



# Matinenda

Interim Management Statement

## APPROVAL STATEMENT

I am pleased to approve this Interim Management Statement for Matinenda Provincial Park. *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy* (1999) identified this area as a natural environment class provincial park. This provincial park was regulated under the *Provincial Parks Act* in 2003 (O. Reg. 210/03).

This Interim Management Statement provides direction for the protection and custodial management of Matinenda Provincial Park

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Paul Bewick  
Zone Manager  
Northeast Zone  
Ontario Parks

June 1, 2006

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Date

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Matinenda Provincial Park is located 15 kilometres north of the town of Blind River (Figure 1). The park is 29,417 hectares in size and spans 11 townships: Kamichisitit, Jogues, Juillette, Timmermans, Bolger, Scarfe, Mack, McGiverin, Esten, Long, and Spragge (Figure 2). The park includes the Matinenda-Pine-Hemlock and Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens Natural Heritage Areas and a small portion of Peak Lake Pine-Hemlock Natural Heritage Area.

An enhanced management area (E224 Matinenda Lake EMA) almost entirely surrounds the park and is designated to sustain remote access and remote tourism in an established tourism area. Blind River Waterway Provincial Park (P265) is adjacent to the northern boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park.

Matinenda Provincial Park was designated through *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy* (OMNR 1999) as a natural environment park and was regulated under the *Provincial Parks Act* in June 2003 (O. Reg. 210/03). Natural environment class parks protect high quality recreational and educational experiences in an attractive outdoor setting.

### 1.1 Objectives

Matinenda Provincial Park will be managed according to the four objectives for provincial parks:

*Protection:* To protect provincially significant elements of the natural and cultural landscapes of Ontario.

*Recreation:* To provide provincial park outdoor recreation opportunities ranging from high-intensity day-use to low-intensity wilderness experiences.

*Heritage Appreciation:* To provide opportunities for exploration and appreciation of the outdoor natural and cultural heritage of Ontario.

*Tourism:* To provide Ontario's residents and out-of-province visitors with opportunities to discover and experience the distinctive regions of the Province.

## 2.0 MANAGEMENT CONTEXT

The purpose of this Interim Management Statement (IMS) is to provide direction to ensure the custodial management of park resources. Future park planning may be undertaken as required to provide direction on significant decisions regarding resource stewardship, development, operations and permitted uses.

Park management will follow direction from:

- *Provincial Parks Act* (1990) and regulations
- *Ontario Provincial Parks Planning and Management Policies* (OMNR 1992)
- *Crown Land Use Policy Atlas* (OMNR 2004a)
- *Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy* (OMNR 1999) and policy clarification amendments (OMNR 2000) and related direction

In addressing custodial management obligations to protect park values and ensure public health and safety, Ontario Parks will ensure that policy and *Environmental Assessment Act* (1990) requirements are implemented.

Figure 1: Regional Setting

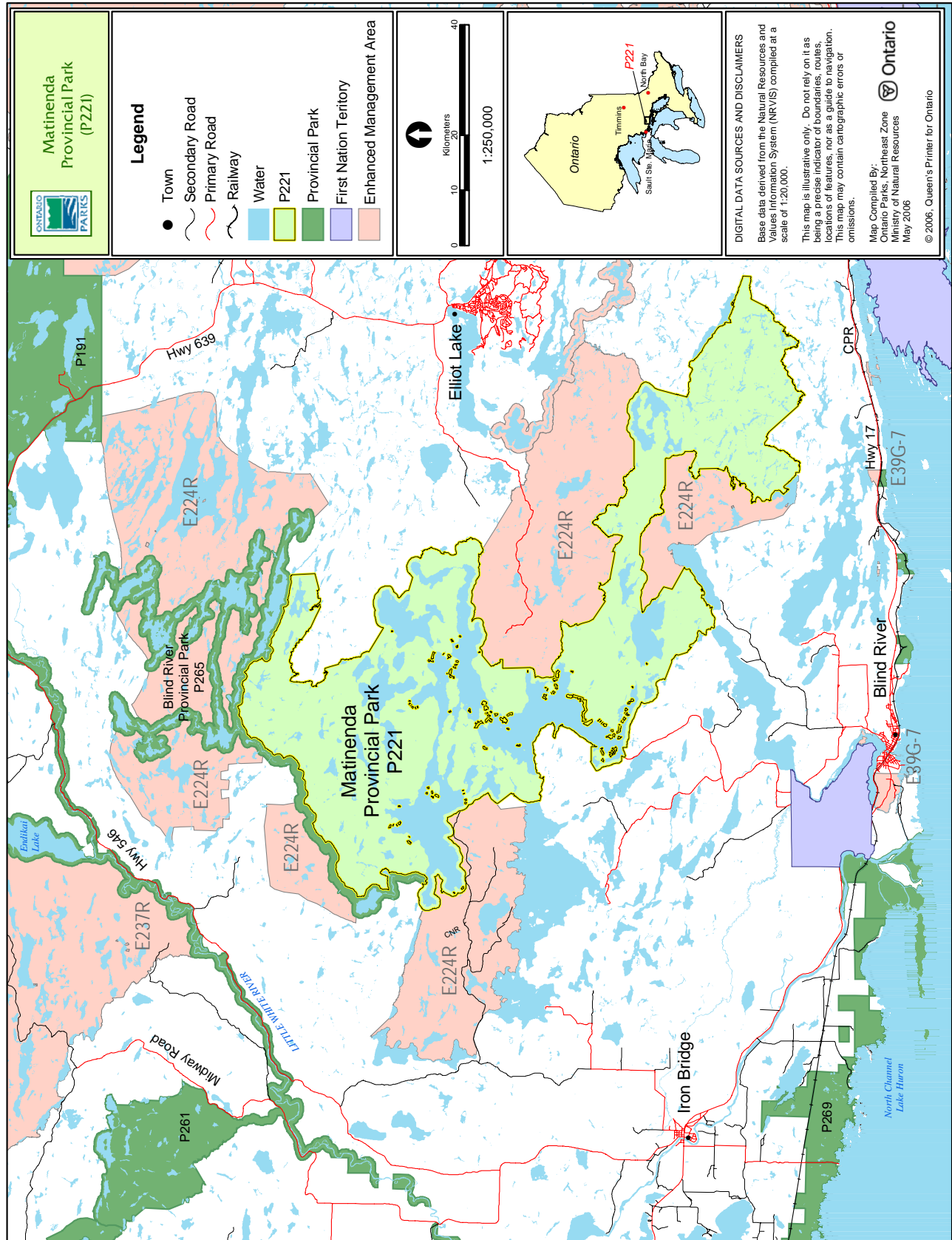
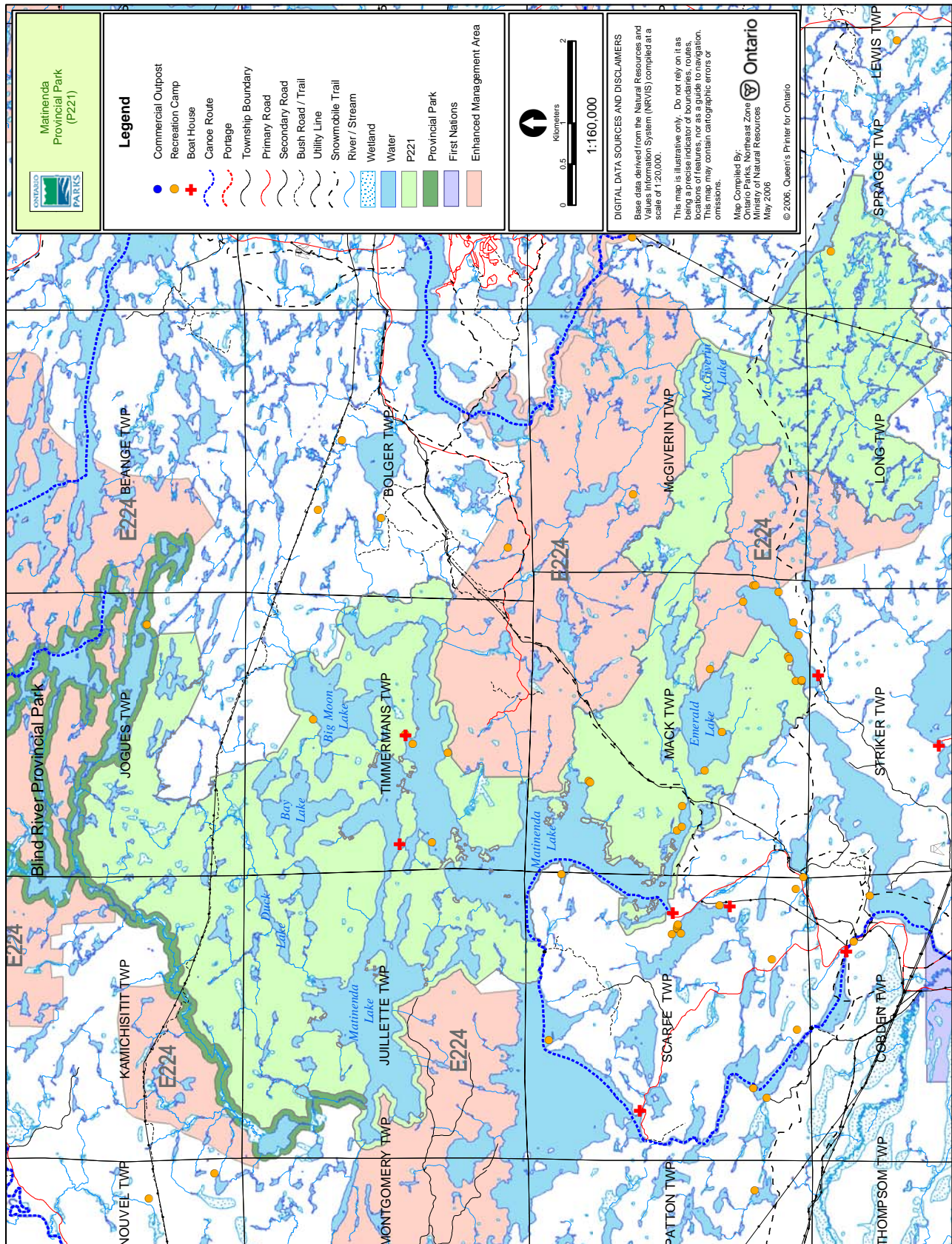


