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#### Proposed Protected Area Expansion of the Maganasipi Watershed

By the Algonquin Nation of Wolf Lake January 17, 2013

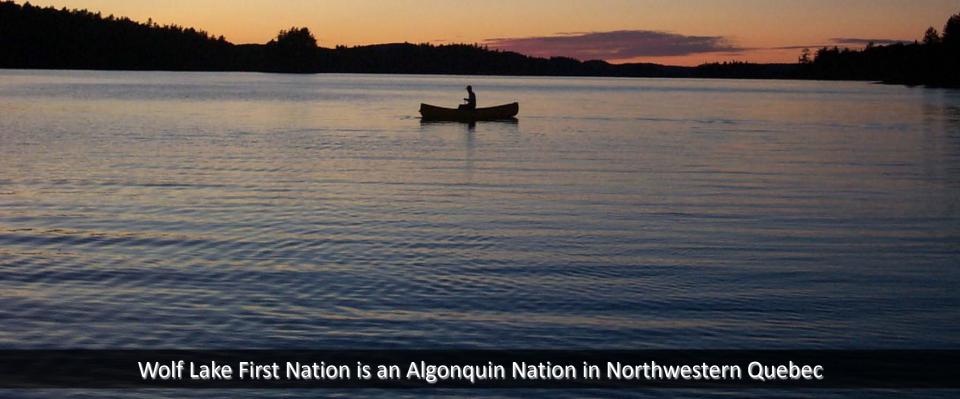
#### **Background**

Wolf Lake members have close ties to the forest and waterways

We see ourselves as part of the whole ecosystem

The forest and waterways are part of Algonquin spiritual and cultural traditions.

This is our history and our future.



#### Mahingan Sagaigan / Wolf Lake

- We assert Aboriginal Rights and Title to our traditional territory
- We are here today to coordinate our efforts with yours in dedicated protected areas that effect our traditional territory including expansion of protection for the Maganasipi watershed.



#### WLFN Community Conservation Initiatives



- Our efforts are in response to our cultural ties to the environment and the scarcity of natural forests on our territory.
- It is about cultural and ecological protection and restoration
- Its about supporting our tourism and green economy projects

# Why have we been Protecting the Maganasipi?

Because we have legal rights

Because it is one of the highest concentrations of old growth forest we have left on our traditional territory

Because it is of historical, cultural, and ecological significance for Algonquins and non-Algonquins alike





## Maigan-Sibi / Wolf River

The river watershed is home to a resident wolf population and it is our interest to study and protect them and their habitat

#### Our Interests

- Are not self-serving
- We have historical and cultural knowledge of the forest which benefit other users
- We are here today to maintain our rights and interests as stewards of the forest





For over 7000 years the forest has provided the Algonquin people their livelihood - food, energy and materials, landscapes, spiritual grounds, economic trade and peace. We have a high investment in our forests and how they continue to support our people.

#### Governance

- We are concerned about the government's processes regarding the establishment of protected areas and the government of Quebec's recognition our Aboriginal Rights and Title
- We hope this meeting today will initiate discussions between us on a co-operative/collaborative co-management agreement between the Wolf Lake First Nation and the government of Quebec
- We want to be part of the planning and problem solving process involved in the determination of the protected area boundaries
- We acknowledge the government of Quebec's intent in the Natural Heritage Act to include us as planning partners, but we have yet to receive that formal invitation.

