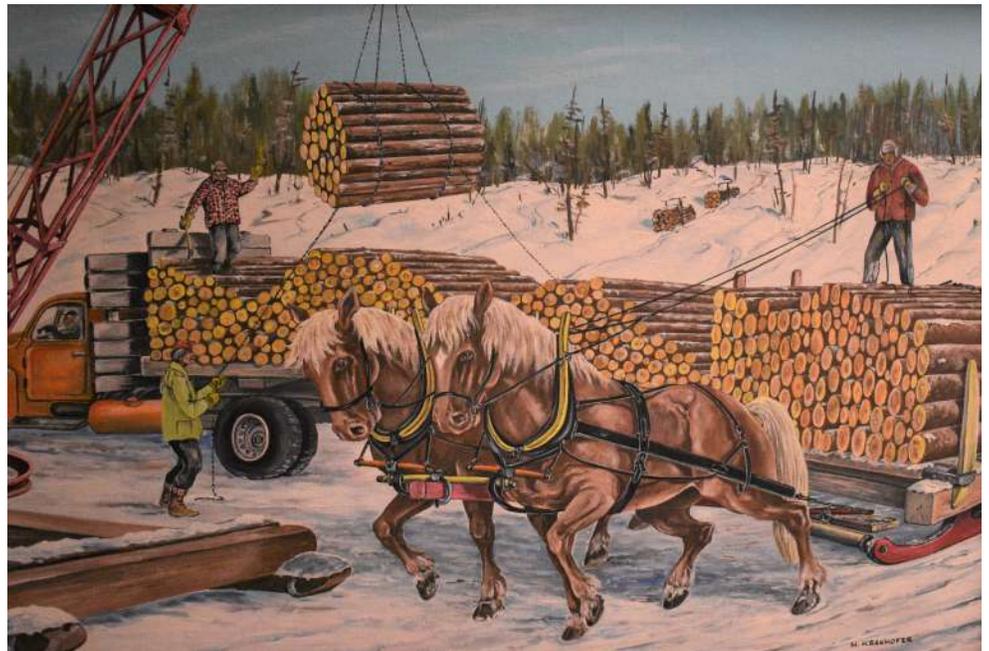


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Forest Ranger Memories, Wildlife Research, American Tariffs, and Much More



Team of Horses, Hans Krakhofer, TBHMS 998.64.1

This painting is notable for depicting both older and newer methods of hauling logs out of the bush operating simultaneously. Hans Krakhofer was a German POW during World War II in one of the many camps scattered around Northwestern Ontario where prisoners worked cutting and hauling timber. Sent back to Germany after the war, he eventually returned to Canada and continued working in the lumber industry, later working as a draughtsman for Great Lakes Paper. His paintings depict both Northwestern Ontario landscapes as well as his experiences working in isolated bush camps. Photo Credit: Thunder Bay Museum.

We want to hear from you!

If you have articles, photographs or images, interesting facts, web links, personal reflections or events that would be suitable for this newsletter, please contact Caroline Mach, R.P.F. at carolinemach@hotmail.com. Deadlines are April 1 and October 1.

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Request for Content

Do you have an interesting story to tell about some aspect of forest history in Ontario? Or are you prepared to write an article for the newsletter on some aspect of forest history? Do you know of interesting photographs, documents, web sites or other items that would be suitable for inclusion in the newsletter? If so, please contact the editor to discuss the possibility of publishing your information in the newsletter.

Please provide your comments to the editor on items or themes you would like to see in the newsletter.

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Chair's Message: Onward and Upward for the FHSO

By: Mark Kuhlberg

Staring out at the season's first snow fall, it is hard to believe that another winter is starting to descend upon us. After an intensely hot summer, one dominated by stories of forest fires burning ever so close to southern Ontario, the cooler temperatures are a nice change ... for now!

The Forest History Society of Ontario (FHSO) has been very busy over the last six months, and there is plenty of good news to report. We continue to be the organization to which researchers turn when they are seeking information about our province's rich forest history, and these requests take several forms. For example, every month or so we receive an inquiry from someone who asks if we can help with his/her search for either archival materials or published sources related to a particular subject. In October 2018, we received an inquiry from someone who has hunted moose for four decades in the area north of Blind River and was curious about the remains of a bush saw mill operation that he found in the vicinity of his fall outings. He suspects they were left from the salvage operation that occurred after the Mississagi Fire of 1948. Fortunately, we were able to provide the researcher with several leads to pursue in investigating this subject, assistance for which the researcher was most grateful. We also receive periodic requests from authors who wish to cite an article that we have published in *Forestry* over the years. These inquiries attest to both the wide readership our journal enjoys and its high quality.

The FHSO also continues to push several initiatives designed to preserve and promote Ontario's forest history. We continue to publish biannually our aforementioned journal, and are indebted to Caroline Mach, R.P.F. for her great work in editing it. The Spring 2018 edition was the second that she has produced, and it received rave reviews. In the fall of 2018 we also launched a new initiative to use *Forestry* to publicize the forest history material that our local museums and archives hold. To realize that end, we contacted some of these institutions in northern Ontario with which I have dealt over the years, and the response was very positive. The first in what we hope is a series of articles on this subject appears in the pages that follow. We also continue to facilitate the donation of archival materials to appropriate repositories. The last few months saw us facilitate a donation by EACOM Timber Corporation's saw mill in Nairn Centre just west of Sudbury. The firm is undergoing a housecleaning, and was looking for a suitable home for its old videos that describe its training activities. We connected EACOM with the Espanola Public Library, which was delighted to accept the materials and the working VCR that the company donated along with them. Finally, we are pleased to report that our website now hosts all the historical essays we researched and wrote for the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry (OMNRF) over the course of 2016-2017. The OMNRF recently approved the final one (about Ontario's First Nations) that we had produced for it, and in sending it to us for uploading, the OMNRF commended us for the quality of the work we had done on this project.

We also want to publicize our upcoming AGM, which will be held on Thursday 7 February 2019 at 2 pm at the Nottawasaga Inn in Alliston. For those who are able to attend, we hope to provide you with a copy of Gilberte Paille's book, *A History of Forestry in Canada*. Our sister organization in Quebec kindly donated 54 copies of the book to the FHSO; all we had to do was pay the postage, which we gladly did!

Finally, it is with heavy hearts that we report that John Macfie passed away on 26 October. The FHSO made John an Honorary Member at our AGM in 2017 in recognition of his lifelong commitment to preserving and promoting Ontario's forest history. He will be dearly missed.

We will keep you informed and updated on any new developments involving the FHSO, and as always, we thank you for your continued support. Here's wishing you a fantastic fall and winter (just think – no black flies or mosquitoes for a few months!), hopefully we will see you at the AGM in February.

Editor's Message

By: Caroline Mach, R.P.F.

I am pleased to bring you another issue of *Forestry*. There are a wide variety of topics covered in these pages, from log drives and floods to wildlife research with Dr. Jim Bendell—who was still lecturing at the University of Toronto Faculty of Forestry when I was there in 1988-1993. There is no singular focus this time around, other than “forest history”.

I hope to see many of you at the Forest History Society of Ontario Annual General Meeting on February 7, 2019 in Alliston. In the meantime, enjoy winter which, in these parts, is well upon us.

Deadlines for *Forestry* are **April 1 and October 1**; please send submissions to carolinemach@hotmail.com.

Check This Out on www.ontarioforesthistor.ca

A Brief Recent History of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry

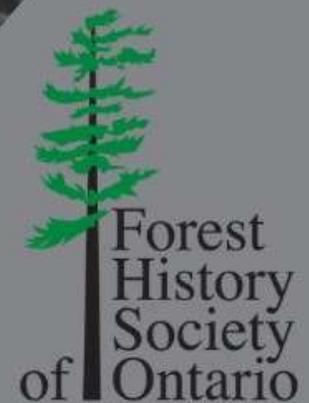
Ontario and Canada are marking the 150th anniversary of Confederation this year (2017). The Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry is taking part in this celebration by highlighting its proud tradition of conserving Ontario's natural resources, and helping to build the province and the country.

As part of this anniversary celebration, the Ministry commissioned Laurentian University to produce a series of articles that describes the scope of the Ministry's work over the past 50 years. Under the direction of Professor Mark Kuhlberg, several post-graduate students have written the articles. The articles were reviewed by both current and former MNRF staff. They provide an interesting and informative overview of the wide range of activities undertaken by the Ministry over the past fifty years.

