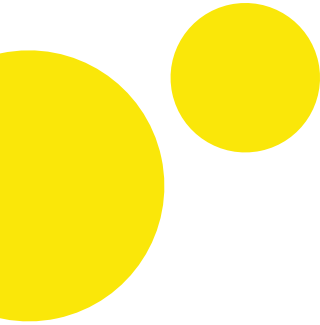
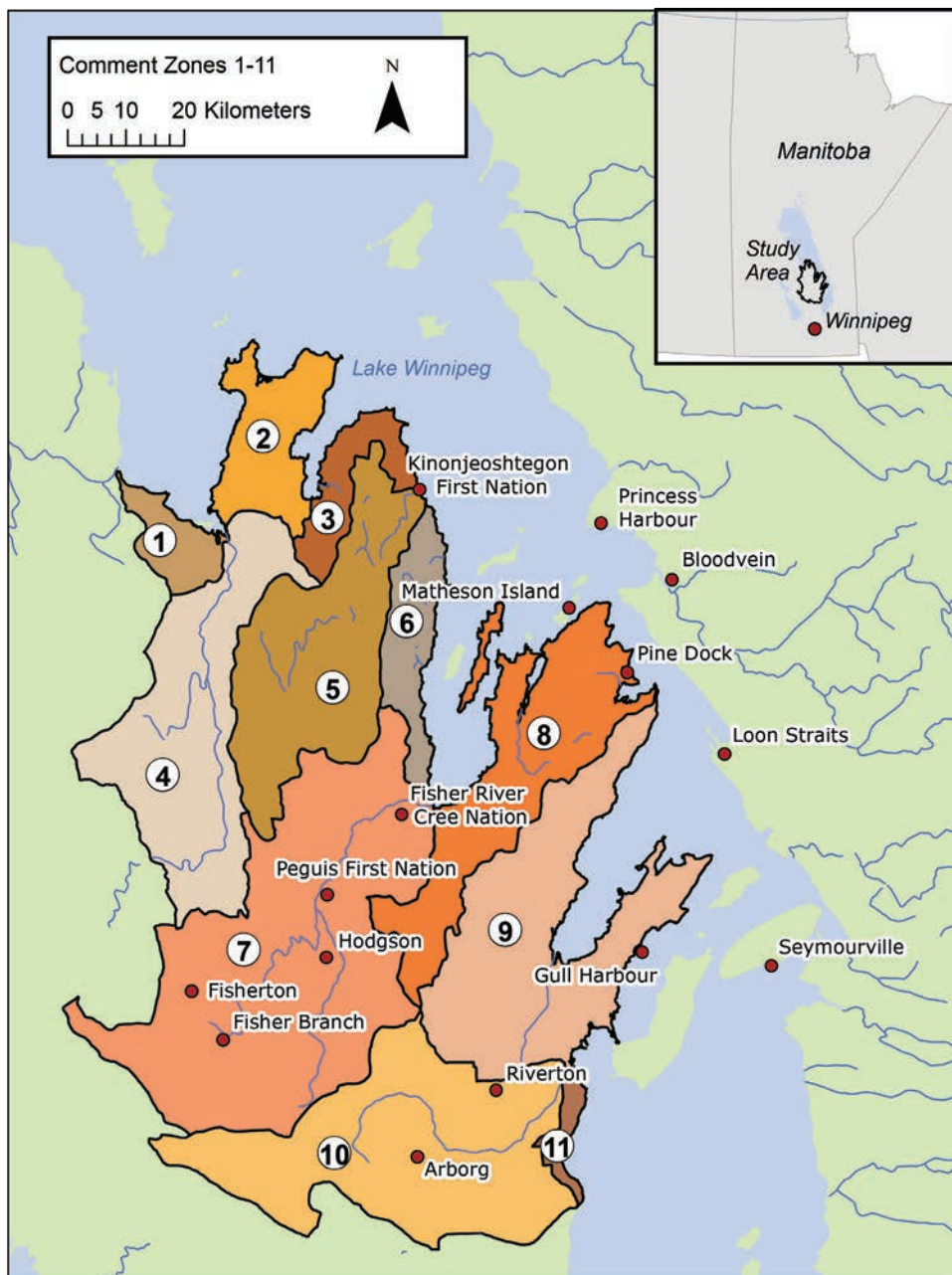
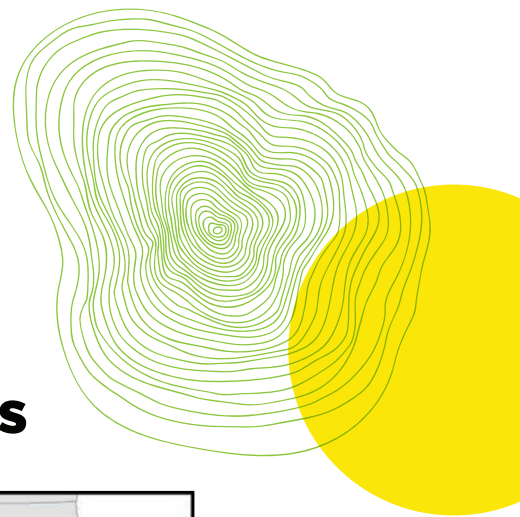


