



Lake St. Peter

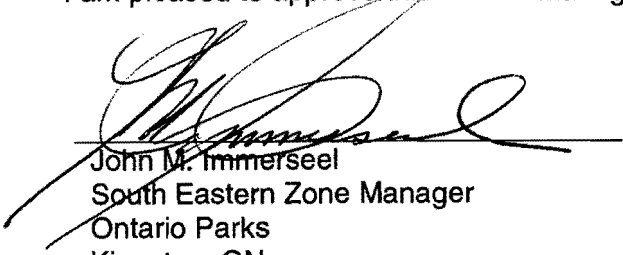
**Interim Management Statement
2002**

Zone Manager's Approval Statement

Lake St. Peter Provincial Park protects locally significant features and provides day use and camping recreation opportunities.

This Interim Management Statement will provide direction for the management of the park until a Park Management Plan is prepared. This document will provide the basis for future management planning.

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for Lake St. Peter Provincial Park.



John M. Immerseel
South Eastern Zone Manager
Ontario Parks
Kingston, ON

Dec 10 / 2002
Date of Approval

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1.0 Background

Lake St. Peter Provincial Park is a 478 ha operating, recreation class park located within Hastings County, 30 km south of the east gate of Algonquin Park. The park has been a popular camping destination since the 1950s. When originally designated under Ontario Regulation 114/1971, the park covered an area of 25 ha within the former McClure Township in Hastings County. The subsequent inclusion of 453 ha from the McKenzie Lake Reserve into the park boundary in 1989 was a significant expansion. This occurred through an amendment under Ontario Regulation 256/89, and extended the park boundary northward approximately 2.8 km to the southern shore of McKenzie Lake and the border of the former Sabine Township in Nipissing District.

Recreation parks are areas which support a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities for large numbers of people in attractive surroundings (MNR 1992). Campground and day use facilities are located within the most southeastern section of the original 25 ha park area. The Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce has been operating the park under a private sector agreement with Ontario Parks since the 1997 season. Permitted uses include camping, hiking, swimming, fishing and sport hunting. The park is open from mid-May through mid-October annually.

The purpose of an IMS is to identify values of the park, provide guidelines to protect those values and describe any restrictions on use. This IMS provides an opportunity to summarize and update current information and identify information requirements, and identify interim management issues that require attention.

The guidelines in this IMS are intended to guide the custodial management of the park until the opportunity or need for the completion of a park management plan. As a result, this statement does not provide an opportunity for major decision making best left to the park planning process, and including a public involvement program.

1.1 Planning Issues

A draft background information document and master plan was prepared for the park in 1980, but was never approved nor released. This draft was used both as a source of background information and in determining the guidelines in the IMS.

The park is within the planning area of *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy (OLL LUS)* approved in 1999. The management guidelines in the IMS, summarized in Appendix 1, are consistent with *Ontario Provincial Parks: Planning and Management Policies (1992)* for recreation class parks as amended by the OLL LUS (1999).

2.0 Site Description

The park is situated in Ecodistrict 5E-11, in an area predominantly forested, with some small lakes and streams. The terrain is generally flat in the southern area of the park, while steep slopes occur within the northern section. The park abuts Lake St. Peter at the southern boundary and McKenzie Lake at the northern boundary. The developed area of the park is located south of Lake St. Peter Road (township road) at the neck of a peninsula jutting into Lake St. Peter, and consists of a campground and day use area. The majority of the park has no developed facilities. There is private cottage development adjacent to the park along the shoreline of Lake St. Peter. Other than the cottage developments to the south, the park is

surrounded by Crown land. The Crown land to the north was part of the former McKenzie Lake Park Reserve, but was not added to the park in 1989.

3.0 Location and Boundary

The park is situated along Lake St. Peter east of Highway 127, approximately 40 km north of Bancroft and close to Maynooth, Barry's Bay and Whitney, a gateway to Algonquin Provincial Park (Figure 1). Lake St. Peter is approximately 10 km directly east of the most southern section of Algonquin Park. The park covers a total area of approximately 478 ha and is within the geographic township of McClure (now the Municipality of Hastings Highlands) in Hastings County. The park boundary is comprised of 5 parts, as indicated on the regulation plan entitled "Algonquin - Lake St. Peter" (Ontario Regulation 256/89 Schedule No. 98). The 5 parts are separated by Lake St. Peter Road and a township road serving cottages on Lake St. Peter (Figure 2). The park boundary along McKenzie Lake and Lake St. Peter follows the high water level mark.

- Part 1 - 468 ha north of Lake St. Peter Road, including all of the McKenzie Lake addition.
 - Con 12, Part Lot 4, 5 and 6 and Con 13 and 14, Lots 2 to 5 and the east half of Lot 6.
- Part 2, 3 and 4 - developed portion of the park (approximately 10 ha in total).
 - Con 12, Part Lots 4, 5 and 6.
- Part 5 - 0.7 ha extending east of Lake St. Peter Road to the water's edge.
 - Con 12, Part Lots 5 and 6.

Boundary delineation has not occurred to date; there is a need for boundary marking on the ground to enable enforcement of park policies and permitted activities.

