

CHARLIE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

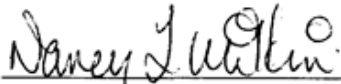
February 2003

Approved by:



Andy Ackerman
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 4, 2003



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 11, 2003

CHARLIE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Charlie Lake Provincial Park is to provide recreational opportunities for regional and local residents as well as user groups such as the boy scouts and girl guides. Recreational opportunities include hiking, boating, angling and cycling. Few natural areas exist on the western edge of Charlie Lake Provincial Park. The park also provides a play area for small children, and a grassy field for various events. An Annual Easter Egg Hunt and other events are held at the campground. The park also provides opportunities for viewing and appreciation of the natural values of the park.

The site provides an opportunity for bird watching and wildlife sightings. During the spring and summer months, a variety of raptors, songbirds and other perching birds frequent the area. Northern orioles, rose-breasted grosbeaks, and white-throated sparrows may be observed. Waterfowl can also be viewed on the lake. Large mammals that frequent the area include moose, deer and black bear. Most likely sightings are of smaller mammals, squirrels, chipmunks, beaver, snowshoe hares and muskrat.

The park also provides a day use rest area, picnicking and overnight camping for Alaska Highway travellers. The park is located 11 km north of Fort St. John at mile 54 of the Alaska Highway, and covers approximately 92 hectares adjacent to Charlie Lake. Charlie Lake Park was established in 1964.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of the park is protection and conservation of the poorly represented Halfway Plateau Ecosession. The high level of development that is concentrated along the Alaska Highway Corridor and along Charlie Lake has reduced the number of viable areas that support plant communities and wildlife. The park is one of a system of 3 parks protecting the poorly represented Halfway Plateau Ecosession of which only 0.06% is protected. Charlie Lake Provincial Park represents 14.9% of the protected area in this ecosession. The park also protects the BWBSmw1 biogeoclimatic zone variant of which only 0.68% is protected provincially. Approximately 0.35% of this variant in the provincial protected areas system is protected by Charlie Lake Park

Charlie Lake Park is located along the 11 km long Charlie Lake situated in the Halfway Plateau Ecosession. Trees, shrubs and vegetation representative of the area include aspen, birch, alder, lodgepole pine, Saskatoon, soopalalie, flat-top spirea, waxberry and squashberry.

Known Management Issues	Response
Disturbances; may include reports of vandalism, theft, partying, noise etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Continued staff presence• Repairs

Zoning

The entire park (92 ha) is zoned Intensive Recreation. Intensive Recreation is an appropriate zone designation given the small size of the park and the level of development in the park.

CONSERVATION

Representation

ecosection

One of only 3 parks in the very poorly represented Halfway Plateau Ecosection (0.06%); Charlie Lake Provincial Park is the smallest of these 3 parks but does contribute 14.9% of the overall representation of this ecosection. The quality of representation is poor however, due to the small size of the park.

biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Provides minimal representation of the very poorly represented BWBSmw1 (only 0.68% protected); Charlie Lake Provincial Park provides 0.35% of the overall representation of this ecosystem. Quality of representation is poor due to the small size of the park.

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:

backcountry

destination

travel corridor

X A noteworthy number of travelers utilize the Alaska Highway each summer. Charlie Lake Provincial Park is located directly adjacent to the highway and provides an important stopover picnic area and overnight camping area for travelers.

local recreation

X Public access to Charlie Lake is important for local recreationists. Services provided include camping, picnicking, and a place to host community events. The proximity of the park to Fort St. John provides opportunity for people in the local community to recreate on evenings and weekends. Most recreation areas are a fair distance in this northern region.

Special Opportunities

X Special events organized by community groups

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

X Trails, interpretive signs, and wildlife viewing

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs X Provides resting place for travelers between parks. If travelers are heading north on the Alaska Highway, the nearest Provincial Park is Pink Mountain with no camping facilities. Pink Mountain is approximately 160 km north of Charlie Lake Park. Parks are more numerous south of Charlie Lake Park on the Alaska Highway including Beatton Park, Taylor Landing with no camping facilities and the Kiskatinaw site located off the highway. Travelers on Highway 29 may camp at Moberley Lake, located approximately 110 km west.