Fisher River Cree Nation

# CONSERVATION AREAS INITIATIVE

## Map Gallery and Zone Descriptions

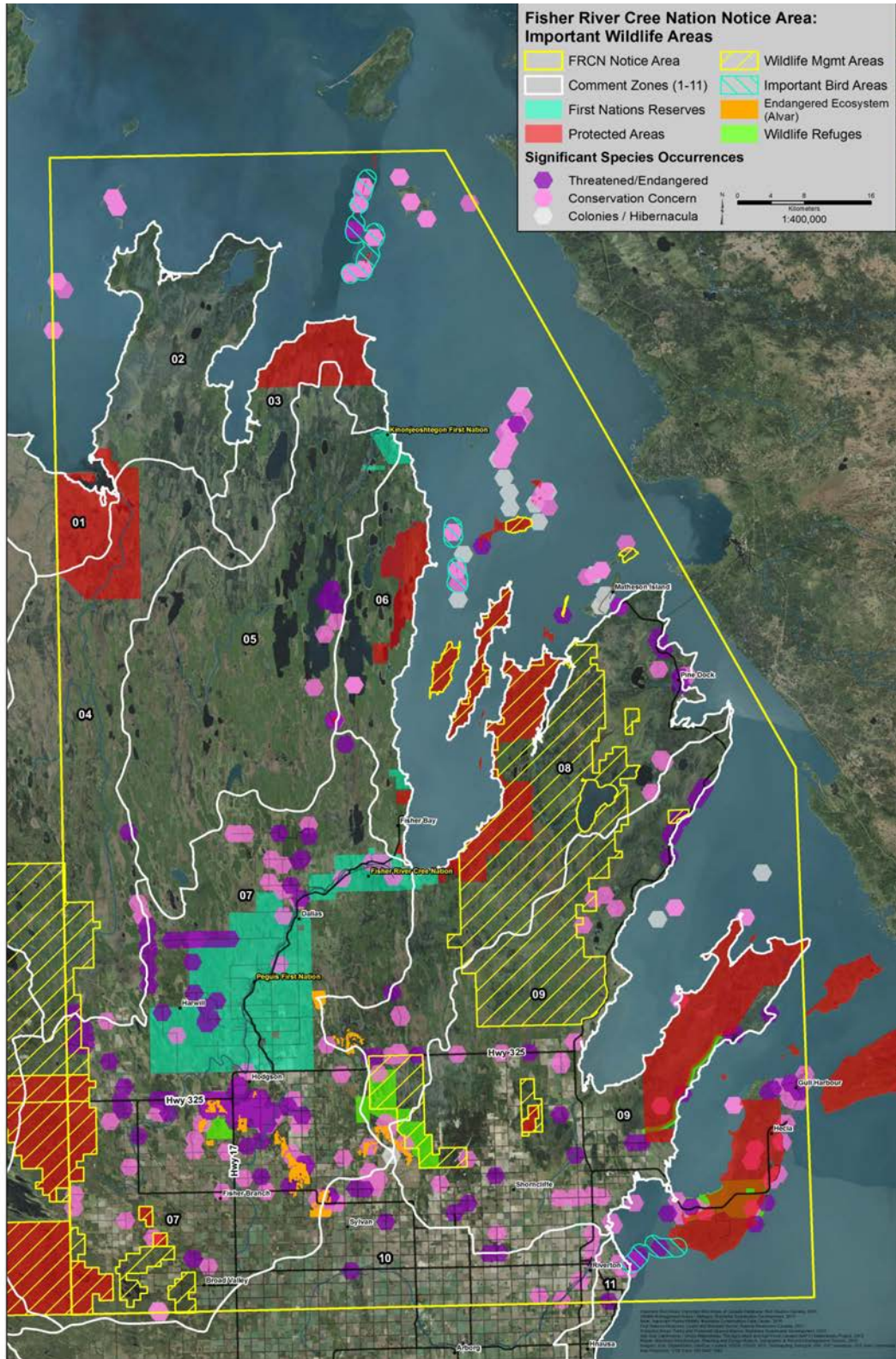


Visit [frcnconservation.ca](http://frcnconservation.ca) for more information and to share your comments.





