

2024 - 2025

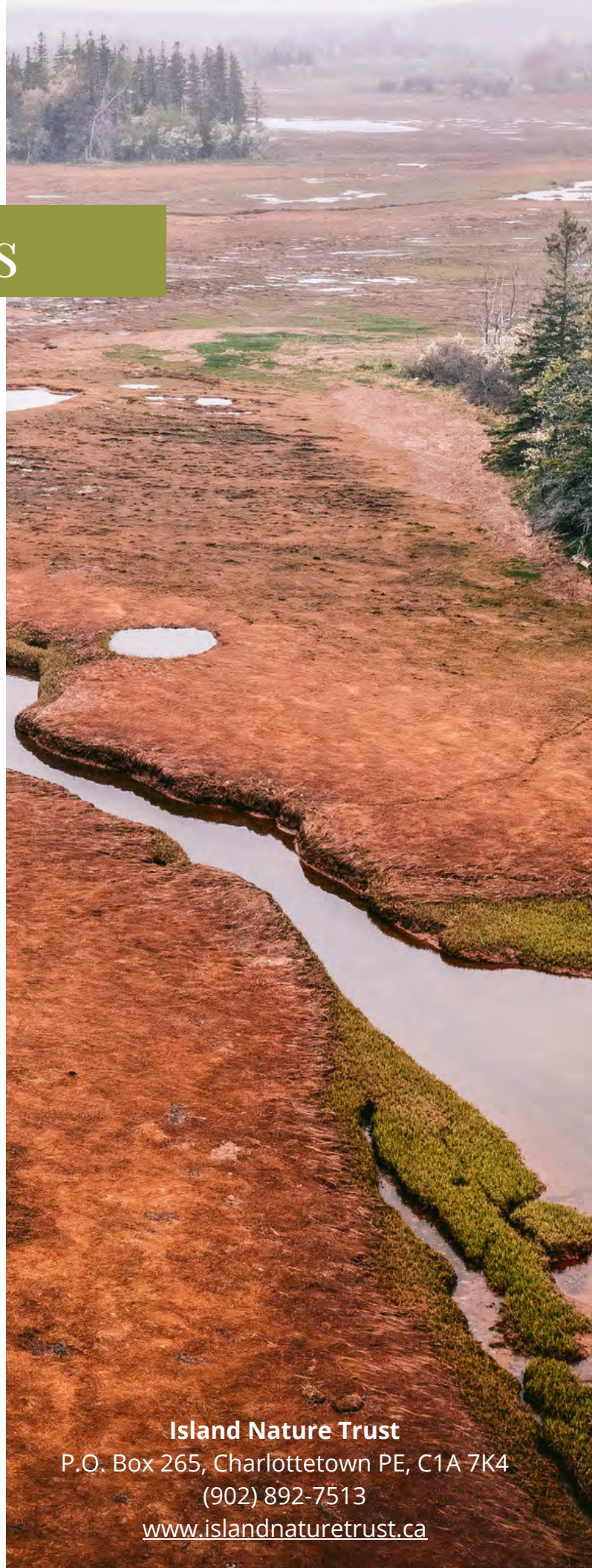
IMPACT REPORT



ISLAND
NATURE
TRUST

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Dear Friends,

We are proud to share the progress Island Nature Trust has made in 2024–2025 toward protecting the Island’s wild spaces, rare species, and natural heritage.

In a year marked by both challenge and opportunity, our commitment to long-term land conservation and stewardship remained steadfast.

This impact was made possible by a growing community of supporters, volunteers, and partners. People who care deeply about this place we call home and have put their care into action. Together, we expanded our network of protected areas, advanced science-based conservation, and deepened partnerships with Indigenous communities and local landowners.

As always, we are grateful for the trust and generosity of all who stand with us. Your support is helping to shape a conservation legacy across the Island that will benefit future generations.

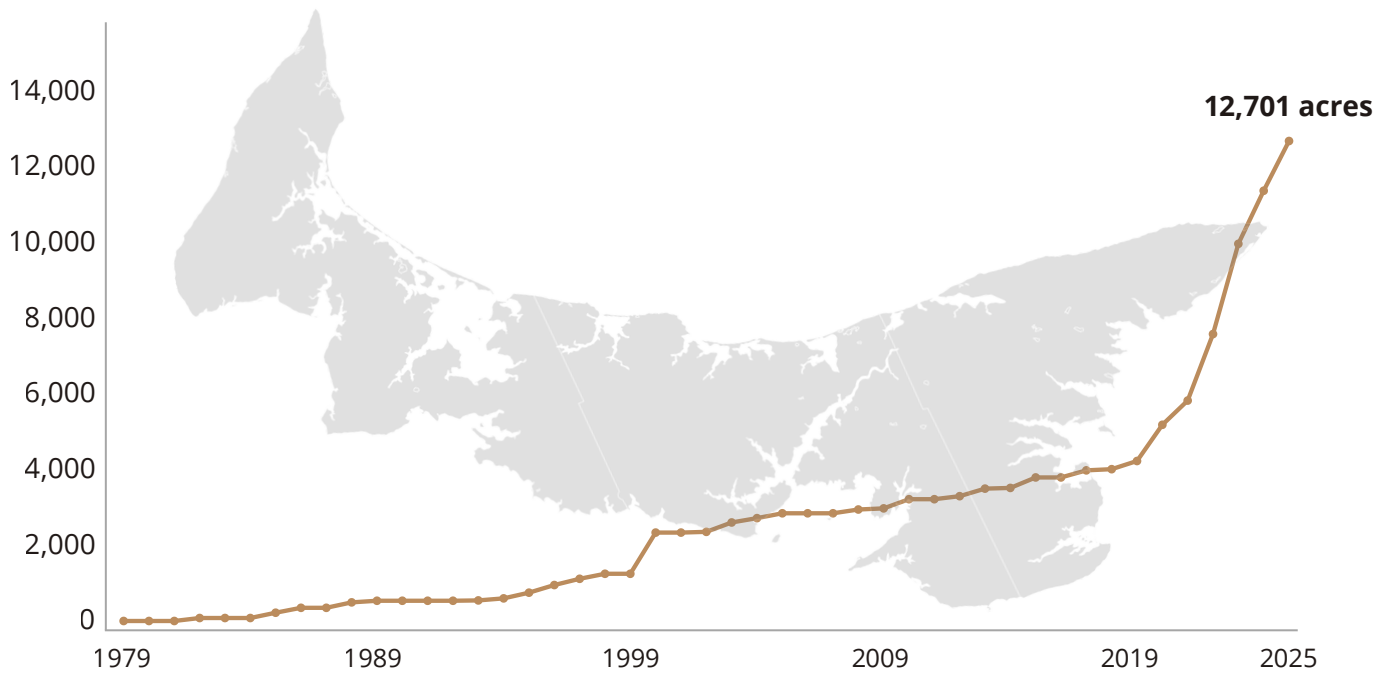


Melissa Cameron,
Executive Director

Kim Horreht,
President, Board of Directors

An Island Protected

Cumulative Acres Acquired From 1979 to 2025



Island Nature Trust, established in 1979, is dedicated to conserving natural areas and wildlife in PEI. We acquire land through donations and purchases, safeguarding it under legislation that prevents development. Once acquired, we manage the land to support healthy, vibrant ecosystems. An updated strategic vision for 2025-2030 was developed to highlight the vision and priorities of the organization moving forward. The five strategic pillars of the vision are shared below.

