GOGUKA CREEK PROTECTED AREA

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Peace Region 2006

Approxed by:

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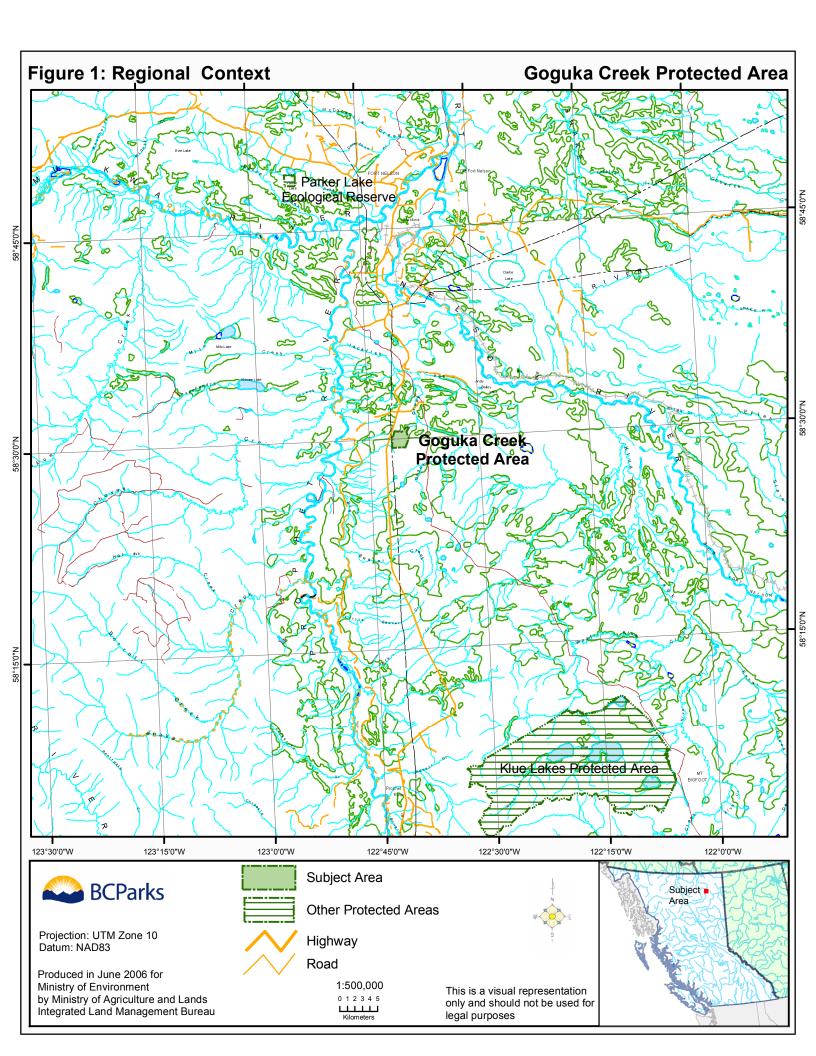
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Assistant Deputy Minister

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Date: Luly 13 2006

Date: 24 15 2006



GOGUKA CREEK PROTECTED AREA Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Goguka Creek Protected Area is to protect the rare pitcher plant *Sarracenia purpurea ssp. gibbosa* (common pitcher-plant)

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of the Protected Area is to protect an example of a northern boreal bog ecosystem. This remote protected area is characterized by stunted black spruce and water hardy vegetation, which provides habitat for species such as moose and black bear. Fragile plants such as the wild calla lily (*Calla palustrus*) can be also be found.

Goguka Creek Protected Area is located alongside the Alaska Highway at km 441. The closest communities are Fort Nelson and Prophet River.

Known Management Issues	Response
Protected Area has been identified as suitable for directional drilling to occur.	Work with Oil and Gas Commission and any oil and gas tenure holders to ensure that directional drilling does not disturb the surface within the Protected Area or otherwise impinge on Protected Area values.
Designation as a Class A Provincial Park: amendments to the <i>Park Act</i> in 2003 have enabled directional drilling to occur under Class A Provincial Parks, provided there is no surface disturbance or surface access in the park. Therefore, there is no longer any impediment to designating the area as a Class A Park.	Following consultation with local government, re-designate the area as a Class A Provincial Park if appropriate.
Lack of management presence in the Protected Area	Increase management presence as resources permit.
Oil and gas development adjacent to the Protected Area raises possibility of damage to Protected Area values	Work with Oil and Gas Commission, Land and Water BC and any oil and gas tenure holders to ensure Protected Area values and boundaries are not compromised, including ensuring appropriate access management.

Zoning

Goguka Creek Protected Area will be zoned entirely Special Feature. Management will be focused on the conservation of the common pitcher-plant for which the Protected Area was established. Current low levels of use preclude the need for further management actions under this zoning category at this time.

B	Conserva	ation		
Representation - ecosection		Goguka Creek Protected Area protects a small area of the Fort Nelson Lowland Ecosection. This ecosection is underrepresented in the protected areas system (just 0.47% protected). Goguka Creek Protected Area contributes a minor amount (3.8%) of total protected area system representation of this ecosection, which occurs in 11 other parks and protected areas. Klua Lakes and Hay River protected areas contain the largest area of this ecosection in the protected areas system (40% and 20% respectively).		
biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		Goguka Creek Protected Area makes a minor contribution to the protection of the BWBSmw2 (Boreal White and Black Spruce mild wet) subzone. The Protected Area is one of 25 parks and protected areas containing this subzone, of which only 2.2 % is protected province-wide. Goguka Creek Protected Area contributes 0.3% of total protected area representation of this subzone.		
Special Feature				
Rare/Endangered Values		The Protected Area contains occurrences of the common pitcher-plant <i>Sarracenia purpurea ssp. gibbosa</i> , which is blue-listed in B.C.		
Scientific/Research Opportunities		Research opportunities to study carnivorous plants		
Recreation				
Representation Backcountry				
Destination Travel corridor				
Local recreation		In winter, visitors to Goguka Creek can access the area via snowshoes. However due to the dense vegetation, snowshoeing is extremely difficult.		
Special Opportunities				

Education/Interpretation Opportunities		Wildlife viewing		
Cultural Heritage				
Representation		Unknown. This Protected Area lies within the area traditionally used by the First Nations of Treaty 8.		
Special Feature				
Other Mana	gemen	t Considerations		
Other Designations				
Relationship to other PAs				
Collaborative Management Arrangements .		This protected area will, upon signature of the Agreement, be subject to the Memorandum of Agreement respecting the management of provincial parks between the Government of BC and the Treaty 8 First Nations.		
Partnerships				
Vulnerability				
Relationship to other Strategies		The Protected Area was identified as a Goal 2 (special feature) area under the Fort Nelson Land and Resource Management Plan. The Plan identified the Protected Area as suitable for directional drilling for oil and gas.		
Area:		435 hectares		
Date of establishment:		March 30, 2001		

