

CONKLE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

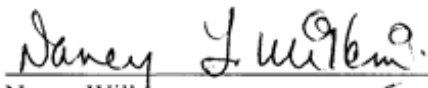
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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 10, 2003



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Date: March 11, 2003

CONKLE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Conkle Lake Park is a semi-wilderness area of 587 hectares located northwest of Rock Creek and west of Westbridge in the Kettle River drainage. Access is by gravel road from Highways 3 and 33.

The **primary purpose** of Conkle Lake Park is to protect the lake and its associated ecosystem typical of the southern Okanagan Highlands. The park lies at an elevation of about 1,070 metres and has a mixed forest of lodgepole pine and immature western larch. The 3 kilometre-long Conkle Lake is one of the largest of the higher elevation lakes in the Okanagan Highlands.

The park is one of 17 protected areas in the under-represented Northern Okanagan Highland Ecoregion, contributing a small percentage of the hectares protected. Four very under-represented biogeoclimatic subzones/variants in the ecoregion are present (ICHmk1, IDFdm1, MSdm1 and Water). The park protects about one third of the Water zone and about 10% of IDFdm1 biogeoclimatic subzone/variant in the ecoregion. No CDC sites for species at risk have been recorded. The park has good deer, elk and moose habitat. The creek has outlet spawning for rainbow trout contributing about 20% of the trout to the lake's fishery.

The **secondary purpose** of the park is to provide camping and a variety of day use outdoor recreation opportunities associated with the lake and its upland. The park is a popular destination campground for local residents and tourists. Facilities include 34 campsites, two group campsites, car top boat launch and trails to nearby falls and along the lake. The lake has been stocked with rainbow trout and fishing is one of the most popular activities. Two rustic log cabins, one of which is used by the public, are the remains of a former fishing resort. In good snow years, the cabin is a destination for snowmobilers. In the fall, the campground is a base-camp for hunters.

Known Management Issues	Responses
Lack of trail around the lake to broaden the day use recreation opportunities.	Undertake impact assessment. If impacts low, establish a trail when funding permits.

Zoning

The north end of the park is zoned Intensive Recreation to provide vehicle accessible camping and lake-oriented recreation activities (approximately 19% of the park). The remainder of the park (approximately 81%) is zoned Natural Environment to protect its undeveloped natural values.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection Northern Okanagan Highland – contributes 2.12% of the provincial protected area system representation of this under-represented ecosection (only 4.04% is protected). Major contributors are Graystokes Protected Area (36.04%), Myra-Bellevue Protected Area (19.48%), Silver Star Park (14.45%) and Okanagan Mountain Park (13.29%).
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Provides the second best representation of the poorly represented IDFdm1 (2.68%) in the provincial protected areas system; contributes 9.84% of the overall representation of this ecosystem; Okanagan Mountain provides 89.87%.
One of only 3 parks providing representation of the very poorly represented MSdm1 (0.65%); quality of representation is poor however due to the small size of the park
Contributes 1.04% of the ICHmk1, 9.84% of the IDFdm1, 5.81% of MSdm1 and 32.05% of Water protected province-wide in these under-represented subzones/variants in the Northern Okanagan Highland Ecosection.

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation

- backcountry
- destination Destination campground and fishery
- travel corridor
- local recreation Regionally important destination for camping, fishing, snowmobiling and as a base-camp for hunting.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

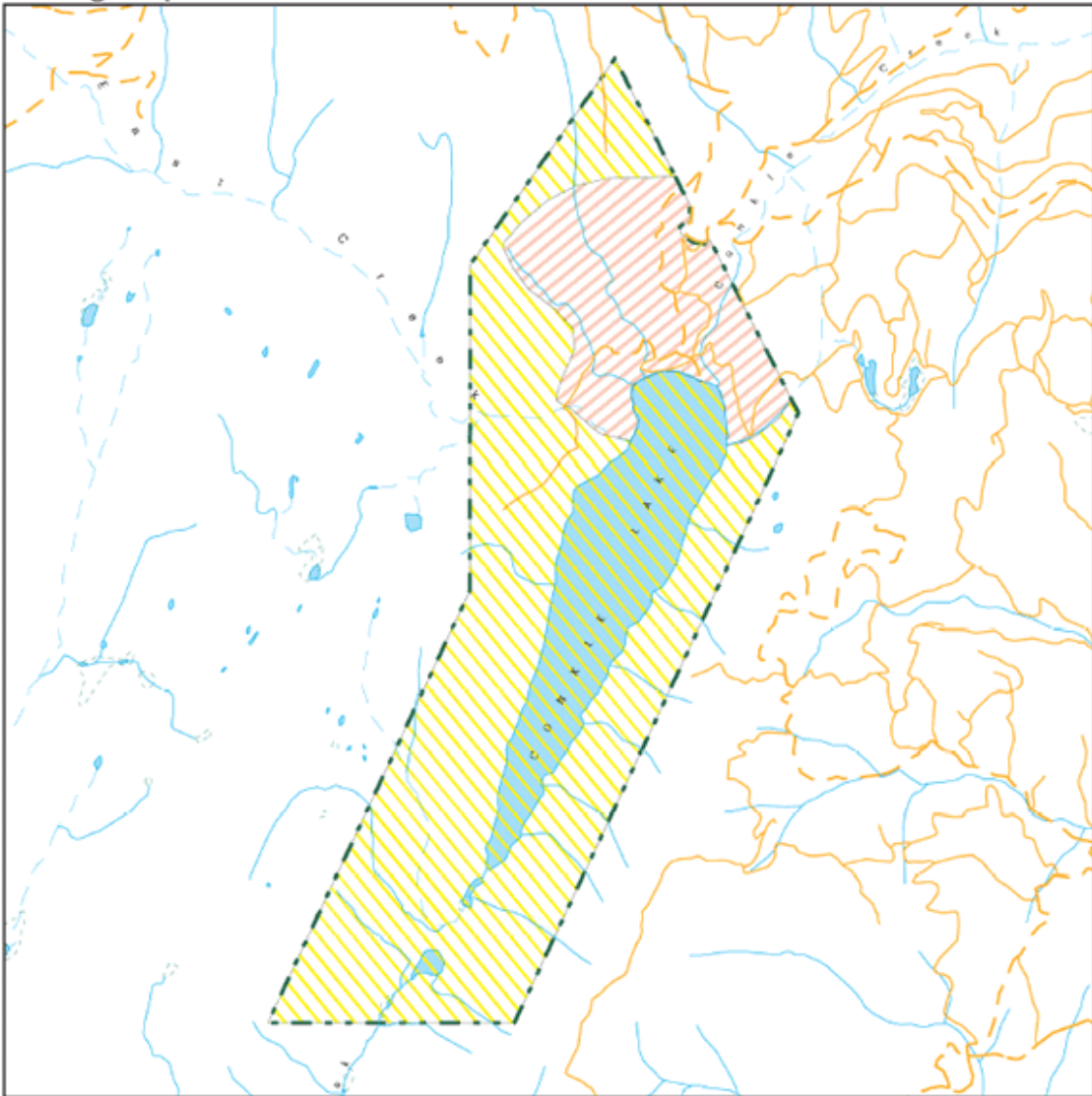
Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 587 hectares




Date of establishment: March 15, 1973

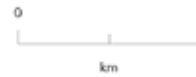
Zoning Map - Conkle Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary



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