

Rissers Beach Provincial Park



COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT SESSION

JUNE 18, 2024

BRIDGEWATER BEST WESTERN



NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS



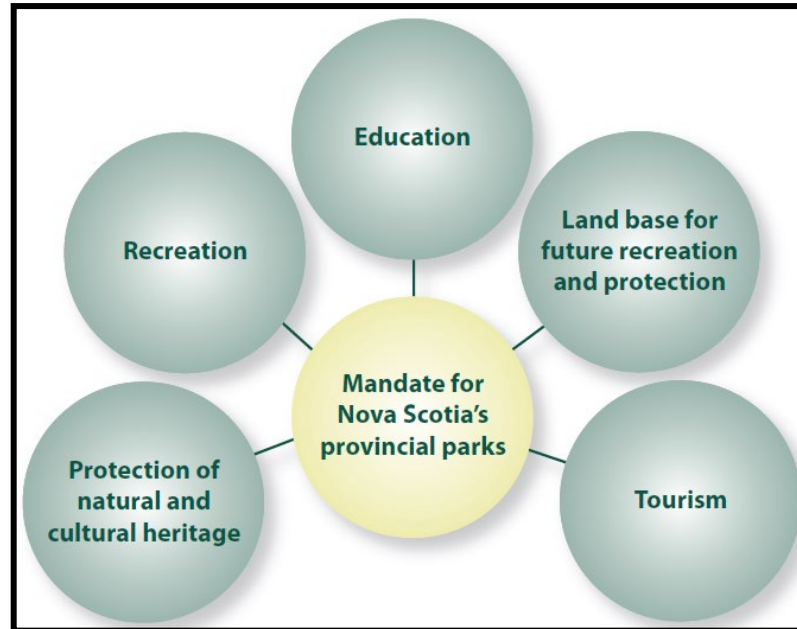
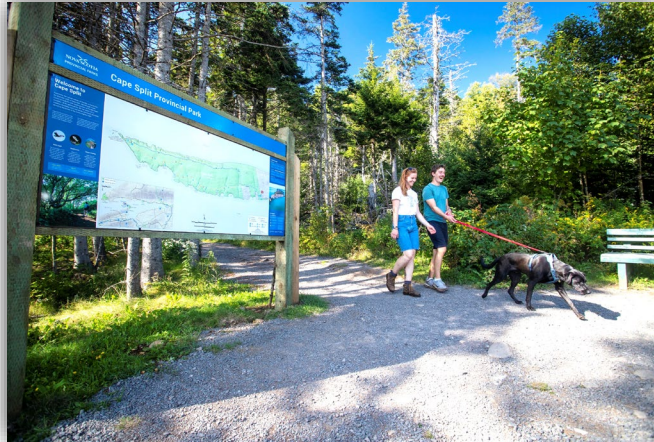
AGENDA

- Welcome & Introductions
- Overview of Provincial Parks mandate & planning process
- History and Overview of Rissers Beach
- Coastal Hazard Study & Processes
- Table Discussion: Values & Vision
- General Discussion
- Next Steps & Adjourn



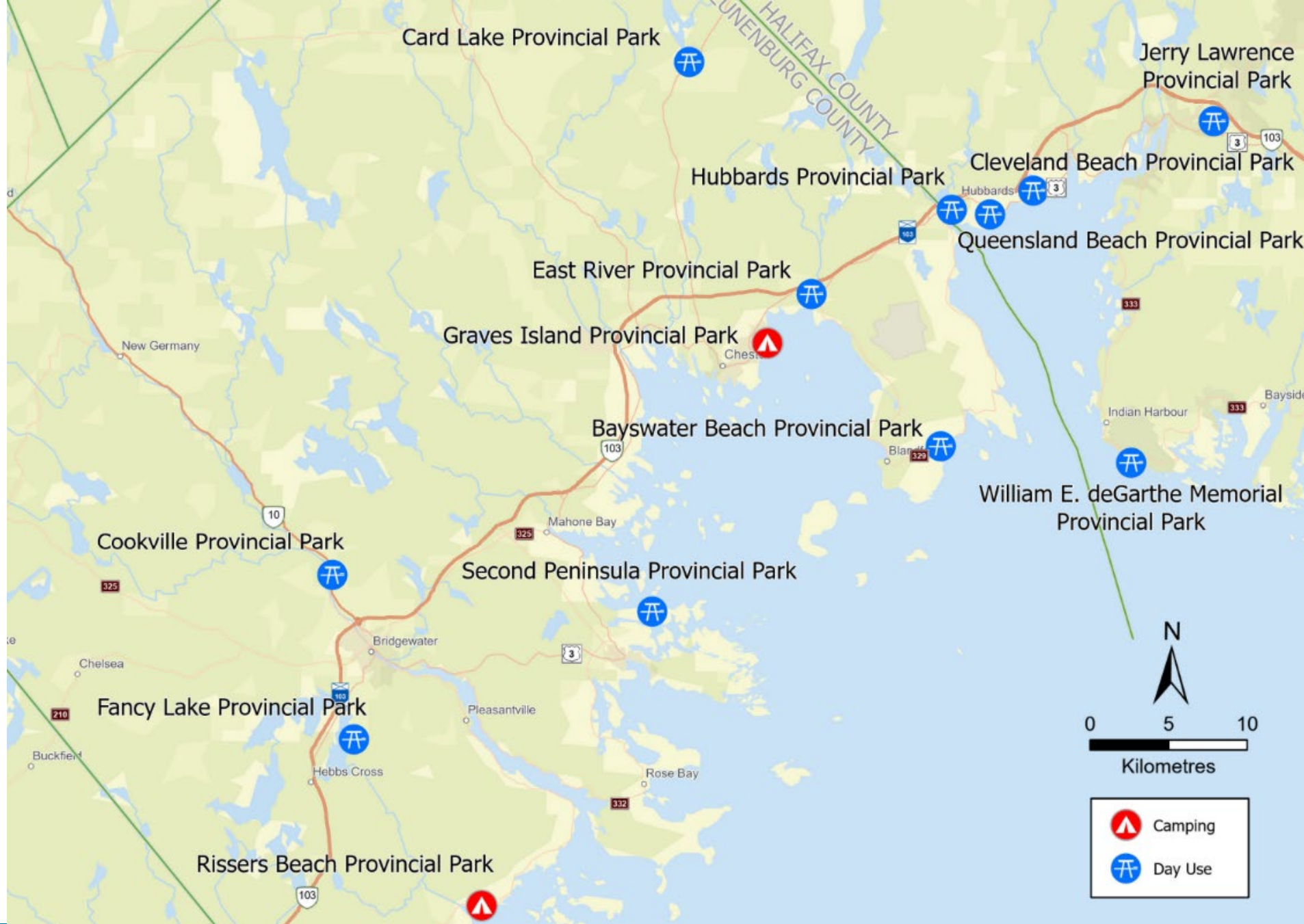
NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS

Nova Scotia Provincial Parks



203 Provincial Parks

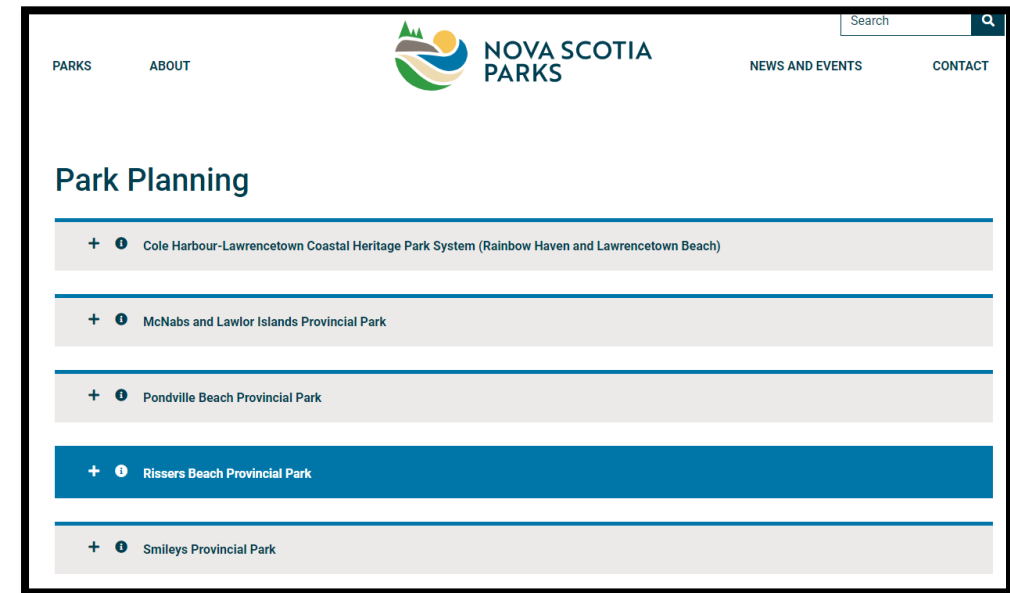
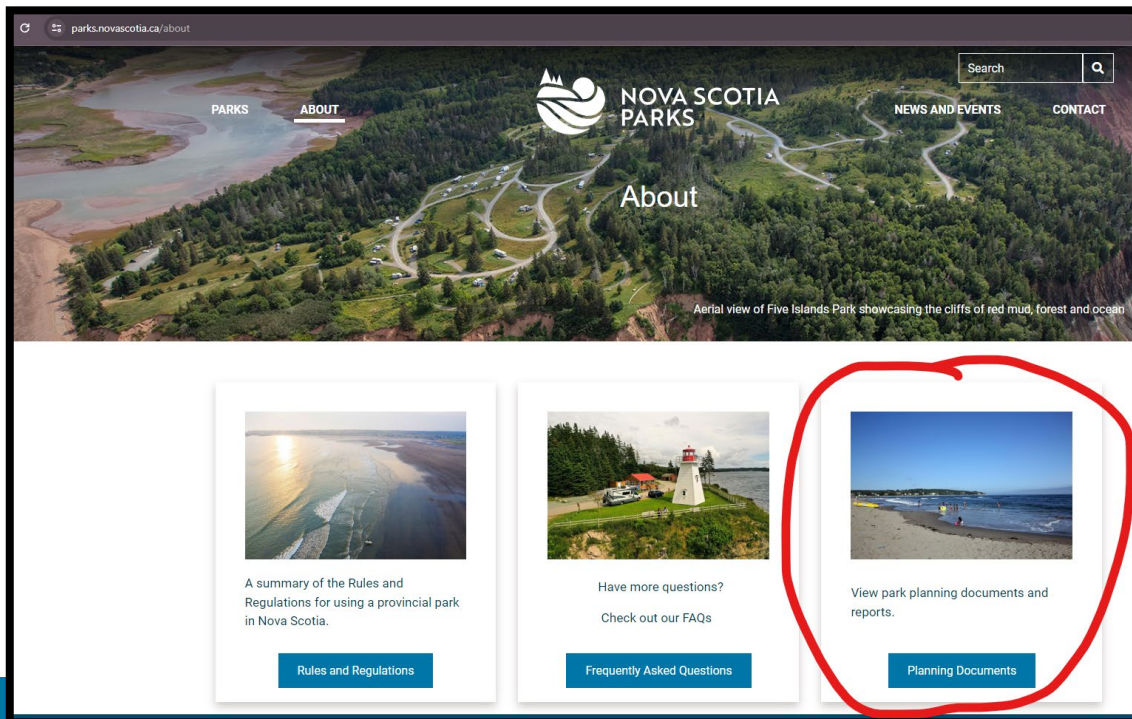
131 operational (20 Camping, 111 Day-Use)



PROVINCIAL PARKS IN LUNENBURG COUNTY

Park Management Planning

- A management plan sets the vision and provides guidance
- Ensures each park is managed consistently
- Includes public engagement and opportunities for input



Planning Timeline

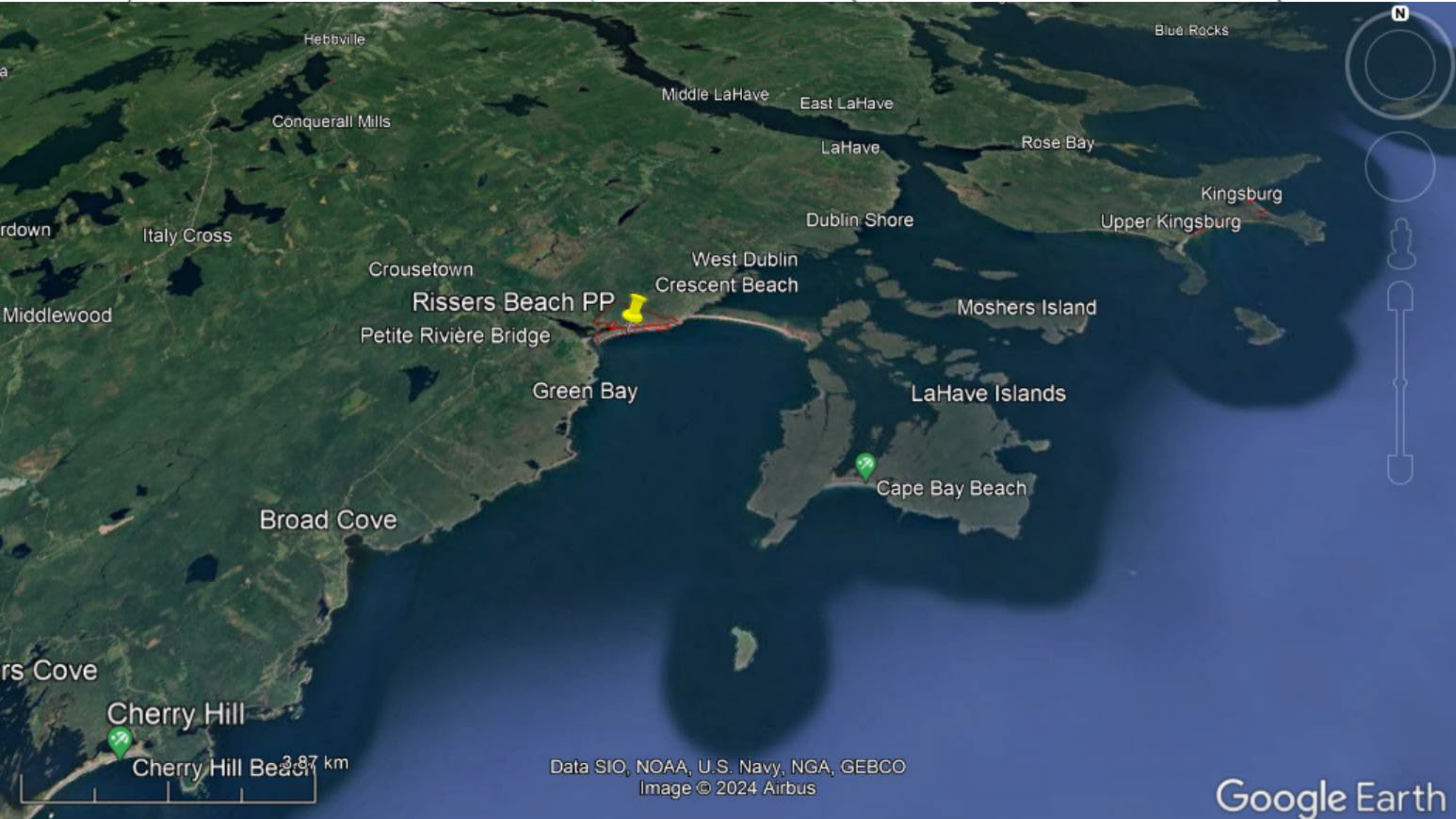
Item	Description	Engagement	Dates
Scoping	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rationale • Schedule & Engagement Strategy 		Spring 2024
Background Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collect background information on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Natural values ○ Cultural values ○ Recreation values ○ Threats ○ Ecological & archeological studies 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Collect information on values and vision • Online Survey (closes September 3, 2024) 	Summer 2024
Develop Preliminary Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preliminary Management Plan • Preferred policies, approaches and development concept 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Online opportunity to review preliminary management plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Posted to website with opportunity to provide feedback 	Dec 2024
Final Management Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final Management Plan <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Incorporating public feedback 		March 2025
Phased Implementation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site level planning & design • Construction 		TBD