These articles build on the history of government management of Ontario Crown lands and forests as documented in the centennial of Canada publication commissioned by John Robarts, Premier of Ontario, in 1967, titled *Renewing Nature's Wealth*.

To find the articles, go to Resources—MNRF History at www.ontarioforesthistor.ca.

Events



ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

February 7, 2019
Nottawasaga Inn
Alliston, Ontario
2:00PM

The Last Log Drive on the Little White River, 1968

By: Dave Lawson

I graduated from the Ontario Forest Ranger School in December 1967 and, along with three other graduates, Andy Penikett, Dave Riley and Paul Young, started work with Lands and Forests (L&F) in Blind River in January 1968. We were all quite new to employment with the L&F and spent some time in the office checking tally cards, and clipping out certain numbers etc., on “key sort cards”, remember them? Also, we did some cruising and tree marking. On probation as Resource Technician 1s we earned \$2.00/hour and were not going to get rich quick. However, we all passed our probationary period and after one year we received our first raise...a whopping five cents to \$2.05/hour. This is true, you can tell your grandkids about it, but I don't think they will believe you.

I had taken my Ontario Scaler's Licence course during the break between 1st and 2nd terms at Ranger School. In 1968 Sherbrook Coop was logging white and red pine in the Mount Lake Area and the logs were to be taken to the McFadden Mill in Blind River by, you guessed it, river drive on the Little White River. Armand Nado was the Blind River Division scaler and had been assigned to scale the logs for the Crown. However, with all the logging going on by Sherbrook Coop, the demand was too great and Armand could not keep up. Richard Morin, the Fire Control Deputy, and I were sent up to help Armand with the scaling.

I don't remember exactly how long the FBM scale stick is, however, I think it measures up to 30" and with the handle, likely another 8 to 10" puts the total length of the scale stick at approximately 40". If you have never scaled white pine logs you likely don't know that there is about a 4" band of sticky sap oozing out all around the outside of the log just inside the bark. This is the stickiest band of goo you could imagine. I basically had to pull the rule off the log after I measured it. Now, in addition, the logs were huge. Some were more than the length of the 30" rule and therefore I had to mark the spot where the 30" came to, and then measure on from there. I'm sure you are starting to realize how much fun I was having scaling these huge white pine logs. Within the first hour I had almost everything stuck together. My gloves were all sticky and my glove was stuck to the handle of the scale rule. Everything I touched, my face, my hat, my pants and anything else I may have touched (hmmm) was all a sticky mess. It made me wonder why in the world I took my scaler's licence in the first place. However, I survived, and after a few weeks we caught up to the logs being cut and delivered to the “White River Depot”; a flooded area on the Little White River.

The logging company had built a temporary dam on the Little White River to flood enough area to

pile all the logs that were harvested. In the spring they would open the dam and release all of the logs into the river. Also, the company had to build their own logging road and bridges because they couldn't use the highways due to licensing restrictions on their trucks. There was only the Kindigami River to cross, where they had to build a log bridge to travel between Mount Lake and the White River Depot. This bridge comes into play in the next story I have.



At left is a picture of the logs piled behind the dam at the White River Depot. It looks like a lot of logs but you need to know that there were lots of logs frozen into the ice. As the logs were brought in and piled onto the ice the

(Continued on page 8)

Photo Courtesy of A. Pennikett.

The Great Flood at Mount Lake, May, 1970

By: Dave Lawson

The Blind River Division of Lands and Forests (L&F) had a system to train new technicians in all the different requirements of the job. I had worked at Portelance Lake timber camp in 1968 and 1969. Dave Riley worked at the Fire Headquarters at Mount Lake. In 1970 Dave Riley was moved to work timber in Blind River, I was moved to the Fire Headquarters at Mount Lake and Andy Penikett took my place at Portelance Lake. Paul Young was up at the Peshu Lake Fire Headquarters. My wife and I were staying in a cabin for the summer at Frontier Lake Lodge on McElrea Lake at the end of Mount Lake.

The date was May 1970 and I believe it was either our May long weekend or the next weekend which is the American Memorial Day long weekend because there were many Americans camping in the area and staying at the lodge. We were experiencing a "High Fire Danger" at the time. Gerry Murray had been summoned into the Blind River office and I was left in charge at Mount Lake. Sure enough we had a lightning strike just west of Rawhide Lake and I sent in a small crew of three men to fight the fire. As I recall, the three men were Max Armstrong, Rolly Magee, and Bernard Osawamic.

Later that night it started to rain, and it rained and rained and rained. We took the weather and recorded the temperature and rainfall etc., at 8:00 am and 12:00 pm every day. Saturday noon I did the weather and although I don't remember the amount of rain at that time, I imagine it would have been substantial. It kept raining. I'm sure everyone has experienced rainfall when it is "white with rain". That is what it was like and it went on and on.

I took the weather again at 8:00 am Sunday morning and when I went to measure the rainfall, the rain gauge was totally full and running over. So, I dumped it out and went in and asked the guys who had filled up the rain gauge to play a joke on me. No one had touched the rain gauge. Mother Nature had filled it. I went back out and filled the rain gauge and measured the rain, and would you believe it held 7½" of rain. It rained all of Sunday and most of the week, although it did slow down. It was still raining and fogged in and no one was able to fly in or out.

Now we were in a real flood situation. Mount Lake and McElrea Lake came up over 1½ feet overnight. Roads were washed out and more were washing out. I watched as large mature white pine trees washed down the rivers and took out the bridges. This began quite a nightmare for the Americans. Right at this time the US dollar fell and the Canadian dollar gained to around \$107.50. Well, there was no way out, you couldn't fly, you couldn't drive or walk and every day the dollar would go up one cent then another cent and so on. The Americans were losing money and were definitely not happy campers. The lodge was running out of food because the guests should have left and the staff would have gone to Elliot Lake for more supplies. My wife Nancy and I would usually go to Elliot Lake shopping every two weeks and we had just gone a few days before the flood started so we shared our supplies with the lodge.

Now back to the flood. Sometime during the week, I think about Wednesday, we were able to get some flying done. The commercial aircraft were flying in to McElrea Lake to take out the Americans and the L&F hired a couple of G2 helicopters to fly with an L&F employee (it only holds two) around the roads to find the campers that were left in the bush because of the road wash outs. At that time campers required a travel permit so we had a fairly good idea where to find them. I was in one helicopter and Andy in the other. When we located campers the L&F guy was dropped off and the pilot flew out the campers, one after the other. As I recall we flew out 23 campers to the Mount Lake Headquarters with the G2 and then further out to Blind River and Sault Ste Marie with the Twin

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Otter. There was one issue with a pregnant lady who was the wife of an Ontario Provincial Police Officer who had to be flown out but all ended happily. We only had one break-in that I recall. A black bear broke the back window of a station wagon to get a bag of fish. All vehicles and camping gear had to be left in the bush until the roads and bridges were repaired. As we fixed the roads and bridges each person was called to retrieve their vehicle.

It was quite a disaster, roads were washed out in many, many places, bridges were washed out or destroyed with the large trees taking them out. The bailey bridges were hit hard too. In fact, the river between Mount Lake and the White River depot (I don't remember its' name) had a bailey bridge on the highway road. It was gone, totally gone, not one piece of steel remained. You would never even know that there was a bridge there in the first place except for the road leading up to it. Now, remember I said that Sherbrook Coop had to build their own roads and bridges? Well, lo and behold, when the water went down on the river where the bailey was gone, yes, there it was, the wooden bridge that the company had built. So, for the rest of the summer we used their bridge and now had access to Elliot Lake by road.

Our main job for the rest of the summer was to build and repair bridges. In all we built seven new bridges and I know at least two of them are still in use today. We drove over them a few years ago when Nancy and I took a trip back to Portelance Lake with Andy and Judy.

Although we were busy building bridges, we did have time to practise for the fire control competition. We won the division competition of Mount Lake, Blind River and Peshu Lake. We went to the Sault Ste Marie district competition and won that one too. Then we went to Chapleau for the regional competition, but lost out to another crew under the name of Monte Sitts.

It was a very exciting summer that I will remember forever.

(Continued from page 6)

weight gradually made the logs sink and cause the water to flood up and freeze all over again. I had to go out occasionally and check to make sure all the logs had scale marks and that none were missed because they could disappear under the ice. As winter faded and logging was all finished everyone waited for spring to come and thaw the ice, and then the dam would be opened to float the logs down the river to the McFadden Mill for sawing. At this time (1968) the McFadden Mill was known as the largest sawmill east of the Rockies.