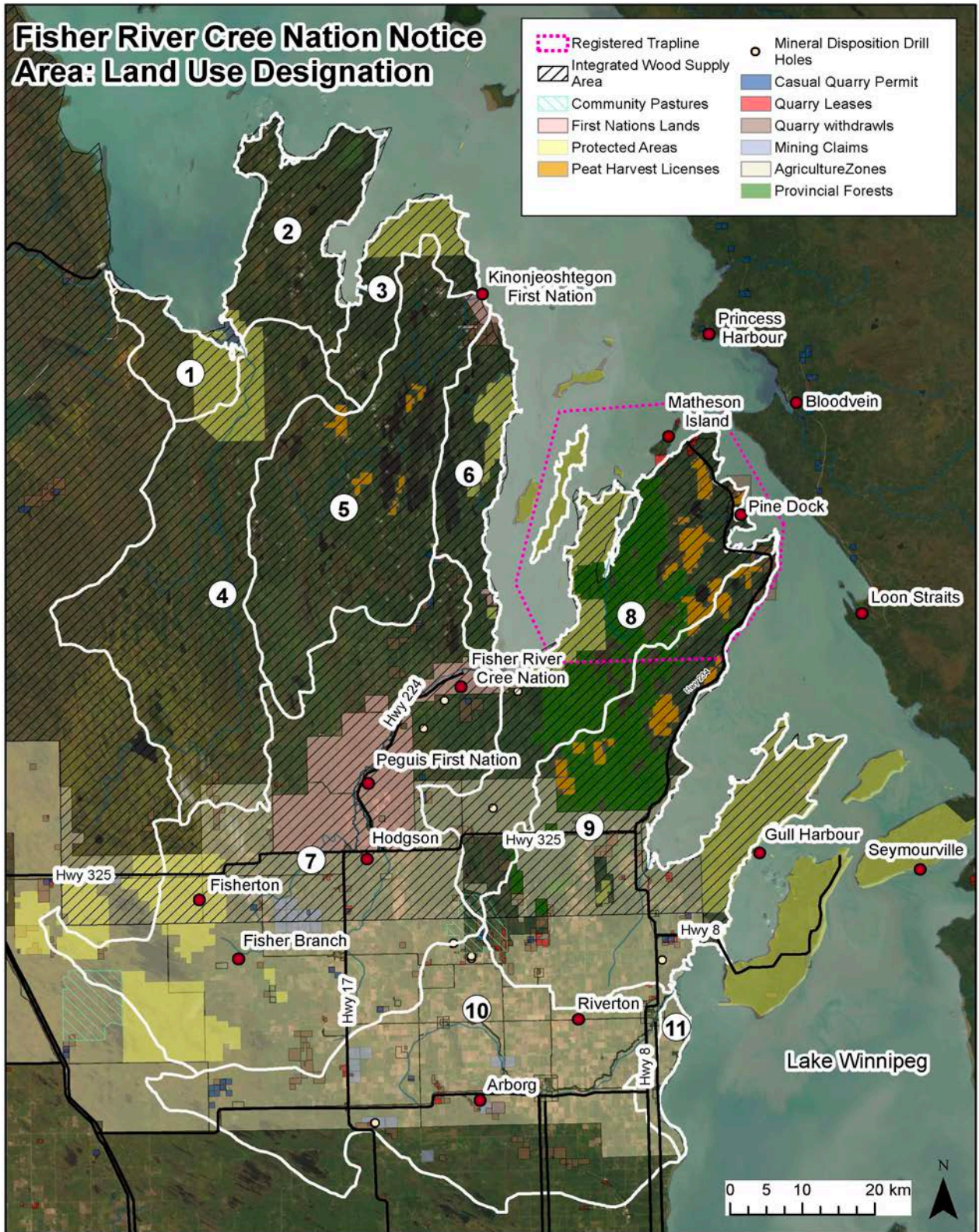
# IMPORTANT WILDLIFE AREAS



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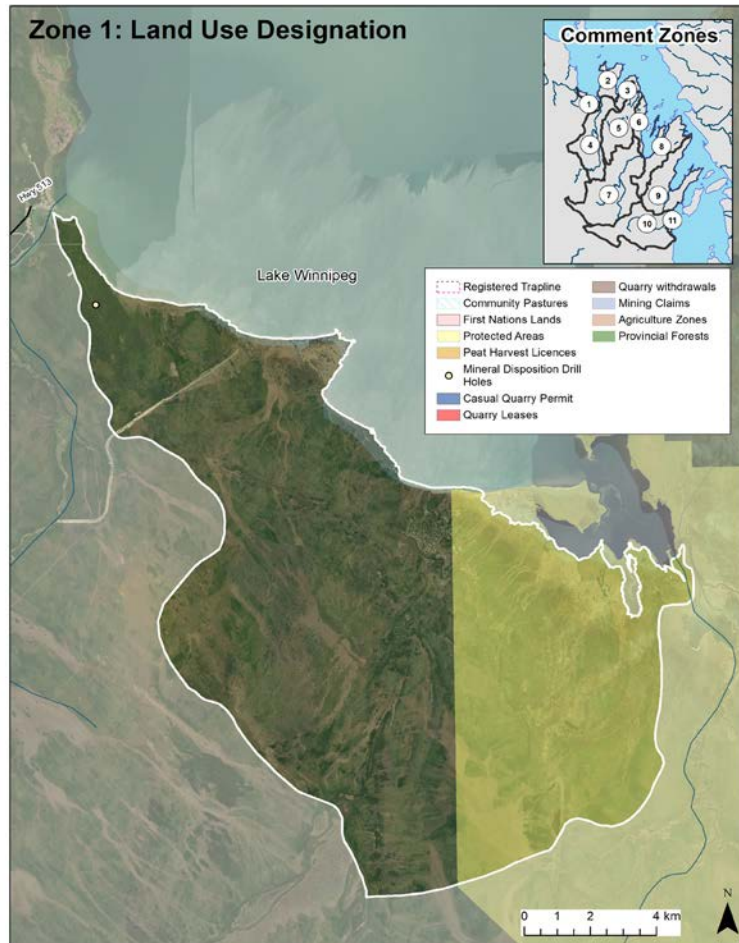
# LAND USE DESIGNATION



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# ZONE 1



## Zone 1 Description

**Area: ~181 sq km**

The majority of this area is comprised of wetlands within the protected area of Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park.

The Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park is 56 square kilometres in size, and only a small portion is in Zone 1. The park features alder, willow, and birch stands along the shoreline of the Mantago River. The area provides habitat for moose, white-tailed deer, wolves, ducks, geese, pelicans, and songbirds.

Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

## More Information

Kinnow Bay: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinkow-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinkow-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

Pelican Islands Ecological Reserve: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf)

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# ZONE 2



## Zone 2 Description

**Area: ~402 sq km**

Comment Zone 2 is primarily comprised of wetlands and upland forest on Crown land, with borders that are mainly coastal. Part of Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park is located in the southwest corner of this zone. Zone 2 is classified as integrated wood supply area but is otherwise largely undeveloped. Wetlands in the area are predominantly fen, with a small distribution of bog, swamp, and marsh areas, as well as coastal wetlands.

Fisher River Cree Nation has a fishing station at McBeth Point. There is also a lake in the zone called McBeth Lake.

East of McBeth Point is the Pelican Islands Ecological Reserve, home of the Gull and Sandhill Island Important Bird Area (IBA). These sandy, low-lying islands have patches of trees, shrubs, and broad expanses of grasses and other plants.

Gull Island is home to one of the largest American White Pelican colonies on Lake Winnipeg, estimated in 1998 to represent about 1.75% of the world's population.

Sandhill Island, located further south, is home to what is the largest known colony of Common Terns west of New Brunswick. It also provides habitat for nesting Double-crested Cormorant, Caspian Tern, and Ring-billed Gull.

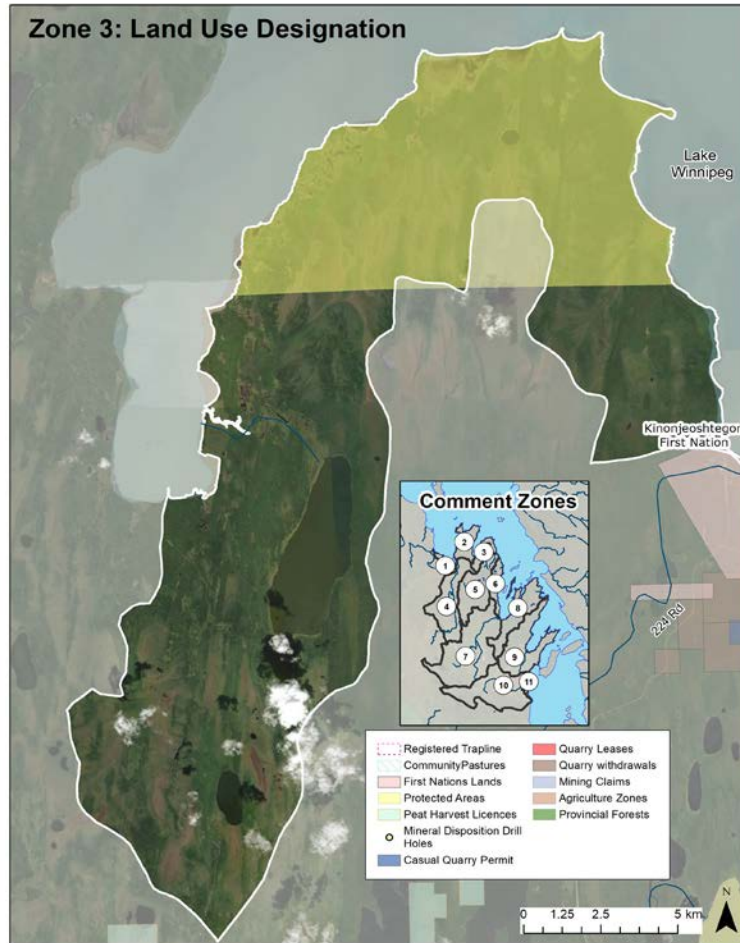
## More Information

Gull and Sandhill IBA: [ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=MB004](http://ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=MB004)

