

Welcome to the Bras d'Or
Pjillita'q ula Pitu'paq
Fàilte oirbh dha 'n Bhras d'Or
Bien venue au Bras d'Or

"We are all too inclined, I think, to walk through life with our eyes closed. There are things around us and right at our very feet that we have never seen, because we have never looked. We should not keep forever on the public road, going only where others have gone; we should leave the beaten track occasionally and enter the woods. Every time you do that you will be certain to find something you have never seen before. Of course, it will be a little thing; but do not ignore it, one discovery will lead to another, and before you know it you will have something worth thinking about to occupy your mind, for all really big discoveries are the results of thought." - Alexander Graham Bell

Presented at the Parks Canada, Ecological Integrity - A Call to Action Workshop (Nov 13 -14, 2001)

WHY IS THIS PLACE WORTHY OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION? →



Amaguadees Pond, Eskasoni - one of the many "nursery" barachois ponds around the Lake.

DID YOU KNOW CAPE BRETON ISLAND WAS RECENTLY VOTED ONE OF THE 3 BEST ISLANDS IN THE WORLD! - Travel and Leisure (2009), a major travel magazine.

The Bras d'Or Lake and Watershed Biosphere Reserve Initiative



INTRODUCTION

This report is a summary of a much larger application document written for the United Nations Man and the Biosphere Program to have the Bras d'Or Lake and its watershed designated as a UNESCO Biosphere Reserve. Readers may want to refer to the original document at www.blbra.ca for more detail.

The Bras d'Or Lake is a unique estuarine ecosystem, with cold (Arctic) and warm water (Virginian) species thriving within a few kilometers of each other. The coastline of the Bras d'Or Lake is a complex sequence of barrier beaches, rocky headlands, barachois ponds and wetlands. The watershed is a place where Mi'kmaq, and descendants of early French, Scottish, and English settlers live together with more recent newcomers, working to build healthy and vibrant communities. Four languages are spoken in the watershed, English, French, Mi'kmaq and Gaelic. Many rural residents make their living from the forest, mineral extraction, agriculture and fisheries sectors. Others in established communities benefit from the seasonal tourist industry, the presence of schools, small health centres, museums and government offices. Throughout the Bras d'Or Lake watershed, in fact throughout all of Cape Breton Island artisans, musicians and storytellers steeped in local history and culture, abound. The first flight in Canada took place on the ice near Baddeck / Beinn Bhreagh one hundred years ago!

The designation of the Bras d'Or Lake and its watershed as a Biosphere Reserve under the UNESCO "Man and the Biosphere Program" (UNMaB) will give international recognition to this special place.

The Submission Process:

The idea of having the Bras d'Or Lake and its watershed designated as a Biosphere Reserve under the UNMaB program was initiated in 2002. The designation was seen as a way to give international recognition to the area, promote sustainable economic and community development, and conservation and would also provide a mechanism for research and monitoring, not only for the environment and fragile ecosystems, but also for social and health sciences, and for culture and history.

The submission process, defined by the United Nations, requires support from the residents. Support is reflected through many local community groups and organizations, agencies and industry, and all levels of government: Municipal, Provincial, Federal and First Nations.



Baddeck Bay: February 22, 2009
100th Anniversary celebrations of first flight
in Canada

The Bras d'Or Lake watershed is defined "as that portion of the Cape Breton land mass which directs surface water runoff downslope, to its lowest internal point (the Bras d'Or Lake). Surface water runoff generally converges into progressively larger streams and/or rivers as it moves downstream". Other words used to define a watershed are: drainage basin and catchment basin. The Middle River, Skye River, Baddeck River, River Denys, etc. watersheds are sub-watersheds of the Bras d'Or Lake watershed as these rivers, among many others, flow into the Bras d'Or Lake.

Nineteen CORE AREAS are included in the proposed Biosphere Reserve for a total of 77.1 km². The Core Areas are already protected by legislation, and include wilderness areas, nature reserves, provincial parks, a game sanctuary, land trusts and protected beaches.

BUFFER AREAS are made up of federal, provincial (Crown) lands, municipal lands, non-designated parks, lands set aside for long-term ecological monitoring and historic sites. Most of the Buffer Areas are the large areas of Crown (C2) lands that fall under Integrated Resource Management. Core and Buffer Areas are shown on the last page.