Figure 2: Park Boundary



The park superintendent will implement the policies, procedures and legislation that are derived from the above direction and written into this IMS for this park.

## **2.1 Environmental Assessment**

As a part of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR), Ontario Parks is a public sector agency that is subject to the *Environmental Assessment Act*. Park management will be carried out in accordance with legislation, policies and guidelines that are required under MNR's *A Class Environmental Assessment for Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves* (OMNR 2005).

## **3.0 PARK FEATURES AND VALUES**

Matinenda Provincial Park includes nearly all of two Natural Heritage Areas, the Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens and Matinenda Pine-Hemlock. A small portion of the Peak Lake Pine-Hemlock Natural Heritage Area was included, as most of the area was previously harvested or is allocated for harvesting. An intact representative portion of this natural heritage area, however, was retained north of Peak Lake. The park also includes a concentration of at least eight self-sustaining lake trout lakes and two brook trout lakes (Morris 2002).

### **3.1 Geological Features**

Over two-thirds of Matinenda Provincial Park is located within the western part of the Paleoproterozoic 2.4 to 2.2 billion years old Huronian Supergroup of the Southern Province. The southeast part of the park is in the 2.75 to 2.67 billion years old western Abitibi Subprovince, in the Archean Superior Province of the Precambrian shield (Frey and Duba 2003).

These geological environments are part of the modern organization of the complex products of late Archean orogenic events in the Superior Province and early Proterozoic sedimentary cycles and diabase intrusions in the Southern Province. As such, their representation in Matinenda Provincial Park contributes to the conservation of the "Early Archean Basement", "Late Archean Volcanic Islands and Sedimentary Basins", and "Early Aphebian Huronian Stable Platform" Precambrian environment themes.

The rocks of the Abitibi Subprovince within the park are batholithic granites and quartz monzonites. These are part of the Algoma Plutonic Domain of the Ramsey-Algoma granitoid complex, a large area of plutonic and gneissic rocks that originated between ~2.70 and 2.68 billion years ago (Frey and Duba).

The bedrock geology of Matinenda Provincial Park is provincially significant in its representation of eight of the twelve metasedimentary formations of Huronian Supergroup stratigraphy. The Matinenda and Mississagi formations are most extensively represented in the park. The representation of Nipissing diabase sills also is provincially significant; the younger Sudbury diabase dike is regionally significant. The southern arm of the Algoma Plutonic Domain of the Ramsey-Algoma granitoid complex is locally significant within the park. The park's surficial geology is also locally significant (Frey and Duba).

The surficial deposits of the park are thin sandy ground moraine till, smaller areas of glaciofluvial and glaciolacustrine sand as well as minor silt and clay. The till remains on the upland surfaces and in hillside pockets, deposited ~15,000 years ago by the south-southwestward advancing Superior Lobe of the Late Wisconsinan continental ice sheet. Ice flow direction is indicated by shallow fluting of the till on many upland surfaces (Frey and Duba).

Most of the park was flooded by glacial Lake Algonquin ~11.5 to 11.0 thousand years ago as the ice sheet receded northward. The drainage of Lake Algonquin added minor lacustrine sediments to the low areas and washed some till into them from the uplands. Glaciofluvial sand, in some

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areas reworked with modern alluvium, also occupies low divides between lakes of the park that were once channels of meltwater flow as the ice sheet continued to recede. The park's Quaternary deposits and landforms contribute to the conservation of the Late Wisconsinan "Algonquin Stadial" and "Timiskaming Interstadial" environmental themes (Frey and Duba).

