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Canada



# Mingan Archipelago

National Park Reserve of Canada

## Management Plan 2014



Canada 



# The Parks Canada Charter

## OUR MANDATE

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations.

## OUR ROLE

We are guardians of the national parks, the national historic sites and the national marine conservation areas of Canada.

We are guides to visitors the world over, opening doors to places of discovery and learning, reflection and recreation.

We are partners, building on the rich traditions of our Aboriginal people, the strength of our diverse cultures and our commitments to the international community.

We are storytellers, recounting the history of our land and our people - the stories of Canada.

## OUR COMMITMENTS

To protect, as a first priority, the natural and cultural heritage of our special places and ensure that they remain healthy and whole.

To present the beauty and significance of our natural world and to chronicle the human determination and ingenuity which have shaped our nation.

To celebrate the legacy of visionary Canadians whose passion and knowledge have inspired the character and values of our country.

To serve Canadians, working together to achieve excellence guided by values of competence, respect and fairness.



Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada  
**2014 MANAGEMENT PLAN**

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Cataloguing in Publication by Library and Archives Canada  
Parks Canada  
Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada: Management Plan  
Also available in French under the title: Réserve de parc national de l'Archipel-de-Mingan: Plan directeur  
Includes bibliography  
ISBN: 978-1-100-98475-9  
Catalogue No. : R61-73/2012F

Printed on 50% recycled paper

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Front Cover Images  
Clockwise from top left: Flat-Petaled Yellow Lady's-Slipper, Nutashkuan and Parks Canada representatives, *Petite île au Marteau* lighthouse station, Visit of *île Quarry* ©Parks Canada



## Foreword

Canada's national historic sites, national parks and national marine conservation areas are part of a century-strong Parks Canada network which provides Canadians and visitors from around the world with unique opportunities to experience and embrace our wonderful country.

From our smallest national park to our most visited national historic site to our largest national marine conservation area, each of Canada's treasured places offers many opportunities to enjoy Canada's historic and natural heritage. These places serve as sources of inspiration, relaxation, learning and discovery.

As we plan for the years to come, we can encourage lasting connections to our heritage and promote our protected places to be enjoyed in ways that leave them unimpaired for present and future generations.

Our Government's vision is to build a culture of heritage conservation in Canada by protecting these irreplaceable places and offering Canadians exceptional opportunities to build personal connections with our natural and cultural heritage.

These values form the foundation of the new management plan for the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada. I offer my appreciation to the many thoughtful Canadians who helped to develop this plan, particularly to our dedicated team from Parks Canada, and to all those local organizations and individuals who have demonstrated their good will, hard work, spirit of co-operation and extraordinary sense of stewardship.

In this same spirit of partnership and responsibility, I am pleased to approve the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada Management Plan.

**Leona Aglukkaq**

Minister of the Environment and Minister responsible for  
Parks Canada



# Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada

## RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMENDED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan Latourelle', written over a horizontal line.

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Parks Canada

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Robin Lessard', written over a horizontal line.

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# Acknowledgements

We wish to thank the many individuals who participated in the development of the Management Plan

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## **Contribution of the Genuine Participation Pilot Experiment Committee with respect to the review of the Management Plan**

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Vincent Gerardin, Coordinator for *Regroupement Petapan Inc.*  
Ministerial Representatives of Parks Canada and Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada

## **We would also like to thank**

The members of the park management Follow-up Committee, the Nutashkuan and the Ekuanitshit First Nations members, as well as any other individuals and organizations who participated in the public consultation.



## Summary

This Management Plan proposes a new vision, key strategies and an action plan for the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve. The plan primarily defines and focuses on relations with the concerned Aboriginal communities, improving the National Park Reserve's national and international reputation in order to increase visitation, and the continued efforts influencing the integrity of the ecosystems and the conservation of cultural resources. Finally, the plan, developed in cooperation with the Nutashkuan Inuit community as well as municipal and regional stakeholders, lays the foundation for the protection and presentation of the park reserve's East sector.

Three key strategies providing strategic direction, divided by region, were developed in order to address the main challenges and opportunities facing the park reserve in the coming years. Each addresses the various aspects of Parks Canada's integrated mandate, and provides direction for the protection of natural and cultural resources, the facilitation of meaningful visitor experiences, outreach and public education. For each of the key strategies, objectives, actions and performance indicators have been proposed. An action plan has also been incorporated into this document.

1. A special relationship with the First Nations;
2. A nationally and internationally renowned National Park Reserve;
3. The park reserve which is the regional pride
4. A management approach specific to the East sector

There is no change in the zoning provided in the Management Plan. However, the national park reserve may modify it within the framework of newly acquired knowledge or in response to a new visitor experience offer, especially in the East sector.

Continued efforts shall be made over the next few years in order to achieve certain concrete results and improve several management aspects of the national park reserve, and meet Parks Canada performance objectives.

All these initiatives focus on creating a certain synergy that will stimulate the commitment to the national park reserve of residents of the Minganie region as well as the general population, thus ensuring its sustainability.



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## Introduction

On behalf of the people of Canada, Parks Canada manages a vast network of national parks, national historic sites and national marine conservation areas. The Agency is proud of these heritage sites and protects and presents these nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage, and fosters public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure the ecological and commemorative integrity of these places for present and future generations. In accordance with the National Parks Act (2000) and the Parks Canada Agency Act (1998), Parks Canada must produce a Management Plan for each of the heritage places under its responsibility. This Management Plan is the key accountability document for the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve to the Canadian public. It has already been approved and tabled in Parliament by the Minister of Environment.

The management plan was drafted following consultation with employees, regional Innu communities, the follow-up committee, Parks Canada's partners and the general public. These consultations allow stakeholders to exercise their right to an effective voice regarding the future direction of the park reserve.

The management plan also provides a framework for future decision making. It describes how Parks Canada, the Innu communities, the stakeholders and the general public should collaborate in order to manage the park reserve for the long term. The plan also provides a clear strategic orientation for the management of the park reserve by presenting a vision for the next 15 years, key strategies, objectives and an action plan.

This management plan contributes to the achievement of Parks Canada's vision, which reads as follows: "Canada's treasured natural and historic places will be a living legacy, connecting hearts and minds to a stronger, deeper understanding of the very essence of Canada".

The management guidelines presented in this management plan, ensure that any measures taken are consistent with Parks Canada's mandate, laws and policies. The management plan also demonstrates the effective use of public funds in the park reserve management by providing the means to monitor and measure the effectiveness of actions found in the plan. It will guide the development of the park reserve business plan.

Annual implementation reporting will monitor progress towards achieving the actions set forth in the management plan. Through the activities of the Follow-up Committee, the promotion of continuous dialogue between partners and stakeholders will be maintained.

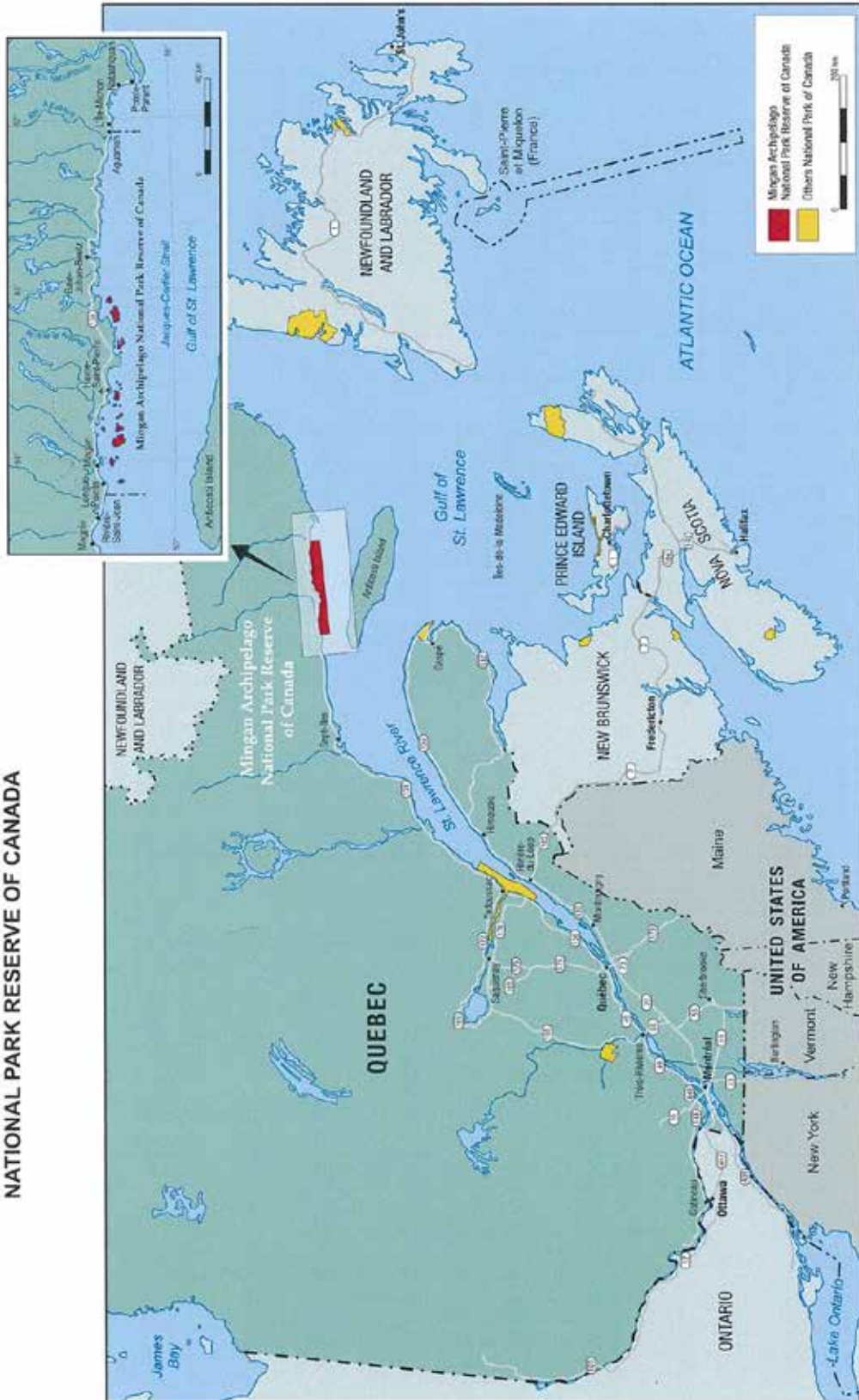
## 1. The purpose and the importance of the park reserve

Since its creation in 1984, the aim of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada has been to safeguard in perpetuity a natural area of Canadian interest representative of the East St. Lawrence Lowlands natural region within the Canadian national parks network. The East sector of the park reserve is part of the East Coast Boreal Natural Region, the easternmost part of the Canadian Shield.

The Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve is located in Eastern Quebec, along the northern shore of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, between Anticosti Island and Quebec's Middle North Shore. This insular territory of approximately 100 km<sup>2</sup> is comprised of 20-some islands and approximately 1,000 coastal islets that extend over more than 150 km between île aux Perroquets to the west and the Aguanish River to the east.