The Area of Cooperation extends to the perimeter of the Bras d'Or Lake watershed. It is the remainder of the Biosphere Reserve, where people live, work and play. Best stewardship practices will be promoted in this area.

When support is obtained from these sources, the Document will be submitted to the United Nations in Paris for their consideration of this area as one of 15 Biosphere Reserves in Canada.

Timing of Major Events:

The initial proposal for Biosphere Reserve was led by the Bras d'Or Preservation Society in 2002. By 2006 the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve Association was formed with a Board of Directors (volunteers and appointed) representing communities, groups and industry around the Lake. During the summers of 2007-08, 9000 information brochures were delivered to permanent and summer residents living around the Lake. The task of completing the Submission Document (a form document set by the UN) was started late in 2007. Local scientists, educators, historians, community leaders and interested individuals (all volunteers) rose to the occasion to ensure the document was completed accurately.

The document was tentatively submitted to the UN in the spring of 2009, however without the support of Inverness County, the document was withdrawn. It will be re-submitted when support from Inverness County and reserved support from Richmond County are achieved.

Public Participation:

Board meetings (open to the public) have been held in St Peters, Bras d'Or, West Bay, Johnstown, Iona, Baddeck, Beaver Cove, Sampsonville and Whycocomagh. Public meetings have also been held in Dundee and St. Georges Channel. Team members have made presentations on the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve concept to the four municipal councils and the Band Council Chiefs (more than once), to the Collaborative Environmental Planning initiative (CEPI)*, representatives of two Regional Economic Development Agencies, and to community groups. Team members have worked closely with the NS Department of Natural Resources to identify buffer areas, and with the NS Department of Environment as they defined core areas and prepared the large maps for the Document.

WHAT IS THE PROPOSED BRAS D'OR LAKE BIOSPHERE RESERVE?

The area proposed as the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve is 3566 km² in the central portion of Cape Breton Island. The area is defined by the perimeter of the watershed of the Bras d'Or Lake, and includes the Lake itself, which covers 1091.5 km².

Biosphere Reserves are comprised of three areas: Core Area(s), Buffer Area (s) and the Area of Cooperation.

A Biosphere Reserve is intended to serve three functions: promote conservation and sustainable economic development, and provide support for research and education. A Biosphere Reserve is established to promote and demonstrate a balanced relationship

Cape Breton Island has a complex bedrock geology and is reflective of the earth's chaotic history over a long period of geologic time. Because of the variety of rocks and minerals, and the resulting landforms, it is commonly said with pride: "Cape Breton is a geologist's paradise!".

DID YOU KNOW NORTH MOUNTAIN, CREIGNISH HILLS AND THE BOISDALE HILLS ARE KNOWN FOR EXTENSIVE MARBLE DEPOSITS? The lowlands around the Lake are important source rocks for industrial minerals including celestite, gypsum, anhydrite, salt potash, dolomite and limestone as well as occurrences of copper, lead and zinc.

Relatively steep hills (rising to 490 m elevation) in back of a narrow coastal plain provide topographic variety that includes elevated plateaus/tablelands, deep ravines, and bottom lands that have diverse forest mosaics. Much of the area is second growth successional forests resulting from extensive forest cutting in the past.



Forest at Johnstown

DID YOU KNOW BALD EAGLES FROM THE BRAS D'OR LAKE WATERSHED WERE TAKEN TO RE-ESTABLISH THE EAGLE POPULATION IN THE NORTHEASTERN UNITED STATES?

between humans and the biosphere (people living, working and enjoying in their environment).

The biosphere reserve concept can serve as a framework to reinforce projects already underway enhancing people's livelihoods and ensuring environmental sustainability. Work by the Ross Ferry Stewardship Society, the Stewards of River Denys Watershed Association and CEPI are good examples of such projects.

When designated, the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve becomes a member of the World Network of Biosphere Reserves. Integrated research and monitoring can be shared with other Biosphere Reserves within Canada and around the world. Scientific information is essential for policy makers and their constituents, informing them on environmental and developmental issues, as well as serving as a basis for broader global assessments, such as climate change.

THE LAND

The total land area of the proposed Biosphere Reserve is the 2474 km². The general boundary for the proposed Biosphere Reserve is the perimeter of the entire watershed of the Bras d'Or Lake. There are 19 areas within the watershed, which because they are ALREADY protected by legislation, are considered Core Areas. The Core Areas range in size from the Middle River Wilderness Area (53.47 km²) to Malcolm Cove Protected Beach (0.005 km²).

