

# **Comments On Background Information For A Proposed Algonquin Provincial Park Management Plan Amendment**

**Submitted on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010  
by the Algonquin Backcountry Recreationalists**



**[www.ABRweb.ca](http://www.ABRweb.ca)**

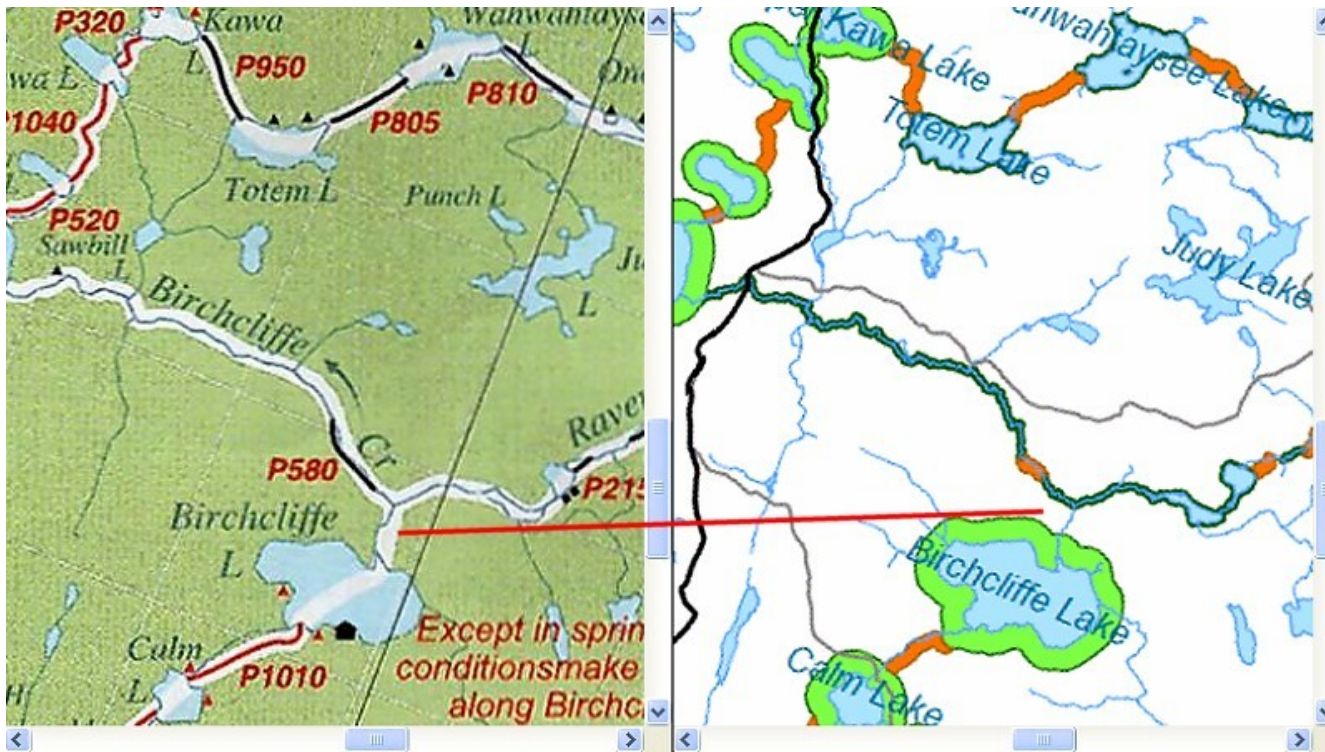
This submission contains specific observations and concerns. It includes both text comments and illustrations which have been extracted from the ABR's "Camp Values Inventory" side-by-side map-comparing utility. Comparisons are drawn between the 2009 Canoe Route Map and the OPB/AFA Joint Proposal High Definition Map. (13 pages)

**Comment #1.**

Birchcliffe Creek flows north from Birchcliffe Lake to the main section of Birchcliffe Creek, where Raven Creek joins it.

While all of Birchcliffe Creek is designated as canoe route, this section of the creek isn't portrayed as having any protective zoning.

The ABR believes that a 60 meter protective setback zone should be applied to both sides of this section of the creek.

