



Bob Lake Community Boat Launch

Bob Lake Association (BLA) Delegation to Minden Hills Council

January 12, 2023

Presented by:

- *Robert Roszell (BLA Vice Chair)*
- *Dave Roberts (BLA Director)*

Objective

Secure a lease agreement with the Township of Minden Hills permitting the BLA to finance, construct, maintain, and insure a Bob Lake Community Boat Launch¹ on the Claude Brown unopened road allowance

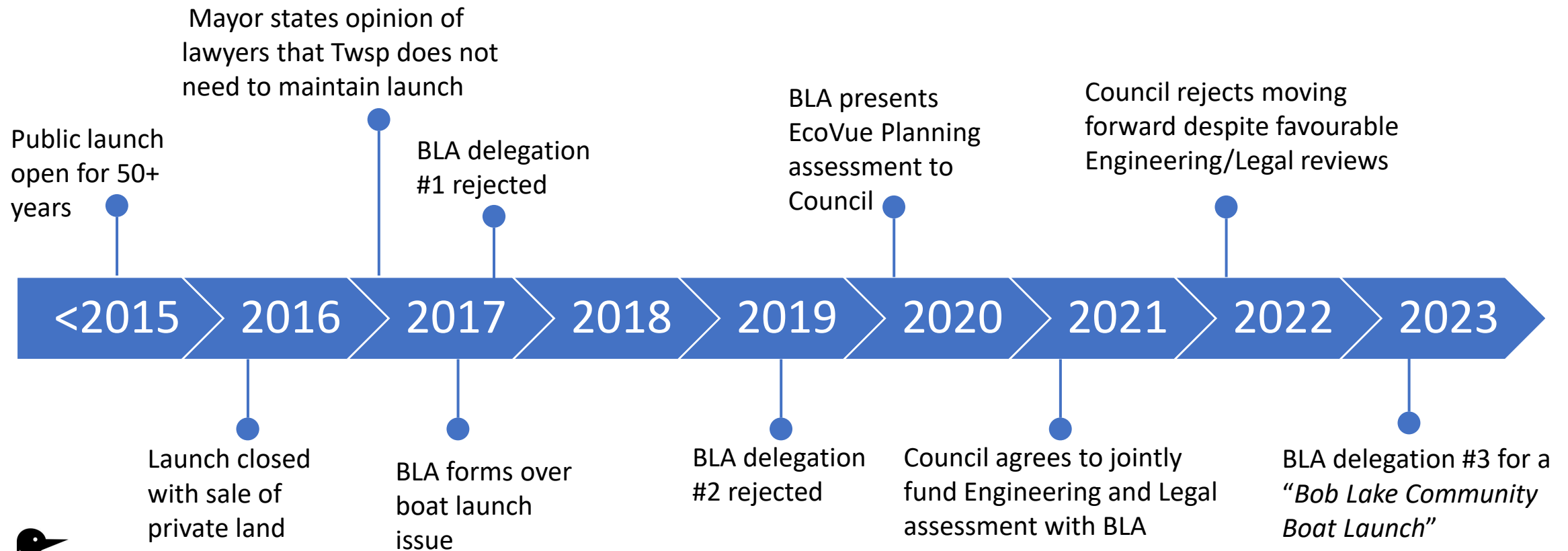
Footnote:

1. For exclusive use by Bob Lake Association members and other approved organizations such as fire/police services, MNRF, HHOA, etc.



History

After more than a half-century of uninterrupted use, our township maintained public boat launch was closed in 2016 without warning. This left over 200 Bob Lake property owners without a way to launch boats, rafts, or engage water-access emergency repairs. Many owners were forced to rely on the good will of neighbours with private boat launches, while many others remain not being able to launch their boats!



Solution

The Township signs a lease agreement with the BLA permitting it to build, maintain, and insure a *Bob Lake Community Boat Launch* on the unopened Claude Brown road allowance

- No cost or liability to the Township
- Location shown viable through Planning, Engineering, and Legal assessments



Benefits

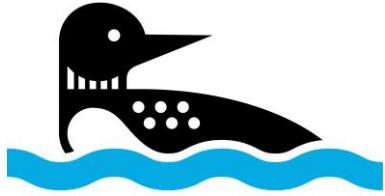
- Resolves the long-standing boat launch access issue on Bob Lake without added costs or liabilities to the Township
- Reduces shoreline impacts by possibly reducing the number of existing private launches via re-naturalization efforts, and avoid future private boat launches
- Leverages the planning, engineering and legal work that have concluded a boat launch on the Claude Brown Road allowance is viable
- Addresses lake access issues for public services (e.g. fire/police), environmental organizations (e.g. HHOA/MNFR) and local businesses (see appendix)



