

Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve
C2232

Statement of Conservation Interest

Ministry of Natural Resources
Nipigon District

March 2001

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APPROVAL PAGE

STATEMENT OF CONSERVATION INTEREST

for

SEAHORSE LAKE CONSERVATION RESERVE

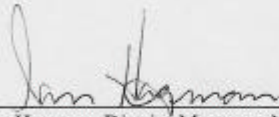
C2232

Nipigon District

Northwest Region


The purpose of this Statement of Conservation Interest is to identify natural heritage values of the Conservation Reserve and the activities which occur at this location. This Statement outlines the activities which will be permitted and those which will be prohibited. From this outline, the management direction for the location can be determined.

Approved:



Ian Hagman, District Manager, Nipigon

MARCH 27, 2001
Date



Charlie Lauer, Regional Director, Northwest

April 4, 2001
Date

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1. Introduction

On July 16, 1999, the Ontario Government released the Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy to guide the planning and management of Crown Lands within a large part of northern and central Ontario. A major component of this Land Use Strategy was the statement of intent to establish 378 new protected areas in this part of Ontario. This commitment is to the largest expansion of Provincial Parks and other protected areas in the history of Ontario.

The **Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve (C2232)** is one site within this expansion of Ontario's protected areas.

Conservation Reserves are areas of Crown land set aside by regulation under the Public Lands Act to complement provincial parks in protecting representative natural areas and specific landscape features. Most recreational activities (e.g. hiking, skiing, tourism related uses, nature appreciation) and non-industrial commercial activities (e.g. fur harvesting, bait fishing and commercial fishing) that have traditionally been enjoyed in the area will continue – provided that these uses do not impact upon the natural features requiring protection. Recreational hunting and fishing are permitted uses within all new conservation reserves which have been identified through the OLL Land Use Strategy.

Commercial timber harvesting, mining, aggregate extraction and hydroelectric development are prohibited in conservation reserves. Careful mineral exploration may occur in specific new conservation reserves identified in the OLL Land Use Strategy in areas which have provincially significant mineral potential. If a portion of a conservation reserve becomes the site of a mine development, it would be removed from the conservation reserve and appropriate replacement lands would be identified and regulated as conservation reserve.

The Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve contains representative landform and vegetation types, including conifer and conifer mixed forests and treed wetlands on moderately broken ground moraine. More detail is available in the attached Earth Science Report and Life Science Report.

Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve is not readily accessed. Access can be gained to the relative vicinity of the site by way of logging roads.

The purpose of this Statement of Conservation Interest is to identify the natural heritage values of Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve and the activities which occur at this location. Through a set of management guidelines, this statement will outline the activities which will be permitted and those which will be prohibited. From this outline, the management direction for the area can be determined.

2. Background Information

The Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve is located 30 kilometers northeast of the Town of Nipigon. It is a relatively small area comprised of weakly to moderately broken bedrock with thin and often discontinuous till veneers. Numerous organics have developed in remnant lake beds. Seahorse Lake forms the eastern boundary of the Conservation Reserve and Looie Lake forms the western boundary. The eastern portion of the Conservation Reserve is drained by the Jackpine River watershed and the western portion is drained by the Jackfish River watershed.

Name	Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve
Site Region / Site District	3W-5
OMNR Administrative Region / District / Area	Northwest / Nipigon / Nipigon West Area
Total Area (ha)	658 ha
Regulation Date	June, 2000
First Nations	Robinson Superior (1850) Treaty Area Red Rock First Nation
OBM	16 4300 54400
Lat./Long.	49 11' 00" / 87 55' 00"
Basemap	492874 (c. 1975)
FRI Stands	335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 372, 373, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 384, 385. NB: These stands either fully or partly fall in the conservation reserve.
General Local Description	Located 30 kilometres northeast of the Town of Nipigon.
Access	The area is isolated and accessible only by aircraft.

3. Targets

This section provides a summary of the earth and life science system and values and cultural resources represented, and recreational opportunities available or possible.

