

Resource Management Statement New River Beach Provincial Park



Government of New Brunswick
Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture
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Cover Photo: Coastal Trail, Barnaby Head (Courtesy of Province of New Brunswick)

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1 Introduction

1.1 Planning Process

The New Brunswick Provincial Government, through the *Parks Act* (2014), has established that Resource Management Plans (RMP) are necessary for the long-term sustainability of provincial parks. The provincial Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture (DTHC) is responsible for the development and implementation of these management plans.

The department will prepare management statements for each of the parks listed in the *Parks Act* (2014), which will be used to formulate the resource management plans in the future. These statements will remain in effect until a resource management plan (RMP) has been formally adopted by DTHC.

A park RMP is a key instrument in providing for the overall sustainability of a designated natural area. The province will establish these plans for its parks to enable appropriate management of the social, heritage, and biophysical ecosystems which define these areas. The plans will be used to identify management goals and objectives, to establish a vision and to set out policies and practices to address potential threats and to foster sustainability.

A management statement will provide the framework for the management plan. The statement will be used to compile relevant information and to identify gaps where additional research would be valuable. Following the protocols of the provincial park planning process and provincial park zoning process, this management statement provides for a park vision, highlights management principles through goals and objectives and sets out the process for review and changes.

The management statement for the New River Beach Park (NRBPP) is presented in this document. It has been prepared with stakeholder and public input to foster transparency in the planning process.

The First Nations were not consulted in the preparation of this document. Therefore, this Statement lacks the First Nation's traditional knowledge about the lands lying within the NRBPP, information about historical and current use of NRBPP, and information about Treaty and Aboriginal rights that are, or may be associated, with NRBPP. The DTHC recognizes the importance of First Nations consultation in park planning and will make it a priority as it prepares the management plan for the NRBPP as well as in future provincial park planning

1.2 New River Beach Provincial Park

NRBPP is located along the Bay of Fundy between the City of Saint John and town of St. George offering scenic hiking trails, a campground, and a day use beach and picnicking area. (Figure 1.) The Park was established in 1960 through a sale to the Province by Mrs. Marjorie Knight on the condition that it be used to provide camping facilities and beach access to the general public, particularly "less fortunate citizens and their children".

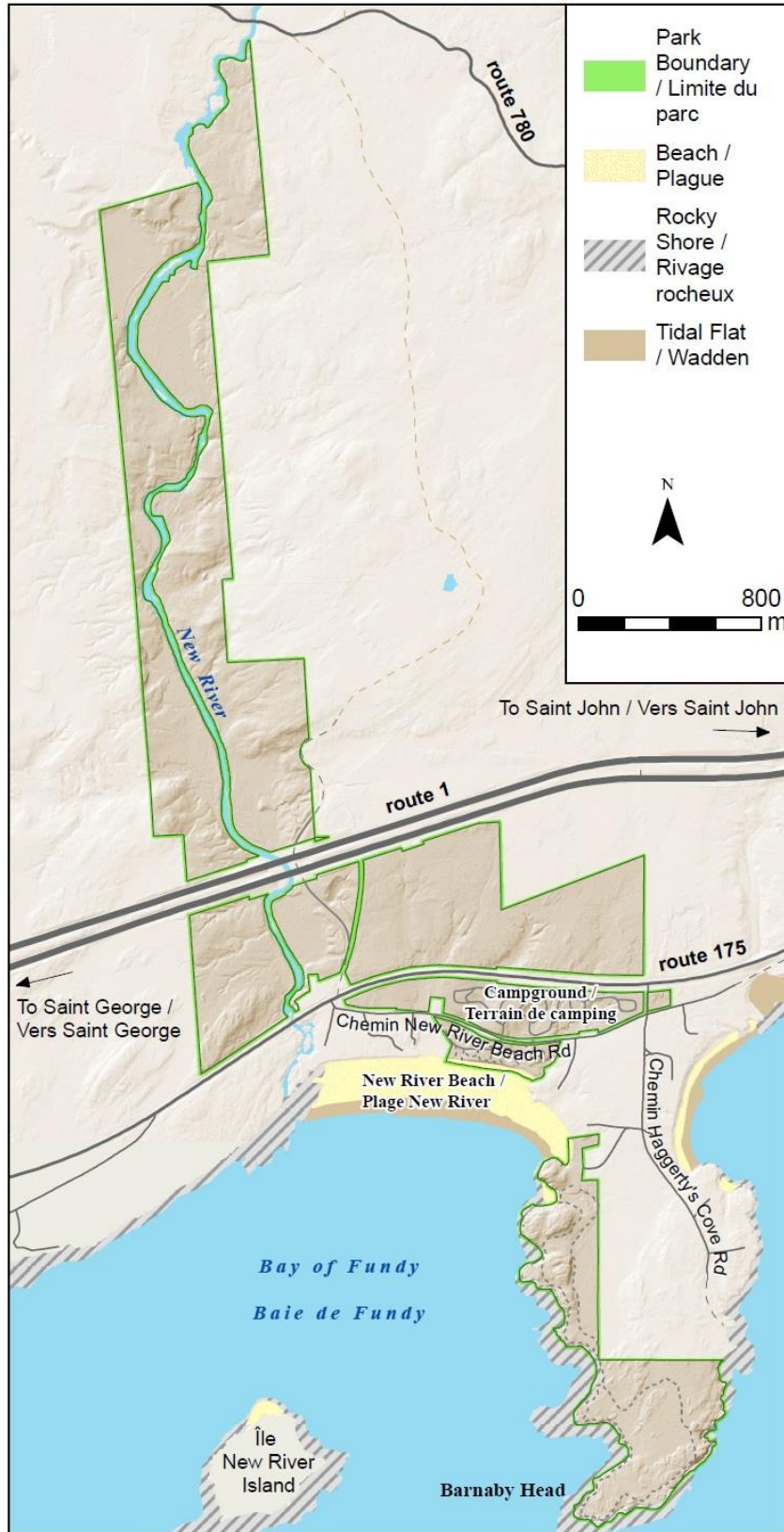


Figure 1: Location Map

2 Legislation and Policy Basis for Planning and Management

The legislative, policy and regulatory bases under which this framework is created are found in the *Parks Act* (2014) and its associated regulations found in General Regulations – Parks Act. Additional relevant legislation is the *Fish and Wildlife Act*, *Provincial Offences Procedure Act*, *Off Road Vehicle Act*, and *Police Act*.

The purpose of Provincial Parks is defined in the *Park Act* (2014), Section 3:

All Provincial Parks are dedicated to Residents of the Province, visitors and future generations to

- permanently protect ecosystems, biodiversity and the elements of natural and cultural heritage,
- provide opportunities for recreational and outdoor educational activities to promote a healthy lifestyle,
- provide opportunities to increase knowledge and appreciation of the natural and cultural heritage of the Province, and
- offer a tourism product that enhances the Province’s image as a quality vacation destination.

Resource Management Plans are mandated in the *Park Act* (2014), Section 10:

- 10.1(1) The Minister shall insure that the Department shall prepare a resource management plan at least every ten years for each provincial park that includes the different zones, resource protection measures, the use and development of resources and any other information the Minister considers appropriate.
- 10.1(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to a provincial park that is classified as a cultural heritage park under the General Regulation – *Parks Act*.

The New Brunswick Provincial Parks Management Planning Process outlines the management planning process Provincial Parks will undertake in order to fulfill the commitment of the *Parks Act* review. The New Brunswick Provincial Parks Management Planning Process can be obtained at www.gnb.ca/tourism.

2.1 Resource Management Statement Administration

This statement has been prepared on behalf of DTHC with input from provincial government staff, NRPPP administration, stakeholders, the public. This statement is a public document available for ongoing input and updates, as data become available.

This statement will be administered by the Park Manager. DTHC will provide support to the Manager in this function.

2.2 Park Geography

This 368 hectare (899 acre) provincial park is located along the New River, which is a tributary to the Bay of Fundy. Bisected by Highway 175, the Park is bounded by the shore to the south, residential properties to the east and west and forest lands to the north.

- Location in the region and the Province: Southern coast in Charlotte county
- Distance to major communities: 46.2 Km from Saint John, 58.3 Km from St. Andrews
- Notable geographic features: Barnaby Head, Maces Bay and the Bay of Fundy
- Primary access methods / routes: NB Route 1 and Highway 175.

A detailed map outlining property boundaries, landmarks, habitats and land uses can be found in Appendix A.

2.3 Aboriginal Communities

NRBPP is located on traditional land of the Wabanaki people, specifically the Maliseet and Passamaquoddy who frequented the region of northern Maine and western New Brunswick prior to and during early European occupation. Peace and Friendship Treaties were made between the First Nations and the British ruling government in the 1700's. These treaties were based on peace and friendship and did not reference ceding any lands. Through this mechanism, the First Nations have a government to government relationship in planning for the use of lands.

First Nations have expressed interest in and have shared knowledge of the Park and surrounding area. First Nations communities have used the area for hunting, trapping, fishing, gathering and travel. These uses may continue, subject to public safety, conservation and other considerations. DTHC looks forward to consulting with the Wolastoqey Nation to gain a better understanding of their knowledge and use of the Park.

Any communications and cooperation between First Nation communities and the Park for planning and operations purposes will be done without prejudice to any future discussions or negotiations between the government of New Brunswick and First Nations communities.

2.4 Park Classification

Through Park classification, New Brunswick Provincial Parks are organized into broad categories, each of which has particular purposes and characteristics. NRBPP is a Recreational Class Park.

Recreational Parks provide opportunities, in protected natural surroundings, for recreational and outdoor educational activities to promote a healthy lifestyle and offer a tourism product that enhances the Province's image as a quality vacation destination.

2.5 Purpose and Vision

The purpose of New River Beach Provincial Park is:

- ❖ To contribute to the overall New Brunswick Provincial Parks network by protecting an outstanding natural environment while offering guests recreation opportunities and promoting the educational appreciation of the Park's natural values.

The vision for New River Beach Provincial Park is:

- ❖ A healthy un-developed natural environment for education, environmental stewardship and recreation

In accordance with the legislation, the four objectives for provincial parks are:

- To protect ecosystems
- To promote healthy lifestyles through recreation and outdoor activities
- To provide educational opportunities; and
- To promote tourism

How these objectives are achieved at NRBPP is presented in the following subsections.

2.5.1.1 Protection and Preservation

By using scientific evidence, the precautionary principle and taking into account climate change, when making decisions affecting ecosystem management, the Protection objective of NRBPP is:

- to protect and enumerate the protected areas and ecosystems within the Park boundaries. All Park values will be protected, not just significant features. Park management will be directed toward maintaining a healthy biodiversity, thereby enhancing the achievement of the Park's other objectives.

2.5.1.2 Recreation

The Park's recreational objective, which encourages appreciation of the Park's beaches, waterways, hiking trails, biodiversity, wildlife, camping, ecotourism, cultural heritage, is:

- to enhance visitor appreciation of the area through direct experience by offering a means of ecologically sustainable recreation to a wide range of visitors.

The Park supports approximately one kilometer of day-use beachfront, wetland interpretation and hiking trails, and overnight camping. New River Beach promotes both passive and active, self-propelled recreation opportunities within the park boundaries.

2.5.1.3 Education and Research

The Park's scientific research and educational objective is:

- to encourage research that furthers the knowledge of the Park's ecology and history and contributes to the understanding of how to maintain coastal areas.

The outcome of research is used to enhance the ecological integrity of the Park and support the ecological sustainability of this Park and similar eco-systems. Research activities allow for a better understanding of the history of our Province and lead to the creation of educational and informational tools to help inform our visitors.

2.5.1.4 Tourism

The tourism objective of NRBPP is:

- to connect New Brunswickers to nature through parks and to provide out-of-province visitors with opportunities to experience New Brunswick's outdoor recreational resources.

This objective is achieved through the "Get Outside!NB" program and with active community partnerships within provincial government departments, federal government (Parks Canada), and educational institutions and non-governmental organizations. This program offers both traditional camping activities and guided excursions or events.

Visitor appreciation of the Park is enhanced by:

- Printed materials (e.g. trail guides) signage, panels or displays
- Informal communications with Park staff; and,
- Information from local tourism operators



Barnaby Head Trail (Photo: T. Wade, 2017)

3 Partnerships

Partnerships and volunteers enhance the Province's ability to achieve the park's protection, recreation, research and heritage objectives.

DTHC may explore and pursue opportunities for new and continuing partnerships, involving other agencies and groups, and/or individual volunteers through formal and informal partnership agreements.

Partners may represent the local community, local and provincial interests, interested individuals or the private sector. Partners provide valuable assistance and insight on specific issues relative to overall park management.

NRBPP has relationships with:

- St. George Food Bank
- SPCA
- Local radio stations (eg CBC)
- David Goss – Interpretive storytelling
- Stonehammer UNESCO Global GeoPark
- Discover Saint John
- Aquila Tours
- Army Cadets
- Charlotte County Tourism Association
- Gull & Herring Restaurant (on-site concessionaire)
- Nature Trust of New Brunswick
- Nature New Brunswick
- Healthy Eating, Physical Activity Coalition (HEPAC)
- Wellness NB (Get Outside | NB)
- Artificial Reef Society
- Canoe Kayak NB
- Scuba Diving Clubs.

4 Public Engagement

An open house event was held at the NRBPP Recreation building in September 2017. Designed to provide information on the park zones and to obtain input from participants on a number of issues related to the Park, the session was well attended, mainly by seasonal campers and nearby residents. A full report on the engagement process and outcomes is provided in Appendix C. The information obtained through an on-line survey has also been used to inform the refinement of park policies and the park management actions in Section 9 of this report.

Public engagement is an important component of the park planning and management process. Continued engagement throughout the statement's administration will allow for effective management and implementation of park policies. Having open and continuous dialogue with park users will encourage an atmosphere of ownership and responsibility minimizing negative environmental effects.



New River Beach with view to Barnaby Head (Photo: T Wade, 2017)

5 Biophysical and Socio-economic Environment

5.1 Bio-Physical Environment

The Park lies within the Fundy Coastal Eco-District. The region spans the entire southern coastline of New Brunswick along the Bay of Fundy from the east side of Passamaquoddy Bay to the east side of Shepody Bay. It also encompasses the Western Isles and Outer Isles that include Grand Manan, Campobello, Deer, and Machias Seal islands.

5.1.1 Geology, topography and climate

The Fundy Coastal Eco-Region is characterized by the oldest (Precambrian metasedimentary strata) to the youngest rocks (Jurassic volcanic) in the province. Granite rock is also seen throughout the region, particularly in the St. George area. The appeal of the shoreline is provided by the different bedrock formations. Coastal cliffs are approximately ten metres (30') high, and consist mainly of sandstone, a young stone of the Pennsylvanian-Triassic Period. Granite from the Precambrian period is visible along the highway. New River sports a number of waterfalls and pools. In land and along the river, the terrain and vegetation reflects different soil types.

The climate of the region is influenced by the oceanic currents and is more moderate year-round than more inland areas of the province. Fog is common, arising when the air temperature is warmer than the water temperature, particularly during the summer months.

5.1.2 Terrestrial Environment

Vegetation adjacent to the coastline is comprised of species common to marine coastal environments with little to no topsoil. Bog laurel and blueberries are the dominate shrubs.

The spruce bog on Barnaby Head has Labrador tea, bog cranberries, sundew and pitcher plants (two insect-eating plants). The densely forested campground contains tamarack, cedar, spruce, fir, and pines with an understory of bog laurel, ferns, and bunchberry.

Gulls, eider ducks, great and double crested cormorants, osprey, eagles, goshawks, great blue heron, and razorbills all frequent the coastline at New River Beach. Farther inland, Peregrine Falcons have been identified. The greater Maces Bay/Point Lepreau area has been designated as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International, Bird Studies Canada and Nature Canada. (A description of the area is provided in Appendix D.) The marine waters and associated shoreline represent a major migration staging area for waterfowl.

Fur bearing mammals, including moose, white tailed deer and bear may be seen in the campground and the Park generally.

5.1.3 Aquatic Environment

The marine aquatic environment supports a diversity of species including invertebrates and vertebrates. Soft shelled clams, sand dollars and rock crabs are common to the foreshore. Large tracts of seaweed support a variety of species including lobster.

Herring, flounder, mackerel and halibut are some of the fish in this part of the Bay of Fundy. Whales, some visible from Barnaby Point, include Minke and North Atlantic Right Whale, along with the Harbour

Porpoise, seals, and the Atlantic White-sided Dolphin. There exists an active inshore fishery of lobster, scallops, clams and herring. Aquaculture operations are also common to the area.

New River, a tributary to the Bay of Fundy, supports a variety of freshwater aquatic species, including salmonids. The headwaters of New River are over 30 km inland with limited to no development along its course.

5.1.4 Rare and Endangered Species

Rare and endangered species which have been recorded within 5 km of the Park and may be observed in the Park are:

- Atlantic Salmon
- Bald Eagle
- Barn Swallow
- Barrow's Goldeneye
- Canada Warbler
- Common Nighthawk
- Eastern Woo-Peewee
- Harlequin Duck
- Horned Grebe
- Olive-sided Flycatcher
- Peregrine Falcon
- Red Knot
- Rusty Blackbird
- Snapping Turtle
- Van Brundt's Jacob's Ladder

These species are either rare and/or endangered and are protected by federal and provincial legislation.

5.2 Socio-economic Environment

New River Beach Provincial Park is situated on the Bay of Fundy, approximately 46 km from the City of Saint John and 25 km from the Town of St. George. Nearby communities are New River to the west and Haggarty's Cove to the east. The Park is located within the Local Service District (LSD) of Lepreau, which falls within the jurisdiction of the Southwestern Regional Service Commission. Any land use planning issues within the LSD are managed by the Commission.

Haggarty's Cove is comprised of mainly seasonal residential dwellings, although some homes have been winterized to support year-round occupation. Generally, the lots are small and front the beach to the east. New River is also comprised of seasonal residential dwellings, with a number of larger estate style dwellings situated to the west of the Park. Both areas have been traditional vacation destinations which is reflected in the age of some of the seasonal dwellings.

The Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station (PLGS) is situated to the east of the Park on the next headland, south of Maces Bay. PLGS has the capacity to generate 660MW of electricity without the production of greenhouse gases. The station has been in operation since 1976.

Lepreau Falls on the Lepreau River is a Provincial Park managed by DTHC and maintained by the staff of NRBPP. This Park is located 7km from NRBPP.

Economic activity in the area of NRBPP is largely resource-based including forestry, quarrying and fishing. The main fishery is lobster, particularly in the larger Maces Bay area. Recreational fishing occurs on the New River, to the north of the Park. Tommy's Cove is a popular area for scuba diving. The beach is sometimes used as a launch area for small boats and kayaks. Tourism in the area is primarily associated with the Park. A feasibility study is being conducted of the potential for a Coastal Trail which would connect the trail system in the Eastern USA to the TransCanada Trail. The proposed trail would connect existing trails between the US-Canada border and Saint John. As such the trail may pass by the Park.

The primary attraction at New River Beach is its wide sandy beach with its calm protected waters of the Bay. Activities are focused on the beach and water. The water around Barnaby Head has a sandy bottom to a distance of 12m (40') beyond the low tide mark. The clarity of the water offers amazing views of underwater life to canoers and divers alike. NRBPP is also noted for its hiking trails.

5.3 New River Island Nature Preserve

To the south and west of the Park is the New River Island Nature Preserve. Managed by the Nature Trust of New Brunswick, the nature preserve supports a variety of terrestrial, avian and aquatic species common to the marine ecosystem. The island is 13 hectares (33 acres) and roughly circular. It is one of only a few islands in Maces Bay, a small bay in the larger Bay of Fundy. The majority of the island is covered with mixed growth forest, including young to mature hard and soft wood trees. The preserve is accessible only by boat.

5.4 Heritage and Culture

The Bay of Fundy exhibits both ancient and recent physical resources. While having some of the oldest visible rocks in the world, it was still covered by ice 18,000 years ago. Bands of Maliseet and Passamaquoddy peoples continued to seasonally camp, fish, forage, and hunt during early European colonization. When European settlers arrived, they were granted large parcels of land. The Chitticks, a young couple from England, settled on Barnaby Head and had land in the area extending to Pocologan. The remains of their root cellar and house foundation can be seen upland from the beach area named in their honour.

During the days of prohibition, early in this century, Barnaby Head was quite an important landing for rum runners. Its cave and crevices were hiding places for rum from Caribbean countries.

6 Park Threats

6.1 Coastal Erosion from Sea Level Rise and Climate Change

Coastal erosion is the most significant environmental threat for NRBPP. Increasing ocean levels and major storm incidences have resulted in intensified erosion, particularly in the area of the beach. The rock formations along Barnaby Head are in large part granite and subject to very slow erosion from continuous wave action.

6.2 Forest Management

Approximately 75% of the Park is forested lands, characteristic of Acadian Forest. Although most tree species are disease resistant, the potential for infestations to occur should be considered as a threat to forest diversity. Extreme weather events can impact tree stands.

6.3 Forestry

The Crown land adjacent to NRBPP is within the Queens-Charlotte-Fundy Crown License Administrative unit. This management unit is currently managed by J.D. Irving, Limited of Saint John NB. Removal of tree cover close to the boundary of the Park may affect the migration of wildlife.

6.4 Non-native Species

Non-native and invasive species may enter the Park through any number of opportunities at any time. These species may have longer term detrimental effects on the natural ecosystem of the Park. A detailed species survey is required to identify existing potentially non-native and invasive species.

6.5 Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station

The Point Lepreau Generating Station (PLGS) has operated safely and efficiently for over 30 years. Since its construction, the emergency program at PLGS has been governed by two principal plans; an On-Site Plan and an Off-Site Plan. NRBPP is located within the area outlined within the Off-Site Plan.

6.6 Residential Development

New River Beach is within the Local Service District of Lepreau. Seasonal and permanent dwellings are situated around the perimeter of the Park, particularly adjacent to the beach area. Several residences front the beach, while others have public access rights. While there are few building lots available, many of the original seasonal homes are being converted for permanent residences, creating additional development pressures in the immediate vicinity.

6.7 Adjacent Tourism and Recreational Opportunities

With the exception of homes and cottages, there are no known tourism developments adjacent to the Park. Recreational activities outside park boundaries include fishing, ATV and snowmobile use and hunting. Swimming is limited to existing beaches in Maces Bay and Lepreau Harbour. Camping may occur along the coast as well as inland. Accessed through Park lands at Haggarty's Cove, is an artificial reef which provides recreation and tourism through scuba diving.

7 Zoning and Zone Management Policies

Lands within NRBPP are zoned according to their natural, cultural and recreational values, as well as their requirement for protection. Permitted activities for each type of zone are derived from the *Parks Act* (2014) and from the policies and practices contained therein.

New Brunswick Provincial Parks are comprised of one or more of the seven (7) possible zoning areas; Service, Nature Conservation, Nature Recreation, Intensive Recreation, Water, Heritage, and the Hydrographic Overlay zone. These zones outline the permissible degree of use and management practice within the Park based upon the sensitivity of the natural values. NRBPP is designated to have six (6) zones: Service, Nature Conservation, Nature Recreation, Intensive Recreation, Water, and the Hydrographic Overlay.

It is not uncommon for zones to have multiple uses: nature reserve zones with recreational trails or culture reserve zones with natural ecosystems requiring protection. Zones exhibiting multiple use characteristics should be designated according to the most important of its characteristics. For example, a recreational trail through a nature reserve should be managed according to the more stringent requirements of a nature reserve.

7.1 Service Zone

Lands within the Service zone serve as staging areas with development generally limited to basic facilities intended to meet the needs of visitors entering and using the Park. Service zones may also support facilities for research, interpretive education (self-use) and Park Management.

7.1.1 Access and Roads

The primary access to NRBPP begins from Route 1 onto New River Beach Road. From New River Beach Road, guests will either exit North into the campground or South into one of two beach access parking lots. A forest access road, commonly referred to as the Detour road, borders the Northern park boundary.

7.1.2 Park Buildings and Structures

Park buildings and structures used to support the visitor experience are also part of the Service zone. These would include the administration buildings, guest check-in, park maintenance areas and shed, parking lots, as well as the campground lagoon.

7.1.3 Utility corridors

A utility corridor may also provide limited access to the northern section of the Park. The portion of the utility corridor within the park boundary is included in the park land base.

7.2 Intensive Recreation Zone

Intensive Recreation zones differ from Nature Recreation zones in that they offer modern, human-centric services. Still, environmental stewardship and biodiversity remain an important element of zone management. Intensive Recreation zones often provide access to other zones and the zone boundaries should be clearly delineated.

The Intensive Recreation zone, primarily south of Route 1 for NRBPP contains a 104-site campground, park administration building, restaurant/canteen, maintenance compound, play structures, two defined beach areas – one with a boat launch and interpretive hiking trails.

7.3 Nature Recreation Zone

Nature Recreation is a zone meant to provide opportunities for recreation and outdoor education activities with little or no infrastructure including trails and interpretation areas. The conservation of nature is a co-objective in this zone. The Nature Recreation zone differs from Nature Conservation zones in large part because it is not placed in areas of geological, habitat or environmental sensitivity.

The Nature Recreation zone encompasses much of Barnaby Head, as well as the eastern shore of New River to the north of the highway. The Barnaby Head area also features two (2) significant bogs, however, unlike the Nature Conservation zone, there is a trail and interpretive network throughout Barnaby Head.

- Hiking – the main hiking trail is along Barnaby Head. The trail is well defined with limited signage. Informal trails can be found adjacent to New River, reaching the northern portions of the Park.
- Snowmobile Trails - there are no designated snowmobile trails in the Park.
- ATV Trails - there are no designated ATV trails in the Park.
- Water Trail – a designated “trail” is located along the marine frontage of the park which highlights historical and nature points of interest. The trail is signed and maps are available from Park staff.

7.4 Nature Conservation Zone

Nature Conservation zones are the areas intended to provide increased protection and scientific research for rare or endangered flora, fauna or ecosystems. Human access will not be encouraged or facilitated in these areas, save for limited park management activity. Conservation of nature is the primary objective in this zone. Development in Nature Conservation zones is restricted to minor trails, signs and temporary facilities for research and management. Very limited recreation may occur within this zone and would only be permitted subject to strict levels of protection and prohibitions. There are two Nature Conservation Zones on Barnaby Head which are designed to protect the significant bogs. The existing trail network through these zones are established. Within this zone, these trails cannot be realigned or modified, except for maintenance of any existing boardwalks.

The park property situated along the western bank of New River from Route 1 to its northern boundary makes up the primary Nature Conservation Zone. This area contains an ecologically significant bog and steep slopes with exposed bedrock.

7.5 Water Zone

Water Zones are made up of intertidal areas where the salt water meets the land, and adjacent lands to the New River. The Water zone of New River Beach extends along the entire Southern edge of the Park, as well as along both banks of the New River. Much of this area is directly influenced by the tidal cycles of the bay and because of this, the communities are constantly changing. On rocky coasts, the zone is stratified vertically.

This zone is highlighted by New River Harbour and a number of named coves – Carion, Tommy’s, Raspberry, Deadman’s, and Deep. In addition to New River Beach there is also Chittick’s Beach which is found next to Long Point on Barnaby Head.

The beaches associated with the Park are under the mandate of the Department of Energy and Resource Development (DERD). DTHC has secured the waterlot which includes the New River Beach and the Carion Beach. With these additional areas, DTHC will be able to manage the beaches.

New River, a tributary to the Bay of Fundy is a canoe route for advanced paddlers as it is isolated, rugged, and requires a high level of technical white water and wilderness tripping skills. The route can be started at a crossing of Route 780 on the New River, from this point the route is approximately 6 kilometres in length. The aquatic component of the trail, however, is the mandate of DERD and as such is not included in this Management Statement.

7.6 Hydrographic Overlay Zone

This zone is based on scientific assessments of land elevation and the areas of land susceptible to flooding due to storm surge and intensive storms. This zone is applied to areas within the Park where additional protection is required for ecosystem integrity. By definition, no development, unless for protection, is permitted.

7.7 Permitted Uses by Zone

The following is a list of permitted uses in each of the zones identified above. Any proposed new use to take place within the park, must match the list of uses set out below for the zone in which the subject area falls. If a proposed new use does not match the permitted uses for the zone, a zoning amendment process shall be followed (see Section 10) to ascertain if the proposed use is to be permitted.

7.7.1 Service Zone

Permitted uses within this zone include the following:

- a) Access roads, suitable for any type of vehicle
- b) Park buildings and structures
- c) Retail services (gift shop, equipment rentals)
- d) Utility corridors
- e) Transportation corridors
- f) Trails
- g) Restaurant, canteen
- h) Public parking areas
- i) Park maintenance space
- j) Sewage lagoon

7.7.2 Intensive Recreation Zone

Permitted uses within this zone include the following:

- a) Campground and amenities
- b) Playground
- c) Sports fields
- d) Trails
- e) Restaurants, or other types of food service
- f) Retail services (gift shop, equipment rentals)
- g) Park buildings and structures for educational purposes
- h) Access roads

- i) Tourism adventure services
- j) Public toilet facilities

7.7.3 Nature Recreation Zone

Permitted uses within this zone include the following:

- a) Non-motorized trails
- b) Boardwalks, bridges, and vista structures
- c) Interpretive structures and signage
- d) Open space
- e) Naturalized picnic areas

7.7.4 Nature Conservation Zone

Permitted uses within this zone include the following:

- a) Interpretive signage
- b) Scientific, conservation, and educational activities

7.7.5 Water Zone

Permitted uses within this zone include the following:

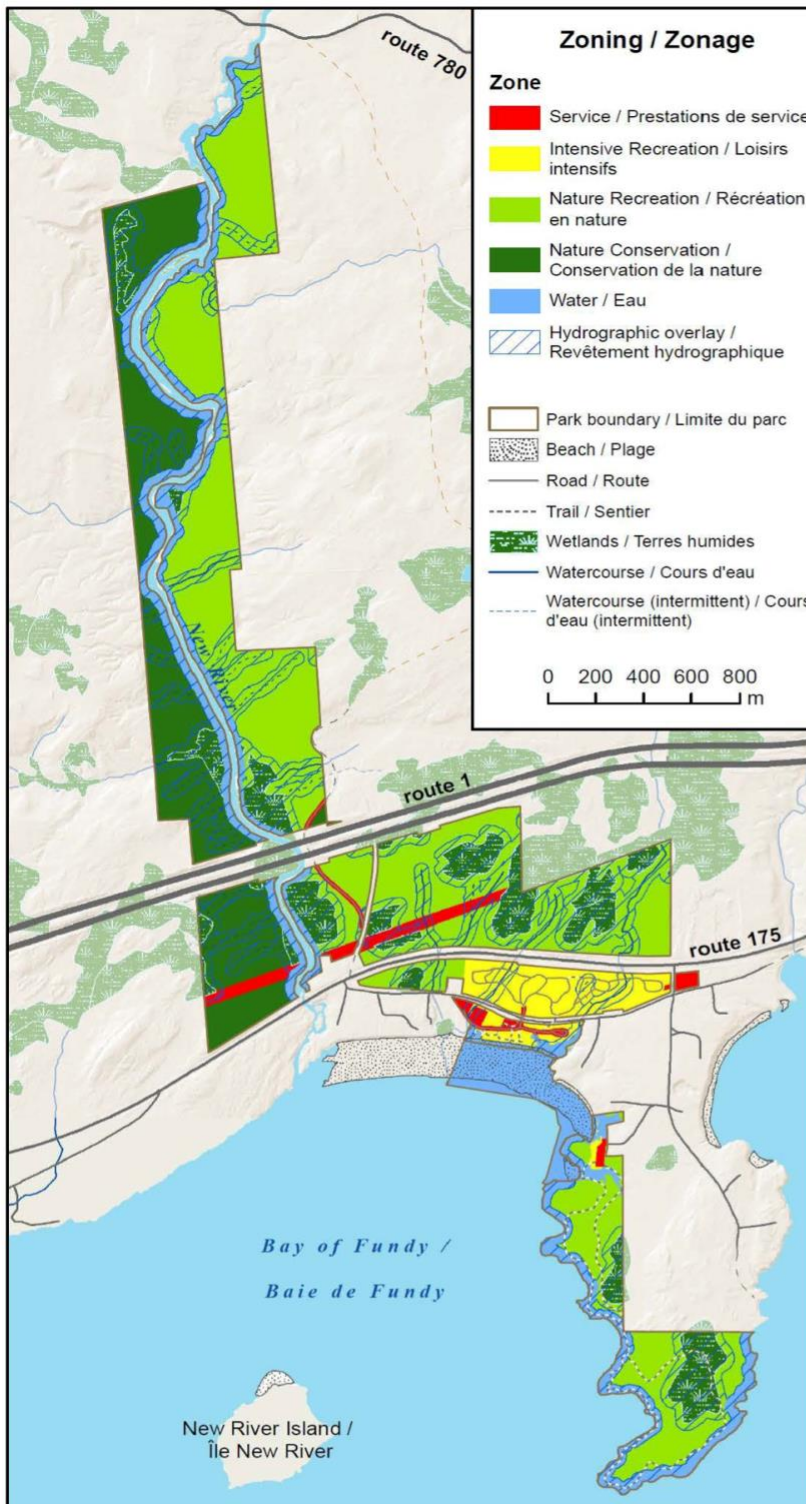
- a) Shoreline stabilization
- b) Erosion control measures
- c) Non-motorized trails (including boardwalks, bridges)
- d) Signage for public safety/information
- e) Public use (i.e., beach; no permanent structures permitted)
- f) Leash-free dog park (i.e., Carion Beach)
- g) Wharf or dock

7.7.6 Hydrographic Overlay Zone

No development is permitted, excepting the following:

- a) Shoreline stabilization
- b) Erosion control measures

Figure 2: Zoning Map



Service Zone / Zone de prestations de service - area intended for the development of basic facilities intended to meet the needs of the public using park facilities (parking lots, roads, maintenance buildings, public facilities)/ *cette zone est réservée à l'aménagement d'installations de base pour répondre aux besoins des usagers du parc (aires de stationnement, routes, bâtiments d'entretien, toilettes, infrastructure)*

Intensive Recreation Zone / Zone de loisirs intensifs – area most heavily used by the public on a daily basis – including camping areas, play fields, play grounds, etc. / *il s'agit de la zone la plus fréquentée par le public au quotidien (accès à la plage, aires de camping et terrains de sport et de jeu)*

Nature Recreation Zone / Zone de récréation en nature – is the area meant to provide opportunities for natural recreational and outdoor educational activities with little to no infrastructure including trails and interpretation areas / *cette zone est réservée aux activités récréatives et éducatives dans un environnement naturel où il y n'a que peu ou pas d'infrastructures. On y trouve des sentiers, des aires d'interprétation et des terrains de camping rustique*

Nature Conservation Zone / Zone de conservation de la nature – is the area intended to provide increased protection and scientific research for rare or endangered flora and fauna which is not accessible to the public. / *ce secteur auquel le public n'a pas accès est réservé à la protection des zones vulnérables et à la recherche scientifique sur les plantes et les animaux rares ou menacés d'extinction*

Water Zone / Zone d'eau - area designated as the beach and waterways and access to water; also includes a buffer to protect sensitive habitats and features / *cette zone comprend des cours d'eau et l'accès à ceux-ci, et une zone tampon qui les protège, de même que les habitats sensibles*

Hydrographic Overlay Zone / Zone revêtement hydrographique
this "overlay" is based on scientific assessment of land elevation and shows the areas of land susceptible to flooding due to storm surge and intensive storms / *cette zone, définie à la suite de l'évaluation scientifique de l'élévation des terres, indique les secteurs qui risquent d'être inondés en cas d'ondes de tempête ou de tempêtes intenses*

Primary Zoning	Land Cover	Area (ha.)	% of Park Land Base
Nature Recreation	Conifer stands	205.90	62.26
Nature Recreation	Mixed wood stands	38.01	11.49
Nature Recreation	Deciduous stands	0	0
Nature Recreation	Unknown species stands	4.28	1.29
Nature Recreation	Fields (eg. grass, shrubs and trees)	72.97	22.06
Nature Recreation	Trail length	5.23 km	
Nature Conservation	Bogs	14.40	4.35
Nature Conservation	Fens	10.84	3.28
Nature Conservation	Shrub wetlands	18.84	5.70
Nature Conservation	Freshwater Marshes	0.47	0.14
Intensive Recreation	Campgrounds	16.11	4.87
Intensive Recreation	Day use (e.g. sports fields)	3.29	1.00
Water	Sea-level rise	6.94	2.10
Water	30 m coastal buffer	13.69	4.14
Water	30 m river buffer	27.96	8.46
Service	Quarries and other non-vegetated open areas	9.55	2.89
Service	Road corridors (designated and non-designated)	7.59	2.3
Service	Parking lots	1.04	0.32
Service	Park Administration	0.67	0.21
Service	Buildings (larger than 10 square meters)	0.08	0.02

Table 1: Summary of land cover within New River Beach Provincial Park

8 Provincial Park Regulations and Policies

The regulations and policies affecting Provincial Parks are set out under the *Parks Act*, the Parks New Brunswick policy manual and the Parks New Brunswick Operating Procedures manual.

