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SERVING THE COMMUNITIES OF TERRACE BAY - SCHREIBER - ROSSPORT AND JACKFISH LAKE

Do you care what happens to our local forests?

By Angie Saunders
The News

Do you care what happens to our forests? Anyone who hunts, traps, fishes, owns a cabin, or just loves the "Great Outdoors" certainly cares how the forest is protected.

The Ministry of Natural Resources is responsible for the the harvesting and regeneration of forests and also the safety of the animals, fish, lakes and streams which live in and around the forests.

I recently spoke to Greg Pawson, Unit Forester in the Terrace Bay District, who wants to inform the public of MNR's long term plans and short term proposals regarding the local forests.

A Timber Management Plan is being prepared for the Steel River Crown Management Unit.

The Unit includes the area 13 kilometres east of Terrace Bay to 8 kilometres west of Marathon. This area encompasses about 2500 square kilometres of forest area.

The Timber Management Plan is a long term direction for the 20 year period (1991- 2011) and specific direction for the five year planning period (1991- 1996).

The Plan is renewed every five years giving long term direction for 20 years.

forest studies

The MNR must take many factors into consideration during the planning process. The MNR must study forest areas and propose where and how much forest will be harvested, the building of access roads to the harvesting sites, renewal of the harvested trees, and maintenance of the forest.

Wildlife is a big factor. The MNR must leave wooded areas to protect animals such as moose. Forested area must also be left around rivers and lakes to protect the fish, water quality and in some cases the tourist operation.

Another factor is the age of the forest, which will decide how much wood can be harvested in the 5-year period.

The building of roads to a harvesting site is important. The MNR must find the easiest terrain on which to build roads to the harvesting site.

MNR must decide the way in which the forest will be regenerated. e.g. artificial or natural

Public info session

The Timber Management Plan will be revealed to the public at the second stage of the public consultation process. The MNR will relay the Steel River Management Unit proposals for the five year period.

Public information sessions will be held in Terrace Bay and Marathon. Staff from the Ministry of Natural Resources will be present to discuss all of the proposed forestry operations.

Maps showing the following information will be on display:

- 1.- Areas eligible for harvest and regeneration for the 20 year plan (1991- 2011)
- 2.- Areas proposed for harvest and regeneration for the first 5 years of the plan (1991-1996)
- 3.- Primary roads proposed for the 20-year plan
- 4.- Primary and secondary roads proposed for the first 5 years of the plan including road management use strategies (e.g. road closures)



Erin Almost (centre), who attends Grade 1 at Terrace Bay Public School, won the MNR poster/slogan contest for elementary students in the North Central region. She was presented with a plaque and pack sack by Norm Gladish (left) and Smokey the Bear.

Photo by Angie Saunders

5.- The resource values (e.g. lakes, streams, moose habitat) and the proposed reserves to protect them

MNR invites the public who know and use the Steel River Management Unit to come out and review and comment on the proposed harvesting, regeneration, road construction, and resource value prescriptions.

Following the info sessions, there will be a 30-day period for public comment to be received by the MNR.

Public information sessions will be held at the following:

Terrace Bay- Wednesday, June 20, 1990 at the Terrace Bay Rec Centre from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Marathon- Thursday, June 21, 1990 at the Zero-100 Motel from 1:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Local man wins award

By Angie Saunders
The News

Nick Juhtund, a Schreiber resident, received an award for his contribution to natural history at the Federation of Ontario Naturalists (F.O.N.) meeting in Thunder Bay on June 2, 1990.

The W.E. Saunders Natural History Award is given to an individual that has achieved a significant goal related to some aspect of natural history. Up to three awards are given annually.

W. E. Saunders was a pioneering naturalist from London, Ontario. He studied Natural History and made a large contribution towards it in southern Ontario before he died.

Seventy-four year-old Nick Juhtund had been recording birds he had seen in the Schreiber and Terrace Bay area for over 35 years until his vision failed in 1984.

Nick Juhtund's bird observations are from the vicinity of his home in Schreiber and Terrace Bay. These north shore towns are now known to be an area of rich and varied bird life which attract unusual migrants.

Nick recorded every bird he saw since 1952. He was declared legally blind in early 1985.

Linda Ferguson, District Biologist for MNR, said, "Nick's

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