Life Science Representation	Regionally significant mature mixedwood and coniferous forest on weakly to moderately broken bedrock overlain by thin and often discontinuous morainal materials. It is representative of upland areas within Site District 3W-5.
Earth Science Representation	Representative of weak to moderately broken bedrock typical of the Quetico Subprovince of the Superior Structural Province. In addition two easily observable fault lines bisect the area in a north-south direction. The contrasting till material may provide evidence of glacial re-advances across the area.
Cultural Resource Representation	No documented cultural resources
Recreational Opportunities	Opportunities exist for wildlife viewing and for fishing on adjacent waters

4. Survey Information

This section provides an overview of the inventories completed. Their level of detail and any further inventories needed.

Survey Level	Life Science	Earth Science	Cultural	Recreational	Other
Reconnaissance	Yes February, 2001	Yes February, 2001	Yes	Yes	
Detailed	No	No	No	No	
Requirement	No further requirement	No further requirement	No further requirement	No further requirement	

5. Values to be Protected

This section provides a description of the key natural heritage values on the site and their condition relative to past resource use and management activities. It also addresses the sensitivity of these values to future land use and management activities.

Cultural	None identified
Aboriginal	Trapping, traditional hunting and gathering
Tourism	No known tourism uses.
Recreational Fishing	No significant streams or lakes present within the conservation reserve. At present this site is fairly remote and difficult to access.
Recreational Hunting	Some potential – access into the conservation reserve would be by foot or air only. The majority of the Conservation Reserve is contained within Bear Management Area NG-21A-008. A small portion is within BMA NG-21A-012.
Mining	No active claims, staking or exploration in the Conservation Reserve. The area has been withdrawn from staking by means of a withdrawal order
Aggregate	None observed on site.
Forest Harvest	Mature forest cover on the site is commercially merchantable.
Wild Rice	None observed on site
Trapping	Trapline NG-110 contains the Conservation Reserve.
Wildlife	Habitat conditions exist for moose, bear and furbearers.
Commercial Fisheries	None present. There is one baitfish block.

The intent of this Statement is to protect those values identified on site by establishing guidelines for existing and potential uses in this area, given the level of past disturbances and the nature of existing features.

Forest Values - The entire area is to be protected (including the Old Growth component) from human disturbance. The forest cover on this site is representative of the surrounding area and is predominately fire origin mature stands.

Recreational Values – The site offers few opportunities for recreational use due to the lack of road or water access into the Conservation Reserve.

Tourism Values – None identified

First Nations Values – There is little evidence of current use of this site for traditional hunting, fishing, gathering or cultural activities. MNR has no records that would indicate the levels of historical use for these activities.

6. Management guidelines

6.1 Land Tenure

Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve consists entirely of Crown Land. The Conservation Reserve has been permanently withdrawn from any mineral exploration and from disposition, by sale or Crown Lease or Land Permit. Land tenures of any type will not be considered within the conservation reserve boundaries

6.2 Existing and Proposed Development

There are no existing facilities within the Conservation Reserve. New development that would disturb the forest or the forest understory vegetation will not be permitted. The area will be managed primarily for public nature appreciation, educational experiences and scientific study. Tourism will not be promoted for this area due to the potential for site degradation.

6.3 Recreational Activities

Low intensity, non-structural activities that do not impact the health of the forest ecosystem (e.g. viewing, hiking, hunting, etc.) are permitted. ATV access and snowmobile usage will be closely monitored for possible damage to the trees and site regeneration component. If site degradation occurs, these activities may have to be excluded from the area. Access by non-mechanized means is the preferred method.

6.4 Commercial Activities

The site forms part of one active trapline. Trapping will continue as a permitted use. The site also falls within two Bear Management Areas and a Bait Fish Harvest Licence Area. Both of these uses will be permitted with the condition that no new trails or other development are allowed without specific authorization.