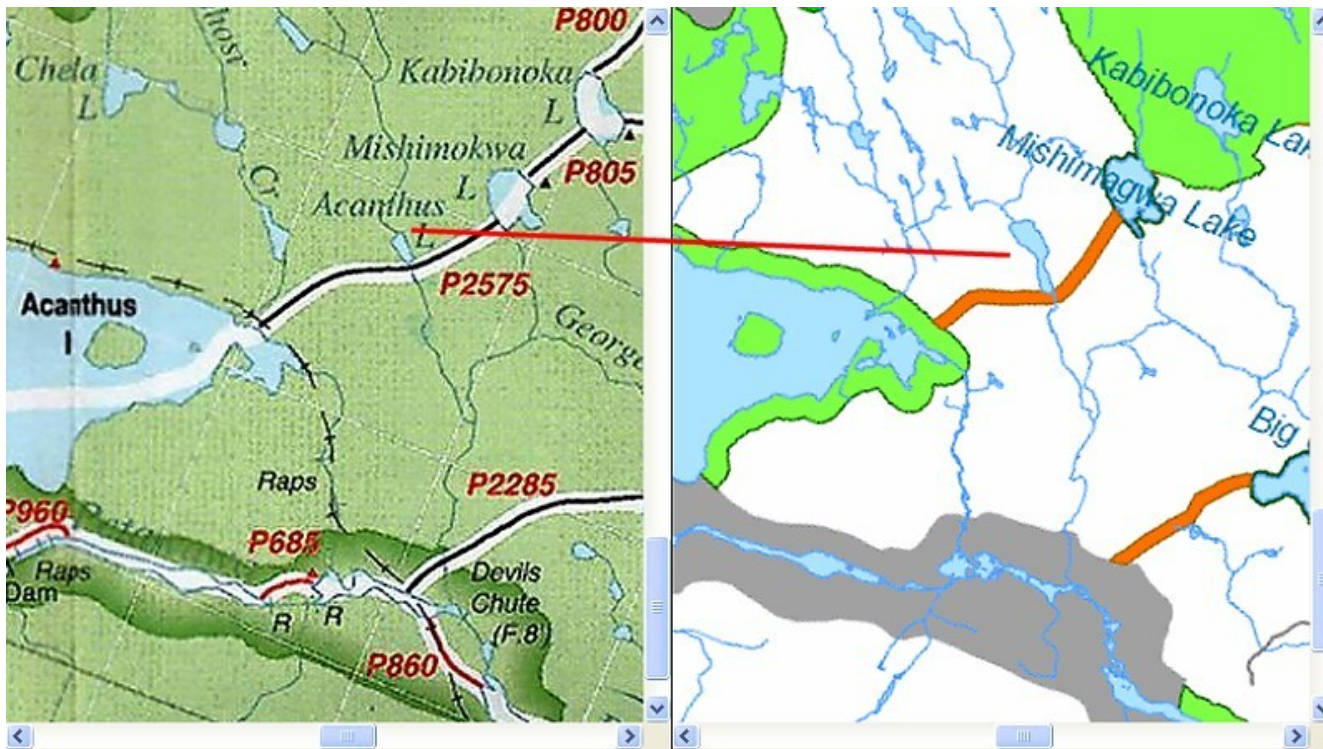


CVI-SM1-BirchcliffeCreek.jpg

**Comment #2.**

As recently as the summer of 2009, there was a signed portage to Acanthus Lake, branching off from the portage between Cedar Lake and Mishimokwa Lake.

The ABR believes that a 60 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Acanthus Lake.

