HERALD PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

January 2003

Approved by:

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Date: _03/61/20

Date: Feb 12,03

HERALD PROVINCIAL PARK

Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The **primary purpose** of Herald Park is to provide major provincial park opportunities on Shuswap Lake, supporting provincial and regional tourism and recreation interests for destination, transient and day use activities. Herald Park along with Shuswap Lake Park serve as the two major provincial park holiday destinations on Shuswap Lake, and are both fully occupied through the summer months.

Herald Park is located on the Salmon Arm of Shuswap Lake, about 12 km from the Trans-Canada Highway at Tappen. Shuswap Lake is provincially recognized for its tourism and recreation attractions and Herald Park, with its extensive sand beaches and pleasant uplands, is considered as a prime destination for vacationers from the Lower Mainland and Alberta as well as regional residents. Margaret Falls is a key attraction and over 35,000 people hike in each year to view this feature. In 1998 a new campground addition was constructed, raising the number of campsites from 51 to 119. The park also serves as a regional day use focus for swimming, beach use and boating access to Shuswap Lake. Herald Park is managed as a high use frontcountry park; the cumulative impacts from recreational impacts within the park are high.

As a **secondary role**, the park protects riparian habitats along Reinecker Creek, and Margaret Falls, as a regionally significant special feature. Park boundaries contain approximately 79.1 hectares (65.6 hectares of upland and 13.5 hectares of foreshore), of which only a small portion maintains a sample of the IDFmw2 subzone/variant in a natural condition.

As a **tertiary role**, the park's history includes First Nations and later homesteading occupation, but there remains little on-site evidence of these activities.

Known Management Issues	Response
Heavy use on Margaret Falls trail has impacted riparian vegetation.	Maintain well defined trail and viewing platform with public information on sensitivity of trailside habitats.
Old portion of campground has non-standard campsites and is showing signs of deterioration.	Reconstruct old campground to meet current standards.

Zoning

The lakeshore portion of the park, mostly all contained to the southwest of the Sunnybrae-Canoe Point road, is zoned for **Intensive Recreation** (approximately 40 ha or 51% of the park). This zone includes service yard, campgrounds and beach access and day use facilities. The remainder of the park (approximately 39 ha or 49% of the park) is zoned as **Natural Environment** with the primary intent to maintain the relatively undisturbed condition of the environment, while allowing for compatible recreation uses

Conservation				
Representation - ecosection		Very minor contribution to representation of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. Facility development has modified natural condition of park habitats.		
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	\boxtimes	Some minor representation of IDFmw2 subzone/variant in the upper north portion of the park.		
Special Feature	\boxtimes	Margaret Falls and Reinecker Creek Canyon		
Rare/Endangered Values	\boxtimes	Rocky Mountain Sedge – blue listed (S3)		
Scientific/Research Opportunities		none identified		
Recreation				
Representation backcountry				
destination		very popular destination site for camping, and beach and water based activities. Facilities are used to capacity throughout summer season		
travel corridor	\boxtimes	some use from the Trans Canada for day use rest stop and overnight stopover		
local recreation	\boxtimes	regional day use and destination use		
Special Opportunities		High quality beach on Shuswap Lake, good access for disabled users Margaret Falls is a regionally significant special viewing feature.		
Education/Interpretation Opportunities				
Cultural Heritage				
Representation		First Nations occupation and later homesteading but little on-site evidence of these activities		
Special Feature				
Other Management Considerations				
Other Designations				
Relationship to other PAs	\boxtimes	Herald Park along with Shuswap Lake Park		

serve as the two major provincial park holiday destinations on Shuswap Lake

Co-operative Management Arrangements			
Partnerships			
Vulnerability	\boxtimes	On-going weed control (Sulfur Cinquefoil, Diffuse Knapweed, Hounds tongue)	
Relationship to other Strategies			
Area: 79.1 hectares (65.6 hectares of upland and 13.5 hectares of foreshore)			

Date of Establishment: September 11, 1975