No commercial activities exist within the Conservation Reserve and no new ones will be permitted (i.e. mining, hydroelectric development, logging, aggregate extraction, road development, utility corridors, peat development and topsoil removal). Careful mineral exploration may occur in specific new Conservation Reserves proposed through Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy, in areas that have provincially significant mineral potential. If a portion of the new Conservation Reserve is to be developed for a mine, it would be removed from the reserve and appropriate replacement lands would be placed in regulation.

The area has been permanently removed from the operable area of the Lake Nipigon Forest Sustainable Forest Licence. The site has been withdrawn from areas available to mining exploration and extraction activities.

6.5 Aboriginal Interests

Local First Nations were asked to provide input to the regulation of this (and other) Conservation Reserve. None expressed any specific concerns about this Conservation Reserve. Nothing in this Statement of Conservation Interest affects in any way existing or future aboriginal or treaty rights. These rights will continue to be respected.

6.6 Natural Resources Stewardship

6.6.1 Vegetation Management

The area will be managed in accordance with relevant existing policies. Natural ecosystem processes and features will, for the most part, be allowed to occur with minimal human interference. However, intensive fire management and protection will continue to be carried out on this site unless an alternative direction for the control of fire is approved through a more detailed local natural resource plan or management plan.

6.6.2 Fish and Wildlife Management

Fishery and wildlife will continue to be managed in accordance with existing policies and regulations. Opportunities for wildlife viewing will be encouraged.

6.6.3 Landforms

No management requirements except continued protection

6.7 Cultural Resources Stewardship

No requirements at this time based on existing information. The Ministry of Natural Resources will continue to work with the Ministry of Citizenship, Culture and Recreation's regional chief archaeologist in identifying archaeological sites which should be protected. To date there has been no field survey to assess cultural resources and the potential for archaeological finds is unknown.

6.8 Client Services

Nipigon District and the Information Management Team staff will be the primary contact for responding to inquiries about the basic level of information such as access, nature appreciation, scientific study requests, wildlife viewing opportunities, hunting, permitted uses and boundaries.

6.9 Research

Non-destructive scientific research by qualified/recognized Canadian institutions or organizations that will contribute to the Ministry of Natural Resources natural heritage information base will be encouraged. All research programs will require the approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources and will be subject to ministry policy and other relevant legislation.

6.10 Marketing

No requirements at this time

7. Implementation

Implementation of this Statement of Conservation Interest will primarily involve monitoring activities to ensure adherence to management guidelines. Other activities will involve producing a fact sheet highlighting the importance of the reserve and responding to inquiries about the site. Any affected clients will be immediately notified of any amendments to this Statement of Conservation Interest.

The Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve has been regulated in June, 2000 under the Public Lands Act, following the process set out in Ontario's Living Legacy Protected Areas Regulation Implementation Manual (*MNR, 2000*).

8. Review and Revisions

Any changes that may occur to the management direction outlined in this Statement of Conservation Interest for Seahorse Lake will be evaluated for their significance. Minor changes, which do not alter the overall protection objectives, may be considered and approved by the Area Supervisor. Local consultation may also be required, as determined by the Area Supervisor. In the case of major changes, the need for a more comprehensive Conservation Reserve Management Plan will be considered first, along with any legislative notification requirements (such as the Environmental Bill of Rights Registry notification) that may exist at that particular time. Any major amendments will require full public consultation and the approval of the District Manager and Regional Director.

9. Public Consultation

9.1 Results of Past Consultation

Seahorse Lake has been part of the consultation process from early in the land use planning process:

- Lands for Life round table consultation (June 1997 to July 1998)
- Ontario Forest Accord (1999)
- Ontario's Living Legacy round table discussions (1999)
- OLL Site Regulation Public Consultation Process (Fall 1999 to Early 2000)

Under the *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy*, contact was made with stakeholders. District Manager letters were sent to First Nations, forest industry, trappers, municipalities, landowners, prospectors, fish and game clubs, trail clubs and tourist operators in November 1999. Newspaper advertisements were distributed during this time. One written comment was received regarding Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve (See Appendix). First Nations identified no concerns with respect to the establishment of this Conservation Reserve.

