

A map of the Northwest region of Ontario, Canada, showing various Sustainable Forest License (SFL) management areas. The map is color-coded with different shades of green, blue, purple, and brown, representing different SFL managers. The text is overlaid on the map.

Ontario Northwest Region Sustainable Forest License (SFL) Managers

Wood Supply Challenges and Potential Impacts to the Northwest Region

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Forest Sector Investments in Northwestern Ontario

- Ontario's forest sector survived the 2008 economic downturn and has since invested hundreds of millions of dollars to revitalize the industry
 - Invested millions of dollars and created thousands of jobs
- Investments in the Northwest Region forest sector over the last five years resulted in the following:

Atikokan Sawmill Start-up

Atikokan Pellet Mill Start-up

Ear Falls Sawmill Restart

Hornepayne Sawmill Restart

Ignace Sawmill Restart

Kenora Sawmill Restart

Papasay Sawmill Start-up

Thunder Bay Co-Generation Start-up

Thunder Bay Pellet Mill Start-up

Thunder Bay Sawmill Expansion

Thunder Bay TMP-Bio Plant Start-up

White River Sawmill Restart

Current Situation Facing the Forest Sector

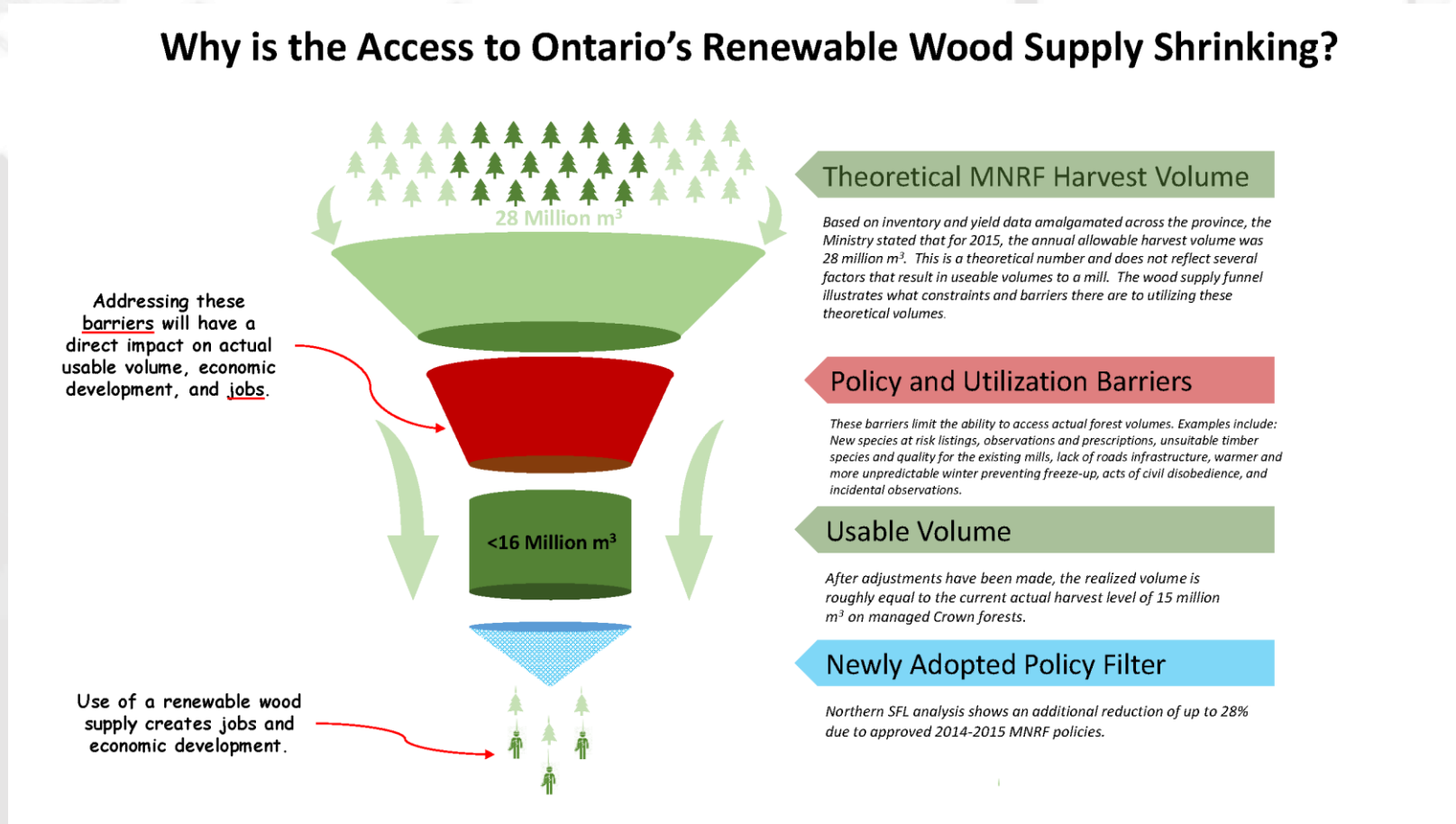
- New policies introduced by the Liberal government causing dramatic decreases in wood supply, including the Endangered Species Act (ESA)
 - Threatens the investments made by the forest sector since its recovery
- Socio-economic impact study conducted by Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry predicted 4 to 12 mills would close due to wood supply losses
 - Each mill closure has a ripple effect across the Province; a single mill closure cascades into another across the region
- ***Source: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Wood Supply and Economic Impact Analysis: Assessment of Caribou Prescription Options defined as part of the CFSA-ESA Integration Project 12/06/2017 (Confidential – For Discussion Purposes, Do Not Distribute)***

