

Land-use planning, resource management, and surficial geology in New Brunswick

A.G. Pronk

*New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy, Geological Surveys Branch,
P.O. Box 6000, Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5H1, Canada*

The relevancy and value of surficial geology and till geochemistry maps is recognized by the mineral exploration and aggregate resource industries. More recently, forest managers began to use surficial geology as important information in their long-term management plans. A few recent projects that the geochemistry section of this department has been conducting, although directed at aiding mineral exploration, can also be used for land-use management. The first and largest project involves the surficial mapping of the Fundy Model Forest region. This Green Plan initiative is looking at a 4000 km² area in southeast New Brunswick,

which includes Fundy National Park, Sussex, Petitcodiac, and Hampton, in relation to its natural resources, tourism, transport, economy, biodiversity, etc. DNRE surficial geology mapping will form the base on which forest and ecosystem management research will be built. The geochemistry section is also providing baseline data for the Catamaran Brook Habitat Research Project, managed by Fisheries and Oceans. The third project involved the soil geochemistry of the Mount Pleasant mine property. The results of the work were used to evaluate the effect of tree cutting operations on the mineral resource that underlies the property.