The core areas total 77.12 km² of the land based watershed. The total size of the Bras d'Or Lake watershed is 3566 km² including the Lake itself. Therefore, the core areas constitute 2.16% of the entire watershed or 3.1% of the land based portion of the watershed.

Buffer areas in the Bras d'Or model do not surround each core area, as one might expect, but instead include 614.6 km² of federal, provincial (Crown), municipal and private lands within the Bras d'Or Lake watershed in which sustainable activities are ALREADY taking place, long term ecological monitoring is taking place or land is designated a historical sites. The large areas (560.2 km²) of Category 2 (C2) Crown land fall under Integrated Resource Management (IRM). According to the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources, "IRM is a planning and decision making process that coordinates resource use so that long term sustainable benefits are optimized and conflicts among users are minimized. IRM includes planning for minerals, forests, recreation, wilderness, energy, wildlife and parks". Human activity, therefore, is NOT DENIED in "buffer" areas: these are integral parts of a biosphere reserve. Resource activities such as forestry and mining, and recreation and wilderness activities are coordinated to maximize benefits and minimize conflicts.

DID YOU KNOW THE BRAS D'OR LAKE IS APPROXIMATELY 2/3 AS SALTY AS THE ATLANTIC OCEAN? The Lake and its aquatic habitats support a distinctive mix of marine and freshwater fauna. Some species assemblages are associated with Arctic ecosystems, others with Virginian ecosystems.

St. Andrews Channel has a maximum depth of 280 m below sea level, while the average Lake depth is 30 m.

DID YOU KNOW THERE IS A 770 METRE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE HIGHEST POINT IN THE WATERSHED AND THE DEEPEST POINT IN THE LAKE?



Malagawatch - Submerging coastline - November 2008

DID YOU KNOW THE SHORELINE OF THE BRAS D'OR LAKE IS 1272 KM LONG, INCLUDING ISLANDS AND LAGOON SHORES OF THE LARGE COASTAL BARRIERS? - Shaw et. al, 2006. Well preserved, submerged coastal landforms in the Bras d'Or Lake may be potential targets for finding archaeological evidence of the early Mi'kmaq people in the area.

DID YOU KNOW THE BRAS D'OR LAKE FALLS UNDER 4 DIFFERENT MUNICIPAL JURISDICTIONS AND 5 FIRST NATIONS BANDS? These various political units work together in a group known as PITU'PAQ, a Mi'Kmaq word for "flowing into oneness".

The NewPage Port Hawkesbury lands, either set aside, or IRM managed lands account for 44.8 km² of the watershed, while non-designated parks, ecological monitoring sites, historic sites and municipal lands account for 9.6 km². Together, the buffer areas account for 24.8% of the land based portion of the Bras d'Or Lake watershed.

There is NO plan by the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve Association to increase either "Core" or "Buffer" Areas within the watershed. Future protected areas would be initiated by legislators.

THE LAKE

The Bras d'Or Lake (1091.5 km²) accounts for approximately 31% of the proposed Biosphere Reserve. Technically the Bras d'Or Lake is not a lake. It's an estuarine ecosystem with different salinities, temperature ranges, upwellings, downwellings and water circulation patterns. These variations occur because of the narrow links to the Gulf of St Lawrence and the Atlantic Ocean, a complicated bathymetry, low rates of flushing and varying freshwater inflows from four major subwatersheds on the western side of the Lake plus many other small subwatersheds.

The Bras d'Or Lake was created approximately 6000 years ago, when sea level overtopped a bedrock sill in the Great Bras d'Or Channel at about 25 metres below sea level, changing the Lake from fresh to salt water.

The coastline of the Bras d'Or Lake is 1272 km long, including the lagoon shores of the large coastal barrier beaches. The shoreline of the Bras d'Or Lake, as in the rest of Atlantic Canada, is a submerging coastline, due both to geologic processes and climate change. Scientists predict that the rate of modern sea level rise (-0.37 m/century) will increase to 60 cm/century by 2030 AD and 115 cm/century by 2100 AD. Based on the drowning of paleo-shores roughly 5000 years ago, they predict that complete destruction or submergence of barrier beaches may become frequent by 2030 AD and typical by 2045 AD.

There are no protected or Core Areas in the Lake, itself. The Lake is a major part of the Area of Cooperation.