9.2 Present and Future Consultation

Further widespread consultation is not deemed necessary at this time because of the extensive consultation that occurred to date.

10. References

Ministry of Natural Resources, *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy*, Queen's Printer for Ontario, Ontario, Canada, 1999

Ministry of Natural Resources, *Protected Areas Regulation Implementation Manual*, Internal Document, 2000

Appendix 1

Key Map

**Reference Map: C2232
Seahorse Lake
Conservation Reserve**

- Ontario Living Legacy Site
- City/Town Location
- Major Highways

Data Source: Nipigon NRVIS Database, 2000
Datum: UTM, Zone 18, NAD 83
Units: Meters

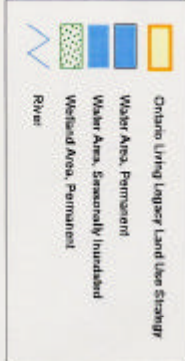
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Appendix 2

Map of Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve

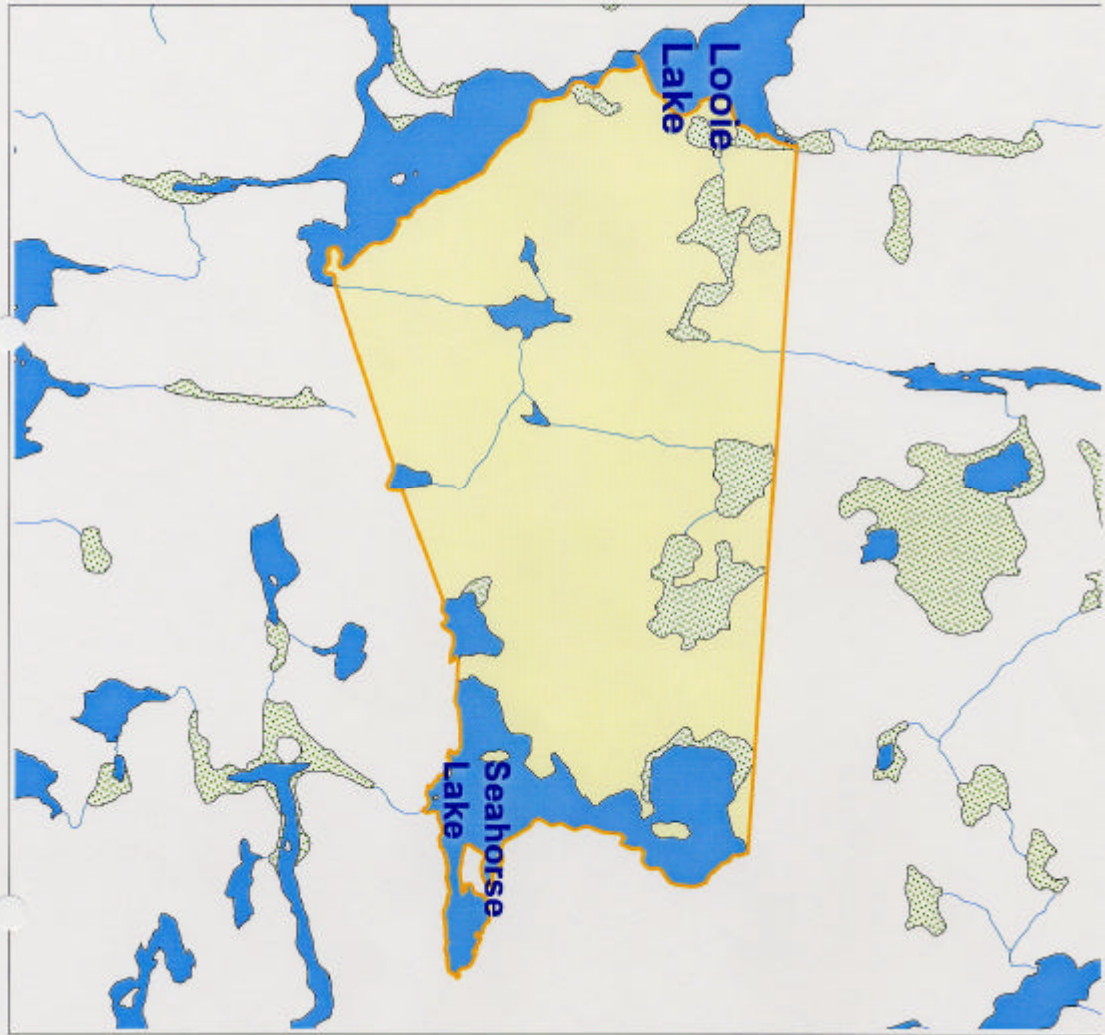
**Ontario Living Legacy
Seahorse Lake
Conservation Reserve
C2232**



