

PROGRESS UP-DATE

Our Parks and Protected Areas: A Plan for Nova Scotia

Parks and Protected Areas Land Designations 2014-2015

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
1	Alder Ground Wilderness Area (expansion)	Guysborough	489 ha (1,208 acres)	<p>The 2015 expansion to Alder Ground Wilderness Area provides a valuable link between Liscomb River and the remote lakes and hardwood hills of Boggy Lake Wilderness Area immediately to the south. It expands Alder Ground Wilderness Area from 754 to 1,243 hectares.</p> <p>The addition is centred around scenic Melopseketch Lake, with its surrounding hardwood slopes and numerous tiny islands. It provides landscape connectivity between existing protected lands for wildlife, including black bear and endangered mainland moose, and includes the traditional canoe-route connection with Boggy Lake Wilderness Area. Melopseketch Lake is also popular for angling.</p> <p>The western portion of the addition is part of Liscomb Game Sanctuary, which limits hunting to muzzleloader, bow or crossbow.</p> <p>Melopseketch Lake is easily accessible via short walking/portage trail off Liscomb River Road. This trunk Crown forest access road will remain open for vehicle use, and provides important access to Alder Ground, Boggy Lake and other nearby wilderness areas.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_aldergrounds.asp</p>	June 2015	

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16	Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area (expansion)	Halifax	451 ha (1,114 acres)	<p>Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes is a high-profile near-urban wilderness area on the edge of Halifax. The 2015 addition expands the area from 1,316 to 1,767 hectares.</p> <p>This is an important, intact, forested habitat patch in the midst of a fragmented suburban landscape. The addition adds forest and lake frontage, enhancing this area's appeal as a premiere outdoor recreation destination for HRM. This includes parts of a traditional backcountry canoe route between Cox Lake and Nine Mile River. It secures an expanded land base for trail development for which some planning is currently underway. Portions of the addition may be suitable for hunting.</p> <p>The proposed Highway 113 corridor and an additional 30 meter buffer along either side is not included within the boundary.</p> <p>The addition includes a section of power line right-of-way. An existing license which Nova Scotia Power Inc. (NSPI) holds with Nova Scotia Environment will be amended to provide for ongoing maintenance of this section.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_BlueMountainBirchCove.asp</p>	June 2015	
35	Cloud Lake Wilderness Area (expansion)	Annapolis, Kings	4,893 ha (12,090 acres)	<p>The 2015 addition to Cloud Lake Wilderness Area, south of Middleton, consists of one large and several small areas.</p> <p>The large area is centered on an 8 km, wild stretch of the Nictaux River. This relatively undisturbed forest tract consists primarily of mature red spruce, yellow birch, red and white pine, and mixed hardwoods. It hosts several rare plant species, including eastern white cedar, a provincially</p>	June 2015	

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				<p>listed “vulnerable” species.</p> <p>The smaller areas along the shores of Cloud Lake, Frog Lake, Shell Camp Stream, and the upper LaHave River will support more effective management of the wilderness area.</p> <p>This addition improves representation of the South Mountain Rolling Plain Natural Landscape in the provincial protected areas network, and expands protected habitat for wildlife dependent on large areas of intact forest, such as northern goshawk. It increases the total area of the wilderness area from 10,909 to 15,802 hectares.</p> <p>Much of the addition is important for outdoor recreation. The lands help protect the wilderness character of popular canoe routes which are promoted by the Municipality of the County of Annapolis. These include the Nictaux River, Shell Camp Stream, Upper LaHave River and the Cloud Lake – Frog Lake area. The lands are also suitable for hunting, trapping and sport fishing. The improved boundaries improve accessibility of the wilderness area for public enjoyment and nature tourism, via Highway 10 and the South Shore - Annapolis Valley Rail Trail.</p> <p>In the northeast, access roads to Cloud Lake and Frog Lake are excluded from the designation, allowing for continued vehicle access to these lakes. In the west, near Highway 10, both the South Shore - Annapolis Valley Rail Trail and Squirreltown Road are also excluded. Extensive snowmobile and ATV trail networks south of the wilderness area are unaffected by the new designation, as confirmed with provincial ATV and snowmobile organizations.</p>		

