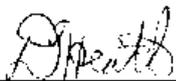


SPIDER LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

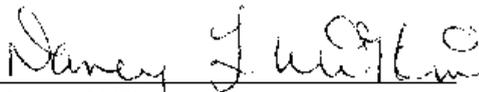
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Approved by:



Dick Heath
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb. 9/03



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb. 24/03

SPIDER LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Spider Lake Park is to provide day use recreational opportunities in a natural setting. Set in the popular destination area of the mid-island of Vancouver Island, it provides opportunities for walking, picnicking, fishing, canoeing, kayaking, boating and nature appreciation. Spider Lake Park is wheelchair accessible and contains a developed beach, two parking lots, a picnic area and a short walking trail. Located 16 kilometres west of Qualicum Beach, it complements recreational opportunities provided by nearby Horne Lake Caves Park and the popular beaches of the Mid Island. A private campground adjacent to Horne Lake Caves Park serves as a camping site for both parks.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role is to protect significant and unique glacial features, such as eskers.

Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role is to protect the natural environment. Given the level of modification of the natural environment in this part of Vancouver Island, even small parks like Spider Lake can contribute to protection of the natural environment. Spider Lake makes a small contribution to the protection of examples of Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) xm1 and Coastal Douglas Fir (CDF) mm, both of which are under-represented in the protected areas system, at 2.1% and 2.4% respectively. Both these subzones are primarily located on the east side of Vancouver Island and have been highly modified. Not much of these subzones remain intact on Vancouver Island and any protected area that contributes to their protection may be considered important.

Spider Lake Park is located in the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection (NAL). Given the size of this park, makes a small contribution to the protection of this ecosection which is a major landscape component of Vancouver Island. This ecosection has been highly modified through development and settlement and is under-represented within the Protected Areas system at 1.4%. In total, 35 small parks assist in provide representation of the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Lack of detailed knowledge of cultural values	➤ Undertake inventory on cultural values in consultation with First Nations.
Main recreational feature (the lake) is not in the park	➤ Add portion of lake into park to ensure access to recreational feature.

Zoning

Intensive Recreation – covers the day use area. The objective of this zone is to provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.

Natural Environment – covers the rest of the park in recognition of natural values of the park. The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

- Representation
- ecosection Contributes minimally to the representation of the Nanaimo Lowlands Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented in the protected areas system (1.4%). Spider Lake Park contributes only 1.16% to the overall representation of this ecosection.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Contributes minimally to the representation of CWHxm1 and CDFmm, both of which are under-represented in the protected areas system. Spider Lake Park contributes only 0.32% and 0.38% to the overall representation of CWHxm1 and CDFmm respectively.
- Special Feature Eskers
- Rare/Endangered Values None known at this time
- Scientific/Research Opportunities None known at this time

Recreation

- Representation
backcountry Not Applicable
destination Not Applicable
travel corridor Not Applicable
local recreation Regional day use and destination use
- Special Opportunities None known at this time
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities Glacial formations - eskers

Cultural Heritage

- Representation Values unknown
- Special Feature None known at this time

Other Management Considerations

- Other Designations Not Applicable
- Relationship to other PAs Part of a system of protected areas in a popular destination area (includes Rath Trevor Beach, Little Qualicum Falls, Horne Lake Caves)
- Co-operative Management Arrangements Not Applicable
- Partnerships Not Applicable
- Vulnerability Small size limits ability to protect CWHxm1 & CDFmm

Relationship to other Strategies Not Applicable

Area: 64.59 hectares

Date of establishment: June 18, 1981