I was there in the spring of 1968 and watched as the dam was opened daily and log piles had to be blown frequently to release the logs to get the log drive under way. It was absolutely amazing to watch. Some logs were going end over end, some were stuck on shore and had to be pushed off with skidders and tractors, but for the most part they went sent screaming down the river. It was quite a show and very dangerous, but I don't remember hearing of anyone being killed.

You can watch the complete log drive on YouTube: *The Last Log Drive on the White River 1968*.

Dave Lawson graduated from Ontario Forest Ranger School in 1967. From 1968 to 1993 worked as Resource Technician for Lands and Forests, then Ministry of Natural Resources and moved from Blind River to White River, to Cochrane, Ignace, Kenora, Red Lake with increasing responsibilities including Forest Management Supervisor in Red Lake and finally Fish and Wildlife Supervisor in Ignace. In 1993 he then moved to Fort St. John B.C. as the District Manager, Ministry of Forests where he retired in 2003.

The World's Freshwater Laboratory Turns Fifty

By: Sumeep Bath, Communications Manager, IISD Experimental Lakes Area

For those of you who have frequented this province for many decades, you will be well aware that this corner of the globe is home to one of the world's most unique, exciting and influential scientific research facilities.

IISD Experimental Lakes Area (IISD-ELA) is a facility of which Ontarians should be extremely proud. For those of you who don't know, IISD-ELA is a real-world laboratory—a series of lakes (and their watersheds) on which scientists and researchers can conduct experiments to determine the impact of contaminants and threats to fresh water supplies.

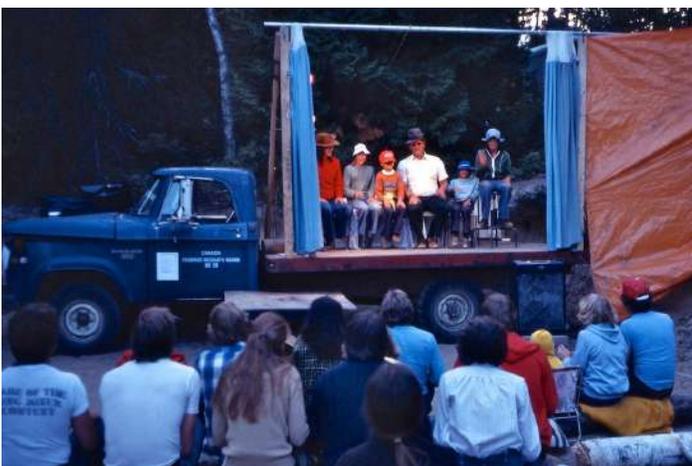
Located in a sparsely populated region of northwestern Ontario, Canada, the lakes in the region are not affected by human impacts. By manipulating these small lakes, scientists are able to examine how all aspects of the ecosystem—from the atmosphere to fish populations—respond. Findings from these real-world experiments are often much more accurate than those from research conducted at smaller scales, such as in laboratories.

What you may not know is that those 58 lakes and their watersheds are turning 50 this year. Or rather, 2018 marks 50 years since these lakes were set aside by the Government of Canada for a very unique approach to scientific research—experimenting on whole lakes (or ecosystems) to mimic what happens in nature.

Humble Beginnings with Harmful Algal Blooms

Back in 1968, many lakes in North America were suffering from toxic and unsightly algal blooms. You will recognize them as those smelly, often unsightly layers of green sludge that sit atop lakes during the summer.

Researchers at the Freshwater Institute in Winnipeg prioritized the issue, and, throughout 1966 and 1967, set about scouring northern Manitoba and northern Ontario for a cluster of isolated lakes on which the issue could be explored. Four hundred and sixty-three lakes were surveyed in total.



Klaverkamp at Variety Night 1979.
Photo Credit: IISD Experimental Lakes Area.



Chemistry Lab, 1970.
Photo Credit: IISD Experimental Lakes Area.

In 1968, the Government of Canada ultimately selected 46 remote lakes in northwestern Ontario as the Experimental Lakes Area. Ultimately two long-term experiments were conducted on harmful algal blooms, or 'eutrophication', both of which determined that phosphorus (as opposed to nitrogen or carbon) was the key factor in the development of those unwanted algal blooms.

But the impact didn't stop there. These findings

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went on to inform and rewrite policy around the world, ultimately resulting in the banning of phosphates in detergents internationally—all in order to mitigate the impacts of eutrophication.

Algal blooms may have proven to be our *raison d'être*, but since 1968, the site has grown in size and scope, and has intentionally evolved its research portfolio to respond to the pressing freshwater issues of the time.

Acid Rain and Building Dams

As we moved into the 1970s, the public's imagination was captured by the concept of acid rain—rain that was slightly acidified when nitrogen oxide or sulfur dioxide gasses were released into the atmosphere, primarily from the burning of fossil fuels. Once this acid rain landed on earth it could do anything from acidify lakes and rivers to dissolve infrastructure and buildings.

In order to mimic the acidity of the rain that was falling on freshwater ecosystems at the time, researchers at IISD-ELA introduced minute amounts of sulfuric acid into an experimental lake (Lake 223) in order to reduce the pH (i.e., acidify the lake) from about 6.8 to about 5.0 over the seven-year experiment.

Among the many effects found were reduced body condition (how “fat” a fish is) and low breeding success in white suckers and lake trout, and the near extinction of fathead minnows. Additionally, they found that crayfish populations crashed and that *Mysis*—a small but important freshwater shrimp—disappeared completely from the lake. In fact, in our fiftieth year, we just reintroduced *Mysis* to that lake to see what impacts it could have.



Photo Credit: IISD Experimental Lakes Area.

In the early 1990s, as sources of renewable energy were becoming more popular, our researchers set about to explore the relationship between hydroelectric reservoir creation and the production of greenhouse gases (GHGs). A strong argument for the development of hydroelectric power has been that it reduces GHG emissions such as carbon dioxide and methane, which contribute to climate change, however, we set out to see if this was true.

We conducted two experiments whereby we intentionally flooded a lake, mimicking the development of reservoirs and dams. We found that both carbon dioxide and methane, an especially potent greenhouse gas, were produced in higher levels after flooding, suggesting that reservoirs can be sources of GHGs.

A New Century

As we moved into the twenty-first century, we turned our focus on to how mercury can build up in

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Late fall sampling, Lake 239, 1974.
Photo Credit: IISD Experimental Lakes Area.

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fish populations. From 2011-2017, we intentionally added small amounts of traceable mercury to a lake to see how it moved through the ecosystem and food web. Predictably, the amount of mercury found in the fish increased.

When we stopped adding mercury, the amount found in fish decreased, suggesting that reducing the amount of mercury that enters the atmosphere may have a significant impact on the amount of mercury that ends up in fish (and therefore humans). This is good news, and bodes well for the impact of the Minamata Convention on Mercury— an international treaty designed to reduce the amount of mercury emitted internationally, on which the research at IISD-ELA was influential.



Photo Credit: IISD Experimental Lakes Area.

At the beginning of the 2010s, the Government of Canada announced its intentions to no longer fund the site. This resulted in a non-profit think tank based in Winnipeg—the International Institute for Sustainable Development (IISD)—assuming operation of the site. It also signalled a new era for the newly-named IISD-ELA, with a ramped up research portfolio, and a greater focus on public education, community outreach, and communication.

Fifty Years and Counting

Now it's 2018 and IISD-ELA is celebrating its 50th year in style! We have everything planned from a gala in Winnipeg and trips to the site for local communities to some cool campaigns on our social media accounts.

We have also just kicked off two new ground-breaking studies into the impact of oil spills on fresh water systems, and what the most effective clean-up methods are.

Here in Ontario, we are very lucky to have access to such abundant supplies of clean, fresh water. But we cannot be complacent—with that comes a great responsibility to protect those resources for future generations.

Why not learn more about the amazing freshwater laboratory that is hidden away in the Boreal forest, and discover how you can help keep our water supplies clean?

Want to learn more about the world's freshwater laboratory and its legacy of groundbreaking freshwater research?

Visit www.iisd.org/ela.

Ontario's Managed Forests as Wildlife Habitat

By: Kandyd Szuba PhD, R.P.F. (Ret.)

