200 metre wide reserve with the addition of a viewshed reserve ensures the protection of the values. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. Distant harvest areas may be visible from the lake, however adjacent harvest areas will be screened from view to provide visual/aesthetic/noise protection. The reserve will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The 3 kilometre seasonal zone around D'Alton Lake will limit any noise impacts from forest management operations when the camp is in use. The 500 metre no roads, 1 kilometre true winter roads and 3 km temporary roads zone (above the 1.6 kilometre temporary roads zone for tourism lakes as specified in CLUPA) conditions and proposed road decommissioning strategies will provide access control to the value (refer to FMP-18 for more details). Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign and gate) on D'Alton Road prohibiting unauthorized use of this road. Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.
- c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A



Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: DALT2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewscape reserve as mapped and a 500 metre modified operations zone (no roads). The width for the modified zone is measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. The harvest/renewal and tending areas around this lake fall within the 3 km modified zone as identified and described in AOC DALT-TR. Harvest operations outside of the reserve but within the 3 kilometre zone (from AOC DALT-TR) are only permitted after the second week of the resident moose hunt to the opening of pickerel season (usually mid-May). This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use.

The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular renewal operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the reserve and within the 500 metre modified zone and within the 3 kilometre modified zone (from AOC DALT-TR). However, the specific timing of site preparation activities will be determined through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zones that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area (ORB-DALT) will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 6 sections (see attached map above), and harvest operations will commence in either sub-block 2 or sub-block 3 and gradually work out of the block finishing in either sub-block 1 or 6 where possible, depending upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, road building progress). Overall, the forest management operations within this block are to be completed by 2023. The intent is to finish each of these sub-blocks within a year in order to facilitate renewal operations and road decommissioning.

c) Environmental Analysis:

- i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (noise, aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and the various modified zones. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
- ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the 200 metre minimum reserve and the application of a viewshed reserve. The seasonal restriction zone (AOC DALT-TR) also limit any impacts to the outfitter from forest management operations when the camp is in use. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and

archaeological potential areas. The no roads and temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest).

The application of a minimum 200 metre wide reserve with the addition of a viewshed reserve ensures the protection of the values. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. Distant harvest areas may be visible from the lake, however adjacent harvest areas will be screened from view to provide visual/aesthetic/noise protection. The reserve will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The 3 kilometre seasonal zone around D'Alton Lake will limit any noise impacts from forest management operations when the camp is in use.

The 500 metre no roads and 3 km temporary roads zone (as from AOC DALT-TR) conditions and proposed road decommissioning strategies will provide access control to the value. Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign and gate) on D'Alton Road prohibiting unauthorized use of this road.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c)Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: HOLL-CL

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 1 kilometre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve as mapped and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT).

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area outside of the reserve and within the 1.6 kilometre modified zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Forest management operations may impact the value (noise, aesthetics) as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake. There is also a potential, at times, when the value may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. It also provides some visual screening of cutover areas which may be visible from the lake and may reduce noise impacts from forest management operations. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as all operational roads will be temporary in nature and will be decommissioned once they are no longer required for forest management operations.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area close to the waterbody may be visible from the lake. There is also a potential, at times, when the value may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new access to the lake may be created temporarily through use of the proposed operational road system.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the maximum reserve size recommended for caribou calving lakes. The 1.6 kilometre temporary roads zone is from CLUPA G2619 is recommended for lake trout lakes. This prescription provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer and the temporary roads zone should help protect the remoteness aspect of the value. This prescription minimizes the potential to create new access to the value through proposed road construction practices and road decommissioning strategies. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and provides a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: HW-1

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 100 metre AOC of modified operations adjacent to the highway, as measured from the edge of the highway right-of-way and as identified on the operational scale maps. The edge of the highway right-of-way is in accordance with the Title Records (P-Plans) for the particular location. The location of the surveyed line will be determined and/or verified with the assistance of MTO. No forestry operations are permitted within the surveyed highway right-of-way unless approved by the Ministry of Transportation (MTO) (e.g. approved road entrance right-of-way). (Note: Portions of the highway right-of-way may contain standing timber. The edge of the cleared area along the highway does not necessarily represent the edge of the actual right-of-way.) Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations are permitted as per the SGRs within the AOC with the following condition: no slash piling within the AOC. In areas where this AOC overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the aesthetics value of the highway corridor if proposed harvest operations are adjacent to the highway.
 - ii) Advantages: The prescription for no slash piling or landings in the area of concern will improve aesthetics from the highway. Allowing harvest of all merchantable timber adjacent to the highway reduces risk of post-harvest blowdown onto highway right-of-way. Due to the relatively small areas of operations which are located directly adjacent to a highway, the possible risk of blowing and drifting snow will be minimized.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Harvest areas may not be screened from the highway. Possible risk of drifting snow may result in winter driving hazards.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Based on field surveys and review of highway allocations and consultation with LCC members, only one alternative has been provided. A number of alternative AOC prescriptions were developed in order to account for different terrain and viewscape conditions. This prescription is proposed as it provides protection of the identified value while considering aesthetics.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: INSP-LT

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 70 metre minimum to 120 metre maximum variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone. The reserve widths are as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of the high use canoe routes identified in MNRFs NRVIS database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the slope-based reserve is based on the following calculations:

0-30% 70 m

31-45% 100 m

>46% 120 m

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area outside of the reserve and within the 1.6 kilometre modified zone

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is the potential to create new access to the value.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. It also provides some visual screening of cutover areas which may be visible from the lake and may reduce noise impacts from forest management operations. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as all operational roads will be temporary in nature and will be decommissioned once they are no longer required for forest management operations.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area close to the waterbody may be visible from the lake. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new access to the lake may be created temporarily through use of the proposed operational road system.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this prescription provides a reserve area to the value that exceeds the requirements of the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales' (March 2010), and is further protected by the Nipigon River Conservation Reserve which extends 200 metres from the lake. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible, and possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations. This prescription was developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP and 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. This prescription minimizes the potential to create new access to the value with the application of the 1.6 kilometre temporary roads zone, through proposed road construction practices and road decommissioning strategies (refer to FMP-18 for more details). Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and provides a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: KENK-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, a 200 metre modified (no roads) zone, and a 1.6 km modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). The 200 metre modified no road zone is measured from the Kopka River Waterway Park boundary. In addition, there is a 2.0 kilometre modified operations (seasonal operations) zone as mapped. This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

No harvesting (access, hauling, harvest, skidding, slashing etc.) or mechanical site preparation operations are permitted within the 2.0 kilometre modified /seasonal zone from July 1st to the end of the Labour Day weekend. Regular harvest operations and mechanical site preparation as per the SGRs is permitted outside of this time period in this zone. Forestry Operations within the 2km modified timing restriction are permitted between July 1st to the end of the Labour Day weekend if an agreement is reached with the canoe route outfitter. Discussions will be through early consultation (AWS Inspection period). Discussions will be between the SFL holder (or FRL holder) and the canoe route outfitter and will identify an agreement that will disclose when, and for what length of time operations will be permitted within the 2km buffer. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.

Regular renewal (except mechanical site preparation) and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted within the seasonal zone, but the outfitter will be notified of the specific timing/nature of these operations at AWS Inspection Period.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and seasonal restrictions. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Seasonal timing restrictions provide protection of value from potential noise from harvesting operations. The no roads and temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value. The intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from view, from areas directly adjacent on

the lake. Harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. This prescription will not prevent gaps in the tree line in cutover areas further away from the lake, and it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's. However, through negotiations between the Planning Team and the canoe outfitter in the area, the original 3.0 km seasonal restriction (no operations between June 15 to Sept 15th) has been revised to 2.0 km with no operations from July 1st to the end of the labour day weekend. Additionally, the seasonal restriction can be lifted if an agreement is reached with the outfitter during early consultation (AWS stage). It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed through negotiations with Canoe route outfitter on September 15 2020 and presented to the LCC on October 14th 2020.

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The seasonal restrictions on harvesting and renewal (as outlined above) limits the potential noise impacts to canoeists using the canoe route. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested. The additional 200 metre no road zone (from the park boundary) in combination with the 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help provide access controls to the lake and address concerns regarding the creation of new access points into Kopka River Provincial Park.