Management guideline(s):

- The regulation plan should be updated prior to the park management planning process. Based on current policy, the official name of the park would be changed to "Lake St. Peter Provincial Park (Recreation Class)". The management planning process will consider any potential park additions (e.g. adjacent Crown land, boundary extension into McKenzie Lake).
- To allow for enforcement of protective provisions, clearly delineating the park boundary on the ground will be a high priority. Signs will be posted at points of access to identify permitted uses.

4.0 First Nations

The park falls within the Algonquins of Pikwakanagan land claim that is being negotiated by Ontario, Canada and the Algonquins concurrent with preparation of this IMS.

Management guideline(s):

- The management of this park will not abrogate or derogate from any Aboriginal or treaty right recognized or affirmed by the *Constitution Act*.
- Ontario Parks intends to communicate and work with appropriate Aboriginal communities throughout the planning and management of the park.

Figure 1. Regional Setting

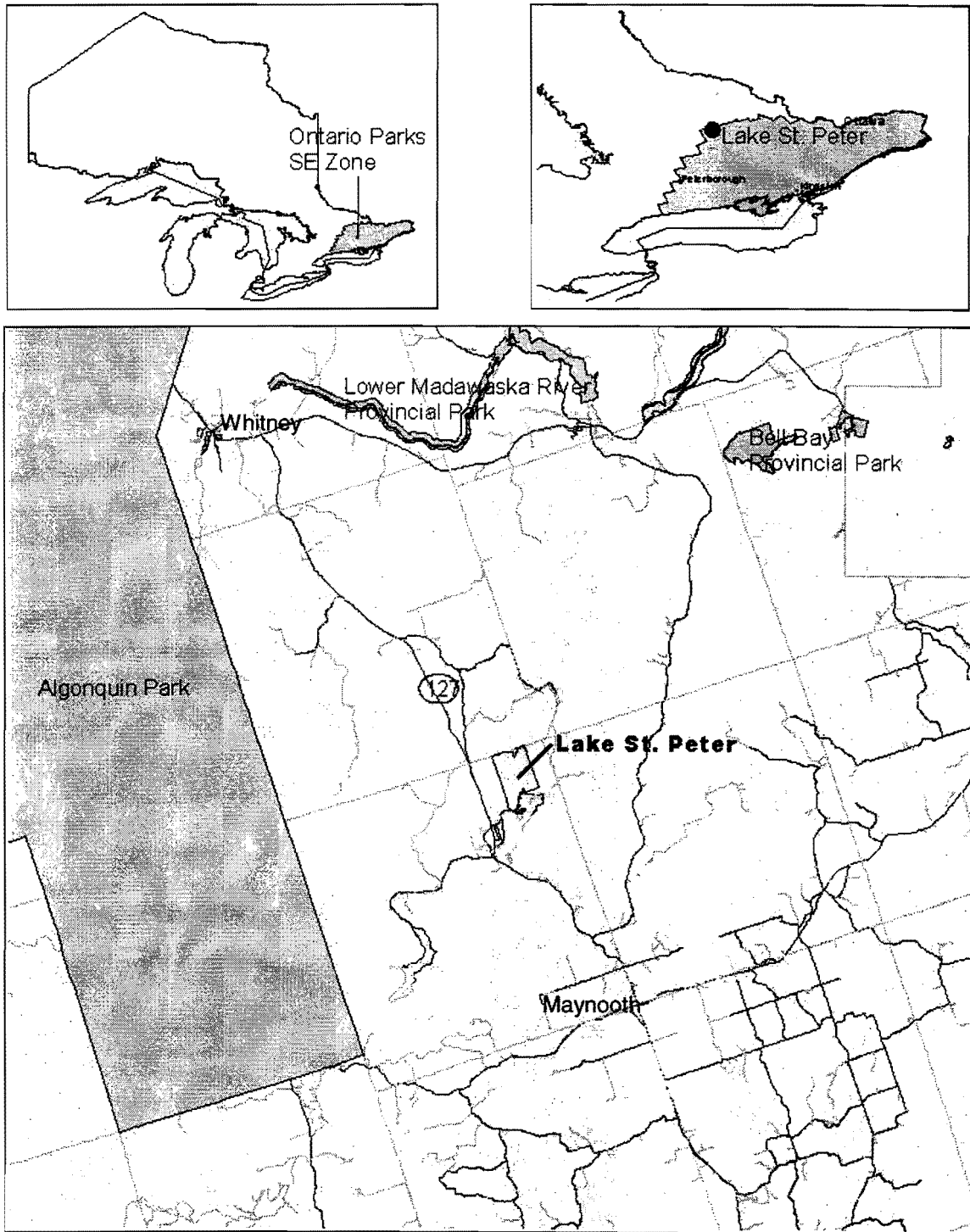
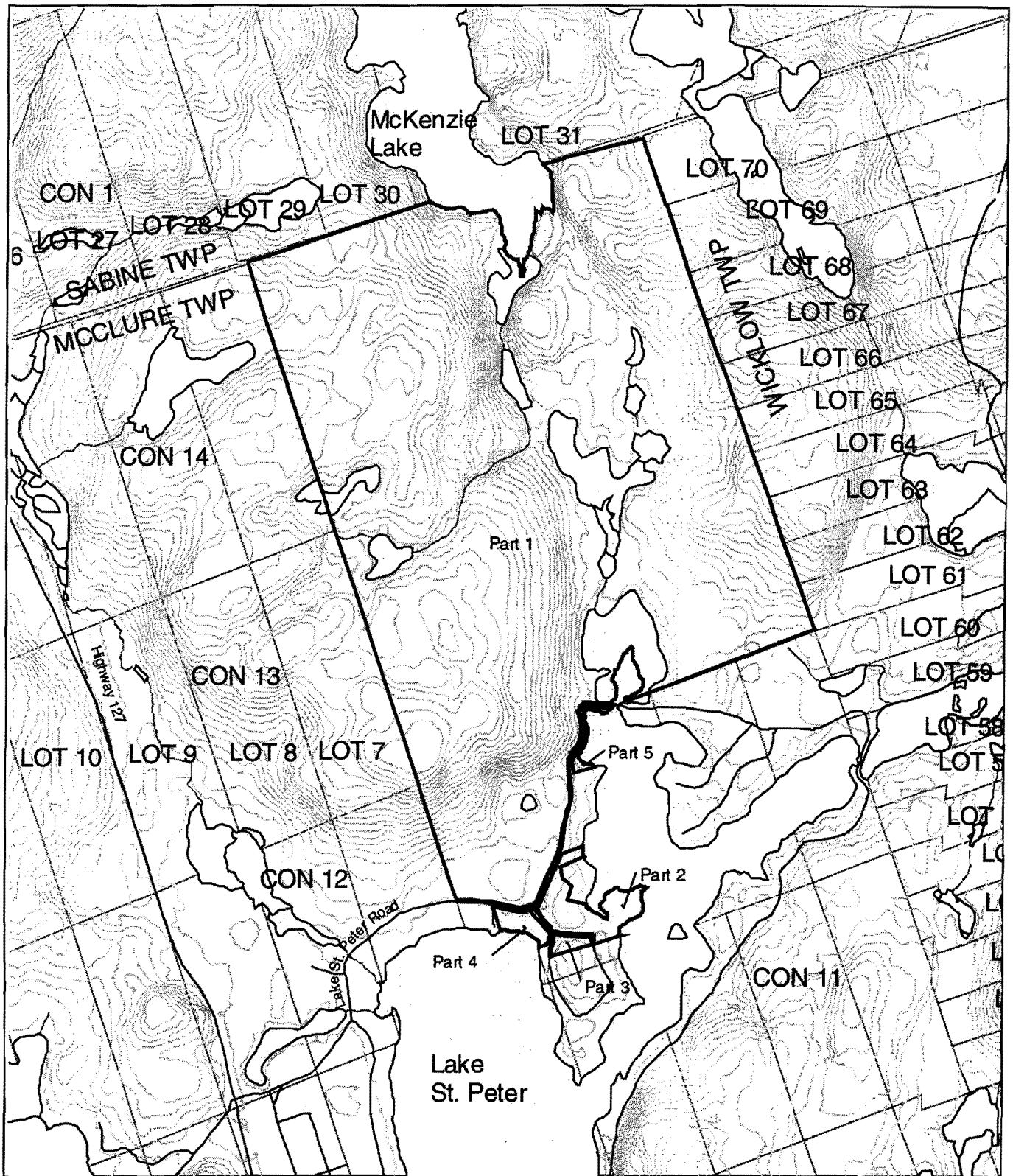


