

Nova Scotia Environment and Climate Change Protected Areas Program

Presentation to Municipality of District of Shelburne

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Why Protected Areas ?

- Conserve biodiversity – representative ecosystems, rich or rare sites/landscapes, habitat for threatened or at-risk species.
- Support climate change mitigation and adaptation through provision of ecological services.
- Support healthy communities by providing access to nature, outdoor recreation opportunities and clean water.



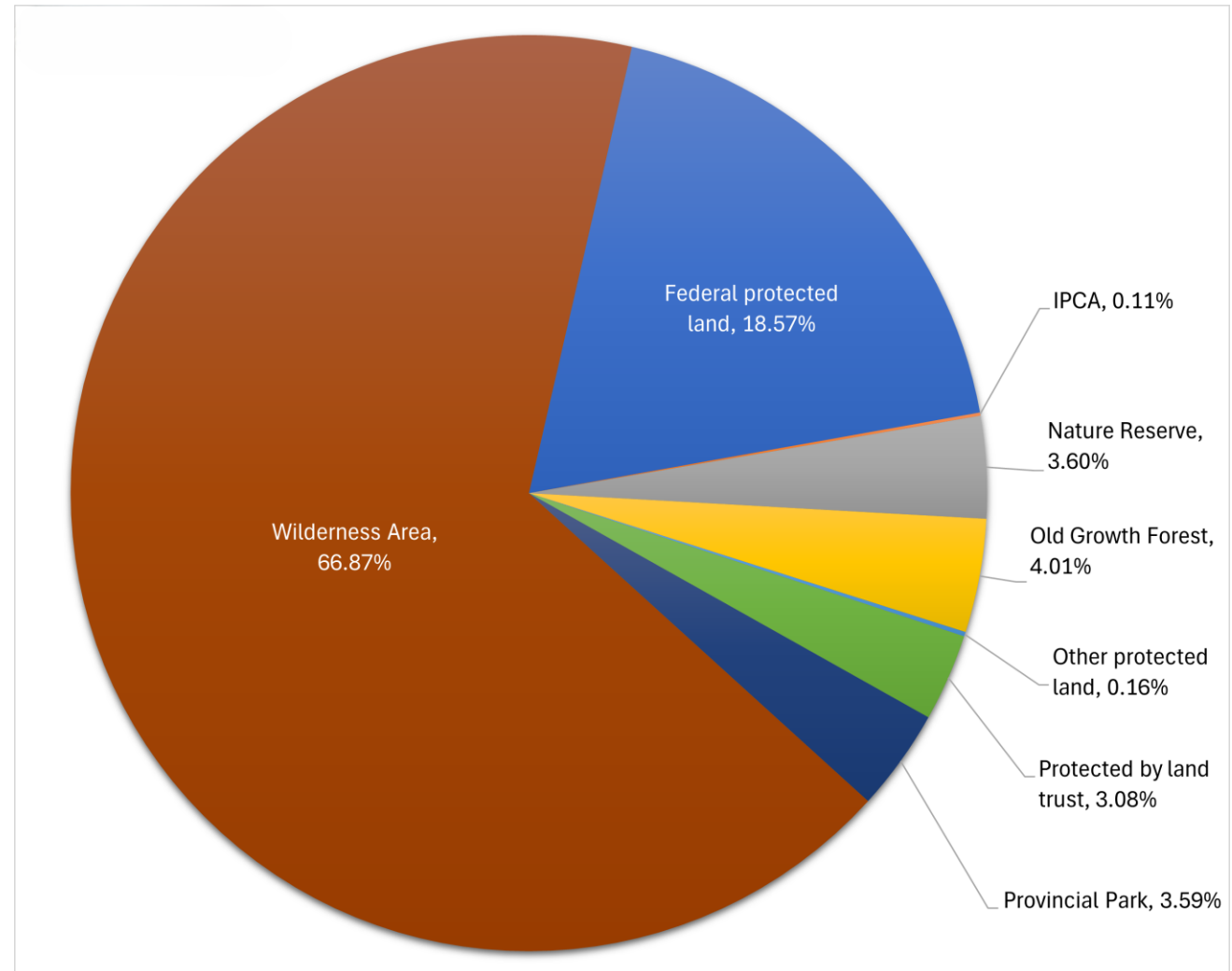
NSECC Protected Areas

Type	Size	Purpose	Human use
Nature Reserves (NR)	Small (10's – 100's ha)	Provide for the preservation, protection, regulation, acquisition and study of ecological sites which are considered important parts of the natural heritage of the Province	Science, research, education, light recreation.
Wilderness Areas (WA)	Medium to large (100s – 1000s ha)	(a) maintain and restore the integrity of natural processes and biodiversity; (b) protect representative examples of natural landscapes and ecosystems; (c) protect outstanding, unique, rare and vulnerable natural features and phenomena,	Science and research, wilderness recreation • Hunting, sportfishing, trapping • Self-propelled activities (hiking, skiing) • OHV use on designated trails • Camping