The Ask

For the Township of Minden Hills Council to direct and approve the work necessary in establishing a lease agreement with the Bob Lake Association, permitting the BLA to build and maintain a Bob Lake Community Boat Launch on the Claude Brown unopened road allowance





Appendix Material

1. Solution on a Page (A Recipe for Success)
2. Artifacts showing that the Claude Brown road allowance was once the location of a Bob Lake public boat launch
3. A map of the Claude Brown road allowance location
4. Local business support for restoring boat launch access on Bob Lake
5. Letters of support from organizations:
 - Haliburton Highland Outdoors Association
 - Ontario Federation of Anglers & Hunters
6. Letter from MNFR stating no lake trout spawning impact

A Recipe for Success

➤ History

After its existence for more than half a century, the Bob Lake public boat launch was closed without warning in 2016, leaving Bob Lake property owners on their own to organize and find a resolution. The BLA has been lobbying the Township for over 5 years through multiple delegations and a joint engineering/legal assessment.

➤ No cost or liability to the Township

The BLA's Bob Lake Community Boat Launch solution directly addresses the issues of cost and liability. The BLA will be responsible for all costs to construct and maintain the launch, as well as carry insurance to cover liability of its operations.

➤ Leveraged design and legal assessment

The solution will leverage the engineering design work from Tatham that concluded a working boat launch constructed on the Claude Brown unopened road allowance was possible, as well as the legal assessment that concluded there were no legal impediments.