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Rissers Beach

5366 Highway 331



Hebbville

Blue Rocks

Middle LaHave

East LaHave

Conquerall Mills

LaHave

Rose Bay

Kingsburg

Upper Kingsburg

Dublin Shore

Crousetown

West Dublin

Crescent Beach

Rissers Beach PP

Moshers Island

Petite Rivière Bridge

Green Bay

LaHave Islands

Cape Bay Beach

Broad Cove

rs Cove

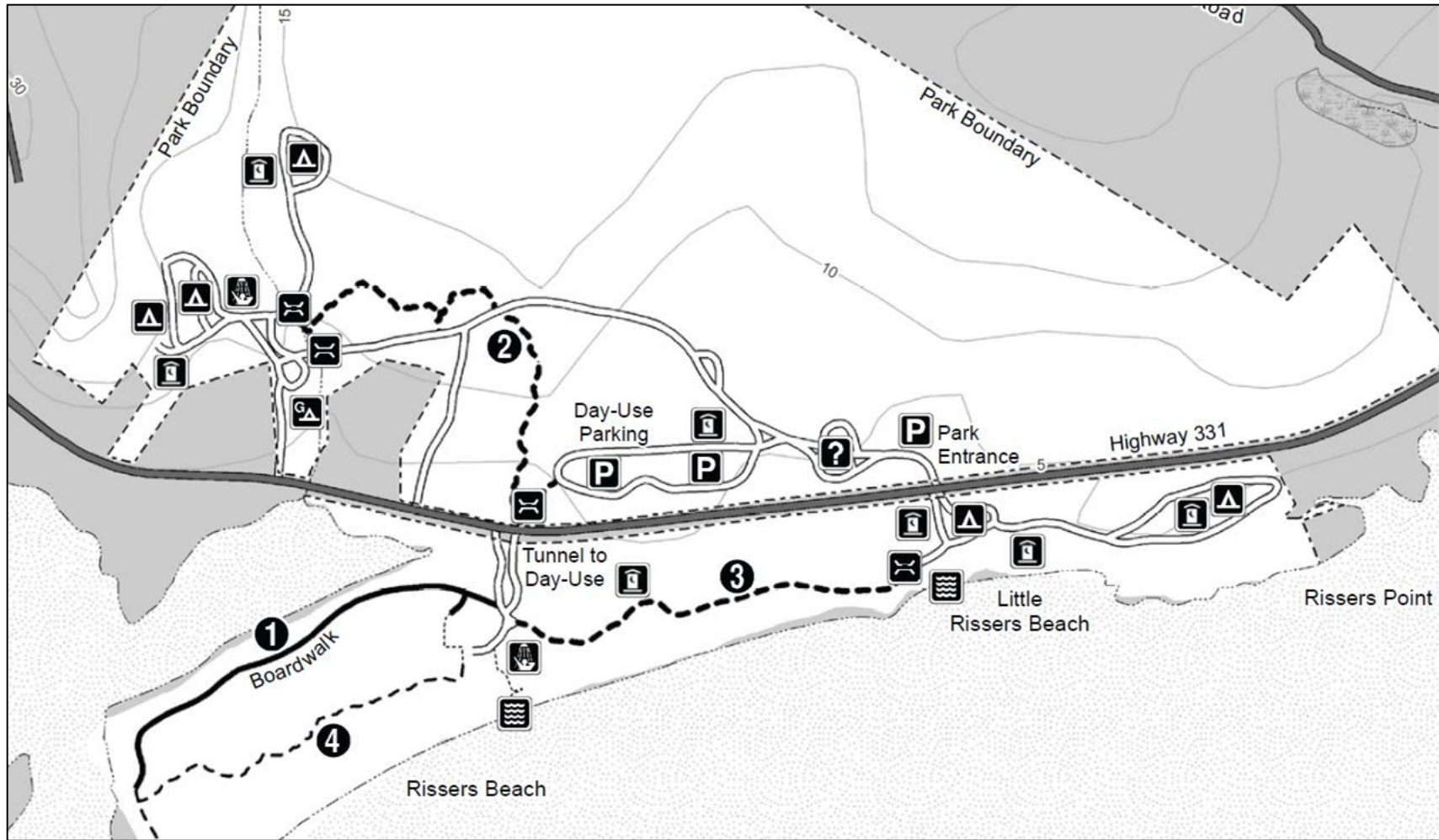
Cherry Hill

3.87 km

Cherry Hill Beach

Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO
Image © 2024 Airbus

Google Earth



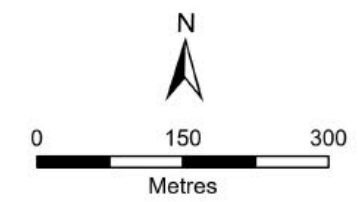
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Depth to Water Table

Rissers Beach Provincial Park



- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| County Boundary | Provincial Park |
| Trans Canada | 0 - 0.10 m |
| Arterial Highway | 0.11 - 0.50 m |
| Trunk Highway | 0.51 - 2 m |
| Collector Highway | 2.01 - 10 m |
| Road (Other) | > 10 m |
| Track (2m & wider) | |
| Trail / Footpath | |



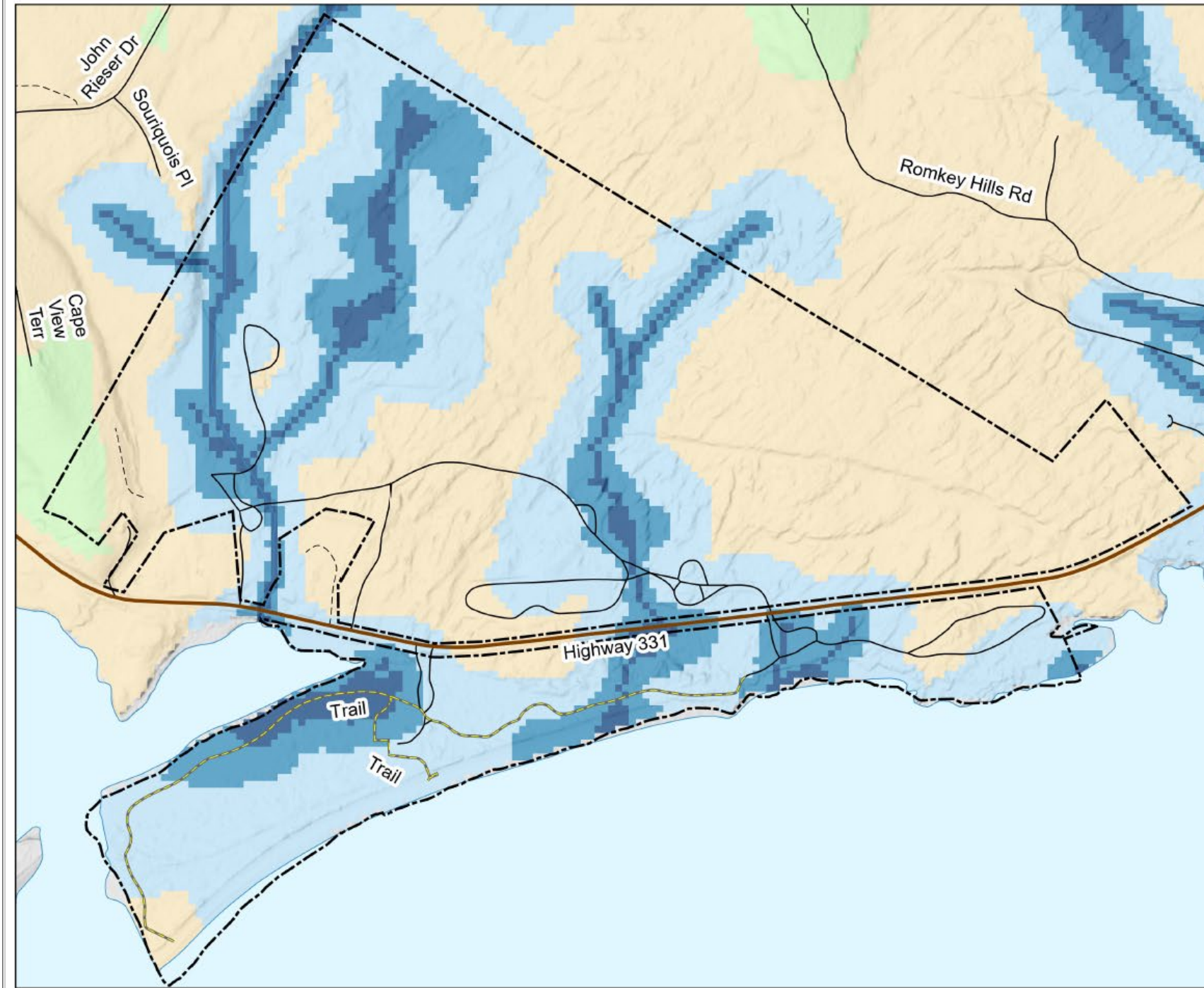
8° Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Projection, Zone 20, Central Meridian 63°00' West, North American Datum (NAD) 1983.

Data Sources:
Nova Scotia Road Network, Nova Scotia Topographic Database, Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services

Capability Analysis:
Ecological Land Classification (ELC) - Ecosystem, Forest Cover Type, Forest Ecosystem Classification (FEC) - Soil Type, Non-Forested, Old Growth Forest, Surficial Geology, Wet Areas Mapping (WAM), Wetlands, Wetlands of Special Significance, Slope



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Date of map is not indicative of data currency.



Rissers Beach Provincial Park – Day Use Area, 1970s?



