

Skeena Region

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

March 2003



**for Klewnuggit Inlet Marine
Provincial Park**



**BRITISH
COLUMBIA**

**Ministry of Water, Land
and Air Protection
Environmental Stewardship
Division**

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park Approvals Page

Forward

This management direction statement for Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park provides management direction to guide park management over the next 5-7 years or until revised. Ongoing consultation between the Environmental Stewardship Division and First Nations may require changes to this management direction statement.

Approvals:



Regional Manager
Skeena Region
Environmental Stewardship Division



Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

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Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park

Management Direction Statement

Introduction

Purpose of the Management Direction Statement

Management direction statements (MDS) provide strategic management direction for all protected areas that do not have an approved management plan. Management direction statements do not negate the need for more detailed management plans in the future. Management direction statements also describe protected area values, management issues and concerns; a management strategy focused on immediate priority objectives and strategies; and, direction statements from other planning processes. While strategies may be identified in the MDS, the completion of all these strategies is subject to funding and funding procedures. In addition, all development associated with these strategies within the protected area is subject to the Parks and Protected Areas Branch's Impact Assessment Policy.

Context

The provincial government established Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park as a Class A Provincial Park on June 14, 1993 by Order-in-Council 792/93 under the *Park Act*. The *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act* provided legislated status to the park boundaries on June 29, 2000. The park contains 1,429 hectares of upland and 304 hectares of foreshore for a total of 1,733 hectares.

Klewnuggit Inlet is located at approximately the midpoint of Grenville Channel on the east side, 105 kilometres south of Prince Rupert and 20 kilometres north of Lowe Inlet Marine Provincial Park. The park is within the asserted traditional territory of the Tsimshian First Nation.

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park provides a safe and scenic anchorage to boaters along the Inside Passage. The Inside Passage is an internationally significant scenic corridor of British Columbia's coast and is extensively used by many yachts and cruise ships. The park is located where the tidal currents meet in Grenville Channel making it an ideal location to wait for favourable sailing conditions. Grenville Channel is reputed to be the most scenic part of the Inside Passage.

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park is one of a group of marine parks along the Inside Passage and British Columbia's spectacular coast. The Inside Passage marine parks extend from Hakai Conservation Study Area (122,998 hectares) south of Bella Coola, north to Prince Rupert and include the following marine parks: 1) Oliver Cove Marine Provincial Park (74 hectares) on Don Peninsula; 2) Jackson Narrows Marine Provincial Park (71 hectares) on the southeast corner of Roderick Island; 3) Green Inlet Marine Provincial Park (36.5 hectares) on the north side of Green Inlet's terminus; 4) Union Passage Marine Provincial Park (1,373 hectares), 98 kilometres southwest of Kitimat and 138 kilometres south of Prince Rupert; 5) Lowe Inlet Marine Provincial Park (767 hectares), 118 kilometres south of Prince Rupert; and, 6) Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park (1,733 hectares). See Figure 1 for the regional distribution of marine parks. Other protected areas on the north and central coast that complement existing protected areas are recommended in the approved Kalum Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) and in the ongoing Central Coast LRMP. Further sites will be identified through the North Coast LRMP now underway.

Marine Provincial Park Attributes

Conservation

- Protects a small area of the moderately represented Hecate Lowlands Ecosection. Currently 4% of this ecosection is included in the protected areas system within 13 protected areas.
- Protects approximately 1,200 hectares of the CWHvh2 (Coastal Western Hemlock very wet Hypermaritime subzone, Central variant). This variant is well represented in the protected areas system (9.96%). Although the park's contribution to the overall representation of the CWHvh2 is minimal (0.74%), it is the fourth largest provincial protected area contributor. South Moresby National Park Reserve and Hakai Conservation Study area (31%) provide most of the representation of the CWHvh2.
- The park also makes a minor contribution to the representation of the MHwh1 (Mountain Hemlock wet hypermaritime subzone Windward variant).
- Conserves 304 hectares of the poorly represented North Coast Fjords Marine Ecosection. Currently 3.11% of this ecosection is included in the protected areas system.
- Protects a regionally important scenic anchorage from development.
- Protects marine areas of medium importance for waterfowl.
- Conserves marine intertidal and estuary habitats for resident and transitory fish species.
- Protects marine areas of high importance for harbour porpoises, and of medium importance for killer whales, humpback whales and Dall's porpoises; harbour seals and Northern (Steller) sea lions are also present.
- Protects a small area of grizzly bear habitat with suitability rated as low.