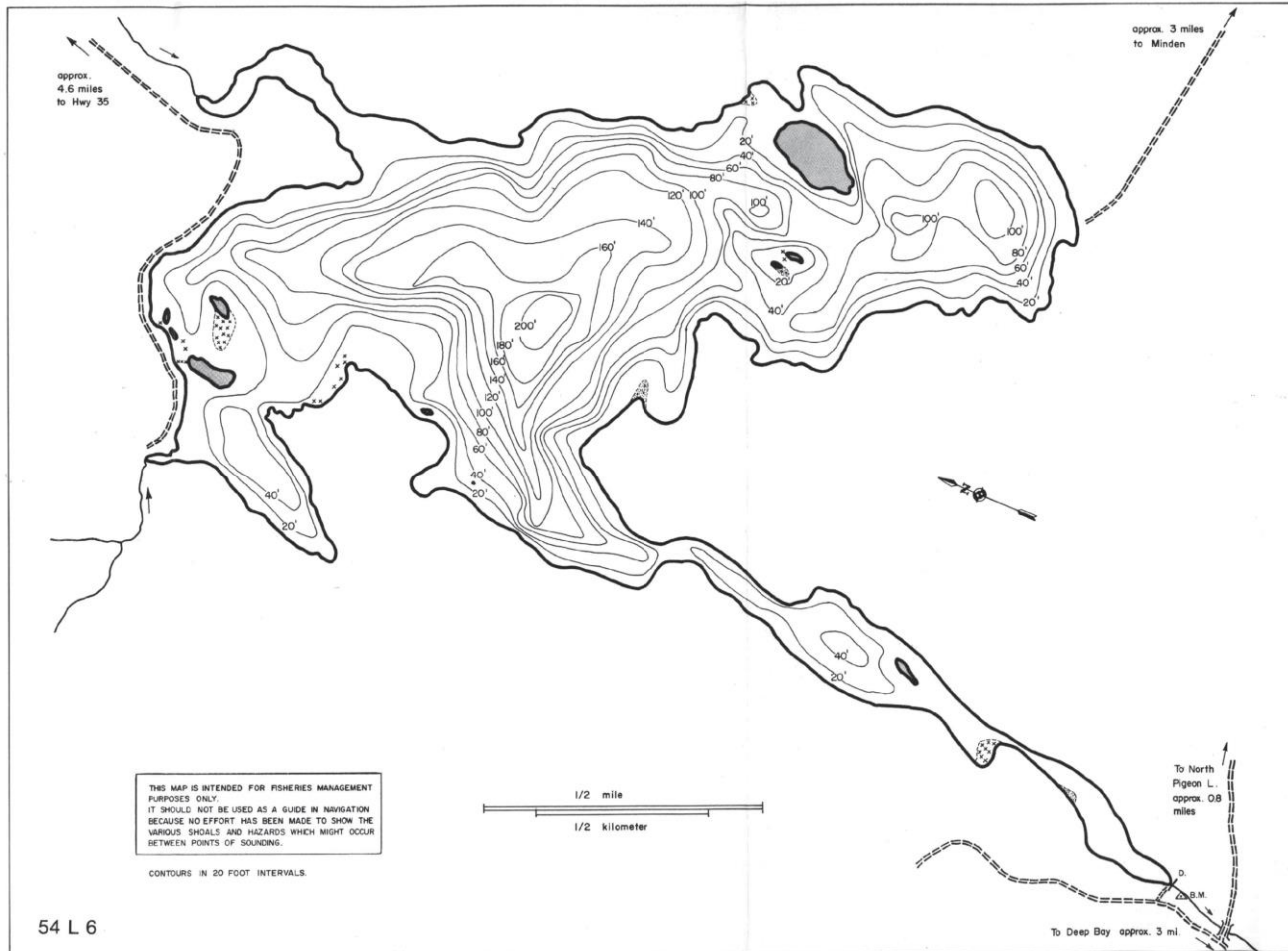
➤ Location

The Claude Brown road allowance is the only practical location for a boat launch on Bob Lake due to topography and public road access. It was the location of a previous public boat launch and has been confirmed by the MNRF to not be a sensitive area for fish spawning (see appendix).



CB Road Allowance Was A Public Launch!!

1970 MNF Map (<https://www.anglersatlas.com/place/102145/bob-lake>)



BOB LAKE

Haliburton County Lutterworth & Anson Townships

PHYSICAL DATA		LATITUDE	44° 55'	LONGITUDE	78° 47'
SURFACE AREA	543 acres	VOLUME			32,306 acre feet
HEIGHT ABOVE SEA LEVEL	974 feet	PERIMETER			9.8 miles
MAXIMUM DEPTH	210 feet	MEAN DEPTH			59.5 feet

LAKE CHARACTERISTICS
A low productive deep-water lake typical of the pre Cambrian shield. Total dissolved solids concentration is 25 parts per million. Dissolved oxygen levels are high at all depths. The irregular shoreline provides a limited amount of aquatic plant growth. A dam operated by the Trent Canal System causes annual fluctuations of 9 feet and continuous flushing. Excellent spawning beds for lake trout are located around the islands.

FISH SPECIES PRESENT
Lake trout, smallmouth bass, white sucker, yellow perch, lake herring, bluntnose minnow.

FISHING
Most lake trout caught are small, but fish up to 8 pounds have been taken.

ACCESS AND FACILITIES
Proceed north out of Minden across the bridge at edge of town. Turn left at the Scotch Line Road and continue on this road to a fork. Take the left fork into Bob Lake.
Excellent accommodations are found along Highway 35 and in the town of Minden. The waters are good for boating and aircraft landing. No marina facilities are available on the lake.

SURVEY DATE
JUNE 29, 1970.
THE ABOVE INFORMATION IS VALID AS OF JUNE 29, 1970.
CONDITIONS ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Not against the ramp but get the facts right

Dear editor,

Thanks for the article regarding the proposed Bob Lake boat ramp access. It mentions the ramp at the north end of the lake was last used in 1946. There must have been two ramps, as a public ramp was used well up into the 1970's at the north end of the lake. It was not only a public use ramp but public money spent on it and I believe located on a concession allowance.

I used to make many visits to the ramp site to move vehicles either off the ramp itself or off the road when the OPP had more important calls to worry about. One of the reasons the ramp was closed was because of new building construction adjacent to the ramp, little public parking facilities for vehicles using the ramp and complaints from residents about litter, parking and the public use. I'm sure not against the ramp but let's make sure the facts are right.

**Richard (Dick) Schell
Minden**

Dick Schell is a long-time former Minden Hills employee and current Committee of the Whole Chair (page 7 - The Highlander December 21, 2017)

Public Access Description:
"Proceed north out of Minden across the bridge at edge of town. Turn left at the Scotch Line Road and continue on this road to a fork. Take the left fork into Bob Lake."