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				<p>If needed, access to several in-held properties can be licensed by the Minister of Environment.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_cloudlake.asp</p>		
41	Denis Lakes Wilderness Area	Guysborough	488 (1,206 acres)	<p>This is a small and easily accessible wilderness patch in the interior of the Eastern Shore. The Denis Lakes area includes a dozen small lakes and ponds connected by short canoeable streams and still-waters. Its ridged and rocky appearance is reminiscent of the iconic wilderness of the Canadian Shield. It is within a zone that is characterized as Eastern Shore rain forest, with tall white pines scattered among tracts of red and black spruce.</p> <p>The area provides habitat for black bear and endangered mainland moose; and is a remnant of intact, mature forest within the harvested woodlands in and around Liscomb Game Sanctuary.</p> <p>The easy access and interconnected system of small lakes and streams offer excellent opportunities for wilderness canoeing, angling, and camping trips. The area is easily accessed off the north side of Mosher Lake Road, which is unaffected by the wilderness area designation.</p> <p>This area is part of Liscomb Game Sanctuary, which limits hunting to muzzleloader, bow or crossbow.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_denislakes.asp</p>	June 2015	
50	Eastern Shore	HRM, Guysborough	1,853 (4,579)	<p>This is a sprawling collection of 400 large and small provincially-owned islands, stretching 75 km from Clam</p>	June 2015	

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	Islands Wilderness Area		acres)	<p>Harbour in Halifax Regional Municipality to Marie Joseph in Guysborough County. They form a large part of a world-class archipelago of coastal islands, and boast an impressive diversity of coastal features and habitats, including numerous beaches, spits, headlands, saltmarshes, estuarine flats, coastal barrens, and coastal spruce/fir forests. The islands support numerous colonies of nesting seabirds, and staging and feeding areas for waterfowl.</p> <p>These islands have exceptional tourism and coastal recreation value. This is a destination for sea kayaking, sailing and other boating, coastal hiking, camping and seabird hunting. Wilderness area designation recognizes the importance of the islands for both conservation and recreation.</p> <p>Protection of the provincially-owned islands complements the high-profile “100 Wild Islands Legacy Campaign” land acquisition project launched by the Nova Scotia Nature Trust (NSNT) in 2014 to acquire privately owned islands within this archipelago.</p> <p>Many of the provincially-owned islands in the eastern portion of the archipelago are part of the Eastern Shore Wildlife Management Area. Nova Scotia Environment and the Department of Natural Resources (responsible for the wildlife management area) will work together, in consultation with Nova Scotians, to determine appropriate management of the islands. An existing campsite lease will be honoured under <i>the Wilderness Areas Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_easternshoresislands.asp</p>		

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53	Eigg Mountain-James River Wilderness Area (expansion)	Antigonish	2,178 ha (5,382 acres)	<p>The 2015 addition consists of fourteen separate, forested areas along the current boundary of Antigonish County's flagship wilderness, Eigg Mountain – James River, expanding the wilderness area from 5,467 to 7,645 hectares.</p> <p>Forest composition is primarily mature and scenic hardwood forest on hilly and steep terrain, with some old forest. The addition significantly improves the conservation and tourism/recreation value of the wilderness area. It expands protected habitat favored by species like goshawk and endangered mainland moose; and contains the upper portions of headwater streams frequented by Atlantic salmon for spawning.</p> <p>The addition includes scenic look-offs over Northumberland Strait and longstanding hiking, snowshoeing and cross-country ski trails. Various portions are suitable for hunting and trapping, and mountain biking is promoted on adjacent roads and could also be authorized on some routes in the wilderness area. Major snowmobile and ATV routes identified by user groups have been excluded from the wilderness area and remain open for use. One section of snowmobile route (715A) will be added to the existing Snowmobilers Association of Nova Scotia (SANS) trail management agreement for continued use as part of the SANS network. The addition also includes one campsite lease which will be honoured.</p> <p>Some of the addition lands lie within the Town of Antigonish's James River drinking water supply watershed. Protection of these lands supports the Town's efforts to protect its drinking water supply area. In 2007, 1,361</p>	June 2015	