Communication with the outfitter in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program : N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: KOPK2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's. However, through negotiations between the Planning Team and the canoe outfitter in the area, the original 3.0 km seasonal restriction (no operations between June 15 to Sept 15th) has been removed from this AOC. Since this part of the Kopka is close to the highway and at the end of most canoe trips, the noise impact was not deemed too critical in that area. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed through negotiations with Canoe route outfitter on September 15 2020 and presented to the LCC on October 14th 2020.

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. Canoe route

travel involves daily movement of considerable distances. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested. The additional 200 metre no road zone (from the park boundary) in combination with the 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help provide access controls to the lake and address concerns regarding the creation of new access points into Kopka River Provincial Park.

Communication with the outfitter in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program : N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: KOPK-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

5) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, and a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). In addition there is a 2.0 kilometre modified operations (seasonal operations) zone as mapped. This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

No harvesting (access, hauling, harvest, skidding, slashing etc.) or mechanical site preparation operations are permitted within the 2.0 kilometre modified /seasonal zone from July 1st to the end of the Labour Day weekend. Regular harvest operations and mechanical site preparation as per the SGRs is permitted outside of this time period in this zone. Forestry Operations within the 2km modified timing restriction are permitted between July 1st to the end of the Labour Day weekend if an agreement is reached with the canoe route outfitter. Discussions will be through early consultation (AWS Inspection period). Discussions will be between the SFL holder (or FRL holder) and the canoe route outfitter and will identify an agreement that will disclose when, and for what length of time operations will be permitted within the 2km buffer. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.

Regular renewal (except mechanical site preparation) and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted within the seasonal zone, but the outfitter will be notified of the specific timing/nature of these operations at AWS Inspection Period.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and seasonal restrictions. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Seasonal timing restrictions provide protection of value from potential noise from harvesting operations. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest

management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

6) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's. However, through negotiations between the Planning Team and the canoe outfitter in the area, the original 3.0 km seasonal restriction (no operations between June 15 to Sept 15th) has been revised to 2.0 km with no operations from July 1st to the end of the labour day weekend. Additionally, the seasonal restriction can be lifted if an agreement is reached with the outfitter during early consultation (AWS stage). It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed through negotiations with Canoe route outfitter on September 15 2020 and presented to the LCC on October 14th 2020.

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The seasonal restrictions on harvesting and renewal (as outlined above) limits the potential noise impacts to canoeists using the canoe route. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested. The additional 200 metre no road zone (from the park boundary) in combination with the 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help provide access controls to the lake and address concerns regarding the creation of new access points into Kopka River Provincial Park.

Communication with the outfitter in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No

7) Summary of Public Comments

8) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: LAMN-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 120 metre plus viewshed no operations (harvest, renewal, tending) reserve to maximum of 700 metres as mapped, and a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT).

No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the viewshed reserve and within the 1.6 kilometre modified zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (noise, aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 120 metre minimum reserve plus a viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the 120 metre minimum reserve plus a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescriptions was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). The 3 kilometre seasonal harvest zone as recommended in this document was not applied as this lake is not assigned to an RBT operator. The 500 m no roads zone

(as per document) has not been applied as there are existing roads at the northeast end of the lake which can be used to access the lake.

The application of a minimum 120 metre minimum reserve plus a viewshed ensures the protection of the values. The intent of the viewshed reserve is to screen harvested areas from areas in close proximity to the lake or from adjacent locations on the lake. Distant harvest areas may be visible from the lake, however adjacent harvest areas will be screened from view to provide visual/aesthetic/noise protection. The reserve will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas.

The temporary roads zone and proposed road decommissioning strategies will provide access control to the value. Road construction standards and proposed decommissioning strategies roads will curtail recreational vehicular traffic in this zone.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: LCAR-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A no harvest, renewal or tending reserve of 120 metres minimum plus a variable-width viewshed reserve up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped. There is a 200 metre modified operations zone (temporary roads) as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). There are no harvest, renewal or tending operations in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 200 metre modified operations zone.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. This prescription provides a viewshed reserve of up to 700 metres from the shoreline to screen forest management operations from view of the canoe route and provide a buffer to reduce noise impacts from forest management operations. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the 120 metre reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. It also protects water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use. This exceeds the level of protection (200 metres) that is provided to Provincial Waterway Parks, and also provides protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, especially due to the blowdown damage (from 2001) which impacted stands near the lake. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: This prescription provides an aesthetic buffer from noise, and some visual screening of forest management operations from the lake/river. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the AOC prescriptions for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, therefore the intent to screen forest management operations only from areas directly adjacent to the canoe route is appropriate. However, due to the extent of

blowdown damage from 2001, harvest areas may be visible from the lake. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible, and possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations. This prescription was in part, developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association.

Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP (through RSA negotiations). It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified value. This prescription was also developed, in part, with input from the planning team for the 2011 FMP and again with the 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. The addition of a 200 metre modified operations zone (temporary roads) will limit new access points to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments
- 4) Selected Prescription

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: LJACK-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped. This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 200 metre minimum reserve plus a viewshed reserve. Beyond the 200 metre reserve, viewshed reserves on hills that are within close proximity to the river and are visible from the river will be screened. Distant harvest areas may be visible from the river, however adjacent harvest areas will be screened from view to provide visual protection for canoeists using the route.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the 200 metre reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This exceeds the level of protection (200 metres) that is provided to Provincial Waterway Parks, and also provides protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. The 200 metre reserve ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The viewscape analysis showed that the 200 metres reserve area screens harvested areas in proximity to the lake. This reserve ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can also diminish impacts to canoeists, so no seasonal restrictions are

proposed. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and outfitters that cater to canoeists will be provided with updates on the status of the operations if requested.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: MC1

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 100 metre radius reserve measured from the cabin as located in the field (as identified from LIO). The exact location will be field-verified during the layout phase of operations prior to the commencement of harvest operations. No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted within this area of concern.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics) with forest management activities.
 - ii) Advantages: The prescription provides protection of the value from forest management activities and also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. In addition to protection of the value, the reserve area of timber may also serve other objectives/requirements in forest management planning such as: forest residual patch and/or old growth forest area.
 - iii) Disadvantages: There is a potential of some areas of possible blowdown in the reserve dependent upon site/weather conditions. Otherwise, there are no disadvantages in applying this area of concern prescription related to this value.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: There are no guidelines or implementation manuals that specify the type of protection these structures may require. This is a cabin that is actively used by the mining claim holder when working on mining claims in the area. This prescription was developed by Nipigon District MNRF (2011-2021 FMP, and again for the 2021 CP) based on consultation with the camp owner and consideration of the TC AOC which provides the same level of protection to trapper cabins. Therefore only one alternative was analyzed. This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities and provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: MAGT-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a 30 to 90 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, a 200 metre modified (no roads) zone, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone. The widths for the no operations reserve is as measured from in the field from the edge of vegetation communities capable of providing an effective barrier to the movement of sediment. This will normally be communities with > 25% canopy cover of trees, tall (> 1m high) woody shrubs such as alder or willow, or low (< 1m high) woody evergreen shrubs such as labrador tea or leatherleaf. For mapping purposes, the AOC may be measured from the edge of polygons identified as FOR, TMS or BSH. If the inner edge of the AOC will be > 300m from the shoreline of a lake or pond when these criteria are used, an AOC is not required adjacent to those sections of shoreline, unless the intervening wetland is known to provide components of fish habitat for which there is a high species' dependence (e.g. spawning habitat). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

The width of the AOC is based on slope and is as follows:

Slope	AOC Width
0-15%	30m
>15-30%	50m
>30-45%	70m
>45%	90m

The 200 metre and 1.6 kilometre modified zones are measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 200 metre and 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.

No contamination of lakes or ponds by foreign materials is permitted. Specifically,

- The use of fuels will be carried out in accordance with the Liquid Fuels Handling Code.
- No equipment maintenance (e.g. washing or changing oil) is permitted within 30 m of lakes or ponds.
- Aerial application of pesticides for renewal, tending, or protection is permitted within the AOC but will follow spray buffer zones for significant areas or sensitive areas (as appropriate) as prescribed in the Ontario Ministry of Environment /Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Buffer Zone Guidelines for Aerial Application of Pesticides in Crown Forests of Ontario (1992). Machine-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. air-blast sprayers mounted on skidders) is permitted within the AOC,

spray buffer zones will be 30 m for significant areas and 60 m for sensitive areas. Hand-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. back-pack sprayers) is permitted within the AOC; spray buffer zones will be 3 m. All spray buffer zones will be measured from the inner boundary of the AOC.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads and temporary roads zones provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest).