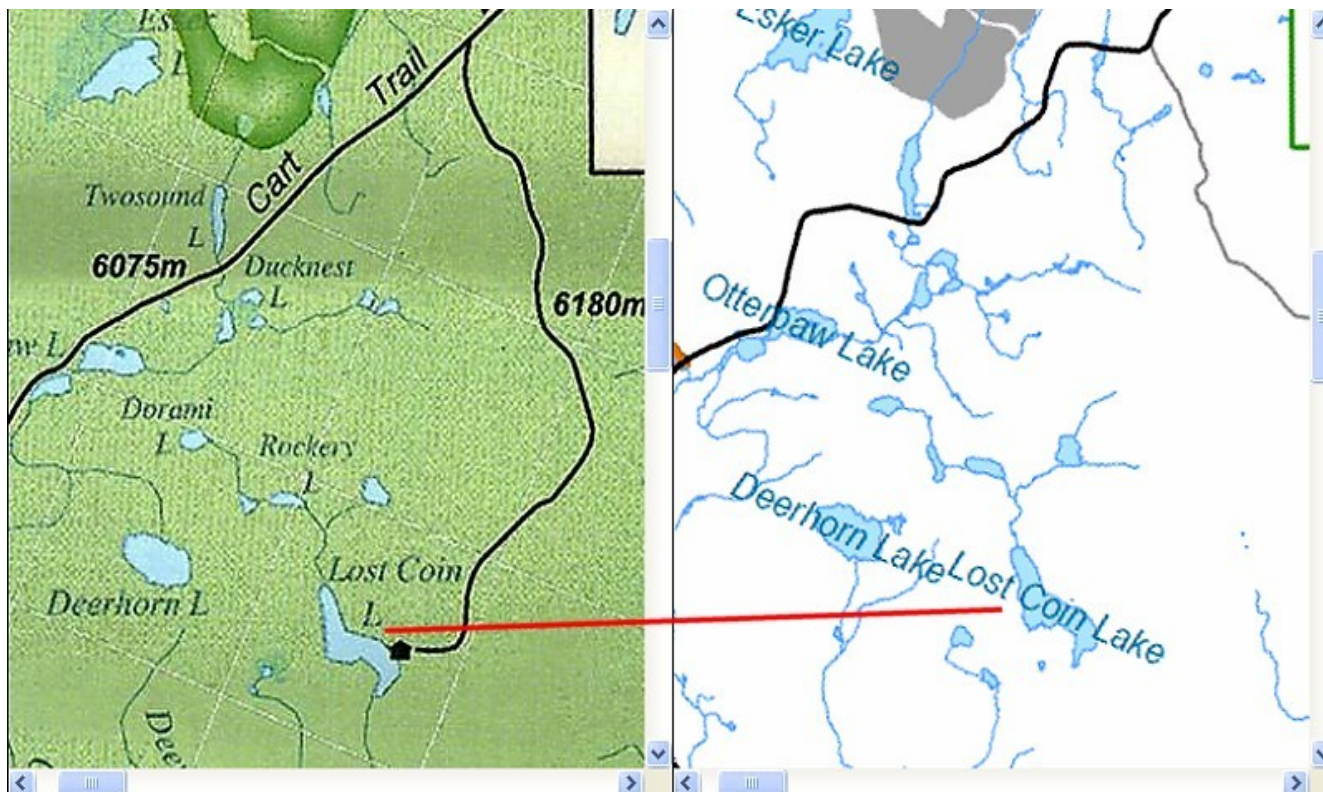


CVI-SM2-AcanthusLake.jpg

### Comment #3.

The Lost Coin Lake Cabin is located on Lost Coin Lake. It is accessible from the park boundary by hiking or biking along a 7km trail. The cabin is one of numerous such established backcountry camping values in the park. Activities of people staying there include viewing and exploring the area around the lake.

The ABR believes that a 120 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Lost Coin Lake.

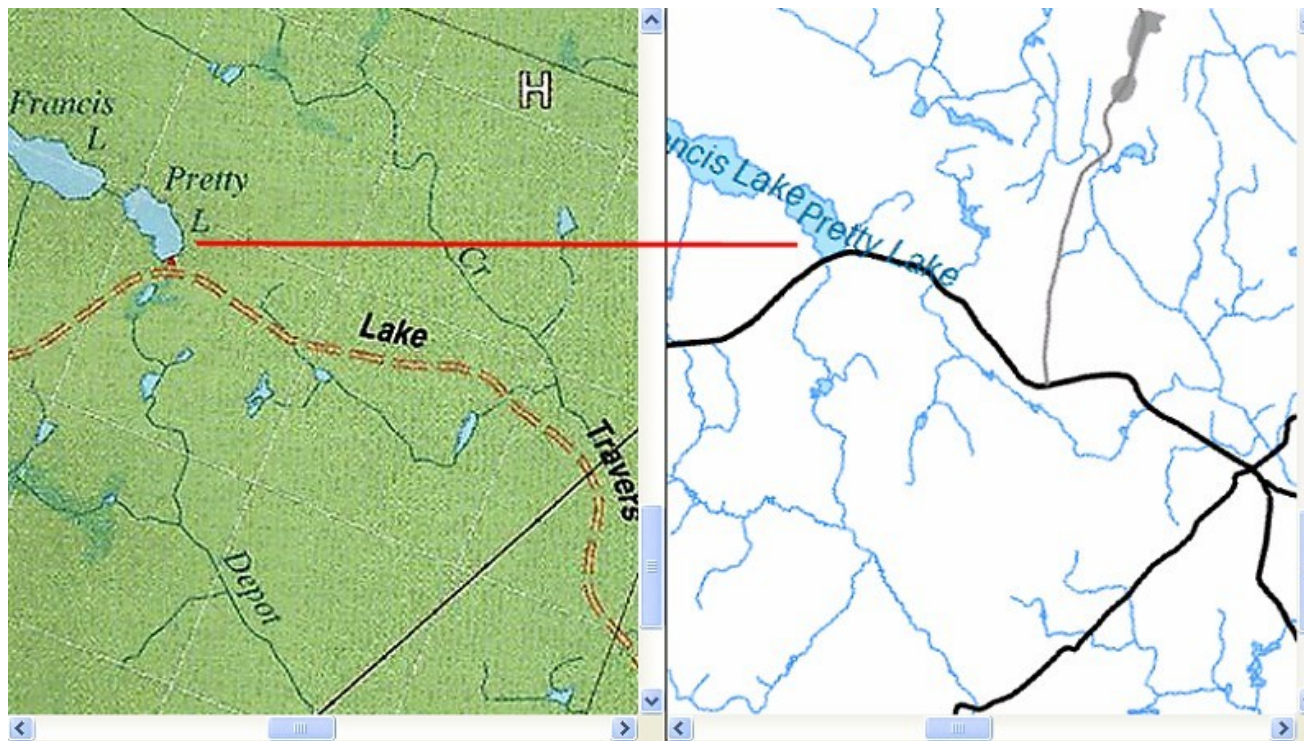


CVI-SM5-LostCoinLake.jpg

#### Comment #4.

Pretty Lake is located off the Lake Traverse Road and has a single regular maintenance campsite. The campsite and its lake are definitely backcountry camping values. Activities of people staying there include viewing and exploring the area around the lake.

The ABR believes that a 120 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Pretty Lake.

