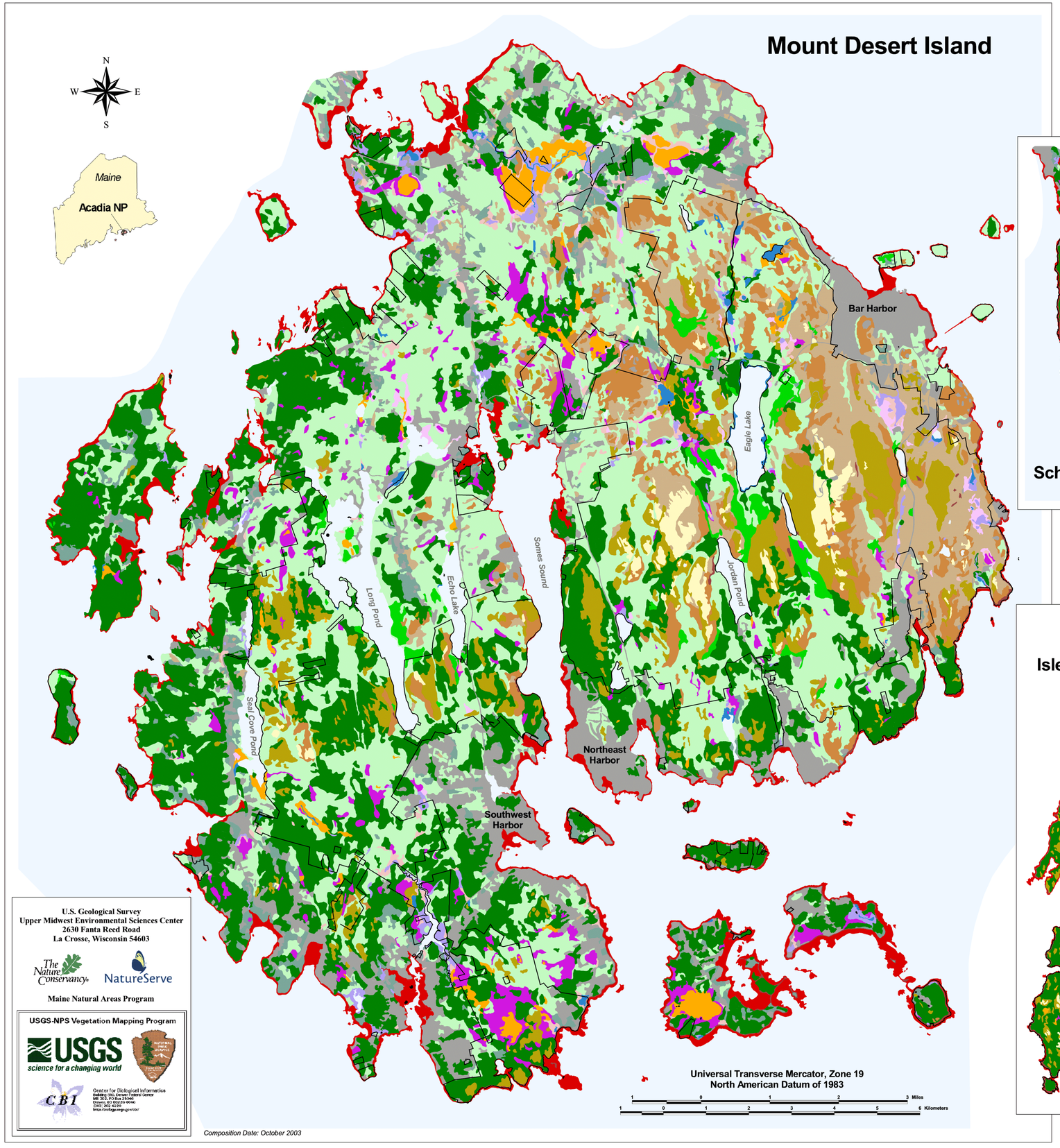
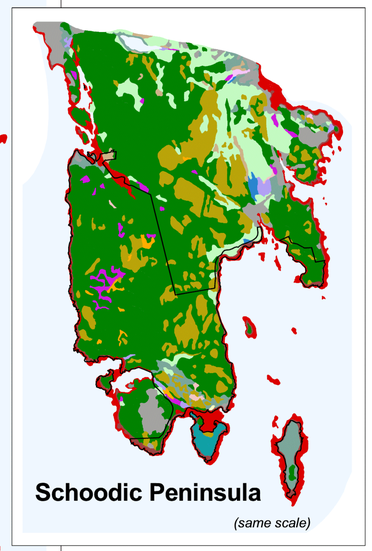
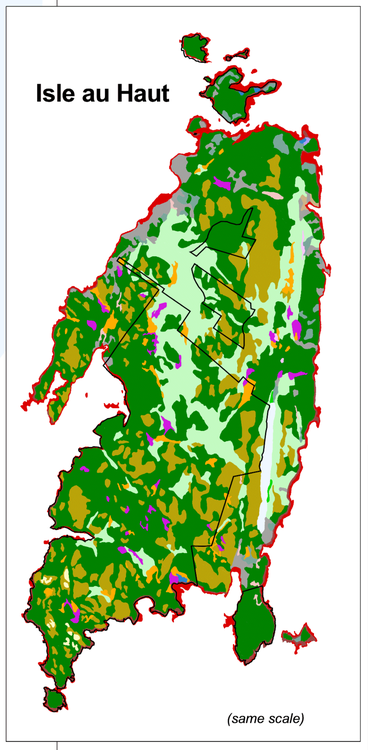
Vegetation of Acadia National Park







The spatial database used to create this map was prepared by the USGS Upper Midwest Environmental Sciences Center for the USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program, which is managed by the USGS Center for Biological Informatics.

