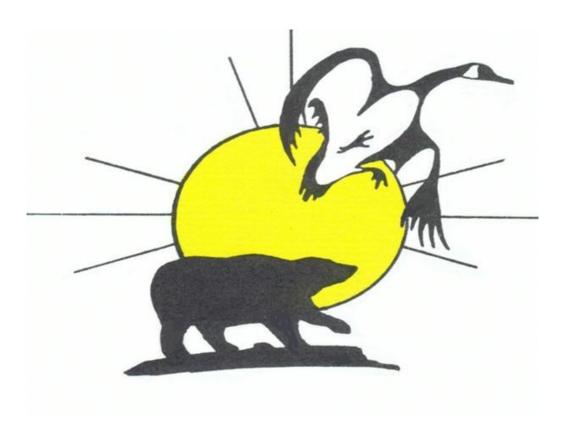
Mamawmattawa Elilowuc Aski Land of the Mamawmattawa People



Community Based Land Use Plan

Constance Lake First Nation & Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

July 2025

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Constance Lake First Nation appreciates the value and importance of passing knowledge on to future generations. Elders' knowledge and oral history was critical to the development of this land use plan and was a major consideration on which planning decisions were based.

The Constance Lake First Nation community based land use plan is the result of leadership, collaborative work, and the support of many people. We would like to thank the following people and organizations for their support and contributions in developing this plan:

- Constance Lake First Nation Elders;
- Constance Lake First Nation community members: trappers and hunters;
- Constance Lake First Nation youth, women and men;
- Constance Lake First Nation Chief and Council;
- Constance Lake First Nation Administration Office;
- Adjacent First Nation Communities: Marten Falls, Aroland, Moose Cree, Fort Albany & Kashechewan;
- Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR);
- Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM)
- Ministry of Northern Economic Development and Growth (MNEDG)
- Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks (MECP); and
- Other advisors and technical support workers.

Plan summary

In 2002, Constance Lake First Nation (CLFN) began working with Ontario through the Northern Boreal Initiative (NBI), which focused on commercial forestry opportunities for the Boreal forest north of the Managed Forest. The NBI began the formal planning efforts to document Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) in support of land use planning. The planning process broadened in scope and in 2014, CLFN launched a Terms of Reference to guide the designation of a planning area of interest and the development of a community based land use plan.

The Constance Lake planning area is approximately 2,274,259 ha (22,743 km²) in size and is situated north of Constance Lake Reserve in the Far North of Ontario. Although

the community focused its efforts on land use planning activities north of the Managed Forest, this does not limit the traditional land extent of CLFN.

Constance Lake First Nation's planning area is based on several factors which include: CLFN's extensive past and present connection with the land and waters of its traditional territory; community traplines; ITK research; and ongoing dialogue with adjacent communities.

Discussions with adjacent First Nation communities concerning shared planning areas were initiated during the drafting of the Terms of Reference and continued through the planning stage.

During the creation of the plan, great efforts were made in preserving information for the purpose of sharing local history as well as cultural and traditional values with the community members, especially the Elders and youth. Information brought forward by the Elders and community served as a major focal point of cultural interest and as the basis for preparing land use direction and planning.

Constance Lake First Nation's planning area is designated as two land use areas: Kenogami Seebee Dedicated Protected Area (DPA) and Mamawmattawa Aski General Use Area (GUA). Regardless of the designation, these areas are sacred traditional territory.

Kenogami Seebee DPA – 794,632 ha (7,946 km²)

Kenogami Seebee DPA recognizes the importance of waterways and the land as having significant cultural and ecological values and promotes activities that are complimentary to the protection of those values. The land use intent is to maintain remoteness and to protect special cultural sites, hunting and fishing areas, and important wildlife habitat.

Mamawmattawa Aski GUA – 1,425,934 ha (14,259 km²)

The Mamawmattawa Aski GUA is generally a lowland area that contains both forests and wetlands. There are forest resources, high mineral potential, existing mineral exploration claims, existing tourism operations, and potential for additional tourism opportunities within this area. The land use intent for this area is to encourage sustainable economic development.

This land use plan will provide guiding direction to government, resource based industry, and other agencies in their assessment of development projects. Periodically, the effectiveness of direction and decisions contained in the land use plan will need to be re-evaluated. A formal review will take place once every ten years from the time the Final Plan is approved but if needed, amendments can happen at any time once the Final Plan is approved.

Part 1 - Introduction

In 2002, Constance Lake First Nation (CLFN) began working with Ontario through the Northern Boreal Initiative (NBI), which focused on commercial forestry opportunities for the Boreal forest north of the Managed Forest. The NBI began the formal planning efforts to document Indigenous Traditional Knowledge (ITK) in support of land use planning. The planning process has since been broadened and is now described as community based land use planning (CBLUP) under the Far North Act, 2010.

Constance Lake First Nation engaged in the CBLUP process and worked to develop a Terms of Reference to guide the designation of a planning area of interest and guide the development of a CBLUP. Constance Lake First Nation, in partnership with Ontario, represented by the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), formed a Joint Planning Team who worked together to develop land use direction for the area indicated by CLFN as its planning area which is north of the Managed Forest. The planning area is located within CLFN's Traditional Aski Area (Figure 1).

Constance Lake First Nation have made substantial efforts to collect information on spiritual, cultural and natural values, and sites present in its traditional land. Such research has allowed the First Nation to further identify traditional use areas.

The planning process has supported analysis of collected information as well as offers the opportunity to continue to gather and document information in order to build CLFN's ITK of land use values and occupancy, both historical and current. This information served as the foundation for the CLFN CBLUP within its traditional territory.

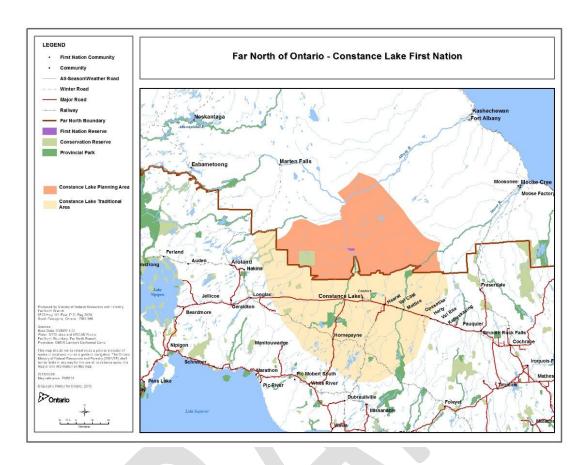


Figure 1. Constance Lake First Nation Traditional Aski Area and Planning Area

The planning process also provided a new framework for increasing community participation, transferring and incorporating ITK into the planning process, and helped build internal capacity.

Reasons for Constance Lake First Nation to engage in planning include: the wellbeing of future generations; documenting and preserving community values and priorities; outlining desired land uses and opportunities; creating guiding direction for the management of lands and resources; strengthening decision making; and upholding the integrity of the land.

