

3.2 First Nation Community Profiles

First Nations

Within the water management planning area of the Montreal River there are four First Nation Communities. They are as follows: Temagami First Nation, Matachewan First Nation, Mattagami First Nation and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai community. Of these communities the following three are currently participating in the water management planning process: Temagami First Nation, Matachewan First Nation and Teme-Augama Anishnabai. Mattagami First Nation has chosen to remain informed of the water management process but not take an active role at this time. Information on water management planning will be shared with the Temiskaming First Nation (in the province of Quebec) who has expressed interest in the water management plans. In addition, a representative of the Wabun Tribal Council, a First Nations political body is also participating in the planning process.

Temagami First Nation (TFN) submitted a report on the Montreal and Matabitchuan Water Management Plans. This report consists of a compilation of concerns and issues raised by the TFN citizens both from a historical and present day perspective (see Appendix M).

Teme-Augama Anishnabai

The Teme–Augama Anishnabai are known as the Deep Water People of the Algonquin and Ojibway Nations. The Temagami First Nation (TFN) represents the First Nation Registered (status) Band population and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai (TAA) represents all Temagami aboriginals with ties to the traditional lands (Daki Menan). Both the Temagami First Nation and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai have elected Chiefs and Councils. The Bear Island Reserve is within the boundaries of the territory described by the Robinson-Huron Treaty of 1850. The community does not have affiliations with any specific association but acts as an Independent. Linguistic affiliation is Algonkian (Ojibway, Cree).

The Temagami First Nation and the Teme-Augama Anishnabai are in the midst of negotiations to obtain a final and enduring settlement to the land claim to the Daki Menan area (covering 127 square miles).

Temagami First Nation (Bear Island Reserve)

Population

On Reserve	198
Off Reserve	357
Total	555

Source: INAC – Jan 2000

Employment

Temagami First Nation's main employment providers on the reserve are Temagami First Nation Band Office (administration, health services, education, police services, and forestry), First Nation privately owned companies and businesses, several building and construction companies, recreation and hospitality businesses, Temagami Cedar, store and water gas bar, Tipi Camp. Temagami First Nation off reserve members live throughout North America and are represented in all sectors of the economy.

Land Base

Bear Island Reserve is located in the middle of Lake Temagami on Bear Island, approximately 100 km north of North Bay. The reserve is accessible by boat, air or by winter ice road and is 293 hectares in size. Current land claim negotiations indicate an agreement on a key element to the settlement and includes 127 square miles of land for the creation of a reserve and economic development.

Housing

There are approximately 50+ homes on the reserve. Other buildings on the reserve include a band office/ library, community center, education center, day care, health center, church, market and water gas bar.

Community Services

Buildings/homes either have individual wells (lake water) and septic systems, or are connected to the communal water treatment system/sewage system. Health programs and medical transportation services are utilized through the band office/health care center. Temagami First Nation has its own police force.

Local Services

Elementary students are educated at the Laura Mackenzie Learning Center (primary school). Secondary students attend North Bay schools with accommodation arrangements provided for them in the North Bay area. Emergency services are provided by Bear Island Volunteer Fire Department, Provincial Agencies and the Municipalities of Temagami, New Liskeard or North Bay.