**LOCATION OF MINGAN ARCHIPELAGO  
NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA**





The park reserve is located across from five coastal municipalities: Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan, Mingan-Ekuanitshit (Mingan), Havre-Saint-Pierre, Baie-Johan-Beetz and Aguanish, for a total population of approximately 4,500. Although the Innu community of Nutashkuan (Pointe-Parent) is not situated directly across from the park reserve, the First Nations have a territorial link with the East sector, owing to the comprehensive land claim by the Innu accepted by Canada in 1979. Furthermore, a large part of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve is situated within the Nitassinan of Nutashkuan, as presented in the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature (APGN)*.

The park reserve is recognized across the country as having the largest grouping of erosion monoliths, important fossiliferous sites and unique ecological environments.

The combination of the northerly maritime climate of the region, the limestone and granitic nature of the rock, and the omnipresence of the ocean all work together to provide an ideal habitat for some very unique and rare plants that manage to grow in the most unlikely places. Forests, dominated by balsam fir, some 488 species of vascular plants, 315 species of bryophytes and over 190 species of lichens, provide a broad range of vegetation. The Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve is also home to a great number of rare plants. Some of the species contribute to the world-renowned reputation of the park reserve, such as the Mingan Thistle, the Laurentian Dandelion and the Sparrow's Egg Lady's Slipper.

Furthermore, approximately 200 bird species use the park reserve. In spring, passerines and birds of prey bring the interior of the islands to life. Over 80,000 large seabird colonies nest in the islands, including the highest concentration of Terns and Common Eiders in the Gulf of St. Lawrence. There are two migratory bird sanctuaries in the park reserve: Betchouane and Watshishou. The park reserve also receives thousands of migrating shorebirds in the summer, notably the Red Knot *rufa*, a species that is on the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada's (COSEWIC) endangered species list since July 2012. The isolation and insular character of the park reserve limits the presence of land mammals. Nonetheless, more than 20 species can be found within its limits. The most common are the Red Fox and the Snowshoe Hare. Numerous marine mammals inhabit the waters around the archipelago, including two whale species and three seal species.

The history of human occupation in the *Minganie* region, intimately connected to the island and marine ecosystems, testifies to the long standing presence of Aboriginal peoples, Europeans (Basque, French and Jerseyan), Acadians and Canadians. Today, various cultural communities still live in close connection with the park reserve. They mainly use the islands for

recreation and practice some of their traditional activities, such as snaring hares and camping.

## The West Sector

The West sector of the park reserve spans from île aux Perroquets to île Sainte-Geneviève, and is characterized by its sedimentary bedrock. The landscape of the West sector is the result of eroded stratified limestone. It features low plateaus scattered with ancient raised beaches, former sea cliffs, spectacular monoliths and present-day sea cliffs sculpted by the Gulf waters. These rocky formations, the St. Lawrence Lowlands plateaus date back nearly 450 million years. This sector also contains several fossils, including some of the first coral reefs. The large islands contain disparate habitats, producing an amazing diversity of plant and animal species. The Betchouane bird sanctuary is located in this sector.

On the mainland, visitors are welcomed at the Visitor Reception and Interpretation Centres located at Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan (in partnership with Mingan Island Cetacean Study) as well as at Havre-Saint-Pierre (in partnership with the municipality of Havre-Saint-Pierre). The reception services and the information services are offered from the beginning of June until mid-September.

Within the Mingan Archipelago, thirteen islands feature various facilities, of which half of them offer activities to day visitors and campers alike (individuals or groups). Visitors can hike along the islands' shorelines, as well as on nature trails. Petite île au Marteau is accessible to persons with reduced mobility. Île aux Perroquets and Petite île au Marteau both have lighthouse stations.

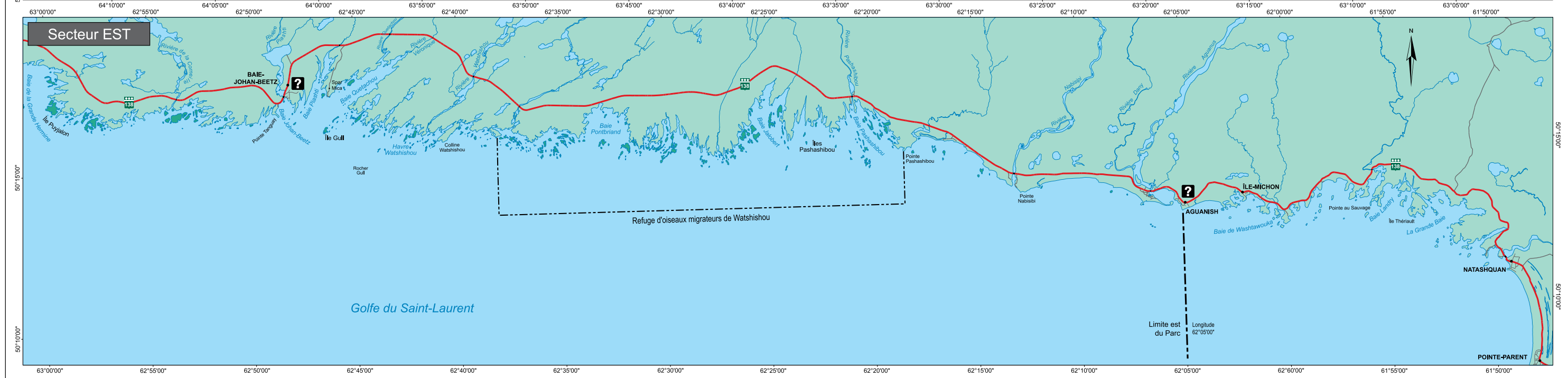
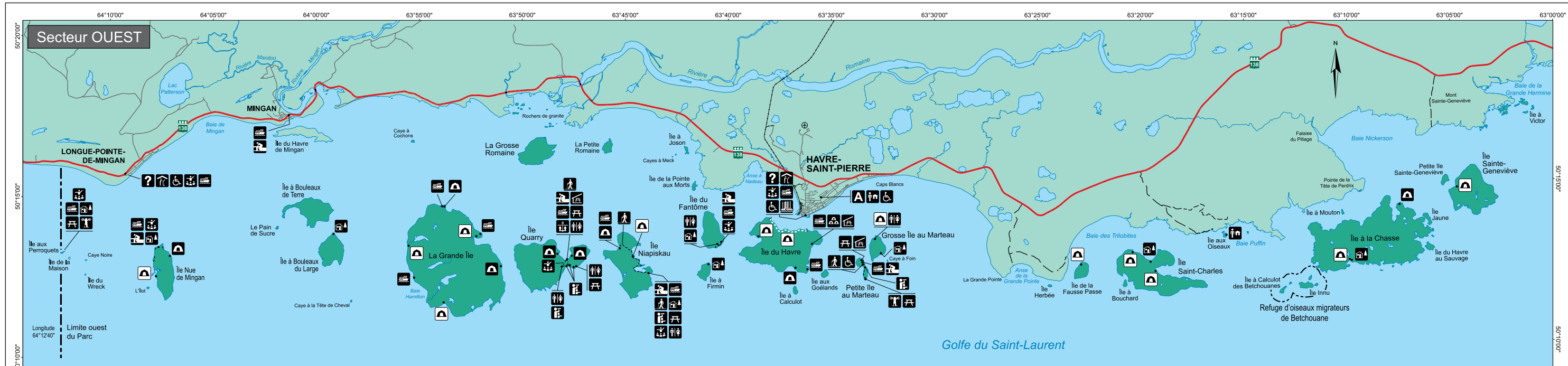
Visitors can travel to islands via maritime transport companies that have service agreements with the park reserve that specify the terms of use and predetermined schedules. Some offer departures from Havre-Saint-Pierre, while others dock at Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan.



**UTILISATIONS ACTUELLES**  
**RÉSERVE DE PARC NATIONAL DU CANADA**  
**DE L'ARCHIPEL-DE-MINGAN**

**CURRENT USE**  
**MINGAN ARCHIPELAGO**  
**NATIONAL PARK RESERVE OF CANADA**

**E ITAPASHTAKANIT ANUTSHISH**  
**NE PAK, KANATA ASSIT, KA ISHINKATAKANITI**  
**EKUANITSHIU-MINISHTIKUA**



<p>--- Limite de la réserve de parc national du Canada de l'Archipel-de-Mingan Boundary of Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada Nete eshpishat ne pak ka ishinkataniiti Ekuanitshiu-minishtikua</p> <p>--- Refuge d'oiseaux migrateurs Migratory Bird Sanctuary Anite teueht missipat(shishipat) kie nishkat</p>	<p> Centre d'accueil et d'interprétation Visitor Reception and Interpretation Centre Mitshuap ka ashuapamaniht maniteuat kie ka uapatianiakniht tshekuannu</p> <p> Départ ou escale des bateaux Tour Boat Departure or Stop Uet tshishipaniht kie akumuht ishkueteu-utat</p> <p> Débarcadère Wharf Pakupeutshikan</p> <p> Marina Marina Akumunan</p>	<p> Mouillage pour bateaux de plaisance Pleasure Craft Anchorage Area Ka akumuht ishkueteu-utissat</p> <p> Abri d'urgence Emergency Shelter Mitshuap ka akushimunanit</p> <p> Poste de garde Warden Station Mitshuap ka nakatuapapenanit</p> <p> Phare Lighthouse Katepuatitshet</p>	<p> Belvédère Lookout Anite e ashteieshkushinanit</p> <p> Sentier pédestre Hiking Trail Meshkanau tshe papamutenanit</p> <p> Bureau administratif Administrative Office Mashinaikanitshuap ka tshitapakaniti mashinaikana</p> <p> Camping Camping E kutikuninanit</p>	<p> Camping traditionnel pour résidents Traditional Camping for Residents Tshe kutikuniht auentshenat miam ueshkat</p> <p> Camping de groupe Group Camping Tshe kutikuniht mitsheht auentshenat</p> <p> Aire de pique-nique Picnic Area Anite tshe mitshishunanit</p> <p> Abri-cuisine Kitchen Shelter Mitshishutshuap</p>	<p> Toilette Washroom Mishutshuap</p> <p> Activités d'interprétation Interpretive Activities Tshekuan eshi-uapatiniunenit</p> <p> Accès aux personnes handicapées Access for Disabled People Tshe ishi-pitushkat ka massishisht auentshenat</p>	<p> Parcs Canada Parks Canada</p> <p>Projection cartographique Mercator Transverse Modifiée Système de référence géodésique NAD83</p> <p>0 1 2 4 6 8 km</p>
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## The East Sector

The East sector consists of a chain of islands and islets that spans from Petite île Sainte-Geneviève to the Anguianish River. This sector, otherwise known as the islands of the Canadian Shield, with massive areas of crystalline rock exposes an impressive diversity of geological and geomorphical phenomena. The landscapes are characterized by many small, low-lying, granitic islands mainly covered by heaths, and are among the most fragile areas of the park reserve.