Constance Lake and Ontario acknowledge that the relationship with Indigenous people is evolving in accordance with federal and provincial direction on reconciliation including the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples (UNDRIP). As legislation and policies continue to advance over time, Constance Lake and Ontario are committed to working in partnership toward meaningful reconciliation consistent with the values that underpin UNDRIP.

This plan has been prepared in a manner that is consistent with the recognition and affirmation of existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights in section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982, including the duty to consult.

Nothing in this community based land use plan shall be construed to abrogate or derogate from the protection provided for existing Aboriginal and Treaty Rights.

Mission Statement, Vision, Goals, Objectives and Interests

The Mission Statement and Vision provide overarching direction. The Goals, Objectives and Interests provide direction that has supported development of this CBLUP. These were created by the Joint Planning Team (JPT).

Mission Statement

Constance Lake First Nation is dedicated to respecting the teachings and wisdom of our Elders, keeping the land, providing for our continued way of life, and seeking opportunities for Our People. Maintaining a relationship to the land to support our Native way of life in conjunction with and through community based land use planning is imperative.

Vision

To provide stewardship for our lands and resources through the knowledge and guidance of our Elders and heritage. Through this vision, we will seek a balanced approach that protects community interests while also seeking sustainable development opportunities.

Goals

The following goals provide direction to help guide future land and resource management within the planning area:

- Maintain cultural and traditional values and activities;
- Support environmentally sustainable economic development opportunities; and
- Support preservation of the environment (with an emphasis on waterways).

Objectives

The following objectives inform the desired outcomes for the Plan and its implementation:

- Development of land use guidance respecting the Aboriginal and Treaty Rights of both CLFN and adjacent First Nations;
- Completion of a collaboratively developed CBLUP;
- Consideration of the objectives for land use planning in the Far North, as provided in the Far North Act (s.5).

Interests

In addition to interests such as: 1) including the use of Indigenous knowledge to guide and influence the planning process; and 2) ensuring respectful and responsible mineral, forest, and tourism activities take place, CLFN has identified other interests that relate to the planning process and potential development outcomes:

- Working together with Ontario to establish and maintain a good working relationship.
- Place a high priority on the preservation and protection of culturally sensitive sites
- The Indigenous way of life is respected in all Traditional Aski Areas and Indigenous traditional activities, which include (but are not limited to) hunting, trapping, fishing and gathering are acknowledged as historical and current uses.
- Maintain remoteness and protect special cultural sites, hunting and fishing areas, and important wildlife habitat.

Process for plan development

Planning principles

The following principles express underlying values to guide both the land use plan and future decision making for land and resource activities:

- Respect traditional values and uses, and incorporate these values into the planning process wherever possible;
- Follow the guidance of CLFN Elders;

- Commit to learn, improve and strive for excellence on an ongoing basis in all land use planning decisions;
- Consider the best available data and information;
- Use baseline information with regards to climate change and the physical and biological environments to protect community health and safety;
- Respect future generations and their interests;
- Respect the various perspectives and information brought to the planning process;
 and
- Give respectful consideration to ITK and contemporary science, to make wise land use decisions to provide opportunities for future generations.

Planning phases

The Terms of Reference for a community based land use planning process for CLFN, approved February 2014, set out the details of the planning process, planning structure and consultation requirements. Suggested timelines were provided for each of the project phases and were revised as necessary throughout the planning process. An updated summary of the planning process and associated phases (as provided in the Terms of Reference) is provided below.

Phase 1

Planning initiation and engagement

- Historical work under the NBI
- Gather ITK
- Seek funding support and approval
- Assemble CLFN working group committee
- Hold discussions to advise development of a Terms of Reference
- Continue to gather ITK
- Gain a common understanding between CLFN and Ontario MNR with respect to land use planning objectives to begin structuring the planning process

Phase 2

Terms of reference

- Formalize the Joint Planning Team (JPT) with working group committee members
- Determine a draft planning area of interest

Timeline: 2005 - 2013

Timeline: 2013 – Spring 2014

- Describe objectives
- Assemble ITK data
- Communicate with the community membership to develop awareness
- Invite participation from community membership
- Discuss shared areas of planning interest with adjacent communities
- Seek joint approval/endorsement of Terms of Reference
- Post proposal on the Environmental Registry for the general public, industry, stakeholders and other interest groups

Phase 3

Draft community based land use plan Timeline: Spring 2014 – Summer 2025

- Obtain, assess and analyze ITK and western science information
- Collect economic development and resources development potential
- Communicate with leadership and community membership to ensure awareness
- Invite participation from community membership
- Develop a draft CBLUP
- Work with community members and Ontario to reach consensus on the draft plan
- Prepare draft recommendations describing proposed land use designations (i.e. zoning) and associated direction for lands, waters and resources
- Host an open house to share the draft plan and ensure involvement opportunities for community membership both on and off-Reserve, the general public, industry, stakeholders and other interest groups.
- Review, consider and incorporate comments received from sharing the draft plan
- Discuss shared areas of interest and proposed land use designations with adjacent communities
- Finalize Draft Plan
- Post a proposal notice about the Draft CBLUP on the Environmental Registry
- Formally designate the Planning Area
- Work with MEM on withdrawals under Section 35 of Mining Act

Phase 4

Final community based land use plan Timeline: Summer 2025 – Summer 2026

• Consider public input and summarize the JPT's response to the input

- Make appropriate revisions and incorporate them into the final CBLUP
- Seek community and Ontario consensus
- Seek joint approval/endorsement of the final CBLUP
- Post decision notice on the Environmental Registry for the general public, industry, stakeholders and other interested groups

Phase 5

Plan implementation

 Work in partnership to address implementation procedures consistent with the Final Plan

Timeline: 2026 onward

- Review and amend the CBLUP, when required
- Ongoing information gathering, assessing, and analyzing information, as necessary (ITK and western science)

Planning structure

In partnership with Ontario, CLFN has created an administrative structure to guide the community through the land use planning process. The roles and responsibilities are outlined in Figure 2.

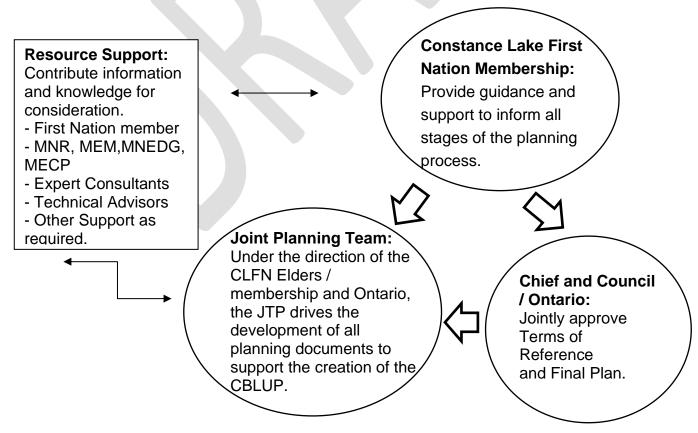


Figure 2. Constance Lake First Nation Planning Structure

Engagement

Community engagement

- The JPT has met regularly since the launch of the Terms of Reference to develop the Plan.
- Regular updates were provided to Chief and Council throughout the planning process.
- Chief and Council provided guidance and support to the planning process, and reviewed documents at key stages.
- Constance Lake First Nation and MNR collaborated on several community information sessions throughout the planning process.
- Community participation in the launch of the TOR was invited by written notification and local advertising.
- Community members offered guidance and input for the plan through community information sessions/open houses.