Figure 2. Park Boundary



Legend

- Lake St. Peter Provincial Park
- Lot line
- Water Features
- Contours
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads

1:24000

500 0 500 m

N

This map is illustrative only. Do not rely on it as a precise indicator of routes, locations of features, nor as a guide to navigation.

5.0 Land Tenure and Land Acquisition/Disposition

The property is comprised of unpatented Crown land, and is within the area of the Bancroft District Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR). Ontario Parks, South Eastern Zone administers the park, and its management is the responsibility of the Silent Lake Provincial Park Superintendent.

Management guideline(s):

- The property will remain classified and managed as a recreation class park, unless other direction is provided through management planning. Decisions on zoning are not made until a park management planning process is completed.
- No land acquisition is planned in the interim. Ontario Parks has no intention of acquiring private land unless property that would enhance the values of the park was offered for sale by willing vendors.
- No dispositions will be considered within the park.

6.0 Provincially Significant Areas and Land Use Designations

The earth and life science resources of the park are considered regionally significant. There are no areas designated as provincially significant: the wetland complex between McKenzie Lake and Lake St. Peter may be significant, but it has not been evaluated.

Low density cottage development surrounds the developed portion of the park. Further cottage development adjacent to the park boundary may negatively affect the values of the park. Other than private lots along the shore of Lake St. Peter, the park is surrounded by Crown land. The Official Plan for the County of Hastings (2000) does not include a provincial park or Crown land designation in the Schedule mapping. The park is indicated as "rural", and the wetland between McKenzie Lake and Lake St. Peter is designated "Environmental Protection". Adjacent lands are indicated as "Rural", including the private properties south of the park boundary on the shores of Lake St. Peter. Adjacent lands north of the park within Nipissing District are Crown land.

Management Guideline:

- Ontario Parks will recommend to the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing that the County of Hastings and Nipissing District be asked to ensure that their official plans appropriately identify the park's land and waters, so that new development near the park is assessed with regard to any potential impacts on the park's natural heritage values in accordance with provincial policy for areas of provincial interest.