Recreation and Tourism

- Contains a safe boat anchorage in most weather conditions for boaters half-way along Grenville Channel on the Inside Passage.
- Some hiking and canoeing opportunities to Brodie and Freda lakes. Public access to the lakes, however, must cross through Indian Reserve (I.R.) #69.
- Presents kayaking, small boating, camping, fishing and scenic viewing opportunities.
- Offers viewing of scenic waterfall on Sparkling Creek between Freda and Brodie lakes.

Cultural Heritage

- Contains archaeological sites within the park.
- Local First Nations are completing traditional use studies.

Commercial Business Opportunities

- Provides potential commercial business opportunities for guided interpretation and education boat tour groups based on the special features of this park. This type of business is best developed as part of a systems approach where several provincial parks, protected areas and Crown land areas along the Inside Passage are included to give clients a diverse and interesting program.
- Provides limited commercial business opportunities for guided angling and hunting. Any business proposals for these consumptive opportunities must be reviewed under the Parks and Protected Areas Branch's Impact Assessment Policy to ensure their compatibility with park management objectives. (See Appendix 1 for activities allowed in this park).

[Click here for Figure 1: Regional Context Map - 1,863 kb pdf](#)

Significance in the Protected Areas System

- Conserves various sensitive aquatic habitats including estuaries and the lower reaches of coastal streams.
- Protects intertidal zones composed of unconsolidated material and of low slope, eel grass and kelp beds and nursery habitat for crustaceans and fishes.
- Conserves a dynamic estuarine system that is influenced by a lake dominated watershed and a fjord-like passage.
- Protects a safe and scenic anchorage along the Inside Passage, an internationally significant scenic travel corridor.
- Contributes to a provincially significant system of marine parks along British Columbia's coast that provides small boaters with reliable, safe anchorages.
- Protects part of the anchorage's viewscape.

Land Uses, Tenures and Interests

Access

Access to the park is by boat or float plane. The park is located 105 kilometres south of Prince Rupert and 20 kilometres north of Lowe Inlet Marine Provincial Park.

Existing Tenures, Alienations and Encumbrances

- Exclusion of Iakgwas I.R. #69, DL 2584.
- Trapline 611T029; the trapline currently is not authorized by a Park Use Permit.
- A Park Use Permit authorizes angler guiding on Freda Lake and the use of the park for commercial tourism anchorage purposes.

Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- Commercial fisher operations intensively harvest prawns in East Inlet and sea cucumbers in Grenville Channel, including around Rogers Point and Harriot Island.
- Commercial fisher operations harvest red king and Dungeness crabs at moderately intense levels in East Inlet.

First Nations Interests

The park is within the asserted territory of the Tsimshian Tribal Council. Two member First Nations, the Allied Tsimshian Tribes (Lax Kw'alaams Band) and Kitkatla First Nation, include the park within their traditional territory mapping. The Tsimshian Tribal Council supported park establishment if the following concerns could be accommodated:

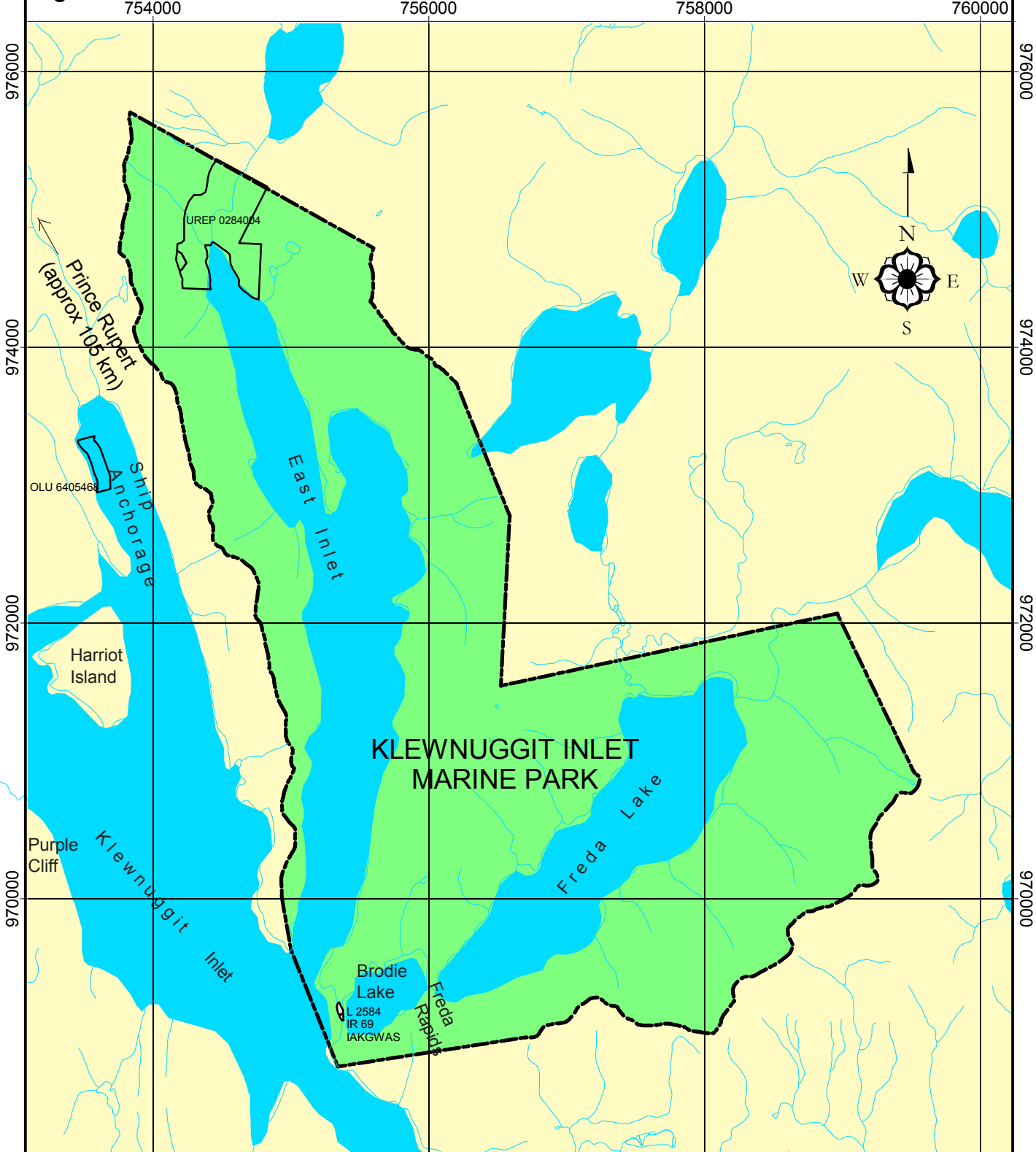
- that establishment be non-prejudicial to existing or future land claims;
- that all traditional Tsimshian rights be maintained;
- that the presence of anchor buoys is acceptable;
- that there be no land-based developments at this time; and,
- that any land-based developments require permission from the appropriate Hereditary Chief(s)

Other Agency Interests

- The Biodiversity Branch and Fish and Wildlife Recreation and Allocation Branch of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, and the Canadian Wildlife Service have an interest in the waterfowl populations in the park.