The prescription for high potential canoe routes is a no operations viewshed reserve ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. A viewshed analysis was completed for this area and used to produce the viewshed reserve. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can diminish aesthetic/noise impacts to canoeists. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested. The additional 200 metre no road zone in combination with the 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help provide access controls to the lake and address concerns regarding the creation of new access points into Maggotte Lake and Kopka River Provincial Park.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: MCLA-LT

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 30 to 90 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve, plus an additional 20 metres, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone. The widths for the no operations reserve is as measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped, for each of the potential canoe routes identified in MNRFs NRVIS database. Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Reserve widths on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the slope-based reserve is based on the following calculations, plus an additional 20 metres:

0-15% 30 m

16-30% 50 m

31-45% 70 m

>46% 90 m

The 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone (temporary roads) is measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area that is outside of the reserve but within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.

No contamination of lakes or ponds by foreign materials is permitted. Specifically,

- The use of fuels will be carried out in accordance with the Liquid Fuels Handling Code.
- No equipment maintenance (e.g. washing or changing oil) is permitted within 30 m of lakes or ponds.
- Aerial application of pesticides for renewal, tending, or protection is permitted within the AOC but will follow spray buffer zones for significant areas or sensitive areas (as appropriate) as prescribed in the Ontario Ministry of Environment /Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Buffer Zone Guidelines for Aerial Application of Pesticides in Crown Forests of Ontario (1992). Machine-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. air-blast sprayers mounted on skidders) is permitted within the AOC, spray buffer zones will be 30 m for significant areas and 60 m for sensitive areas. Hand-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. back-pack sprayers) is permitted within the AOC; spray buffer zones will be 3 m. All spray buffer zones will be measured from the inner boundary of the AOC.

c) Environmental Analysis:

- i) Potential effects: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

- ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the ‘Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales’. As this canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, partial screening of cutover areas from the lake/river is appropriate. The temporary roads zone and proposed road decommissioning strategies provide additional protection to limit/restrict new access.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area close to the waterbody may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
- a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP’s and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. As well, this prescription was developed by the planning team for the 2011 FMP, and again for the 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association.
This prescription provides protection for the value while allowing for limited forest management operations. It also provides an aesthetic buffer from noise, and some visual screening of forest management operations from the lake/river. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the ‘Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales’. This canoe route is recreational rather than a wilderness route, therefore the intent to screen forest management operations only from areas directly adjacent to the canoe route is appropriate. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances thereby reducing the impact of limited areas where operations may be visible. It is also possible to avoid camping nearby areas of operations with pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested. The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help ensure that no new permanent access is created to the value.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: MOJK-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 1,000 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a 3 kilometre modified (seasonal operations and temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC.

Harvest operations outside of the reserve but within the 3 kilometre zone are only permitted after the second week of the resident moose hunt to the opening of pickerel season (usually mid-May).

This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular renewal operations as per the SGRs are permitted outside of the reserve and within the 3 kilometre modified zone. However, the specific timing of site preparation activities will be determined through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zones that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided (ORB-MOJK) into 5 sections, and harvest operations should be completed in sub-blocks 1, 2 and 3 before the commencement of operations within sub-blocks 4 and/or 5. This is to ensure that no new fragmentation of undisturbed areas occurs until these areas can be fully harvested. This strategy is dependent upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, timing restrictions and road building progress). Note to reader: Harvest operations within this block are completed and there are no proposed allocations in the 2021-2023 CP period.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 1,000 metre reserve and the seasonal restrictions. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities. The maximum size caribou calving reserve and seasonal restrictions will provide a high level of protection to caribou calving values, and preserve the sense of remoteness in the area. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

- iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value, thereby reducing the sense of remoteness. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
- a) Description: same as Alternative A.
- b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). This prescription was developed/reviewed with the tourist outfitter. No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this A mosaic block.
- The application of a minimum 1 kilometre wide reserve and a 3 kilometre zone of modified operations ensure the protection of the values. A viewshed analysis was completed for Mojikit Lake, however, the viewshed reserve areas are outside of the allocations and are not required. The seasonal restriction zone may also limit any impacts to the value from forest management operations. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies and associated prescriptions will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
- The 3 km temporary roads zone (in excess of the 1.6 kilometre temporary roads zone for tourism lakes as specified in CLUPA) conditions and proposed road decommissioning strategies will provide access control to the value (refer to FMP-18 for more details). Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point.
- Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable. No changes were requested. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.
- c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: MOUL-TR*

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 500 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve as mapped, modified operations as mapped, and a 700 metre modified (no roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC as mapped. (Due to the nature of the terrain directly adjacent to these lakes, the viewshed was very large (i.e. > 1.5 km in some areas). Therefore a 'partial' viewshed has been provided for these lakes. A viewshed analysis was run on proposed harvest areas to determine where there was the potential for ground to be seen within the viewshed area. These areas have been included in the reserve. All other areas in the viewshed will be harvested, there may be gaps in the forested canopy in these harvested patches within the viewshed. These areas are shown as modified harvest on the operations maps, and these areas will be completely harvested (e.g. removal of all snags) and renewed as soon as possible following harvest operations in this area. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area outside of the reserve and within the 700 metre modified zone. All renewal operations will be completed as soon as possible following the completion of harvest operations in the area to address remote-tourism based values and ensure prompt regeneration of this area. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 5 sections (see attached map), and harvest operations should be completed in sub-blocks 1, 2 and 3 before commencement of operations within sub-blocks 4 and/or 5. This is to ensure that no new fragmentation of undisturbed areas occurs until these areas can be fully harvested. This strategy is dependent upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, timing restrictions and road building progress). Note to reader: harvest operations in this area have been completed and no allocations have been selected for the 2021-2023 CP period.

*NOTE FROM 2011 FMP: This area is currently being studied as part of a proposed hydroelectric development project for the Little Jackfish River by Ontario Power Generation (OPG). If this project proceeds, a considerable portion of the landbase adjacent to Mojikit, Moule, Stork and Zigzag Lakes and Little Jackfish River could become flooded, this could significantly alter the landscape. Areas that are proposed to be inundated could include reserve portions of currently standing timber; in which case these areas of standing timber would be lost, thereby no longer providing the same level of protection to the value. It is important to ensure the continued protection of these values. Therefore once this OPG project is approved, the RBT operator will be notified of any proposed operations in this area on an annual basis (as AWS Inspection Notice). At that time(s) it is recognized that the prescription may need to be revised through an amendment to the Lake Nipigon Forest 2011-2021 FMP. It is incumbent upon the RBT outfitter to keep the SFL holder informed of any new developments/changes in the status of the OPG development project, so that the SFL holder can

respond in a timely manner, recognizing the requirements and timelines of a FMP amendment process.

*Update on Project Status: The province's Long Term Energy Plan released in December 2013 has indicated that the energy that would be generated by the Little Jackfish River Hydroelectric Project is not needed in the near-term. Therefore, all Project activities are being put on hold.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a partial viewshed reserve and the modified zone. There is the limited potential to create new access to the lake with the no roads zone.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities. The large viewshed reserve and the modified zone will provide a high level of protection to the values, and preserve the sense of remoteness in the area. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value, thereby reducing the sense of remoteness. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this DCHS block.

Due to the nature of the terrain directly adjacent to these lakes, the viewshed was very large (i.e. > 1.5 km in some areas). Therefore a 'partial' viewshed has been provided for these lakes. A viewshed analysis was run on proposed harvest areas to determine where there was the potential for ground to be seen within the viewshed area. These areas have been included in the reserve. In addition, a viewshed analysis was run based on the 2011-2021 FMP allocations, and as a result additional reserve areas were added the potential of ground being seen in these areas. This was carried over to the 2021-2023 CP. All other areas in the viewshed have been identified as modified harvest. There will be gaps in the forested canopy in these modified harvested patches within the viewshed, but these areas will be completely harvested (e.g. removal of all snags) and renewed as soon as possible following harvest operations in this area. In order to meet conifer renewal and caribou habitat objectives, the modified harvest areas will be renewed as soon as possible to allow for 'green-up' of

these areas and may require future aerial tending operations which will not occur until the artificial renewal has been established and a field check indicates that a tending treatment is necessary. The application of this large partial viewshed reserve and 700 metre zone of modified operations ensures the protection of the values. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies and associated prescriptions will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value. The no roads zone is 700 m as measured from the shoreline, but only affects approximately 200m of allocations as the reserve portion of the AOC extends out to 500m.

Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that there were no concerns with this prescription, with the added provision* (as noted above) that this prescription is reviewed annually to ensure the continued protection of the value. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: NTHW

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: 200 m radius AOC measured from nest - No harvest, renewal or tending operations permitted.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: This prescription provides protection for common nighthawk nests by utilizing a timing restriction during the breeding period.
 - ii) Advantages/Disadvantages: The prescription protects common nighthawk nests, while permitting some level of forest management activities to take place. There are no disadvantages to the nests by applying this prescription.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative 1.
 - b) Rationale: Only 1 alternative has been proposed as this is the same prescription developed and implemented on Phase 2 plans on adjacent forests. It has been reviewed by MNRF's Biologists.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative 1.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: OGOK-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 1,000 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zone that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the 1 kilometre reserve and modified roads zone. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a 1 kilometre reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value. There is the potential, at times, the value may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because the 1 kilometre reserve is as recommended in the Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou: A Landscape Approach (MNR 1999). In addition, the Ogoki Reservoir is protected by a 200 metre Conservation Reserve which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The 1.6 kilometre modified zone is as per direction from CLUPA Policy Report G2619 for designated tourism lakes. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PGP

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A Permanent Growth Plot (PGP) is a variable area plot (refer to LIO Research Plot Protection Layer). This AOC has full protection. Note: In the previous plan the AOC ID was SRA-2, which has been revised for this 2021-2023 CP, and following FMP.
No harvest, renewal or tending within the research Plot Protection area. Do not extend AOC to include the area on the opposite side of the road.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - (i) Potential effects: This prescription will ensure that the existing structure and integrity of the plot at the stand and tree level is maintained. This reserve buffer around the plot minimizes the potential effects of adjacent forest management operations, and any blow down of trees in the reserve adjacent to the harvest area will have a minimal impact on the plot.
 - (ii) Advantages: The no-operations reserve as measured from plot centre should protect the plot from possible increased windthrow mortality and/or damage and minimize any potential impacts from adjacent forest management operations, thereby maintaining their research value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Minimal potential impacts from adjacent forest management operations may impact the plot.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was proposed because this prescription was developed with input from the MNRF Provincial Growth and Yield Program and the Forest Ecosystem Science Co-operative Growth and Yield Science Unit. This AOC prescription utilizes the direction provided in the OMNRF Growth and Yield PSP and PGP Reference Manual 2009, the Forest Co-op Field Manual for the Location & Measurement of Permanent Growth Plots 2009, and is recommended by the MNRF Regional Growth and Yield Specialists.
The proposed prescription will protect the investment of the MNRF and Forest Co-op in the establishment and monitoring of provincial growth and yield permanent growth plots.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PISH-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

Outside of the reserve portion of the AOC, no harvesting (access, hauling, harvest, skidding, slashing etc.) or mechanical site preparation operations are permitted within the 1.6 kilometre modified /seasonal zone from June 15 to September 15. Regular harvest operations and mechanical site preparation as per the SGRs is permitted outside of this time period in this zone. However, due to the summer ground in the proposed allocations, there will be one AWS period during which harvesting will be allowed during the seasonal timing period. Operations during this time will be completed in a timely manner in order to limit impacts to the value. This will be discussed with the canoe route outfitter through early consultation (AWS Inspection period) to discuss the timing/length of operations. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.

Regular renewal (except mechanical site preparation) and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted within the seasonal zone, but the outfitter will be notified of the specific timing/nature of these operations prior to AWS Inspection Period.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and seasonal restrictions. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Seasonal timing restrictions provide protection of value from potential noise from harvesting operations. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed for adjacent lakes in the Provincial Park through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values.

This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest).

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can diminish aesthetic/noise impacts to canoeists and can (with planning) avoid camping in noisy locations. The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone will help ensure that no new access is created to the value.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PNT2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A zone of modified operations (seasonal operations) as mapped. No harvest operations from December 1 to March 31. Regular harvest operations as per the SGRs are permitted from April 1 to November 30. Regular renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted. Identified trails will be rehabilitated and cleared of logging debris and are to be left free of obstacles and passable following forest management operations.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: Forest management operations may impact the value as there is the potential to create new access to this value.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription will provide protection of the identified snowmachine trails during periods of use.
 - iii) Disadvantages: There is a possibility of disrupting the use of the trail during harvest operations. Brush and debris could be deposited on the trail, blocking passage by snowmachines.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alternative A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that had been developed through discussions and negotiations with the outfitter for the Lake Nipigon Forest 2006-2026 FMP, and it was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. It has been carried over to the 2021 CP.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PORT-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 200 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve, plus a 400 metre modified (no roads) zone and a 1 kilometre modified (seasonal operations and true winter roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC.

Harvest operations and site preparation operations outside of the reserve and within the 1 kilometre modified zone are allowed but are only permitted after the second week of the resident moose hunt to the opening of pickerel season (usually mid-May). This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Slashing and loading activities in this zone are restricted to the months of January, February and March only. Regular renewal operations (except site preparation as noted above) and regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zones that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC. Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 5 sections (see attached map), and harvest operations should be completed in sub-blocks 1, 2 and 3 before commencement of operations within sub-blocks 4 and/or 5. This is to ensure that no new fragmentation of undisturbed areas occurs until these areas can be fully harvested. This strategy is dependent upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, timing restrictions and road building progress). Note to reader: harvest operations in this area have been completed and no allocations have been selected for the 2021-2023 CP period.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 200 metre reserve and the modified zones. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities with the application of a 200 metre reserve and seasonal restrictions. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The modified zones which limit roads as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit disturbances and access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value.

There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this A mosaic block. This prescription was developed considering the level of tourism protection that would be required to address access concerns regarding the proximity to the outfitter's outpost camp on the south shore of Mojikit Lake. The application of a 200 metre reserve, 400 metre modified (no roads) zone and 1 kilometre (seasonal operations and true winter roads) zone of modified operations ensures the protection of the values. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone and true winter road zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies and associated prescriptions in AOC MOJK-TR will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value. Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PROG-TR*

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 120 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT), plus a 200 metre modified (no roads) zone as mapped. This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the area outside of the reserve and within the 200 metre modified zone.

Harvest, renewal and tending operations in this area will proceed in a progressive and contiguous manner when feasible. This area has been subdivided into 5 sections (see attached map), and harvest operations should be completed in sub-blocks 1, 2 and 3 before commencement of operations within sub-blocks 4 and/or 5. This is to ensure that no new fragmentation of undisturbed areas occurs until these areas can be fully harvested. This strategy is dependent upon seasonal/operational limitations (i.e. winter ground, terrain conditions, timing restrictions and road building progress). Note to reader: harvest operations in this area have been completed and no allocations have been selected for the 2021-2023 CP period.

*NOTE From 2011-2011 FMP: This area is currently being studied as part of a proposed hydroelectric development project for the Little Jackfish River by Ontario Power Generation (OPG). If this project proceeds, a considerable portion of the landbase adjacent to Mojikit, Moule, Stork and Zigzag Lakes and Little Jackfish River could become flooded, this could significantly alter the landscape. Areas that are proposed to be inundated could include reserve portions of currently standing timber; in which case these areas of standing timber would be lost, thereby no longer providing the same level of protection to the value. It is important to ensure the continued protection of these values. Therefore once this OPG project is approved, the RBT operator will be notified of any proposed operations in this area on an annual basis (as AWS Inspection Notice). At that time(s) it is recognized that the prescription may need to be revised through an amendment to the Lake Nipigon Forest 2011-2021 FMP. It is incumbent upon the RBT outfitter to keep the SFL holder informed of any new developments/changes in the status of the OPG development project, so that the SFL holder can respond in a timely manner, recognizing the requirements and timelines of an FMP amendment process.

