**Draft Policy Rewrite - 650m Lac Seul Shoreline**

Ministry of Natural Resources

**Crown Land Use policy Atlas**

**Policy Report**

**G 2518: Lac Seul**

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**ID: G 2518**

**Area Name: Lac Seul**

**Designation: General Use Area**

**District(s): Sioux Lookout, Red Lake, Dryden, Kenora**

**Area (hectares): 262847**

**Date Policy Report Last Updated:**

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***DESCRIPTION:***

The Lac Seul Area encompasses Lac Seul and the interconnected waterbodies (Sunlight, Broad, Adamhay, March, Archer, Bindo, Lost, Vaughan, Scaler, Bray Lakes). It includes the bed of these lakes and their backshores a minimum distance of 650 metres from the waters edge. The islands of Lac Seul are within the Lac Seul Conservation Reserve (Policy C2315).

Present uses include forestry, tourism, cottaging, Crown land recreation, fishing, hunting, and fur harvesting. To date the main industry has been tourism and forestry within this area. The main communities bounding the lake are Ear Falls, Whitefish, Kejick Bay, Frenchmans Head, Hudson, and Sioux Lookout. The area includes portions of Red Lake, Kenora, Dryden and Sioux Lookout Districts, with Sioux Lookout District taking the administrative lead for the management of aquatic and fisheries resources.

This area contains lake(s) designated for lake trout management. For a current list of designated lakes associated with this area, refer to the Lake Trout Search Index accessible via theSource of Direction portion of this policy report.

***LAND USE INTENT:***

Sioux Lookout and Red lake Districts did not have approved District Land Use Guidelines in 1983. Dryden is the only District within this area where District Land Use Guidelines where completed in 1983. Management direction for this area is also governed by the general policies contained in the Dryden district Land Use Guidelines. In absence of a District Land Use Guidelines for a majority of this area, land use direction has been provided over time through the interpretation of provincial policy and direction from the Lac Seul Management Plan as modified and reviewed with input from the Lac Seul Advisory Committee. **Although most land use activities are permitted within this area the overall intent of the Lac Seul Management Plan has been brought forward in this policy. Activities in this area such as development and access will be subject to review and evaluation. Results of such reviews may result in an activity being approved, modified, or denied depending on the extent of the resource or user impacts to the overall intent to recognize, protect, and maintain the remote character of the lake and the high quality sport fishery.**

Access in this area will be permitted for resource extraction, however, it will be located and managed so that direct road access to Lac Seul is not created. Existing approved access points can be found in the Lac Seul Management Plan, and below.

***MANAGEMENT DIRECTION****:*

**COMMERCIAL ACTIVITIES**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **ACTIVITY** | **PERMITTED** | **GUIDELINES** |
|  |  |  |
| **Aggregate Extraction** | **Yes** | These activities within the 650m zone of Lac Seul potentially have a greater impact on the remote character of the lake and therefore all proposals will be reviewed on and individual basis.  |
| **Bait Fish Harvesting** | **Yes** |  |
| **Commercial Boat Caches** | **YES** | Strictly control number of and location of commercial boat caches on Lac Seul through enforcement of the boat cache Policy. The number of commercial boat caches will be maintained at existing levels. |
| **Commercial Fishing** | **Yes** | Commercial fishing for whitefish is permitted in Zones 1, 2, and 6. The intent is to negotiate the removal of the walleye quota in Zones 2, and 6. Commercial fishing is **not** permitted in Zones 3, 4, 5, and 7. |
| **Commercial Fur Harvesting** | **Yes** |  |
| **Commercial Water Lots** | **Existing: Yes****New: Maybe** | Commercial water lots will be permitted to provide essential services to existing operations or new developments which do not increase sport fishing pressures  |
| **Hydro Electric Power Generation** | **Yes** | Lac Seul is a reservoir that is currently being used for hydro-electric power generation. |
| **CPGD (Wind, Solar, Biomass)** | **Maybe** | These forms of generation within the 650m zone of Lac Seul potentially have a greater impact on the remote character of the lake and therefore all proposals will be reviewed on and individual basis.  |
| **Commercial Forest Harvest** | **Yes** | Forest Management Plans, will contain specific prescriptions for the protection of fish, wildlife, recreation and tourism values. |
| **Commercial Tourism (services and/or facilities) Existing** | **Yes** | Existing activity will continue.  |
| **Commercial Tourism (services and/or facilities)****New** | **Maybe** | New commercial tourism will be permitted if it is not directly dependent on an increased harvest of fish and wildlife and does not negatively impact the remote characteristics of Lac Seul. |
| **Mineral Exploration and Development** | **Yes** |  |
| **Peat** **Exploration or Extraction** | **No** | Peat exploration or extraction will not be permitted activities within the 650m of Lac Seul. |
| **Wild Rice Harvesting** | **Yes** | Will continue to be a permitted use. |

