



# Realizing the Value of Natural Assets to Strengthen Community Climate Resilience

MNL Symposium – May 2, 2024  
Gander



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Natural Asset Management

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## Natural Asset Management - Town of Gibsons



*Nature is our most valuable infrastructure asset.*

## What are Natural Assets?

*"Put simply, Natural Assets are natural resources or ecosystems that provide municipal services instead of using costly infrastructure to do the same job."*

<https://gibsons.ca/sustainability/natural-assets/>

# GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE (GI)

Nature-based Solutions (NbS)/Nature-based Climate Solutions

Natural Infrastructure (NI)

Low Impact Development (LID)

## NATURAL ASSETS:\*

- Wetlands
- Forests
- Parks
- Meadows
- Lawns and gardens
- Soil

## ENHANCED ASSETS:\*

- Rain gardens
- Green roofs and walls
- Bioswales
- Urban trees
- Naturalized stormwater ponds

## ENGINEERED ASSETS:\*

- Permeable pavement
- Rain barrels
- Cisterns
- Perforated pipes
- Infiltration trenches

## GREY INFRASTRUCTURE:\*

- Bridges
- Roads
- Parking lots
- Culverts
- Pipes



# Learning Outcomes

1

**Make new connections between the importance of natural asset management, climate resilient communities, and the conservation of nature.**

2

**Explore and consider natural assets in your communities that contribute to climate resilience and sense of identity.**

3

**Gain insights into the tools and processes that are available to empower municipalities to protect and manage natural assets.**

4

**Become aware of funding and partnerships that can advance this work locally.**

# Outline

1

- Who's who
- What we do
- Why it matters to me

11-11:30

*Nutrition Break*

2

- Applying some tools
- Next steps and take
- Questions?



# Who We Are



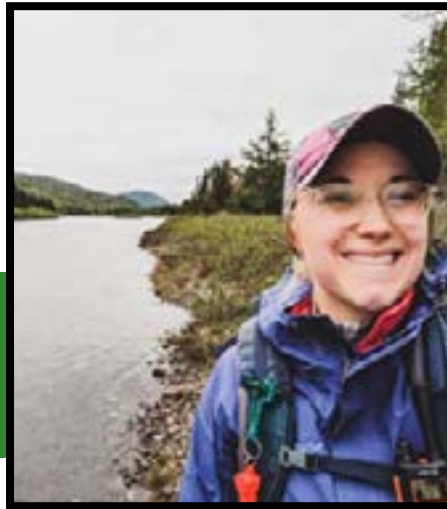
**Kathleen Parewick**

Community Collaboration &  
Development Officer



**Piers Evans**

Newfoundland and Labrador  
Program Director



**Heather Baehre**

Newfoundland and Labrador  
Conservation Coordinator



**Zachary Burrows**

Executive Director



**Willem Peters**

Conservation Biologist





# Who is the Stewardship Association of Municipalities (SAM) Inc.

SAM is an environmental non-profit organization that works in partnership with the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture in NL to secure, enhance, & restore important wildlife habitat found within municipal planning boundaries.

As a network of communities who practice environmental stewardship across NL, SAM and its members contribute to maintaining & enhancing biodiversity in the province.



Corduroy Brook, Grand Falls-Windsor (Photo Credit: SAM)

# Who is the Nature Conservancy of Canada?

We're Canada's largest environmental charity, delivering results at a scale like no other.

We protect and care for nature to stop species loss and counter climate change.

We take action. We work on the land, building healthy and resilient ecosystems where it matters most. And the impact of our work is global.

Collaboration is at the heart of who we are. We bring people together to protect nature, so it can protect us.

Together, we've conserved more than 15 million hectares and we're on a mission to double our impact, because what we do next, matters more than ever.