Visit [frcnconservation.ca](http://frcnconservation.ca) for more information and to share your comments.



# ZONE 3



## Zone 3 Description

**Area: ~234 sq km**

This area is comprised of mixed upland forest and wetlands. Most of the wetlands in the area are fen, with some bog, swamp, and marsh areas, as well as coastal wetland areas.

The zone features Kinow Bay Provincial Park, which is 84 square kilometres in size and includes lands adjacent to Lake Winnipeg shoreline. This park features stands of birch and willow. Inland areas include black spruce bogs, stands of tamarack, and isolated areas of treeless muskeg. The area is home to wildlife such as bear, moose, beaver, muskrat, ducks, geese, and numerous songbirds.

This zone also includes the Pelican Islands Ecological Reserve, which is comprised of six small islands. The islands are sparsely vegetated with patches of trees and shrubs. The islands are ringed with sandy beaches and are home to various shore birds, including the endangered piping plover.

These islands also have the largest colonies of White Pelicans and Common Terns located on Lake Winnipeg.

## More Information

Kinow Bay: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinow-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinow-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

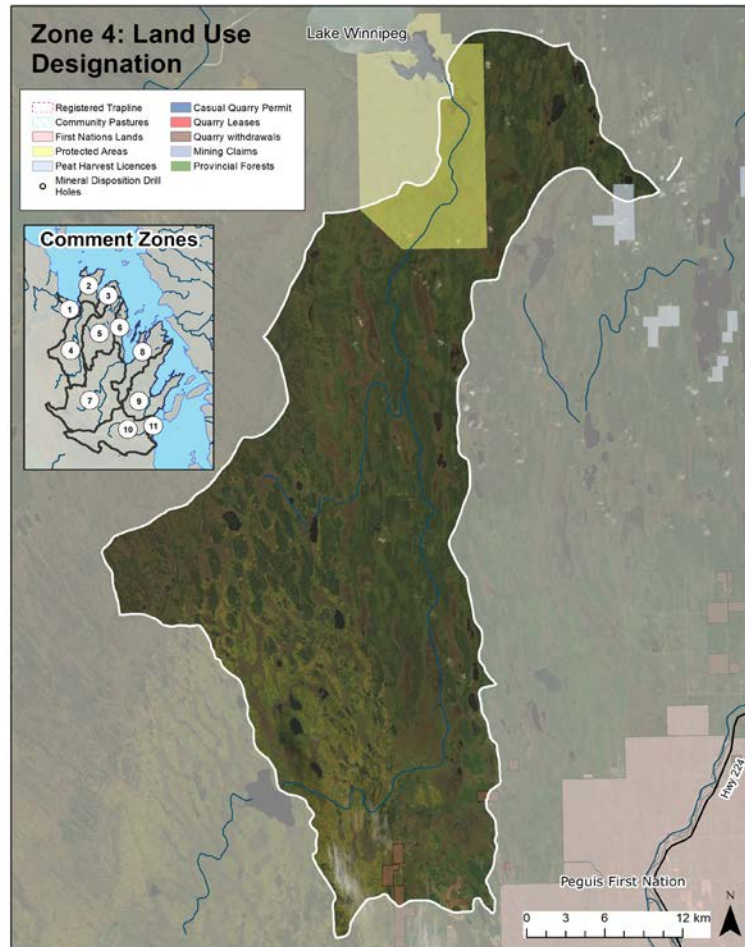
Pelican Islands Ecological Reserve: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf)

Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

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# ZONE 4



## Zone 4 Description

**Area: ~1,148 sq km**

This zone is a largely undeveloped area, characterized by a mix of wetlands and upland forest, with part of Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park located in the northern tip of the area.

Mantagao Lake, a popular but remote fishing spot, can be found on the southwestern edge of the area. Mantagao Lake is located within the Mantagao Lake Wildlife Management Area, one of the largest WMAs in the Interlake. Elk were successfully reintroduced to this area between 1969 and 1973.

A portion of the community of Harwill's land area (represented by a mayor and council under the Northern Affairs Act) is located in the southeast corner of Zone 4. Agriculture is the main economic thrust through ranching and mixed farming. Being adjacent to the Mantagao Lake WMA, the abundance of wildlife leads to hunting opportunities.

The area is also part of an integrated wood supply area.

## More Information

Harwill Community Overview: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/harwill-community-overview.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/harwill-community-overview.pdf)

Kinnow Bay: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinnow-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinnow-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

Pelican Islands Ecological Reserve: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/pelican-islands.pdf)