Rissers Beach Provincial Park, 2007



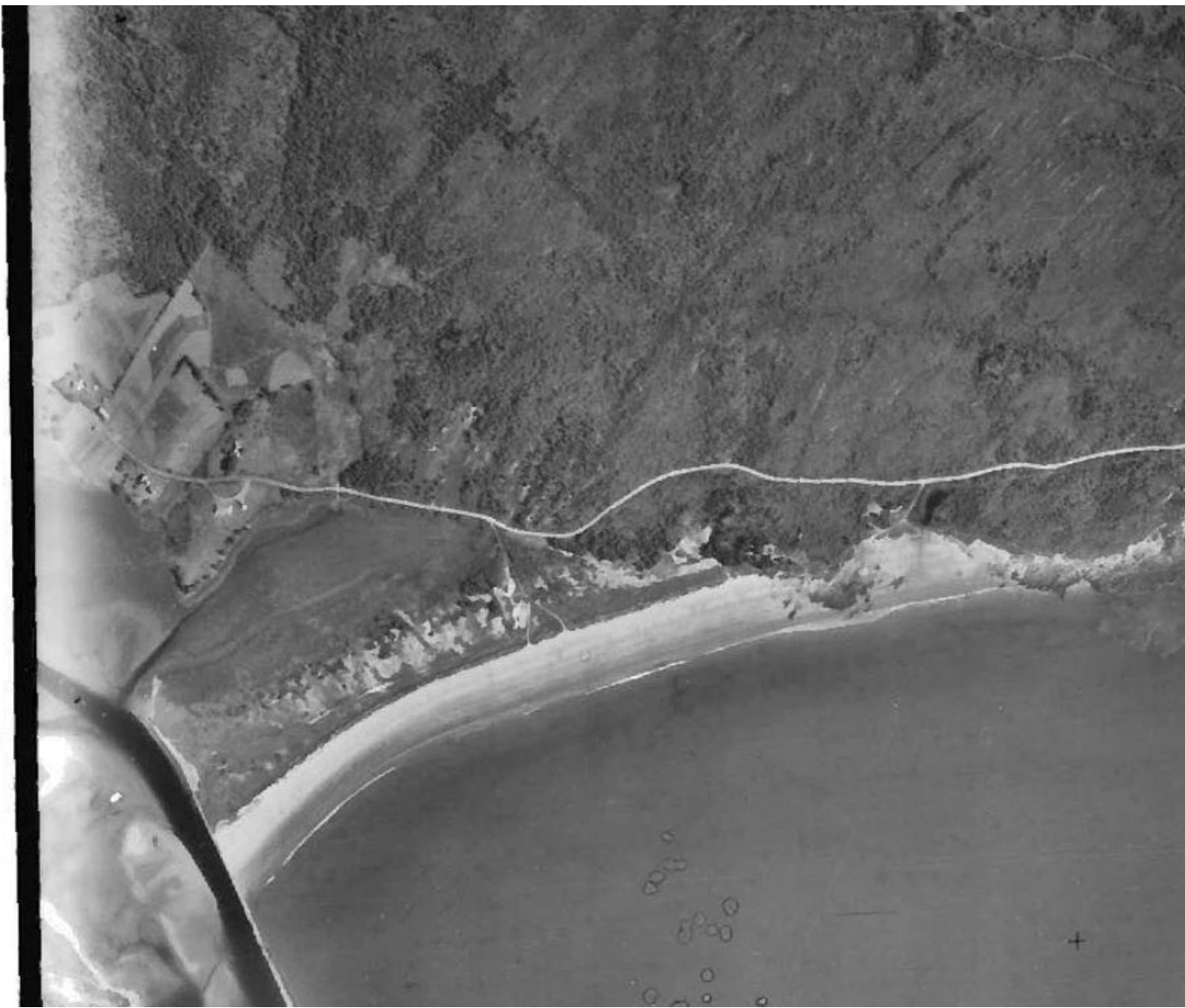
Rissers Beach Provincial Park, 2007



Rissers Beach Provincial Park, 2007



1945



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1955



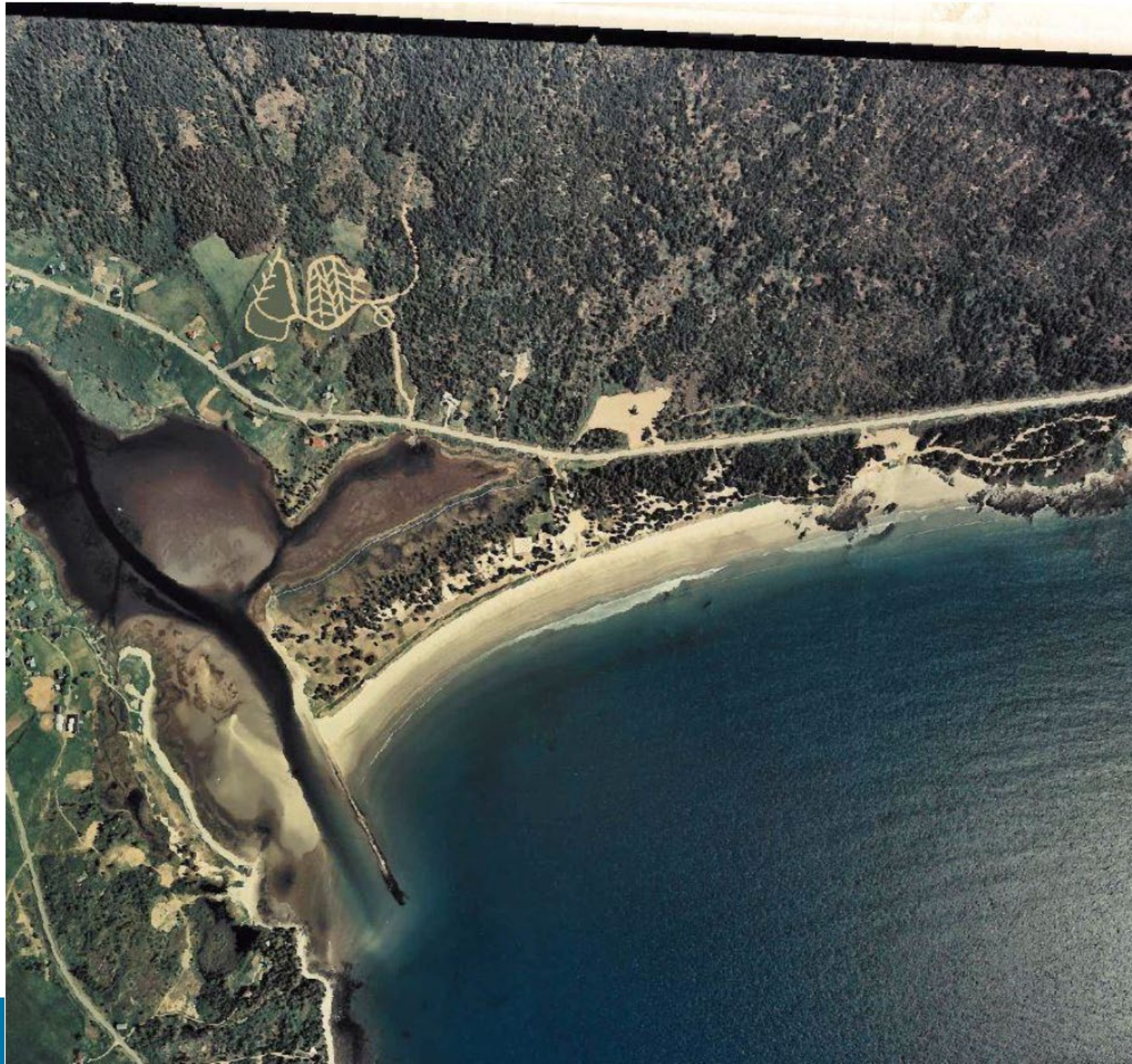
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1965



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PARKS

1976



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PARKS

1986



86-07-20

21 A/1

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NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS

1992



NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS

2011



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Little Rissers Beach, Summer 2007



Camper Nights - 2017 - 2022

Year	May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Grand Total
2017	329	1231	2852	2756	1521	247	8936
2018	412	1396	2822	2984	1562	242	9418
2019	386	1330	2897	2878	957	337	8785
2021	1	2093	2742	2743	1988	563	10130
2022	593	1968	2875	2751	1793	373	10353
Grand Total	1721	8018	14188	14112	7821	1762	47622

Occupancy - 2021

	2021 Season	June	July	August	September	October
Rissers Beach	72%	68%	89%	92%	69%	20%

Camper Nights – North Side – 2022^(*)

May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
235	701	1179	1105	678	148	4046

(*) Includes Electrical, Wooded, Walkins and Group sites

Camper Nights – South Side - Flats (Beach) – 2022

May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
184	664	849	837	559	103	3196

Camper Nights – South Side - Wooded - 2022

May	June	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Total
174	601	840	798	553	122	3088