Public information sessions

At the Terms of Reference stage invitations to participate in the planning process were facilitated by Constance Lake First Nation and MNR through notifications and outreach to the resource sector, non-governmental organizations, the public and First Nations communities and organizations through newspaper and mail, email and fax.

Environmental Registry Proposal Notice 012-2229 was posted on July 23, 2014 for a 47 day public comment period. An Open House to share the completed Terms of Reference was held on August 6, 2014 in Constance Lake. An Open House was also held in Thunder Bay on August 7, 2014. In addition to Constance Lake First Nation, MNR and MEM attendees, the events were attended by adjacent First Nation community representatives, Tribal Council representatives, industry stakeholders and members of the public. At this stage, no formal comments were received through the Open House or Environmental Registry posting.

At the Draft plan stage, invitations to participate in the planning process were facilitated by Constance Lake First Nation and MNR through notifications and outreach to the resource sector, non-governmental organizations, the public and First Nations

communities and organizations through mail and email. At this stage, an Environmental Registry Proposal Notice is posted for a 45 day public comment period.

Adjacent community discussions

Constance Lake First Nation is committed to building relationships with adjacent First Nations to share its intended planning area, and to work collaboratively with its neighbours to understand their interests in the shared planning area, where applicable. A mail out was distributed to adjacent communities at the Terms of Reference stage in 2014 and communities were invited to attend the Terms of Reference Open House. Where communities identified interests in the planning area, community to community meetings occurred to discuss shared interests.

Ontario engagement

Advisors with MNR and MEM attended multiple planning team meetings and community open houses to provide and/or interpret Ministry specific information. Advisors with MECP contributed to sharing of natural heritage related and species at risk information throughout the planning process.

Planning area description (lands & resources)

The CLFN planning area is approximately 2,274,259 ha (22,743 km²) in size and is situated north of Constance Lake Reserve (Figure 1). The community has focused its efforts on land use planning activities north of the Managed Forest for the Far North land use planning initiative. This CBLUP only applies to the planning area and does not limit the traditional land extent of CLFN.

Within the overall outline of the planning area there are approximately 2,274,259 ha (22,743 km²). This consists of 2,220,566 ha (22,206 km²) of new land use direction (as per the community based land use planning process) and 53,693 ha (537 km²) that are not included in the land use designations of this plan. The Mamawmattawa Reserve (3,051ha), Jog Lake Conservation Reserve (48,117 ha) and Missinaibi Provincial Park (2,031 ha) were pre-existing and not altered by this plan in any way.

CLFN and Ontario have a mutual understanding that planning areas do not define the First Nation communities to whom Ontario owes a duty to consult (when the duty is triggered). Constance Lake First Nation and Ontario understand that CLFN has historical and traditional use areas outside of the planning area in which CLFN may be

owed a duty to consult with respect to a proposed development or activity. In addition, CLFN and Ontario both acknowledge that other First Nations may be owed a duty to consult with respect to a proposed development or activity in parts of the CLFN planning area.

Constance Lake First Nation planning area is based on several factors:

- Constance Lake First Nation's extensive past and present connection with the land and waters of its traditional territory;
- Community traplines;
- Ongoing ITK research conducted with many CLFN community members from 1997 to the present, formally conducted through interviews with Elders, river trips and historical research; and
- Ongoing dialogue with adjacent communities.

In the Terms of Reference, CLFN has identified a draft planning area of interest for the purpose of preparing a CBLUP. Through the draft plan stage, the joint planning team worked to confirm the draft planning area of interest through public consultation and discussions with adjacent communities. Before final plan approval, the JPT with support from CLFN Chief and council, will request that the proposed planning area be designated as the planning area through a Ministers Order, under the *Far North Act*.

Historical, traditional, and present-day use

The CLFN members are of Cree, Oji-Cree and Ojibway descent. Constance Lake First Nation is affiliated with (but not represented by) Matawa First Nation Management and Nishnawbe Aski Nation.

In 1905, the federal government negotiated Treaty Number 9 and these people were attached to the agreement as a subdivision of the Fort Albany First Nation on James Bay. Mamawmattawa (English River) is where the Kenogami River joins with the Kabinakagami and Nagagami Rivers; both the Hudson's Bay Company and rival Revillon Frères had fur trading posts at this location. This area became the Mamawmattawa (English River) Reserve and continues to be an important gathering site for the people of Constance Lake and surrounding communities today.

In 1945 the majority of CLFN members moved to the community's current location, while keeping up the Mamawmattawa Reserve. Today, CLFN is in the District of Hearst-Cochrane-Kapuskasing, 34 km west of Hearst, Ontario. Constance Lake First Nation is a progressive and rapidly growing community of 1769 members of Cree and Ojibway ancestry with approximately 855 living on Reserve. The Reserve is 3,110 ha in size, of which approximately 7 ha is covered by water.

Commercial trapping

Constance Lake First Nation people have developed and maintained a great deal of expertise relating to the commercial trapping industry. Historically, trapping was a mainstay of the economic livelihood of several Constance Lake First Nation people. Although a decline in the fur market has reduced the number of active commercial trappers, community members continue to be active in this sector.

Commercial fishing

There are no commercial fishing activities in the Planning Area at the time of plan preparation.

Commercial baitfish

There are several baitfish blocks located in the proposed Planning Area, but only one is active at the time of plan preparation.

Resource based tourism

Mamawmattawa Camp is located on the shore of the Kenogami River, 80 miles/128 km northwest of Hearst, three miles below the Hudson's Bay Company Post, known as English River Post. The all-purpose camp features 5 cabins at the confluence of four rivers: Kenogami River, Ridge River, Kabinakagami River and Nagagami River.

There are two fly-in outpost camps within the Planning Area: on Pledger Lake and Martison Lake. Martison Lake is located approximately 94.4 km from Hearst, as well as temporary outpost camps used on a short-term seasonal basis.

A tourism camp, owned by CLFN, is located on Caribou Lake, north-west of Martison Lake.

Infrastructure

Constance Lake First Nation is a modern-day community that offers all modern services of a town in Northern Ontario. The community is located south of the planning area.

Total First Nation population is 1,769. Of these, 855 members reside on-Reserve and 875 members live off-Reserve. The First Nation provides water supply, sewage sanitation, fire protection, and police services to its members. In addition, Constance Lake First Nation has several facilities that enable it to provide programs such as education, health, recreation, and public administration to its members.

The community is accessed via the Highway 11 corridor, a provincially maintained highway. Power is supplied via Ontario's electricity system.

In the southern portion of the planning area, a trail extends from Fushimi Road north to Caribou Lake, which provides access to a community cabin on Caribou Lake.

