

MANAGEMENT PLAN

February 1999



for Tunkwa
Provincial Park



BRITISH
COLUMBIA

Ministry of Environment,
Lands and Parks
BC Parks Division

Tunkwa
Provincial Park

MANAGEMENT PLAN

Prepared by
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The Tunkwa Park Management Plan was developed through direction received from the Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan. In addition, the Kamloops LRMP Table reviewed and approved in principle the Tunkwa Park Management Plan.

Approvals Page

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Acknowledgements

Development of this Management Plan was coordinated through Thompson River District office of BC Parks with advice from BC Parks Headquarters. An interagency steering committee consisting of representatives from Ministry of Forests, Kamloops District, Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks, and Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries & Food provided advice and expertise.

Individuals from many local community and stakeholder groups, cabin and resort owners, and others provided valuable contributions at a public open house and through their written comments on drafts of the plan.

This Management Plan has been prepared by Frances Vyse of Mariposa Trails, with facilitation by Gail Wallin of Management Plus Consulting, and maps by Sherry Brimacombe of Brimacombe Design Associates

Plan Highlights

Tunkwa Provincial Park is a new Class A Park located 45 kilometers southwest of Kamloops and will be managed primarily for its conservation values and secondarily for its recreational values.

Tunkwa Provincial Park will protect and conserve extensive mid-elevation grasslands, and associated lakes, wetlands and forests in the Interior Douglas-fir Biogeoclimatic Zone of the southern Thompson Plateau.

Six per cent of the park will be in the Intensive Recreation Zone to manage the most heavily used portion of the park where conflicting uses need special provisions. Two ungrazed areas covering four per cent of the park will be managed as Special Features zones. The remaining ninety per cent will be managed as Natural Environment Zone.

The park has been a popular destination for a variety of recreational pursuits, and particularly for fishing and camping beside Tunkwa and Leighton lakes. These activities will continue while maintaining the less formal style of camping.

Management of access and motorized activities will be a priority in all zones of the park, with areas for use and access corridors identified. A Vision Statement has been developed as a guide for the careful management of the special natural and recreational features of the park.

This Management Plan recognizes existing rights of cabin and resort owners, historical livestock use, and water rights and water developments. Many of those activities will be managed in partnership with other government agencies and organizations. The park will be managed in association with planning processes for a larger surrounding area.

Activities in the park will be monitored to give guidance to future management decisions. Operational level plans will be developed with input from local agencies and the public.

Introduction

Management Planning Process

A Management Plan outlines the objectives and key strategies that will be followed in managing a park for many years into the future. It is developed through consultation with appropriate other government agencies, interested stakeholder groups, and the public.

This Management Plan for Tunkwa Provincial Park presents management strategies for this important and popular park so that conservation values will be protected while respecting the needs of present tenure holders and recreationists. As a general principle, protection of conservation values will take precedence. This plan strives to strike a balance between the needs of all the users of the park, while being aware of possible impacts these decisions may have on areas outside the park.

The Specific Planning Project

The Kamloops Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) process was initiated in the Kamloops and Clearwater Forest Districts in 1992 and included consideration of the Areas of Interest that had been identified by the Regional Protected Areas Team (RPAT). One of those Areas of Interest was an area around Tunkwa and Leighton lakes including upper Guichon Creek which was called Guichon Area of Interest. By May 1995, the Kamloops LRMP reached agreement-in-principle establishing Tunkwa as a provincial protected area based on its contribution of significant recreational and conservation values.

Tunkwa Provincial Park was established on 30 April, 1996 by Order-in-Council under the *Environment and Land Use Act* with the proviso that the area be managed as a Class A Park as defined in the *Park Act*. It was redesignated in July, 1997 under the *Park Amendment Act of 1997* to confirm the boundaries and to allow for grazing and continuance of pre-existing rights and tenures.

An Interim Management Direction Statement was developed in 1996 to guide the management of the new park until a full management plan was developed.

The Tunkwa Provincial Park Management Plan Background Document was completed in 1997 with input from government agencies, stakeholder groups, and interested individuals. It provides detailed information from which the final Management Plan has been developed.

Input used to develop this Management Plan was obtained at a public strategy session involving the government agencies, interested individuals and organizations that use the area, and through written submissions.

Relationship with other Planning Processes

The Durand Creek Water Users' Community has managed and operated the water control structures on Guichon Creek at Tunkwa and Leighton lakes since 1949. The Fisheries Branch of the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks has had a long-standing management interest in Tunkwa and Leighton lakes to maintain appropriate water levels and the quality of the fishery. Water management in the park will recognize and be integrated with these established water rights and uses.

The Tunkwa-Durand Watershed Group, consisting of government agencies, other agencies, and Durand Creek Water Users', has been working since 1994 on a plan to optimize the storage of water on Tunkwa and Leighton lakes for irrigation, fish, and waterfowl.

The Kamloops LRMP Policy on Domestic Livestock Grazing in Protected Areas (Section 2.3.11 & Appendix 9) directs that existing grazing tenures are allowed to continue and that benchmark sites of ungrazed areas are to be established in most protected areas that are grazed. Grazing tenures are to continue to be managed by the Ministry of Forests under the *Range Act* and the *Forest Practices Code of British Columbia Act*, through the development of a Range Use Plan. Tunkwa Provincial Park falls within the area covered by the Guichon Range Use Plan. This document has been developed by agency staff and ranchers with public input.

Management decisions for the park will be made in the context of local level planning processes for the Thompson Plateau area south of Kamloops.

Planning Issues

The key issues addressed in this Management Plan are:

- Protection of conservation values.
 - ⇒ Management of grasslands and integration with the Guichon Range Use Plan to improve the quality of the grasslands.
 - ⇒ Management of water for irrigation, quality fishery, and biodiversity.
 - ⇒ Fire, insect and disease management.
- Maintenance of a quality recreation experience.
 - Provision of recreation facilities to ensure continued safe and enjoyable use of the park.

- Management of recreation use and access to ensure a variety of opportunities; maintain visual and environmental values and respect cabin owner interests.

Background Summary

Tunkwa Provincial Park covers 5,100 hectares of grasslands, forests, lakes, creeks and wetlands on the forested Thompson Plateau about 45 kilometres southwest of the City of Kamloops. Thick glacial deposits cover much of the park and hide the underlying rocks and three major fault lines that are representative of all the major geological groups found in this part of the Thompson Plateau.