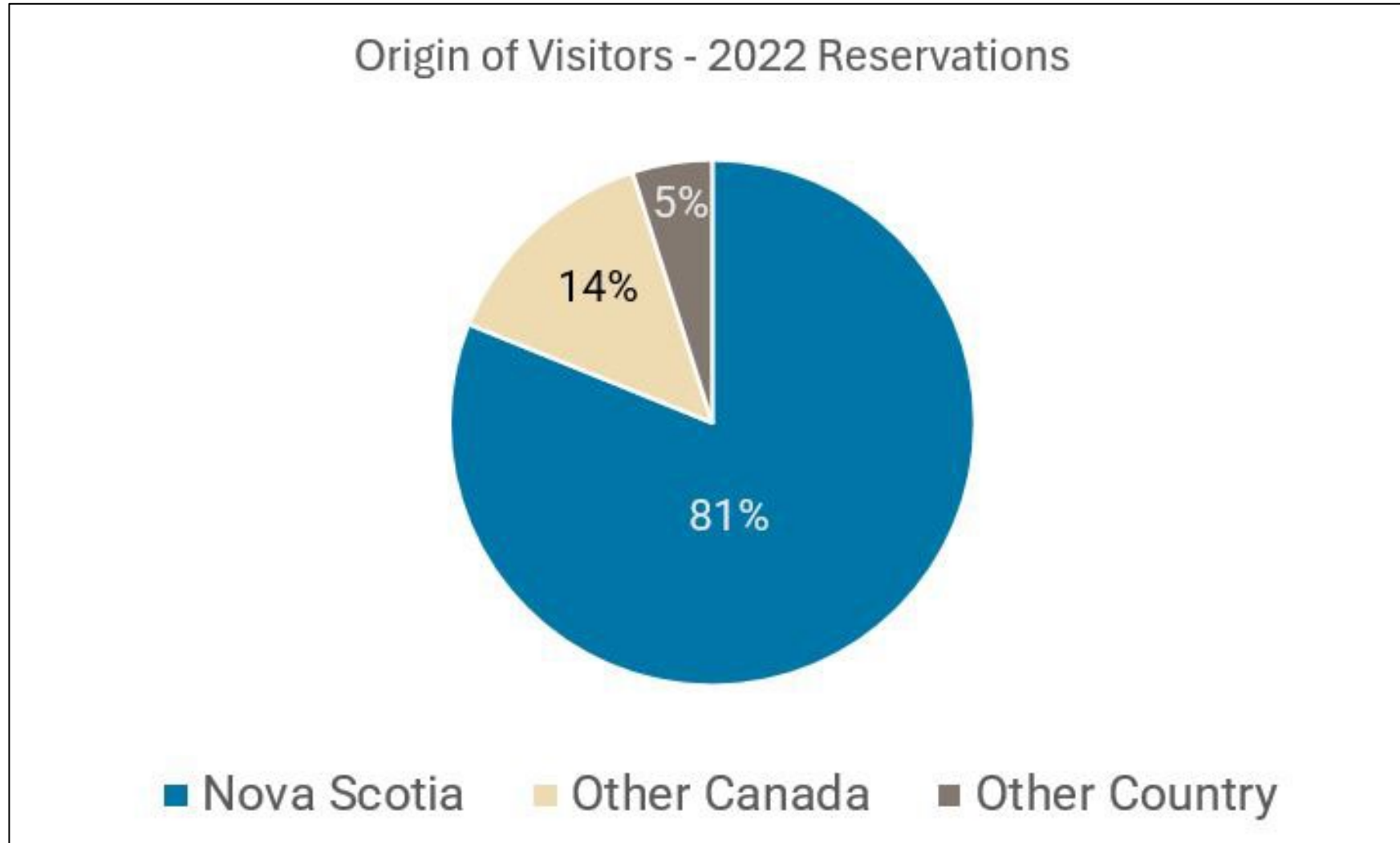
A Camper Night is a paid overnight stay

Rissers Beach Provincial Park – Lifeguard Counts

Lifeguard Counts - 2020 - 2023

Beach	2020	2021	2022	2023
Rainbow Haven	17454	20526	24018	22786
Queensland	10765	12803	16579	12883
Martinique	9145	10839	10528	12035
Melmerby	15869	12634	13326	10509
Inverness	9048	14494	12568	10468
Rissers	10676	9925	9591	9574
Lawrencetown	9745	9068	9255	8687
Clam Harbour	5597	5076	6846	6648
Port Hood	5127	4229	7499	6381
Dominion	4679	5314	8141	6142
Bayswater	11481	9246	11590	5747
Port Maitland	3917	3712	4570	5367
Dollar Lake	9160	6085	6516	4521
Heather	3219	3322	3518	3790
Mira Gut	2812	2828	3719	3009
Pomquet	2951	3380	3971	2767
Point Michaud	4081	3570	4298	2333
Bayfield	1945	1381	2160	1941
Ellenwood Lake	2659	2234	2185	1881
Mavillette	1752	1924	4067	1790
NS Provincial Parks Total	142082	142590	164945	139259

- Lifeguards count 4 times a day and keep the highest count which is usually in the afternoon.
- They estimate there are twice this many visitors.



Origin of Visitors - 2022 Reservations for Rissers Beach

644	280	158	111	95	90	83	71	65	60	56	51	48	46	43	43	42	36	36	35	35	34	32	31
29	29	29	29	29	28	28	27	26	25	25	25	23	23	23	23	23	23	22	22	22	21	21	20
NICTAUX	KINGSTON	AYLESFORD	CENTREVILLE	CONQUERALL BANK	PLEASANTVILLE	NEW MINAS	MAHONE BAY	QUEBEC	MOUNT UNIACKE	EASTERN PASSAGE	CAMBRIDGE	PORT WILLIAMS	TRURO	GREENWOOD	OTTAWA	BRIDGETOWN	CALGARY	TORONTO	PINE GROVE	ENFIELD	NEW GERMANY	MIDDLETON	PORTERS LAKE
HALIFAX	DARTMOUTH	BRIDGEWATER	BEDFORD	KENTVILLE	HAMMONDS PLAINS	LOWER SACKVILLE	TIMBERLEA	BERWICK	MIDDLE SACKVILLE	WOLFVILLE	FALL RIVER	MONTREAL	BEAVER BANK	UPPER TANTALLON	LAWRENCETOWN	HANTSPORT	LUNENBURG	FALMOUTH	WINDSOR	CANNING	COLDBROOK	BLOCKHOUSE	STILLWATER LAKE