Strategic Vision: 2025–2030

Land Acquisition & Stewardship

Species at Risk:
Conserving Habitats
and Biodiversity

A Culture of Excellence:
Retention & Growth for
Staff and Volunteers

Financial Stability & Growth: A
Sustainable Future

Connectivity & Community: Inspiring
Diverse Engagement

Meet Our Team!



Janell, Melissa, Simon, Jenna & Kaylee

Our management team (pictured above) is proud of the incredible work accomplished by our staff and board over the last year through engaging with landowners, local communities, donors, and partners.

We invite you to be part of the next chapter at Island Nature Trust. Join us as we focus on the acquisition of critical ecosystems, the stewardship of protected lands, and the expansion of our educational outreach and species at risk initiatives.

*"We believe in the power of
community action. Together,
we grow our future."*

[Click or Scan here to
support our work:](#)



Current Staff

Simon Andrea, Land Acquisition Manager
Ray Brown, Stewardship Technician
Kelly Bush, Office Coordinator
Kaylee Busniuk, Stewardship & Engagement Manager
Jenna Cahill, Coastal Project Manager
Melissa Cameron, Executive Director
Cassandra Hennessey, Land Acquisition Coordinator
Kayle Lavery, Farmland Bird Program Coordinator
Brittany MacLean, Stewardship Coordinator
Katherine McEwen, Engagement Technician
Lance Moore, Conservation Coordinator
Janell Smith, Finance & Operations Manager
Kate Teed, Coastal Conservation Coordinator

Board of Directors

Marie-Ann Bowden, Director
Patricia Caporaso, Secretary
David Hooley, Director
Kim Horreht, President
Kelli Miller Kickham, Director
Barb MacDonald, Director
Gordon MacKay, Past-President
Kathy Martin, Director
George W. Mason, Treasurer
Andrea McManus, Director
Dwaine Oakley, Vice-President
Roger Roy, Director

Answering the Urgent Call for Land and Species at Risk Protection

Thanks to YOUR support, Island Nature Trust protects and stewards 18% of all conserved areas across PEI.

As of March 31, 2025, **we PROTECT over 12,700 acres** of forests, coastal ecosystems, and freshwater wetlands in perpetuity under the *PEI Natural Areas Protection Act* and the *Wildlife Conservation Act*.

Because of YOUR generosity, species at risk and of concern such as the piping plover, bank swallow, bobolink, Canada warbler, eastern wood-pewee, and black ash are being monitored, safeguarded, and supported.

TOGETHER we can grow a conservation legacy across our Island to support biodiversity and create a lasting network of wild spaces for nature and people to thrive.

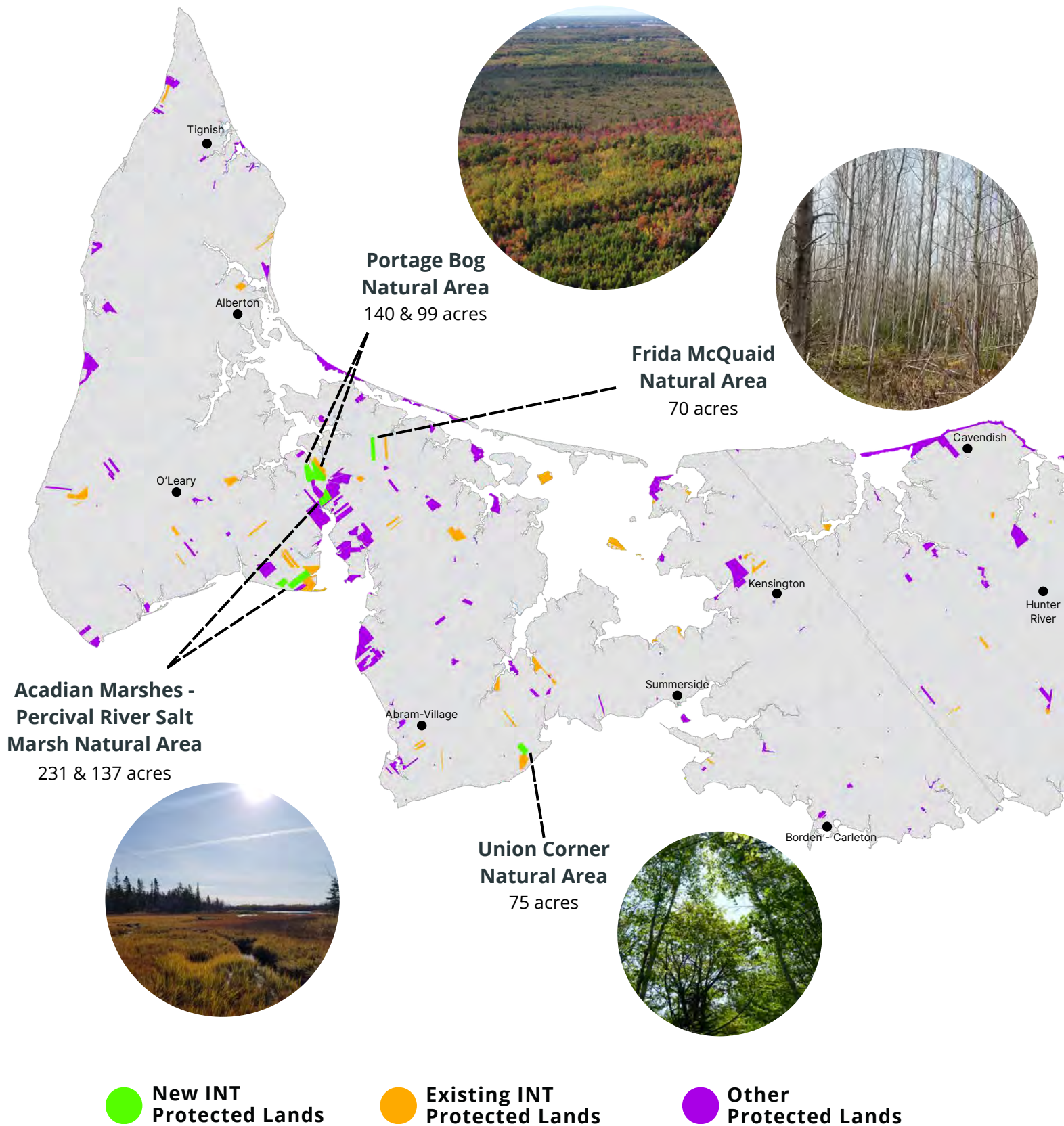




Wild Spaces:

