

French River Wilderness Area



County

Victoria

Size

17,094 ha

Classification

Wilderness Area

Status

Expansion

Conditions Apply?

Yes.

Overview

Large undisturbed tract of forest, wetlands, and highland rivers adjacent to French River Wilderness Area

Ecological Values

Together with existing protected areas, encompasses an undisturbed wilderness of nearly 30,000 ha

Representative productive forest in the Cape Breton Boreal Plateau Natural Landscape

Includes much of Barrachois River and upper reaches of Indian Brook, two important rivers for Atlantic salmon

At least 6 species of rare arctic/alpine plants

Within American Marten Habitat Management Area

Within breeding range of provincially endangered lynx

Outdoor Recreation Values

Opportunity for multiday backcountry hiking in a large rugged wilderness

Hunting, fishing and trapping

Hiking trails to Big Lake

Forest Values

Contains extensive tracts of hardwood, mixedwood, and softwood forest of varying age

Rugged terrain and remoteness limit forestry potential in parts of this area

Several stands in southern end of area currently unavailable for forestry due to DNR old forest policy

Other Resource Values

Medium mineral potential

Low petroleum potential

High wind potential

Conditions

Legal protection of portion (686 ha) subject to addressing mineral rights.

Legal protection of portion (228 ha) pending review of siting options for potential wind energy project.

Exclusions and Vehicle Access

Highland road/OHV route 814 from Oregon excluded

Additional Comments



