

Wampum Ecological Reserve

Backgrounder

Land Designation

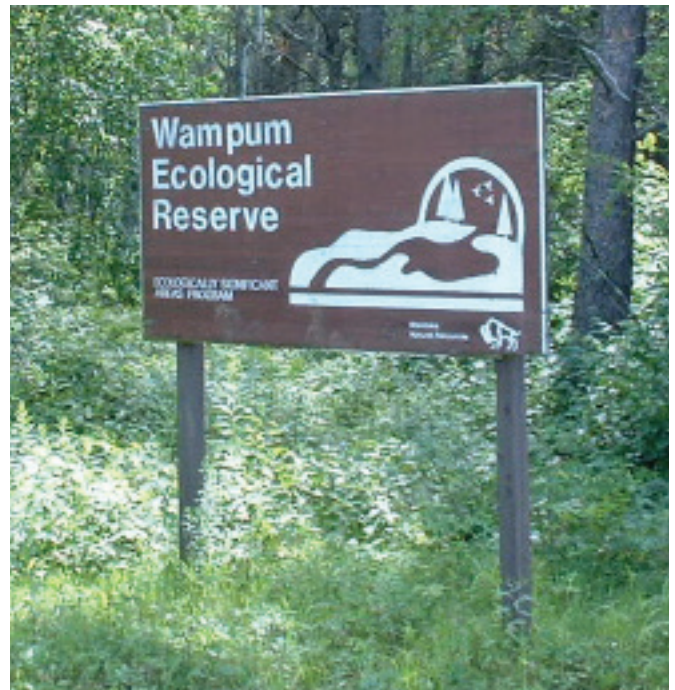
Ecological reserves play a key role in Manitoba's Protected Areas Initiative by protecting unique, rare and representative examples of plants, animals, geological features and ecosystems. They are the most protected of the provincially designated sites within Manitoba's network of protected areas.

Landscape Description

The 62 hectare Wampum Ecological Reserve, located in the southeast corner of the province, is approximately 100 kilometres east of Emerson within the Sandilands Provincial Forest. Situated in the Lake of the Woods subregion of the Manitoba Lowlands Natural Region, this flat site has sandy soils that support mixed pine forests.

Outstanding Features

The Wampum Ecological Reserve protects a typical St Lawrence-Great Lakes Region mixedwood forest with particular attention paid to the mature red pine which is at the western limit of its range. The scarlet tanager, a rarely observed bird, has been seen in this ecological reserve. Species of plants found in the understory include lily of the valley, wild plum and ground cedar.





The Wampum Ecological Reserve will be maintained for the preservation and protection of a stand of mature red pine. Passive non-consumptive recreation on foot is permitted. Indigenous people are permitted to carry out their treaty and aboriginal rights within the ecological reserve. All other activities require prior ministerial approval.

This area is categorized by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as a protected area under the management category Ia – a protected area managed for strict nature protection available primarily for scientific research and/or environmental monitoring. These protected lands are free from logging, mining, hydroelectric development, oil and gas development, and any other activities that could harm habitat.