*Update on Project Status: The province's Long Term Energy Plan released in December 2013 has indicated that the energy that would be generated by the Little Jackfish River Hydroelectric Project is not needed in the near-term. Therefore, all Project activities are being put on hold.

c. Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of a 120 metre reserve and the modified zone. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value, thereby reducing the sense of remoteness. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a. Description: Same as alternative A.

b. Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this A mosaic block. This prescription was developed considering the level of tourism protection that would be required to address access concerns to the Jackfish River system and protect Progt Lake. The application of a 120 metre reserve and 200 metre zone of modified operations ensures the protection of the values. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The no roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies and associated prescriptions in AOC MOJKBLK will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point. Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective, with the added provision* (as noted above) that this prescription be reviewed annually to ensure the continued protection of the value. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program : N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PROG2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a)

b) Description: A 30 metre AOC of modified operations on either side of the trail as indicated on the 1:20,000 operational scale maps and identified in LIO. The exact location of the trail will be field-verified during the layout phase of operations prior to the commencement of forest management operations. The following practices will be implemented on this trail:

- Trails will be marked prior to harvest and site preparation operations by ribboning windfirm trees (<7m in height) along the edge of the trail, and leaving these trees standing. The number of trees left along the trail will be determined by operational personnel based on the visibility of the marked trees (e.g. ability of operator to recognize and follow the trail) which will be dependent on terrain (e.g. operators may choose to leave one tree every 10m on either side of the trail). These trees may be stubbed if windfirmness is questionable.
- Trails will be cleared of logging debris following forest management operations.
- Skidding across the trail is to be avoided, but when this is not possible skid trails will be minimized.
- Trails are to be left free of obstacles and passable following forest management operations.
- Trails will not be mechanically site prepared or treated with artificial regeneration methods (i.e. planted or seeded).
- No restrictions on chemical tending operations.
- Trails will not be improved or moved without prior written approval by the RBT operator.

Operators will exercise due diligence in attempting to locate the trail prior to the commencement of forest management operations. However, if the trail cannot be found on the ground, operators may flag an approximate location based on GPS coordinates and apply the prescription to that location. If this is not possible, MNRF will be notified, the value will be documented as missing, and the AOC will no longer apply. In this case, updated information on the operational prescription and the AWS map will be provided by the licensee/SFL holder to the MNRF area office, for compliance monitoring. In areas where this AOC prescription overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: Forest management operations which cross these trails may damage the trail and create conflicts with other forest users, and may create new access to Progt/Wilson Lakes where a proposed operational road crosses the trail.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities. The prescription also provides direction to prevent damage to the trail(s) and ensures that the trail(s) are left free of obstacles and passable post forest management operations while allowing forest management operations to proceed.

(iii) Disadvantages: There is the potential to create new access to Progt/Wilson Lakes where a proposed operational road crosses the trail.

- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a. Description: Same as alternative A.
 - b. Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this and associated AOC prescriptions for this A mosaic block. This prescription was developed considering the level of tourism protection that would be required to address access concerns to limit access and protect Progt and Wilson Lakes. Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There is also an access restriction (sign) on Toset Creek Road prohibiting unauthorized use of roads beyond that point.
 - c. Exception: No
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alternative A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: PSP

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A Permanent Sample Plot (PSP) is a variable area plot (refer to LIO Research Plot Protection Layer. This AOC has full protection.
No harvest, renewal or tending within the research Plot Protection area. Do not extend AOC to include the area on the opposite side of the road. Note: This particular AOC was identified as SRA-4 in the previous FMP, but the ID has since been revised.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: This prescription will ensure that the existing structure and integrity of the plot at the stand and tree level is maintained. This reserve buffer around the plot minimizes the potential effects of adjacent forest management operations, and any blowdown of trees in the reserve adjacent to the harvest area will have a minimal impact on the plot.
 - (ii) Advantages: The no-operations reserve as measured from the plot centre should protect the plot from possible increased windthrow mortality and/or damage and minimize any potential impacts from adjacent forest management operations, thereby maintaining their research value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Minimal potential impacts from adjacent forest management operations may impact the plot.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was proposed because this prescription was developed with input from the MNRF Provincial Growth and Yield Program and the Forest Ecosystem Science Co-operative Growth and Yield Science Unit. This AOC prescription utilizes the direction provided in the OMNRF Growth and Yield PSP and PGP Reference Manual, the Forest Co-op Field Manual for the Location & Measurement of Permanent Growth Plots, and is recommended by the MNRF Regional Growth and Yield Specialists.
The proposed prescription will protect the investment of the MNRF and Forest Co-op in the establishment and monitoring of provincial growth and yield permanent growth plots.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: R7

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: 1,000 m circular AOC around an identified nest site.

0-500m

HARVEST, RENEWAL & TENDING

No forest management activities are permitted at any time.

501-1000m

INSIDE CRITICAL BREEDING PERIOD (MARCH 15 – AUGUST 31)

Harvest:

None permitted during critical breeding period.

Renewal & Tending:

No tree planting prior to May 31.

≤ 12 tree planters are permitted on site.

Temporary support vehicles are limited to 2 motorized vehicles (pick-up truck, ATV) (The licensee is permitted to have one additional vehicle on site). No other renewal or tending activities are permitted within the critical breeding period (site preparation, aerial herbicide tending etc.)

OUTSIDE CRITICAL BREEDING PERIOD (SEPTEMBER 1 – MARCH 14)

No restrictions on forest management activities.

NON-MOTORIZED BOUNDARY MARKING, ROAD LAYOUT, SURVEYING & NEST MONITORING ARE EXEMPT FROM THE ABOVE RESTRICTIONS

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential Effects: If these sites are not surveyed for extended periods, there is potential that some peregrine falcon nesting site will be unidentified. Therefore there is the potential for forest management operations to occur within 1,000 m of an unidentified occupied nest.

ii) Advantages: This alternative protects known peregrine falcon nesting sites and nesting sites with a history of use during the critical breeding period.

iii) Disadvantages: This alternative has the potential to reduce operational flexibility due to timing restrictions, restrictions on renewal activities and operational constraints on road planning and road construction. As well, forested area is made unavailable for forest management within the 0-500 m zone.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Based on experience gained during implementation of similar prescriptions designed to protect peregrine falcon habitat, the planning team feels this alternative will provide adequate protection while addressing some of the operational short-comings of previous area of concern prescriptions.

This alternative satisfies the protection of the identified values while providing for access for forest management operations, therefore only one alternative is necessary.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: R7-C

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: Where the AOC overlaps another, more restrictive AOC, the more restrictive AOC applies.
A 100 m AOC measured from the edge of the cliff face in all directions.
0-100 m from cliff: No harvest, renewal or tending permitted above or below the cliff face.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential Effects: There is potential for forest management operations to occur outside of this AOC, which may impact unidentified nesting sites and associated habitat.
 - ii) Advantages: This alternative protects the habitat area immediately adjacent to the cliff (0-100 m) and identifies cliff sites as potential nesting habitat to aid in MNRFS surveys.
 - iii) Disadvantages: A small amount of forested area is made unavailable for forest management within the 0-100 m zone.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: This alternative will protect the identified nesting habitat of peregrine falcon, while providing the opportunity for forest management activities. Therefore, only one alternative is necessary.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: RATT-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 3 kilometre modified operations zone (seasonal operations and temporary roads) as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT).

Regular harvest operations as per the SGRs are permitted from September 1 to June 30. No harvest operations are permitted from July 1 to August 31. This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.

Harvest operations may also be seasonally restricted during moose hunting season, which will be determined through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator (Wilderness North) to determine if the camp will be in use. This consultation will be initiated by the RBT Operator (Wilderness North) and will be documented and copied to MNRF.

Regular renewal operations as per the SGRs are permitted, however, the specific timing will be determined through early consultation (at AWS Inspection Period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized by Whitesand Provincial Park (as Ratte Lake lies within the Park) and the application of the 3 kilometre seasonal operations zone when the outpost camp is in use. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the seasonal operations zone outside of the park boundary. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. There are no roads allowed within the Park and the addition of the 3 km temporary roads zone and proposed decommissioning strategies provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - iii) Disadvantages: There is the potential, at times, when the value may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to

Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest).

