

# BROWNE LAKE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

## PURPOSE STATEMENT

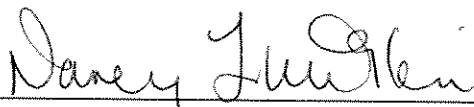
March 2005

Approved by:



Drew Carmichael  
Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 9, 2005



Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Mar. 31, 2005

# BROWNE LAKE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

## Purpose Statement

The 114 hectare ecological reserve is located in the Hydraulic Lake area, about 20 km east-southeast of Kelowna. Access is via the McCulloch Lake Forest Service Road. The ecological reserve encompasses the mostly forested upland area on the west side of Browne Lake Provincial Park.

### Primary Role

The **primary role** of Browne Lake Ecological Reserve is to protect a small wet meadow ecosystem and surrounding forest in the Interior Douglas-fir – Montane Spruce transition. The wet meadow, once used as pasture, is reverting to the original sedge community. A rock outcrop on the central hill holds a small seepage-influenced community with yellow-listed *Lewisia pyngaea*.

Representative values are low. There are no known rare species in the reserve.

<b>Known Management Issues</b>	<b>Response</b>
Limited information is available on rare and endangered species and communities.	Complete a rare/endangered species and communities inventory or a sensitive ecosystem assessment with the assistance of the ecological reserve warden or a university student.
Potential impact of non-compatible use on the wet meadow ecosystem values.	Discourage use of the reserve through signage.

## CONSERVATION

### Representation

- ecosection
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Northern Okanagan Highland – Contributes only 0.34% to the overall protected areas system representation of this moderately-represented ecosection (4.04%).

ICHmk1- Minimal contribution (0.85%) to the overall protected areas system representation of this moderately – represented subzone/variant (4.21%).

### Special Feature

### Rare/Endangered Values

### Scientific/Research Opportunities

## RECREATION

### Representation:

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

### Special Opportunities

### Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Nature study of forest ecology

## CULTURAL HERITAGE

### Representation

### Special Feature

## OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

### Other Designations

### Relationship to Other PAs

The ecological reserve and the upland portion of the adjacent Browne Lake Park form a small block of relatively undisturbed forest.

### Co-operative Management Arrangements

### Partnerships

### Vulnerability

### Relationship to Other Strategies

**Area:** 114 hectares

**Established:** August 10, 1973