- Park regulations, under the Parks Act: <http://laws.gnb.ca/en/ShowTdm/cs/2011-c.202//>
- Parks New Brunswick policy manual
- Parks New Brunswick operating procedures manual

The sections below highlight how the unique uses and characteristics of NRBPP are managed with respect to Provincial Park Regulations and Policies.

8.1 Operational Status

The operational status of the Provincial Park is contingent on user demand and available funding. Non-operating parks provide minimal to no facilities and services and minimal park staff. Operating parks provide a range of services and facilities and are staffed to service visitor requirements.

New River Beach Provincial Park is an operating park. Any decision to change the operational status of a park is subject to an internal business case review that addresses visitation and use, analysis of revenue and expenditures, and infrastructure needs. The Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture may change the operating status to meet the policies of the government.

8.2 Park Operations

Parks NB staff may use any vehicle to the extent necessary for emergency rescues, efficient park operations on existing trails only, or research and monitoring activities in the Park.

Wherever possible, park operations will minimize environmental impacts. This will be accomplished, in part, by:

- Conducting enforcement patrols on foot, where possible; and,
- Limiting the use of power tools for park maintenance.
- Other public agencies may use any vehicle for emergency search and rescue operations within the Park, subject to time-sensitive, approval from the Park Manager.

8.3 Conduct of Persons Using Provincial Parks

Any person within the NRBPP shall abide by all policies and procedures established in this management statement and with all applicable legislation at all times.

8.4 Recreational Management

Activities not specifically addressed in the resource management direction may be considered. These activities must be reviewed to determine consistency with legislation, regulations and rules. If approved, the resource management direction must be adjusted to reflect the change and in accordance with the consultation/process protocol.

8.4.1 Authorized Activities

- Hiking on designated trails
- Volleyball in designated areas
- Swimming in designated areas
- Access to scuba diving launch areas

- Pedestrian access to beaches

8.4.2 Activities which may require a permit

- Camping
- Beach Volleyball
- Sand sculpturing

8.4.3 Activities permitted with authorization from the Park Manager:

- Metal detecting
- Operation of a Drone for both recreational and commercial purposes, subject to terms and conditions appropriate to the zone in which this activity will be executed.

8.4.4 Activities not permitted within Park boundaries:

- Horseback riding
- Hunting
- Fishing

8.5 Motorized Vehicle Use

8.5.1 Private and Commercial Vehicles

Private and commercial vehicles are permitted on all designated roadways within the Park.

8.5.2 Motorized Off-road Vehicles

Motorized Off-road vehicles are not permitted within the Park.

8.5.3 Motorized Marine Vessels

Motorized marine vessels are not permitted within the Park.

8.6 Habitat Management

8.6.1 Wildlife Management

The park is located within Wildlife Management Zone 20. Removal or harassment of non-game animals is not permitted in provincial parks (*Parks Act*).

8.6.2 Nuisance Wildlife

Nuisance wildlife may be trapped and removed from the Park as permitted by the *Fish and Wildlife Act (Parks Act)*.

8.6.3 Non-native Species

Non-native plant species will not be deliberately introduced into the park. Where non-native plant species are already established, and threaten park values, a strategy may be developed to control the species.

8.6.4 Insects

Insects and diseases may be managed where the park's aesthetic, cultural or natural values are threatened.

Control methods will follow guidelines established by the New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government (ELG) and DTHC. Biological controls will be used whenever possible.

8.7 Forest Management

An ecological restoration program to remove dead and dying trees and to re-establish a more suitable Acadian forest type is recommended.

Commercial forestry and fuelwood harvesting activities are not permitted within the Park (*Parks Act*).

The commercial harvest of non-timber forest products such as moss, Canada yew etc. will not be permitted within the Park.

8.8 Fire Management

The regulations governing campfire bans are enforced as prescribed by the Department of Energy and Resource Development – Forest Fire Watch NB

The priorities for protection from fire at NRBPP are:

1. The permanently and seasonally inhabited areas, i.e.
 - the administration area,
 - the maintenance compound, and
 - the campground
2. The main roads into and out of the Park (to Saint John and to St. George), the roads within the campground and the various hiking trails within the Park.
3. The balance of the Park.

8.9 Prospecting and Mining

There are no licensed aggregate pits (active or inactive) within the boundary of New River Beach Provincial Park. Aggregate extraction is permitted for provincial parks for maintenance purposes only. Commercial extraction is prohibited in provincial parks. (*Parks Act*)

Mineral exploration and mineral extraction are not permitted in provincial parks (*Parks Act*).

8.10 Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station

In the event of an accident at PLGS, New Rive Beach Provincial Park staff are directed to adhere to the authorities and procedures as outlined in the Point Lepreau Nuclear Off-Site Emergency Plan.

While the risk to life or the environment from an accidental major release of radionuclides, or other industrial accident is remote, it is in the interest of the public to be prepared to respond, by having in place effective emergency plans to deal with such events.

9 Management Priorities

Park development, operations and resource management directions will be implemented as needed, based on public use and demand, and contingent on resources, funding availability and unforeseen changes in priorities or policy.

Resource management directions will be updated at minimum every ten (10) years in accordance with Section 10.1(1) of the *Parks Act* (2014). Major changes to the mandate of NRBPP will be reflected in amendments to the Resource Management Statement.

The following table summarizes future management directions identified for NRBPP. Implementation of management actions are subject to the availability of funding and resources. The actions and associated comments reflect, in part, the input received through the initial public engagement work. These actions should be evaluated against the outcome of the yearly public engagement sessions to determine relevancy and potentially identify new directions for Park management.

Table 2: Summary of future management directions to promote tourism and recreation for NRBPP

Action	Comments
Short Term	
Administration Building	Undertake renovation or complete replacement
Potable Water	Replacement of well and pump for administration area
Campground	Increase electrical service to rustic shelters; upgrade and modernize washrooms
Hiking Trails	Deadfall removal, improve signage, waste management and boardwalk renovations
Public Engagement	Regular meet and greets (open houses) with campers and park users
Park Entrance	Create a more visible and appealing entrance sign to the Park at Highway 175 (at Eastern entrance?)
Signage	Wayfinding signage shall be provided to clearly identify park amenities and park boundaries.
Medium Term	
Hiking Trails	Design and develop hiking and interpretive trails in the Nature Conservation Zone north of the highway along the eastern bank of New River. Appropriate signage and discreet fencing would be appropriate to address potential use of the area by non-authorized activities.
Partnerships	Establish a partnership with the Southwest Regional Service Commission to develop strategies for regional tourism and recreation opportunities, eg Coastal Trail
Route 175	Investigate feasibility of a seasonal 'one-way' traffic flow to mitigate risks due to roadside parking and pedestrian use.

Long Term	
Tourism Strategy	Develop a tourism strategy based on goals and objectives specific to the Park which will promote the Park and its features through a variety of social and print media.
Trails Action Plan	Establish a partnership with Sentier NB Trails to enhance proposals put forth through the Trails Action Plan. I.e. East Coast Greenway

Table 3: Summary of ecological integrity actions for NRBPP.

Action	Comments
Short Term	
Hiking Trails	Deadfall removal
Invasive Species	Develop a plan in partnership with environmental organizations, ecological researchers and the New Brunswick Museum to catalogue and remove invasive flora in public use areas.
Ecosystem Inventory	Develop a species identification program to catalogue all species present in the Park, with particular emphasis of species in public areas, such as along trails before any further development is initiated
Important Bird Area	In consultation with Bird Studies Canada, develop a strategy to maintain and enhance avian diversity within Park
Medium Term	
Hiking Trails	Continued maintenance to reduce threat of unwanted anthropogenic activities (i.e., wandering off trail)
Beach Management	Introduction of a Beach management program to counter increased coastal erosion from sea level rise and climate change and to maintain overall integrity of area. Included should be a regular clean-up program to limit debris.
Aquatic Environment	Introduction of water quality monitoring protocol to allow for response to compromised water quality in aquatic environments
Ecosystem Inventory	Execute identification program and initiate a monitoring program to confirm and evaluate changes
Long Term	
Forest Cover	Ecological restoration of forested lands to more resilient, old growth tree species.
Invasive Species	Develop a strategy to catalogue and remove invasive flora and fauna in wetlands and formulate plans for on-going management/oversight

Table 4: Summary of education enhancement actions for NRBPP

Action	Comments
Short Term	
Hiking Trails	Install interpretative signage to provide information about unique features along the trails
Invasive Species	Provide materials to park users highlighting the issues associated with the introduction of non-native and invasive species
Public Engagement	Offer educational opportunities throughout active months to promote unique features of Park
Medium Term	
Nature Conservation Zone	Develop an education program to describe ongoing research activities
Beach	Develop self-directed education program to illustrate marine ecosystem
Long Term	
Nature Recreation, Nature Conservation and Water Zones	Establish long term education goals to inform development of education materials

Proposed improvements brought forward from the public engagement process are shown in Figure 2.

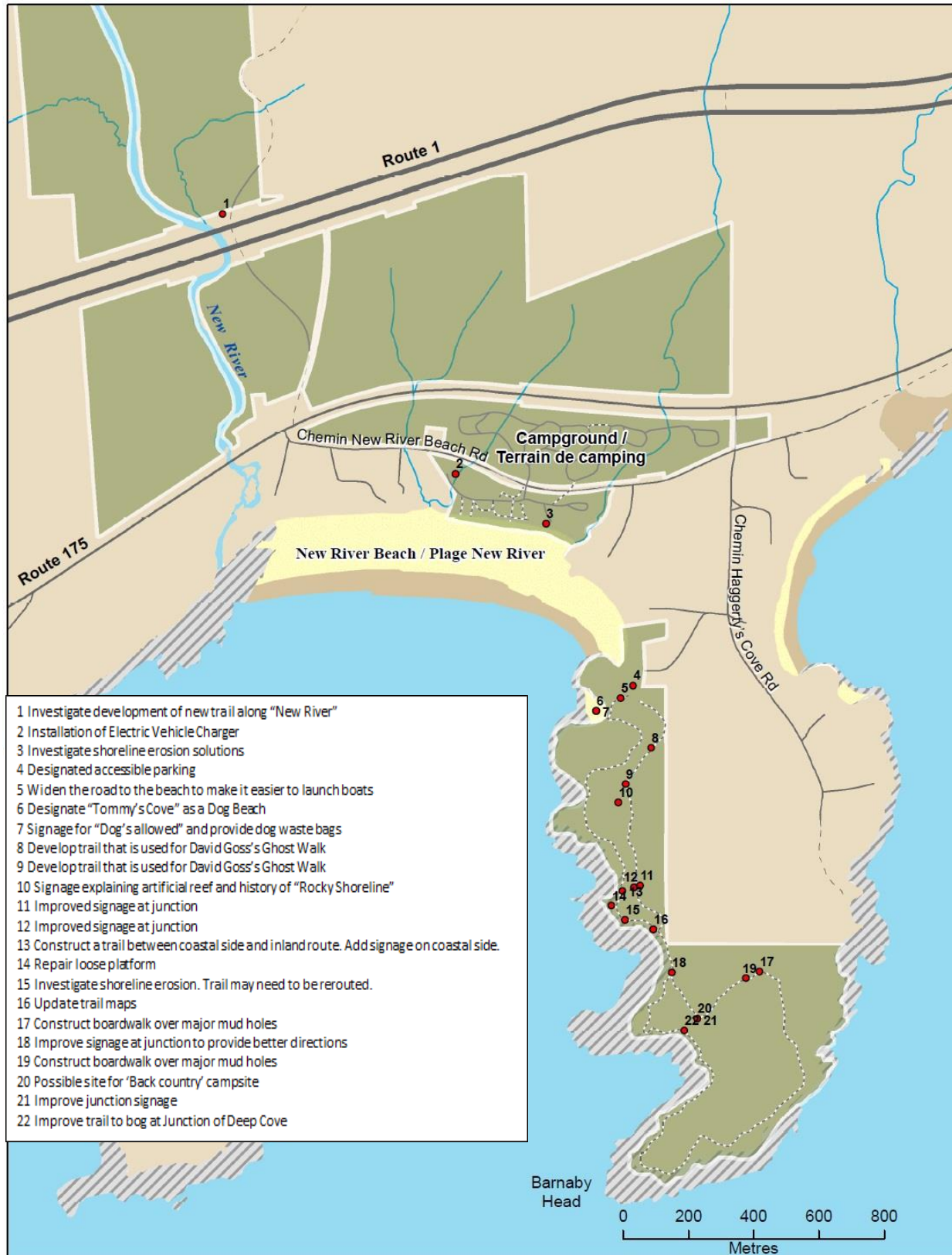


Figure 3: Proposed Improvements

10 Review and Adjustment of Management Direction

This management statement will remain in effect until a Resource Management Plan has been developed for NRBPP. In accordance with the existing *Park Act (2014)*, a RMP must be developed within 10 years. In the event that a management plan has not been prepared within the timeframe mandated by legislation (10 years), a formal review of this statement shall be undertaken.

At a minimum, this statement should have a 5-year review to allow for evaluation of effectiveness, relevancy of policies and management directions or if adjustments are needed to meet the stated goals and objectives. The review may consider specific components of the statement; however, it shall include an evaluation of the specific changes in light of the risks, constraints and issues related to objectives and goals of the entire management approach.

In circumstances where this statement is not providing sufficient direction to protect values or address existing or emerging threats or initiatives, it can be amended at any time. External requests for amendments to address specific issues or needs should be evaluated and may trigger a review at any time. The Provincial Parks Advisory Committee and the First Nations Advisory Committee shall be consulted with regularity to confirm and validate any amendments.

An annual public engagement event to gauge stakeholder and rights holder concern and support for existing operations should be held at the Park. Outcomes from this process may inform required changes to the statement. Any proposals for change should be presented during the public engagement process and through appropriate notification throughout the Park, including provision for oral and written comments. Any review shall be in accordance with the provincial consultation policy. First Nations, Stakeholder and public engagement shall be a component of any review

Prior to the first review, the following recommendations should be completed:

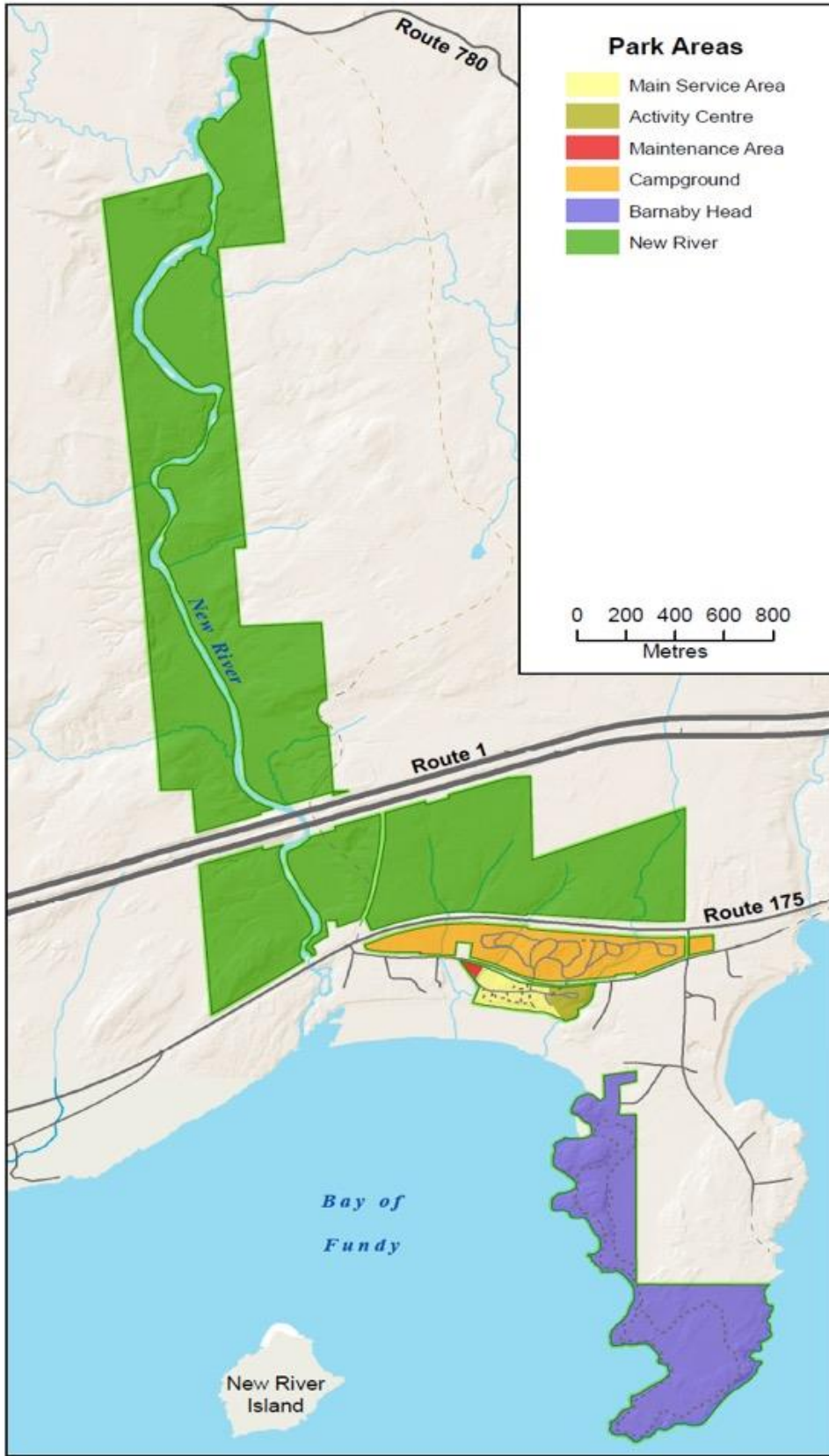
- An inventory of all species in the park be developed prior to the next review. This inventory will inform future management programs and policies.
- A monitoring program to provide data on the short, medium and long-term actions identified for implementation.