Scale 1:26,740

Data Source: Nipigon NRVS Database, 2000
Datum: UTM, Zone 16, NAD 83
Units: Meters

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



Appendix 3

Earth Science Report

Appendix 4

Life Science Report

Appendix 5

Permitted Uses Table

Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve – Permitted Uses

Activity / Value	Permitted	Not Permitted	Modified	District Manager Approval
<i>Sport Hunting</i>	✓			
<i>Commercial Trapping</i>	✓			
<i>Boating/Canoeing/Kayaking</i>	✓			
<i>Baitfishing</i>	✓			
<i>Commercial Wild Rice Harvest</i>	N/A			
<i>Mineral Exploration & Extraction</i>			✓	
<i>Land Disposition for Private Purposes</i>		✓		
<i>All Terrain Vehicle</i>			✓	
<i>Snowmobile</i>			✓	
<i>Land Claims</i>				✓
<i>Traditional Use</i>	✓			
<i>Native Hunt Camps</i>				✓
<i>Commercial Tourism Based Hunting</i>	✓			
<i>Native Hunting</i>	✓			
<i>Commercial Native Trapping</i>	✓			
<i>Wildlife Management</i>	✓			
<i>Commercial Forest Operations</i>		✓		
<i>Vegetation Management (ie. herbicides)</i>		✓		
<i>Timber Harvest for Personal Use</i>		✓		
<i>Fuelwood Harvest</i>		✓		
<i>Insect & Disease Suppression</i>				✓
<i>Sport Fishing</i>	✓			
<i>Commercial Fishing</i>	N/A			
<i>Native Fishing</i>	✓			
<i>Water Control Structures</i>		✓		
<i>Aggregate Extraction</i>		✓		
<i>Bear Management Areas</i>	✓			
<i>Trapline Cabins</i>				✓
<i>Wild Rice Harvest</i>	N/A			
<i>Boat Caches</i>				✓
<i>Fire Management</i>	✓			
<i>Archeological Study</i>	✓			
<i>Backcountry Travel</i>	✓			
<i>Wildlife / Vegetation Viewing</i>	✓			
<i>Photography</i>	✓			
<i>Hiking</i>	✓			
<i>Rock Climbing</i>			✓	
<i>Mountain Biking</i>			✓	
<i>Nordic Skiing</i>	✓			
<i>Snowshoeing</i>	✓			
<i>Aircraft</i>			✓	
<i>Roads / Bridges / Culverts</i>		✓		
<i>Ongoing Research</i>	✓			
<i>New Research</i>	✓			

Definitions: Modified – Use may be permitted under certain circumstances where the use would not impact the values for which the Conservation Reserve was created to protect. (e.g. new trails, clearings/docks for aircraft access)

Appendix 6

Recreation Checklist

OLL Recreational Inventory

Employee Name Dave Barker Date March, 2001
Park Name Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve Local Name C2232
District of Thunder Bay Township N/A

