

Kenny Forest Provincial Park

Interim Management Statement

June 1996

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Additional information about the park and copies of this publication can be obtained from OMNR Ontario Parks, Park Operations, 199 Larch Street, Sudbury Ontario P3E 5P9.
Cette publication est disponible en français.

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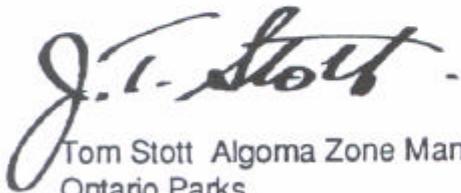
Approval Statement

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for Kenny Forest Provincial Park.

This interim management statement will provide direction for the management of Kenny Forest Provincial Park. The need for more detailed direction is not anticipated at this time. Should complex issues arise requiring additional studies, more defined management direction, or special protection measures, a more detailed and comprehensive management plan will be prepared with full public consultation.

The public was widely consulted during the preparation and review of this Statement.

The park will be managed under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Marten River Provincial Park, Ontario Parks.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "J. T. Stott". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Tom Stott Algoma Zone Manager,
Ontario Parks

Table of Contents

Background Information	(i)
Values to be Protected	1
Management Guidelines	1
Land Tenure	1
Existing/Proposed Development	1
Recreational Activities	4
Commercial Activities	4
Indigenous Interests	5
Natural Resource Stewardship	5
a. Vegetation Management	5
b. Fisheries and Wildlife Management	5
c. Landforms	5
Cultural Resources Stewardship	5
Heritage Education	5
Research	6
Marketing	6
Implementation	6
Review and Revision	6
References	7
Figure 1: Regional Setting	2
Figure 2: Kenny Forest Provincial Park	3
Appendix A: Application to Conduct Research in Ontario Provincial Parks	

Background Information

Name	Kenny Forest Provincial Park
Classification	Natural Environment
Site Region/Site District	Northern Deciduous Evergreen Forest/5E-6
OMNR Administrative Region/District	Central Region/North Bay District/Marten River Area
Total Area (ha)	2,204.5
Regulation Date	December 1994

Targets

Earth Science Representation:	ground moraine
Life Science Representation:	
1. Upland Forest	
normal/loam/mesic	mixed forest- white cedar (<i>Thuja occidentalis</i>) / balsam fir (<i>Abies balsamea</i>) / yellow birch (<i>Betula alleghaniensis</i>) / white pine (<i>Pinus strobus</i>)
normal/loam/dry-mesic	mixed forest- white cedar / white pine / white birch (<i>Betula papyrifera</i>) / red maple (<i>Acer rubrum</i>) / white spruce (<i>Picea glauca</i>)
normal/sand/dry-mesic to mesic	mixed forest- white cedar / white pine / white birch / red maple /
normal/loam/mesic	mixed forest- red pine (<i>Pinus resinosa</i>) / red maple / white pine / white cedar / balsam fir
normal/sand and loam/dry to mesic	mixed forest- red maple / white pine / white spruce / balsam fir / white birch
cooler/sand/dry	coniferous forest- white cedar / eastern hemlock (<i>Tsuga canadensis</i> Carrière) / white pine / red pine
normal/loam/mesic	mixed forest- white pine / white birch / trembling aspen (<i>Populus tremuloides</i>) / white elm (<i>Ulmus americana</i>)
warmer/rock and sand/very dry	treed savanna- white birch
warmer/rock/arid to dry	rock cliffs- red pine / white pine
warmer/rock/dry to mesic	thin organic over rock islands- black spruce (<i>Picea mariana</i>) / white pine / lichens
normal/loam/dry	open canopy mixed woods- white birch / sugar maple (<i>Acer saccharum</i>)
normal/sand/dry	mixed shrub thicket- white pine / trembling aspen
normal/loam/wet mesic	mixed shrub thicket- white birch / mountain maple (<i>Acer spicatum</i>) / balsam fir
normal/sand/dry	deciduous woods- white birch
2. Lowland Forest	
cooler/sand/wet to very wet	mixed forest- yellow birch / white cedar / red maple
normal/sand/wet	mixed forest- white birch / white cedar / black ash (<i>Fraxinus nigra</i>) / trembling aspen / red maple
normal/sand/mesic to wet	shoreline mixed woods- white birch / white spruce / white pine / yellow birch / sugar maple / white cedar / balsam fir / red pine
warmer/rock and sand/very dry to dry-mesic	shoreline mixed woods- white cedar / white birch / white pine / red pine
cooler/sand/dry to mesic	shoreline damp forest- black spruce / balsam fir / white birch

