

ECHO LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN


February 2006

Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 14, 2006



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Date: March 26, 2006

Echo Lake Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Echo Lake Park is located southeast of Lumby and is accessed off Highway 6 via 22 kilometres of good gravel road. With the exception of a small lot on the southeast end, all of the shoreline and upland of Echo Lake is captured by the 154 hectare park. With clear turquoise colored water and excellent fishing for rainbow, lake trout and kokanee, Echo Lake is a popular regional recreation destination. A long-established resort is located on the north side of the park. The resort predates the park and provides the primary access and day and overnight facilities on the lake.

Primary Role:

The primary role of Echo Lake Park is to protect the lake and its surrounding forested setting for recreational use, with opportunities for fishing, nature study and hiking. The park environment is managed strictly for day use and park facilities are limited to a short walk-in trail access to the lake. The shoreline provides a number of locations for shoreline based fishing.

Boating access, overnight and day facilities are provided through Echo Lake Resort, which operates under park use permit. The resort is located on the north shore of the lake and has 7 cabins, 34 campsites, a boat launch, convenience store and swimming and associated playground facilities. Another nearby resort uses the park as a hike-in destination for its guests.

Echo Lake is used primarily by regional residents on a year round basis, with summer angling and winter ice fishing attracting the most attention. The fishery is managed primarily for family oriented use, with annual stocking of Pennask and Gerrard strains of rainbows. Kokanee salmon successfully spawn along the shore of the lake.

Snowmobiling on the lake is also a popular activity.

Secondary Role:

As a secondary role, Echo Lake Park provides a representative example of a small interior lake setting in the North Okanagan Highlands Ecosystem. A wide array of forest species occur in the park, with Douglas fir and western larch predominating in mixed stands varying in composition with western hemlock, western red cedar, lodgepole pine, paper birch and cottonwood trees. The park also protects riparian habitat as critical rainbow trout rearing and feeding habitats.

Known Management Issues	Response
Unauthorized camping, partying and other inappropriate activities are an ongoing concern.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue with signing and patrolling initiatives. • Work co-operatively with resorts to encourage public use of commercially provided facilities and services on the lake.
A long established Forest Service road crossing through the northeast corner of the	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Move forward with legislation to remove the road right-of-way from the

Park creates unnecessary permit administrative work.	park.
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Zoning

Most of the park is zoned as Nature Recreation to reflect the intent to provide minimal facilities for low impact day use. The Resort area is zoned as Intensive Recreation.

**Protected Area Values and Significance Summary Matrix
Conservation**

Representation

Ecosection

Northern Okanagan Highland – 0.45% contribution to the protected area system representation. This ecosection is moderately represented (4.04%) in the protected areas system.

Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Provides minimal representation to poorly represented ICHmk1 and IDFmw1 due to small size.

Special Features

Rare/Endangered Values

Potential for Screech Owl; requires survey

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Recreation

Representation

Backcountry

destination

Echo Lake resort – cabins and campsite

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Popular fishing lake in both the summer and winter seasons.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage

Representation

Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to Other Protected Areas

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area

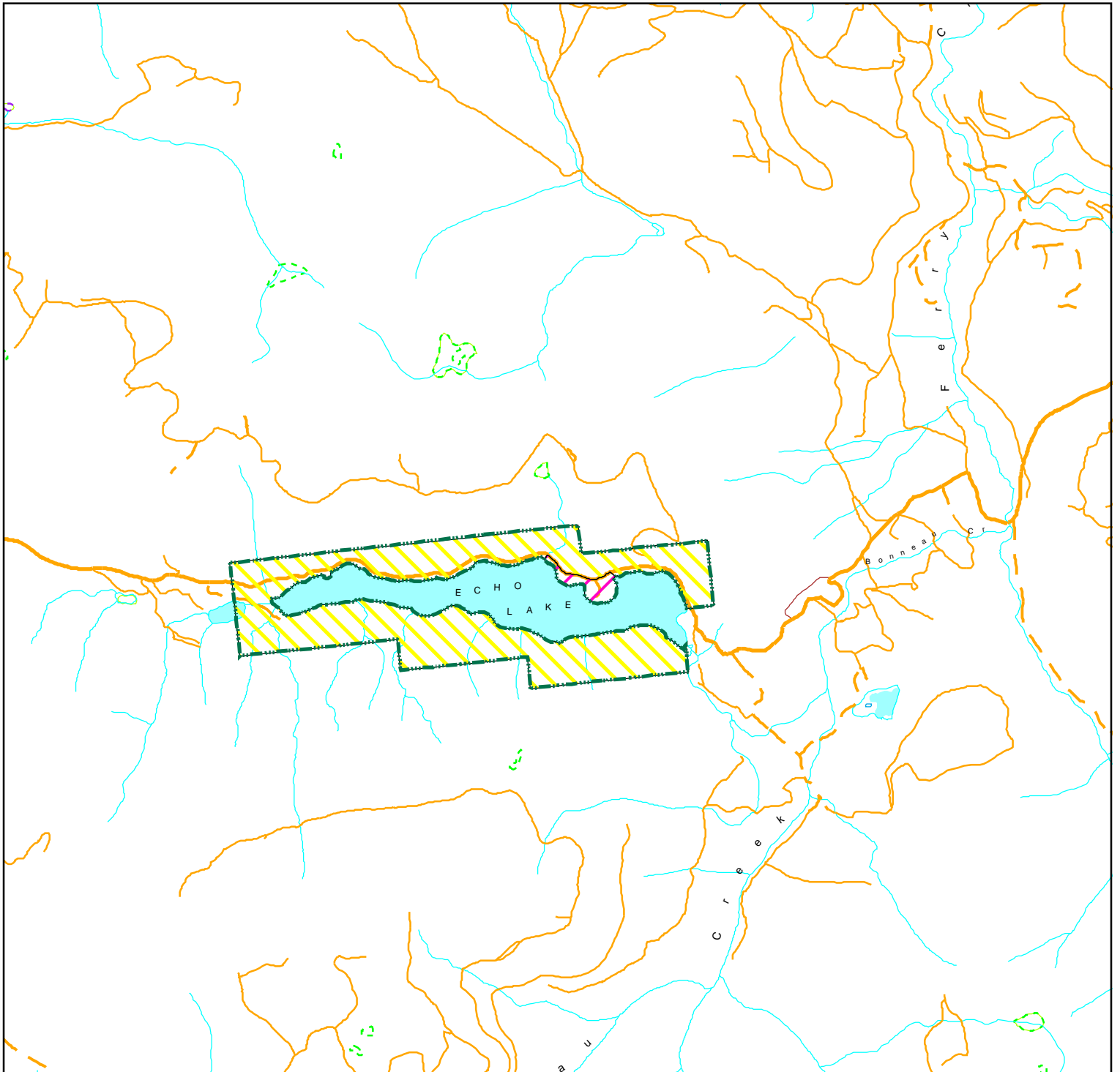
154 hectares



Date of establishment

April 27, 1956

Zoning Map

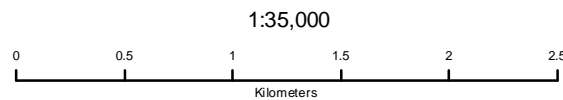
Echo Lake Provincial Park



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Nature Recreation



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Projection: UTM Zone 11
Datum: NAD83

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