



Aerial Chemical Spraying

I hope that you are all enjoying a wonderful summer.

Unfortunately, with summer, we receive notices of Aerial Chemical Spraying on n'Daki Menan. Ministry of Northern Development, Mines, Natural Resources and Forestry (MNDMNRF) is either site preparing an area before they plant and/or spraying a plantation to kill off herbaceous competing plants.

Many who have attended Forestry Information Sessions have had the heads up on the number of hectares to be sprayed in each of the Forest Management Units, which include Sudbury, Nipissing, Temagami and Timiskaming.

For years, we have written the MNDMNRF and they have always responded the same :

“that the herbicides used in Ontario are regulated for safety and use by Health Canada, and the MNR plans for the use of herbicides through preparation and approval of Aerial Spray Plans. The MNR approves the use of herbicides for silvicultural purposes such as site preparation and the tending of harvested area.”

In the early 90s, through the work undertaken through the Bilateral Process by the Negotiations Unit at Camp Manitou, Teme-Augama Anishnabai were successful in imposing a moratorium for 2 years on the use of chemical spraying on n'Daki Menan. At the time, we had concerted efforts by our staff and OMNRF at the time to look at a Vegetation Management Alternative Program (VMAP) for n'Daki Menan. In fact, we had Vegetation Management Key Working Group Sessions for n'Daki Menan in 1993 and a manual was produced.

As both Michael Paul and Robin Koistinen sit on the Forest Management Planning Teams, they have continued to advocate for no herbicides on n'Daki Menan. Many of our members who have been present at Community Meetings and Teme-Augama Anishnabai Assemblies also know that we have passed resolutions in the past that forbid the use of Herbicide Spraying on n'Daki Menan.



We, at the Lands & Resources Department, have at community meetings, stated that we have exhausted all of the bureaucratic and political processes.

The Community was advised that Herbicide Applications cannot happen if there are people in the blocks during planned sprayed activities. These days are scheduled during the month of August to take advantage of calm days with little wind, so that chemicals can be applied aerielly with maximum effect.

It is understood by NMDMNRf that all First Nations along the North Shore, Temagami and Timiskaming, where there are active indigenous communities, chemical spraying is not supported or condoned by our People and our Nations.

There is a Traditional Ecological Knowledge (TEK) Elders Group from Garden River and Sagamok who have also been advocating for no chemical spraying.

If you do not want chemicals to be aerielly applied on n'Daki Menan, you can make camps or be in the blocks on days where chemicals can be applied.

This year, as we did last year, we have posted information at the Store, the Clinic, the Elders' Building and at the Lake View Gathering Place to show locations where chemicals will be applied on n'Daki Menan.

It really is now up to the Community on how it wants to prevent chemical spraying. You can prevent this if you are in the blocks on the days they can spray.

Please find below the contacts for each Forestry unit listed below, for further inquiries;

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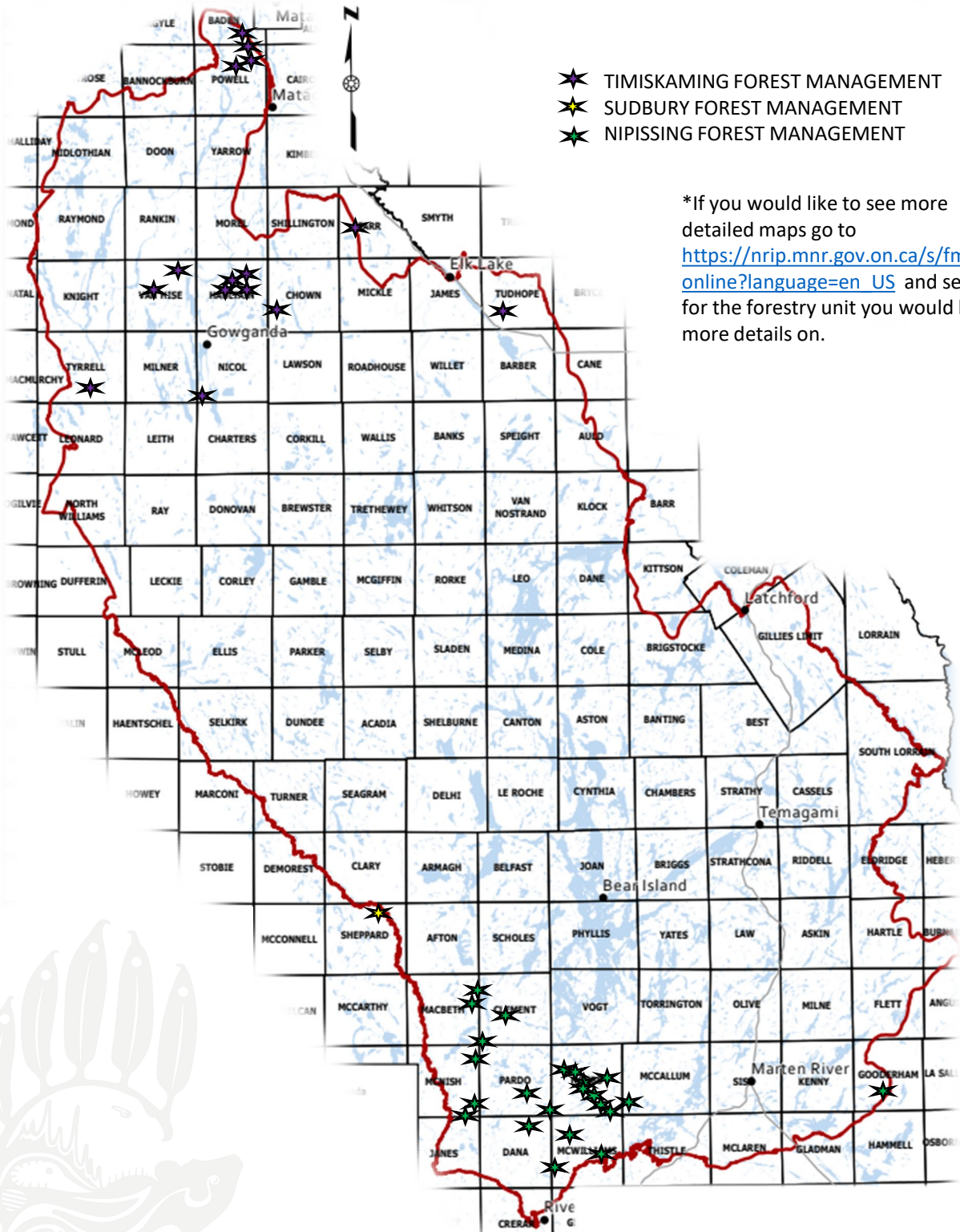


TEMAGAMI FIRST NATION

AERIAL SPRAY on DAKI MENAN SUMMER 2021

- ★ TIMISKAMING FOREST MANAGEMENT
- ★ SUDBURY FOREST MANAGEMENT
- ★ NIPISSING FOREST MANAGEMENT

*If you would like to see more detailed maps go to https://nrp.mnr.gov.on.ca/s/fmp-online?language=en_US and search for the forestry unit you would like more details on.



Lands and Resources

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