3. Wetland

cooler/organic/wet to saturated

normal/organic/saturated
normal/organic/wet to very wet
cooler/organic/very wet

cooler/organic/very wet

normal/organic/wet to saturated

normal/loam and clay/very wet to saturated

normal/sand/wet-mesic

normal/sand/mesic
normal/organic/wet
normal/clay/open water
normal/organic/saturated to open water
normal/clay/saturated to open water
normal/sand-organic/wet-very wet

normal/organic/saturated to open water

normal/organic wet to very wet

Cultural Resources Representation:

Recreation Opportunities:

treed shoreline bog- white pine / black spruce / tamarack (*Larix laricina*)
cattail shoreline marsh- cat-tail (*Typha latifolia*)
cedar swamp- dead conifers / white cedar
floating bog mats- leatherleaf (*Chamaedaphne calyculata*) / moss (*Sphagnum*) / pitcher-plant (*Sarracenia purpurea*) / cotton grass (*Eriophorum virginicum*)
Sphagnum graminoid marsh grading to shrub bog- canada blue joint (*Calamagrostis-canadensis*) / canada manna-grass (*Glyceria canadensis*) / leatherleaf / tamarack / black spruce
open marsh/fen- cat-tail / canada blue joint / moss / white cedar / northern bugle-weed (*Lycopus uniflorus*)
mixed thicket-wood swamp- speckled alder (*Alnus incana ssp. rugosa*) / black ash / white cedar / white birch
mixed lowland swamp- white cedar / white spruce / balsam fir / black ash / elm
conifer swamp- black spruce / tamarack / balsam fir / white cedar
treed low shrub bog- black spruce / tamarack
aquatics- narrow-leaved bur-reed (*Sparganium angustifolium*)
cattail marsh- cat-tail
shoreline fringe- beaked sedge (*Carex utriculata*)
shrub thicket- speckled alder / black spruce / canada blue joint / narrow-leaved meadow sweet (*Spiraea alba*) / leatherleaf
grass wet meadow shoreline marsh- three-way sedge (*Dulichium arundinaceum*)
grass wet meadow shoreline marsh- sweet gale (*Myrica gale*) / velvet-leaf blueberry (*Vaccinium myrtilloides*) / american mountain ash (*Sorbus americana*)

no research as of this date; no documented cultural heritage values

no specific studies; but generally will accommodate: wildlife viewing; hiking; walking; snowshoeing; cross-country skiing; and along identified trail, snowmobiling

Survey Level	Earth Science	Life Science	Cultural	Recreational	Other
Reconnaissance	biophysical evaluation 1983	checklist 1991 Site Region Report	needed	Summer 1995	
Detailed	needed	checklist 1995 Site District Report			
Requirement	theme study	none			

Values to be Protected

Kenny Forest Provincial Park is located 55 kilometres north of the city of North Bay in Kenny and Gladman Townships (Figure 1). The site occupies 2,204 hectares along the northern boundary of site district 5E-6. The park is bounded by Wicksteed Lake on the north and west, Marten Lake on the south, and Bruce Lake on the east. Neither the private property along Marten Lake Road nor the lakes mentioned above are included within the boundaries of the park.

Kenny Forest Provincial Park encompasses a terrain of rocky knolls and valleys typical of this part of the Canadian Shield. There are extensive exposures of the 2.5 billion year old granitic bedrock. A thin patchy cover of glacial sediment, predominantly ice-laid sandy till and minor water-laid outwash debris, occurs in the low-lying areas. Peat and other organic material commonly occurs in bedrock depressions throughout the park.