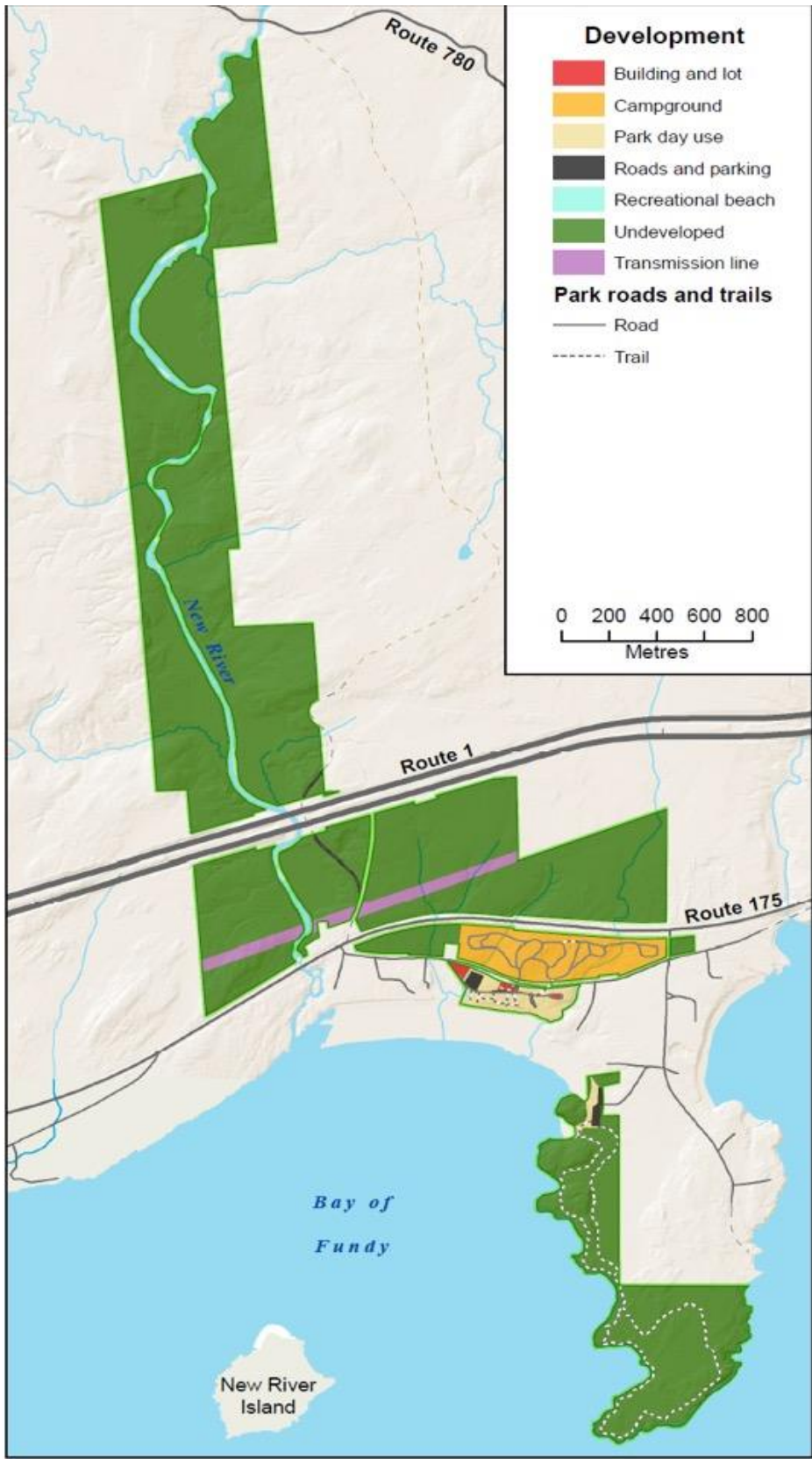


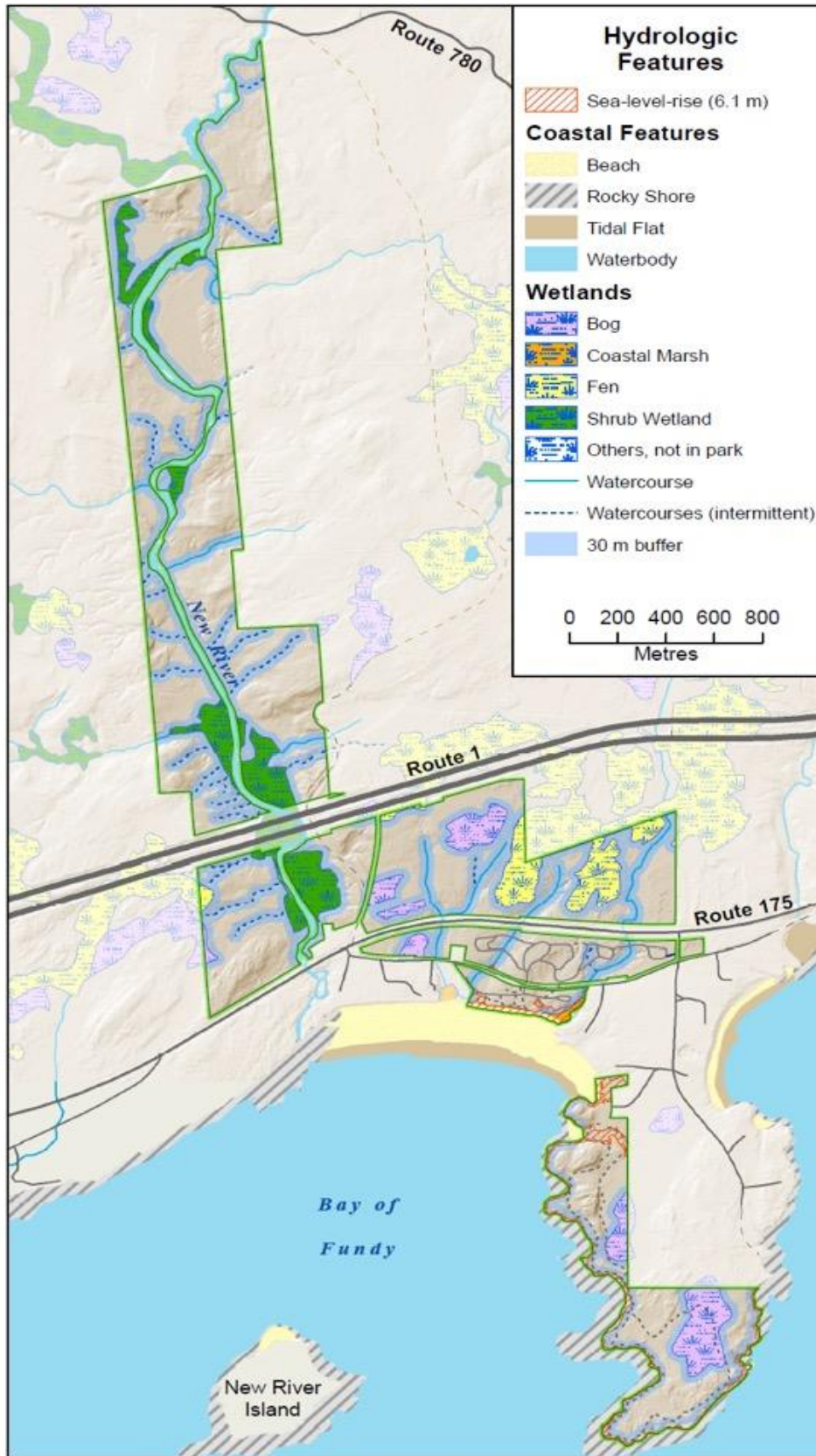
Pitcher Plant (Photo: T. Wade, 2017)

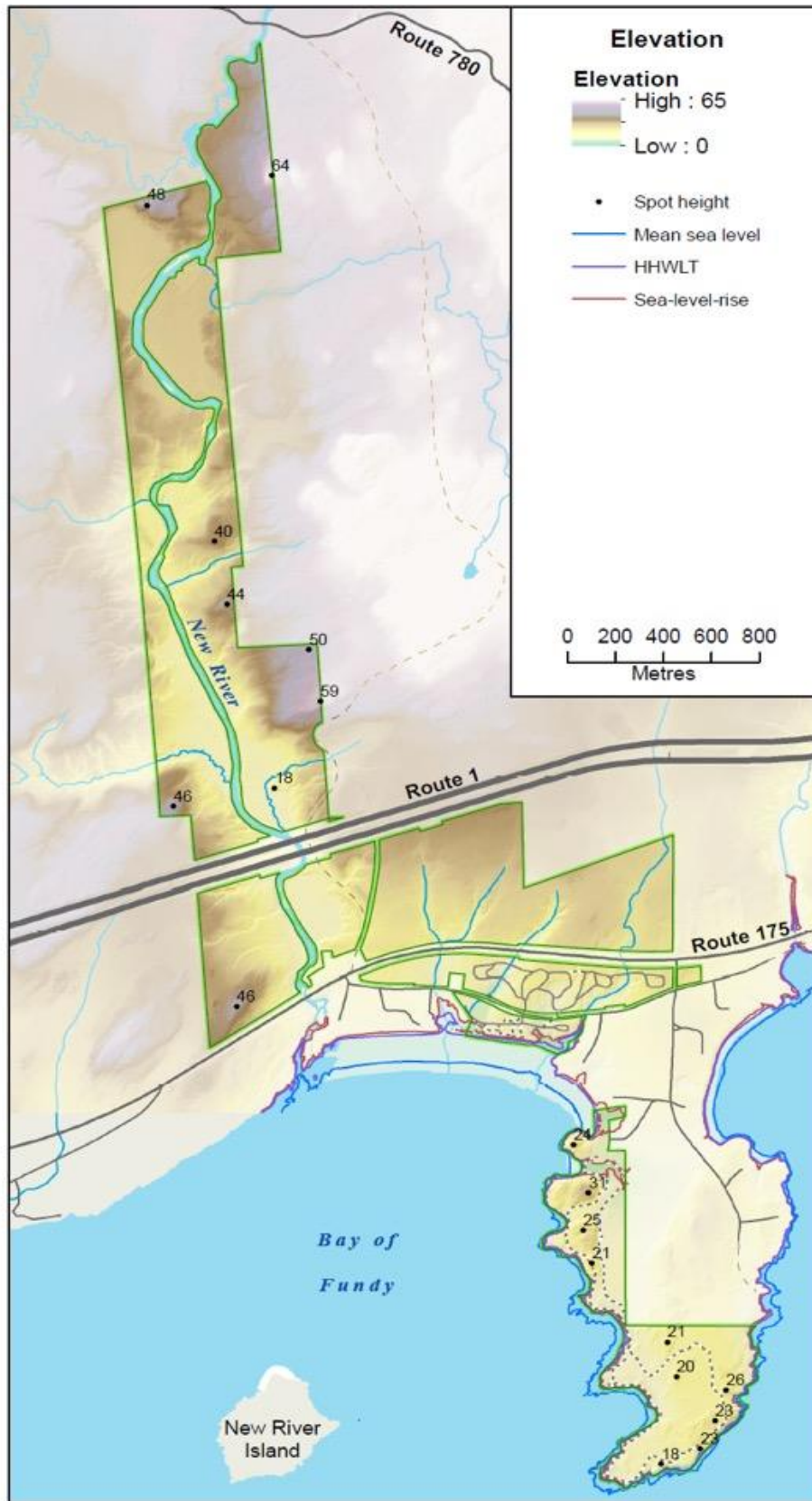
APPENDIX A - New River Beach Background Maps

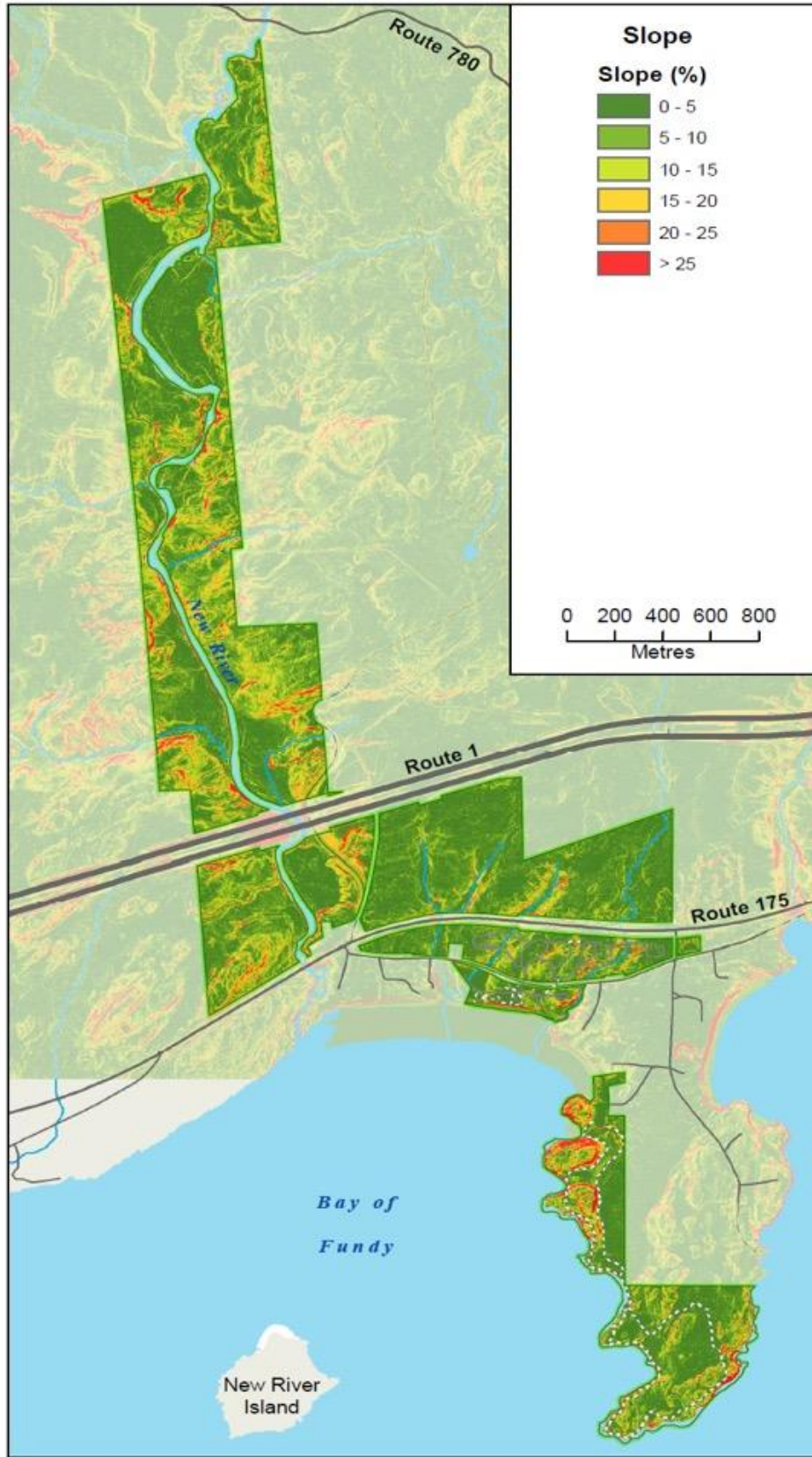
These maps show the location of the park and supporting information that is used in the creation of the zones

