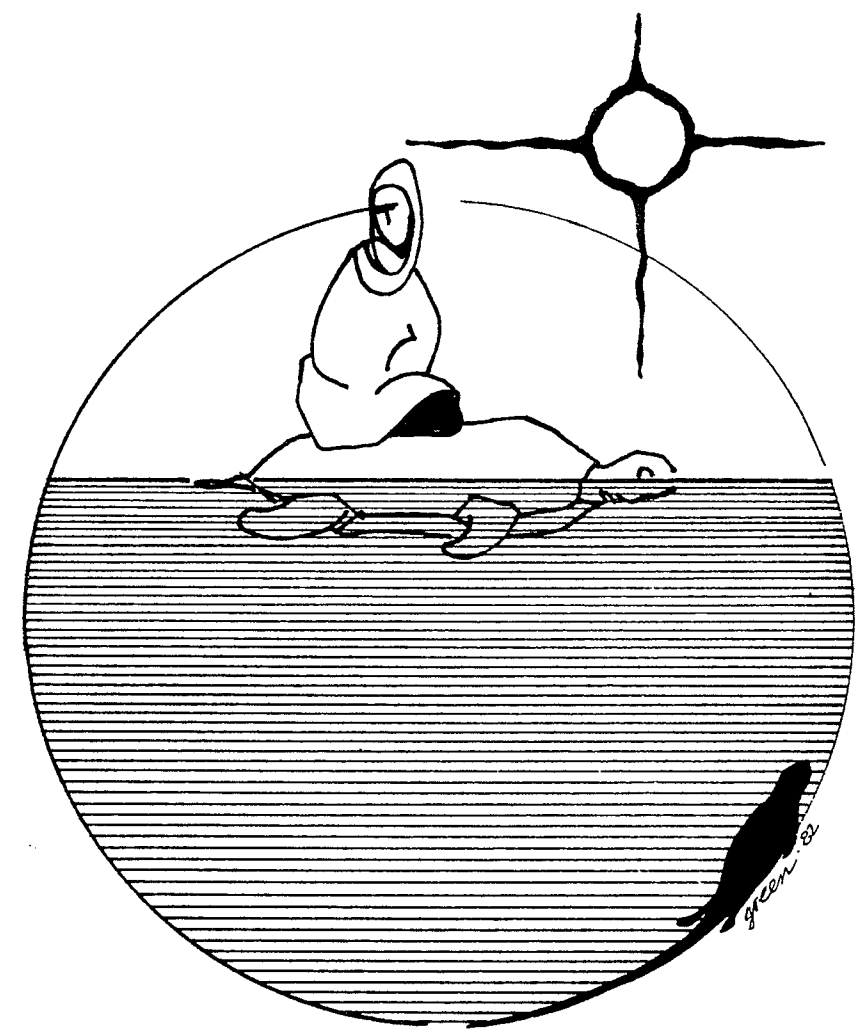
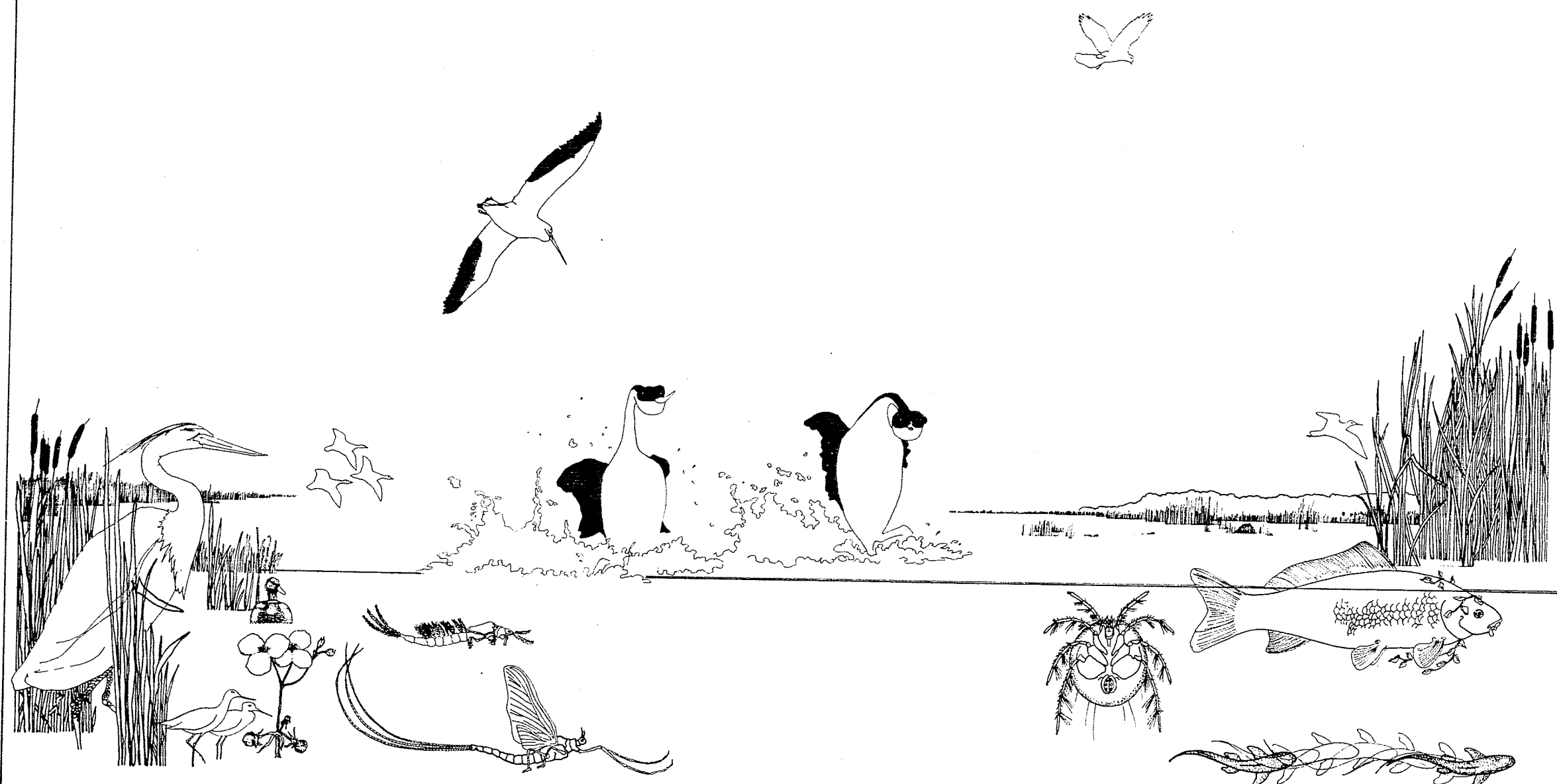




**NETLEY MARSH**  
INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN





A  
Practicum  
Submitted  
To  
The  
Faculty  
Of  
Graduate  
Studies  
In  
Partial  
Fulfilment  
Of  
The  
Requirements  
For  
The  
Degree  
Of  
Master  
Of  
Landscape  
Architecture

Roger  
Green  
Department  
Of  
Landscape  
Architecture  
University  
Of  
Manitoba

"The ecological processes on the surface of the earth represent a kind of huge seamless web, a network of interconnections among living things and between living things and the chemical and physical environment - an endless process of interacting steps."  
Barry Commoner 1971

NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

BY

ROGER JAMES GREEN

A practicum submitted to the Faculty of Graduate Studies  
of the University of Manitoba in partial fulfillment of the  
requirements of the degree of

MASTER OF LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE

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# EDUCATION

content

The educational roots of interpretation can be traced to the work of early scientists such as Ptolemy, Copernicus, and Galileo who broke from the religious constraints of their day to study and teach the natural causes of various phenomena. WILSON 1974  
 Although the basic idea originated with Aristotle and Socrates, it was not until the 17th century that Comenius formally recognized that learning was best facilitated through play and direct experience. WILSON 1974  
 Educational theorists in the 18th and 19th centuries such as Pestalozzi and Froebel believed sense perception to be the foundation of knowledge and that first hand observation and experience were the keys to education. WILSON 1974  
 Louis Agassiz brought the European concept of nature study to North America in 1847 and coined the phrase "Study Nature, Not Books." DAVIS 1973  
 The integration of science into elementary schools began in 1889 when W.S. Jackson introduced Nature Study into the curriculum in Illinois. The distinguishing features of the new course were the utilization of the outdoors as both text book and classroom and the organization of course content around seasonal variations. DAVIS 1973  
 Contemporary 'Outdoor Education' has evolved from the nature study movement and plays an important role at all levels of education. DAVIS 1973

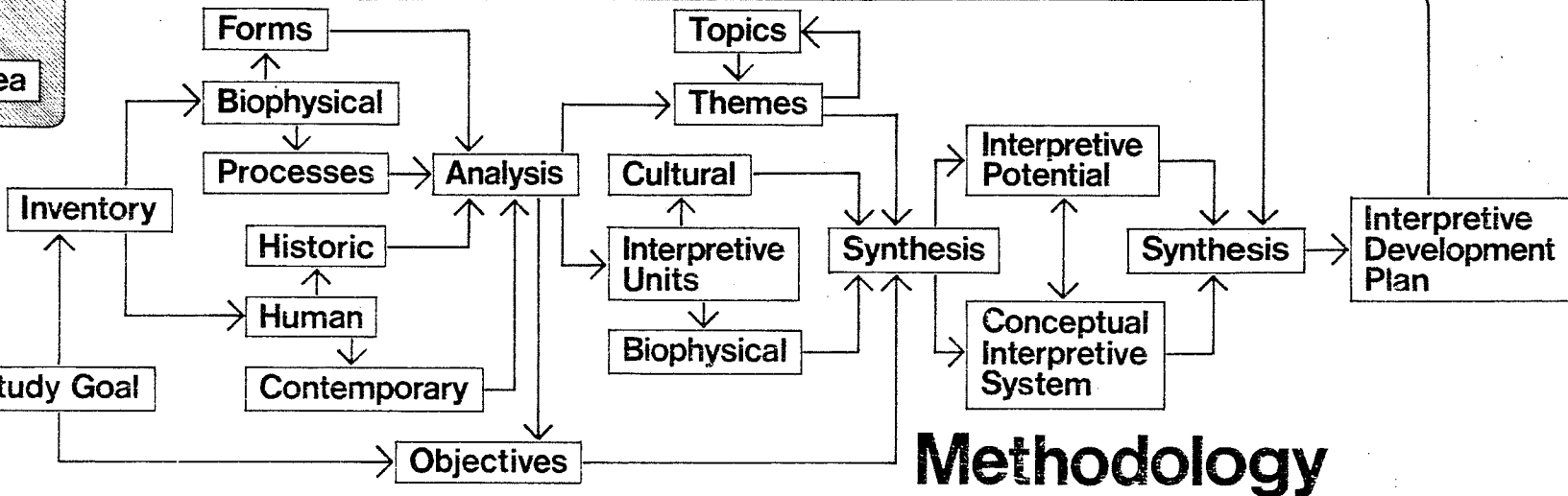
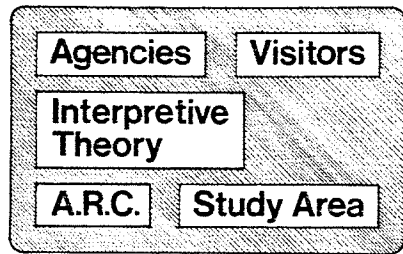
# INTERPRETATION

process

The recreational roots of interpretation have evolved from several sources since the 16th century botanical gardens, arboreta, zoological parks and museums have combined professional research with public education in recreational settings. WILSON 1974  
 The world-wide explosion of interest in the natural sciences which occurred during the 18th and 19th centuries, combined with increasing urbanization stimulated the growth of outdoor recreation in natural settings. The popularity of such recreation was encouraged by the many field naturalists who happened to be excellent writers. Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Catherine Parr Trail, Ernest Thompson Seton and many others captured the imaginations and aroused the curiosity of the reading public. WILSON 1974  
 Naturalist's Clubs began to flourish in the 19th century. Many such organizations continue to involve professional and amateur naturalists and the interested public in scientific, educational and recreational activities. WILSON 1974  
 Near the end of the 19th century the National Parks Movement finally united the public fascination with nature and thirst for understanding. Four bison were put on display at Banff in 1899 and people began asking questions. By 1915 labelled nature trails, guided field trips and lectures were popular features of Canada's first interpretive program. FOSTER 1974

# RECREATION

context



## Methodology

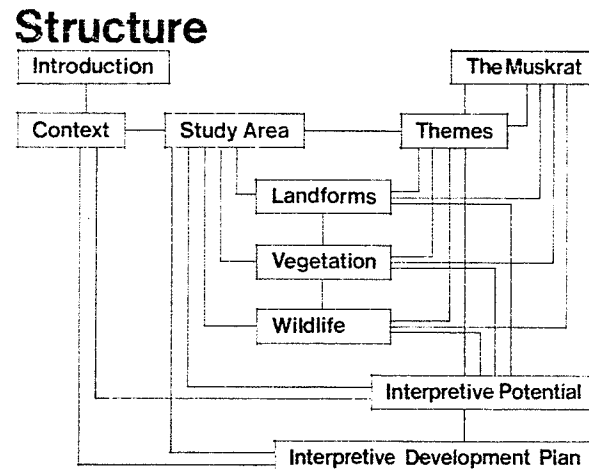
activity

## Definition

"Any communication process designed to reveal meanings and relationships of our cultural and natural heritage to the public through first hand involvement with an object, architecture, landscape or site." THE CANADIAN ASSOCIATION OF INTERPRETERS, JONES & PEARL 1973 p. 10

## Goals

- Perception**  
Enhance visitor enjoyment by providing high quality educational/recreational experiences which enrich visitor awareness, appreciation and understanding of the resource. WILSON 1974
- Protection**  
Positively influence visitor attitudes to the environment as a whole by encouraging the thoughtful and responsible use of the resource and minimizing the negative impacts of such use. WILSON 1974
- Promotion**  
Encourage public awareness and understanding of the intrinsic value of the resource, its managing agencies, and their programs. WILSON 1974



	4. Landforms	8. The Muskrat
1. Introduction	5. Vegetation	9. Interpretive Potential
2. Context	6. Wildlife	10. Interpretive Development Plan
3. Study Area	7. Themes	

## Contents

## Interpretive Program

Defined as the total interpretive effort, including personnel, facilities, and all the interpretive activities within or related to a given area. WILSON 1974

## Principles

- Different visitor groups require fundamentally different approaches to interpretation. Programs should respond to differences in age, mental and physical abilities, prior knowledge and experience, motivation and available time. WILSON 1974
- Visitors should be encouraged to participate selectively, at their own pace. WILSON 1974
- Programs should relate to the personality or experience of the visitor, progressing from the familiar to the unfamiliar. WILSON 1974
- Programs should be holistic rather than fragmented, emphasizing concepts and inter-relationships rather than facts and figures. WILSON 1974
- Programs should be provocative rather than instructive, encouraging participation, involvement, insight, sensitivity, self-expression and personal development. WILSON 1974
- Facilities should be safe, comfortable, convenient and responsive to the needs of the visitors and the program. WILSON 1974
- Facilities should be located and designed to minimize environmental damage and the intensity of use should not exceed the design capacities of facilities provided. WILSON 1974
- Facilities should be efficient in terms of servicing, maintenance and other operational aspects. WILSON 1974
- Facilities should be flexible and adaptable to new topics, techniques, technologies and shifts in visitor interest and program intensities. WILSON 1974
- The most effective interpretation is generally achieved through interpersonal communication in combination with direct contact with the subject. WILSON 1974
- Visitor activated dynamic exhibits are more effective than static written or graphic presentations. WILSON 1974

## Study Goal

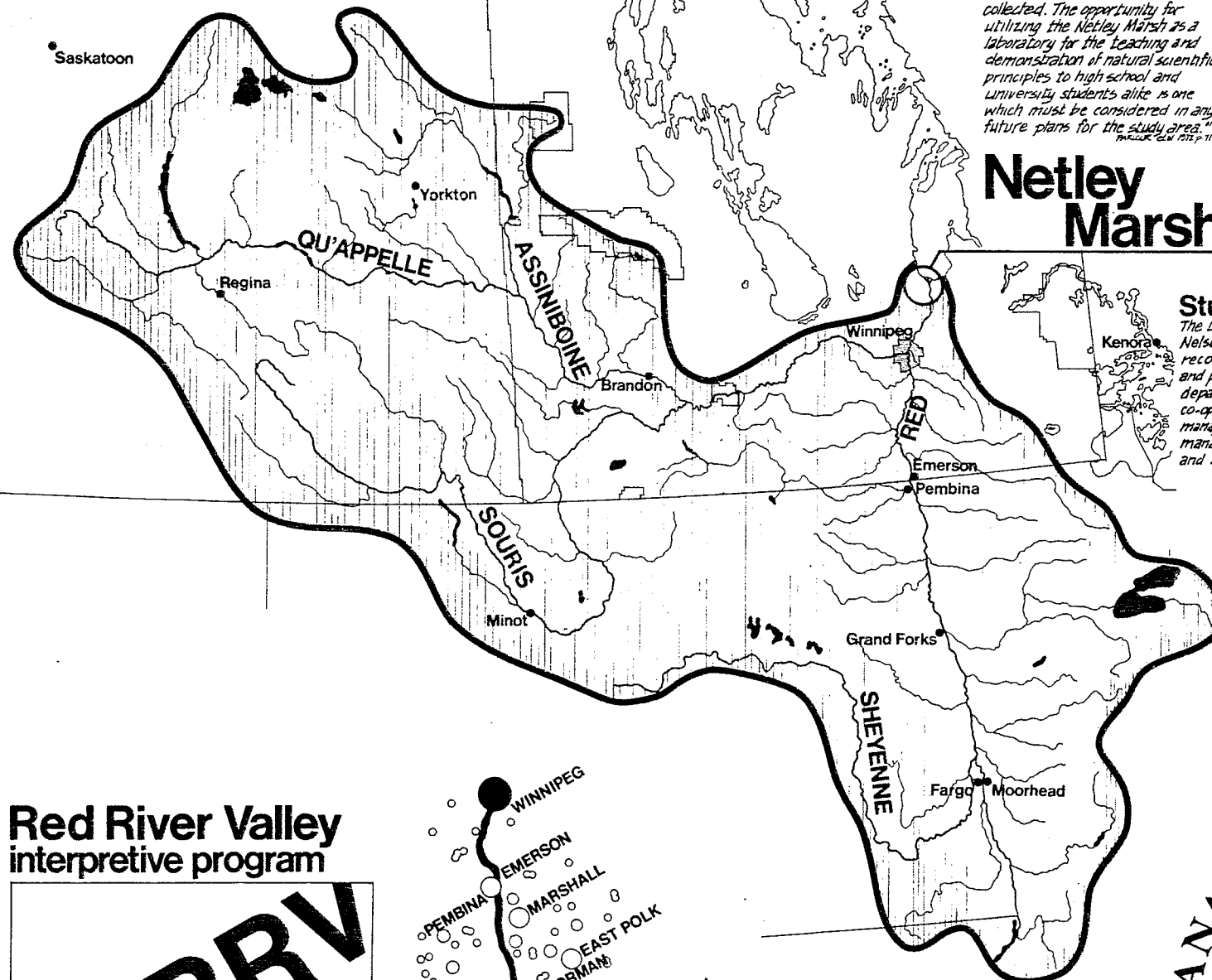
To evaluate the ARC Netley Creek interpretive proposals by producing an Interpretive Development Plan which establishes a conceptual framework for the development of an interpretive program for Netley Marsh.

## Objectives

- Identify and document the patterns and inter-relationships of the existing natural and cultural resources, land uses, and activities.
- Identify and evaluate the range of interpretive topics and themes available in Netley Marsh.
- Document the interpretive potential as related to identified themes.
- Develop a conceptual interpretive system which provides a variety of interpretive opportunities appropriate to the study area.
- Establish a development framework which fully integrates potential interpretive activities with the established recreational context.
- The Interpretive Development Plan should provide the spatial and functional flexibility within which a variety of interpretive program alternatives may be explored.