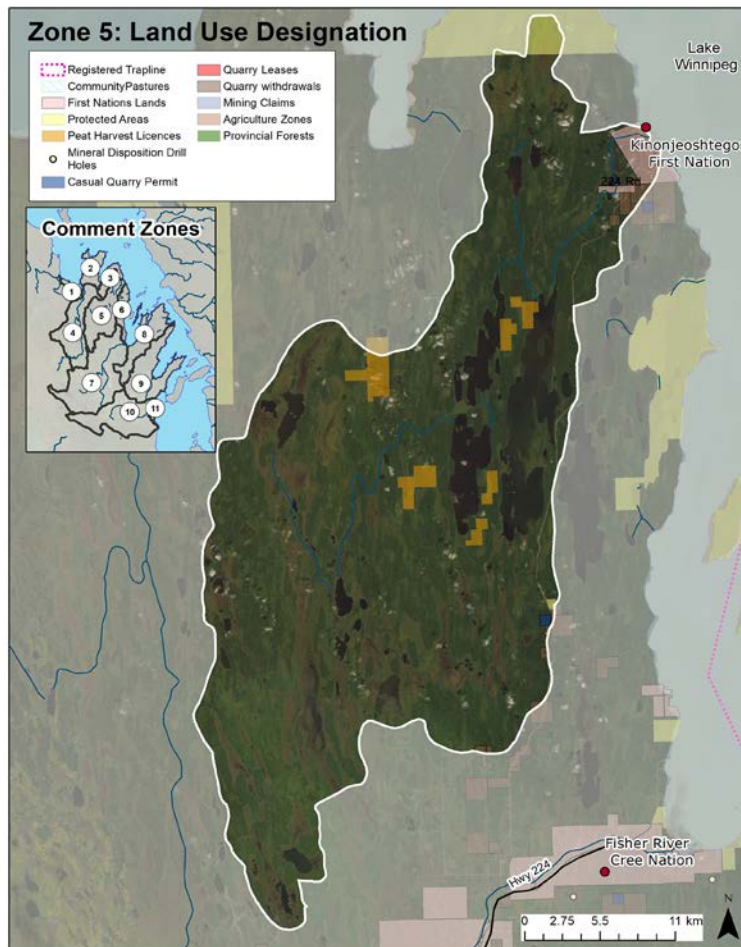
Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/sturgeon-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

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# ZONE 5



## Zone 5 Description

**Area: ~1,048 sq km**

The community of Kinonjeoshtegen First Nation is located at the northeastern point of this zone. Lake St. George and Lake St. David are located in this zone, which also has many areas where migrating ducks and geese stop to rest, eat, and drink.

Part of Kinow Bay Provincial Park is located in the northern tip of this area.

This area includes a number of peat harvest licences, and part of the zone is classified as an integrated wood supply area.

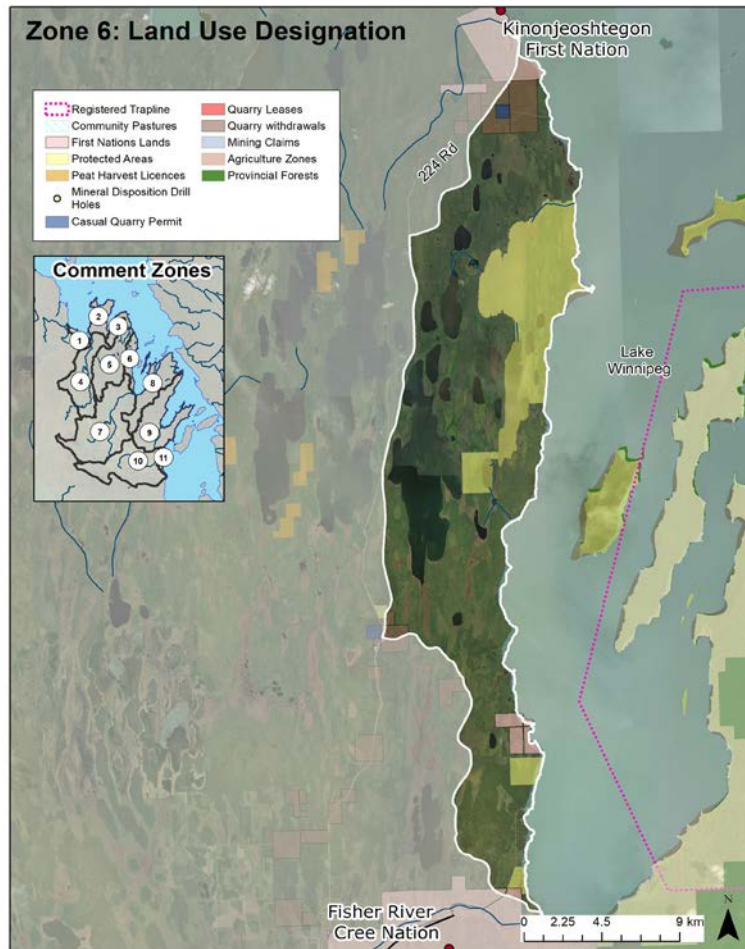
## More Information

Kinow Bay: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinow-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/kinow-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

Visit [frcnconservation.ca](https://frcnconservation.ca) for more information and to share your comments.



# ZONE 6



## Zone 6 Description

**Area: ~306 sq km**

Zone 6 is located along the western shores of Lake Winnipeg from Fisher Bay to the southern point of Kinonjeoshtegon First Nation.

There are a high number of bat caves in this area at approximately the 24th kilometre from Hwy 224 in and around both sides of the main road going to the community. These bat caves are part of the Lake St. George Ecological Reserve. There are potential snake dens here as well!

Lake St. George Provincial Park and Lake St. Andrews Provincial Park are located along the western edge of Zone 6. There is a campground at Lake St. George, while Lake St. Andrews is primarily a hunting and fishing area.

The Louis Island Important Bird Area (IBA) can be found off the coast of Zone 6, about halfway between the western edge of Fisher Bay and

the northern tip of Moose Island. This area is an important nesting area for Double-crested Cormorants, Herring Gulls, and Ring-billed Gulls.