Nova Scotia Protected Areas

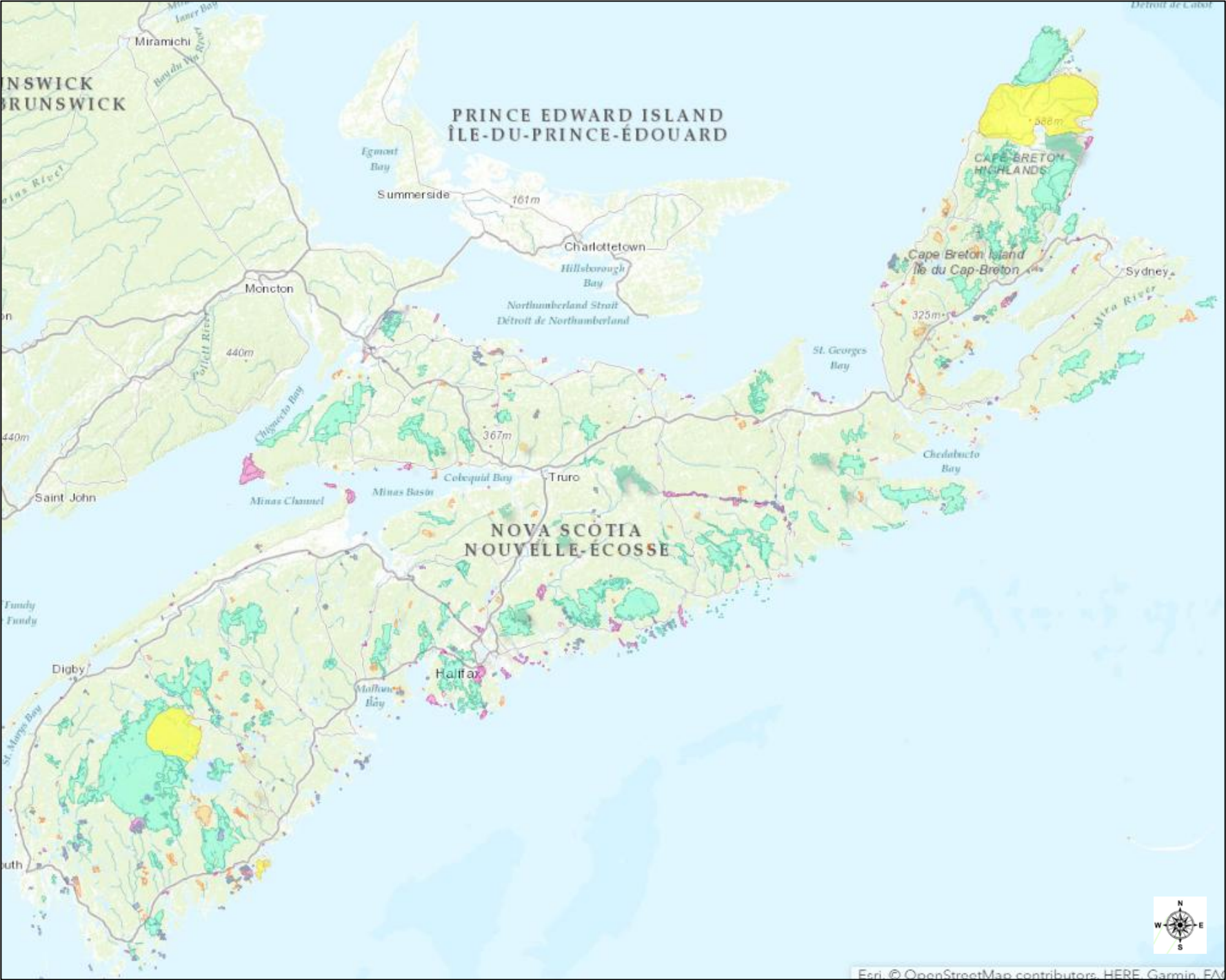
System Composition

- 14.56% of Nova Scotia is currently protected
- That 14.56% is composed of provincial, federal and privately protected lands



Nova Scotia Parks and Protected Areas

-  Nature Reserves
-  Wilderness Areas
-  Provincial Parks



Shelburne County

Land Protection and Ownership



-  Proposed Sandy Point Wilderness Area
-  Federal protected land
-  Provincial protected land
-  Private protected land
-  Crown land
-  Town
-  Other land



Collaborative Protected Areas Strategy

Selecting New Protected Areas

Relatively Intact – areas in a mostly natural state with relatively few human impacts.

Representative – examples of the full range of Nova Scotia's diverse natural landscapes.

Rich and/or Rare – areas rich in biodiversity as well as rare or unique landscapes.

Ecological Connectivity – lands that provide connections, allowing species to move across the landscape, including between protected areas.

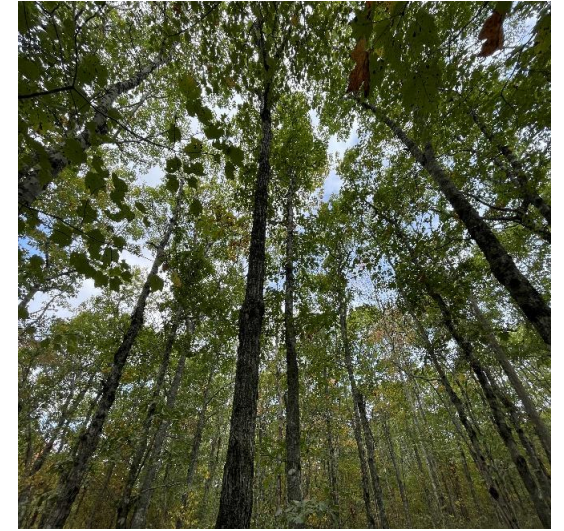