The 1970s and Earlier - A Happy Accident

In 1971, in a move well ahead of its time on this continent, Ontario enacted its first *Endangered Species Act* (ESA). The early ESA required protection of individual nesting occurrences of endangered species such as the peregrine falcon and bald eagle, whose populations had dropped to critically low levels. The impact on forest management was small over most of the Area of the Undertaking, however, because "endangered species" were relatively rare. The focus in forestry in the 1960s, 70s and early 1980s was timber and silviculture; habitat was an afterthought. The 1988-1992 Class Environmental Assessment for Timber Management on Crown Lands in Ontario (the Class EA; Environmental Assessment Board 1994) summarized the provincial government's view of managed forests as habitat up to that time:

"It is MNR's position that wildlife species in our boreal and Great Lakes-St. Lawrence forest are equipped to survive logging because they have adapted to periodic natural disturbances" (Environmental Assessment Board 1994, p. 177).

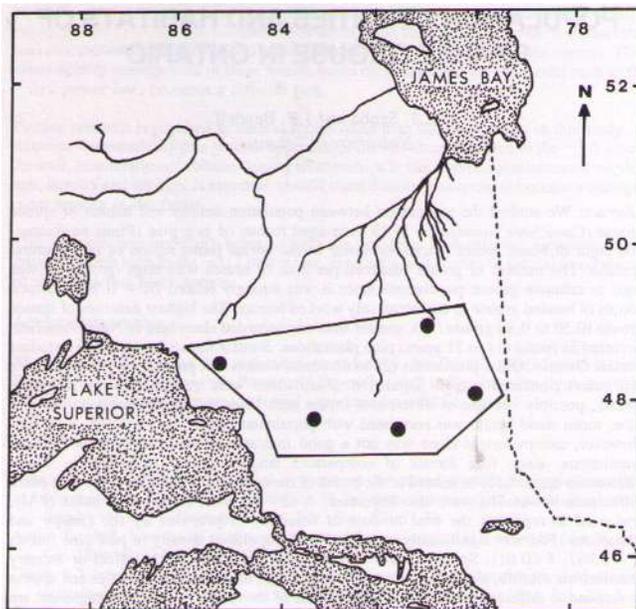
Most wildlife would probably "survive logging". The idea that forestry could be used to intentionally produce habitat, or even enhance it, was new.

The government's view changed in 1988 when the first *Timber Management Guidelines for the Provision of Moose Habitat* came into effect, with their requirements to adjust clearcut sizes and shapes as a matter of course during forest harvesting, specifically to enhance conditions for moose (OMNR 1988). The Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) had identified a "moose program objective" with a target of doubling the provincial moose population from 80,000 in 1988 to 160,000 by the year 2000. Forest management was to be a key tool to make this happen. By the end of the Class EA process, it was clear to the provincial government that the link between forest management and habitat must be recognized and formalized. The progressive *Crown Forest Sustainability Act* (CFSA)¹ of 1994 did just that by requiring forest management on Crown land to "conserve biological diversity".

The CFSA and the moose guidelines focussed our thinking about how forestry might be used actively in a positive way to benefit wildlife. But forestry was having positive effects long before that, not because of a grand design, but owing to a happy accident.

In the 1980s, Dr. Jim Bendell and students from the Faculty of Forestry at the University of Toronto headed into the boreal wilderness of north-eastern Ontario (Map 1) to study managed forests as habitat. They found that young jack pine plantations 11-21 years old established in the 1960s and 1970s near Chapleau and Gogama contained astounding

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Map 1: Map of the region of study in north-eastern Ontario. Dots (left to right) represent the towns of White River, Chapleau, Gogama, Kirkland Lake and Cochrane (top right). Numbers indicate degrees west longitude and north latitude. From Szuba and Bendell (1983, p. 200).



Female spruce grouse with coloured leg bands applied by Jim Bendell's students for identification.

numbers of spruce grouse (*Canachites canadensis*, now *Falci pennis canadensis*), with population densities of breeding birds four times greater than had been recorded anywhere in North America (Szuba and Bendell 1983). The researchers found, on average, up to 80 breeding male and female spruce grouse (photos) combined per 100 hectares of pure, young jack pine forest. The spruce grouse, the "splendid symbol of boreal coniferous forests" (Cadman et al. 2007) was thriving in stands that had been shear-bladed, aerially seeded and planted on dry sites, with no direct consideration for the habitat requirements of grouse. The understories of these stands were thick with blueberries and trailing arbutus, plants later identified as important for spruce grouse hens and chicks. Jim Bendell and his students found

that pure jack pine stands established in this region even earlier, in the 1940s and 1950s, making them 35-40 years old, were teeming with a little vole that was previously considered rare - the heather vole (*Phenacomys intermedius*, now *Phenacomys ungava*). Naylor and Bendell (1983) and Naylor et al. (1985) reported densities of this vole also about four times greater than the densest population reported elsewhere in the species range across the continent. The understories of these stands were dominated by mixtures of blueberry (*Vaccinium angustifolium*) and sheep laurel (*Kalmia angustifolia*), important as food and cover for the heather vole.

Clearly, the spruce grouse and the heather vole were doing more than merely "surviving" in managed forests before the Class Environmental Assessment was published and the CFSA came into force. In my opinion, these happy accidents reflect the fact that forest management has the inherent potential to be a positive force in the conservation of biological diversity.

Two frosty winters ago, more than 35 years had passed since the astonishing populations of grouse and voles were discovered by Jim Bendell and his students near Gogama and Chapleau. As another forester and I drove east from Wawa along Highway 101 through many kilometers of jack pine stands, there, on a rather short stretch of snow-packed, icy road that had been sanded for safety, were at least 120 splendid spruce grouse foraging and displaying. Was this a happy accident or part of a grand design?



Male spruce grouse in partial display.

In subsequent issues of *Forestry*, we hope to discuss other aspects of wildlife habitat management in forestry in Ontario, including its most significant advance: the retention of wildlife trees on clearcuts. This was a move that was at times embraced and heralded as long overdue, and at times resisted as a threat to forest workers and the forest economy.

¹Crown Forest Sustainability Act 1994 S.O. 1994, C25: <https://www.ontario.ca/laws/statute/94c25>

Kandyd Szuba worked for more than 40 years in Ontario as a student, a researcher, a forester and a habitat biologist, undertaking projects for the MNR, the forest industry, and independent auditing firms. She also taught courses in conservation biology and environmental science at Nipissing University between 1990 and 2001. To this day she remains optimistic about the overwhelmingly positive link between forest management in Ontario and wildlife habitat.

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The Buchan Report

Comment and Synopsis: Ken Armson, O.C., R.P.F. (Ret.)

Logging of the Black and White Watersheds

The Pre-mechanization Era, 1890 – 1950

By J.D. Buchan, December 15, 1972

Comment

One of the great sources of forest history are the written accounts, usually about local or regional forestry activities, that are of personal recollections and experiences or documents from companies, institutions and organizations related to Ontario's forests and forestry. Many lie dormant in an individual's belongings, unearthed by heirs or relatives after the person has passed on and then often thrown away. Other written accounts associated with companies or other organizations are often maintained in files until the company or organization ceases to exist. Hopefully, many of these items will be preserved in local, regional archives or even in the Archives of Ontario. This report, by J.D. Buchan, came to me (Ken Armson, O.C., R.P.F. (Ret.)) from a member and former Director of the Society, Sarah Bros, R.P.F., who discovered it amongst Abitibi Company files. The report exemplifies the type of information that is a cornerstone of local forest history and which the Society wishes to encourage making available to the public through the Society and its website. The full text of this report (54 pages) is available at www.ontarioforesthistorians.ca/files/buchan_report_logging.pdf.



Boom of Ontario Paper Company logs at the jack ladder.

Synopsis

Foreword

This report was written to provide information for a logging exhibit at White Lake Provincial Park. Both Abitibi and Ontario Paper companies provided much information related to their operations on these watersheds. In this report the attempt was made to capture the style of life in logging companies prior to mechanization, which began in the 1940s. While emphasizing the objectivity of the study, the author states, "We must not forget that the writing of history however dryly it is done and however sincere the desire for objectivity, remains literature. History's third dimension is always fiction. Without that third dimension – anecdotes and comments on events by the historian – there is no connection that provides a link, however mythical between the past and the present."