OUR PEOPLE, CULTURE AND HERITAGE

The Mi'kmaq people have a long history (> 5000 years) in the Bras d'Or area. Early European fishers arrived in the 1500's. During the 1600's through to the mid 1700's the French were the dominant European presence on Cape Breton Island. By the late 1700's the Scots started to arrive. From this period through to the early 1900's farming was important in the watershed. Forests were cut for ship building; old giant white pine was cut for masts. Small ferries carried people from one shore to another. The Lake was

DID YOU KNOW THE BIGGEST FORESTRY OPERATOR IN THE WATERSHED HAS SEVERAL ENVIRONMENTAL AND QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS? New Page Port Hawkesbury is the only forest company in the world registered to FSC, CSA, SFI and ISO forest management standards, and this degree of rigor ensures our forests are managed to the highest standards possible. New Page Port Hawkesbury is an active supporter of the Bras d'Or Lake Biosphere Reserve proposal.

The Bras d'Or Lake is an internationally outstanding marine-ecosystem, while its dramatic watershed provides a landmass of unrivaled vistas, cherished history and natural assets fostering varied economic activity with aspiring potential for a lustrous future. The region's residents provide a rich, diverse, colourful heritage resulting in a delightful destination portrayed for the visitor and discriminating tourist. It's an area where the young and the-young-at-heart want to live and work, dance and play, relocate to and in due-course retire." - Vince MacLean, Washabuck

DID YOU KNOW GEORGIA-PACIFIC CANADA, WHICH OPERATES A GYPSUM MINE AT MELFORD, SIGNED A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH FIRST NATIONS CHIEFS AROUND THE LAKE? As a result, royalties are paid to support scientific research in the Bras d'Or Lake watershed. They also fund research for a Salmonid Management Zone in Glen Brook and enhanced habitat in Big Brook, both are tributaries of River Denys. Georgia-Pacific Canada is a supporter of the Biosphere Reserve concept.



Yellow Lady Slipper: Georgia - Pacific Melford site (2009).

the transportation route tying communities together.

From the 1830's major reservations of land were set aside for First Nations people as they changed their mode of life from migratory hunters and gatherers to living on small farms, fishing for oysters and making saleable handcrafts.

By the late 1800's, the Lake and area was becoming a major attraction for the developing tourist industry. Now communities host ceilidhs, festivals, concerts and other events to celebrate their culture, their talent and their place. These culminate with Celtic Colours, an international Celtic music festival held when fall colours are peaking.

Presently the permanent population of the Bras d'Or Lake watershed is approximately 14,600. Seasonal residents swell the population to approximately 32,000.

OUR PAST, AND A VISION FOR OUR FUTURE

Protecting the ecological integrity of the Bras d'Or Lake by embracing sustainable economic development has been the subject of discussion and focus of action by many organizations and initiatives over several decades.

Through its history, Cape Breton's culture, heritage and economy have been linked directly to its natural resources; mining, forestry, fishing and steel making. Within the resource based industries and during development projects such as road, golf course, tourist facility and residential construction there is great need to educate and abide by "best practices" or "good stewardship practices". The success of spreading and implementing new "stewardship" knowledge will sustain these activities well into the future.

Because our Bras d'Or, the "Jewel of Cape Breton", is an extraordinary body of water offering fine views, warm salt water swimming, pleasant summer temperatures and gentle breezes, it is coveted as a favourite summer retreat for residents of the Island, from the mainland, and from Europe and the United States. In many places this has resulted in "ribbon development" adjacent to the shoreline.

Over the last 15 years there has been a wide variety of Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO's) initiated to address important community and/or Lake wide issues. These include the Bras d'Or Stewardship Society, the Bras d'Or Preservation Foundation and the Middle River Watershed Society, among others. These groups working with government, have made a significant impact on sewage from boats, ballast water, on-site sewage disposal systems, wetland awareness, and are now looking at development guidelines for shoreline development.

Additional Reading:

A Community Guide to Canada's Biosphere Reserves at:
www.centrenature.qc.ca/pdf/ResBio/Biospherebrochure_E.pdf

Atlantic Geoscience Society, 2001. The Last Billion Years A Geological History of the Maritime Provinces of Canada, edited Fensome, R.A. and G.L. Williams, Special Publication No 15, Nimbus Publishing, 212 pages.

Nova Scotia Museum, 1996, Theme Regions: Natural History of Nova Scotia, Vol II, co published by the Province of Nova Scotia and Nimbus Publishing, 304 pages.