Protecting Land Across
Prince Edward Island

New Lands Secured





**MapleCross - DeRoche Pond
Natural Area**
200 acres

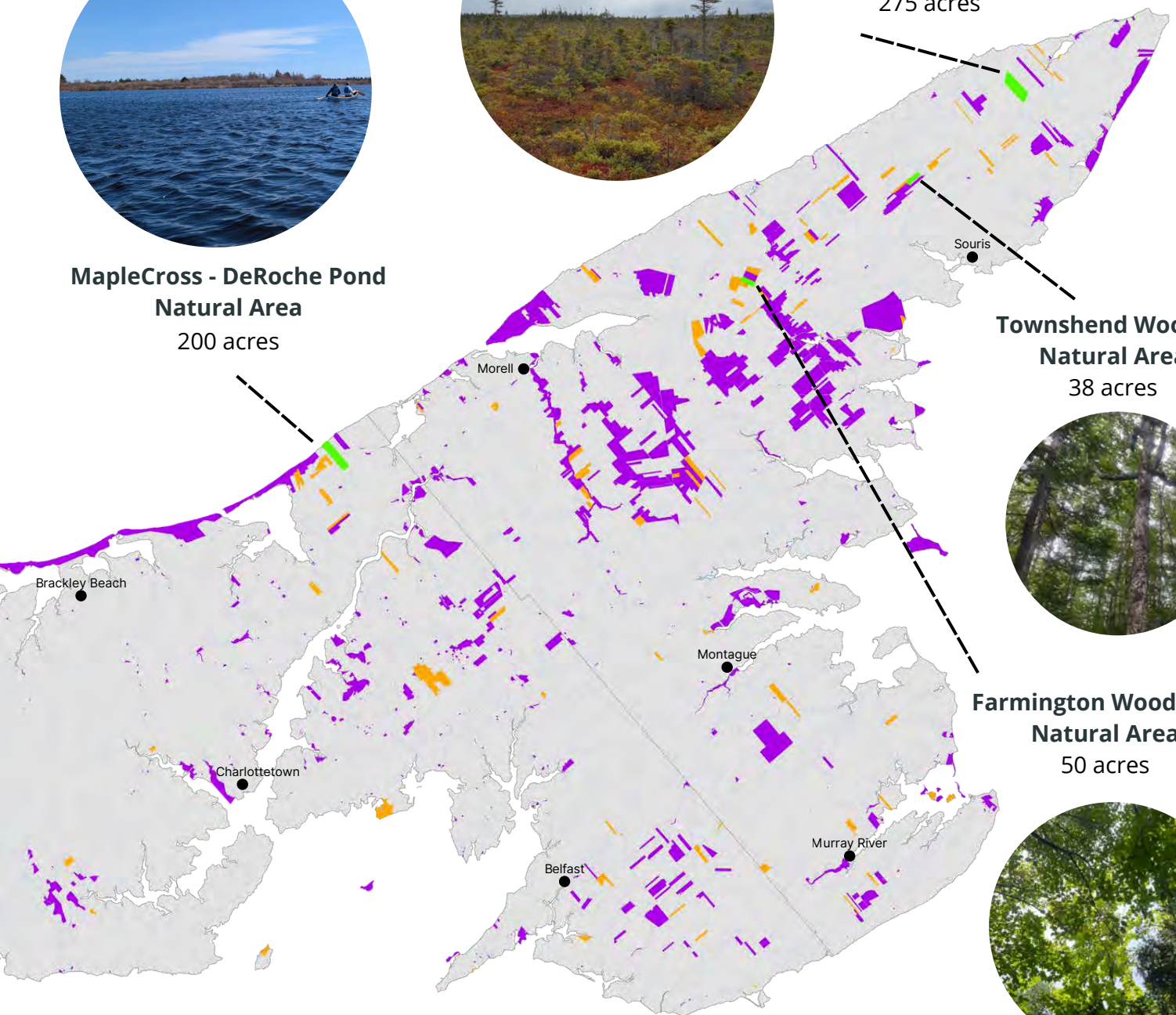
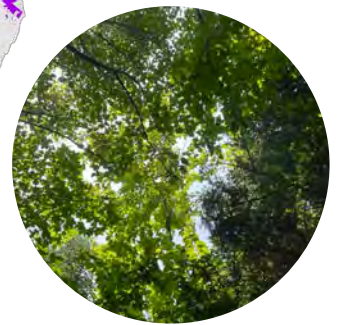


**North Lake Creek Riparian
Zone Natural Area**
275 acres

**Townshend Woodlot
Natural Area**
38 acres



**Farmington Woodlands
Natural Area**
50 acres



Connectivity

In the 2024-2025 fiscal year, Island Nature Trust acquired ten new properties. We are thrilled to announce that nine of these build onto existing protected lands. Due to the high amount of private and agricultural land on PEI, wildlife habitat is extremely fragmented. Island Nature Trust remains committed to protecting large areas of native wildlife habitat by creating extensive and contiguous Natural Areas.

To learn more about the impact
of connectivity, scan here:



Wild Spaces

Point DeRoche: An Ongoing Legacy



Island Nature Trust (INT) was founded in 1979 after a proposed resort development near DeRoche Pond faced protest and created the need for an organization dedicated to land protection on PEI.

The Province of PEI subsequently purchased two properties on MacDonald Road and leased them to INT, establishing INT's first Natural Area in 1982. Since then, INT has recognized Point DeRoche as a target for land conservation.

DeRoche Pond is a hotspot for wildlife, including the federally at risk piping plover, Canada warbler, and bank swallow. The coast contains the popular Blooming Point Beach, expansive dune ecosystems, and species rich back dune wetlands. The ponds are popular sites for fishing, hunting, canoeing, and birdwatching. In-land forests are dominated by white spruce and red maple, most of which was once farmland.

What comes next? INT is actively working to acquire additional land at Point DeRoche. With your support, we can ensure the coast, wetlands, forest, and wildlife present will be protected in perpetuity.



Island Nature Trust, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, and the Province of PEI now collectively protect over **1,400 acres** of land at Point DeRoche.

1979

INT is founded

1982

INT leases 82 acres on MacDonald Road from the Government of PEI

1985

INT purchases 140 acres on Blooming Point Road

1988

INT purchases 69 acres on Point DeRoche Road

2018

INT purchases 15 acres off of Blooming Point Road

2025

INT purchases 200 acres on Point DeRoche Road

Thanks to you, in 2024-2025, we protected

1,315 acres



5.12

kilometres of
river

443

acres of wetland

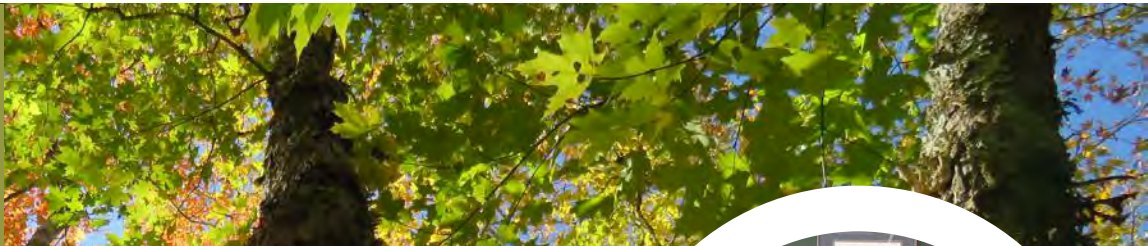


1.85

kilometres of
coastline

221

acres of upland
forest

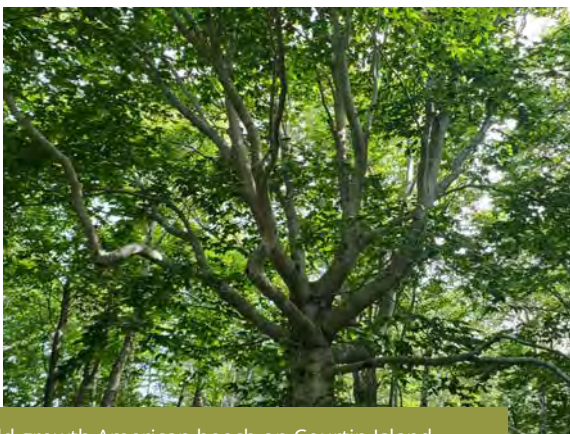


2024-2025 was another successful year for land conservation at Island Nature Trust. Continued funding from the federal and provincial governments, as well as support from foundations and individuals, has allowed us to protect ten new amazing properties. The Land Acquisition Team is immensely grateful for your support. Thank you from Cassandra, Lance, and Simon.