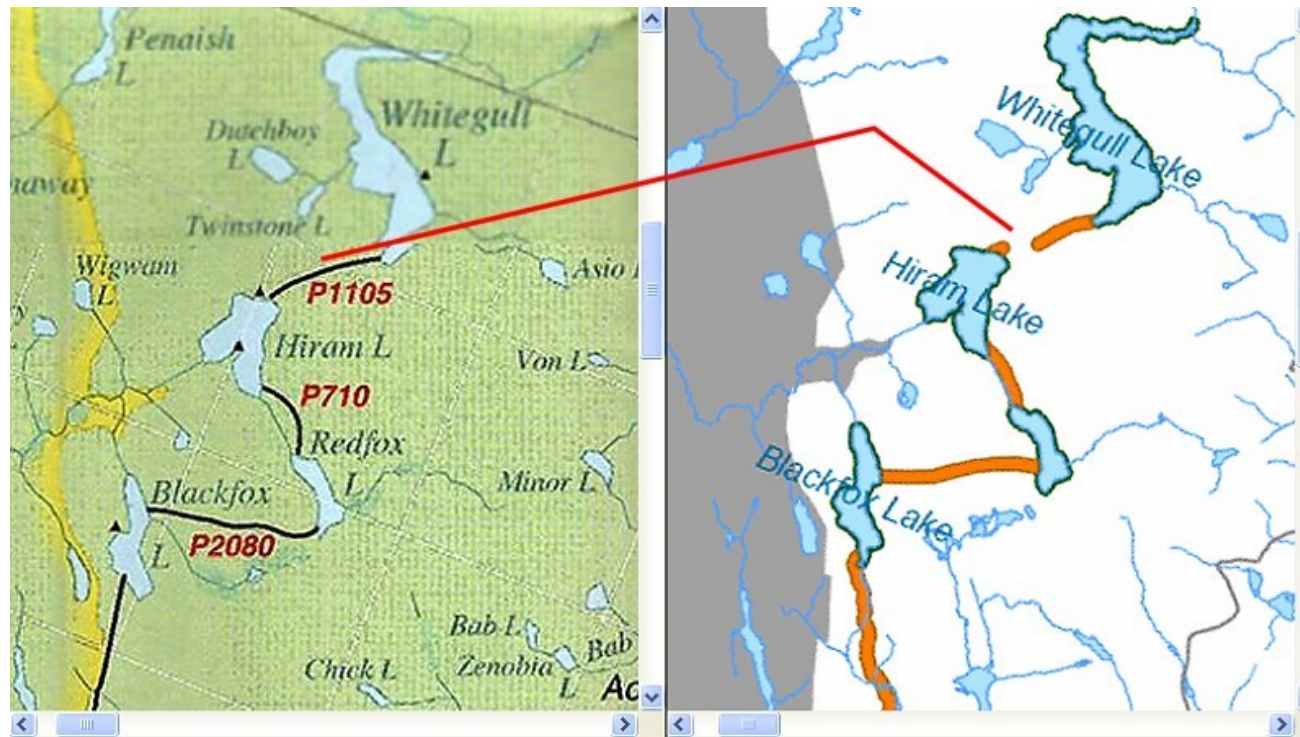


CVI-SM5-PrettyLake.jpg

**Comment #5.**

This is an observation rather than a concern, specially given that portages aren't protective zone designations, but rather are Area of Concern designations.

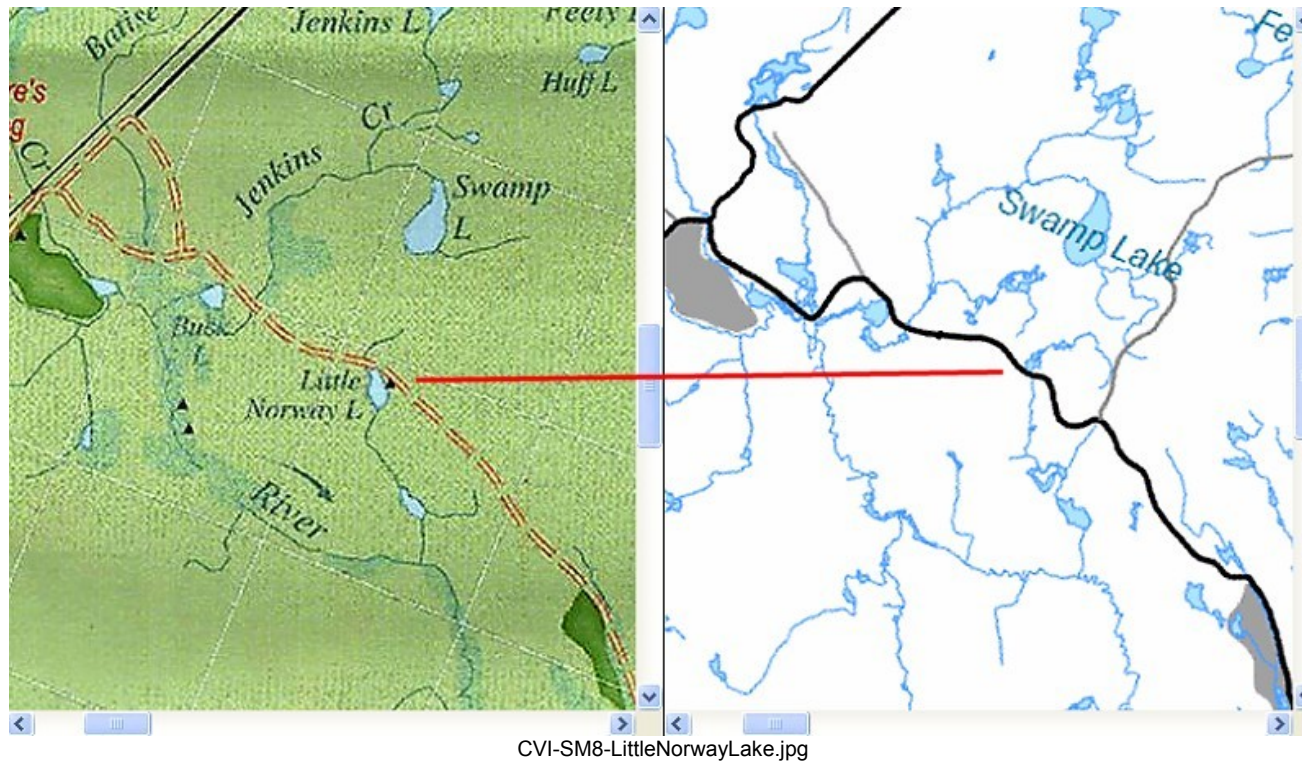
The ABR observes what appears to be a “gap” in the portage between Hiram Lake and Whitegull Lake.