Parker, M., M. Westhead, P. Doherty and J. Naug. 2007. Ecosystem Overview and Assessment Report for the Bras d'Or Lakes, Nova Scotia, Canadian Manuscript Report of Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences.

Shaw, J., R.B. Taylor, E. Patton, D.P. Potter, G.S. Parkes, and S. Hayward, 2006, The Bras d'Or Lakes, Nova Scotia; Sensitivity of the Coasts of the Bras d'Or Lakes to Sea-level Rise, Geological Survey of Canada, Open File Report 5397, pgs 89.

Stewart, James E. (editor), 2002, Proceedings of the Nova Scotia Institute of Science, Halifax, Nova Scotia, Dalhousie Printing Centre, Volume 42, Part 1, 174 pages.

www.gov.ns.ca/natr/ for more information on Integrated Resource Management and the Natural Resource Strategy 2010.

www.uinr.ca For more information on the Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources (UI NR) and their publication "UI NR Marten".

The past few years witnessed growth of information technology enterprises along with related service industries. Tourism, especially with the expanding "cruise" tourist traffic centered in Sydney, has become a major industry on the Island with annual revenues totaling over 217 million dollars. Biosphere reserve designation will greatly enhance opportunities to link communities around the Lake with ecologically sensitive tourism activities.

The Bras d'Or Lake and watershed are recognized for their research potential, offering opportunities for local communities to work side by side with national and international researchers. The Unama'ki Institute of Natural Resources has undertaken several research initiatives to improve overall understanding, health and productivity of the Lake. In addition, the region has several educational facilities with programs relating to aquatic and general environmental sustainability, culture and history. Examples include the Bras d'Or Institute for Ecosystem Research at Cape Breton University (CBU), the Nautical Institute at Nova Scotia Community College, the Highland Village, the Gaelic College, the Aquatic Resources degree program at St. Francis Xavier University, and the Eco-Centre located in Whycomomagh's Community Education Centre.

Opportunities abound for collaboration on ecologically appropriate development projects in the proposed biosphere reserve. The people who choose to live on Cape Breton are often multi-skilled and able to put together a living from complementary sources of work. They recognize the value of a lifestyle that offers room for personal growth and community development. According to Victoria County's Strategic Plan (presently being updated), they see progress as including "the use of natural resources in ways that will not deplete them, creating sustainable, dignified employment, and building and maintaining healthy communities".

If you have any questions, comments and / or want to get involved with this project, please contact a BLBRA Board member at www.blbra.ca

* CEPI is the Bras d'Or Lakes Collaborative Environmental Planning Initiative

QUESTIONS ABOUT THE PROPOSED BIOSPHERE RESERVE

Q1. Who will administer the Biosphere Reserve (BR)?

The Biosphere Reserve may be administered by one of the following: the CEPI, the Bras d'Or Institute at Cape Breton University, or by the BLBRA; any one of these organizations already incorporating conservation, sustainable development, and capacity building (research, monitoring and education) in their programs.

Q2. How will the Biosphere Reserve, research and monitoring and educational programs be funded?

Environment Canada provides basic funding for all Biosphere Reserves in Canada. There are many other potential sources of funds through provincial and federal grants, private foundations, legacies, etc.

Q3. Will my property taxes increase if the BR designation proceeds?

Neither your property assessment nor your property tax will increase because your property is within the BR. There is the potential that sustainable development initiatives will increase the tax base of the area.

Q4. What benefit will the designation of a BR be to communities and residents in the watershed?

The BR Designation offers hope to reverse the out migration of young people, to bring young people back to a thriving rural economy where they can work and learn and support their families using a combination of our rich natural resources (forestry, mineral resources, small scale mixed farming), sustainability principles and high tech communication resources (high speed internet) supported by near-by research facilities at Cape Breton University, the Coast Guard College, Nova Scotia Community Colleges (Marconi College - Sydney, Nautical Institute - Port Hawkesbury), the Gaelic College, the Highland Village and several business colleges.

At the national level, the Bras d'Or Lake BR can serve as a demonstration site to explore and demonstrate approaches to conservation and sustainable development, providing lessons which can be applied elsewhere.

With a faltering world economy, this designation offers hope to maintain and perhaps grow tourist facilities in the area, as citizens and researchers from other parts of the country and other nations come to visit, study and observe in our "special place".