The park has features which are notable for this latitude in the site region. The eastern hemlock that grows in the upland mixed forest is approaching the northern continuous limit to which this species is commonly found. The park also contains a diversity of wet and dry (rock) shoreline communities; interior upland forests with marshes, fens, and peatlands; and shoreline lowland forests and swamps.

Prior to park establishment, logging was in the area as early as 1905 and continued into the 1970s. This removed extensive old red and white pine forests that once dominated the landscape. No cut reserves seen from Wicksteed Lake, retained scenic qualities of hilltops and rock outcrops. There are significant plant communities along the shoreline of Wicksteed Lake. An undisturbed community with mature eastern hemlock, white cedar, white pine, and red pine is located adjacent to a large inland marsh close to the park's north boundary.

The park is entirely within the Nipissing Crown Game Preserve which was established in 1926. Hunting and trapping are not permitted in the Preserve. Significant moose aquatic feeding and late-wintering habitats are present in the park. These habitats provide excellent opportunities for viewing of moose and other wildlife. The lakes and streams support warm water sport fish species such as northern pike, small mouth bass, and walleye.

The intent of this statement is to protect these values by establishing management guidelines for existing and permitted uses in the park.

Management Guidelines

Land Tenure

Kenny Forest Provincial Park consists entirely of Crown land. Private land abuts the park along most of its southern boundary. The boundaries of the park for the most part follow lakeshores and waterways which are easily recognizable. The southern boundary excludes the road and private land along Marten Lake and allows for future realignment of Marten Lake Road, if necessary.

The low intensity development within the adjacent private lands is very compatible with the park. Planning authorities are encouraged to ensure natural heritage values within the park are considered and protected in planning decisions on private land.

Any unauthorized occupations of lands within the park will be managed in accordance with approved policy, and will be removed at the owner's expense.

New transmission lines and road corridors are not permitted. Expansion of existing road or utility line rights of way may be allowed to meet essential public service needs. Before disposing of park lands for these purposes, Ontario Parks and the MNR will work closely with proponents to ensure that:

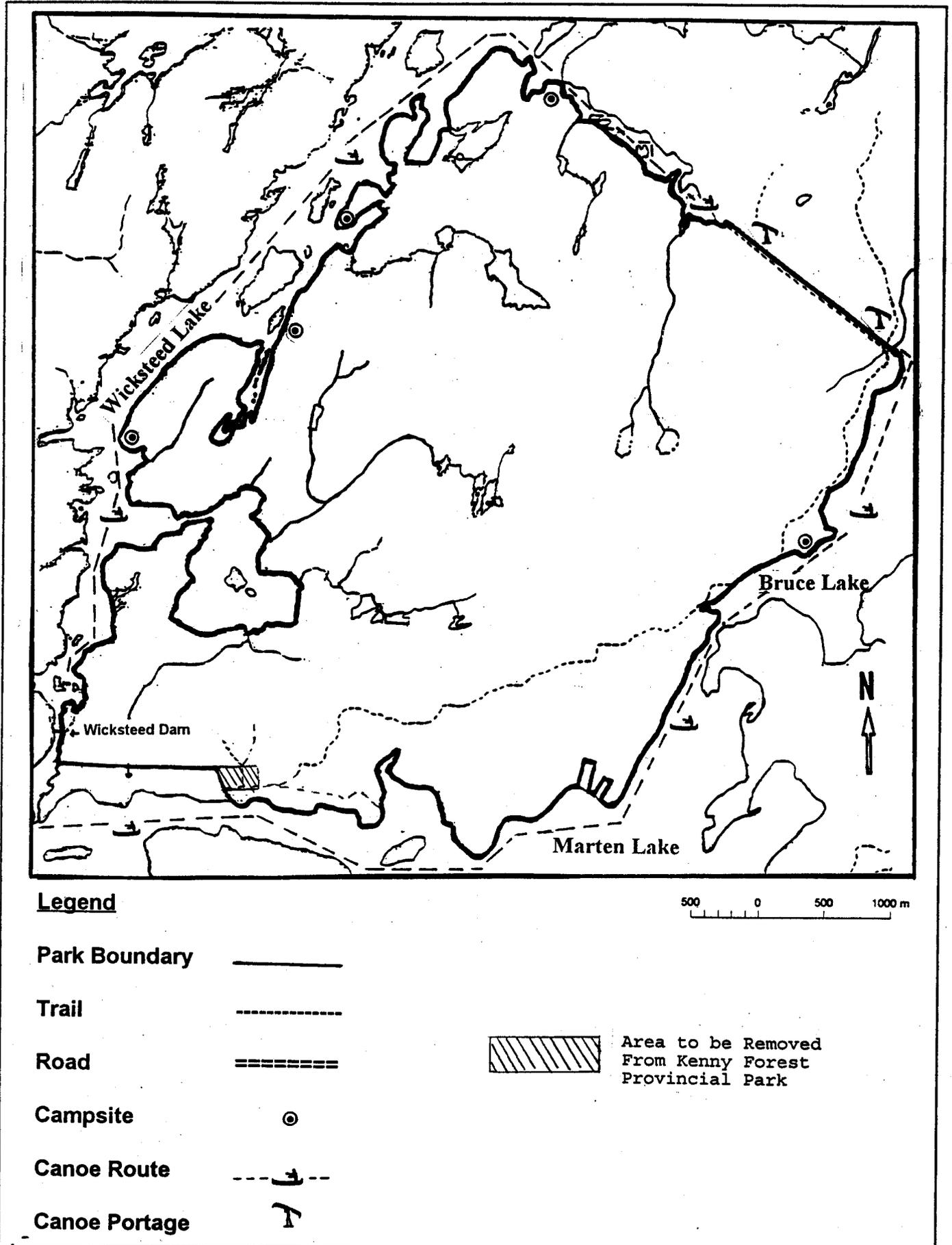
- all reasonable alternatives have been considered; and,
- impacts on park values are minimized.

