

NEW BRUNSWICK PROTECTED NATURAL AREAS

Protected Natural Areas (PNAs): Over 157,000 ha of provincial Crown Land have been permanently set aside as nature reserves under the *Protected Natural Areas Act* for the conservation of biological diversity. There are two classes of PNAs where different restrictions apply:

Class I: Class I PNAs require complete protection as they contain ecologically sensitive features that could be damaged by human activity. All activities are prohibited in these areas, except by permit from the Minister of Natural Resources for scientific and educational purposes. There are 4 Class I PNAs that encompass 1,034 ha.

Class II: Class II PNAs protect ecosystems that are representative of the New Brunswick landscape or that are ecologically important or rare. These areas provide an opportunity to study the natural environment as well as the recovery of modified ecosystems. A total of 56 Class II PNAs encompass 156,300 ha of Crown land. Industrial, commercial, and agricultural uses and development are prohibited in these areas. Educational and scientific activities require a permit.

What activities are allowed in Class II PNAs?

Non-consumptive recreational activities: Certain recreational activities having minimal environmental impact (e.g. hiking, canoeing, camping with a tent, and nature interpretation) are allowed without formal authorization from DNR.

Consumptive activities: Hunting, trapping, snaring and recreational fishing are allowed and are regulated by the *Fish and Wildlife Act* and the *General Regulation - Protected Natural Areas Act*. Only permits issued under the *Fish and Wildlife Act* are required, as on Crown Land outside of the PNAs. Non-commercial food gathering activities are also allowed.

Access: Activities such as biking, horseback riding, dog sledding, and the use of off-road vehicles are limited to recreational roads designated for those purposes. Certain other roads are designated as access roads.

Scientific activities are allowed with a scientific PNA permit.

Educational activities are allowed with an educational PNA permit.

Where there is a conflict between activities allowed under the PNA legislation and other legislation, the PNA legislation prevails.

The application review process for PNA permits:

Your application will be reviewed by the Department of Natural Resources and possibly by other governmental agencies. The review process will take from 1 to 6 weeks, following which you will either receive your permit with Terms and Conditions or you will be notified that your application was denied.

Information:

More information on PNA's and on Crown Lands can be obtained at www.gnb.ca/naturalresources or by calling the toll free number 1-888-312-5600.

PROTECTED NATURAL AREA PERMIT APPLICATION PACKAGE

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This application package is used to acquire a PNA permit.

Please read the entire application package before filling out the application form.

The application will be returned to you if the form and required attachments are not complete.

Disponible en français

GENERAL INFORMATION

Permits

Scientific Permit: Scientific research and other scientific activities including rehabilitation, recovery and restoration activities in a Protected Natural Area (PNA) require a permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources. A scientific permit can be issued to an individual or group, a scientific institution, a Government Department, or a Company.

Educational Permit: Educational activities in a Protected Natural Area require a permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources. These may be issued for activities that do not involve collecting samples or disturbing the environment, such as school field trips, scout outings, and school or university class projects. Activities of an educational nature that involve collecting samples or disturbing the environment require a scientific permit. Monitoring activities such as Christmas Bird Counts may also be considered as educational activities, depending on the degree of invasiveness.

Permits may be issued for a term of up to 5 years, and are renewable upon expiration.

Fees*:

- Scientific Permit Application Fee: \$25.00 plus HST non-refundable
- Educational Permit Application Fee: No application fee.

* All fees are subject to change.

SHOULD YOUR APPLICATION BE ACCEPTED

Once your application is reviewed, a letter from the Department of Natural Resources will inform you of other requirements, if applicable.

Requirements that MAY be requested upon review of the SCIENTIFIC permit application:

1. **Research Proposal:** If not provided, a scientific research proposal detailing the objective of the study, the study site, the research methods, and the material and equipment to be used.
2. **Liability Insurance:** Liability insurance in the amount of \$2,000,000 minimum, listing “Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of New Brunswick as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources” as additional-insured. Proof of insurance must be provided every year.
3. **Permits and Authorizations:** Compliance with all laws whether municipal, provincial or federal, and obtaining all required permits and authorizations such as a scientific permit issued under the *Fish and Wildlife Act* and a permit issued under the *Endangered Species Act* are mandatory.