# 1. INTRODUCTION

# Drainage Basin



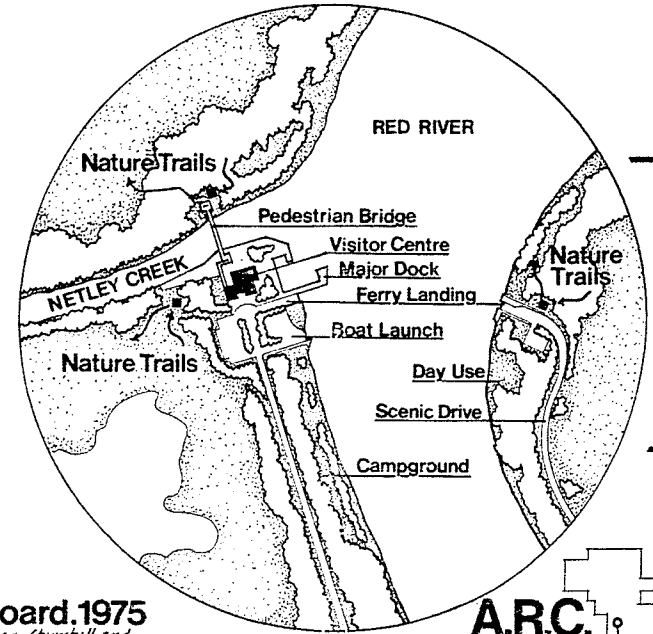
**Suitability. 1972**  
*The Red River Delta and the Netley Marsh in particular because of its vastness, great variety of plant and animal life, and its proximity to Winnipeg, must rate as one of Manitoba's most valuable natural resources. The lack of well-documented information on the natural and physical features of this area is difficult to comprehend. There is a vast amount of scientific information which needs to be collected. The opportunity for utilizing the Netley Marsh as a laboratory for the teaching and demonstration of natural scientific principles to high school and university students alike is one which must be considered in any future plans for the study area.*  
TRC 1972 p. 11-12

## Netley Marsh

**Study Board. 1975**  
*The Lake Winnipeg, Churchill and Nelson Rivers Study Board recommended "That the federal and provincial government departments and agencies co-operate to develop marsh management techniques and a management program for the Netley and Libau Marshes."*  
TRC 1975 p. 20

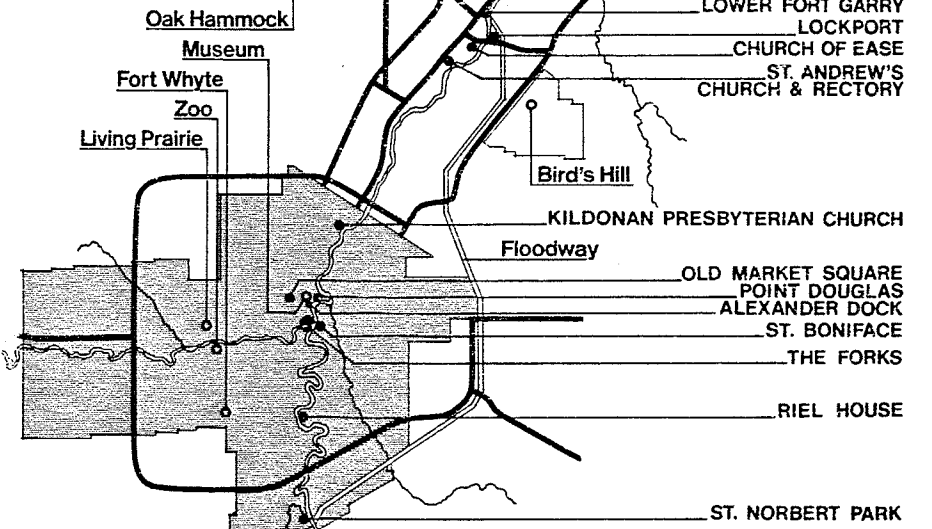
**Working Group. 1975**  
*As a result of the Study Board recommendation the Lake Winnipeg Marshes Working Group recommended, on the basis of a cost-benefit analysis, that "A comprehensive study of Netley-Libau Marsh be undertaken for the purpose of formulating development and management plans which, if implemented, would preserve and enhance the natural resources of the area."*  
TRC 1975 p. 25

**Marsh Study. 1979**  
*One of the objectives of the Netley-Libau Marsh Study is "to identify alternatives for enhancing recreational opportunities."*  
TRC 1979 p. 2



## A.R.C. project concept

Hilderman Fair Witty and Associates 1980



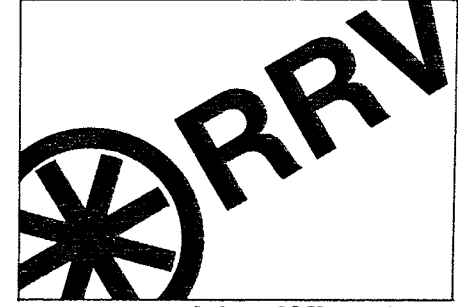
## Red River Corridor interpretive theme centres

Hilderman Fair Witty and Associates 1980

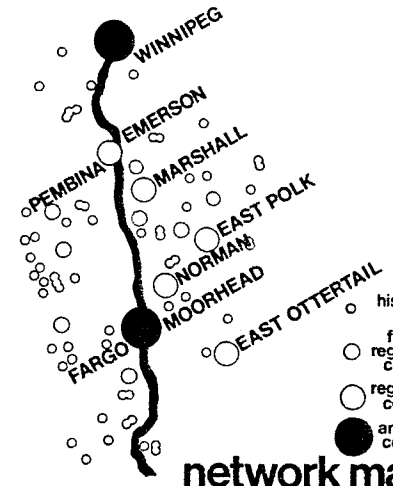
*The federal-provincial ARC program was initiated in 1975 "to satisfy increasing demand for heritage conservation and the provision of outdoor recreational opportunities."*  
ARC 1980 p. 4  
*The 1978 Red River Corridor agreement recognized the enormous development potential for a diverse and stimulating recreation system easily accessible to two-thirds of the population of Manitoba and the majority of visitors to the province.*  
ARC 1980

*The Corridor provides "numerous opportunities to educate and entertain through the development of coordinated interpretive theme centres which display the human and natural history of the area."*  
ARC 1980 p. 6  
*The Agreement provides that "Canada and Manitoba will coordinate their efforts and activities in order to establish effective educational, recreational and conservation management practices based on the natural, historical, and scenic heritage resources of the Red River Corridor."*  
ARC 1980 p. 23  
*The system will "complement and serve as the northern terminus of the international Red River Valley Interpretive Program."*  
ARC 1980 p. 6

## Red River Valley interpretive program



program identification  
Joseph A Wetzel Associates 1976



*The Red River Valley Historical Society has proposed the establishment of a network of interpretive centres focusing on the unique natural and cultural heritage of the entire valley. The coordinated interpretive program, involving North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Manitoba, would provide residents and tourists alike with a vast system of interpretive opportunities.*  
ARC 1976



agreement for recreation and conservation

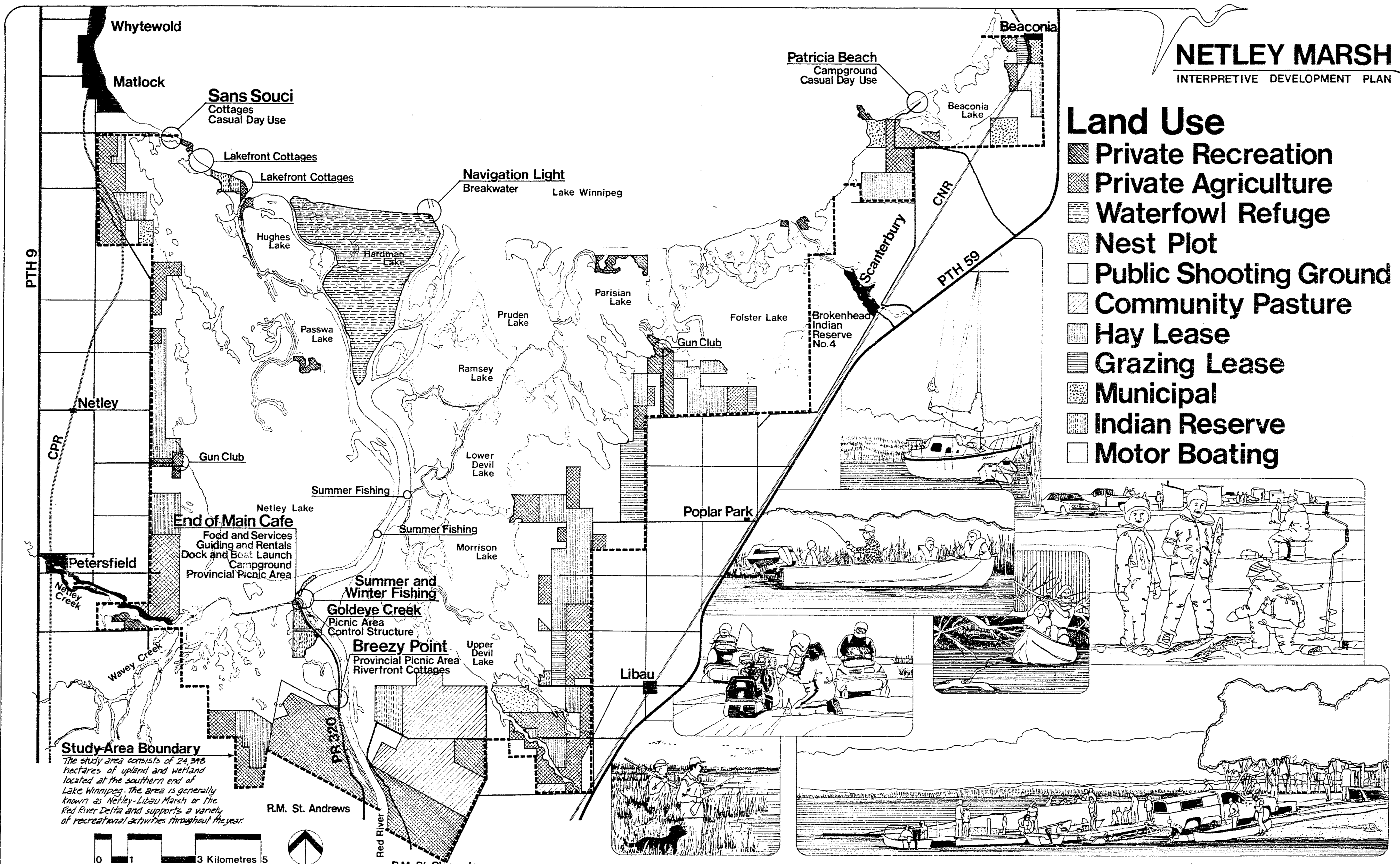
# 2. CONTEXT

# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## Land Use

-  Private Recreation
-  Private Agriculture
-  Waterfowl Refuge
-  Nest Plot
-  Public Shooting Ground
-  Community Pasture
-  Hay Lease
-  Grazing Lease
-  Municipal
-  Indian Reserve
-  Motor Boating

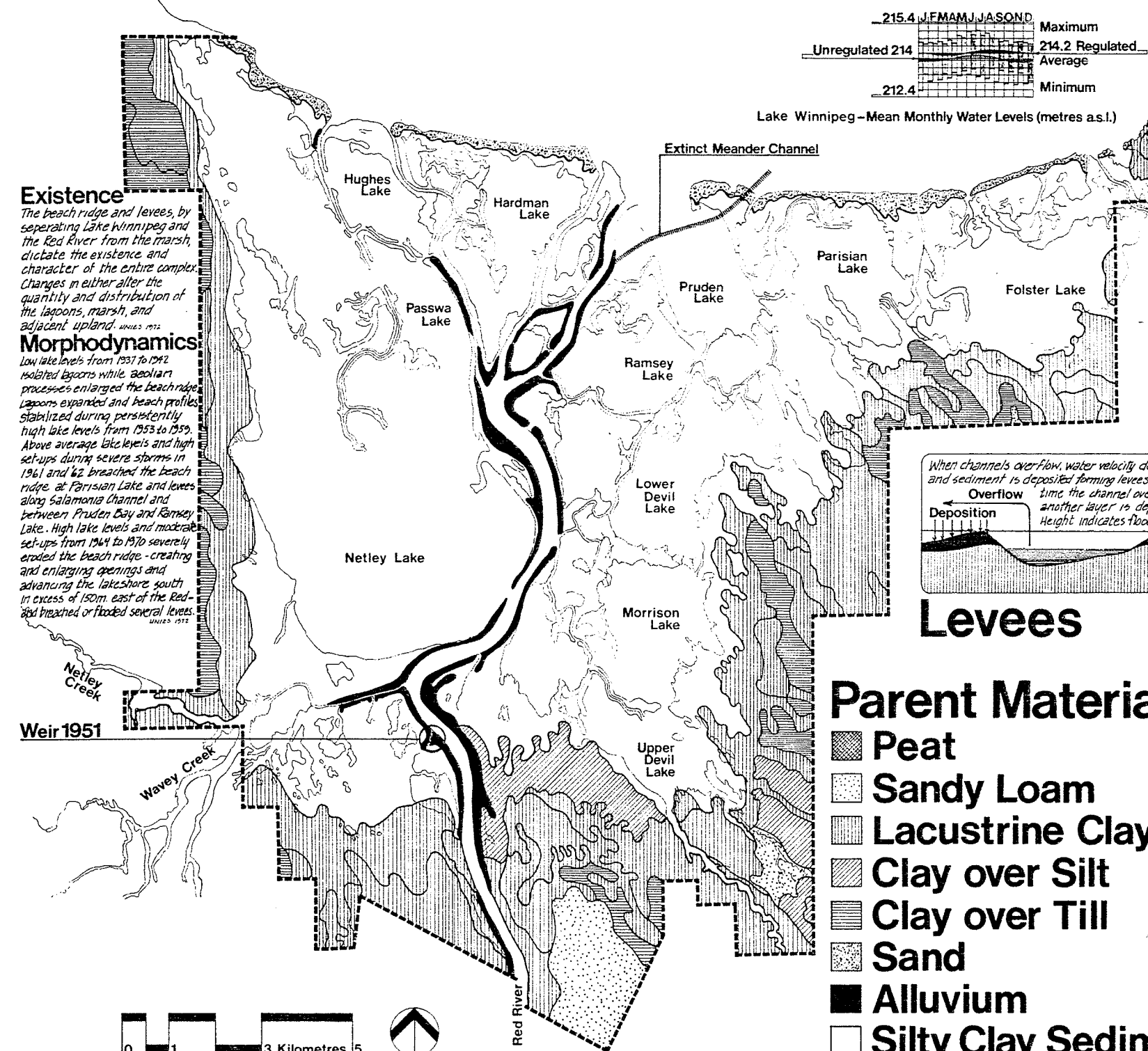


R-GREEN 1982 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE U.L.F.M.

# 3. STUDY AREA

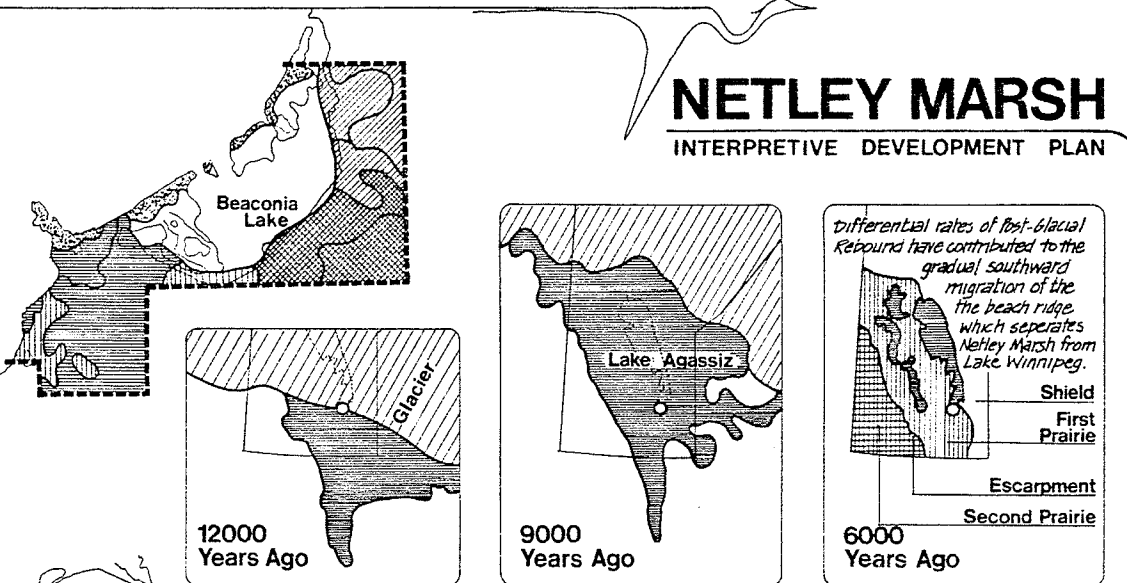
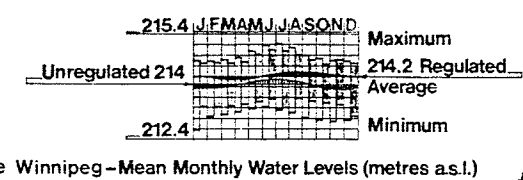
# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

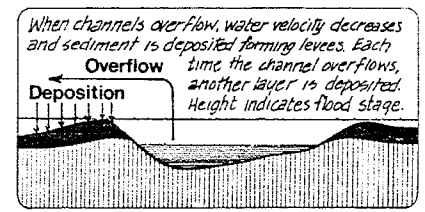


**Existence**  
The beach ridge and levees, by separating Lake Winnipeg and the Red River from the marsh, dictate the existence and character of the entire complex. Changes in either alter the quantity and distribution of the lagoons, marsh, and adjacent upland.

**Morphodynamics**  
Low lake levels from 1937 to 1942 isolated lagoons while aeolian processes enlarged the beach ridge. Lagoons expanded and beach profiles stabilized during persistently high lake levels from 1953 to 1959. Above average lake levels and high set-ups during severe storms in 1961 and '62 breached the beach ridge at Parisian Lake and levees along Salamonia Channel and between Pruden Bay and Ramsey Lake. High lake levels and moderate set-ups from 1964 to 1970 severely eroded the beach ridge - creating and enlarging openings and advancing the lakeshore south in excess of 150m. east of the Red-river breached or flooded several levees.



## Glacio-lacustrine Processes



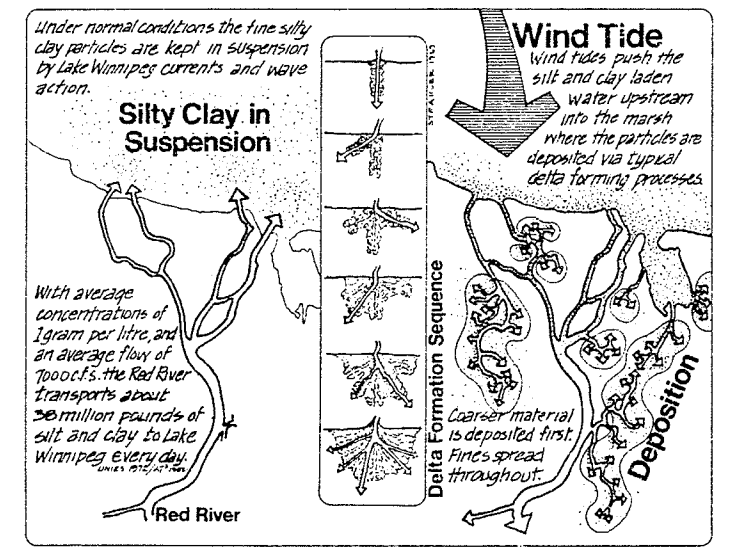
## Levees

## Parent Material

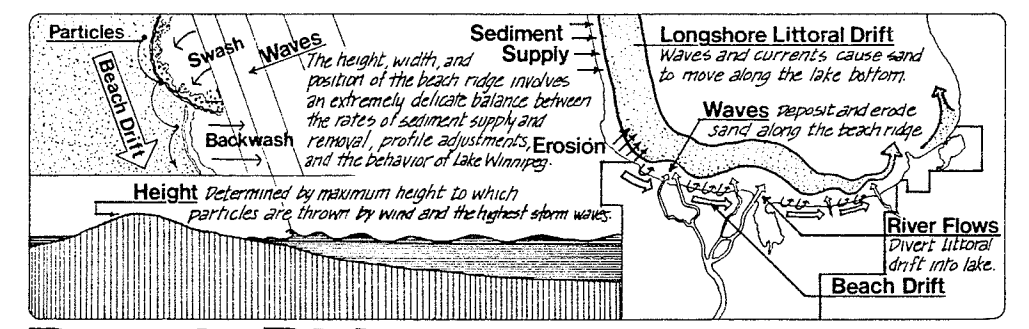
- Peat
- Sandy Loam
- Lacustrine Clay
- Clay over Silt
- Clay over Till
- Sand
- Alluvium
- Silty Clay Sediment

## Wind Tides

Lake levels fluctuate over long period due to wet-dry climatic cycles; seasonally due to runoff and Hydro's operational requirements; and frequently throughout the ice free period because of wind set-ups. Short term increases in excess of one metre above still water levels have been recorded in the southern basin. Set-ups of only a few centimetres are noticeable throughout the marsh.



