

EXPANSION PROJECT OF THE PARC NATIONAL DE PLAISANCE

The Parc national de Plaisance at a glance

Created in 2002, the Parc national de Plaisance is a protected area covering 28.2 km², located on the banks of the Rivière des Outaouais and featuring a network of islands, peninsulas, bays, and marshes, making it a place of great biodiversity. The mission of the national park is to protect a representative area of the natural region of the St. Lawrence Lowlands (Basses-Terres du Saint-Laurent), while making it accessible to the population for educational and low impact recreational activities.

How would the park boundaries be modified?

The purpose of the expansion project of the Parc national de Plaisance is to incorporate 2.03 km² of land located on both sides of the Rivière de la Petite Nation, including the site of the Chutes du Moulin. The addition of these sites would help protect mixed forests and rugged landscapes, which are distinct from other ecosystems found within the current boundaries of the Parc national de Plaisance. It would also contribute to preserve an important corridor of ecological connectivity between the current national park and the natural areas located further north. Occupied by the village of North Nation Mills in the mid-19th century, the site is also rich in cultural heritage. Facilities that are currently available and that would be enhanced include short hiking trails, picnic areas, interpretive boards and a lookout point over the Chutes.

In addition, the Ministère de l'Environnement, de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, de la Faune et des Parcs proposes adding another plot of land to the national park located in Thurso and already owned by the Gouvernement du Québec (lot 4 653 381).

To correct irregularities, it is proposed to withdraw certain areas notably located in waterbodies covering a total surface of 0.16 km².

Finally, the Ministère proposes to resolve an encroachment case dating back to before the creation of the national park, by exchanging with a neighbouring owner an undeveloped plot of equivalent size.

