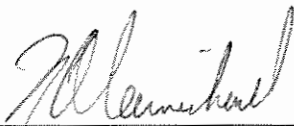


BROWNE LAKE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

PURPOSE STATEMENT

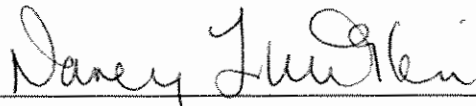
March 2005

Approved by:



Drew Carmichael
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 9, 2005



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Mar. 31, 2005

BROWNE LAKE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

Purpose Statement

The 114 hectare ecological reserve is located in the Hydraulic Lake area, about 20 km east-southeast of Kelowna. Access is via the McCulloch Lake Forest Service Road. The ecological reserve encompasses the mostly forested upland area on the west side of Browne Lake Provincial Park.

Primary Role

The **primary role** of Browne Lake Ecological Reserve is to protect a small wet meadow ecosystem and surrounding forest in the Interior Douglas-fir – Montane Spruce transition. The wet meadow, once used as pasture, is reverting to the original sedge community. A rock outcrop on the central hill holds a small seepage-influenced community with yellow-listed *Lewisia pyngaea*.

Representative values are low. There are no known rare species in the reserve.

Known Management Issues	Response
Limited information is available on rare and endangered species and communities.	Complete a rare/endangered species and communities inventory or a sensitive ecosystem assessment with the assistance of the ecological reserve warden or a university student.
Potential impact of non-compatible use on the wet meadow ecosystem values.	Discourage use of the reserve through signage.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Northern Okanagan Highland – Contributes only 0.34% to the overall protected areas system representation of this moderately-represented ecosection (4.04%).

ICHmk1- Minimal contribution (0.85%) to the overall protected areas system representation of this moderately – represented subzone/variant (4.21%).

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Nature study of forest ecology

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

The ecological reserve and the upland portion of the adjacent Browne Lake Park form a small block of relatively undisturbed forest.

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 114 hectares

Established: August 10, 1973