## Reverse Deltas

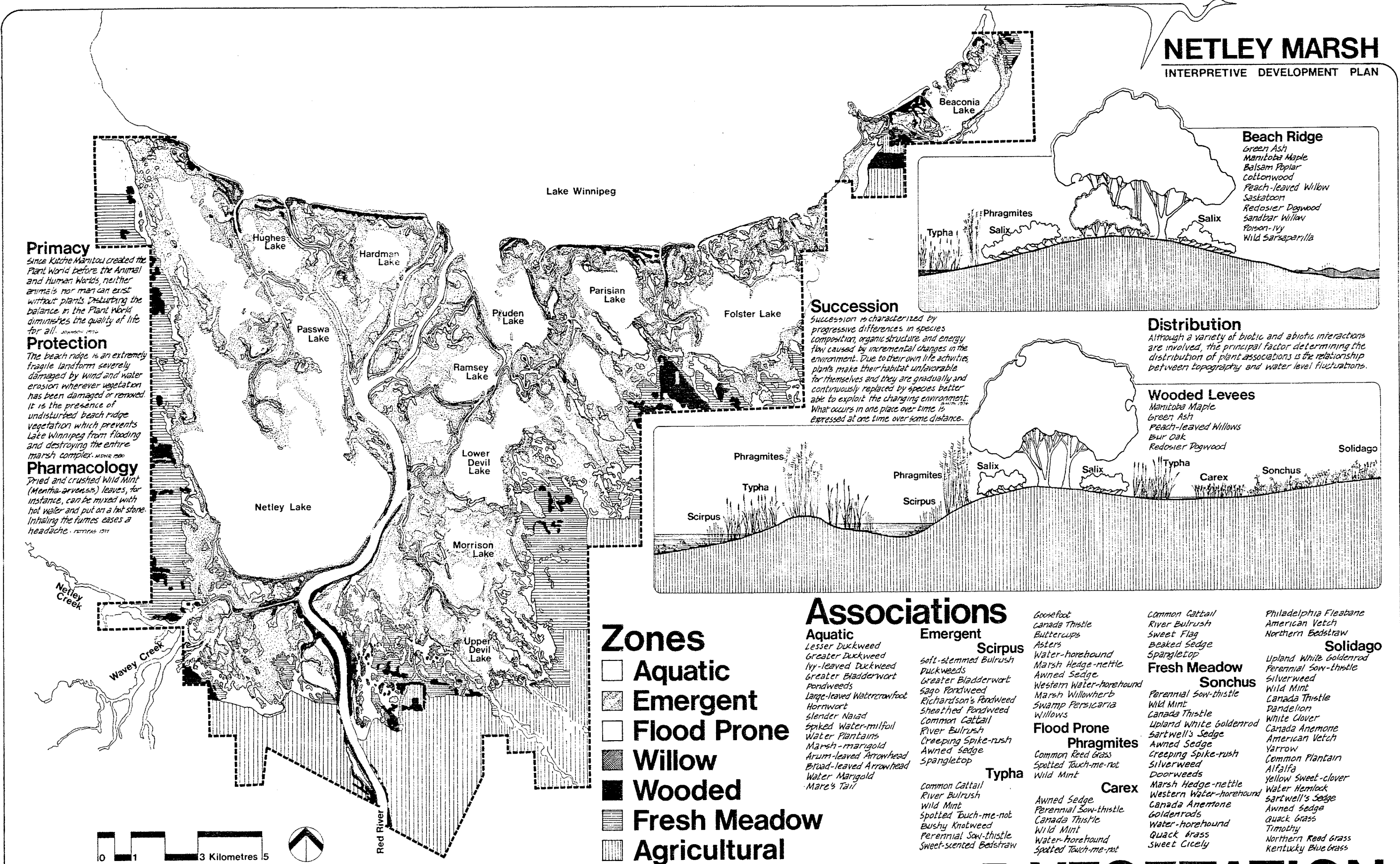


## Beach Ridge

# 4. LANDFORMS

# NETLEY MARSH

## INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



**Primacy**  
 Since Kitchie Manitou created the Plant World before the Animal and Human Worlds, neither animals nor man can exist without plants. Disturbing the balance in the Plant World diminishes the quality of life for all. JOHANNES 1970

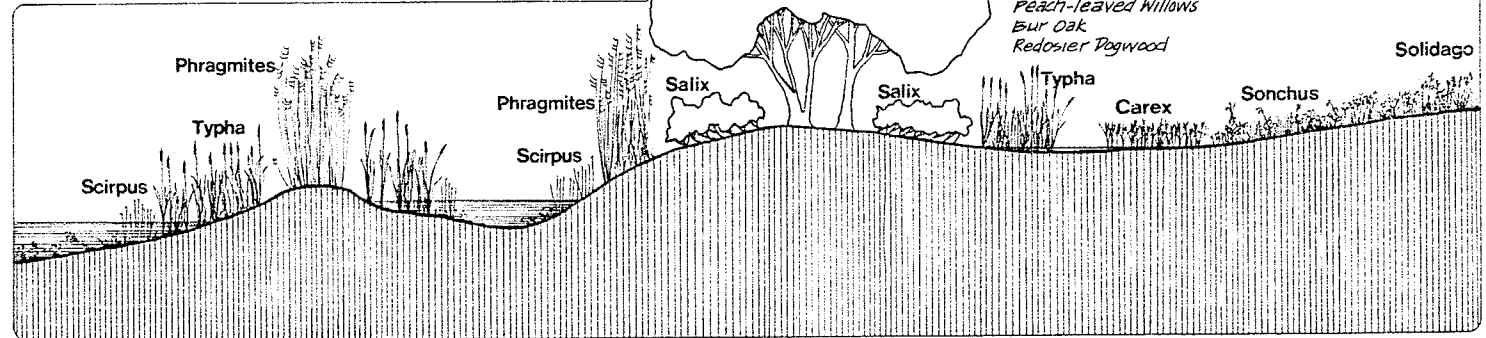
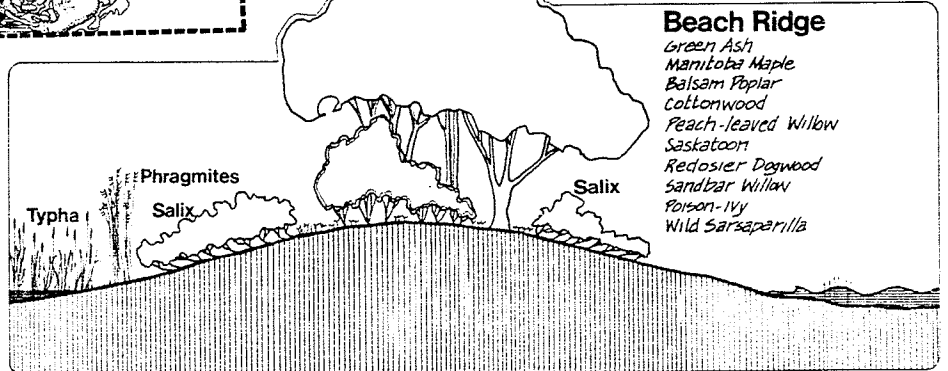
**Protection**  
 The beach ridge is an extremely fragile landform severely damaged by wind and water erosion wherever vegetation has been damaged or removed. It is the presence of undisturbed beach ridge vegetation which prevents Lake Winnipeg from flooding and destroying the entire marsh complex. MOYR 1980

**Pharmacology**  
 Dried and crushed Wild Mint (*Mentha arvensis*) leaves, for instance, can be mixed with hot water and put on a hot stone. Inhaling the fumes eases a headache. REYNOLDS 1971

**Succession**  
 Succession is characterized by progressive differences in species composition, organic structure and energy flow caused by incremental changes in the environment. Due to their own life activities, plants make their habitat unfavorable for themselves and they are gradually and continuously replaced by species better able to exploit the changing environment. SWAIN 1954  
 What occurs in one place over time is expressed at one time over some distance.

**Distribution**  
 Although a variety of biotic and abiotic interactions are involved, the principal factor determining the distribution of plant associations is the relationship between topography and water level fluctuations.

**Wooded Levees**  
 Manitoba Maple  
 Green Ash  
 Peach-leaved Willows  
 Bur Oak  
 Redosier Dogwood



- Zones**
- Aquatic
  - Emergent
  - Flood Prone
  - Willow
  - Wooded
  - Fresh Meadow
  - Agricultural

### Associations

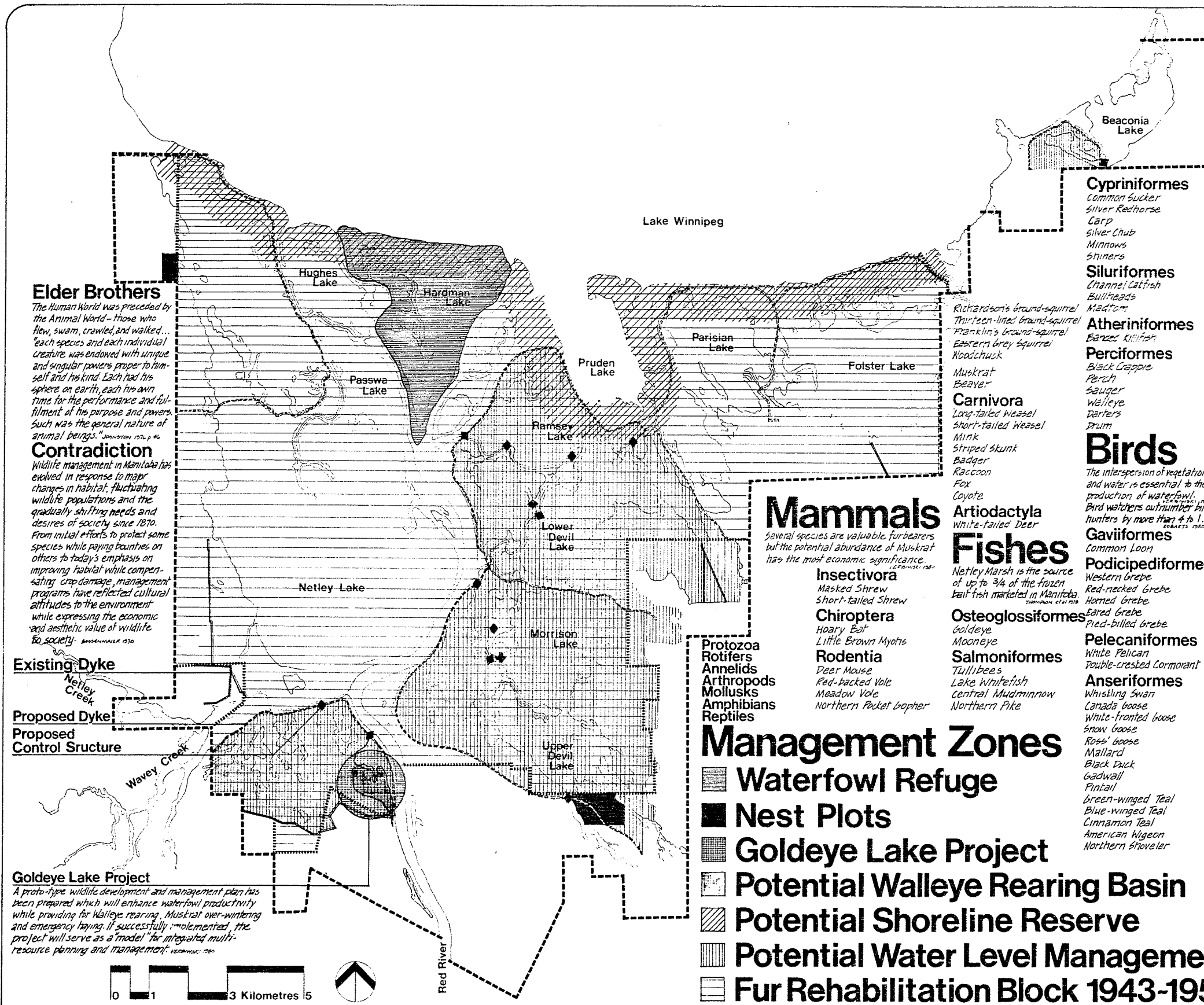
- |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |  |   |  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|
| <b>Aquatic</b><br>Lesser Duckweed<br>Greater Duckweed<br>Ivy-leaved Duckweed<br>Greater Bladderwort<br>Pondweeds<br>Large-leaved Watercressfoot<br>Hornwort<br>Slender Naiad<br>Spiked Water-milfoil<br>Water Plantains<br>Marsh-marigold<br>Arrow-leaved Arrowhead<br>Broad-leaved Arrowhead<br>Water Marigold<br>Mare's Tail | <b>Emergent</b><br>Soft-stemmed Bulrush<br>Duckweeds<br>Greater Bladderwort<br>Sago Pondweed<br>Richardson's Pondweed<br>Sheathed Pondweed<br>Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Creeping Spike-rush<br>Awned sedge<br>Spangletop | <b>Scirpus</b><br>Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Wild Mint<br>Spotted Touch-me-not<br>Bushy Knotweed<br>Perennial Sow-thistle<br>Sweet-scented Bedstraw | <b>Phragmites</b><br>Common Reed Grass<br>Spotted Touch-me-not<br>Wild Mint | <b>Typha</b><br>Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Wild Mint<br>Spotted Touch-me-not<br>Bushy Knotweed<br>Perennial Sow-thistle<br>Sweet-scented Bedstraw | <b>Flood Prone</b><br>Goosefoot<br>Canada Thistle<br>Buttercups<br>Asters<br>Water-horehound<br>Marsh Hedge-nettle<br>Awned Sedge<br>Western Water-horehound<br>Marsh Willowherb<br>Swamp Persicaria<br>Willows | <b>Carex</b><br>Awned Sedge<br>Perennial Sow-thistle<br>Canada Thistle<br>Goldenrods<br>Water-horehound<br>Quack Grass<br>Sweet Cicely | <b>Fresh Meadow</b><br>Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Sweet Flag<br>Beaked Sedge<br>Spangletop | <b>Sonchus</b><br>Perennial Sow-thistle<br>Wild Mint<br>Canada Thistle<br>Pandelion<br>White Clover<br>Upland White Goldenrod<br>Canada Anemone<br>Awned Sedge<br>Creeping Spike-rush<br>Silverweed<br>Doorweeds<br>Marsh Hedge-nettle<br>Western Water-horehound<br>Canada Anemone<br>Goldenrods<br>Water-horehound<br>Quack Grass<br>Sweet Cicely | <b>Solidago</b><br>Philadelphia Fleabane<br>American Vetch<br>Northern Bedstraw<br>Upland White Goldenrod<br>Perennial Sow-thistle<br>Silverweed<br>Wild Mint<br>Canada Thistle<br>Pandelion<br>White Clover<br>Canada Anemone<br>American Vetch<br>Yarrow<br>Common Plantain<br>Alfalfa<br>Yellow Sweet-clover<br>Water Hemlock<br>Western Water-horehound<br>Sartwell's Sedge<br>Awned Sedge<br>Quack Grass<br>Timothy<br>Northern Reed Grass<br>Kentucky Blue Grass |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|--|

# 5. VEGETATION

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# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



## Elder Brothers

The Human World was preceded by the Animal World - those who flew, swam, crawled, and walked... Each species and each individual creature was endowed with unique and singular powers proper to himself and his kind. Each had his sphere on earth, each his own time for the performance and fulfillment of his purpose and powers. Such was the general nature of animal beings. (JONSTON 1974, p. 46)

## Contradiction

Wildlife management in Manitoba has evolved in response to major changes in habitat, fluctuating wildlife populations and the gradually shifting needs and desires of society since 1870. From initial efforts to protect some species while paying bounties on others to today's emphasis on improving habitat while compensating crop damage, management programs have reflected cultural attitudes to the environment while expressing the economic and aesthetic value of wildlife to society. (SPOFFORD 1970)

## Existing Dyke

Netley Creek

## Proposed Dyke

Wavey Creek

## Proposed Control Structure

Netley Creek

## Goldeye Lake Project

A proto-type wildlife development and management plan has been prepared which will enhance waterfowl productivity while providing for Walleye rearing, Muskrat over-wintering and emergency trapping. If successfully implemented, the project will serve as a model for integrated multi-resource planning and management. (SPOFFORD 1970)



R. GREEN 1982. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE. U of M

## Cypriniformes

Common Sucker  
Silver Redhorse  
Carp  
Silver Chub  
Minnows  
Shiners

## Siluriformes

Channel Catfish  
Bullheads  
Madtom

## Atheriniformes

Barred Killifish

## Perciformes

Black Gizzard  
Perch  
Sauger  
Walleye  
Darters  
Drum

## Carnivora

Long-tailed Weasel  
Short-tailed Weasel  
Mink  
Striped Skunk  
Badger  
Raccoon  
Fox  
Coyote

## Artiodactyla

White-tailed Deer

## Fishes

Netley Marsh is the source of up to 3/4 of the frozen bait fish marketed in Manitoba. (THOMPSON 1971, p. 10)

## Osteoglossiformes

Goldeye  
Mooneye

## Salmoniformes

Tullibee  
Lake Whitefish  
Central Mudminnow  
Northern Pike

## Anseriformes

Whistling Swan  
Canada Goose  
White-fronted Goose  
Snow Goose  
Ross' Goose  
Mallard  
Black Duck  
Gadwall  
Pintail  
Green-winged Teal  
Blue-winged Teal  
Cinnamon Teal  
American Wigeon  
Northern Shoveler

## Pelecaniformes

White Pelican  
Double-crested Cormorant

## Podicipediformes

Western Grebe  
Red-necked Grebe  
Horned Grebe  
Eared Grebe  
Pied-billed Grebe

## Galliformes

Ruffed Grouse  
Sharp-tailed Grouse  
Grey Partridge

## Ciconiiformes

Common Loon  
Great Blue Heron  
Great Egret  
Black-crowned Night Heron  
Least Bittern  
American Bittern

## Gruiiformes

Sandhill Crane  
Virginia Rail  
Sora  
Yellow Rail  
American Coot

## Charadriiformes

Semipalmated Plover  
Piping Plover  
Killdeer  
American Golden Plover  
Black-bellied Plover  
Ruddy Turnstone  
Common Snipe  
Whimbrel  
Upland Sandpiper  
Spotted Sandpiper  
Solitary Sandpiper  
Willet  
Greater Yellowlegs  
Lesser Yellowlegs

## Falconiformes

Goshawk  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Cooper's Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Broad-winged Hawk  
Swainson's Hawk  
Rough-legged Hawk  
Golden Eagle  
Bald Eagle  
Marsh Hawk  
Osprey  
Gryfalcon  
Prairie Falcon  
Peregrine Falcon  
Merlin  
American Kestrel

## Columbiformes

Rock Dove  
Mourning Dove

## Cuculiformes

Black-billed Cuckoo

## Stigiformes

Screech Owl  
Great Horned Owl  
Snowy Owl  
Burrowing Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl

