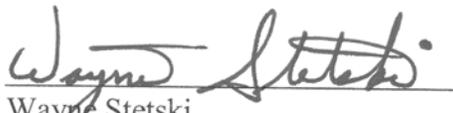


ELKO PROVINCIAL PARK

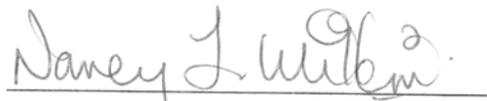
PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

February 2003

Approved by:


Wayne Stetski
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: February 20/03


Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 31/03

Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: _____

ELKO PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary role** of Elko Provincial Park is to provide day use recreation opportunities for local residents. This Class “C” park has historically been heavily utilized as a rodeo ground, baseball diamond and picnic area. There are some neglected facilities on site, of which most are in need of repair or replacement.

Class “C” parks are afforded the same level of protection as Class A parks. Generally, they are small, close to urban areas and not necessarily significant contributors to protecting ecosystems or species. Some of these areas have been turned over to municipal and regional governments. Commonly, a park board is designated for the maintenance and administration of park facilities. No such entity has been delegated responsibility for Elko Provincial Park.

Secondary Role

The **secondary role** of the park is to protect the remaining resource values (i.e. grassland complex with mixed Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine). However, the area has been neglected for many years. Unrestricted access and absence of park fencing and regulatory signage has encouraged cattle grazing, off road use (ATV's) and sporadic camping and fire sites.

Noxious weeds have all but consumed most of the native grasslands in the park and the absence of wildfire for the last 50 years has created extensive forest in-growth. Despite this loss of biodiversity, the area supports winter range for deer and elk.

Known Management Issues	Response
Noxious weed infestation (knapweed, blueweed, Canada thistle)	Weed control in 2002 (no record of prior treatment). Monitoring and treatment to be continued.
Recreational and cattle grazing impacts on surrounding grasslands.	No response. Budget allocation should include fencing and signage.
Transferring park land base to local interest groups.	Discuss options with community and First Nations.
Neglected park facilities.	Seek stewardship agreement with community and/or First Nations to aid in removal or enhancement of facilities.

Zoning

Intensive Recreation (approximately 4 ha or 16% of the park)

Objective: To provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.

Natural Environment (approximately 21 ha or 84% of the park)

Objectives: To protect scenic values and to provide for recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

- Representation
-ecosection Representation of the East Kootenay Trench (EKT) ecosection is very low (0.68%). Elko contributes minimally to the overall protected area representation of the EKT ecosection (0.80%).
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Minor contributor to a very under-represented subzone/variant in the PA system; <1% of IDFdm2 protected. Elko contributes only 0.90% of the overall PA representation of IDFdm2.
- Special Feature None identified.
- Rare/Endangered Values None identified.
- Scientific/Research Opportunities None identified.

Recreation

- Representation
-backcountry Not applicable.
- destination Not applicable.
- travel corridor The park is adjacent to Hwy 3, but not signed.
- recreation Local day use.
- Special Opportunities None identified.
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities None identified.

Cultural Heritage

- Representation Not yet assessed.
- Special Feature None identified.

