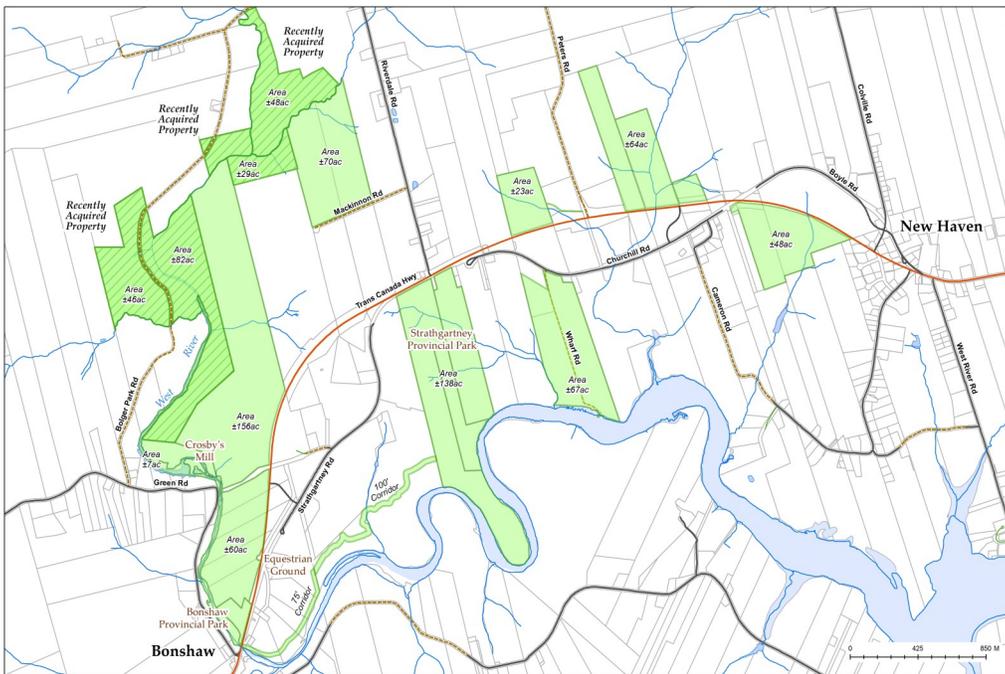


Bonshaw Hills Public Lands Committee Update

Committee and Government Work Together to Acquire Public Land

Government, through the work of the committee, recently acquired three privately owned parcels of land totaling more than 200 acres. The three properties shown on the map below (Figure 1) provide excellent connectivity to other provincially owned lands in the area. These acquisitions will allow for additional public land to be protected under the Natural Areas Protection Act (NAPA), and further trail development opportunities.



Bonshaw Hills Public Lands Committee

- > Property Acquisition Updates
- > Subcommittee Membership Update
- > NAPA Designation
- > Natural Playground at Bonshaw
- > Trail Updates
- > Winter Use at Bonshaw and Strathgartney

Natural Playground at Bonshaw

The subcommittee has recently engaged a consultant to provide design and construction services for the natural playground planned for the Bonshaw Day Park. Design is ongoing and construction is slated to begin in June, 2016.

Subcommittee Membership Update

Brian Thompson, Co-chair- Department of Transportation, Infrastructure and Energy (DTIE)
 Mike Connolly, Cycling PEI
 Cathy Schaap, Island Trails
 Todd Dupuis, Department of Communities, Land and Environment

Megan Harris, Co-chair - Island Nature Trust
 Shelley Cole-Arbing, DTIE
 Clay MacLean, West River Watershed Group
 Shane Arbing, Department of Economic Development and Tourism

Trail Updates—Infrastructure Upgrades Improve Accessibility

Through a partnership with Cycling PEI, and Island Trails, with funding support from the National Trails Coalition (NTC) more than 12k of multi-use trail was constructed in the Bonshaw area in 2015. Several structures were constructed and installed to improve accessibility.

Trails are being well utilized and additional trail construction is planned for 2016.



Photo above: new stairs installed to improve accessibility near Green Road.

Photo below: new trail construction in Bonshaw.

Photo to the right: one of the new structures installed to improve accessibility.



Green Road Footbridge

Connectivity to public lands is provided through the installation of the Green Road Footbridge and the Pedestrian Underpass at the Bonshaw Bridge.



Signage

Temporary signage was erected in the expanded park this summer and it is the intention of the committee to install permanent signage in 2016/17.

