



WERAC

Advising government on wilderness and ecological reserves

Who is WERAC?

Wilderness and Ecological Reserves Advisory Council (WERAC) is a volunteer council appointed under the Wilderness and Ecological Reserves Act (WER Act). Our main role is advising the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador on establishing wilderness and ecological reserves.

WERAC is not an advocacy group but an advisory council representing diverse perspectives. Residents from all regions can apply to join through the independent appointments commission. <u>Apply to become a WERAC member!</u>

What is the WER Act?

The WER Act, established in 1980, guides the creation of protected areas in the province to preserve unique ecosystems, species, and natural phenomena. It also establishes the Advisory Council.

What is WERAC's Role?

We thoroughly assess proposed wilderness and ecological reserves suggested by the government and the public, including individuals and organizations. Nominate an area for protection!

Through the establishment process, we engage the public in discussions about individual ecological reserves, seeking your input on boundaries and management options. WERAC collaborates with communities to determine effective conservation measures for each proposed ecological reserve. We prioritize community input, gathering and conveying residents' opinions impartially and independently.

Our duty is to reflect the area's conservation needs and the collective opinions of the people. No boundaries are final before public engagements. We listen and act in the best interests of our province's natural areas.



Keep in touch!

Visit us at <u>www.gov.nl.ca/werac</u> or at view active engagements at <u>engageNL.ca</u>

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