## Caprimulgiformes

Whip-poor-will  
Common Nighthawk

## Apodiformes

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

## Coraciiformes

Belted Kingfisher

## Piciformes

Common Flicker  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker

## Passeriformes

Eastern Kingbird  
Western Kingbird  
Great Crested Flycatcher  
Eastern Phoebe  
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher  
Alder Flycatcher  
Least Flycatcher  
Eastern Wood Pewee  
Dive-sided Flycatcher  
Horned Lark  
Tree Swallow  
Bank Swallow  
Rough-winged Swallow  
Barn Swallow  
Cliff Swallow  
Purple Martin  
Blue Jay  
Black-billed Magpie  
Common Raven  
Common Crow  
Black-capped Chickadee  
House Wren  
Long-billed Marsh Wren  
Short-billed Marsh Wren  
Gray Catbird  
Brown Thrasher  
American Robin

## Columbiformes

Rock Dove  
Mourning Dove

## Cuculiformes

Black-billed Cuckoo

## Stigiformes

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Snowy Owl  
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Cliff Swallow  
Purple Martin  
Blue Jay  
Black-billed Magpie  
Common Raven  
Common Crow  
Black-capped Chickadee  
House Wren  
Long-billed Marsh Wren  
Short-billed Marsh Wren  
Gray Catbird  
Brown Thrasher  
American Robin

## Columbiformes

Rock Dove  
Mourning Dove

## Cuculiformes

Black-billed Cuckoo

## Stigiformes

Screech Owl  
Great Horned Owl  
Snowy Owl  
Burrowing Owl  
Long-eared Owl  
Short-eared Owl

## Caprimulgiformes

Whip-poor-will  
Common Nighthawk

## Apodiformes

Ruby-throated Hummingbird

## Coraciiformes

Belted Kingfisher

## Piciformes

Common Flicker  
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker  
Hairy Woodpecker  
Downy Woodpecker

## Passeriformes

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Western Kingbird  
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American Robin

## Wood Duck

Redhead  
Ring-necked Duck  
Canvasback  
Greater Scaup  
Lesser Scaup  
Common Goldeneye  
Bufflehead  
White-winged Scoter  
Hooded Merganser  
Common Merganser  
Red-breasted Merganser

## Falconiformes

Goshawk  
Sharp-shinned Hawk  
Cooper's Hawk  
Red-tailed Hawk  
Broad-winged Hawk  
Swainson's Hawk  
Rough-legged Hawk  
Golden Eagle  
Bald Eagle  
Marsh Hawk  
Osprey  
Gryfalcon  
Prairie Falcon  
Peregrine Falcon  
Merlin  
American Kestrel

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## Short-billed Dowitcher

Long-billed Dowitcher  
Shill Sandpiper  
Semipalmated Sandpiper  
Buff-breasted Sandpiper  
Marbled Godwit  
Hudsonian Godwit  
Sanderling  
American Avocet  
Wilson's Phalarope  
Northern Phalarope  
Solitary Vireo  
Red-eyed Vireo  
Philadelphia Vireo  
Franklin's Vireo  
Black-and-white Warbler  
Golden-winged Warbler  
Tennessee Warbler  
Nashville Warbler  
Yellow Warbler  
Magnolia Warbler  
Cape May Warbler  
Yellow-rumped Warbler  
Black-throated Green Warbler  
Blackburnian Warbler  
Chestnut-sided Warbler  
Bay-breasted Warbler  
Blackpoll Warbler  
Palm Warbler  
Ovenbird  
Northern Waterthrush  
Mourning Warbler  
Common Yellowthroat  
Wilson's Warbler  
Canada Warbler  
American Redstart  
House Sparrow  
Bobolink  
Western Meadowlark  
Yellow-headed Blackbird  
Red-winged Blackbird  
Baltimore Oriole  
Rusty Blackbird  
Brewer's Blackbird  
Common Grackle  
Brown-headed Cowbird  
Scarlet Tanager  
Rose-breasted Grosbeak  
Evening Grosbeak  
Purple Finch  
Pine Grosbeak  
Hoary Redpoll  
Pine Siskin  
American Goldfinch  
White-winged Crossbill  
Savannah Sparrow  
LeCombe's Sparrow  
Sharp-tailed Sparrow  
Vesper Sparrow  
Lark Sparrow  
Dark-eyed Junco  
Tree Sparrow  
Chipping Sparrow  
Harris' Sparrow  
Purple Martin  
White-throated Sparrow  
Fox Sparrow  
Lincoln's Sparrow  
Song Sparrow  
Lapland Longspur  
Smith's Longspur  
Chestnut-collared Longspur  
Snow Bunting

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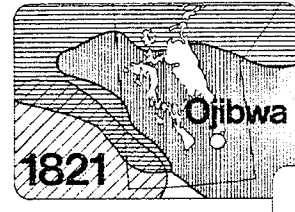
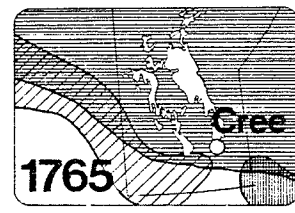
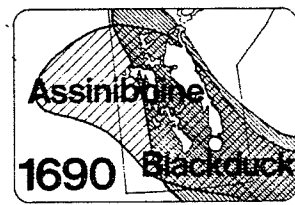
Common Flicker  
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## Passeriformes

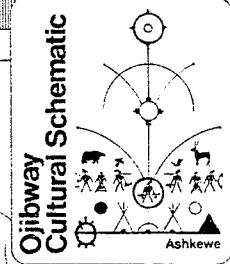
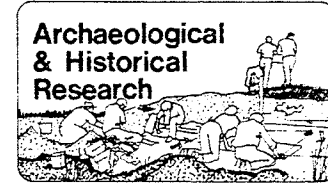
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Alder Flycatcher  
Least Flycatcher  
Eastern Wood Pewee  
Dive

# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



## Prehistory



North West Company  
Fort Maurepas

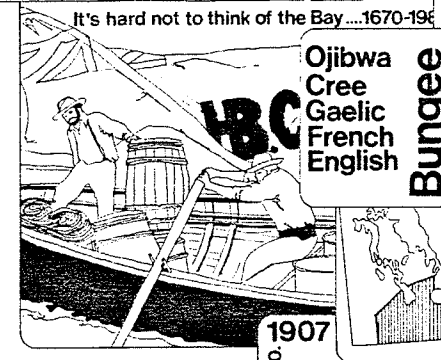
John Tanner 1792

Peguis 1794  
Begwais William King

Nee-poo-win Sipi  
Rivière aux Morts  
Nipou Cipi Netley Creek

Selkirk Settlers 1812

John West 1820  
Market Hunting



Stone Fort Treaty No. 1 1871  
William Cockran  
Anglican Church Missionary Society

John Schultz  
Frog Farming?

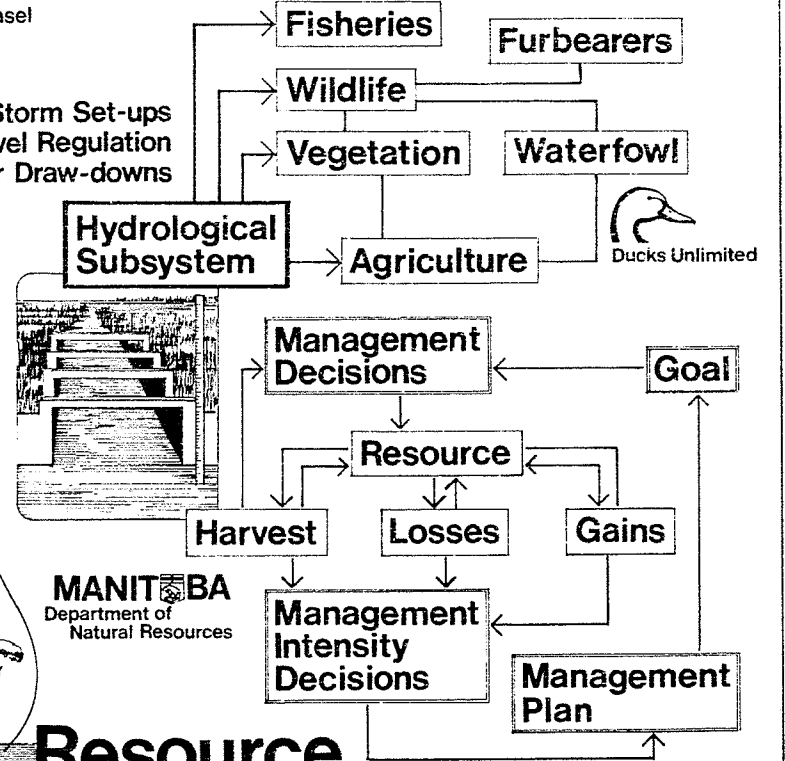
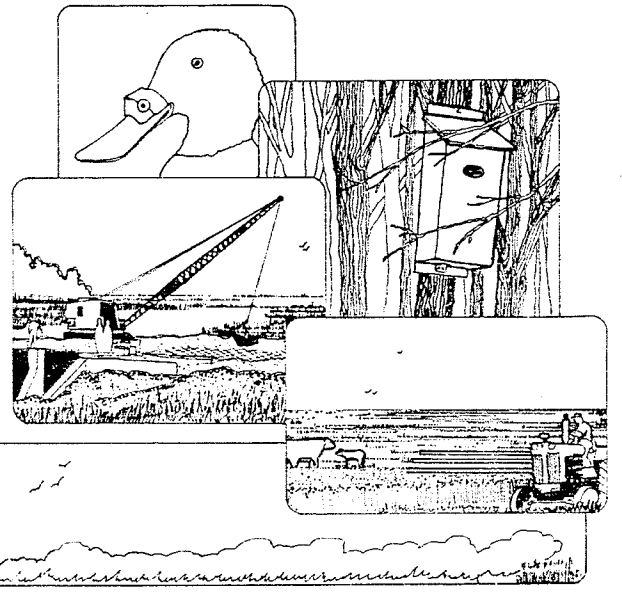
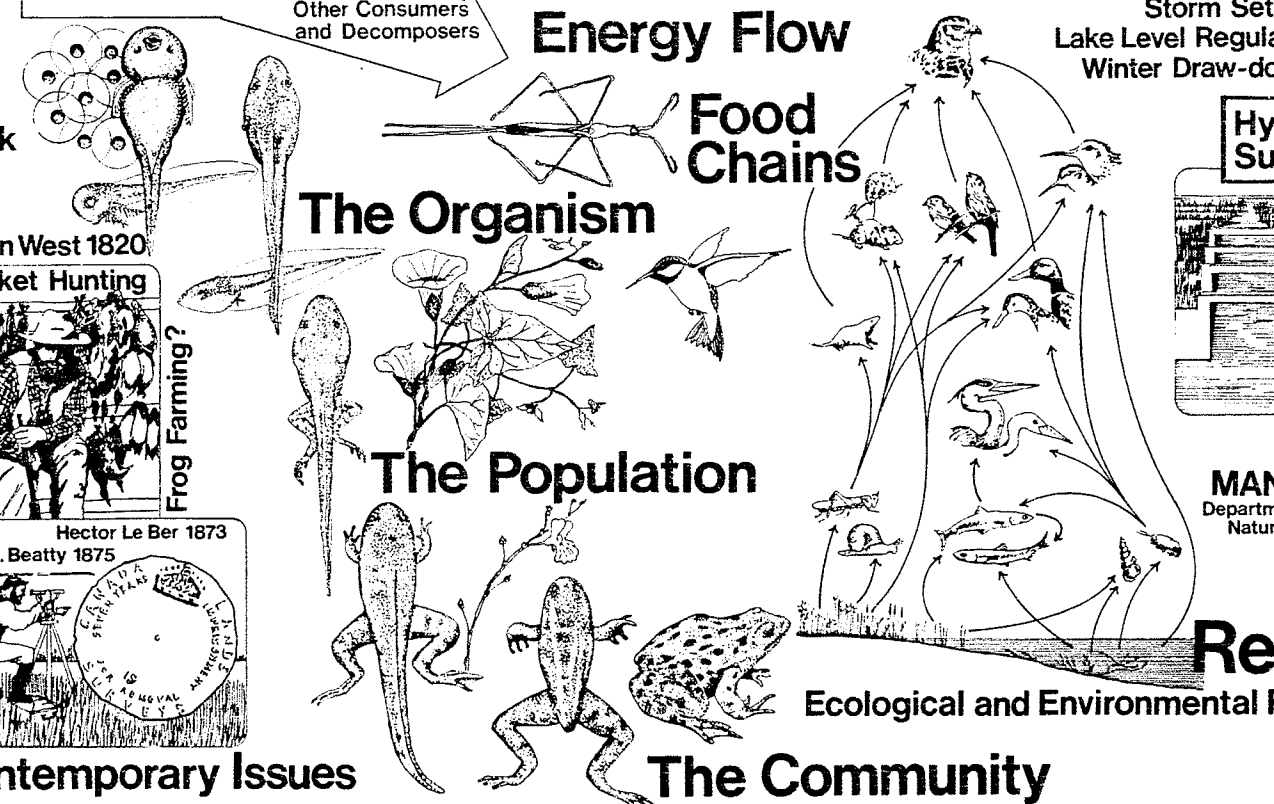
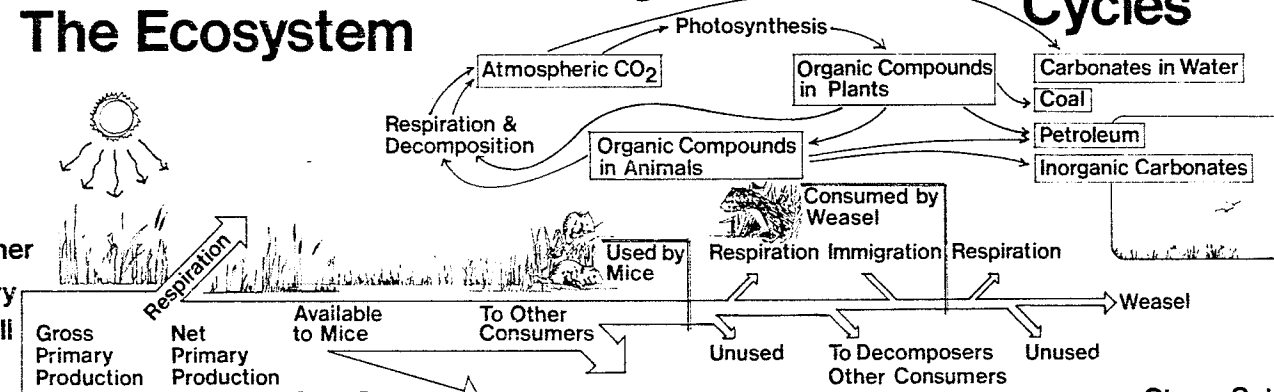
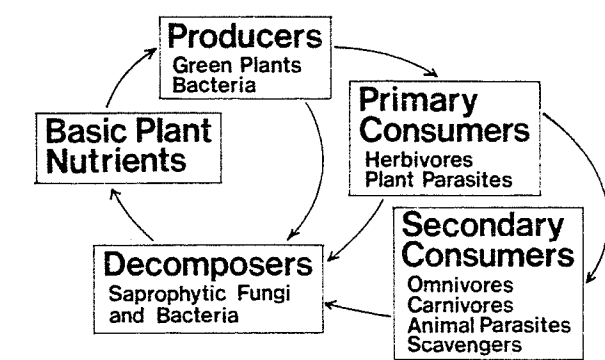
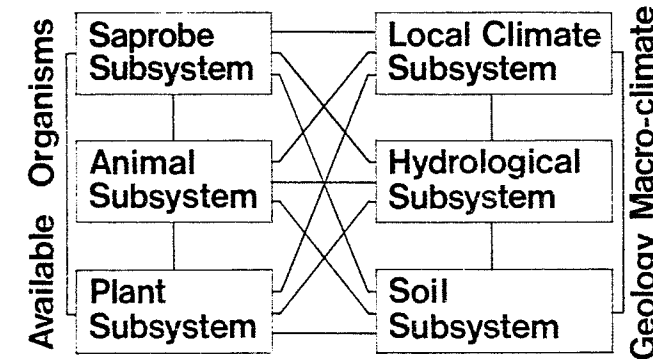
Hector Le Ber 1873  
W. Beatty 1875

Exploration Exploitation  
Transportation Settlement Agriculture  
Recreation Conservation

St. Peter's Reserve Surrendered  
Manitoba Hydro Lake Level Regulation 1975

Sugar Point  
Garrison Contemporary Issues

## Natural History



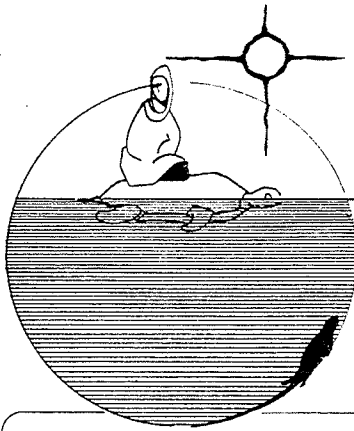
## Cultural History

# 7. THEMES

R. GREEN 1982 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE UFM

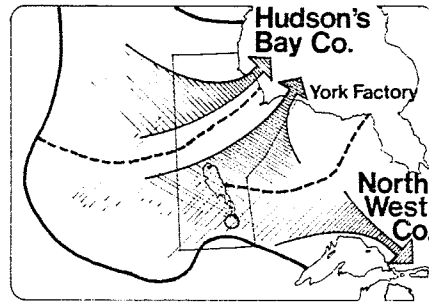
# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



sensing her loneliness, the water creatures invited Sky-woman to join them on the vast sea that had once been the earth. Resting on the back of a turtle, she asked for soil from the bottom. The beaver, fisher, marten, and loon each tried and failed. Despite their shame, the others laughed when the lowly muskrat prepared to dive.

**Creation Myth**  
Although originally scorned for his lack of strength and endurance, the laughter turned to despair as time passed. After the others had given up on him, Wuzhushik floated to the surface - near death... with a bit of mud which sky-woman turned into an island on the turtle's back. As the island grew and the water subsided Sky-woman re-built the Qjibway landscape.

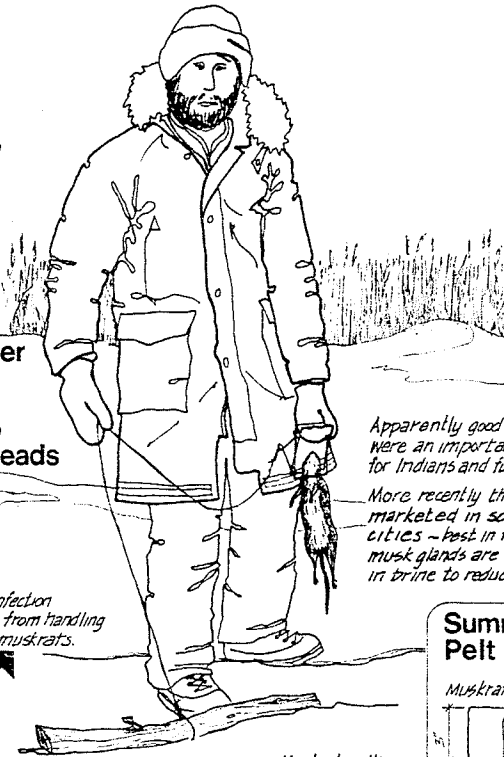


## The Western Fur Trade

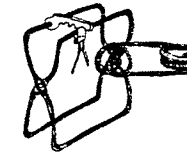
The fur trade is basic to North American history. From 1670 until 1870 "the fur trade was the most pervasive force influencing the economic and political development of Western Canada".  
162,634 muskrats were harvested at Netley Marsh in 1945.

10-12 Prime Muskrat equalled 1 Made Beaver worth 1 quart brandy or 1 hatchet or 1 pound tobacco or 1/2 pound small beads

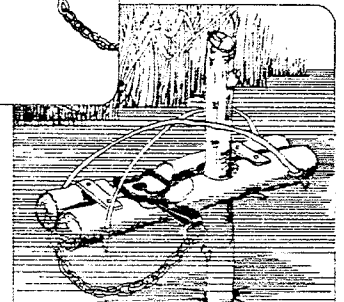
1982 Price - \$7.20



#110 Conibear



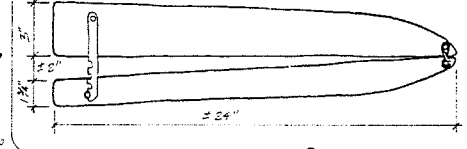
Apparently good to eat, muskrat were an important source of food for Indians and fur trader/explorers. More recently they have been marketed in some large U.S. cities - best in fall and winter when musk glands are less active - soak in brine to reduce gamey taste.



