


INKANEEP PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

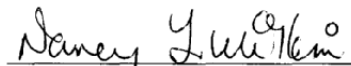
February 2003

Approved by:



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Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb. 10, 2003



Nancy Wilkin
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Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 11, 2003

INKANEEP PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Inkaneep Provincial Park’s **primary purpose** is to protect small areas of antelope brush and cottonwood riparian habitat along the Okanagan River, 97 km north of Oliver. The park consists of 2 separate areas surrounded by private property. One area straddles a 750 metre section of the Okanagan Flood Control right of way; the other, containing the antelope brush, lies on the east side of Tugulnuit Road, abutting the Osoyoos Indian Reserve No. 1.

The park is one of the smallest of the 12 protected areas in the South Okanagan Basin Ecoregion which is well represented in the protected areas system. It contributes in a minor way to the representation of the under-represented BGxh1 biogeoclimatic zone/variant. However, the park has important conservation values including 5 rare species/habitats: blue-listed Lewis’ woodpecker and sockeye salmon habitat and red-listed yellow breasted chat, cottonwood and antelope brush, one of the four most endangered ecosystems in Canada.

The park’s **secondary purpose** is to provide river-oriented day use opportunities and vehicle camping. A total of 7 rustic campsites are provided along with river-side trails for walking and nature study. The park is popular with naturalists, particularly bird-watchers, and gets some use by Highway 97 corridor travellers. The park has potential to be a part of a significant ecotourism opportunity focussed on birds, fish and wildlife in the Okanagan River/Oliver area.

Known Management Issues	Response
The presence of camping has affected the conservation values. The small number of campsites limits the viability of the operation. Day use has the potential to threaten conservation values if not properly managed.	Prepare a recreation plan that converts the park from camping/day use to solely one providing low-intensity nature study opportunities. Rehabilitate the camping area. Investigate the potential transfer of the park to the First Nations or a local interest for management as a conservation-based park offering nature-oriented day-use recreation opportunities.

Zoning

The Intensive Recreation Zone (approximately 4 hectares or 20% of the park) provides vehicle accessible camping and low intensity day use trail related recreation opportunities. The remainder of the park (approximately 16.5 hectares or 80%) is zoned Natural Environment to protect the riparian and antelope-brush habitats.

