



Algonquin Backcountry Recreationalists

"Caring About Algonquin's Backcountry"

Position of the Algonquin Backcountry Recreationalists Concerning Recommendations of the Ontario Parks Board ... Lightening The Ecological Footprint of Logging In Algonquin Park

The Algonquin Backcountry Recreationalists (ABR) supports those recommendations of the Ontario Parks Board (in its "Lightening The Ecological Footprint of Logging In Algonquin Park") which will achieve setbacks, ranging from 120 meters to 500 meters, of logging from those areas used by recreationalists. These increased setbacks will enhance recreationalists' wilderness-like experiences in the backcountry of Algonquin Park.

Specifically, the ABR supports the following recommendations (page 7 of recommendations)..

Those parts of Component 1 which effectively produce a setback of 500 m from primary canoe routes (including lakes).

Component 2 - 200 m setbacks for key self-sustaining brook trout lakes and primary canoe routes (including lakes).

Component 3 - 120 m setbacks for remaining canoe routes (including lakes) and remaining self-sustaining brook trout lakes.

Those parts of Component 4 which effectively produce a setback of 500 m from primary canoe routes (including lakes).

The ABR also supports the following recommendation (page 9, #3) ... "While consultation is underway, the AFA should use the new protected zoning recommended by the board as a basis for forest management planning for periods beyond 2010, subject to modifications that may arise from the consultation and planning process." ... in so far as it applies to those parts of the four components already mentioned above.

In addition, the ABR supports the following Proposed Action (page 12, #6) ... "Where forest management activities occur during the June to October period, enhance planning of operations, communications between AFA and MNR regarding use patterns, and consider options for quieter equipment and modified practices."

The fact that the ABR isn't supporting other recommended components or actions does not mean that the ABR holds a position against them, but rather that the ABR simply believes those items fall under the mandate of other interest groups.