7.0 Access, Existing and New Development

Access to the park is via Highway 127 to Lake St. Peter Road. Highway 127 is a main route to Whitney and the east gate of Algonquin Park.

No built structures exist within the northern portion of the park and there is no road access. Access to this area is poor, and is limited to a loop of hiking trails that begin opposite the entrance gate to the park. A cottage road in Sabine Township provides access to McKenzie Lake north of the park boundary. There is no authorized access into the north section of the park from McKenzie Lake. Depending on water levels, the wetland/stream from McKenzie Lake to Lake St. Peter is navigable.

The developed area of the park (Figures 2, 3) is located in the most southern portion of the park along a peninsula into Lake St. Peter. This area includes a total of 65 campsites, of which 30 are large enough to accommodate trailers and 10 sites accommodate tent-trailers. It also includes a day use area with a sand beach, with parking for approximately 30 vehicles. There are 2.24 km of gravel road serving the campgrounds, as well as 500 m of township road providing access to private cottages on Lake St. Peter (Figure 3). Low density cottage development occurs on Lake St. Peter adjacent to the park.

A number of built structures exist within the developed area of the park. The park office is situated at the entrance gate. Just north and across the township road from the park office is the maintenance/staff building. The building includes one garage bay and a storage area for maintenance equipment, as well as staff quarters with two bedrooms, a shower, and a kitchen area. A fenced storage yard is located behind the maintenance/staff building. A changehouse is located next to the beach area, and a comfort station in the campground serves overnight guests. A small pump house near the entrance gate includes the drinking water treatment and distribution equipment. A park store is located within the park office building, and provides basic supplies. A retail store is located on the cottage road just outside the boundary.

Since 1980, there has been partial implementation of some of the development strategy from the draft Lake St. Peter Provincial Park Master Plan. Rehabilitation of the campsites is ongoing with a site or two improved each season. Some planting has been undertaken in the campground to improve buffering between individual sites. Shower and laundry facilities for overnight guests have been added to the comfort station, and a pump house has been constructed near the entrance gate for the drinking water equipment. No park-specific resource management plans have been developed.

7.1 Facilities

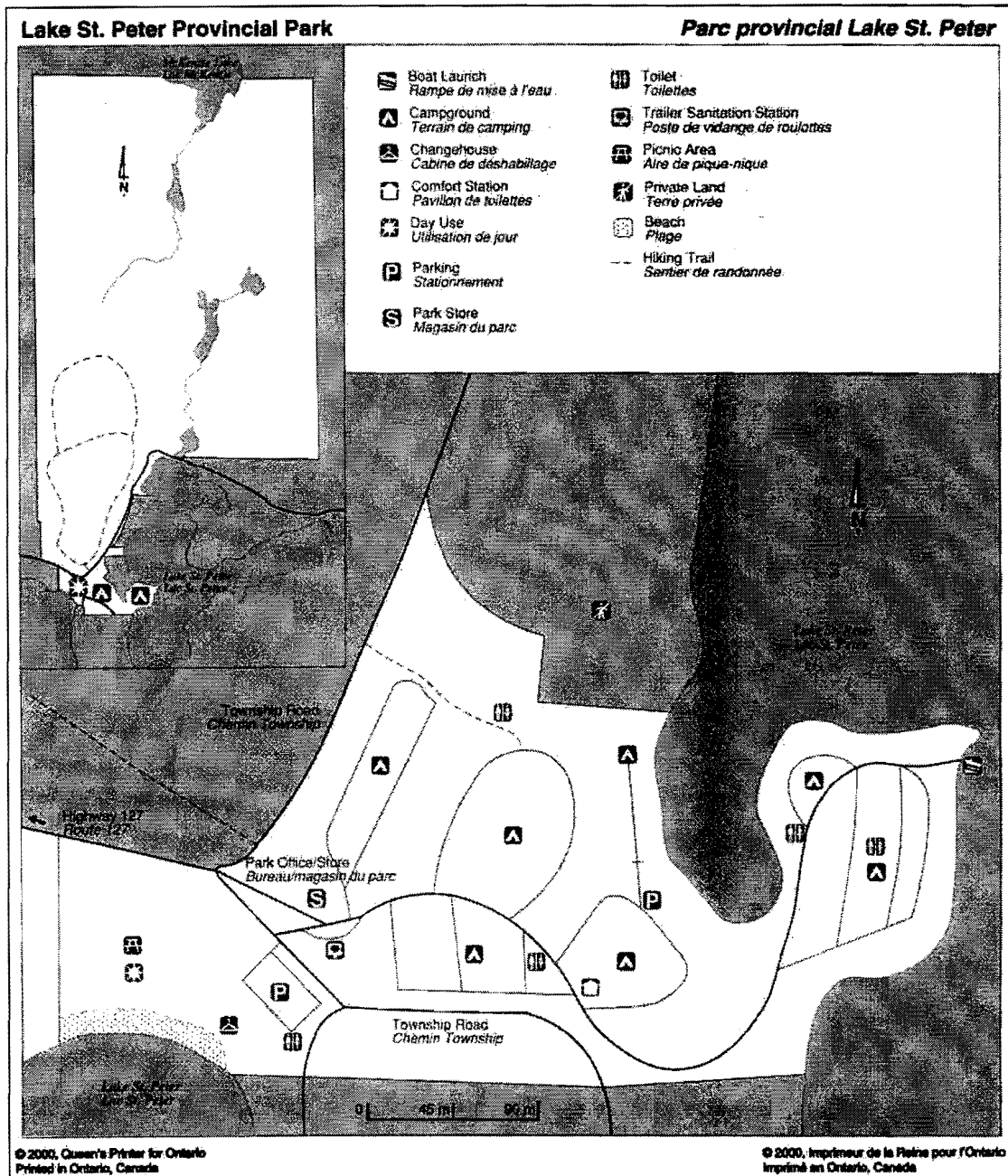
Various day use and camping facilities are provided within the park (Figure 3). The day use area includes picnic tables, a change house, two vault toilets, a beach volleyball net, two horseshoe pitches, and parking. The park rents canoes and kayaks. A fee is charged for day use. The campground area includes 65 campsites, eight vault toilets, a comfort station (including flush toilets, shower stalls, and coin-operated laundry facilities), garbage disposal trailer, boat launch, and small beach area. No campsites are serviced by electricity. The current fee structure includes premium lakefront and standard campsites. All but one of the campsites can be reserved through the Ontario Parks reservation system.

