

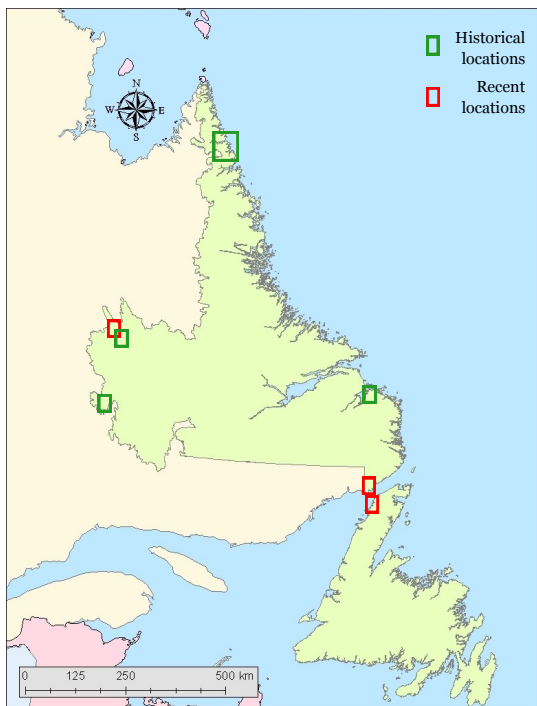
## Mountain Bladder Fern

(*Cystopteris montana*)

- The Mountain Bladder Fern is a low-growing terrestrial fern that reaches up to 30 centimeters in height.
- Sporulation takes place from late summer to autumn.
- Leaves live for only one growing season and are loosely clustered near the base of the stem.



### Provincial Distribution



### Habitat/ Range

This is a ground-dwelling fern found in wet woodlands and along watercourses. It prefers a calcium-rich substrate, and is most common at high latitudes and high altitude. It is patchily distributed across North America, Eurasia, and southern Greenland. The species is limited to one location on the Island of Newfoundland.

### Population Trends

Because of the limited information available for populations in the province, no trends can be determined. There is some anecdotal evidence to suggest a decline in numbers since the species was first found on the Island, and its habitat here (limestone areas) has seen a decline since the time of settlement.

### Limiting Factors and Threats

Quarrying, industrial disturbance, home construction, urban expansion, tree cutting, and garbage dumping have been identified as potentially important threats to this species on the Island.

### Special Significance

The species shows significant separation between populations (disjunct range).

### You can help protect the Mountain Bladder Fern:

- Support habitat protection for rare plant species.
- Dispose of garbage only in approved waste disposal sites.

Department of Environment & Conservation

**Wildlife Division**

Endangered Species & Biodiversity

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