

Chapter 6



Grand Pré is a meeting place where we can all come as cultures, separately and individually but also together, so we can share what we all have in common, the feelings for this place. We all have a heritage here.

Johanna Trenholm, County of Kings resident

6.0 Monitoring

6.a. Key indicators for measuring the state of conservation

The *Operational Guidelines for the Implementation of the World Heritage Convention* require State Parties to report on the state of conservation of World Heritage properties under their administration on a six-year cycle. If the nominated property is inscribed on the World Heritage List, the Grand Pré World Heritage Site Stewardship Board will prepare a report with its key partners on the state of conservation of the property and contribute to Canada's report to the World Heritage Committee.

Various agencies, with authority over different components of the nominated property, monitor the resources for which they are responsible. Parks Canada monitors the condition of cultural resources, visitor experience, and public understanding and appreciation at Grand-Pré National Historic Site of Canada. At the provincial level, the Department of Agriculture monitors the condition of the dykes, *aboi-teaux*, and drainage on the dykes. The Department of Transportation and Infrastructure Renewal monitors the condition of the public road network and associated infrastructure. Finally, the Municipality of the County of Kings monitors the activities that are permitted in and around the nominated property.

All the jurisdictions will take a coordinated approach to monitoring. To ensure that this happens, they will report in a similar way. When reporting on the condition of the nominated property, each jurisdiction will focus on the performance measures of the goals in the *Management Plan for the Landscape of Grand Pré* (Appendix 2A). These goals are:

1. to provide for the protection, continuing community and agricultural use and appreciation of the nominated property;
2. to enrich the existing tourism destination by promoting wide recognition, understanding and appreciation of the educational and cultural values represented by the nominated property;
3. to instil a strong sense of shared community pride and stewardship in the protection, interpretation and promotion of the nominated property.

The specific indicators to be measured for each goal are set out in Table 6-1.

Some indicators will be measured through a coordinated monitoring program. These include:

- **monitoring coastal change:** as outlined in the *Coastal Change Monitoring Plan for the Landscape of Grand Pré* (Appendix 2D), this involves the Department of Agriculture, the Municipality of the County of Kings, and the Canadian Wildlife Service. This will contribute to providing information on the *Integrity of the dyke-lands, the dykes, the main drainage patterns, and the salt marsh/coastline* indicator.
- **monitoring the condition of archaeological sites:** as outlined in the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré* (Appendix 2B), this involves Parks Canada and the Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage (Heritage Division). This will contribute to providing information on the *Integrity of archaeological heritage and Impact of development on archaeological heritage and other heritage attributes* indicators.
- **monitoring visitors and visitor satisfaction:** this involves Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage, Société Promotion Grand-Pré, and Parks Canada. This will contribute to providing information on a number of indicators.

Table 6–1 outlines the indicators that will be reported on by the Grand Pré World Heritage Site Stewardship Board to describe the condition

of the nominated property. The table also shows the periodicity of monitoring and the location of records:

Goal	Indicator	Periodicity	Location of Records
To provide for the protection, continuing community and agricultural use and appreciation of the nominated property	Integrity of archaeological heritage	3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Canada administered land: New Brunswick North Field Unit • Other lands: Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage – Heritage Division
	Integrity of memorials and use	3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Canada administered land: New Brunswick North Field Unit
	Percentage of land used for agricultural purposes in property and in buffer zone	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality of the County of Kings
	Integrity of the dykelands, the dykes, the main drainage patterns, and the salt marsh/coastline; the aboiteaux gates	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Agriculture • Grand Pré Marsh Body • Canadian Wildlife Service • Municipality of the County of Kings
	Integrity of the historic road patterns and settlement pattern on the uplands	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Municipality of the County of Kings
To enrich the existing tourism destination by promoting wide recognition, understanding and appreciation of the educational and cultural values represented by the nominated property	Increase in visibility	3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage • <i>Société Promotion Grand-Pré</i> • Parks Canada, New Brunswick North Field Unit
To instil a strong sense of shared community pride and stewardship in the protection, interpretation and promotion of the nominated property	Incidence of stakeholder and authority collaboration to conserve archaeological sites and other forms of heritage	Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Canada administered land: New Brunswick North Field Unit • Other lands: Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage – Heritage Division
	Number of Acadian visitors to the area	5 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Société Promotion Grand-Pré</i> • Parks Canada, New Brunswick North Field Unit
	Number of research projects	3 years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parks Canada administered land: New Brunswick North Field Unit • Other lands: Department of Tourism, Culture and Heritage – Heritage Division

Table 6–1 Indicators and reporting

6.b. Administrative arrangements for monitoring property

The responsibility for coordinating the monitoring of the nominated property will be undertaken by the Grand Pré World Heritage Site Stewardship Board. Monitoring data is available from the site management coordinator at:

Grand Pré World Heritage Site Stewardship Board

35 Webster Street
Kentville, Nova Scotia
Canada B4N 1H4
TEL: (902) 678-2298
FAX: (902) 678-2324

The frequency of monitoring the various indicators and the responsibility for doing so are indicated in Section 6.a. An annual status report will be prepared and made publicly available on the website.