NatureServe, Maine Natural Areas Program, and The Nature Conservancy provided vegetation field sampling, analysis, and classification development based on the National Vegetation Classification System (NVCS).

The spatial database was produced by the stereo interpretation of spring 1997 color infrared aerial photographs (1:15,840-scale). Prior to delineating polygons, field reconnaissance was performed to learn photographic appearances of vegetation types and to link map classes to vegetation communities. The interpreted data were transferred to base maps plotted from USGS 3.75-minute digital orthophoto quadrangles. The referenced data were digitized using the ArcScan tool in ArcInfo. Standard minimum mapping unit is 0.5 hectares.

The Vegetation Map Classes represent NVCS vegetation associations or groups of associations. For display purposes, the Vegetation Map Classes are organized by physiognomic - hydrologic groups. The Other Map Classes are combined into general categories. The spatial database offers finer details for each map class (e.g. relationship to vegetation communities, physiognomic features of vegetation, crosswalk to other classification systems).

The spatial database reflects conditions that existed at the time of aerial photography collection. A margin of error is inherent with interpreting aerial photographs. Based on results of a thematic accuracy assessment, the estimated overall accuracy for Vegetation Map Classes is 80%. Those using the database should determine for themselves the fitness of the data prior to use.

The spatial database, along with supporting information, is located on the Internet at http://biology.usgs.gov/npsveg.

Acadia NP Boundary

Vegetation Map Classes by Physiognomic - Hydrologic Groups

Forest - Conifer - Upland
Spruce - Fir Forest (conifer phase)
White Pine - Mixed Conifer Forest
Red Pine - White Pine Forest

Forest - Deciduous - Upland
Beech - Birch - Maple Forest

Forest - Mixed - Upland
Oak - Pine Forest
Spruce - Fir Forest (mixed phase)
White Pine - Hardwood Forest

Woodland - Conifer - Upland
Mixed Conifer Woodland
White Cedar Woodland
Jack Pine Woodland
Pitch Pine - Heath Barren
Pitch Pine - Corema Woodland
Pitch Pine Woodland

Woodland - Deciduous - Upland
Aspen Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (forest phase)
Aspen Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (woodland phase)
Aspen Birch Woodland/Forest Complex (shrubland phase)
Red Oak Woodland

Woodland - Mixed - Upland
Mixed Conifer - Deciduous Woodland

Forest - Deciduous - Wetland
Red Maple - Hardwood Swamp

Woodland - Conifer - Wetland
Conifer Swamp Woodland (spruce-mixed phase)
Conifer Swamp Woodland (white cedar phase)

Dwarf Shrubland - Evergreen - Upland
Crowberry - Bayberry Headland

Dwarf Shrubland - Deciduous - Upland
Blueberry Bald - Summit Shrubland Complex

Graminoid - Upland
Dune Grassland

Sparse Vascular - Upland
Open Headland - Beach Strand
Sparsely Vegetated Talus

Shrubland - Deciduous - Wetland
Alder Shrubland
Sweetgale Mixed Shrub Fen

Dwarf Shrubland - Evergreen - Wetland
Dwarf Shrub Bog
Fen Complex

Graminoid - Wetland
Tidal Marsh
Graminoid Shallow Marsh

Forb - Wetland
Open Water - Deep Marsh Complex

Other Map Classes

Tidal Zone
Tidal Algal Zone
Tidal Beach
Tidal Mud Flat

Small Island with Vegetation*
Small Island with Trees
Small Island with Shrubs
Small Island with Grass
Small Island with Rock

Cultural Vegetation
Evergreen Plantation
Mixed Deciduous Shrubland
Mixed Grass - Forb
Perennial Grass Crops
Perennial Grass Crops with Sparse Shrubs

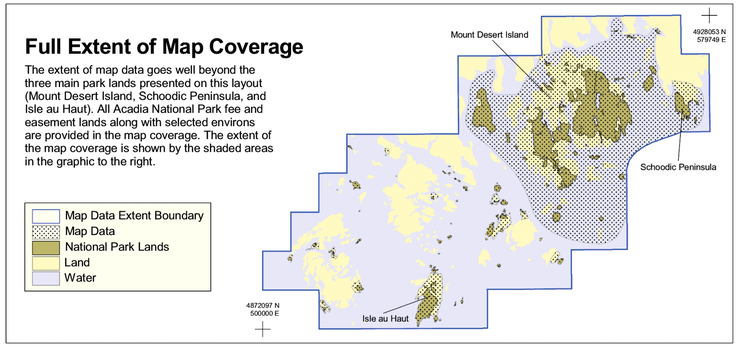
Non-vegetated Water
Beaver Pond (non-vegetated)
Natural Pond (non-vegetated)
Stream (non-vegetated)
Lake (non-vegetated)
Ocean, Bay, and Estuary (non-vegetated)

Land Use
Residential
Commercial and Services
Transportation and Roads
Mixed Urban or Built-up Land
Other Urban or Built-up Land
Other Agricultural Land
Strip Mines, Quarries, and Gravel Pits

* Small Island 0.1 > 0.5 hectares

Full Extent of Map Coverage

The extent of map data goes well beyond the three main park lands presented on this layout (Mount Desert Island, Schoodic Peninsula, and Isle au Haut). All Acadia National Park fee and easement lands along with selected environs are provided in the map coverage. The extent of the map coverage is shown by the shaded areas in the graphic to the right.



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The Nature Conservancy
NatureServe

Maine Natural Areas Program

USGS-NPS Vegetation Mapping Program

USGS science for a changing world

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