North Side: 42 Campsites

RV Dump Station

Day Use Parking

Entry Building

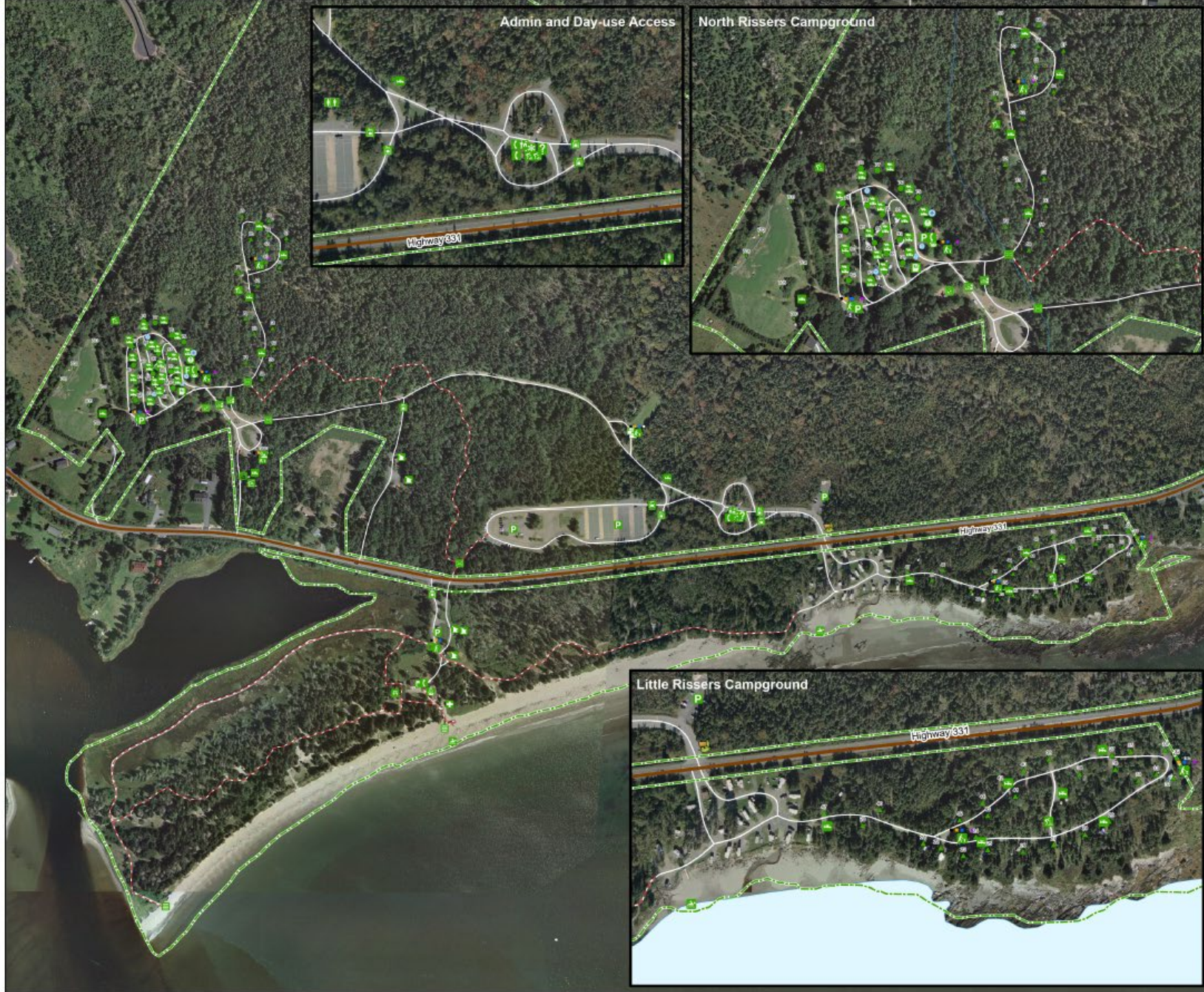
Pedestrian Tunnel

Boardwalk

Day Use Area

South Side: 28 Campsites

Rissers Beach, Spring 2023



Rissers Beach Provincial Park



- Park Boundary
- Trail
- automatic gate
- beach access
- bridge
- building
- canteen
- charcoal pit
- comfort station
- crown marker
- dishwash station
- dump station
- electrical cabinet
- firepit
- firewood shelter
- garbage refundables
- garbage refundables recyclables paper
- garbage refundables recyclables paper organic
- garbage refundables recyclables paper propane
- gate
- group camping
- ice cooler
- info board
- lifeguard station
- park office
- park sign
- parking
- payphone
- picnic area
- picnic shelter
- playground
- serviced campsite
- shut off valve
- swimming
- trailhead
- unserviced campsite
- walk-in campsite
- water tap
- water tap and power
- well



8° Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Projection, Zone 26,
Central Meridian 63°07' West, North American Datum (NAD) 1983.

Data Sources:

Nova Scotia Topographic Database; Service Nova Scotia and Internal Services
 Provincial Parks and Park Reserves; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables
 Asset Inventory; Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources and Renewables
 (Method: Trimble Juno 5B, January 20, 2015)

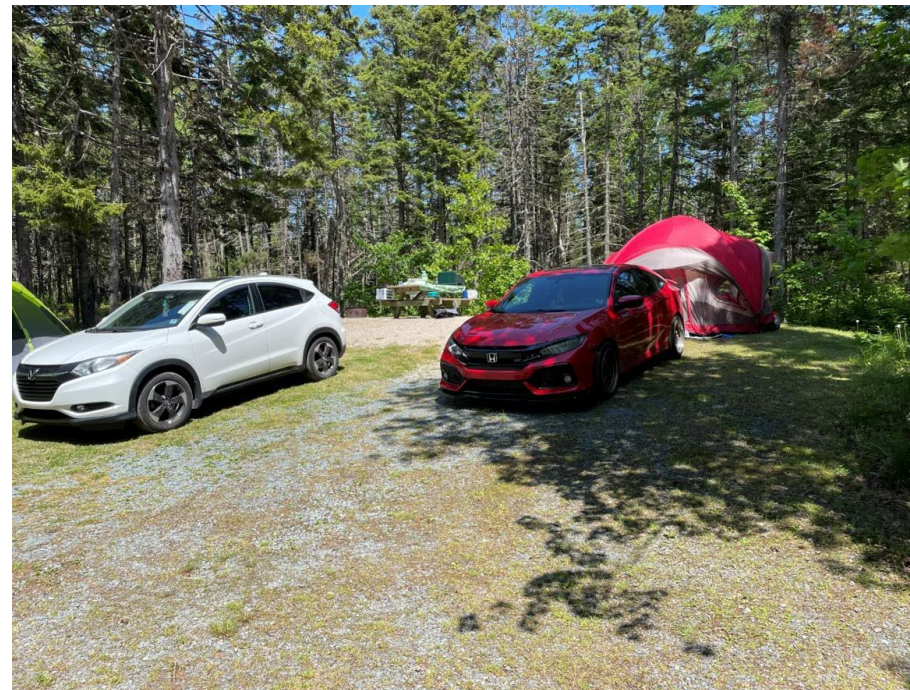


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PARK PROPERTY BOUNDARIES AND AMENITIES

North Rissers Campground:

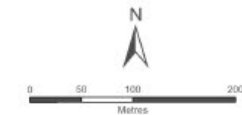
- 17 Unserviced campsites (Sites 58 – 74)
 - 18 Serviced campsites (30-amp Service & potable water) (Sites 75 – 93)
 - 6 Walk-in campsites (Sites 700 – 705)
 - Group camping site
-
- Accessible Comfort Station
 - Dishwash Station
 - Playground
 - Dump Station



Rissers Beach Provincial Park



- Park Boundary - - - - - Trail
- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| automatic gate | group camping |
| beach access | ice cooler |
| bridge | info board |
| building | lifeguard station |
| canteen | park office |
| charcoal pit | park sign |
| comfort station | parking |
| crown marker | payphone |
| dishwash station | picnic area |
| dump station | picnic shelter |
| electrical cabinet | playground |
| firepit | serviced campsite |
| firewood shelter | shut off valve |
| garbage refundables
recyclables | swimming |
| garbage refundables
recyclables paper | trailhead |
| garbage refundables
recyclables paper
organics | unserviced campsite |
| garbage refundables
recyclables paper
propane | walk-in campsite |
| gate | water tap |
| | water tap and power |
| | well |



8° Universal Transverse Mercator (UTM) Projection, Zone 26,
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Data Sources:

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 (Method: Trimble Juno 50, January 20, 2015)



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South Rissers Campground:

28 Unserviced campsites
(Sites 20 – 47 in wooded area)

Vault Toilets

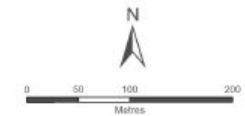
Potable Water Taps



Rissers Beach Provincial Park



- Park Boundary
- Trail
- automatic gate
- beach access
- bridge
- building
- canteen
- charcoal pit
- comfort station
- crown marker
- dishwash station
- dump station
- electrical cabinet
- firepit
- firewood shelter
- garbage refundables
recyclables
- garbage refundables
recyclables paper
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organics
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PARK PROPERTY BOUNDARIES AND AMENITIES



68

Site 68, Loop A, North Side



The Flats, Loop A, North Side



Comfort Station



PLEASE USE
DIRT/WASHING
STATION ONLY FOR
CLEANING DISHES.





Wooded Sites, South Side





Park Entry Building



RV Dump Station



Day-Use Parking Lot



Day-Use Parking Lot



Day-Use Area



Pedestrian Tunnel



Day-Use Area



Interpretive Center

the SALT MARSH

This large informational panel is titled "the SALT MARSH". It features a central photograph of a wooden boardwalk winding through a marshy area with a large green dune in the background. Surrounding this central image are several smaller text boxes, each accompanied by a small photograph or illustration. The text boxes provide detailed information about the marsh environment, including its ecological importance and the various species that inhabit it. The panel is mounted on a wooden wall and is part of a larger exhibit area.



An interactive exhibit panel with a wooden frame and a corkboard background. It features several photographs of coastal scenes, including a beach, a marsh, and a dune. There are also several green text boxes with white text, providing information about the coastal environment. At the bottom of the panel, there is a small, shallow container with a white, fluffy substance, possibly a bird's nest or a sample of marsh material. The panel is mounted on a wooden wall and is part of a larger exhibit area.



www.thesurftide.ca

THE SURFTIDE
CATERING



Day-Use Area



Comfort Station - Day-Use Area



Boardwalk



Lifeguard Building, 2021



Aftermath of Hurricane Noel, November 2007



Rissers Beach, 2021







Rissers Beach, 2021



Rissers Beach – After Hurricane Lee,
September 2023



Rissers Beach, May 2024

HELP PROTECT OUR
SAND DUNES
PLEASE STAY
ON BOARDWALK

Martinique Beach Access #4 2021



Martinique Beach Access #4 After
Hurricane Lee September 2023



NO WALKING ON
DUNE SANDS
PLEASE STAY
ON WALKWAY

4

Martinique Beach Access #4, 2024



Martinique Beach Access #5, 2021



Martinique Beach Access #5, 2021



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Martinique Beach Access #5, 2024

Rushtons Beach, 2006



Rushtons Beach after Hurricane Fiona, September 2022



Rushtons Beach, 2023



Changing our thinking after Hurricane Fiona damaged boardwalks and beach access in Melmerby Beach Provincial Park,
Pictou – September, 2022



219



Nova Scotia
Provincial Parks
Discover our nature

PLAGE
PONDVILLE
BEACH

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES



Rocky Bay Rd

Rocky Bay Rd

Provincial Park land

Tidal Pond

Tidal Inlet Channel

Protected Beach

Pondville South Rd

Image © 2023 CNES / Airbus

Google Earth

311 m

1985

45°32'23.60" N 60°59'09.21" W elev 0 m eye alt 1.40 km



- The Beach
- The Dune System
- Salt Marsh

VALUED COMPONENTS OF THE ENVIRONMENT



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COASTAL DUNE EROSION 2008 - 2019



