



Kathleen Fralic
Engagement Lead
Planning & Development
Regionalplan@halifax.ca

September 18, 2020

Re: Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park Coalition Regional Plan Submission

Dear Ms. Fralic,

The Nova Scotia Chapter of the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society (CPAWS-NS) is pleased to support the RP+10 submission from the Sandy Lake – Sackville River Regional Park (SL-SRRP) Coalition (<https://www.sandylakecoalition.ca/rpsubmission>). CPAWS-NS is one of 27 member groups of the SL-SRRP Coalition.

Nova Scotians need parks and protected areas now more than ever. The pandemic has shed light on the public health benefits of accessible green spaces in our communities. Located in close proximity to the communities of Sackville, Bedford and Halifax, SL-SRRP provides many Nova Scotians with opportunity for recreation and a gateway to nature.

SL-SRRP encompasses over 2,000 acres of forests, lakes and rivers. The proposed park hosts a diversity of species and has been identified as a key corridor for habitat connectivity on the Chebucto Peninsula in the Halifax Green Network Plan. CPAWS-NS has completed extensive fieldwork in Sackville and can attest to the importance of conserving the remaining intact wilderness in this area.

SL-SRRP is a site of significant ecological and recreational value. CPAWS-NS supports the protection of SL-SRRP and the recommendations included in the Coalition's RP+10 submission.

Sincerely,

Caitlin Grady
Conservation Campaigner, CPAWS-NS
cgrady@cpaws.org