Existing/Proposed Development

There are no existing park facilities. There are, however, backcountry campsites on Wicksteed Lake and trails in the park interior (Figure 2).

These existing facilities pre-date the park. They will not be maintained by Ontario Parks. Remnant trails will be allowed to naturally revegetate. ATV use will not be promoted, except for access purposes to existing cottages.

Figure 2: Kenny Forest Provincial Park



A road extends from the Marten Lake Road at the south-west corner of the park providing access to the Wicksteed Dam. MNR may undertake limited road maintenance for its program needs only to ensure safe operation and maintenance of the dam. A parking area, a compacted dirt boat launch, and a boat cache are situated in the vicinity of the dam. These uses pre-date the park and will be allowed to remain. Ontario Parks will not maintain the site.

Uses in the vicinity of the Wicksteed Dam, will be monitored and may be managed in the future if it is over-used or results in the degradation of surrounding values. A quota system may be implemented if it is found to be over-used. The quota system may involve posting the parking area to limit the number of vehicles, establishing a self-serve permit system, and phasing in user fees. For the interim, however, the area will stay as status-quo until more information is collected. The public will be consulted, should such action be required.

No maintenance or improvements to the existing boat launch will be permitted. As noted above the launch will be monitored and may be physically abandoned in the future if the area around the launch is damaged through overuse.

Other than the few trails in existence and the surrounding lakes, there is limited access to most areas of the park.

New development such as campsites, trails, parking areas, and privies will not be considered until there is a demand for such recreation facilities, more detailed earth and life science and cultural information is collected, and a management plan is prepared.

Recreational Activities

Recreational uses including walking, hiking, bird watching, water-access camping, wildlife viewing and snowmobiling will continue. These uses are not currently managed. Sport fishing is permitted and occurs at low levels due to the limited access to the few inland watercourses and lakes.

Snowmobiling within the park is limited to the local trails. One follows the northeast boundary of the park parallel to Bruce Lake and a second one leads from the Marten Lake Road north to the Wicksteed Dam parking lot

connecting north to Wicksteed Lake (Figure 2). No new trails will be permitted. Use of the two snowmobile trails including a small branch east to Marten Lake will continue. These trails will not be maintained by Ontario Parks. Requests by others to maintain the trails will be considered. Requests must be made through the Superintendent of Marten River Provincial Park.

