

Conserving Biodiversity through Community Planning

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What Natural Areas do for our Communities

- Filter water, flood control
- Shade - moderate temperature
- Clean air, absorb pollution
- Habitat for pollinators – our food supply
- Prevent erosion – soil fertility
- Recreation, resources, amenities



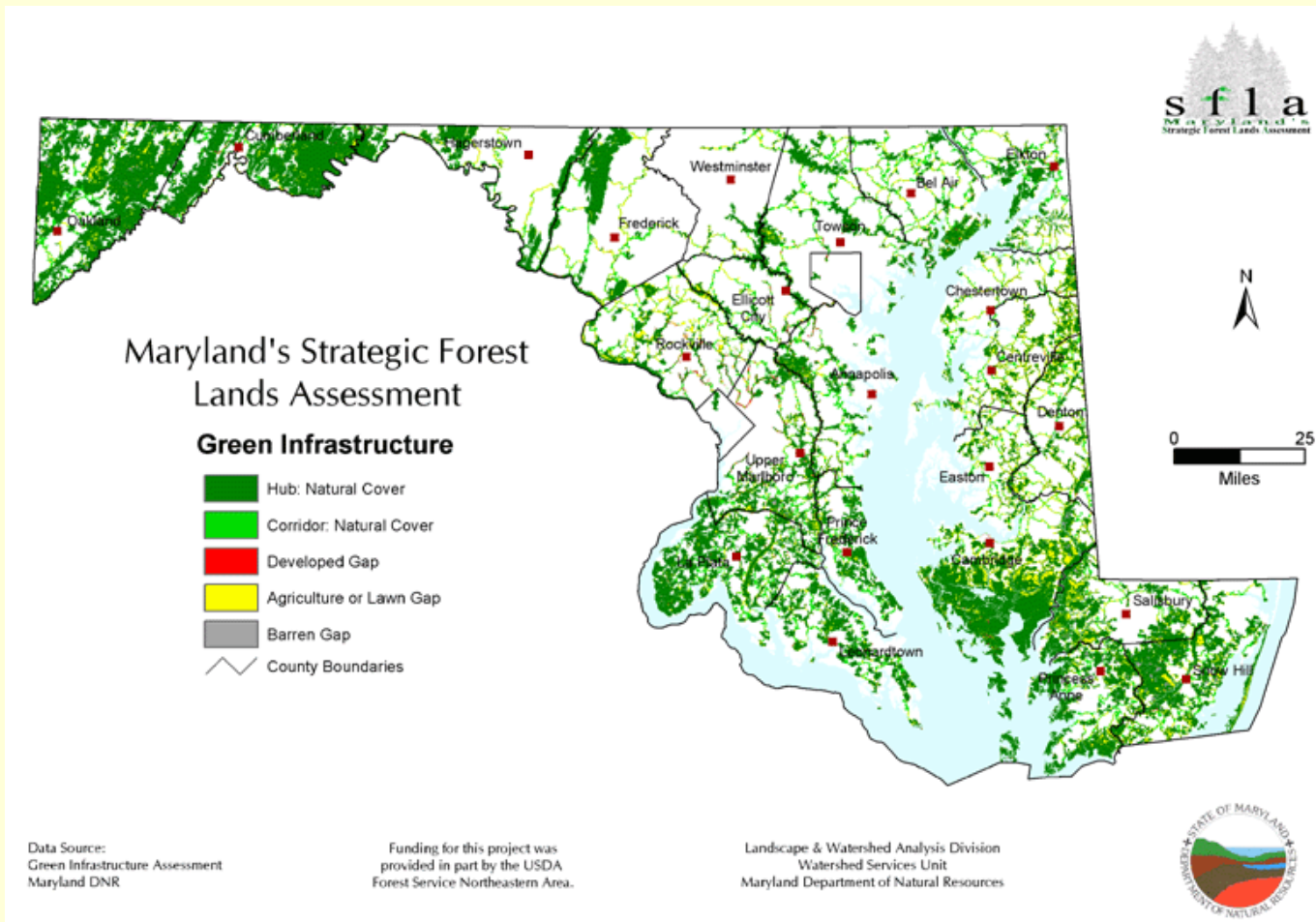
Planning to Keep These Benefits makes Sense

