NOTICE

MEETING: Regular Council Meeting

DATE: Wednesday November 18th, 2026

TIME: 5:00pm

PLACE: Council Chambers, 8296 Highway 7, Sherbrooke

Please Advise if Unable to Attend

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 18th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kmaqi the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of Minutes of:
    a. Special Council Meeting held Monday September 28th, 2026, and
    b. Regular Council meeting held Wednesday October 21st, 2026
6. Business Arising from Minutes
7. Recommendations from Committees of Council
    a. Committee of the Whole – October 21st, 2026
    b. Committee of the Whole – November 2nd, 2026
8. Presentations
    a. Nova Sustainable Fuels – Field Progress Update
    b. Antigonish Women's Resource Centre and Sexual Assault Services - Verbal
9. Correspondence
    a. Thank You Letter – St. Mary's Art Connection Council
    b. From the Cruiser – October 2026
10. Outside Committee Reports
11. Other Matters of Business
12. CAO Report

Adjournment

A 10-minute question and answer period pertaining to agenda items.

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Special Council Meeting
Monday, September 28th, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

Warden Fuller called the Special Council Meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council to order on Monday, September 28th, 2026, at 5:00pm in Council Chambers.

2. Attending:

Warden James Fuller
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy
Councillor Emma Tibbo
Councillor Dana O'Connell

Absent with Regrets:
Councillor Scott Beaver

Also Attending:
Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance (DOF)
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk

3. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

4. Approval of 2025-26 Audited Financial Statements

The 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements were presented by Director of Finance Marian Fraser.

Marian advised that the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements had been received by the Municipality's external audit firm, MNP. The Financial Statements have been prepared in accordance with the Public Sector Accounting Standards, and the Sherbrooke Water Utility Financial Statements have been prepared under the Nova Scotia Utility & Review Board Water Accounting Handbook.

The financial statements audited for the year ending March 31st, 2026, include Non-Consolidated Financial Statements, Sherbrooke Water Utility Financial Statements and Consolidated Financial Statements.

Marian reviewed the Municipality's Non-Consolidated Financial Statements and noted that the Statement of Financial Position on page 1 shows a decrease in cash and cash equivalents due to capital purchases, while deferred revenue remains steady due to external capital grant funding.

Overall, the Municipality had an operating surplus of $74,315 which, by Council motion, was transferred equally between the Capital Reserve Fund and the Fire Services Reserve Fund. The Fire Services Reserve Fund, shown on page 10, which was created new in 2024-2025, now has a balance of $112,157.

Marian reviewed the Sherbrooke Water Utility Statement and advised that a deficit occurred in 2025-2026. It was noted that accounting standards from the NSUARB regarding amortization of deferred assistance have changed. The Water Utility's capital debt was paid down, and no new capital debt was incurred by the Utility, while capital improvements to infrastructure were completed with grant funding.

The third and final set of financial statements being presented for the year ending March 31st, 2026, is the Consolidated Financial Statements. These statements summarize together the Non-Consolidated, Capital and Water Utility into one.

Marian noted that while a decrease in consolidated cash is shown due to investments in capital assets on page 2, non-financial assets have increased, which indicates increases in those tangible capital assets. An overall consolidated accumulated surplus was realized for the 2025-2026 fiscal year.

Upon acceptance from Council of the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending March 31st, 2026, the Municipality will submit them to the Department of Municipal Affairs as part of the annual timing and reporting process. In addition to the audited statements, a copy of the approved budget for 2026-2027 and the provincial Grant in Lieu of Taxes application will be submitted.

St. Mary's Audit Committee - September 23rd, 2026

On Recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy, seconded by Councillor O'Connell, the St. Mary's Audit Committee recommend that Council accept the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's and the Sherbrooke Water Utility with non-substantive changes to the non-consolidated financial statements on pages 5, 6 and 7 for clarification of expense category wording.

Recommendation approved.

The non-substantive changes to the non-consolidated financial statements on pages 5, 6 and 7 for clarification of expense category wording have been completed in the attached statements.

The following revised motion was moved, seconded and carried:

On motion of Deputy Warden Malloy seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council accept the 2025-2026 Audited Financial Statements for the Municipality of the District of St. Mary's and the Sherbrooke Water Utility as presented.

Motion approved.

Adjournment:

There being no further matters of business, Warden Fuller declared the meeting adjourned at 5:07pm.

Recorded By	Approved By
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk	Warden Fuller

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Regular Council Meeting
Wednesday, October 21st, 2026

We acknowledge that we are gathering in Mi'kma'ki the traditional unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people.

1. Meeting, Date & Time:

The Regular Council meeting of the St. Mary's Municipal Council was called to order on Wednesday October 21st, 2026, at 5:01pm in the Council Chambers Sherbrooke, N.S.

2. Attending:

Warden James Fuller
Deputy Warden Beulah Malloy
Councillor Dana O'Connell
Councillor Scott Beaver
Councillor Emma Tibbo

Also Attending:

Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer (CAO)
Marian Fraser, Director of Finance/Treasurer
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk
Kelsey Reece, Director of Emergency Services

3. Additions to the Agenda:

- There were no additions to the agenda.

4. Approval of Agenda:

On motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council approved the agenda as presented.

Motion approved.

5. Approval of Previous Minutes:

On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council approved the minutes from the Council meeting held September 16th, 2026.

Motion approved.

6. Business Arising from the Minutes:

a. Sonora Community Centre Funding

Council was advised that the Sonora Community Centre has received funding from another source. The Director of Finance communicated to the community group that the Municipal general government grant applications for 2026 2027 funding are due on February 15th, 2027. The action item was closed.

7. Recommendations from Committees of Council:

Committee of the Whole – September 16th, 2026

On motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council approve the award of the contract to Liscomb Lodge to provide a buffet dinner for the 2026 Community Heroes Appreciation Event, at a cost of up to $9,500 plus tax, which is within the approved 2026/27 operating event budget.

Motion approved.

Fire Services Advisory Committee – September 23rd, 2026

On motion of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council direct staff to investigate the Municipality holding the insurance policies for the eight fire departments and provide recommendations to Council.

Motion approved.

Committee of the Whole – October 7th, 2026

On the motion of Councillor O'Connell seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the Warden sending the attached letter to the provincial Department of Environment and Climate Change requesting an extension of the Municipality's agreement with Clean Foundation to March 31st, 2028.

Motion approved.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council adopt a two-year term of office for both the Warden and Deputy Warden, and direct the Clerk to arrange for the election on October 21st, 2026, of the Warden and Deputy Warden in accordance with the Municipal Government Act and the Council Procedural Policy with both appointments to be effective October 31st, 2026. Further, that Committee of the Whole direct the Clerk to arrange for appointments to internal and external committees to be revised or confirmed on October 21st, 2026.

Motion approved.