East Sector

© Parks Canada

The East sector has a vegetation cover that is generally reserved for Nordic regions. Often treeless, the islands and islets covered by low vegetation contribute to the unique atmosphere of this region, an important part of the visitor experience. Although less diversified, this sector of the park reserve harbours 30 species that are not found on the islands of the West sector. The Watshishou migratory bird sanctuary, created in 1925, protects colonies of nesting seabirds and occupies a large area of the East sector. Within the sanctuary, we can find an abundance of nesting seabirds, such as the Common Eider, Terns, Gulls and Cormorants.

Two Tourist Information offices, located in the towns of Baie-Johan-Beetz and Aguanish, managed in partnership with the respective municipalities, provide reception services and offer information to the region's visitors. No other services for self-guided or organized tours of the islands and islets are offered in the East sector. Nonetheless, it holds potential for a variety of visitor experiences through collaboration and partnership with the local people and the Innu community. The Innu are closely associated with the occupation and use of Nitassinan and to the special bond they have with the land.

## 2. Planning context

### 2.1 Summary of the State of the Park Reserve

As part of the revision of the management plan, a report on the state of the park reserve was completed in 2011. This report provides an indication of the current state of the protected area in relation to the expected results in the areas of conservation of heritage resources, external relations and visitor experience. It also specifies what measures have been taken in order to maintain or improve the state of the park as well as the application of management measures outlined in the 2005 management plan.

The primary findings of the report on the state of the park reserve are as follows:

- The park reserve's ecological integrity monitoring program monitors the condition of the five major ecosystems: the forest, coastal ecosystem, barren, wetlands and Precambrian islets. Thus far, the forest is the only ecosystem for which we have been able to determine the level of ecological integrity. The park reserve's forests are in good and stable condition. The condition of the coastal environment, the barrens and the wetlands could not be established because some of the identified measures had not yet been implemented. Furthermore, the measures to evaluate the state of the Precambrian archipelago have not yet been defined.
- The potential cultural resources and the applicable management practices were rated as fair.
- In terms of external relations, we are well aware of who is using the website as well as the schools and local community members who are visiting the park. However, the park reserve must set objectives and develop strategies to better reach these markets as well as those of large urban centres so that they appreciate and support the heritage places administered by Parks Canada. In terms of stakeholder and partner engagement, the target audiences have been identified, and the park reserve receives considerable support.
- The total visitation of the park reserve was 34,874 in 2009. The number of visitor-tourists decreased from approximately 20,000 in 2005 to about 16,000 in 2009, confirming a downward trend that began in 2003. In contrast, visits from residents increased from 9,702 in 1997 to 18,810 in 2009. The visitors are very satisfied with their overall visit, the staff, the activities and the services offered.



## 2.2 Key Accomplishments since the Inception of the 2005 Management Plan

Significant progress has been made since the implementation of the 2005 Management Plan. Most of the actions were completed in cooperation with regional organizations.

The key achievements over the past five years include the following:

- The creation of the “Islands in the Sea” exhibit and the enhancement of the reception facility at the Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan Visitor Reception and Interpretation Centre in cooperation with the Mingan Island Cetacean Study.
- The implementation of a visitor centre and interpretation infrastructure in a multi-purpose building (*Portail Pélagie-Cormier*) in partnership with the municipality and the *Port de Havre-Saint-Pierre*.
- The establishment of visitor reception services in the East sector, in the municipalities of Baie-Johan-Beetz and Aguanish (joint information and visitor centres).
- The introduction of a scientific program for monitoring the ecological integrity of the park’s main ecosystems and the implementation of monitoring used to determine the state of a number of the park’s important natural resources.
- The hosting of international cruise ships at the Havre-Saint-Pierre port.
- The rehabilitation of the Petite île au Marteau lighthouse station and the planning for the île aux Perroquets lighthouse station renovations.
- The creation of a liaison officer position in order to facilitate engagement and collaboration with the First Nations in the region.
- The presentation of Innu cultural activities with the Ekuanitshit First Nation.
- The construction of the *Maison de la culture innue* in Ekuanitshit.

## 2.3 Working with First Nations Peoples

The Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve is a reserve because it is subject to land claims on behalf of the Nutashkuan and Ekuanitshit First Nations.

For nearly 30 years, the Nutashkuan First Nation has been negotiating the effects and the manner in which aboriginal or indigenous rights are to be exercised, including their Aboriginal Title, on the affected territory, as described and mapped in the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature*, signed by the Nutashkuan First Nation, and the Governments of Canada and Québec in March 2004. A part of the Nitassinan of the Nutshkuan First Nation overlaps with the park reserve. This context enables the creation of strong relationships and the continued development of close cooperative efforts with the Nutashkuan for the presentation of the park reserve, and in particular, for the East sector.



Nutashkuan and Parks Canada representatives

One of the chapters in the *Agreement-in-Principle of General Nature* deals specifically with the park reserve. These articles provide for the creation of the Mingan Archipelago National Park that will replace its current park reserve status. This section also provides for “a privileged relationship distinctive from that applicable to other stakeholders for the creation and management of Mingan Archipelago National Park”, and the negotiation of an *Impact and Benefit Agreement (IBA)* covering the park reserve. The agreement was in fact negotiated in 2007-2008. Some components of the agreement have yet to be finalized and will come into force on the date the treaty is signed. Since December 2009, the park reserve and the *Regroupement Petapan Inc.* have been participating in a pilot project concerning the Nutashkuan community’s actual contribution to each step of the park reserve management plan review process.





With regard to the global land claims of the Ekuanitshit First Nation, no *Agreement-in-Principle* has been completed between the federal and provincial governments and the Ekuanitshit First Nation. However, since the creation of the park reserve in 1984, the Innu community has submitted several briefs outlining its concerns about the community's rights, aspirations and needs.

In 2010, Parks Canada, Canada Economic Development, and Indian and Northern Affairs Canada jointly invested 2.5 million dollars to support the creation of the *Maison de la culture innue* in Ekuanitshit. As such, the project will provide the members of the Ekuanitshit community a place to share their culture, while showcasing the Innu language and the close ties that unite them to the Mingan Islands. The *Maison de la culture innue* will offer authentic and inspiring experiences within a community willing to share its everyday culture.

## 2.4 Working with the community

Parks Canada works with the community to fulfil its mandate. Such collaboration is based on establishing and maintaining harmonious relations that will bring about a shared vision concerning protection, education and visitor experience.

The Follow-up Committee has played an advisory role for park management since June 2002. The committee is composed of representatives from , *MRC de Minganie*, municipalities, boat operators, *Port de Havre-Saint-Pierre*, Mingan Island Cetacean Study, *Conseil régional de l'environnement de la Côte-Nord*, *Comité ZIP Côte-Nord du Golfe*, and Ekuanitshit and Nutashkuan First Nations.

Parks Canada is also working with the *Corporation de l'Île aux Perroquets*, an organisation with the goal of restoring and managing the buildings at the lighthouse station located on île aux Perroquets. This non-profit organization was created thanks to the support of both the municipality of Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan and the *MRC de Minganie*.

## 2.5 Species at risk

The park reserve plays an important role in the protection of several species that are at risk. The Mingan Archipelago is home to the Red Knot (subspecies *rufa*), a species that is on the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada's (COSEWIC) endangered species list since July 2012. A significant proportion of the global population of this subspecies uses several of the park reserve's reef flats as migratory staging grounds in the summer where they replenish their energy. Thus, the park reserve is a very important habitat for the Red Knot.



Juvenile Red knot *rufa*

© Christophe Buidin

Discovered in 1924 by Brother Marie-Victorin, the Mingan Thistle, aka the Meadow Thistle, is a species that, in Quebec, can only be found in the park reserve. This plant species is listed as being at risk under Quebec's *Act respecting threatened or vulnerable species*. Elsewhere in Canada, it occupies only a small area in the extreme southern regions of Alberta and British-Columbia. A program to restore the Mingan Thistle population was initiated in 2001, which focused on improving the number of plants in the colonies that were most at risk. The Mingan Thistle is also featured in various educational activities.

Other species with an official designation under the *Species at Risk Act*, such as the Harlequin Duck, the Short-Eared Owl, the Olive-Sided Flycatcher, the Rusty Blackbird and the Peregrine Falcon, occasionally frequent the park reserve. Their presence contributes to the park reserve being nationally and internationally recognized as an important conservation area

## 2.6 Ecological Integrity Monitoring Program

An ecological integrity monitoring program for the park reserve is progressively being implemented. It involves monitoring the state of the park reserve's five major ecosystems: the forest, coastal environment, heaths, peatlands and Precambrian islets (islands and islets of the East sector). These ecosystems are the indicators selected to assess ecological integrity. For each indicator, a series of measures specify the conditions and changes of the characteristic features of the ecosystem under study.

The measures were selected using the ecological framework that Parks Canada developed for the monitoring program. This framework has three components: biodiversity, processes and stressors. The measures were selected to provide an overall assessment of the state of the ecological integrity of ecosystems. When most of the measures are in a particular state (good, fair or poor), the indicator (ecosystem) will reflect that condition.



Since the monitoring system is recent, many of the ecosystem's measures lack data. As a result, the state of these ecosystems (indicators) is not rated. A number of planned monitoring projects are currently underway or scheduled for implementation over the next few years. Furthermore, Parks Canada is currently reviewing the entire monitoring program.

## 2.7 Visitor Experience

The *Minganie* region offers major attractions for adventure seekers and ecotourism enthusiasts on a quest for tranquility, encounters with the exotic, natural landscapes and cultural experiences. In this respect, the park reserve is a major draw of visitors to the region. Since 2008, Havre-Saint-Pierre is also recognized as a stopover port for international cruise lines that are recognized for the discovery of St. Lawrence.



Interpretive activity, *île du Fantôme*

© Parks Canada/Jacques Pleau

During the high season, from June to September, the park reserve hosts over 30,000 visits, of which more than 50% are from nearby coastal municipalities. However, visitors who have their own boats can access the park reserve on a year round basis.

There are many unique opportunities for hiking on nature trails or around the islands, camping on serviced and unserviced campsites, enjoying a good picnic, participating in the various interpretation activities both on the mainland and on the islands, or just sitting back to contemplate the beauty of the landscape. There is a permanent exhibit at Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan as well as a temporary one at Havre-Saint-Pierre available to visitors.

In addition to its natural attractions, the park reserve is also home to two lighthouse stations located on Petite île au Marteau, near Havre-Saint-Pierre, and on île aux Perroquets, near Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan, respectively. Fisheries and Oceans Canada owns both lighthouses (the towers themselves), and are subject to a five-year renewable interdepartmental agreement, aimed to promote the use of government resources in general within the

mandate of each site. In accordance with the intention expressed in the agreements, Parks Canada has full use and enjoyment of these lighthouse stations. Parks Canada and the local communities have recognized the importance of presenting these two stations to the public.

## 2.8 External Relations

The outreach program is designed to reach Canadians wherever they are – at home, during their recreational activities, in the schools and in their communities. It helps to create a sense of connection to the national parks and secures a place of importance in the lives of Canadians. It features learning opportunities aimed at improving understanding and appreciation of our heritage by Canadians.

Since the creation of the park reserve, significant efforts have been made to reach the Mingan youth by way of school programs. The programs are aimed at elementary students in grades 2, 4 and 6, including students from the Innu communities. Various means of communication and activities are organized to keep the local population informed about the national park reserve's ongoing projects as well as its achievements.