Drinking water for the park is provided by an on-site well and is chlorinated. Drinking water quality is tested weekly. Wastewater is disposed of by means of three septic tanks and tile beds: one at the maintenance/staff area, one at the park office and another at the comfort station. A trailer sanitation and filling station is also provided near the entrance gate. Solid waste is collected from a central disposal point and taken to the township landfill.

Management Guidelines:

- New development, including hiking trails, will not be considered unless supported in an approved park management plan. Prior to any such new development an assessment of earth science, life science and cultural features will be completed to identify sensitive or significant areas.
- Some existing campsites may be closed in the interim, and if necessary, plans for rehabilitation will be developed. Any vegetative buffering between sites will be achieved through plantings of native species only.

Figure 3. Existing Development



8.0 Resource Information

Existing earth and life science information for the park is from checksheets prepared in the late 1970s, and is not detailed. There is no inventory information on herptiles or aquatic resources. The park is situated within Ecodistrict 5E-11.

The area climate is classified as humid continental with generally warm summers and cool winters. The average daily maximum temperature in the summer months is about 23°C. In winter it is approximately - 3.0°C. The total average annual precipitation is about 84 cm.

8.1 Earth Science Features

The park rests on the southern edge of the Canadian Shield. As a result, the area is underlain by a complex bedrock geology. This formation includes a variety of mineral deposits. Although the terrain in the southern portion of the park around Lake St. Peter is relatively flat, abrupt changes in elevation -- approximately 380 m over 1 km -- occur in the northern portion toward McKenzie Lake. Several examples of exposed bedrock occur along the south shore of McKenzie Lake. Approximately a kilometre of the McKenzie Lake shoreline lies within the park. The park is covered by a thin layer of sandy till overlain by forest-generated loam.

The park is located on what was once a large outwash terrace for glacial meltwater in the pleistocene period. The outwash sands and gravels occur as lacustrine beaches and spits. Limited bedrock outcroppings of Ontario Gneiss segment amphibolite are typical of the Neohelikian Grenville Province. The potential for interpretive opportunities exists along the south shore of McKenzie Lake where there are several cliff formations. An earth science inventory compiled in 1978 found these geological features to be of local interest only.

Management guideline(s):

- It is recommended that a comprehensive earth science inventory be completed for the park, including its geological processes and topographic and stratigraphic attributes, before a management plan is prepared.

8.2 Life Science Features

Life science features within the park are considered to be of local interest. The park is situated within the Great Lakes - St. Lawrence Forest Region. White Birch forest with a Red Pine understory is dominant within the southern portion of the park area, indicating past disturbance by fire or logging. The species found here are typical of early successional growth. Northern reaches of the park include extensive Sugar Maple dominant forest coverage, with Yellow Birch, poplar, Balsam Fir, and White Spruce also common, and limited Eastern Hemlock, White Birch and Basswood. Both mature and immature stands occur here. A series of bogs, wet meadows, beaver ponds and swamps comprise a wetland complex along the river between McKenzie Lake and Lake St. Peter. Common wildlife include moose, deer, bear, porcupine, beaver, hare, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, and others. McKenzie Lake has been stocked with Lake Trout in the past by the MNR. A life science inventory of the park was last compiled in 1979. No specific resource management program is in place.

Management guideline(s):

- It is recommended that a comprehensive life science inventory be completed before a management plan is produced, including aquatic, herptile and fisheries components. Partners and researchers will be encouraged to assist with this work.

8.3 Archaeological and Cultural Resources

The park is part of a larger general area that played an important role in the many aspects of Ontario's early history, including the fur trade, forestry, settlement, and mining. The area first served as hunting ground for the Aboriginal peoples of the Algonquin and Iroquois Nations. Early inhabitants of this area included Aboriginal people of the Chippewa and Iroquois Nations. In 1847 the lands were ordered opened up for European settlement, and were soon surveyed. Although land incentives were offered in 1853 to encourage settlement, it was not until the construction of roads and interest in logging the area's pine resources occurred in the 1860s that there was settlement of any significance. As logging activity progressed, access to Lake

St. Peter was completed, and a small hamlet of the same name appeared, probably in the late 1880s. The mineral resources of the area were also discovered around this time, and Bancroft became the focus of an expanding mining industry. The beauty of the natural landscape was made more accessible with the completion of Highway 127, and today, the tourist trade is a significant part of the local economy.