Extensive mid-elevation grasslands in the east give way at higher elevations to dry, open Douglas-fir in the northwest and lodgepole pine forests in the south. The grasslands are unusual at this elevation on the Thompson Plateau, reflecting the combination of relatively dry climate, south-facing aspect, and poorly-developed, infertile soils on stoney moraine.

A few small stands of old-growth Douglas-fir are found in the northwest, while two extensive aspen areas occur in the same area. Dense, young lodgepole pine stands are found where fires burned in the 1950s, while many old cutblocks from the 1960s and 1990s are regenerating in the north of the park.

The park has a gentle relief around a wide, open basin which is generally south-facing and contains Tunkwa, Leighton, Corral, Bluff, and many other smaller lakes and wetlands. Guichon Creek flows along the southwest side of the park with numerous intermittent tributaries, braided meandering channels, extensive wetlands, and small lakes. Many of these features are supported by a water control system feeding water into Tunkwa and Leighton lakes for downstream irrigation.

The mixture of physical features, grasslands, forests, lakes and wetlands produces a variety of habitats that support a diverse wildlife population in the park. Moose, mule deer, black bear, cougar, lynx, bobcat, waterfowl, grouse, cavity-nesters, warblers and raptors are only a few examples. Tunkwa and Leighton lakes are very productive rainbow trout lakes as a result of favourable lake chemistry and the significant shallow areas. Guichon Creek supports populations of wild rainbow trout.

Tunkwa Provincial Park contains two former Ministry of Forests Recreation Sites that are extremely popular in spring and fall when fishing is at its best. At the time of park establishment it was estimated there were 55,000 days of use from May to October, with some weekends over-

Figure #1 - Park Location Map

capacity as visitors spilled over into the grasslands to camp. Day use numbers were unknown but substantial.

Most campers also fish; many also hunt and others ride dirt bikes or ATVs. Some groups are known to use quiet areas south of Tunkwa Lake. Retriever dogs are trained at many of the lakes and wetlands of Tunkwa Provincial Park, and duck hunting is a popular activity. The park and surrounding area are used by snowmobiles and cross-country skiers. Many resorts and other organizations outside the park use various trails in the park for their activities.

At the time of park establishment, the only services provided were a maintenance contractor and a campground host, and there were few developed facilities. Gravel roads give access to two recreation sites, one at each of Tunkwa and Leighton lakes. Another gravel road accesses the cabins and fish fence at the south end of Tunkwa Lake. Tunkwa Lake Fishing Camp & Resort on Tunkwa Lake, located outside the park boundaries, has cabins and camp sites, a store and boat rentals.

Tunkwa Provincial Park is located about 20 minutes south of the Trans Canada Highway at Savona by a good gravel road and about 15 minutes north of Logan Lake by paved and gravel road. The park is a popular destination for people from both communities, from Kamloops and from the Lower Mainland. The Coquihalla Highway has brought the park within weekend use of large numbers of visitors from the Lower Mainland and northwest United States.

The forests of the Thompson Plateau around Tunkwa Provincial Park are crossed by many logging roads and trails to old and new cutblocks. The roads provide access for unorganized, dispersed recreation use such as camping, fishing, mountain biking, hiking, hunting, snowmobiling. Many of the larger lakes on the plateau have resort and campground developments but none offer the variety of recreational experience to be found at Tunkwa Provincial Park. Ranching has been an important component of land use in the area, with livestock using both forests and grasslands from May to October.

The new provincial park status for this popular recreation area may create an increase in visitors without any special promotional effort. The limited capacity for the park to withstand higher recreation pressures needs to be taken into consideration in order to maintain a quality recreational experience.

Vision Statement

This vision statement outlines the management directions for this park well into the 21st century and provides a context in which managers can make decisions about stewardship, recreation and other activities within that time frame.

The prime role of Tunkwa Provincial Park to protect significant grasslands, wetlands, Douglas-fir forests, lakes, wildlife, and fish while providing an abundance of recreation opportunities on the Thompson Plateau is not changed. The fragile nature of the grasslands, lakes and wetlands, and their importance for wildlife habitat and trout production are recognized in special management strategies. The park also reflects its historic importance as a recreation destination for provincially significant fishing experiences in a picturesque setting, while respecting the role the lakes and surrounding area have had in the operation of local ranches for almost a century.

The grasslands continue to recover in abundance, and the ponds, wetlands and riparian areas flourish. The forests that form the backdrop to the grasslands are developing under natural processes, with logged areas gradually filling in and old roads growing over.

The demand for quality outdoor recreation experiences plus the easy access from the Lower Mainland by the Coquihalla Highway, continues to place particular stress on this park. Management strategies take into consideration the capacity of the park to deal with these demands. Walking trails are established, corridors are identified for ATV users and snowmobilers to access areas outside the park, facilities are provided for horseback riders, and controls are placed on the numbers of campers staying in the park. The less-structured nature of the camping experience that has made Tunkwa Provincial Park so popular continues, offering overnight opportunities for large groups, families, and individuals.

There are opportunities for visitors to learn about the complex grasslands ecosystem and the need for acting responsibly in that setting, the values and history of the fishery and the ranching industry. Park visitors and local communities are encouraged to assist in the stewardship of the park and the protection of its values.

The park is managed by BC Parks working with other agencies to ensure the appropriate activities that took place before the park was established can continue. Partnerships are used to manage the fishery, livestock grazing, water levels in lakes, and the maintenance of irrigation potential in the water control structures in the park and surrounding area. The access rights of the resort and cabin owners are respected. Involvement in local planning processes ensures that management decisions for the park are made within the context of the surrounding area.

Role of the Protected Area

Protected Areas System Context

Tunkwa Provincial Park is provincially significant for its combination of conservation and special recreation values.

Grasslands are not well represented in the provincial protected areas system, and particularly not in the southern interior of the province. Tunkwa Provincial Park is significant as it includes mid-elevation grasslands that extend up from the Thompson Basin onto the plateau, with accompanying lakes, wetlands and forests. The other large grassland parks in the provincial system, such as Churn Creek, Junction, and Lac du Bois Grasslands, protect different types of grassland ecosystems.

Tunkwa Lake is listed in the top ten provincial rainbow trout fisheries. There are many other lakes in the southern interior offering quality fishing and other recreational experiences, but the lakes of this park have long been an important destination for the variety of fishing experiences, the assurance of fishing success, and the grassland setting.