Economically Sustainable Supply of Wood

- Ontario Forest Accord Advisory Board (OFAAB) established the baseline for permanent, long-term wood supply necessary for the forest industry
 - **11.8 million cubic metres** for the Northwest Region
 - **Agreed to** by the forest industry, government and conservationists
- *“Permanent, long-term wood supply necessary for processing to the forest industry will be protected from impacts resulting from any future protected area establishment.”*
- **Source: Room to Grow: Final Report of the Ontario Forest Accord Advisory Board on Implementation of the Accord, March, 2002**
 - <http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/mon/3000/10302999.pdf>

Impacts of New Government Policy on Wood Supply

Why is the Access to Ontario's Renewable Wood Supply Shrinking?



- **Source: Ontario Forest Industries Association (OFIA) – Working to Make Ontario's Forest Sector Stronger: A Provincial Strategy, 2018 Pre-Budget Submission - <http://www.ofia.com/images/OFIA%202018%20Pre-Budget%20Submission.pdf>**

Predicted Wood Supply and Job Losses

Wood Supply Losses in the Northwest Region

- Spruce, Pine and Fir Losses
 - 1.26 million m³
- Hardwood Losses
 - 890,000 m³
- **Total wood supply loss of 2.15 million m³ could close 6 facilities**
 - Job losses could total 875 (5 sawmills and 1 pulp mill)

