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May 2, 2005

Subject: **Opportunity to provide additional comment on the zoning options for the Preliminary Park Management Plan – Ruby Lake Provincial Park**

In July 2001, the Ministry of Natural Resources, Ontario Parks initiated management planning for Ruby Lake Provincial Park. At that time, the approved Terms of Reference were distributed and the public was invited to identify any issues or concerns to be considered in the planning process. In August 2002, the Background Information, Issues and Options documents were distributed and the public was invited to review and comment on the issues and options as well as to identify any additional issues or concerns. In April 2004, the preliminary park management plan was released for review with a comment period from April 19 until June 2, 2004.

A number of comments about the preliminary plan were received from interested groups and individuals. However, additional concerns and new information were made known to Ontario Parks by local hunters and members of the Nipigon West and Nipigon East Local Citizens Committees, who use Ruby Lake for their hunting activities. Due to this, Ontario Parks is undertaking an additional consultation on a scoped portion of the preliminary management plan concerning zoning for hunting. At this time, you are invited to review and to provide comments on the enclosed package that provides a summary of comments received at each stage of planning, a written description of each of four options for zoning and a map for each zoning option. Comments may be submitted to the address above, from **May 2 until June 16, 2005**.

Notice of the opportunity to review this scoped portion of the preliminary park management plan is also posted electronically on the Environmental Bill of Rights (EBR) registry. A copy of the original preliminary plan and the scoped document are also available in PDF format on the Ontario Parks website at <http://www.ontarioparks.com/>.

Additional opportunity for consultation during this process will include:

- **Release of the Approved Park Management Plan**

The scoped portion of the preliminary park management plan is also available by visiting or contacting:

- Ontario Parks Northwest Zone Office, Suite 221D, 435 James Street South, Thunder Bay (807) 475-1321
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Terrace Bay Area, PO Box 280 Terrace Bay, ON (807) 825-3205
- Ministry of Natural Resources, Nipigon District, 5 Wadsworth, PO Box 970, Nipigon, ON (807) 887-5000
- Natural Resource Information Centre, Rm. M1-73, Macdonald Block, 900 Bay Street, Toronto (416) 314-2000
- Natural Resource Information Centre, 1st Floor, 300 Water Street, Peterborough (705) 755-1662

Ontario Parks maintains a contact list for the plan. Individuals and groups on the list will have subsequent planning information sent to them by mail. If you do **not** wish to receive further information relating to the plan, please advise Ontario Parks by calling 807-475-1321. If you require any additional information, please feel free to contact the Park Superintendent at 807-825-3403 or the Ontario Parks Northwest Zone office at any time.

Yours truly,

Linda Trapp
Superintendent, Ruby Lake Provincial Park
Encl.