At the regional level, Tunkwa Provincial Park complements other parks, including Lac du Bois Grasslands, Elephant Hill, and Cornwall in the Thompson River watershed that together protect a range of grassland communities. Locally, the park is the largest of another group of much smaller parks on the Thompson Plateau south of Kamloops including Mount Savona and Greenstone. Together they protect representative examples of a variety of plateau grassland and forest ecosystems and recreational and cultural values.

The year-round, family-oriented recreational experience in a grassland and forested setting found at Tunkwa Provincial Park is increasingly attractive for visitors from the Pacific northwest and beyond. The close proximity of the park to the communities of Logan Lake, Savona and Kamloops has made it a popular local destination. It also generates economic benefits through tourism and purchase of recreational equipment and supplies.

Conservation Role

BC Parks has two conservation goals: *ecosystem representation* and *special features conservation*. The Management Plan for the park reflects both these goals.

The conservation role of Tunkwa Provincial Park is to represent and protect 5,100 hectares in a mosaic of grasslands, lakes, wetlands, and interior Douglas-fir forests in the southern Thompson Plateau:

Figure #2 - Tunkwa Provincial Park

- The extensive mid-elevation grasslands are unusual in the forested Southern Thompson Plateau Ecosection and have been used for livestock grazing for many years. A major focus of the Range Use Plan for Guichon Range Unit is the improvement of the grasslands in and around the park through a pasture rotation system.
- The two large lakes and numerous smaller lakes, ponds, and wetlands, as well as bog and swampy complexes in the Guichon Creek valley are not found elsewhere on the plateau. Many of the lakes and wetlands of the park are controlled by dams and a diversion ditch for downstream irrigation purposes, but they now provide significant habitat for a wide variety of wildlife, particularly for stocked and wild trout, and for waterfowl.
- The numerous glaciofluvial features in the park including meltwater channels, kettle terrace deposits, drumlinoid features provide the park with a variety of aspects and associated habitats which add to its diversity

Almost 90% of the park is in the Natural Environment Zone where natural processes are allowed to continue and activities and access are controlled.

Two small Special Feature zones have been identified and fenced as ungrazed areas to provide opportunities to better understand the complexities of this particular grassland ecosystem.

Recreation Role

BC Parks has four recreation goals: *tourism travel routes, outdoor recreation holiday destination, backcountry, and local recreation*. The Management Plan for the park reflects the *outdoor recreation holiday destination* and the *local/regional recreation* goals. The increasing numbers of visitors to the Thompson Plateau lakes will make management of recreational activities particularly challenging in Tunkwa Provincial Park.

The role of Tunkwa Provincial Park is to provide the variety of family-oriented recreation experiences in a grassland and forested setting that visitors have come to enjoy:

- Tunkwa and Leighton lakes are provincially significant trout fishing lakes that provide a variety of fishing experiences. The grassland setting and easy access to camping make the park particularly attractive for family-oriented activities, with heavy concentrations of visitors at some times of the year.
- The open and rolling grassland/forest setting provides a variety of opportunities including trail recreation including hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, and controlled motorized use, with excellent viewing opportunities from many vantage points.

- The wide diversity of habitats in the park are a special attraction for birdwatching, wildlife viewing, nature study and photography, particularly in spring and fall migrations. In winter, snowmobiling and cross-country skiing is enjoyed at the park and surrounding lands.

Cultural Role

The traditional First Nations use of the park has a continuing role. Local First Nations may wish to participate in interpreting those uses.

The role of the ranching tradition and history since the turn of the century, and the historic water uses and developments are acknowledged. There is an opportunity to educate and inform visitors about the present and long-standing relationship of local ranchers with the area, about grasslands values and livestock grazing.

Tunkwa Provincial Park has the potential to provide opportunities to educate visitors about the fragile grasslands ecosystems and the need to control some recreational activities.

Special Management Considerations

Section 2.3.2 of the Kamloops LRMP document sets out a series of objectives and strategies that apply to Tunkwa Provincial Park:

- The current level of AUM use will be maintained within the range unit, subject to the normal regulation by the Range Section of the Ministry of Forests.
- A significant number of water tenures exist in this park. Tunkwa Lake is recognized as being an irrigation reservoir and will continue to be managed for its licensed use. This includes maintenance and development of irrigation structures.
- A cooperative water development project is underway that involves storage structures on Forge Meadows and Corral Lake. This project provides multiple benefits for local ranchers, Ducks Unlimited and provincial fisheries and will be allowed to continue.
- Knapweed and houndstongue control will continue.
- Consistent with local level planning processes, local stakeholders will be included in developing the management plan for this area.
- Intensive livestock management systems are required. This includes extensive fencing.
- The management plan for the park will address visitor management in areas most intensively used for recreation. This local level plan will consider the potential impact of visitor management in the Tunkwa Park on adjacent recreation areas.

The Kamloops LRMP also states that existing rights and tenures other than commercial logging, mining or energy exploration will continue, subject to this Management Plan.

A Range Use Plan for the Guichon Creek Range Unit, of which Tunkwa Provincial Park is about 12%, has been developed by Ministry of Forests with rancher, agency, and local public input and is being implemented. A new pasture rotation system has been designed that involves the building of extensive fences, including some through the park, over the next several years. The objective is to manage livestock movement throughout the range unit, and in particular to improve the condition of the grassland and riparian areas. Ungrazed benchmarks identified through the Kamloops LRMP process are to be managed as Special Feature zones.

Water control structures and water developments will continue to be managed by the licence holders. The Tunkwa-Durand Watershed group is discussing plans to improve the water storage capacity of the system to minimize drawdown. This should retain more water in the lakes over winter and reduce fish kill.

Access along and across Westcoast Energy pipeline right of way through the east side of the park will need special management because of concerns about damage to the pipes and valve structures.

Participation in a local level planning process will ensure that management decisions made within the park will not have adverse effects on the surrounding areas, and that developments outside the park will be managed to minimize impacts on park values.

Consultation with First Nations is an ongoing process.

Zoning

The creation of zones within Tunkwa Provincial Park acknowledges that the park has many features that have different management needs. Zoning provides both park managers and park visitors with a clear understanding of uses that are acceptable and those that need to be restricted. Present tenured uses will be respected. (See Appendix D for BC Parks Zoning Description.)

Intensive Recreation Zone

This zone covers 300 hectares, or approximately six per cent of the park, and includes those areas adjacent to Tunkwa and Leighton lakes that are immediately accessible by vehicles from the main Savona-Logan Lake road and that have been intensively used in the past. Higher levels of control of recreation activities will be needed to protect the environment and to minimize conflicts between user types while maintaining the quality of the recreational experience. Management of activities must consider the potential impact on adjacent areas and park values.