No historic or archaeological sites of significance have been identified in the park, although an old abandoned cabin located on one of the hiking trails is a point of interest. Originally, the cabin had walls of peeled logs, a roof of shingled wood, and a plank floor. The vernacular architecture of the cabin was not considered representative of any particular theme in Ontario's history. The cabin has been partially dismantled in light of public safety concerns by the MNR. The log walls and plank floor are all that remain. Other than some interest in the cabin, there has been no archaeological inventory of the park.

Management guideline(s):

- It is recommended that a study of cultural heritage resources be completed before a management plan is produced. This could be in association with universities, community colleges, museums and interested organizations and qualified individuals.

9.0 Resource Stewardship

Determination of resource management activities within the park will require further information, including that gained through detailed life and earth science and cultural resource inventories. The park is within the East Fire Region.

Management guidelines:

- Detailed resource stewardship plans, including those for wildlife, vegetation and cultural resources, will not be undertaken until supported by research and approved in a management plan. In the interim, vegetation management will be directed toward ongoing natural succession.
- Management will ensure the protection of any species which are declared to be of special concern, vulnerable, threatened or endangered in accordance with Ontario Parks Policy 11.03.02 – *Protection of Vulnerable, Threatened and Endangered Species in Parks*. Specific locations of Species at Risk will be kept confidential.
- Management will ensure the protection of other sensitive features and values that are identified, including regionally rare species and their habitats, significant fish or wildlife habitat, ecological functions, and representative landform-vegetation patterns.
- Fisheries will be managed in accordance with Bancroft District MNR fisheries direction and Ontario Parks policies, and will be aimed at maintaining natural, self-sustaining fish populations. The MNR District may stock native fish species from hatcheries into park lakes.
- Fires will be managed per Ontario's forest fire management strategies. Human caused fires will be actively suppressed due to the number of cottage properties close to the park.

10.0 Recreational Features and Activities

The park provides many recreational opportunities for both day users and campers. Lake St. Peter is classified as a Recreation Park, and as such supports a wide variety of outdoor recreation activities. The park's sand beach is a popular day use attraction for swimming and picnicking. The swimming areas are unsupervised. Water quality testing is conducted within the swimming areas on a monthly basis during the operating season.

The park operating season is from the 2nd Friday in May through to the Thanksgiving weekend in October. Outside the operating season the park is available on a self serve basis, with the gate open periodically during the weekdays with limited enforcement, and with regular hours and shifts during the weekends.

Fishing for Lake Trout and Small-mouth and Large-mouth Bass on Lake St. Peter is a popular activity. The slot size limit for Lake Trout on Lake St. Peter and McKenzie Lake is less than 33 cm or greater than 40 cm, with a sport fishing licence catch limit of 2 Lake Trout between January 1 and September 30 (open season). Only one line may be used when angling through the ice. There are no restrictions on the type of boat that may be used.

Approximately 4.5 km of marked hiking trails run north of Lake St. Peter Road, with an entrance across from the park office. The trail is fairly rugged, and consists of two connected loops, the Lookout Trail and the Cabin Trail. The trail travels through a variety of upland and lowland habitats - from young poplar forest to mature hardwood - and past a small kettle lake. The shorter Lookout Trail loop offers a scenic lookout from a rock outcrop overlooking Lake St. Peter, and the extended Cabin Trail loop passes the old, partially dismantled, abandoned cabin described in Section 9.0. The last 200 m of the Lookout Trail that follows along the township road should be relocated within the park and away from the road. In 1989 or 1990, a hiking trail was created extending north from the existing trail loops to the south shore of McKenzie Lake. A clearing was found along the shore for a rest area with picnic tables. This trail was never opened for public use nor maintained, and has since overgrown.

Use capacity calculations for the day use area of the park (measuring approximately 1.6 ha) were completed for the draft master plan in 1980. The maximum number of day users is estimated at 309 persons, well within current occupancy. Records indicate that the recently expanded portion of the park was thoroughly surveyed for recreation potential, but as yet no details have been found.

No formal natural heritage education programs are provided at the park, although volunteer programs regarding fire safety and other topics are offered infrequently. There are several good interpretive opportunities, including the lookout at Lake St. Peter and the old abandoned cabin. Natural heritage education programs at nearby Algonquin, Petroglyphs, and Silent Lake provincial parks are advertised at the park, and a Lake St. Peter permit allows access to these other parks at no extra charge.

