

BELLA LAKE GLACIOFLUVIAL OUTWASH DEPOSIT

UTM Ref. 17PA654354

Sinclair Township, Lake of Bays
Status: Recommend Heritage Site

Area: 125 ha

Site Characteristics

This outwash deposit, at the north end of Bella Lake, is fed by a small esker that trends from the north at the Big East River and passes southwards through Heck Lake. The outwash plain is relatively flat, at an elevation of 365 to 380m ASL, well above the former level of Lake Algonquin. The surface sediments consist of cobble gravel to fine sand. Several peat-filled, ice block depressions, up to 300-400 metres in diameter, have been identified. These kettles were formed when large ice blocks broke off the retreating ice mass, were buried by the aggrading pile of glaciofluvial sediments, and subsequently melted.

Significant Natural Values and Selection Criteria Met

1. **Landform Representation** - (A2) This site has been selected by Bajc (1992) as representative of glaciofluvial outwash deposits.

Ownership, Disturbance and Sensitivity

Ownership of the site is unknown. There is relatively little disturbance, except for a cottage road serving cottages on Bella Lake. Further development within the deposit should be kept to a minimum, with forestry practices limited to selective cutting and extraction of aggregate prohibited.