Join at [menti.com](https://menti.com) | use code 2624 4515



## Where is home?

All responses to your question will be shown here

Each response can be up to 200 characters long

Turn on voting in Interactivity to let participants vote for their favorites



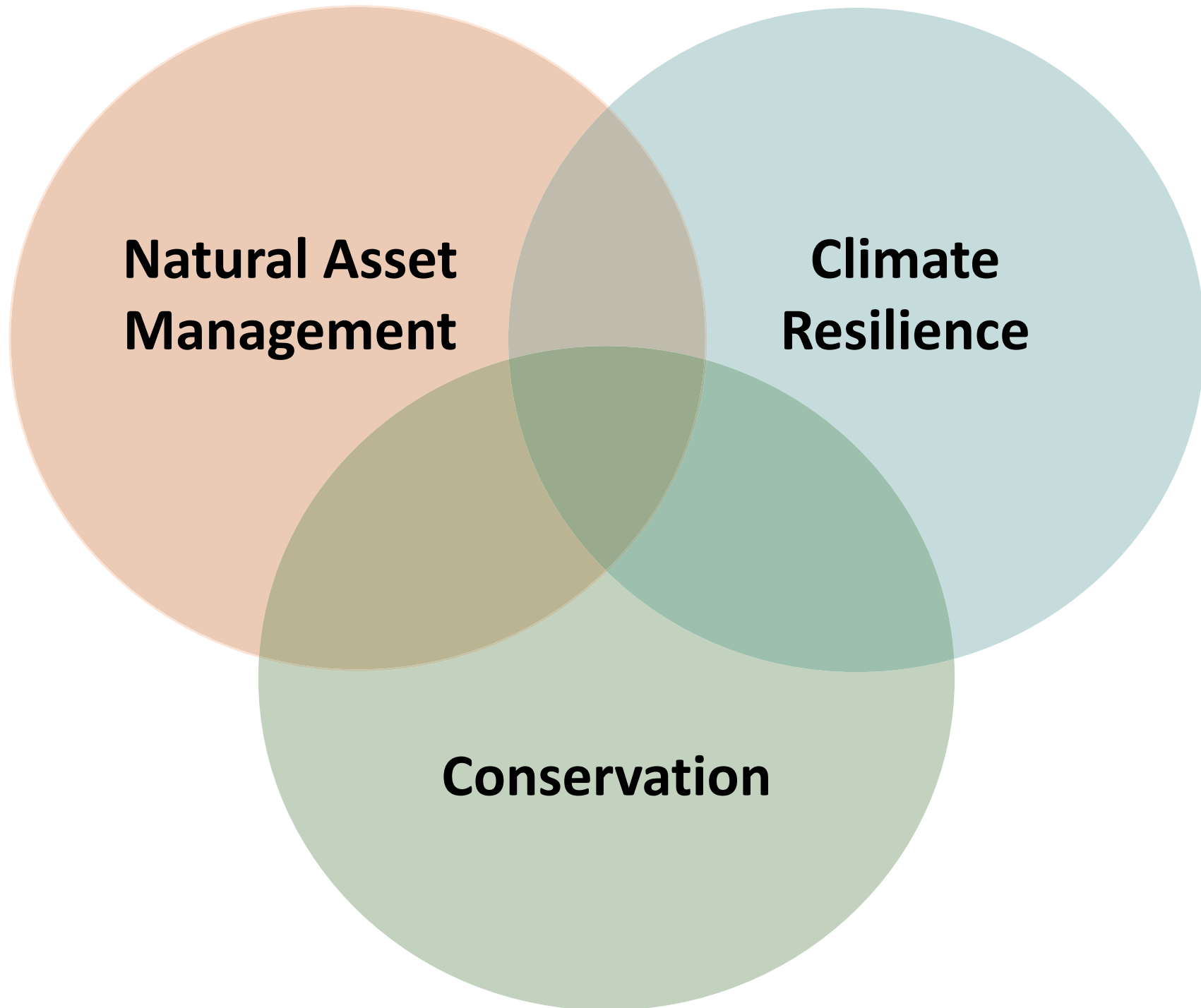
Join at [mentimeter.com](https://mentimeter.com) | use code 2624 4515