Only a few water access campsites occur within the boundaries of Kenny Forest Provincial Park. The use of these will be monitored. Campsites may be closed and rehabilitated if they are found to be disturbed by overuse. Signs are currently posted at campsites reminding users to 'leave no trace.'

A user survey was conducted during the summer of 1995. The survey established baseline data on the intensity of lake use around Kenny Forest Provincial Park. In the survey, campsite locations and conditions, party sizes, and length of stay was documented. The information collected may help to make future management decisions for Kenny Forest Provincial Park.

At one time a canoe route known as "Marten River" was maintained around what is now called Kenny Forest Provincial Park (Figure 2). This canoe route may be reestablished by the Superintendent of Marten River Provincial Park.

Commercial Activities

Current permitted commercial resource uses within the park include baitfishing and a boat cache at the Wicksteed Dam site. The baitfish licence for the area will be phased out by January 1, 2010. No new baitfishing licences will be issued for Kenny Forest Provincial Park. The boat cache at the Wicksteed Dam is an activity associated with local lodges. Boat cache use at this location will continue. This use and other commercial tourism needs will be addressed in future management planning for the park.

Trapping and bear management are not permitted.

Industrial uses such as forestry, mining, hydro-electric development, and extraction of aggregates, peat, soils, and other similar materials are not permitted.

Indigenous Interests

Kenny Forest Provincial Park lies within the Teme-Augama Anishanabai (TAA) land claim area. The land claim was unresolved at the time of publication of this document. Treaty and Aboriginal rights will continue to be respected.

Natural Resource Stewardship

a. Vegetation Management

The extensive area covered by this park protects representative features. The park will be managed to allow natural ecosystems, processes, and features to evolve with minimal human interference.

Forest fire protection will be carried out in accordance with the fire operations plan for the Ministry of Natural Resource's East Fire Region. Alternative direction for the control of fire or the use of fire for management purposes may be approved through a more detailed local resource plan or park management plan. In Ontario every forest fire receives a response and each response is governed by:

1. the predicted fire behaviour;
2. the potential impact and risk to persons and property values; and,
3. the estimated cost of the response.

Programs may be developed to control forest insects and diseases within the park where these threaten significant heritage or aesthetic values or where the insects and disease are non-native to the area. Where control is desirable, it will be directed as narrowly as possible to a specific insect or disease. Biological control will be used wherever possible.

Vegetation control will be permitted where necessary for public utilities and rights of way.

b. Fisheries and Wildlife Management

Fisheries and wildlife will continue to be managed in accordance with policies and regulations that apply for the area. Trapping of nuisance beaver may occur only with Ontario Parks' prior approval. Trapping of black bear may occur when human safety is threatened. Decisions will be made on a case-by-case basis. Fishing opportunities within the park are limited due to the lack of access to watercourses and lakes. Wildlife viewing opportunities are excellent, but will not be encouraged or promoted at this time.

c. Landforms

The ground moraine landform will not be altered by activities such as filling and extraction. Mining and aggregate extraction is not permitted.

Cultural Resources Stewardship

To date, there has been no assessment of cultural resources. Historically, the lakes surrounding Kenny Forest Provincial Park were traditional aboriginal travel routes. As such the potential for archaeological cultural resource finds is high given its location. There is no comprehensive file on historical use. Ontario Parks will continue to work with other government agencies to identify archaeological and historical sites which should be protected. To more fully manage and protect sites, field surveys are required.

Heritage Education

Heritage education will address inquiries by providing information concerning access, heritage appreciation, and park boundaries. Information that is given out will convey the message that visitors have a responsibility to help protect the park and to respect the rights of private property owners adjacent to the park. A 'leave-no-trace' attitude will be encouraged to minimize human impact on the park environments and wildlife.

Research

Scientific research by qualified individuals, contributing to the knowledge of natural and cultural history as well as environmental and recreational management will be encouraged.

Additional earth and life science and cultural surveys are required to refine information on values and management guidelines. These are considered to be a priority. Research related to the study of natural processes will also be encouraged provided it does not harm park values.