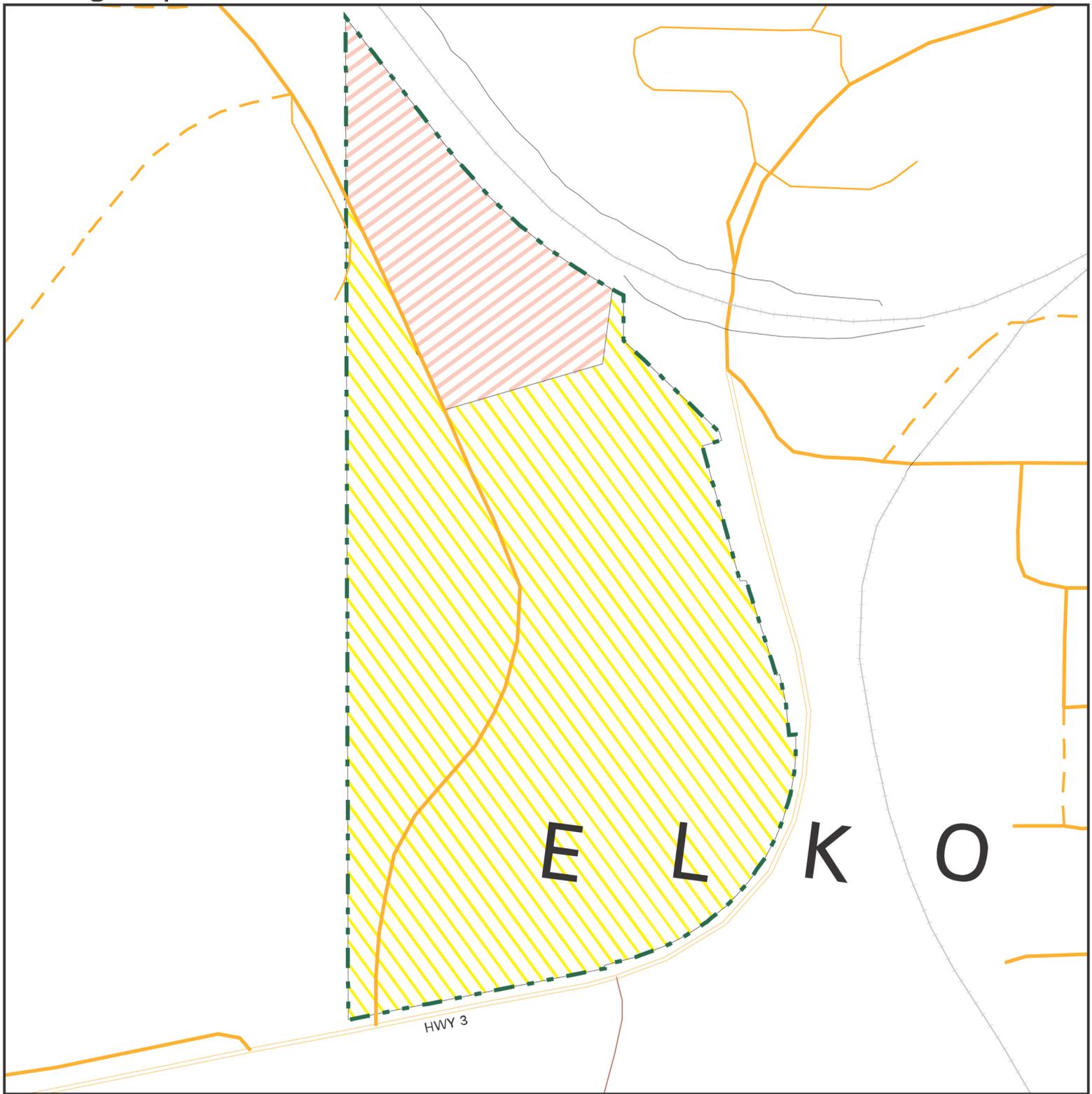
Other Management Considerations

- | | | |
|--------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--|
| Other Designations | <input type="checkbox"/> | None identified. |
| Relationship to other PAs | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | 1 of 2 protected areas within the Elk Valley that lacks any formal park facilities or signage. |
| Co-operative Management Arrangements | <input type="checkbox"/> | None identified. |
| Partnerships | <input type="checkbox"/> | None identified. |
| Vulnerability | <input type="checkbox"/> | Habitat loss has already occurred to a large extent because of unrestricted access and damaging recreational activity. |
| Relationship to other Strategies | <input type="checkbox"/> | None identified. |

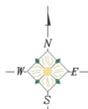
Area: 25 hectares

Date of Establishment: December 8, 1958

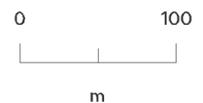
Zoning Map - Elko Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Mar 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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