The objective of this zone is to provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented and outdoor recreation opportunities. Special strategies applying to this zone will include:

- Providing support facilities for a number of activities.
- Designating camping areas and day use areas with appropriate facilities.
- Restricting vehicles to designated roads and designate parking areas.
- Designating ATV and horseback riding staging areas.
- Providing a day-use boat launch at the south end of Tunkwa Lake.
- Providing interpretation facilities.

Special Feature Zone

This zone covers 206 hectares, or approximately four per cent of the park, in two areas identified as ungrazed benchmarks under the Kamloops LRMP Policy on Domestic Livestock Grazing in Protected Areas. These areas were created through a local planning process which involved all affected parties, and boundaries were fenced in 1997:

- Bluff Lake 76 hectares
- Corduroy 130 hectares

Figure #3 - Zones of Tunkwa Provincial Park

The Special Feature Zone has the highest level of protection but is not an Ecological Reserve. It presents significant natural or cultural resources, or processes, because of their special character, fragility and heritage value.

- These ungrazed areas will be monitored to provide a better understanding of grassland ecosystems and their management.
- Conservation of natural resources takes precedence in this zone.
- Some types of passive recreation activities will be allowed, and monitoring of those activities will be necessary to assess their impact on the natural resources.
- Some further restrictions may have to be imposed in future.

Natural Environment Zone

This zone includes the remainder of the park.

The primary objective of this Natural Environment Zone is to protect natural resources and to maintain the natural diversity of ecosystems in the park. A secondary objective is to provide for recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

- Management will place emphasis on natural processes
 - Relatively low use with controlled opportunities for mechanized access in order to protect the natural values of the grasslands, forests and wetlands.
 - Livestock grazing will continue on a pasture rotation basis.
 - Water control structures will continue to be managed by the licence holders.

Natural and Cultural Values and Their Management

This Management Plan outlines the objectives and strategies for the protection of the natural and cultural resources of Tunkwa Provincial Park. The Background Document has detailed descriptions of those values. These objectives and strategies lay out the framework for more detailed operational plans that will be developed by BC Parks. BC Parks will participate in local level planning for the larger area around the park.

Land

A number of tenures existed at the time the park was established that did not conform with traditional practices in a park setting. Amendments to the *Park Act* have legitimized these uses. All lands immediately adjacent to the park are managed for integrated resource use. Much of the surrounding forests have been logged in the 1960s or 1990s, with many logging roads and trails, and plans continue for logging around the park. The area west of the park has been extensively searched for mineral potential.

An area east of Tunkwa Lake (see "Unresolved Area" in Figure 3) was included in the park in error in 1996. The boundary has been corrected by legislation in accordance with the approved LRMP protected area zone boundary. The area is excluded from the park, however, to ensure consistency with this park management plan, the following management actions will be taken:

- application of Section 105 under the *Forests Practices Code* to allow for management of public access and recreation
- designation of a *Land Act* reserve to prevent land alienation
- maintenance of a no staking reserve status
- development of a memorandum of understanding between BC Parks and the Ministry of Forests for co-operative management of the area

The area will be brought forward for addition to the park at the next formal review of the LRMP.

Objectives

To recognize and ensure continued use, rights, and tenures in place at the time the park was established.

Strategies

- Existing rights and conditions will be converted to Park Use Permits.
- Recognize the particular needs of Westcoast Energy Inc. in protecting and maintaining their two high pressure gas pipelines in the Intensive Recreation Zone.
- Coordinate with Lands Branch of the Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks in respecting the particular rights of the resort and cabin owners.

To work with other agencies that have responsibility for managing tenure and land resources in and adjacent to the park.

Strategies

- Maintain contact with First Nations regarding their interests in the area and ensure no infringement on traditional uses
- Participate in local resource use planning processes for the surrounding area

Water

Tunkwa Provincial Park includes large and small lakes, ponds, creeks, wetlands and riparian areas that provide important habitat for a variety of wildlife. Tunkwa and Guichon creeks and the large lakes are actively controlled for downstream irrigation purposes with a significant number of existing water tenures in the park. Tunkwa, Leighton, and Corral lakes are not a typical natural system, since they are irrigation reservoirs that are critical to the local ranching industry and provincial fisheries management. The lakes are allowed to be drawn down significantly in some years which may have effects on water quality and fishing. They will continue to be managed for downstream use while protecting the conservation and recreational fishery values.

Objectives

To maintain fisheries and riparian habitat values.

Strategies

- Ensure park interests in maintaining water levels in Tunkwa, Leighton and Corral lakes are accounted for in water management planning.

To recognize the existing rights and conditions of water users outside the park.

Strategies

- Water control structures on Guichon Creek and at Corral, Tunkwa and Leighton lakes will continue to be managed and maintained by Durand Creek Water Users' Community.
- BC Parks will work with other agencies and the Tunkwa-Durand Watershed group that is planning improvements to the water system.

To manage use and activities in the park to protect water quality.

Strategies

- Provide and maintain sanitary facilities for campgrounds and associated activities.
- Ensure the Guichon Range Use Plan considers water quality in Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Vegetation

The conservation values of the mosaic of grasslands, forests, lakes and wetlands of Tunkwa Provincial Park were recognized when the park was established. Their value in contributing to the quality of the recreational experience at the park is also recognized. The area in and around the park has been used for livestock grazing for many years and the grasslands are considered to be in poor condition with livestock impacts documented. This Management Plan and the Guichon Range Use Plan include management strategies designed to allow the grasslands and riparian habitats to improve over time. The guiding mandate for vegetation management in the park is to allow natural processes to occur.

Objectives

To improve the condition of the grasslands.

Strategies

- Ensure grassland and riparian habitat conditions in the park are monitored to assess the effects of the new pasture rotation system.
- Work closely with grazing managers to continue to improve pasture management through adjustments in fencing, rotations and release dates.
- Ensure the Bluff Lake and Corduroy ungrazed areas are monitored to improve understanding of the grassland ecosystems of the park and their management.
- Examine strategies, benchmark areas and range use plans applied in other grasslands protected areas to expand our knowledge and management options for grasslands within Tunkwa Provincial Park.
- Be involved in development of the Guichon Creek Range Use Plan as it affects the park.
- Manage recreational activities to reduce their impact on the grasslands.

