

# **Overview of the *State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report***

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**January 28, 2010  
Scotian Pride Conference**

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# Context

- Provincial Oceans Network
  - 15 departments and agencies
- Coastal Management Framework
  - Outlines commitment and approach to coastal management
  - Defines what we're focusing on, and how we'll do it
- Priority coastal issues
  - Focuses efforts on complex, cross-cutting issues
- Strategic Activities
  - Critical first steps
  - Coordinate and accelerate

**COASTAL MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK**

The Government of Nova Scotia has committed to developing a coordinated and strategic approach to coastal ocean management. The *Coastal Management Framework* will guide the Government of Nova Scotia in working towards achieving this task. Provincial priority coastal issues include: coastal development, public coastal access, sea-level rise and storm events, working waterfronts, coastal water quality, and sensitive coastal ecosystems and habitats.

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**THE WHAT: THE VISION**  
A healthy, safe and vibrant coast that sustains the highest quality of life for current and future generations.

THE VISION DESCRIBES THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA'S LONG-TERM DESIRED OUTCOMES FOR COASTAL MANAGEMENT.

**THE MISSION**  
To address coastal issues in Nova Scotia through effective leadership, coordination and collaboration.

THE MISSION DESCRIBES THE LONG-TERM ORGANIZATIONAL APPROACH FOR ACHIEVING THE VISION.

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**THE HOW: THE GOALS**

1. Coastal and ocean issues in Nova Scotia are addressed through collaboration and integrated approaches.  
2. Nova Scotia derives ongoing optimal benefit from its coastal and ocean areas and resources.  
3. Nova Scotia's ecosystems are fully functioning now and in the future.

THE GOALS DESCRIBE WHAT IS REQUIRED TO ACHIEVE THE VISION.

**THE STRATEGIC THRUSTS**

1. Develop and maintain an ongoing understanding of Nova Scotia's coastal and ocean issues.  
2. Facilitate the collection, research, management and exchange of coastal and ocean information.  
3. Coordinate effective decision making on coastal and ocean issues.  
4. Increase the opportunity and capacity of the public to engage in coastal and ocean issues.

STRATEGIC THRUSTS DESCRIBE THE OVERARCHING DIRECTION NEEDED TO ACHIEVE THE GOALS STATEMENTS AND THUS THE VISION.

**THE SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES**

1. Municipal, provincial and federal governments have a shared understanding of Nova Scotia's priority coastal and ocean issues.  
2. Relevant provincial stakeholders have a shared understanding of Nova Scotia's coastal and ocean issues.  
3. A provincial mechanism exists to integrate emerging coastal and ocean issues and opportunities into coastal management processes.  
4. The majority of Nova Scotians are aware of and have an understanding of Nova Scotia's coastal and ocean issues.  
5. The Government of Nova Scotia is recognized locally, nationally and internationally as the most comprehensive source for coastal information related to Nova Scotia.  
6. Public and private research and monitoring programs are addressing Nova Scotia's coastal and ocean issues.  
7. The Provincial Oceans Network is the key provincial body for information exchange.  
8. The Provincial Oceans Network is the key provincial body for coordinating decision making on coastal and ocean management issues.  
9. The Government of Nova Scotia has a clear understanding of stakeholders' interests and concerns related to coastal and ocean issues.  
10. The Government of Nova Scotia has a clear understanding of the various roles, responsibilities and priorities of municipal, provincial, federal and aboriginal governments as they relate to coastal management.  
11. The Government of Nova Scotia is able to respond to public inquiries on coastal management through a multi-departmental frontline process.  
12. The Government of Nova Scotia is supporting community-based initiatives to address priority coastal and ocean issues.  
13. Emerging coastal and ocean management policies are shared proactively with key coastal stakeholders.  
14. The public has a clear understanding of the various roles, responsibilities and priorities of municipal, provincial, federal and aboriginal governments as they relate to coastal management.

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES (1-6 YEARS) ARE SEEN AS NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE THE STRATEGIC THRUSTS.

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**THE PATH FORWARD:**

**STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES**

- Assess the state of Nova Scotia's coast and establish a sustainable Coastal Development Strategy.
- Develop a coastal web portal.
- Establish a coastal research network.
- Sign a MOU with the Government of Canada to coordinate the coastal and ocean management efforts.
- Identify and expand public education and awareness related to priority coastal issues.
- Inventory and coordinate LIDAR mapping initiatives in Nova Scotia.
- Strengthen provincial leadership and coordination on integrated coastal management initiatives.

THE STRATEGIC ACTIVITIES DESCRIBE THE IMMEDIATE ACTIONS THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF NOVA SCOTIA WILL UNDERTAKE TO ACHIEVE THE SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES.