All research programs will require the prior approval of Ontario Parks and will be subject to Ontario Parks' policies and other relevant legislation (Appendix A). Ontario Parks may approve the removal of any natural or cultural specimen by qualified researchers. All such materials removed remain the property of Ontario Parks.

Approved research activities and facilities must be compatible with the protection objective. Permanent plots or observation stations may be established as part of the approval of research. This will only be possible where the intent of the research is to revisit a specific location over time. Any site that is to be disturbed will require assessment of its original nature. This will be used to return the site as closely as possible to its original state once the research is complete.

Marketing

Marketing efforts to increase use are not a priority for this park at this time. Park signs will be used if there is a need to help regulate use or to delineate boundaries between park and private land. Fact sheets on Kenny Forest Provincial Park will not be prepared or distributed to the public. Copies of this interim management statement will be made available upon request to supply information on the park. District MNR and Ontario Parks staff will provide information about the services of nearby provincial parks and commercial establishments.

Implementation

Implementation of this interim management statement will primarily involve: monitoring activities to ensure adherence to the management guidelines; and, responding to inquiries about Kenny Forest Provincial Park.

Implementation of this statement and management of the park are the responsibility of the Marten River Provincial Park Superintendent, Ontario Parks. Partnerships may be pursued to address management needs.

Review and Revision

Kenny Forest Provincial Park Interim Management Statement will be reviewed on an ongoing basis.

If changes in management direction are needed at any time, the significance of the changes will be evaluated. Minor changes which do not alter the overall protection objective may be considered and approved by the Marten River Provincial Park Superintendent without further public consultation and this Statement will be amended accordingly. In assessing major changes, the need for a more detailed park management plan will first be considered. Where a management plan is not considered necessary or feasible, a major amendment may be considered with public consultation. Major amendments will be approved by the Ontario Parks, Algoma Zone Manager.

References

The following lists all material cited in the Statement, as well as other relevant sources of information on the park such as District Land Use Guidelines, inventory reports, checksheets, etc.

Department of Energy, Mines and Resources. 1969
North Bay: Topographic Map Series, 1 : 50 000 Sheet
31L/12, 31L/13.

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Forest Keep it Wild Campaign Candidate Area Report.

Provincial Parks and Natural Heritage Policy
Branch, 1992. Ontario Provincial Parks Planning and
Management Policies (1992 update).

Ontario Parks, 1996. Strategic Direction Statement.
March 18, 1996.

APPENDIX A

MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES
APPLICATION TO CONDUCT RESEARCH
IN
ONTARIO PROVINCIAL PARKS
MINISTÈRE DES RICHESSES NATURELLES

DEMANDE D'APPROBATION D'UN PROJET DE RECHERCHE
DANS LES
PARCS PROVINCIAUX DE L'ONTARIO

Note to Applicants: The Ministry of Natural Resources usually requires a period of up to two months for review and approval of this application.

Research means any investigations or studies of natural, cultural, social, economic, management or other features or characteristics which involve field investigations.

If more space is required to complete any of the following sections, please attach additional sheets.

Personal information submitted on this form is collected under the authority of the Provincial Parks Act R.S.O. 1980, C401, and will be used for administrative purposes. Questions about the collection of this information should be directed to the Director, Parks and Natural Heritage Policy Branch.

Note aux auteurs de la demande: Il faut environ deux mois au ministère des Richesses naturelles pour étudier et approuver une demande.

Par recherche, on entend toute enquête ou étude portant sur les aspects naturels, culturels, sociaux, économiques, sur la gestion ou autres caractéristiques qui comprennent des études sur place.

Si vous manquez d'espace pour répondre aux rubriques suivantes, veuillez joindre des feuilles supplémentaires.

Les renseignements personnels donnés dans le présent formulaire sont recueillis en vertu de la Loi sur les parc provinciaux, L.R.O. 1980, chap. 401, et serviront à des fins administratives. Les questions relatives à la collecte de ces renseignements doivent être adressées au directeur de la Direction des parcs et des politiques sur le patrimoine naturel.