

# OKANAGAN LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

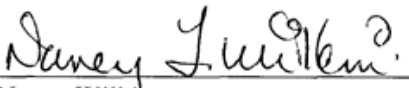
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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 10, 2003



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Date: March 11, 2003

## OKANAGAN LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Okanagan Lake Park is a 98 hectare area fronting on Okanagan Lake. The park straddles Highway 97 midway between Summerland and Peachland.

The **primary purpose** of the park is to provide destination camping and day use outdoor recreation opportunities for local residents and Okanagan tourists.

The park is one of the most popular in the Okanagan because of its lake-side camping and day use opportunities for picnicking, swimming, beach activities, boating, fishing and walking. The park contains almost 1,900 metres of Okanagan Lake frontage, high quality beaches and lakeshore environment. The development includes 2 separate campgrounds with a total of 168 campsites, day use areas, boat launch and trails. The park is an important jump-off point for boaters of the lake and visitors to the lakeshore of Okanagan Mountain Park on the east side of the lake.

The **secondary purpose** of the park is to protect its natural lakeshore and upland features typical of the central Okanagan valley.

Most of the lakeshore and the land above the highway is undeveloped and in a largely natural state. The developed area is highly modified from the native landscape. Species at risk that are known to occur in the park include western rattlesnake, cottonwood as well as a variety of other biota and habitats. No CDC sites have been recorded.

In terms of representation, the park is one of the smaller protected areas in the Northern Okanagan Basin Ecosection. The upland encompasses BGxh1, PPxh1 and Water biogeoclimatic subzones/variants. BGxh1 is very under-represented in the ecosection.

Known Management Issues	Response
The planned Highway 97 improvements will reduce campground capacity. The earlier removal of land to accommodate the highway improvements also affected park values. The deletion occurred with the understanding that the Ministry of Transportation would provide suitable replacement land and funding to restore these values.	The Environmental Stewardship Division will work with the Ministry of Transportation to identify suitable land for acquisition to replace lost camping and conservation values and provide expertise to assist in the development of the park facilities.
Much of the developed area was planted with non-native tree species which are affected by disease. The presence of non-native trees lowers the conservation values.	Replant with native species as funding permits.
An aging capital plant, particularly the domestic water and irrigation systems, requires ongoing repair/replacement.	Upgrade the facilities as funding permits.

## **Zoning**

The land between the lake and the highway as well as the northwest corner of the park is zoned Intensive Recreation to provide vehicle accessible camping and day use recreation opportunities (approximately 73% of the park). The remainder of the park (approximately 27%) on the west side of the highway is zoned Natural Environment to protect its natural values.

## CONSERVATION

### Representation

- ecosection  Northern Okanagan Basin – very small contribution (0.75%) to this under-represented ecosection. Major contributors are Okanagan Mountain (53.98%) and Kalamalka Lake (15.12%)
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant  Minor contribution (1.96% of overall representation) to the moderately represented BGxh1 (4.91%); contributes 27.66% of the protected areas system representation of this BEC unit in the very under-represented Northern Okanagan Basin Ecosection, but only about ½ is undeveloped. PPxh1 – small contribution (0.18%)

### Special Feature

- Shoreline and riparian zone

### Rare/Endangered Values

- Western rattlesnake, cottonwood

### Scientific/Research Opportunities

## RECREATION

### Representation:

- backcountry
- destination  Significant camping and day use for central Okanagan valley tourists
- travel corridor  Significant camping/day use stop for Highway 97 travellers
- local recreation  Regionally important camping and day use destination

