Getting Started

Navigate to the MNRF's Crown Land Use Policy Atlas web page

Once you have navigated to the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas webpage (see link above) you are provided with a link to the Atlas program (A). On this page there is also a brief overview of the program, a section stating that maps can be created using the program, a brief overview on how to find a policy report for a known unit, and the terms of use.

Clicking on the link (A) will take you to the program and will load to look like the right portion of Figure 1 (below). You must accept the disclaimer to continue.

Figure 1: The Crown Land Use Policy Atlas home page and map browser screen

Crown Land Use Policy Atlas

How to view Crown land use area boundaries, make a map and search for an area-specific land use policy or amendment online.

On this page
1. Overview
2. View boundaries, make a map
3. Find a policy report or land use amendment
4. Terms of Use
Using the Map Tools

There are a number of ways you can interact with the map by using specific tools.

The zoom function is located on the top left corner of the map (A in Figure 2). This function will allow you to magnify the area of interest by clicking the + button or to de-magnify by clicking the – button. If your mouse has a scroll wheel this will also allow you to zoom in and out. Finally there are 2 buttons that allow you to “drag” a box which will automatically zoom in to an extent to show the area of interest. By left clicking your mouse and holding it down you can then drag the map left, right, up and down. This will allow you to move the map to the desired area as you zoom in/out (A).

There are six tabs located at the top of the map. For the purposes of this guide, we will only focus on three tabs, “map layers”, “find information” and “measure” (B in Figure 2).

Under the tabs there are a number of standard buttons, these include “zoom in”, “zoom out”, “pan”, “initial view”, “previous extent” and “next extent”. “Pan” works the same as simply clicking on the map and dragging it, “initial view” takes you to the original scale of the map with Ontario centered, and “previous/next extent” buttons can quickly change your views from the last zoom in scales you have been looking at.

Figure 2: The interactive web browser for the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas
Map Layers and Legend

Once you click on the “map layers” tab (A in Figure 3) two specific boxes will appear directly below the tabs, “select map layers” and “legend”.

By clicking on the “legend” box (B in Figure 3) a description of what each colour on the map means will be displayed (C in Figure 3). *Note, there is no “crown land” colour, instead the various types of land uses in Ontario are displayed. The dark grey colour indicates private land.

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**Figure 3:** The interactive web browser for the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas illustrating the “Legend” tab
Turning Layers On

It is also important to know what layers are selected for view on your map (A in Figure 4).

Specifically it is important to turn on overlays that show “Crown Game Preserves” (B in Figure 4) and “Other – Fish and Wildlife” (C in Figure 4). These areas can impact angling and hunting opportunities, and more information can be found either in, or linked to area reports.

Figure 4: The interactive web browser for the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas showing additional layers in the “Layers” tab
Getting Land Use Information

Once you zoom in on the area that you would like information for, there are a few options available to retrieve the land use information. This guide will only go into detail on one way to access land use information in a specific area of the map.

Click on the “find information” tab (A in Figure 5) at the top of the map. This will bring up four boxes directly under the tabs.

Click on the “get land use information” (B in Figure 5) box. A blue dot and recycle bin will appear in the window on the left of the map. When you place the mouse over the map (without clicking anything) you will see the blue dot at the tip of the mouse icon (C in Figure 5).

Move the blue dot at the tip of the mouse icon over the area of interest and left click. You will see “primary land use area” information appear in the window on the left (D in Figure 5). The policy ID, general name of area, land use type (e.g. general use), size of area the policy covers, the district the area is located in and an attachment to the policy report will be displayed.

You will need to read the “Policy Report” for this area to determine what types of activities are permitted on this crown land. To access the report click either the “English” or “French” buttons in the window (E in Figure 5.)

This will open a new window with the report displayed.

Figure 5: The interactive web browser for the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas illustrating the “Find Information” tab
Reading the Policy Report

After clicking on either “English” or “French” in the window to the left of the map, a new screen will pop up with the policy report displayed. Near the end of the report, you will see a series of tables. The information of most interest to OFAH members (hunting and fishing) can be located in the “Recreational Activities and Facilities” table (A in Figure 6). An example of the full policy report can be found in Appendix 1.

Please note that it is important to read the “Land Use Intent” portion of the policy report to ensure a better understanding of the tables, and to ensure that any of your activities are not against the policy in place on the land.

Additionally descriptions of any restrictions related to overlays mentioned in Step 4 will be near the top of the report.

Figure 6: The interactive web browser for the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas illustrating the Policy Report for a Crown land area
Contacting Local MNRF Offices

Please note that this is not an exhaustive guide for the use of the Crown Land Use Policy Atlas (CLUPA). This guide was developed by the Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters to support their members in locating Crown land in Ontario.

While the CLUPA is a great tool and has much more functionality than described in this guide, be sure to contact the local MNRF office with any specific questions related to the area you wish to visit.

Click here for contact information of each MNRF district office

Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources

Regions and Districts

MNR Offices
- Field Office
- District Office
- Regional Office

MNR District Boundary
MNR Regional Boundary

Kilometres

Northeast Region

Northwest Region

Southern Region