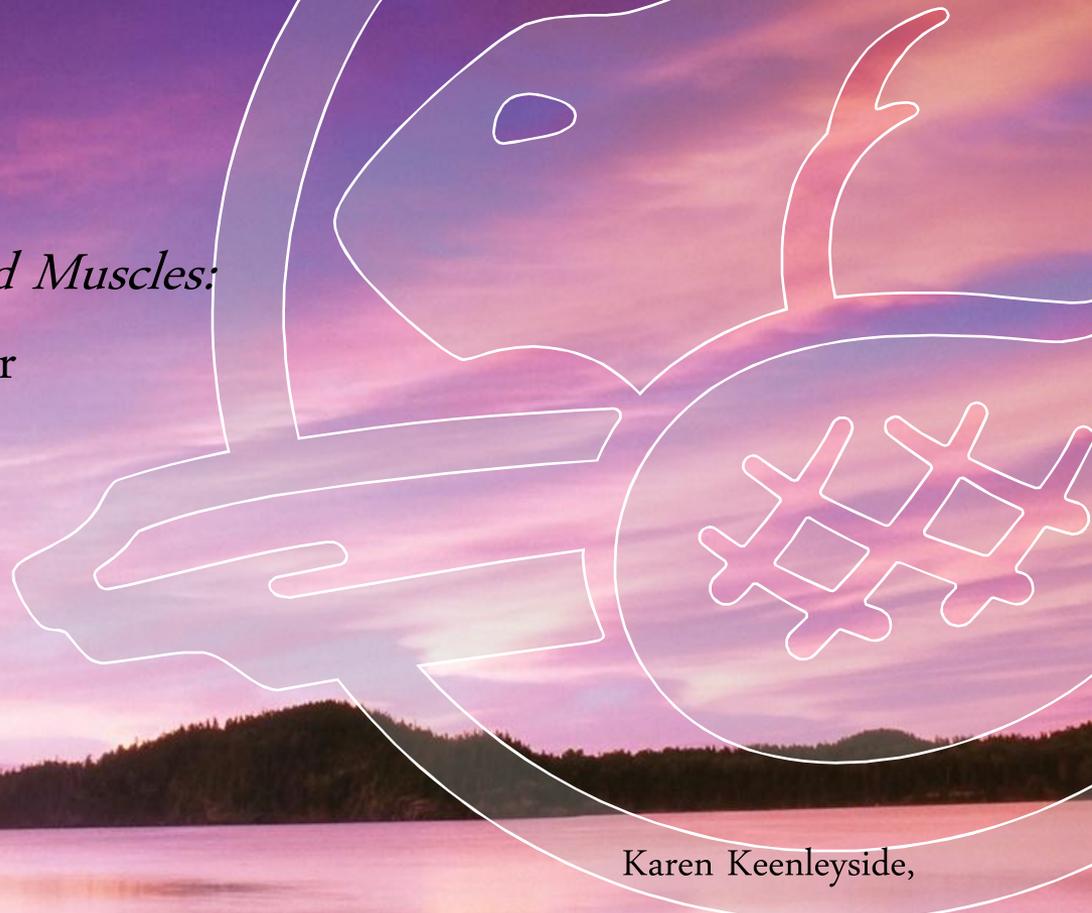




parks canada.gc.ca
parcs canada.gc.ca

Connecting with Hearts, Minds and Muscles:
Engaged Canadians restore hope for
biodiversity



Karen Keenleyside,
Emily Gonzales Catherine
Dumouchel



Parks
Canada

Parcs
Canada

Canada 

Connecting with Hearts, Minds **and Muscles**: Engaged Canadians
restore hope for biodiversity

Our Vision



Canada's treasured natural and historic places will be a living legacy,
connecting hearts and minds to a stronger, deeper understanding of
the very essence of Canada.





