

From: Future Forest Alliance of New Brunswick
May 31, 1999

This is a **request for help**, be it in the form of advice, a letter, political pressure, support, whatever..

Two years ago the New Brunswick Government committed to a **Protected Areas Strategy**. They hired Dr. Louis LaPierre, a scientist from UNB to identify areas in NB that would represent the ecoregions of the province. He identified 12 candidate areas, while stating that seven are needed to represent the seven ecoregions. Of these seven, two areas are covered by Kougibouac and Fundy National Parks, a third is represented by the only significant provincial park, Mount Carleton. (approx 25,000 ha)

This leaves the creation of only four new parks.

TO DATE NEW BRUNSWICK HAS PROTECTED ONLY 1.4 PERCENT OF ITS LAND AREA

If all 12 areas were protected this would increase to 3.3 percent.

The report of these proposed areas was tabled at the Department of Natural Resources and Energy (DNRE) last year. The crisis came when DNRE allowed logging to proceed in these proposed areas this summer and we are certain that they are logging in many of the areas right now. (A pilot has flown some enviros over them). Nearly every other jurisdiction immediately assigns interim protection to areas that are being proposed for parks. It just does not make sense to destroy the areas that you are going to make into parks. These are literally the last wilderness areas in NB. For anyone who does not believe this, I have over two hours of film footage that will blow their mind- it is patchwork from the clearcuts.

The scenario is that right now nothing is happening. They are logging in the areas and the final report will not come out until September.

***** In essence , the issue is that DNRE is allowing logging in their own protected areas strategy*****

To date internal pressure does not seem to have been overly effective in NB. Does anyone have any ideas on how to create federal of inter-

provincial pressure on this one? or any other ideas? boycotts,? Any suggestions or help will be very welcome!

Resources:

- a pilot, plane and free gas
- Roberta, WWF endangered spaces NB(full time)
- wide spread public support-(around 85 percent in last poll for protection of these areas)
- a professional flim maker
- it is election time in NB

Hinderances:

- Minster of DNRE- in pockets of companies and old- school
- forest companies- Irving, Repap, etc

On things that is helpful is if you contact Premier Camille Theriault is very effective:

Address: PO Box 6000
Fredricton, NB
Phone: 506 453 2144
Fax: 506 453 7407

Thanks for your help,

Future Forest Alliance