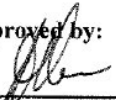


HOLE IN THE WALL PROVINCIAL PARK




PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Peace Region 2006

Approved by:



Andy Ackerman,
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division
Peace Region

Date: July 13 2006

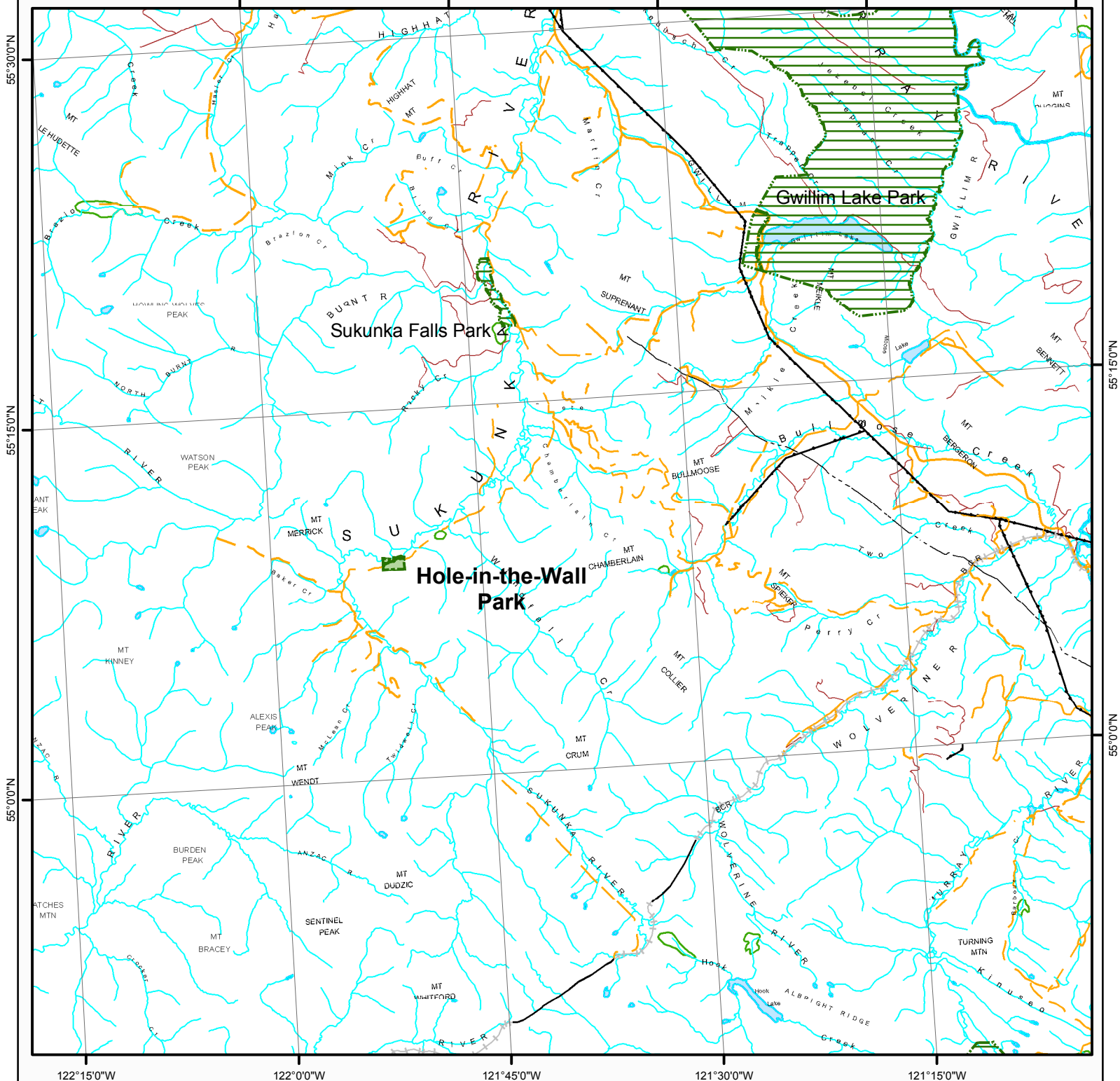






Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Sept. 15 2006

Figure 1: Regional Context


Hole-in-the-Wall Park



-  Subject Area
-  Other Protected Areas
-  Highway
-  Road

Projection: UTM Zone 10
Datum: NAD83

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

1:400,000
0 0.91 82.73 64.5

Kilometers



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legal purposes

HOLE IN THE WALL PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Hole in the Wall Provincial Park is to protect a unique underground stream appearing from the base of a limestone cliff near the Sukunka River. The stream is characterized by unique and relatively constant water quantity and quality parameters, and is occasionally used for drinking water. Surrounded by lush vegetation and a spectacular vertical blue-gray wall of limestone, this geological feature is easily accessible via a short 40 m walk from the road.

Known Management Issues	Response
The hydrology of the underground stream, including its headwaters, is not known. This makes it difficult to ensure protection of the stream.	Seek partners for scientific research into stream hydrology and location of headwaters
Expansion of coal mining operations in the region between Tumbler Ridge and Chetwynd has the potential to impact local hydrology, which may impact the park.	Work with mine operators and appropriate provincial agencies to ensure that possible effects to park values due to any modifications to hydrological systems are understood, and if necessary, mitigated.
Public safety – Access to the park is down a heavily used industrial road. The only available parking for park users is along the side of the road at a curve. Grading of road on park side is encroaching on site.	Widen road adjacent to park access point to allow a small number of vehicles to safely park on the side of the road.