Watershed and Water Protection – areas maintaining aquatic habitat, water flows, and water quality.

Restoration – areas important for protecting nature in the long term but require time to restore to natural condition.

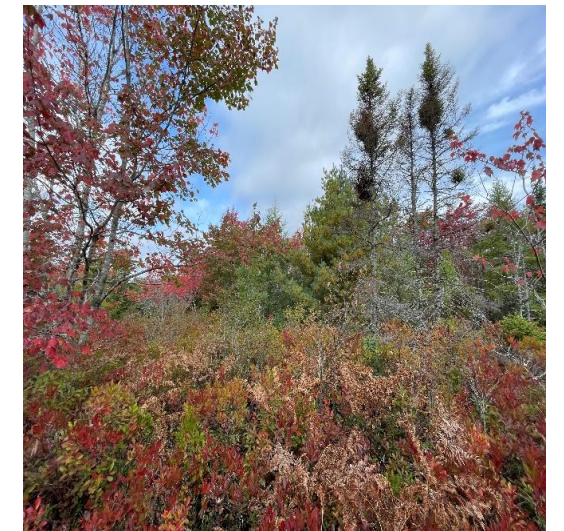
Additional Considerations - expansions or improvement of existing sites; climate adaptation and mitigation; minimizing or avoiding impacts to rural resource industries and clean energy developments

Proposed Sandy Point Wilderness Area

- Large (880 hectare) block of intact habitat composed of extensive wetlands and mixedwood forest. Likely supports diverse bird populations due to near-coastal position.
- Straddles the Roseway River Glacial Plan and Shelburne Headlands Natural Landscapes - both poorly represented in protected areas system.
- Occurrences as Olive-sided Flycatcher (Threatened), White-rimmed Shingle lichen (threatened) and Pinebarren Golden Heather (provincially rare).
- Overlaps with approximately 25% of Rodney Lake watershed.
- No history of commercial forestry, no overlapping mineral rights.



