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In The News



New Endangered Species Act Undermined by Proposed Exemptions

On May 15, 2008 the Ontario government posted a long list of exemptions to the province's Endangered Species Act (ESA). These exemptions are open to public

comment until **June 16, 2008**.

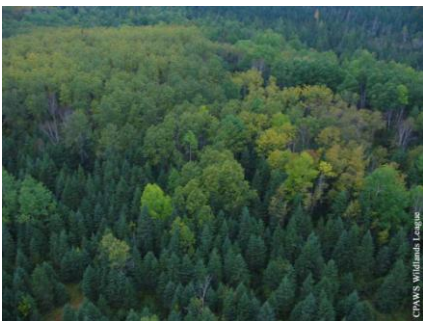
Widely hailed as the best piece of endangered species legislation in the country, this is the first endangered species legislation in Canada to combine science-based listing of endangered species with mandatory habitat protection and mandatory recovery planning. In addition, it also provides flexibility mechanisms (permits, agreements and other instruments) to encourage stewardship and accommodate certain land uses that do not jeopardize the survival or recovery of endangered species. However, the implementation of the Act is now being undermined through the misuse of those same permits and agreements.

The exemptions include:

- Hydro-electric generating stations
- Pits and Quarries
- Development and Infrastructure
- Forest Operations in Crown forests

[Read our comments on these exemptions...](#)

[Send in your own comment \(via EBR\)...](#)



Harvesting in Caribou Habitat - the Ogoki Forest

CPAWS Wildlands League requested that a Part II Order under the Environmental Assessment Act be issued for all of the

projects and activities associated with the Ogoki Forest Management Plan, 2008-2018, currently exempted from an environmental assessment.

The conversion of a natural forest into a managed forest should not be made lightly because the impacts extend significantly beyond the immediate footprint. Converting the forest is a threat to woodland caribou, a threatened species, and a significant conversion of terrestrial carbon.

In addition, it is a serious concern that the company designated to manage the Ogoki forest is receiving a government roads subsidy to build new roads at the expense of a threatened species.

To aggressively fragment wilderness forests in this matter, during a period where pressure on timber supply is at a significant low, calls into question the oversight of the plan

[Read our bump up request here...](#)



Mercury Review Denied.

MNR and MNDM deny CPAWS Wildlands League's Request for Review on Mercury in the Boreal.

Read [our letter](#) requesting the review...

Read the [MNR response](#)...



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Read the [MNDM response...](#)

Did You Know?



That logging in Ontario's Boreal Forest has changed the forest from one dominated by coniferous trees to one dominated by deciduous trees?