Ratte Lake is within Whitesand Provincial Park and therefore there are no harvest allocations close to the lake (all allocations > 900m from the lake). The 3.0 kilometre temporary road zone is in excess of the 1.6 km temporary roads zone specified by CLUPA for designated tourism lakes, and proposed road decommissioning strategies will provide access control to the value. There is also an access restriction on Lee Lake Road prohibiting use of this road to access Ratte Lake.

The 3 kilometre seasonal operations zone should provide protection from noise-related impacts during the tourism season, and the restriction on primary or branch roads within this zone will help limit the creation of new access to the value and curtail recreational vehicular traffic in this area.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and provides a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: REC

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 100 metre radius reserve measured from the cottage as identified in LIO. The exact location of the cottage will be field verified during the layout phase of operations prior to harvest operations commencing. No forest management activities are permitted within the 100 metre reserve.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value with forest management activities. There is the potential to create road access to the area around the value.
 - (ii) Advantages: The prescription provides protection of the value from forest management activities and also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. In additions to protection of the value, the reserve area of timber may also serve other objectives/requirements in forest management planning such as: forest residual patch and/or old growth forest area. There is the potential to create road access to the area around the value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: There is a potential of some areas of possible blowdown in the reserve dependent upon site/weather conditions. There is the potential to create road access to the area around the value.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a. Description: Same as alternative A.
 - b. Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that has been effectively applied in previous FMPs for other types of remote/semi-remote cabins, and it minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities and provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities.
 - c. Exception: No
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: RUSH-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, plus a 400 metre no roads zone and a 1.6 kilometre modified operations (seasonal and temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys.

Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone, with the exception of no harvest or site preparation operations in the first two weeks of resident moose hunting season. This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (AWS Inspection period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.

c) Environmental Analysis:

i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the no operations reserve, and seasonal restrictions when the outpost camp is in use. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone and proposed decommissioning strategies provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription

was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). In this case, the general approach for mini-moose hunt camps was adjusted as Rushbay Lake is also a designated tourism lake that is part of a high potential canoe route, thus the addition of a viewshed reserve.

The minimum reserve of 200 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone and proposed road decommissioning strategies will help ensure that no new access is created to the value (refer to FMP-18 for more details). There is also an access restriction on Collins Road prohibiting the use of Collins Road and Vale Lake Road to access Rushbay Lake. Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: RW

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 60 metre zone of modified operations, as measured from the edge of the surveyed railway right-of-way. Regular forest operations as per SGRs are permitted, harvest operation should utilize full-tree harvest method. No slash piling permitted within the AOC. In areas where this AOC prescription overlaps with an APA AOC, the specific direction for the APA AOC must be applied.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - (i) Potential effects: Normal forest operations will have a minimal impact on this value.
 - (ii) Advantages: The use of full-tree harvesting and the absence of landings and slash piles will minimize slash loading and reduce the risk of railway-origin fires.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Possible risk of drifting snow onto the railway.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that has been effectively applied in previous FMPs, and it provides protection of the identified value.
 - c) Exception: No
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: RW2

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 60 metre zone of modified operations, as measured from the edge of the surveyed railway right-of-way. Regular forest operations as per SGRs are permitted, harvest operation should utilize full-tree harvest method. No slash piling permitted within the AOC. In areas where this AOC prescription overlaps with an APA AOC, the specific direction for the APA AOC must be applied.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Normal forest operations will have a minimal impact on this value.
 - (ii) Advantages: The use of full-tree harvesting and the absence of landings and slash piles will minimize slash loading and reduce the risk of railway-origin fires.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Possible risk of drifting snow onto the railway.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that has been effectively applied in previous FMPs to protect this type of patent land, and it provides protection of the identified value.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SENS1

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A variable-width reserve as mapped. No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the AOC.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (ii) Advantages: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: None at this time.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: This prescription was developed in consultation with Whitesand First Nation and applied to the formerly amalgamated 2011-2021 FMP, and carried over to the 2021-2023 Wabadowgang Noopming CP. This prescription provides protection of the sensitive value, however, due to the confidentiality of the values information, details are not presented in this AOC Supplementary Documentation.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SENS2

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A variable-width reserve as mapped. No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the AOC.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (ii) Advantages: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: None at this time.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: This prescription was developed in consultation with Whitesand First Nation and applied to the formerly amalgamated Lake Nipigon Forest 2011-2021 FMP and carried over for the 2021-2023 CP. This prescription provides protection of the sensitive value, however, due to the confidentiality of the values information, details are not presented in this AOC Supplementary Documentation.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SENS7

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 25 metre radius reserve as measured from the value, as mapped. No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the AOC.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (ii) Advantages: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: None at this time.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative is presented as this prescription was developed in consultation with the community of Namaygoosisagagun. This prescription provides protection of the sensitive value, however, due to the confidentiality of the values information, details are not presented in this AOC Supplementary Documentation.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SENS8

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A modified operations zone (seasonal timing restrictions), as mapped. No harvest, renewal or tending operations are permitted in the AOC from April 1 to May 31 and from September 1 to October 15.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (ii) Advantages: Reserve width allows for protection of the sensitive value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: None at this time.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative is presented as this prescription was developed in consultation with the community of Namaygoosisagagun. This prescription provides protection of the sensitive value, however, due to the confidentiality of the values information, details are not presented in this AOC Supplementary Documentation.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SENS13

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 200 metre radius reserve as measured from the value, as mapped. No harvest, renewal or tending operations permitted in the reserve.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
Not Required.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: The prescription provides protection of the sensitive value, however, due to confidentiality of the values information, details are not presented in this AOC Supplementary Documentation.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: SNTL

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: 30 metre circular AOC centered on identified nesting site (point).
No forest management activities are permitted within the area of concern. Note: currently this AOC is not present on the forest.
 - c) Environmental Analysis:
 - i) Potential Effects: There is potential for forestry activities adjacent to the protected to impact the habitat within the AOC.
 - ii) This alternative reduces the risk of inadvertent destruction of snapping turtle nesting habitat.
 - iii) The AOC removes a small amount of productive land base from harvest.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
Not applicable.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: TC

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternate Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 100 metre radius reserve measured from the cabin location as identified in LIO. The exact location of the trap cabin will be field verified during the layout phase of operations prior to harvest operations commencing.
No forest management activities are permitted within the 100 metre reserve.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value with forest management activities.
 - (ii) Advantages: The prescription provides protection of the value from forest management activities and also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. In addition to protection of the value, the reserve area of timber may also serve other objectives/requirements in forest management planning such as: forest residual patch and/or old growth forest area.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: There is a potential of some areas of possible blowdown in the reserve dependent upon site/weather conditions. Otherwise, there are no disadvantages in applying this area of concern prescription related to this value.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that has been effectively applied in previous FMPs, and it minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities and provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: TRL-1

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: Modified operations on the width of the trail and 1.5 m on either side of trail as indicated on 1:20,000 operational scale maps and identified in NRVIS. The exact location of the trail will be field-verified during the layout phase of operations prior to the commencement of forest management operations. Operators will exercise due diligence in attempting to locate the trail prior to the commencement of forest management operations. However, if the trail cannot be found on the ground, operators may flag an approximate location based on GPS coordinates and apply the prescription to that location. If this is not possible, MNRF will be notified, the value will be documented as missing, and the AOC will no longer apply. In this case, updated information on the operational prescription and the AWS map will be provided by the licensee/SFL holder to the MNRF area office, for compliance monitoring.

The following practices will be implemented on recognized working trapline trails and recreational trails:

- Trails will be marked prior to harvest and site preparation operations by ribboning windfirm trees (<7m in height) along the edge of the trail, and leaving these trees standing. The number of trees left along the trail will be determined by operational personnel based on the visibility of the marked trees (e.g. ability of operator to recognize and follow the trail) which will be dependent on terrain (e.g. operators may choose to leave one tree every 10m on either side of the trail). These trees may be stubbed if wind firmness is questionable.
- Trails will be cleared of logging debris following forest management operations.
- Skidding across the trail is to be avoided, but when this is not possible skid trails will be minimized.
- Trails are to be left free of obstacles and passable following forest management operations.
- Trails will not be mechanically site prepared or treated with artificial regeneration methods (i.e. planted or seeded).
- No restrictions on chemical tending operations.
- Trails will not be improved or moved without prior written MNRF approval. In areas where this AOC prescription overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: Forest management operations which cross these trails may damage the trail and create conflicts with other forest users.