### Special Opportunities

### Education/Interpretation Opportunities

## CULTURAL HERITAGE

### Representation

### Special Feature

**OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS**

**Other Designations**

**Relationship to Other PAs**

Part of the Okanagan valley system of camping/day use parks

**Co-operative Management Arrangements**

**Partnerships**

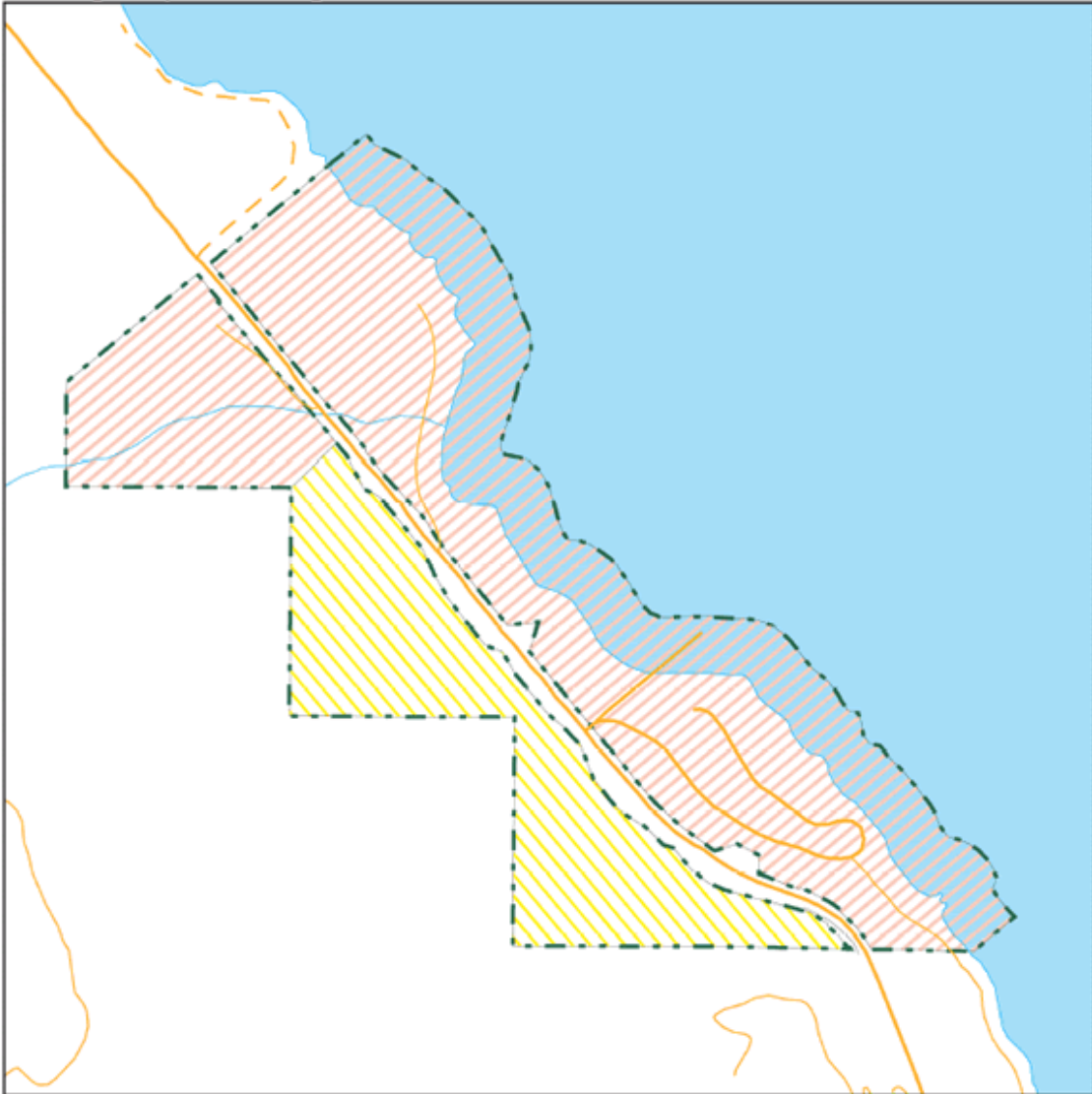
**Vulnerability**

**Relationship to Other Strategies**

**Area:** 98 hectares




**Date of establishment:** December 29, 1955

# Zoning Map - Okanagan Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary



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