

Fairness for Clear Lake

Positions and Priorities for Park Management and Watercraft Management

January 2026

Fairness for Clear Lake (FFCL) is committed to working collaboratively with Parks Canada and stakeholders in Riding Mountain National Park (RMNP). As RMNP designs a new management plan and approaches a decision on watercraft management for the 2026 season, FFCL would like to make clear the group's positions and priorities to inform Parks Canada's planning.

FFCL recognizes that stewardship or economic agreements and watercraft management decisions are distinct processes. While both are important to the future of Clear Lake, they should proceed in parallel and independently.

Park Management & Collaboration

- FFCL supports the idea of an interim agreement between Parks Canada and Keeseekoowenin Ojibway First Nation (KOFN), which may lay out:
 - A framework for collaboration and shared priorities over the next 24 months;
 - A plan for environmental co-stewardship of Clear Lake by Parks Canada and KOFN;
 - A plan for economic opportunities for KOFN within RMNP.

While we recognize that the details of such an agreement would be a matter between Parks Canada and KOFN, FFCL would be pleased to provide public support and to collaborate with Parks Canada and KOFN on shared priorities throughout the design and implementation of the agreement.

- FFCL supports the adoption of a Terms of Reference, recognized in the new RMNP management plan, which formalizes the relationship between Parks Canada and leaders and stakeholders within the Wasagaming community, and which facilitates consultations and collaboration on the future management of RMNP.

Watercraft Management

- FFCL supports a One Boat One Lake policy as part of a managed-access compromise, enabled and supported by targeted management tools.
 - For example, FFCL supports the implementation of a cost-effective and convenient system or technology to track watercraft and monitor any related fees. A successful system should support the reduction of boat congestion in the cove, while also helping to prevent the spread of AIS.

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- FFCL supports a shared-use approach, which may include moderate, reasonable and targeted restrictions on motorized watercraft to facilitate non-boating activities and support environmental protection, while also enabling motorized boat access and activities.
 - FFCL does not support restrictions on boat size, boat type or motor size.
 - To facilitate shared-use, FFCL supports the idea of designated zones based on water activities, and the possibility of moderate, targeted restrictions during certain times of the day, week, or year.
 - FFCL asserts that community stakeholders must be included as active and collaborative participants in consultations on the design and implementation of a detailed plan for specific restrictions and methods of education and enforcement.
- FFCL supports the idea of a reasonable fee structure for all watercraft launching on Clear Lake.
- FFCL supports the marina's operation, including watercraft rentals, mooring and the operation of the Martese with full lake access.