# What size of community are you representing?

- < 500
- 500-1,000
- 1,000-3,000
- 3,000-5,000
- 5,000-10,000
- >10,000





**Natural Asset  
Management**

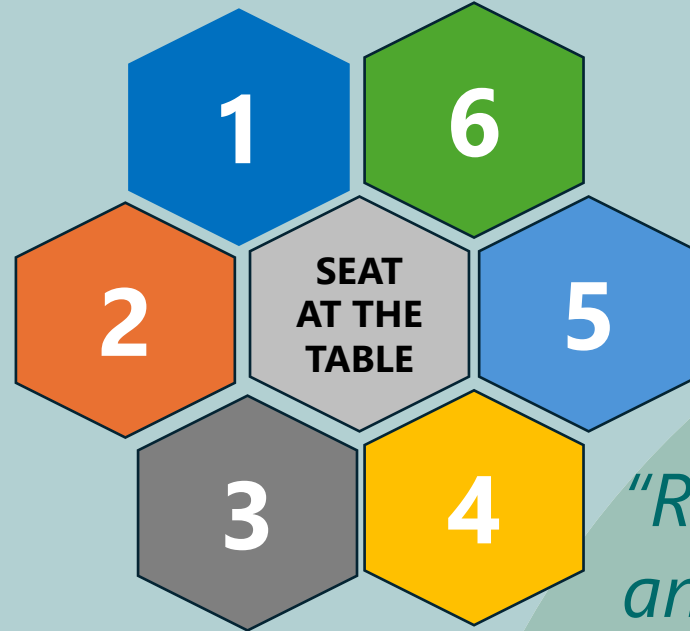
**Climate  
Resilience**

**Conservation**

Climate Resilience

Natural Asset  
Management

# It's a priority...



*"Revitalize climate change  
and climate resilience  
conversations..."*



Municipalities

Newfoundland and Labrador

Conservation

**Asset Management Plan (AMP)**

**Development Control Authority**  
*(Municipal Plan & Development Regulations)*

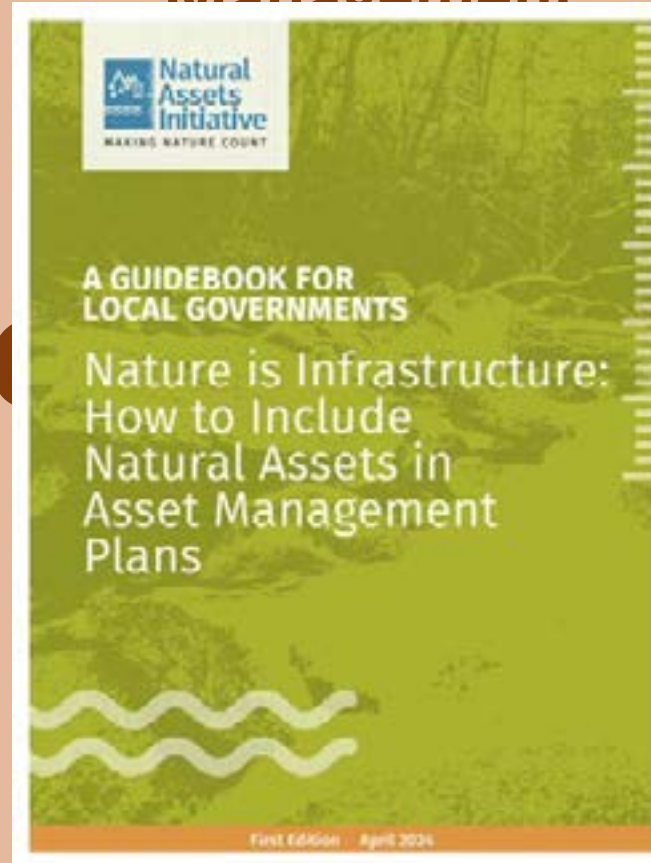
Maintenance Assurance Manual (MAM)

Climate Hazards & Risks Assessment



# Natural Asset Management

# W e h e





Labrador City  
Wabush

**Habitat Stewardship in NL**  
samnl.org

# 2024 Overview Map

50 Habitat Stewardship Agreements

Over 70,000 acres of wildlife habitat conserved!