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				<p>hectares (3,363 acres) of Town-owned lands were designated and became part of Eigg Mountain-James River Wilderness Area, at the request of the Town. With the current addition, most of the protected water supply area is now protected under the <i>Wilderness Areas Protection Act</i>.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_eiggmountain.asp</p>		
123	North River Wilderness Area (expansion)	Victoria	979 ha (2,418 acres)	<p>The 2015 addition to North River Wilderness Area consists of five separate areas along its eastern boundary. They are comprised largely of hardwood hillsides containing old stands of sugar maple, yellow birch and hemlock; rich lower mountain slopes; and plateau ecosystems, including spruce/fir forest, wetlands, and highland ponds.</p> <p>The addition enhances the role of the wilderness area in protecting habitat for Atlantic salmon and brook trout, as well as endangered American marten and Canada lynx. It improves representation of the Central Cape Breton Hills Natural Landscape, which is otherwise not well represented in the provincial protected areas network, and expands the wilderness area from 4,037 to 5,016 hectares.</p> <p>The expanded wilderness area incorporates the former North River Provincial Park, including the trailhead of the popular North River Falls hiking trail. This trailhead will continue to be maintained for public access and enjoyment. The entire trail is now within the wilderness area.</p> <p>The addition is suitable for hunting and trapping and also enhances North River Wilderness Area as a backcountry ski destination. Guests at Ski Tuonela, near Goose Cove, can</p>	June 2015	

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				<p>enjoy backcountry skiing from Ski Tuonela to North River Wilderness Area's Bald Mountain, crossing the largest parcel of the addition.</p> <p>The road from Oregon to the highlands (OHV route 814), along the eastern margin of the addition, is excluded from the boundary to enable ongoing vehicle use.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_northriver.asp</p>		
146	Raven Head Wilderness Area (expansion)	Cumberland	393 ha (984 acres)	<p>The 2015 addition consists of two separate parcels which extend the wilderness area's protected coastline from 36 to 44 km, and expand total area from 5,257 to 5,650 hectares. This includes dramatic coastal cliffs and a mix of hardwood and softwood coastal forest, which provides habitat for endangered mainland moose.</p> <p>These parcels are located just south of the Joggins UNESCO World Heritage site, offering opportunities for geological research and interpretation on the conditions and ecosystems that existed here over 300 million years ago, in coordination with the Joggins Fossil Centre. The area is also suitable for hunting, trapping and coastal hiking trail development.</p> <p>The road to the wharf at Two Rivers is excluded from the boundary to avoid affecting ongoing vehicle access.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_chignectocrownlands.asp</p>	June 2015	
165	Sissiboo River	Digby	1,203 ha	<p>This area protects one of the last remaining intact forest patches in the Sissiboo Low Hills Natural Landscape of</p>	June 2015	

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	Wilderness Area		(2,973 acres)	<p>western Nova Scotia, a region with no other representative protected areas. It features several old forest stands containing eastern hemlock, sugar maple, yellow birch, and white ash, as well as over 4 km of river frontage on Sissiboo River.</p> <p>This area is popular for canoeing, hunting, sport fishing, and trapping.</p> <p>Protection of this area does not affect use or maintenance of Weymouth Falls Road (the east-west road corridor is not included within the boundary) or NSPI power lines or hydroelectric infrastructure.</p> <p>A 1.5 km section of a north-south forest access road that provides access to adjacent Crown land is also excluded, and will remain open for vehicle use at least until alternative access is available. This road is also used by off-highway vehicle riders to travel between Sissiboo River and Danvers.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_sissibooiver.asp</p>		
187	Terence Bay Wilderness Area (expansion)	HRM	57 ha (141 acres)	<p>The 2015 addition to Terence Bay Wilderness Area consists of two small properties that improve the area's boundaries for management and enforcement.</p> <p>They contain black spruce-dominated coastal forest that is common throughout the wilderness area.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_terencebay.asp</p>	June 2015	