PART 1 – Basic Recreation Opportunities

Backcountry camping	No	Estimated # Tents/Parties Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>Potential is limited due to limited access and lack of lakes and streams within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Canoeing	No	Estimated # Canoes Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>Potential is limited due to lack of lakes or streams within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Hiking	Yes	Estimated # Hikers Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>There is no evidence that hiking has occurred within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Hunting	Yes	Estimated # Hunters Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>There is no evidence that hunting has occurred within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Fishing – recreational	No	Estimated # Fishing Boats Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>There is little potential within the Conservation Reserve because of a lack of lakes and streams.</u>
Lakes	Yes	% of Lakes Seen - <u>100 %</u> Comments/Details – <u>very few and very small ponds exist within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Swimming opportunities	No	Comments/Details – <u>for practical purposes, swimming opportunities do not exist within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Beaches	No	# Beaches Seen – <u>None Present</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
Rapids/waterfalls	No	# Rapids/waterfalls Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details – <u>No streams of significant flow present.</u>

Other recreational/scenic features:

Wildlife Viewing

Yes # Seen - None

Comments/Details – Potential exists, but no indication of this use was observed.

_____ Y N # Seen _____

Comments/Details _____

_____ Y N # Seen _____

Comments/Details _____

Summary of Area Description and Land Use Intent provided in Appendix A of the Land Use Strategy, July 1999, with specific reference to recreation uses and features: This site contains representative landscape and vegetation types, including conifer forests, conifer mixed forests and treed wetlands on moderately broken ground moraine.

Additional Comments: The primary purpose of this Conservation Reserve is to provide protection and representation. Recreation is not a primary purpose.

Recommendations: The creation of new trails or other forms of access is not anticipated at this time. None were observed within the Conservation Reserve.

PART 2 – Human Influences

Established campsites	No # Sites - <u>None</u> Size _____ Soil Type _____ Slope _____ Distance to Water _____ % Vegetation Cover _____ Comments/Details- <u>No sites were observed within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Established canoe routes	No # Routes - <u>None</u> Comments/Details- <u>No navigable streams observed within the Conservation Reserve.</u>
Portages	No # Portages - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
Established hiking trails	No # Trails - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
Snowmobile trails	No # Trails - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
ATV trails	No # Trails - <u>None</u> # ATV Users Seen - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
Existing informal access points	No # Access points - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____
Existing formal access point (road & parking)	No # Access points - <u>None</u> Privy? No Comments/Details _____ _____
Existing boat caches	No # Boat caches - <u>None</u> Comments/Details _____ _____

Hunt camp **No** # Camps - None
Comments/Details _____

Trapping **Yes** # Trappers - Five # Trap lines - One
Comments/Details - This Conservation Reserve is contained within an active trapline. There is no record of whether the area within the CR is part of the area utilized by the trappers.

Trapper cabins **No** # Cabins - None
Comments/Details _____

Resort/lodge in park **No** # Buildings _____
Type of clientele _____
Comments/Details _____

Resort/lodge adjacent to park **No** # Buildings _____
Type of clientele _____
Comments/Details _____

Outpost camp in park **No** # Buildings _____
Type of clientele _____
Comments/Details _____

Outpost camp adjacent to park **No** # Buildings _____
Type of clientele _____
Comments/Details _____

Historic sites/structures **No**
Comments/Details _____

Mining **No**
Comments/Details _____

Mining adjacent to park	No Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Current mining exploration	No Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Evidence of past exploration	No Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Inholdings	No # Inholdings _____ Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Transmission lines	No # Lines _____ Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Rights-of-way	No # Rights-of-way _____ Comments/Details _____ _____ _____
Towers	No # Towers _____ Comments/Details (Type of tower) _____ _____ _____
Wild Rice Harvesting	No # Harvest Areas _____ # Harvesters _____ Comments/Details - No wild rice observed.
Water impoundments	No # Impoundments _____ Comments/Details _____ _____ _____

Roads

No # Roads _____

Comments/Details (Type of road) _____

Other human-made structures:

No # _____

Comments/Details _____

Y N # _____

Comments/Details _____

Additional Comments: Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve is unlikely to be subject to significant recreational or development pressures in the foreseeable future.

Recommendations: No action is required at this time.