Happy Valley - Goose Bay

Cartwright (Table Bay)

Mary's Harbour, St. Lewis, Red Bay (St. Peter's Bay)

Forteau

St. Anthony (Hare Bay)

Flower's Cove

Main Brook

Port aux Choix

Hawke's Bay

Springdale

Germanville

New West Valley

Deer Lake

Lewisporte

Indian Bay

Irishtown-Summer side

Patadena Steady Brook

Gander

Centreville-Warham Trinity

Corner Brook

Grand Falls - Windsor

Gamou

Donavista

Stephenville Crossing

St. George's

KBilton

Grand Codroy Estuary (Ramsar site)

George's Brook Milton

Come by Chance

Harbour Grace

Pouch Cove

Bay Roberts

Sydney's Bay

Portugal Cove St. Philip's

Banline Flatrock Torbay St. John's

Channel - Port aux Basques

Burgeo

Frenchman's Cove Carleton Place Winterland

Whitbourne

St. Lawrence

# Stewardship Agreements as Natural Asset Management/Conservation options

**Stewardship Agreements**

**Legal protection**

**Land donation/purchase/easements**

**Policy**

**Outreach and education**

**Conservation effectiveness**

**Opportunities for conservation**

# The Municipal Habitat Stewardship Agreement Process with SAM

## Step 1

- Work with municipalities and community partners to identify areas for conservation.

## Step 2

- Assess potential areas, draft a Stewardship Agreement and conservation plan

## Step 3

- Public feedback on stewardship plan
- Agreement in principle subject to review from all parties (SAM, Wildlife Division and Municipality)

## Step 4

- Stewardship Agreement is signed

## Step 5

- Incorporate Habitat Stewardship Agreement and Conservation Plan into Municipal Plan.

## Step 6

- Implement the Habitat Conservation Plan



Conservation

New partners,  
creative pathways

**Federal conservation target:**

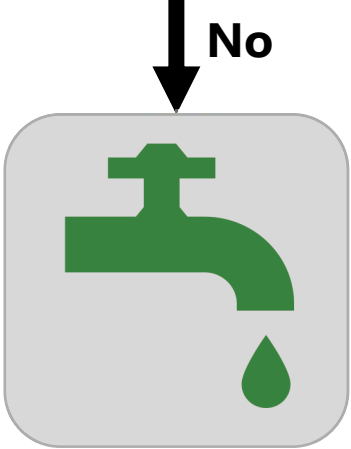
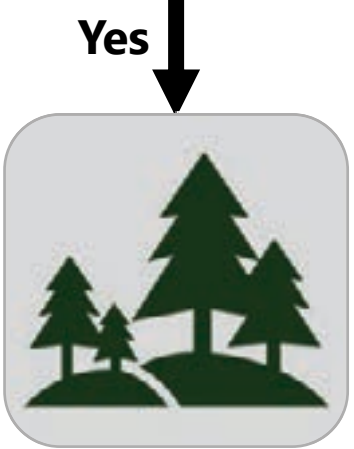
30% of Canada's land and water conserved by 2030