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198	Tusket River Wilderness Area	Yarmouth	1,663 ha (4109 acres)	<p>This area consists of four parcels along the middle reaches of the Tusket River system, both on the main river and feeder lakes. Over 20 km of undeveloped river and lake frontage is included.</p> <p>The lake shores and riverbanks are hotspots for a nationally significant plant community known as Atlantic coastal plain flora. Over a dozen species of at-risk plants occur on these shorelines, including the nationally endangered pink coreopsis and Plymouth gentian.</p> <p>These lands form a partial corridor along the river, helping to facilitate wildlife movement and maintain the scenic value of this popular, traditional canoe route, which includes 12 km on the main Tusket River. The area is also suitable for hunting, sport-fishing and trapping.</p> <p>Protection of these lands complements long-running private-land conservation efforts in the area by the Nature Conservancy of Canada, Nova Scotia Nature Trust, and Tusket River Environmental Protection Association.</p> <p>A number of roads are not within the boundaries of the wilderness area to allow ongoing vehicle use, including: Coldstream Road, Shunacadie Road, a forest access road between Coldstream Road and East Kempt, and a spur road to Bad Falls. Louis Lake and access to the lake are outside the boundary. No major off-highway vehicle routes are affected, nor is access to camps or campsite leases in the area.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_tusketriver.asp</p>	June 2015	

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6	Baleine Nature Reserve	CBRM	1,268 ha (3,133 acres)	<p>Located on the eastern tip of Cape Breton Island, near Baleine, this area features a diverse assemblage of intact coastal habitats, including coastal spruce/fir forests, barrens, wetlands, cliffs, barrier beaches, brackish ponds and off-shore islands. These habitats support unique plant communities, including at least seven rare arctic/alpine species. Several species of colonial seabirds nest here, including Leach's Storm Petrel. Migrating shorebirds such as whimbrel frequent the barrens and beaches.</p> <p>The highly indented and scenic coastline is enjoyed by sea kayakers, hikers and others. Camping on designated sites and berry picking for personal use will be permitted.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_baleine.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
13	Black River Bog Nature Reserve	Inverness	109 ha (269 acres)	<p>Black River Bog Nature Reserve protects a rare alkaline fen and delta wetland adjacent to Lake Ainslie, Inverness County. This wetland complex contains at least 13 species of rare plants. The general area is an important breeding and staging area for ducks, and a popular feeding area for bald eagles, ospreys and great blue herons. The bog was first proposed as a nature reserve through the International Biological Program in 1974.</p> <p>Adjacent waterways support a variety of water-based recreation including canoeing, kayaking, duck hunting, fishing and trapping.</p> <p>Use of a multi-use trail on an abandoned railway corridor through the area is not affected by the nature reserve. The</p>	May 2015	June 2015

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				<p>corridor is not part of the reserve. The trail provides a unique nature viewing opportunity for off-highway vehicle users, cyclists, and walkers.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_blackriverbog.asp</p>		
28	Cedar Lake Nature Reserve	Yarmouth	23 ha (59 acres)	<p>This small site protects an example of one of Nova Scotia's rarest forest types – eastern white cedar – and provides opportunities for nature-based education.</p> <p>A local church camp uses the site for youth education, and has traditionally used a small area near the lake for tenting. This use will be permitted to continue through the designation of a dedicated campsite.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_cedarlake.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
34	Chimney Corner Nature Reserve	Inverness	750 ha (1,853 acres)	<p>This forested site features unique, ridged topography that forms steep forested slopes and ravines. The forests span a transitional gradient from coastal influenced stands to higher elevation stands growing in interior sheltered valleys. Most of the forest is relatively undisturbed mature hardwood and mixedwood.</p> <p>Located within the Dunvegan Fluted Hills Natural Landscape of western Cape Breton, this nature reserve protects a representative example of this natural landscape.</p> <p>The rugged topography, scenic views of the Northumberland Strait, and proximity to the Cabot Trail, make this a potential backcountry hiking destination.</p>	May 2015	June 2015