## Comment #6.

Little Norway Lake is located off the Basin Lake Road south of the Hydro Line and has a single low maintenance campsite. The campsite and its lake are considered backcountry camping values. Activities of people staying there include viewing and exploring the area around the lake.

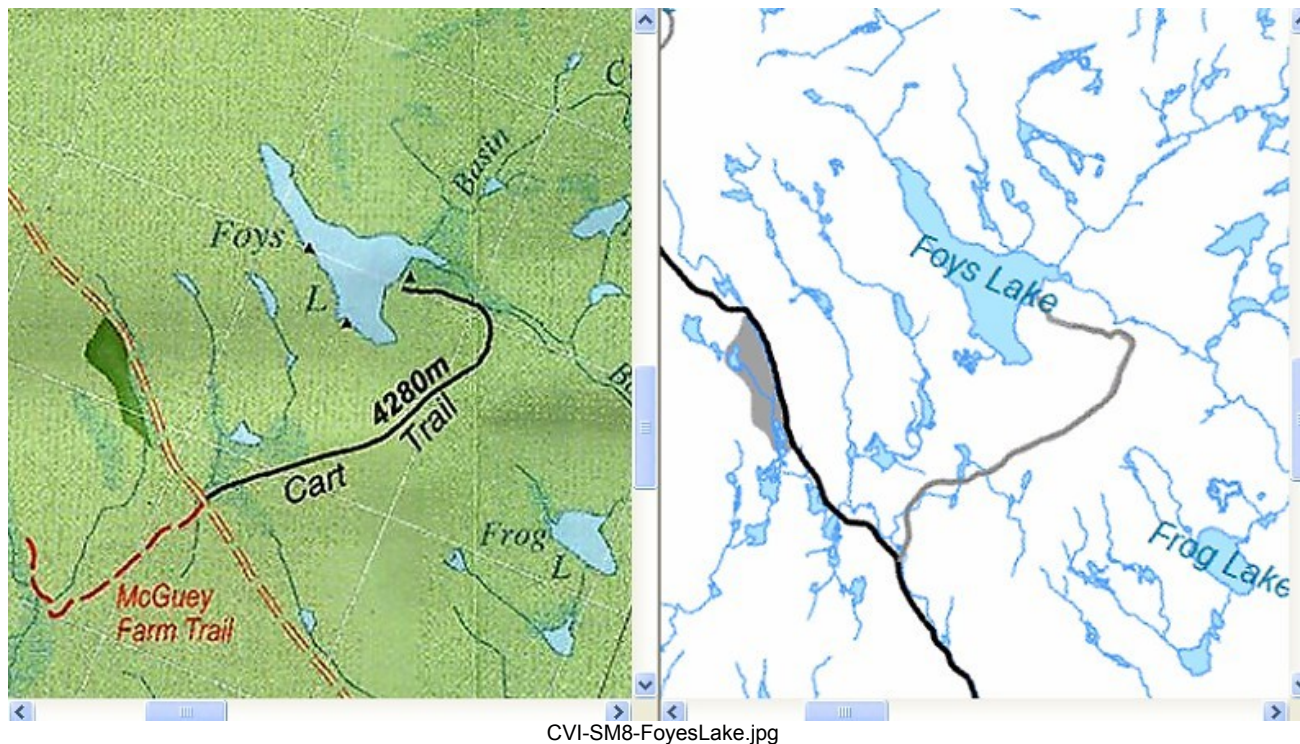
The ABR believes that a 60 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Little Norway Lake.



## Comment #7.

Foys Lake is located at the end of a 4280 meter cart trail off the Basin Lake Road and has three low maintenance campsites. Two of those campsites can only be reached by canoe. These campsites and their lake are considered backcountry camping values. Activities of people staying there include viewing and exploring the area around the lake.

