

Working with the Minerals Sector

The Minerals Sector Protected Areas Consultation is a collaborative process among government, industry and other stakeholders committed to the establishment of protected areas in Manitoba. In early 1998, a working group was established to review Areas of Special Interest (ASI) for protection opportunities. To date approximately 3.9 million hectares of land in Manitoba have been reviewed and supported for protected status. The ranking system used on this map is part of the technical review and mineral assessment process developed by Manitoba's Minerals Sector.

Since the last map was produced a number of new protected areas have been created. Part of the Porcupine Provincial Forest was protected as Bell and Steeprock Canyons Protected Area by a Regulation under the Forest Act. Little George Island in Lake Winnipeg was designated as an Ecological Reserve. Rare river bottom forest habitat was protected along the Red River as Jennifer and Tom Shay Ecological Reserve.

Progress continues to be made on parks and park reserves. Manigotagan River Provincial Park and Pembina Valley Provincial Park were created, Rivers Provincial Park was expanded to protect an area of mixed grass prairie, and Caribou River, Trappist Monastery, and Criddle/Vane Homestead Park Reserves became permanent provincial parks. Several park reserve designations were extended a further five years to continue consultations.

New and innovative approaches to address the complexity of land use and private land ownership continue to be developed to increase protected areas in southern Manitoba. A Memorandum of Agreement between Manitoba and the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) added privately-owned lands to Manitoba's network of protected areas for the first time. Also in southern Manitoba, two protected Wildlife Management Areas, the Brandon Hills and Sleeve Lake, were enlarged. Since 1990 the area of protected lands has increased from 350,000 hectares to 5.4 million

Region 5c (con't)

24 Great Grav Owl

Community Interest Zone First Nation Reserve Land Northern Affairs Community Boundary Resource Management Area First Nation Treaty Land Entitlement (TLE) Selection Sites and Flood Agreement Land Selection Sites First Nation Nominated Area **Buffalo Point First Nation** Fisher River First Nation Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation Poplar River First Nation Pauingassi First Nation Little Grand Rapids First Nation Rank 1 - Minerals Sector Approved Sites (protection supported) Pine Creek First Nation Rank 2 - Review in Progress (support likely, pending clarification) H O-Chi-Chak-Ko-Sipi First Nation Rank 3 - Review in Progress (detailed information required for decision) Waterhen First Nation

Region 8

Region 9

Region 10

Region 11

Region 12

29 Upper Assiniboine WMA

151 Gardenton Pasture

12 Wakopa WMA

11 Wellington WMA

163 Spirit Sands PER

136 Assiniboine River Clam Beds PER

First Nation Information

Areas of Special Interest by Natural Region

Region 5b (con't)

50 Sylvan

Pipestone Rocks PER	59	Sylvan	24	Great Gray Owl
Catfish Creek WMA	60	High Rock Addition	25	Mc Munn
Washow Bay WMA	61	High Rock Lake PER	26	Shoal Lake
Sturgeon Bay	62	ldylwild	27	Falcon South
Kinwow Bay	65	Gypsum Lake	28	Spruce Siding
_ynx Bay	66	Basket Lake WMA	32	Whiteshell BC
Berens Island	68	Sturgeon Bay	33	Milner Ridge East
Pelican Lake	73	Pelican Lake	34	Seddons Corner
ong Point & Extension	75	Birch River PER	35	Milner Ridge West
Cormorant	79	Steeprock WMA	36	Milner Ridge North
Channel Island	86	Red Deer Lake	38	AECL
Amber Beach PER	131	Mantagao Lake WMA	39	AECL Addition
Red Deer Lake	132	Dog Lake Islands PER	40	Lac Du Bonnet
Karst Landscape	135	Balsam Willows PER	41	Lee River Addition South
_imestone Bay Extension	150	Pansy Pasture	42	Lee River Addition North
Tom Lamb Addition	159	Long Point South Extension	43	Great Falls
Tom Lamb WMA	162	Fish Lake	44	Brightstone South
Saskeram WMA			45	Brightstone
Belanger River	Regio		46	Brightstone East
North Moose Lake PER	1	Buffalo Bay	47	Brightstone NW
Cormorant Island	2	Vassar	49	Gull Lake Wetland PER
Marl Pond (Mitchell Lakes) PER	3	Vassar Community Pasture	50	Stead
Red Pine PER	4	Piney	51	Catfish Creek WMA
_ittle Frog Creek PER	5	Somme	52	Jackfish Lake
_imestone Bay	6	Menisino Ridge	53	Catfish Creek Addition

