# BEATTON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK



### PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Peace Region 2006

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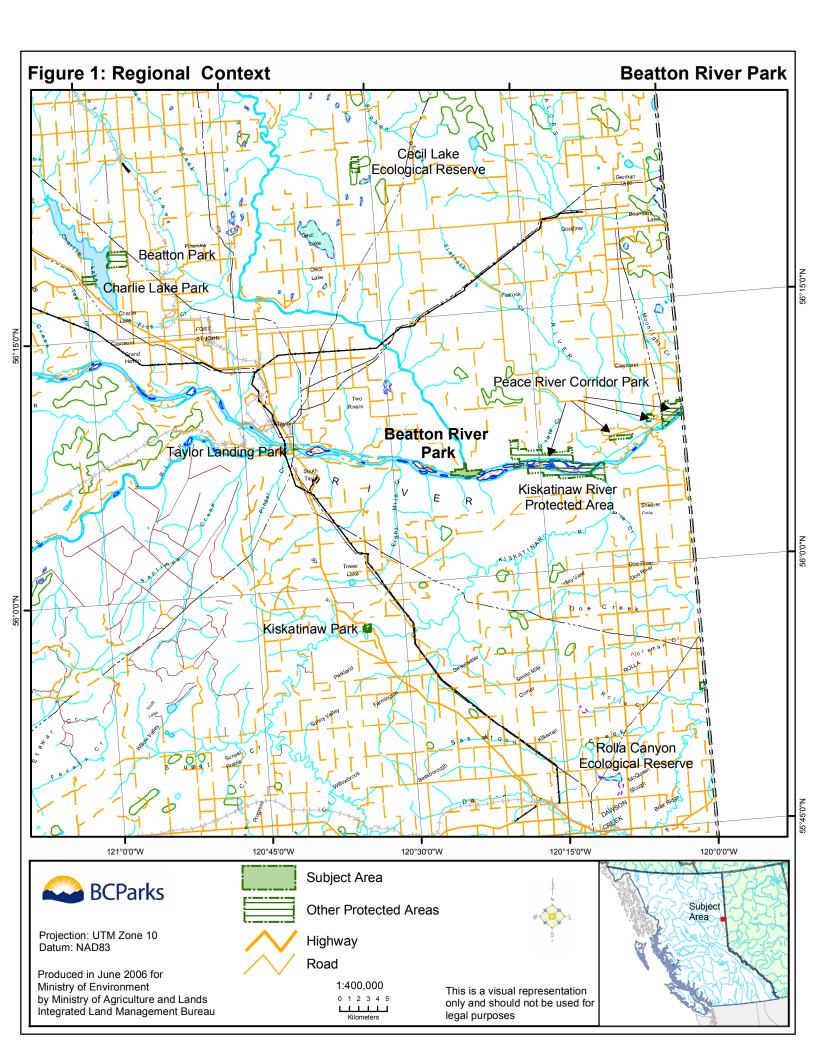
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Date: Leeler 13 2006

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## **BEATTON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK**Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

#### **Primary Role**

The **primary** role of Beatton River Provincial Park is to protect rich riparian habitat at the confluence of the Beatton and Peace Rivers. Old growth cottonwood with mixed stands of spruce and aspen dominate the area, while riparian shrub growth lines the edge of the waterways. South facing slopes above riparian fringe protects representative grassland species as well as prickly pear cactus. Moose, mule deer, white-tailed deer and black bear frequent the area. Waterfowl including ducks and Canada geese are also common. Bald eagles are also present in the area around the park.

#### **Secondary Role**

The **secondary** role of this park is to provide a variety of recreation opportunities close (40 km) to the community of Fort St. John. Opportunities available in the park include boating on the Beatton and Peace Rivers, as well as angling, hunting and wildlife viewing. Fisheries values on the Peace and Beatton rivers are high.

The park also protects the historic site of Fort D'Epinette. The North West Company established the fort in 1806. The fort was originally called the Fort of St. John and was changed to Fort D'Epinette when the Hudson's Bay Company amalgamated with the North West Company in 1821. However, no visible evidence of the fort remains.

Known Management Issues	Response
Jet boating on the Peace River may have an impact on park values	Monitor streamside vegetation and river banks for damage that may be the result of wakes from jet boats.
Lack of management presence in park	Increase management presence as resources permit.
A 4X4 access road leads to the western portion of park. A traditional use camp is located at the end of the road, which has resulted in some impacts to vegetation and garbage left at the site	Staff to make regular visits to ensure site is clean

#### Zoning

Beatton River Provincial Park is zoned entirely Nature Recreation. The objective of this zone is to provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

	Conserv	ration	
Representation - ecosection		Beatton River Provincial Park protects a small amount of the Peace Lowland Ecosection. This ecosection is underrepresented in the protected areas system (just 0.4% protected). Beatton River Park contributes a small amount (5%) of total protected area system protection of this ecosection, which is protected in 11 other parks. Pine River Breaks Provincial Park and Clayhurst Ecological Reserve contain the largest area of this ecosection in the protected areas system.	
biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		Beatton River Provincial Park makes a very small contribution to the protection of BWBSmw1 (Boreal White and Black Spruce mild wet) subzone. The Park is one of 23 parks containing this subzone, of which only 0.68 % is protected. Beatton River Provincial Park contributes only 0.5% of total protected area representation of this subzone.	
Special Feature			
Rare/Endangered Values			
Scientific/Research Opportunities		Historical Research associated with Fort Fort D'Epinette	
Recreation			
Representation Backcountry			
Destination Travel corridor			
Local recreation		river-based recreation (fishing, hunting, canoeing, boating) for the community of Fort St. John.	
Special Opportunities			
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	$\boxtimes$	Wildlife viewing	
Cultural Heritage			
Representation		Long history of continuous use by First Nations;	

Special Feature	Site of historic fur trading fort.
Other Manag	ement Considerations
Other Designations	
Relationship to other PAs	
Collaborative Management Arrangements	
Partnerships	
Vulnerability	
Relationship to other Strategies	
Area:	186 hectares
Date of establishment:	June 29, 2000