### 3.2 Biological Features

The park is north of the Town of Blind River on Lake Huron's North Channel. Lying at the convergence of three ecodistricts, it is representative of Ecodistrict 5E-1, although the park includes several thousand hectares of Ecodistrict 4E-3 (Jogues Township) and 5E-4 (Long and Spragge Townships). The park contains extensive representations of forest ecosite types typical of Ecoregion 5E. The extensive representation of exposed bedrock and scrub maple-oak communities is similar to those found in Killarney Provincial Park.

A wide variety of tree species occur in Matinenda, including sugar maple, eastern white cedar, white pine, red pine, jack pine, black spruce, balsam fir, red oak, red maple, and hemlock. Sheltered conifer tree stands provide winter habitat for moose and white-tailed deer, while cold clear waters provide excellent lake trout habitat.

Most of the Matinenda Pine-Hemlock Natural Heritage Area is included in the park, as is nearly all of the Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens. The Matinenda Pine-Hemlock area is highly representative of white pine and hemlock ecosites on moderately to strongly broken sandy till. The Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens is representative of a Mixed Pine Upland (jack pine clearly dominant, but white pine and red pine usually occur as subordinates) on shallow till soils frequently interrupted by bedrock barrens. In the area east of Matinenda Lake (between Matinenda and Chiblow Lakes) lies one of the largest concentrations of white pine old growth forest stands in the ecodistrict (Bergsma 1998a).

A few specific natural heritage areas warrant further exploration: the terrestrial corridor between Peak Lake and McGiverin Lake contains a great deal of physical relief as well as a diverse range of mature forest ecosites. Further north, a similar valley system extends northwest-southeast between Coffee Lake (Jogues Township) and Blind River (Kamichisitit Township). Most wetlands occur in bedrock depressions or flank small streams. They include small coniferous and hardwood swamps, fens, and marshes. Larger emergent marsh wetland representations do occur in the south basin of Matinenda Lake. Potentially species-rich wetlands are located in a narrow bay northwest of the access point on Matinenda Lake's south basin. Many lakes possess natural inland-lake beach representations and associated flora (Morris).

The park includes a concentration of at least eight self-sustaining lake trout lakes and two brook trout lakes. Several warm water and cool water species (such as northern pike, lake cisco, lake whitefish, burbot, rock bass, etc.) occur in these lakes (Morris).

Matinenda Provincial Park and Blind River Provincial Park form a large protected area. The southern core natural heritage areas are reasonably well linked to one-another by the Peak Lake-McGiverin Lake natural heritage area. Matinenda Lake and other lake trout lakes also form a core aquatic natural heritage area. The terrestrial portions of the designated park serve as an important headwater protection function for this value (Morris).

### 3.3 Cultural Setting

No investigation into the cultural features specific to Matinenda Provincial Park has been completed at this time.

Any future planning will be within the context of a provincial framework, *A Topical Organization of Ontario History* (OMNR 1974). In addition, updates and discussions with First Nations, other agencies and stakeholders may be carried out to identify cultural heritage values and features

within the park and their significance. This information may be used to develop management guidelines to conserve and protect representative archaeological and historical values and features, or to provide direction for further research.

### **3.4 Recreation**

A variety of land and water based activities occur in Matinenda Provincial Park. These include fishing, hunting, cottaging, camping, boating, canoeing, hiking, snowmobiling, and swimming (Carré 2002).

Fishing is popular with cottagers and park visitors. Lake trout is especially sought after. The largest lake trout caught in northern Ontario (49 lbs or 22.2 kg) was from Matinenda Lake (Carré).

There are two established canoe routes in the park: Matinenda Lake and Matinenda- Blind River route. A third route, the Dunlop Lake-Mace Lake Loop does not enter the park, but paddlers can portage from Blind River Provincial Park's Pathfinder Lake to Rodge Lake in this park. There are also portages in the park related to unknown canoe routes. These portages are not maintained and some of them are hard to locate.

Boating is strongly associated with local cottaging and fishing. Visitors typically launch their boats at the government dock at the south end of Matinenda Lake at the terminus of Highway 557.

## **4.0 ABORIGINAL RIGHTS**

Matinenda Provincial Park lies within the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850 and is located 30 kilometres north of the Mississauga Indian Reserve.

Consultation regarding the boundary regulation of Matinenda Provincial Park was conducted with the Batchewana, Garden River, Mississauga, Serpent River and Thessalon First Nations as well as the North Shore Tribal Council (OMNR 2002).

First Nations have expressed interest in and have shared knowledge of the park and surrounding area. Aboriginal communities have used the area for hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering and travel. These uses may continue, subject to public safety, conservation and other considerations.

Any communications and cooperation between Aboriginal communities and the MNR for planning and operations purposes will be done without prejudice to any future discussions or negotiations between the government of Ontario and Aboriginal communities.

## **5.0 STEWARDSHIP POLICIES**

### **5.1 Terrestrial Ecosystems**

The removal, damage or defacing of Crown property, natural objects, relics and artifacts is not permitted in provincial parks (*Provincial Parks Act*).

#### **5.1.1 Vegetation**

##### **Harvesting**

Commercial forest harvesting and renewal activities are not permitted within the park (OMNR 2004a).

The harvest of non-timber forest products such as club moss, Canada yew, etc., will not be permitted within the park.

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Existing authorized wild rice harvesting may continue. New operations will not be permitted.

There are no fuelwood cutting permits currently issued for the park. No new permits will be issued (OMNR 2000).

### **Non-Native Plants**

Non-native plant species will not be deliberately introduced into Matinenda Provincial Park. Where non-native plant species are already established, and threaten park values, a strategy may be developed to control such species (OMNR 1992).

### **Insects and Disease**

Insects and diseases may be managed where the aesthetic, cultural or natural values of Matinenda Provincial Park are threatened (OMNR 1992).

Control measures will follow guidelines established by the Ontario Ministry of the Environment (MOE) and the MNR. Biological controls, in preference to chemicals, will be used whenever possible (OMNR 1992).

### **Fire**

Matinenda Provincial Park is located within the Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Zone for forest fire management. In accordance with existing provincial park policy and the *Forest Fire Management Strategy for Ontario* (OMNR 2004b), forest fire protection will be carried out in Matinenda Provincial Park as on surrounding lands.

Whenever feasible, MNR's Fire Program will use techniques which minimize damage to the landscape, such as limiting the use of heavy equipment or limiting the number of trees felled during response efforts (OMNR 2004b).

## **5.1.2 Wildlife Management**

The removal or harassment of non-game animals is not permitted in provincial parks (*Provincial Parks Act*).

### **Hunting**

Sport hunting is permitted to continue. Consideration of safety and conservation with respect to hunting may be made through future management planning, which includes public consultation (OMNR 2000).

The *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* (1999) and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act* (1994) govern hunting within the park. The *Ontario Hunting Regulations Summary* contains regulations specific to this area. The harvest of bullfrogs or snapping turtles is illegal in provincial parks.