7 Menisino Tower

9 Lone Sand East

13 Rat River East

14 Rat River West

15 Whitemouth Lake

16 St Labre

17 Badger

19 55 Burn

20 Boutang

55 Broad Valley WMA

57 Lee Lake WMA

58 Horseshoe Ridge

21 Earls Block

23 Hadashville

22 North Hugo Lake

18 Sandilands

8 Lone Sand

This map is for illustrative purposes only.

If you would like to receive a copy of this map or for more information contact us at:

Protected Areas Initiative Toll free: 1 (800) 282-8069 ext 1942 Email: pai@gov.mb.ca Fax: (204) 945-0012 Box 53, 200 Saulteaux Cres, Wpg, MB, R3J 3W3

> Manitoba Manitoba Building for the Future

54 Fort Alexander

31 Harperville WMA

149 Alonsa Pasture

30 Harrison WMA

75 Birch River PER

155 Armit Meadows PER

Region 7

148 McCreary Pasture

165 Proposed Delta Marsh WMA

164 Whitemouth Bog

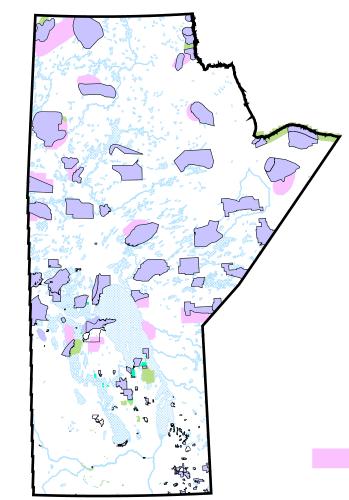
For more information about Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative visit our website at www.manitobaprotectedareas.com

Region '

129 Cape Tatnam Addition

142 Marsh Point North

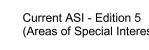
A History of ASI Review



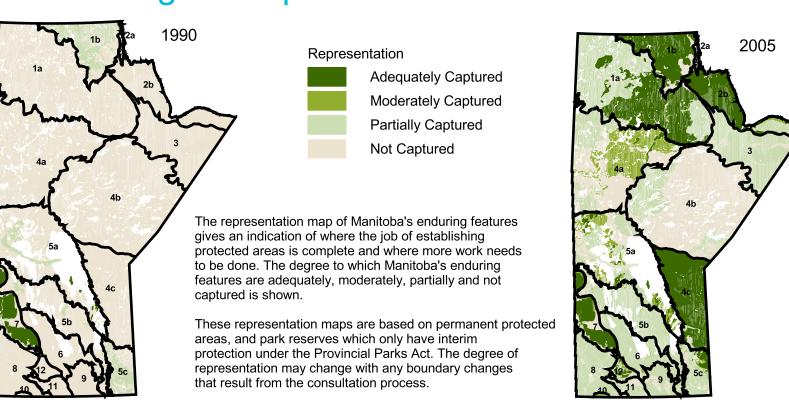
Areas of Special Interest (ASI) are important components of the Manitoba Protected Areas Initiative. ASI is the term used to describe the "candidate sites" picked as having high potential to efficiently protect groupings of enduring features and associated natural and cultural values identified through the protected areas consultation process.

Once ASIs have been identified, they form the starting point for protection discussions about the enduring features included within them. Existing commitments and significant future plans of communities or industry often lead to modification or relocation of areas. That is expected, as initial ASI identification is made largely through analysis of natural values and representation needs, and is intended to encourage such response.

Participants in the Protected Areas Initiative consultation process have identified the need to be able to follow the development of ASI options over time. The map to the left shows past ASI configurations and their relationship to those presently under review.



Natural Region Representation



Creating a Network of Protected Areas

Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative is a government program dedicated to working together with others to create a network of protected lands that represents the biological diversity and unique features found in Manitoba's natural regions. There are 18 natural regions and subregions in the province, based on broad

Representation of each natural region requires that examples of all of the characteristic soils and landforms, or enduring features, within the region, become protected land where industrial uses such as mining, logging and hydro-electric development are prohibited. Protection is required through legislation or other legal instruments recognized by the province.