Resulting Job Losses in the Northwest Region

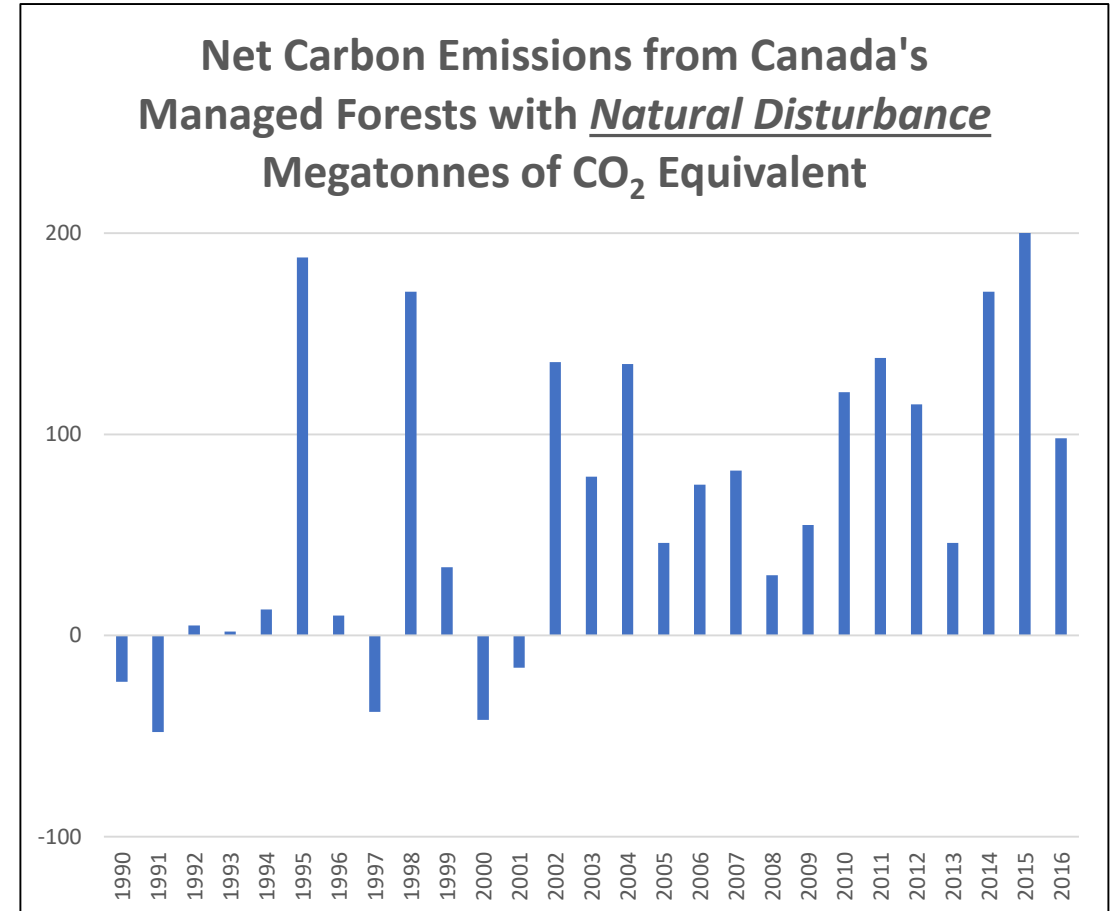
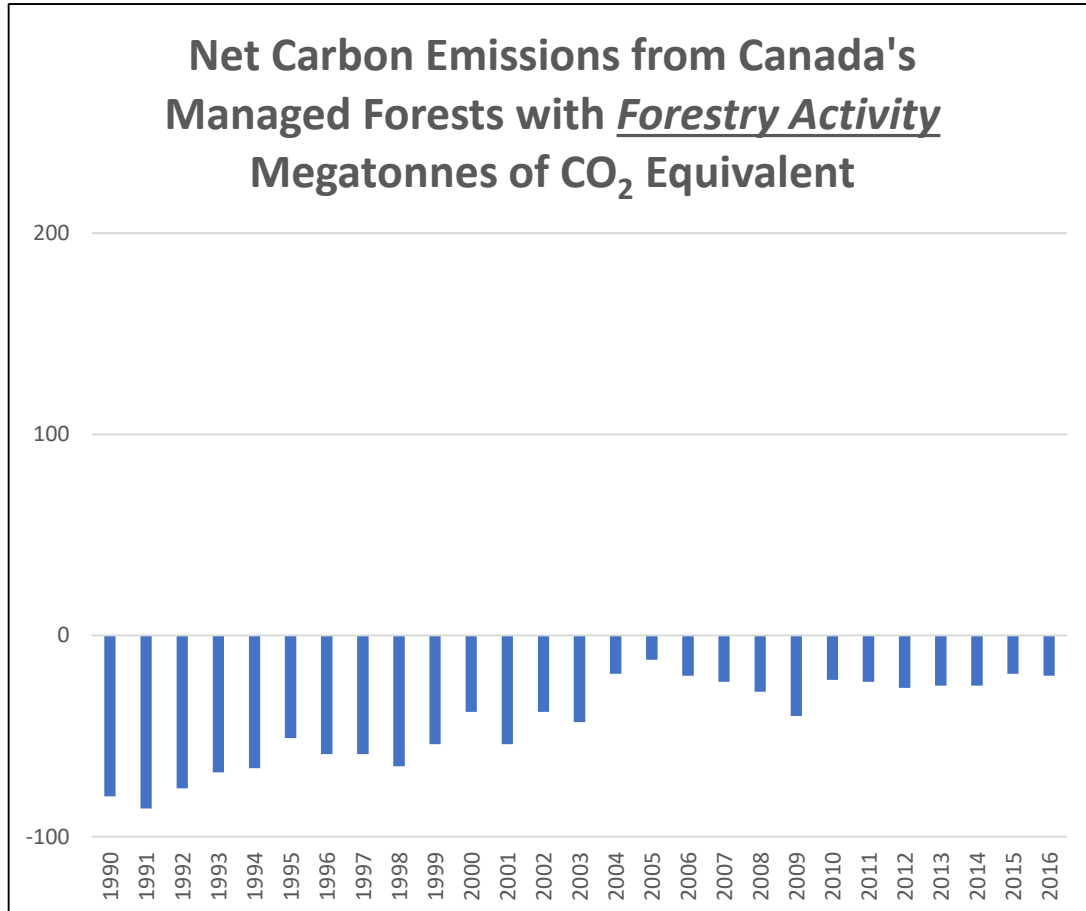
- Every direct job in a forest resource processing facility generates:
 - 2.33 jobs in the Region
 - 1.73 job in Southern Ontario
- **Total job losses = 4,428**
 - 875 direct jobs
 - 2,039 indirect jobs
 - 1,514 induced jobs