Mineral sector activities

Ontario's mineral sector is continually evolving to meet society's changing needs and expectation. The Ontario Mineral Development Strategy (2015), Ontario the Critical Mineral Strategy (2022-2027) and the Canadian Critical Mineral Strategy (2022) provide a vision for sustainable mineral development and production.

Several mineral exploration claims are located within the proposed planning area.

The Albany Graphite Deposit, currently owned by Zentek Ltd., is located west of the Nagagami river in the southern portion of the proposed planning area.

In 2002 a 21-year Lease was issued to Fox River Resources Corporation and Baltic Resources Inc. for mineral exploration claims associated with the Martison Phosphate Project. Fox River was active in recent years, producing Preliminary Economic Assessment in 2021 and there is potential that they will seek an extension for the lease.

Areas of shared traditional use

Discussions with adjacent First Nation communities concerning shared planning areas were initiated during the drafting of the Terms of Reference and continued through the planning stage. Constance Lake First Nation is committed to the relationship with adjacent First Nations and understanding their interests. Constance Lake First Nation has made best efforts to reach agreement on land use direction within shared areas. Records of engagement and land use planning decisions resulting from shared area discussions are held by CLFN and MNR. The adjacent communities include: Marten Falls, Aroland, Moose Cree, Kashechewan, and Fort Albany. Long Lake #58 and Ginoogaming are also located near Constance Lake. (Figure 3).

Marten Falls

Constance Lake First Nation and Marten Falls First Nation have an area of shared use and interest in the northwestern portion of the planning area. The two First Nations will continue honouring each other's way of living off the land and recognize each other's area of interest. Ongoing dialogue between CLFN and Marten Falls First Nation will continue.

Aroland

Constance Lake First Nation and Aroland First Nation have an area of shared use and interest in the western portion of the planning area. The two First Nations will continue honouring each other's way of living off the land and recognize each other's area of interest. There is an understanding that CLFN is leading land use planning within the CLFN planning area. Ongoing dialogue between CLFN and Aroland First Nation will continue.

Moose Cree

Constance Lake First Nation and Moose Cree First Nation have an area of shared use and interest in the southeastern portion of the planning area. The two First Nations will continue honouring each other's way of living off the land and recognize each other's area of interest. Ongoing dialogue between CLFN and Moose Cree First Nation will continue.

Kashechewan and Fort Albany

Constance Lake First Nation and Kashechewan First Nation and Fort Albany have an area of shared use and interest in the northeastern portion of the planning area. The three First Nations will continue honouring each other's way of living off the land and recognize each other's area of interest. There is an understanding that CLFN is leading land use planning within the CLFN planning area. Ongoing dialogue between CLFN, Kashechewan First Nation, and Fort Albany First Nation will continue.

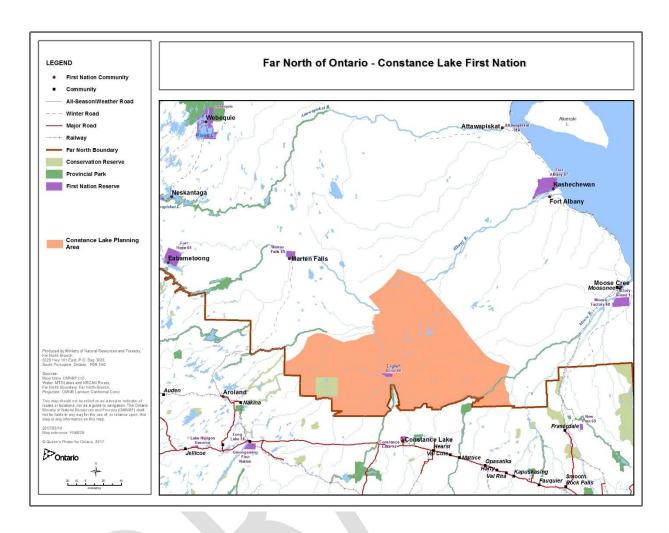


Figure 3. Constance Lake First Nation's adjacent communities

Description of lands and resources

There is an abundance of lakes, rivers and creeks throughout the area with large stands of birch, poplar, jack pine, white and black spruce, tamarack and cedar, which continue to play a vital role in the daily lives of community members as part of their historical connection to their traditional land.

Water

Our ancestors inhabited the Kenogami, Kabinakagami, Nagagami, Pagwachuan, Wakashi, Awagakama, Squirrel, Fox, Pitukupi, Little Ash, Big Ash, Little Current, Drowning, Ridge, Albany and Shekak river systems and Pledger, Pitukupi, Constance, Trilsbeck, Serinack, Martison, Ridge, Melanson, Fushimi, Fox, Bannerman, Luhta (Medicine Creek) lake systems since time immemorial, as told by Elders in the eighteen hundreds and early nineteen hundreds.

Forests

Bog and fen complexes with a variety of grasses, sedges, and shrubs are most common within the planning area. Coniferous forests consist of black spruce, white spruce, jack pine, balsam fir, white cedar, and American larch. Mixed forests that are present include deciduous species such as trembling aspen, paper birch and balsam poplar. These forests are most common in the southern portion of the planning area on upland sites.

Birds, waterfowl and reptiles

Bird species include spruce grouse, ruffed grouse, sharp tailed grouse, bald eagles, sandhill cranes, cormorants, morning doves, American goldfinch, owls, hawks, Canada (gray) and blue jay, ravens, crows, among others. American white pelican, turkey vulture, peregrine falcon, and golden eagle have been observed on occasion migrating through.

Greater yellowlegs, gulls, geese, ducks, and other waterfowl are common within the planning area.

Spring peeper, northern leopard frog, Boreal chorus frog, American toad, wood frog, garter snakes and blue spotted salamander are found within the planning area.

Mammals

Local mammals are abundant and include porcupine, moose, marten, black bear, snowshoe hare, beaver, muskrat, mink, otter, wolf, red fox, lynx, and bats. Occasional deer, wolverine, and caribou are seen.

Fish

Fish, including lake sturgeon, pike, brook trout, whitefish, walleye, splake, common white sucker, river redhorse sucker, burbot, tulibee and minnow species commonly populate the large rivers and sub sets of these species comprise the fish communities found in the lakes and streams.

Geology and mineral potential

Within the CLFN planning area there are three distinct types of geology: surficial cover; Phanerozoic (younger) sedimentary rocks; and Precambrian (older) "basement" igneous and metamorphic rocks of the Canadian Shield. The younger sedimentary rocks form a

blanket that lies on top of the older rocks of the Canadian Shield in all but the most southern part of the planning area.

The surficial cover in the planning area includes Pleistocene-aged (10,000 to 2.6 million years old) deposits of till, sand, gravel, silt and clay. They were left behind by glaciers and by post-glacial rivers and seas. It also includes Holocene-aged (less than 10,000 years old) peat, muck, and marl deposits that cover a large portion of the planning area.