Management guidelines:

- Existing non-motorized recreational activities (canoeing, kayaking, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing), will continue, unless park values are threatened. In the interim, mountain biking use will be permitted on roads within the developed area of the park only, with long term direction to be determined through planning. Sport fishing is permitted, and will conform to Ontario Recreational Fishing Regulations.
- Existing camping and day use activities will continue in the interim, without expansion. Long term direction for camping facilities will be determined through management planning. Some existing campsites may be closed in the interim and, where necessary, plans for their rehabilitation will be developed.
- Long term management direction for on-trail all terrain vehicle and snowmobile use will be determined through park management planning. In the interim, unless park values are threatened, existing all terrain vehicle and snowmobile use on authorized trails, as designated by the park superintendent, may continue. Off road vehicles may be used by MNR staff for emergency use when necessary (fire, search and rescue). Any other public agency may use any craft or vehicle for emergency rescues in the park, subject to the approval of the park superintendent.
- Use of the existing 4.5 km trail loop will continue, for non-mechanized recreation only. Trailhead signage will be placed at the entrance to the hiking trails. A suitable section of trail (i.e. having minimal impacts on natural communities) should be marked and cleared to allow relocation of the 200 m of trail along the road allowance to within the park boundary. Other than minor relocation of the existing trail for health and safety reasons or to protect natural values, any new trail development would be considered through management planning.
- Interest or market for interpretive facilities pertaining to the trail system within the park could be determined through future management planning.

10.1 Sport Hunting

Traditional sport hunting activity occurs in the northern portion of the park. The *Provincial Parks Policy - Implementation Details* (PM 1.00) issued January 1, 1989 identified the McKenzie Lake addition to Lake St. Peter which was about to be regulated under the *Provincial Parks Act*. Within it, hunting would be allowed to continue on an interim basis by regulation under the then *Game and Fish Act*, until a management plan could be prepared.

An all terrain vehicle trail was observed in 2001, running north from Lake St. Peter Road into the McKenzie Lake section of the park (west of the wetland complex). This trail is not authorized¹. This use is likely associated with sport hunting.

Based on Ontario Regulation 665/98 (s. 103; s. 110. (b)) of the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* (Part XIV Hunting in Provincial Parks and on Designated Crown Land), "The holder of a licence to hunt may hunt a game mammal, migratory game bird or game bird authorized by his or her licence...from the first day of the open season for that mammal or bird or from September 15 in any year, whichever occurs later, to the last day of the open season" within Lake St. Peter Provincial Park. Sport hunting for small game and deer occurs within the park boundary. Safety of all park users is a concern. Users must be made aware that sport hunting

¹ Under the *Provincial Parks Act*, no person shall operate an all terrain vehicle in a provincial park except in an area operated by the superintendent for that purpose (O.Reg. 587/92).

may be occurring within the park each year, based on the open seasons specified in the annual hunting regulations for Wildlife Management Unit #57, that includes the park.

Management guidelines:

- Signs will be placed at appropriate locations to identify sport hunting as a permitted activity within the park area north of Lake St. Peter Road (part 1 of the park boundary plan). As a safety precaution, sport hunting will not be permitted within the developed area of the park, south of the township road (parts 2, 3 & 4 of the park boundary plan).
- Other methods that may be necessary to identify authorized uses to park visitors and to promote safety will be determined and implemented in the interim (the Ontario Parks website may be a vehicle for this information).
- Access routes will be consistent with Section 7.0; long term direction for use of mechanized land travel (i.e. ATV, snowmobile) will be decided during management planning. In the interim, permission for ATV use related to hunting may be granted by the park superintendent on an individual basis (e.g. retrieval of large game).
- Long term direction for sport hunting in the park and consideration of safety and conservation with respect to this activity will be discussed during management planning with public involvement.

11.0 Commercial Activities

Existing commercial activities include trapping and bait fish harvesting. One registered trap zone (N002) includes the entire park area. One bait fishing licence area (MC-2) includes the park. Some permitted use policies under Ontario Provincial Park Policy were amended by the OLL LUS (1999). As a result, other than within any nature reserve zones that may be determined through management planning, existing commercial bait harvesting in park-encompassed waterbodies and commercial fur harvesting will no longer be phased out by 2010, but will be permitted to continue indefinitely. The park is excluded from surrounding bear management areas (BMA): areas assigned to a commercial operator who provides bear hunting services.

Management guidelines:

- Existing³ commercial fur harvesting and commercial bait harvesting will be permitted to continue indefinitely, other than within any nature reserve zones that may be determined through park management planning.
- No new commercial fur harvest, bait harvest or food fishing operations or BMA licences will be permitted.
- The commercial activities of mineral exploration and development, forestry, and hydro development are not permitted within the park.

12.0 Marketing and Partnerships

Since the 1997 season, the park has been operated by the Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce under a private sector agreement with Ontario Parks. This agreement was renewed in 2002.

Management guidelines:

- The private sector agreement will be reviewed annually, and will be renewed as required if agreed upon by both parties.

³ Must be supported by an active licence, permit or other formal authorization. If this authorization lapses the activity is no longer considered an existing use.

- Ontario Parks may encourage volunteers and local partnerships to engage in supporting the production of brochures, maps and other written or audio/visual materials on the natural values of the site, with the assistance of Ontario Parks.

13.0 Client Services

Information on park facilities is available through the Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce and the Superintendent of Silent Lake Provincial Park. Information on the park is also on file at the Ontario Parks, South Eastern Zone office in Kingston. The Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce provides park users with an information sheet about the park and its facilities, and a rough hiking trail map.