Parks Canada – Who we are

Mandate

On behalf of the people of Canada, we protect and present nationally significant examples of Canada's natural and cultural heritage and foster public understanding, appreciation and enjoyment in ways that ensure their ecological and commemorative integrity for present and future generations



Habitat loss: Recreating natural stream flows and fish habitat



Before



After

Pollution: Cleaning up waste sites to reduce contamination risk and restore natural ecosystems



Before



After

Invasive Alien Species: Controlling vegetation to recover species and ecosystems at risk



Before



After

Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site and Gulf Islands National Park

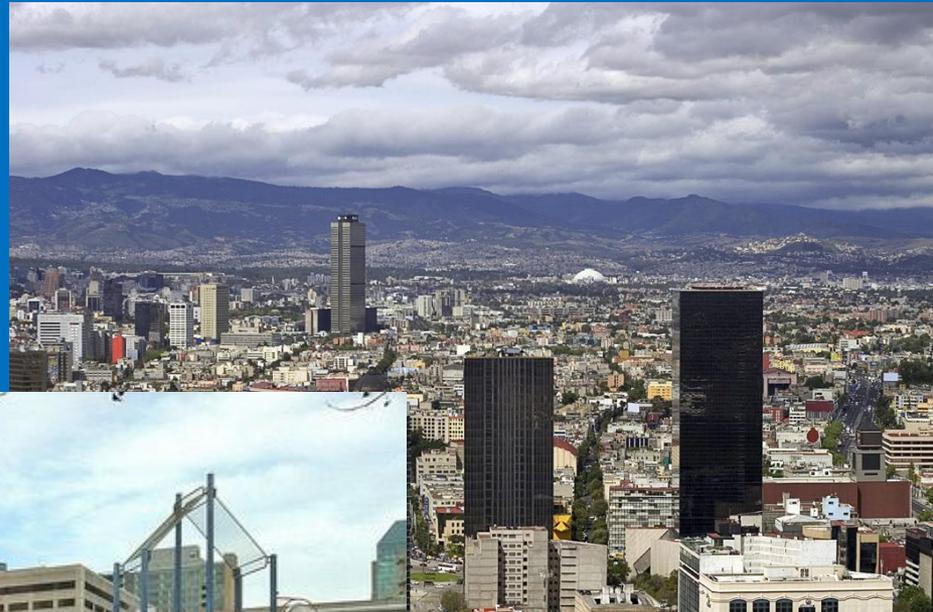
Climate Change: Reconnecting fragmented habitat



Before



After



Ecological Restoration

- **What:** The process of assisting the recovery of an ecosystem that has been degraded, damaged, or destroyed
- **Why** (protected areas): To re-establish healthy natural ecosystems and provide opportunities for people to develop a positive and long-lasting sense of personal connection with nature, while respecting our cultural values and practices

PRINCIPLES AND GUIDELINES
FOR ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION
in Canada's Protected Natural Areas



engaging



Ecological Restoration
for Protected Areas:

Principles, Guidelines,
and Best Practices

To be released in 2012



- **Effective** in re-establishing and maintaining desired protected area values – ecological, cultural, spiritual...
- **Efficient** in maximizing beneficial outcomes while minimizing costs in time, resources, and effort
- **Engaging** in seeking opportunities to promote stakeholder participation and to enhance visitor experience

Who says its hopeless

We do...

- when we communicate in catastrophic terms and disempower our audience
- when we focus on destruction rather than restoration
- when we act without

ng



Solutions through restoration



- Fixing broken connections
- Building relationships
- Learning
- Personalizing
- Empowering



Where have all the flowers gone?



Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve



Few Deer



St. Lawrence Islands
National Park

Gulf Islands National
Park Reserve



Many Deer

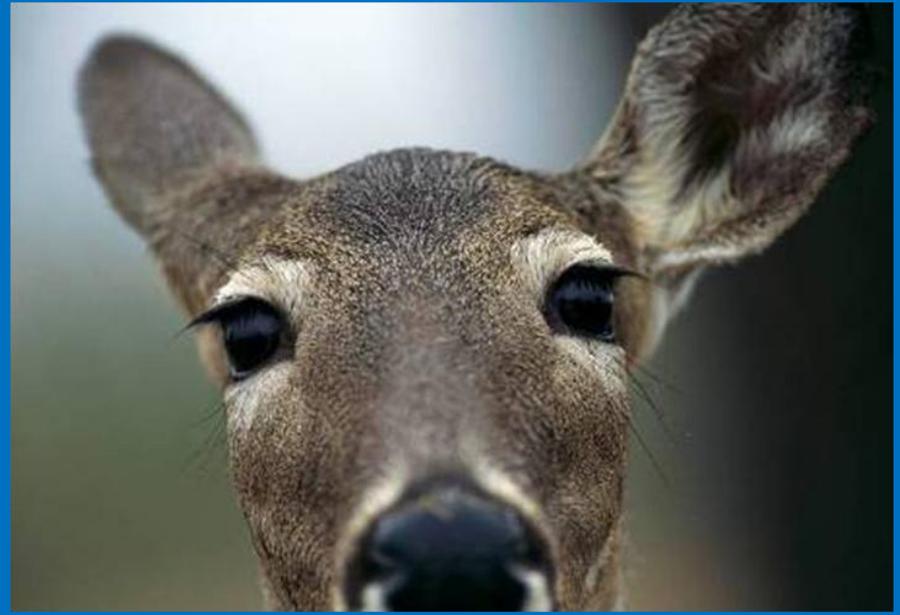
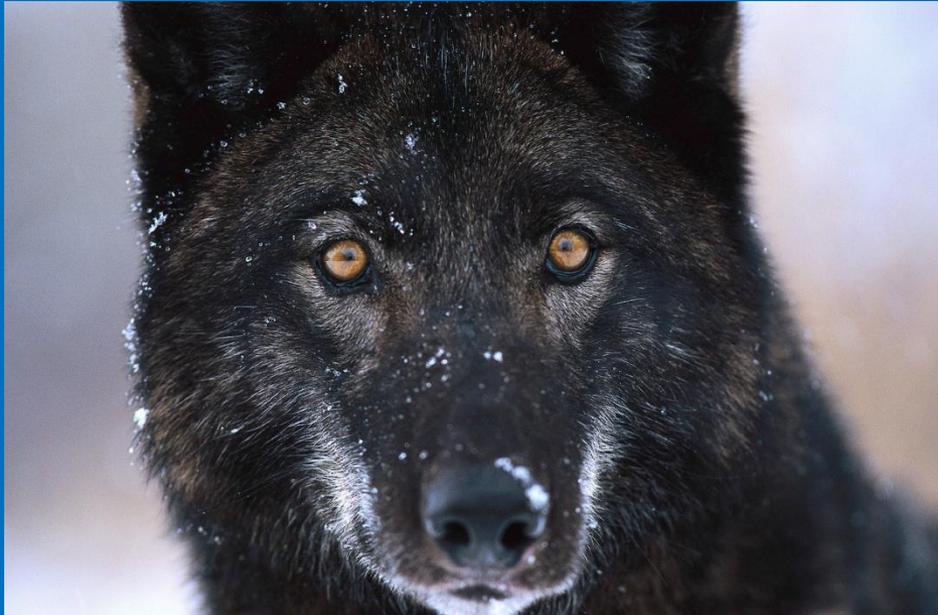


St. Lawrence Islands
National Park

Gulf Islands National
Park Reserve



Problem WORSE in Parks



Deer predators absent from the landscape, particularly in protected areas

Reconnecting Aboriginal youth



Building Relationships...

with Mohawk Community of Akwesasne and Local Residents

- Deer meat used in Haudenosaunee mid-winter ceremony
- Mentoring for youth
- First Nations Awareness workshops
- Local resident information sessions
- Citizen Science Initiative: forest monitoring by residents



The practice of restoration can be challenge



Shifting the message



From Control • Manage • Destroy

To Protect • Connect • Restore

“Rather than feeling victimized by invasions and the fear ...participatory engagement can empower communities to work toward positive new trajectories.” (Gobster 2005)

Learning together

Marcy's Woods



Personalizing Connections

Georgian Bay Islands
National Park, Canada
Day maple tree
planting



Telling good news stories

- Point Pelee National Park student native plantings
- Empowering people to act



“What is true of the individual will be tomorrow true of the whole nation if individuals will but refuse to lose heart and hope.”

Mahandas “Mahatma” Gandhi