The Phanerozoic sedimentary rocks form a stack of saucer-like layers. They range in age from approximately 450 million years old at the bottom of the stack to 120 million years old at the top. They were formed from sediments deposited when the area was covered by shallow seas, and – in the case of the rocks at the top of the stack – shallow freshwater swamps. The layers of sedimentary rock are only a few metres thick along the margins of the basin (saucer) and as much as 650 metres thick elsewhere.

The older rocks comprising the Canadian Shield range in age from approximately 2.5 to 3.4 billion years old. These are called "basement rocks" because they have been covered by the younger sedimentary rocks across the northern portion of the CLFN planning area. The basement rocks include examples of both major types of igneous rocks (i.e., rocks that formed from magma or from lava): intrusive rocks like granite; and volcanic rocks like basalt. They also include sedimentary rocks. All the rocks have been altered or metamorphosed by heat and pressure to varying degrees over their long history.

Past exploration activity (e.g., drilling) targeting potential energy and mineral resources in the planning area has helped to inform our knowledge of the geology of the region. Young lignite (soft, brown, woody coal) deposits near the Abitibi and Missinaibi rivers are too low grade to be economic, at least with current technology. In the same area, older black shales are rich in organic matter, but are too shallow for extraction with current technology. Future technological advances may make them economic. If or when that happens, they may be a source of energy for the community. Clay/silica sand deposits are also found, but the economic viability of their exploitation was not proven.

Some of the basement rocks have very high mineral potential. Of particular interest in the CLFN planning area is a suite of carbonatitic, alkalic, and mafic intrusive complexes. They are well defined on aeromagnetic maps of the area. They form an arcuate belt that extends from south of Constance Lake north to beneath the Phanerozoic sedimentary rocks. Largely untested, they may host economically viable mineralization for future development. Other intrusions in the area related to this suite have hosted economic

phosphate deposits (i.e., the Agrium mine), and may host economically rare earth element, base metal, platinum group element and/or graphite mineralization.

Cultural heritage features

Constance Lake First Nation's planning area contains several features that are culturally significant. Protection and preservation of cultural heritage features is an extremely high priority for CLFN. These features have been identified and documented within a CLFN Values Map. Indigenous Traditional Knowledge research was conducted to identify these features which included interviews with CLFN community members and Elders from 1997 to present, river trips, and historical research. Some of these features include burial sites, historical camp and hunting sites, settlement locations, culturally modified trees, and other culturally significant areas. These features testify to longstanding occupation by First Nations people, which is further confirmed through archaeological records.

Provincial areas of interest

Within CLFN planning area there are six provincial areas of interest, all shown on Figure 4. These areas were identified by the province because of their representative landform and/or vegetation features. Descriptions of these areas are included in Appendix 1.

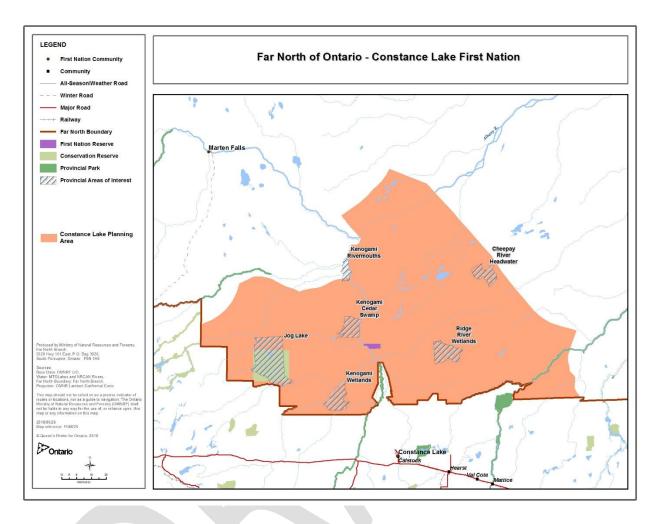


Figure 4. Provincial areas of interest within the planning area

Part 2: Land use designations

Overview of land use designations

The Constance Lake Planning Area is comprised of two land use areas (Figure 5). Regardless of the designation, these areas are sacred traditional territory:

- Kenogami Seebee Dedicated Protected Area (DPA) 794,632 ha (7,946 km²)
- Mamawmattawa Aski General Use Area (GUA) 1,425,934 ha (14,259 km²)

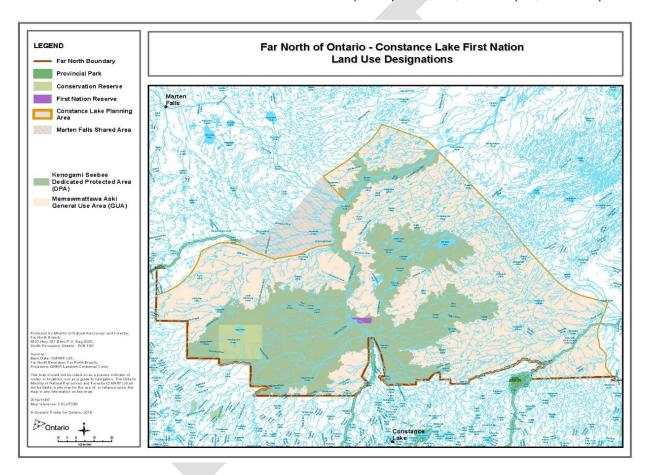


Figure 5 - Constance Lake First Nation's proposed land use designations

Plan specific land use designations

Kenogami Seebee DPA

Description

The waterways and land within the Kenogami Seebee DPA contain important cultural and ecological values. The Kenogami Seebee DPA was defined using a minimum 2 km buffer along the waterway and a catchment-based approach. Many rivers, including the Pagwachuan, Nagagami, Kabinakagami, Ash, Little Ash, Little Drowning, Fox, Squirrel and Ridge, ultimately drain to the Kenogami River. The Kenogami River flows north through the planning area, to the Forks where it becomes the Albany River. The Henley River flows into the Albany river. This river system contributes to the spiritual and cultural existence of the people of Constance Lake First Nation and has extensive historical and traditional use relating to subsistence and recreation. The Albany and Kenogami rivers were main travel routes for families traveling to their traditional hunting areas. Traditional travel routes have been established for millennia. Many cultural sites, including camp sites, birth sites and grave sites, are located along this river system. Supplies were transported between gathering sites located along these rivers. Mamawmattawa is where the Kenogami River joins with the Kabinakagami and Nagagami Rivers; both the Hudson's Bay Company and Revillon Frères had fur trading posts at this location. The English River Reserve No. 66 is located 6 km north of Mamawmattawa and continues to be an important gathering site for the people of Constance Lake and surrounding communities today.

Many legends and traditional stories have been collected from elders and continue to be passed on today.

Today, the main access to the Kenogami and Albany rivers is via Roger's road from the community of Constance Lake. Roger's road provides access to the Kabinakagami River at Roger's landing. The Kabinakagami is used today by members of Constance Lake First Nation and the public, for fishing and hunting. A winter snowmobile trail (Albany road) extends over land from Roger's landing, north to Mamawmattawa.

The Kenogami River system supports an abundance of wildlife, including moose, caribou, bear and other fur-bearing animals such as beaver, muskrat, otter, mink, fox and marten. The rivers also support various fish species, including sturgeon, pike, walleye and trout and birds such as bald eagles, geese, ducks and partridge.