Public safety – The trail from the road to the falls does not meet park standards.	Upgrade the trail to BC Parks standards
Information on park boundaries and values is not readily available to the public.	Post signs indicating park boundaries and provide user information at park entrance.

Zoning

Hole in the Wall Provincial Park is zoned entirely Special Feature. Management will focus on providing safe, foot-accessible opportunities for viewing the spring.

Representation
- ecosection

Conservation

Hole in the Wall Provincial Park protects 137 hectares of the Hart Foothills Ecosection. This ecosection is underrepresented in the protected areas system (just 4.8% protected). Hole in the Wall Provincial Park makes a very small contribution to the representation of this ecosection, accounting for just 0.3% of the protected areas system total. Nearby Gwillim Lake Provincial Park contributes over three quarters of total representation in the protected areas system.

biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Hole in the Wall Provincial Park makes a minor contribution (0.9% of protected areas system total) to the protection of the SBS wk 2 (Sub-Boreal Spruce wet, cold) subzone, and an insignificant contribution (<.01% of protected areas system total) to protection of the ESSFwk 2 (Englemann Spruce Subalpine Fir wet, cold) subzone. Over 10% of the ESSFwk2 variant is contained in the protected areas system. However, only 3.5% of the SBSwk2 subzone is protected provincially.

Special Feature

unusual waterfall emerging from limestone cliff.

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

hydrology of underground watercourses

Recreation

Representation

Backcountry

Destination

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Special Opportunities

Opportunity to view the small waterfall

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Wildlife viewing; unusual hydrological feature.