Ontario Paper Company camp at Swede Creek, Black River licence 1941

(Continued on page 16)

General Outline of Logging in the Division

The first exploitation was by the Whalen Lumber Company in 1890, presumably in the vicinity of the mouth of the Pic River and the logs were boomed across Lake Superior to paper mills in the United States. In 1919 the Lake Superior Paper Co. (owned by Spanish River Pulp and Paper Mills Ltd.) logged in the area of the Pukaskwa River until 1931. Austin Lumber Company operated from 1939 until 1943. In 1923 the Austin and Nicholson Lumber Co. opened a sawmill 18 ½ miles west of White River on the C.P.R., a location later known as Bertrand. The Pigeon River Lumber Co. operated on areas of the Pic and Little Pic Rivers in the 1920s and from 1932-1935 the Pigeon Timber Co. cut pulpwood in the area where the Black River joins the Pic. In 1936 Marathon Paper Mills through a subsidiary, General Timber of Port Arthur, operated in the Black River. In 1937 and in 1938 the company, later as the Marathon Corporation, obtained a licence to cut in the area of the Pic River with the proviso that it build a pulp mill.

In 1937, Ontario Paper Co. acquired a licence for 781sq. miles on the Black River watershed. Also in 1937 the Abitibi Power & Paper Co. commenced a salvage operation in the area of the 1936 fire at Hayward-Herrick Lakes. Later in 1941 Abitibi returned to the area operating out of Regan in the White Lake and Shabotick areas until 1964 when they moved east to log in and around Obatanga Provincial Park until 1971.

Following this general outline of logging in the area there are three sections describing in detail the activities of each of the three companies operating there: Austin, Ontario Paper, and Abitibi. A fourth section gives a historical account of the origin and nature of making paper. Austin was the only company to operate a sawmill; both the Ontario Paper and Abitibi operations were to supply logs for their newsprint mills. Ontario Paper debarked four foot logs that were loaded on lake boats and shipped to the company's newsprint mill in Thorold, Ontario, while Abitibi's pulpwood was shipped by boat to its mill in Sault Ste. Marie.

There is a large section titled: Logging Techniques - Pre-Mechanization, which describes in detail the cutting of the trees and the process of getting the logs and pulpwood out so that they can be transported to the company's mill. The costs involved in producing the wood and the payments to the lumberjacks are described, as well as the equipment used. The logging was essentially seasonal until 1960, and horses were the source of power in the movement of the wood. The horses were often rented from dealers in the Prairie Provinces, and were used on western farms in the summer. Many of the lumberjacks also moved between winter work in the bush and summer work on western farms. Apart from a small stable work force of cutters from Lakehead or other northern communities many of the workers came and went from the camps.

Three sections describe the makeup of the labour force, their lifestyle and details of the construction and facilities of the camps, including a complete description of Abitibi's Camp 24. Bunkhouses and cabins were generally heated with barrel-type wood burning stoves and electricity provided by diesel generators. During the 1930-1940 period most camps were built of logs with sawn lumber for roofing and floors and doors. The cookery was the largest building and in some camps could seat up to 180 men. Because of the use of horses a blacksmith's shop was essential.

The report includes quite detailed recommendations for the formation of the exhibit and concludes with a list of the persons interviewed by the author; detailed drawings of a sleigh and a drive boat plus a listing of the costs of building the type of dam used on streams where logs are driven. The maps that were in the original report are not included.

The American Tariffs! Ontario's 1897 Response

By: Roger Miller and Fred Holmes

This article is sourced on the Miller/Holmes book, *Pinus Strobus, The Commercial Pine Sawmills Of The North Channel And Georgian Bay, 1852-1930's, A Chronology*.

Tariffs are dominating the mainstream media today much like they did in the summer of 1897. Back then, it was called the Dingley Act, but when properly labeled, the *Tariff Act of July 24, 1897*, imposed a duty on imported lumber of \$2.00 per 1000 feet, board measure and an additional 50 cents per 1000 feet, board measure, for each side planed.

According to various sources found through a Google search, the telegraph lines to American entry ports were almost burning from the volume of telegraphs being sent on July 24th. The tariff went into effect as soon as those ports were advised that the tariff had received its official blessing from President McKinley. This meant that the next vessel or rail car shipment of lumber that arrived in the U.S. from Canada was immediately taxed from the minute the telegraph arrived.

What was the effect of the introduction of this tariff on our North Channel and Georgian Bay sawmills manufacturing pine for export to the U.S.?

John Island, Cutler, the Little Current mills of Conlon's and the Red mill, and Parry Sound's William Peter mill were idled and their logs towed to Michigan mills.

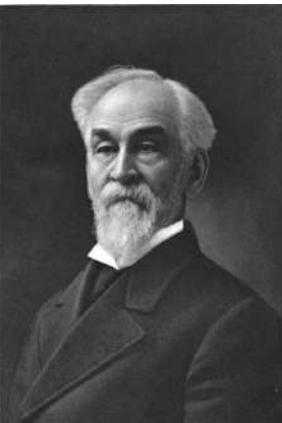


Dwight Cutler, Grand Haven

The Ontario Government of Premier Arthur Sturgis Hardy came up with a novel response, the first official notice of impending action being posted in December 1897, and *An Act Respecting the Manufacture of Pine Cut on the Crown Domain* receiving Royal Assent January 17, 1898. This Act basically said, *You cut it here, you manufacture it here*.

The Act was effective April 29, 1898 for logs cut on or after April 30, 1898. This meant the winter log cut of 97/98 was not affected with the result that John Island, Cutler, Little Current's Red mill and Parry Sound's William Peter mill, had their logs towed to Michigan to be manufactured/sawn in 1898.

But this Act had the desired effect of retaining and strengthening our North Channel and Georgian Bay mills, the latter by precipitating the closure of some Michigan mills and the moving of whole mills or some of their machinery to Ontario sites.



Nelson Holland, Buffalo

This included:

1897

- Holland Emery Lumber Co. of East Tawas, MI., mill machinery to Byng Inlet, as they knew Ontario lumbering better than most American lumbermen. In 1887 the Emery Lumber Co., a branch of the Emery Bros. Lumber Co., later the Holland Emery Lumber Co., was already having part of their yearly cut sawn at Midland where they had leased a mill. They had also established an option on Merrill Ring's mill at Byng Inlet in 1893.



Temple Emery, Bay City

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William Peter, Bay City

1899

- Eddy Bros. of Bay City, MI., moved their mill to Blind River
- William Peter of Bay City, MI. resumed sawing at his Parry Sound mill

1900

- S.O. Fisher of West Bay City, MI., as the Morgan Lumber Co., bought the Blind River Lumber Co. at Blind River

- Edmund Hall of Detroit, MI. moved his Minor mill from Alpena, MI., to Buswell Bay

- McArthur Bros. of Cheboygan MI., activated Little Current's Red mill

- Charlton Bros. of Lynedoch, ON and Tonawanda, NY. bought and reactivated Collingwood's S.C. Kanady mill

- Moulthrop & Co. of Bay City, MI., resumed sawing at the John Island mill

- Cutler & Savidge of Detroit, MI., resumed sawing at their Cutler mill

1903

- Burtis mill was built at Thessalon to saw the Canadian logs of E.B. Foss of Bay City, MI.

1904

- Carney Lumber Co. of Menominee, MI. moved their mill to Owen Sound



Clark Moulthrop, Bay City

Much like many senior media observers are saying today, it will be the American consumer who ultimately bears the economic cost of the import tariffs through higher prices of foreign manufactured lumber, just like in 1898.



Spencer O. Fisher, Bay City



Thomas Charlton, Tonawanda



Edgar B. Foss, Bay City

Nipigon Historical Museum and the Forest

By: Betty Brill, Curator
nipigonmuseum@gmail.com



Sketch of hand logging.

to that, other forest industry companies. “Buzz” was the driving force to create the Nipigon Historical Museum and was a “master gatherer” of items and information, through interviews, research, and investigation. We were fortunate that the majority of his “archives” and photos survived the devastating fire of 1990.



Felt slippers.

to the CN line and west to the Black Sturgeon.

The Collection

Assorted company “cutting maps”, financial books/records, the 1917 Nipigon Forest Reserve Fire Journal, a notebook with the detailed layout of the glance booms for “drives” on the Nipigon River, Geraldton MNR scrapbooks from the 1950s, extensive ephemera, transcribed audio interviews, Log Book magazines, books, manuscripts, and pamphlets.