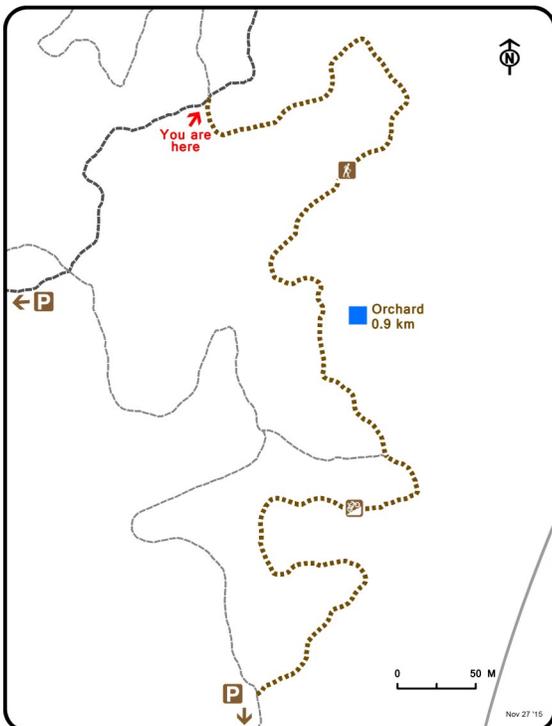


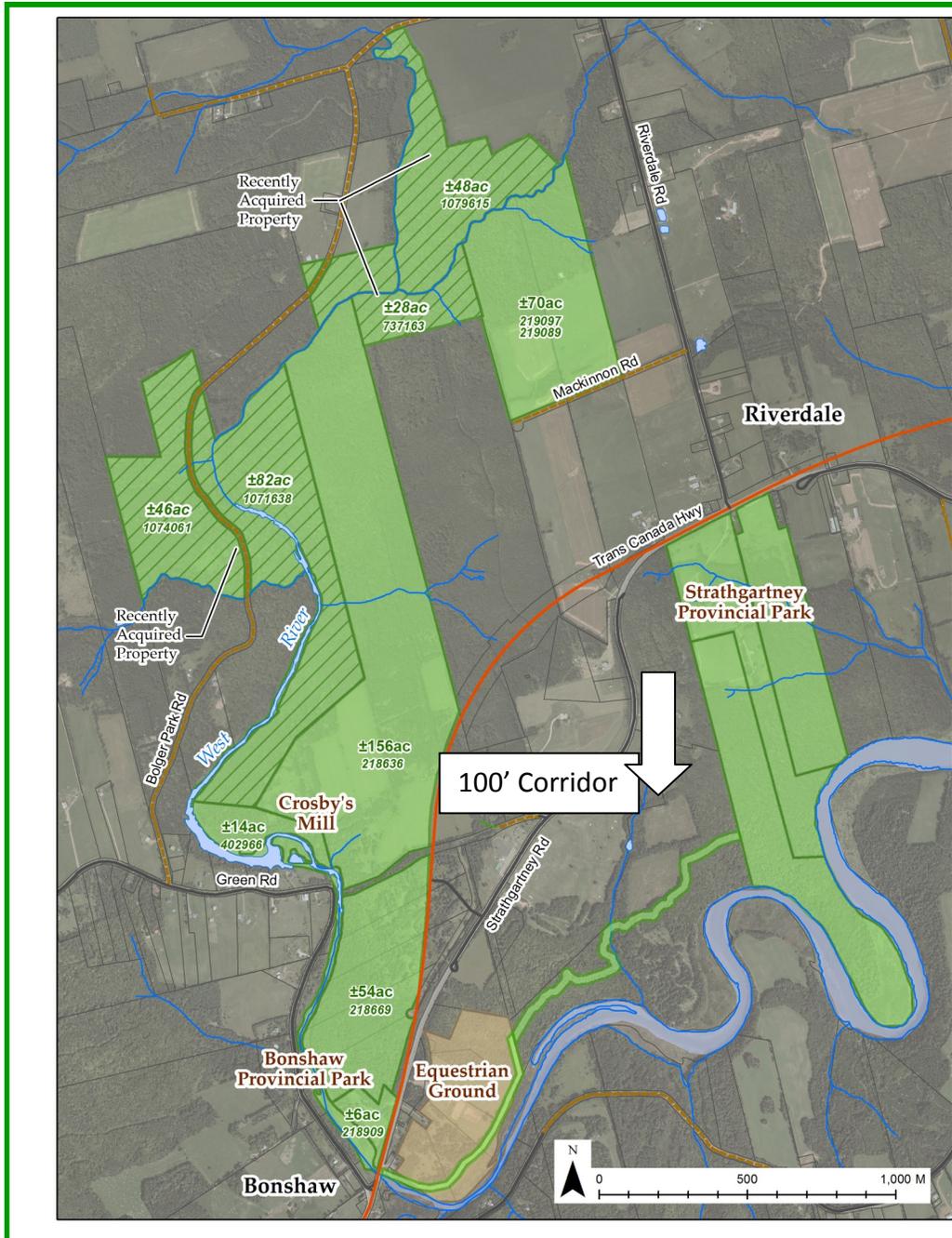
Photo above: Typical Trail Signage



Photo above: tree cavity located along trails in Bonshaw

Critical Linkage Acquired

A critical linkage has recently been obtained through a lease agreement on private property. This linkage is a 30.5 m (or 100') wide trail corridor, approximately 1200 m in length, that connects trails in Strathgartney Provincial Park with the trail on the provincially-owned Equestrian Grounds property. The trail system is now connected from Strathgartney Park through to the Bonshaw Day Park via the trail corridor, public land, and the pedestrian underpass at the Bonshaw Bridge.



Winter Use at Bonshaw & Strathgartney