Pituamkek National Park Reserve

On July 4, 2024, an Establishment Agreement was signed to create a new National Park on PEI. Pituamkek, or “At the long sand dune” in the Mi’kmaw language, focuses on the Hog Island Sandhills, but also includes several coastal islands, coastal ecosystems, and culturally rich forests in western PEI, near Lennox Island. This area contains significant forest cover, rare species, and species at risk habitat.



Old growth American beech on Courtin Island



Since 2019, Island Nature Trust has worked collaboratively with the Epekwitk Assembly of Councils and L’nuey to conserve and co-manage land in Pituamkek National Park Reserve. INT holds land for inclusion in the National Park Reserve and monitors the area for bank swallow and piping plover. Island Nature Trust remains committed to reconciliation through land conservation and the promotion of Mi’kmaq traditional land uses.

[Click or Scan here to read about a 333 acre donation from the Sark family, near Lennox Island:](#)





Stewarding Our Future

Eastern Hemlock (*Tsuga canadensis*)

From Gift to Impact



21,452

native species planted



1,221

staff hours spent
boots on the ground



79

signs installed



81

percent of Natural
Areas monitored



1,282

pounds of debris
removed



1,014

pounds of invasives
removed

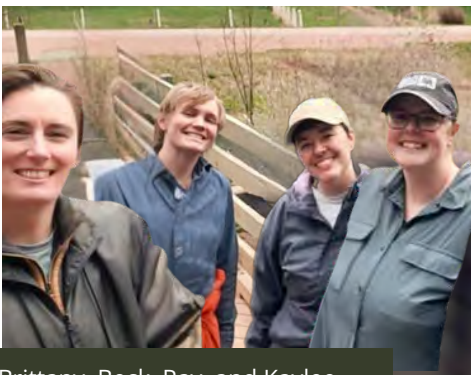
Land Stewardship Highlights

Another year has come and gone for our Stewardship Team at Island Nature Trust. The Stewardship Team, or the “Forever Team” as we like to say, is responsible for monitoring all properties INT owns and protects, as well as conducting restoration when required, and supporting our Conservation Guardian program.

This was our Stewardship Team’s second summer working together, with the return of technicians Ray and Beck to join coordinator Brittany and manager Kaylee. This year our small team of four, with help from Guardians, monitored 81 percent of all Natural Areas - over 9,500 acres.

Monitoring can take many forms and can include work such as trail maintenance, invasive species monitoring, biological inventories, and walking property boundaries.

This work is critical to ensure that activities prohibited under the *PEI Natural Areas*



Brittany, Beck, Ray, and Kaylee

Protection Act, the legislation that protects most of our properties, are not occurring. Monitoring work protects the long-term ecological integrity of the property by enabling us to take early intervention to correct any ecologically harmful activities.

A significant portion of the Stewardship Team’s work this year focused on forest management planning and invasive species monitoring and management.

Four of INT’s properties received surveys required for a forest management plan. These surveys focused on properties that had forests derived from retired agricultural fields that grew up into monoculture white spruce stands, as well as, forest plantations typically made up of white pine and tamarack.

Once complete, these plans are approved by the Natural Areas Protection Act Technical Advisory Committee and allow INT to conduct forest restoration work, aiming to diversify all aspects of the forest including species, age, and horizontal and vertical structure.

“Time spent amongst trees is never wasted time.”

–Katrina Mayer



We tried some fun new methods of monitoring for the presence of an invasive insect species, hemlock woolly adelgid not yet present in PEI, which included getting to play with slingshots... for science! Balls covered in Velcro soared into the air and returned to the ground for close inspection. Luckily, no signs of the insect were detected.

Our team conducted over 45 hours of invasive species surveys. The properties were chosen based on potential risk factors including historical sightings that needed confirmation, nearby sightings, and areas with a higher potential risk of invasion, including, trails, roads, and field edges.

Our dedicated Guardians were troopers, following our staff climbing through invasive vines and native brambles, being (almost) carried away by mosquitoes, to assist with surveys and removals. The hard work paid off with 120 observations recorded across

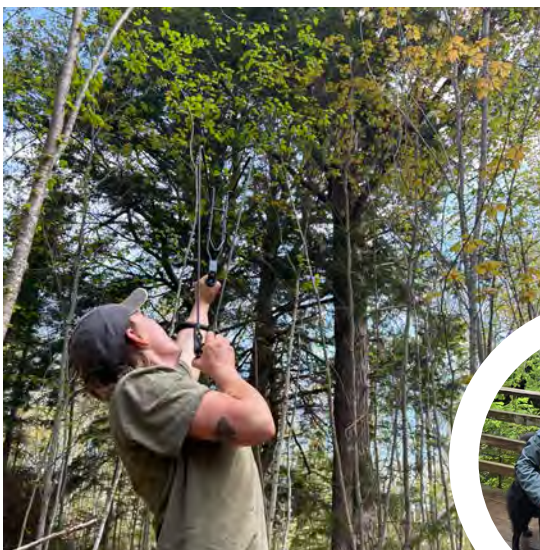


seven properties. These observations were shared with the PEI Invasive Species Council and the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre.

Monitoring over 12,000 acres across 112 Natural Areas, requires many property visits. This year one of the Team's goals during the visits was to venture deep into properties to find and record the location of rare and at risk species.

An almost 5-kilometre venture through a dense brushy wetland paid off with the observation of two rare bird species, Canada warbler (a species at risk) and Canada jay, as well as, three uncommon plant species including round-leaf dogwood, highbush cranberry, and club spur orchid.

With almost 13,000 acres of land now held by INT, it is certain that summer 2025 will keep us on our toes.



