

# The Integrated Resource Management project

BY DANIEL MCKILLOP

Although nothing will be certain until this coming December, the provincial government is currently compiling a large-scale plan aimed at cataloguing the uses of its Crown land for the immediate future.

Of the total land in Nova Scotia, 27 percent is owned by the government, and five percent of this fraction is already considered to be protected wilderness. The remaining 22 percent constitutes roughly 1.2 million hectares or 2.9 million acres; equivalent to one fifth of Nova Scotia. It is the allocation of this land that the Integrated Resource Management plan outlines.

According to the earlier drafts of the plan, the total portion of provincial land in use will be organized into three main categories of usage.

The first will consider a wide range of resource use,

including industrial mining and clear-cutting.

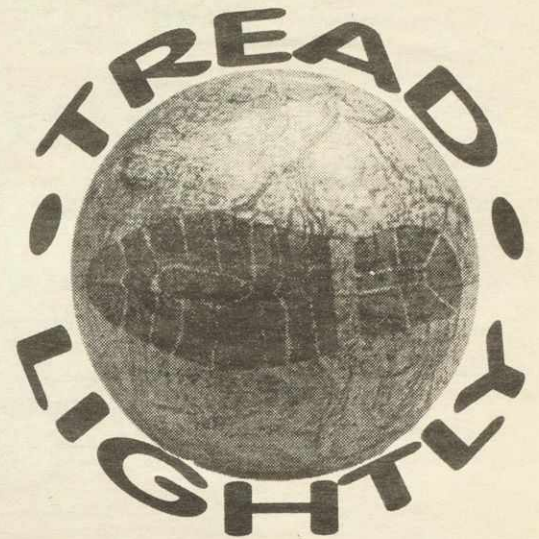
The second category of land, a slight variation from the first, will permit most uses, such as selective cutting.

The final category of land will consist of more highly protected areas, where land use is limited and restricted.

According to Kermit DeGooyer of the Ecological Action Centre, Nova Scotia was to complete an entire network of protected wildland areas, and planned to create a protected area in all of the 80 'biophysical regions' the province has been subdivided into. However, only 23 of these 80 regions have been officially declared as protected.

Though Mr. DeGooyer is pessimistic that the IRM plan will include a designation of all 80 of these areas as protected, his hopes remain high that at least 50 of these will be protected by the year 2000.

# DID YOU KNOW?



— Canada and the United States use more energy per capita than any other countries in the world.

— Direct and indirect energy use causes approximately 60 to 65 percent of greenhouse gas emissions.

— Increased concentrations of greenhouse gases is likely accelerating global climate change, which may result in higher sea levels, altered growing seasons and severe weather patterns.

Though there are sustainable, green sources of energy such as solar and wind power, most of us consume energy which is produced by the burning of fossil fuels such as coal, oil and natural gas. To decrease your contribution to the greenhouse effect, air pollution and other environmental degradation, try some of these energy conserving techniques:

- Like your mom always said, turn off the lights when you leave the room!
- Install energy-efficient light bulbs.
- Put on a sweater instead of turning up the heat.
- Do not leave computers, stereos and other appliances on when not in use.
- To reduce your use of hot water, take short showers (or shower with a friend!), do laundry with cold water and fill the sink only a quarter full when doing dishes.

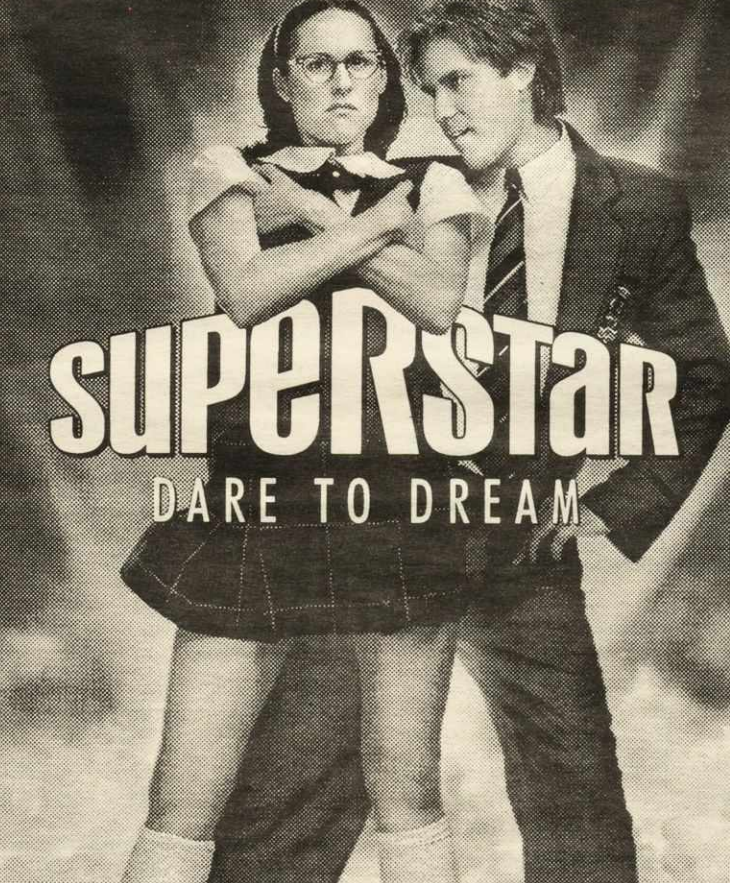
Don't stop there! Take a look around your house and try to spot where energy is being wasted. Though you probably pay little or nothing for your utilities, the actual costs of high energy consumption are paid for with the health of the earth!

## WANTED:

The whereabouts of these environmental activists I have heard so much about. Where are they when an editor desperately needs writers? Is this not the perfect forum to put out your environment message?

If you see anyone who seems to care about the earth, humans and animals, please send them to SUB 312, preferably during *Gazette* meetings on Monday afternoons at 4:30. (Although anytime is acceptable as beggars cannot be choosers!)

## MARY KATHERINE GALLAGHER

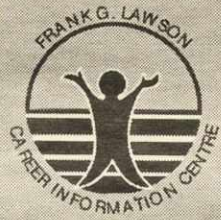


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IN THEATRES FRIDAY, OCTOBER 8

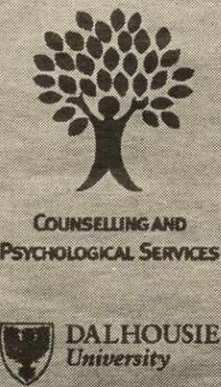
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