

Protection of Nova Scotia Control Monuments

It is estimated that two Nova Scotia Control (Survey) Monuments (NSCMs) are destroyed every week during the construction season. In many cases, the NSCMs could have been preserved by making minor revisions to the proposed development, flagging sites prior to construction work or by adding a collar to the top of the monument to allow for continued access. The value of each monument is estimated at approximately \$7500.

NSCMs are a physical manifestation of Nova Scotia Coordinate Referencing System. Once destroyed, the ability to re-establish ties to historical surveys is lost. Despite moving towards an active system, it is still in the Province's best interest to preserve NSCMs. They are physical evidence of the past 40 some years of boundary surveys in the Province. Because of various network distortions, they are the only true connection to the past.

When people are aware of a situation in which a NSCM may be disturbed or destroyed, it is requested that:

- a) The Coordinate Control Officer be contacted to investigate an alternative construction design to preserve the infrastructure.
- b) If an alternative design is not possible, the NSCM should be observed with GPS by 2 different observers prior to being disturbed or destroyed by following the NSCRS [data submission guidelines](#). This can be coordinated by the Coordinate Control Officer. Data should be submitted to the Coordinate Control Officer along with photos through the [NSCRS Viewer portal](#). Further, if the NSCM belongs to the Nova Scotia High Precision Network, a replacement NSCM will need to be identified or installed and the NSCM will need to be observed to make its coordinates publishable as part of the NSHPN.

The disturbance or destruction of NSCMs is an offence under the Criminal Code of Canada (Section 442 and 443). NSCMs found disturbed or destroyed should be submitted through the NSCRS web portal or reported to the Coordinate Control Officer using geoinfo@novascotia.ca.