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council ratify the emergency expenditure and award to Toromont CIMCO for the replacement of the Recplex brine pump seal, at a cost of $9,118.04 plus HST and approve the purchase of the required parts for the condenser fan replacement, at a cost of $3,848.56 plus HST, for a total cost of $12,966.60 plus HST to be funded through the municipal operating budget line item for major repairs.

Motion approved.

8. Outside Committee Reports

a. Christmas at Sherbrooke Village – Sept 18, 2026

- Please see the agenda/package for the outside committee report.

b. Eastern Region Solid Waste – Sept 28, 2026

- Please see the agenda/package for the outside committee report.

9. CAO Report:

- Please see the Agenda/Package for the report.
- Lesley McFarlane, Chief Administrative Officer, provided updates on municipal activities, including the 2026/27 property tax sale process, advising that properties proceeding to tax sale had been forwarded to the Municipal Lawyer for title searches. She also provided updates on the Guysborough County 55+ Games and recreational programming, including preparations for the Recplex's seasonal opening.

- An update was provided on municipal capital projects. It was noted that the Lift Station Electrical Panel Upgrade, identified as a two-year project, will be deferred to the 2027/28 fiscal year. Council was also advised that the Municipality is awaiting a response to its Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund grant application for the proposed drilled well at the St. Mary's Recplex.

10. REMO Report:

- Kelsey Reece provided an update on regional emergency management activities, including approval of the community Facebook page, elected officials' training, the December 10th mock exercise, Alert Ready training, and community outreach.

11. Elections and Committee Appointments:

a. Election of Warden

- The CAO presided over the election process.
- Councillor Malloy nominated Councillor James Fuller for the position of Warden, seconded by Councillor Beaver. Councillor Fuller accepted the nomination.
- The CAO called three times for any further nominations. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

On motion of Councillor Tibbo and seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council closed nominations for Warden. Councillor James Fuller was declared elected as Warden for a two-year term, effective October 31st, 2026.

Motion approved.

Change of meeting Chair: Warden James Fuller assumed Chair of the meeting.

b. Election of Deputy Warden

- Council proceeded with the election of Deputy Warden.
- Councillor Tibbo nominated Councillor Beulah Malloy for the position of Deputy Warden, seconded by Councillor Beaver. Councillor Malloy accepted the nomination.
- The Warden called three times for any further nominations. There being no further nominations, nominations were closed.

On motion of Councillor O'Connell and seconded by Councillor Beaver, Council closed nominations for Deputy Warden. Councillor Beulah Malloy was declared elected as Deputy Warden for a two-year term, effective October 31st, 2026.

Motion approved.

c. Appointments to Internal and External Committees

- Council reviewed the internal and external committee appointments for 2026–2027 and agreed that the existing appointments would remain unchanged.

Adjournment

On motion of Warden Fuller, there being no further matters of business, the Council adjourned at 5:20pm.

Motion approved.

Recorded By	Approved By
Janelle Fleet, Interim Municipal Clerk	Warden Fuller

Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

Wednesday, November 18th, 2026
Council Meeting

Recommendations from Internal Committees of Council

Committee of the Whole – October 21st, 2026

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy, seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council approve the preparation of a letter of support for the Trails Association.

Recommendation approved.

Committee of the Whole – November 2nd, 2026

On recommendation of Councillor Beaver, seconded by Councillor O'Connell, Council award Suburban Electric Ltd. the quotation to supply, install and commission the water treatment plant PLC panel replacement in the amount of $50,790 plus HST, to be funded through the approved 2026-2027 Capital budget.

Recommendation approved.

On recommendation of Deputy Warden Malloy, seconded by Councillor Tibbo, Council cancel the December 16th, 2026, Committee of the Whole and Regular Council meetings.

Recommendation approved.

On recommendation of Councillor Tibbo, seconded by Deputy Warden Malloy, Council submit Cameron Road, Bennetts Loop and Restoration Drive for consideration under the 2027–2028 Provincial J-Class Subdivision Road Cost-Share Program.

Recommendation approved.

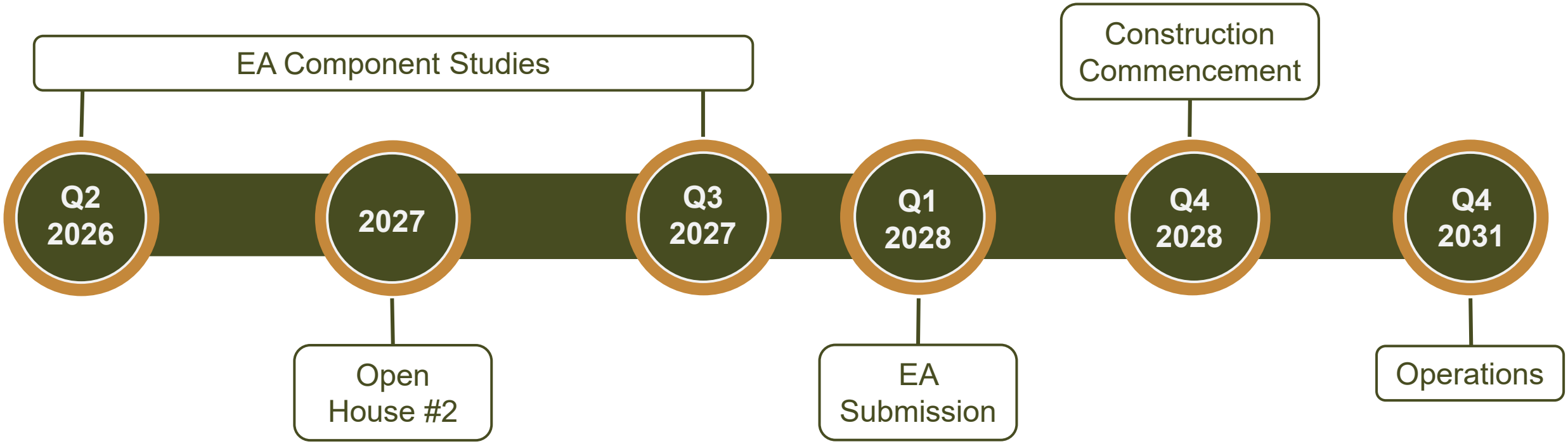
Canada Sustainable Aviation Fuel Project

Renewable Power Generation

nova sustainable fuels

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Project Timeline



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Field Surveys

2026 Surveys

- Wetland and Watercourse Delineation
- Fish Surveys
- Avian Fall Migration and Diurnal Watch
- Bat Acoustic Monitoring
- Avian Radar
- Old Growth Assessments
- Trail Camera Deployments



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Wildlife Surveys – Summer/Fall 2026