The Nipigon Historical Museum opened in June 1973, in the former Domtar Woodland’s Office, 20 Second Street, Nipigon, Ontario, surrounded by boom logs from the terminated River Drive Era and fronted by two huge sitka spruce “Storm Booms” (all of which “disappeared” during the 14 year “wait” after the fire of 1990). The Nipigon Historical Museum showcased tools and equipment used by the pulp and paper and logging industries.

L.M. (Buzz) Lein was a long-time employee of Domtar and, prior to that, other forest industry companies. “Buzz” was the driving force to create the Nipigon Historical Museum and was a “master gatherer” of items and information, through interviews, research, and investigation. We were fortunate that the majority of his “archives” and photos survived the devastating fire of 1990.



Wildlife display.

The Nipigon Historical Museum re-opened in June, 2004 at 40 Front Street, Nipigon.

Our photo archive includes photos from horse logging to “horse-power” machines, covering the many companies that logged the Nipigon Area east to Marathon, north



Handmade plane and iron.

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Tools and Equipment

Radio telephone; saws; axes; peelers; pickaroons; pike poles; cant hooks; stamp hammers; and power saws.

What I call “value added”: wood working tools from the mid 1800s New England prison manufactured to turn of the century local hand made wood planes. While the majority of these items survived the fire with minimal damage, display space in the “new” museum is limited so most are in basement storage.

Power saws and hand saws.

request. Information and photos are on the museum blog <https://nipigonmuseumtheblog.Blogspot.com> The search box in the top left corner will pull up posts that may contain information you are looking for. If not, an e-mail request will be gladly accepted.

The Nipigon Historical Museum is open seven days a week during July and August. The rest of the year it opens on



Axe display.



Sock dryer.



Tools of hand logging days.



Axe display.

The museum has documents and artifacts relating to the following companies/subjects: pulpwood stamp hammers, Brompton Pulp and Paper/St. Lawrence/Domtar, General Timber AM CAN, Nipigon Corporation 1925, Newago Company, Thunder Bay Paper (ancestor of Abitibi), Great Lakes Paper, and Abitibi Power and Paper.

Forestry-Related Archival Holdings at the Thunder Bay Museum

**By: Michael deJong
Curator/Archivist, Thunder Bay Museum**

Located in the epicentre of forestry activity in Northwestern Ontario, the Thunder Bay Museum's archival collection naturally contains a great deal of material related to the forest industry. Chief among this material are a variety of fonds relating to the various timber and paper companies that operated here.

Many of these collections relate to the various individual timber and paper companies that operated in the region. These include Great Lakes Paper (B 28), with a collection including several volumes of the company's magazine, as well as the Abitibi Power and Paper Company (B 14), including data on wage rates and labour agreements. They also include a relatively large collection from the Newaygo Timber Company (B 22), established in 1917 which operated along the north shore of Lake Superior and also owned land on Pie Island, including legal documents relating to land purchases and timber rights. Another small collection relates to the Great Lakes Lumber and Shipping Limited company (B 24) which include articles prepared by the company to lobby the provincial government concerning timberland concessions in the 1940s.

A number of other collections relate to various businessmen who owned or were involved with many of these timber companies. These include the Charles W. Cox fonds (A 114), relating to the Port Arthur timber baron's business interests and eventual bankruptcy, including timber licenses, meeting minutes and legal documents, as well as that of James A. Little and Donald M. Hogarth (A 83), also timber barons in the early 20th century. These documents include correspondence between the two relating to their business dealings in timber and other industries, timber licenses involving the Thunder Bay Paper Co. and others, various contracts and agreements, as well as a daily journal kept by Little.

Perhaps the most notable of these collections is that of Donald Clark (B 37), who followed in his father's footsteps in the lumber industry in Northwestern Ontario, eventually establishing D.A. Clark and Company, and gaining control of both the Nipigon Lake Timber Company and Great Lakes Lumber and Shipping Ltd. in the 1950s. This collection includes minute books of the Pigeon Timber Company, Black River Timber Company, Nipigon Lake Timber Company and others, financial statements from these and other companies, a large variety of maps relating to both timber and mining, and a variety of miscellaneous correspondence.

Concerning a different aspect of the forest industry, the Helmer Borg fonds (A 9) address union activities and labour in the lumber industry. Borg was a Swedish immigrant, who worked as a field representative of the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America for the Lumber and Sawmill Workers' Union in Port Arthur in the 1950s. His records include reports of the union's activities, letters of workers to camp foremen, financial reports, agreements with companies, vote results, and a variety of material relating to Borg personally. These papers tell a vivid story of the tensions that existed in the lumber industry during this period in regards to labour rights and the hard work that union representatives did on behalf of workers.

It is also important to consider the lumber industry from the perspective of those who worked in the industry, often in difficult circumstances. These include the Benjamin Cowan fonds (A 127) which include material relating to Cowan's work in forestry in the 1930s, including his hand-drawn maps and journals and the notes he compiled while teaching on the subject. Later on in his career, Cowan was an engineering consultant to the pulp-and-paper industry, and the collection includes some of his work in that sector such as his inventions, patents, and research.

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Also in the museum's collection are a variety of oral history sources which relate to the industry, including a CBC interview with Bill Franklin (B 29/6/18) who shares his experiences working in sawmills and life in bushcamps. There are also a number of interviews conducted by the museum, including one with John Brown (M 21/1/32) concerning working in the bush in the 1930s as well as working with prisoners of war, and the changes in the industry brought on by technology. In another, Ray Hakli (M 23/1/18) discusses the early timber industry and life during the depression.

Overall these various fonds provide a multi-faceted look at the timber industry in Northwestern Ontario, covering the corporate, labour, and personal aspects of it. Inquiries and booking appointments can be addressed to curatorial@thunderbaymuseum.com.

Art in the Park

Moma Markovich 1928 - 1977

by: Sherry Hambly

The summer 2018 issue of Trillium Magazine of the Ontario Quarter Century Club included an article on the 100th anniversary of the Ministry of Transportation (MTO)¹. The article featured the work of artist Moma Markovich who produced over 200 paintings for MTO showing various aspects of the history of transportation in Ontario. Markovich also produced 55 paintings for the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) illustrating various aspects of forests and the work of the MNR. The article can be found online at this site: <https://ontario25.ca/resources/trillium/>

Markovich was born in Belgrade, Serbia, in 1902 and worked as an artist in eastern Europe until he was imprisoned in Austria during the Second World War. After he escaped he moved to Italy, eventually emigrating to Canada in 1951. Markovich eventually found work as a junior draftsman with MTO. Later he became a resident artist there. After his retirement the MNR commissioned him to create art depicting the work of the Ministry.²

Markovich traveled throughout Ontario and spent time in the Ontario Archives to ensure that his paintings accurately reflected the history he was painting. In 1968 he was awarded the Canada Medal for his Centennial series of historical paintings.³

The themes of his work for MNR included the following:

- effects of dutch elm disease;
- forest fires, water bombers and fire prevention;
- horse logging and river drives;
- lumber mills;
- Wildlife;
- Enforcement;
- Provincial Parks;
- maple syrup; and
- flood control.

From Trillium: "These paintings hung for many years in the Leslie M. Frost Natural Resources Centre in Dorset, where they were used to teach visiting school children about the importance of the ministry's activities. Due to their illustrative nature, the paintings were also used to aid artistic understanding of composition, light and colour."⁴

More information on Markovich can be found on the Archives of Ontario website:

http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/goac/moma_markovich.aspx

The Archives has collected many of his paintings. Images of them can be found by searching the Archives paintings database:

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[http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll?get&file=\[GOAC_WEB\]index.htm](http://ao.minisisinc.com/scripts/mwimain.dll?get&file=[GOAC_WEB]index.htm) .

Here are some examples of his work for MNR:



Water Bombing (Dehavilland Twin Otter). Archives of Ontario Accession No.: 636457.



River Drive (Clearing the Jam). Archives of Ontario Accession No.: 636409.



Forest Monuments (Effects of Dutch Elm Disease). Archives of Ontario Accession No.: 636343.

(Continued on page 25)

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Matheson Fire (The Flaming Town - 1916). Archives of Ontario
Accession No.: 636372.