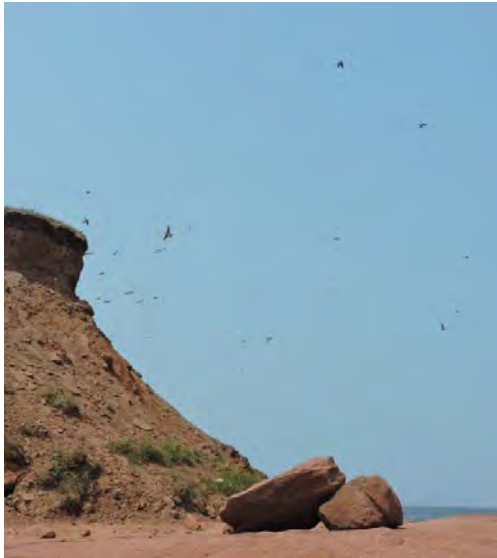
Kaylee Busniuk
Stewardship &
Engagement Manager

Protecting Island Wildlife



Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*)

Monitoring Effort



507

kilometres surveyed
for bank swallow

22

breeding piping plover
pairs monitored



107

bank swallow
colonies surveyed



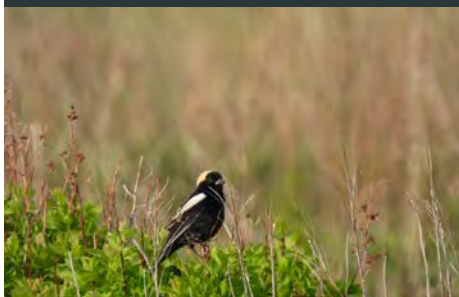
61

piping plover
chicks hatched



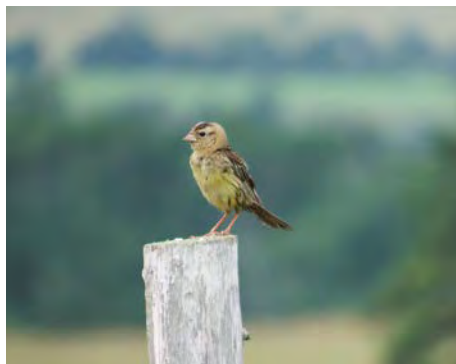
160

fields monitored
for bobolink



535

bobolink
fledged



58

beaches monitored
for piping plover



Piping Plover

Summary

Don Cassidy
PHOTOGRAPHY

Photo courtesy of the talented Don Cassidy Photography

Island Nature Trust continued piping plover monitoring in 2024 on 58 beaches outside of the PEI National Park (PEINP). Staff completed 215 monitoring visits, with an additional 65 surveys conducted by volunteers.

There were 22 pairs monitored outside of PEINP, which contributed to 29 nest attempts, 61 chicks, and 40 observed fledglings. Annual productivity decreased from 1.85 in 2023 to 1.81, still surpassing the target productivity of 1.65 fledglings/pair.

Stats

22	Breeding pairs
29	Nesting attempts
18	Nests hatched
40	Fledglings

Bank Swallow

Summary



INT staff, partners, and volunteers surveyed 507 kilometres of PEI coastline during the 2024 breeding season. This included 252 kilometres not previously monitored in 2023. Data was collected on 107 different bank swallow colonies along the coastline. Surveyors gathered information on colony size, productivity, and habitat suitability.

Five colonies were monitored weekly from May to mid-August. Colonies were located in Rock Barra, Wood Islands, Launching, and two colonies in Darnley. These colonies were monitored regularly to contribute to the dataset started in 2023, with the intent of establishing a regionally accurate breeding timeline for PEI.

Stats

507	Kilometres surveyed
206	Routes surveyed
107	Colonies surveyed
5	Focal colonies
190	Bank swallow surveys

Bobolink

Summary



INT worked with 57 landowners committed to delaying hay harvest until after July 15th, to allow young bobolink time to fledge from their grassland nests.

INT surveyed for bobolink in 160 fields across the Island. In sites with bobolink present, population counts were completed, and productivity surveys were done to determine if bobolink were actively utilizing these fields for nesting purposes.

Staff completed 373 surveys during the 2024 breeding season. In participating fields, 318 males and 205 females were identified, which had the potential to produce approximately 535 fledglings.

Stats

57 Participating landowners

1,840 Acres delayed

373 Surveys conducted

523 Breeding individuals found

535 Estimated fledglings

The Power of Teamwork

Island Nature Trust is proud to be at the forefront of species at risk conservation in PEI. This work is time-sensitive and intensive, involving surveying fields, rocky cliffs, and beaches across the entire Island.

In 2024, Kayle Laverty and Jenna Cahill oversaw our species at risk field work with assistance from species at risk technicians, Kate, Olivia, Hannah, and Abby.

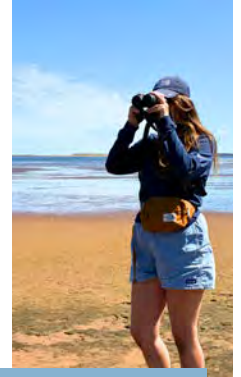
With over 160 fields monitored for bobolink, 58 piping plover beaches, and over 500km of coastline surveyed for bank swallow, all between May and August, these six determined gals were in need of assistance.



Kayle



Jenna



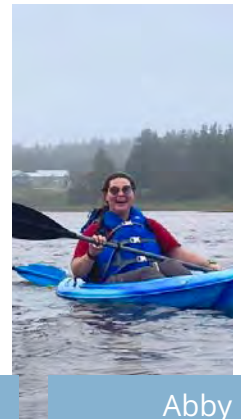
Kate



Olivia



Hannah



Abby



Ray, Brittany & Beck



Cass & Lance

Luckily, INT's other field teams are always willing to lend a helping hand to ensure this important work gets done. Beck, Ray, Brittany, Cass and Lance all generously took time out of their own busy schedules to help.

Their countless hours dedicated to our species at risk work, combined with our volunteer force, (read on for our volunteer highlights!), ensured that our Species at Risk Team had a successful season protecting these beautiful birds!



Engaging With Our Island

"I was able to rekindle my sense of wonder by being exposed to so many new ideas and found the [Orchid] Walk not only relaxing but informative."