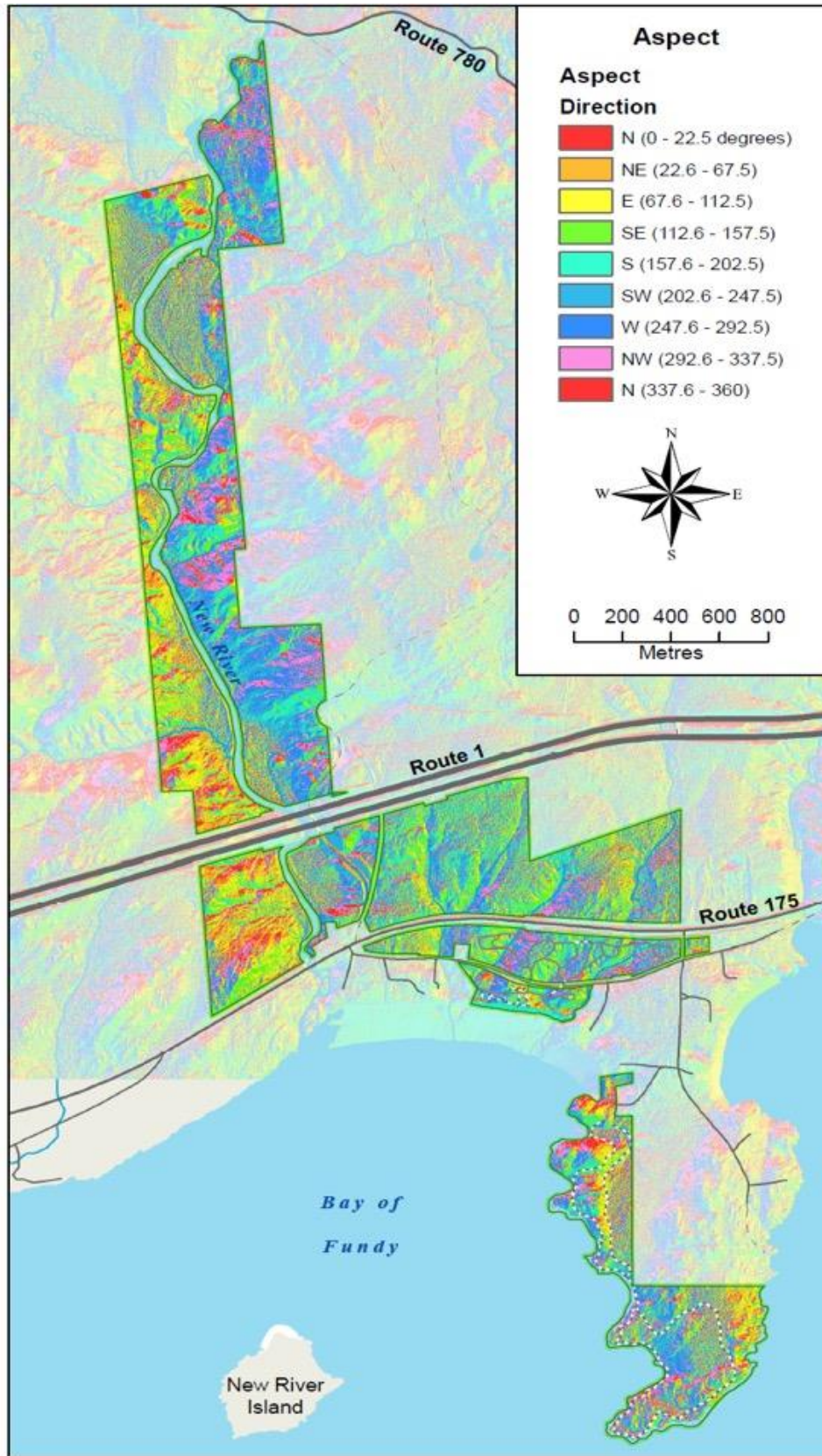


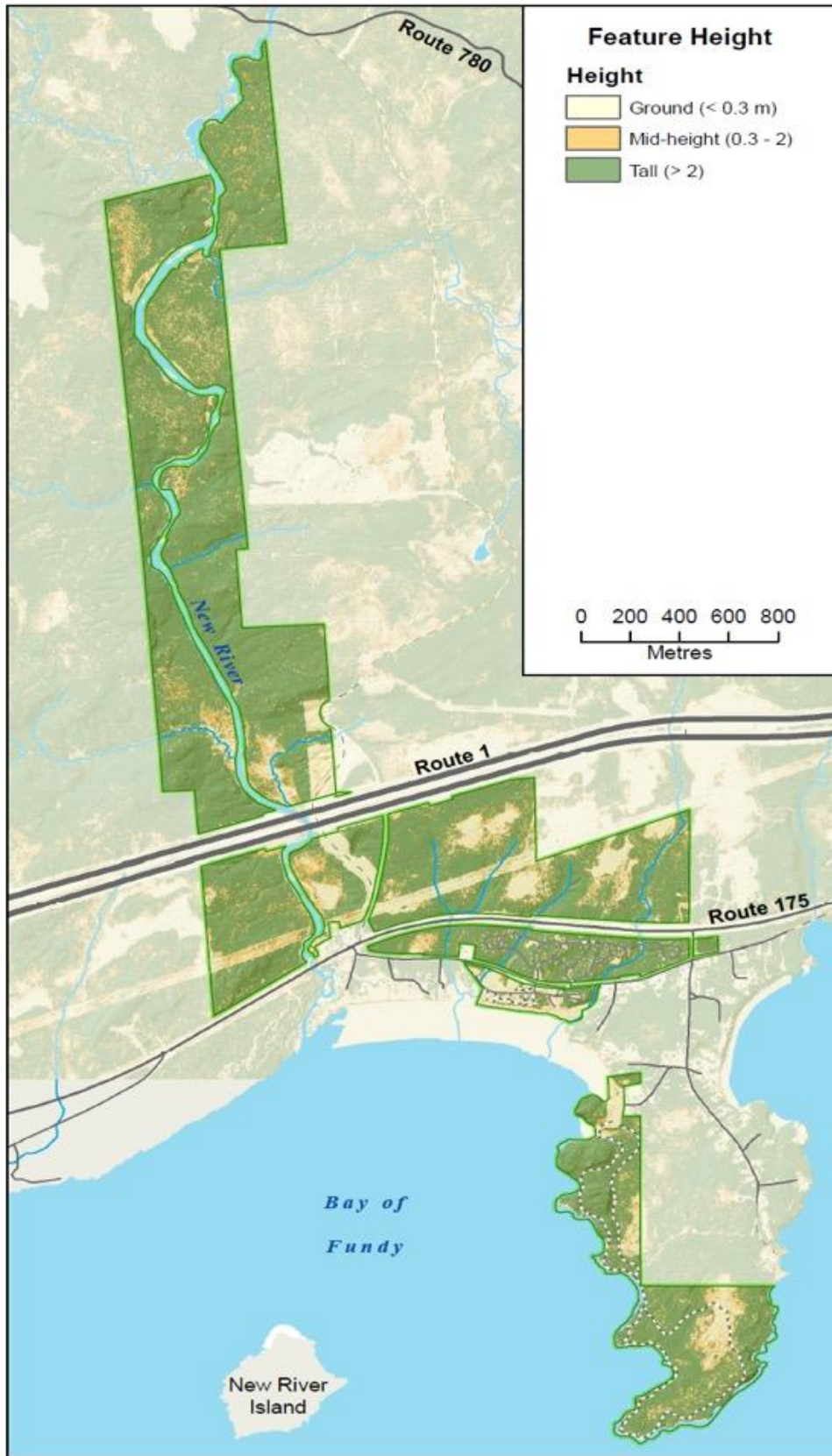


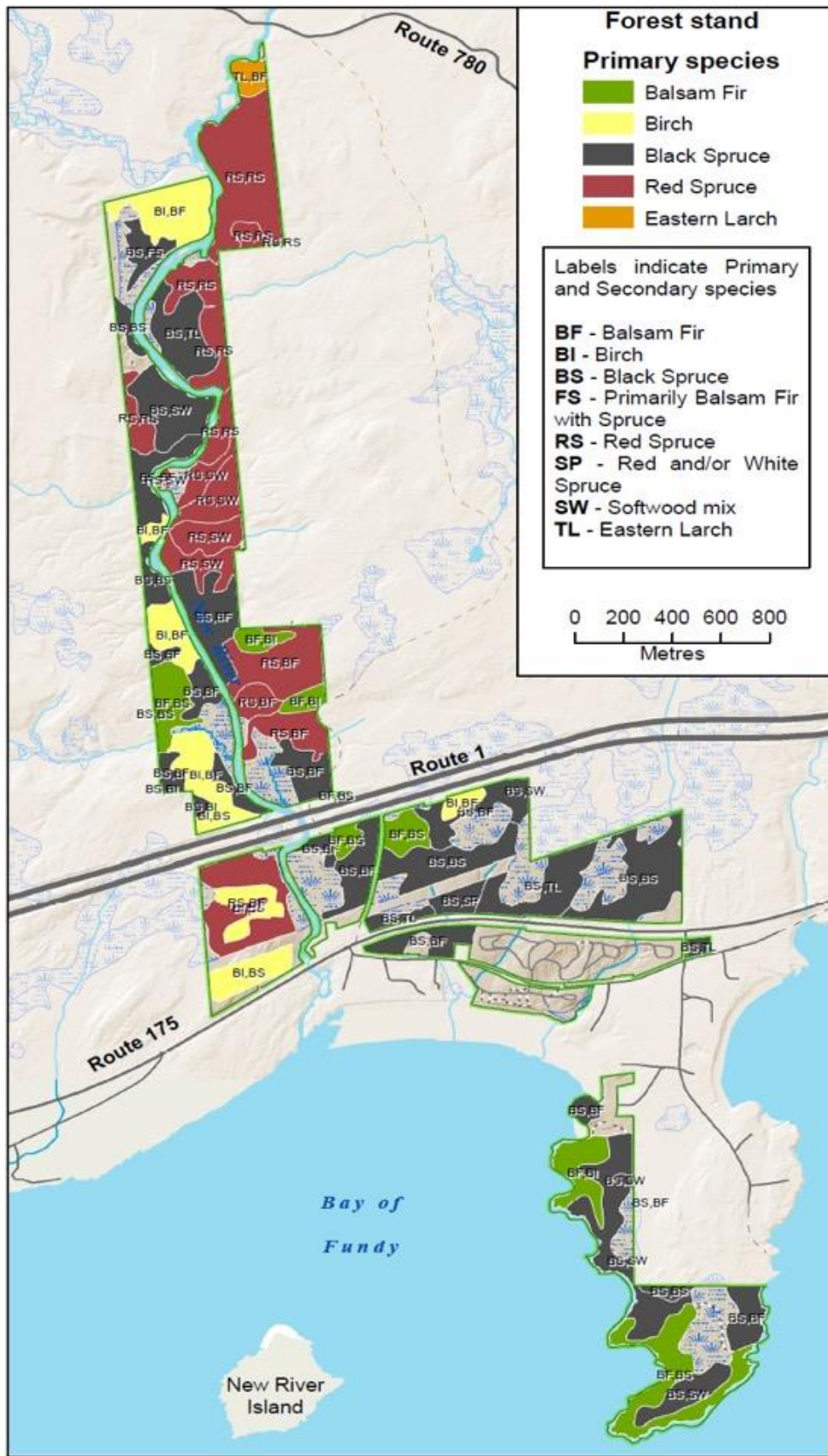


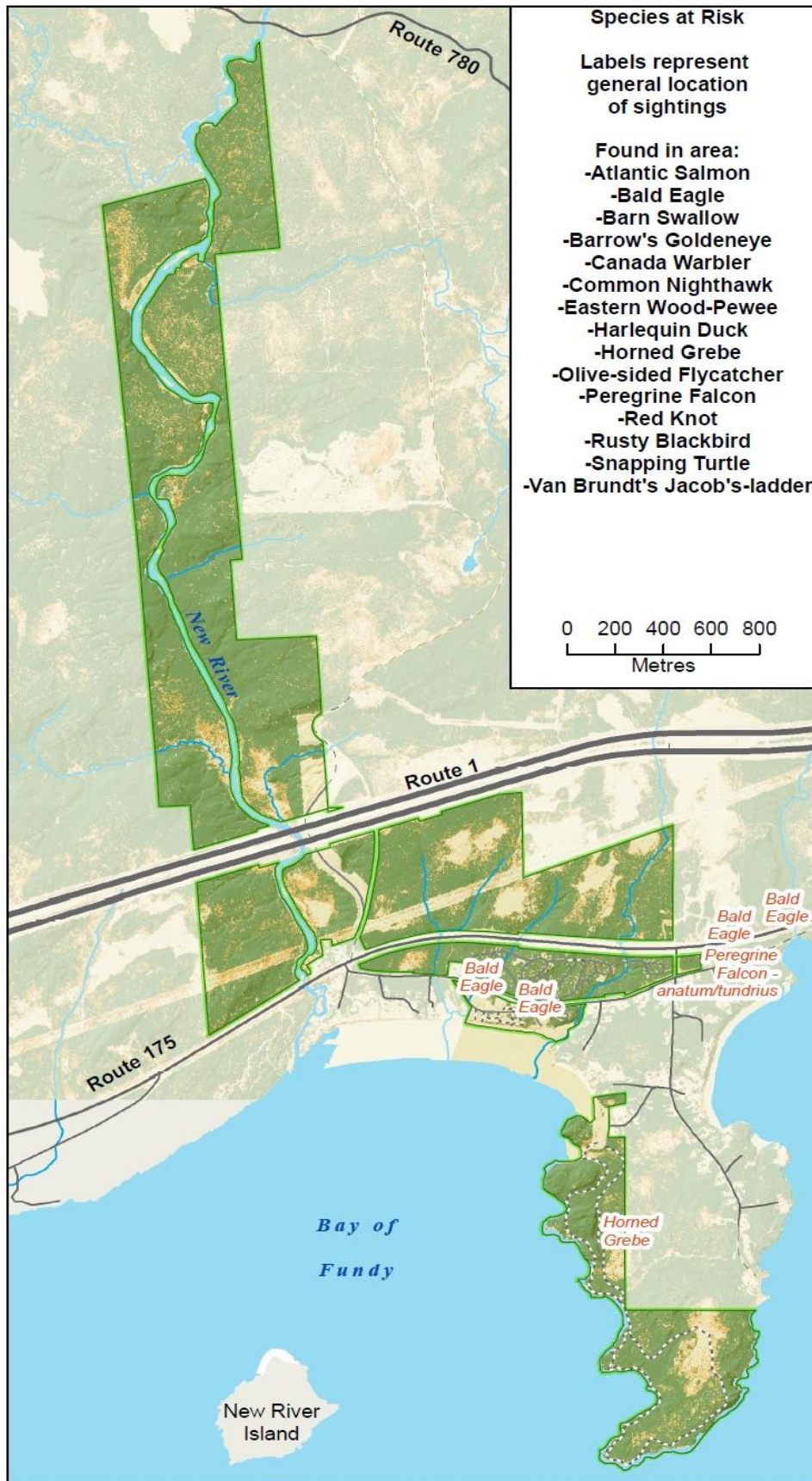




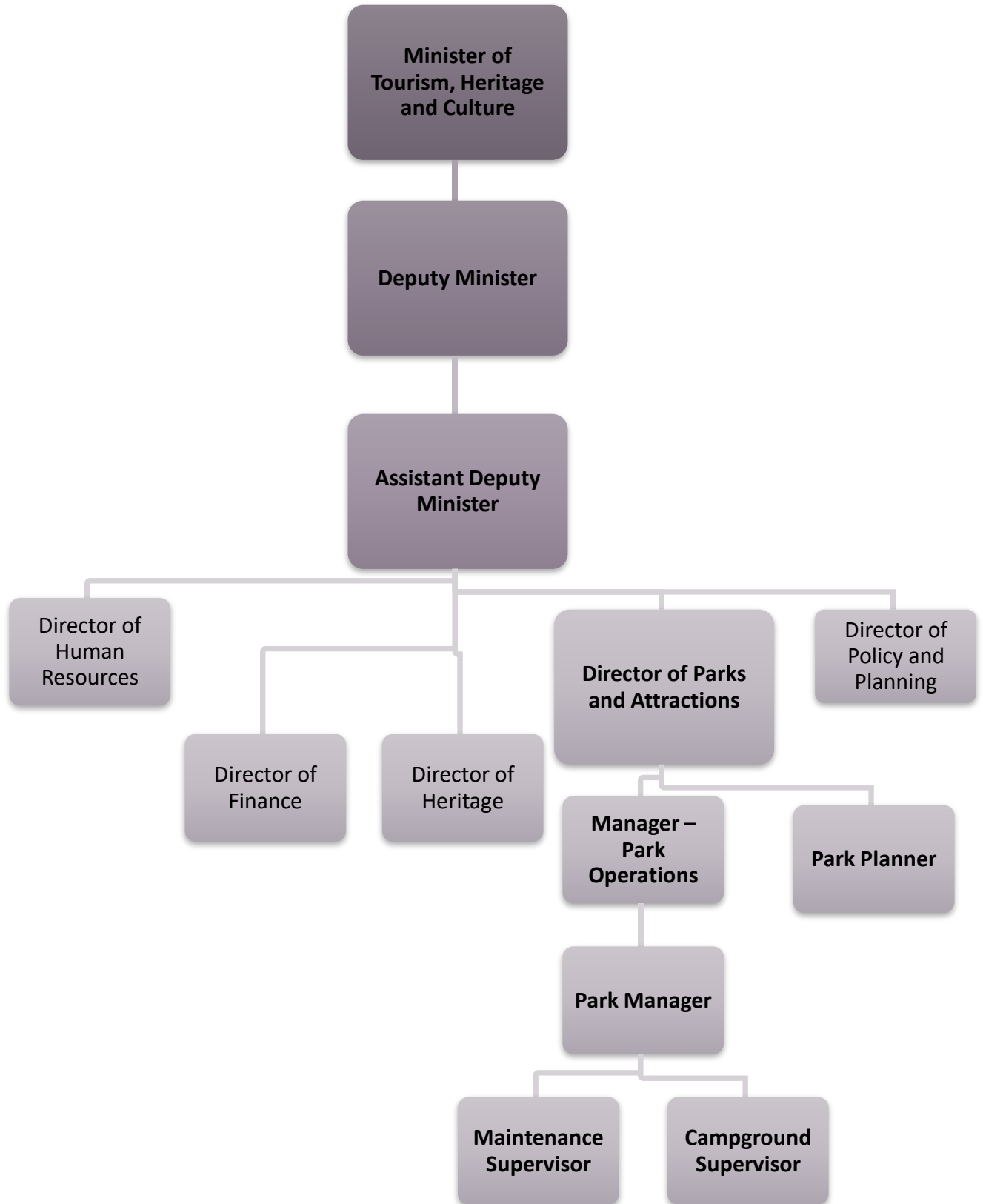








APPENDIX B – Organizational Structure



Community Engagement Report

New River Beach Park Management Study

November 2017

Prepared by Alliance Planning and Environmental Consulting for the
Parks and Attractions - NB Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage

Introduction:

This report is one component of the Department of Tourism, Heritage and Culture's Provincial Park Management Planning initiative. New River Beach Provincial Park (NRB) is the site of a pilot project to develop park land zoning maps, consult with the public, and create a park management statement that can be used to guide development and decisions within the park over the next 10 years. This report specifically focuses on engagement strategies developed and used to gather feedback from park users and nearby neighbours on the proposed zoning maps and key uses, and the public's future desires for the park land base. The results of this report will ultimately feed into the NRB Park Management Statement.

The Project Team is composed of key staff at the Parks and Attractions branch along with Alliance Planning and Environmental Consulting (APEC), the company hired to lead the planning and community engagement elements of the initiative. The Project Team developed the stakeholder survey and key informant questions for which the results are outlined below.