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# Key Steps in Developing the Coastal Strategy

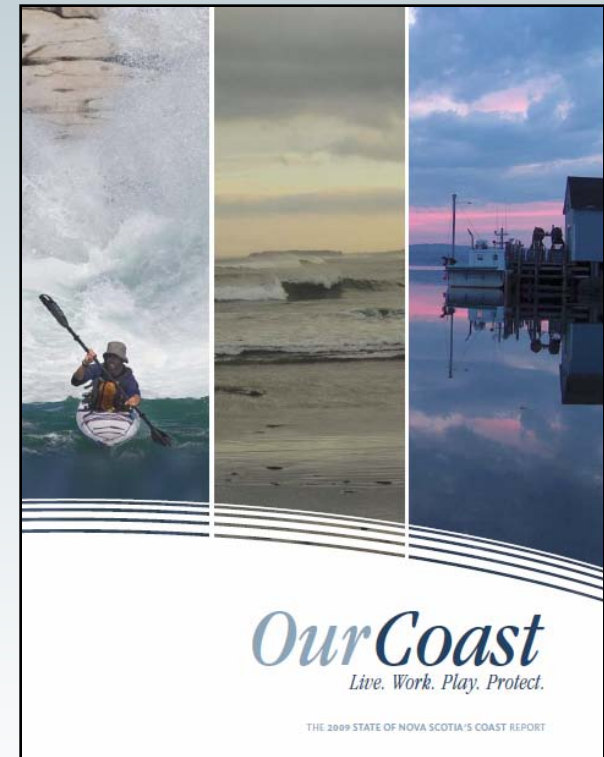
1. Communicate baseline information
2. Gather opinions
3. Draft the Strategy

# State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report

*Released December 9th*

## Objectives

- Inform and engage
- Bring focus
- Baseline information
- Common platform for dialogue



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# Methodology

- Drafted by multi-disciplinary team at CBCL Ltd.
- Input and review from PON
- Scope: balance between general and specific
- Compilation and synthesis of existing information
- New analysis of existing data



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# The Report focuses on five basic questions:

1. What are the priority issues?
2. What's changing and what is the rate of change?
3. Why is the change happening?
4. Are the changes significant?
5. What is currently, or could be, the management response?

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# Report Contents

## Overview of Nova Scotia's Coast

- Natural, Social, Built, Regulatory

## Priority Coastal Issues

- Coastal Development
- Working Waterfronts
- Public Access
- Sea-level Rise and Storm Events
- Coastal Water Quality
- Coastal Ecosystems and Habitats

## The Road Ahead

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# Fact Sheets

- Definition of the issue
- Facts and figures
- Current efforts
- Information gaps
- Ideas for future action



# A few facts...

13,300 km coastline of 2km-wide coastal strip  
247 Small Craft Harbours  
classified as little or no development

46 primary watersheds, all which empty to the ocean  
11% classified as intensely

950 km<sup>2</sup> developed urban/industrial  
1,500 developed for harvesting

double the amount from 1985  
19 distinct coastal ecosystem types

86% privately owned

70% of population lives in coastal communities

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**NOVA SCOTIA CANADA**

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SEARCH

**HOME**

**STATE OF THE COAST REPORT**

**PRIORITY COASTAL ISSUES**

- > Coastal Development
- > Working Waterfronts
- > Public Access
- > Sea-level Rise and Storm Events
- > Coastal Water Quality
- > Sensitive Coastal Ecosystems

**SHARE YOUR VIEWS**

**FURTHER INFORMATION**

- > Links

**CONTACT US**

## Coastal Management in Nova Scotia

The Government of Nova Scotia has made coastal management a priority with the release of its **State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report**. This Report provides baseline information on our coastal areas and resources, which we will use to develop a **Coastal Strategy**. The Strategy will outline how we will take action to address the coastal issues that matter most to Nova Scotians.

### The State of Nova Scotia's Coast Report

Learn more about Nova Scotia's coast and the issues that the Coastal Strategy will address.

TAKE ME THERE →

### Priority Coastal Issues

The government is focusing its coastal management efforts on six issues:

- **Coastal Development**
- **Working Waterfronts**
- **Public Coastal Access**
- **Sea-level Rise and Storm Events**
- **Coastal Water Quality**
- **Sensitive Coastal Ecosystems**

### Share Your Views

We're looking for your input on how to address the six priority coastal issues.

TAKE ME THERE ↻

**Further Information**

Learn more about the Government of Nova Scotia's approach to coastal management [here](#).

[www.gov.ns.ca/coast](http://www.gov.ns.ca/coast)

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