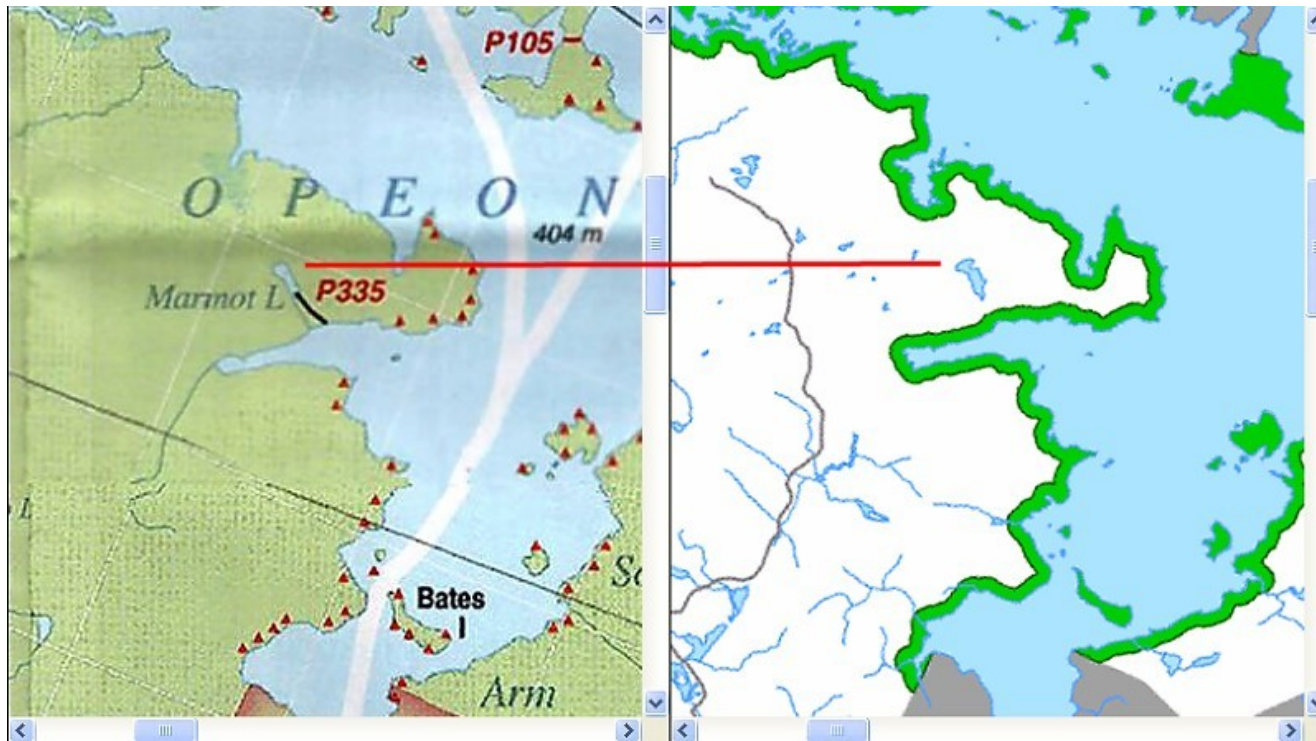
The ABR believes that a 60 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Foyes Lake.



**Comment #8.**

On the west shore of Lake Opeongo, there is a 335 meter portage to Marmot Lake.

The ABR believes that a 60 meter protective setback zone should be applied around Marmot Lake.