Cultural Heritage

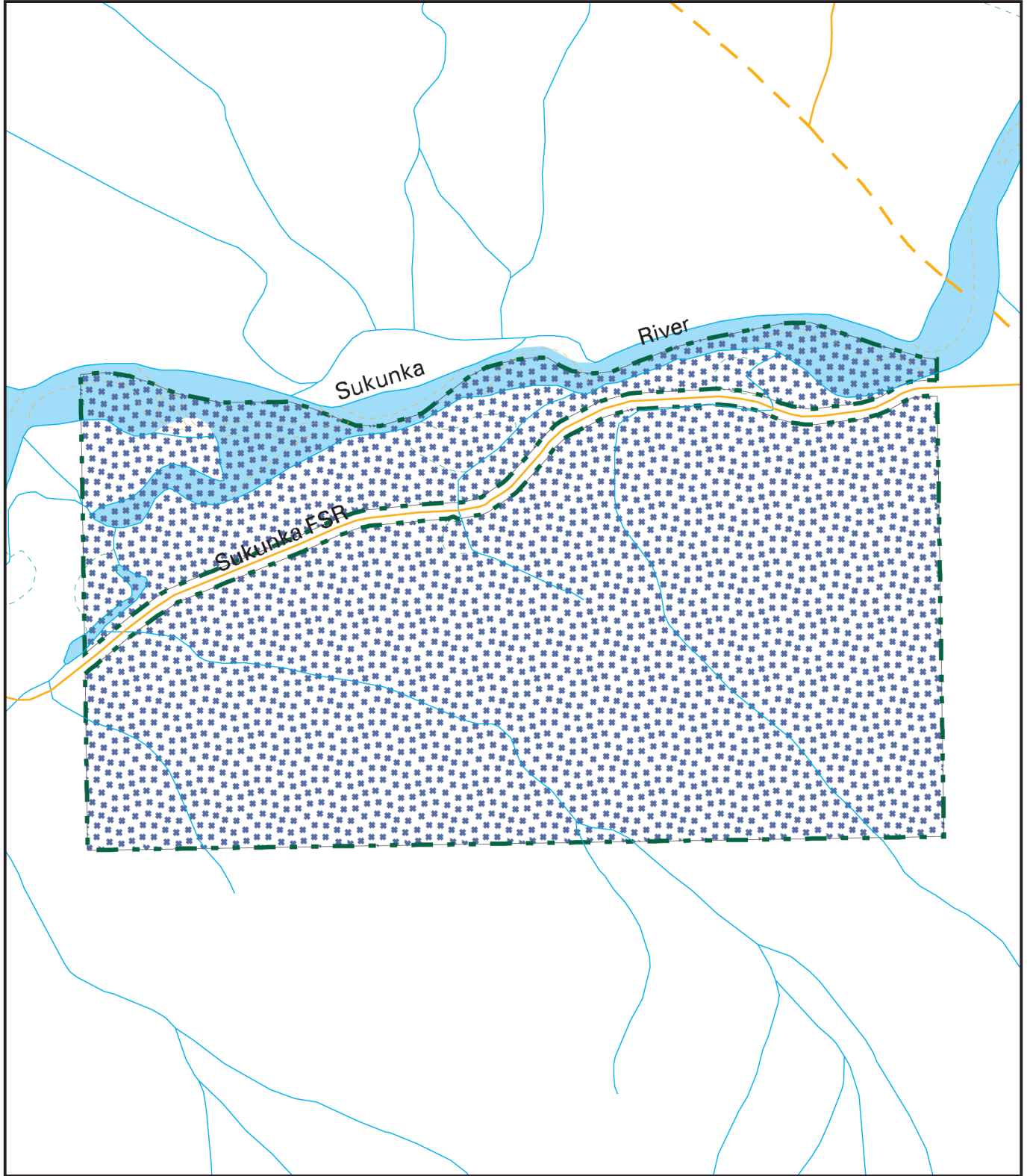
- Representation The area has traditionally been used by First Nations of the Treaty 8 Tribal Association. One known archaeological site exists, consisting of surface lithics.
- Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

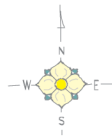
- Other Designations
- Relationship to other PAs
- Collaborative Management Arrangements This park will be subject to the Memorandum of Agreement respecting the management of provincial parks between the Government of BC and the Treaty 8 First Nations.
- Partnerships
- Vulnerability potential impacts associated with adjacent forestry road
- Relationship to other Strategies The park was identified as a Goal 2 (special feature) area under the Dawson Creek Land and Resource Management Plan. The LRMP directed that traditional activities, including guide-outfitting and trapping be continued. The park is located within the boundary of one trapping and one guide-outfitting tenure

Area: 137 hectares

Date of establishment: June 29, 2000



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Datum: NAD83



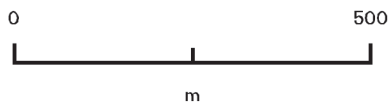
Special Feature



Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Jun 2005 for
Ministry of Water, Land and
Air Protection by MSRM, Business
Solutions Branch



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