Channel Instability

Potential
outflow paths

Potential beach
migration area

100 m

POTENTIAL CHANGES AFTER PIER IS REMOVED

**Potential changes in beach morphology
following wharf removal.**

(source : CBCL, 2023)



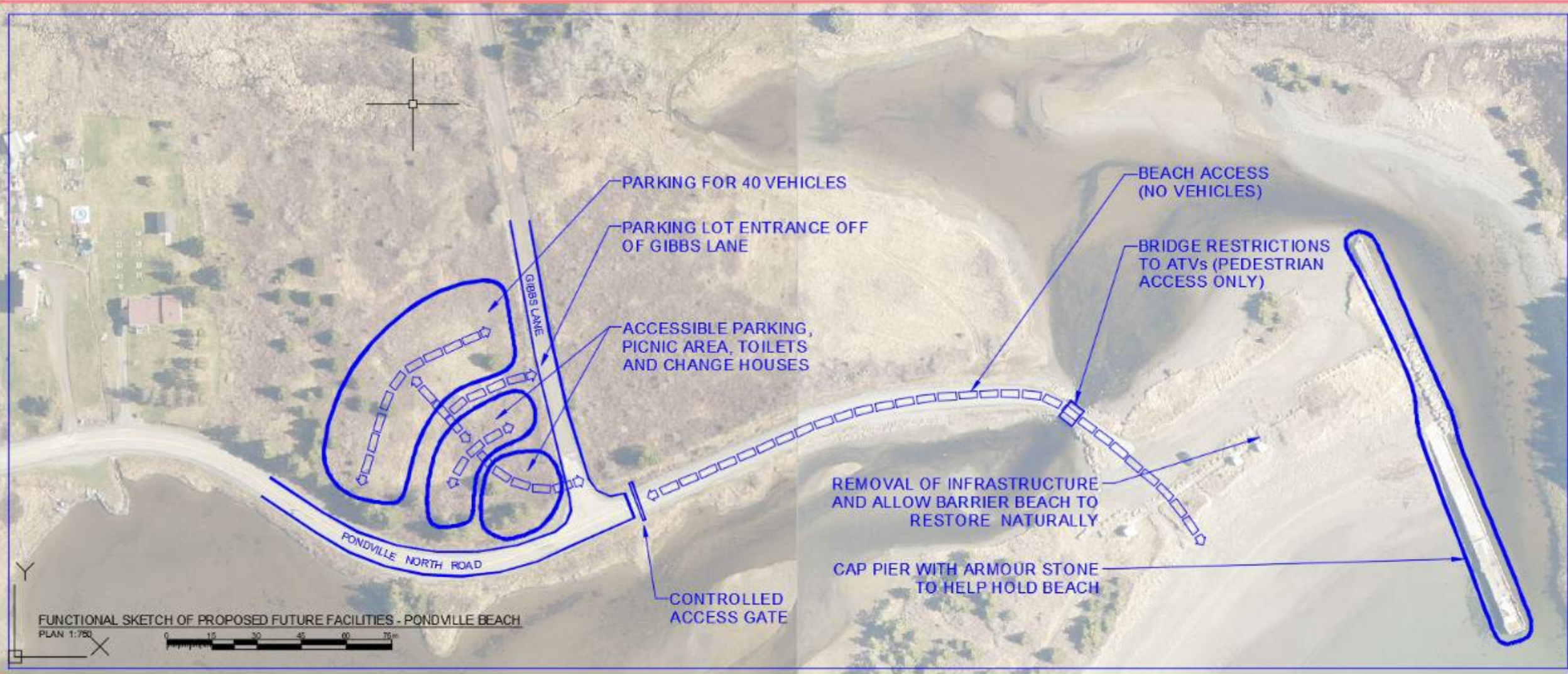
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Elements at Play



2017





CONCEPT FOR RETREAT AND RESTORE



Little Rissers Beach, Summer 2007



Little Rissers Beach,
After Hurricane Noel,
November 2007



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PARKS

Little Rissers Beach, Spring 2023



Little Rissers Beach after Hurricane Lee, September 2023





Little Rissers Beach after Hurricane Lee, September 2023





Rissers Beach, Summer 2007



Rissers Beach, Spring 2024





Rissers Beach after Hurricane Lee, September 2023











**NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS**



CONTINUED STORM EVENTS – DECEMBER 2023



**NOVA SCOTIA
PARKS**



- 1 SANDY LOAM BOULDER FILL WITH A SHALLOW MANTLE OVER IRREGULAR BEDROCK SURFACE, MODERATELY TO POORLY DRAINED. BLACK SPRUCE, ALDER ARE COMMON SPECIES. MANY EXPOSED ROCK OUTCROPS
- 2 OPEN AREA AS THE RESULT OF PREVIOUS FIRE. MANY DEAD TREES TO BE CLEARED, GROUND QUITE ROCKY, DRAINAGE APPEARS ACCEPTABLE
- 3 DRUMLIN CLEARED & NOW USED AS A PASTURE. EXCELLENT TOPSOIL, GOOD DRAINAGE, SLOPE ALONG SIDE OF DRUMLIN FAIRLY STEEP
- 4 ESTUARINE LAGOON AND SALT MARSH, FRAGILE ECOSYSTEM
- 5 FAIRLY HEAVY GROWTH OF MAPLE GRASS, BAYBERRY, WILDE ROSE WITH MATURPS & SEEDLINGS OF WHITE SPRUCE
- 6 PRIMARY DUNE STABILIZED BY MAPLE GRASS, BEACH PEA & GOLDEN ROD. BACK SLOPE CONTAINS BAYBERRY & WILDE ROSE. EXTREMELY SENSITIVE TO VISITOR IMPACT.
- 7 EXCELLENT WIDE SANDY INTERTIDAL BEACH
BACK DUNE AREA CONSISTS MAINLY OF WHITE SPRUCE FOREST/
DUNE GRASS ZONE. DUE TO LACK OF SAND REPLENISHMENT,
LOW MOISTURE & LACK OF NUTRIENTS THE DUNE GRASS
HAS A VERY LOW VIGOUR, & TREE GROWTH IS SPORADIC.
VEGETATION APPEARS TO BE DETERIORATING DUE TO
VISITOR IMPACT.
- 8



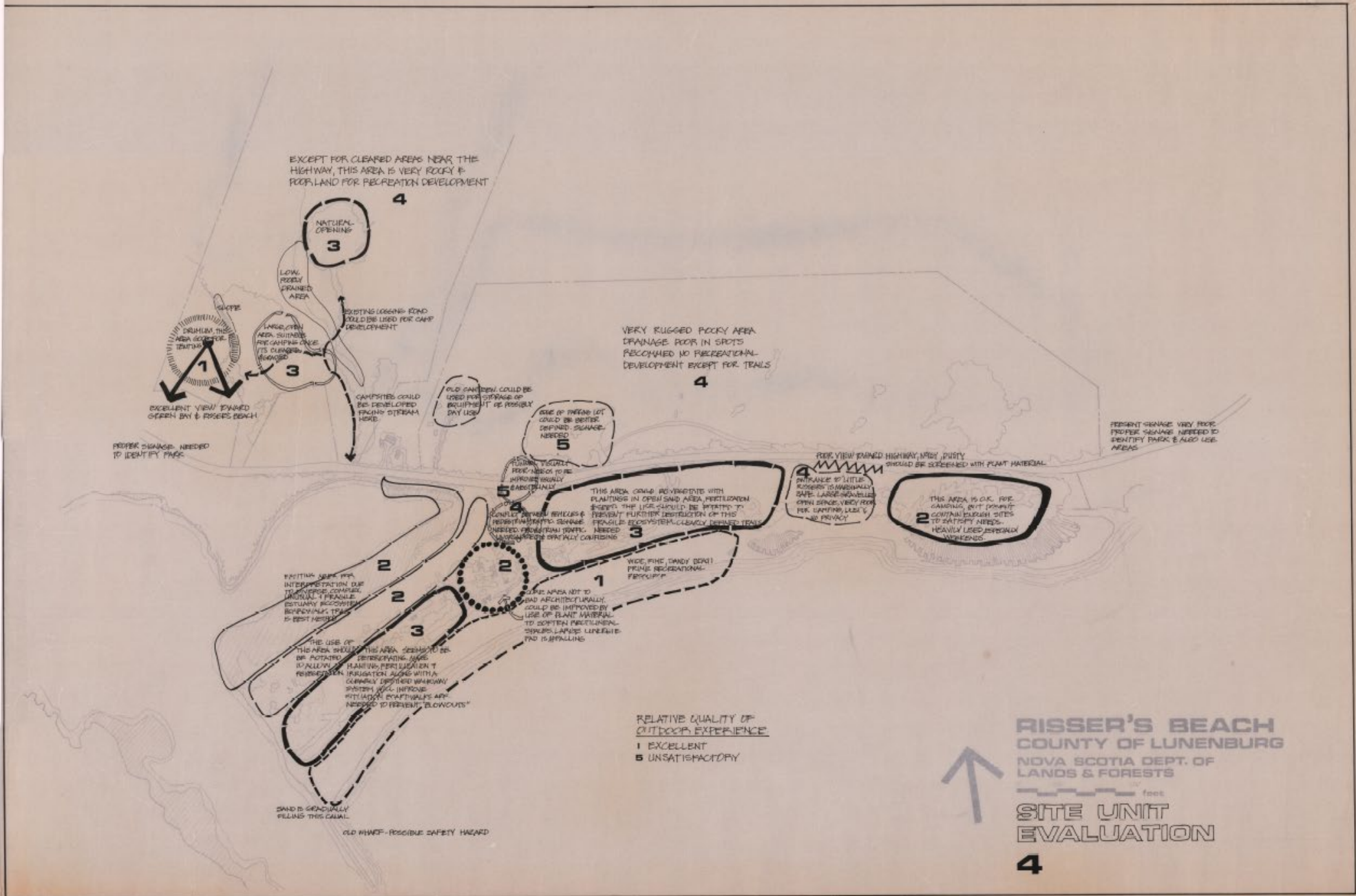
RISSER'S BEACH
 COUNTY OF LUNenburg
 NOVA SCOTIA DEPT. OF
 LANDS & FORESTS

