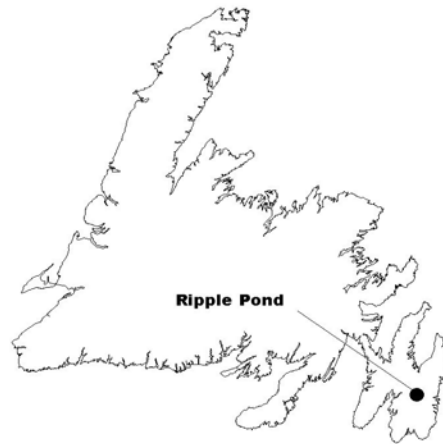




Ripple Pond

Fact Sheet

The Central Avalon Forest is an area of concern, as we continue to work towards legal protection for Ripple Pond ecological reserve. The Avalon Forest is the smallest of all the 35 natural regions in Newfoundland and Labrador and also faces the biggest threat. It is close to two-thirds of the province's population and is under pressure from cabin development, ATVs, logging roads and logging. It is important that we protect an adequate expanse of this unique forest in an ecological reserve in the Ripple Pond area for at least three reasons:



Natural Values - This area is unique among forest ecoregions. Its main features are long ribbed moraines or ridges in balsam fir forest, with yellow birch growing on the north slopes. Low elevations and a damp maritime climate combine to produce an amazing abundance of mosses and lichens, including some that are very rare.

Lynx Habitat - This area is the last remaining portion of lynx habitat in the eastern portion of the province. If it is fragmented by too many roads or if much more of the forest is lost to logging, the lynx as a species may disappear from the Avalon Peninsula.

Recreational Values - The area has a scheduled salmon river, the Colinet, a big moose population, and a wealth of unspoiled canoe routes. Combined with its other natural features, it has real wilderness tourism potential.

Within 10 years this may be the only extensive forest left close to St. John's for people to enjoy. Let's protect a portion of it now, before it is too late.

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