Figure 2: Tenures and Land Use

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Park



754000 Scale 1:40000 756000 200 0 200 Meters 758000 760000



Minor Roads	Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Park Boundary	Indian Reserve
Major Roads	Cadastral Data/Tenures	Protected Areas



Skeena District

- The Biodiversity Branch and Fish and Wildlife Recreation and Allocation Branch of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection have a management interest in the cutthroat and Dolly Varden fish species living in Brodie and Freda lakes and the lake-fed streams entering tidal waters.
- Department of Fisheries and Oceans has an interest in the salmon using creeks in Klewnuggit Inlet, and the management of marine waters.
- The Archaeological Planning and Assessment, Registries Department, Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management has an interest in the archaeological values in the park under the auspices of the *Heritage Conservation Act*
- The park lies within Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection Wildlife Management Unit 6-11 and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans statistical area - sub area 5-23.

Private and Public Stakeholder Interests

- Council of B.C. Yacht Clubs has an interest in the park because of its safe and scenic anchorage.
- Sea Kayaking Association of British Columbia has an interest in the park as a major destination for kayak users.
- Skeena-Queen Charlotte Regional District is interested in the park because of its tourism benefits.
- Residents of the north coast look to this park as an important boating and outdoor recreation destination.
- Northern British Columbia Tourism Association has an interest in the park because of its value to the tourism industry and the boating public.

Marine Provincial Park Role Statement

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park's primary role focuses on conserving aquatic habitats associated with the Grenville Pass portion of the North Coast Fjords Marine Ecoregion. To this end, Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park is among several marine parks and protected areas along the Inside Passage (e.g. Union Passage, Lowe Inlet and Green Inlet parks are others nearby), that contribute to a system of protected estuarine, intertidal and marine environments. The park fulfills a secondary but highly significant role of protecting a scenic, safe anchorage for small boaters navigating the Inside Passage of British Columbia's coast. The park also presents opportunities for local day use activities such as kayaking, hiking and wildlife viewing.

Management Commitments and Issues

Management Direction from Previous Planning

A freshwater fisheries information summary and management strategy for the park indicates that at present no concerns or issues require attention and that current information about aquatic life in the park is adequate.

Management Issues

Theme	Issue
Protecting the park's ecological values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park's flora and fauna are relatively unknown because inventory of these values is incomplete. The park's ecological integrity may be at risk because land use activities, such as forest harvesting, on lands next to the park may cause impacts. The park's ecological values may be at risk because of a lack of coordination between federal and provincial agencies and within provincial agencies in sharing resource information and in permitting potential incompatible resource use activities (e.g., timing of commercial fisheries). The park's coastal location places intertidal and shoreline areas and wildlife dependent on these habitats at risk because of potential pollution from an oil spill.
Protecting the park's recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park's viewscape may be threatened because of potential forest harvesting outside the park's boundaries. Visitors to the park may be at risk because informal park trails to Brodie and Freda lakes are not maintained. The trails may also pose an illegal access concern as they traverse through I.R. #69.
Protect cultural values in the park.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The park's cultural heritage sites may be subject to disturbance because of a lack of archaeological and historical information and data.
Park Information	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The public often does not know the park exists because of a lack of appropriate park signs and information.

Management Direction

Priority Management Objectives and Strategies

Objective	Strategy
To protect the park's ecological values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Complete an inventory of flora and fauna with emphasis on aquatic ecosystems. Ensure that park boundary is defined on the ground relative to IR#69. Work with other agencies such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (fisheries issues), the Biodiversity Branch and Fish and Wildlife Recreation and Allocation Branch of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, (wildlife and fisheries issues) and Ministry of Forests (forestry issues) to ensure co-ordination. Ensure Environmental Stewardship Division staff (regional in particular) are aware of their role in the BC Marine Oil Spill Response Plan and the sensitivity ratings of the park's coastline in the Coastal Resources and Oil Spill Response Atlas when the Ministry of Sustainable Resource Management completes this mapping for the North Coast.
To protect the park's recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensure the visual integrity and scenic quality of forested lands next to the park scheduled for harvesting are considered through appropriate land use planning processes and discussion with the Ministry of Forests. Conduct an assessment of trails leading to Brodie and Freda lakes and consult with local First Nations and other stakeholders to determine if the trail should be upgraded and designated as a formal trail. Formal questions in regards to legal access should be resolved as well - see strategy on protecting First Nations values. Evaluate the need for a mooring buoy that will serve to reduce environmental damage to aquatic life and water quality and allow safe boat anchoring.
To protect the park's cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate and collect information on cultural heritage values.