Requirements that WILL be requested as a condition of the Scientific and Educational permits:

4. **Final Report:** A final report is to be provided to the **Protected Natural Areas Program**, Department of Natural Resources within 6 months of the permit expiration date. Extensions on the submission deadline may be given following written requests.
 - For a **scientific permit**, the data collected must be shared with the Department in a final report. The report should detail the results obtained including lists of fauna, flora and fungus species inventoried, and descriptions of landforms, geology, soils, water, and any other biophysical data collected, as well as the locations where data were collected.
 - For an **educational permit**, the final report should provide the number of visits conducted and the specific locations where the visits took place, as well as the number and age groups of the persons involved. A form for this purpose is provided in **Appendix A**.

Requirements that MAY be requested as a condition of the permit:

5. **Annual Report:** If a **scientific permit** is issued for more than 1 year, an annual report outlining the work that has been done during the year, the type of data that was collected, and if available, preliminary results, is to be provided to the **Protected Natural Areas Program**, Department of Natural Resources, within 14 months of the permit issuance date and every twelve months following that time during the permit term. The permit reference number must be noted on the report. Although the annual Report is not required for the **educational permit**, the Department may contact the applicant to request information on the permitted activity.

6. Publication: For a **scientific permit**, a copy of the technical report, published article or any other document produced using the data collected in the Protected Natural Area must be provided to the **Protected Natural Areas Program**, Department of Natural Resources.

Other terms and conditions may apply.

All costs associated with “requirements” are the applicant’s responsibility.

HOW TO APPLY

Part III is designed to help you complete the Application Form for a Protected Natural Area permit (Part IV). The order of information contained in Part III corresponds with the order of requested information on the Permit Application Form.

Section A - Applicant

The only fields that are optional are the e-mail and cellular phone.

Name: The name on the application form is the name of the person who takes responsibility over the activity and will be used on the PNA permit. Others may participate in the activity on behalf of the individual or the organization with the permit. Each agent must have a copy of the permit on them to authorize their activity.

Language: Verbal and written correspondence will be available in your official language of choice.

Name of organization: Identify, if any, the organization under which you are requesting the permit. If you represent an incorporated body, please provide a copy of the Certificate of Incorporation for your organization, as well as names and titles of signing officers.

Section B - Intended use of the land

- B1-** Identify the type of permit for which you are applying.
- B2-** Do you intend to develop commercial products or information using the data collected? If so, what are the intended products or information?
- B3-** Explain what the proposed activity entails (e.g., overnight scout group expeditions, monitoring song bird populations through point counts using auditory and visual cues, vegetation surveys using sample plots). Justify why the activity is being conducted in a PNA. If needed, include an attachment with more details. Ensure that this attachment is identified as section **B3**.
- B4 -** For scientific permits, provide the size of the team that will be participating in the activity. For educational permits, provide the size and age/class level of the groups and the number of group leaders.
- B5 -** Describe the purpose of the activity. For scientific permits, provide the objectives, and the knowledge and benefits to be acquired by the activity.
- B6-** Provide the start and end dates for the permit term. How long will your total project last, taking anticipated permit renewals into consideration? A permit may be issued for up to 5 years, and is renewable for further 5-year terms.

B7- Provide the estimated frequency, season(s), and length of time when you will be conducting your activity (e.g., fieldtrips will be undertaken on 3 separate days in September; bird banding will be undertaken 5 days a week from May to July and from September to November during the next 2 years).

Section C - Location

- C1** - Identify the PNA(s) where you are proposing to conduct your activity. A Protected Natural Areas map is provided in **Appendix B**.
- C2** - Specify if the PNA is a Class I or Class II.
- C3** - Provide details on the area(s) where you propose to conduct your activity. Include a map that will locate the site within the Protected Natural Area (e.g., site delimited on an aerial photo, a topographical map, or on a PNA map obtained at www.gnb.ca/naturalresources. For scientific permits, an aerial photo or GPS coordinates are required. If the specific location is not known at the time of permit application, exceptions may be made for this information to be provided up to 2 months after the start date of the permit term, providing that a justification is given for the delay.

Section D – Scientific Permit (To be filled out only if requesting a scientific permit)

- D1** - Specify, if any, which specimens you propose to collect. List the number and species, collection method, and justify the sample size.
- D2** - Specify any material and equipment that you expect to leave on site during the permit term (e.g., flagging tape, closed mist nests, radio tags on wildlife, pitfall traps). Provide details on the extent of these items (i.e., quantities, area affected).
- D3** - Identify any foreseen negative environmental impacts or risks that may be associated with the proposed activity and the mitigative activities that are being proposed to address these. Explain if the proposed activity will adversely affect users of the PNA, adjacent landowners and campsite lessees within the PNA (e.g., noise, traffic). If needed, include an attachment with more details. Ensure that this attachment is identified as section **D3**.
- D4** - This question is **only applicable for Class II PNAs**. Do you intend to set up a campsite within the PNA? If yes, please provide details on the location and the length of time that the campsite will be occupied. Provide information on the number of people that would be residing at the campsite and the period for this occupancy. Provide details on the proposed method of storing waste and toilet facilities.