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				<p>A number of forest access roads are not included within the nature reserve boundaries to enable ongoing vehicle access to adjacent private lands.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_chimneycorner.asp</p>		
40	Dalhousie Mountain Nature Reserve	Pictou	46 ha (114 acres)	<p>This small, mixed-wood forest is a refuge for at least six species of rare plants, including round-leaved hepatica, a rich woodland herb known to only a handful of locations in Nova Scotia. The site contains stands of rich sugar maple and yellow birch forest that support diverse and abundant spring wildflowers.</p> <p>The northern boundary avoids a fire tower and access road, also used for off-highway vehicle riding. This site is partially surrounded by Dalhousie Mountain Wind Farm.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_dalhousiemountain.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
57	Fossil Coast Nature Reserve	Cumberland	276 ha (682 acres)	<p>This nature reserve provides legal protection to a portion of the world-famous Joggins Fossil Cliffs UNESCO World Heritage Site. The 8 km of Bay of Fundy shoreline included in this site overlaps some of the fossil-laden coastline here that has been a subject of geological fascination for over 150 years.</p> <p>Besides the famous cliffs, this area features rich mudflats, the highest tides in the world, and a mix of young and older forest types. It contributes to representation of the Chignecto Ridged Plain Natural Landscape in the provincial</p>	May 2015	June 2015

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				<p>protected areas network.</p> <p>This area provides opportunities for coastal hiking as well as geological research and interpretation in coordination with the Joggins Fossil Centre.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_fossilcoast.asp</p>		
87	Kennetcook Nature Reserve	Hants	125 ha (309 acres)	<p>This nature reserve consists of two small properties at the headwaters of Kennetcook River in central Hants County. It contains pockets of old hemlock, red spruce, and hardwood forest growing on productive land in the midst of a highly modified agricultural and forestry landscape.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_kentetcook.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
89	Lake Egmont Nature Reserve	Halifax	89 ha (220 acres)	<p>This small site in the Musquodoboit Valley, near Lake Egmont, contains a forest of large old hardwood and red spruce trees growing amongst gypsum sinkholes, vernal pools, and talus slopes. It provides excellent overwintering habitat for bats and adds to the limited representation of gypsum habitats in the provincial protected areas system. These habitats are among the least protected and most threatened in the province.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_lakeegmont.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
100	MacAulays Hill Nature Reserve	Victoria	105 ha (259 acres)	<p>This small site near Baddeck consists of three parcels with spectacular karst features, including large gypsum sinkholes, talus outcrops, and caves. Old mixed and hardwood forests cover the site, which has good potential to host hibernating</p>	May 2015	June 2015

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			acres)	<p>bats. At least six species of rare plants associated with gypsum occur at this site.</p> <p>Big Harbour Road, which passes through the area, is not within the boundary and will remain open for vehicle use.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_macaulayshill.asp</p>		
144	Quinns Meadow Nature Reserve (expansion)	Shelburne	392 ha (969 acres)	<p>Quinns Meadow is a large wetland complex supporting several rare and at-risk plant species of the Atlantic coastal plain, including the nationally listed thread-leaved sundew (endangered) and Long's bulrush (special concern).</p> <p>A portion of Quinns Meadow and its surrounding forested watershed has been protected as Quinns Meadow Nature Reserve since 2004. The reserve is being expanded with this 46 hectare parcel to 392 hectares.</p> <p>The Nature Conservancy of Canada also owns a portion of Quinns Meadow.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_quinnnsmeadow.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
183	Tait Lake Nature Reserve	HRM	216 ha (534 acres)	<p>This small nature reserve in the remote interior of eastern Halifax County contains a remnant patch of mature Acadian forest in an otherwise highly disturbed landscape. The site supports impressive stands of mature red spruce, sugar maple, and yellow birch. It incorporates four km of frontage on Killag River, an important tributary for Atlantic salmon on West River Sheet Harbour. The site also provides habitat for</p>	May 2015	June 2015