- *Source: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Minister's Council on Forest Sector Competitiveness – Final Report, May 2005 – <http://www.ontla.on.ca/library/repository/mon/11000/253727.pdf>*

Carbon Implications of the ESA Policy

- Climate Change
 - Sustainable forest management sequesters carbon, reduces impacts of climate change and creates new wildlife habitat
 - Large tracks of land deferred from harvest increases the number of wildfires on the landscape, turning Ontario's forests into a source of carbon rather than a sink
 - Climate change causes habitat loss and species extinction
- Increased Carbon Emissions
 - Since 2002, Canada's forests emitted more carbon than they absorbed
 - Liberal government implemented a series of policies, including the ESA, that defer large tracks of land from harvest
 - Ontario forests are now contributing to climate change and their sustainable management is called into question by Registered Professional Foresters
- **Source: Greenpeace – <http://www.greenpeace.org/eastasia/campaigns/climate-energy/problems/impacts/habitat-loss-and-species-extinction/>**
- **Source: Natural Resources Canada: Carbon Emissions and Removals – <https://www.nrcan.gc.ca/forests/report/disturbance/16552>**

Carbon Emissions for Canada's Forests



Negative value indicates a carbon sink while a positive number indicates a carbon source

- **Source: CBC News: Canada's forests actually emit more carbon than they absorb – <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/canada-forests-carbon-sink-or-source-1.5011490>**

Decision-Makers on Crown Land

- Registered Professional Foresters are the decision-makers on Crown land in Ontario
 - By law, Registered Professional Foresters must defend the sustainability of their forest management decisions
 - Their professional designation demands the protection of social, economic and environmental values on Crown land in Ontario
- Registered Professional Foresters in the Northwest Region cannot support the deferrals prescribed in the ESA without understanding the impacts
 - Negative impacts on carbon emissions and climate change, the economies of the region and cultural and social values
- **Source: Ontario Professional Foresters Association – <https://opfa.ca/what-foresters-do/>**