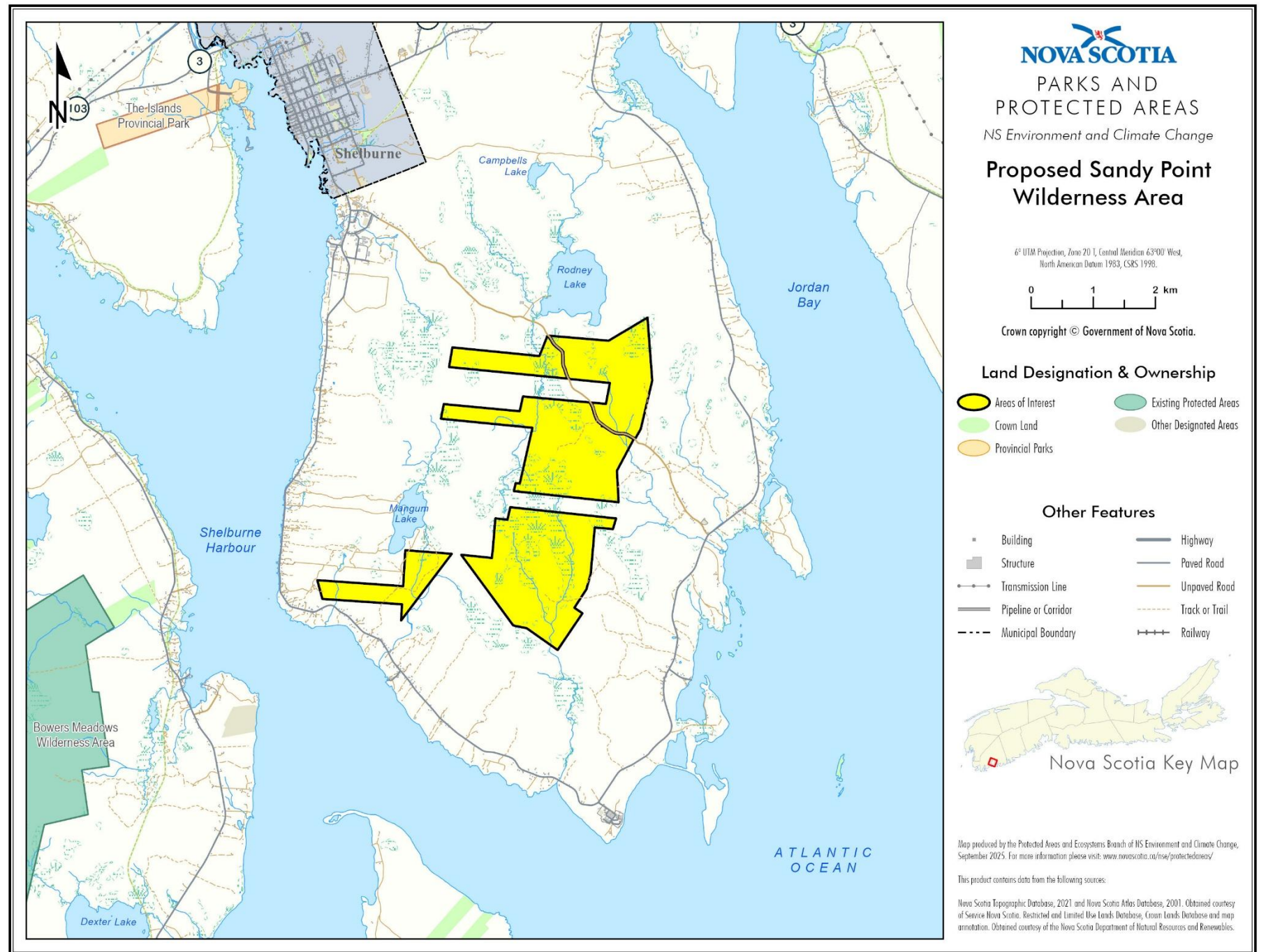
Red oak dominated forest at northern end of site.