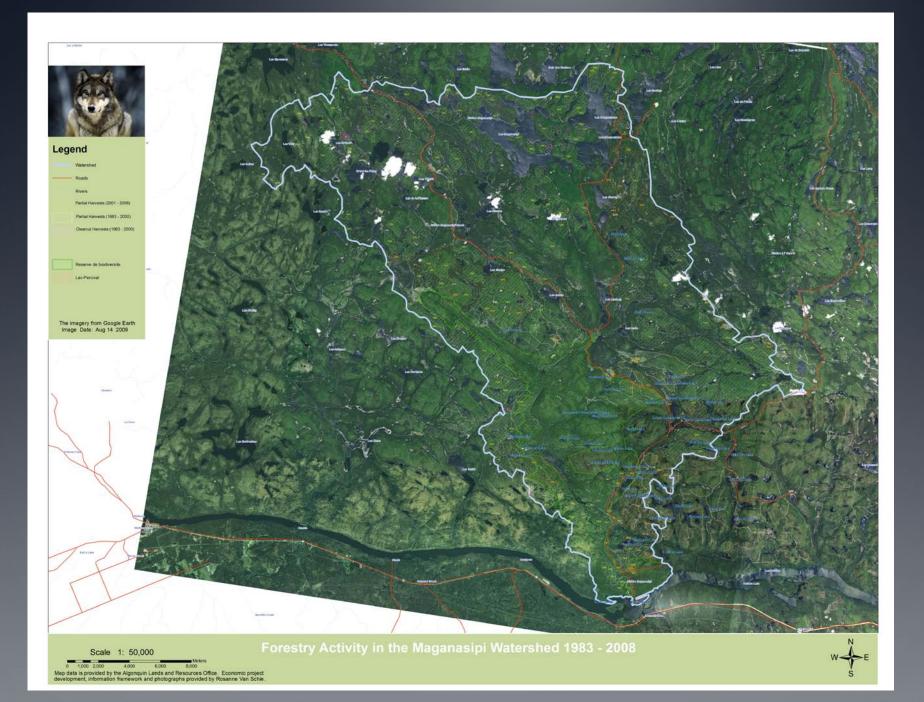
### Our Relationship

- I hope the slides helped explain our relationship between our culture and the forest
- This relationship must be formalized through an agreement between the government of Quebec and the Wolf Lake First Nation
- In this process we share a similar understanding that humans have the capacity to effect and be effected by the natural environment

### Our Proposed Boundaries

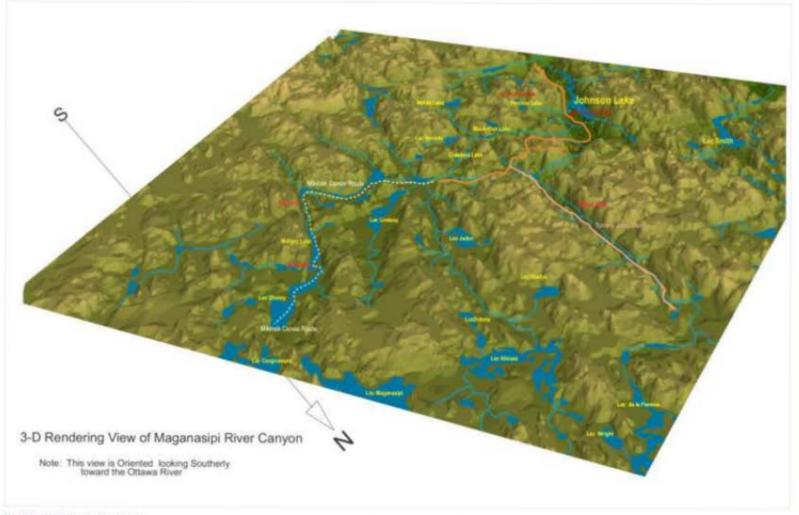
- Adapted from our original submission of the whole watershed as they are subject to other interests
- Forward looking boundaries and we would like to be part
  of the decision making process in the determination of the
  final boundaries- we believe there are benefits that we can
  bring to your decision management frameworksimproving cost benefit scenarios for everyone and the
  environment
- Partnerships- CEESP committee with IUCN- Universitiesecologic services project with Tembec Inc- International conservation funding organizations

# Legend 16 15 Map data is provided by the Algoriquin Lands and Resources Office. Economic project information framework and photographs provided by Rosanne Van Schie. Mapping by MITIG. Forestry Services Ltd. Dec 15: 2012.





#### Maganasipi River Canyon Topography



Mapping by MITIG Forestry Services Ltd.

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#### Meegwetch- Thank you- Merci

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