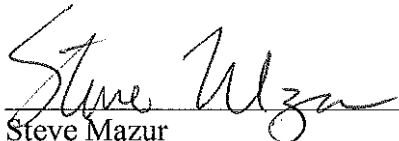


CARIBOO NATURE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

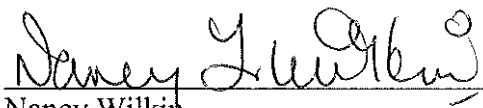
May 2005

Approved by:



Steve Mazur
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: May 20/05



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: July 10/05

**CARIBOO NATURE PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Cariboo Nature Provincial Park is to protect a representative example of ecosystems of the IDFdk3 biogeoclimatic zone in the Cariboo Basin Ecosection, including old Interior Douglas-fir forests and wetlands. Both the IDFdk3 variant and the Cariboo Basin Ecosection are very poorly represented in the protected areas system.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of Cariboo Nature Provincial Park is to protect wetlands and spawning habitat for kokanee and non-game fish along the San Jose River.

Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role of Cariboo Nature Provincial Park is to provide limited day-use recreation opportunities, including bird watching, nature appreciation and wildlife viewing.

Known Management Issues	Response
Access through Wright Station Road along the Woodfrog Road for Cariboo Goldrush Snowmobile Trail.	Access for snowmobile use will be allowed through the park from Wright Station Road along the Woodfrog Road. Snowmobiles must stay on the road right-of-way. Explore long-term alternatives for re-routing snowmobiles around the park.
Invasive plants and weeds threaten native plants and wetlands.	Continue to monitor and eradicate knapweed and thistle around Woodfrog Lake and the San Jose River. Monitor cattails that were introduced as the biocontrol for thistle.
Local rancher wishes to use park as a corridor to move cattle from one pasture to another.	Do not allow cattle to use park. Maintain fenceline and boundary signage to ensure no domestic cattle use.
Maintenance of Ducks Unlimited interpretive signage.	Maintain information shelter at Woodfrog Lake in partnership with Ducks Unlimited.
The CN Rail crossing of Dingwall Creek is a barrier to fish migration. Restoration work will require access to the Park.	Work with fisheries and ecosystem staff to restore fish access to upper Dingwall Creek while minimizing disturbance to parkland.
4-laning of Highway 97 will further fragment the Park	Work with Ministry of Transportation to minimize impacts to both upland and riparian habitats.

Zoning

The entire park (92 hectares) is zoned as Nature Recreation.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection

Situated in the very poorly represented Cariboo Basin Ecosection (1.12%). Although Cariboo Nature Park's contribution is minimal (only 0.9% of overall protected area representation of this ecosection), it is important given the fragmented nature of this ecosystem, the little that is protected to date and the limited opportunities available at this time for its protection. The major contributors to the representation of this ecosection, all of which are small, are Flat Lake, Chasm, and Moose Valley parks.

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Situated in the very poorly represented IDFdk3. Only 1.2% of this variant is protected. Although Cariboo Nature Park's contribution is minimal (only 0.71% of overall protected area representation of this variant), it is important given the fragmented nature of this ecosystem, the little that is protected to date and the limited opportunities available at this time for its protection. The major contributors to the representation of this variant are Edge Hills, Flat Lake, Moose Valley, and Marble Range parks.

Special Feature

Old Douglas fir forests typical of the dry-belt interior plateau. Small alkaline lake. Meandering wetlands along the San Jose River.

Rare/Endangered Values

None noted from inventory work completed to date.

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Along Highway 97 corridor, but not advertised or signed.

Perhaps used by hunters, but little recreational use at present.

Special Opportunities

Birdwatching, nature appreciation, but not considered even locally significant. Many other places along corridor are superior (e.g. Ducks Unlimited 130 Mile wetlands just down road).

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature Nothing noted

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations n/a

Relationship to Other PAs May be some opportunity to encourage Lac la Hache visitors to use the area for activities not available in Lac La Hache Park, including bird watching and enjoying wetlands.

Co-operative Management Arrangements n/a

Partnerships Ducks Unlimited

Vulnerability Relationship to Other Strategies Low. Some from grazing of domestic cattle.
 n/a

Area: 98 ha

Date of Establishment: April 13, 1965