Manitoba Conservation is the lead agency for the Protected Areas Initiative. Manitoba Conservation has been meeting with representatives from First Nations, Métis, Aboriginal communities, the mining, forestry and hydro-electric sectors, local communities, and environmental organizations. The goals of these ongoing consultations are to identify and evaluate opportunities to protect Areas of Special Interest (ASI), that contain samples of different features to help to complete representation in Manitoba's natural regions.

What is a protected area?

A protected area is free from logging, mining, hydro-electric, oil and gas development, and other activities that could significantly and adversely affect natural habitat.

Manitoba's network of protected areas can include Crown lands such as provincial parks, wildlife management areas, national parks, provincial forests and ecological reserves as well as private lands.

First Nations rights and agreements will be respected in the creation and management of protected areas. While most new protected areas are available for hunting, trapping, fishing and to fulfill Treaty Land Entitlement, certain designations may, by mutual agreement, have more restrictions.

Vhy are protected areas needed?

To ensure that representative examples of Manitoba's natural regions are maintained:

to conserve biological diversity: to maintain ecological processes

to act as scientific benchmarks to evaluate environmental change; and to balance development with conservation needs

To fulfill Manitoba's commitments

Manitoba's public policy commits the province to preserving biodiversity and completing a network of protected areas with a variety of private and public sector partners through various agreements.

to maintain options for traditional land use; and

to provide opportunities for Manitobans and visitors to experience, appreciate and enjoy nature.

All of the plant and animal species that live in Manitoba, collectively called the biological diversity (or biodiversity), share a connection to the landscapes in which they are found. For this reason, each natural region has been divided into smaller areas based on soils and landform. These are referred to as enduring features because, unlike plants and animals, soils and landform are more stable over time. The goal of representing enduring features in a system of protected lands is to protect the biological diversity of a natural region.

What are areas of special interest (ASI) and how are they selected?

protection while boundaries are finalized and management issues are identified.

ASIs are areas chosen to focus consultations and are not protected areas. ASIs are intended to capture enduring features within a natural region, and are generally selected in areas with minimal disturbance from development. This map illustrates the current ASIs, based on evaluating complete representation through enduring features analysis and the results of consultations to date.

Final selection of ASIs and the area to be included in new protected lands takes into consideration science and local/traditional ecological knowledge. It is important to consider ecologically meaningful boundaries such as watersheds, lakes, rivers, landforms, animal ranges and unique features. These types of boundaries are important for the preservation of ecological integrity and natural processes. Where unique features cannot be included within large ASIs, smaller individual areas

Consultations with industry groups, First Nations, Métis, Aboriginal communities, local communities, and environmental organizations ensure that cultural, biological and economic values are considered and resource allocation conflicts are minimized.

As the process continues, it is expected that some ASI boundaries will change, some ASIs will be removed and replacement ASIs may be identified as information from each sector is incorporated. Individual sectors and communities may also nominate areas to be considered for protection.

low will these areas be protected? When a decision has been reached to establish a protected area, an appropriate designation is selected for permanent protection. Areas can be permanently

protected as provincial parks (The Provincial Parks Act), ecological reserves (Ecological Reserves Act), wildlife management areas (Wildlife Act) and provincial

forests (Forest Act). Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) or other legislation may also be used to protect private lands. Areas can be permanently protected under four Manitoba acts (Ecological Reserves, Wildlife, Provincial Park, and Forest) and one federal act (Canada National Parks). Memorandum of Agreements (MOA) or other legislation may also be used to protect private lands. Under the Provincial Parks Act, an area may be provided with interim protection through designation as a park reserve. Designation of an area as a park reserve protects the land by prohibiting mining, logging, hydro-electric, oil and gas development, as well as other activities that could significantly and adversely affect natural habitat. Park reserve status provides

Initial protection as a park reserve is temporary and expires after six months unless renewed. Renewing the park reserve status provides an additional five years for consultation to continue with First Nations, Métis, Aboriginal communities, local communities, environmental organizations, and industry groups. Under exceptional circumstances involving private or non-governmental organization lands, areas could be designated as a park without the park reserve stage.