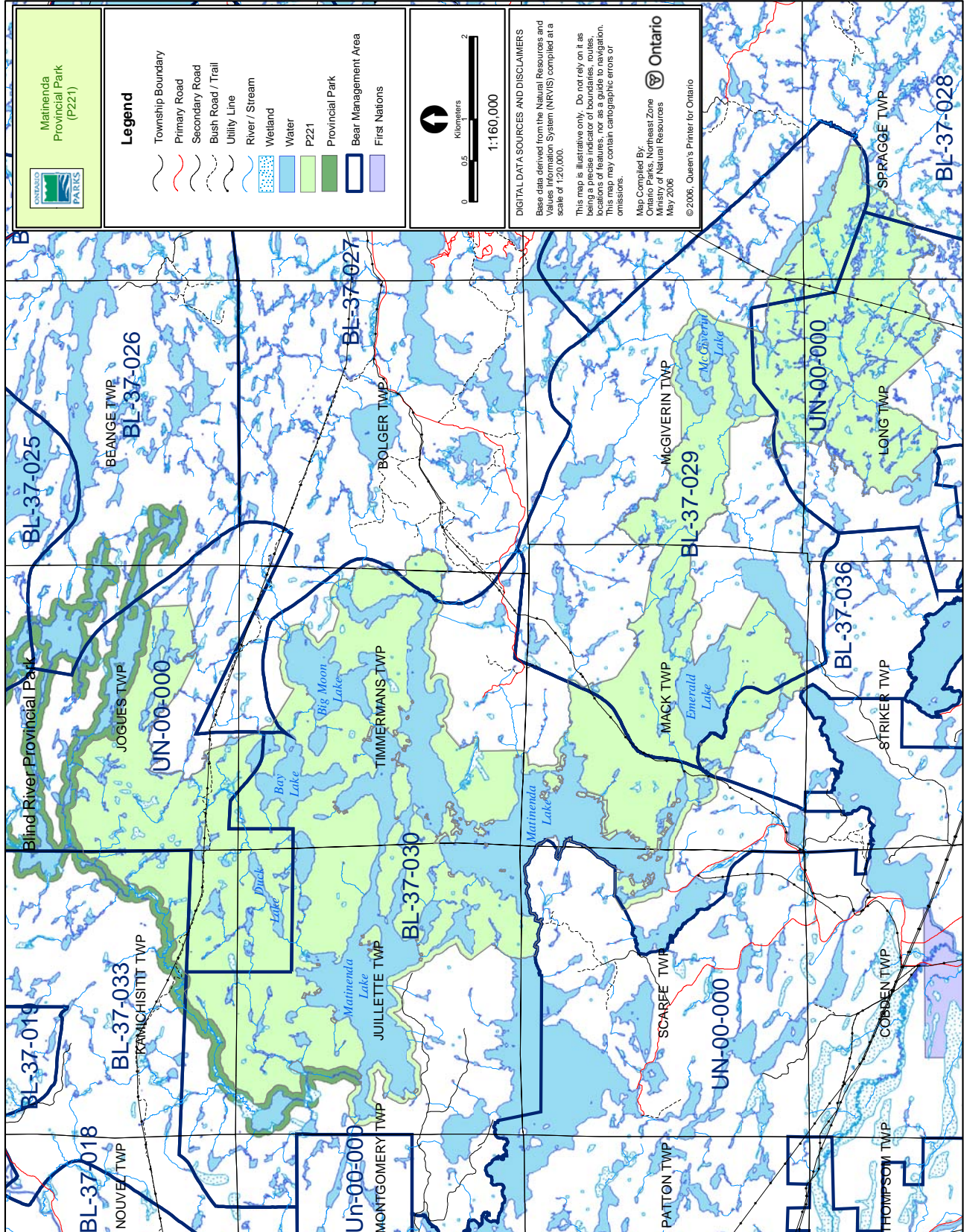
### **Bear Management Areas**

Matinenda Provincial Park includes portions of six active (BL-37-027, BL-37-028, BL-37-029, BL-37-030, BL-37-033 and BL-37-036) and two unallocated (UN-00-000) bear management areas (Figure 3).

Existing commercial bear hunting operations are permitted to continue. This activity may be subject to conditions identified during future management planning (e.g. the designation of nature reserve zones).

New BMA licences will not be permitted (OMNR 2000; 2003).

Figure 3: Bear Management Areas



### **Trapping**

There are portions of ten licensed trap lines within the park: BL02-N059, BL02-N060, BL02-N064, BL02-N086, BL02-N087, BL04-N056, BL04-N057, BL04-N058, BL04-N085, and BL04-N088 (Figure 4).

Existing commercial fur harvesting operations may continue where the activity has been licensed or permitted since January 1, 1992. New operations, including trap cabins and trails, will not be permitted (OMNR 2000; 2003). The relocation of the existing trails and cabins will be subject to ecological principles and management planning (OMNR 2000; 2004a).

Transfers of active trap line licenses are permitted, subject to a review of potential impacts and the normal transfer or renewal conditions that apply.

### **5.1.3 Industrial Resources**

There are no licensed aggregate pits (active or inactive) located within the boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park. Aggregate extraction is not a permitted use in provincial parks (OMNR 1992).

There are no existing mining claims within the park. Lands within the park have been withdrawn from mining activity under the *Mining Act* (1990). Mineral exploration or mineral extraction is not permitted within provincial parks (OMNR 1992).

### **5.1.4 Access and Crossings**

#### **Access**

Matinenda Provincial Park is currently accessed by motor boat, aircraft, canoe, all-terrain vehicles (ATV), snowmobile and hiking. Mechanized vehicles enter the park via tertiary bush roads that branch from Highways 557 and 546 (to the west of the park) and Highway 108 (to the east). Several lakes are accessed by unauthorized trails.

Visitors can fly into Matinenda Lake as fly-in service is available (i.e., Lauzon Aviation Co. Ltd.).

Paddlers canoe from Chiblow, Duborne, Granary, Turtle, Pathfinder or Flack Lakes. Two existing access points are located in the southern area of the park in Scarfe and Mack townships (Figure 2).

#### **Roads**

There are no existing highways, highway corridors, primary or secondary roads within close proximity to the park.

Old tertiary roads branch from Highways 546 and 557 (west of the site) and Highway 108 (east of the site) including "Hydro Line Road" that originates from Highway 546. Access to Matinenda Lake is via Highway 557 (15km north of Blind River). In addition, there is a vast network of tertiary roads in Timmermans and Bolger Townships (Harper and Carré 2002).