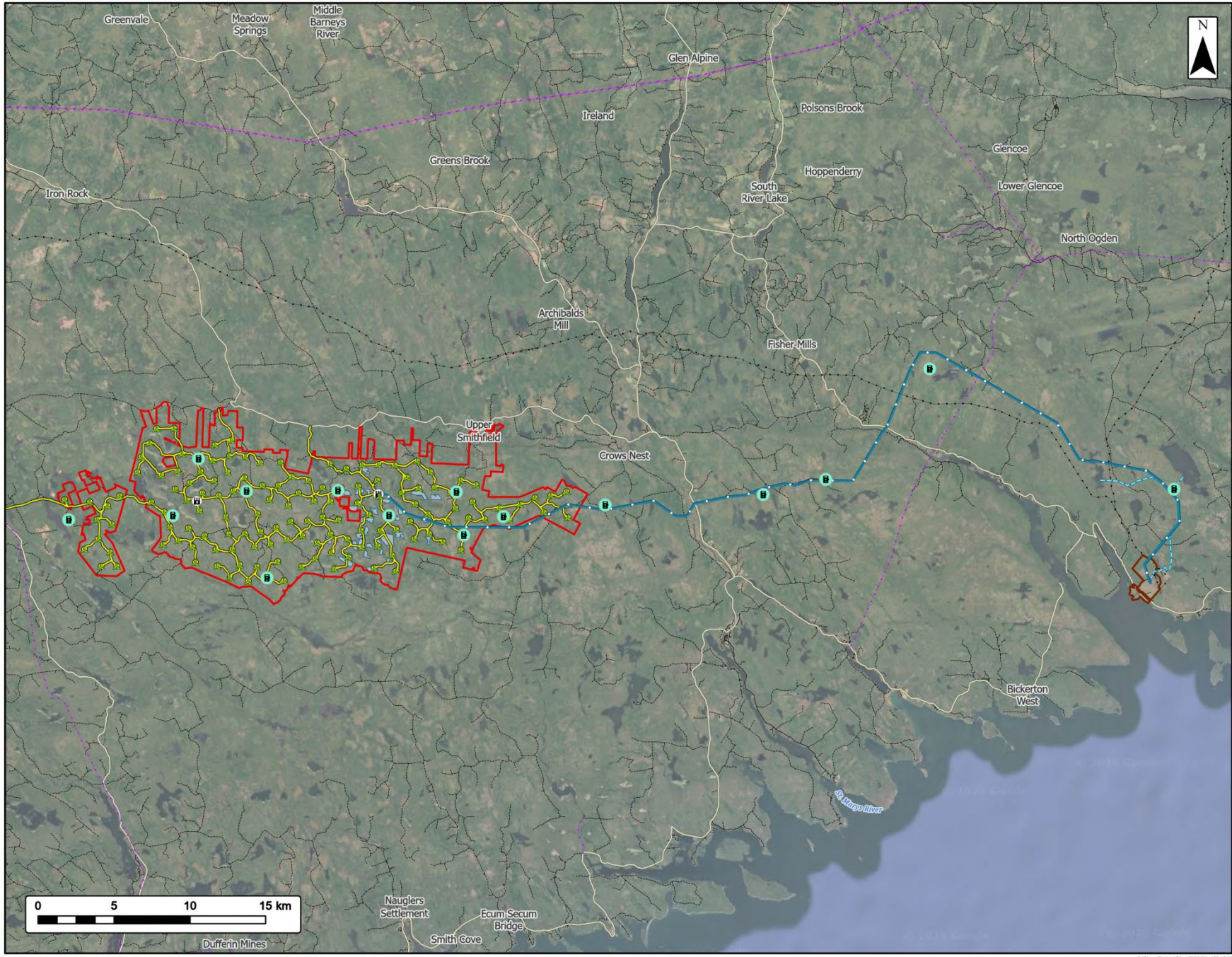
Photo Trap Assessment

- 15 trail cameras placed in areas of suitable habitat for mainland moose.
  - 10 in wind/solar area
  - 5 along transmission line
- Trail cameras will be moved to new locations in November 2026 to suitable moose wintering habitat.
- Objective is to observe wildlife species presence, with a focus on mainland moose.



Trail camera deployed along the proposed transmission line. Photos will be assessed for signs of wildlife.

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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Photo Trap Assessment

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- Study Area
- NSF Goldboro Lands
- Assessment Area
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Proposed Freshwater Pipeline Route
- Substation Location
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Trail Camera Locations

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road



Coordinate System: NAD 1983 CSRS UTM Zone 20N

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Wildlife Surveys – Winter/Spring 2027

Winter Tracking and Pellet Group Inventory

- Two rounds of winter tracking surveys in wind/solar area and along transmission line
  - Completed after snowfall events.
  - Documenting signs of wildlife including tracks and browse.
  - Target habitat types for Mainland Moose.
- One round of Pellet Group Inventory
  - Completed after snowmelt.
  - Documenting observations of wildlife, including pellets and browse, left from winter.

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Wildlife Surveys – Summer/Fall 2026

Incidental Observations

- All field staff completing surveys on site are asked to record incidental wildlife observations
- **Species observed**:
  - Wood turtle
  - Snapping turtle
  - Mainland moose signs
  - White-tailed deer
  - Black bear
  - River otter


Snapping turtle on roadside


Mainland moose pellets


Black bear den


River otter

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Bat Assessments – Summer/Fall 2026

Bat Acoustic Monitoring

- 29 acoustic monitors deployed for the wind/solar area in July 2026.
- Located in areas expected to be used as bat habitat.
- Units will be retrieved in November 2026 and re-deployed in April 2027.
- They will be assessed for bat echolocation calls.
- Intended to capture bat presence and habitat use within the wind/solar area.
- A potential bat maternity roost tree has also been recorded.