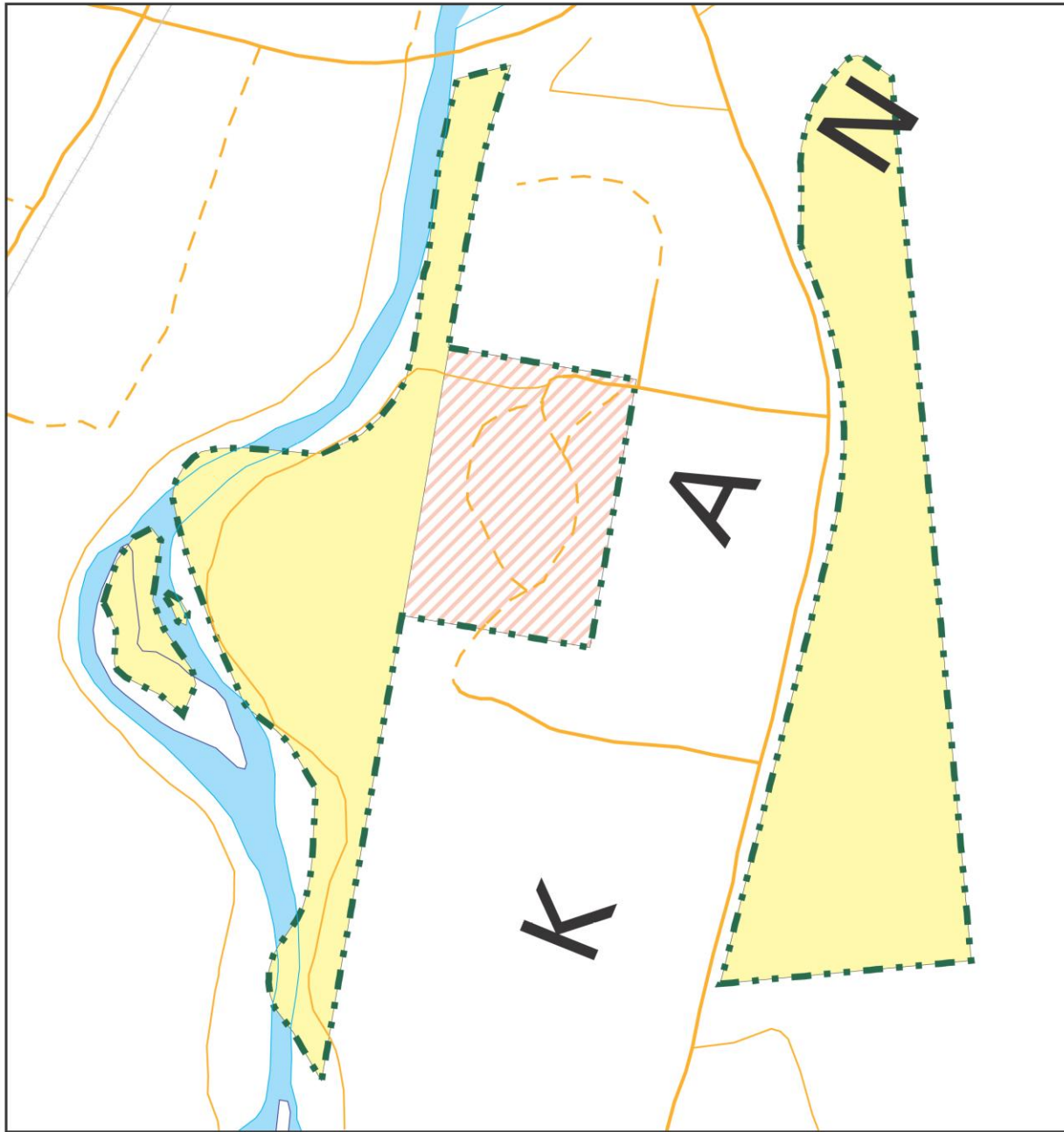
CONSERVATION		
Representation		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ecosection 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Southern Okanagan Basin- The ecosection is well represented (12.35%) in the protected areas system. Inkaneep Park provides only 0.15% of the province-wide protected area system representation. Quality of representation is poor due to the small size of the park. Significant contributors include South Okanagan Grasslands (46.08%), White Lake Grassland (34.49%) and Vaseux Protected Area (15.08%).
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> biogeoclimatic subzone/variant 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contributes in a minor way (1.96%) to the representation of the under-represented BGxh1 (4.91%)
Special Feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contributes to the protection of critical riparian values on the Okanagan River. First Nations have identified the river and riparian area of the park as very important contributor to the long-term viability of the Okanagan River salmon run.
Rare/Endangered Values	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Small examples of blue-listed cottonwood and antelope brush ecosystem, which contain 22% of species at risk in British Columbia. Red-listed yellow-breasted chat.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Antelope brush and associated species at risk. Sockeye salmon run of the Okanagan River.
RECREATION		
Representation:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> backcountry 	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> destination 	<input type="checkbox"/>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> travel corridor 	<input type="checkbox"/>	Low importance for day use and camping for Highway 97 travellers
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> local recreation 	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional day use – nature study, walking
Special Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Antelope brush, species at risk
CULTURAL HERITAGE		

Representation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Special Feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	
OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS		
Other Designations	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Relationship to Other PAs	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Co-operative Management Arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Vulnerability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Unauthorized camping and trails in riparian area
Relationship to Other Strategies	<input type="checkbox"/>	

Area: 20.5 hectares




Date of establishment: March 16, 1956

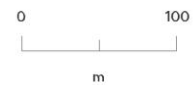
Zoning Map - Inkaneep Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary



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Protection by MSRM, Decision
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