Nova Scotia Department of Lands and Forestry

OLD FOREST

Project Objective
To review the Old Forest Policy, and further develop identification criteria that will facilitate more effective land use planning by accelerating assessments of potential old forest and the conservation of old growth

Project Team Lead
Mark Pulsifer, MSc (Biology), Project Manager, Lands and Forestry (L&F)

Experts Involved
- Dr. Peter Duinker, PhD, MES, BScAgr, Professor Emeritus, School for Resource and Environmental Studies, Dalhousie University

Key Deliverables
- Updated Old Forest Policy for Nova Scotia
- Methodologies for identification of old forests and acceleration of their assessment
- Research to better understand and identify old growth conditions in non-traditional species such as red maple, red oak, and black spruce
- Updated old forest layer (GIS) on the Provincial Landscape Viewer
- A restoration pathway for inclusion in the Forest Management Guide

Expected Areas of Stakeholder and/or Public Participation (may not be limited to)
- Updates to the Old Forest Policy
- Identification of Pre-Treatment Assessment triggers, to revise existing criteria
- Restoration pathway for the Forest Management Guide
- Approaches to managing hardwood old forest

Timeline
- Fall 2019: Research to better understand and identify old growth conditions in non-traditional species. Work with the Forest Management Guide project team to incorporate the restoration pathway in the draft Forest Management Guide for stakeholder review
- Spring 2020: Stakeholder engagement for area-based targets
- Summer/Fall 2020: Stakeholder participation on other related topics
- Winter 2020-21 (anticipated): Complete project