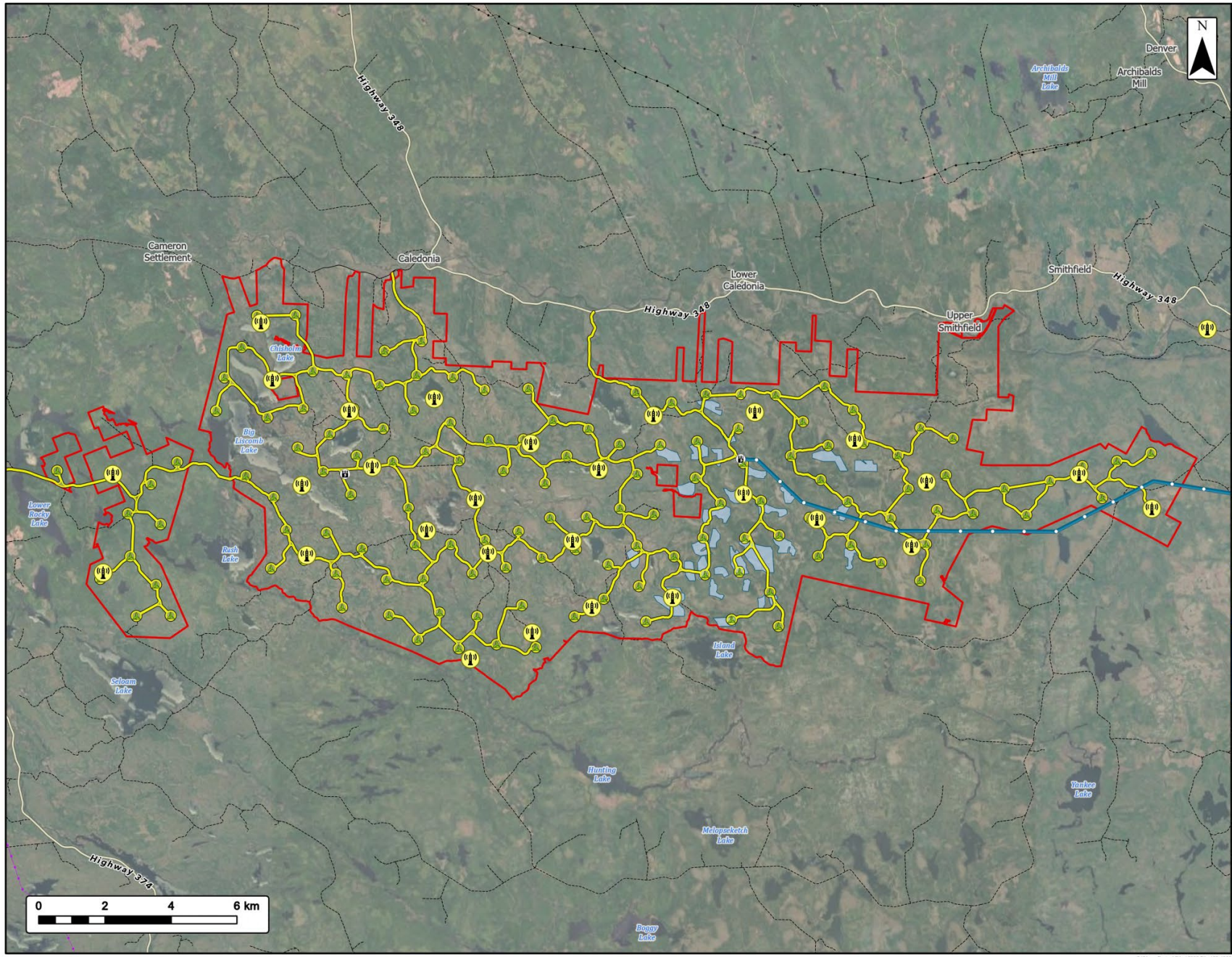


Acoustic monitor deployed in Wind/Solar Area



Potential maternity roost tree

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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Bat Detector Locations

nova sustainable fuels

- Study Area
- Assessment Area
- Preliminary Solar Layout
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Substation Location
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Bat Detector Locations

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road



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Avian Surveys – Summer/Fall 2026

Fall Migration Surveys

- 132 point count (PC) survey locations in wind/solar area.
- 60 PC locations along transmission line.
- 16 acoustic recording units placed in remote locations where in-person surveys are not feasible.
- Three survey rounds completed between August and October 2026 to capture migratory bird activity across the Study Area.
- Spring migration and breeding bird surveys will be completed in 2027 at the same PC locations.



Avifauna surveys take place in a variety of habitats, with a focus on areas expected to be used by species at risk.

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Avian Surveys – Summer/Fall 2026

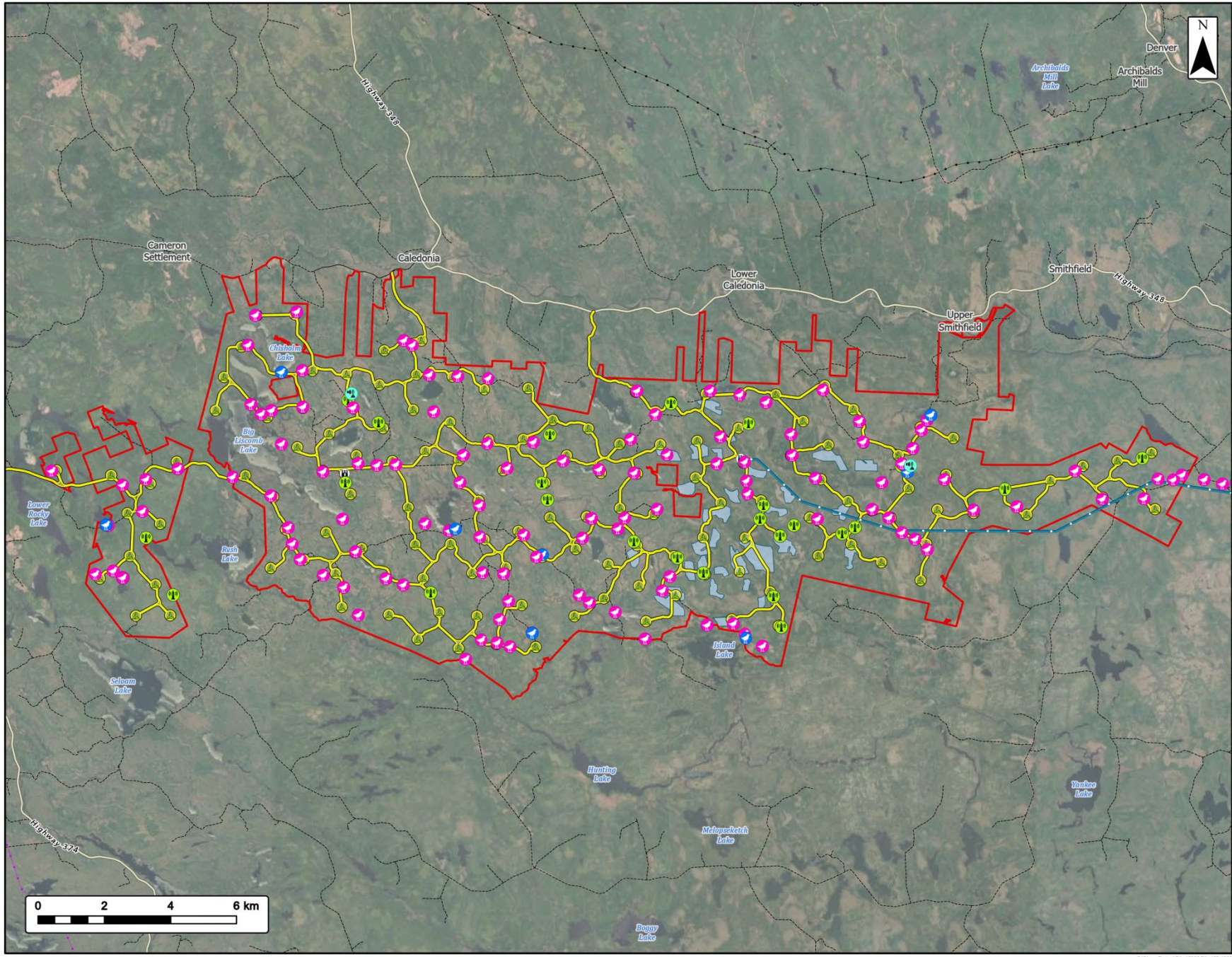
Avian Radar

- Two avian radar units were deployed in July 2026 and will be retrieved in mid-November.
- These units are intended to capture nocturnal avian migration in proximity to the Project.
- Will be redeployed from March to July 2027.