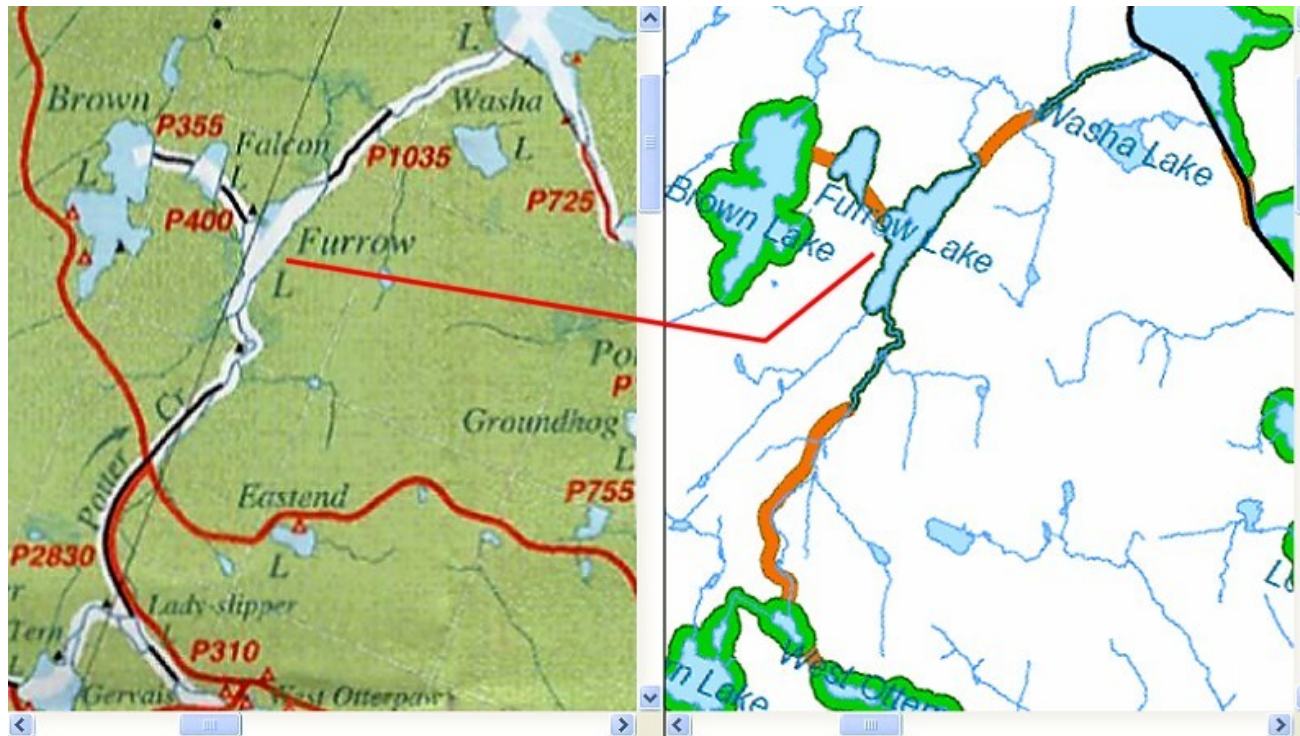


CVI-SM8-MarmotLake.jpg

**Comment #9.**

Furrow Lake, Falcon Lake and two parts of Potter Creek are located centrally amidst Brown Lake, Lady Slipper Lake and Brule Lake, which all have 120 meter protective setback zones. However, despite having a pair of campsites and being on a common canoe route with the previously mentioned lakes, they only have 30 meter protective setback zones.

The ABR believes that Furrow Lake, Falcon Lake and the two connected parts of Potter Creek should also have 120 meter protective setback zones, in order to maintain aesthetic continuity and consistency.



CVI-SM6-FurrowLake.jpg

## **Comment #10.**

Those lakes on the Western Uplands Backpacking Trail which have hiking campsites, but no canoe-route campsites, haven't been provided with any protective setback zones.

As it stands now, these lakes are covered by minimal Area of Concern designations which can vary considerably ...

CW - Lake Trout, coldwater lakes: 30 meter no-cut reserve.

BT - self-sustaining Brook Trout lakes: 30 meter no-cut reserve.

WW - 'other' lakes: NO no-cut reserves, modified cutting bands right up to the water.

Activities of people camping on these lakes include both viewing and exploring the areas around the lakes.

The ABR believes that, in order to maintain consistent wilderness-like aesthetics, all the Western Uplands Backpacking Trail campsite lakes warrant 120 meter protective setback zones.

The affected lakes include ...

Ishkuday Lake

Eastend Lake

Norah Lake

Redwing Lake

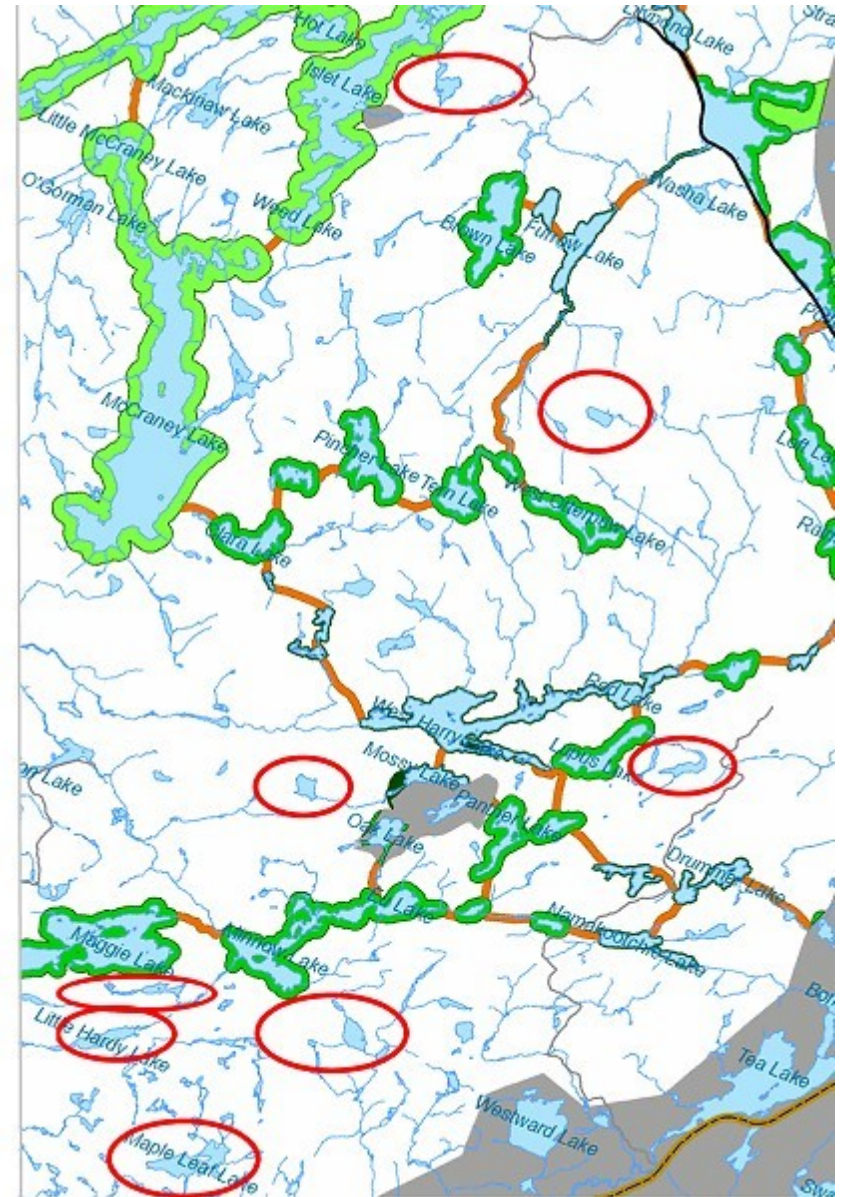
Steeprise Lake

Little Hardy Lake

Guskewan Lake

Mapleleaf Lake

NB: The illustrative sub-map areas are on the next page.



