



19 April 2017

Screening Opinion for Proposed Extension to Spice Drive, Bodden Town

Originating Entity - Ministry of PLAHI

Prepared by the Department of Environment for the National Conservation Council

The **National Conservation Council's (NCC) Directive for Environmental Impact Assessments (EIA)** issued under section 3(12)(j) and which has effect under section 43(2)(c) of the National Conservation Law (NCL), notes that all activities listed in Schedule 1 will be considered against the screening criteria outlined in sections 1 to 3 of Schedule 1 of the Directive to determine whether an EIA may be required. These screening criteria are: the type and characteristics of development, the location of the development, and the characteristics of the potential impacts.

The **proposed project** is for a 40-ft extension to Spice Drive, an existing public road in Bodden Town. The proposed road extends from the current terminus in a north-westerly direction, in effect granting access to Block 44B Parcel 287 by traversing Parcels 343 and 351 (see Figure 1).

Having considered the proposal detailed in the email from the Ministry of PLAHI (dated 11 April 2017) against the screening criteria outlined above, the Department of Environment (DoE) is of the opinion that **the proposed road extension does not require an EIA** based on the following factors:

1. While the proposal clearly falls within Section 5(ii) of Schedule 1 of the EIA Directive, i.e. *Transportation infrastructure, including planning or construction of new roads, and of road extensions*, the scale of impact and environmental resources affected by the proposal are not such that they would warrant an EIA simply for this portion of road works.
2. The project lengthens an existing 30-ft wide public road located in Medium Density zoning and is confined to a footprint of approximately 1,200 sf. The subject parcels being traversed are man-modified with each containing single family homes and associated landscaping. Greater ecological value lies in the landlocked parcel 287, consisting of mixed primary dry shrubland and dry forest and woodland vegetation (see Figure 2). No indication has been given of the type or extent of future development on this parcel.

After considering the Screening Opinion detailed above, the NCC is required to issue its decision to the originating entity on the requirement for an EIA pursuant to Section 43(1).



Figure 1 Boundary Plan No. 578

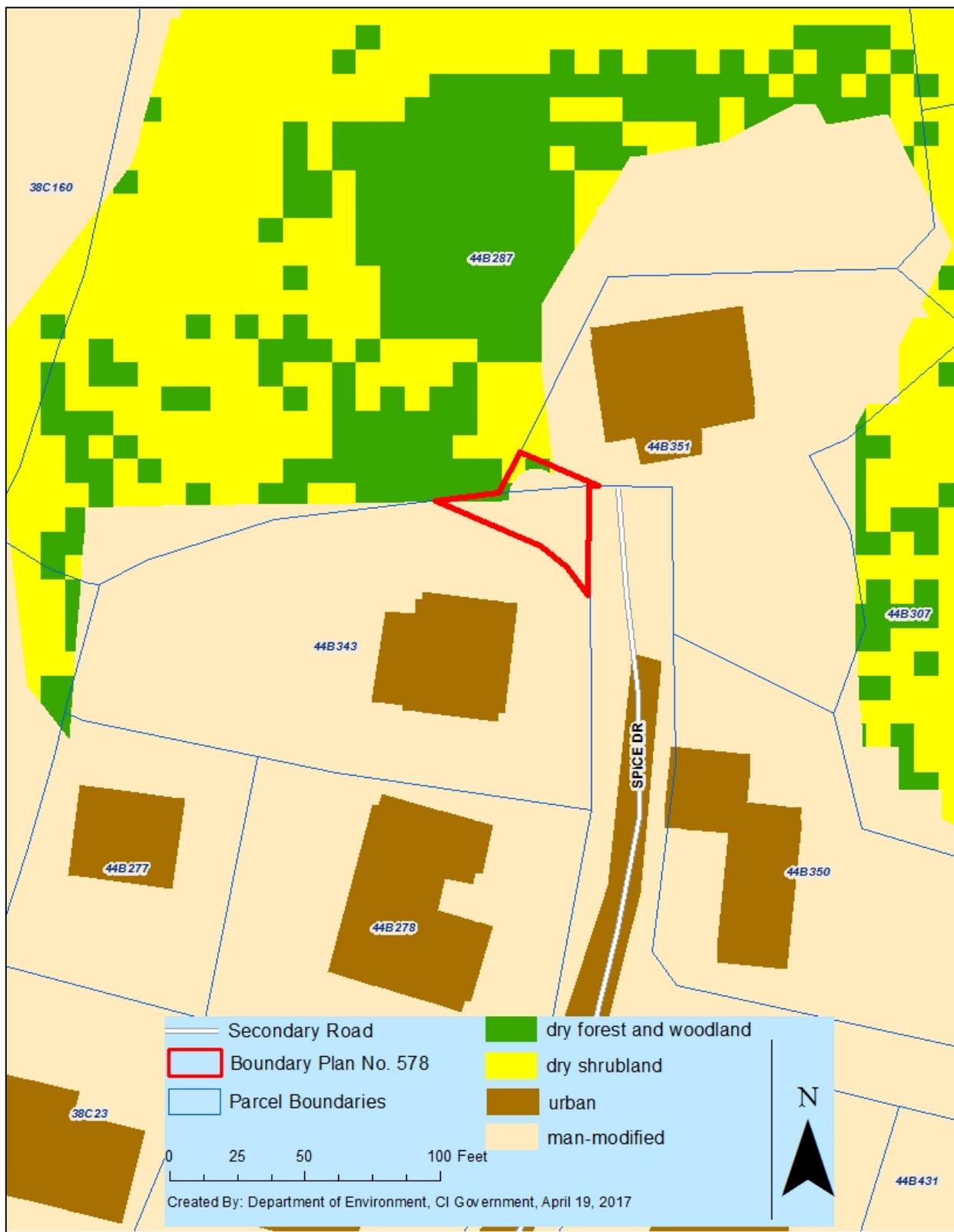


Figure 2 Proposed road extension proximity to primary habitat