Avian radar unit deployed in the Wind/Solar Area, July 2026.

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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Avian Survey Locations

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- Study Area
- Assessment Area
- Preliminary Solar Layout
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Substation Location
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Point Count Survey Locations
- Diurnal Watch Count Locations
- Avian Acoustic Monitor Locations
- Avian Radar Locations

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road



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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Avian Survey Locations

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- Study Area
- NSF Goldboro Lands
- Assessment Area
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Point Count Survey Locations
- Diurnal Watch Count Locations

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road



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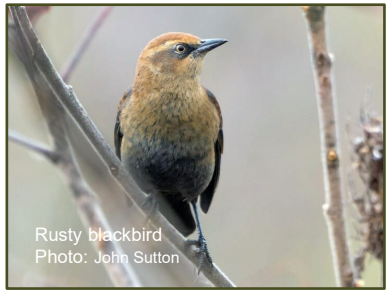
Avian Surveys – Summer/Fall 2026

Incidental Observations

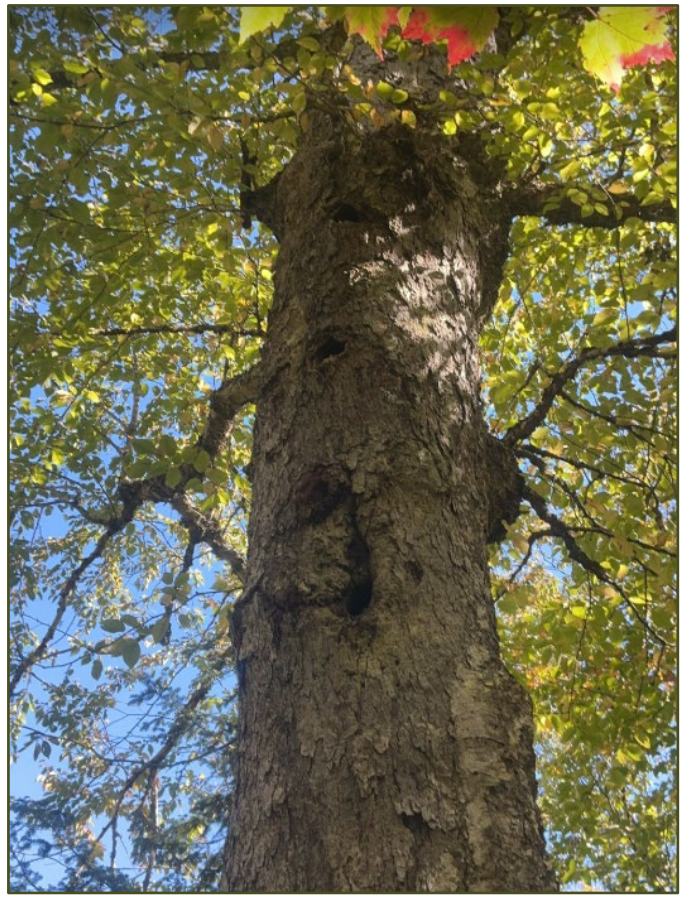
- Incidental observations of bird species were recorded by field crews completing non-target biophysical surveys, and by birders while moving between survey locations.

- **Notable species**:
  - Bank swallow
  - Barn swallow
  - Boreal owl
  - Canada warbler
  - Chimney swift
  - Common nighthawk
  - Olive-sided flycatcher
  - Pileated woodpecker (nesting cavities)
  - Rusty blackbird
  - Various raptors
  - Various shorebirds


Bank swallow
Photo: Darlene Friedman


Rusty blackbird
Photo: John Sutton


Chimney swift
Photo: Peter F.


Pileated woodpecker nesting cavity

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Wetland and Watercourse Delineation – Summer/Fall 2026