The reversal of youth out migration, and re-establishment of small farming initiatives may ultimately lead to growing fresh food markets and food security for the Cape Breton population.

This is an effort to not only maintain the beauty, culture and ecological integrity of this "special place" but to keep communities vibrant and sustainable. Sustainable economic development will provide the tax base for healthy, sustainable communities within and around the watershed.

Private woodlot owners may follow in the steps of NewPage and achieve forest certification as awareness of best available practical technologies becomes more common.

People may just want to say "I live in a world recognized special place, a UN Biosphere Reserve. It's a place where there will always be something to learn!".

Q5. Will natural resource development, tourist and recreational facilities, or industrial opportunities be hindered if this area is designated as a BR?

No. No additional laws or regulations come with the BR designation. Provincial regulations (e.g., environmental assessments) are already part of doing business in Nova Scotia. They will not be any different because a project is located in the BR. Efforts to stimulate economic growth will not be restricted by the BR designation.

A BR association is not an advocacy group. BR associations are neutral to the outcome, but an advocate for the process.

Q6. If my land is in the Bras d'Or Lake BR will my use of that land be restricted?

No. Activities (building construction, water course impacts, shoreline manipulation etc.) are already regulated by your municipal, provincial and federal laws. At the present time, NGO's are working with municipal governments to establish consistent development guidelines in order to protect the shoreline of the Lake against over development and erosion, and to protect residents and developers against the effects of climate change and rising sea level. If in the future there are any restrictions on your land, it will not be due to the BR designation, but to changes in municipal regulations.

As residents learn more about the best ways of doing "things", it is expected they will feel a "moral obligation" to be good stewards to their land.

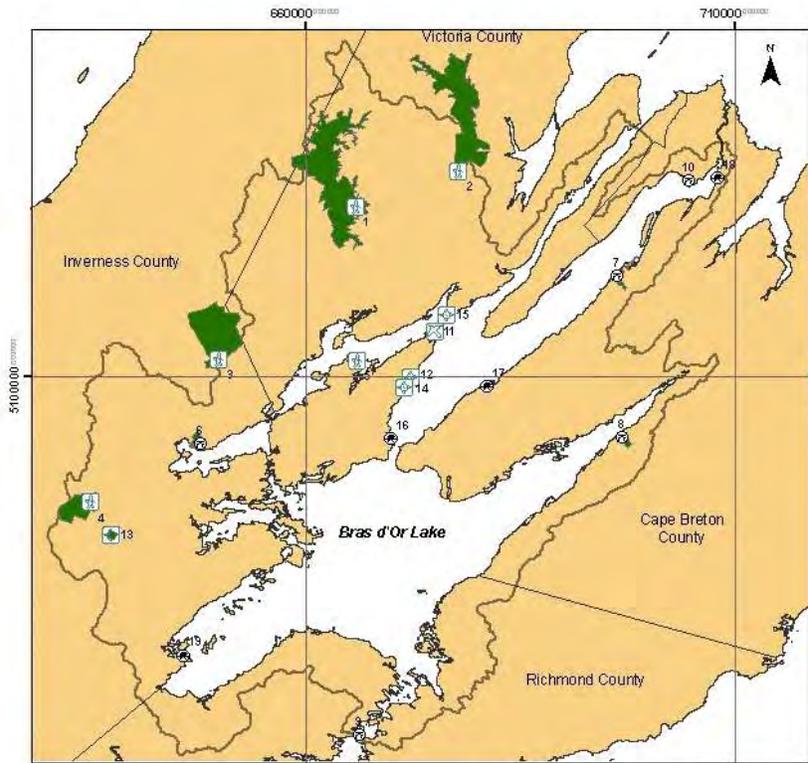
Q7. If the area is designated as a BR, will more wilderness areas be created, resulting in land being "sterilized" and therefore preventing new forestry and mining proposals from proceeding?

No. The designation of a Biosphere Reserve does not create new protected areas. More protected areas may be developed within the Biosphere Reserve but this is not a goal of the Biosphere Reserve Association.

Q8. How does the BR initiative relate to other initiatives around the Lake?

The administrators of the Biosphere Reserve will work with existing groups and organizations, toward greater stewardship of the Lake and watershed.