#1 Leg Hold-Float Set

Summerberry Pelt Stretcher

Muskrat pelts are stretched and dried with the fur in.

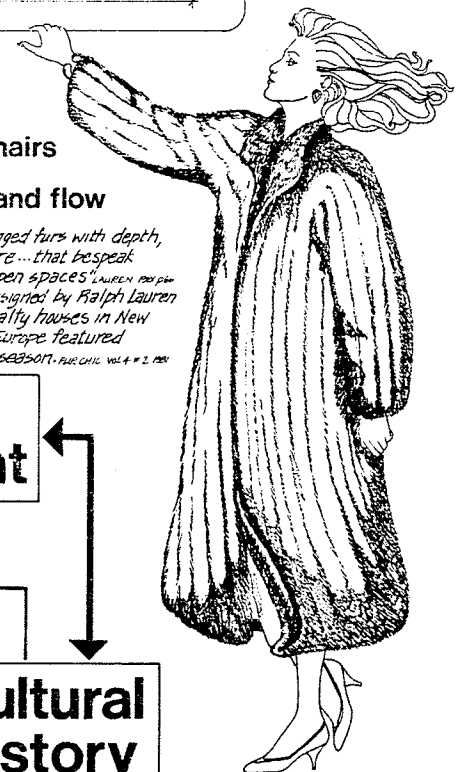


Muskrat pelts are 'cased' - skinned inside out from vent to head like a tube.

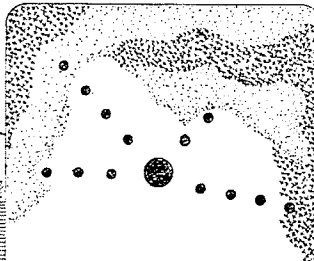
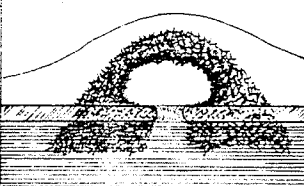
## Prime Pelts

Creamy white flesh side  
Soft pliable oily leather  
Completely covered by guard hairs  
Thick deep underfur  
Glossy appearance - full of life and flow

"I have always liked rugged furs with depth, character and texture... that bespeak prairies... and wide open spaces".  
The Pepper Collection, designed by Ralph Lauren and available at specialty houses in New York, Montreal and Europe featured muskrat in the 1981 SEASOFT-FUR COLLECTION.

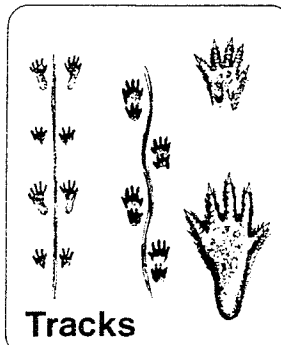
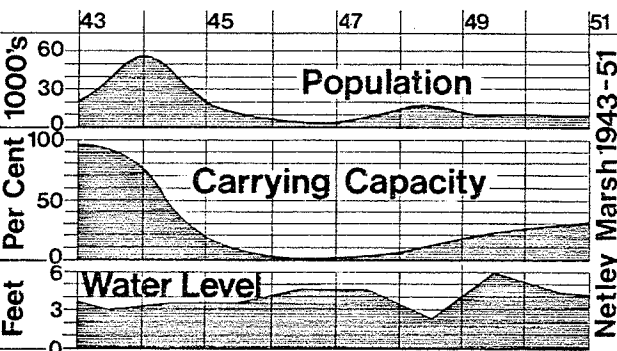


Push Up



Territory

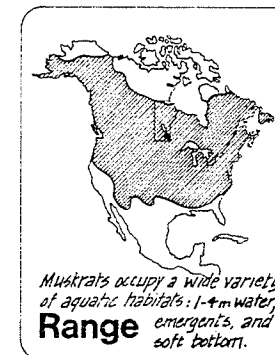
Winter House



Tracks



Ondatra zibethicus alba



Muskrats occupy a wide variety of aquatic habitats: 1-4m water, emergents, and soft bottom.  
Range

Tularemia Death  
Flu-like Symptoms  
Bacterial infection contacted from handling infected muskrats.

## Life Cycle

### Management Strategy

Optimize habitat quality and quantity.  
Maintain breeding stock to maximize reproduction and population growth.  
Harvest excess population to prevent habitat destruction and starvation.

Independent juveniles	Sexually mature yearlings	2-12 Kits born naked blind and helpless	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5				
			Movement Fur begins to grow	Eyes open and activity increases	Very active - start to swim and take plant food	Weaned - good swimmers and fully furred	More or less independent juveniles				
Periodic epidemics of Errington's Disease	Prime pelts Males potent by spring break-up Male aggression fighting and travel Severe predation	28 Day Gestation					Salvage trapping				
		First Litters									
		2nd Litters									
		3rd Litters									
		Males impotent Rare 4th Litters									
		House building									
		Pushups built as ice forms									
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

## Food

- Cattails
- Bulrushes
- Horsetails
- Sweet Flag
- Burreeds
- Pondweeds
- Reed Grass
- Arrowhead
- Sedges

## Predators

- Mink
- Northern Pike
- Coyote
- Gyrfalcon
- Great Horned Owl

## Winter Adaptations

Muskrats are active throughout the winter. Immersion in near-freezing water could cause severe heat loss leading to hypothermia. Muskrats have a variety of adaptive mechanisms for keeping warm. Dense waterproof underfur maintains air layer when submerged. Temperature of extremities drops to that of surroundings. A thermal blanket of brown fat warms blood returning from cooled periphery and selectively warms sensitive organs such as kidneys and spinal cord. Body temperature is elevated before entering water. Group occupied insulated houses efficiently store body heat. Muskrats frequently withdraw for re-warming to push ups which are arranged to provide access throughout the home range via short swims. Freeze-out is the most serious threat in winter.

## Resource Management

## Topics

## Natural History

## Cultural History

# 8. THE MUSKRAT

# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

**Locally Unique Vegetation and Wildlife**

**Cottaging History and Impact**

**Threatened Beach Ridge**

**Ecology**

*Ecology is an holistic concept. Ecology is not ecology unless it devises means to apprehend the full complexity of a given space, occupied (temporarily or permanently) by living organisms (including man); unless it can give an account of the dynamic whole; and unless it can situate the parts in their true relationship with each other and with the whole.*

**Breached Levee**

**Abandoned Road**

**Indian Camps and Settlements**

**Netley Creek**

**Ferry Site**

**Proposed Dyke**

**Control Structure**

**Existing Dyke**

**Goldeye Lake Project**

*The proto-type wildlife development and management plan should be expanded to include an interpretive component to be later incorporated into the overall system.*



R. GREEN 1982 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE LLP M.

Alexander Henry's Camp

Navigation Light

Lodge Ruins  
Brokenhead River

Lake Winnipeg

Breached Beach Ridge

Patricia Point

Beaconia Lake

## Visitors

*Traditional interpretive planning efforts address the issue of visitors by planning for specific user groups such as local residents, tourists, school groups, etc. or use types such as class room visits, naturalist clubs, family outings etc.*

*This plan recognizes the need to account for a broad spectrum of visitors in every classification in order to provide interpretive opportunities of great diversity. The variety of existing users and the potential visitors within the region requires a flexible interpretive system featuring numerous combinations of recreation and education experiences within the context of Netley Marsh.*

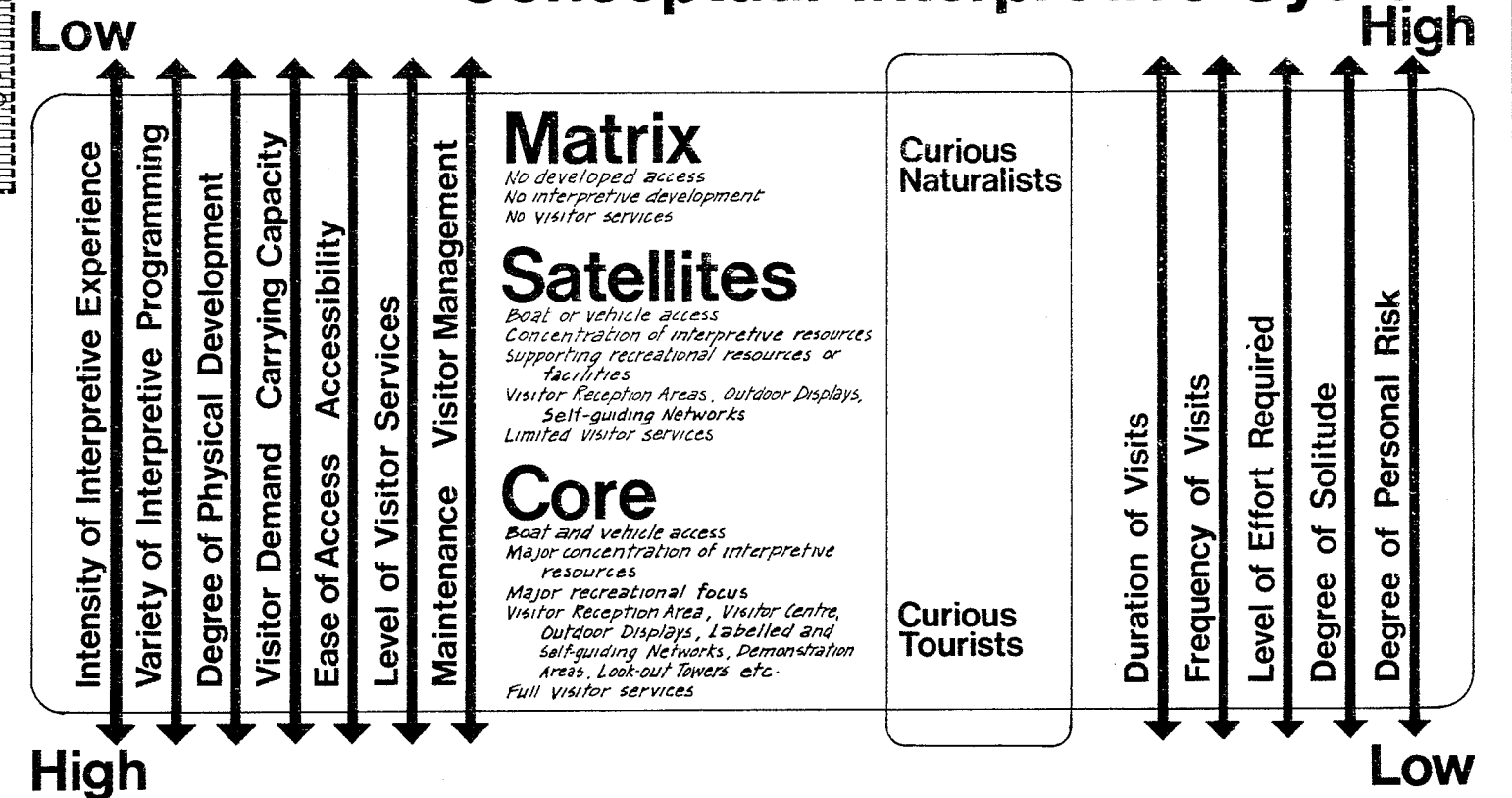
## Biophysical Units

- Unmanaged Marsh
- Managed Marsh
- Beach Ridge Lake-Marsh
- Levee River-Marsh
- Upland Parkland-Marsh
- Agriculture
- Open Water

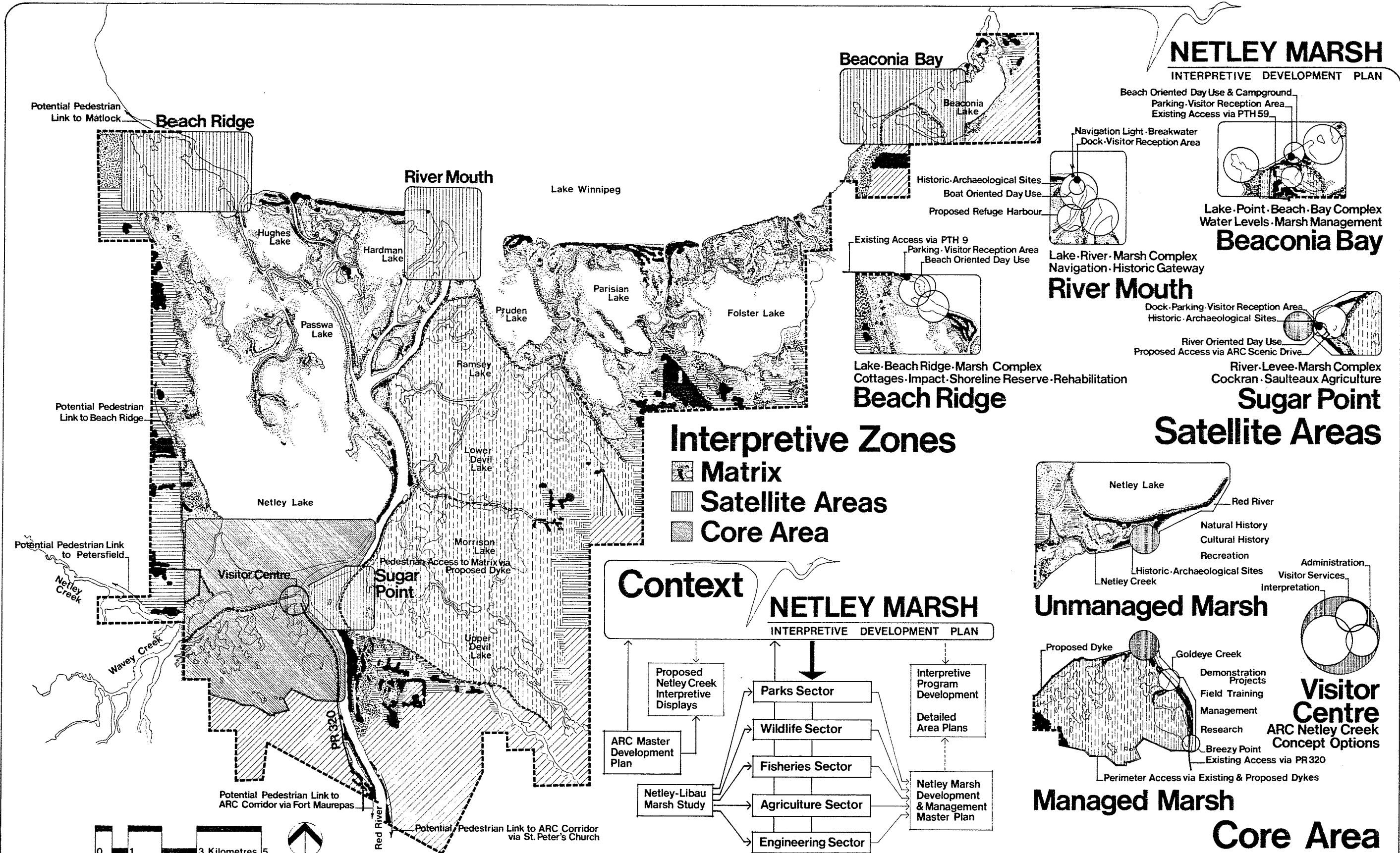
## Biodynamics

*Before 1960 Netley Marsh consisted of about 50 individual biologically closed water bodies not severely influenced by Lake Winnipeg. In the last 20 years the marsh has been reduced to 17 biologically open systems intimately related to and greatly influenced by the changing water levels of the lake.*

## Conceptual Interpretive System



# 9. INTERPRETIVE POTENTIAL



# 10. INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

R. GREEN 1982 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE U.S.A.

# NETLEY MARSH

## INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

### Summary

In addition to confirming the appropriateness of the ARC Netley Creek Interpretive Proposals, this study clearly demonstrates an incredible potential for interpretive programming throughout the entire marsh. The study identifies the key areas within which an integrated interpretive system should be developed, summarizes the principal themes to be interpreted and offers the following recommendations:

### Recommendations

The Netley Marsh Interpretive Development Plan should be considered a conceptual framework for interpretive development in Netley Marsh.

Responsible agencies should proceed with interpretive development on the basis of the Netley Marsh Development and Management Master Plan, the ARC Red River Corridor Master Development Plan and this study.

#### Core Area

Expand the Goldsye Lake Wildlife Development and Management Plan to include Interpretive Development Studies for eventual incorporation into the overall core area system.

Complete proposed archaeological and historical research at the junction of Netley Creek and the Red River prior to the preparation of a detailed area plan for the Core.

Proceed with ARC Interpretive Displays at Netley Creek as an interim measure until proposed Visitor Centre proceeds.

Establish an initial Interpretive Program in conjunction with the completed displays at Netley Creek.

#### Beach Ridge Satellite

Undertake historical and archaeological research prior to preparation of a detailed area plan.

Initial displays should encourage thoughtful use of the beach ridge and promote the need for a shoreline reserve to protect the ridge and preserve the marsh as a whole.

#### River Mouth Satellite

Undertake historical and archaeological research prior to preparation of detailed area plans.

Interpretive development should proceed with the development of the proposed Harbour of Refuge.

#### Beacons Bay Satellite

Undertake detailed area plan and include interpretive development to complement existing or proposed recreation development.

#### Sugar Point Satellite

Undertake archaeological and historical research and prepare detailed area plan prior to development of proposed ARC scenic drive and ferry crossing.

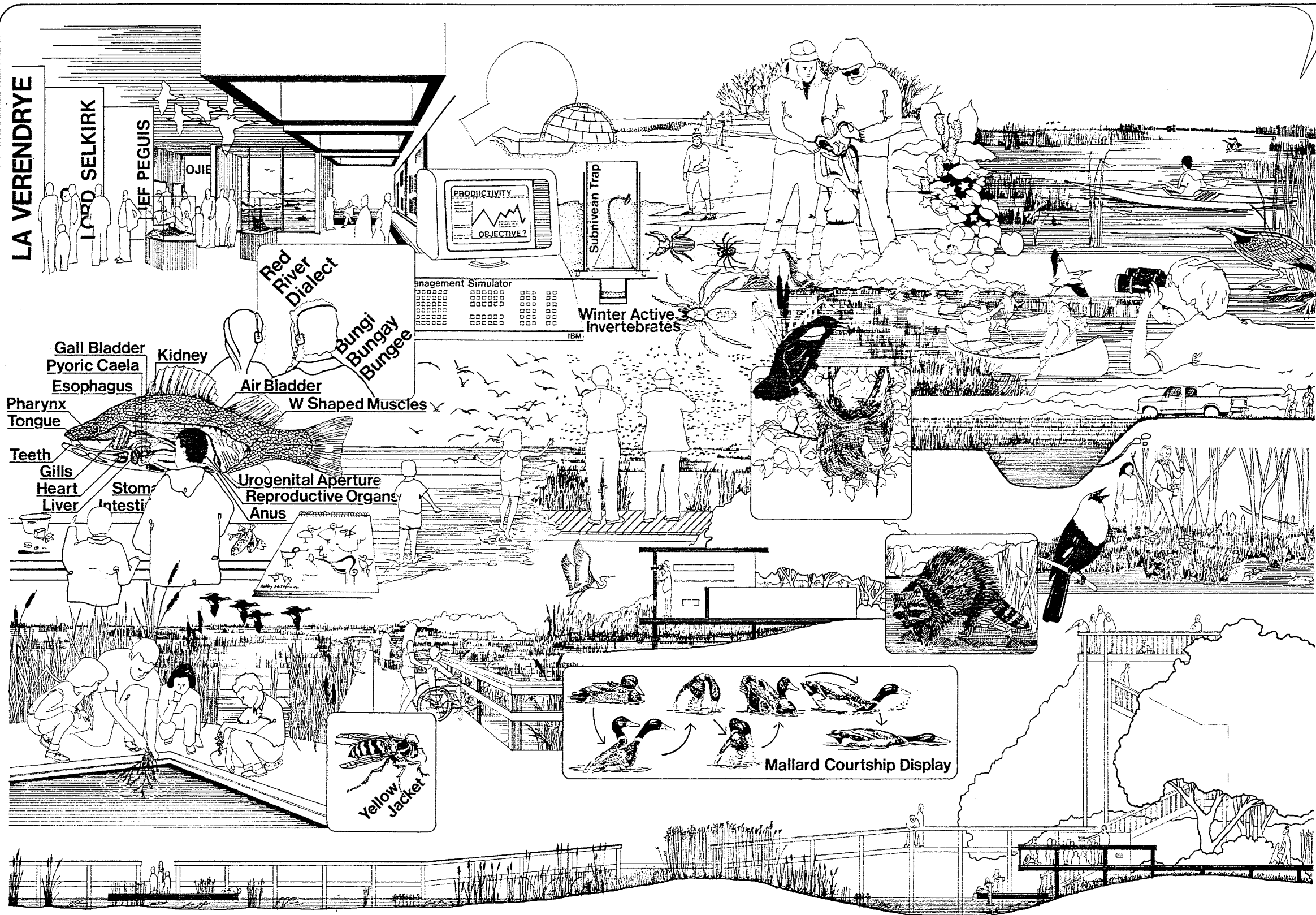
#### Matrix

No interpretive development should occur within this zone although future recreation development proposals may be evaluated with respect to the appropriateness of additional satellites.