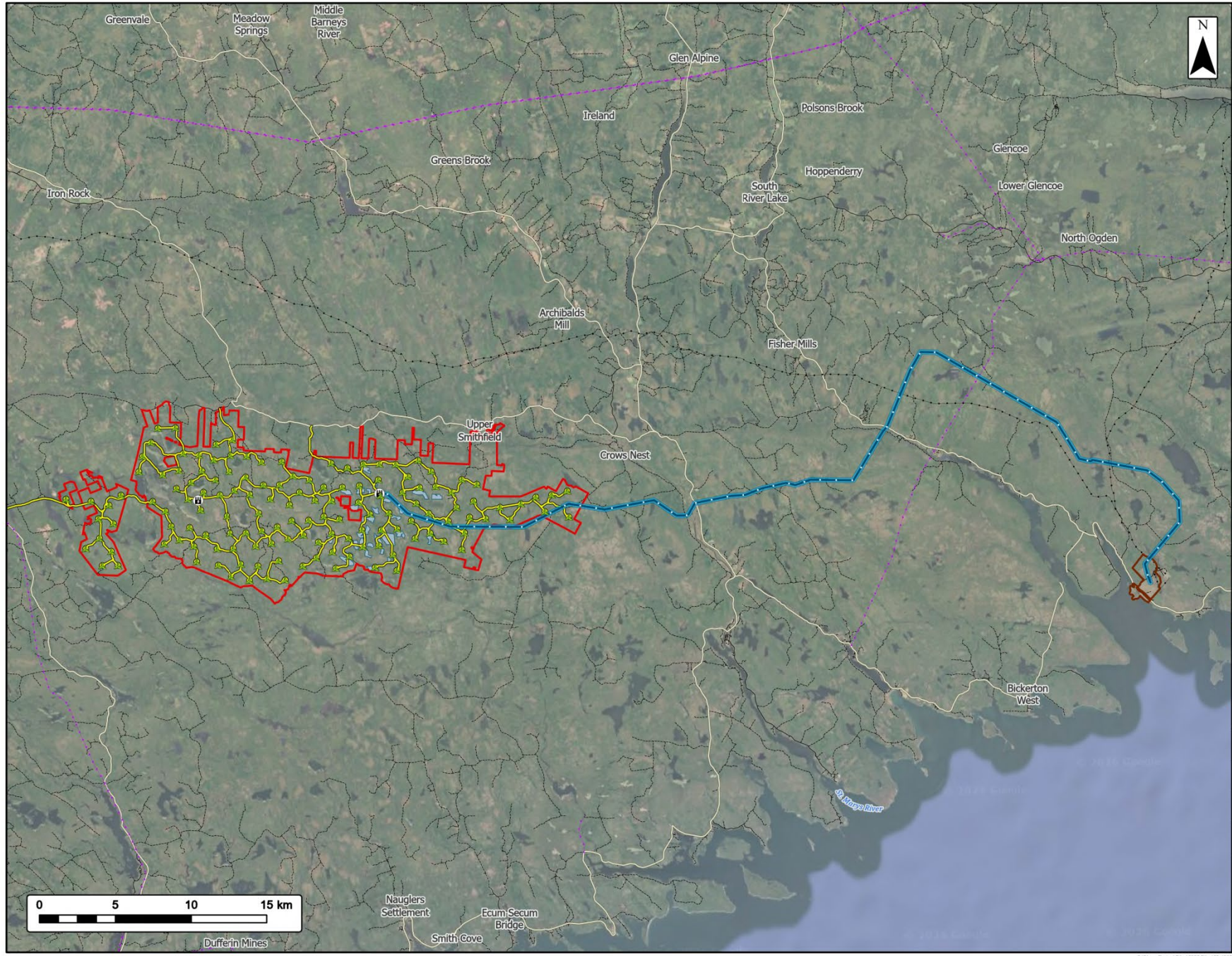
Wetland and Watercourse Assessments

- Wetland and watercourse surveys were completed throughout the wind/solar area and along the transmission line in Summer/Fall 2026.
- Largest biophysical field program.
- The objective is to understand the distribution of wetlands and watercourses to inform Project planning and mitigations.
- Most of the area has been surveyed. Additional assessments required in 2027.



Field delineated wetland and watercourse

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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Wetland and Watercourse Surveys

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- Study Area
- NSF Goldboro Lands
- Assessment Area
- Transmission Line Survey Corridor (70 m)
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Substation Location
- Proposed Turbine Layout

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road



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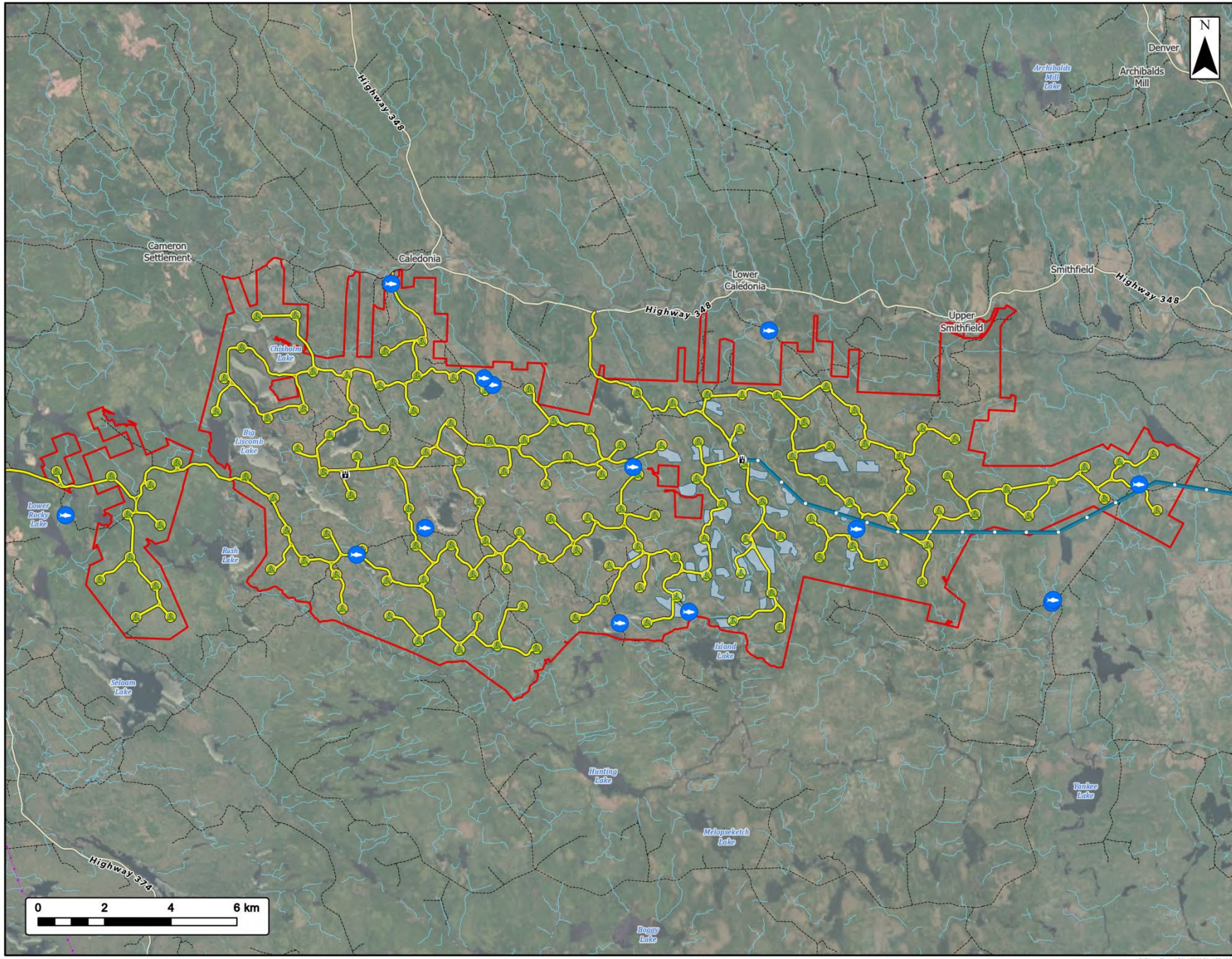
Fish and Fish Habitat – Summer 2026

Habitat Assessment and Electrofishing

- Assessments were completed in 12 watercourses in the wind/solar area in July 2026.
- Electrofishing was completed to identify fish species presence.
- **Species observed**:
  - American eel
  - Atlantic salmon
  - Brook trout
  - Brown bullhead
  - Creek chub
  - Ninespine stickleback
  - White sucker



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Nova Sustainable Fuels

Fish Collection Locations

nova sustainable fuels

- Study Area
- Assessment Area
- Preliminary Solar Layout
- Proposed Transmission Line Route
- Substation Location
- Proposed Turbine Layout
- Fish Collection Locations

Utilities (Line)

- Existing Pipeline
- Existing Transmission Lines

Transportation

- Highway
- Road
- Unpaved Road

Water Features

- Mapped Watercourses



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Old Growth Forest Assessments – Fall 2026

Old Growth Assessments

- Old growth forest assessments were completed in 9 stands along the transmission line route in Fall 2026 to assist with project planning.
- Additional old growth forest surveys will continue in 2027 along the transmission line and within the wind/solar area.