Core Areas

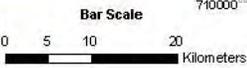


Legend

- Designated Core Areas
- Provincial Parks
- Wilderness and Nature Reserves
- Wildlife Sanctuary
- Land Trusts
- Protected Beaches
- Bras d'Or Lake - watershed boundary
- Basemap

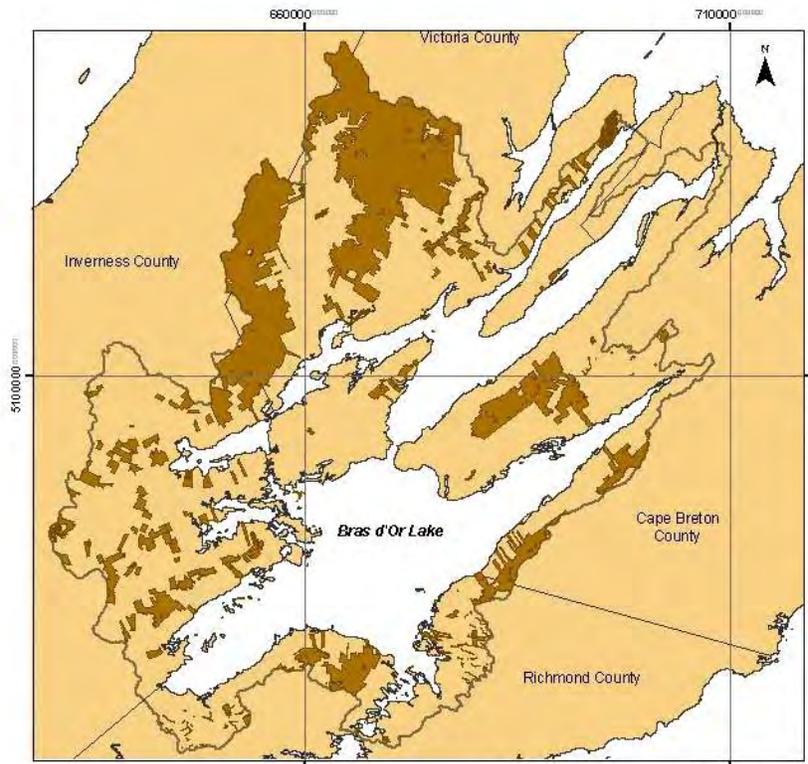
Site Name	Area (ha)
1 Middle River Wilderness Area	5347
2 North River Wilderness Area	554
3 Trout Brook Wilderness Area	216
4 Bornish Hill Nature Reserve	833
5 Was habuck River Nature Reserve	67
6 Whycoomagh Provincial Park	192
7 Barachois Provincial Park	118
8 Ben Eoin Provincial Park	89.5
9 Battery Point Provincial Park	15.5
10 Groves Point Provincial Park	4.6
11 Spectacle Island Game Sanctuary	13
12 Pony's Point Easements	142
13 Nature Conservancy of Canada	72
14 Boulaocet Farm Easement	36
15 Beinn Bhreagh Easement	4
16 Iona Protected Beach	4.5
17 Shenacadie Protected Beach	2.2
18 Christies Protected Beach	1.1
19 Malcolm Cove Protected Beach	0.5
TOTAL Area	7712

Bras d'Or Lake watershed boundary courtesy of Nova Scotia Department of Environment
 Wilderness area polygons courtesy of Department of Natural Resources
 Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
 Geoid: datum: NAD 83 CSRS UTM Zone 20



County basemaps downloaded from
 GeoNova Portal
 Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations
 Bras d'Or Lake
 Biosphere Reserve Association

Buffer Areas



Legend

- Buffer Areas
- Bras d'Or Lake - watershed boundary
- Basemap

Buffer Areas include:	Area (ha)
Crown Lands (C2 - IRM managed)	56,018
NPPH (IRM managed)	2,187
NPPH (lands set aside)	2,291
Provincial "Non-designated Parks"	831
EMAN site (Irish Cove)	100
Alexander Graham Bell Historic Site	10
St Peters Canal National Historic Site	6
Village of Baddeck - Kidston Island	17
TOTAL Area	61,460

NB: NPPH is NewPage Port Hawkesbury Ltd.

County basemaps downloaded from
 GeoNova Portal
 Service Nova Scotia and Municipal Relations

Bras d'Or Lake
 Biosphere Reserve Association

Bras d'Or Lake watershed boundary courtesy of Nova Scotia Department of Environment
 Buffer area polygons courtesy of Department of Natural Resources
 Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator
 Geoid: datum: NAD 83 CSRS UTM Zone 20