The Kenogami Seebee DPA contains portions of 5 of the 6 provincial areas of interest within the Planning Area; previously identified by the province because of their representative landform and/or vegetation features. As such, the DPA provides protection to representative features included within the Kenogami Rivermouths, Kenogami Cedar Swamp, Jog Lake, Kenogami Wetlands, and Ridge River Wetlands areas.

The Kenogami Seebee DPA enhances protection for species at risk by ensuring habitat (on land and water) is included within this area. It also serves as an interconnected network that shelters and protects areas of ecological, traditional, and spiritual significance. The Kenogami Seebee DPA contains peatlands, which are areas that contain more than 40cm of peat soils and that are developed from dead plant material that is covered for thousands of years. Peatlands hold large amounts of carbon, and the amount of carbon stored in the peatlands found within the DPA varies across the area. Peatlands contribute to the sequestration of carbon, and help reduce the impacts of climate change.

Intent

The primary intent of this DPA is the long term conservation of biodiversity, ecological functions, and both cultural and spiritual values. This includes intent to protect areas important for carbon storage, protect special cultural sites, protect hunting and fishing areas, protect important wildlife habitat, and to maintain remoteness.

In consideration of the significant cultural and ecological values within the DPA, low impact activities that are complimentary to the protection of those values are promoted such as traditional use, recreation, tourism, and research.

While new road development, commercial energy transmission and communications corridors are discouraged in the DPA, it is recognized that these developments may be necessary in specific circumstances where reasonable alternatives do not exist. These developments may be considered when the function of the DPA (i.e., conservation of biodiversity, overall ecological function, and cultural and spiritual values) will not be impaired, or when allowing them is reasonable from a conservation perspective. These developments will not be permitted when predicted impacts are determined to be unacceptable to the function of the DPA.

The vast majority of the DPA will provide long-term conservation and aggregate extraction for the purpose of exporting it outside of the DPA is not permitted. Aggregate

extraction may be considered for localized use, such as local infrastructure or for roads within the DPA, so long as 2km buffers around waterways are maintained.

Permitted Land Uses and Activities

Commercial peat extraction, commercial power generation development, commercial timber harvest and mineral exploration and development are not permitted in this area. Commercial bait fishing, commercial non-timber forest product harvesting, commercial tourism, commercial wild rice harvesting, and research are permitted in this area. Commercial aggregate extraction, commercial energy transmission and communications corridors, and road development and maintenance are discouraged, however they may be considered if reasonable alternatives do not exist. Table 1 provides a more detailed list of permitted and not permitted land uses and activities within the DPA.

Table 1 – Permitted Land Uses and Activities within the Kenogami Seebee DPA

Permitted Land Uses and Activities (Yes or No)		Guidelines
Commercial Activities		
		Aggregate extraction is permitted for local infrastructure within the DPA area.
Aggregate Extraction	Yes	Extraction for export of aggregate outside of the DPA is not permitted.
		Water ways are to be protected and minimum of 2km buffer zone.
Bait Fishing	Yes	
Energy Transmission and Communications Corridors	No	Linear corridors, such as energy and communication corridors as well as roads, are permitted to facilitate any future settlement of Constance Lake First Nation.
		All other Linear corridors, such as energy and communication corridors as well as roads, are discouraged. Permitting, may be considered only

Commercial Fishing Commercial Fur Harvesting Non-Timber Forest Product	Yes Yes	when reasonable from conservation perspective and if: 1. Reasonable alternatives have been considered but are not feasible 2. Lowest cost is not the sole or overriding justification. 3. Cultural heritage values, peatlands and remoteness have been fully considered and all reasonable measures undertaken to minimize harmful impacts and to protect a perception of inaccessibility and isolation. 4. Water crossings are to be minimized. 5. Linear corridors are planned in a manner that seeks to align and minimize features where feasible.
Harvesting Peat Extraction	Yes No	Not permitted given it's importance as a carbon sink and its ecological importance
Power Generation Development	No	пиропалос
Timber Harvest	No	Not permitted in DPA
Tourism New	No	
Tourism Existing	Yes	
Wild Rice Harvesting	Yes	
Mineral Exploration and Development	No	Not permitted in DPA
Land and Resource Management A	ctivities	
Crown Land Disposition	No	Except for dispositions that support pre-existing and permitted land uses and activities for this area.
Road Development and Maintenance	No	

Research	Yes	Linear corridors, such as energy and communication corridors as well as roads, are permitted to facilitate any future settlement of Constance Lake First Nation. All other Linear corridors, such as energy and communication corridors as well as roads, are discouraged. Permitting, may be considered only when reasonable from conservation perspective and if: 1. Reasonable alternatives have been considered but are not feasible. 2. Lowest cost is not the sole or overriding justification. 3. Cultural heritage values, peatlands and remoteness have been fully considered and all reasonable measures undertaken to minimize harmful impacts and to protect a perception of inaccessibility and isolation. 4. Water crossings are to be minimized. 5. Linear corridors are planned in a manner that seeks to align and minimize features where feasible.
Recreation Activities		
Motor Boat Use	Yes	
Trails Development	No	No new trails except for: 1. A permitted activity or use in the area; 2. For local community use; or 3. Local community access to the Mamawmattawa traditional lands.

Mamawmattawa Aski GUA

Description

The Mamawmattawa Aski GUA is generally a lowland area that contains both forests and wetlands. Bog and fen complexes and coniferous forest dominate the landscape. Better drained areas such as riverbanks support coniferous forest. Fires are infrequent and small on the landscape due to the moist climate and poor drainage.

The area supports an abundance of wildlife, including moose, caribou, bear and other fur-bearing animals such as wolverine, beaver, muskrat, otter, mink, fox, lynx, fishers, wolves, rabbits and marten. The rivers also support various fish species, including, pike, walleye and trout. Birds in this area include: partridge, sharp-tailed grouse, bald eagles, turkey vultures, snowy owls, geese, ducks, pelicans and sandhill cranes.

Intent

The primary intent of this GUA is to encourage and support sustainable economic development and recreational opportunities, while protecting significant cultural and ecological values. This includes the intent to protect water quality, fish and wildlife habitat, special cultural sites and to maintain remoteness.

The forest resources, high mineral potential, existing mineral exploration claims, existing tourism operations and the potential for additional tourism, provide for economic opportunities within the GUA. The GUA generally supports all land use activities, however these activities should take place in a manner that provides for protection of cultural and ecological values.

Permitted Land Uses and Activities

Commercial aggregate extraction, commercial energy transmission and communications corridors, commercial power generation development, commercial timber harvest, road development and maintenance and mineral exploration and development are permitted. Peat extraction is the only activity that is not permitted. Table 2 provides a more detailed list of permitted and not permitted land uses and activities in the GUA.