Photo Credits

Water Bombing [DeHavilland Twin Otter] 1970

Moma Markovich

Oil on Canvas

Government of Ontario Art Collection, Archives of Ontario, 636457

River Drive [Clearing the Jam] 1970

Moma Markovich

Oil on Canvas

Government of Ontario Art Collection, Archives of Ontario, 636409

Forest Monuments [Effects of Dutch Elm Disease] 1973

Moma Markovich

Oil on Canvas

Government of Ontario Art Collection, Archives of Ontario, 636343

Matheson Fire [The Flaming Town - 1916] 1970

Moma Markovich

Oil on Canvas

Government of Ontario Art Collection, Archives of Ontario, 636372

¹Clare Douglas, Transported Through Time, A look back at the greatest works of artist Moma Markovich. *Trillium*, Ontario Quarter Century Club, Toronto, Vol. 19 (1): 14-18, Summer 2018. Available online at: <https://ontario25.ca/resources/trillium/>, accessed October 16, 2018.

²The Artistry of Moma Markovich, Archives of Ontario, http://www.archives.gov.on.ca/en/goac/moma_markovich.aspx, accessed October 16, 2018.

³Douglas.

⁴Douglas.

Sylva Recap

The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests published for many years a journal known as "Sylva". The purpose of this journal was to highlight changes in policy, individuals, and the comings and goings of staff. Sylva contains nuggets for forest history that will be selected for each edition of the journal. The following was provided by Sherry Hambly.

The Work of District Biologists by F.A. Walden

Reprinted from Sylva Volume 7 (6): 3 - 10, 1951

Progress in fish and wild life management depends largely on the application of principles revealed by the research program. The District Biologists of the Ontario Department of Lands and Forests are field managers of the fish and wildlife resources of the Province. It is the purpose here to describe some of the work of the District Biologists and to illustrate the use which is being made of the results of research.

The primary responsibility for the management of the fish and wildlife resources of the Province is vested in the Department Of Lands and Forests. This authority is not exclusive, since the federal government establishes regulations respecting migratory birds and fish, and the excellent contributions to management of the universities, research bodies and the Ontario Department of Planning and Development are well known.

The Department of Lands and Forests is divided into ten divisions. These may be grouped arbitrarily into two classes: the operating divisions including Fish and Wildlife, Forest Protection, Lands and Recreational Areas, Reforestation and Timber Management and the service divisions including Accounts, Air Services, Operation and Personnel, Research, and Surveys and Engineering.

For efficient local administration, the Province is divided into 22 forest districts each under the direction of a District Forester. These areas vary in size from 4,600 square miles in the case of Lake Simcoe Forest District to nearly 29,000 square miles for Sioux Lookout District. The district office organization parallels that of main office on a smaller scale, with officials representing most of the main office divisions.

Two divisions of the Department are concerned directly with fish and wildlife matters. The Research Division conducts specific management projects, and undertakes long term and major studies in field and laboratory problems. The Fish and Wildlife Division undertakes short term studies, usually termed investigations, and is responsible for of the fish and wildlife program administration and management generally throughout the Province

The Fish and Wildlife Division originated in 1946, when the Department of Game and Fisheries was amalgamated with the Department of Lands and Forests and was constituted as a division of the latter. One of the first tasks of the new division was to appoint a senior conservation officer in each district to take general charge of fish and wildlife matters. Following this, biologists were recruited and assigned to the district offices. There are now ten district biologists on duty throughout the Province. There are, in addition, ten biologists in the Main Office organization of the Fish and Wildlife Division and eight in the Research Division.

The overall objectives of fish and wildlife management are similar in each district, though the emphasis on fish, game or fur varies with local conditions. When biologists were first appointed to districts, they were usually assigned a major problem in the area. While working on this it was also possible to plan on a larger scale and to commence a general inventory of the resources of their

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district. Gradually, as more work was assumed, responsibility for a definite part of the fish and wildlife program was established.

District biologists are in general agreement that public relations and education constitute one of the most important considerations in the field program. Success can hardly be expected of any management plan that does not enjoy public support. District biologists have found that they must go out and sell management to the public, both to be assured of support, and to create a demand for what research has shown to be necessary conservation measures. For example, in the last two or three years many sportsmen have demanded a closed season on ruffed grouse, in spite of the fact that in many parts of Ontario this species has been near the peak of its abundance cycle. It is



Figure 1: Moose Calf - Thunder Bay. Ken Campbell.

not suggested that all sportsmen lack an appreciation of management principles; on the contrary there are many who are well informed and progressive in their approach to conservation. However, it is true that public education is far behind modern developments in fish and wildlife matters.

Game fish management has been of major importance, due to the great public demand for work in this field. Requests usually express a desire for increased availability of fish. The approach is to conduct a biological survey of the waters, and to recommend a means of increasing fish production. The results of several preliminary surveys suggest that an illusion of poor fish production exists due to large scale exploitation. Actually, the waters are yielding large numbers of fish, though the individual angler's catch may be small.

The methods of biological survey vary in detail, though the usual technique is to obtain information concerning the depths; area of the littoral, sublittoral and profundal zones; chemical analyses of the water; temperature data; foods for fish; and checks on the species and abundance of fish present. The data collected are used as a basis for

recommendations leading to new or revised regulations, stocking or introduction of fish, sanctuaries, and other management methods.

A variety of means is being used for management purposes. In Georgian Bay, 16 sanctuaries have been set apart for the protection of smallmouth black bass. These were established on the premise that in this large body of water, much cooler by comparison than the inland lakes, bass spawning takes place later in the season, and frequently the male bass are still engaged in guarding the nests or fry when the bass fishing season opens on the first of July. Rather than delay the opening of the season, areas which are suitable for spawning and which bass inhabit, were selected for sanctuaries and closed to fishing. They vary in size from 300 acres to nearly 2000 acres.

Since June of 1948, over 250 bass have been tagged each year and released in the centre of one sanctuary. Tagged bass have been recovered by anglers outside of the sanctuary during the summer months. In May 1949 and 1950, numbers of tagged bass were recovered by means of trap nets. Spawning bass, bearing tags, have been observed on the redds in the sanctuary. Thus the sanctuaries appear to provide protection for a certain part of the population, while contributing to the numbers of bass available to the angler. In southern Ontario, work is progressing on two problems associated with the fact that all land is privately owned. District biologists are giving considerable attention to the development of farm fish ponds for warm water species. They are also assisting land owners in the establishment of ponds at the headwaters of trout streams.

There are many waters in the Province which produce few if any valuable fish. In southern Ontario

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this appears to be due to the deterioration of the waters with the development of agriculture and removal of forests. Northwards from the District of Parry Sound, however, many waters have always been without game fish, or the original native species have died out at some time. Many of these waters will produce fish, and district biologists are making an effort to determine for what species the waters are suitable. Arrangements are then completed for planting the kind of fish recommended.

An example of the application of the results of research to management is afforded by certain efforts to conserve lake trout. Dr. F.E.J. Fry recommended alternate annual closures of selected Algonquin Park Lakes for the management of speckled trout and lake trout. This principle, with some modification, has been applied in Haliburton County, and is recommended for several lakes in Parry Sound District. In Algonquin Park the greatest amount of fishing takes place during the summer months, while in Parry Sound District, and possibly in Haliburton, the heaviest fishing pressure for lake trout occurs in winter. Dr. Fry found in the course of intensive study that few fish smaller than eleven or twelve inches in length were taken on the conventional type of spoon bait used in summer fishing. In winter, trout are taken by stillfishing, using minnows for bait; many of the smaller trout are thus captured. The problem is to find a means of reducing fishing pressure, and if possible, still provide an opportunity for those who enjoy winter fishing, to do so.

A regulation has been passed prohibiting all winter fishing for lake trout in Haliburton County. Recommendations have been made for several lakes near the town of Parry Sound respecting a systematic alternating closure of half the lakes to winter fishing in each year.

The control and management of the commercial fisheries is supervised by the senior conservation officers, with biologists acting in an advisory capacity. Certain problems are being investigated, including a study of the relationship of the commercial fishery to the sports fishery in Long point Bay of Lake Erie and a similar study relating particularly to the yellow pike-perch of Georgian Bay. Cooperation has been tendered to others engaged in research on commercial fishing problems.

In the wildlife field, studies of the pheasant have been conducted in southern Ontario, including banding and distribution of brooder raised birds, statistics of the population and the kill by hunters, and habitat studies. An effort is being made to interest farmers in the wildlife possibilities of their farms. The use of cover and food plants, including multiflora rose is being investigated. Studies of prairie grouse and Hungarian partridge have been conducted.