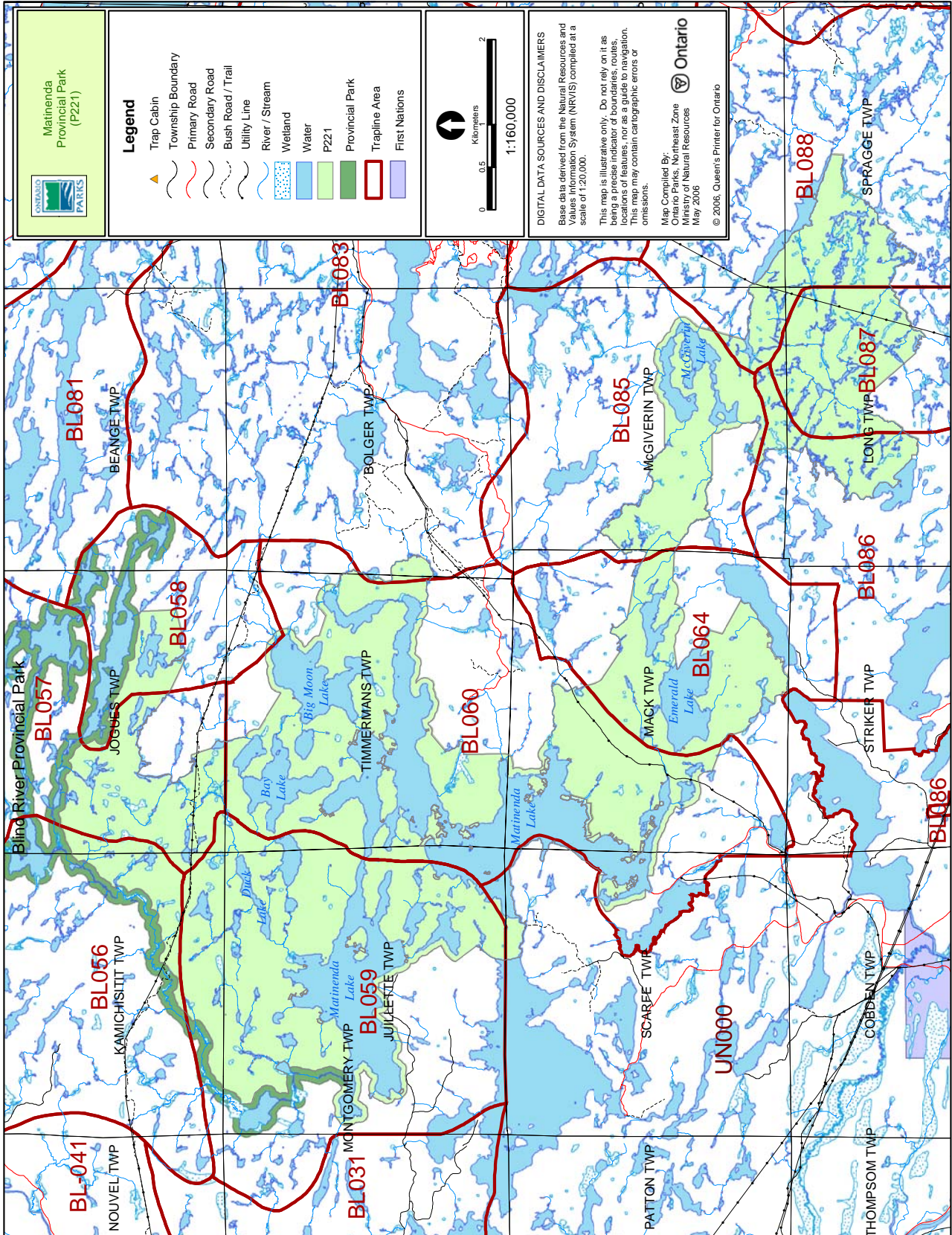
Where existing forest access roads are essential for continued access beyond the park for forest management or recreation purposes, and alternative road access does not exist, or road relocation is not feasible, existing roads will continue to be available for access. Continued use will include maintenance and may include upgrade (OMNR 2004a). Ontario Parks is not responsible for the maintenance or upgrade of any roads within the park boundary.

Any proposed development, maintenance or upgrading of existing roads must meet all *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements.

#### **Railway**

There are no crossings of the park boundary by railway corridors.

Figure 4: Trap Line Areas



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### **Utility Corridors**

Hydro utility corridors pass through the park in Kamichisitit and Jogues Townships in the north and through Long, McGiverin and Esten Townships in the south. A natural gas corridor passes through the central portion of the park in Mack Township and bisects the Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens Natural Heritage Area. Associated with these utility corridors are maintenance roads and existing snowmobile trails (Morris).

All public utilities (e.g. gas pipelines, transmission lines, communications towers) must avoid park lands wherever possible. New utility corridor crossings may be necessary to maintain essential public services (OMNR 2004a).

Any future utility corridors proposed through the park, where park lands are unavoidable, will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis. Protection of park features and values will be priority and all requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act* will be met.

Maintenance of existing utility lines will be permitted. These activities must adhere to the regulations set out under the relevant acts, such as the *Environmental Assessment Act*, the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act* (1999) and the *Pesticides Act* (1990). Maintenance activities shall not impact negatively on park values.

### **Recreational Trails**

*Canoe Routes:* There are two established canoe routes in the park: Matinenda Lake and Matinenda - Blind River route. A third route adjacent to the park, Dunlop Lake-Mace Lake Loop, provides paddlers with access via a portage from Blind River Provincial Park's Pathfinder Lake to Rodge Lake in Matinenda Provincial Park. There are other portages in the park that are not maintained and may be difficult to locate.

*Snowmobile Trails:* An existing Ontario Federation of Snowmobile Clubs (OFSC) trail follows a utility corridor through the central portion of the park in Mack Township, and bisects the Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens Natural Heritage Area (Carré 2002). The presence of a snowmobile trail allows access to the site in the winter. Another trail roughly parallels the Hydroline Road in the north of the park. Snowmobilers also use the Voyageur Hiking Trail and various bush roads to enter the park.

*ATV Trails:* There are no authorized ATV trails in Matinenda Provincial Park at this time. However, several lakes in the park are accessed by ATVs. It appears that natural beaches, such as that on McGiverin Lake, have been damaged by ATV use (Carré 2002).

*Hiking Trails:* The Voyageur Trail cuts across a portion of the park in McGiverin Township and abuts to an area in Mack Township in the southern section of the park. This part of the trail offers visitors a chance to hike from southeast of Elliot Lake to Goulais River north of Sault Ste. Marie (The Voyageur Trail Association, 2002).

New trails (e.g. hiking) may be developed if the need arises. Any proposed development within the park is subject to Environmental Assessment Act requirements.

#### **5.1.5 Adjacent Land Management**

##### **Forestry**

The Crown land adjacent to the park is located within the Northshore Forest Management Unit managed by Domtar Inc. The current forest management plan for this unit has been approved for 2005-2025.

### **Provincial Parks**

*Blind River Provincial Park (P265)*: This waterway provincial park is located adjacent to the northern boundary of Matinenda (Figure 1). The regulated park boundary encompasses 5,402 hectares of Crown land. Blind River Provincial Park includes headwater creeks and lakes of the Blind River, upstream of Matinenda Lake. This park is regionally significant due to its representation of cold water aquatic environments and its headwater protection function (OMNR 2004a).

Blind River Provincial Park is a popular canoeing destination. The area of this park contains numerous lakes that are either connected by water or by portage trails and offer endless opportunities to explore the area by paddling.

Blind River Provincial Park was designated through Ontario's Living Legacy Land Use Strategy (OMNR 1999) as a waterway class provincial park. This park was regulated under the Provincial Parks Act in December 2002 (O. Reg. 311/02).