- Laurie Brown

The Power of Community



628

hours of volunteer time



83

kilometres of
coastline surveyed
by volunteers



65

volunteer plover surveys



169

volunteers stewarding
Island habitats



120

Conservation
Guardian reports



76

percent of
Natural Areas
assigned a Guardian

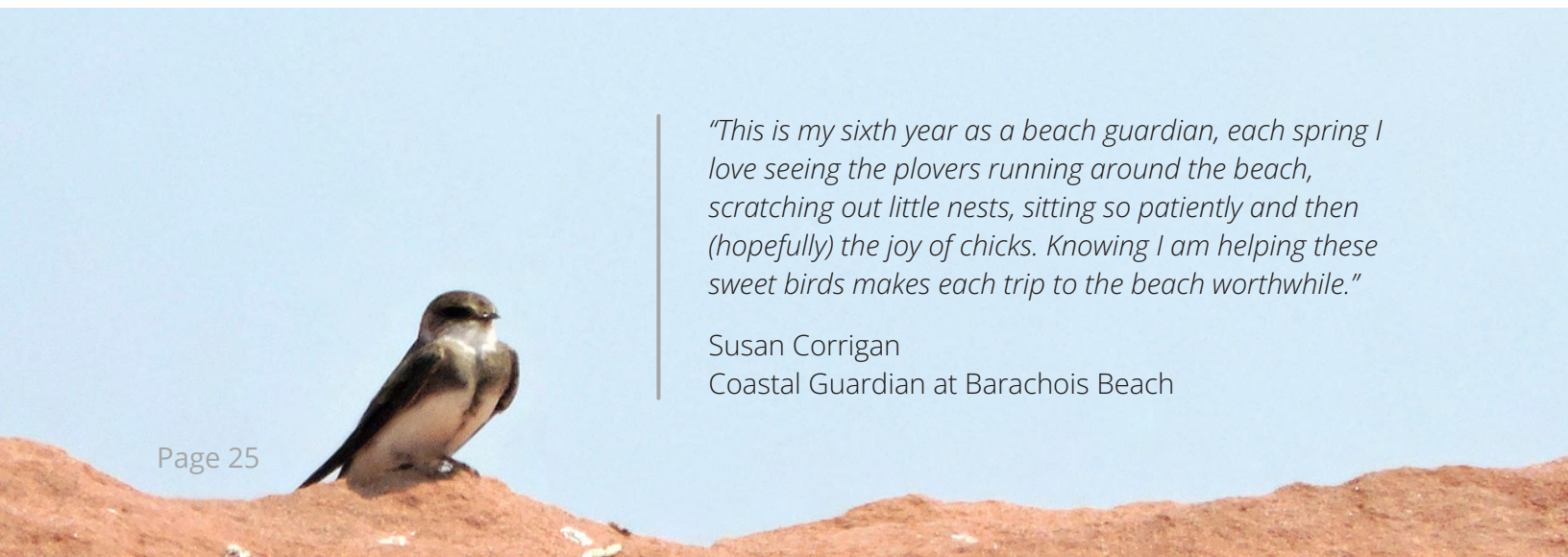


Coastal Guardian

Highlights

Our Coastal Guardian Program has continued to grow in 2024. Our 42 Guardians contributed over 300 hours towards our coastal species at risk work. Through their dedication and generosity, they conducted 65 piping plover surveys and surveyed 83 kilometres of coastline for bank swallow.

Each spring, Coastal Guardians are trained in piping plover and bank swallow survey methods, general coastal ecology, and public outreach strategies. We are deeply fortunate to have such a passionate group of volunteers who allow us to broaden the impact of our work. If you are interested in joining this amazing team, let us know!



"This is my sixth year as a beach guardian, each spring I love seeing the plovers running around the beach, scratching out little nests, sitting so patiently and then (hopefully) the joy of chicks. Knowing I am helping these sweet birds makes each trip to the beach worthwhile."

Susan Corrigan
Coastal Guardian at Barachois Beach

Fleck

Celebrating the (permanent) dedication of our volunteers to a special plover

A small piping plover, affectionately known as "Fleck", has stolen the hearts of our staff and volunteers. This endangered bird has a small "fleck" of gray feathers on his breast, setting him apart from the rest of the flock. He has successfully been nesting in eastern PEI for the last eight years, doing his part to recover his species by raising dozens of chicks! Bernadette Milner shares her connection to Fleck below:

"I started as a coastal guardian in 2018. I fell in love with a little bird that nested on my beach, Little Harbour. I have been so taken with our little friend that in 2022, my daughter & I had permanent reminders of him inked on our bodies! Yup - matching tattoos of Fleck!"

Credit to Hannah Bulman - our tattoo artist - who created this sweet reminder of our most vulnerable seasonal residents!"

- Bernadette Milner



Photos of Fleck provided by volunteer H  l  ne Blanchet

Connections

Outreach on the Beach

INT staff completed six "Outreach on the Beach" days. Outreach days consisted of setting up a tent and table at the entrance of popular piping plover beaches. Staff distributed 302 pieces of conservation materials, while also engaging with 243 beach goers about coastal conservation, species at risk, volunteer opportunities, and the work done by INT.

Beach Dune Fieldtrips

INT staff and partners hosted beach dune field trips and in-class presentations for grade seven classes from eight schools in PEI. A total of 325 grade seven students attended the field trips and in-class presentations, which provided them with hands-on interactive coastal ecosystem educational material.



Orchid Walk

"While visiting the Island, I participated in the Orchid Walk. I was excited to be out in nature since I have arthritis which often makes walking difficult, so I tend to avoid events like these. The event was organized in such a way that stops were frequent [and] I never felt judged for moving a little slower. In fact, frequent stops were heavily encouraged since it allowed for group discussions.

Once we reached the bog, I was only able to explore for part of it, but the guides acknowledged my challenge and helped me keep my balance, so I am grateful for even being able to enter. I have never been in a bog so experiencing the spongy ground was a first! I went from just hearing about bogs growing up to understanding how vital wetlands are for the environment and why they need to be conserved. "

- Laurie Brown

Conservation Guardian Highlights

This year we welcomed a record breaking 50 new Conservation Guardians to our team! These Guardians dedicated 320 hours of volunteer time to monitoring and supporting the restoration of INT's protected lands.

Guardians had different motivations for joining our program but common themes were the loss of land to development and the interest in exploring PEI's natural spaces.

Sam Wandio, pictured above, joined the program in November 2024 and said *"I grew up on the Island, but I think I still see it with the kind of wonder a tourist might. It's a gorgeous place, and I wanted to be part of an organization that helps protect it. I think too much has been lost to developers over the years, and once land is lost to private*

ownership, that's it." Many of our Guardians choose to monitor properties close to where they live but Sam had another strategy. *"I chose a few sections of land far away from where I live so I could explore more of the Island that I don't get to as often."*

We are grateful for the enduring support of our Conservation Guardians - here is to another wonderful year!



Heritage Recognition Award

We are proud to share that one of our most dedicated volunteers, Denis Gallant, received a 2025 Heritage Recognition Award from the PEI Museum and Heritage Foundation.

Denis has been volunteering with INT's Conservation Guardian program for over seven years and monitors 10 Natural Areas, totaling almost 1,900 acres, including offshore islands.

Denis consistently goes above and beyond program requirements conducting 19 visits last season (over 51 hours of time on the ground). In June 2024 Denis documented a new dragonfly species to PEI, seaside dragonlet (pictured on the right), near our Percival River properties.

Volunteers like Denis greatly and directly help our small Stewardship Team by reducing the burden on staff to monitor offshore islands and large properties.



Denis Gallant via iNaturalist



A photograph of a coastal dune landscape. In the foreground, there are tall, green and yellow grasses growing on a dune. The dune's surface is exposed red sand, showing some erosion and small patches of grass. In the background, there is a flat landscape with green fields, a few buildings, and a body of water under a cloudy sky.

Philanthropy & Financial Report



Conservation is a Legacy

We Grow Together

Island Nature Trust extends heartfelt thanks to all those who support our mission to protect and steward the natural landscapes and biodiversity of Prince Edward Island. Whether through financial gifts, volunteer time, or shared advocacy, your support fuels every acre we conserve and every species we protect.

We are especially proud to recognize our Donors of Distinction, whose extraordinary generosity helps drive transformative conservation work across the Island. Your leadership and commitment are an inspiration.

Thank you. You are essential partners in our shared journey to ensure nature thrives for generations to come.