- Allow natural processes to prevail as long as park recreation, conservation, grazing and important adjacent forest values are not compromised.
- Management of the feral horse numbers will be co-ordinated with programs and policies of other agencies, with the intent of maintaining population levels at relatively low levels.
- Control noxious weeds as part of the strategy for grasslands improvement.

To maintain lake edge integrity, riparian areas and swampy complexes.

Strategies

- Monitor and manage the effect of recreational activities to reduce the impact on these habitats.
- Monitor livestock activity in these areas and ensure corrective action is taken as required.

Maintain forests in their natural condition.

Strategies

- Existing cut blocks will be allowed to naturally recover.
- Respond to fire, insect, disease and alien plant and animal infestations to maintain high recreational and conservation values.
- Implement co-operative management strategies with adjacent land managers for the protection of surrounding land and forest values.
- Maintain a co-operative noxious weed program with the Ministry of Forests, the Regional District and the ranching community to control the establishment of invasive non-native species.
- Emphasis will be placed on allowing natural processes to occur but active management techniques (such as prescribed fire) may be employed to mimic natural processes in a controlled environment.
- Work with other agencies to develop contingency plans for wildfire, insect and disease to protect park and adjacent values.

Wildlife and Fisheries

The variety of ecosystems represented in Tunkwa Provincial Park supports an abundance of both resident and migratory wildlife species. Tunkwa and Leighton lakes are extremely productive for trout due to their water chemistry and extensive shoal habitats but lack adequate spawning habitat. Guichon Creek has stocks of wild trout. There are important staging and nesting areas in the larger lakes for large numbers of waterfowl.

Objectives

To maintain the fish productivity of the stream and lake systems within the park.

Strategies

- Work with Fisheries Branch of Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks to ensure fish productivity is maintained.
- Support the continued use of the area as a fish egg collection site.
- Maintain the stocking program for Tunkwa and Leighton lakes.
- Eliminate human impacts on fish habitats, particularly in spawning areas.

To maintain the diversity of wildlife species in the park.

Strategies

- Inventory and monitor wildlife and use wildlife in the park, in particular those associated with the grasslands, wetlands, swampy complexes and riparian habitats.
- Manage wildlife as an integral part of maintaining healthy grassland, wetland and forested ecosystems.

To ensure protection of habitat for and viability of populations of wildlife species

Strategies

- Monitor and manage recreational activity to minimize impact on wildlife habitats.
- Employ inventory information to determine minimum habitat requirements and maintain habitats through publicly reviewed management plans.
- Identify, monitor and manage critical areas to assure minimal disturbance.
- Monitor the presence and impact of feral species and implement appropriate management strategies as required.
- Integrate grazing management and wildlife/habitat management to minimize potential conflict.

Cultural Values

At the time the park was established, there was little information about the interests of First Nations in the area. First Nations Traditional Use Studies are underway to determine the nature and extent of their interest in the plateau south of Kamloops. As more information becomes available BC Parks will be in a better position to address issues of concern.

Although there are no historic structures in the park, there is a long history of use in the park by ranchers, the fishing resort and recreationists.

Objectives

To honour the traditional use of the area by First Nations.

Strategies

- Maintain contact with First Nations to determine their traditional use of the area.
- Work cooperatively with First Nations to assure protection of traditional values.
- Involve First Nations in the development of interpretation materials about their use.
- Incorporate First Nations traditional uses in interpretation programs.

To recognize the long history of ranching and the importance of the fishing tradition.

Strategies

- Involve the ranching community in the compilation of a history of the ranching involvement at the park, including development of the water system.
- Involve the Fisheries Branch of Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks, local Fish & Game Clubs and interested individuals in compiling a history of fishing at the park.
- Encourage the resort and cabin owners to become involved in compiling a history of recreation development at the park.
- Incorporate ranching, fishing and recreation use in interpretive programs.

Visual Values

A large part of the attraction of Tunkwa Provincial Park is the visual setting of lakes, grasslands and forests. Improvements in grasslands condition should improve the visual quality of the lakes setting over time.

Objective:

To maintain the visual qualities.

Strategies

- Work with Ministry of Forests and local forest companies to maintain the distant viewscape quality.
- Facility development will consider visual values.
- Maintain vistas from the many viewpoints in the park.

Outdoor Recreation Features

The open grasslands around two large fishing lakes provide a multitude of opportunities for a variety of recreational experiences. The area between the lakes where the connecting waterway spills over basalt cliffs is particularly popular.

Objectives

To maintain the quality of the outdoor recreation features to be found at Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Strategies

- Monitor and manage recreational activities to minimize their impact on the natural features of the park.
- Restrict human activities in the creeks and waterways around the lakes.

Recreation Opportunities and Management

Introduction

This Management Plan sets out strategies for managing recreational use of Tunkwa Provincial Park. The Background Document has the details of the recreation opportunities available at the park. More detailed access, operational and site development plans will be developed that will address the needs of recreation users.

Management decisions will be made in the context of the larger, surrounding area and will consider the capacity of the park to handle more visitors. Tunkwa Provincial Park affords an excellent opportunity to inform and educate the public about the recreational values of the park and the broader Thompson Plateau area through interpretative signs and brochures

There is a wide diversity of recreation opportunities at Tunkwa Provincial Park, some of which conflict with others. Some of the activities have an impact on the landscape while some are concentrated in a small area associated with access to Tunkwa and Leighton lakes for fishing and camping. Visitors generally appreciate the informal, traditional nature of the camping experience at Tunkwa Provincial Park while many use the park as a base for recreational activities elsewhere on the plateau. Commercial operators require a Park Use Permit for their activities.

While the fishing activity is the primary focus for many visitors, there are also walkers, bird watchers, hunters, campers, ATV users. Many groups come together at the campground for family-oriented social activities.

Access Strategy

An access management plan will be developed with input from stakeholders and users. Access management is a key element in maintaining a quality recreational experience for all users. Tunkwa Provincial Park is part of a much larger area with access needs for activities such as recreation, forestry and mining, livestock grazing, and transmission lines. Uncontrolled recreational activities in the park have created tensions between park users and cabin owners. Access to the park is from the Savona-Logan Lake road which is maintained by the Ministry of Transportation & Highways.

Objective

To develop a plan for a trail and road system to service park users while protecting the conservation values.

