

Clarifying BMFC's Position on the Milburn Kendrick Conservation Reserve (MKCR) Background Information for MDFS Shareholders & Logging Contractors

There has been significant public discussion—and in some cases, misinformation—regarding the **Milburn Kendrick Conservation Reserve (MKCR)** proposal. Some individuals have expressed concern that the entire **Highlands Corridor** (which spans over 100,000 hectares) will be turned into a conservation reserve, resulting in widespread restrictions on forestry and recreational activities. **This is NOT the case.**

Key Facts About the MKCR Proposal:

- ✓ **The MKCR is only a small portion of the Highlands Corridor**—It covers approximately **8,552 hectares**, which is less than 10% of the full corridor.
- ✓ **BMFC Shareholders will NOT lose significant harvest area**—The proposed conservation area is low productivity forest, with rocky terrain, significant wetlands, and minimal timber value. It has never been part of an active harvest area, and no silvicultural investments have been made there.
- ✓ **The MKCR was selected carefully**—BMFC worked with the Haliburton Highlands Land Trust (HHLT) and the Schad Foundation to ensure this proposal would not displace future forestry operations or reduce wood supply for Shareholders.
- ✓ **Recreation and Off-Road Activities are NOT Being Stopped**—Similar conservation reserves and protected areas in Ontario allow hunting, ATV use, snowmobiling, and other recreational activities. The intent of this designation is to protect the ecological integrity of the land, not restrict responsible recreation.

BMFC's Position & Why We Support This

BMFC's support for the MKCR is based on the following:

- **Strategic Land Use**—This area is not a key contributor to our forestry operations and represents an appropriate site to contribute to the FSC Conservation Area Network.
- **Proactive Decision-Making**—Ontario's government is expanding conservation reserves, and we prefer to work collaboratively rather than risk losing more productive forestry lands without our input.
- **Economic Considerations Addressed**—BMFC worked with HHLT and the Schad Foundation to ensure that the economic impact of removing this Crown land from production was mitigated. We received financial and in-kind support to assist with our FSC certification, conservation planning, and public engagement.
- **Balanced Approach**—BMFC remains committed to responsible forestry and conservation—this decision allows us to maintain that balance while ensuring our industry remains strong.

What This Means for MDFS Loggers & Contractors

If you hear concerns that "**they are taking away all the land**" or "**they are stopping forestry and off-road recreation**", here's what you can say:

- ☑ "**This is NOT about stopping forestry**—BMFC made sure this land had no future timber value before supporting the proposal."
- ☑ "**This does NOT mean all the Highlands Corridor is being protected**—only a small portion (8,552 hectares)."
- ☑ "**Off-road activities like hunting, ATVs, and snowmobiling are NOT being banned**—Ontario has many conservation reserves

that allow these activities."

"BMFC made sure that this wouldn't negatively impact our logging operations before giving support."

Conclusion

We understand that change can create concern, but BMFC has taken a careful and strategic approach to this proposal to ensure it does not negatively impact our Shareholders or the forestry industry. If you have any questions or concerns, please speak to BMFC directly rather than relying on social media speculation.

We encourage everyone to **share these facts** and follow up with us directly if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



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