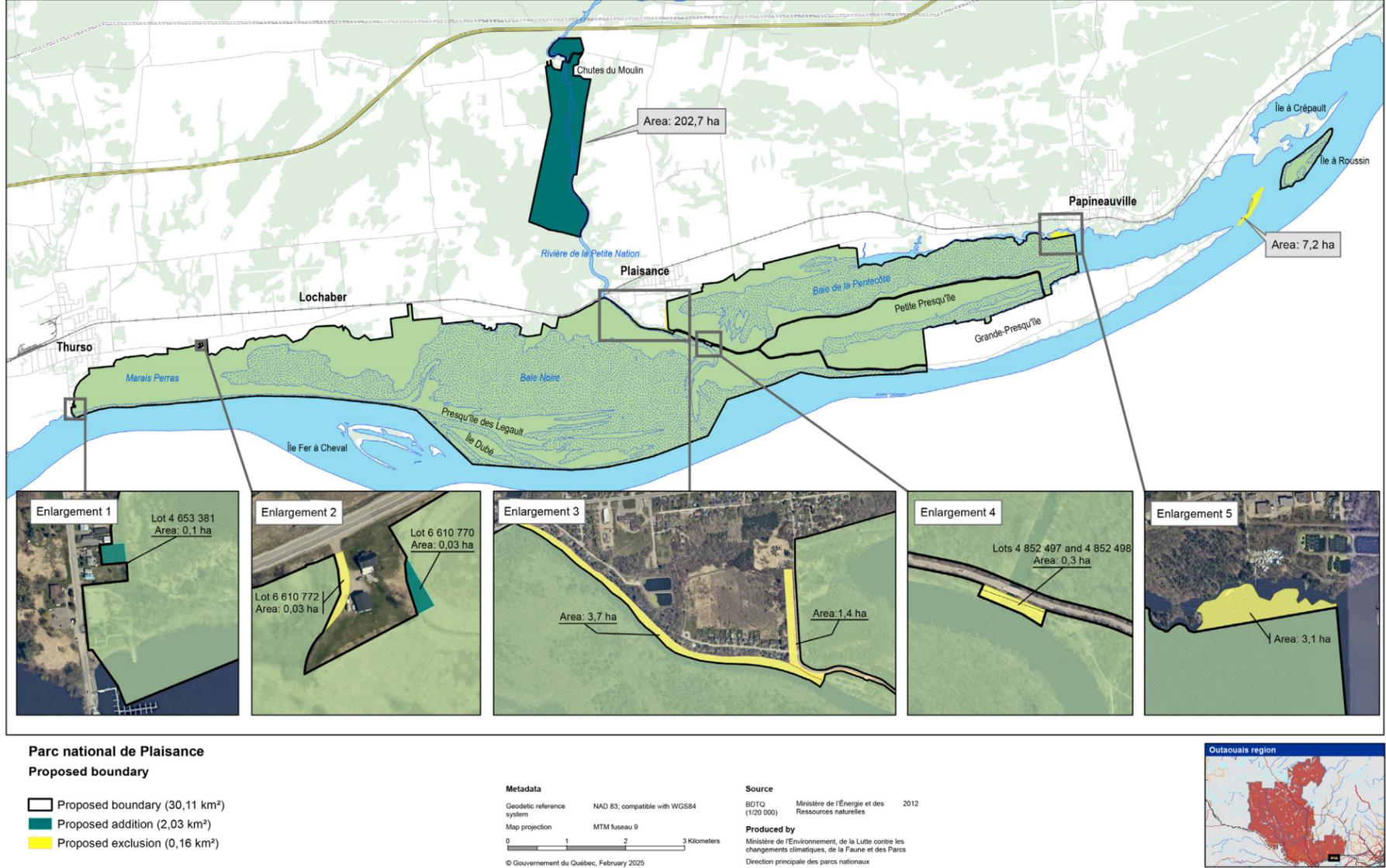
Consultation Process

The consultation process is an integral part of the national park expansion process. It allows stakeholders to comment on proposed changes to the national park's boundaries and zoning at various points during the process, to promote social acceptability.

Furthermore, specific consultations are conducted with the concerned Indigenous communities to ensure their interests and concerns are considered.



PROPOSED BOUNDARY MODIFICATIONS





Crédit photo : Daniel Boimard

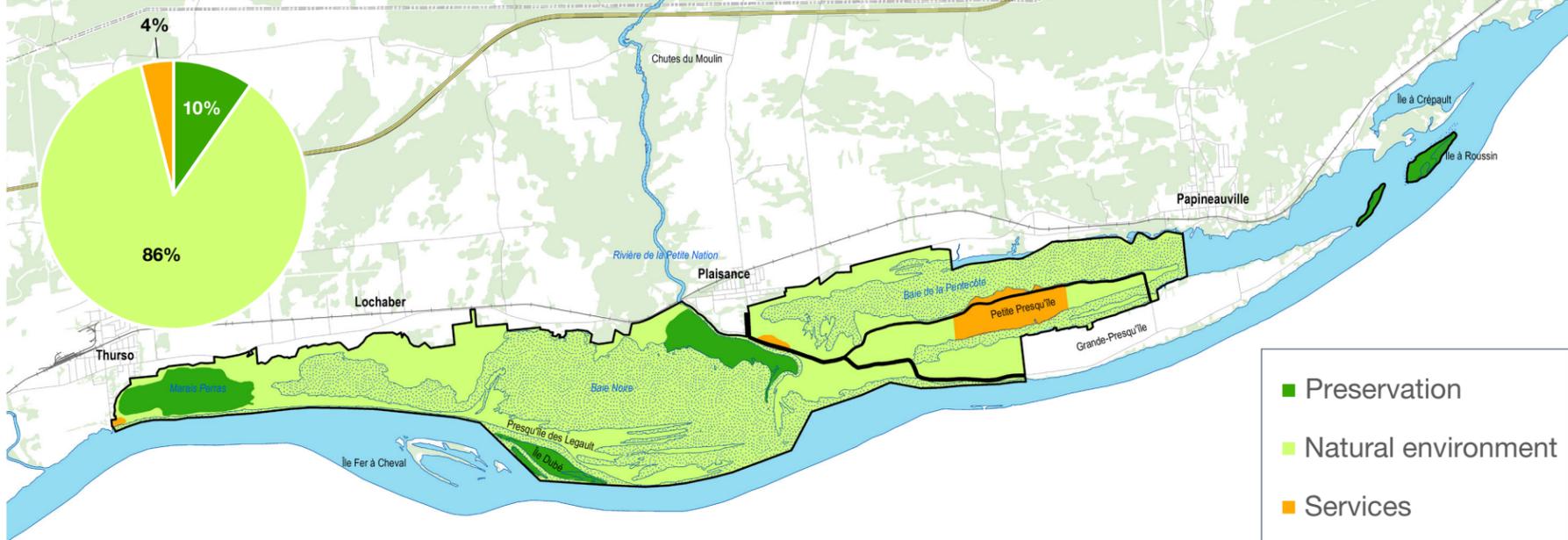
PROPOSED ZONING MODIFICATIONS

What does zoning mean in a national park?

