

**October 6, 2010**

**Grassy Narrows First Nation calls for logging moratorium**

On October 6, Grassy Narrows Chief Simon Fobister said in a public statement: “We have never given our consent to any logging on our territory, and we have repeatedly said ‘no’. Unwanted logging has a severe impact on our community’s ability to sustain our health, culture, and livelihood.”

The following statement was issued today by Greenpeace, Canopy, David Suzuki Foundation, Canadian Boreal Initiative, and CPAWS Wildlands League to support Chief Fobister’s renewed call for a moratorium on forestry in the First Nation’s traditional territories.

“We support the right of the Grassy Narrows community to say no to industrial development, and believe that the Government of Ontario and the forest industry must respect this right.

“Despite ongoing talks with the Grassy Narrows First Nation, the Government of Ontario has prepared a contingency plan that would allow more than 27 clearcuts in the Whiskey Jack Forest, including many on the community’s traditional territory. For more than eight years, the community has consistently opposed clearcut logging on its lands, making the advancement of this contingency plan inappropriate.

“Our organizations urge the Government of Ontario, and all stakeholders, to respect the Grassy Narrows First Nation and its call for a moratorium, and to cease plans for logging in the Whiskey Jack Forest until a time that the community has given its free, prior, and informed consent.”

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