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				<p>endangered mainland moose.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_taitlake.asp</p>		
188	Tiddville Nature Reserve	Digby	29 ha (72 acres)	<p>This small nature reserve on Digby Neck encompasses a portion of Tiddville Bog. This wetland supports several rare plant species of the Atlantic coastal plain, including the nationally threatened golden crest.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_tiddville.asp</p>	May 2015	June 2015
69	The Stillwaters Wilderness Area (formerly Gull Lake)	Cape Breton	2,969 ha (7,334 acres)	<p>Formerly referred to as "Gull Lake" in the Parks and Protected Areas Plan, this area features a diverse mosaic of forest types, wetlands, lakes and stillwaters adjacent to Fortress of Louisbourg National Historic Site. Forest cover is a mix of young to mature spruce-fir and hardwood. Located at a biogeographic transition zone, protection of this area increases representation of three natural landscapes in our protected areas system.</p> <p>The area is suitable for sport fishing, trapping and backcountry canoeing, but water quality protection is a management priority.</p> <p>This area overlaps with and helps protect most of Louisbourg's drinking water supply area.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_thestillwaters.asp</p>	December 2014	February 2015

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76	Humes River Wilderness Area	Inverness, Victoria	3,625 ha (8,954 acres)	<p>This is an exceptionally scenic area of steep and humid river canyons, hardwood forests, and highland barrens. It encompasses one of the last relatively large tracts of intact Acadian forests in the Bras d'Or Lake watershed, and features impressive stands of red spruce, eastern hemlock, and old growth hardwood. The area provides habitat for endangered American marten and lynx, as well as at least three species of rare voles and shrews. Protection of these lands improves representation of Keppoch Mountain Natural Landscape within the provincial protected areas network. Together with the adjacent Trout Brook Wilderness Area, this area creates a protected land corridor between Bras d'Or Lake and Lake Ainslie.</p> <p>An old cart track at Lewis Mountain is currently used for hiking and the Municipality of Victoria County is exploring additional trail opportunities. The area's recreation and nature tourism potential is enhanced by its accessibility immediately off the Trans-Canada Highway. The area is also suitable for hunting, trapping and limited sport fishing.</p> <p>Vehicle passage through the area will be accommodated by excluding a 1.5 km portion of road (SANS route 700). This road originates at Wagmatcook First Nation and is used for off-highway vehicle and truck access, primarily for passage to the highlands.</p> <p>Boundaries have been adjusted to the north side of a NSPI power line near the Trans-Canada Highway to simplify management of the area.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_humesriver.asp</p>	December 2014	February 2015

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5	Baddeck River Wilderness Area	Victoria	2,778 ha (6,862 acres)	<p>This scenic area encompasses two steep-sided branches of the Baddeck River, a wetland complex near Bell Lakes, plus some productive lowland and floodplains downstream. It includes over 35 km of river, primarily winding along hardwood slopes. The area also provides a wildlife corridor between the lowlands and the plateau, and habitat for endangered American marten and lynx. The Baddeck River system as an important watershed for brook trout and Atlantic Salmon. A portion of this area borders Usige Ban Falls Provincial Park, just above the falls.</p> <p>This scenic and rugged area offers opportunities for wilderness travel and trail development, as well as sport fishing in Baddeck River and the adjacent Bell Lakes. Portions of the area are suitable for hunting and trapping.</p> <p>Off-highway vehicle use on Route 710, next to North River Wilderness Area, is to be accommodated through one or more trail management agreements.</p> <p>The final boundary has been adjusted slightly along New Glen Brook to remove a tree plantation and add intact hardwood forest on a steep slope. The boundary along the lower reaches of the main branch of Baddeck River has been adjusted to the edge of a road for survey efficiency and to simplify management.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_baddeck_river.asp</p>	December 2014	February 2015