Section 1: Community Engagement Strategy

1.1 Project Guidelines

Because this project falls within the jurisdiction of the Minister of Tourism, Culture and Heritage under the New Brunswick Parks Act, all messaging, communications and publications will be presented through the department. As such, all contact with the public through direct e-mail communications, social media, or otherwise, was vetted and presented through departmental channels. Further, all documentation and published communications were made available in both official languages.

1.2 Timing

Due to unforeseen circumstances, the project team was not able to commence the project development until July 2017. As this is the first project related to the provincial park management planning initiative, the project team had to develop all the front-end communications required to undertake the public engagement strategy, such as basic messaging on the Park Management Initiative, defining Management Statements and Plans, the purpose for the efforts, etc. As a result, the project team was not able to capitalize on consultation opportunities in the summer season through the engagement strategy. A report will be produced that measures the relative success of this process and will provide recommendations on future iterations parks management with other provincial park properties.

1.3 Engagement Strategies

1.3.1 Social Media

The Park Management Strategy social media campaign was launched September 7, 2017 on the departmental website at <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/thc/ParksandAttractions/content/provincial-parks-management-plans.html> . A special NRB page was set up to describe the process and included a posting of the proposed zoning map as well as the on-line survey at <http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/thc/ParksandAttractions/content/new-river-beach-provincial-park.html> . This page also outlined the various ways to get involved in the park management planning process. Several twitter feeds were released around the launch to introduce the initiative, notify the public about the survey and to publicize the Public Open House. The NRB Facebook page was also used to advise the public about the survey and to advertise the public open house.

1.3.2 On-line survey

The on-line survey was launched the same day as the NRB Park Management Initiative webpage noted above. The department also sent a direct email notice to members of the public who had provided their email for future communications about New Brunswick parks. This email was sent to 2200 individual email addresses, resulting in an immediate response of 44 completed surveys within 48 hours.

1.3.3 Paper survey

A paper survey (identical to the on-line survey) was printed in both languages and made available at the NRB park office for anyone who wanted to see it. As well a large format zoning map was also prepared on a display board for ease of viewing and left at the park office for input.

1.3.4 Public Open house

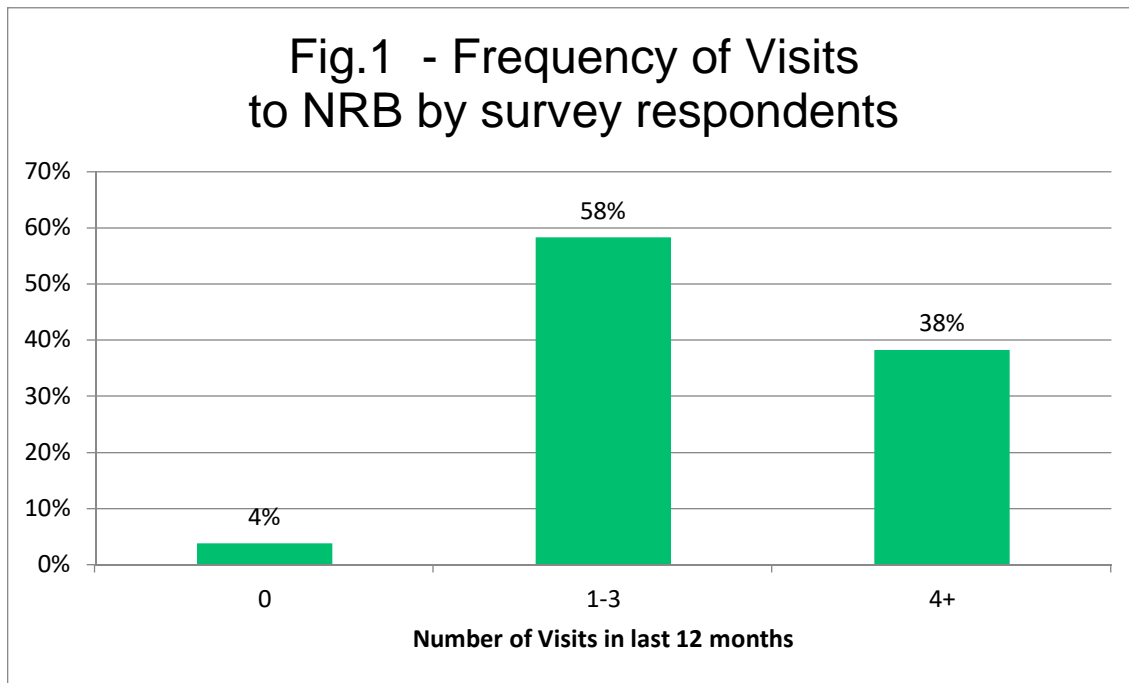
A public open house was planned for Saturday, September 16th at the NRB multi-purpose centre in the campground. The open house was advertised on the website, through the NRB Facebook page, through the department's twitter feed, and through bilingual posters which were posted throughout the park and at nearby stores and the post office. Coffee and treats were provided to 40 or more participants at the open house which took place between 2-4 pm. Staff from APEC as well as the Park Manager were in attendance to present the zoning map, answer questions, and help participants fill out a paper version of the survey. Many additional surveys and small zoning map printouts were distributed to participants for submission at a later date.

Section 2: Engagement Results

Survey Results

The on-line survey was made available from August 25 to October 31st while the paper surveys were available at the NRB from September 7th to the park closing on October 9th. In total, 111 surveys were completed. The responses to the surveys and discussion on a question by question basis are presented below. Full comments as submitted by respondents are presented in Appendix A.

Question 1: How many times have you visited New River Beach Provincial Park in the last 12 months?

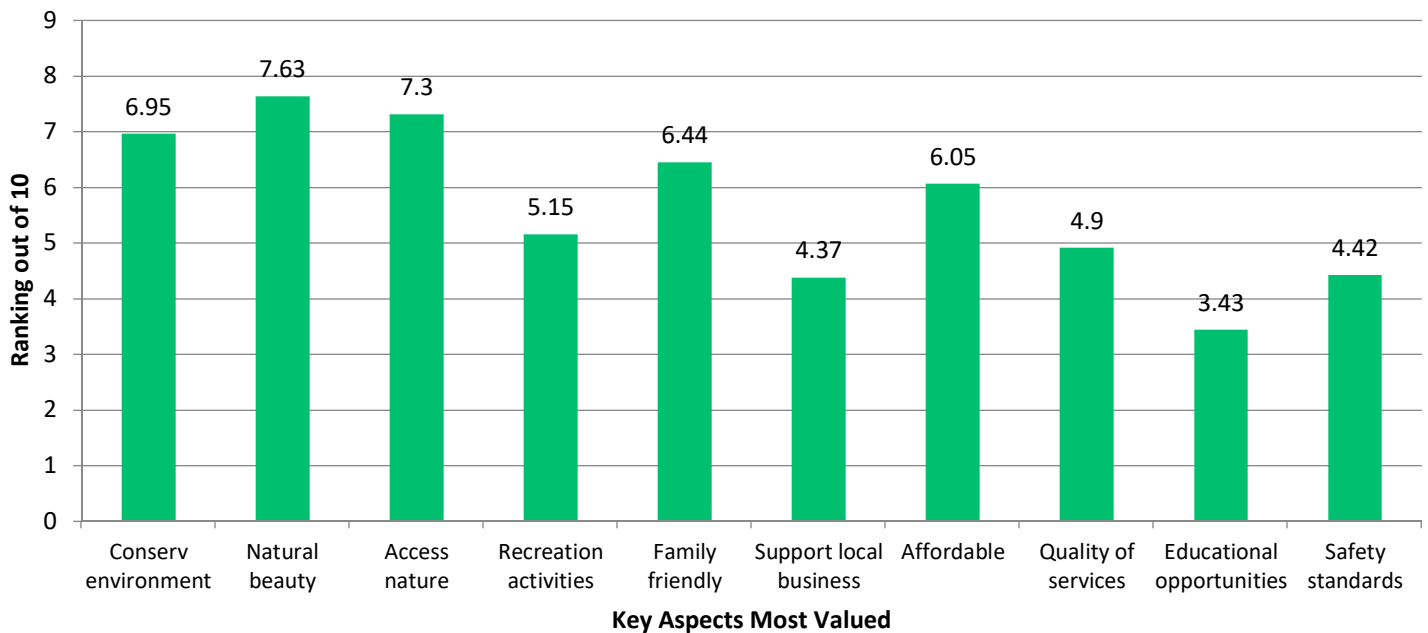


As figure 1 illustrates, most of the respondents are repeat users in the past 12 month period, which means they are familiar with the current state of the park, its lands and amenities.

Question 2: What do you value most about New River Beach Provincial Park? Please rank the following values from the choice below with 1 being the most important value and 10 being the least important.

Respondents were asked to rate key values identified for NRB. The higher the number on Figure 2, the

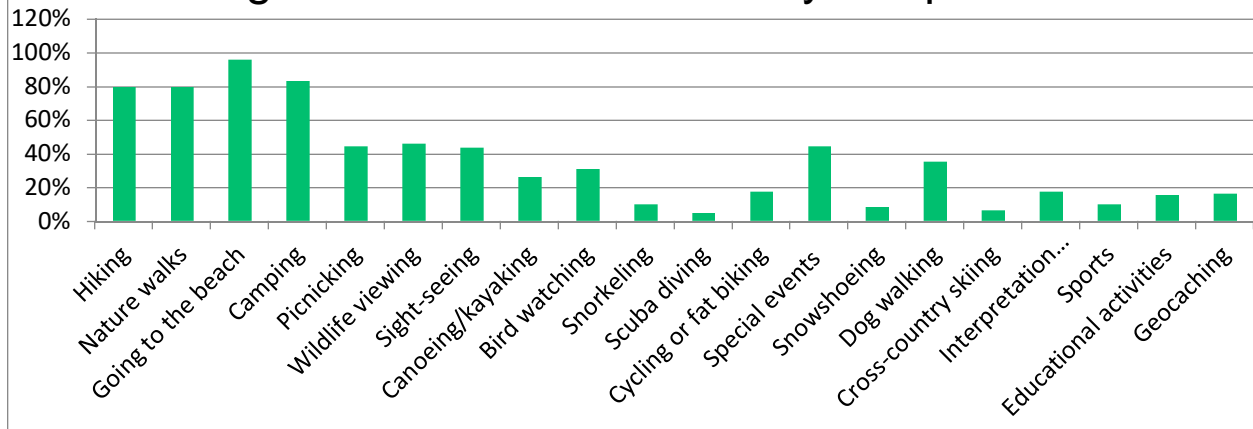
Fig. 2 - Key Aspects of NRB Park Valued by Respondents



higher the item was valued by respondents compared to other key aspects of the park. The natural beauty of the region, and having access to this natural beauty were the highest ranked values identified by respondents. The third highest value was conserving and preserving this natural environment. NRB was also recognized as being a very family-friendly park. Affordability was also rated highly, followed by the range of recreation activities that are available at the park. Quality of services, consistent safety standards, supporting local business, and the educational opportunities rated the lowest, but were no means discounted by respondents. Indeed some respondents indicated that while they did rank the items in order of most valued, all of these aspects of the park are important in making it a place that respondents like to spend their time.

Question 3: Which activities do you like to do at New River Beach Provincial Park? (please check all that apply)

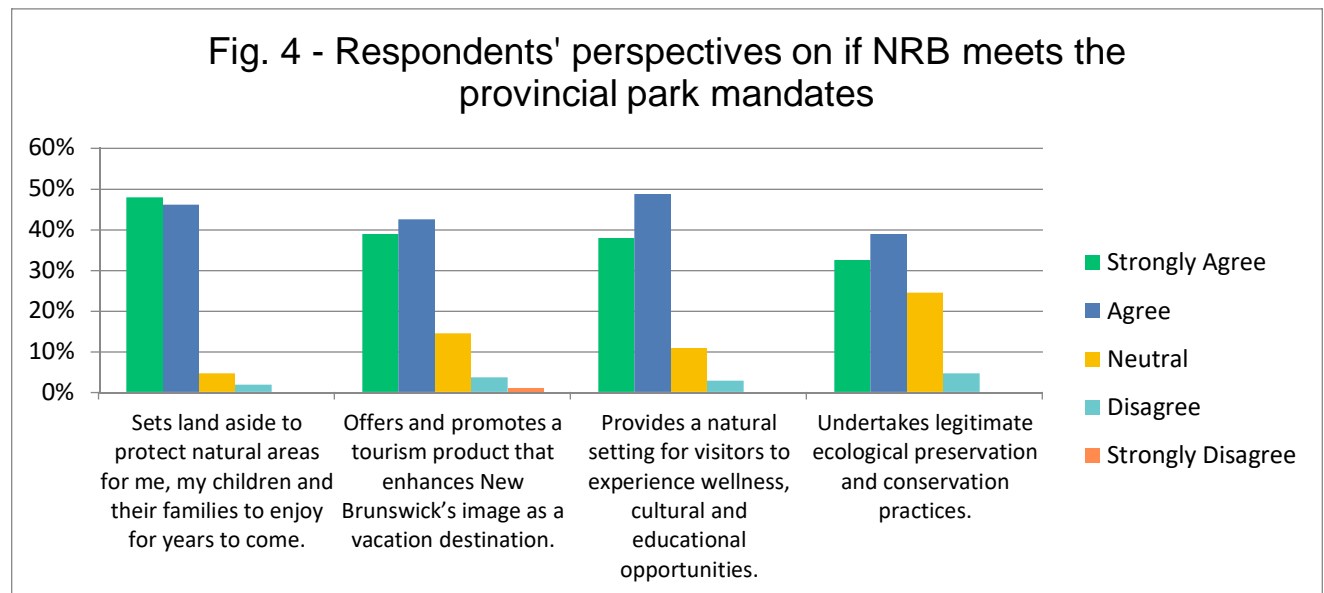
Fig. 3 - Preferred Activities by Respondent



Respondents were almost unanimous in their agreement that “going to the beach” was the most preferred activity (96%), with camping at 83% and hiking and nature walks following at 79%. And while these were the main activities of interest, the park obviously meets a wide range of interests due to the breadth of activities that are available.

In addition, some respondents gave other options not included on the survey, such as social activities (bingo, car shows, and musical entertainment), children’s activities on weekends while camping, bonfires on the beach, and other beach-related activities.

Question 4: The Province of New Brunswick has recently identified four key mandates of provincial parks. **How well do you think the New River Beach Provincial Park meets these mandates?**



Results for question 4 illustrate that there is strong agreement that the NRB is meeting the first provincial mandate which is “setting aside and protecting natural areas for families to enjoy” with 94% of respondents indicating strongly agree or agree to this statement. In terms of NRB meeting the mandate of “offering a tourism product that enhances the province’s image,” there was relatively strong agreement with 81% agreeing or strongly agreeing with the statement. Sixteen percent of respondents indicated “neutral” and 5% disagree or strongly disagree. In reviewing comments, it appears that there is some concern over handling of garbage at times on the property and the state of the buildings and signage (e.g., they were out of date or needed repainting). There was also a concern about the lack of good signage from the highway exits for the park. For the 3rd mandate of “providing a setting for educational, cultural, and wellness activities in a natural setting,” again most respondents (87%) were in agreement that NRB is meeting this mandate. In terms of meeting the goals of the fourth mandate – “to undertake legitimate ecological preservation and conservation” – there was less unanimity. Seventy-one percent either agreed or strongly agreed, while 29% were neutral or disagreed with the statement. As one respondent noted, park management seems to put more effort into the beach and camping and recreation activities, with the environment being an afterthought. There are relatively few public displays regarding the parks activities to preserving the natural environment.

Question 5: Zoning Maps will be part of the Resource Management Plans for each park. Zoning is the process of dividing land into areas where certain uses are either permitted or prohibited.

There are seven zones proposed for New River Beach Provincial Park:

Service Zone – this is the area set aside for the development of basic facilities intended to meet the needs of people using park – such as parking lots, roads, maintenance buildings, washrooms, infrastructure.

Intensive Recreation Zone – this area is most heavily used by the public on a daily basis – including beach access, camping areas, play fields, and play grounds.

Nature Recreation Zone – this is the area meant to provide opportunities for natural recreational and outdoor educational activities with little to no infrastructure – including trails, interpretation areas, and back country camping.

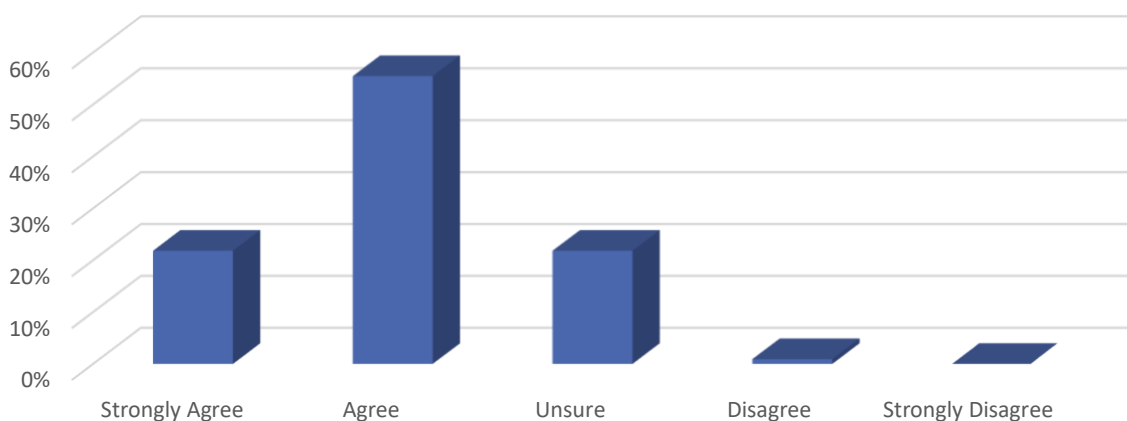
Nature Conservation Zone – the area which is not accessible to the public and is intended to provide increased protection for sensitive areas and scientific research for rare or endangered plants and animals.

Water Zone – this area includes waterways, access to water, and a buffer area to protect sensitive habitats and water features.