0 200 400 feet

VEGETATION & NATURAL CONDITIONS

2

Ref. or Drawing No. *Risser's Beach*
 DETAILS *Site Unit Evaluation - M. W. Jones*
 1:200



TIA

Existing Marsh Boardwalk
Proposed Marsh Boardwalk
and Viewing/Interpretive Platforms

BEACH PARKING

Highway 331

MARSH

STABLE VEGETATED BOUNDARY

SECONDARY DUNE

PRIMARY DUNE

CENTRAL BEACH ACCESS;
ACCESSIBLE COASTAL VIEWPOINT

SECONDARY BEACH ACCESS

can establish
@ payable
it can be
carried
over

- Report & Rec.
1. Cabinet review
approval
2. Meet community
w/pts. (allow twisting)
3. Announcement

RISSEY'S BEACH PARK
Linn County
(Not to Scale Sketch)

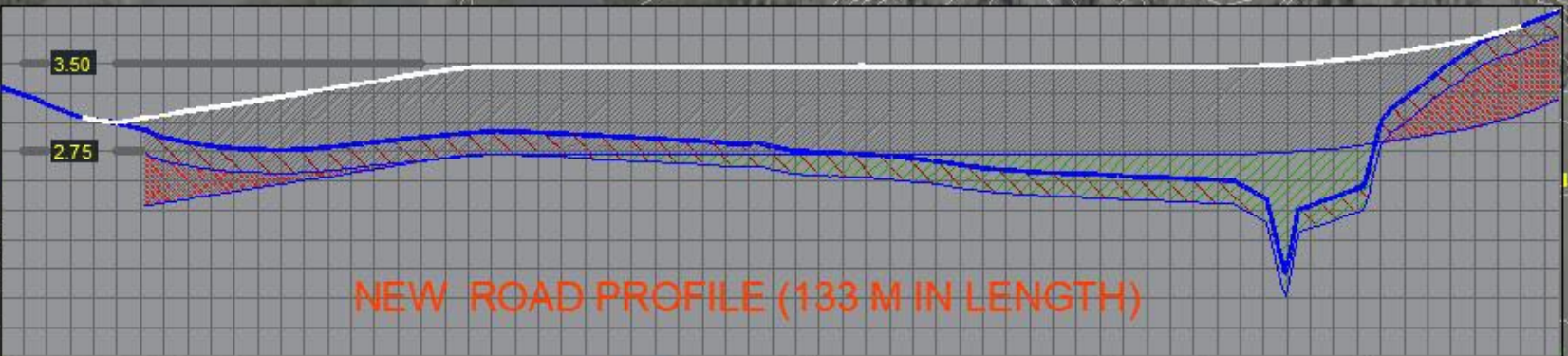
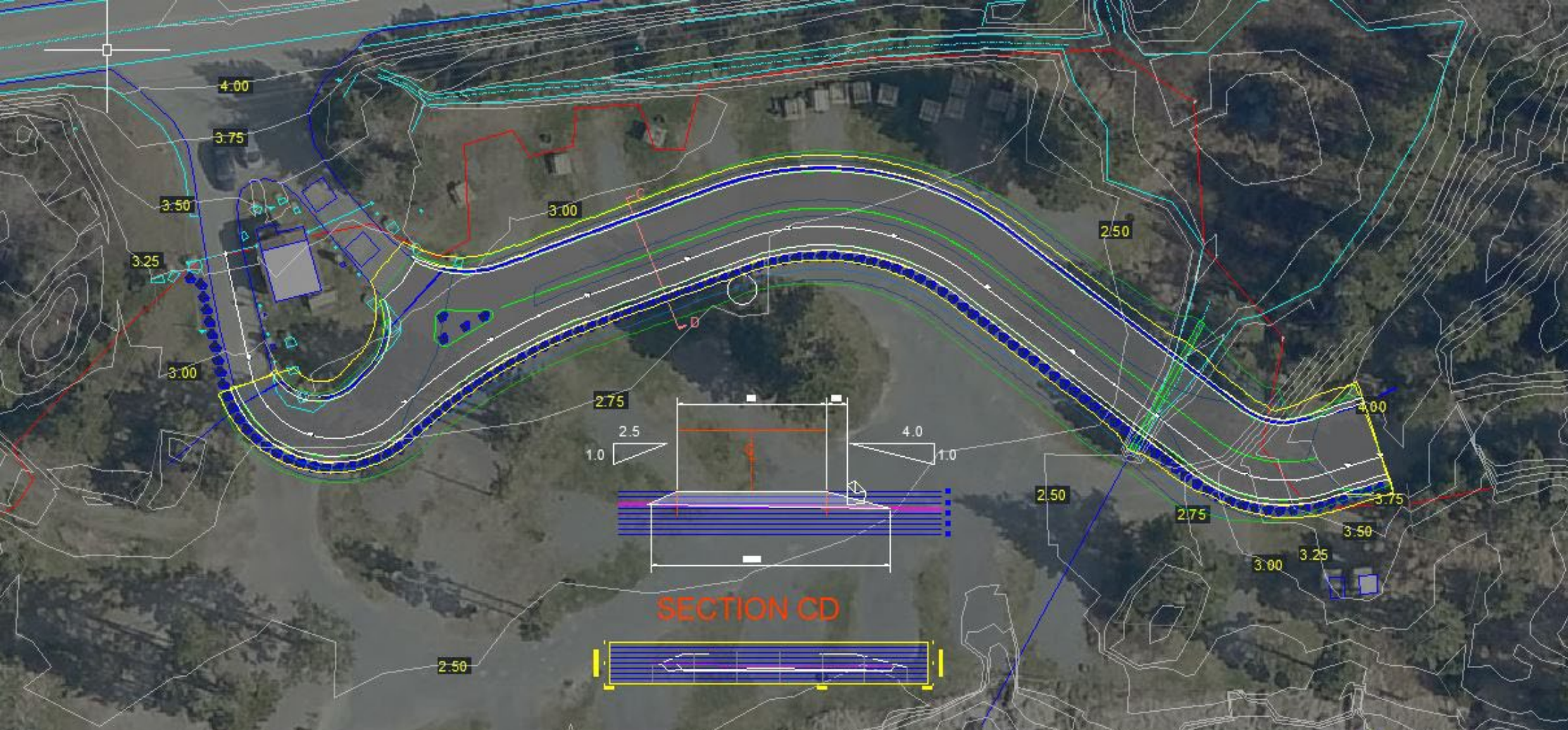


















Rissers Beach, Spring 2023

Table Discussions

1) Values

What do you **value** most about Rissers Beach Provincial Park?

- How do you use the park? What are your favourite things to do?

2) Vision

- What is your **vision** for Rissers Beach Provincial Park?
 - What are your ideas for future management or improvement? What would make your experience better?

Please discuss amongst your group and record on chart paper

- Nominate someone in your group to present back



BREAKOUT DISCUSSIONS: ~30 MINUTES

Next steps



- June – Sept 2024
 - Compile information
 - Public engagement & online survey
 - Mi'kmaq engagement
 - Ecological & archaeological studies
- Fall 2024
 - Compile survey results
 - Draft preliminary management plan
- December 2024
 - Online opportunity to review preliminary management plan and provide feedback
- March 2025
 - Release final management plan
- 2025
 - Detailed design work & site planning
- Date TBD
 - Begin phased implementation of the plan

NEXT STEPS

Thank you for your participation!

parks.novascotia.ca/parkplanning