

**Introduction**

The plan specifies a series of actions needed to achieve its objectives, but not all can be implemented at once. This section provides a prioritized schedule for implementing these actions. They fall into one of three categories; ongoing management, priority one actions, and priority two actions.

Ongoing management includes those activities which are part of the normal operation of the Park. These activities have the highest priority because they are in existence now and required to maintain the quality and integrity of the Park and its resources.

Priority one actions are those considered essential to the satisfaction of Park goals. They will be implemented as soon as funds or staff can be committed.

Priority two actions are those which are important to realizing objectives but which do not need to be undertaken immediately to protect or preserve a resource.

For convenience, several actions of a similar nature have been consolidated into a single item in the implementation plan.

**Ongoing Management*****Mine***

- Review existing Park Use Permits to ensure compatibility with the plan and negotiate any amendments required.
- Monitor progress of mining and extent of mineral reserves.
- Monitor reclamation process.
- Review reclamation and decommissioning plans to ensure that long term measures and funding are available for monitoring, maintenance, and repair.
- Review reclamation and decommissioning plans to ensure that native plants and natural processes are used to establish vegetative cover on disturbed areas.
- Ensure restoration of natural qualities of disturbed areas through the reclamation process.
- Monitor mining activities to ensure actions of the plan are implemented.
  
- Work with Westmin Resources Ltd. operators to protect the visual qualities of the Park.

- Work with Westmin Resources Ltd. to ensure recreational access to trailheads is not impeded.
- Recommend that Westmin Resources Ltd. continue to offer tours of its operation.

### ***Resource Management***

- Conduct fish census in cooperation with the provincial Recreational Fisheries Branch on an annual basis.
- Monitor status and location of all wildlife, including elk, in the Park.

### ***Visitor Services***

- Monitor the interaction of recreational use and wildlife and work towards eliminating or minimizing any adverse effect on wildlife.
- Monitor angling use.
- Ensure maintenance of the Jim Mitchell Road to a standard suitable for passenger vehicle passage.

### **Priority One Actions**

#### ***Resource Management***

- Ensure that directions to Westmin Resources Ltd. are clear and consistent with government policy through establishment of a field level interagency management group chaired by BC Parks. Composition of the group would be field representatives of agencies with responsibility for inspection and monitoring mining in the Park .
- Maintain the role of the Vancouver Island Mine Development Committee to advise on technical matters relating to the operation of the mine.
- Confirm the Strathcona Provincial Park Public Advisory Committee as a forum for public consultation and recommendations on further public involvement.
- Ensure water quality is monitored through discussion with agencies with jurisdiction at the coordinating committee and Vancouver Island Mine Development Review Committee.
- Establish contact with the appropriate Tribal Councils and discuss planning and management issues

#### ***Visitor Services***

- Integrate facilities and signs with themes established by the Strathcona Provincial Park Master Plan.
- Upgrade Tennent Lake, Price/Cream Lake, and Myra Creek Trailheads to BC Parks standards including parking and information packages.
- Restrict boating on Thelwood Creek to non-motorized vessels.
- Investigate and minimize noise levels at Thelwood Powerhouse.

## **Priority Two Actions**

### ***Resource Management***

- Inventory and describe the floral resources of the Park and use these descriptions to assess the adequacy of the revegetation plans with special emphasis on maintenance of rare and threatened species and communities.
- Use the inventory to help identify remaining undisturbed areas and provide protection for these resources.
- Assess existing inventory information, including the biophysical mapping to determine habitat values and data gaps. Develop habitat protection prescriptions for critical habitat areas.
- Assess the impact of dam removal on fish stocks indigenous to the creeks prior to impoundment.

### ***Visitor Services***

- Develop a communication plan including;
  - (i) Interpretive and information signs at trailheads.
  - (ii) Interpretive strategies for the Lower Thelwood Valley.
- Provide trails and information at access points.
- Construct Powerhouse-Cream Lake connector trail.
- Upgrade trails within the Park to the same standard as their extensions in Strathcona Provincial Park.
- Develop a backcountry campsite at Arnica Lake.
- After an impact assessment, develop a nature trail in lower Thelwood as described in the Wildlife Viewing Plan for Strathcona Provincial Park.

- Upgrade existing recreational facilities at Lower Myra Falls and Upper Myra Falls.
- Review the need and concept for a visitor centre in the Park.