Co-operative Management Arrangements X Beatton Park and Charlie Lake Park have a shared operations permit.

Partnerships

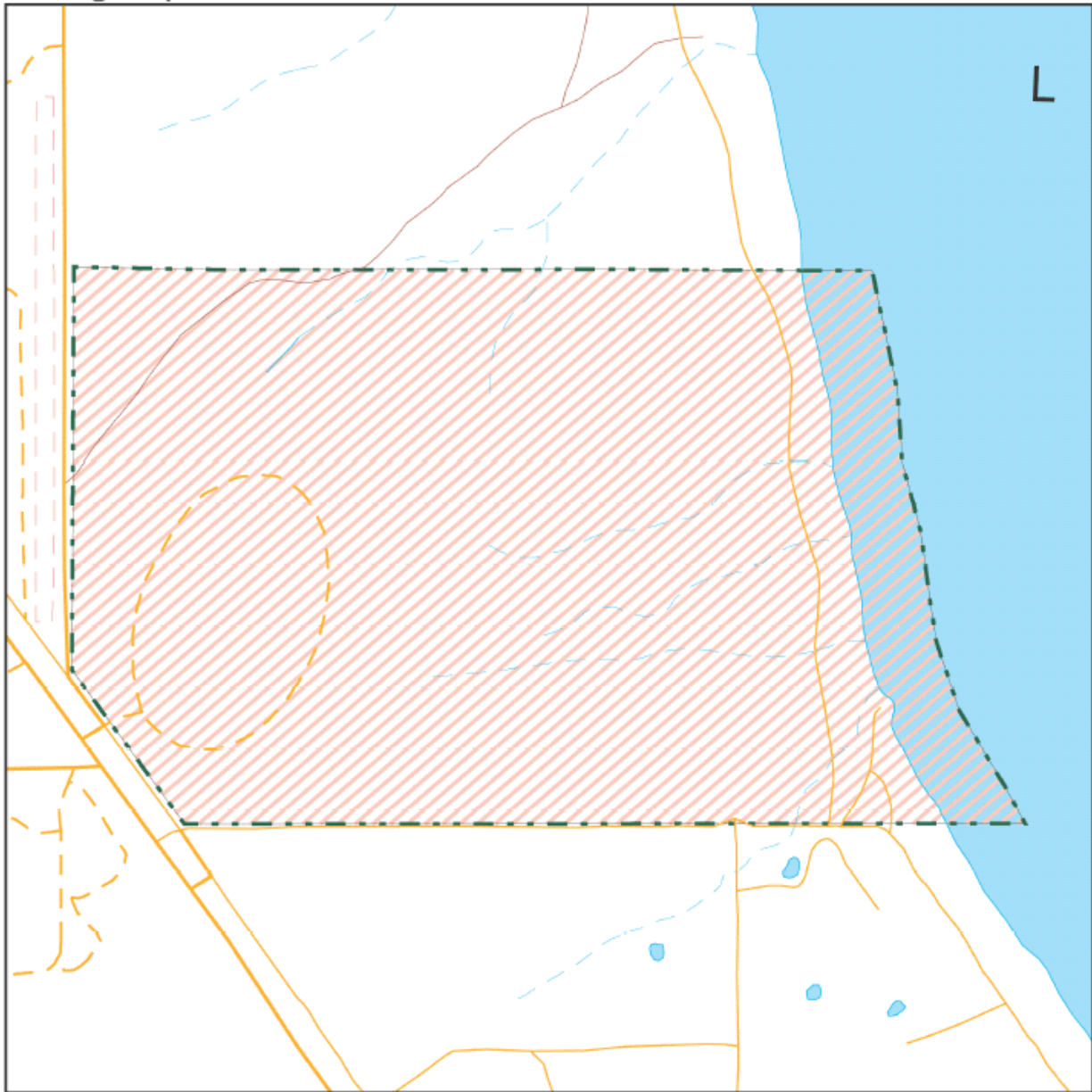
Vulnerability X Few natural areas exist on the western edge of Charlie Lake. There is a high level of development for both residential and commercial uses that have encroached on Charlie Lake Park.

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 92 hectares



Date of establishment: May 20, 1964

Zoning Map - Charlie Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



 Intensive Recreation
 Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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Protection by MSR, Decision
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