### **Enhanced Management Areas**

Enhanced Management Areas (EMAs) are a land use category established through Ontario's Living Legacy to provide more detailed land use direction in areas of special features or values (OMNR 1999). There is one EMA adjacent to Matinenda Provincial Park: (E224 – Matinenda Lake EMA) that surrounds the majority of the park (Figure 1).

Matinenda Lake Area (E224r) is a recreation EMA which encompasses 31,400 hectares of Crown land. It includes winter deer habitat primarily west and south of Matinenda Lake. Fifteen lakes within this EMA are designated A1 or B1 lake trout lakes, and an additional seven lakes A2 or B2 lake trout lakes. A critical aggregate area is located southwest of Quimby Lake (OMNR 2004a).

Forest management and Crown land recreation are the major activities occurring within E224r. Scattered throughout there are a wide variety of development and uses including commercial lodges, outpost camps, cottages, canoe routes, and angling and hunting areas (OMNR 2004). Land use direction and resource management activity will be compatible with protecting the natural and recreational values of Blind River and Matinenda Provincial Park(s) (OMNR 2004).

### **General Use Area**

General use areas adjacent to Matinenda Provincial Park include Multiple Use Area G1890 encompassing 406,867 ha of Crown land, and Matinenda/Lauzon System (G1895) comprised of 15,015 ha of Crown land (OMNR 2004). The management intent for Multiple Use Area G1890 is primarily forestry, Crown land recreation and commercial/private recreation. The land use priorities in the Matinenda/Lauzon System area is to provide for the continued mix of existing recreational uses, and to ensure the survival and maintenance of healthy fish populations to support angling (OMNR 2004a).

### **Adjacent Tourism Developments**

Scattered throughout the Matinenda EMA are a wide variety of development and uses including commercial lodges, outpost camps, cottages, canoe routes, and angling and hunting areas (OMNR 2004a).

The existing pattern of land use in the Matinenda EMA will be preserved, but new development and the disposition of Crown land will consider impact on deer populations and other values. In critical deer habitat west of Matinenda Lake, Crown land will generally not be made available for the development of new facilities except where no impacts on wildlife and fisheries populations are anticipated (OMNR 2004a).

Commercial tourism is not permitted in areas of critical aggregate, southwest of Quimby Lake. In the northern portions of this area, as well as immediately east of Matinenda Lake (excluding Quimby Lake critical aggregate area), additional facilities (e.g., main base lodges) may be

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permitted in some portions of the area, depending on availability of resources and prior resource commitments (OMNR 2004a).

### **5.1.6 Land Disposition**

Matinenda Provincial Park is located in Kamichisitit, Jogues, Juillette, Timmermans, Bolger, Scarfe, Mack, McGiverin, Esten, Long, and Spragge Townships in the Sault Ste. Marie District of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (Figure 2).

No new land disposition for private use or corporations will be permitted within the park boundaries (OMNR 2000).

#### **Land Use Permits, Licenses of Occupation, Unauthorized Occupations**

There is one Provincial Blanket Land Use Permit (LUP) issued to Hydro One for a utility corridor through Esten, Jogues, Kamichisitit, Long, and McGiverin Townships.

There are two commercial outpost camp LUPs located within the park in Kamichisitit and McGiverin townships (Section 6.3).

Four other LUPs issued for private use are located within the boundary of this provincial park. Three of these LUPs are issued for private recreation camps (two in Mack Township; 1 in Spragge Township), and one for a boathouse (Timmermans Township).

Existing authorized LUPs for recreation camps may be eligible for enhanced tenure but not the purchase of land. Recreational camp LUPs cannot be changed to commercial LUPs unless this is supported during a review as part of park management planning. Enhanced tenure, is defined as a possible extension of the term of the LUP for recreation camps up to 10 years or upgrade in tenure (i.e. LUP to lease) (OMNR 2000).

Enhanced tenure for an LUP for a recreation camp is not guaranteed. Requests for enhanced tenure, or to transfer recreation camps, will be reviewed based upon the following criteria:

- Continued compliance with the conditions of the LUP for recreation camps
- Current land disposition policies for LUPs
- Consistency with park objectives to sustain values – no effects on heritage values and/or conflict with other uses
- Consistency with Aboriginal land claim negotiations or protocol agreements
- All rents, taxes, fees, rates or charges are paid and in good standing.

An extension in the term of tenure for an existing private recreation camp LUP does not convey a commitment to provide for a change in the type or the standard of existing access to the private recreation camp.

An existing private recreation camp LUP holder can relinquish their LUP and are responsible to have existing improvements removed including, but not limited to, the sale of any existing improvements. MNR may consider purchase of the improvements.

There are no known licenses of occupation within the park.

There are five known unauthorized occupations located within the boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park. Two within Long Township, one in Juillette Township, one in Spragge Township and one in Mack Township.

**Patent Land**

Numerous parcels of private land are located within the park boundary (Figure 2). There are numerous cottages, primarily on Matinenda Lake, Emerald Lake, Granary Lake and a few scattered throughout the park (one on Turtle Lake, and one on Big Moon Lake). Access to these sites is via the roads branching from the local highways, by boat, ATV, snowmobile or small aircraft.

Private land is not included within the park boundary and as such park policy does not apply to these areas.

**Waste Disposal Site**

There are no authorized waste disposal sites in the park or on adjacent lands.

**Boat Caches**

There are no authorized boat caches located within the park.

As stated in the *Provincial Parks Act*, watercraft are not permitted to be left unattended without written permission from the superintendent.

**5.2 Aquatic Ecosystems**

Sustaining quality water resources is integral to the protection of park and adjacent lands values. The MOE enforces applicable legislation and regulations for water quality.

**5.2.1 Water Management**

There are currently no hydro development, water control structures or diversions within the boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park.

No new commercial or private hydroelectric developments will be permitted in Matinenda Provincial Park (OMNR 2000).

**5.2.2 Fisheries Management**

Matinenda Provincial Park includes a concentration of at least eight self-sustaining lake trout lakes and two brook trout lakes. Other fish species occurring in this park include northern pike, lake cisco, lake whitefish, burbot and rock bass (Morris).

Fisheries management activities will be aimed, wherever possible, at the maintenance and enhancement of native, self-sustaining fish populations (OMNR 1992).

**Sport Fishing**

Sport fishing is permitted within natural environment class parks, and is governed by the legislation and regulations in the *Fish and Wildlife Conservation Act* and the *Fisheries Act* (1985). The *Recreational Fishing Regulations Summary* contains details on the regulations that are applicable to this area.

