Nature Trust launches virtual tours of protected lands

New platform offers virtual journey into Nova Scotia's most special wild places

MAY 6, 2026 (Dartmouth, NS): This morning, the Nova Scotia Nature Trust is launching an online platform that invites people not just to observe nature, but to step into it (with no hiking boots required). *In Our Nature: The Hidden Wild* is a digital storytelling experience that invites you to explore some of the province's most delicate and rarely seen ecosystems in a new way. Through immersive 360° images, soundscapes, videos, and expert voices, you can step into remote shorelines and tide pools and watch the seasons change with just a click.

The Nova Scotia Nature Trust protects more than 35,000 acres of Nova Scotia's most exceptional natural areas across the province. These lands are generally open to the public for low-impact activities such as hiking, fishing, paddling, and birding. Some have actual hiking trails or old roads; some are more rugged wilderness and tend to be visited less as a result.

"While we welcome people to explore our conservation lands in person," says Anna Weinstein, the Nature Trust's Marketing & Communications Manager, "we also want to reduce barriers and make it easier for everyone to experience the incredible nature that is protected, forever. Many of our lands hold habitat that is intact *because* it is so difficult to access. Some have sheer cliffs or sinkholes that are absolutely breathtaking but not necessarily welcoming to the average hiker. We also know that not everyone has access to a vehicle to reach green spaces, or feels comfortable setting off into the woods. But everyone should have access to the wonder and magic of nature."

In Our Nature: The Hidden Wild is launching with two stories to explore.

"Where land meets sea" takes visitors to the Blanche Peninsula on Nova Scotia's southwest coast, where in 2024 the Nature Trust accomplished the then-largest coastal conservation achievement in Nova Scotia history. The immersive tour includes tidal shifts, coastal wildlife, undersea forests and more.

"A World Below" follows the rare gypsum karst landscape above- and below-ground at Plaister Cliffs on Cape Breton's Bras d'Or. A third story to be added later this spring will follow a snow-covered river valley, with the promise of more colourful seasons hiding in the multimedia hotspots. Future stories will build a gallery of wild places and nature moments to explore.

In Our Nature: The Hidden Wild was created in collaboration with local sustainability firm R&G Strategic. The development was made possible thanks to the support of two generous and longtime Nature Trust supporters, Jason Roth and Cheryl Steadman-Roth. The Nature Trust is also especially grateful to all of the many donors and supporters who have helped protect these conservation lands, making it possible to invite others to enjoy them.

"The Nature Trust's mission is to protect Nova Scotia's natural legacy, for everyone to be able to benefit from," says Weinstein. "We hope that this platform can help more people experience the nature that is protected in their name."

In Our Nature: The Hidden Wild is available at www.tours.nsnt.ca.

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IMAGES AND VIDEOS
https://nsnt.ca/media
Interviews available upon request.

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