

FIELD REPORT

Property name: **Kabnung Lakes and Forests**

Location: Northern Ontario, 25 km northwest of Wawa in Knicely Township

Habitat type: Boreal forest, lakes and wetlands

Size: 8,142 hectares

Observations:

Kabnung Lakes and Forests is strategically positioned to protect ecological corridors in northwestern Ontario. Located kitty-corner to Obatanga Provincial Park, 32 km from Pukaskwa National Park and 27 km from Lake Superior's shoreline, this property contributes to a vital network of existing protected areas.

Includes more than 1,700 hectares of pristine lakes, including West Kabnung Lake and the ecologically unique Star Island, which features an elevated spring-fed lake atop a bluff.

* Large tracts of undisturbed forest are essential for wide-ranging mammals that require vast territories for calving, foraging and predator avoidance.

Observed species:

* Species at RISK in this area:

- Olive-sided flycatcher
- Rusty blackbird
- Canada warbler
- Wood thrush

Wide-ranging mammals documented on the property:

- American black bear
- Gray wolf
- Moose
- Canada Lynx

Other documented species:

- Sundews
- Orchids

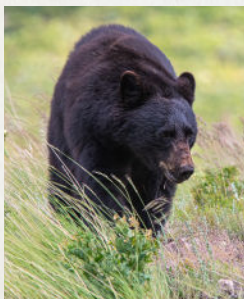
Preliminary findings are as follows

- The property has been gated to public access and privately held for a long time, resulting in limited baseline data.
- Field observations confirm bear and moose activity throughout the property.
- During recent site visits, carnivorous sundews and orchids were discovered on the property, indicating diverse wetland and forest habitats.

Conservation action recommendations are as follows:

- Complete baseline inventory to record all species, habitat types and ecological features across the property.
- Develop site-level plan to guide urgent stewardship actions and future management decisions.
- Remove old infrastructure where present on the property.

Images:



Black bear (Photo: Leta Pezderic)



Sundew (Photo: NCC-CNC)



Olive-sided flycatcher (Photo: Getty Images)

- • Plant trees in areas where restoration is appropriate.
- Monitor for invasive species and address any populations discovered.

IMPORTANT: Conservation leaders are needed to support evaluation and ongoing care.

Reported by:

Kaitlin Richardson, Northern Ontario Program Director

Print name

Kaitlin Richardson

Signature

October 1, 2025

Date

FIELD REPORT

Property name: **Taiga Forests and Peatlands**

Location: Northern Ontario, south of Kapuskasing

Habitat type: Boreal forest, lakes, wetlands and peatlands

Size: 81,475 hectares

Observations:

Property is near NCC's Boreal Wildlands. Securing this property would increase connectivity and add more than 50% to NCC's existing protected land in the boreal forest region of Ontario.

The forests, wetlands and peatlands are essential to storing carbon and slowing the rate of climate change.

Includes nearly 43,000 hectares of wetlands, of which 38% are peatlands.

Observed species:

Wide-ranging mammals that will use this habitat:

- American black bear
- Gray wolf
- Moose
- Canada lynx

Important! The boreal forest is Ontario's songbird nursery, providing critical breeding habitat for countless migratory bird species.

***** Note on caribou: Caribou haven't been seen in this area since the 1940s. However, as climate change intensifies and development increases, they may need habitat refuges like this property in the future.

Preliminary findings are as follows

- The size of this property makes it uniquely significant. Conservation at this scale is → essential for wide-ranging animals who need large tracts of intact habitat.
- The property contains primary forest that has never been logged according to known records.
- The property follows a river on one side. The fact that there aren't any roads bisecting it is beneficial for wildlife.

Conservation action recommendations are as follows:

- Develop site-level stewardship plan to guide management decisions and identify priority actions.
- Remove old infrastructure, culverts or dilapidated buildings if present on the property.
- Consider tree planting, aerial seeding or succession planting in areas where appropriate.
- Conduct species at risk monitoring and management.
- Coordinate management with the existing Boreal Wildlands properties to create unified landscape-level approach.

Images:



Canada lynx (Photo: Ken Canning)



American pipit (Photo: Gen Pintel)



Moose (Photo: Sean Feagan/NCC-CNC)

***** Donor support required to complete purchase of property and safeguard wildlife habitats.

Reported by:

Kaitlin Richardson, Northern Ontario Program Director

Print name

Kaitlin Richardson

Signature

September 23, 2025

Date