Map of Location

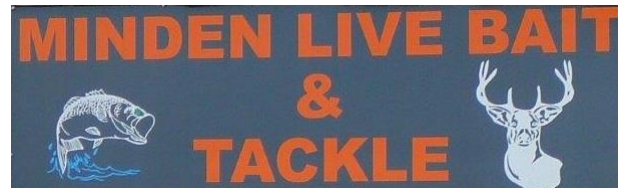


Support

We have secured written support for the restoration of boat launch access to Bob Lake from the following outdoor associations and local businesses



SAVE-ON
INDOOR BOAT
STORAGE



HHOA & OFAH Support



HALIBURTON HIGHLANDS OUTDOORS ASSOCIATION

6712 Gelert Rd.
HALIBURTON, ONTARIO K0M 1S0
PHONE: 705-457-9664 FAX: 705-457-9503
email: hhoa@bellnet.ca
website: hhoa.on.ca

October 17, 2017

Bob Lake Cottage Association

Hi Robert, Thank-you very much for the informative presentation you fellows delivered at our Board of Directors on October 04, 2017. It clarified some points for the directors.

As mentioned, the Haliburton Highlands Outdoors Association supports any, and all outdoor activity opportunities such as angling, hunting, trapping, hiking, etc. Our Community Hatchery is one of the 53 volunteer hatcheries in the Province of Ontario. We currently stock 40% of the area lakes under the guidance of the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources Fisheries Management plan. Our hatchery division is directed by a OMNRF Aquaculture License for what lakes are to be stocked, the amounts and timing.

At the Oct 4/17 meeting, it was confirmed by MNRF staff attending that OMNRF will not stock any lakes with no public access to the lake. A public boat launch would address any *potential* future opportunities for Bob Lake as far as stocking etc.

We are supportive and congratulate the Bob Lake Association for formally organizing and are willing to partner, support common goals/ initiatives in any way we can going forward.

Sincerely,

Larry Hewitt

Larry Hewitt
President, HHOA
705-457-9664

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS



Ontario Conservation Centre

P.O. Box 2800, 4601 Gables Drive, Peterborough, Ontario K9J 8L5
Phone: (705) 748-6124 • Fax: (705) 748-9577 • Visit: www.ofah.org • Email: ofah@ofah.org

OFAH FILE: 349A
November 15, 2017

Mayor Brent Devolin
PO Box 359
Minden, Ontario
K0M 2K0

Your Worship:

Subject: Letter of Support for a public launch at Bob Lake in Minden Hills Township

On behalf of the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH), its 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 740 member clubs, we are writing this letter to express our support for maintaining public access on Bob Lake in the Minden Hills Township.

The OFAH was recently notified of the loss of public access on Bob Lake when the ownership of the existing launch was determined to be located on deeded land held by a private citizen and not the township, as previously believed. This access point has provided generations of sustainable natural resource use, including the opportunity for anglers to access a lake with a healthy population of Haliburton Gold Lake Trout and many other species. These resources provide a valuable attraction for anglers, which can bring significant economic input to the region.

The OFAH supports the Bob Lake Association's objective to have a public launch and maintain public access to Bob Lake. Maintaining access will not negatively impact fisheries through increased angling pressure, or impact the development capacity of the lake, and provides recreational opportunities that benefit the general public and the municipality.

We look forward to discussing this issue further with you, and would be pleased to offer our expertise on this important topic.

Yours in Conservation,

Robert Cole
Land Use Policy and Habitat Specialist

RC/gh

cc: Robert Roszell, Vice Chair Bob Lake Association
OFAH Land Use/Access/Trails Advisory Committee
Angelo Lombardo, OFAH Executive Director
Matt DeMille, OFAH Manager, Fish & Wildlife Services
OFAH Fish & Wildlife Staff

MNRF Clearance – Not a Trout Spawning Shoal

From: Challice, Adam (MNRF) [mailto:Adam.Challice@ontario.ca]

Sent: August 28, 2017 10:56 AM

To: Robert Roszell

Cc: Piper, Hayden (MNRF)

Subject: RE: Big Bob Lake

Hi Robert,

The location you have proposed is not on a known lake trout spawning shoal. The timing window for in-water works that would be applied to Bob Lake would be July 16 – September 30th. However, there may be some flexibility in extending the timing window if the work could be completed in the dry (above the water) in the fall.

Hope this helps.

Adam Challice

Management Biologist | Minden Field Office, Bancroft District | Ministry of Natural Resources and Forestry |

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