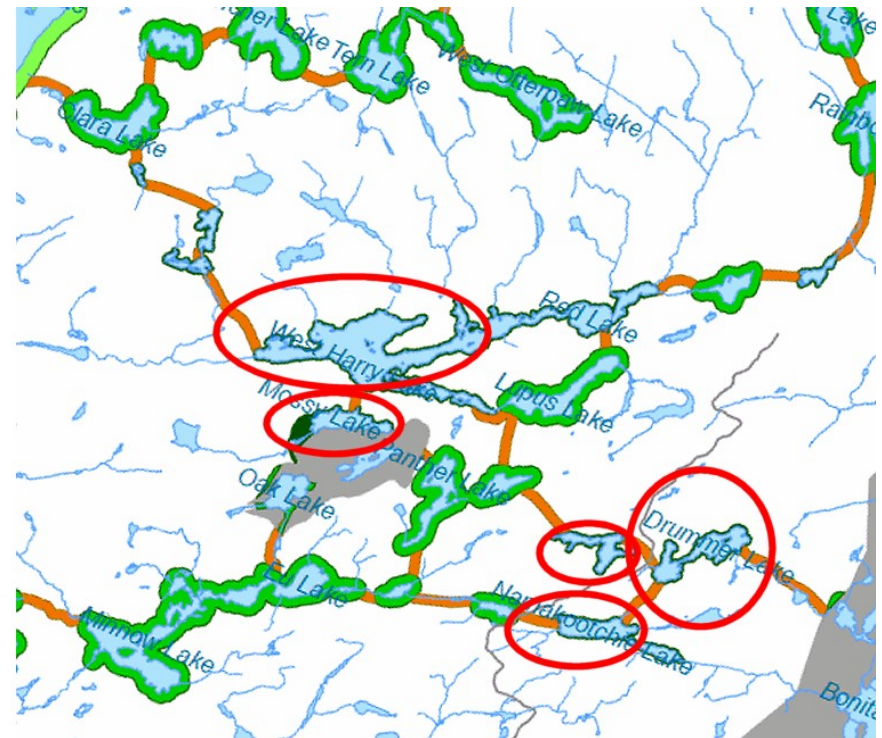
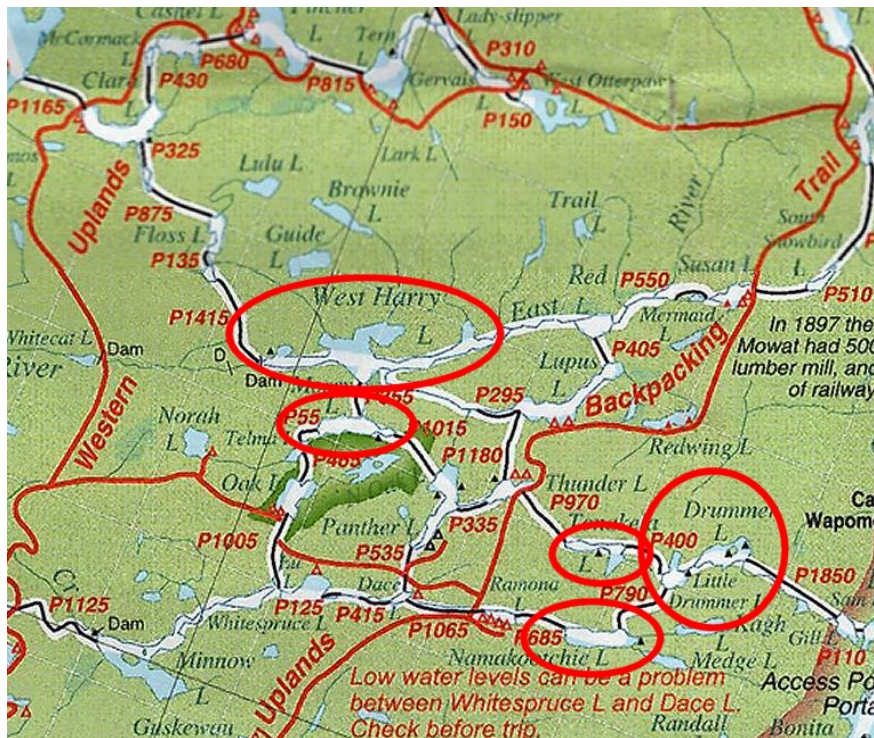
CVI-SM6-UplandsTrail.jpg

## Comment #11.

A number of lakes in the Western Uplands area have backcountry canoe campsites on them, but have only been assigned minimal zoning setbacks.

The ABR believes that, in order to maintain consistent wilderness-like aesthetics, these Western Uplands canoe campsite lakes warrant 120 meter protective setback zones.

The affected lakes include ... West Harry Lake, Mossy Lake, Tonakela Lake, Drummer Lake, Little Drummer Lake and Namakootchie Lake.



CVI-SM6b-Highlands.jpg