D5 – If the proposed project is a non-invasive, low-scale study (i.e. where the project does not include sampling or soil disturbance), and all the required information is provided in the application form, you do not need to submit a research proposal. However, upon review of your application, the Department may contact you to request that a scientific research proposal be submitted. For faster processing of your application, do not omit the research proposal unless the proposed project meets the above criteria.

Section E - Payment and Signatures

- Indicate the method of payment to be used for the application fee for scientific permits.
- You **MUST** sign and date the application form.

Section F - Attachments

The following attachments **MUST** be included with the application. If any of the attachments are missing, or if the application is incomplete, the application may be returned.

- F1** - The application fee payment of \$25.00 plus HST for scientific permits. (See section E of the application form for the different methods of payment.)
- F2** - A map that will locate the site within the Protected Natural Area. If the map is to be provided at a later date, a justification must be given for the delay.
- F3 - For scientific permit only.** Provide a scientific research proposal detailing the objective of the study, the study site, and the research methods and required research material and equipment. The research proposal may be omitted for non-invasive, low-scale studies (i.e. where the project does not include sampling or soil disturbance) for which all required information is provided in the application form. See Section D5.

All costs associated with the application are the responsibility of the applicant.

For clarification on any parts of the Application Package please call 1-888-312-5600.

See **Appendix C** for a check list to ensure the completeness of the application form.

PART IV
PNA Permit

Application Form – PNA Permit
 Department of Natural Resources
 Crown Lands Branch
 P.O. Box 6000
 Fredericton NB E3B 5H1
 Tel: 1-888-312-5600 Fax: (506) 457-4802



Please refer to PART III "How to Apply"

A - APPLICANT

Please Print

<input type="checkbox"/> Mr.			<input type="checkbox"/> Mrs.			<input type="checkbox"/> Ms.			
Name				E-mail (optional)					
Mailing address (Street - apartment)						City / Town			
Postal code		Occupation			Language		<input type="checkbox"/> English		<input type="checkbox"/> French
Telephone (home)		Telephone (work)			Cellular phone (optional)				
Applicant status			<input type="checkbox"/> Individual		<input type="checkbox"/> Group		<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific institution		
			<input type="checkbox"/> Government department		<input type="checkbox"/> Other, specify				
Name of organization									

B - GENERAL INFORMATION

B1	Application type							
	<input type="checkbox"/> Educational permit				<input type="checkbox"/> Scientific permit			
B2	Is there a commercial purpose to your proposed activity?							
B3	What activity is being proposed? Why is it being conducted in a Protected Natural Area (PNA)?							
B4	What is the size of the group? For educational permits, what is the age level?							
B5	What are the purpose and benefits of the activity?							

B6	<p>What are the proposed start and end dates of the permit term? What is the total time length of your proposed activity?</p> <p>Start date: _____ End date: _____</p> <p>Total number of days, months or years: _____</p>
B7	<p>What is the estimated duration of your active field work period?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

C - LOCATION

C1	In what PNA(s) are you proposing to conduct your activity? (see appendix B)
C2	Specify the class of PNA: <input type="checkbox"/> Class I <input type="checkbox"/> Class II
C3	In what area(s) of the PNA(s) are you proposing to conduct your activity? (Include a map)

D - SCIENTIFIC PERMIT

D1	<p>Are you proposing to do any sampling? Specify?</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
D2	<p>List the material and equipment that you expect will remain on site during the permit term.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
D3	<p>Identify any foreseen negative environmental impacts or risks that may be associated with the proposed activity and the mitigative activities that you are proposing to address these.</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>

PART IV
PNA Permit

D4	Do you intend to set up a campsite within the PNA? If so, where and for how long? How many people would be residing there and during what period? What are your waste and toilet storage facilities?

D5	Check the box if the statement applies:
	<input type="checkbox"/> I am not submitting a research proposal as the proposed activity is low-scale and non-invasive.