## More Information

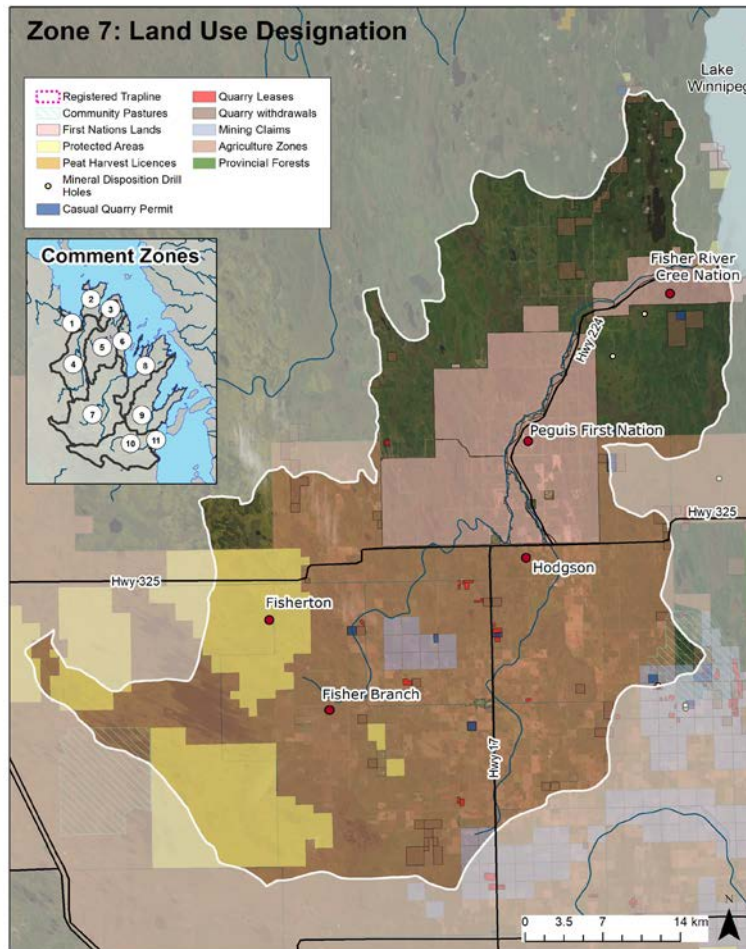
Lake St. George Caves Ecological Reserve:  
[frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/lake\\_st\\_george\\_caves\\_backgrounder.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/lake_st_george_caves_backgrounder.pdf)

Lake St. George Provincial Park Management Plan:  
[frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/lake\\_st\\_george\\_caves\\_backgrounder.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/lake_st_george_caves_backgrounder.pdf)

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# ZONE 7



## Zone 7 Description

**Area: ~2,200 sq km**

The communities of Fisher River Cree Nation, Peguis, Hodgson, Fisher Branch, and Broad Valley are all located within this zone.

Comment Zone 7 contains the northernmost agricultural land in the study area. The northern part of the zone is also a significant waterfowl staging area.

It contains a significant number of species of conservation concern, some of which are threatened or endangered.

Another significant feature of this zone is Goldeye Lake.

Roy Lake, just north of Fisher Branch, is an established game bird refuge. The Broad Valley and Ewonchuk Wildlife Management Areas are located within the area, as well as parts of the Mantago Lake and Little Birch Wildlife Management areas.

Zone 7 is also significant in that it contains a significant amount of “alvar” habitat, which is a rare and unique type of ecosystem that supports species that are rare or non-existent in other areas of Manitoba or Canada. Globally, alvar habitats are quite rare.

Curious to learn more about alvars? Check the link below!

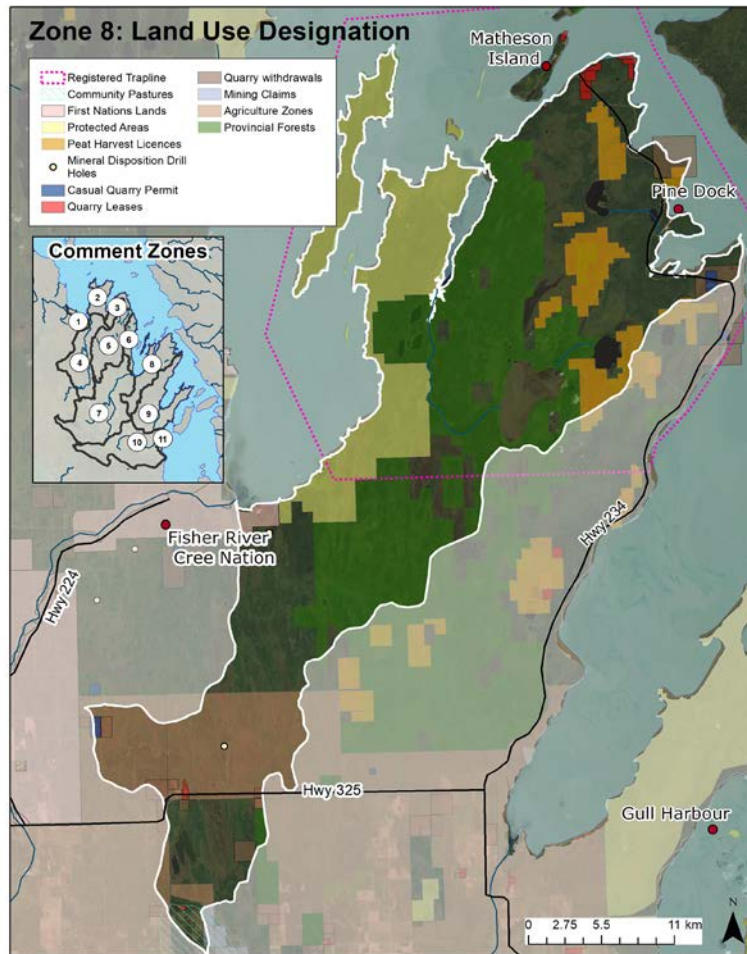
## More Information

Alvars in the Interlake: [natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/manitoba/featured-projects/alvars-in-the-interlake.html](https://natureconservancy.ca/en/where-we-work/manitoba/featured-projects/alvars-in-the-interlake.html)

Visit [frcnconservation.ca](https://frcnconservation.ca) for more information and to share your comments.



# ZONE 8



## Zone 8 Description

**Area: ~953 sq km**

Zone 8 is home to a mix of land uses, from agriculture in the south, to protected areas and registered traplines in the north. The communities of Matheson Island and Pine Dock are both located at the north end of Zone 8. Ebb and Flow Lake is in this zone, and this lake is potentially a Lake Sturgeon habitat.

Moose Creek is a large Wildlife Management Area (WMA) that covers a significant portion of the area and includes islands in Lake Winnipeg and a large block of land stretching from Fisher Bay to Washow Bay. Moose Creek is a Provincial Forest so some timber harvesting and tree planting occurs.

A significant portion of this zone is part of Fisher Bay Provincial Park, which was established in 2011 through a partnership between Fisher River Cree Nation and CPAWS Manitoba.

Game animals in this area include white-tailed deer, moose, black bear, sharp-tailed grouse, ruffed

grouse, woodcock, spruce grouse, grey wolf, coyote, ducks, geese, and sandhill cranes. Sandhill cranes and Canada geese nest in the marshy areas of Moose Creek.