Objective	Strategy
To protect First Nations values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet with the Tsimshian First Nation as issues require. • Discuss with local First Nations and Department of Indian Affairs access through I.R. #69 and depending on discussions take steps to accommodate, mitigate or eliminate recreational use of I.R. #69. • Aboriginal rights may be exercised subject to conservation and safety concerns
To provide information to park visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inform park visitors of the area's park status by placing appropriate signs in the park. • Update the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection official website with current information about the park. • Develop an Environmental Stewardship Division electronic and paper brochure highlighting the British Columbia marine provincial park system for the Inside Passage. Emphasize the conservation role as well as the recreation role in this document.

Consultation and Future Planning

The Environmental Stewardship Division will continue to consult with the Tsimshian, local stakeholders and adjacent resource users as necessary. Environmental Stewardship Division will consult with Ministry of Forests to identify potential impacts that forest harvesting on lands next to the park may pose and develop strategies to protect the park. The priority for preparing a full management plan for Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park is ranked as low. This management direction statement will be reviewed and revised, if necessary, in five to seven years time.

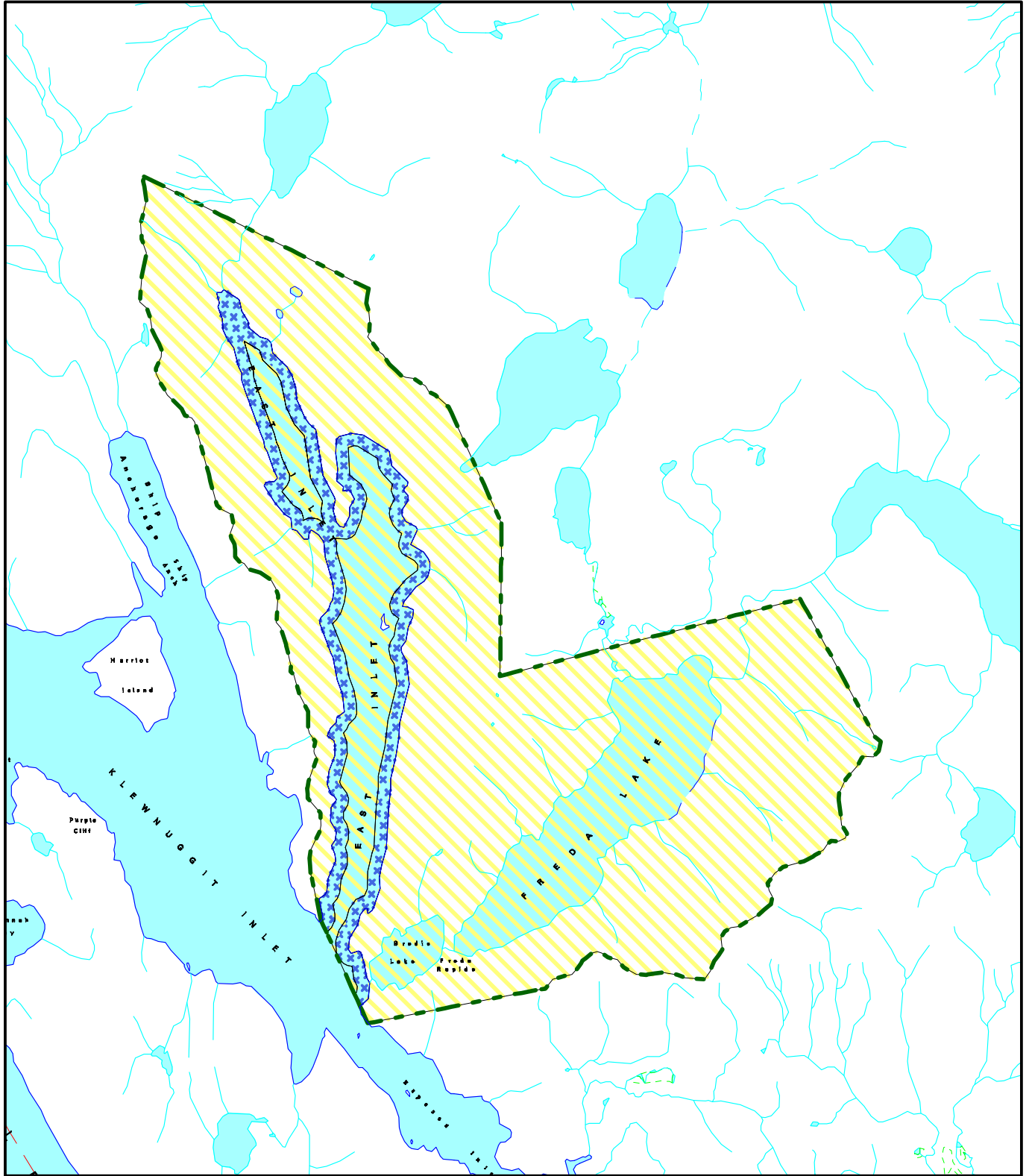
Zoning Plan

The park's land above the natural boundary of the ocean is defined as Natural Environment Zone with an emphasis on protecting the park's natural and outdoor recreation values, including the viewscape from the anchorage. A portion of the park's foreshore is placed within a Natural Environment Zone recognizing the variety of boats (motor to human propelled) that use this anchorage. The Natural Environment Zone covers 1,429 hectares of the upland and about 173 hectares of foreshore.

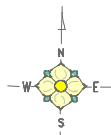