Examples of forest stands assessed for old-growth status

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2027 Surveys

- Winter Tracking and Pellet Group Inventory Surveys
- Rare Plant and Habitat Assessments
  - Targeting habitat most likely to support rare species
- Lichen Assessment
  - Targeting rare species and species listed under provincial special management practices
- Old growth forest surveys
- Wetland and Watercourse Assessments
- Bat Maternity Roost Assessments
- Bat acoustic surveys
- Wood Turtle Assessments
  - Wind/Solar Area and parts of the Transmission Line
  - Documenting both observations of wood turtles as well as habitat
- Bird surveys
- Technical Studies
  - Electromagnetic interference
  - Noise/Shadow Flicker modelling
  - Visual Simulation Analysis



Potential habitat for rare lichens

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Dear Municipality of the District of St. Mary's,

The St. Mary's Arts Connection Council would like to send our sincere thanks for the many contributions that made our recent Songwriters' Workshop a strong success.

Funding from councillors Emma, Jim, Beulah and Scott allowed us to cover many of the required costs, and the items supplied to participants were greatly appreciated.

We are fortunate to have the great support of all of you in our efforts to celebrate the arts in our community.

Many thanks again,

The SMAAC committee

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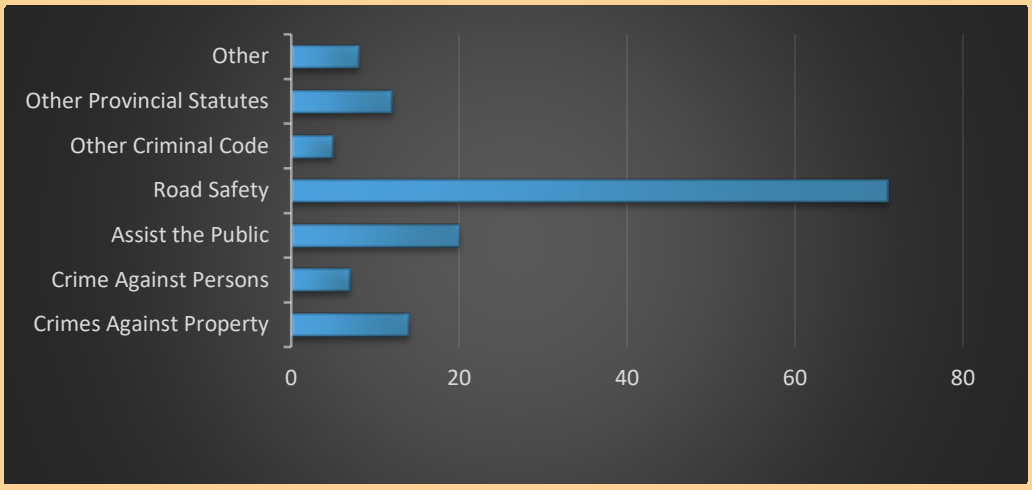
GUYSBOROUGH COUNTY DISTRICT RCMP-GRC
October 2026



Roman Valley

The Month in Review

Guysborough County District RCMP responded to 164 calls for service during the month of October 2026. Below is a chart showing the nature of those calls:



Some calls of a sensitive nature are not included in the above chart

RCMP
ROYAL CANADIAN MOUNTED POLICE

News Stories

Guysborough County District RCMP would like to remind the public that we are available 24 hrs a day, 7 days a week by calling the following non-emergency phone numbers:

Canso: 902-366-2440

Guysborough: 902-533-3801

Sherbrooke: 902-522-2200

For emergencies, please call 911.

Recently we have been told about social media posts regarding speeding vehicles & mischief to property, but we haven't received a call about it. These are issues we can help with if we know about them!

Getting a call about issues that affect the safety of your community in real time helps us prioritize dangerous areas and/or activities that are affecting your neighbourhood.

Guysborough County District RCMP responded to six calls of fraud during the month of October.

If you suspect your mobile device or computer has been compromised, and someone has accessed you bank account, call the phone number on the back of your bank card and speak with your financial institution about what occurred. Next, call the RCMP to determine if a fraud has occurred that can be investigated criminally.

Crime Prevention

Students are back in school. With the morning hustle and bustle, do you know the answer to important questions that the police would ask if your child didn't return home from school or activities as expected, and you called the police to help locate them?

Here are some initial questions:

- Approximately how tall are they & how much do they weigh?
- What clothing were they wearing the last time you saw them?
- Do you have a recent photo?
- Do they have a cell phone? What is the phone number?
- What are their friends' names, addresses, & parents names, phone numbers?
- Is there a place they like to 'hang out'?
- Do they use any social media platforms? If so, which ones? And what is their name on the platforms?

Planning ahead is the best way to prevent a stressful situation. Does your family have a daily routine? Some examples would be:

- "Call or message me after school to let me know you got home".
- "Call or message me if you plan to go anywhere other than home after school".
- "Stay at basketball until I pick you up. You are not to leave with anyone else".
- "If I don't pick you up by 6 PM, drive home with our neighbour. She is a trusted adult, and we have told her this plan".
- "If you are ever needed anything when mom & dad aren't around, who is a grown up that could help you?"

Road Safety

Guysborough County RCMP stopped a driver on October 11th that had a suspended license. The driver was summoned to attend Antigonish Provincial Court on November 25th, 2026.
Driving with a suspended license can result in a minimum fine of $1272.50, a 30-day vehicle impoundment, and additional suspension time if applicable.

Road safety in rural Nova Scotia sometimes means ensuring the roadway is clear of objects that could cause a hazard to motorists. In October, Guysborough County District RCMP were called to assist with horses on the road. This is not something our officers learn about at depot anymore, but they were happy to assist where they could, to keep drivers and the animals safe.



Guysborough County District RCMP arrested a driver following a single vehicle rollover in Halfway Cove on October 28th at 3:45 PM. Upon police arrival, they had learned the driver had left the scene, however, was located nearby, a short while later.
The 36-year-old driver was arrested for impaired operation of a motor vehicle. The man was found to be over the legal limit of alcohol in his blood.
He will appear in Antigonish Provincial Court on December 23rd at 9:30 AM to enter a plea to charges of Impaired Operation of a Conveyance, Impaired Operation of a Conveyance over 0.8 mg of alcohol per 100 ml of blood, and Failing to Stop after an Accident.

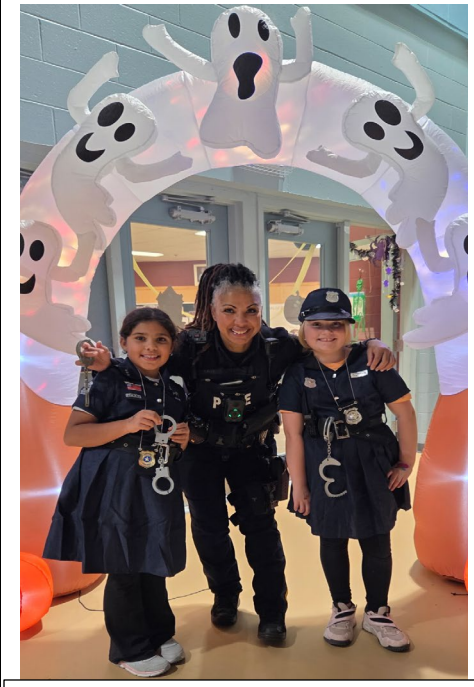


Guysborough County District RCMP set up eleven check stops during the month in the communities of Sherbrooke, Guysborough, Canso, Hadleyville, Goshen, and Upper Fox Island.