Moose habitat in the area is highest at the northern point and middle point areas, and across to Boiler's Bay (along the lakeshore, west of Moose Lake).

Peat mining licences are prevalent in the area.

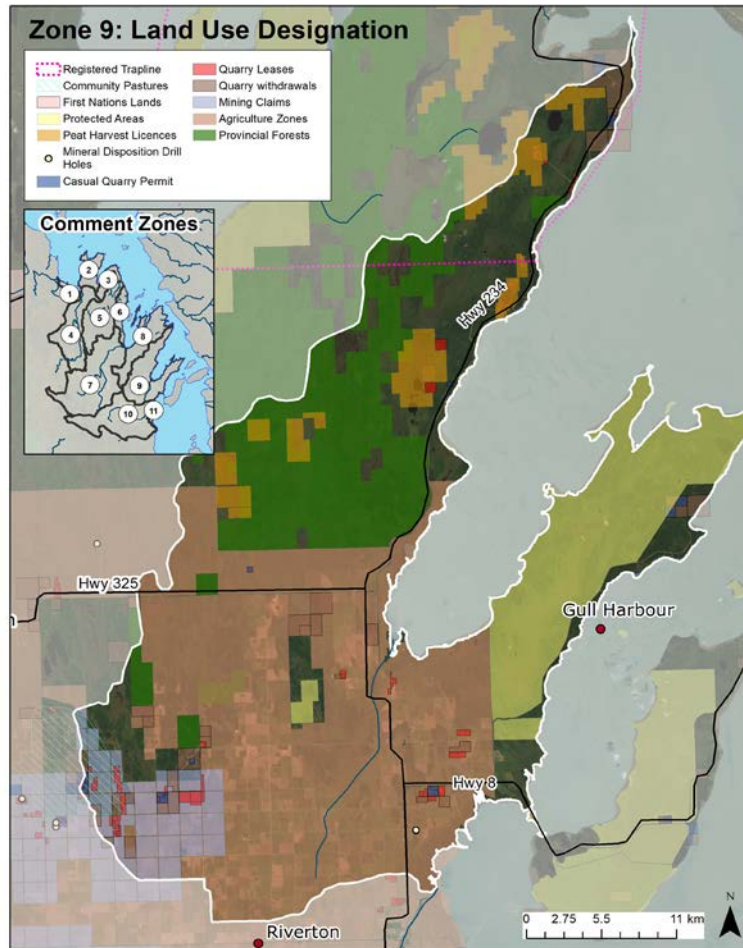
## More Information

Fisher Bay Provincial Park: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/fisher-bay-provincial-park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/fisher-bay-provincial-park.pdf)

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# ZONE 9



## Zone 9 Description

**Area: ~1,277 sq km**

The majority of Zone 9 is part of Hecla/Grindstone Park, a popular destination for nature-orientated recreational opportunities. The provincial park provides habitat for a number of native orchid species, including the Lady Slipper. The Anishinaabe (Ojibwe) inhabited the region prior to colonization, and Black Island is known to have spiritual significance to Anishinaabe peoples. Today, Anishinaabe of the region continue to gather here for berry-picking, hunting, and social gatherings.

Grindstone Point and Hecla Island Wildlife Refuges are part of this area, along with portions of the Lee Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Lee Lake Game Bird Refuge. The Lee Lake WMA is home to the rare Yellow Rail, a reward for avid and patient birdwatchers.

The David G. Tomasson Wildlife Management Area, formerly known as Washow Bay WMA is

also part of Zone 9. It provides habitat for moose, staging waterfowl, and bald eagles. This area of the Interlake is great for watching the bald eagle migration in October. The WMA also provides habitat for great blue herons, which have a rookery in the area.

This area also includes a significant portion of the Moose Creek Wildlife Management Area. Quarry leases are common in the southern portion of the area, as well as some community pasture land. Peat mining is active in this zone.