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153	Ruiss Noir Wilderness Area	Inverness	1,602 ha (3,958 acres)	<p>This area occupies the upper slopes of the transition zone between the Cheticamp coastal plain and the Cape Breton Boreal Plateau. It is characterized by yellow birch - balsam fir transition forests, as well as several kilometres of hardwood ravines in the Margaree River watershed. Habitat is suitable for endangered American marten and lynx. Protection of this area will significantly improve representation of Squirrel Mountain Foothills Natural Landscape in the protected areas network.</p> <p>This area offers opportunities for wilderness travel, hunting and trapping.</p> <p>Boundaries have been adjusted to avoid adjacent, connecting forest access roads.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/wa_ruisnoir.asp</p>	December 2014	February 2015
12	Lyons Marsh Nature Reserve (formerly Birch Hill)	Colchester	60 ha (147 acres)	<p>Formerly referred to as "Birch Hill" in the Parks and Protected Areas Plan, this coastal area includes over 2 km of frontage on Minas Basin near Bass River. It contains a rich salt marsh, eroding coastal cliffs, and a large productive forest wetland of white ash, spruce, fir and red maple. It offers coastal bird watching opportunities.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_lyonsmarsh.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014

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15	Blandford Nature Reserve (expansion)	Lunenburg	20 ha (50 acres)	<p>This small forested site is an addition to Blandford Nature Reserve, on the Aspotogan Peninsula. It is separated from the existing nature reserve by lands acquired and protected by the Nature Conservancy of Canada. The addition provides additional habitat for rare lichens, including globally endangered boreal felt lichen.</p> <p>Located near the summit of Aspotogan Mountain, the site offers stunning views of St. Margarets Bay and Mahone Bay. http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_Blandford.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
26	Caribou Rivers Nature Reserve	Pictou	32 ha (80 acres)	<p>Located where the Big and Little Caribou Rivers meet and flow into Northumberland Strait, this area contains a coastal wetland along a rich river estuary and is home to shorebirds and nesting eagles. The adjacent estuary is a destination for sea kayaking.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_caribouivers.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
37	Cowan Brook Nature Reserve	Halifax	56 ha (139 acres)	<p>The Cowan Brook area is a small remnant of mature coastal rain forest on the Eastern Shore. It is a refuge for globally endangered boreal felt lichen.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_cowanbrook.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
46	Drug Brook Nature Reserve	Pictou	34 ha (85 acres)	<p>This is a small tract of old red spruce and hardwood forest in the interior of Pictou County, next to Highway 374. Boundaries avoid a small gravel pit next to the highway.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_drugbrook.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
48	Eagles Nest Nature Reserve	Hants	188 ha (464 acres)	<p>This area encompasses the fens and forest slopes along Piney Stream in the interior of former Bowater Mersey lands, north of St. Margarets Bay. Old red spruce, yellow birch and sugar maple forests form a refuge and wildlife corridor in the midst of a landscape extensively used for forest harvesting.</p> <p>Scenic stillwaters and old forest slopes along Piney Stream offer wildlife viewing opportunities. This is part of a traditional Mi'kmaq canoe route.</p> <p>Final boundaries have been straightened and also adjusted to an adjacent road for survey efficiency and to simplify management.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_eaglesnest.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
81	Irish Cove Nature Reserve	Richmond	159 ha (393 acres)	<p>This is an old growth, mixed Acadian forest near Bras d'Or Lake. Protection of this area improves representation of East Bay Hills Natural Landscape within the protected areas network. The area has a long history of eagle nesting and is a long-term ecological research site for Cape Breton University.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_irishcove.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
