

# **Appendix R**

## **Chronology of Pike Lake South Habitat Management Unit**



### Chronology of Establishment of Pike Lake South Habitat Management Unit

- 1997** – Labrador City enacts 10 year Municipal Plan. The municipal plan recognizes value of mining industry to the city and designates a large area as Mining Reserve-Rural (areas that are under various mining leases and exploration permits which are preserved for the long-term development of the mining industry). Mining activities in areas designated as Mining Reserve-Rural are limited to exploration until the completion of environmental assessment. Active mines are designated as Mineral Extraction Areas
- 2001** – IOC stakes a portion of the Iron Formation in the Labrador City Area with the Kamistiatuset (Kami) area being in the southern portion of the company's focus. Kami area recommended as a high priority target
- 2005** – Labrador City and the Province (Department of Environment and Conservation) conclude a Municipal Stewardship Agreement. The Agreement recognizes two main categories of land: Stewardship Zone (municipal wetland areas and associated upland habitat) -- types of permissible developments within Town's discretion; Habitat Management Units – environmentally sensitive areas which are intended to be incorporated into municipal plans and in which only passive recreational uses are permitted. The Agreement commits Town to establishing nine identified Management Units (including Pike Lake South Management Unit) and to include the designated management units as protected areas under any future Municipal Plan. The Agreement does not give legal effect to the proposed Management Units and there are no amendments to the 1997 Municipal Plan incorporating the Management Units.
- 2006** – April 24, Licence 11927M issued to Altius. Licence 11927M (majority of pit) overlaps the area identified as the South Pike Lake Management Unit under the Municipal Stewardship Agreement.
- 2007** – Labrador City develops a new 10 year Municipal Plan and associated Development Regulations to replace the 1997 Municipal Plan. The draft plan continues the designation of Mining Reserve-Rural stating that “because of these valuable mineral reserves the Council's intent is to protect these areas from development that would hinder future developments of these mineral reserves. The development of the iron ore mining in the area is the main economic engine that drives the Town and all its subsidiary businesses. Its future growth and continued operations is the lifeline for the Town.” (s. 3.11).
- Under the Municipal Plan, most of the lands within the Town's municipal planning boundaries are characterized as a Stewardship Zone, excluding existing commercial and industrial developments and existing mining operations. The Plan also establishes the nine Management Units, including the Pike Lake South Management Unit, previously identified in the Municipal Stewardship Agreement. The planning policy associated with the Management Units is stated as follows: “Any applications for development located within a Habitat Management Unit shall be referred to Wildlife Division, Department of Environment and Conservation for review and comments. Council shall take all comments and concerns raised into consideration when considering approving any development within any of the Management Units. Any loss of

habitat within the Management Unit shall be replaced either by improving existing habitat or by constructing new wetland habitat. The location can be within the existing wetland, an adjoining wetland or in another appropriate location within the Town.” (s. 12(B)).

- The Municipal Plan also outlines the process for approval of developments within a Habitat Management Unit as follows:
  - Where a proposed Municipal Plan amendment, regulation or bylaw would affect land within the Management Units, that proposal is to be referred to the Wildlife Division for a 15-day review and comments.
  - Where the proposed development would potentially threaten or negatively impact the habitat of the unit, the proposal is to be referred to the Wildlife Division for a 15-day review and comments. Council shall not approve any development that would result in the net loss of habitat or habitat degradation.
  
- Habitat Management Units are shown on Future Land Use Maps attached to the Draft Plan. As the Plan states, “The boundaries of the land use designations shown on the Future Land Use Maps are general only and, except where they coincide with roads, shorelines, or other prominent physical features, are not intended to define exact limits.” No coordinates are provided setting out the precise boundaries of the Management Units. Pike Lake South Management Unit lies within the larger area designated as Mining Reserve-Rural.
  
- The Draft Plan is submitted to the Minister of Municipal Affairs for review under section 15 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000*. Purpose of review is to “determine provincial and other government agency interests” and to “consult with [provincial] departments and agencies with respect to the plan”.
  
- The Minister advises Town in July that no changes to the Draft Plan are proposed and that the Draft Plan can be submitted to a public hearing (Town Council minutes, July 17, 2007). No evidence that existing mineral licences were identified by DNR as potentially in conflict with the Draft Plan.
  
- September 20, Commissioner holds one day public hearing on plan. No submissions from Altius Resources Inc. or any other mining company.
  
- October 18, Plan and Development Regulations approved by Town Council.
  
- December – The Draft Plan and draft Development Regulations and Commissioner’s report are submitted to Minister of Municipal Affairs for final review under section 24 of the *Urban and Rural Planning Act, 2000* to determine if the Plan or regulations are “contrary to law or a policy of the government of the province”. The Draft Plan is approved by Minister and registered December 19.
  
- December 28 – The Municipal Plan and Development Regulations are published in the Gazette and come into effect. Plan to be reviewed after 5 years.

**2007** – October 15, Licence 13935M (potential partial overlap with Project) issued to Altius.

**2010** – September 30 -- Town, with the assistance of Department of Environment and Conservation, develops a Habitat Conservation Plan. The Plan is to be used as a guide to govern activities within the Stewardship Zone and the Habitat Management Units designated under the 2007 Municipal Plan. The Plan specifically states that “Mineral exploration and development, led by Wabush Mines and the Iron Ore Company of Canada is essential to the region’s viability. The Stewardship Zone and Management Units within Labrador City were designated to try to avoid important areas for mineral exploration as to avoid future conflicts”.

**2010** – December 8 – Altius licences, including 11927M and 13935M previously grouped as 05037M, transferred to Alderon as 15980M.