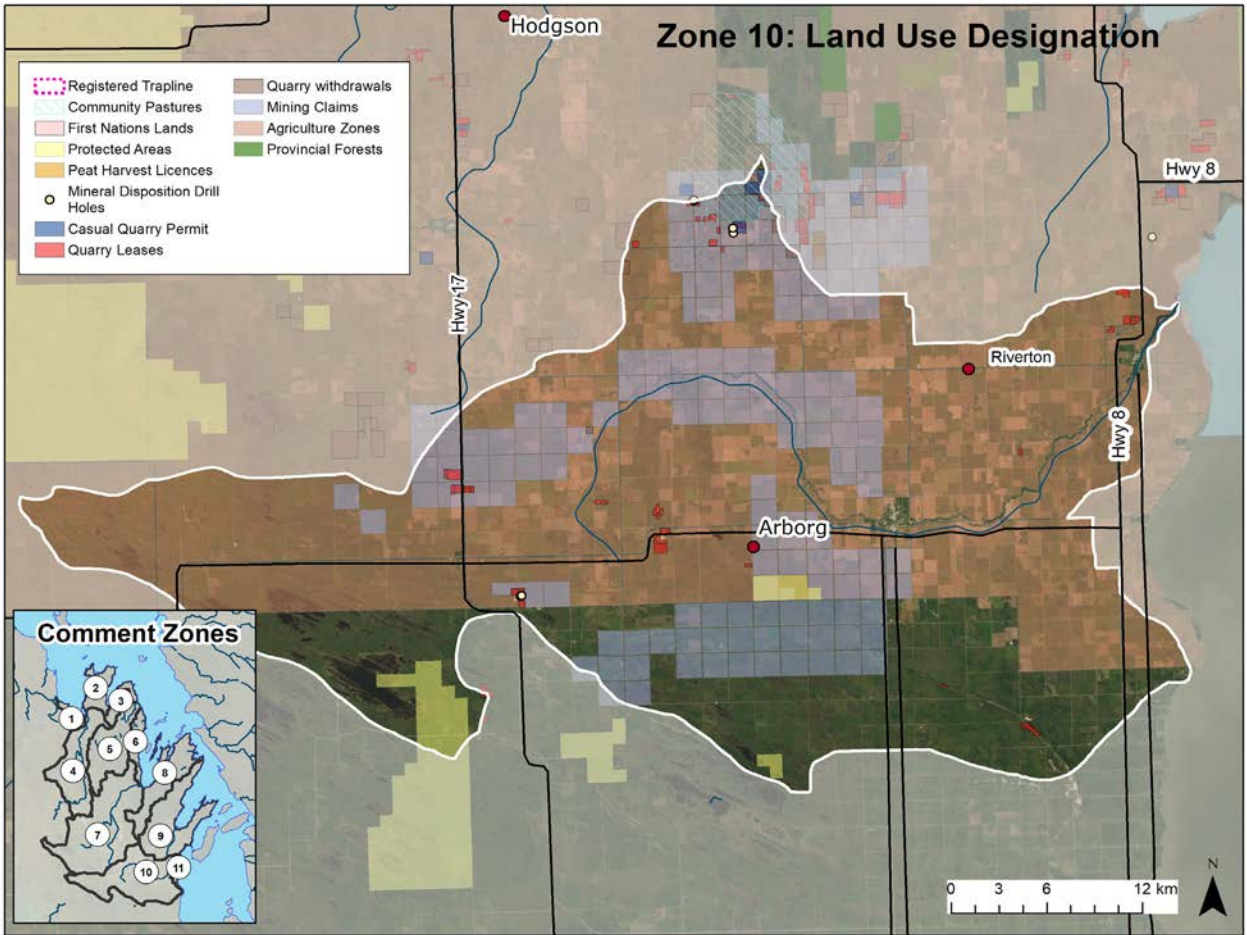
## More Information

Hecla/Grindstone Park: [frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/hecla\\_grindstone\\_provincial\\_park.pdf](https://frcnconservation.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/hecla_grindstone_provincial_park.pdf)

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# ZONE 10



## Zone 10 Description

**Area: ~1,486 sq km**

The majority of Zone 10 is an agricultural zone. The communities of Arborg, Riverton, Poplarfield, and Vidir are found in this area, which extends to Arnes in the east, Rembrandt in the south, and nearly to Eriksdale in the east.

The Icelandic River flows through the middle of this area, emptying into Lake Winnipeg just north of Sandy Bar, a popular birding area. The Icelandic River Trail follows the river and connects the town of Arborg to a campground and the Arborg and District Multicultural Heritage Village over a new seasonal walking bridge. It is turned into a skating trail in the winter months.

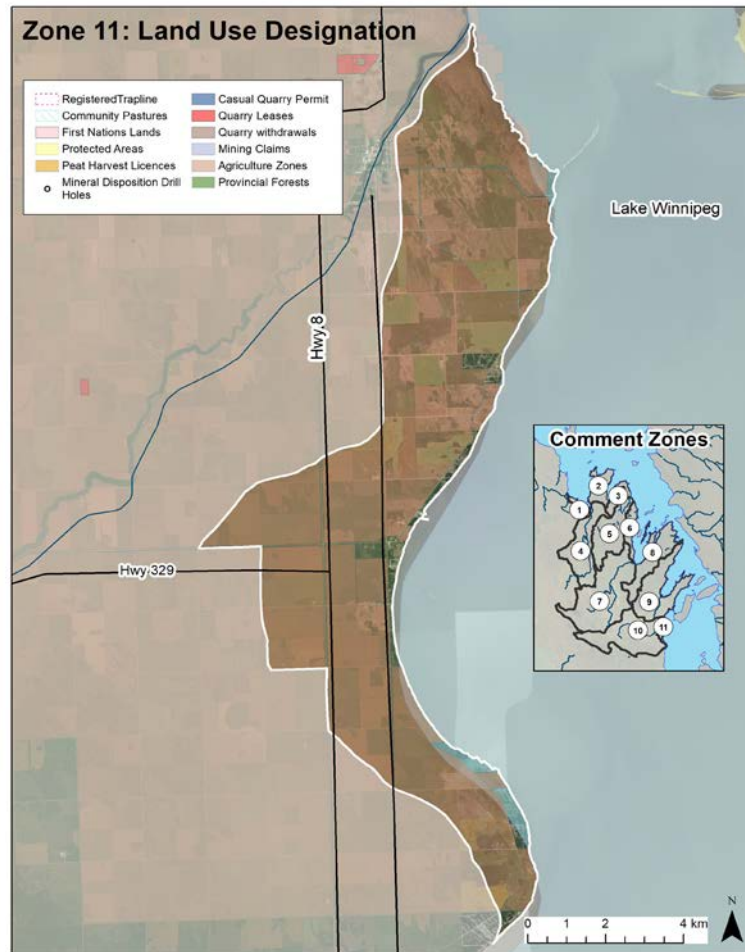
Snowmobile trails are also prevalent in the area, providing groomed trails connecting Arborg and Riverton to Hecla Island and Black's Point, then down as far south as Netley Marsh and across Lake Winnipeg to Grand Marais.

There are a number of mining claims, quarry leases, and casual quarry permits in the area.

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# ZONE 11



## Zone 11 Description

**Area: ~70 sq km**

Zone 11 runs along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg, from Silver Harbour in the south, to the mouth of the Icelandic River in the north. This area is a popular camping and cottage destination, known for its extensive sandy beaches. The communities of Hnaua, Balaton Beach, Valhalla, and Silver Harbour are located within this zone.

The Sandy Bar Special Conservation Area is a unique ecosystem named for the sandy spits of land that extend out into Lake Winnipeg from just east of Riverton and from Hecla Island toward the west shore of the lake. Sandy Bar is an Important Bird Area (IBA), home to significant concentrations of Ring-billed Gulls and Common Terns.

Land cover in this zone is a mix of wetlands, upland forest, grassland/rangeland, and cropland.

## More Information

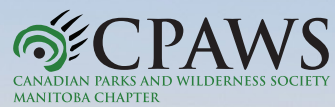
Riverton Sandy Bar IBA Site Summary: [ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=MB091](http://ibacanada.ca/site.jsp?siteID=MB091)

Visit [frcnconservation.ca](http://frcnconservation.ca) for more information and to share your comments.





**This initiative is led by Fisher River Cree Nation in partnership with Peguis First Nation and the Manitoba chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS). The initiative has the support of the governments of Manitoba and Canada.**



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