Map

ATTACHED

Appendix 7

Public and Aboriginal Consultation Documentation
Form

1. Site Name and Proposed Size (ha): Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve – 658 ha	2. Land Use Strategy Area #: C2232	3. MNR District: Nipigon
4.0 Public and Aboriginal Consultation		
4.1 Public Consultation Details of Public Consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Manager letter to stakeholders – sent Nov 12/99 to 310 stakeholders including First Nations, forest industry, trappers, municipalities, land owners, prospectors, fish & game clubs, trail clubs, tourist operators • Newspaper ads – Thunder Bay Chronicle Journal, Geraldton Times Star, Marathon Mercury, Nipigon Gazette and Terrace Bay-Schreiber News • One written comment was received regarding Seahorse Lake Summary of Significant Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It was suggested by the one commentator that the boundary be amended to include a 200 metre buffer along the south and east shores of Seahorse Lake to protect against forestry impacts. Analysis of Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The forest management planning process will afford protection to Seahorse Lake through AOC prescriptions. • This site was identified for protection based on landform and vegetation features located between Seahorse and Cull Lakes not because of significant features on Seahorse Lake. 		

4.2 Aboriginal Consultation

Details of Aboriginal Consultation:

- *District Manager letters were sent to 7 local First Nations on November 12, 1999*
- *Meetings were held with Lake Nipigon Ojibway, Aroland and Pays Plat, Rocky Bay and Red Rock First Nations to discuss OLL and the eight sites proposed for regulation.*
- *Sand Point, Rocky Bay, Red Rock and Ojibways of the Pic River First Nations were contacted and invited to meet but have either declined or not responded. Repeated efforts have been made to meet with these communities without success.*

Summary of Significant Issues:

- *No significant issues relating to Seahorse Lake were identified by the First Nations*

Analysis of Issues:

- *N/A*

5.0 Recommendations:

Boundary:

- *Recommend that boundary not be changed. The reasons identified by the commentator do not justify a boundary change.*

Future Planning:

- *Ensure First Nation values are considered in the development of the statement of conservation interest*

<p>Other:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None 	
<p>6.0 Approval of Consultation Documentation</p>	
<p>MNR District Contact Person:</p> <p><i>Peggy Bluth District Planner Phone: (870) 854-1829 Fax: (807) 854-0335</i></p>	<p>Ontario Parks Contact Person:</p> <p><i>Name (for proposed parks only) Position Phone and Fax Number</i></p>
<p><i>Jan Hagman District Manager Nipigon District April 12, 2000</i></p>	<p><i>(for proposed parks only)</i></p> <p><i>Name Ontario Parks Zone Manager XXXX Zone Date</i></p>

Copies:

District Office:
Ontario Parks Zone Office:
Regional Planning Unit:

Background Information

Name	Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve
Site Region / Site District	3W-5
OMNR Administrative Region / District / Area	Northwest / Nipigon / Nipigon West Area
Total Area (ha)	658 ha
Regulation Date	
First Nations	
OBM	
Lat./Long.	
Basemap	492874 (c. 1975)
FRI Stands	335, 336, 337, 338, 339, 340, 341, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 354, 355, 356, 357, 358, 360, 361, 362, 363, 364, 365, 372, 373, 375, 376, 377, 378, 379, 380, 384, 385. NB: These stands either fully or partly fall in the conservation reserve.
General Local Description	Located 30 kilometres northeast of the Town of Nipigon.
Access	The area is isolated and accessible only by aircraft.

Targets

This section provides a summary of the earth and life science system and values and cultural resources represented; and recreational opportunities available or possible.

Life Science Representation	Treed wetland, sparse forests, conifer, conifer mixed, vegetated bedrock and deciduous mixed forests
Earth Science Representation	Moderately broken ground moraine
Cultural Resource Representation	No documented cultural resources
Recreational Opportunities	Opportunities exist for wildlife viewing and fishing on adjacent waters

Survey Information

This section provides an overview of the inventories completed. Their level of detail and any further inventories needed.