E - PAYMENT & SIGNATURES

Indicate the method of payment to be used for the application fee

<input type="checkbox"/>	Money Order (made payable to the Minister of Finance)									
<input type="checkbox"/>	Cheque (made payable to the Minister of Finance)									
<input type="checkbox"/>	Credit Card									
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Master Card									
	<table border="1" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 20%;">Number</td> <td style="width: 60%;"></td> <td style="width: 20%;">Expiry date:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Name on Credit Card if different from applicant:</td> </tr> <tr> <td colspan="3">Signature of Cardholder:</td> </tr> </table>	Number		Expiry date:	Name on Credit Card if different from applicant:			Signature of Cardholder:		
Number		Expiry date:								
Name on Credit Card if different from applicant:										
Signature of Cardholder:										

<input type="checkbox"/> Yes I am over 19 years of age	Signature of applicant
Date _____ 20 _____	x

F - ATTACHMENTS

Required documents	
F1	Application fee payment of \$25.00 plus HST (for scientific permit only)
F2	Map showing the section of the PNA being used
F3	Research Proposal (for scientific permit) or section D5 checked

DEFINITIONS

Term	Definition
Annual Report	A report to be provided to the Protected Natural Areas Program, Department of Natural Resources, within 14 months of the Scientific PNA permit issuance date if the permit is issued for more than 1 year. This report should outline the work that has been done during the year, the type of data that was collected, and if available, preliminary results. The permit reference number must be noted.
Class I Protected Natural Area (PNA)	A PNA that requires complete protection as it contains ecologically sensitive features that could be damaged by human activity. All activities are prohibited in these areas, except by permit from the Minister of Natural Resources for educational and scientific purposes.
Class II Protected Natural Area (PNA)	A PNA established to protect representative ecosystems. Certain recreational uses having minimal environmental impact and non-commercial food gathering activities are permitted in these areas while industrial, commercial and agricultural uses and development are prohibited. Educational and scientific activities in Class II PNAs require a permit.
Crown	Her Majesty the Queen, in right of the Province of New Brunswick as represented by the Minister of Natural Resources or any other Minister of the Provincial Government.
Crown Land	Crown Land is defined under the <i>Crown Lands and Forests Act</i> as the lands vested in the Crown that are under the administration and control of the Minister of Natural Resources and may include land covered by water.
Educational Activity	An activity that has an educational purpose undertaken in a Protected Natural Area under an Educational PNA permit, by a person or group with an educational mandate. Environmental monitoring activities may also be considered as educational activities, depending on the degree of invasiveness.
Educational PNA Permit	Permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources to an individual, an educational institution, or an education based group or organization for the purpose of conducting an educational activity in a Protected Natural Area.
Final Report	A final report provided to the Protected Natural Areas Program, Department of Natural Resources within 6 months of the scientific or educational permit expiry date, providing details on the activities undertaken under the permit. The permit reference number must be noted.
Liability Insurance	General liability insurance coverage in the amount of 2 million dollars minimum, listing "Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of New Brunswick" as co-insured. A certificate of insurance must be provided each

year.

Protected Natural Area	An area of land or water permanently set-aside under the <i>Protected Natural Areas Act</i> for the protection of biological diversity.
Research Proposal	A scientific research proposal detailing the objective of the study, the study site, the research methods and required material and equipment.
Scientific Activity	Scientific research, baseline study, or another activity conducted for the purpose of rehabilitating, recovering, or restoring a degraded ecosystem, a depleted population, or an endangered species under a scientific PNA permit.
Scientific PNA Permit	Permit issued by the Minister of Natural Resources to an individual, a scientific institution, a Government Department, a Company, or to another group for the purpose of conducting scientific research and other scientific activities in a Protected Natural Area.

Educational Permit Final Report Form

Please complete this Final Report Form and return it to the address or fax below within 6 months of the educational permit expiration date.

GENERAL INFORMATION
Name of group:
Permit Reference Number:
Identify the PNA visited:
How many times did you visit the PNA under the educational permit?

In the following table, list the locations within the PNA where each visit took place, the age group or class level, and the size of the group. Add a separate sheet if space provided is not sufficient.