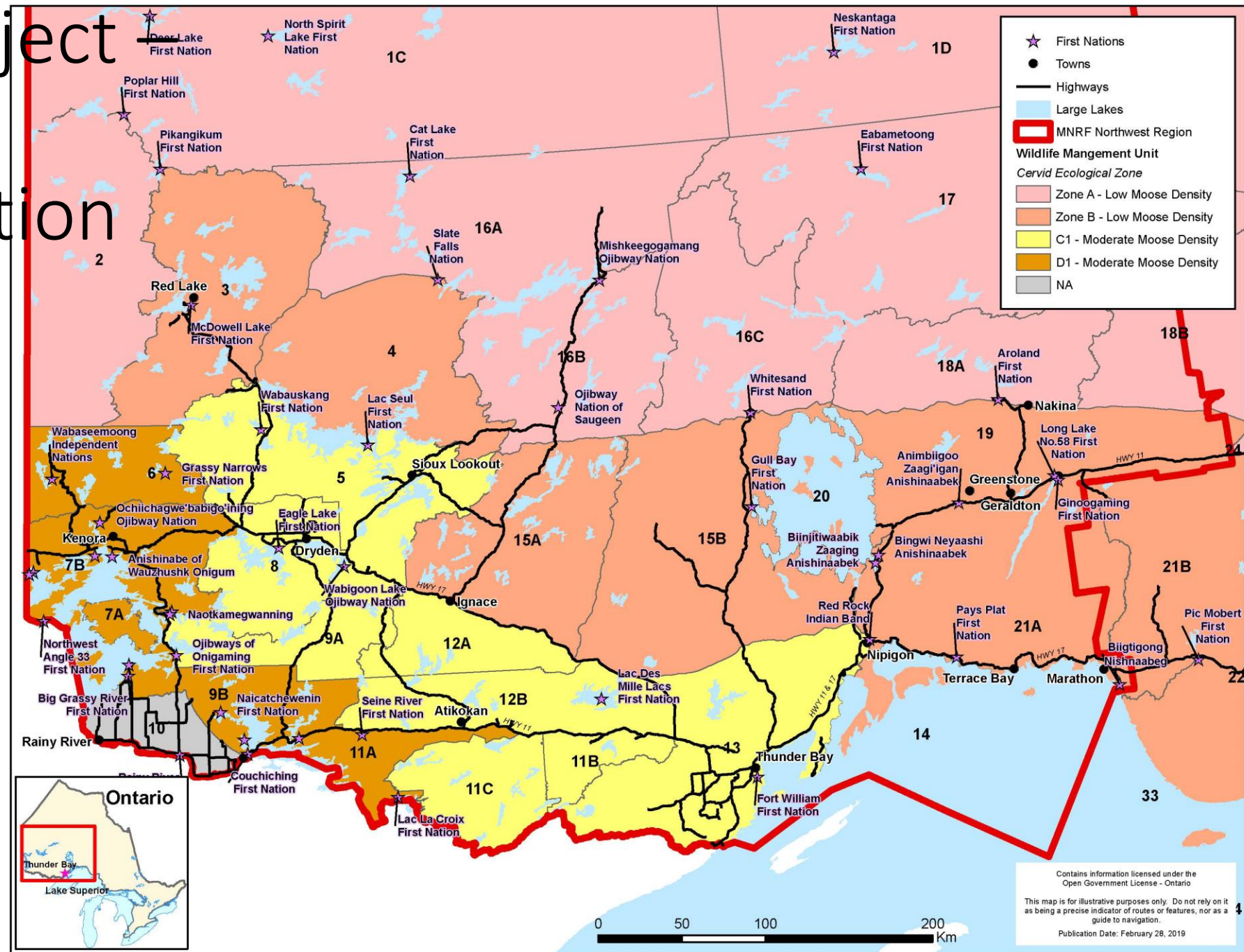
Impacts to Local and Aboriginal Communities

- ESA requires existing and future forest access roads to be decommissioned after harvesting and renewal operations are completed
 - Restricts access to recreational, economic and cultural opportunities
 - Potentially impedes access to Aboriginal communities, trapping cabins and cottages
- Deferrals of large tracks of land negatively impacts moose populations, which is a sustenance food for Aboriginal people
 - Impacting Treaty and Traditional rights and activities
- Provincial policy is actively managing for low population densities of moose
 - Accelerating moose harvest for a short period of time to reduce the number of moose in the Northwest Region
 - Cervid Zones A and B – Low moose population density targets
 - Cervid Zones C1 and D1 – Low to moderate moose population density targets
- ***Source: Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry – Moose Population Management: The Moose Project – <https://www.ontario.ca/page/moose-population-management>***

The Moose Project

Low Moose Density Population

- Zone A – While caribou, moose and white-tailed deer live in this zone, the MNRF established a goal to maintain low densities of moose through population and habitat management.
- Zone B – Similar to Zone A, the MNRF established a goal to maintain low to moderate density population for moose.



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