As the Internet and new media are rapidly continuing to be more prominent in everyday life, and to reach new audiences, the park reserve has taken steps to develop new tools adapted to this reality. Parks Canada places more emphasis on relations with the media. The park reserve receives several requests for articles in magazines or for permission to film television clips, documentaries, short films, as well as feature films. These opportunities allow the park reserve to be known to a wider audience, especially in large urban centres.



## 2.9 Engaging Stakeholders and Partners

Engaging stakeholders and partners is achieved by inviting interested citizens and organizations to get involved in activities that are related to the park reserve.

Parks Canada seeks to work in close collaboration with local communities and all citizens to accomplish its mandate through an integrated effort. Parks Canada also envisions developing opportunities for members of local communities to get involved through volunteer work and other activities. For example, for the last three years, the park reserve has been organizing a seashore cleanup, in collaboration with regional organizations to encourage the local population to actively participate in the protection of the environment.

The park reserve has a number of scientific partnerships with federal and provincial agencies and departments, researchers and educational institutions. These partnerships were formed for the purpose of setting up an ecological integrity monitoring program, maintaining or improving the state of the ecosystems and informing Canadians about the park reserve's resources. The park reserve also collaborates with departments or organizations involved in public safety and protection of resources.

It also collaborates on subjects of shared interest with various local organizations who are members of the Follow-up Committee, such as the Nutashkuan and the Ekuanitshit First Nations, the *MRC de Minganie*, the municipalities of Longue-Pointe-de-Mingan, Havre-Saint-Pierre, Baie-Johan-Beetz and Aguanish, the *Comité ZIP Côte-Nord du Golfe*, the Canada Economic Development, the *Société d'aide au développement des collectivités de la Côte-Nord*, the *Conseil régional de l'environnement de la Côte-Nord*, the *Centre Local d'emploi de la Minganie*, local Citizens Committees, *Association chasse et pêche de Havre-Saint-Pierre*, boat operators and the Mingan Island Cetacean Study.

## 2.10 Key Issues and Challenges

This section discusses the key issues and challenges for the park reserve. These are largely extracted from the State of the Park Report (2011).

### Collaboration with First Nations

- Maintain and develop good relations with the First Nations, particularly in terms of ou regarding traditional practices (Innu Aitun).
- Increase the economic and social impacts related to the presence of the park reserve to the First Nations.

- Integrate Innu knowledge and experience into initiatives that will promote their cultural values.

### East sector

- Acquire knowledge about the ecosystems and cultural resources.
- Increase protection, educational, and visitor experience initiatives in collaboration and partnership with local municipalities and the Nutashkuan community.
- Ensure that the development of the sector is consistent with the maintenance of the ecological integrity.



Monitoring of rare plants

© Parks Canada

### Ecological Integrity

- Implement the revised ecological integrity monitoring program.
- Ensure adequate protection of the park reserve's most fragile resources.
- Improve understanding of the effects of climate change on the park reserve's ecosystems.

### Cultural Resources

- Develop knowledge of the park reserve's cultural resources.
- Maintain the condition of the main known cultural resources, namely the Aboriginal vestiges.
- Complete the restoration and the presentation of the lighthouse stations.
- Prepare a Statement of Values of the Cultural Resources of the national park reserve in order to better manage them.



### Community Support

- Maintain and develop relations with partners, and capitalize on opportunities for collaboration and partnership.
- Encourage participation of the local population, including the Innu communities with on-site projects.

### Visitation

- Increase the number of visitors.
- Increase understanding of visitor market and develop experience opportunities meeting their needs and expectations.
- Develop promotional activities in order to reach this public.

## 3. A New Vision

The new vision describes the general long-term direction of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada. This vision is compelling and inspiring in order to clarify the values, representative characteristics, and specificities of the park reserve. It is a projection of where it should be in 15 years in terms of its conservation of heritage resources, its educational initiatives, and visitor experience.

### *Daughters of the Sea, Daughter of Fire*

*« The North Shore is the daughter of fire, the granitic rim of the American continental core, while the Mingan Islands are daughters of the sea: they are fragments, pieces of an ancient land slowly deposited in the bottom of the oceans... »*

**Brother Marie-Victorin**



*Anse des érosions, île Quarry*

© Parks Canada

### In 2028

The Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve protects and presents the gems of the Eastern St. Lawrence Lowlands region and the East Coast Boreal region of the Canadian Shield. The islands are renowned for their unusually shaped monoliths, large seabird colonies and unique plant life.

The first to step foot on these islands were the First Nations people, who have used them for thousands of years. Respecting their traditional rights, Parks Canada maintains a special relationship with the Innu communities of Nutashkuan and Ekuanitshit. Drawing upon their culture, their knowledge, and their experience on the land, the Innu directly participate in the protection and development of the park reserve, generating social and economic benefits for their communities.

The park reserve is an important tourist draw for Quebec's North Shore. Every year, an increasing number of visitors experience the islands in a memorable and meaningful manner that reflects visitor interests and expectations. The visitors stop at one of the Visitor Reception and Interpretation Centres, where courteous staff helps them plan their stay. They take this opportunity to visit exhibits featuring the archipelago's major attractions. Since opportunities for experiences vary from one island to another and the ways for discovering them are equally variable, many visitors take a few days to enjoy the island atmosphere. They leave delighted to have gazed at spectacular landscapes, to have taken the time to discover natural and historic treasures, and to have safely explored this unique scenery. These experiences help them to develop a personal connection with the park reserve and its resources.

The islands are deeply ingrained in the hearts and the past of the residents of the Minganie region. They are a place to reflect, relax, and have fun. At these sites, the residents organize and participate in activities that meet their needs while helping to achieve Parks Canada's mandate. Their experiences strengthen their sense of connection to the park reserve.



The ecosystems, of which the heaths and the coastal environment are among the most fragile, are protected to ensure that they are left intact for present and future generations. Thanks to effective management measures, visitors are able to discover, enjoy, and understand the park reserve's ecosystems. The rare plants and seabird colonies are faring well. Among the cultural resources, the lighthouse stations are in good condition. Canadians enjoy these protected places, learn about the resources on these sites, and understand the importance of the park reserve's role. People from large urban centres learn more about the park reserve through direct and virtual experiences.

The First Nations, numerous partners and stakeholders are involved in achieving Parks Canada's mandate. Such collaboration is based on harmonious relations and a shared vision concerning protection, education, and visitor experiences. A variety of businesses help enrich visitor experience offer by providing transportation to the islands, accommodation, food services, and interpretation activities.

## 4. Management Approach

This section deals with key strategies (strategic direction) that are essential for the vision of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada. Three key strategies as well as a specific management approach have been developed.

### 4.1 Key Strategies

#### 4.1.1 A Special Relationship with the First Nations

Two Aboriginal communities are located in the outlying areas of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve: the Nutashkuan and Ekuanitshit Innu First Nations. Their traditional lands, their respective Nitassinan, overlap with the park reserve islands.

Distinct relations will be maintained with the Ekuanitshit and Nutashkuan communities in order to highlight the Innu culture and protect the national park reserve. In cooperation with these communities, initiatives incorporating their traditional skills and knowledge will teach a broad audience about their culture. The close cooperation between Parks Canada and the First Nations peoples generate projects with potential economic benefits and work experiences for these communities. Regional organizations could also help carry out such projects. A particular importance shall be placed on encouraging the Innu youth's participation.



Antoine Malec and Jocelyn Ispatao

© Parks Canada

### Objective 1

Develop and strengthen relationships with the Nutashkuan and the Ekuanitshit First Nations.

#### Key Actions

1. In cooperation with each of the Innu communities, establish an Aboriginal Working Committee which will monitor pending files develop projects and coordinate ongoing exchange and communication regarding the expectations and interests of the communities in relation to the park reserve<sup>1</sup>.
2. In cooperation with the Innu communities, organize activities related to the park reserve that encourage the participation of the Innu youth.
3. In collaboration with each of the Innu communities, define the terms regarding the practice of certain traditional activities (Innu Aitun) in the park reserve.

#### Performance Indicators

- A consultation mechanism will be established with the Innu communities.
- An activity targeting Innu youth will be organized by Parks Canada every 2 years.
- A collaborative arrangement related to the traditional activities of each of the Innu communities will be concluded.

### Objective 2

In collaboration with First Nations, support the efforts of the Aboriginal communities so that they may enjoy social and economic benefits resulting from the national park reserve's presence.

<sup>1</sup> Note: The Innu rights will not be discussed at these meetings, as they relate to the ongoing negotiations with Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada.



### Key Actions

1. Support the Ekuanitshit community's efforts regarding the implementation of the *Maison de la culture innue*.
2. In cooperation with the Innu communities, develop an employment integration plan for the Innu, including the definition of the skill set required for employment by Parks Canada, training requirements, and potential Innu resources.

### Performance Indicators

- The *Maison de la culture innue* will be opened.
- An employment integration plan will be developed in collaboration with each of the Innu communities.

### Objective 3

In collaboration with First Nations, support initiatives for sharing the Innu culture with and showcasing it in relation to the national park reserve's mandate.

### Key Actions

1. Organize information and exchange sessions with the Innu communities to further discuss the role of Parks Canada and the First Nations with regard to the management of cultural resources.
2. Gather all information available on the paleohistory on the islands of the national park reserve.
3. Together with the Innu communities, develop an archeological potential and presentation study of the Innu archeological heritage found on île Saint-Charles.
4. This study will paint the archeological portrait, assess the potential, and propose terms and conditions for the presentation of this heritage for the park reserve's 2019-2023 Action Plan.
5. Create a section on the park reserve's website for the Innu communities in their native language, Innu Aimun.

### Performance Indicators

- At least one information and exchange session regarding the management of cultural resources will have taken place in the Innu communities.
- The report showing the state of knowledge of paleohistory will have been drafted.

- The archeological potential and presentation study of the Innu archeological heritage found on île Saint-Charles will have been drafted.
- A section of the park reserve's website will be available in French, English and Innu Aimun.

### 4.1.2 A Nationally and Internationally Renowned Park Reserve

The park reserve contains extraordinary natural and cultural treasures that should be showcased and shared. We can find several unique plant and animal species that have not only been monitored in order to ensure their sustainability, but are recognized nationally and worldwide. The park reserve wants to increase visitorship and attract the interest of potential clients. Various means will be used to better identify target markets and to further tailor the travel planning tools.

A range of products, activities, and services that meet visitor needs and respect the ecological integrity of the region will be developed in cooperation with the Innu communities and regional stakeholders.

The national park reserve will take advantage of opportunities to establish itself as a destination of choice among target markets through collaborative promotional efforts with the tourism industry. It will support outreach initiatives in partnership with regional organizations in order to propagate awareness of the park reserve's unique features and successes.

The park reserve will use both traditional media and new media to serve the interests of the Canadian public. Thanks to several educational activities on the web, Parks Canada will be able to reach two important markets: youth and urban centres. All these communication approaches shall promote both understanding and commitment of the general public towards Parks Canada's mandate.



### Objective 1

Better position the national park reserve in the regional, provincial, and national tourism offering and increase the number of tourists.