Table 2 – Permitted Land Uses and Activities within Mamawmattawa Aski GUA

Permitted Land Uses and Activities (Yes or No)	Guidelines
Commercial Activities	

Aggregate Extraction	Yes	
Bait Fishing	Yes	
Energy Transmission and Communications Corridors	Yes	
Commercial Fishing	Yes	
CommercialFur Harvesting	Yes	
Non-Timber Forest Product Harvesting	Yes	
Peat Extraction	No	Not permitted given it's importance as a carbon sink and its ecological importance.
Power Generation Development	Yes	No new hydropower developments. Wind and solar power generation developments are permitted.
Timber Harvest	Yes	
I Tourism	Yes	
I Wild Rice Harvesting	Yes	
Mineral Exploration and Development	Yes	
Land and Resource Management A	ctivities	,
Crown Land Disposition	Yes	
Road Development and Maintenance	Yes	
Research	Yes	
Recreation Activities		
Motor Boat Use	Yes	
Trails Development	No	No new trails except for: 1. A permitted activity or use in the area; 2. For local community use; or 3. Local community access to the Mamawmattawa traditional lands.

Part 3: Analysis / objective achievements

The Constance Lake Community Based Land Use Plan adds to the existing framework of policy and legislation in Ontario by providing for direction around land use and a foundation for future decision making.

Achievements of the plan include:

- A significant role taken by Constance Lake First Nation membership in the preparation of the plan;
- Incorporation of considerations and interests of adjacent communities in the plan;
- Delineation of land use area designations that permit sustainable economic development to benefit CLFN and Ontario;
- Protection of areas of cultural value and protection of ecological systems by:
 - Designating Kenogami Seebee DPA 794,632 ha (7,946 km²) that supports an interconnected network of protected areas with adjacent existing protected areas in Marten Falls First Nation's planning area.
 - Ensuring interconnection of major waterways, protection of community cultural values and support for the habitat needs for fish and wildlife including species at risk;
- Promoting protection measures throughout the planning area, including in the General Use Area (e.g., Best Management Practices, mining/surface rights withdrawal of culturally significant sites);
- Maintenance of biological diversity, ecological processes and functions, including the storage and sequestration of carbon in the Far North by:
 - identifying protection of water and water courses as a priority in decision making for plan design; and
 - incorporating advice on ecological considerations within and adjacent to the planning area (e.g. natural heritage values and features)
- Providing best management practices to guide future activities; and
- Incorporating CLFN Aboriginal Traditional Knowledge as a foundation for decision making.

The proposed land use designations and identified values adjacent to CLFN's planning area were reviewed by the joint planning team to ensure alignment and consistency with the land use designations within this CBLUP.

Part 4: Implementing approved plans

Constance Lake First Nation and Ontario are interested in maintaining a relationship after the Final Plan is approved.

The CBLUP guides future development by describing what activities are permitted in the DPA and GUA. The plan will be implemented through land use decisions and actions that are consistent with these land use designations and permitted uses.

However, the plan does not provide any authorizations or approvals for new developments. Where new developments are proposed in the planning area, formal authorizations for specific developments or activities (ex., approvals, permits, licenses, or Environmental Assessments) must be obtained before the new development can proceed.

As described in the Far North Act, decisions respecting the allocation, disposition or use of public land and natural resources within the planning area, or carrying on of related activities, must be consistent with the land use designations and permitted land uses and activities. Land use designations and permitted land uses and activities are described in Part 2 of this CBLUP.

Constance Lake First Nation's consultation framework and protocols provide information and guidance in how to develop a relationship with the community prior to developments or activities taking place.

Amendments

The Constance Lake CBLUP will be kept current. Periodically, the effectiveness of direction and decisions contained in the plan will need to be re-evaluated. A formal review will take place once every ten years. Under Section 10 of the Far North Act, amendments to change land use designations, protected areas, or permitted land uses in the planning area can be proposed at any time for an approved plan.

Amendments to land use activities may be required to respond to climate change.

Community Interests Going Forward

Constance Lake First Nation community interests are described below. While this CBLUP and the Far North Act do not direct decisions or associated activities to be consistent with these descriptions, it is Constance Lake First Nation's intent that these

interests help guide the community into the future. It is also intended that providing these interests will assist others in aligning with successful outcomes for Constance Lake First Nation.

- To build an approach to support economic opportunities within the planning area, such as: encouraging partnerships, bringing in expertise from governmental, nongovernmental, public and private sectors as appropriate;
- Leadership, ownership and/or partnership for future developments;
- To build relationships with proponents and governments from the onset of proposals;
- To continue working with Ontario to set priorities for the future and advance community interests;
- To continue dialogue with adjacent communities;
- To explore opportunities for commercial forestry in the general use area where the land is capable of this type of activity;
- To explore tourism opportunities;
- To explore aggregate extraction opportunities;
- To explore opportunities for renewable energy development based on wind, solar, biomass, biofuels, geothermal, or other sources that may be identified;
- To protect important cultural sites using Sites of Aboriginal and Cultural Significance under the Mining Act;
- To review options available for protected area designations, including regulatory options, and management direction;
- For Constance Lake First Nation to gain experience, increase involvement, and build capacity for the management of lands and resources in the planning area.
 Opportunities may include:
 - Review development proposals for consistency with the land use plan;
 - Determining appropriate commercial ventures suited to the community's vision and economy;
 - Sustainable fisheries resources and wildlife management;
 - Conservation and stewardship programs;
 - Collaborative research, monitoring, surveys, information-sharing and education for resource management topics of interest;
 - Fire management planning; and
 - o Enforcement programs.
- As related to climate change, Constance Lake First Nation to:

- Pursue opportunities to build awareness of known and potential impacts of climate change to natural resources and systems;
- Contribute to knowledge of climate change and effects through ongoing documentation of ITK;
- Participate in science and research studies, monitoring and assessment programs;
- Investigate and facilitate the development of renewable energy for community use;
- Identify areas that are important sources of carbon storage;
- Explore potential carbon offset market opportunities that may emerge in the future;
- Explore options for undertaking a climate change vulnerability assessment to identify potential climate change adaptation options that can inform future planning and decision-making; and
- Incorporate climate change mitigation and adaptation considerations into decision making.

Best management practices

Best management practices are provided below for consideration. While these practices are not required to be followed, their consideration is intended to provide for outcomes most acceptable to Constance Lake First Nation and to minimize impacts to the land and maximize cultural value. Following these practices is valuable in building positive relationships with Constance Lake First Nation.

Aggregate Extraction

Conducted in a manner that:

- Respects the cultural and natural waterways.
- Limits extraction near sensitive areas.
- Constance Lake First Nation involvement in site plan developments, which include plans for rehabilitation, and the opportunity to complete site visits once work is completed.

Fur Harvesting

Conducted in a manner that:

Encourages appropriate, open dialogue with CLFN.

Tourism

Conducted in a manner that:

- Locate and operate facilities so that they do not impact cultural values, ecological values, natural landscape features or character of the area.
- Recognizes environmental risks associated with fuel caches and ensure all regulations are abided by.
- Ensures bait management zone policies for Northeastern and Northwestern Bait Management Zones MZ are known and are followed.
- Encourages community involvement and benefits in the tourism sector.
- Promotes and demonstrates CLFN ownership, partnership and/or benefits.
- Establishes and maintains a good working relationship and open dialog between CLFN and Ontario by:
 - sharing information.
 - working towards resolution of disputes.
 - creating processes to inform CLFN of changes (e.g., transfer of ownership).