Most of the work of establishing registered trap-lines for fur-bearing animals has been conducted by senior conservation officers with biologists assisting in some forest districts. Recently, wildlife management officers have been appointed for northern Ontario and it is expected that they will do much toward carrying out the wildlife program, in cooperation with conservation officers and district biologists.

Cooperative surveys of pollution have been undertaken by district biologists, working with the pollution specialist.

With decentralization, applications for hatchery fish are now directed to the District Forester, and the



Figure 2: Tagging Lake Trout for future record purposes. Richard Robinson.

(Continued on page 29)



Figure 3: Overseers on patrol. K. M. Andresen.

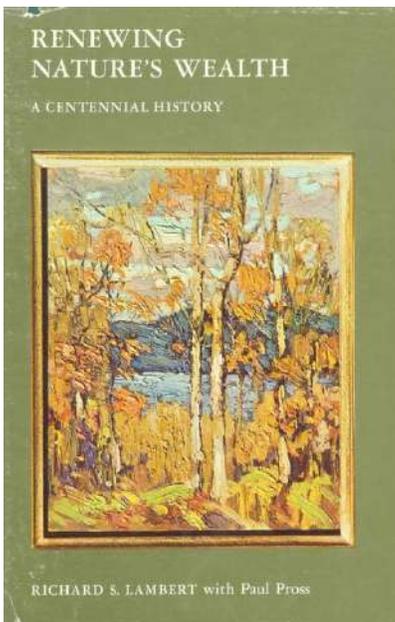
distribution of fish is carried out on the basis of information from biological surveys of waters. The wishes of applicants are met insofar as it is possible in the desired management plan. This, with the closer supervision of hatcheries and hatchery operations within the District, provides increased opportunities for the District Biologist to improve overall fish management within his district.

Many special projects have been undertaken. These include control of the sea lamprey during spawning run, studies of the introduced Kamloops trout, ouananiche, and other species, reestablishment of the Atlantic salmon in Lake Ontario and tributary streams, and others.

An essential and time consuming feature in every district is the administrative and office work. Inquiries from the public must be answered; reports submitted to main office on biological surveys, investigations and special conditions; attention paid to hatchery routine, provision of equipment and organization of a library. In some districts, the backlog of requests for biological surveys is sufficient to occupy the field work season for several years to come. It frequently happens that more data are collected in one summer than it is possible to work over and incorporate into reports with management recommendation during the following winter. As surveys are completed, the carrying out of the recommendation increases the annual routine work of the biologists. The field work is usually performed with a view to setting up a management scheme for a natural geographic unit, as for example, a watershed. Eventually, the whole of each forest district will be managed.

This constitutes a brief outline of some of the steps being taken by the District Biologists to organize fish and wildlife management in their respective districts. It is impossible, however, to distinguish the District work as an entity. The whole program for fish and wildlife in the Province is closely integrated. It is now essential that all citizens realize that they are the owners of the natural resources of Ontario and that it is only with their cooperation that successful management can be achieved.

Renewing Nature's Wealth



(Lambert, Richard S. and Paul Pross. Toronto: The Ontario Department of Lands and Forests. 1967). The book cover describes this book as: “*Renewing Nature's Wealth*, the exciting story of Ontario's natural resources, is described by Premier John Robarts, in his Foreword to the book, as “much more than a history of one of the Departments of the Government of the Province of Ontario: it is a vital component of the history of Ontario”, reaching back nearly 200 years to the days of the first surveyor General of Upper Canada in 1794. The book describes the impact made by a civilized people upon the primitive forest that originally covered the land, and the development of its natural resources under public administration from an early state of confusion and waste down to the modern era of conservation and scientific management.”

We will provide a précis of one chapter of this book in each edition of the journal.

Chapter 17: Politics and Timber 1934 – 1943

During the depression years of the early 1930s many forest related companies were in receivership and many thousands of people, especially in northern Ontario, were out of work. In 1933 the government of the day reversed its anti-export policy for pulpwood, especially through the Lakehead area.

The Liberal Premier, Mitchel Hepburn, who was elected in 1934, along with the man who eventually became minister of the timber file, Peter Heenan, devised a plan to assist companies and the workers who were in dire straits. They agreed to reduce Crown dues and bonuses but only on the condition that companies employ more people in the bush, on the log drive and in mills. An Order in Council was passed to allow these measures.

Workers were on strike across the industry for better wages and living conditions, and in some cases against new technology that was reducing human jobs. The government enacted the *Woodsmens' Employment Act* to obtain improvements in wages in these areas, and companies complied for wood harvested on Crown lands but not on patented lands. In 1937 the government passed the *Settlers' Pulpwood Protection Act* to provide similar benefits for wood cut on private land. This *Act* allowed government to set pulpwood prices and to control the method of measurement of wood harvested.

The *Forest Resources Regulation Act* was passed in 1937 to allow the government to take more control of the industry. This Act allowed the government to re-allocate large tracts of Crown land from one company to another to increase harvesting.

The Liberals thought they would have an easy win during the election of 1937 with all they had done to promote employment but instead they lost five key ridings to the Tories because life was improving and people saw their approach to the forest industry as patronage based, and considered the government poor administrators.

Another issue was that all pulp companies had to sell their product at the same price so if one sold at a lower price it affected all of them. This situation led to the development of the “proration” policy whereby total market tonnage was distributed across companies according to a formula.

(Continued on page 31)

(Continued from page 30)

All of these factors led to increasing dissatisfaction from many quarters with government policies regarding timber disposition and forest management. The Canadian Society of Forest Engineers publicly criticized the government's approach as did J.C.W. Irwin, a non-practicing forester.

In response, Hepburn, in 1936, appointed a powerful Lakehead lumberman, C.W. Cox to his cabinet as Minister Without Portfolio to review Tory timber policies for the period 1923 – 1934. This appointment brought so much criticism related to Cox that the review did not happen.

Even though the Liberals had done a considerable amount during the depression to alleviate unemployment in the timber industry, they failed to communicate appropriately the what and why of their policies. In addition, the timber department had not moved out of the enforcement mode suited to the late 1800s into a broader view of forest management more appropriate for the present. The public and the newly elected head of the Conservative Party, George Drew, believed an investigation into the department was warranted, and in 1939 Drew began to press for this review. Drew thought the government wielded too much power over the timber industry and should not be so involved in the business community.

The Liberal government acceded to a review of the operations of the Timber Department in 1939 as they felt they could justify their actions of the previous decade. Drew's original intent was to focus on the process of improving long term policy development to protect the resource. The committee struck to conduct the investigation concluded that research was a priority as was highly trained staff along with good forestry practices. But the committee failed to investigate the administration's capability to deliver these goals.

J.C.W. Irwin was the only witness to criticize the administrative organization and capabilities. He provided several recommendations for improvements, but he was treated as a crank at the hearings. Eventually though, several of his recommendations were implemented.

The committee produced majority and minority reports, which focused on government policy and not administration. One recommendation was to create a Forestry Commission, an idea that did not come to fruition. Other ideas included a focus on research and sales, along with ways to reduce the cost burden to the companies from electricity and transportation. Export policies were also a point of contention.

Ultimately, although the reports were not strong, they led to changes in leadership. N.O. Hippel, one of Hepburn's strongest ministers, was moved to the Timber portfolio. He was supported by F.A. MacDougall as his Deputy Minister. The next years under their leadership led to many changes in the department.

Forest History Society of Ontario

Membership Form

Thank You For Your Support!

<p>The mission of the Society is: "To further the knowledge, understanding and preservation of Ontario's forest history" and to accomplish this with the following objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> To preserve forest and forest conservation history; To encourage and further the development and recognition of forest history; To support research and studies of forest history; To support the archival preservation of records and materials relating to forest history, and To promote the better understanding of forest history through public education. 		<p>The Society has two ongoing projects, both available on our website:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">www.ontarioforesthistor.ca</p> <p>The first is a catalogue of publications dealing with all aspects of Ontario's forest history. Members can submit contributions on our website.</p> <p>The second is the identification and listing of collections and materials relating to Ontario's forest history. The Society works with established archives such as the Archives of Ontario and several university archives to facilitate the preservation of significant collections.</p> <p>The Society publishes a newsletter, Forestory, twice a year – Spring and Fall - containing informative articles on Ontario forest history.</p>
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You can initiate or renew your membership online by clicking on the link below:

<http://www.ontarioforesthistor.ca/index.php/membership>

Or, by filling out and submitting the form below, with your cheque, to the address listed below:

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Address					
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Phone		Email			

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