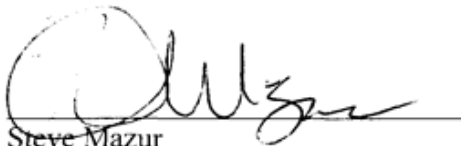


BIG BAR LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

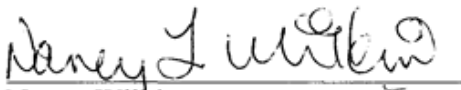
February 2003

Approved by:



Steve Mazur
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb 10/03



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb 25/03

BIG BAR LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The primary role of Big Bar Lake Provincial Park is to provide a road accessible, overnight lakeshore recreational experience to a wide range of users of varying physical abilities. In addition to the fully serviced lakeshore campground, the park provides excellent access to fishing and a self-guided interpretive trail. The interpretive trail contains a message about the glacial history of the area and Douglas-fir forests of the Cariboo Basin. The park primarily provides a frontcountry recreation experience.

While there are a number of Forest Service recreation sites and lodges in the general vicinity, Big Bar Lake Provincial Park provides the only public formal, serviced camping area on the Cariboo Plateau.

Secondary Role

The secondary role of the park is to protect representative features and vegetation of the underrepresented Cariboo Basin Ecosection. Significant conservation features in the park include eskers and a kettle lake, typical of the Cariboo Basin, and stands of mature and old Douglas-fir, typical of forests found in the IDFdk3 biogeoclimatic zone.

Other protected areas in the Cariboo Basin Ecosection include Moose Valley, Flat Lake, Cariboo Nature, Loon Lake, Lac La Hache parks and Chasm and Westwick Lake ecological reserves. Currently, only approximately 1% of the ecosection is protected and little more than 1% of IDFdk3 is protected.

Known Management Issues	Response
Fences to keep cattle out are being cut by those seeking motorized access to eskers and grassland areas.	Continue to maintain fence and to sign the area as closed to ATVs and motorized traffic to protect the grasslands and eskers.
Douglas-fir bark beetles and mountain pine beetle occasionally attack stands.	Fall and burn or use of pheromones.
Root rot in the fir stands may pose a safety hazard for trails and campsites.	Hazard tree assessments and removal of trees when necessary.
Small artificial dam on Big Bar Lake raises lake levels marginally.	Consider removing dam to restore lake levels to natural levels.

Zoning

The park is zoned Intensive Recreation around the interpretive trail and campsite (approximately 18% of the park). The remainder of the park (82%) is zoned Natural Environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- Ecosession Protects a very small area of the very poorly represented Cariboo Basin Ecosession. 1.12% of this ecosession is currently included in the protected area system. Big Bar Lake Park contributes 3.08% of the overall protection of this ecosession, behind Flat Lake, Moose Valley and Chasm parks.
 - Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Protects 328 hectares of IDFdk3, a variant underrepresented in the protected area system (1.28%). Big Bar Lake Park contributes 2.8% of the overall protection of this poorly represented ecosystem.
- Special Feature** Eskers, kettle lake and representative stands of old and mature Douglas fir. Ducks Unlimited artificial wetland (dam is located outside park) enhanced waterfowl habitat.

Rare/Endangered Values None known or assessed.

Scientific/Research Opportunities Limited

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination Park offers access to excellent trout fishery. Stocked annually.
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities Self-guided trail, interpreting Douglas fir forest and eskers

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation None known

Special Feature None known or assessed.

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

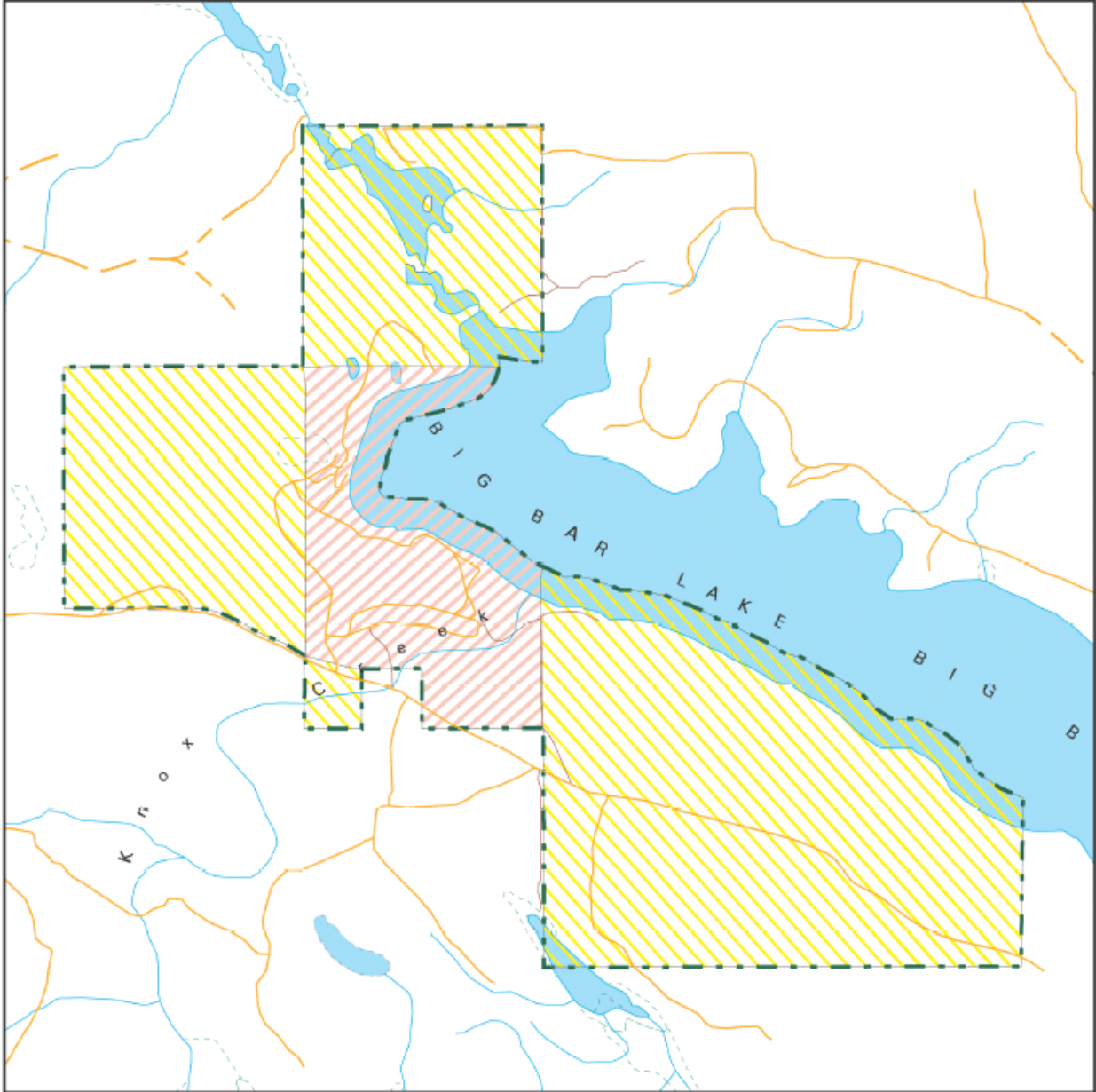
Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 332 hectares

Date of Establishment : October 27, 1969

Zoning Map - Big Bar Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83




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m

Produced in Jan 2003 for
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Protection by MSRM, Decision
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