6.c. Results of previous reporting exercises

No single report currently exists for the entire nominated property. However, a number of reports cover individual components of the nominated property. These include the areas under the jurisdiction of the Parks Canada Agency. The Department of Agriculture has also prepared internal reports on the condition of the dykes.

In addition, reports are available on archaeological research conducted under Heritage Research Permits issued by the Nova Scotia Museum. Reports are also available for research under Archaeological Permits issued by Parks Canada for lands it administers. Finally, there are reports on other research initiatives. A complete list of these various research reports is available in the *Strategy for the Management and Conservation of Archaeological Heritage in the Landscape of Grand Pré* (Appendix 2B).

6.c.i. Parks Canada administered properties

Previous reports describe the condition of Grand-Pré National Historic Site of Canada. These include Parks Canada Agency's *State of the Parks 1997 Report* (Appendix 6G), *Parks Canada Agency State of the Protected Heritage Areas Report 1999* (Appendix 6H), and *Grand-Pré National Historic Site of Canada State of the Site Report 2009* (Appendix 6C).

State of the Parks 1997 Report (Parks Canada Agency)

The *State of the Parks 1997 Report* (Appendix 6G) was an early approach to reporting and provides cursory information on the condition of specific assets at Grand Pré. It highlighted that many new activities had improved the condition of cultural resources and their interpretation. The overall assessment of the condition of the cultural resources was deemed to be good, but the report projected a downward trend. This was because a proposed off-site development constituted a potential threat to the integrity of the national historic site. In response, Parks Canada, with the assistance of partners, acquired the lands on which the development was being considered and eliminated the potential threat.

The 1997 report also mentions trends in attendance between 1993–94 and 1996–97. During that period annual visitation numbered 95 000 on average.

Parks Canada Agency State of the Protected Heritage Areas Report 1999 (Parks Canada Agency)

In this national report prepared by Parks Canada, the evaluation of the state of Grand-Pré National Historic Site indicated that the condition of the cultural resources was good and on an upward trend as a result of actions taken since the previous evaluation in 1997. Monitoring and remedial actions were deemed to be fair to good and improving. The report expressed concerns about the condition of archaeological records. The most significant challenges were tied to interpretation and communication. These were deemed to be fair and improving.

As a result of that evaluation, Parks Canada and its partners developed a plan to overhaul the interpretation and visitor services at Grand-Pré National Historic Site. This was the cornerstone of the 2001 management plan and led to the building of a multi-million-dollar visitor centre. The new centre opened in 2003. In addition, a partnership with Saint Mary's University, Halifax, led to the establishment of an archaeological field school. This field school celebrated its 10th anniversary in 2010.

Grand-Pré National Historic Site of Canada State of the Site Report 1999 (Parks Canada Agency)

The *State of the Site Report for Grand Pré Report 2009* (Appendix 6C) is the first report of this type that captures all aspects of the condition of the national historic site. This report will be updated every five years, prior to reviewing the management plan for Grand-Pré National Historic Site.

Overall, the commemorative integrity of the national historic site is rated at 7 out of 10, indicating a slight decline from the previous evaluation. The overall condition of cultural resources is fair (for archaeological resources) to good (for all other resources). The main threats to the site come from vegetation encroachment and potential off-site development. The former threat was corrected in the spring of 2010, when a vegetation-management plan was implemented in sensitive archaeological areas. The inventory of the site's cultural resources is not up to date; however, decision-making on activities at the site have been respectful of the presence, or potential presence, of cultural resources.

The construction of the visitor centre in 2003 has improved the site's capacity to convey site messages. The centre has also significantly improved visitors' satisfaction with interpretive programming, site services and facilities. The 2007 visitor information profile revealed that an overwhelming majority of visitors are satisfied to very satisfied with the site's interpretive programs, visitor services and facilities (see Figure 6-1). Even so, attendance has decreased significantly in the past decade. However, a higher percentage of Canadians from outside Atlantic Canada arrived in 2007 as compared to 2000.



6-1 The new visitor centre at Grand-Pré National Historic Site was constructed in 2003. The centre has significantly improved visitors' satisfaction with interpretive programming and other services.

Outside the visitor centre, visitors have the opportunity to learn about the site's key messages. In particular, the site conveys all the reasons for its designation as a national historic site – including an understanding of the Acadian settlement and the related archaeological resources on the site. In the spring of 2010, new interpretation panels were added (see Figure 6-2). They detail the presence of archaeological resources and their relationship to the site's history and landscape.



6-2 Interpretive panels at Grand-Pré National Historic Site of Canada were installed in 2010 to interpret archaeological evidence present at the site.

