MILLIGAN HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Peace Region 2006

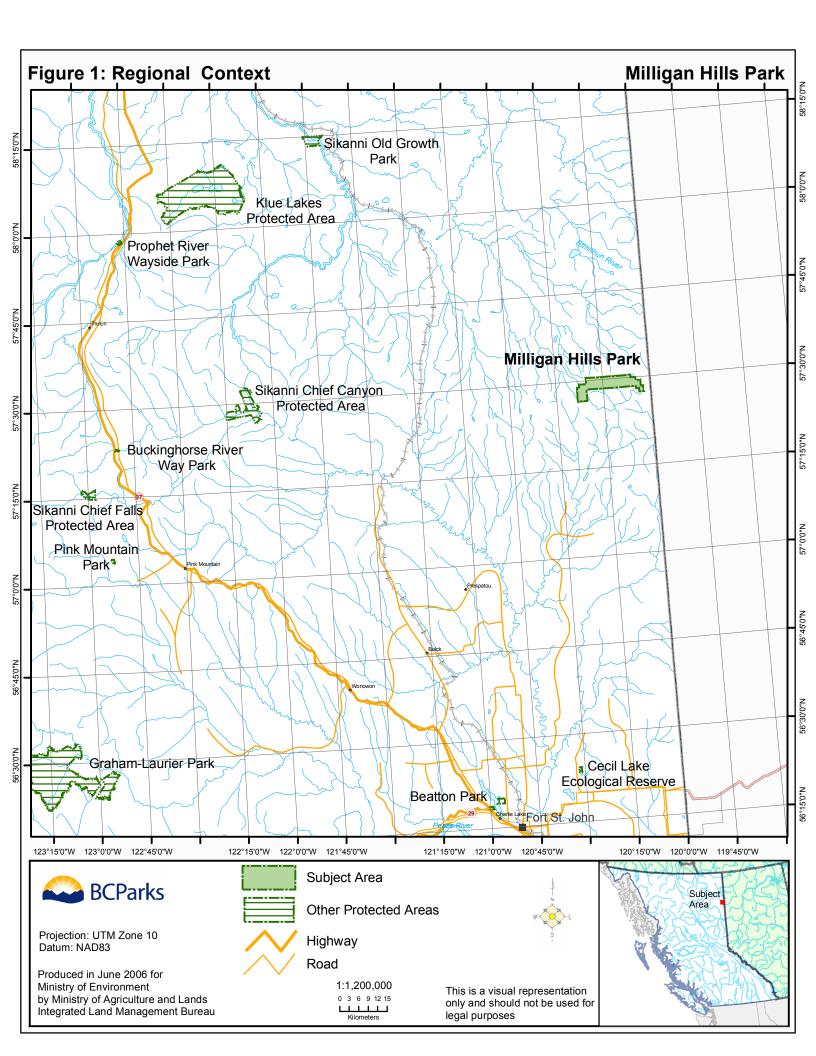
| Approsed by: | |
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MILLIGAN HILLS PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Milligan Hills Provincial Park is to protect regionally significant forest and grassland habitat for an endangered Alberta population of woodland caribou. The park is located near the British Columbia - Alberta boundary, about 150 km north of Fort St John, and includes the headwaters of the Chinchaga drainage in the eastern section of the Milligan Hills. The park represents the Clear Hills ecosection and is characterized by rolling plateaus with Boreal White and Black Spruce (BWBSmw1) vegetation.

| Known Management Issues | Response |
|--|--|
| Lack of scientific data respecting caribou | Work with oil and gas operators and resource |
| population use of habitat in the park | management agencies in Alberta to increase |
| | knowledge of habitat use patterns and |
| | movement of caribou in area. |
| Oil and gas operations occur in the area | Work with the Oil and Gas Commission to |
| around the park | ensure that operations do not impair caribou |
| | use of habitat in the park, develop new access |
| | points near the park or encroach on park |
| | boundaries. |
| Forests surrounding the park are immature | Work with the Ministry of Forests and Range |
| boreal mixed wood, which will support future | and tenure holders to ensure that any future |
| harvesting. | forest harvesting does not adversely effect |
| | caribou use of the park or other park values. |
| Lack of management presence due to difficult | Increase management presence as resources |
| access | permit. |

Zoning

The entire park is zoned Wilderness Conservation in recognition of the wildlife and habitat values of the park, and the limited human use of the area.

| | Conserv | vation |
|--|-----------|--|
| Representation - ecosection | | Milligan Hills Provincial Park provides the entire protected areas system representation of the Clear Hills ecosection. Only 0.57% of this ecosection is protected in the province. |
| biogeoclimatic subzone/variant | | Milligan Hills protects examples of the BWBSmw1 (Boreal White and Black Spruce, moist, warm) and BWBSwk2 (Boreal White and Black Spruce, wet, cool) subzones. Only 0.68% of the provincial occurrence of BWBSmw1 is in protected areas, while BWBSwk2 is only 2.4% protected. Milligan Hills contributes 59% of total provincial protection of BWBSwk2, and almost 11% of BWBSmw1. |
| Special Feature | | |
| Rare/Endangered Values | | regionally significant forest and grassland habitat for an endangered Alberta population of Woodland Caribou |
| Scientific/Research Opportunities | | |
| | Recrea | ition |
| Representation Backcountry | | Very limited recreational opportunities due to difficult access. |
| Destination Travel corridor | | |
| Local recreation | | |
| Special Opportunities | | |
| Education/Interpretation Opportunities | | |
| C | ultural H | leritage |
| Representation | | Unknown. This park lies within the area traditionally used by the First Nations of Treaty 8. |
| Special Feature | П | |

Other Management Considerations

| Other Designations | |
|--|--|
| Relationship to other PAs | |
| Collaborative Management Arrangements | This park will, once the agreement is signed, 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 Fort St. John Land and Resource Management Plan recommended the area for protection in 1997 |
| Area: | 7,226 hectares |
| Date of establishment: | June 29, 1999 |