Hydrology Overlay Zone – this “overlay” is based on scientific assessment of land elevation and shows the areas of land susceptible to flooding due to storm surge and intensive storms.

To what degree do you agree with the zoning boundaries being proposed on the draft Zoning map?

Figure 5: Respondent's level of agreement with the Zones



Seventy-three percent of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed with the zoning as presented, while 27% were unsure or disagreed. Several of the comments indicated a lack of understanding of

what the zones were, or how they were established, which speaks to the communication (or lack thereof) surrounding the release of the survey and the messaging around the initiative in general. Also important are some of the substantive comments provided by respondents, which are summarized below:

- Facilities provided for the "Intensive Recreation" regions should be refurbished, repaired or upgraded as a priority. In particular, current areas of the hiking trail are used extensively, and some are not safe.
- With permission and guided by "experts," the Nature Conservation zone should be more accessible at times - especially as a teaching tool.
- I agree we need zoning for the park, and these categories of zones seem reasonable. Since the draft zoning map has been presented to the public without descriptions of what is in each zone, it is hard to judge whether the boundaries of the zones are appropriate. It would be important to know for each zone: the relative habitat sensitivity; uniqueness; level of naturalness; past known disturbance or built development; presence of species at risk or wildlife of conservation concern; vulnerability to flooding, sea level rise or other climate change impacts; current recreational uses in the zones; and other natural history information that might indicate potential changes from current use to one of these zones.
- I need more information as to why certain areas are zoned how they are - some are obvious like intensive recreation zone but I want to know why/how certain spots were zoned for nature rec vs nature conservation. How did you determine what areas to permanently protect?

Question 6: One of the best ways to determine where to establish the Zones, is to gather feedback from people who know the park best - park users. Looking at the Draft Zoning map, and specifically related to your experience at New River Beach Provincial Park:

6a) To your knowledge, does the **Service Zone** include all the areas in the park that are used for park infrastructure?

Yes	No	Unsure
54%	5%	41%

6b) To your knowledge, does the **Intensive Recreation Zone** capture the areas most heavily used by the public?

Yes	No	Unsure
71%	2%	27%

6c) To your knowledge, does the **Nature Recreation Zone** capture the areas where there are mostly passive recreational uses (trails, boardwalks, interpretation areas)?

Yes	No	Unsure

62%	8%	30%
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6d) To your knowledge, does the **Nature Conservation Zone** capture the most ecologically sensitive areas in the park?

Yes	No	Unsure
47%	3%	50%

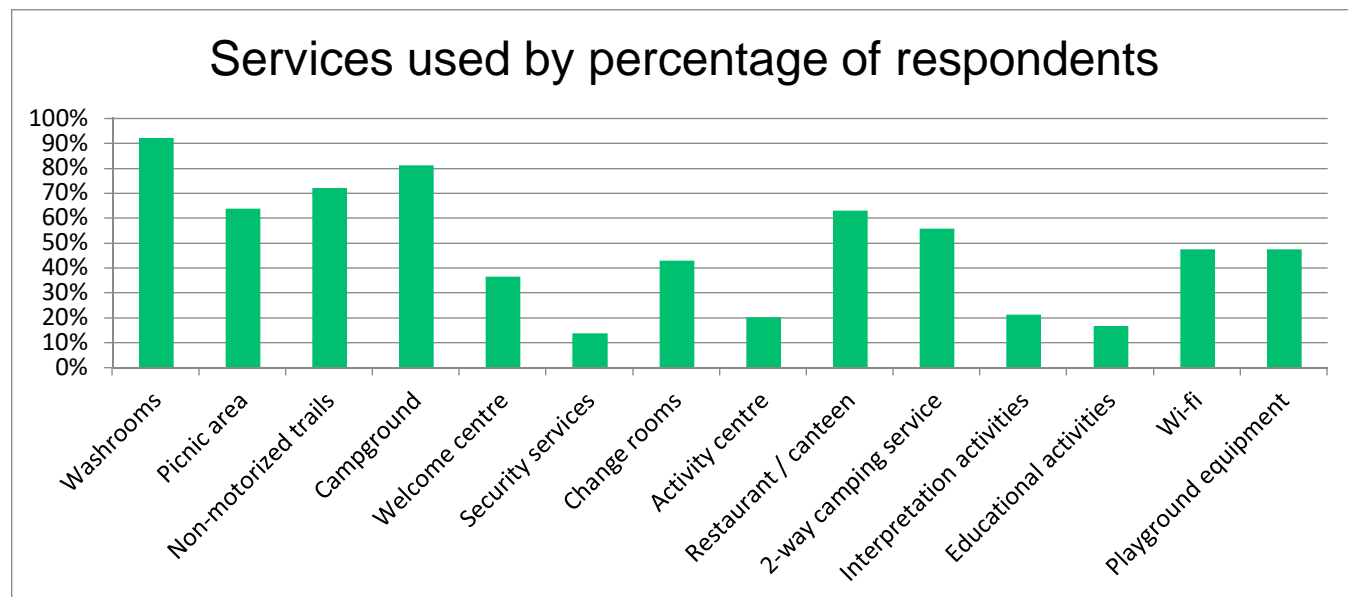
6e) To your knowledge, does the **Water Zone** capture those areas in the park that would be most sensitive to sea level rise, coastal erosion, or marine habitat disturbance?

Yes	No	Unsure
66%	2%	32%

As noted in the preceding tables in Question 6, the majority of respondents agreed with the proposed zones, with the exception of the Nature Conservation Zone, where only 47% felt that the zone included the appropriate land base. This is likely because much of the Nature Conservation Zone is not accessible to the public, so their knowledge of the area is more limited. While there was limited disagreement with the proposed zones (in terms of “no” answers), there is a fairly significant level of uncertainty by respondents with regards to the zoning accuracy. This may be because they are unfamiliar with the details of the NRB land base, the resolution of the zoning map is too high so they can’t see detail, respondents were not given enough information to judge whether or not the mapping is accurate, or because they do not thoroughly understand what zoning is or why it is being proposed. The comments provided by respondents help clarify their thoughts, some of which are included below. All comments have been provided in Appendix A for complete review.

- It is not clear whether the wetlands (coloured green) are included in the Nature Conservation Zone (a similar, but slightly different colour on the legend), although I am assuming they are. It is also not clear how the Water Zone will both provide access to the water and beach, and protect sensitive habitats. I questioned whether sensitive habitats near water would be more clearly protected in the Nature Conservation Zone. Perhaps needs more explanation about what activities take place in the Water Zone. As for the Hydrographic Overlay Zone, I would have expected some of that zone to show up along the seashore, where storm surges would normally occur. It appears to be mainly associated with the wetlands, so this needs a little explanation. *[In response to the point on the Hydrographic Overlay zone not being included on the seashore and beach, this is because the beach is not part of the NRB proper. But the project team is in agreement that further explanation as to why certain areas were zoned as they are will be explained further in the management statement and should be a consideration in the communications for future park management planning initiatives.]*
- Tenting at Barnaby head
- Lack of parking at the campground check-in
- Better signage and access along the New River

Question 7: What services and facilities do you or your family use at New River Beach Provincial Park? (check all that apply)



Park services are very important to park visitors, whether they are at NRB for a day trip or are staying for an extended camping vacation. Not surprisingly, the washrooms were the most frequently used service at 92%, with the campground being used by 81% of the respondents. The walking/hiking trails were the next most used service at 72% and the picnic area and restaurant/canteen at 64% and 63% respectively. 55% of respondents use the 2-way camping service (water and electricity), and 47% of respondents made use of the wi-fi and playground equipment. The change rooms were used by 43% of respondents, the welcome centre was noted by 34%, and the interpretation activities, activity centre, and educational activities rounded out the responses at 21%, 20% and 14% respectively. When asked what other services were used at NRB, respondents noted lack of services, but did not identify any additional services that are existing (see Appendix A for detailed comments).

Question 8: Do you have any suggestions for additional infrastructure that would support the mandate of the park?

Survey respondents provided many suggestions for additional infrastructure (please see Appendix A for complete list). Those suggestions that would specifically support the 4 key mandates of the park are summarized in the table below.

Key Park Mandates	Respondent Suggestions for Infrastructure improvements
Set land aside to protect natural areas for me, my children and their families to enjoy for years to come.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Continued maintenance on the Barnaby Head trail for safety Clear debris and garbage from Barnaby Head trail beaches Need more signage for trail heads and on “you are here” location maps on trail Need a baby changing station in the washrooms

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Better accessibility for wheelchairs to beach and other amenities • Washroom access near the beach so it is more accessible for elderly and people with small children • Need a small general store with necessities
Offers and promotes a tourism product that enhances New Brunswick's image as a vacation destination.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need more campsites • Need more campsites that are not seasonal to accommodate travelling tourists • More camping service amenities (showers by unserviced sites, sewage service, wifi, a second dump station, better parking at check-in) • A weather camera posted on-line so potential visitors know the conditions • Better signage at highway exits and into site • Nicer park entrance sign (one that is more up-to-date and welcoming)
Provides a natural setting for visitors to experience wellness, cultural and educational opportunities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Need info on trails posted in various areas, not just a map from the campground check-in • Need more interpretive signage to learn about the natural environment • Activity centre needs to be open more frequently • Need an amphitheatre to host music and artists
Undertakes legitimate ecological preservation and conservation practices.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve the boardwalks into and within wet trail areas to reduce the damage to these ecosystems • More interpretive signage to explain why a particular area is off-limits to the public

Question 9: Have you or someone you know with limited mobility had challenges with the accessibility of New River Beach Provincial Park?

Yes	16%
No	69%
Unsure	15%

The majority of respondents had not experienced, or known someone who had experienced challenges related to mobility or accessibility of NRB. However, for the 16% that had, most provided further information. Respondent feedback included the following (full comments found in Appendix A):

- The boardwalk and nature trail to Barnaby Head is in need of repair - it is dangerous for people with limited mobility to attempt it. There should be signage that suggests a certain ability to undertake the walk at a minimum.

- Access to the beach is difficult for those with limited mobility. There is no stairwell or ramp from the parking lot down to the shore, which limits people with mobility challenges from being able to get to the beach.
- Desire for a seasonal boardwalk down at the path near the parking lot/volley ball to accommodate those with canes or wheelchairs
- There is no dedicated handicap campsite (needs to be close to wheelchair accessible facilities).
- No wheelchair access to any of the beaches or trail systems.
- Not easy access to the washrooms from the beach for those with limited mobility.
- There needs to be access to the beach for wheel chairs and invest in the big wheeled wheel chairs to go in the sand to go along the beach

Question 10: Please indicate your postal code/zip code so we know where you are from

Of the 111 respondents, 81% were from New Brunswick, 5% were from the Atlantic Region (excluding New Brunswick), 7% were from Canada (excluding Atlantic Canada) and the remaining 7% were from the United States.

Section 3: Discussion and Recommendations

The discussion and recommendations made based on survey respondent feedback will be considered within the framework of the four provincial park mandates. The appropriate services and infrastructure to be included in the park management statement should help NRB achieve the four mandates. Zoning considerations will also be considered in this section.

3.1 Setting Aside Land for Public

As noted above, survey respondents felt that the NRB has been highly successful in meeting the first of the four provincial park mandates – specifically setting aside lands for enjoyment of New Brunswickers now and in the future. From the feedback, it is apparent that the park is well used both by day visitors to the beach and trails, as well as by seasonal and short-term stay campers. Throughout the community engagement process, there were some recurring themes provided by the public which are recommended to be considered in the Park Management Statement:

- *Invest in trail head signs and posted trail maps at Barnaby Head to ensure people can find and stay on the trail.*
- *Accessibility standards for key services (trails, campground and access to beach) should be improved to permit easier access for those with limited mobility.*
- *Continue work on trail upgrades to improve public safety.*
- *Develop an effective trash collection strategy, especially for the beach areas at Barnaby Head where there are no refuse bins. Alternatively, develop clearer messaging about hikers being required to carry out garbage.*
- *Install baby change stations at washrooms at beach and campground.*

3.2 Quality Tourism Product

Respondents were less unanimous in the quality tourism product that the province provides through NRB because of the lack of signage for both the park and the trail system, infrastructure that needs improvement, and the availability of camping sites for the travelling public (as opposed to seasonal).

- *Invest in better signage along Highway 1 and Highway 175 to advertise the park location and its amenities.*
- *Develop a more modern and attractive park entrance sign.*
- *Develop a strategy and undertake cost-benefit analysis to address conflicting campground concerns (not enough seasonal sites, too many seasonal sites, more dump stations, better parking at check-in, larger sites to accommodate large RVs, etc.)*
- *Consider accessibility issues and determine if there is a viable way of addressing some of them to enhance the park's reputation.*

3.3 Natural Areas for Wellness and Heritage Appreciation

Survey respondents did feel that NRB was successful in meeting this mandate. However there were numerous indications that there was little in the way of educational opportunities to learn about the area.

- *Create education programs to support education on natural area, vistas, and cultural heritage throughout the NRB property.*
- *Develop interpretive areas to support education on the natural area and cultural heritage throughout the NRB property.*

3.4 Legitimate Ecological Conservation

The fourth mandate – related undertaking legitimate ecological conservation measures - was also less supported in NRB because of the intensive use of the coastline and possibly a lack of understanding of the efforts undertaken “behind the scenes” to maintain the natural areas. As such the following recommendations may be considered:

- *Create interpretive signs to explain facts around the natural ecosystems, sensitive habitats, and protected flora and fauna that are being protected within the Nature Conservation Zone.*
- *Develop a non-motorized hiking trail on the northern side of the highway along the eastern side of New River to create a way to access the natural areas in a low impact manner. Ensure that trail heads are linked to main park property, or that signage is clearly visible.*

3.5 Proposed Zoning

Overall, the proposed zoning was supported by the majority of public involved in the community engagement. However, there could be more accomplished to ensure zoning is accurate and better understood by the public. For zoning clarity, the following recommendations are made:

- *More information throughout the park management planning process should be made available to the public on the Departmental website (NRB park management webpage specifically). This information can include the range of maps developed by the consultant in the early determination of zone boundaries.*
- *Ensure that high resolution maps (that can be zoomed in significantly) are posted to the webpage.*

Appendix A: Extra Comments and feedback from respondents by question

Question 3. Comments re. Favourite Activities at NRB

- Swimming
- I'd like to have to park open in the winter - with plowed snow so it is easy to park and then walk to the beach. I'd like to have winter activities to keep the jobs here in winter too.
- nature walks on the shore - beach and rocky shore.
- Just sitting and at this ever-changing land/seascape is a wonderful recreational activity. We have been here in every season.
- Bingo, Carshows, Singers, Entertainments
- Car shows/Musical entertainment/Bingo
- Create and expand the natural amphitheater at the foot of the hill Activity Center Beach Side.
- Children's activities on the weekends while camping
- #1 would be relaxing on the beach, watching children play and enjoying fresh air and scenery. I am concerned about the number of dogs I see on the beach each visit. The no dogs rule is there but is never enforced. Some people are very much intimidated by dogs, dogs poo that is not always picked up and children and adults play in the sand, dogs urinate in the sand and you have no chance of knowing where and people end up digging, playing and walking in it. I understand and agree with the posted no dog rule. I leave my dog home for that reason. It is frustrating and incomprehensible why such blatant disregard for this sensible, safety, comfort for all, and health rule is permitted to be ignored by more than a few to the detriment of all. This rule that is in place to protect the enjoyment, health, safety and quality of the beach experience of all. The few cannot be permitted to destroy it for the majority who respect and love the environment as it should be.
- we camp with our dog. dogs should be permitted on the beach and owners made responsible for them
- bonfires
- swimming
- playing on the beach
- walking on the beach
- Being a trail runner, Barnaby Head trail is one of my favourite. Running barefoot on the beach at low tide is very therapeutic

Question 4 respondent comments regarding how NRB is meeting provincial mandate for parks

- This year, especially in early summer (late spring) there was so much more garbage, plastics, and junk washing ashore. Many used bags to gather up. If "park" could do so...

- The nature walk needs to be properly maintained. There are times when boards that have failed are not properly marked and can result in accidents.
- Adequate financial resources need to be provided for upkeep of park facilities in order to maintain safe access to services, and to ensure an attractive presentation is made for the public at all times and all seasons every year.
- Please let campers make fires in August
- In question 2, there are multiple points that are important to me, like preservation of the land, family access and benefits for the local community-it was hard to rank them.
- Campground should be open earlier and later. More advertising. Less trees should be cut in campsite. I love to walk on the beach all year but it is often not accessible in the winter. Parlee beach advertises their beach, better photos of New River Beach... at low tide...(sail boat sign does not show up enough)
- I have checked strongly agree for each mandate, because I think they are all important and New River Beach needs to be managed with them all as priorities. I am not sure that currently this park is strongly meeting the 4th (undertakes ecological preservation and conservation practices), but it should be doing that. As a visitor, it seems like the focus of park management and operations is on the beach, then camping, then recreation.
- I'm neutral for the last mandate because while provincial parks are technically protected, until there's a management plan that clearly outlines how NRB will be managed in a way that undertakes legitimate ecological preservation and conservation practices, it isn't truly protected.
- This park needs more taps placed around. Some have to crawl under washroom sinks to access water supply. Tap at office is 4" above ground, it needs to be raised up.
- We are surprised to find many people even N.B.ers, who have never heard of the park.
- So many people have never heard of New River Beach, we need to spread the word about this gem.
- Updated painting for signs and structures.
- Make Barnaby Head Trail safer-secure the wooden planks, and fill in the muddy spots with gravel.
- They do the best they can with such "limited" funding, the crew members only work at 80% wage with no benefits what so ever.
- Don't cut down the live trees in the park for firewood to sell to campers. Sites need privacy, people love it / want it. They don't want a prairie to camp on. Plant trees to provide privacy and cut out highway noise. The brochure does not depict our beach. Sign at Murray beach is well landscaped, Stonehammer Geo park needs "signage", BIG SIGNS.
- Very hard to find information about activities or educational opportunities available.
- I have little knowledge of the ecological preservation and conservation practices at New River Beach. I would like to think that those practices are followed, but I have only my own perception to go by.
- Keep up on trails and buildings need some work too.
- We live in Vermont, and were very impressed to find such a beautiful park so close to a sizable city like St John. We just stayed 2 nights, but it was lovely.
- Access to the campground is more than a little difficult if not impossible on the week-ends. Not good for tourist nor locals to repeatedly be unable to get in. Non-seasonals should be limited to the number reservations they are able to make and the length of lead time they are able to

make reservations. I could reserve every week-end of the summer and cost much less than a seasonal pass. It is also unfair that people who have a job that permits them to make such long-term plans and not risk having to cancel and lose the fees associated with doing so.

