

**Abstract Submission for 5<sup>th</sup> Canadian River Heritage Conference**

Title of Presentation:

**The Canadian Heritage Rivers System — A New Strategic Direction**

Category: River Tourism and Recreation

Presenters:

Peter Labor

Protected Areas & Heritage River Planner

Nova Scotia Environment and Labour

Protected Areas Branch

5151 Terminal Road,

Halifax, Nova Scotia, B3J 2T8

Phone: (902) 424-5071

fax: (902) 424-0501

email: [laborpn@gov.ns.ca](mailto:laborpn@gov.ns.ca)

Don Gibson

National Manager of the Canadian Heritage Rivers System

## Abstract

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System (CHRS) was established in 1984 and, since then, has become the world's most respected river conservation program. It now includes 40 rivers or sections of rivers, of which 36 are designated to the system. The total length of rivers in the CHRS is over 10,000 kilometres stretching from coast to coast to coast.

The Canadian Heritage Rivers System is managed by a ten year strategic plan which sets out over-arching goals and objectives, defining a blueprint for the future. This strategic plan is in the process of being renewed and will set out a new direction and vision for the CHRS program to 2017.

This highly visual presentation will showcase Canada's spectacular river heritage and then examine how the CHRS will be meeting its objectives over the next decade. Topics include an historical review of how the CHRS was established, how it has evolved and what lies ahead for the future strategic direction of this important Canadian conservation program.