Appendix E

First Nations Consultation Record

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The Wahta Mohawk Territory is located within the lower portion of the Muskoka River system, with lands encompassing both the Moon River and Musquash River outlets to Georgian Bay (see Figure 4.1 of Final Plan Report). The community recently completed a land claim settlement (February 2005) with the Ontario government, and was provided an additional 3300 ha as part of that settlement (see Attachment E1). The First nation now has a land area of approximately 9300 ha, and a population of about 650.

Three primary consultation opportunities were undertaken with the Wahta Mohawks being:

1. Meeting and discussion with Chief Blaine Commandant and his administrative assistant on August 30, 2002 to identify issues and concerns related to the current operation of the Muskoka River system. Minutes of the meeting are contained in Attachment E2.

2. Inclusion of Chief Commandant as a member of the Steering Committee for the plan. Draft and final reports (Options Report, Draft Plan Report, Final Plan Report) were provided to Chief Commandant for review and comment as they were completed. Chief Commandant will continue as a Steering Committee member during the implementation of the plan.

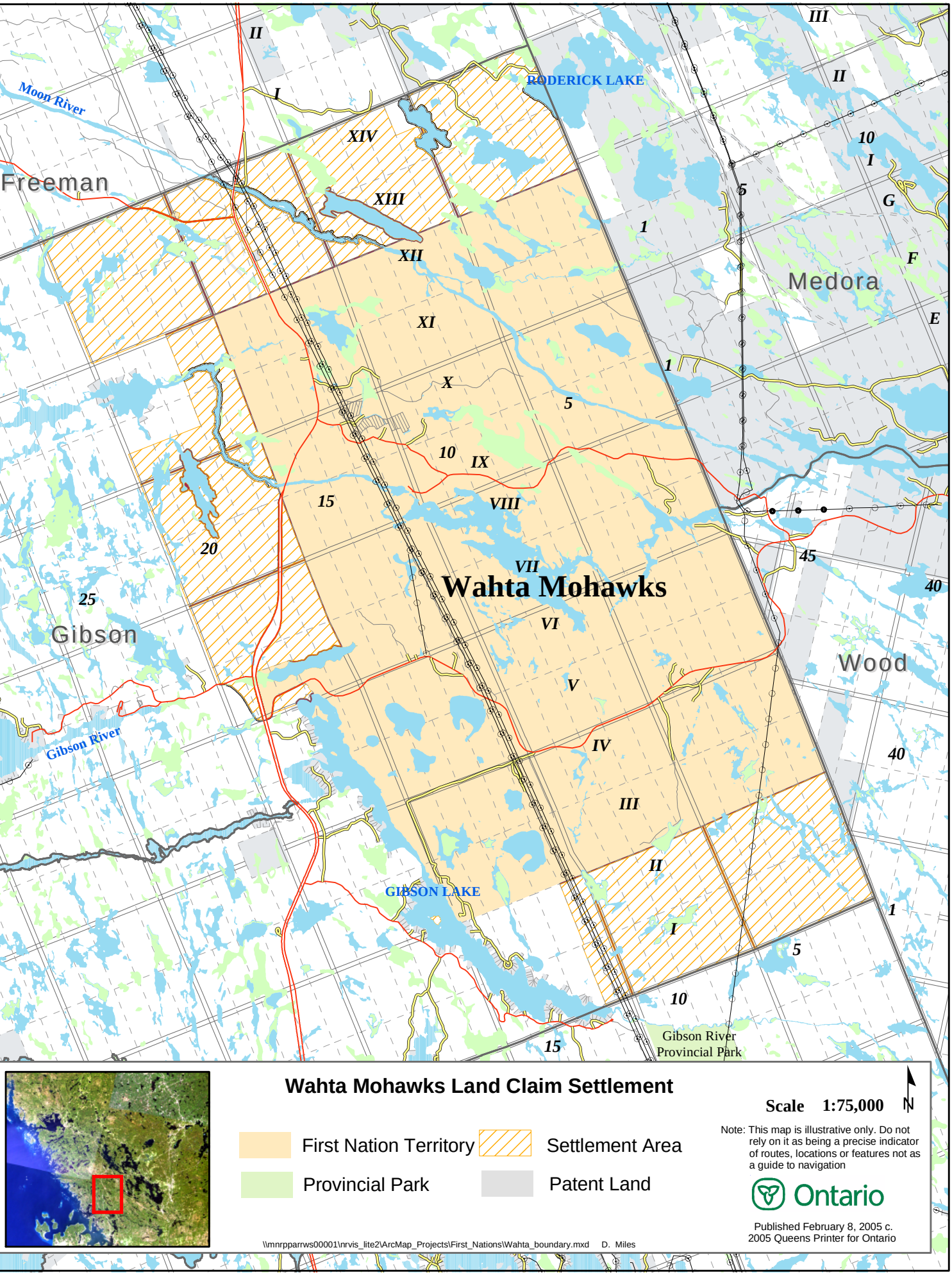
3. An Open House at the community on November 30, 2005 to present proposed operating plans and strategies proposed within the Draft Plan report. Presentation material prepared for the public open houses of October, 2004 was utilized, and copies of the Draft Plan were provided for review. The following Planning Team and Steering Committee members attended as resource personnel:

   - Bob McEwen, OPG, Planning Team
   - John Mattinson, Orillia Power, Steering Committee
   - Bob Liscombe, Orillia Power, Planning Team
   - Kim Benner, MNR, Planning Team
   - Dwayne Pamajewon, MNR, First Nation Liaison Officer.

   With the exception of Chief Commandant, no community members attended the open house.

Attachment E1

Land Claim Settlement Map



Wahta Mohawks Land Claim Settlement

First Nation Territory

Settlement Area

Provincial Park

Patent Land

Scale 1:75,000

N

Note: This map is illustrative only. Do not rely on it as being a precise indicator of routes, locations or features not as a guide to navigation

Ontario

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Attachment E2

Minutes of Meeting
August 30, 2002

August 30, 2002

Meeting to discuss Consultation for the Muskoka River Water Management Planning Project

In Attendance: Chief Blaine Commandant
Linda Commandant, Administrator
Chip Duncan, MNR
Larry King, Acres & Assoc. Environmental Ltd.
Kim Benner, MNR

Discussion:

- Introductions
- Overview of Background Information Collection Project for the MR WMP by Larry King
- Chief – primarily concerned with environmental issues i.e.stagnation in the summer on the Moon River and the summer freshet – ill-timed, occurring during walleye spawning; also concerned with health and safety issues related to the hydrogeneration facility operation of the Ragged Rapids and Big Chute plants
- Computer model discussion – baseline model to show existing operation of the system
- Discussed the planning process and implementation
- Chief Commandant advised that Community was very sensitive to the possible politics in this project based on past involvement with the Georgian Bay Cottager's Association
- Concerned that the interests of the cottage associations will become a priority in this project, rather than environmental issues
- Very concerned with the ecosystem of Georgian Bay – food/chemicals and acidity
- Wahta would like to see maintenance of a minimal level in the Moon River
- Discussed headpond and heavy metal contamination potential associated with hydro production in general
- Chief very concerned about the environment and considers recreational values of a lower priority
- Chief advised that most lakes in the area have no recreational powerboat operation on them
- Discussed Waterpower Company participation in the process; MNR's authority to issue Orders to prepared plans
- Discussed the financial implications if the Companies operate outside of the operational plans set in the new Water Management Plan; monitoring; self-policing, etc.
- Chief Commandant would like MNR to plan an Open House in the Community and also present to Council; Wahta will let MNR know of a suitable date after the cranberry harvest
- Chief Commandant or his designate would sit on the Steering Committee, once formed
- MNR advised that they will send minutes of project meetings and a project information binder to Matthew Commandant who would participate on the Planning Team
- Chip Duncan, MNR, should continue to be the primary MNR contact with the Chief and Community