Special Feature Zone applies to an area extending 100 metres out from East Inlet's natural boundary inside the park. This zone ensures protection of estuarine and intertidal environments in the park through the application of more stringent regulations and policies. The Special Feature Zone includes about 131 hectares of foreshore. (See Figure 3 for distribution of the zones).

Figure 3: Zoning

Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Park



Projection: UTM Zone 9
Datum: NAD83



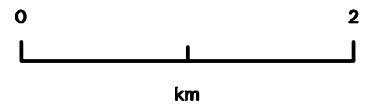
Natural Environment



Special Feature



Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Jan 2003 for Ministry
of Water, Land and Air Protection

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

**Appendix 1. Klewnuggit Inlet Marine Provincial Park
Table of Acceptable Uses, Activities and Facilities.**

Activity/Use/Facility	Acceptability
Aboriginal traditional uses	Y
Hunting	Y
Fishing	Y
Trapping	Y
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N
Recreational Gold Panning/Rock Hounding	N
Utility corridors	N
Communication Sites	N
Horse Use/ Pack Animals	N
Guide Outfitting (hunting)	Y
Guide Outfitting (fishing)	Y
Guide Outfitting (nature tours)	Y
Guide Outfitting (river rafting)	N/A
Cat-Assisted Skiing	N/A
Ski Hills	N/A
Commercial Recreation (facility-based)	M
Commercial recreation (non-facility based)	M
Backcountry Huts	M
Water Control Structures	N
Fish Stocking and Enhancement	N
Road Access	N
Off-road Access (snowmobiling)	N
Off-road Access (motorized)	N
Off-road Access (mechanical activities)	N
Motorized Water Access	Y
Aircraft Access	Y
Fire Management (suppression)	Y
Fire Management (prescribed fire management)	M
Fire Management (prevention)	M
Forest Insect/Disease Control	N1
Noxious Weed Control	N1
Exotic Insect/Disease Control	N1
Scientific Research (specimen collection)	M
Scientific Research (manipulative activities)	M

Y= allowed subject to conditions identified in the management direction statement or management plan
M= may be permitted if compatible with protected area objectives
N/A= not applicable

N= not allowed
N1= allowed for expressed management purposes only
N2= present and allowed to continue but not normally allow