[Contact Melissa, our Executive Director, to discuss donation options and legacy gifts.](#)



Donors of Distinction

Individual Donors

Anonymous
Wayne Carew
Liam Gauthier
Kara Griffin
Stephen Hessian Sr.
Kim Horrell
Dorothy MacLeod
Kathy Martin
Dan McAskill
Dr. Sandra McConkey &
Dr. John Drake
Ken McKenna
Estate of Arlene Rice
Patricia Schurman
Nigel & Leona Smart
Katelyn, Alissa & Eric in
Memory of John Sylvester
Dr. Liz Townsend &
Dr. Harold Robertson
David & Winnifred Wake

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Organizations and Foundations

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BioTalent Canada
Christ Church, Cherry Valley
Clean Foundation
Community Foundation of PEI
Copson Bell Family Foundation
ECHO Foundation
ECO Canada
Hillsborough River Association
MapleCross Fund
McCain Foundation
Nature Canada
Nature PEI
RBC Foundation
Venture for Canada
Wildlife Conservation Fund
Wildlife Habitat Canada

We also extend our heartfelt thanks to ALL donors, regardless of the amount, including the hundreds of individuals whose donations and memberships collectively make a profound impact to the work of INT.



Nurture Nature

Partners in Conservation

We are grateful for the partners that collaborate with the Trust, including:

Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre
American Friends of Canadian Conservation
Birds Canada
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Environmental Coalition of PEI /
Macphail Woods Ecological Forestry Project
Epekwitk Assembly of Councils
Holland College
Lennox Island Natural Resource Department
L'nuey
Mi'kmaq Confederacy of PEI
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Nature Trust of New Brunswick
Nova Scotia Nature Trust
Office of the Lieutenant Governor of PEI
Parks Canada
PEI Invasive Species Council
PEI Watershed Alliance &
Island Watershed Groups
University of Prince Edward Island

Government Partners

Island Nature Trust is thankful for the sustained financial support of our government partners:

Province of Prince Edward Island:

Department of Agriculture
Department of Environment, Energy and
Climate Action
Department of Workforce, Advanced Learning
and Population

Government of Canada:

Department of Employment and Social
Development Canada
Department of Environment and Climate
Change Canada

City of Summerside

Leaving a Legacy

Ian M. and Dorothy M. MacLeod of Charlottetown greatly enjoyed natural areas of Prince Edward Island. In his younger years, Ian loved to fish for trout. He also took his family for drives to explore heritage roads. Ian had an uncanny sense of direction that always amazed his family. He always seemed to know where little roads would lead. Dorothy also enjoyed family expeditions. She had vast knowledge of the birds and plants found in PEI's forests and on its shorelines.

She shared her interest in nature with daughters Miriam and Evelyn.

Before Dorothy's passing in 2024, she donated a number of shares to Island Nature Trust. Evelyn and Miriam are pleased that the dividends from these shares will make a contribution towards the stewardship of precious natural areas that are protected by Island Nature Trust.

| By Evelyn and Miriam MacLeod



Did You Know?

Donating shares during your lifetime has tax advantages and can make a major impact to the receiving charity. [Contact us to learn more!](#)



Impactful Giving: MapleCross Fund

Island Nature Trust is proud to recognize the ongoing support received from the MapleCross Fund for the acquisition of natural areas across the province.

Led by the dynamic team of Dr. Isobel Ralston and Dr. Jan Oudenes, MapleCross has helped fund the purchase of over 1,165 acres across all three counties of PEI since 2019.

The generosity of MapleCross has been instrumental in helping INT acquire larger blocks of contiguous land, most notably in Kings County, in the MapleCross - Morell River Riparian Zone Natural Areas, and in Prince County with the MapleCross - Port Hill Station Natural Area. Most recently, Maple Cross supported the acquisition of the featured property (page nine), the MapleCross - DeRoche Pond Natural Area, which not only encompasses 200 acres, but connects to previous acquisitions in this area.

Provincially rare species that have been observed in the eleven MapleCross funded acquisitions include Canada warbler (pictured below), eastern wood-pewee, black ash, rose-breasted grosbeak, and hobblebush.

Our team is grateful for the ongoing support of the MapleCross Fund, who have made it possible to protect these significant ecosystems.



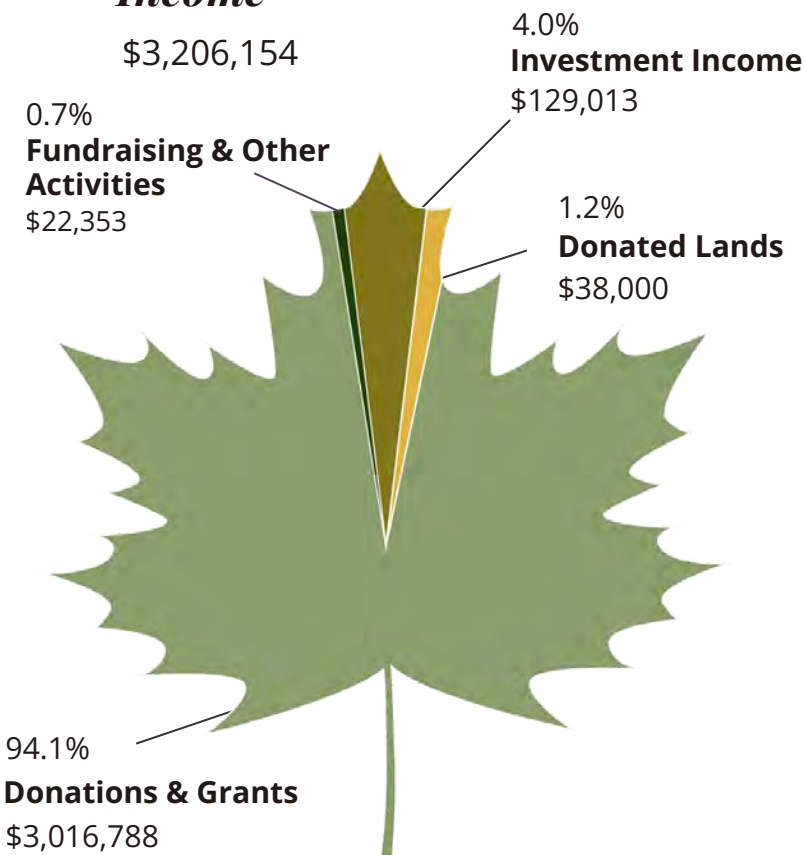
Financials

In the past year (April 1, 2024 – March 31, 2025) Island Nature Trust invested \$2.99 million in land protection, species conservation, land stewardship, public engagement in conservation, and operating activities. These expenditures allowed us to advance our conservation mission and achieve the many accomplishments highlighted throughout this impact report. Your support made this level of investment in our shared environment possible.

Our financial statements are audited annually by an external auditor. Investments are managed by RBC Dominion Securities Inc. and are subject to our investment policies and bylaws. Financial operations are overseen by Island Nature Trust's Treasurer and Finance Committee. If you are interested in reviewing a full copy of the audited financial statements, please contact our office.