Strategies

- Work with tenure holders to assess their requirements for access in the park.
- Address the concerns of owners and operators of transmission rights of way.
- Monitor activities and assess the needs of park users.
- Construct bridges or other structures across creeks for vehicle and pedestrian access in the park.
- Determine which access routes will be developed, upgraded or deactivated.
- Designate trails to separate the various types of activities.
- Provide key access points for boat launching.
- Restrict access where there are environmental impact or public safety concerns.
- Work with other agencies in local area planning processes to ensure compatibility of activities inside and outside the park.

Fishing

Tunkwa and Leighton lakes are extremely busy fishing lakes, especially in spring and fall, with visitors fishing from boats, float tubes, canoes, or from the shore. Fishing is enjoyed by everyone from beginners to expert, with some visitors using licensed fishing guides. Fly fishing is the dominant activity, but there is some trolling and spin casting. Tunkwa Lake Fish Camp & Resort relies heavily on the fishing experience and many cabin owners use their cabins just for the fishing.

Objectives

To provide for a range of recreational fishing opportunities in an attractive setting.

Strategies

- Work with Fisheries Branch of Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks to manage the fishery.
- Allow commercial fishing guides to continue to operate on Tunkwa and Leighton lakes.
- Provide boat launch facilities at key access points.
- Encourage ethical fishing activities.

Camping

Two unstructured campgrounds at Tunkwa Provincial Park provide a rustic experience that is different from most provincial parks. Many visitors favour the informal camping that is catering to activities acceptable to families.

There are some conflicts between camping groups that want to party and those who want a quiet setting. There is also a conflict around the impact caused by ATV use in close proximity to the lake, campgrounds and cabins. On some weekends the number of campers far exceeds the capacity of the sites and the camping units spread out into the grasslands and forest. The number of campers will be controlled as necessary, large group camping in inappropriate places will not be allowed, and noise associated with parties and ATVs will not be tolerated. Camping at Tunkwa Provincial Park will be managed with consideration for the impact that management may have on the surrounding areas outside the park.

Objectives

To maintain the less-structured type of camping experience appreciated by visitors to Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Strategies

- Provide camping in the Intensive Recreation Zone at the northeast end of Tunkwa Lake and east side of Leighton Lake.
- Sites will be hardened and there will be some control of vehicles to protect the environment.

- Camping sites associated with the lakeshore will continue to be provided.
- Camping areas will be designated that allow for groups to gather.
- There will be less emphasis on individual campsites.
- Provide security, and the basic needs of sanitation, firewood and potable water.
- Manage livestock so it is compatible with camping.

To provide camping areas for organized groups with special requirements.

- Consider developing a camping area for ATV users adjacent to the camping areas at Tunkwa and Leighton lakes and accessible to trails outside the park, and a separate camping area for horse group users.
- Group camping in the Natural Environment Zone will require authorization.

Passive Recreation

The open nature of the landscape of Tunkwa Provincial Park affords many opportunities for hiking, walking, bird watching, nature appreciation, photography, and horseback riding. Many local resorts and other groups use trails through the park for horseback riding. Tunkwa and Leighton lakes lend themselves to quiet enjoyment by canoe, kayak and car-top boat.

Objectives

To provide opportunities for undisturbed passive recreation.

Strategies

- Consider the needs of passive recreation when designating recreation trails.
- Separate foot traffic from mountain bikes, ATVs, horseback riders where necessary.
- Identify trails, destinations and viewpoints.
- Provide safe crossings over creeks entering and leaving Tunkwa and Leighton lakes.
- Designate day use access at the south end of Tunkwa Lake and at Corral Lake.

Summer Motorized And Mechanized Activities

The open landscape at Tunkwa Provincial Park is attractive for motorized activity and mountain biking is increasing. Motorized users wish to use the park as a base from which to explore the surrounding areas. Motorized and mechanized activities will be controlled through the Access Management Plan.

Objective

To provide opportunities for summer motorized and mechanized activities.

Strategies

- In consultation with stakeholder groups, develop an access plan that includes designated corridor trails through the park to outside areas.
- Monitor activities to assess the need for adjustments, especially in wet ground conditions.
- Work with other agencies and planning processes to ensure management decisions are compatible with objectives for the larger area.

Hunting

Hunting is allowed in Tunkwa Provincial Park for waterfowl and other game species, and is a popular activity in the fall. Hunting regulations are set by the Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks in consultation with BC Parks.

Objective

To ensure a safe hunting experience.

Strategies

- No hunting will be allowed within and in the vicinity of intensive public use sites.

Winter Activities

Tunkwa Provincial Park and surrounding area is used for snowmobiling and cross-country skiing. The park may be available for other activities as user trends develop.

Objective

To provide for safe, controlled winter activities.

Strategies

- Designate snowmobile staging and use areas to ensure habitat and wildlife values are protected.
- Monitor winter activity for management and regulation purposes.
- Consider snow depth and related conditions when assessing the need for seasonal restrictions.

Other Activities

There are activities in the park that don't fit the above categories, and others that may occur in the future. Any new activities that may have environmental or public safety concerns, or that may conflict with current uses will be reviewed through the appropriate public input.

Objective

To provide opportunities for a variety of recreational activities.

Strategies

- Monitor and manage recreational activities and regulate them if necessary.
- Manage sporting dog activity to ensure habitat and wildlife values are protected.

Management Services

Tunkwa Provincial park is administered from the Thompson River District office of BC Parks in Kamloops. Staff ensure that the various management responsibilities are carried out according to the *Park Act* and *Park Act Regulations*, this Management Plan, established policies and procedures of the ministry, and a variety of other provincial acts and regulations, e.g. *Wildlife Act*, *Litter Act*. This includes such priorities as: regulating public use to ensure safe and

appropriate use of the park; maintaining trails and facilities; managing permits for research and commercial uses within the park; minimizing effects from visitor use; conducting environmental rehabilitation and management projects and collecting data on the park's natural and cultural values.

There is considerable interest in the communities of Logan Lake and Savona, as well as interest by the resort and cabin owners, in the stewardship of Tunkwa Provincial Park. This interest could be fostered through the implementation of a volunteer stewardship program.

Objectives

To provide the public with a safe, enjoyable recreational experience.

Strategies

- Prepare annual operating plans to address the implementation of this Management Plan.
- Within budgetary constraints, a season-long presence will be provided to improve security and minimize user conflicts.
- Recreation activities will be monitored and managed to ensure compatibility, safety and quiet enjoyment.
- Optimal numbers and distribution of visitors will be assessed to ensure the recreational experience is not undermined through over-use or abuse of facilities or the environment.
- Voluntary compliance will be sought through a concerted effort to educate visitors about conservation values and consideration for other users, through brochures, signage, and media articles.