- there is no overflow for weekends when the camp is full. there is a perfect area across the road from the campsite that could be overflow.
- people should not have to pay to park. if so, the parking is too expensive. it makes it hard for families to have to pay the extra 10.00
- The Park needs better signage on the highway. When we have been camping we have had guests miss the exit and they drove all the way to St George trying to find their way back. This beautiful park needs to be better advertised by Tourism NB. We would also like to the restaurant and canteen to be open later at night and to be updated in it's menu and service to the public and for the campers. So many times when we have been to the beach in the evenings we have stopped by for an ice cream cone and it was closed. It would be nice if it was updated to be more like a Cafe.

Question 5: Respondent Comments on agreement with zoning map

- Please finish the Barnaby head boardwalk improvement, it started a few years ago then was abandoned.
- Facilities provided for the "Intensive Recreation" regions should be refurbished, and upgraded with priority. In particular, current areas of the hiking trail are used extensively, and some are not safe. These areas need immediate attention to have them refurbished and/or repaired.
- I think that the area close to the rocks should always be accessible to campers, even if it's a sensible area. my kids always loved playing there.
- with permission and guided by "experts" the Nature Conservation zone should be more accessible at times - especially as a teaching tool.
- I agree we need zoning for the park, and these categories of zones seem reasonable. Since the draft zoning map has been presented to us without descriptions of what is in each zone, I cannot judge whether the boundaries of the zones are appropriate. It would be important to know for each zone: the relative habitat sensitivity; uniqueness; level of naturalness; past known disturbance or built development; presence of species at risk or wildlife of conservation concern; vulnerability to flooding, sea level rise or other climate change impacts; current recreational uses in the zones; and other natural history information that might indicate potential changes from current use to one of these zones.
- I need more information as to why certain areas are zoned how they are- some are obvious like intensive recreation zone but I want to know why/how certain spots were zoned for nature rec vs nature conservation. How did you determine what areas to permanently protect?
- Night security and day security needs to be improved.
- I agree with zoning plans. Not sure if I understand the meaning and/or implications of all the zones.
- Sounds like a good idea.
- Expand some zones- red, yellow, brown
- Need to promote more things to improve tourism.
- Stop the erosion of the shoreline - rocks/grasses no walking on.

- Not sure what it serves, as it seems to be pretty much the way the park is already laid out.
- I feel you have professionals who are best to make this decision, so yes I agree.
- I don't know the area well, so I don't have much input on this idea.
- Where is the map?

Question 6 comments in terms of accuracy of zoning:

- Please upgrade all of the Barnaby Head trail, especially in the bog area where the growth has overwhelmed the trail planks.
- Love the beach! i take the children and don't have to say no all day! Marjorie Knight provided the land for this beautiful park so all the children of New Brunswick could have access to the beach! We could have some mention of her "story". (Joey Baird 755-2095)
- Based upon my knowledge of the park, it seems like these zones are near the right places. It also appears that there is priority given to having much of the park in the Nature Recreation and Nature Conservation Zones, which I would support. Given my answer to Question 5, I cannot be sure if all of the most ecologically sensitive areas in the park are located in the Nature Conservation Zone. I would need to see more maps and detailed information based upon past studies and knowledge of natural history experts. Perhaps we can better make these judgments once the map is placed in context in a draft plan that has these details, and there is a transparent explanation of how these boundaries were decided. Deciding on zoning boundaries in the parks should be all about the details of how to best conserve the natural areas and values of the parks, so we need details on those natural values to draw conclusions about the draft map. To have confidence in the zoning map and the accompanying draft plan, I will need to see the science and information that was used to design the boundaries. It could be they were designed based upon one or a few staff person's opinions or visions about where boundaries should be placed. It is also not clear whether the wetlands (coloured green) are included in the Nature Conservation Zone (a similar, but slightly different colour on the legend), although I am assuming they are. It is not clear how the Water Zone will both provide access to the water and beach, and protect sensitive habitats. I questioned whether sensitive habitats near water would be more clearly protected in the Nature Conservation Zone. Perhaps needs more explanation about what activities take place in the Water Zone. As for the Hydrographic Overlay Zone, I would have expected some of that zone to show up along the seashore, where storm surges would normally occur. It appears to be mainly associated with the wetlands, so this needs a little explanation.
- People coming into park to register have no place to park, so they end up blocking traffic. The sites need to be enlarged to accommodate larger trailers. There needs to be another dumping station, people leaving block traffic.
- A lot of walking areas are full of stumps.
- Down at Barnaby Head, for tenting
- A beautiful park that my family has been enjoying for 81 years, it has come along way in that time. excited to see the continuing changes to improve usability by all.
- The beach bluff needs to be rocked up because of intense erosion over the past few years. The trail boardwalk is in terrible condition, the trail should be repaired by the park crew who already

know the problems via the local people. The park crew built the trail, should not be contracted out by anyone else.

- I would love to see better signage and access shown to areas along New River.
- Boat ramps "advertised" - Non existent. Trails/rest areas needed. The Carrying Cove needs boat ramp and to be wheelchair accessible. the main beach needs a wheel chair ramp.
- Unaware of use of the nature recreation zone along New River Beach.
- leave that to a group of aware, focused professionals to define
- Map is too small to really understand what areas fall in each zone.
- I am not a cartographer. I'm sure you have some of those involved in the process.
- A link to the map here would be useful. Can't answer without it

Question 7: Respondent Comments for other services used

- Have small camp at NRB; walk, swim, snacks at "Gull and Henning"
- Hiking trails, beach areas
- The beach!
- Ladies washroom needs new hand dryer, current one rarely works.
- Baby change stations in washrooms
- Restaurant needs to be advertised. the reservations -online- says the campground is full... Sometimes it is not! Just call the office at New Riverbeach -lots of sites available- ever gone is not on the same wave length -we lose out-
- wifi needs to be more accessible to park users
- Only electric available at New River.
- fire wood
- there should be wifi all through the camp grounds
- Range of Wifi is very poor and have never been able to get a campsite with water on site
- We would love to see things more for wheel chair access. Also would like a ramp to get down to the beach. And you could look into the wheelchairs that are for the beach has big wide tires. They have these on the beach in PEI
- NO Wi-Fi available. Would be a plus for campers
- beach area
- the activity centre never appears to be open.
- trails
- Canteen and ice cream a little too expensive

Questions 8: What other services would you like to see at NRB?

- Please could you continue the excellently job you started on the repair of the trail to Barnaby Head. Just yesterday, I witnessed a woman fall through a cracked board, break the board and injure her ankle. Much more work needs to be done to make the trail safe and accessible. Kudos to you for great job done so far. That trail is a treasure and used by many.
- Maintain Barnaby Head Trail; try to gather up more of the debris that washed ashore
- Better maintenance on the boardwalk of the nature trails.

- Years ago, a large team of summer students played a key role in providing maintenance services to park facilities each summer. In addition, these young people were active agents for helping tourists interact with a wide range of park services. Give consideration to increasing the number of students who work at the park each summer.
- More campsites for busy times. Better ads!
- More information on the trails, posted in various places, would be helpful, especially given the Barnaby Head trails are located some distance away from the campground/beach/office (signs and maps that show all of the park trails, level of difficulty, average time to walk the trail).
- more interpretative signage, better signage to Barnaby Head Trail, etc
- Another washer and dryer
- Water taps outside or water spouts
- Baby changing station in bathroom
- Not infrastructure but it annoys me that people park outside and don't pay to access the park services. Rates are fair and affordable so don't understand why they do this!
- Improvements/additional boardwalks to some of the wet trail areas to reduce the damage to these ecosystems.
- Better toilet and hygiene facilities at Barnaby Head Nature Trail parking lot and beach area at end of Carion Cove Road. More signage and facilities respecting trash collection and recycling. Educate public to remove plastics washed up on the beach to remove it from the ecosystem. Educate public to remove everything they take to the beach. Educate public to leave all sea life and shells in-situ; they are part of the ecosystem.
- Another washroom :)
- Baby Change stations
- Trails to be updated
- i know the playground was just replaced but it should be better, it is used all the time and deserves more investment.
- Day Park- toilets that flush and sinks
- Better accessibility such as ramps and stairs.
- More camping sites, better signage, needs to be open all year round.
- The Barnaby Head Trail could use some maintenance work. A cross country skiing and mountain biking trail along Detour Road.
- no
- weather camera accessible on-line to indicate conditions at the park
- Trail improvements for the nature trail.
- On site camper sewer connections.
- More water access and dumping stations for camping trailers
- wifi in picnic rooms by washrooms
- I am a seasonal camper and have enjoyed the park now for several years, any improvement to the park would be great!
- enforced parking off street.
- Additional water outlets - not necessary on campsites. At least one more dump station. Upgrade existing dump station.
- get some 2 way site or even 3 way sites

- there should be wifi in camp ground area
- Camping would be improved with water (maybe sewer too) on more sites and some sites are very difficult to back into due to short sites and vehicles parked almost on the roads parked
- The beach area SERIOUSLY needs more washroom access. And for the elderly/disabled, or those with small children, washrooms NOT at the top of a giant hill would be beneficial. With camping, it would be great to have a little store available, like at Mactaquac.
- NEED MORE SITES
- No
- No
- 3-way service would entice more campers to stay at the park
- Please provide better pit toilets at the campground...the number of flies made the unit unusable; we had to go to the beach to use the wonderful facilities there.
- Have activity centre open; it never seems to be when we are there. Too many seasonal sites, which makes it difficult for travelers on the road to book camp sites.
- Disabled allocation of camp spots near washrooms for seasonal and non-seasonal campers.
- better trail sign's and park sign's from both main and secondary hwy's. Because I nicely placed and interactive sign will pay for itself with curious passer byers.
- No
- Need showers near the non-serviced campsites
- None at this time.
- more 2 way or even 1 way hook up would be useful
- Mountain bike trails
- Keep Muriel!
- increase services in the campground i.e. water electric, sewage?
- We would also like to the restaurant/ canteen to be open later at night and to be updated in its menu and service to the public and for the campers. So many times when we have been to the beach in the evenings we have stopped by for an ice cream cone and it was closed. It would be nice if it was updated to be more like a Cafe.
- A store for campers basic supplies and a pool.
- You should put water on all sites that have electrical. Also have a section with sewer. i would love to come back as a seasonal camper if these items were offered.
- no
- amphitheatre/stage for music and cultural events
- More access to water supply around the campground

Question 9: Comments on accessibility issues at NRB

- The elderly cannot use the boardwalk on the nature trail to Barnaby Head because it is in dire need of repair in many places.
- Access to beaches can be a challenge for elder folks who wish to walk down. The east gate access route does work, however, the absence of the stairwell and ramp from the parking lot down to the shore has hindered foot traffic for many visitors this year.
- Any person with a walker or wheelchair can't use the beach, so sad, I've seen some access ideas on Facebook. I've had issues with knees, so like to park close to the beach for walking. I

appreciate it when Barnaby trail is in good condition for walking - would love to have snow path plowed to the beach in the winter. Walking on the beach which I can again do now helps so much to alleviate pain.

- Not enough Handicap sites near both washroom areas. Very rough roads.
- I walk with a cane, the stairs are a problem. The beach level path near the parking lot/volley ball area is not easily accessible because the sand is very soft. A cane or a walker can't get any purchase- you slip and slide around. Any chance of a seasonal boardwalk there?
- There is no dedicated handicap site. we were here seasonally with with a wheelchair and built a ramp on a site close to washrooms and kitchen shelter. We had to call tourism to get a spot. F'ton has dedicated sites.
- Access to the beach from the day park is very difficult for someone in a wheelchair or someone using a walker or cane.
- No wheelchair access to any of the beaches or trail systems.
- I have seen people remain on the upper grass level, being unable to access the beach on the nature trail side. The ramp and steps have not been replaced.
- Please have wheelchair ramps and parking of their chairs etc. at the beginning and end of ramps.
- was traumatic
- Access to the beach could be improved though
- My mother is in her late 70's and when she comes to the beach with us, she basically has to "hold it" for the day, because there's no way she can walk up that hill to get to the washroom. The only other option is to go to the car, drive her up the hill and drive her back down.
- Just as I said up top. There needs to be access to the beach for wheel chairs and invest in the big wheeled wheel chairs to go in the sand to go along the beach
- Could only book sites away from washroom areas at times.
- on another note, when i received this email, i also received the names of everyone else. i almost think it is a breach of confidentiality. the notice should have been sent blind copy.
- Wheelchair path-sand is hard to roll on

APPENDIX D IBA Canada Listing for Maces Bay


IBA Canada
Important Bird Areas

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IBA	Point Lepreau/Maces Bay			
Site Summary	Bay of Fundy/Baie de Fundy, New Brunswick			
NB020	Latitude Longitude	45.105° N 66.520° W	Elevation Size	0 - 10 m 102.39 km ²
Habitats: tidal rivers/estuaries, mud or sand flats (saline), open sea, inlets/coastal features (marine), coastal cliffs/rocky shores (marine)		Land Use: Nature conservation and research, Fisheries/aquaculture, Urban/industrial/transport		Potential or ongoing Threats: Oil slicks, Urban/industrial development
IBA Criteria: Globally Significant: Congregatory Species, Waterfowl Concentrations, Continentially Significant: Congregatory Species, Shorebird Concentrations, Nationally Significant: Threatened Species				
Conservation status: IBA Conservation Plan written/being written				

Restricted access for IBA coordinators
 Login name: Password:

[Login](#)


Printable map
Google map


Seasonal abundance


Annual frequency
2000


Report your sightings


Protection status

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Site Description

Point Lepreau and Maces Bay are located along the northern coast of the Bay of Fundy, about 30 km southwest of Saint John. The point forms the eastern border of Maces Bay, Welch Cove, and Little Lepreau Basin, which make up the marine areas of the site. These marine areas contain intertidal reef ledges bordered by mud flats, and a few shallow inlets. Several islands are also present including New River Island, and The Brothers (Salkeld Islands). Intertidal reefs and waters extend about 10 km south from the point into the Bay of Fundy. The shoreline is low and rises gradually, with low cliffs and reefs exposed at low tide. The tidal range is 6 to 8 m (not as dramatic as the tides of the upper bay).

Birds

The intertidal ledges of Maces Bay are recognized as an important spring staging area for migrating Brant. As many as 2,000 birds have been recorded staging here, although the numbers recorded are generally in the range of 1,000 (about 1% of the estimated eastern North American ssp. hrota population).

Data collected during the late 1970s and early 1980s suggests that the site is especially important for Semipalmated Plovers (possibly as much as 6.6% of the world's estimated population) and Least Sandpipers (over 3% of the world's estimated population). Other shorebirds that concentrate at this site during the fall migration include Semipalmated Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher, Black-bellied Plover, Sanderling, White-rumped Sandpiper, and Greater Yellowlegs. Large numbers of wintering Purple Sandpipers have also been recorded at this site with some estimates being in excess of 500 birds (just over 5% of the eastern North American wintering population).

In addition to this site's importance for staging geese and shorebirds, Point Lepreau functions as a major concentration point for thousands of migrating waterfowl that travel along the north coast of the Bay Fundy during the spring. Systematic coverage from April 11 to May 5, 1996 yielded the following estimates: Red-throated Loon (3,222); Common Eider (10,143); Oldsquaw (1,305); Black Scoter (35,037); Surf Scoter (15,389); and White-winged Scoter (617). In total, over 65,000 sea ducks migrated past the point, with the number of Black Scoters being particularly interesting (from 17.5 to possibly as much as 44% of the estimated eastern North American population). Wintering Harlequin Ducks from the eastern population (designated as nationally endangered) have also recorded at this site with estimates of ten or more birds being present.

The islands in Maces Bay (New River and The Brothers [Salkeld] islands) support a large colony of about 1,000 pairs of nesting Common Eider (just over 1% of the Atlantic ssp. dresseri population).

Criteria Version: Date Range: Display:

Species	T A I Links	Date	Season	Number	IBA Criteria		
					G	C	N

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APPENDIX E – References

Applicable Legislation available at: <http://laws.gnb.ca/en/>

- Clean Air Act
- Clean Environment Act
- Clean Water Act
- Fish and Wildlife Act
- Forest Fires Act
- Parks Act
- Trespass Act
- Provincial Offences Procedure Act,
- Off Road Vehicle Act
- Police Act
- Species at Risk Act

The following departmental documents are available at www.gnb.ca/tourism.

- Parks New Brunswick Management Planning Process
- Parks New Brunswick Classification and Zoning Process
- New River Beach Master Plan – September 1999

New Brunswick Environmental Management Manual, 4th Edition – Department of Transportation and Infrastructure (2010)

http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/dti/highways_roads/content/management_manual.html

Additional readings:

- Parks for All - <https://www.cpra.ca/parks-for-all/>
- Nature for All - <http://www.natureforall.global/>
- Nature Playbook - <http://www.parks-parcs.ca/english/nature-playbook.php>
- Healthy By Nature - <http://www.parks-parcs.ca/english/cpc/healthy.php>
- NB Plays Outside - <https://www.nbplays.ca/>
- NB Green Book - https://issuu.com/nbtourism_tourismenb/docs/2016_green_book_june17
- Our Landscape Heritage: The story of ecological land classification in New Brunswick – Department of Energy and Resource Development (2003)
http://www2.gnb.ca/content/gnb/en/departments/erd/natural_resources/content/ForestsCrownLands/content/ProtectedNaturalAreas/OurLandscapeHeritage.html
- Bird Studies Canada <http://www.ibacanada.org/mapviewer.jsp?lang=EN>



Barnaby Head with view to New River Island (Photo: T. Wade, 2017)