Survey Level	Life Science	Earth Science	Cultural	Recreational	Other
Reconnaissance					
Detailed					
Requirement					

Values Protected

The intent of this Statement is to protect these values by establishing guidelines for existing and potential use in the area. This site contains representative landscape and vegetation types, including vegetated bedrock, conifer and conifer mixed forests, and treed wetland on moderately broken ground moraine.

Forest Values

The entire area is to be protected from any alteration, including the Old Growth component.

Recreational Values

None identified

Tourism Values

None identified

Management guidelines**Land Tenure**

Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve consists entirely of Crown Land. The entire reserve contains no mining claims and is permanently withdrawn from any disposition, by sale or Crown Lease or Land Permit. Land tenures of any type will not be considered within the conservation reserve boundaries, either in the short term or long term, for any purpose.

Existing and Proposed Development

There are no known facilities on the conservation reserve.

Recreational Activities

Low intensity, non-structural activities such as viewing and hiking, are permitted. Currently, there are no recreational activities that take place on the conservation reserve.

Commercial Activities

Commercial and industrial activities are not permitted within the conservation reserve boundaries. No commercial activities exist in the area; no new ones will be permitted (i.e. mining, hydroelectric development, logging, aggregate extraction, road development, utility corridors, peat development and topsoil removal).

Aboriginal Interests

The First Nations were consulted and did not express any concern about the reserve. Nothing in this Statement of Conservation Interest affects in any way existing or future aboriginal or treaty rights. These rights will continue to be respected.

Natural Resource Stewardship**Vegetation Management**

The area will be managed according to the existing policies for the management of the plant ecosystem present in the area. The natural ecosystem will be allowed to naturally evolve with minimal human interference. Fire management will continue to be carried out on site unless an alternative direction for the control of fire or the use of fire management purposes is approved through a more detailed local natural resource plan or management plan.

Fish and Wildlife Management

Fishery and wildlife will continue to be managed according to existing policies.

Landforms

No requirements based on existing information except continued protection

Cultural Resources Stewardship

No requirements at time based on existing information. The Ministry of Natural Resources will continue to work with the Ministry of Citizen, Culture and recreation's

regional chief archaeologist in identifying archaeological sites which should be protected. To date there has been no field survey to assess cultural resources and the potential for archaeological finds is unknown.

Client Services

Information about Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve should be made available. Ensure that all resource users especially forestry, mining and tourist companies, are aware of its location and permitted use.

Research

Non-destructive scientific research by qualified/recognized Canadian institutions or organizations that will contribute to the Ministry of Natural Resources natural heritage information base will be encouraged. All research programs will require the approval of the Ministry of Natural Resources and will be subject to ministry policy and other relevant legislation.

Marketing

No requirements at this time

Implementation

The implementation of the Statement of Conservation Interest for Seahorse Lake will primarily involve monitoring activities to ensure adherence to management guidelines. Other activities will involve producing a fact sheet highlighting the importance of the reserve and responding to inquiries about the site. Any affected clients will be immediately notified of any amendments to MNR Land Use Plans which include this area.

Review and Revisions

Review and Revisions

Any changes that may occur to the management of Seahorse Lake Statement of Conservation Interest will be evaluated for its significance. Minor changes, which do not alter the overall protection objectives, may be considered and approved by the Area Supervisor without further public consultation and the plan amended accordingly. Any major amendments will require full public consultation and the approval of the Regional Director.

Public Consultation

Results of Past Consultation

Under the *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy*, contact was made with stakeholders. District Manager letters were sent to First Nations, forest industry,

trappers, municipalities, landowners, prospectors, fish and game clubs, trail clubs and tourist operators in November 1999. Newspaper advertisements were distributed during this time. One written comment was received regarding Seahorse Lake Conservation Reserve (See Appendix). First Nations identified no concerns with respect to the establishment of this reserve.

Present and Future Consultation

Widespread consultation is not deemed necessary at this time because of the extensive consultation that occurred in 1999.