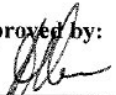


# FORT NELSON RIVER ECOLOGICAL RESERVE




## PURPOSE STATEMENT Peace Region 2006

Approved by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Andy Ackerman,  
Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division  
Peace Region

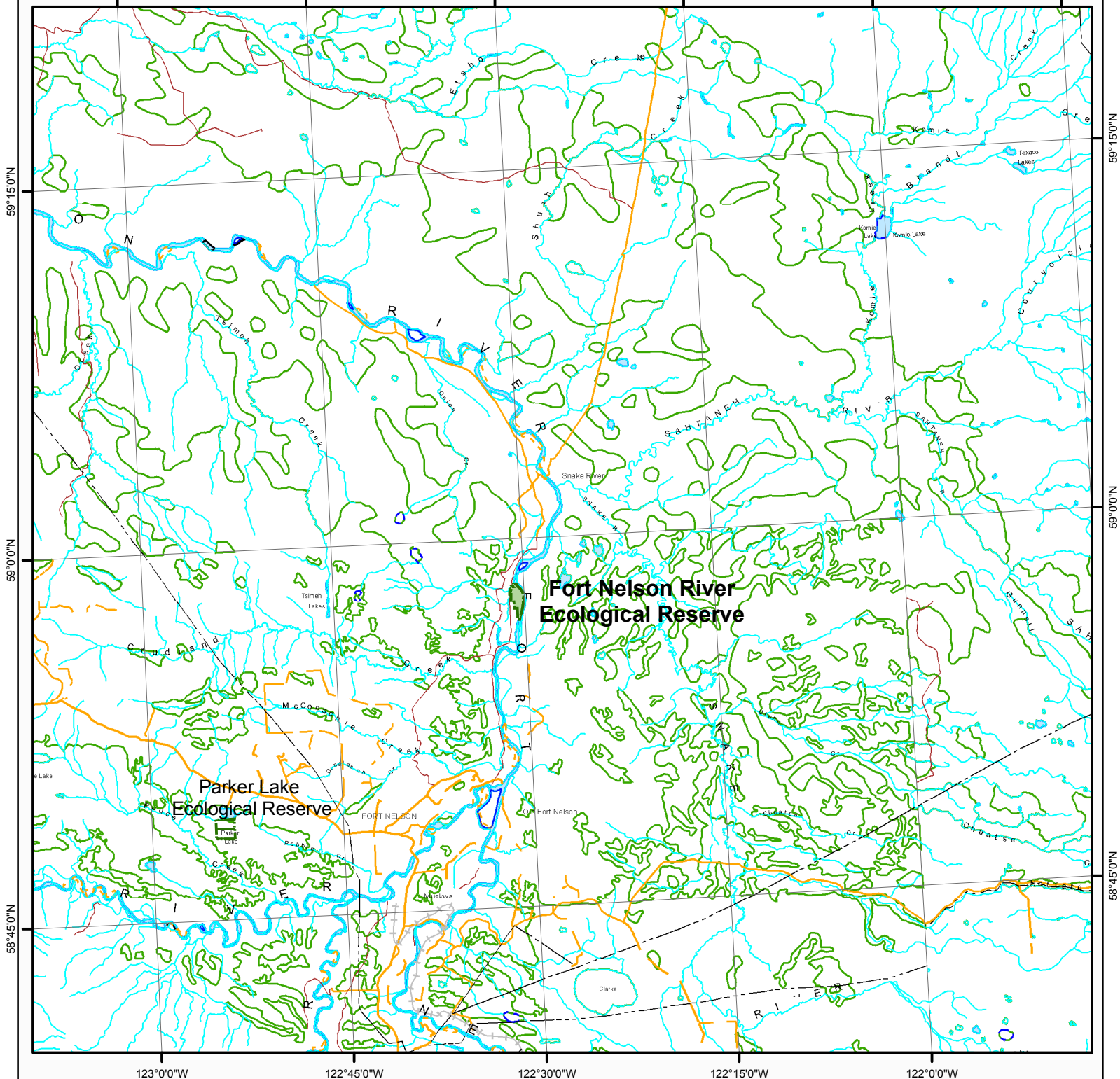
Date: July 13 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Sept. 15 2006





**Figure 1: Regional Context**

**Fort Nelson River Ecological Reserve**



Projection: UTM Zone 10  
Datum: NAD83

Produced in June 2006 for  
Ministry of Environment  
by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands  
Integrated Land Management Bureau

-  Subject Area
-  Other Protected Areas
-  Highway
-  Road

1:400,000  
0.8 2.4 4.2 8.4  
Kilometers



This is a visual representation  
only and should not be used for  
legal purposes

**FORT NELSON RIVER ECOLOGICAL RESERVE  
Purpose Statement**

**Primary Role**

The **primary** role of Fort Nelson River Ecological Reserve (ER), located approximately 20 km north-east of Fort Nelson, is to protect a highly productive floodplain in the Fort Nelson Lowland supporting mature river bottom cottonwood forests. The portions of this site located closest to the river bank are continually being renewed by ice scour and sediment deposition, and therefore offer an excellent opportunity for research into rates of succession on new alluvial deposits.

<b>Known Management Issues</b>	<b>Response</b>
A private forestry winter haul road runs along the western boundary of the Ecological Reserve	Monitor use of the road for possible impacts on Ecological Reserve values
Boundaries of Ecological Reserve are not marked on the ground	Install signs along boundary
Wildfire could alter the existing successional pattern present in the Ecological Reserve	Work with the Ministry of Forests to ensure ecological reserve values are considered in fire suppression decisions.

Representation  
- ecosection

### Conservation

Fort Nelson Ecological Reserve protects a very small amount of the Fort Nelson Lowlands ecosection, of which only 0.5% is protected across the province. The ER provides 1% of the protected areas system total. The majority of the representation of this ecosection is provided by the Klua Lakes (41%), Hay River (20%) and Ekwan Lakes (15%) protected areas.

biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Fort Nelson Ecological Reserve provides representation for the BWBSmw 2 (Boreal White and Black Spruce, moist, warm) variant, which is 2.2 % protected in the Province. Fort Nelson Ecological Reserve contributes less than 1% of that total. Northern Rocky Mountains and the Liard River Corridor Provincial Parks contribute the majority of protected areas system representation of this variant (26 and 23% respectively)

Special Feature

Alluvial plain with range of seral stages

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Study of rates of succession on alluvial plains

### Recreation

Representation

Backcountry

Destination

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

### Cultural Heritage

Representation

None known

Special Feature

### Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to other PAs

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships  Volunteer Ecological Reserve Warden needs to be recruited for this site.

Vulnerability

Relationship to other Strategies

**Area:** 121 hectares

**Date of establishment:** May 1, 1975