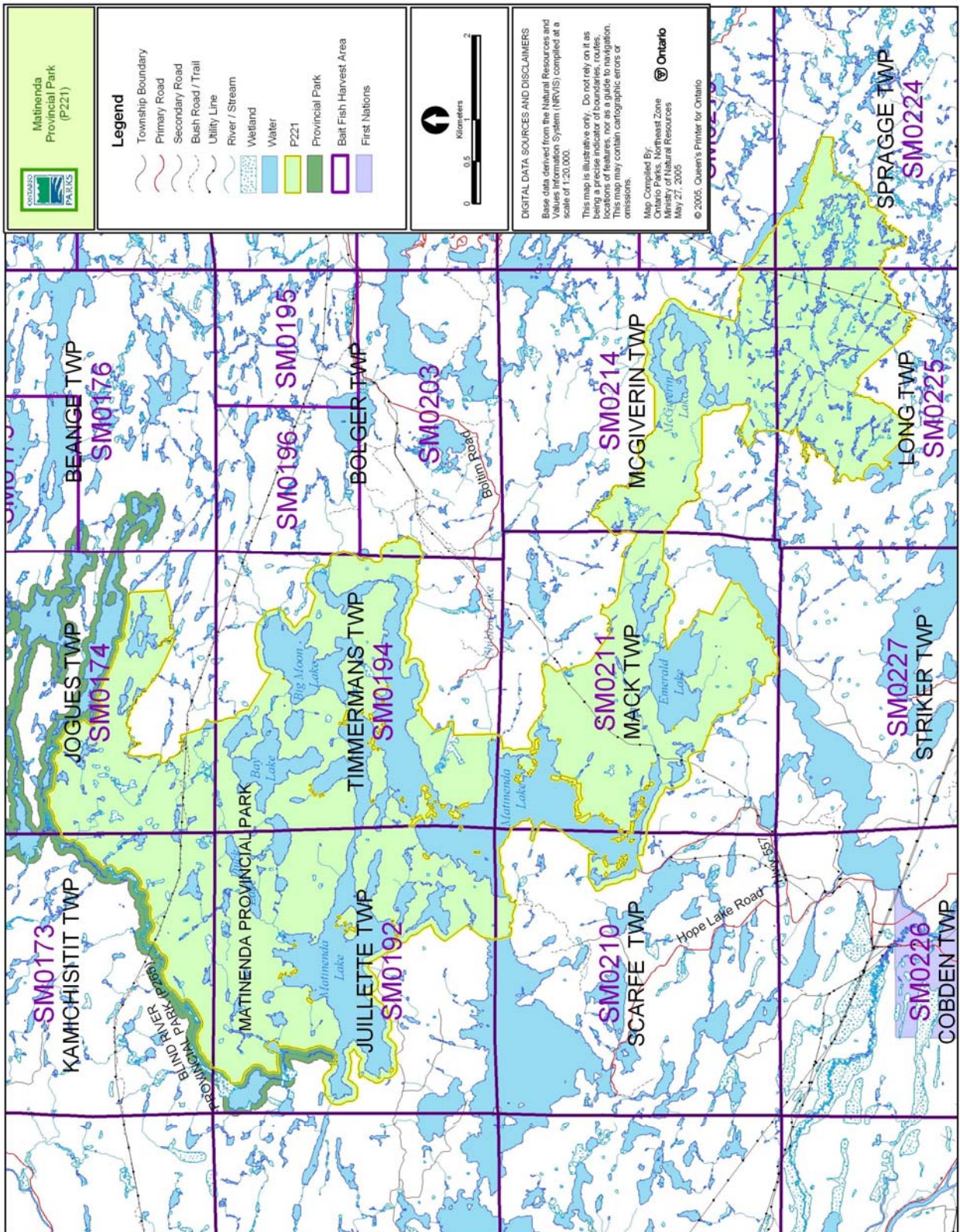
**Commercial Fishing**

There are no commercial fishing operations within the boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park. New operations will not be permitted (OMNR 2004a).

**Commercial Baitfish Harvesting**

Long, Spragge, McGiverin, Esten and Bolger Townships are currently allocated for commercial bait fish harvesting (Figure 5).

Figure 5: Commercial Baitfish Harvesting



Existing commercial baitfish harvesting may continue where the activity has been licensed or permitted since January 1, 1992. This activity may be subject to conditions identified through future park management planning or fisheries management plans. New baitfish licenses will not be permitted (OMNR 2000; 2003).

### **Fish Stocking**

The stocking of native fish species may be considered through park management planning, with full public consultation. Non-native fish species will not be deliberately introduced into park waters (OMNR 1992).

## **6.0 OPERATIONS POLICIES**

### **6.1 Recreation Management**

If necessary, future planning, with public consultation, will review direction on motorized and non-motorized recreation uses.

#### **6.1.1 Motorized Recreation**

##### **Motorboats**

The use of motorboats is permitted to continue, unless park values are being threatened (OMNR 2004a).

##### **Snowmobiles**

There are currently two existing snowmobile trails that cross the park. One in Mack Township (Carré) and another that roughly parallels the Hydroline Road in the north of the park. The use of these two existing trails is permitted to continue subject to management prescriptions which may be determined through future management planning including public consultation (OMNR 2004a).

Snowmobiles also use the Voyageur Hiking Trail and various tertiary roads to enter the park. The use of snowmobiles on established trails for access to private land in-holdings, land use permits, and recreational ice fishing areas is permitted to continue in the interim.

Proposals for new trails may only be considered through future planning with public consultation (OMNR 2000).

Off-road/off-trail use of snowmobiles will not be permitted within park boundaries.

##### **All-Terrain Vehicles**

There are no authorized ATV trails located within the park.

The use of ATVs on established trails for access to private land in-holdings and LUPs is permitted to continue in the interim unless park features and values are threatened (OMNR 2000).

Proposals for new trails may only be considered through future planning with public consultation (OMNR 2000).

Off-road use of ATVs will not be permitted within the park.

##### **Aircraft**

All aircraft landings are subject to regulation and valid aircraft landing permits issued by the park superintendent under the authority of the Provincial Parks Act (1990).

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### **6.1.2 Non-Motorized Recreation**

#### **Camping**

There are currently no developed camping facilities within the park. There are, however, unmanaged campsites within the park associated with the canoe routes, the Voyageur Trail and beach access.

Ontario Parks may assess the condition of existing campsites and will maintain, rehabilitate or close sites as required. If there is an identified need, new backcountry campsites may be considered (OMNR 2004a). Infrastructure will be permitted in order to protect park features and values in response to use, environmental deterioration and environmental protection requirements. Any proposed development in the park must fulfill the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

#### **Hiking**

The Voyageur Trail crosses a portion of the park in McGiverin Township.

Existing hiking trails may be permitted to continue unless such trails threaten park features and values, create user conflicts or raise safety/liability issues.

If there is an identified need, the development of new hiking trails may be considered. Trail infrastructure to protect park values and features will be permitted. Any proposed development within the park is subject to *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements.

#### **Canoeing/Kayaking**

Existing uses may continue, unless park values are threatened (OMNR 2004a). Infrastructure to protect park features and values may be permitted and developed in response to use, environmental deterioration and environmental protection requirements.

### **6.1.3 Emerging Recreational Uses**

There are emerging recreation uses for which there is limited or no policy to deal with their management (e.g. adventure racing, geocaching). The park superintendent will use legislation, policy and guidelines that are in place in the interim to manage emerging uses.

