



Brief to the BAPE regarding the Establishment of an Aquatic Reserve about the Dumoine River

This brief is submitted to the BAPE to present the views and concerns of the Dumoine River Rod and Gun Club with respect to the proposal to establish an aquatic reserve about the Dumoine River. The protection of this wonderful environment is a central theme of the Club and thus we strongly support this move to ensure the long-term sustainability of the region. As a club that has its main facilities within the borders of the proposed zone, and whose members have several leases within the region, we had concerns about how the proposed new regulations will impact on our activities. These have been addressed by the public hearing and by the newer documentation. We are left with just one request, which is that the role the clubs have played in the past and the roles they play currently and in the future, be included in the documentation.

The Dumoine River Rod and Gun Club was established in 1918 and is incorporated in the Province of Quebec. It has about 40-50 members with roughly equal participation from Canada and the US. It is open to all who support the objectives of the club as identified below. Its main facilities include a Lodge and several barns, workshops and cabins near the Sheerway Bridge. In addition, it owns cabins on 5 leases distributed on both sides of the Dumoine and south of the main campus. Its members hold several other leases in the area individually. The club lodge was the original hotel and farm-house supporting early logging in the area and an important part of the heritage of the region.

Article 2 of our constitution reads as follows:

The principal objective of the Club shall be to maintain buildings and facilities for the purpose of providing hunting, fishing, rest and recreation for its members; and, to promote and maintain the integrity of the environment and the fish and game laws that protect the environment.

It is seen that the objectives of the club align well with those of the proposed aquatic reserve.

In the early days of the club, it held the fishing and hunting lease for a large section of the Dumoine watershed south of the Sheerway Bridge. The club played an important role in the development of recreational use of the area and its members were early paddlers on the river. The role of the club changed with the formation of the ZECs but our club has remained very active in the responsible recreational use of the area. In addition to fishing and hunting by the members, including the stocking of many of the lakes, we are actively involved in hiking, photography, and wildlife observation. We have maintained a camp-site and shelter for canoeists for many years.

We feel there is an important role for the club in the future. It offers a unique type of access to the wilderness which complements the access offered by resorts or by private leases, for all those who support its objectives and who want a sense of ownership and commitment to the area.

Therefore we hope that in the final documentation, mention could be made of the role of the clubs in the discussion of the past land use, and that the clubs might be mentioned along with the private leases and resorts in the discussion of the on-going activities in this area.

In closing I wish to re-iterate the very strong support of the club and its members in for the establishment of this aquatic reserve.

Submitted on behalf of the Dumoine River Rod and Gun Club by
David Sinclair
Secretary

251 Clemow Ave,
Ottawa ON K1S 2B5
sinclair@physics.carleton.ca