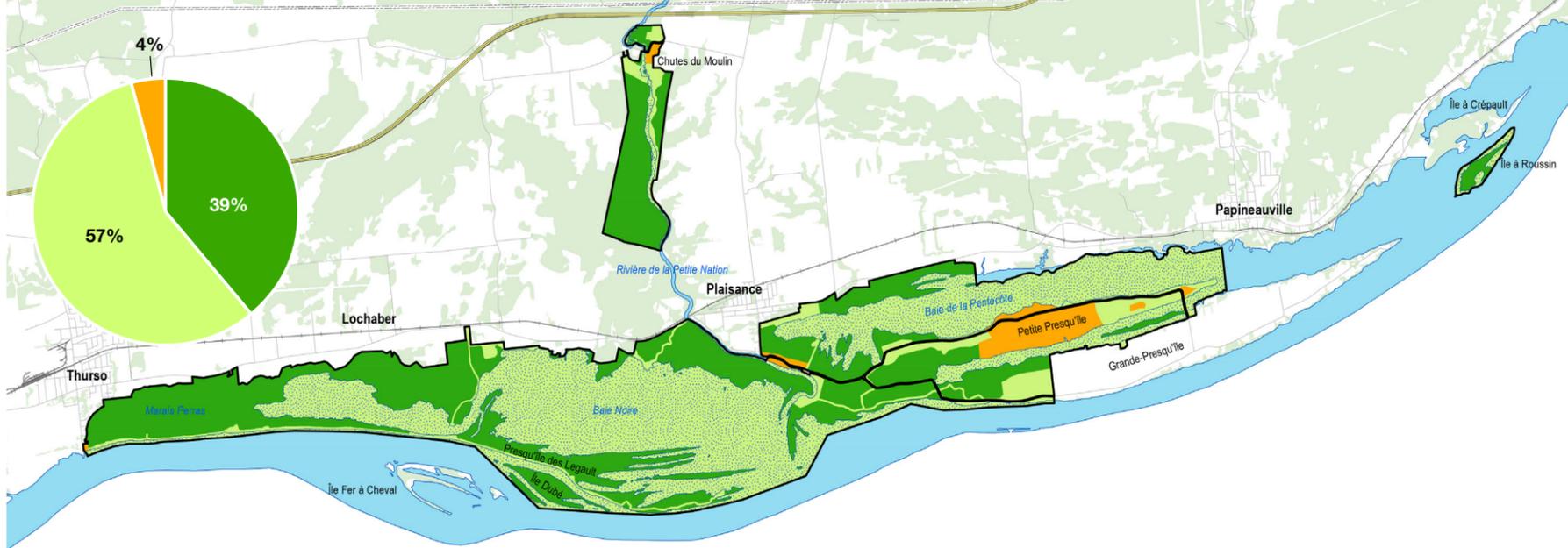
Zoning is an essential planning and management tool to fulfill the national parks' conservation and accessibility mission. The allocation of a zone type to a sector reflects knowledge about natural, cultural, and landscape heritages, as well as the current or proposed use of the land. Therefore, zoning guides interventions with a long-term conservation perspective. The expansion process of the Parc national de Plaisance offers an opportunity to update the current zoning, which includes three of the five types of zones defined in the *Parks Regulation*, which are preservation, natural environment, and services zones.

Types of zones in the Parc national de Plaisance	Definition	Examples of layouts or permitted activities
Preservation	Zone primarily dedicated to the protection of natural and landscape heritage, and only accessible by means that have little impact on the environment.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Hiking Canoeing and kayaking Lookout
Natural environment	Zone dedicated to the enhancement of natural and landscape heritage, characterized by a layout that promotes accessibility.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Path for vehicles or bicycles Secondary parking lot Picnic area Fishing and boating
Services	Zone primarily dedicated to reception, accommodation, or administration.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Service centre Main parking lot Campground

CURRENT ZONING



PROPOSED ZONING



WANT TO LEARN MORE?

Visit the Gouvernement du Québec's website for information on the [expansion project](#) of the Parc national de Plaisance. To submit your comments, please write to the following email address: consultation-parcs@environnement.gouv.qc.ca.