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Hon. John Efford
Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture
4th Floor, West Block
Confederation Building
P.O., Box 8700
St. John's, NF
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Hon. Mr. Efford:

I am writing this letter in conjunction with one that was written back in December 1997 regarding, the destruction of Habitat and Biological Diversity of the Clifty Pond area and other Natural Systems. This is a serious problem and action must be taken!

Cabin development is beginning to take place in and around Clifty Pond. Some people do not understand or care to understand that by not preserving wilderness areas for the 'esthetic value as well as for our own survival is of paramount concern. I believe, as do many ecologists, that you cannot have a system prosper if people are continually cutting it down and building it up. Why, can we not enjoy our wilderness areas for their beauty and open spaces?

As a person who enjoys shooting nature with a camera as well as hunting wild game for the table I would like to see some attention paid to this area soon. Future generations need to have the same opportunities to experience nature as our ancestors did.

To the Native American Indians nature was sacred and never taken for granted. Every aspect was interconnected with their lives. They chose to live in harmony rather than misuse whatever natural resources they had. The time has come for us as Newfoundlanders and Global Citizens to look at the issues of Cabin Development. What one brings into a wilderness area one should also take out, it is an excellent policy. If we were to stress these issues ' and work toward cleaning things up it would leave everyone with an equal opportunity to enjoy Newfoundland's greatest gift, its natural history which may not survive much longer if we do not teach people that nature in its simplest form is worthwhile. ,

I am truly hoping that as a father and ardent nature enthusiast that we can do something about this cabin issue soon or we will be on the endangered species list. We are no more immune from habitat destruction than the bald eagle or the arctic fox.. We have an opportunity to learn from many mistakes made to date, let's take that opportunity and start to do something right now. I hope, to pursue this issue even further and would appreciate your assistance in any way.

To be pro-active in the name of conservation is a noble cause and something we all could take pride in. The stronger our society's connection is to the environment the better chances we have for future generations to enjoy good health, clean air and nature. .

Yours in Conservation

Anthony O'Leary