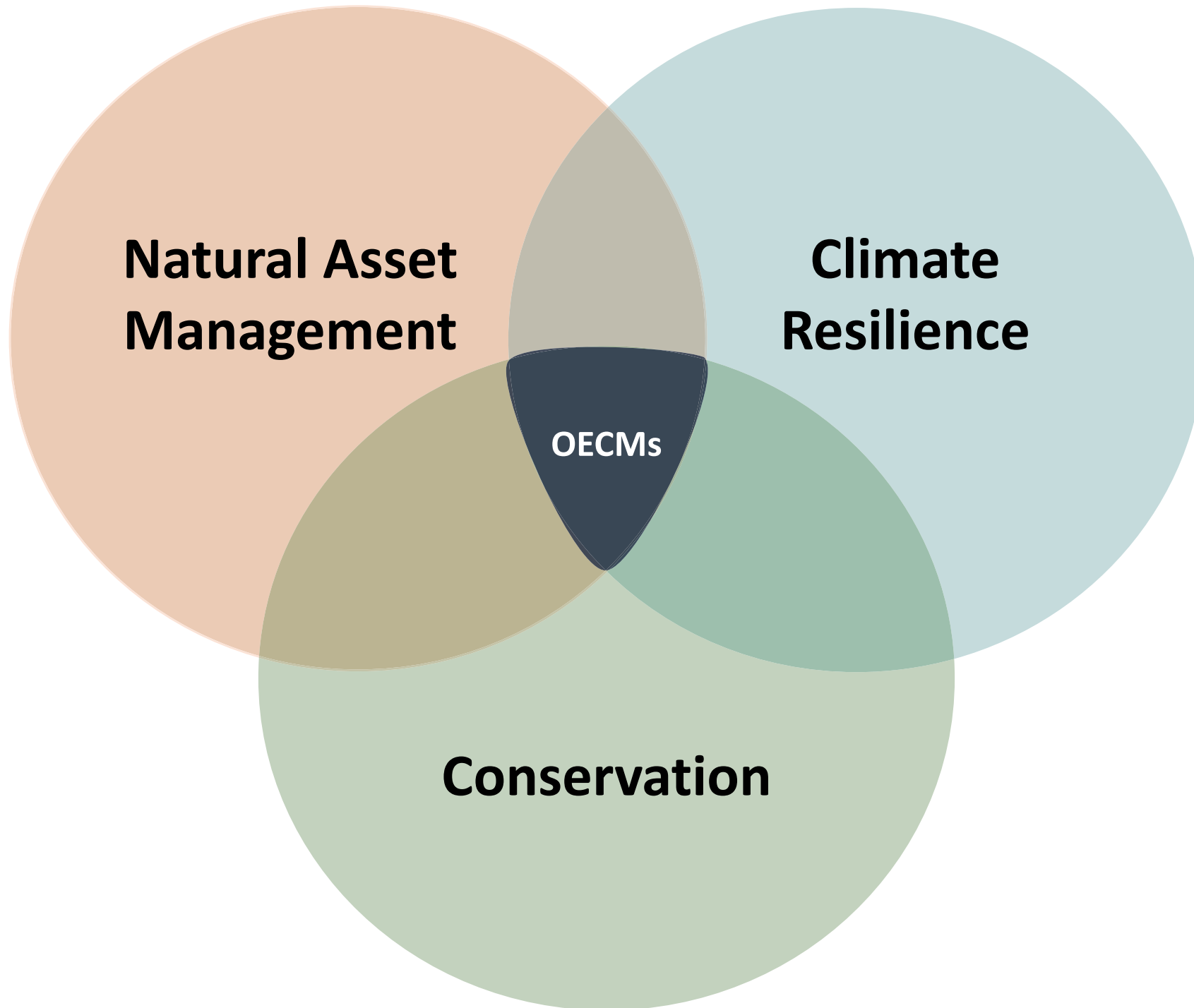
Land Securement

Legal mechanisms for creating conserved areas

Pan-Canadian Decision Support Tool (DST) for assessing candidate Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas







**Natural Asset  
Management**

**Climate  
Resilience**

**OECMs**

**Conservation**

# Understanding OECMs

Presented by



NATURE  
CONSERVANCY  
CANADA