To provide opportunities for local groups to assist in the stewardship of the park.

Strategies

- Meet with stakeholder groups to assess their interest in assisting in management.
- Encourage local groups to assist in monitoring activities, inventorying conservation values, and advising on facility development.
- Encourage groups to take responsibility for education and self-policing of their members and others.

Communications

Introduction

Tunkwa Provincial Park presents powerful opportunities to educate and inform visitors about many topics relating to the park, grasslands in general, and the surrounding area. Topics would include the conservation and recreation values of the park, the reasons for its importance to the ranching community, fishery values, wildlife values, First Nations significance, safety, ethics, and responsible use.

Marketing and Promotion

Campers and local stakeholder groups have expressed a strong desire to maintain the present unstructured type of camping experience enjoyed at Tunkwa Provincial Park in the past. This presents another facet in a wide range of camping experiences available throughout the park system, Forest Service Recreation Sites and in private sites in the area. This should be the focus of any media or brochure publication, with a clear message about the type of experience that can be expected by visitors to the park.

Objective

To maintain the present type of recreational experience.

Strategies

- Work with local and regional tourism groups to inform them of the values at Tunkwa Provincial Park in the context of other provincial parks in the area, other local camping opportunities and the plans for the park.
- Promotion efforts to emphasize expectations and appropriate use.

Awareness and Pre-Trip Planning

Tunkwa Provincial Park is easily accessible only short distances from good paved highways and needs no specialized equipment or expertise for a visit. There are no known significant hazards or conditions to warn summer visitors about, but information about winter weather and lake ice conditions may be useful. Information about the fishing and hunting opportunities and typical equipment needed is readily available through fishing and hunting regulations, fishing guides, fishing equipment stores and on the Internet. It may be necessary to alert visitors to new restrictions if such are placed on access, camping and use of motorized vehicles in the park.

Orientation Information

Although it is such a popular fishing destination, there is a need to inform visitors of why the park

was established, the park and zone boundaries, access information, and facilities available. There is a need to educate visitors about responsible use of the park, acceptable activities, and reasons why restrictions have been placed on some activities. It is also important to inform visitors of the context of Tunkwa Provincial Park in relation to other parks and other recreation areas within the Thompson Plateau. The development and implementation of an interpretation plan should be a priority.

Natural and Cultural Heritage Education

There is a role in this park for educating visitors and local students about the natural, cultural and recreational values both of the park and the surrounding area. Visitors can be informed of the ecology and fragility of grassland and wetland ecosystems, and the need to respect those values. Local college and school students can be encouraged to use the park as an outdoor classroom, possibly providing valuable information to aid in the management of the park.

Objectives

To inform visitors about the natural values of Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Strategies

- An Interpretation Plan will be developed, and implemented as funds allow.
- Priority for implementation are an in-park brochure and interpretive signage describing the park, facilities, zones, access restrictions, and responsible use.
- The conservation values priorities for interpretation signs are the grasslands, lakes and wetlands and associated plants, and wildlife.

To inform visitors of the important features of Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Strategies

- Interpretation of the story of the development of the water control structures, diversion ditch, and lakes will be developed in collaboration with local ranchers.
- Interpretation of the fish and fishery at Tunkwa and Leighton lakes including the spawning streams, the egg collection process, the insects associated with the fishery, will be completed in collaboration with Fisheries Branch of Ministry of Environment, Lands & Parks and local Fish & Game Clubs.

To inform visitors of the cultural values of Tunkwa Provincial Park.

Strategies

- interpretation of the history of ranching in the area, linking through the grasslands and water development to present-day pasture systems will be completed in collaboration with local ranchers.
- interpretation of First Nations use will be developed in collaboration with local First Nations

Plan Implementation

This Management Plan forms the basis from which operational level plans will be developed, including an access management plan, site design and recreation plans, vegetation and resource management plans, and a fire management plan. These plans will be developed through discussions with local agencies, stakeholders, Kamloops LRMP Implementation Committee and monitoring table, and public input. The plans will set priorities and give details of the specific actions for implementation and will be reviewed and updated annually.

Appendix A: Goals for Protected Areas

BC Parks has adopted the goals of the Protected Areas Strategy¹:

Goal 1: Representativeness

*To protect viable, representative examples of the natural diversity of the province, representative of the major terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, the characteristic habitats, hydrology and landforms, and the characteristic backcountry recreational and cultural heritage values of each **ecosection**.*

Wherever possible, protected areas should combine natural, cultural heritage and recreational values. Where it is not possible to combine these in a common area, they may be represented separately. Where it is not possible to represent all values, the natural values will be given priority.

Goal 2: Special Features

To protect the special natural, cultural heritage and recreational features of the province, including rare and endangered species and critical habitats, outstanding or unique botanical, zoological, geological and paleontological features, outstanding or fragile cultural heritage features, and outstanding outdoor recreational features such as trails.

Many protected areas will be set aside primarily to protect rare or vulnerable features. Others will combine protection with giving people the opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the intrinsic value of the areas. Others will be protected to attract people to experience and appreciate their natural and cultural heritage.

¹Province of British Columbia. 1993. A Protected Areas Strategy for British Columbia, Victoria, BC

Appendix B: BC Parks Recreation Goals

BC Parks has four recreation goals²:

- *Tourism Travel Routes*: to provide parks and services which enhance tourism travel routes. We would like to help B.C. build a world-wide reputation for offering tourism opportunities along major highways, lakes and the Coast;
- *Outdoor Recreation Holiday Destinations*: to provide park attractions which serve as or improve key destinations for outdoor recreation holidays. We want to help the province build a reputation for world-renowned natural holiday destinations;
- *Backcountry*: to provide outstanding backcountry recreation opportunities throughout the province. We want to build the province's reputation for backcountry recreation by protecting and managing our most outstanding wilderness areas;
- *Local Recreation*: to ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for all residents of the province.