### Thanks

To my committee - Barry Hilderman (chairman) Barry Verbiwski and Ted McLachlan - for their patience and assistance, the friendly folks at 504 Queen Street for their support throughout, and especially Judy Crosby for getting me going.

*J.P.E.N.* SASKATOON MAY 1982.



"That thing called 'nature study', ... constitutes the first embryonic groping of the mass-mind toward perception....  
Aldo Leopold 1949

To promote perception is the only truly creative part of recreational engineering."

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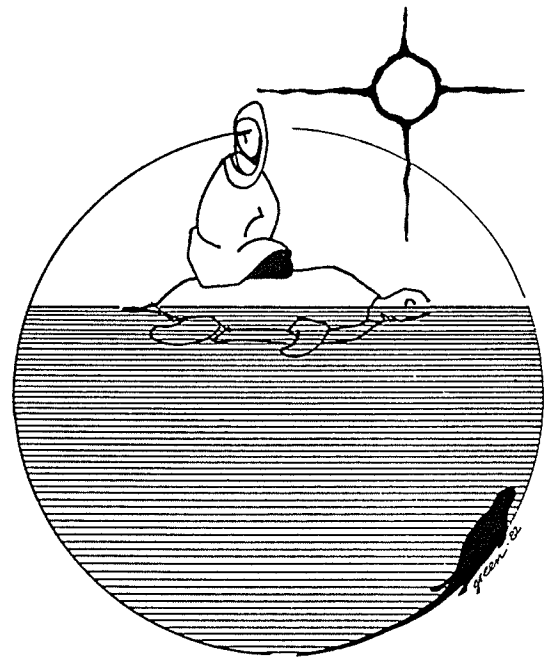
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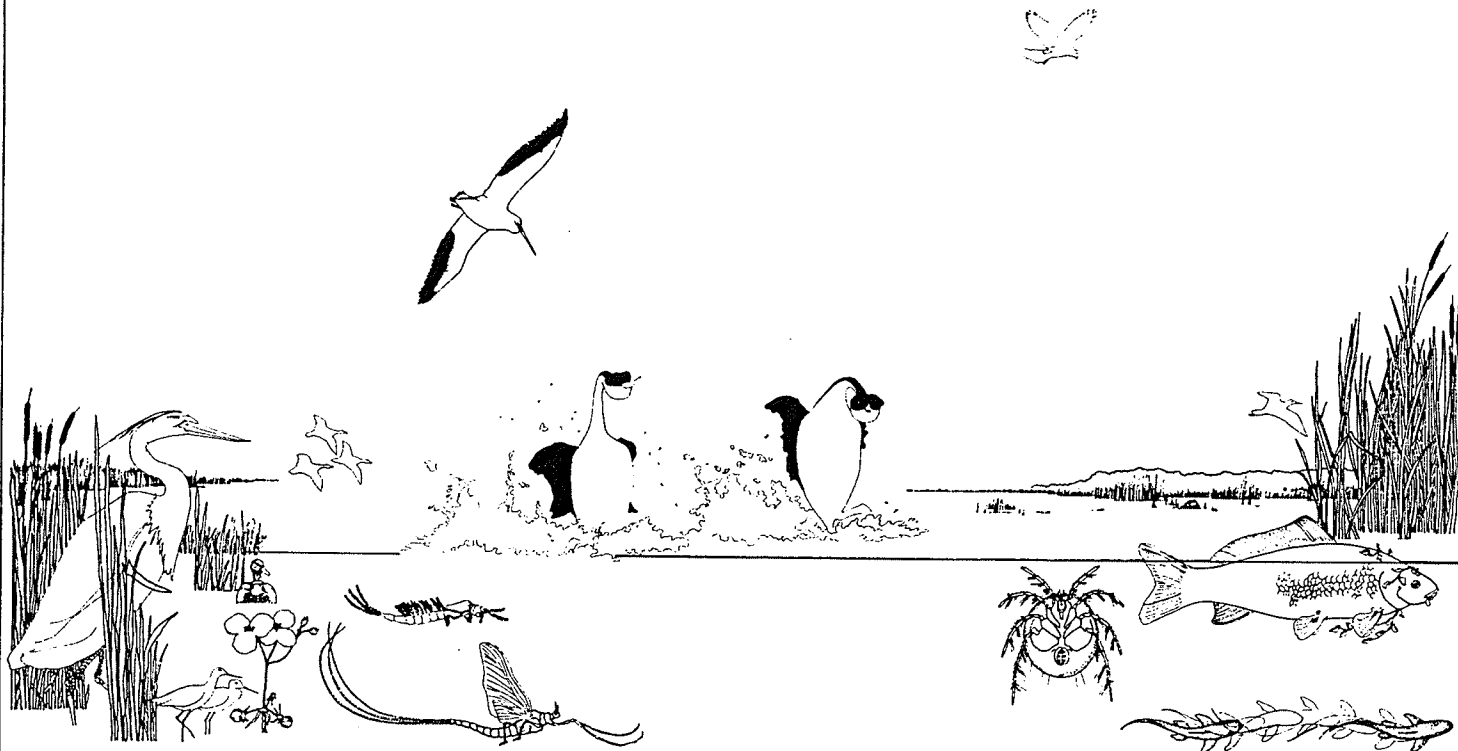
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"The ecological processes on the surface of the earth represent a kind of huge seamless web, a network of interconnections among living things and between living things and the chemical and physical environment - an endless process of interacting steps".

Barry Commoner 1971

# EDUCATION content

The educational roots of interpretation can be traced to the work of early scientists such as Petrarch, Copernicus, and Galileo who broke from the religious constraints of their day to study and teach the natural causes of various phenomena. . . . Although the focus was originally with Aristotle and Aristotle, it was not until the 17th century that consensus broadly recognized that learning was best facilitated through play and direct experience. . . . Educational theorists in the 18th and 19th centuries, such as Pestalozzi and Froebel, believed some perception to be the foundation of knowledge and that first-hand observation and experience were the key to education. . . . Louis Agassiz brought the European concept of nature study to North America in 1847 and coined the phrase "Study Nature, Not Books." . . . The integration of science into elementary schools began in 1899 when W.B. Jackson introduced Nature Study into the curriculum in Illinois. The distinguishing features of the new course were the utilization of the outdoors as both text book and classroom and the organization of course content around seasonal variations. . . . Contemporary "Outdoor Education" has evolved from the nature study movement and plays an important role at all levels of education. . . .

# INTERPRETATION process

The recreational roots of interpretation have evolved from several sources since the 18th century botanical gardens, arboreta, zoological parks and museums have combined professional research with public education in recreational settings. . . . The world-wide explosion of interest in the natural sciences which occurred during the 18th and 19th centuries, combined with increasing urbanization stimulated the growth of outdoor recreation in natural settings. The popularity of such recreation was encouraged by the many field naturalists who happened to be excellent writers. Henry David Thoreau, John Muir, Catherine Parr Trail, Earnest Thompson Seton and many others captured the imaginations and aroused the curiosity of the reading public. . . . Naturalist's Clubs began to flourish in the 19th century. Many such organizations continue to involve professional and amateur naturalists and the interested public in scientific, educational and recreational activities. . . . Near the end of the 19th century the National Parks Movement finally united the public fascination with nature and desire for understanding. Four books were put on display at Banff in 1899 and people began asking questions. By 1916 devoted nature trails, guided field trips and lectures were popular features of Canada's first interpretive program. . . .

# RECREATION context

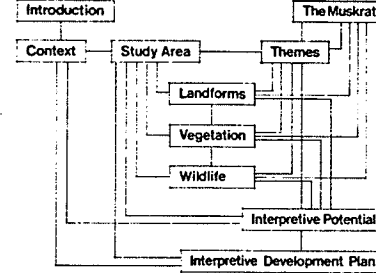
# activity Definition

"Any communication process designed to reveal meanings and relationships of our cultural and natural heritage to the public through that hand involvement with an object, architecture, landscape or site."

## Goals

- Perception**  
Enhance visitor enjoyment by providing high quality educationally/recreational experiences which enrich visitor awareness, appreciation and understanding of the resource. . . .
- Protection**  
Positively influence visitor attitudes to the environment as a whole by encouraging the thoughtful and responsible use of the resource and minimizing the negative impact of such use. . . .
- Promotion**  
Encourage public awareness and understanding of the intrinsic value of the resource, its managing agencies, and their programs. . . .

## Structure

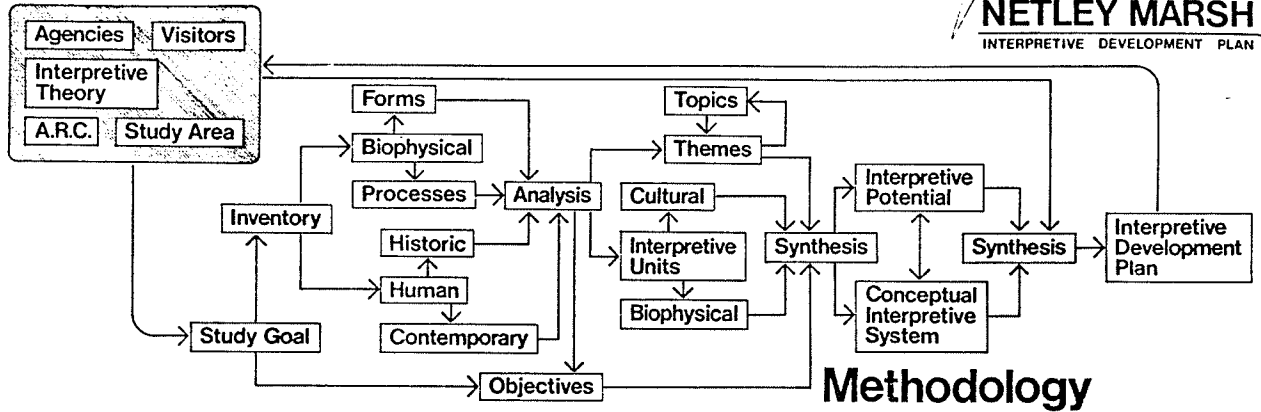


	4. Landforms	8. The Muskrat
1. Introduction	5. Vegetation	9. Interpretive Potential
2. Context	6. Wildlife	10. Interpretive Development Plan
3. Study Area	7. Themes	

## Contents

# 1. INTRODUCTION

## NETLEY MARSH INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



**Interpretive Program**  
Defined as the total interpretive effort, including personnel, facilities, and all the interpretive activities within or related to a given area. . . .

**Principles**  
Different visitor groups require fundamentally different approaches to interpretation. Programs should respond to differences in age, mental and physical abilities, prior knowledge and experience, motivation and available time. . . . Visitors should be encouraged to participate selectively, at their own pace. . . . Programs should relate to the personality or experience of the visitor, progressing from the familiar to the unfamiliar. . . . Programs should be holistic rather than fragmented, emphasizing concepts and inter-relationships rather than facts and figures. . . . Programs should be provocative rather than instructive, encouraging participation, involvement, insight, sensitivity, self-expression and personal development. . . . Facilities should be safe, comfortable, convenient and responsive to the needs of the visitors and the program. . . . Facilities should be located and designed to minimize environmental damage and the intensity of use should not exceed the design capacities of facilities provided. . . . Facilities should be efficient in terms of servicing, maintenance and other operational aspects. . . . Facilities should be flexible and adaptable to new topics, techniques, technologies and shifts in visitor interest and program intensities. . . . The most effective interpretation is generally achieved through interpersonal communication in combination with direct contact with the subject. Visitor-activated dynamic exhibits are more effective than static written or graphic presentations. . . .

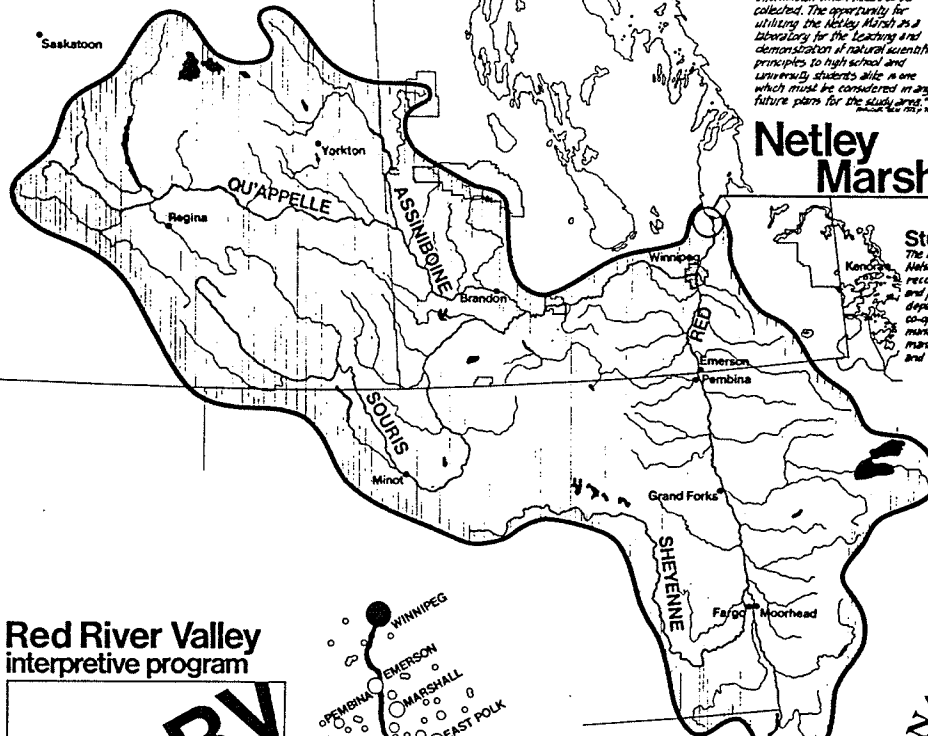
## Study Goal

To evaluate the A.R.C. Netley Creek interpretive proposals by producing an Interpretive Development Plan which establishes a conceptual framework for the development of an interpretive program for Netley Marsh.

## Objectives

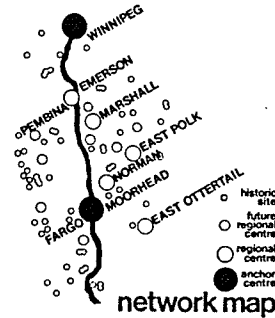
- Identify and document the patterns and inter-relationships of the existing natural and cultural resources, land uses, and activities.
- Identify and evaluate the range of interpretive topics and themes available in Netley Marsh.
- Document the interpretive potential as related to identified themes.
- Develop a conceptual interpretive system which provides a variety of interpretive opportunities appropriate to the study area.
- Establish a development framework which fully integrates potential interpretive activities with the established recreational context.
- The Interpretive Development Plan should provide the spatial and functional flexibility within which a variety of interpretive program alternatives may be explored.

# Drainage Basin



**Red River Valley interpretive program**

**program identification**  
Joseph & Vogel Associates 1972



The Red River Valley Historical Society has proposed the establishment of a network of interpretive centres. Scoping on the unique natural and cultural heritage of the entire valley. The coordinated interpretive program, involving North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and Manitoba, would provide residents and tourists alike with a vast system of interpretive opportunities.

**Suitability, 1972**  
The Ice Over Delta and the Netley Marshes in particular because of its wetlands, great variety of plant and animal life, and its proximity to Winnipeg, must rate as one of Manitoba's most valuable natural resources. The lack of well-documented information on the natural and physical features of the area is difficult to comprehend. There is a vast amount of scientific information which needs to be collected. The opportunity for utilizing the Netley Marsh as a laboratory for the teaching and demonstration of natural scientific principles to high school and university students alike is one which must be considered in any future plans for the study area.

## Netley Marsh

**Study Board, 1975**  
The Late Winnipeg, Churchill and Nelson Rivers Study Board recommended "that the federal and provincial government departments and agencies co-operate to develop marsh management techniques and a management program for the Netley and Likou Marshes."

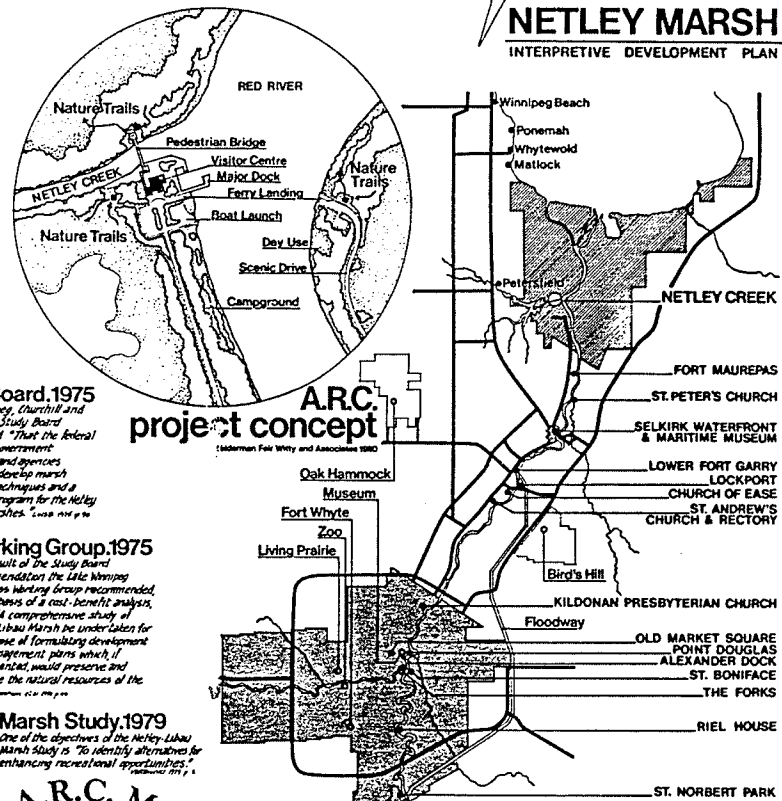
**Working Group, 1975**  
As a result of the Study Board recommendation the Late Winnipeg Marshes Working Group recommended, on the basis of a cost-benefit analysis, that "a comprehensive study of Netley-Likou Marsh be undertaken for the purpose of formulating development and management plans which, if implemented, would preserve and enhance the natural resources of the area."

**Marsh Study, 1979**  
One of the objectives of the Netley-Likou Marsh Study is "to identify alternatives for enhancing recreational opportunities."



agreement for recreation and conservation

## NETLEY MARSH INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



## Red River Corridor interpretive theme centres

The federal-provincial A.R.C. program was initiated in 1975 "to satisfy increasing demand for heritage conservation and the provision of outdoor recreational opportunities."

The 1978 Red River Corridor agreement recognized the enormous development potential for a diverse and stimulating recreation system easily accessible to two-thirds of the population of Manitoba and the majority of visitors to the province.

The system will complement and serve as the northern terminus of the international Red River Valley Interpretive Program.

