

SAMPLE LETTER

Dear Mr. Rankin / Mr. Delorey / Mr. Kousoulis,

RE: Proposed Archibald Lake Wilderness Area

The Archibald Lake Wilderness Area needs to be granted formal designation as soon as possible. This is a uniquely important parcel of land that has been repeatedly identified as having great conservation value, and the time for it to receive the protections it deserves is long past due.

The ecological importance of the Archibald Lake Wilderness Area is hard to overstate. It contains some of the little remaining old-growth forest in Nova Scotia, and is important habitat for the endangered mainland moose. The lakes on which it borders is home to a world-class brook trout population.

As well as directly providing wildlife habitat, the lakes are also a significant part of the larger Saint Mary's River watershed. The water flows from these two lakes out through Archibald Brook, which is itself home to vulnerable wood turtles and many other species. This water is richly oxygenated during this trip where it ends up feeding into the Saint Mary's at Archibald's pool in Stillwater, which is one of the important resting areas for endangered Atlantic Salmon during their river journey.

In addition to the ecological value, the recreational opportunities offered by this area are many. It is an area that has been loved and enjoyed by people for generations, and therefore offers significant economic potential as an eco-tourism destination. It is difficult to imagine being able to put any kind of price on an area such as this.

Atlantic Gold's proposed ruinous industrial use, for the sake of a handful of short-term jobs, is clearly incompatible. The direct area would be destroyed, and this would have wide-ranging detrimental effects to the Saint Mary's watershed, putting the watershed itself - and the people and species who love and depend on it - at grave risk for generations.

I urge you [all] to commit unreservedly to swiftly protecting the Archibald Lake Wilderness Area upon becoming leader of the Nova Scotia Liberal Party and the Premier of Nova Scotia.

Sincerely,
{YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS HERE}