

CANADIAN CROWN LAND SUSTAINABLE FORESTRY: A VALUES-BASED APPROACH TO MANAGING RECREATION

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Abstract

Management of non-commodity resource values on Crown Lands has developed through a course of evolution. There is an increased acknowledgement that forest sustainability requires an integrated approach to management. While certain recreation values may be considered on an ad-hoc basis, there is no systematic recreation management framework used on Crown lands. The goal of this project is to develop a comprehensive recreation-planning framework that will evaluate the effects of forest management on recreation values on Crown Lands. The study area includes Quetico Provincial Park and Crown lands east of the park. In developing an appropriate recreation framework, it was realized that traditional planning approaches have sought to reconcile the characteristics of the resource base, with the preferences of recreationists and tourists, environmental imperatives and management judgments. However, it is evident that the political environments in which such decisions are made are not principally about natural resource management but rather are focused on reconciling competing values and meanings of natural places. This paper evaluates existing forest planning frameworks and proposes a hybrid framework that incorporates recreation demand components and values mapping.

QUETICO PROVINCIAL PARK: A CONTENT ANALYSIS OF AMERICAN USE

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Abstract

Quetico Provincial Park is considered to be the flagship park in the Ontario Provincial Park system. It is a world renowned canoeing area located in northwestern Ontario and shares its border with Minnesota's Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Americans have traditionally been the largest group of people using Quetico (about 87%). This study examined 532 users during Summer 2001. A mail-back open-end questionnaire was used. A range of questions relating to perceptions, use, travel patterns, and managerial options were asked. A content analysis showed that Americans have high personal attachment with Quetico, that they would be willing to pay a much higher user fee, and that they find the experience to be of a higher quality than that found in the Boundary Waters. These results have many implications to the management of

Quetico as it re-examines its service mission, product development, and traditional customer base.

HABITAT MODELS FOR WATERBIRDS, WATERFOWL BROODS, AND AVIAN GUILDS IN FRAGMENTED WETLANDS, UPPER THAMES RIVER WATERSHED

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Abstract

We used remotely-sensed data, analyzed within a geo-information system, and log-linear analyses to investigate relationships between waterbirds and wetland area, shoreline length, isolation, and adjacent forest cover and roads in 19 wetlands in the Upper Thames River watershed within and adjacent to London. We identified 43 waterbird and waterfowl brood species using these wetlands between April and August. Waterbirds were grouped into 6 resource-based guilds. Most wetlands in the study area are small (10 wetlands are <2 ha). Three of the 19 wetlands have no adjacent forest and all but one have roads within 250 m of the shoreline. Wetland area, shoreline length, proximity to other wetlands, and adjacent forest cover were included in most of the habitat models. Species richness was higher in larger wetlands, although wetlands <2 ha supported as many as 28 species. Wetland area was the most important predictor variable for waterbirds, waterfowl broods, and divers. Shoreline length predicted species richness in all guilds, but was negatively related to divers. Adjacent forest predicted species richness in waterbirds in general and all guilds but waders and dabblers. Disturbance (roads within 250 m of a wetland) was negatively related to species in only the passerine guild. This research suggests that, in human-dominated landscapes, all wetlands are important to waterbirds and must be protected.

HERITAGE LANDSCAPE GUIDES: A VEHICLE FOR NATURAL AND CULTURAL HERITAGE CONSERVATION, APPRECIATION AND EDUCATION

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Abstract

A Heritage Landscape Guide tells the story of what humans and nature have done with the land. Parts of this story can be found in books and documents, or in the memories of people. Parts of it can be seen in historical maps and