Health of our communities tied to health of the natural world

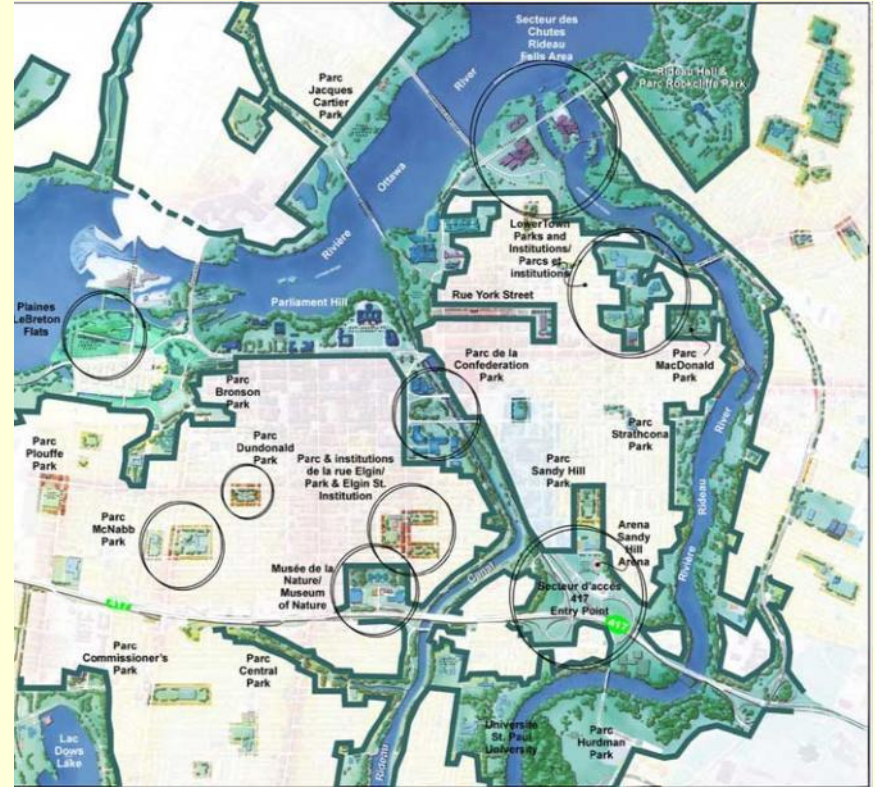
Natural areas and ecosystems are at risk

Ecological services that we need and want are at risk

Green and Blue Land Use Planning



**In
communities,
conserve,
restore and
connect the
green and
blue spaces**



Challenges to community planning for biodiversity conservation in New Brunswick

We need province-wide planning: a framework for planning that incorporates connectivity issues, across planning boundaries and additionally across provincial boundaries.

We need coordinated planning that includes Crown and private lands.

Challenges to community planning and biodiversity

- Lack of resources within the planning community
- Lack of planner authority to conserve green spaces
- Lack of data for biodiversity priority locations, areas at risk
- Lack of awareness by the public and decision-makers, backlash

What NGOs Can Contribute

- ✓ help identify priority natural areas, corridors
- ✓ engage the public and decision-makers – cultivate the ground for public and political acceptance and involvement in green planning

Climate Change and Natural Areas Fact Sheet #1 What New Brunswick Can Expect From A Changing Climate



The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, created by the United Nations, has determined that climate change is happening and needs to be a matter of concern for all governments. In their publication, *Climate Change 2007: Synthesis Report*, they note:

- The past decade has seen some of the warmest temperatures in the past century, sea level has risen and there is every indication that this trend will continue.
- Eleven of the last twelve years (1995-2006) rank among the twelve warmest years in the instrumental record of global surface temperature (since 1850).
- Projections are that greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) will increase 25-90% by 2030. Warming is expected to be 0.2° per decade for the next two decades and greater than that afterwards.



Climate change will affect most aspects of our lives in Canada. Our economic, social and general well-being are all linked, both directly and indirectly, to climate." (From Impacts to Adaptation: Canada in a Changing Climate, 2007)

Analyses performed by Natural Resources Canada provide us with the following picture of what New Brunswick can expect in the future:

- By 2050, temperatures will rise by 2-4° C in summer, 1.5-6° C in winter. Temperatures inland will be higher, with the coastal temperatures still moderated by oceans.

What Else can NGOs Do?

- ✓ Encourage provincial government to develop planning framework that gives planners the resources and authority to zone green spaces, develop regional plans that allow for corridor /connectivity planning, restoration planning
- ✓ Be involved in rural and municipal planning efforts, show support for green planning ideas
- ✓ Raise funds and complete projects to fill in knowledge gaps

Questions?



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