Timber Harvest

Conducted in a manner that

- Encourages community involvement and benefits in the forest industry.
- Promotes and demonstrates CLFN ownership, partnership and/or benefits.
- Conducts further analysis of the forest resources (e.g., imagery analysis, Forest Resource Inventory) to confirm that they are capable with sustainable commercial forestry.
- Ensures selective harvest where possible and layout of harvest activities to minimize the footprint on the land.
- Ensures forests retain their natural condition into the future through forest management planning.
- Explores fire management planning to protect economic and natural values.
- Promotes the ecological role of fire in maintaining healthy ecosystems.
- Respects cultural, natural values, aquatic habitat, waterways, and existing First Nation use (e.g., buffers around waterways).

Non-Timber Forest Product Harvesting

Harvest of Non-Timber Forest Products (NTFP) found throughout the planning area may provide commercial economic development opportunities involving marketing and sale of NTFPs (e.g., berries, wild rice, and medicinal plants).

- Conducted in a manner where: Traditional uses / customary practices are protected and preserved.
- Cultural guidance directs existing and new uses for NTFPs.
- Sensitive sites will be identified & protected by community direction.
- Decision making and subsequent resource management plans consider NTFP opportunities.

Commercial Power Generation Development

According to Ontario's Renewable Energy on Crown Land Policy, access to Crown land in the Far North for waterpower, wind power and solar power development opportunities will only be granted to local Ontario First Nation communities and/or their partners.

Conduct development activities associated with renewable energy equipment or infrastructure in a manner that respects the cultural and natural significance of the area and its remoteness.

Mineral exploration and development

Constance Lake First Nation has an interest in mineral sector activities being conducted in a respectful and responsible manner that:

- Uses CLFN consultation framework and supportive mining protocol.
- · Encourages appropriate, open dialogue with CLFN.
- Involves the development of Memorandums of Understanding, Exploration Agreements, and Mutual Benefit Agreements commensurate with the project and its potential for impact.
- Respects Aboriginal and Treaty Rights and the ongoing use of the land by CLFN.
- Protects site of Aboriginal cultural significance through, but not limited to, withdrawls, avoidance, site specific terms and conditions and surface rights restrictions.
- Mitigates impact to land, water, and natural values, addressing standards and by using industry and CLFN best management practices.

Access and infrastructure

Conduct in a manner that:

- Sustains the integrity of waterways, streams and creeks and protects spawning areas and wildlife habitat.
- Promotes remoteness and minimizes development footprints.
- Supports the highest possible long-term value to CLFN.
- Maintains remoteness and remote tourism industry viability.
- Creates the most effective and efficient transportation network with a minimum number of roads and trails and with the lowest cumulative impacts.

Research

Conducted in a manner that:

- · Contacts and meets with CLFN.
- Establish meaningful partnerships with CLFN.
- Provides opportunity for CLFN to provide an Indigenous perspective on the research.
- Shares the final summary report and results with CLFN.

Appendix 1

Missinaibi Provincial Park is one of the longest free flowing protected river corridors found in North America and is classified as a waterway park and recognized as a Canadian Heritage River. This class of park incorporates outstanding recreational water routes and representative natural and cultural features. The Missinaibi River is a major tributary in the Moose River watershed draining into James Bay. A portion of Missinaibi Provincial Park (2,030.7 ha) is found in CLFN's planning area, beginning at the north confluence of the Coal and Missinaibi Rivers.

Nagagamisis Provincial Park is classified as a natural environment park which incorporates natural, cultural, and recreational features that have formed a key element of the Park since it's official opening in 1957. Over the years the park has expanded to include additional areas such as all of Nagagamisis Lake, which is the major water body within the park. The lake and connecting stream system, including the Nagagamisis River drains into James Bay via the Albany River Basin. The Nagagamisis River flows through 494 ha of CLFN's planning area.

Jog Lake Conservation Reserve is 48482 hectares in size and is located 70km north of highway 11, situated between the towns of Hearst and Longlac, ON. This area was identified for its provincially significant landscape of a raised peat-margined lake, raised peatland complex that has radial drainage patterning out from Jog Lake and ground moraine hill associated with deciduous swamp. The pristine nature of the conservation

reserve, its location within the remote Hudson Bay Lowland and the absence of industrial activity within its wilderness setting all contribute significantly to the richness of Ontario's natural heritage features.

Kenogami River's mouth is 6, 291 ha. It is located at the mouths of the Little Drowning, Little Current, and the Drowning rivers. This site was identified because of the diverse riverside habitats, biological diversity, and aspen/poplar forests.

Cheepay River Headwaters is 19,095 ha. It is located at the headwaters of the Cheepay River, about halfway between the Moose and Albany rivers. This site was identified as important because of ancient beach ridges created when Hudson Bay extended much further south, and this area was located on a peninsula. The site is now mostly bogs and fens with several marl lakes, which are rare lakes that have lots of dissolved minerals.

Kenogami Cedar Swamp is 15,602 ha and is located along the western bank of the Kenogami River, north of where it meets the Nagagamisis River. This area was identified as important because it has an impressive sloping fen with ancient beach ridges across a cedar-larch fen and swamp. This area is the most biologically diverse compared to the other provincial areas of interest.

Jog Lake provincial area of interest is 48,482 ha. This provincial area of interest shares the same name as the Conservation Reserve as they partially overlap. This site was identified as important because of Jog Lake and the rare landforms located to the south of the lake. The lake itself is raised slightly when compared with the surrounding bog and fen landscape. The site is biologically diverse and rich.

Kenogami Wetlands is 18, 459 ha and is located along the Pagwachuan and Kenogami rivers. This site was first identified as important because it has excellent examples of wetlands common for the James Bay area, as well as riverbank habitats. It was also an important breeding area for Sandhill Cranes. This area is the second most (next to Kenogami Cedar Swamp) biologically diverse provincial areas of interest with many different plant and animal species present.

Ridge River Wetlands is 19, 915 ha. It is centered on Serinack Lake and was identified as important because it is an excellent example of wetlands on rare soils made of unsorted fine rocky material. This site contains mainly fens and bogs with very deep peat. This site is the least diverse compared to other provincial areas of interest within the planning area.

All the above sites are important to Constance Lake First Nation.



List of acronyms

CBLUP Community Based Land Use Plan

CLFN Constance Lake First Nation

DPA Dedicated Protected Area

MEM Ministry of Energy and Mines

FNB Far North Branch

GUA General Use Area

ha Hectares

ITK Indigenous Traditional Knowledge

JPT Joint Planning Team

km² Kilometres Squared

MECP Ministry of the Environment, Conservation and Parks

MNR Ministry of Natural Resources

NBI Northern Boreal Initiative

MNEDG Ministry of Northern Economic Development and Growth