**LAND AND RESOUCE MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

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| **Crown Land Disposition (CLD)** | **Maybe** | Crown Land disposition will be strictly controlled to avoid unplanned pressure on the fish and wildlife and to protect the remote characteristic/integrity of the lake. Any development proposals will be reviewed on and individual basis.  |
| **CLD Agriculture**  | **No** | This area lies outside of the agricultural inventory. Therefore no class 1, 2, 3, or 4 lands have been identified. There is no existing activity in the area. No Crown Land will be protected for agricultural purposes in this area. |
| **CLD Cottaging****(Existing)** | **Yes** | Existing cottaging will continue. The Crown will not provide for any additional opportunities for cottaging on Crown land. |
| **CLD****Cottaging****(New)** | **NO** | Existing cottaging will continue. The Crown will not provide for any additional opportunities for cottaging on Crown land. |
| **CLD Rural Residential** | **Maybe** | Only if supported through municipal official plans. |
| **CLD Urban Development** | **Maybe** | Only if supported through municipal official plans. |
| **Road Development and Maintenance,****Existing** | **Yes** | Longer term primary and branch road access will generally not be permitted. However, in situations where it becomes necessary to construct a primary or branch road across a waterbody leading to the lake or within 650 meters of the lake, the road proposal will be carefully reviewed and the public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposal.Operational roads or road networks used for forestry or other resource activities will be decommissioned and abandoned as operations are completed. Progressive decommissioning may occur on these roads/road networks or a portion of them at any time. |
| **Road Development and Maintenance,****New** | **Maybe** | Longer term primary and branch road access will generally not be permitted. However, in situations where it becomes necessary to construct a primary or branch road across a waterbody leading to the lake or within 650 meters of the lake, the road proposal will be carefully reviewed and the public will have an opportunity to comment on the proposal.Operational roads or road networks used for forestry or other resource activities will be decommissioned and abandoned as operations are completed. Progressive decommissioning may occur on these roads/road networks or a portion of them at any time.   |
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**RECREATION ACTIVITIES AND FACILITIES**

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| **Crown Land Recreation** | **Yes** |  |
| **Boat Cache, Recreational** | **Maybe** | New recreational boat cache request will be reviewed on an individual basis.  |
| **Hunting** | **Yes** |  |
| **Road Use (public), Existing** | **Yes**  | Some road systems are restricted to public travel. Any access restrictions or provisions will be identified by an approved Public Lands Act (PLA) sign(s). The rationale for any such restriction will be based on the Road Use Strategy (RUS) which will be a part of an approved Forest Management Plan and/or other Resource Management Plan or Agreement.  |
| **Road Use (public), New** | **Yes** | Some road systems are restricted to public travel. Any access restrictions or provisions will be identified by an approved Public Lands Act (PLA) sign(s). The rationale for any such restriction will be based on the Road Use Strategy (RUS) which will be a part of an approved Forest Management Plan and/or other Resource Management Plan or Agreement. |
| **Sport Fishing** | **Yes** | This will continue to be a permitted use.  |
| **Crown land Camping** | **Maybe** | Crown land camping for residents is a permitted activity.Along the shores of Lac Seul there is a restricted Crown land Camping program in place. This means that non-residents cannot camp on Crown Land within 500m of the lake. Non residents can camp outside this zone or in an area not affected by this restriction provided they have purchased a Crown Land Camping permit |
| **Access Points** | **Existing: Yes****New: No** | Existing official access points are identified in the Lac Seul Fisheries Management Plan and will continue to remain open. Official access points on Lac Seul are: Goldpines, Scout Bay “Billy B”, Williams Bay, Deception, and Boat Bay in Hudson. Where new unauthorized access points are created to the lake on Crown Land, steps will be take to immediately remove it. |

***ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:***

***Note****: MNR will consider the Land Use Intent and Management Direction outlines in this policy report when reviewing applications for permitted activities that require licenses, sales, leases, permits, or other forms of approval. The review of individual applications involves the consideration of a variety of factors and requirements on a site-specific basis in addition to this land use policy.*

***SOURCE OF DIRECTION:***

Lac Seul Management Plan (1988)

Lac Seul Islands Conservation Reserve Management Statement (2005)

Lake Trout Search Index (2009)

Inland Ontario Lakes Designated for Lake Trout Management (2006)

Dryden District Land Use Guidelines (1983)

Crown Land Disposition Policy – Appendix A (2008) (2008)

Current District Forest Management Plans <http://www.appefmp.mnr.gov.on.ca/eFMP/home.do?language=en>

FMZ 4 Fisheries Management Plan