



The Municipality of the County of Colchester Bird Habitat and Wetland Compensation Policy

Approved by Colchester County Council on August 30, 2012

The Municipality of the County of Colchester

Bird Habitat and Wetland Compensation Policy

PURPOSE:

In recent years, the Provincial government has increased its interest in protecting natural systems such as wetlands when development occurs. Compensation can take many forms. In some cases, the Municipality may own land with similar characteristics to the habitat being altered and which can be designated and held as compensating habitat.

The Municipality of the County of Colchester has created this Policy regarding Bird Habitat and Wetland Compensation as a mechanism to enable Council to formally designate land as an *Ecologically Significant Area*.

DEFINITIONS:

Ecologically Significant Area - means a tract of Municipally owned land zoned as “Park and Recreation Area”, or other non-development use, which is designated for conservation purposes.

Bird Habitat Compensation Site – means a site selected to ensure long-term survival of populations and habitats for various bird species.

Municipality – means the Municipality of the County of Colchester.

POLICY:

1. Council of the Municipality of Colchester may designate municipally owned property as an *Ecologically Significant Area* by motion of Council at a regular meeting of Council.
2. Decision to designate a parcel of land is not to be taken lightly. Under this Policy, Municipal lands designated as *Ecologically Significant Areas* will be held in perpetuity by the Municipality.
3. Once designated, the *Ecologically Significant Area* designation ensures that no activities that would alter or remove existing wetlands, bird habitat or disrupt bird activity, such as commercial/residential development, vehicle use, unnecessary removal of trees, watercourse disturbance/alteration, would occur.