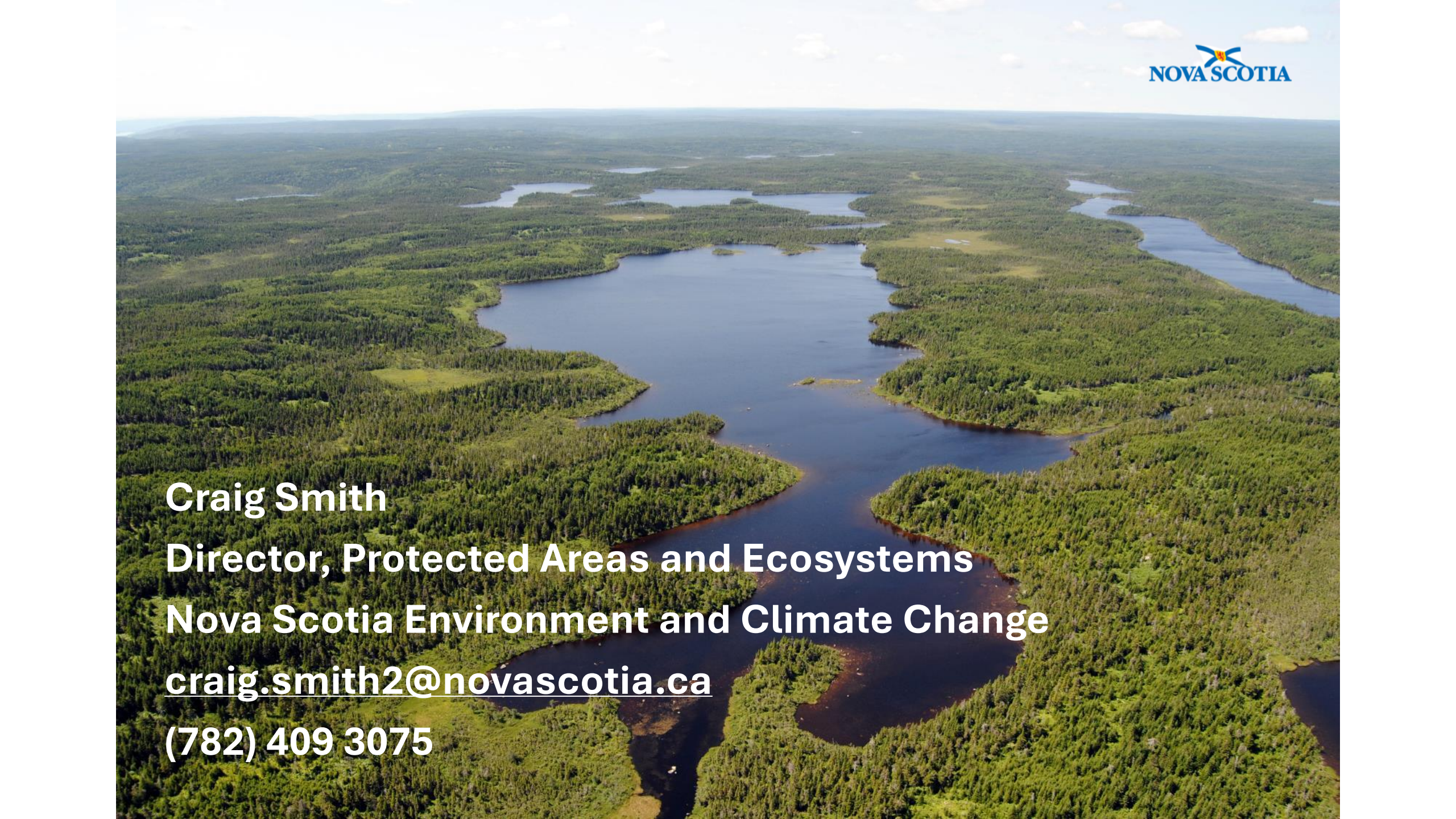


Typical ericaceous / open forest

Proposed Sandy Point Wilderness Area

Site Planning





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