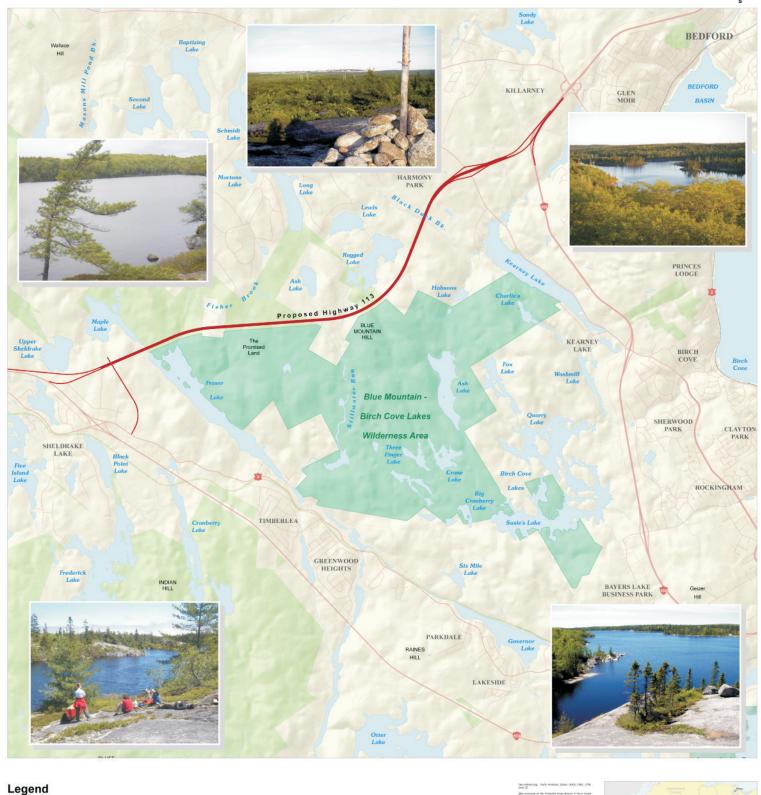
Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area







Crown Lands
Other Lands

Represe of or Control for June Squares (Control for Squares) Assessment Squares (Squares) Assessment (Squares) Asses

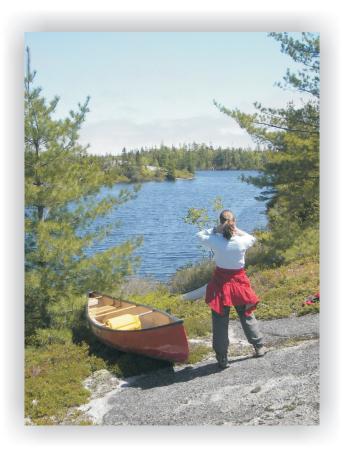
3,000 Meters





Blue Mountain-Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area

Bringing the benefits of wilderness protection to Nova Scotia's largest urban area



Establishing a wilderness area on the Crown lands of Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes under the Wilderness Areas Protection Act will protect 1,350 hectares (3,350 acres) of near-urban forest and lakes.

This new wilderness area will contribute to the province's goal of legally protecting 12% of Nova Scotia by 2015. It also provides a foundation for prosperity by helping to make our province and Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) an attractive place to live, work, and do business.

Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area will protect natural forests - including old spruce and oak stands, as well as valuable wetlands, interconnected lakes, and rare species habitat.

With its scenic views and natural setting, the area offers a range of recreational experiences, like

hiking, canoeing, sport-fishing, swimming, and nature appreciation.

The wilderness area protects the provincial component of a future regional park that HRM wishes to establish in this area. It reduces HRM's footprint of urban development, and contributes to the municipality's "smart growth" approach.

Blue Mountain - Birch Cove Lakes Wilderness Area joins a network of 34 wilderness areas across Nova Scotia. These areas protect biodiversity and help ensure that future generations have the opportunity to experience, learn from, and enjoy some of our province's spectacular natural heritage.