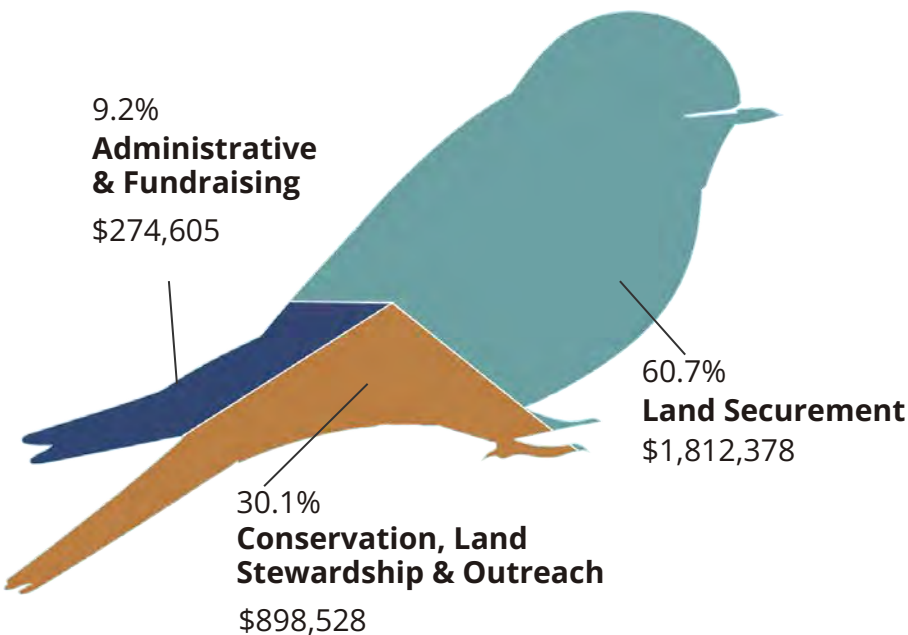
Income

\$3,206,154



Expenses

\$2,985,511



Investing in Our Future

Our financial position remains healthy and strong, with no long-term debt and \$14.4 million invested in conservation lands, with an additional \$4.7 million invested in conservation lands for Pitumkek National Park Reserve. Our investments have grown to \$1.9 million, allowing us to move towards operational stability and providing us with the necessary building blocks to address our long-term stewardship commitments to the properties we steward in perpetuity.

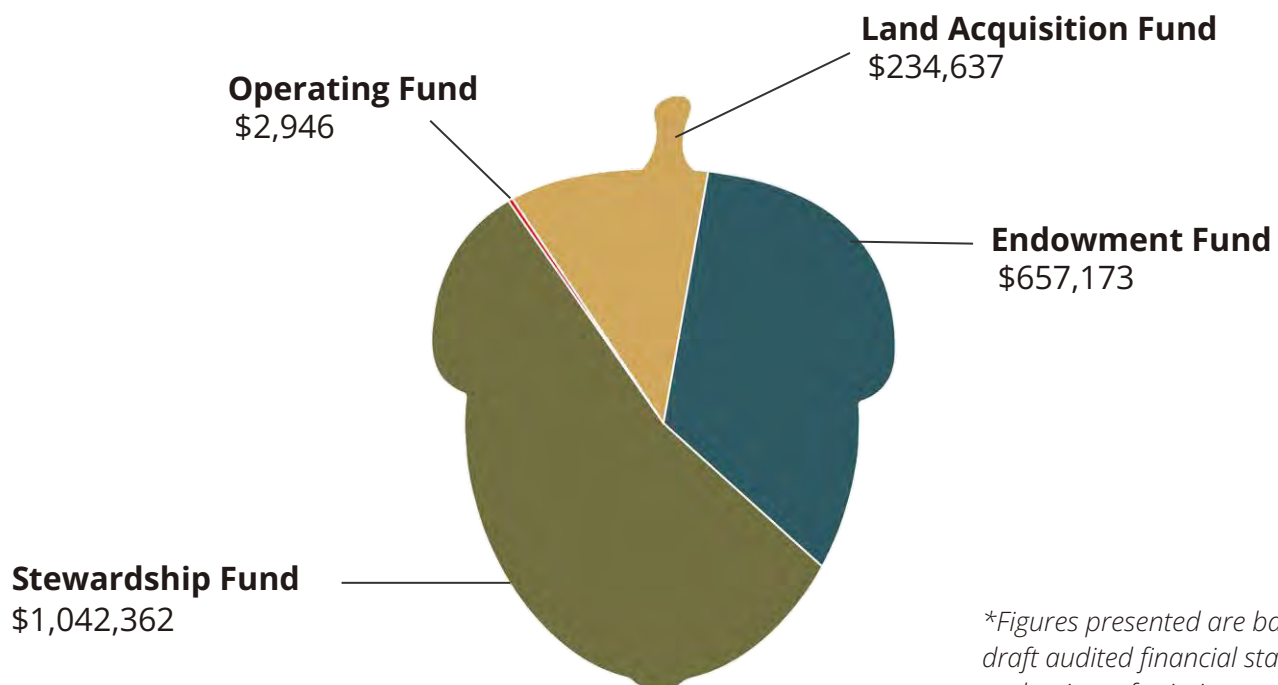
Following best standards and practices for land trusts, Island Nature Trust continues

to set aside 10% of the fair market value of each property acquired in the fiscal year to ensure we can continue to provide a high level of care to our natural areas into the future. Donations of securities by generous individuals have helped us reach our annual investment goals.

Income earned from investments primarily helps support stewardship activities and land acquisition. The principal of INT's Endowment and Stewardship Funds remains invested and is restricted through INT's bylaws.

Investments

\$1,937,118



**Figures presented are based on draft audited financial statements at the time of printing.*

1% For The Planet



Rustico Surf Club is a small family-owned Canadian retailer featuring boards and quality screen-printed apparel in the heart of Rustico, Prince Edward Island. Founded in 2022 by a group of local surfers who aspire to create positive vibes, support the local surf community, and celebrate the unique surf culture here on the North Shore of PEI.

They have surfed the salty seas of PEI together for over 15 years. Their shared passion for the sport inspires their custom apparel and they love exploring the coast with friends and family in every season. The artwork is in-house and all of the screen-printing production takes place within Canada to help support small businesses.

For Rustico Surf Club, the ocean is the foundation of everything. Flat or firing, sun-warm or frosty, they're all in! That's why they are members of 1% for the Planet, targeting a portion of every sale to Island Nature Trust.

We are grateful for the support of local businesses like Rustico Surf Club and we salute their commitment to conservation across the Island!

Are you a business looking to give back? Contact us to learn more about the 1% for the Planet pledge!





Gifts of Land

In 2025, PEI's protected wildlife habitat remains significantly fragmented. With 87 percent of the Island privately owned, Island Nature Trust (INT) relies on generous landowners to bring natural areas into protection.

Many families have owned their land for generations and hold deep relationships to the natural landscapes on their property. Donating land for ecological protection is a perfect way to ensure that future generations may continue this connection with the land. Furthermore, land donations leave a legacy, showcasing the donor's commitment to natural spaces on PEI.

If a landowner is interested in donating their land, INT will visit their property to assess its ecological health. If the land aligns with INT's Land Acquisition Strategy, we commission a certified appraisal to value the land, and, if applicable, will apply to the Ecological Gift Program on the donor's behalf to reduce the capital gains tax. In turn, the donor receives a tax receipt for the land's value, naming rights for the property, and peace of mind that the land will be protected for future generations.

Once owned by INT, the land is protected in perpetuity under the *PEI Natural Areas Protection Act* or the *Wildlife Conservation Act*.

*Do you have land that you would like to see protected?
Contact our Land Acquisition Manager to learn more:
acquisition@islandnaturetrust.ca*



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Photo courtesy of Michael Salter

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