Management guidelines:

- Current information (maps & information sheets) will be updated when required.
- For general inquiries, information can be obtained by contacting the Bancroft & District Chamber of Commerce, the Superintendent of Silent Lake Provincial Park or the Ontario Parks South Eastern Zone office. More detailed information may be circulated as appropriate.

14.0 Research

With the exception of reconnaissance earth and life science inventory work, little research or monitoring has been undertaken within the park. Ontario Parks South Eastern Zone has a Research and Information Strategy to guide research throughout the Zone. Research, assessment and monitoring of park values will be encouraged.

Management guidelines:

- All research applications will be subject to approval by the park superintendent or the Ontario Parks South Eastern Zone Manager. Approval may be granted if the research project satisfies the guidelines set out in the research policy for Ontario Parks (PM 2.45) and the Ontario Parks South Eastern Zone Research and Information Strategy, and may be subject to certain conditions.
- Specific research and information priorities include further inventory of earth science and life science features and studies of cultural resources of the park. Monitoring and assessment of existing use is also important.

15.0 EA Act Requirements

As part of the MNR, Ontario Parks is a public sector agency and is subject to the Environmental Assessment Act. Management activities within the park will be carried out in accordance with the conditions set out in Exemption Order MNR-59/2 and/or the Class EA for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves (approval pending).

16.0 Implementation

The Superintendent of Silent Lake Provincial Park administers Lake St. Peter Provincial Park. Implementation of the custodial management actions recommended in this IMS will be contingent on the availability of funding and staff resources.

Management guideline:

- The Zone Manager will investigate implementation options and seek funding to support interim custodial management.

17.0 References

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18.0 Appendices

18.1 Appendix 1. Interim Policies for Commercial, Resource Management and Recreation Activities.

This table focuses on the policies for activities that are addressed in the IMS. The section that contains complete discussion of interim management direction is indicated in parenthesis. Refer to Ontario Provincial Parks: Planning and Management Policies (1992) and the Crown Land Use Atlas Policy Report for a comprehensive list of policies that apply to recreation class parks.

Activity	Permitted	Clarification of Interim Direction
Commercial Activities (Section 11.0)		
Bait fishing (commercial)	Existing	Existing use permitted to continue indefinitely, except in nature reserve zones that may be determined through future planning.
	New	
Commercial fishing	Existing	Existing use permitted to continue indefinitely, except in nature reserve zones that may be determined through future planning.
	New	
Commercial fur harvest:	Existing	Existing use permitted to continue indefinitely, except in nature reserve zones that may be determined through future planning.
	New	
Commercial hydro development	No	
Commercial timber harvest	No	
Mineral exploration	No	
Land and Resource Management Activities (Section 9.0)		
Fire suppression ✓	Maybe	All human-caused fires will be suppressed.
Fish stocking – native species ✓	Maybe	
Prescribed burning/prescribed natural fire ✓	Maybe	May be considered through planning
Vegetation management	Maybe	
Wildlife population management	Maybe	
Science, Education & Heritage Appreciation (Section 14.0)		
Research	Yes	Subject to prior authorization.
Recreation Activities (Section 10.0)		
All-terrain vehicle use (ATV)	On-trail	Long-term management direction will be determined through planning. Existing use on authorized trails, as designated by the park superintendent, may continue in the interim, unless park values are threatened.
	Off-trail	
Camping	Yes	Existing use will continue in the interim
Motor boat use	Maybe	
Non-motorized recreation travel (canoeing, kayaking, hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing)	Yes	Existing uses may continue in the interim, unless park values are threatened.
Mountain bike use	Maybe	Existing use on roads within the campsite area will continue in the interim. Long-term direction will be determined through planning.
Snowmobiling	On-trail	Long-term management direction will be determined through planning. Existing use on authorized trails, as designated by the park superintendent, may continue in the interim, unless park values are threatened.
	Off-trail	
Sport fishing	Yes	
Sport hunting	Yes	Within part 1 of park boundary plan.
Trail development	Maybe	Existing trail will continue; new trails may be considered through planning.

✓ in cooperation with Bancroft District

* Source of policy direction Ontario Provincial Parks: Planning and Management Policies (1992) as amended by Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy (1999).

18.2 Appendix 2. Summary of Background Information

Park Name	Lake St. Peter
Classification	Recreation
Ecoregion-Ecodistrict	5E-11
OMNR Administrative Region/District	South Central Region/Bancroft District
Total Area (ha)	478
Regulation Date	Ontario Regulation 114/1971 Ontario Regulation 256/89 (McKenzie Lake addition) Ontario Regulation 665/98, s. 103, s. 110 (b)

Inventories

Survey Level	Earth Science	Life Science	Cultural	Recreational	Other
CheekSheet/ Inventory	1978	1979			
Reconnaissance					
Detailed					

Earth Science Representation	
Life Science Representation	
Cultural Resources Representation	
Recreational Opportunities	Swimming, hiking, camping, fishing, boating, hunting.

OBM Sheets: 10 17 7300 50200
 10 17 7300 50250

NTS Map 31 E/8 Whitney

Aerial Photographs 87-4513-24-157 (1:10000)
 87-4513-24-158 (1:10000)
 77-4513-63-166 (1:10000)
 77-4513-63-167 (1:10000)
 77-4514-53-208 (1:10000)