Visit	Location	Age/Level	Group size
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			

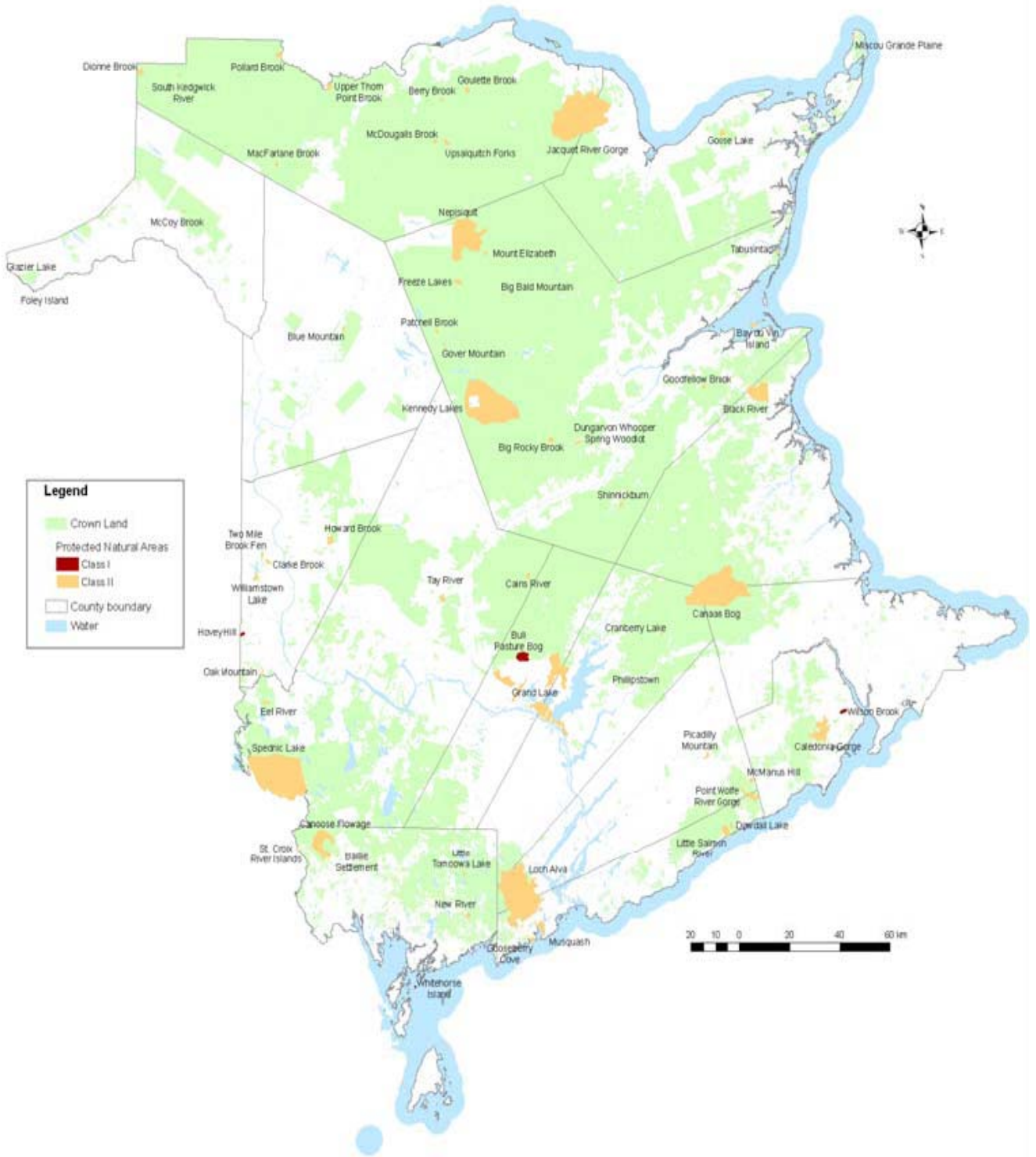
Comments regarding the group’s enjoyment or learning experience in the PNA:

Please forward this Educational Permit Final Report Form to:

Protected Natural Areas Program
Fish and Wildlife Branch
Department of Natural Resources
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton NB E3B 5H1

Fax: 506-457-6762

Protected Natural Areas Map



CHECK LIST

Before sending your application, please ensure that you have included the following:

<input type="checkbox"/>	All required attachments as per section F of the Application Form.
<input type="checkbox"/>	Complete, sign and date the application form.

Send your completed PNA Permit Application Form to:

Department of Natural Resources
Crown Lands Branch
Land Use Application Service Centre
P.O. Box 6000
Fredericton NB E3B 5H1

Courier address: 1350 Regent Street, Room 250, Fredericton, NB E3C 2G6