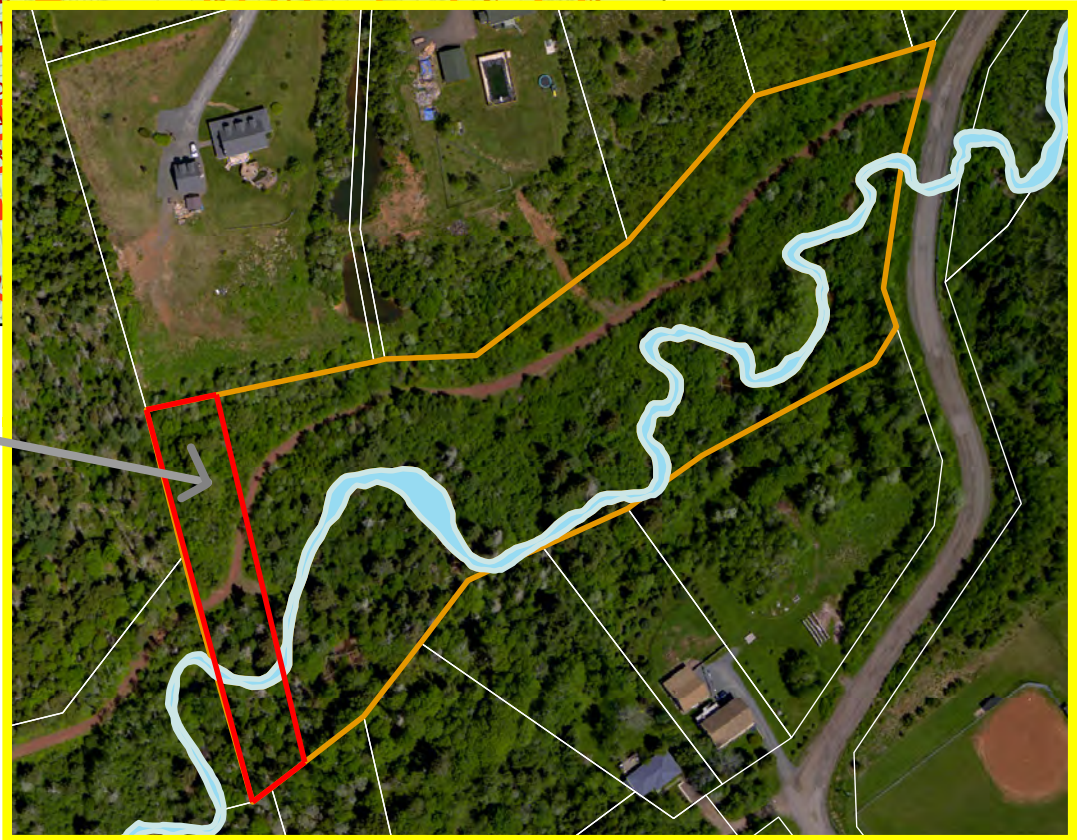
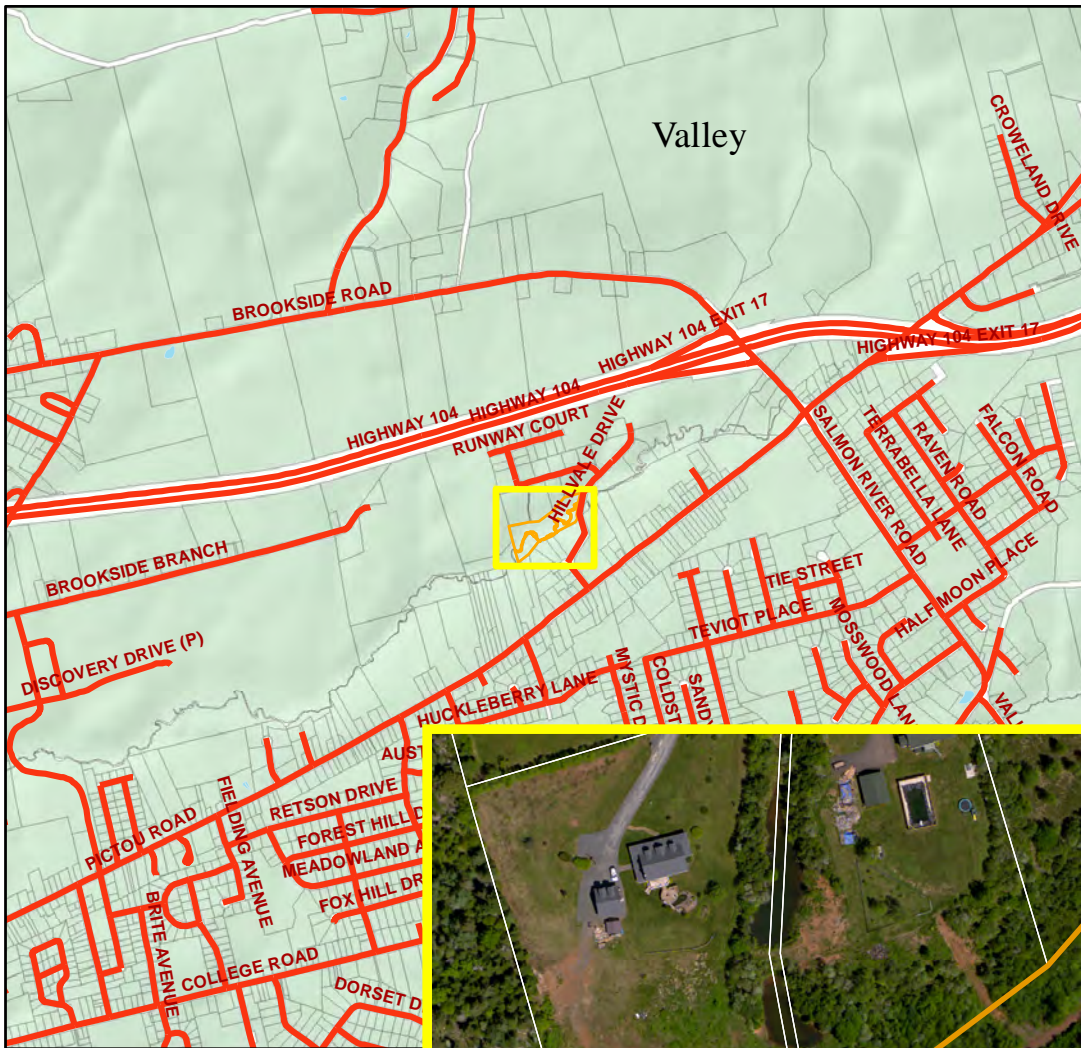
4. *Ecologically Significant Areas* may include passive recreation facility such as walking trails and interpretive signage that have minimal disruption to the natural habitat, yet allow for an educational component.
5. The Municipality will, from time to time, conduct maintenance to the site that is in keeping with accepted environmental practices. The purpose of regular maintenance is to ensure municipal infrastructure remains in good repair, that the forest remains in good health and to protect the health and safety of those who visit an *Ecologically Significant Area* and neighbouring properties.

ECOLOGICALLY SIGNIFICANT AREAS DESIGNATED UNDER THIS POLICY

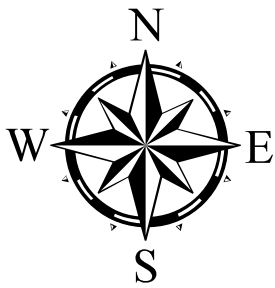
Bird Habitat Compensation Plan

1. The Municipality will designate a tract of land, 0.26 hectares in area, as depicted on Schedule A and identified as a portion of Property ID: 20317988, as an *Ecologically Sensitive Area* for the purpose of providing a habitat compensation site for the protection of bird habitat.

This habitat compensation fulfils a compensation measure identified in the Federal environmental assessment, which was a condition of the Federal funding for the Central Nova Civic Centre project in 2011/12.



Compensation Area



Bird Habitat Compensation Plan Truro Civic Center