#### Key Actions

1. Assess, identify, and target market segments and visitor experience parameters in cooperation with the regional partners, using survey results, and tourism data.
2. Develop and implement a marketing plan and promote the national park reserve, particularly with the *ATR de Duplessis*, Cruise the Saint Lawrence Association, *Le Québec Maritime* and other regional partners.

#### Performance Indicators

- The number of visitors will have increased by 2% per year.
- Certain market segments will be targeted and the visitor experience parameters will be defined.
- A marketing plan will be developed.
- A promotional campaign will be conducted annually.

### Objective 2

Improve products for cruise ship passengers and pursue international cruise marketing.



International cruises

© Parks Canada

#### Key Actions

1. In collaboration with tourism industry partners and local and regional stakeholders, contribute to the marketing and promotional activities naming Havre-Saint-Pierre as a main stopover, and the park reserve as a major attraction to international cruise ship companies.
2. Improve the activity program, infrastructure, and equipment needed for accommodating international cruise clients.

#### Performance Indicators

- The number of cruise clients who visited the park reserve will have increased compared to 2010.

- The cruise clientele who visited the park reserve will be satisfied with their experience.

### Objective 3

Revitalize available services and activities to increase visits and learning experiences opportunities that are provided in a safe environment.

#### Key Actions

1. Improve the layout of at least one island to provide a safe environment for visitors who wish to hike along its perimeter.
2. Enhance visitor experience opportunities by improving and diversifying the existing activity program.
3. Collaborate with boat operators so that transportation to the islands becomes a part of the park reserve's visitor experience.
4. Assess the potential for enhancing the accommodation offer on the islands in order to diversify the types available.
5. Improve the visit planning tools (activity guide, park brochure, and website) for activities in the park reserve and in the general Mingan region that will better respond to visitor expectations, needs, and motivations.
6. Develop a self-directed discovery tool for tours that capitalize on new technologies (i.e. Explora App, GPS and geocaching).
7. In partnership with the community, develop high-quality national park reserve souvenirs.

#### Performance Indicators

- On average, 90 % of visitors will have enjoyed their visit.
- On average, 60 % of visitors will have felt that they learned something about natural heritage.
- On average, 85 % of visitors will have considered the site as significant to them.
- $\geq 85$  % of visitors will be satisfied with the trip planning tools available.
- Adjustments will have been made to allow visitors to tour at least one island on foot.
- The park reserve will have assessed the possibility of diversifying the accommodations offer on the islands.
- A new discovery tool will have been developed.
- Visitors will be able to purchase new high-quality souvenirs.



### *Objective 4*

Tell Canadians about the park reserve wherever they are – at home, at play, in their schools, and in their communities.

#### **Key Actions**

1. Improve the national park reserve website to increase awareness of the park reserve's attractions.
2. Develop educational tools and activities for the national park reserve, targeting various clients and different learning styles (i.e. educational activities on the website, educational activities in Innu Aimun, and interpretive panels in existing exhibits).
3. Broadcast national park reserve stories, successes, and expertise through mainstream and specialized media.
4. Reach urban clients by entering into partnerships with non-profit organizations, private companies, or other national parks or national historic sites in the Parks Canada network.

#### **Performance Indicators**

- The park reserve's website will log more visits than in 2010.
- Every two years, a new educational activity will be offered to a target market.
- One quarterly good news will be published in the media.
- The park reserve will be present in one external exhibit or broadcast activity in one of the main Parks Canada main urban centres (Montreal, Toronto and Vancouver).

### *Objective 5*

Position the park reserve as a centre for excellence for biodiversity conservation.

#### **Key Actions**

1. Implement the ecological integrity monitoring program.
2. Protect and present the species at risk in collaboration with local, national, and international partners.
3. Publicize the park reserve's achievements regarding the acquisition of knowledge and the protection of certain key natural resources, such as the seabird colonies and the rare plants found in the park reserve.

#### **Performance Indicators**

- The ecological integrity monitoring program will be developed.
- Every two years, at least one species at risk will be the subject of an educational or informational activity.
- Actions will have been taken to protect fragile species such as the Mingan Thistle.
- The park reserve will work to present the Red Knot *rufa*.
- One activity per year will highlight the park reserve's conservation resources achievements.





#### 4.1.3 A Park Reserve which is the Regional Pride

Residents of the *Minganie* region have a strong sense of connection to the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve. This positive element will help the park reserve to achieve conservation, education, and visitor experience objectives.



Welcoming visitors, Portail Pélagie-Cormier

By showcasing the lighthouse stations and presenting the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal cultures, we are able to reach the local communities, among other things. The active participation of the Innu communities and regional partners is key for delivering quality activities and services that result in experiences that live up to visitor expectations. In collaboration with the municipalities, Parks Canada will organize activities that will better meet resident expectations and needs. Efforts will be made to highlight the relationship between the local communities and the national park reserve islands.

Communication initiatives will be implemented to inform local communities about ongoing projects and the progress made. Parks Canada will offer residents opportunities to get involved in protecting the environment through volunteer and citizen science activities focused on the national park reserve's natural and cultural resources and ecosystem restoration. Learning and outreach opportunities will be developed for the regional clientele with a particular focus on youth.

The Follow-up Committee will continue to play an important advisory role in the management of the national park reserve by enabling regional stakeholders to learn about Parks Canada's achievements and projects, and to influence plans and decisions. All of these initiatives will help residents strengthen their sense of connection, appreciate the significance of the national park reserve, and encourage their support for Parks Canada's role in the region.

#### Objective 1

Make the residents of the *Minganie* region ambassadors of the national park reserve.

##### Key Actions

1. Develop communication tools to keep local communities informed about the national park reserve's ongoing projects (i.e. research, activities), achievements, and unique elements of the biodiversity present in the park reserve.
2. Develop educational activities for the public, visitor experiences, and conservation activities aimed at youth in partnership with the municipality (i.e. school trips, Initiation to Camping program, seashore clean-up).
3. Participate in popular regional celebrations (i.e. festivals, commemorations) by offering activities at the site of the event or on certain islands in the national park reserve, or by providing technical or logistics support.
4. Implicate local communities by offering opportunities to volunteer in various projects.
5. Organize cultural, sporting or recreational types of activities with the participation of the local communities (i.e. music concerts, plant identification programs, plays, activities with animal and plant specialists, nautical rallies).
6. Keep the Follow-up Committee active.

##### Performance Indicators

- Adapted means of communication will have been used to reach the local communities.
- Every two years, an activity aimed at inciting youth will be offered.
- Parks Canada will have participated in at least one regional event per year.
- A volunteer activity will be held every two years.
- At least one cultural, sporting or nature activity will have been organized per year.
- The Follow-up Committee will have held two meetings per year.
- A partnership agreement with a local or regional organization will have been completed.



## Objective 2

In collaboration with the local communities, develop knowledge of the park reserve's cultural resources and opportunities to showcase them.

### Key Actions

1. Continue to restore and present the lighthouse stations (*Petite île au Marteau* and *île aux Perroquets*) as well as promoting and marketing them in collaboration with community partners.
2. Enter into open dialogue with First Nations and community partners in order to identify the value of the park reserve's cultural resources.

### Performance Indicators

- The restoration of the two lighthouse stations will be completed in accordance with the established guidelines.
- The value of the cultural resources will have been identified.

## 4.1.4 A Specific Management Approach for the East Sector

Parks Canada has adopted an approach of regional cooperation for the development and protection of the islands in the East sector. Parks Canada actively participates in the ongoing efforts of the Development Committee of the East sector. This committee, headed by the *MRC de Minganie*, is composed of representatives from the Nutashquan community; the municipalities of Baie-Johan-Beetz, Aguanish and Nutashquan; the *Centre local de développement*; the *Comité ZIP Côte-Nord du Golfe*; and the Canadian Wildlife Service. Its mandate is to develop a shared vision and a specific strategy for the conservation of natural and cultural resources, education and visitor experience in the East sector.

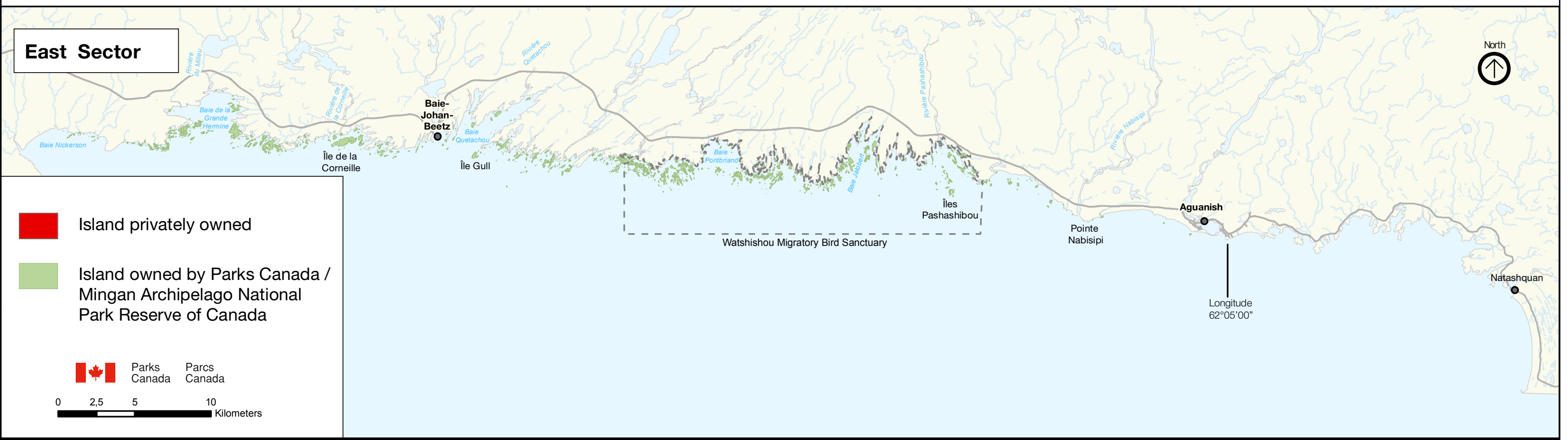
Parks Canada will be involved in identifying projects and developing strategies that encourage visitors to discover the coastal shoreline, the islands and islets of this portion of the Mingan region and learn more about the sector's ecosystems and cultural resources.

Within the framework of the Development Committee's activities in the East sector, Parks Canada will be responsible for projects that focus on the islands and islets of its territory. These projects must be approved by the committee. If necessary, Parks Canada will support projects under the responsibility of the municipalities or any other organization. Therefore, joint projects will be developed to highlight the potential of the East sector's islands and islets by the coastline.

The purpose of the strategy is to diversify the tourism product and to create a destination of choice for visitors seeking adventure, authenticity and culture, while respecting the ecological integrity of the park reserve. This strategy for presenting and protecting the East sector islands is aimed at building on existing knowledge of the natural and cultural resources and targeting safe and meaningful visitor experiences based on the limitations and potential of the environment.



# Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada



**Island privately owned**

**Island owned by Parks Canada / Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada**

Parks Canada / Parcs Canada

0 2,5 5 10 Kilometers





### Objective 1

In collaboration with the Nutashkuan First Nation and the Development Committee of the East sector, develop a shared vision and a specific strategy for the protection of natural and cultural resources, educational opportunities, and visitor experiences in the East sector.

#### Key Actions

1. In collaboration with the Innu community and the East sector's Development Committee, define the aspects of the vision and strategy for the development of the East sector of the park reserve.
2. Develop a five year action plan in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.
3. Develop an inventory of existing knowledge of the islands and islets in the East sector (i.e. ecosystems, cultural resources, limitations of the sector, landscapes, access, potential, and constraints) in order to analyze management issues and establish conservation priorities, educational opportunities, and visitor experiences.
4. Identify target audiences of the East sector in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.
5. Identify the main hubs and areas of interest as well as the projects to be developed in accordance with pre-established guidelines in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.
6. Participate in the implementation of identified projects in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee (investment opportunities, etc.).
7. Develop awareness tools for visitor safety and respect for the environment that are tailored to the East sector.

#### Performance Indicators

- The vision and specific strategies will be developed.
- An action plan will be developed.
- A database of the East sector will be established.
- An awareness tool for visitor safety will be developed.
- A partnership agreement will be concluded with one or more partners for the development of a reserve-related project that showcases the East sector.

## 4.2 Recurring Park Reserve Activities

Every year, the park reserve undertakes a number of recurring activities related to site management and to its mandate. These recurring activities contribute to the achievement of the key strategies and objectives mentioned above. They include the following:

Implementing the law enforcement program of the National Parks Act and its regulations as well as any other relevant legislation pertaining to Parks Canada's mandate, including the *Species at Risk Act* or the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*.

- Participating in the development, maintenance, and recovery of species at risk in collaboration with the concerned departments and governments.
- Conducting periodic studies to learn more about visitor expectations and needs and to evaluate their level of satisfaction with the services.
- Maintaining quality of infrastructure and services, including trails, docks, and camping sites.
- Implementing a diversified activity program including guided tours as well as self-guided interpretation opportunities.
- Monitoring traditional hare snaring and camping activities.
- Updating plans related to public safety, environmental emergencies, and law enforcement.
- Conducting preventative activities regarding public security on the islands (i.e. inspections, visitor information, etc.).



## 5. Action Plan and Priorities

The management plan will guide the management of the park reserve for years to come. The present chapter shows actions and priorities for each of the main objectives and key strategies described above.

### Key Strategy 1: A Special Relationship with the First Nations

#### Objective 1: Develop and strengthen relationships with the Nutashkuan and the Ekuanitshit First Nations.

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. In cooperation with each of the Innu communities, establish an Aboriginal Working Committee, which will continue the monitoring of pending files, the development of projects and the coordination of an effective means of ongoing exchange and communication regarding the expectations and interests of the communities in relation to the park reserve.	x	x	x	x	x
2. In cooperation with the Innu communities, organize activities relating to the park reserve that encourage the participation of the Innu youth.	x		x		x
3. In collaboration with each of the Innu communities, define the terms regarding the practice of certain traditional activities (Innu Aitun) in the park reserve.			x	x	x

#### Objective 2: Support the efforts of the Aboriginal communities so that they may enjoy social and economic benefits resulting from the national park reserve's presence.

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. Support the Ekuanitshit community's efforts regarding the implementation of the <i>Maison de la culture innue</i> .	x	x	x		
2. In cooperation with the Innu communities, develop an employment integration plan for the Innu, including the definition of the skill set required for employment by Parks Canada, training requirements and potential Innu resources.		x	x	x	x

#### Objective 3: In collaboration with First Nations, support initiatives for sharing the Innu culture with and showcasing it in relation to the national park reserve's mandate.

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. Organize information and exchange sessions with the Innu communities to further discuss the role of Parks Canada and the First Nations with regard to the management of cultural resources.		x	x		
2. Gather all information available on the paleohistory and historical Aboriginal presence on the islands of the national park reserve.		x	x		
3. Together with the Innu communities, develop an archeological potential and presentation study of the Innu archeological heritage found on île Saint-Charles. This study will paint the archeological portrait, assess the potential, and propose terms and conditions for the presentation of this heritage for the park reserve's 2017-2021 Action Plan.		x	x	x	x
4. Create a section on the park reserve's website for the Innu communities in their native language (Innu Aïmun).			x	x	



**Key Strategy 2: A Nationally and Internationally Renowned Park Reserve**

**Objective 1: Better position the national park reserve in the regional, provincial and national tourism offering and increase the number of visitors.**

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. Assess, identify and target market segments and visitor experience parameters in cooperation with regional partners using survey results and tourism data.	x	x			
2. Develop and implement a marketing plan and promote the national park reserve, particularly with the <i>ATR de Duplessis</i> , Cruise the Saint Lawrence Association, <i>Le Québec Maritime</i> and other regional partners.	x	x	x	x	x

**Objective 2 : Improve products for cruise ship passengers and pursue international cruise marketing**

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. In collaboration with tourism industry partners and local and regional stakeholders, contribute to the marketing and promotional activities naming Havre-Saint-Pierre as a main stopover, and the park reserve as a major attraction to international cruise ship companies.	x	x	x	x	x
2. Improve the activity program, infrastructure, and equipment needed for accommodating international cruise clients.	x	x	x	x	x

**Objective 3: Revitalize available services and increase meaningful visiting and learning experiences in a safe environment**

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. Improve the layout of at least one island to provide a safe environment for visitors who wish to hike along its perimeter.			x	x	
2. Enhance visitor experience opportunities by improving and diversifying the existing activity program.	x	x	x	x	x
3. Collaborate with boat operators so that transportation to the islands becomes a part of the park reserve's visitor experience.	x	x	x	x	x
4. Assess the potential for enhancing the accommodation offer on the islands in order to diversify the types available.	x	x	x		
5. Improve the visit planning tools (activity guide, park brochure, and website) for activities in the park reserve and in the general Mingan region that will better respond to visitor expectations, needs, and motivations.		x	x		
6. Develop a self-directed discovery tool for tours that capitalize on new technologies (i.e. Explora App, GPS and geocaching).			x	x	
7. In partnership with the community, develop high-quality national park reserve souvenirs.				x	



**Objective 4: Tell Canadians about the park reserve wherever they are – at home, at play, in their schools and in their communities.**

<b>Actions and Priorities by year(s)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Improve the national park reserve website to increase awareness of the park reserve's attractions.	x	x			
2. Develop educational tools and activities for the national park reserve, targeting various clients and different learning styles (i.e. educational activities on the website, educational activities in Innu Aimun, and interpretive panels in existing exhibits).	x		x		x
3. Broadcast national park reserve stories, successes, and expertise through mainstream and specialized media.	x	x	x	x	x
4. Reach urban clients by entering into partnerships with non-profit organizations, private companies, or other national parks or national historic sites in the Parks Canada network.		x		x	

**Objective 5: Position the park reserve as a centre of excellence for biodiversity conservation.**

<b>Actions and Priorities by year(s)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Implement the ecological integrity monitoring program.	x	x	x	x	x
2. Protect and present the species at risk in collaboration with local national and international partners.	x	x	x	x	x
3. Publicize the park reserve's achievements regarding the acquisition of knowledge and the protection of certain key natural resources, such as the seabird colonies and the rare plants found in the park reserve.	x	x	x	x	x

**Key Strategy 3: A Park Reserve which is the Regional Pride**

**Objective 1: Make the residents of the Minganie region ambassadors of the national park reserve**

<b>Actions and Priorities by year(s)</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Develop communication tools to keep local communities informed about the national park reserve's ongoing projects (i.e. research, activities), achievements, and unique elements of the biodiversity present in the park reserve.	x	x	x	x	x
2. Develop educational activities for the public, visitor experiences, and conservation activities aimed at youth in partnership with the municipality (i.e. school trips, Initiation to Camping program, shoreline clean-up, etc.).	x		x		x
3. Participate in popular regional celebrations (i.e. festivals, commemorations) by offering activities at the site of the event or on certain islands in the national park reserve, or by providing technical or logistics support.	x	x	x	x	x
4. Implicate local communities by offering opportunities to volunteer in various projects.		x		x	
5. Organize cultural, sporting or recreational types of activities with the participation of the local communities (i.e. music concerts, plant identification programs, plays, activities with animal and plant specialists, nautical rallies, etc.).	x	x	x	x	x
6. Keep the Follow-up Committee active.	x	x	x	x	x





**Objective 2: In collaboration with the local communities, develop knowledge database of the park reserve's cultural resources and opportunities to showcase them**

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. Continue to restore and present the lighthouse stations (Petite île au Marteau and île aux Perroquets) as well as promoting and marketing them in collaboration with community partners.	x	x	x	x	x
2. Enter into open dialogue with First Nations and community partners in order to identify the value of the park reserve's cultural resources.			x	x	

**Key Strategy 4: Specific Management Approach for the Eastern Sector**

**Objective 1: Develop a shared vision and a specific strategy for the protection of natural and cultural resources, educational opportunities, and visitor experience in the East sector in collaboration with the Nutashkuan First Nation and the development committee.**

Actions and Priorities by year(s)	1	2	3	4	5
1. In collaboration with the Innu community and the Development Committee, define the aspects of the vision and strategy for the development of the East sector of the park reserve.	x	x			
2. Develop a five year action plan in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.	x	x	x		
3. Develop an inventory of existing knowledge of the islands and islets in the East sector (i.e. ecosystems, cultural resources, limitations of the sector, landscapes, access, potential, and constraints) in order to analyze management issues and establish conversation priorities, educational opportunities, and visitor experiences.		x	x	x	
4. Identify target clients of the East sector in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.	x	x			
5. Identify the main hubs and areas of interest as well as the projects to be developed in accordance with pre-established guidelines in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee.	x	x	x		
6. Participate in the implementation of identified projects in collaboration with the Innu community and in consultation with the East sector's Development Committee (investment opportunities, etc.).		x	x	x	x
7. Develop awareness tools for visitor safety and respect for the environment that are tailored to the East sector.		x	x	x	x



## 6. Zoning

The national parks zoning system is an integrated approach by which land and water areas are classified according to ecosystem and cultural resource protection requirements and their capacity to provide opportunities for visitor experience. The zoning is intended as a dynamic management tool that can be adapted according to the evolution of knowledge on heritage resources and visitors.

As such, zoning is a valuable management tool. It defines the limits and governs the activities that can be offered on the territory.

Parks Canada uses a system that designates five zoning categories: special preservation, wilderness, natural environment, outdoor recreation, and park services. Only three of these categories apply to the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve. The general characteristics, the level of protection required, and the conditions governing usage of the territory are described below.



East Sector

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### Zone 1 : Special Preservation

The zones of this category are ecological areas or exceptional features that warrant preservation because they protect species or components that are unique, threatened or endangered, or that represent exceptional examples of natural or cultural elements. Usage of and access to zone 1 area may be rigorously controlled by regulations. No motorized vehicle or man-made installation is permitted.