In Our Community



Cst. Hudak attended the Halloween party in Canso.



Future police officers in the crowd perhaps 😊



Cst. Tom Thordarson gives his final salute as a Guysborough County District RCMP Member. He is on to new adventures within the RCMP.

Cst. John Campbell (left) is ready to fill Cst. Thordarson's boots as Sherbrooke's newest Mountie.



Cst. Dunlop waves to the students as his patrols the school zone.

Sgt. Farrell, Cst. Dunlop, & Cst. Nudo attended Regional Emergency Management information sessions with other emergency services in Sunnyville and Upper Big Tracadie.



2026-2027
CAO Report – Project Summary
For the period of October 1st to 31st, 2026

The Municipality of the District of St. Mary's

1. Housing Initiatives –

CMHC- Housing Accelerator Fund (HAF)

A three-year project, funded through the HAF, has been initiated to design and replace the west side water main. The design is nearing completion by the municipality's contracted design firm, Strait Engineering; draft tender documents are due to the municipality in November. The replacement work will be scheduled over the following two fiscal years. A Request for Proposals for construction will be issued later this year.

2. Climate Change Projects –

The municipality continues to work closely with CLEAN Foundation to address priority actions from the municipality's approved Climate Change Action Plan. In October, a further update to Council was provided, outlining that community engagement sessions are planned for November 30 and December 1 in three locations across the municipality, to learn about how our coastlines and rivers may change in the future, and to provide their input on what matters to residents. Facebook and web posts will be used to advertise the sessions and promote attendance.

3. EMO/REMO –

- Position-specific training for Emergency Centre Coordination Command Staff roles was conducted across three days in October.
- As a follow up to provincial Department of Emergency Management (DEM) Deputy Minister Sandra McKenzie visiting the Fire Services Advisory Committee Meeting in July, work continues with DEM to explore opportunities to strengthen municipal capacity in fire services and emergency management. Guysborough County REMO Director of Emergency Services Kelsey Reece will attend the November 25 Fire Services Advisory Committee meeting to discuss the Fire Services Coordinator function and related provincial initiatives.

4. Tourism Promotion & Electronic Content/Advertisements –

- Fall tourism social media campaign continued in October.
- A report comparing results of the 2025 and 2026 tourism social media campaigns has been requested, to obtain inputs for budgeting and planning for 2027's tourism campaign.

5. Economic Development and Business Support–

- Selection process underway to fill Director of Economic Development position.

6. Finance –

- The 2026/27 property tax sale has been set for January 14th, 2027. The formal tax sale notice will be posted in December.

7. Upcoming Municipal Events

- Christmas at Sherbrooke Village November 27-29
- Community Free Skate on Saturdays beginning November 7, 12:30-1:30pm

8. Community Development and Recreation Program Highlights

a. House League Hockey, Learn to Skate, Adult Rec Hockey, 50+ Hockey, Shinny Hockey and Curling preparations are underway
b. Recplex ready for November 3rd opening
c. Community Heroes event was held October 22nd at Liscombe Lodge, well attended by over 80 guests.
d. Fitness Centre Orientations have been ongoing during October.

Summer Day Camps program was provincially recognized for an award through Recreation Nova Scotia. Recreation Staff attended the RNS conference and accepted the award.

Guysborough County 55+ games was held October 7&8th, it was well attended with over 110 participants.

Fright Night was on October 31st at the Sherbrooke Village, lots of trick or treaters around and a very fun night for all. The recreation department gave out over 230 treat bags.

9. Capital projects supporting Community Development and Recreation

a. Connect 2 – Multi Use Trail Design – Strait Engineering is working with Provincial Department of Public Works staff to confirm design requirements.
b. Accessible Washroom 16 Main Street –Council awarded design contract to Strait Engineering in September. Strait is working on designs, with an update coming November 25th. Work will be tendered for completion by end of March 2027.
c. Recplex Drilled Well – Awaiting response to Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund grant application, which is expected in fall 2026.

10. Accessibility & Inclusion

a. The Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, Anti-Hate & Accessibility Advisory Committee met on October 6th, they have further prioritized the Inclusion Plan recommendations and have made the recommendation for all staff and Council to complete the Foundations of Inclusion course this winter. It is a 4-hour virtual course that is being offered free of charge.

11. Public Works

Municipal Utilities & Infrastructure

- The water main replacement has been completed in the Clover Farm parking lot. Final inspection from Nova Scotia Power for the electrical aspect of this job was completed in October.
- Water Treatment Plant PLC replacement project design and implementation approach finalized in October for approval by Council in November.
- Water Treatment Plant Filter #1 overhaul was commissioned in October.

Capital Projects

Description	Update
16 Main Street Washroom Accessibility Renovations	Design contract awarded to Strait Engineering in September. Design underway.
Old Road Hill Multi-Use Path Construction Ready Design	Design being revised based on consultation with DOPW. Cost estimate and final designs due in Nov.
Cushion Tank Replacement	Complete.
Filter #1 Overhaul	Complete.
Agitator and Tank for Soda Ash Mixing	Complete.
West Side Water Main Replacement	Draft design plans received and being finalized and sent out for tender by mid January.
Water Main Replacement (Clover Farm Parking Lot)	NS Power final inspection completed in October.
Water Meter Replacement	Meters being installed throughout the year.
Water Treatment PLC Replacement	Staff report prepared to request Council approval in November.
Outside Storage for Chemical Barrels	Complete.
Hospital Road Lift Station Pedestal Replacement Village Lift Station Check Valve Replacement Main Street Lift Station Overflow Gasket Replacement	Work awarded to Nova Arc Industries as per Council's approval in September. Parts are ordered and work will be taking place this fall.
I&I Recommendations – Flushing and Videoing Sewer Lines, Lift Station Clean Outs	Quote received for flushing. Continuing to seek quotes for video work prior to requesting Council approval to proceed.
Lift Station Electrical Panel Upgrade – Two-Year Project	Project will be included in 2027/28 capital program.
Sewer Plant Exterior Aeration Piping	Complete.
Sewer Blower Replacement	Complete.
Ice Edger	Complete.
Drilled Well for St. Mary's Recplex	Awaiting response to grant application to Sustainable Communities Challenge Fund.
Recplex Surge Protector	Continuing to request quotes as a priority. Work is planned to be completed in winter 2026/27.
Solar RFP	Recplex Energy Transition completed in July 2026. Clean Foundation preparing recommendations for 2027/28 capital program and applicable grant applications for Recplex Energy Enhancements.
Truck Purchase	Complete.