(ii) Advantages: The prescription provides direction to prevent damage to the trail(s) and ensures that the trail(s) are left free of obstacles and passable post forest management operations, while allowing forest management operations to proceed.

(iii) Disadvantages: There are no disadvantages to applying this prescription.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alternative A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is the same prescription that has been effectively applied in previous FMPs, and it provides protection of the identified value and acknowledges the importance of trails on the Forest to other forest users. This prescription is based on guidelines for trapline trails and road crossings contained in the Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (MNRF 2010).

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: TRL-2

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: A 30 metre zone of modified operations AOC as measured from either side of trail as indicated on 1:20,000 operational scale maps and identified in LIO. The exact location of the trail will be field-verified during the layout phase of operations prior to the commencement of forest management operations. Operators will exercise due diligence in attempting to locate the trail prior to the commencement of forest management operations. However, if the trail cannot be found on the ground, operators may flag an approximate location based on GPS coordinates and apply the prescription to that location. If this is not possible, MNRF will be notified, the value will be documented as missing, and the AOC will no longer apply. In this case, updated information on the operational prescription and the AWS map will be provided by the licensee/SFL holder to the MNRF area office, for compliance monitoring.

The following practices will be implemented on recognized portage trails (as classified above):

- Trails will be marked prior to harvest and site preparation operations by ribboning windfirm trees (<12m in height) along the edge of the trail, and leaving these trees standing. A CLAAG like harvest technique may be used to harvest trees greater than approximately 12 m in height. This is to reduce the amount of blowdown over the trail.
- Trails will be cleared of logging debris following forest management operations.
- Skidding across the trail is to be avoided, but when this is not possible skid trails will be minimized.
- Trails are to be left free of obstacles and passable following forest management operations.
- Trails will not be mechanically site prepared or treated with artificial regeneration methods (i.e. planted or seeded).
- No restrictions on chemical tending operations.
- Trails will not be improved or moved without prior written MNRF approval.
- On newly constructed roads, where the trail intersects at this location, the slope of road shoulder should be at a ratio of 1:1 which will enable 'ease of carry' up the slope and over the road. In areas where this AOC prescription overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: Forest management operations which cross these trails may damage the trail and create conflicts with other forest users.

(ii) Advantages: The prescription provides direction to prevent damage to the trail(s) and ensures that the trail(s) are left free of obstacles and passable post forest management operations, while allowing forest management operations to proceed.

(iii) Disadvantages: There are no disadvantages to applying this prescription.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: This alternative is proposed because it has been prepared in consultation with stakeholders and recommended by the Planning Team. This prescription provides protection of the identified value and acknowledges the importance of trails on the Forest to other forest users. This

prescription is based on guidelines for trapline trails and road crossings contained in the Forest Management Guide for Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales (MNRF 2010).

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: VALE-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 70 to 120 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped. The variable-width reserve is measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the reserve is based on the following slope-based calculations:

0-30% 70 m

31-45% 100 m

>46% 120 m

There is also a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary road) zone as mapped (bordered by Collins Road and Vale Lake Road). Layout information is determined from the 1:20,000 operations maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground survey. There are no harvest, renewal or tending operations in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations are permitted outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone and proposed decommissioning strategies provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created through use of the road system.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is essentially the same prescription that had been developed for the formerly amalgamated Lake Nipigon Forest 2011-2021 FMP, and it was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values to be used in the 2021-2023 CP. The only difference is that the minimum width of the reserve has been changed to 70 metres and is measured from forested polygons.

The minimum reserve of 70 metres will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route, and screens forest management operations from areas directly adjacent to the river. This prescription was developed with input from the planning team for the 2011 FMP and again with the 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can lessen aesthetic/noise impacts to canoeists. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested.

The 1.6 kilometre temporary road zone (bordered by Collins Road and Vale Lake Road) will help ensure that no new access is created to the value. There is also an access restriction on Collins Road prohibiting use of Collins Road and Vale Lake Road to access the area.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: VALE2-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a 30 to 90 metre variable-width and slope-dependent no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a variable-width viewshed reserve up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped. The variable-width reserve is measured from the first occurrence of standing timber represented in Forested polygons. This is determined in the field based on an assessment of the boundary area during layout, as mapped. Reserve widths shown on allocation maps may be adjusted in the field through shoreline/forested area evaluation. These adjustments do not require a revision or amendment. The width of the reserve is based on the following slope-based calculations:

0-15% 30 m

16-30% 50 m

31-45% 70 m

>46% 90 m

There are no harvest, renewal or tending operations in the reserve portion of the AOC.

No contamination of lakes or ponds by foreign materials is permitted. Specifically, • The use of fuels will be carried out in accordance with the Liquid Fuels Handling Code. • No equipment maintenance (e.g. washing or changing oil) is permitted within 30 m of lakes or ponds. • Aerial application of pesticides for renewal, tending, or protection is permitted within the AOC but will follow spray buffer zones for significant areas or sensitive areas (as appropriate) as prescribed in the Ontario Ministry of Environment /Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Buffer Zone Guidelines for Aerial Application of Pesticides in Crown Forests of Ontario (1992). Machine-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. air-blast sprayers mounted on skidders) is permitted within the AOC, spray buffer zones will be 30 m for significant areas and 60 m for sensitive areas. Hand-based ground application of herbicides (e.g. back-pack sprayers) is permitted within the AOC; spray buffer zones will be 3 m. All spray buffer zones will be measured from the inner boundary of the AOC.

c) Environmental Analysis

(i) Potential effects: Aesthetic effects from the canoe route will be minimized through the application of the reserve. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities from any location on these canoe routes. This prescription ensures that higher points of elevation which may not be screened by the variable-width reserve will likely be screened by the additional reserve area. The prescription also protects the value from damage by potential post-harvest blowdown events. It also provides protection to water quality and fish habitat and exceeds the requirements for lakes/ponds/streams in the 'Forest Management Guide for

Conserving Biodiversity at the Stand and Site Scales'. This will also provide protection to wilderness canoe route campsites. This prescription will also ensure protection of the identified archaeological potential areas. Protection of this value will ensure its continued use.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the canoe route as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake/river. There is also a potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. The only difference is that the width of the reserve is measured from forested polygons, thus ensuring a larger reserve area.

The viewscape reserve will ensure the protection of water quality, fish habitat, archaeological potential areas and the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route, and screens forest management operations from areas directly adjacent to the river.

Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations (through RSA negotiations) for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified value. This prescription was also developed, in part, with input from the planning team for the 2011 FMP and again for the 2021 CP, with additional input from member(s) of the public affiliated with a canoe association. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can also diminish impacts to canoeists. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested.

c) Exception: No.

3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.

4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: WAWG-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) as mapped.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve. Forest management operations should not impact the aesthetics as a complete viewshed analysis has been run based on the proposed allocations.
 - (ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This ensures that harvested areas in close proximity to the lake will not be visible from the lake. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. Seasonal timing restrictions provide protection of value from potential noise from harvesting operations. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: There is the potential, at times, when cottagers may be impacted by noise from forest management operations.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. Due to the limited area of allocations proposed for the Lake Nipigon Forest 2011-2021 FMP, a complete viewshed analysis was completed and the resulting reserve area provides a significant aesthetic buffer whereby harvested areas should not be seen from the lake. This was carried over to the 2021-2023 CP.

Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program : N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: WHPL

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a)
 - b) Description: Upon discovery of a whip-poor-will nesting site, the local MNRF Biologist will be notified so that they can confirm the species using the nesting site.
200 metre radius AOC measured from nesting site:
 - No forest harvest operations permitted within 200 metres of the nesting site.
 - The critical breeding period is from May 1 to August 14.
 - Site preparation, renewal and tending operations of previously harvested areas within the AOC are only permitted outside of the critical breeding period.
 - Residual pattern, wildlife trees and downed woody material will be retained (see Section CRO-2 of the CP text).
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: This prescription provides protection for whip-poor-will nests by not permitting harvest operations within 200m of the nesting site and a timing restriction during the breeding period for renewal and tending operations.
 - (ii) Advantages/Disadvantages: This prescription restricts further harvesting while allowing renewal/tending in previously harvested areas to occur when the nest is not expected to be occupied during the critical breeding period. There are no disadvantages to the nests by applying this prescription.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only 1 alternative has been proposed as this is the same prescription developed and implemented on Phase 2 plans on adjacent forests. It has been reviewed by MNRFs Biologist.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: WHTC-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 1,000 metre no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) reserve plus a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted in the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted in the modified zone that are outside of the reserve portion of the AOC. This area is planned for operations during the 2023-2033 FMP period. AOC prescriptions are preliminary and will be reviewed by the planning team.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the 1 kilometre reserve and modified roads zone. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.
 - (ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a 1 kilometre reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value. There is the potential, at times, the value may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because the 1 kilometre reserve is as recommended in the Forest Management Guidelines for the Conservation of Woodland Caribou: A Landscape Approach (MNR 1999). During phase II planning the calving portions on Whiteclay Lake will need to be confirmed and reserve/modified portion of the 1 km caribou calving AOC will need to be determined. In addition, Whiteclay Lake falls within Wabakimi Provincial Park which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The 1.6 kilometre modified zone is as per direction from CLUPA Policy Report G2619 for designated tourism lakes. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.
 - c) Exception: No.
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: WIGW-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions

a) Alternative Identifier: A

b) Description: This prescription consists of a minimum 200 metre plus a variable-width viewshed reserve of no operations (harvest, renewal or tending) up to a maximum of 700 metres as mapped, a 1.6 kilometre modified (temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Harvest, renewal and tending operations are not permitted within the reserve portion of the AOC. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted at any time outside of the reserve portion of the AOC and within the 1.6 kilometre modified operations zone.

c) Environmental Analysis:

(i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the viewshed reserve and seasonal restrictions. Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics as it is possible that portions of the harvest area may be visible from the lake, as the intent of the viewshed is to screen harvested areas from areas directly adjacent to the lake. There is the potential to create new access to the lake.

(ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from forest management activities with the application of a viewshed reserve. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone provides additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value.

(iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value as it is possible that portions of the harvested areas may be visible from more distant locations on the lake. There is the potential, at times, when canoeists may be impacted by noise from forest management operations. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.

2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition

a) Description: Same as Alt A.

b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. However, through Planning Team discussion with the outfitter in this area, the 3.0 km timing restriction that had been in place in the previous plan has been removed. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. However, through discussions between the Planning Team and the canoe outfitter in the area, the original 3.0 km seasonal restriction has been removed. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. Since this part of the Kopka river is close to the highway, has larger water bodies and at the

end of most canoe trips, the noise impact was not deemed too critical in that area. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription was developed through negotiations with Canoe route outfitter on September 15 2020 and presented to the LCC on October 14th 2020.

The Kopka River Waterway Park extends 200 metres from the lake which ensures the protection of water quality, fish habitat and archaeological potential areas. The additional viewscape ensures the protection of aesthetics and noise buffer along the canoe route and tourism value. The seasonal restrictions on harvesting and renewal (as outlined above), for all but one AWS period limits the potential noise impacts to canoeists using the canoe route. Canoe route travel involves daily movement of considerable distances which can also diminish impacts to canoeists. The key issue is to identify the location of summer forest management operations and pre-planning (i.e. of campsites) to avoid noisy locations. In order to provide this information to canoeists, maps illustrating the location of summer operations will be posted at an appropriate location in Armstrong, and the relevant outfitters will be provided with updates on the status of the operations, if requested.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription. Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: WPP

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: A 180 metre zone of modified operations measured from the edge of the Wabakimi Provincial park boundary will be established in order to minimize uncontrolled access into this provincial park. Regular harvest, renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted. In areas where this AOC overlaps with the APA AOC, the specific direction in the APA AOC prescription must be applied.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: Normal forest management activities will have minimal impact on this value; however, there is the potential of creating new unregulated access points into the park.
 - (ii) Advantages: This prescription ensures the protection of park values by limiting new unregulated access points while minimizing the potential loss of timber.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: There are no disadvantages to the value with the application of this prescription.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because it provides protection of the identified value by addressing concerns related to the creation of new uncontrolled access points into the park, while minimizing impacts to forest management operations.
 - c) Exception: No
- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A

Area of Concern Documentation

Area of Concern (AOC) Identifier: ZIGZ-TR

Part A: Operational Prescription and Conditions

- 1) Environmental Analysis of Alternative Operational Prescriptions and Conditions
 - a) Alternative Identifier: A
 - b) Description: This prescription consists 3 kilometre modified (seasonal operations and temporary roads) zone as measured from the high water mark (polygons identified as WAT). This information is determined from the 1:20,000 maps including the associated topographic information, FRI, aerial photos and ground surveys. Regular harvest operations as per the SGRs are permitted within the 3 kilometre modified zone only from the end of the second week of resident moose hunting season (late fall) to the opening of pickerel season (usually mid-May). This seasonal restriction may be changed through early consultation (AWS Inspection period) with the RBT operator to determine if the camp is in use. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF. Regular renewal and tending operations as per the SGRs are permitted with the 3 kilometre modified zone at any time, with the exception of mechanical site preparation. The specific timing of site preparation activities are to be determined through consultation with the resource-based tourism operator. The results of this consultation will be documented and copied to MNRF.
 - c) Environmental Analysis
 - (i) Potential effects: There is the potential to impact the value (aesthetics, noise) with forest management activities. These effects will be minimized through the application of the modified seasonal operations zone. There is the potential to create new access to the lake. This lake is within a D mosaic block which is not available for operations during the term of this plan. The nearest allocations are approximately 1.3 kilometres away in an A mosaic block.
 - (ii) Advantages: This prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities as it provides a significant aesthetic and noise buffer from these activities. The value is located within a D mosaic block, which is not available for forest management operations during the term of this FMP. The nearest allocations are approximately 1.3 kilometres away, which ensures a high level of protection to the values. This prescription also ensures protection of lakes with high potential sensitivity to forest management operations and archaeological potential areas. The temporary roads zone as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies will provide additional protection to limit access and help preserve the remote aspect of the value and limit possible disturbances.
 - (iii) Disadvantages: Forest management operations may impact the aesthetics of the value, thereby reducing the sense of remoteness. There is the potential, at times, when noise from forest management operations may impact the value. There is a possibility that new temporary access to the lake may be created.
- 2) Proposed Operational Prescription and Condition
 - a) Description: Same as Alt A.
 - b) Rationale: Only one alternative was analyzed because this is generally the same prescription that had been developed through detailed discussions and negotiations with outfitters for past FMP's and this prescription was used in the 2011-2021 Amalgamated Lake Nipigon FMP. It was felt that this prescription provided a sufficient level of protection to the identified values. This prescription

was developed (in the previous FMP) based in part on a revised document (Draft – An approach to Remote Commercial Tourism on the Armstrong Forest) which describes the framework for the level of protection to be provided to identified tourism values on the Armstrong Forest (now called the Wabadowgang Noopming Forest). No other alternatives are proposed due to the detailed nature of this AOC prescription

The value (Zigzag Lake) is located within a D mosaic block, which is not available for forest management operations during the term of this CP. The nearest allocations are approximately 1.3 kilometres away, therefore a viewshed reserve has not been prescribed. A viewshed analysis has been run to ensure that the proposed allocations do not affect the viewscape of the value. The application of a 3 kilometre seasonal operations zone should address any concerns regarding noise impacts for guests.

The 3 kilometre temporary roads zone is in excess of that specified for designated tourism lakes (as per CLUPA Policy Report G2619). The detailed roads strategy can be found in Table FMP-18. This temporary road zone, as well as the proposed decommissioning strategies for this block will provide additional protection to limit access and ensure the remote aspect of the value. Road construction standards and decommissioning roads as forest management operations are completed will curtail vehicular traffic in these zones. There currently access restrictions (signs) on the Jackfish Road prohibiting unauthorized use of the road to access Zigzag (and other) lakes.

Additional communication with the outfitter in 2010 and again in 2020 indicated that this prescription was acceptable and effective. Overall, this prescription minimizes the potential impact on the value from forest management activities, provides an aesthetic buffer from these activities, and ensures a level of access control to the value.

c) Exception: No.

- 3) Summary of Public Comments: None to date.
- 4) Selected Prescription: Alt A.

Part B: Primary Road Crossing

Not applicable, there are no primary roads proposed for construction within the area of concern.

Part C: Monitoring Program

N/A