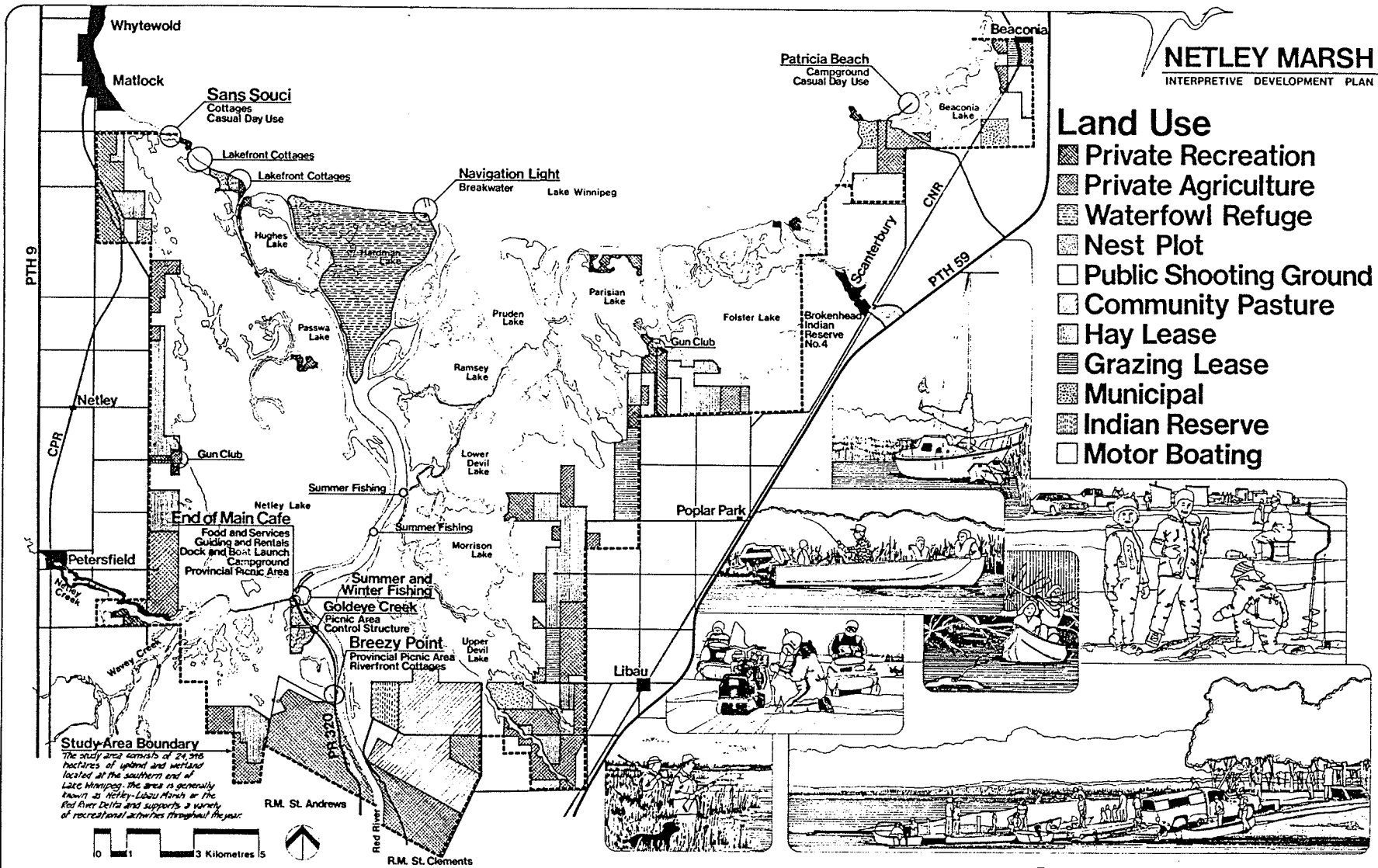
# 2. CONTEXT

# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

## Land Use

- Private Recreation
- Private Agriculture
- Waterfowl Refuge
- Nest Plot
- Public Shooting Ground
- Community Pasture
- Hay Lease
- Grazing Lease
- Municipal
- Indian Reserve
- Motor Boating



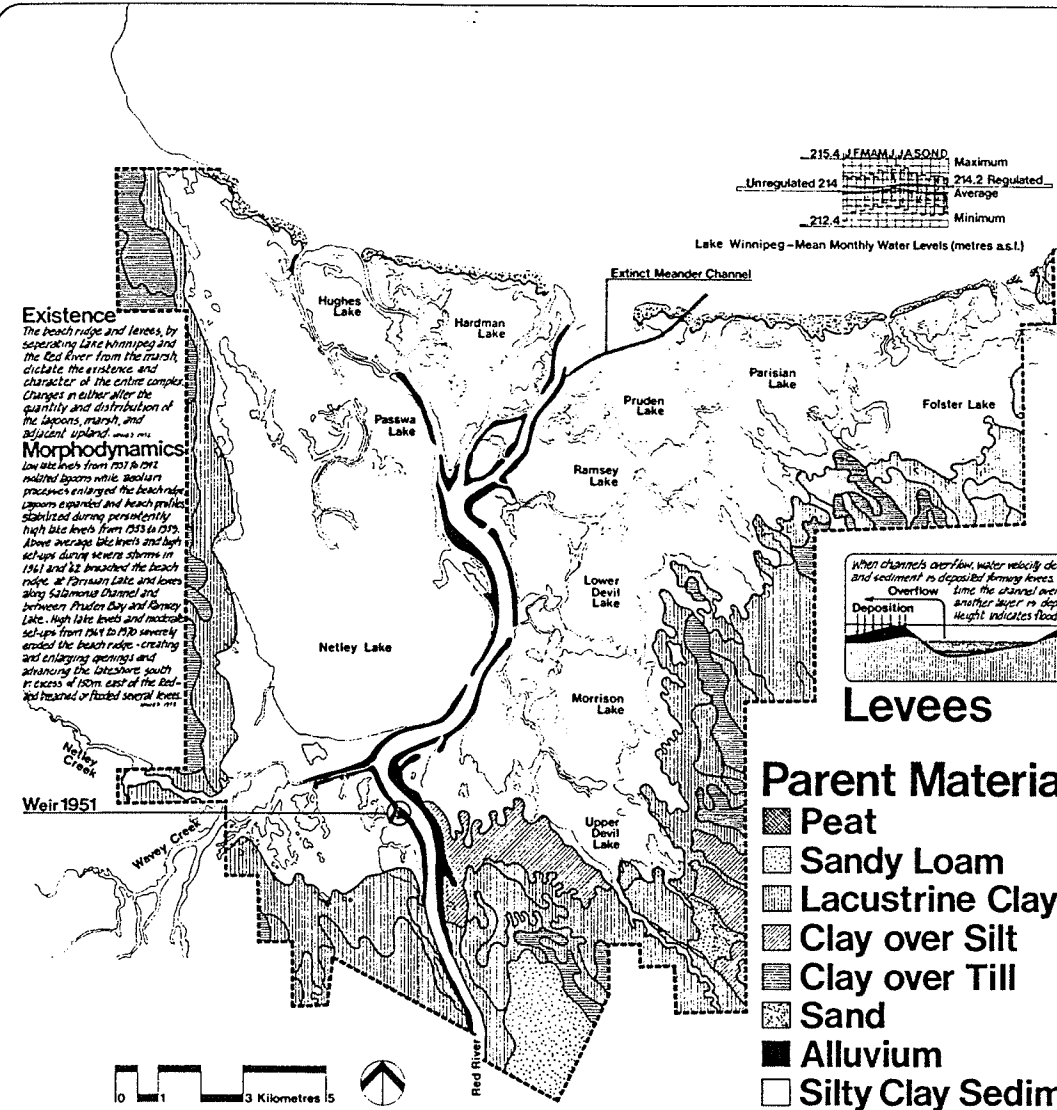
**Study Area Boundary**  
 The study area consists of 24,316 hectares of upland and wetland located at the southern end of Lake Winnipeg. The area is generally known as Netley-Libau Marsh or the Red River Delta and supports a variety of recreational activities throughout the year.



# 3. STUDY AREA

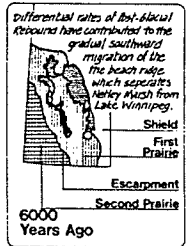
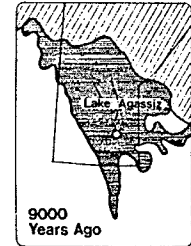
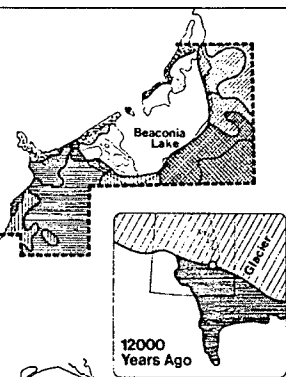
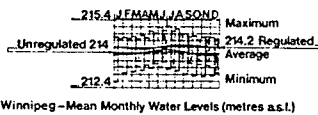
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# NETLEY MARSH INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

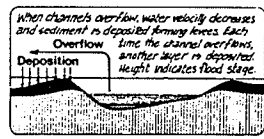


**Existence**  
The beach ridge and levees, by separating Lake Winnipeg and the Red River from the marsh, dictate the existence and character of the entire complex. Changes in either the quantity and distribution of the lagoons, marsh, and adjacent upland areas may process enlarged the beach ridge lagoons expanded and beach profiles stabilized during persistently high lake levels from 1933 to 1939. Above average lake levels and high set-ups during severe storms in 1961 and 62, promoted the beach ridge at Otman Lake and lower along Salomon's Channel and between Pruden Bay and Ramsey Lake. High lake levels and moderate set-ups from 1967 to 1970 severely eroded the beach ridge, creating and enlarging openings and advancing the lakeshore south in excess of 150m east of the Red-ridged beach or flooded several times.

**Morphodynamics**  
Low lake levels from 1937 to 1942 mobilized lagoons while accretion processes enlarged the beach ridge lagoons expanded and beach profiles stabilized during persistently high lake levels from 1933 to 1939. Above average lake levels and high set-ups during severe storms in 1961 and 62, promoted the beach ridge at Otman Lake and lower along Salomon's Channel and between Pruden Bay and Ramsey Lake. High lake levels and moderate set-ups from 1967 to 1970 severely eroded the beach ridge, creating and enlarging openings and advancing the lakeshore south in excess of 150m east of the Red-ridged beach or flooded several times.

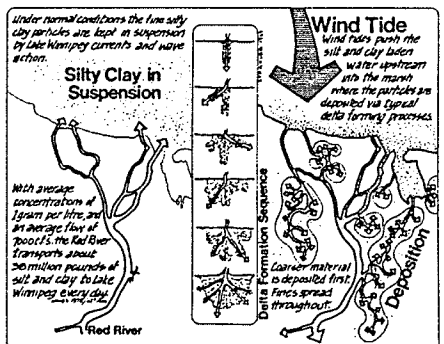


## Glacio-lacustrine Processes

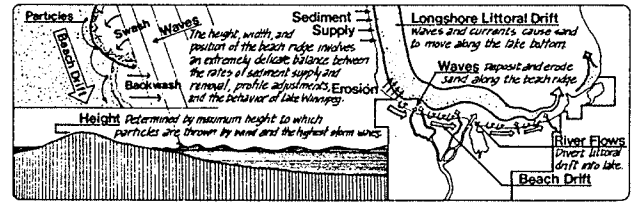


## Levees

**Wind Tides**  
Lake levels fluctuate over long periods due to wet-dry climatic cycles, seasonally due to run-off and melt's seasonal requirements, and frequently throughout the ice free period because of wind set-ups. Short term surges in excess of one metre above still water levels have been recorded in the southern basin. Set-ups of only a few centimetres are noticeable throughout the marsh.



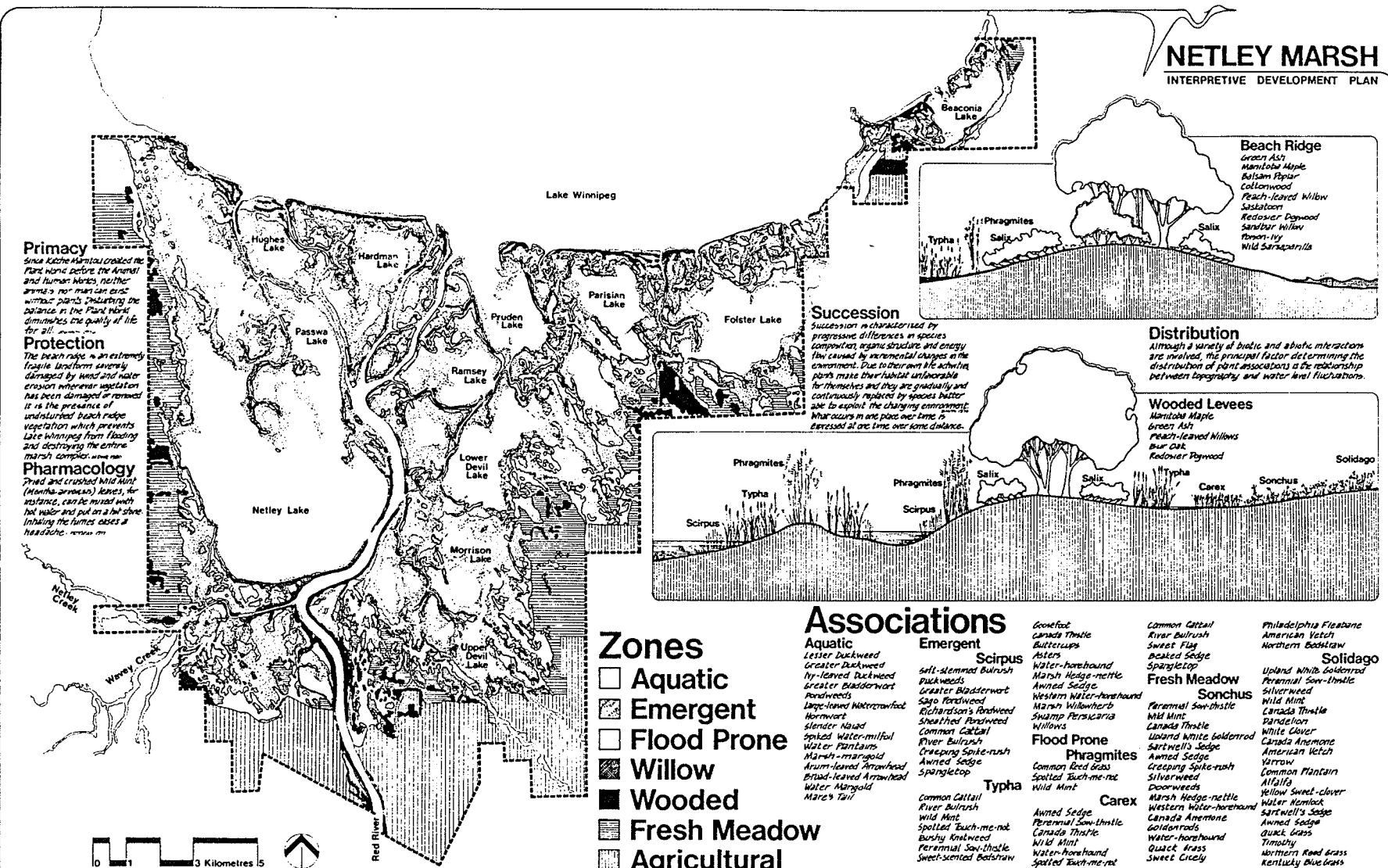
## Reverse Deltas



## Beach Ridge 4. LANDFORMS

# NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



**Primacy**  
Since Katche Manitou created the Plant World before the Animal and Human World, neither animal's nor man can exist without plants. Disturbing the balance in the Plant World diminishes the quality of life for all.

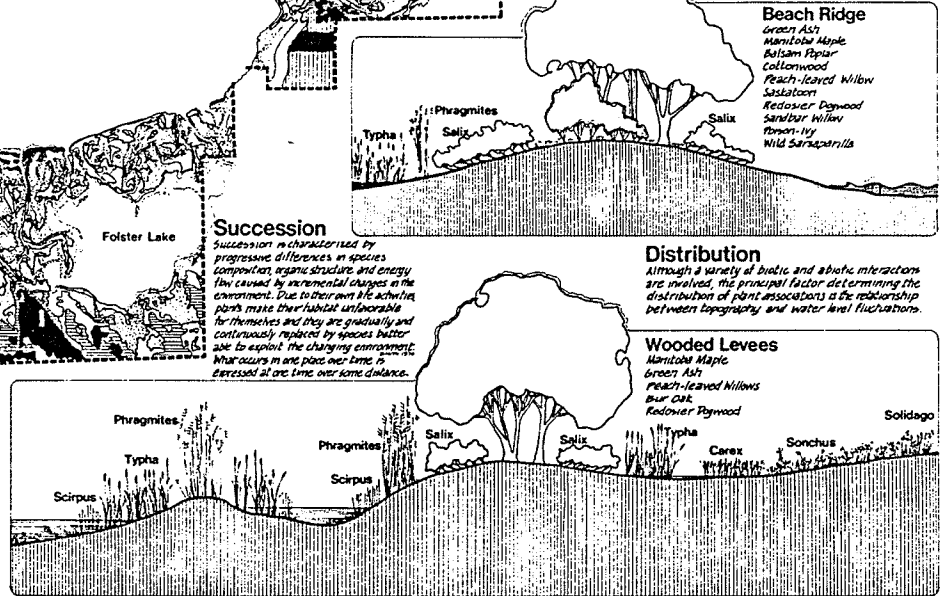
**Protection**  
The beach ridge is an extremely fragile landform severely damaged by wind and water erosion whenever vegetation has been damaged or removed. It is the presence of undisturbed beach ridge vegetation which prevents Lake Winnipeg from flooding and destroying the entire marsh complex.

**Pharmacology**  
Fried and crushed Wild Mint (*Mentha arvensis*) leaves, for instance, can be mixed with hot water and put on a hot stone. Inhaling the fumes eases a headache. *revised 01*

**Succession**  
Succession is characterized by progressive differences in species composition, organic structure, and energy flow caused by incremental changes in the environment. Due to their own life activities, plants make their habitat unfavorable for themselves and they are gradually and continuously replaced by species better able to exploit the changing environment. What occurs in one place over time is expressed at one time over some distance.

**Distribution**  
Although a variety of biotic and abiotic interactions are involved, the principal factor determining the distribution of plant associations is the relationship between topography and water level fluctuations.