The expanded park is year round facility. The province intends to provide snow clearing access to both Strathgartney (parking lot just off TCH, near intersection of the TCH and Riverdale Road) and Bonshaw (entrance and parking to accommodate 6-8 cars for the winter months).

The trails are not groomed, but are suitable for snowshoeing or hiking, and are being well used.

NAPA Designation

The subcommittee is moving forward with plans to designate all provincially owned property in the New Haven-Bonshaw area under the Natural Areas Protection Act (NAPA).

Government is currently seeking public input on eight parcels of land in the Bonshaw area to be protected under NAPA.

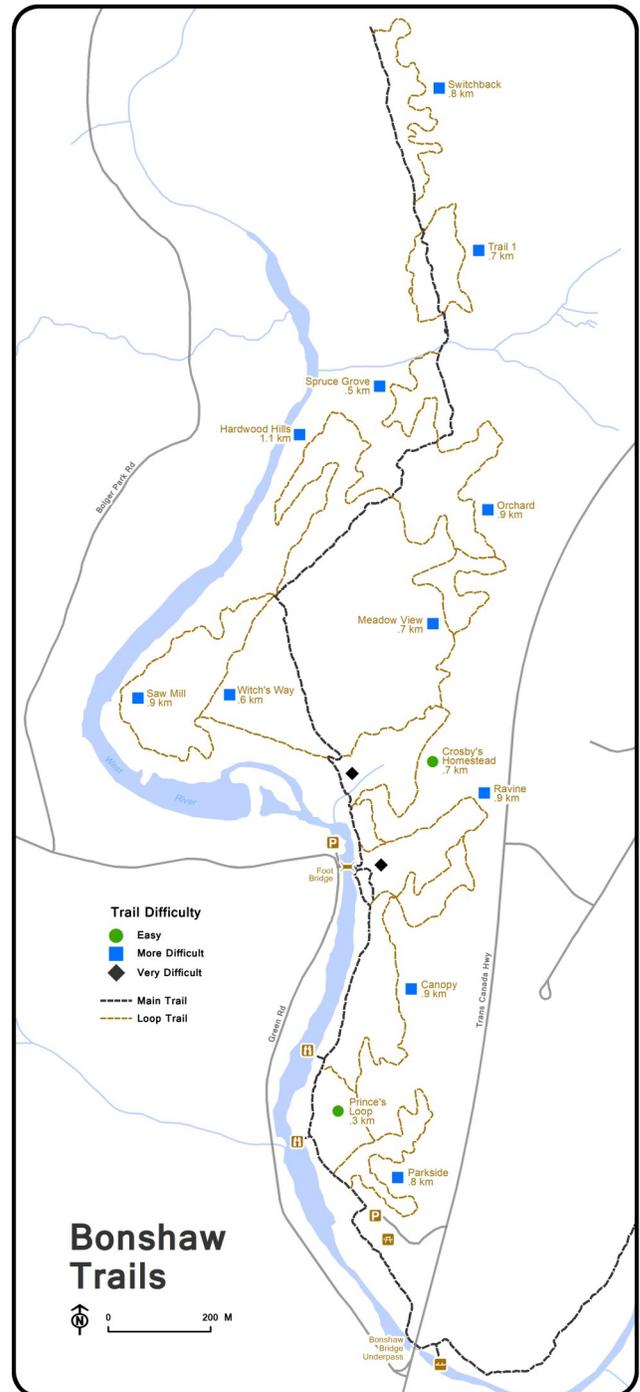


Photo above: trail system located North of the TCH.

For More Information Visit:
www.gov.pe.ca/tir/bonshawhills



Photo above: trail view in Bonshaw