## **6.2 Development**

There is no existing park infrastructure located within the boundary of Matinenda Provincial Park. Infrastructure to protect park features and values may be permitted and developed in response to use, environmental deterioration and environmental protection requirements. Any proposed development within the park is subject to MNR's requirements under the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

## **6.3 Commercial Tourism**

At present, commercial tourism facilities in Matinenda Provincial Park consist of two outpost camps: Lauzon Aviation Camp on Blanche Lake (McGiverin Township), and the Island Inn on Snafu Lake (Kamichisitit Township). A main base lodge (Butterfield Lodge) is located on private land on Matinenda Lake in Timmermans Township.

New commercial tourism facilities may be considered where consistent with park policy (OMNR 2004a). Any development must meet the requirements of the *Environmental Assessment Act*.

## **7.0 CULTURAL RESOURCES**

No assessment of the cultural resources specific to Matinenda Provincial Park has been completed at this time. However upon completion, management of any cultural values within the park will be directed toward protection and heritage appreciation (OMNR 1992).

## **8.0 HERITAGE EDUCATION**

Literature and other supporting information may be developed to describe the park in the context of Ontario's provincial park system. Boundary limits, significant heritage features and permitted uses of the park may be included in park literature.

Prospective park visitors may be informed about the sensitivity and significance of park values through park literature.

## **9.0 RESEARCH**

Scientific research by qualified individuals which contributes to the knowledge of natural or cultural history, or to environmental or recreational management, may be encouraged in the park. Ontario Parks will encourage institutions, such as universities, to undertake research projects.

All research programs will require the approval of Ontario Parks and are subject to park policy and other applicable legislation. Any materials removed from the park will remain the property of Ontario Parks.

Approved research activities and facilities will be compatible with the park's protection objective. Any site which is affected by research will be rehabilitated as closely as possible to its original state. *Environmental Assessment Act* requirements will apply.

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## 10.0 REFERENCES

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## APPENDIX A: BACKGROUND INFORMATION

<b>Name</b>	Matinenda Provincial Park
<b>Classification</b>	Natural Environment
<b>Ecoregion/Ecodistrict</b>	5E-1 (Thessalon), 5E-4 (Sudbury), 4E-3 (Mississagi)
<b>OMNR Administrative Region/District</b>	Northeast – Sault Ste. Marie
<b>Total Area (ha)</b>	29,417
<b>Regulation date &amp; Number</b>	June 2003 (O. Reg. 210/03)

### Representation

#### Earth Science:

Matinenda Provincial Park is located on the Canadian Shield characterized by a rocky landscape dissected by numerous folds and faults. The surficial geology of the park is represented by lacustrine plains interrupted by small bedrock knolls, and inland by bedrock controlled, till-covered uplands. The Quaternary deposits and landforms of Matinenda Provincial Park contribute to the conservation of the Late Wisconsinan "Algonquin Stadial" and "Timiskaming Interstadial" environmental themes. The surficial geology of the park is locally significant (Carré 2002; Frey and Duba 2003).

The bedrock geology of Matinenda Provincial Park is provincially significant in its representation of eight of the twelve metasedimentary formations of Huronian Supergroup stratigraphy. The Matinenda and Mississagi formations are the most extensively represented in the park. The area around the north-east arm of Matinenda Lake and Bay Lake has the only representation of strongly broken bedrock uplands and the best representation of moderately broken, shallow sandy till uplands in the area (Carré 2002; Frey and Duba 2003).

#### Life Science:

Matinenda Provincial Park is located north of Lake Huron's North Channel and the town of Blind River. It lies at the convergence of two ecoregions (4E and 5E) and three ecodistricts: 4E-3 (Mississagi), 5E-1 (Thessalon) and 5E-4 (Sudbury). Most of the forest in the park is representative of Ecodistrict 5E-1, although the park also includes over a several thousand hectares of Ecodistrict 4E-3 (Jogues Township) and 5E-4 (Long & Spragge Townships).

The park includes a concentration of at least eight self-sustaining lake trout lakes and two brook trout lakes. It also contains portions of three provincially significant natural heritage areas identified by Bergsma (1998a-d). Most of the Matinenda Pine-Hemlock Natural Heritage Area is included, as is nearly all of the Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens. The Matinenda Pine-Hemlock is highly representative of white pine and hemlock ecosites on moderately to strongly broken sandy till. The Matinenda Jack Pine Barrens is representative of a Mixed Pine Upland on shallow till soils frequently interrupted by bedrock barrens. A portion of the Peak Lake Pine-Hemlock Natural Heritage Area north of Peak Lake is also included (Morris 2002).

A wide variety of tree species occur in Matinenda Provincial Park including sugar maple, eastern white cedar, white pine, red pine, jack pine, black spruce, balsam fir, red oak, red maple, and hemlock. Sheltered conifer tree stands provide winter habitat for moose and white-tailed deer. Moose aquatic feeding areas were also identified within the park (Carré 2002).

Most wetlands occur in bedrock depressions or flank small streams, and include small coniferous and hardwood swamps, fens, and marshes. Larger emergent marsh wetlands occur in the south basin of Matinenda Lake (Morris 2002).

### Cultural Resources:

No studies or assessments on cultural values of Matinenda Provincial Park have been carried out.

### Recreation and Tourism:

A variety of land based and water based recreation activities occur within Matinenda Provincial Park including fishing, hunting, cottaging, camping, boating, canoeing, hiking, snowmobiling and ATV use (Carré 2002).

Lake trout is the main fish species that attracts anglers to the park. Other fish species found in the park include brook trout, lake whitefish and northern pike. Hunting of moose, white-tail deer, black bear, waterfowl and small game occurs within the park.

Boating is strongly associated with cottaging and fishing on area lakes. Visitors typically launch boats at the government dock located at the south end of Matinenda Lake at the terminus of Highway 557.

Canoeing is popular with two established canoe routes in the area: Matinenda Lake and Matinenda-Blind River route. A third route, the Dunlop Lake-Mace Lake Loop, could be used to access Rodge Lake. Additional portages in the park are not maintained; some are difficult to locate and not readily passable.

A developed hiking trail cuts across the southern section of the park in McGiverin Township and abuts to area in Mack Township. This is a part of the Voyageur Trail that offers visitors a chance to hike from southeast of Elliot Lake to Goulais River, north of Sault Ste. Marie (Voyageur Trail Association, 2002). Backcountry camping is associated with the canoe routes and the Voyageur Hiking Trail.

Numerous cottages are located on private land within the park, particularly on the shores of Matinenda Lake. A local cottagers association for Matinenda Lake (established in 1962) produces a newsletter that gives updates on occurrences around the lake and the park.

Snowmobiling takes place in and around the site. Two existing snowmobile trails cross the park. One follows a hydro corridor in Mack Township. Another trail roughly parallels the Hydroline Road in the north of the park. Old forest access roads, and other trails found in the park have the potential to be used in the winter as snowmobile trails.

There are no authorized ATV trails in Matinenda Provincial Park, but ATV travel occurs on the existing bush roads and unauthorized trails within the park. ATV use is associated with hunting, fishing and cottage use. Information from aerial surveys indicates that ATV use also occurs on the snowmobile trail and beaches within the park.

### Inventories

Survey Level	Earth Science	Life Science	Cultural	Recreational
Reconnaissance	Frey and Duba 2003	Morris 2002		Carré 2002