**Wooded Levees**  
Harristown Maple  
Green Ash  
Peach-leaved Willow  
Bur Oak  
Redoak  
Plymouth



- Zones**
- Aquatic
  - Emergent
  - Flood Prone
  - Willow
  - Wooded
  - Fresh Meadow
  - Agricultural

## Associations

- |  |  |   |   |   |   |   |  |
|--|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Aquatic</b>   | <b>Emergent</b>  | <b>Scirpus</b>  | <b>Flood Prone</b>                                  | <b>Phragmites</b>   | <b>Typha</b>  | <b>Carex</b>  | <b>Solidago</b>  |
| Lester Duckweed<br>Greater Duckweed<br>Hy-leaved Duckweed<br>Greater Bladderwort<br>Pondweeds<br>Large-leaved Watercress<br>Hornwort<br>Slender Naiad<br>Spiked Water-milfoil<br>Water Plantains<br>Marsh-marigold<br>Arrow-head<br>Broad-leaved Arrowhead<br>Water Margold<br>Mare's Tail | Soft-stemmed Bulrush<br>Buckwheat<br>Greater Bladderwort<br>Sago Pondweed<br>Richardson's Pondweed<br>Sheathed Pondweed<br>Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Creeping Spike-rush<br>Awned Sedge<br>Sparganopsis | Water-horseweed<br>Marsh Hedge-nettle<br>Awned Sedge<br>Western Water-horseweed<br>Marsh Willowherb<br>Shrub Parnassia<br>Willows | Common Cattail<br>Spotted Touch-me-not<br>Wild Mint | Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Wild Mint<br>Spotted Touch-me-not<br>Burry Knotweed<br>Perennial Saw-thistle<br>Sweet-scented Bedstraw | Common Cattail<br>River Bulrush<br>Sweet Flag<br>Beaked Sedge<br>Sparganopsis | Perennial Saw-thistle<br>Wild Mint<br>Canada Thistle<br>Upland White Goldenrod<br>Spartan's Sedge<br>Awned Sedge<br>Creeping Spike-rush<br>Silverweed<br>Doorweeds<br>Marsh Hedge-nettle<br>Western Water-horseweed<br>Canada Anemone<br>Goldenrods<br>Water-horseweed<br>Quack Grass<br>Sweet Cicely | Philadelphia Fleabane<br>American Vetch<br>Northern Bedstraw<br>Upland White Goldenrod<br>Perennial Saw-thistle<br>Silverweed<br>Wild Mint<br>Canada Thistle<br>Pandelion<br>White Clover<br>Canada Anemone<br>American Vetch<br>Yarrow<br>Common Plantain<br>Mullein<br>Yellow Sweet-clover<br>Water Nettle<br>Spartan's Sedge<br>Awned Sedge<br>Quack Grass<br>Timothy<br>Northern Road Grass<br>Kentucky Blue Grass |

# 5. VEGETATION

R. GREEN 1982. LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE. DAKOTA





**Prehistory**  
 Archaeological & Historical Research  
 LaVérendrye 1734



**North West Company**  
 Ouckidoat  
 Joseph Frobisher  
 Alexander Henry  
 Miles Macdonell  
 John Tanner 1792  
 Henry Prince  
 Rindisbacher  
 Peguis 1794  
 Nee-poo-win Sipi  
 Rivière aux Morts  
 Nipou Cipi  
 Netley Creek



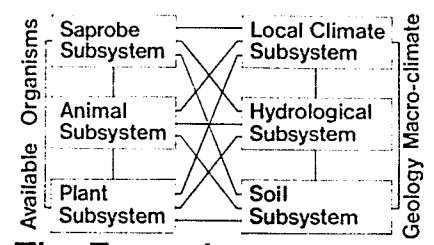
**Selkirk Settlers 1812**  
 John West 1820  
 Market Hunting  
 John Schultz  
 Frog Farming?  
 Hecor Le Ber 1873  
 W. Beatty 1875

Exploration Exploits  
 Transportation  
 Settlement Agriculture  
 Recreation Conservation

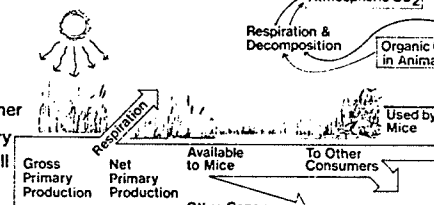
1907  
 \$5000  
 St. Peter's Reserve  
 Surrendered  
 F.R.E.D. 1971  
 Lake Level Regulation 1975  
 Garrison

**Cultural History**

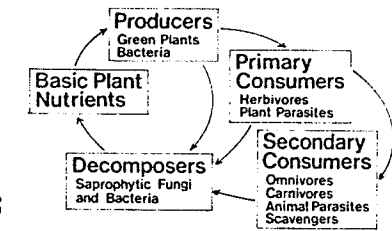
**Natural History**



**The Ecosystem**



**Energy Flow**

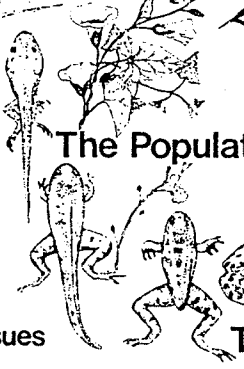


**Biogeochemical Cycles**

**Food Chains**



**The Organism**

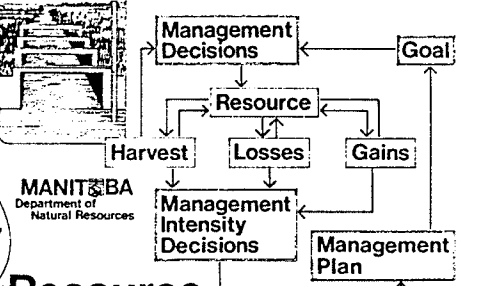
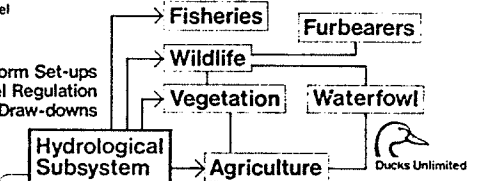
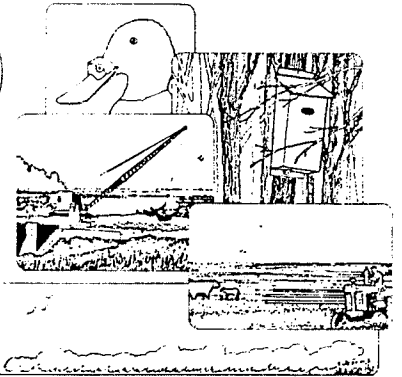


**The Population**

Ecological and Environmental Research

**The Community**

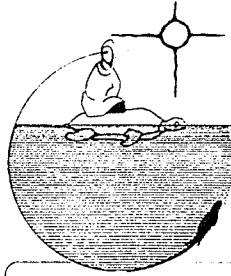
**NETLEY MARSH**  
 INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



**Resource Management**

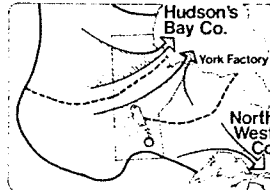
**7. THEMES**

EGGELLY 1992 LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE PLAN



yearning for kindness, the water creatures invited Sky-woman to join them on the log she had seen that had once been the earth. Floating on the back of a turtle, she sailed her boat from the bottom. The beaver, muskrat, marten and loon each tried and failed. Despite their shame, the others laughed when the loon, muskrat, prepared to dive.

**Creation Myth**  
Although originally scorned for his lack of strength and endurance, the loon, muskrat, turned to despair as time passed. After the others had given up on him, he turned to the turtle and begged for a ride. The turtle agreed, and the loon, muskrat, turned into an island on the turtle's back. As the island grew and the water swirled, Sky-woman re-built the Hudson landscape.

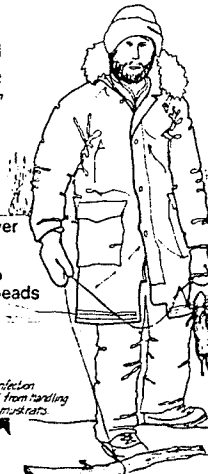


**The Western Fur Trade**

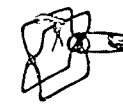
The fur trade is basic to North American history. From 1800 until 1850, the fur trade was the dominant economic force influencing the economic and political development of western Canada. 16,484 muskrats were harvested at Netley Marsh in 1945.

10-12 Prime Muskrat equalled 1 Made Beaver worth 1 quart brandy or 1 hatchet or 1 pound tobacco or 1/2 pound small beads

1982 Price - \$7.20



#110 Conibear



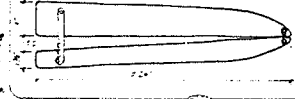
Apparently good to eat, muskrats were an important source of food for Indians and fur traders/explorers. More recently, they have been marketed in some large U.S. cities - first in left and winter when muskrat guards are less active - soot in prime to reduce gamma rays.



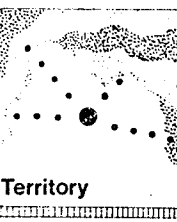
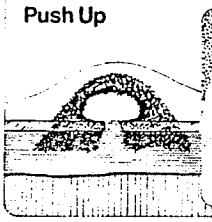
#1 Leg Hold - Float Set

Summerberry Pelt Stretcher

Muskrat pelts are stretched and dried with the fur on.

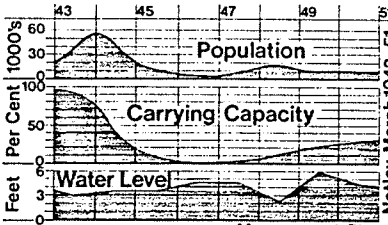
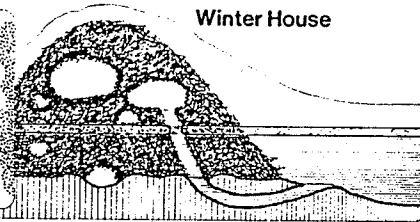


Push Up



Territory

Winter House



Tracks

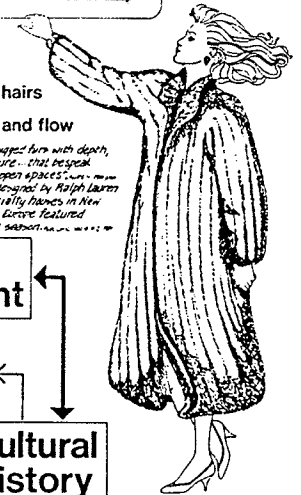


Muskrats occupy a wide variety of aquatic habitats - 1-10m water, emergents, and soft bottom.

**Prime Pelts**

Creamy white flesh side  
Soft pliable oily leather  
Completely covered by guard hairs  
Thick deep underfur  
Glossy appearance - full of life and flow

"I have always used rugged furs with depth, character and texture, that bespeak quality and wide open spaces." - The Upper Class, designed by Ralph Lauren and available at specialty houses in New York, Montreal and Europe featured muskrat in the fall season.



**Management Strategy**

Optimize habitat quality and quantity. Maximize breeding sites to maximize reproduction and population growth. Harvest excess population to prevent habitat destruction and stagnation.

**Life Cycle**

Independent juveniles	Sexually mature yearlings	2-12 Kits born naked blind and helpless	Week 1: Movement Fur begins to grow	Week 2: Eyes open and activity increases	Week 3: Very active - start to swim and take plant food	Week 4: Weaned - good swimmers and fully furred	Week 5: More or less independent juveniles					
Periodic epidemics of Errington's Disease	Prime pelts makes potent by males predation, fighting and travel. Severe predation	Mating	28 Day Gestation	First Litters	2nd Litters	3rd Litters	4th Litters	Males impotent	Range	House building	Pushups built as ice forms	Salvage trapping
J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D	

**Ondatra zibethicus alba**

**Food**

- Cattails
- Bulrushes
- Horsetails
- Sweet Flag
- Burreeds
- Pondweeds
- Reed Grass
- Arrowhead
- Sedges

**Predators**

- Mink
- Northern Pike
- Coyote
- Gyrfalcon
- Great Horned Owl

**Winter Adaptations**

Muskrats are active throughout the winter. Immersion in near-freezing water could cause severe heat loss leading to hypothermia. Muskrats have a variety of adaptive mechanisms for keeping warm. Some waterproof underfur maintains an air layer when submerged. Temperature of extremities drops to that of surroundings. A thermal blanket of brown fat warms blood returning from cooled periphery, and selectively warms sensitive organs such as kidneys and spinal cord. Body temperature is elevated before entering water; group occupied insulated houses efficiently store body heat. Muskrats frequently withdraw for re-warming to push ups, which are arranged to provide access throughout the home range via short swims. "Freeze-out" is the most serious threat in winter.

**Resource Management**

**Topics**

**Natural History**

**Cultural History**

**8. THE MUSKRAT**

Locally Unique Vegetation and Wildlife

Cottaging History and Impact

Threatened Beach Ridge

Ecology

*Ecology is an holistic concept. Ecology is not ecology unless it deals as a whole with the full complexity of a given system, occupied temporarily or permanently by living organisms (including man), unless it can give an account of the dynamic whole, and unless it can situate the parts in their true relationship with each other and with the whole system.*

Breached Levee

Abandoned Road

Sugar Point

Indian Camps and Settlements

Netley Creek

Ferry Site

Netley Creek

Proposed Dyke

Control Structure

Existing Dyke

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Alexander Henry's Camp

Navigation Light

Fruges Lake

Hardman Lake

Passwa Lake

Pruden Lake

Ramsey Lake

Lower Devil Lake

Morrison Lake

Upper Devil Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Netley Lake

Breached Beach Ridge

Patricia Point

Lodge Ruins

Brokenhead River

Lake Winnipeg

Parisian Lake

Folster Lake

Visitors

*Traditional interpretive planning efforts address the issue of visitors by planning for specific user groups such as local residents, tourists, school groups etc. or use types such as class room visits, naturalist clubs, family outings etc.*

*This plan recognizes the need to account for a broad spectrum of visitors as every classification in order to provide interpretive opportunities of great diversity. The variety of existing users and the potential visitors within the region requires a flexible interpretive system featuring numerous combinations of recreation and education experiences within the context of Netley Marsh.*

NETLEY MARSH

INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN

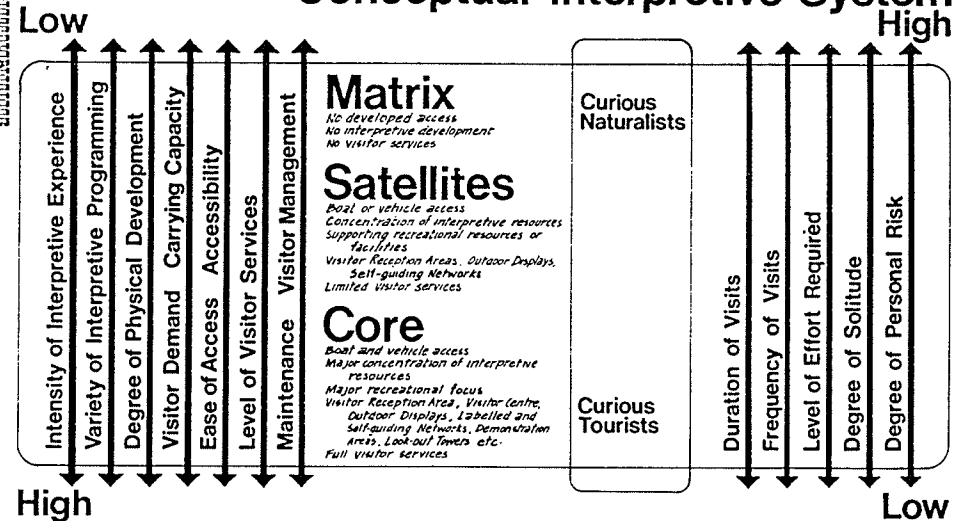
Biophysical Units

- Unmanaged Marsh
- Managed Marsh
- ▨ Beach Ridge Lake-Marsh
- Levee River-Marsh
- ▨ Upland Parkland-Marsh
- ▨ Agriculture
- Open Water

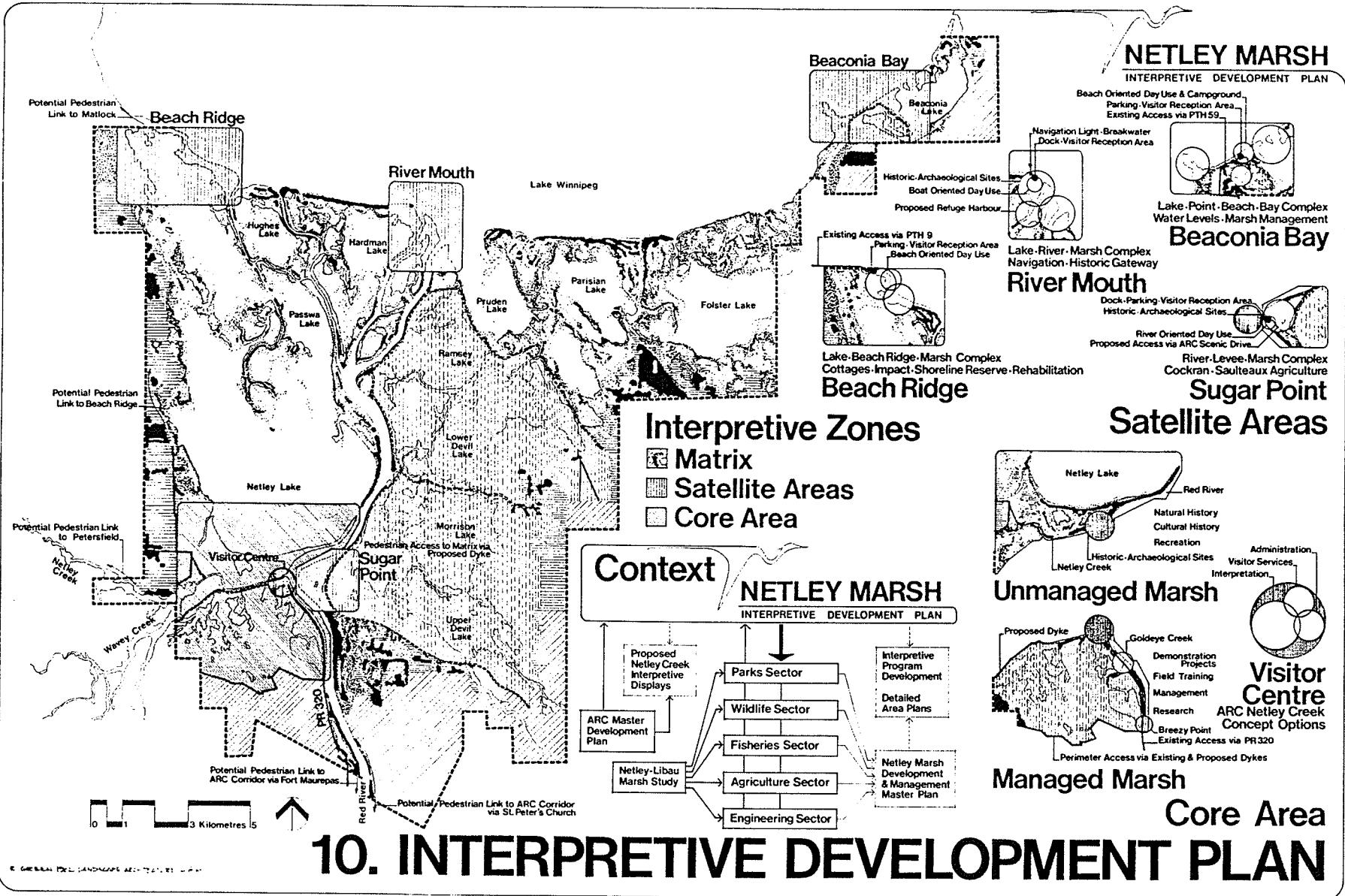
Biodynamics

*Before 1960 Netley Marsh consisted of about 50 individual biologically closed water bodies not severely influenced by Lake Winnipeg. In the last 20 years the marsh has been reduced to 17 biologically open systems intimately related to and greatly influenced by the changing water levels of the lake.*

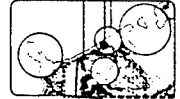
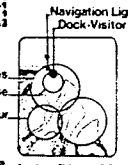
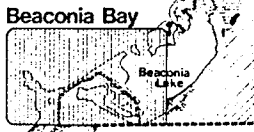
Conceptual Interpretive System



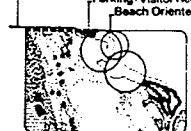
# 9. INTERPRETIVE POTENTIAL



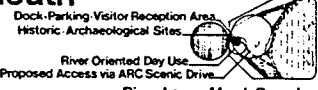
**NETLEY MARSH**  
INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Lake - Point - Beach - Bay Complex  
Water Levels - Marsh Management  
**Beaconsia Bay**



Lake - River - Marsh Complex  
Navigation - Historic Gateway  
**River Mouth**

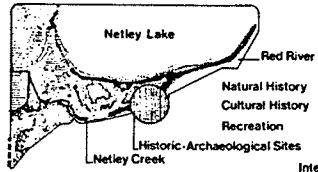
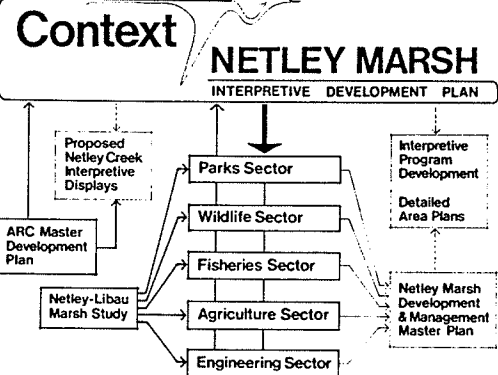


River - Levee - Marsh Complex  
Cockran - Sauleteaux Agriculture  
**Sugar Point**

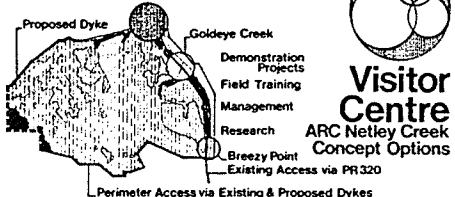
Lake - Beach Ridge - Marsh Complex  
Cottages - Impact - Shoreline Reserve - Rehabilitation  
**Beach Ridge**

**Interpretive Zones**

- Matrix
- Satellite Areas
- Core Area



**Unmanaged Marsh**



**Managed Marsh**

**Core Area**

**10. INTERPRETIVE DEVELOPMENT PLAN**

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