83	Janvrin Island Nature Reserve	Richmond	121 ha (299 acres)	<p>This area encompasses a collection of small undisturbed islands and spits off Isle Madame, featuring a variety of coastal habitats, such as barrier beaches and ponds, coastal spruce/fir forest, low cliffs, dunes, sand spits and tidal flats. It provides nesting and staging habitat for shore birds and is an important area for seabird colonies.</p> <p>Sea duck hunting is permitted below the mean high water mark. The area is used for kayaking, including commercial operators. Designated camping sites will be considered.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_janvrinisl and.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
101	MacKay Brook Nature Reserve	Pictou	20 ha (50 acres)	<p>The MacKay Brook area is a small remnant of old hemlock, spruce and hardwood forest in the heavily fragmented Northumberland Strait Plain of Pictou County. The site offers opportunities for nature appreciation and education in association with adjacent conservation lands recently acquired by Friends of Redtail Society.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_mackaybrook.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
108	Masons Mountain Nature Reserve	Inverness	831 ha (2,052 acres)	<p>Located near South West Margaree, this relatively large natural forest patch is a mix of mature and old hardwood forest stands on steep slopes and canyons, and spruce-fir forest on narrow plateau ridges. Protection of the area helps represent Mason's Mountain Natural Landscape in the protected areas network.</p> <p>This area has potential for backcountry hiking/exploring.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_masonsmountain.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
117	Montrose Nature Reserve	Colchester	26 ha (63 acres)	<p>This is a small hemlock ravine in the lowlands between the Cobequid Mountains and Cobequid Bay. An easily accessible site, it offers opportunities for old forest viewing and education.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_montrose.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
132	Petite Bog Nature Reserve	Hants	799 ha (1,973 acres)	<p>The Petite Bog area is representative of the bogs of the low-lying Walton River Clay Plain Natural Landscape, and provides habitat for some rare sedges and grasses. Primarily bog, it also contains some black spruce and red pine forest. Petite bog has been used for climate change research.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_petitiebog.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
154	Rush Lake Nature Reserve	Guysborough	307 ha (758 acres)	<p>The Rush Lake area features one of the last remnants of mature Acadian forest in Liscomb Game Sanctuary. It is a "stepping stone" for wildlife movement in a region extensively used for forest harvesting and contains habitat for endangered mainland moose. This site features an impressive mix of mature red spruce, sugar maple, and yellow birch forest, as well as healthy and mature American beech trees. Rush Lake is a scenic and remote area on the upper reaches of the Liscomb River canoe route.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_rushlake.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
158	Seven Falls Nature Reserve	Inverness and Victoria	693 ha (1,712 acres)	<p>Situated along the Cabot Trail, this area is characterized steep river canyons with mature yellow birch and sugar maple forest. It contains at least seven waterfalls. This is a highly scenic and rugged landscape.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_sevenfalls.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014
167	Slade Lake Nature	Cumberland	25 ha	<p>The Slade Lake area is a small ecological "hot spot" outside of Oxford, consisting of a small forest patch with karst features such as sink holes and vernal pools. It is home to</p>	December 2014	December 2014

Site #	Name	County	Area	Description	Designation Decision Date	Designation in effect
	Reserve		(61 acres)	<p>several rare plant species and is a refuge for eastern white cedar, a listed species-at-risk in Nova Scotia.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_sladelake.asp</p>		
186	Tennycap River Nature Reserve	Hants	346 ha (855 acres)	<p>This area consists of two mixed forest patches at the headwaters of Tennycap River. The patches contain karst features such as sinkholes and have potential for bat hibernacula. Forests include a mix of young and old hardwoods and red spruce.</p> <p>http://www.novascotia.ca/nse/protectedareas/nr_tennycap_e.asp</p>	December 2014	December 2014