Zone 1 comprises most of île Nue de Mingan because of the great fragility of its hearths and the remains of the Basque ovens. The southern half of île Niapiskau belongs largely to this zone because of the diversity of plant life there and because of the sensitivity of its ecosystems. Île Saint-Charles, which is representative of most of the ecosystems of the Mingan Archipelago, is also classified as zone 1 to ensure that its ecosystems are kept intact and so that it can be used as a reference for scientific research.

Lastly, certain islands and islets that are too small to be of significant interest for park use have been classified as zone 2 because they are important nesting sites for several species of seabirds. These islands include Îlot, Caye à Cochons, Rochers de granite, Calculot, Goélands, Herbée, Calculot des Betchouanes, Innu and Petite île Sainte-Geneviève.

### Zone 2 : Wilderness

In this zone, visitors may explore the natural and cultural heritage thanks to outdoor leisure activities that have been adapted to the park's ecosystems and require only a few rudimentary facilities and services. The vast area that characteristically represents the natural components of the park is left in its natural state so that visitors can experience the peace and quiet of isolated areas. Only those activities that do not hinder the wild nature of the park are authorized. It is for this reason that circulation and access by vehicle are forbidden. The majority of the park reserve's islands are part of this zone.



## Zone 3 : Natural Environment

With a minimum of alteration, these areas can handle the organizing of certain recreational activities and associated installations while maintaining a natural ambience.

Four islands are classified as zone 3. The central part of île aux Perroquets, where the navigational aid buildings are located, is classified as zone 3 because of its potential for use. The central part of Quarry Island has been organized to accommodate cruise ships and pleasure boats, which promote the use of the area for picnics and for hikes along the trails.

The intensity of usage justifies its zone 3 designation. A similar area is located on the east coast of île Niapiskau where numerous visitors land to enjoy the landscape and admire the monolith they call Lady of Niapiskau.

Finally, Petite île au Marteau has two small areas designated as zone 3. One is on the northeast side where a service building is located, and the other is on the south side where the lighthouse station is located.

## 6.1 The East Sector's Zoning

The islands and islets of the East sector, namely those to the east of île Sainte-Geneviève as far as the Aguanish River, are zone 2 "Wilderness". It is important to mention that this zoning could be reviewed as we gain more knowledge about the sector's ecosystems. Nesting sites, as well as plant or cultural components may require a higher level of protection.

The management of the East sector, including the Watshishou migratory bird sanctuary, must ensure the protection of all of the natural and cultural resources of each of the islands and islets, including the nesting sites of several seabird species, as well as restricting disturbances during the nesting period.

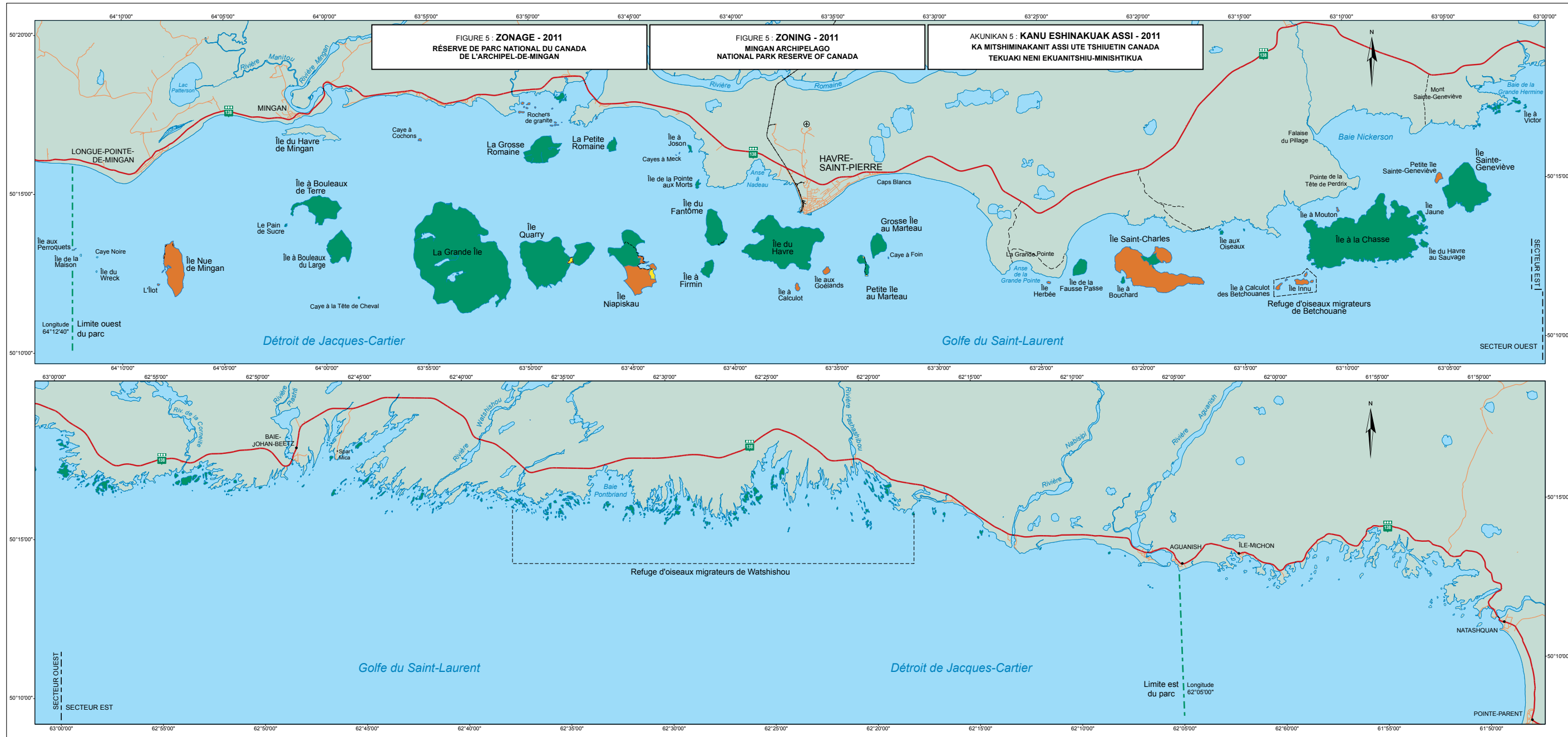
The potential use of this sector could include activities such as short and long sea kayak excursions and mini-cruises to discover this special environment. However, authorized activities must be supervised.

Parks Canada might consider setting up some rudimentary facilities to serve visitors to this sector, but the sites chosen must not have any natural or cultural resources of interest that could be affected by these types of use. Some islands could be closed on a temporary or permanent basis, as needed, to ensure their protection by regulations.

## 6.2 Zoning Guidelines


As part of this management plan, the park reserve could conduct a review of the zoning system of the territory in the coming years. If necessary, such an exercise would be required if renewed visitor experiences or service offers are proposed in order to ensure the protection of ecosystems and cultural resources, especially on Petite île au Marteau, île aux Perroquets and in the East sector. If any changes were then deemed relevant, the amendment would be subject to a strategic environmental assessment and public consultation with First Nations, local communities and the general public. Furthermore, any proposed projects offered as part of this review exercise of the zoning plan that could lead to negative impacts on the ecological integrity will also be subject to an environmental impact assessment as part of their planning, in accordance with the *Interim policy on the implementation of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*.







— Limites de la réserve de parc national du Canada de l'Archipel-de-Mingan  
Boundaries of Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve of Canada  
Nete eshpihat ne pak ka ishinikataniti Ekuanitshiu-minishtikua

- - - Limites des secteurs du parc  
Park District Boundaries  
Ne eshpihat ne assi ka ishinikatet pak

 Zone I - Préservation spéciale  
Zone I - Special Preservation  
Neme ushkat assi, peik<sup>u</sup> - Assia passe tshe ishi-tshishpeutakaniti

 Zone II - Milieu sauvage  
Zone II - Wilderness  
Neme kutak assi, nish<sup>u</sup> - Assia eshk<sup>u</sup> eka nutshitakaniti

 Zone III - Milieu naturel  
Zone III - Natural Environment  
Neme kutak assi, nisht<sup>u</sup> - Assi ka tshiam ka ishinakuak



Projection cartographique Mercator Transverse Modifiée  
Système de référence géodésique NAD83

Km 0 1 2 4 6 8 Km

Cartographie adaptée de: Del Degan, Massé & Associés, 2003





## 7. Summary of the Environmental Impact Assessment

The strategic environmental impact assessment is an essential tool for the achievement of the government of Canada's sustainable development objectives. This assessment was undergone in order to identify and assess the primary environmental issues inherent in the management plan.

The objectives of this environmental impact assessment are the following:

- Verify that the vision, key strategies, objectives, and action steps presented in the management plan support Parks Canada's mandate and policies as well as its goals and objectives regarding ecological integrity and cultural resources.
- Assess the repercussions of the action steps presented in the management plan in order to ensure that they will have a positive impact on the environment and that mitigation measures are in place to eliminate or minimize negative impacts.
- Assess the cumulative effects on ecosystems and cultural resources that may result from the actions and projects put forth in the management plan.

This assessment was based on the *Cabinet Directive on the Environmental Assessment of Policy, Plan and Program Proposals (2010)*. It also conforms to the orientations of the *Guiding Principles and Operational Policies (1994)*.

The methodology used is composed of the following steps.

### 7.1 Conformity

The objectives proposed in the management plan have been revised to ensure that they conform to and support the policies of Parks Canada and the federal government. Reviewing and analyzing the strategies and the direction of the park reserve's management plan concludes that all the actions outlined in the plan are consistent with the *National Parks Act* and the Government of Canada's environmental guidance documents.

### 7.2 Scope

The scope of the assessment ensures that it is focused on the main elements of the management plan. The scope also indicates what is to be included in the environmental assessment and what is not. The assessment was established in relation to key elements of the management plan, including its spatial and time scales. In

this case, the scope includes consideration of the effects on natural resources as well as cultural and archaeological resources. The spatial scale is that of the greater regional ecosystem of the park reserve. The time scale is the same as those of the Management Plan.

### 7.3 Assessment of the Potential Impacts and Proposed Management Strategies

The analysis of stressors on the ecosystems and the cultural resources helps determine the impacts of management actions on them.

The following actions taken from the key strategies and the management approach specific to the East sector are most likely to have a positive impact.

#### **Key strategy "A Special Relationship with the First Nation":**

- Organize information and exchange sessions with the Innu communities in order to openly discuss the role of Parks Canada and the First Nations in relation to the management of cultural resources.
- In collaboration with the Innu communities, gather all information available on the paleohistory of the islands in the national park reserve.

#### **Key Strategy "A Nationally and Internationally Renowned Park Reserve":**

- Implement a revised ecological integrity monitoring program, supported by effective management measures that enable for the maintenance or improvement of ecological integrity.
- Protect and present species at risk (i.e. the Red Knot and the Mingan Thistle) in collaboration with local, national and international partners.



**Key Strategy “A Park Reserve which is the Regional Pride”:**

- Develop communication tools to keep local communities informed about the national park reserve’s ongoing projects (i.e. research, activities), achievements, and unique element of the biodiversity found in the park reserve
- Develop educational activities for the public, visitor experiences, and conservation activities aimed at youth in partnership with the municipality (i.e. school trips, Initiation to Camping program, clean-up of the shorelines, etc.).
- Enter into open dialogue with First Nations and community partners in order to identify the value of the park reserve’s cultural resources.