²Ministry of Parks. 1990. Preserving our Living Legacy: Parks Plan 90. Victoria, BC

Appendix C: BC Parks Management Planning Zone Descriptions

	Intensive Recreation	Natural Environment
OBJECTIVE	To provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.	To protect scenic values and to provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.
USE LEVEL	Relatively high density and long duration types of use.	Relatively low use but higher levels in association with nodes of activity or access.
MEANS OF ACCESS	All-weather public roads or other types of access where use levels are high (see "Impacts" below).	Mechanized (power-boats, snowmobiles, all terrain vehicles), non-mechanized (foot, horse, canoe, bicycle). Aircraft and motorboat access to drop-off and pickup points will be permitted.
LOCATION	Contiguous with all-weather roads and covering immediate areas, modified landscapes or other high-use areas.	Removed from all-weather roads but easily accessible on a day-use basis. Accessible by mechanized means such as boat or plane.
SIZE OF ZONE	Small; usually less than 2,000 ha.	Can range from small to large.
BOUNDARY DEFINITION	Includes areas of high facility development in concentrated areas.	Boundaries should consider limits of activity/facility areas relative to ecosystem characteristics and features.
RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES	Vehicle camping, picnicking, beach activities, power-boating, canoeing, kayaking, strolling, historic and nature appreciation, fishing, snowplay, downhill and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, specialized activities.	Walk-in/boat-in camping, power-boating, hunting, canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, historic and nature appreciation, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, river rafting, horseback riding, heli-skiing, heli-hiking, and specialized activities.

Special Feature	Wilderness Recreation	Wilderness Conservation
To protect and present significant natural or cultural resources, features or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values.	To protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide backcountry recreation opportunities dependent on a pristine environment where air access may be permitted to designated sites.	To protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide unassisted backcountry recreation opportunities dependent on a pristine environment where no motorized activities will be allowed.
Generally low.	Very low use, to provide solitary experiences and a wilderness atmosphere. Use may be controlled to protect the environment.	Very low use, to provide solitary experiences and a wilderness atmosphere. Use may be controlled to protect the environment.
Various; may require special access permit.	Non-mechanized; except may permit low frequency air access to designated sites; foot, canoe (horses may be permitted).	Non-mechanized (no air access); foot, canoe (horses may be permitted).
Determined by location of special resources; may be surrounded by or next to any of the other zones.	Remote; not easily visited on a day-use basis.	Remote; not easily visited on a day-use basis.
Small; usually less than 2000 hectares.	Large; greater than 5,000 hectares.	Large; greater than 5,000 hectares.
Area defined by biophysical characteristics or the nature and extent of cultural resources (adequate to afford protection).	Defined by ecosystem limits and geographic features. Boundaries will encompass areas of visitor interest for specific activities supported by air access. Will be designated under the Park Act.	Defined by ecosystem limits and geographic features. Will be designated under the Park Act.
Sight-seeing, historic and nature appreciation. May be subject to temporary closures or permanently restricted access.	Backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, river rafting, nature and historic appreciation, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, specialized activities (eg. caving, climbing).	Backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, river rafting, nature and historic appreciation, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, specialized activities (eg. caving, climbing).

	Intensive Recreation	Natural Environment
FACILITIES	May be intensely developed for user convenience. Roads, trails, campgrounds, picnic/play areas, boat launches, visitor and administrative buildings, service compounds, gravel pits, disposal sites, parking lots, etc.	Moderately developed for user convenience. Trails, walk-in/boat-in campsites, shelters, service buildings may be permitted; facilities for motorized access eg. docks, landing strips, fuel storage, etc.
IMPACTS ON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT	Includes natural resource features and phenomena in a primarily natural state but where human presence may be readily visible both through the existence of recreation facilities and of people using the zone. Includes areas of high facility development with significant impact on concentrated areas.	Area where human presence on the land is not normally visible, facility development limited to relatively small areas. Facilities are visually compatible with natural setting.
CONSERVATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES	Intensive management of natural values and/or control of visitor activities. Landscape changes may occur to increase carrying capacity of the area. Direct management intervention may occur to protect natural values and enhance recreation opportunities. Compatible scientific research and monitoring encouraged.	Management oriented to maintaining a natural environment where visitor access may be restricted to preserve the recreation experience or to limit impacts. Direct management intervention may occur to protect natural values or enhance recreation opportunities. Compatible scientific research and monitoring is encouraged.
RECREATION MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES	Management oriented toward maintaining a high quality recreation experience. Requires careful management and upkeep of intensive use outdoor recreation facilities. Facilities designed for efficient operation while remaining unobtrusive to the park visitor.	Management oriented to presenting high quality recreation experiences in a natural setting. Separation of less compatible recreational activities and methods of transportation may be necessary to avoid potential conflicts (eg. horse trails, cycle paths, hiking trails).
EXAMPLES OF ZONING	Campground in Rathrevor Beach Park; Gibson Pass ski area in E.C. Manning Park.	Core area in Cathedral Park; North beach in Naikoon Park.

Special Feature	Wilderness Recreation	Wilderness Conservation
Interpretive facilities only, resources are to be protected.	Minimal facility development for user convenience and safety, and protection of the environment eg. trails, primitive campsites, etc. Some basic facilities at access points, eg. dock, primitive shelter, etc.	None.
Natural values are to be protected. Interpretation facilities to be limited to small areas.	Natural area generally free of evidence of modern human beings. Evidence of human presence is confined to specific facility sites. Facilities are visually compatible with natural setting.	Natural area generally free of evidence of modern human beings.
High level of management protection with ongoing monitoring. Natural processes will normally be allowed to continue unhindered; in some instances, protection of rare, unique, outstanding, threatened and endangered natural values may require specific management intervention. Visitor access may be restricted to preserve the recreation experience and limit impacts. Any scientific study must be clearly justified and carried out under permit.	High level of management protection for pristine wildland. Active resource management programs may be allowed if essential for protection of significant natural values. Visitor access may be restricted to protect the natural environment and visitor experience.	Highest level of management protection for pristine wildland. Natural processes will be allowed to continue unhindered. Specific management intervention will not be permitted unless essential to protection or survival of significant natural values. Visitor access may be restricted to protect the natural environment and visitor experience.
Management dedicated to educating visitors through interpretation of features. Visitor access may be restricted to limit damage to features. Facility development and visitor use will be determined by the area's carrying capacity.	Management dedicated to maintaining a visitor recreation experience of solitude, freedom, and physical challenge in a primitive natural setting. Facility development and visitor use will be determined by the area's carrying capacity.	Management dedicated to maintaining a visitor recreation experience of solitude, freedom, and physical challenge in a primitive natural setting. Visitor use will be determined by the area's carrying capacity.
Tidepools in Botanical Beach Park; Sunshine Meadows in Mount Assiniboine Park.	Quanchus Mountains Wilderness in Tweedsmuir Park; Moose River Valley in Mount Robson Park.	Central Valhallas Wilderness in Valhalla Park; Garibaldi Park Nature Conservancy area.