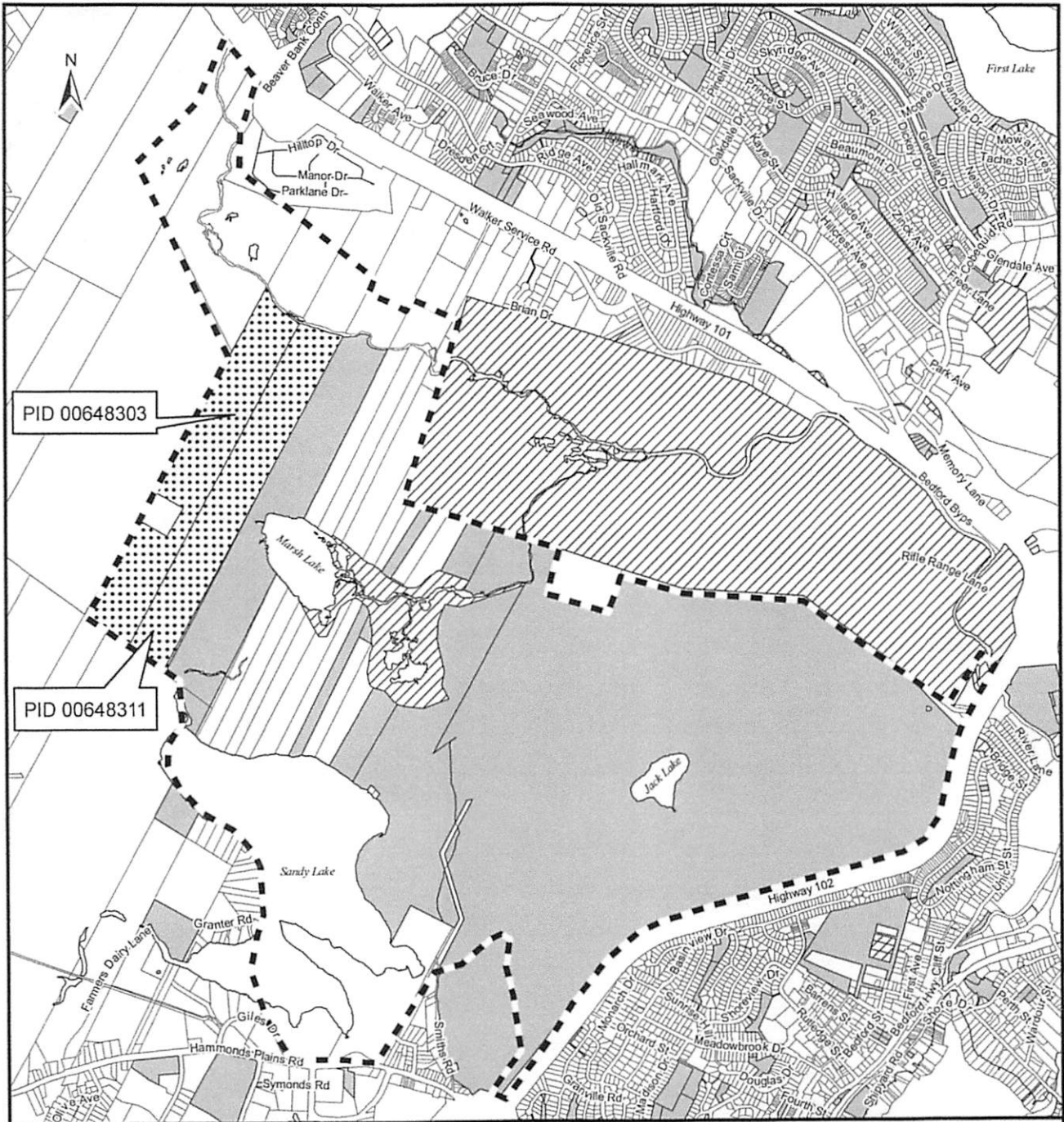






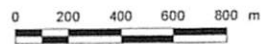
APPENDIX X



Map 1 - Marsh Lake Lands, Bedford

HALIFAX

-  Subject Properties
-  HRM Owned Parcels
-  Federal Government Owned Parcels
-  Conceptual Boundary of the Jack's Lake Regional Park



The accuracy of any representation on this plan is not guaranteed.

Bedford
Plan Area

11 June 2015

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APPENDIX X

Important Information About the 2015 Conceptual Map for Sandy Lake and Area

We are asking that within the RP+10 the city investigate and redraw the arbitrarily drawn 2015 Conceptual Map boundary line using currently available scientific data, ecological information, and natural boundaries of the Sandy Lake - Sackville River watershed, in addition to baseline data gathered over 50 years, in order to determine the appropriate ecologically sensitive, science-based park boundary that will protect park assets. Include examination of the watershed to the west and north of Sandy and Marsh Lakes that lie between the Hammonds Plains Road, Kingswood North, and Sackville. Examine all areas within the boundary identified in the document, *Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park Planning Vision January 2020*, which also suggests land acquisitions for park access.

The Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park Coalition learned recently that the 2015 conceptual map (see below) is being used as the city's guide for acquiring property for Sandy Lake - Sackville River Regional Park. While we are very grateful that the city is acquiring land for the park, we are concerned because that map was drawn for a specific purpose and does not reflect actual watershed lands that are needed in order to protect even the existing park assets.

We were told by individuals close to the drawing of the map that the line was drawn not to protect water assets, not based on research, but only to acquire the 160 acres. It was drawn for a transaction. To include more of the developer's lands at the time would have created controversy and likely would have caused the 160-acre acquisition to fail. If this map is being used as a defining boundary for park acquisition now, it is being used for a purpose for which it was not designed.

However, we were also told that the rationale for acquiring the 160 acres that is contained in the 2015 document is the same rationale that the city can use to protect the rest of the watershed. The watershed of Sandy Lake is of vital importance for the ecological integrity of Sandy Lake, and Sandy lake is vital to protect the rest of the entire park system through to the Sackville River. The area is a rich and diverse ecological system. Three kinds of lakes (a deep blue lake, a boreal lake and a marsh lake) and a major river sit side by side, each surrounded by vegetation as diverse as the water bodies. It is an outstanding location for educational purposes.

Dr. Patriquin has studied water data dating back several decades and has been testing the waters in and around Sandy Lake since 2017. The lake has marginal Oxygen in deeper waters now. It was Oligotrophic in the 1970s and is now mid-mesotrophic. It is already on the edge and any significant development in the remaining watershed will impact the entire system. Dr. Patriquin says the goal should be to return the lake to its previous Oligotrophic condition to preserve and enhance what is there.

He tells us the acres that were cut in 2013 are filled with the full suite of Acadian forest and they are already helping to protect the lake. They need to be allowed to grow. The protection of developers lands west of the lakes, and control of what can happen on that land, is critical to the entire system. The developers offered to trade if the city will recognize this importance.

Suggested scientific studies and ecological information to include:

- Sandy Lake-Sackville River Regional Park Planning Vision January 2020 (Appendix I)
- Dr. David Patriquin and other scientists' recent findings. www.sandylakebedford.ca and on www.sandylake.org and Appendix F
- Flora and Fauna studies (Appendices G and H)
- Several studies conducted over five decades (Appendices D and E)
- The Halifax Green Network Plan (See Section C)