



Balancing Prosperity and Protection In Nova Scotia's Forests

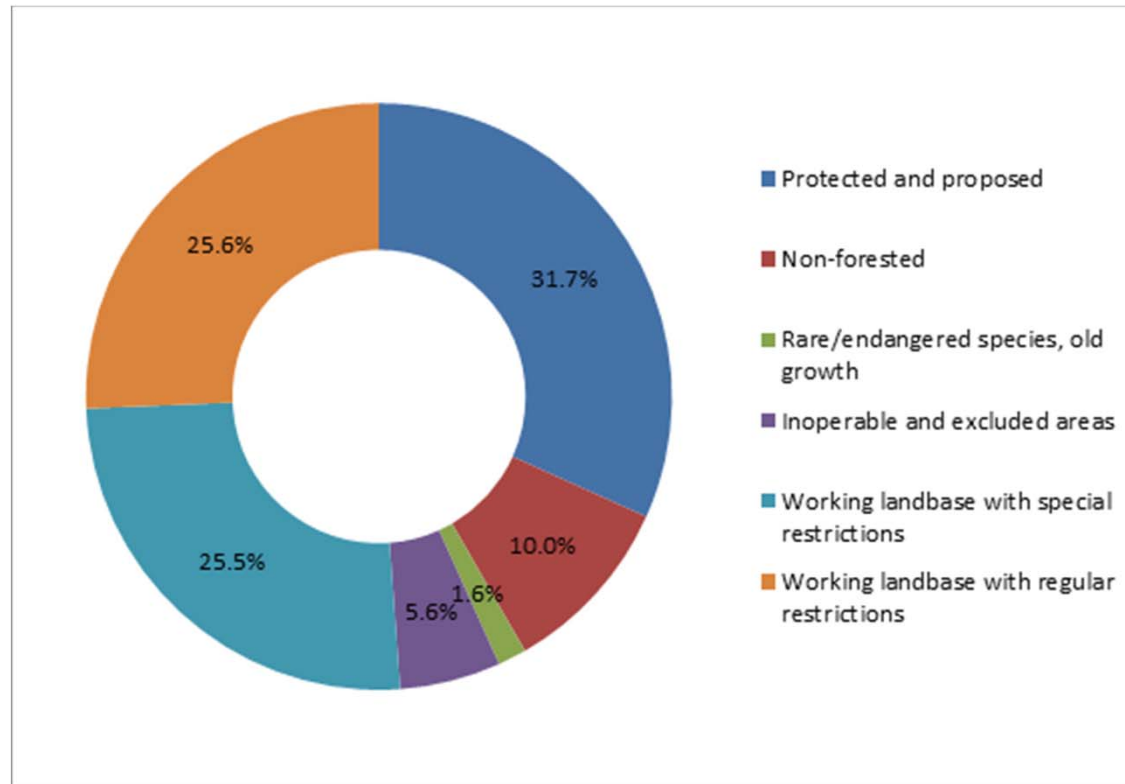
Western Crown: A new way of doing things

- Buying the former Bowater lands was an opportunity to align with the larger goals of the Natural Resources Strategy.
- Western Crown is a working forest where we can balance commercial and conservation interests.

Western Crown: A new way of doing things

- To date:
- Land was included in the Parks and Protected Areas Plan,
- The province's first community forest pilot project was approved; funding provided
- Land was set aside for a Mi'kmaw forestry initiative
- Conceptual plan, based on public and professional engagement, was updated
- Lands have been purchased, across the province, to protect biodiversity
- Today, the next step, a new way to manage fibre allocations and ongoing public engagement for the land that is available for harvesting.

Western Crown: How does this break out?



How were the allocations developed?

- The allocations respect that private lands are the principle source of wood in Nova Scotia.
- The allocations are based on the mills' production over the past five years. They take into account the impact of existing Crown allocations and traditional wood supply patterns.
- No mill will receive more than 21% of its historical spruce/fir wood requirement through Crown allocations.
- Stumpage will be market-based, through a survey of stumpage rates paid to private landowners.

How do the allocations work?

- Establish a base assumption of the Western Crown's available sustainable harvest: 698,000 GMT all species and spruce/fir component of this is 366,000 GMT
- Each mill will receive a percentage rather than a fixed number because the size of the harvest is subject to several factors
- If the sustainable harvest changes, the mill will retain its percentage of the harvest.
- This approach allows for ongoing community engagement and provides flexibility to adapt to major changes in the woodlands, such as a major wildfire or insect infestation.

Calculating the Sustainable Harvest

- Long-term, 100-year strategy
- Short-term, five-year strategy
- Considers a variety of factors, including the initial inventory, growth rates, tree species, site capability, use/no use of herbicides, special management practices to protect specific values e.g. species at risk, etc.,
- Uses the recognized Woodstock and Stanley optimization models

Keeping Nova Scotians Informed

- We are committed to providing Nova Scotians with more information and education about harvest issues.
- For example, harvest plans will be posted on the department website, with ample time for neighbouring landowners to absorb the information and to advise us if they have concerns.