**A Specific Management Approach for the East Sector :**

- Develop an inventory of existing knowledge of the islands and islets in the East sector (i.e. ecosystems, cultural resources, limitations of the sector, landscapes, access, potential, and constraints) in order to analyze the management issues and establish conversation priorities, educational opportunities and visitor experiences.
- Develop awareness tools for visitor safety and respect for the environment that are tailored to the East sector.

## 7.4 Mitigation Measures to Eliminate or Minimize Negative Impacts

Many of the actions proposed in the management plan, once implemented, contain mitigation measures focused on eliminating negative impacts on natural and cultural resources.

However, analysis through the strategic environmental impact assessment has highlighted several additional measures that can be taken in order to further minimize the impacts of the actions proposed in the management plan.

- Optimize projects by integrating the analysis of environmental considerations early in the decision-making process and by examining alternative projects by comparing the environmental impact of each of the solutions.
- Develop mitigation measures focused on minimizing impacts on cultural and natural resources as well as environmental elements that are important to the key objectives related to visitor experience.

- Parks Canada has an obligation to manage any negative environmental impacts under the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012* and the *Interim policy on the implementation of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*. Within the implementation framework of the management plan, mitigation measures shall be established during the environmental impact analysis of proposed projects that could lead to adverse effects.
- Apply precautionary principles and adaptive management to the park reserve’s ecosystem and cultural resource management.
- Prepare a preventative adaptive strategy that will respond to climate change in relation to the protection of natural and cultural resources, infrastructure, and visitor experience.
- The implementation of the proposed actions outlined in the management plan should be undertaken in consideration of the issues identified in the *2011 Report on the State of the Mingan Archipelago National Park Reserve*. Local population and partners should be advised of any findings.
- If necessary, strategic environmental assessments will be carried out during the preparation of plans, such as landscape management plans or marketing plans.
- The revision of the East sector’s zoning will require notifying and consulting the public as well as conducting a strategic environmental impact assessment. The entire process will require having enough information on the function and the fragility of the ecosystems, proposed visitor services and potential visitorship. Furthermore, during the planning of all proposed projects, an environmental impact assessment will have to be conducted in accordance with the *Interim policy on the implementation of the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act 2012*, for any project that could lead to a negative impact.





## 7.5 Residual Effects

The analysis of the park reserve's management plan concludes that the potential environmental effects that may remain after the implementation of the mitigation strategies are few. These strategies are expected to significantly reduce the negative impact on cultural and natural resources and leave little room for any residual adverse effects.

## 7.6 Evaluation of Possible Cumulative Effects that May Result from the Actions and Projects in the Management Plan

The cumulative effects are the negative residual effects left by management actions proposed in the management plan that are associated with the various projects or activities in the Mingan region that have affected, are currently affecting or may affect the natural components or cultural resources in the park reserve. In addition, the cumulative effects evaluation is based on the principle that the combined effects of projects or activities give rise to different or greater impacts than those generated individually by these projects and activities.

The residual effects that are considered insignificant after the implementation of mitigation measures recommended in this strategic environmental impact assessment will not come into interaction with any other projects or activities that may produce greater adverse cumulative effects. Therefore, it is unlikely that the residual effects of any future potential regional projects would interfere with the resources of the park reserve.

## 7.7 Ecological Integrity Monitoring

The ecological integrity monitoring program proposes monitoring indicators (i.e. ecosystems) that determines the overall state of the park reserve. The Report on the State of the Park Reserve is the right tool to use for this monitoring. In addition, the process of the environmental impact assessment will determine the monitoring requirements for any projects proposed in this management plan that may lead to negative impacts on the environment. This type of effective monitoring assesses if the negative impacts are as predicted and if the mitigation measures required by the impact assessment are able to prevent them.

## 7.8 Requirements for an Environmental Assessment

It is important to determine which proposals may require an environmental impact assessment in accordance with the Interim policy on the implementation of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act (2012)*. Please refer to Section 5.8 of the management plan for the complete list.

## 7.9 Assessment of the Global Impact

The strategic environmental review of the preliminary management plan suggests that, overall, the potential negative residual effects as well as the cumulative negative impact are considered to be insignificant.

## 7.10 Conclusion

Overall, the key strategies as well as the specific management approach for the East sector presented in the management plan support Parks Canada's mandate and management policies. This exercise illustrates that the management plan sets forth provisions to maintain the park reserve's natural and cultural resources, promotes an improved service offer, visibility and regional integration of the park reserve within the region. The most important potential negative effects may be mitigated by the implementation of known technical measures as well as others through alternate means that have proven effective in the past. Following the implementation of mitigation measures, only a few residual effects should remain. Given the insular nature of the park reserve, the effects of regional projects related to the residual effects described in the management plan are barely noticeable. Any proposed project or activity will have to undergo a detailed environmental impact assessment at a later stage of planning, at such a time when sufficient details regarding their implementation are known.

The results of this strategic environmental impact assessment conclude that, based on the available information, the park reserve's management plan describes negative impacts that can be mitigated. Therefore, the management plan can be put forward if all noted mitigation measures are fully implemented.



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## Note to reader

The terms "Innu Aitun" and "Nitassinan", which appear in this document, are from the *Agreement-in-Principal of General Nature (APGN)* concerning the land claims and self-government of the First Nations of Mashteuiatsh, Essipit and Nutashkuan, between the First Nations of Mamuitun and Nutashkuan and the governments of Quebec and Canada. These land claims are currently under negotiation with the goal of reaching a final agreement.



## Glossary

### **Ancestral Rights**

Ancestral rights are the rights protected under section 35(1) of the *Constitution Act, 1982*, according to its interpretation by the Supreme Court of Canada.

### **Archaeological Site**

Encompasses surface, subsurface or submerged remains of human activity at which an understanding of these activities and the careful management of these resources can be achieved through the employment of archaeological technique.

### **Cultural Resource**

A cultural resource is a human work or a place that gives evidence of human activity or has spiritual or cultural meaning that has been determined to be of historic value. This definition applies to a wide range of resources including cultural landscapes and landscape features, buildings, engineering works, artifacts, and associated records.

### **Cultural Resource Value Statement**

Strategy document that describes the cultural resources and their value for national parks and national marine conservation areas administered by Parks Canada and that establishes objectives to protect them.

### **Ecological Integrity**

Condition of a park that is determined to be characteristic of its natural region and likely to persist, including abiotic components and the composition and abundance of native species and biological communities, rates of change and supporting processes. (*Canada National Parks Act*, subsection 2(1)).

### **Ecosystem**

Structured unit consisting of a well-defined geographic area characterized by particular ecological conditions (climate, soil, etc.), which provides a physical support for biological communities.

### **Follow-up Committee**

The Follow-up Committee is made up of representatives of local communities and organizations interested in the management of the park reserve. It plays a consultative role for the management of the park reserve with respect to the issues and guidelines related to the protection and heritage presentation of the resources. The committee helps improve the integration of the management of the park reserve into its surrounding environment while respecting the framework of its mission.

### **Impact and Benefit Agreement**

An agreement between Parks Canada and an Aboriginal land claim group that addresses any matter connected with a protected heritage place owned and administered by Parks Canada, that might have a detrimental impact on the Aboriginal group or that could reasonably confer a benefit on the Aboriginal group.

### **Innu Aitun**

“Designates all activities, in their traditional or modern manifestation, relating to the national culture, fundamental values and traditional lifestyle of the Innus associated with the occupation and use of Nitassinan and to the special bond they have with the land. These include in particular all practices, customs and traditions, including hunting, fishing, trapping and gathering activities for subsistence, ritual or social purposes. All spiritual, cultural, social and community aspects are an integral part thereof. The commercial aspects are, however, governed by the prevailing legislation of Canada and Quebec. Innu Aitun entails the utilization of animal species, plants, rocks, water and other natural resources for food, ritual or social purposes and for subsistence purposes in accordance with section 5.2.4 (of the APGN)” (APGN articles 1.2 and 1.3).

### **Management Plan**

Document that states the management objectives of a protected heritage site, as well as the actions and strategies established to achieve the objectives. It provides a framework for preparing more detailed plans with regards to ecosystem management, interpretation, visitor services, and risk assessment for visitors. The management plan is approved by the Minister of the Environment in accordance with the law.



### **Migratory Bird Sanctuaries**

A migratory bird sanctuary means any area where “no person shall hunt migratory birds, disturb or take the nests of migratory birds, or have in his possession a live migratory bird, or a carcass, skin, nest or egg of a migratory bird”. These sanctuaries are created in accordance with the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*.

### **National Park**

A national park named and described in Schedule 1 to the *Canada National Parks Act* or a park established pursuant to a federal-provincial agreement that is under the responsibility of the Parks Canada Agency and that is not described in Schedule 1 to the *Canada National Parks Act*. The parks of Canada are dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment. They must be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for current and future generations.

### **National Park Reserve**

A national park reserve named and described in Schedule 2 to the *Canada National Parks Act* or a national park reserve that is under the responsibility of the Parks Canada Agency and that is not described in Schedule 2 to the *Canada National Parks Act*. The *Canada National Parks Act* states that “park reserves are established where an area or portion of an area proposed for a park is subject to a claim in respect of Aboriginal rights that has been accepted for negotiation by the Government of Canada”.

### **Nitassinan**

Part of the ancestral territory of the Innus of Nutashkuan, located in the Province of Quebec.

### **Parks Canada**

Public entity created in December 1998 by Law C-29. The Agency’s mandate is to conserve, protect, and present important components of Canada’s natural and cultural heritage. It is directly responsible to the Minister of the Environment.

### **Resident**

Any person or entity established and residing in the *Minganie* region, on a permanent or seasonal basis, as well as the First Nations communities of Nutashkuan and Ekuanitshit. This definition does not apply to the traditional activities carried out by the *Minganie* residents.

### **Specific Management Approach**

Approach aimed at ensuring the integrated presentation of Parks Canada’s mandate in a specific region, determined by various factors, including: complexity of the issues, area of the historic site, logical grouping of resources, residents’ and visitors’ sense of connection to the region, or simply any region that requires a specific management approach.

### **State of the Park Report**

Report that provides a synopsis of the state of a national park, national historic site or national marine conservation area, and assesses performance against the established goals and objectives, using indicators that are related to Parks Canada’s mandate.

### **Visit**

The entrance of a person into the park reserve for recreational, educational or cultural purposes during opening hours. Local, commercial, and transit traffic as well as returns in the same day or during the same stay that are not new visits are excluded.

### **Visitors**

People visiting the park reserve, whether from local communities, elsewhere in Canada or abroad.

### **Visitor Experience**

The sum total of a visitor’s personal interaction with heritage places and/or people that awakens the senses, affects emotions, stimulates the mind and leaves the visitor with a sense of attachment to these places.

### **Visitor-Tourists**

Visitors of the park reserve who reside outside the *Minganie* region (between Sheldrake and Nutashkuan), and who spent at least one night away from their primary domicile.