Thompson River District

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

October, 1999

for Mount Savona Provincial Park





Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks

BC Parks

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APPROVALS

KAMLOOPS GOAL 2 PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENTS - GOAL 2 BINDER APPROVALS PAGE

Forward

This binder contains 32 management direction statements developed under the direction of the Kamloops Land and Resource Plan Implentation Table and BC Parks. The government designated these protected areas in May, 1996. The 32 management direction statements provide strategic direction for these protected areas. Protected areas' roles, strategies and objectives will not change extensively over time. Management actions, implemented through operations plans, however, will change as priorities, funding and support resources come available.

☐ Hiuihill Creek Park.
☐ Lac Le Jeune Park.
☐ Monte Creek Park
■ Mount. Savona Park
☐ Mud Creek Delta Park
☐ North Thompson Islands Park
☐ North Thompson Oxbows East Park
☐ North Thompson Oxbow Jensen Park
☐ North Thompson Oxbow Manteau Park
☐ Painted Bluffs Park
☐ Pritchard Park
☐ Pyramid Creek Falls Park
☐ Tsintsunko Lakes Park
☐ Wallachin Oxbows Park
☐ Wire Cache Park
Denis O'Gorman
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Date: <u>99/12/29</u>

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Purpose of Management Direction Statements

Management Direction Statements provide strategic management direction for all protected areas that do not have a full management plan. MDS do not negate the need for future, more detailed management plans. Management Direction Statements also describe protected area values management issues and concerns; management strategy focused on immediate priority objectives and strategies; and, directional 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 BC Parks Impact Assessment Policy.

MOUNT SAVONA PARK

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

I. Introduction

A. Setting and Context

The 322-hectare Mount Savona Park protects a diverse area on the Thompson plateau south of Savona with cultural heritage, conservation and recreational importance. It is situated 35 kilometers west of Kamloops, and is accessed by the Tunkwa Lake road from Savona.

This protected area was recommended through the Kamloops LRMP process and formally established on April 30th, 1996 as a provincial park through Order-in-Council under the *Environment and Land Use Act*. The park was then designated in Schedule E of the *Park Amendment Act*, 1997.

This Management Direction Statement is intended to provide direction and guidelines for managing Mount Savona Park for the foreseeable future.

II. Protected Area Values

A. Conservation

- diversity of habitats on cliffs, canyons, dry ridges, small lakes
- old-growth Douglas-fir stands, pockets of high elevation grasslands, small lake and marshy openings; forest/grassland/wetland interface
- transition between MSxk (montane spruce) and IDK dk1
- highest (elevation) known occurrence of the plant Fame flower (*Talinum sediforme*), that grows on Kamloops lava at specific elevations
- potential habitat for flammulated owls, bats

B. Recreation and Tourism

- highly scenic cliffs and rock canyons
- hiking, nature study, wildlife viewing, cultural heritage appreciation
- summit is accessible by road with excellent views of surrounding countryside and dry Thompson River valley

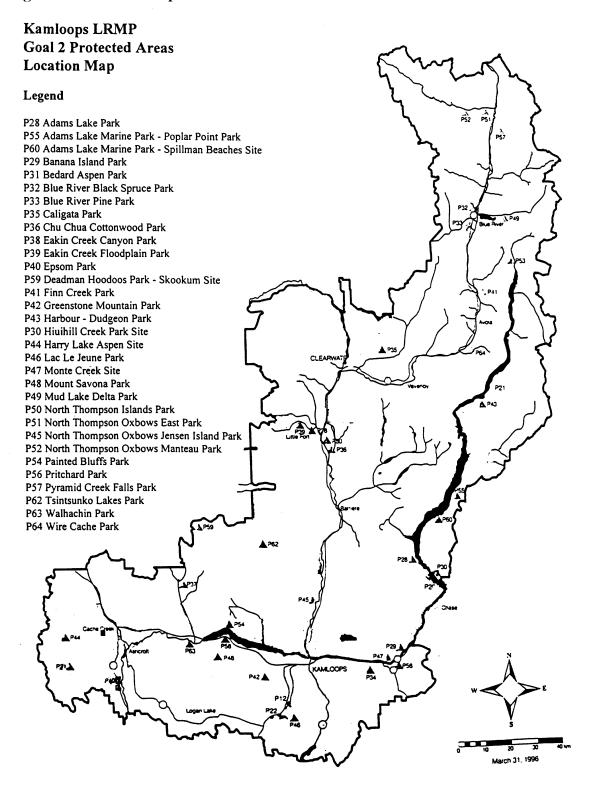
C. Cultural Heritage

• excellent condition pictograph site in rock overhang; also served as shelter, lookout and could be an ancient burial site

D. Significance in the Protected Areas System

 a small park providing representation of the Thompson plateau with a diverse array of habitats and important cultural/heritage features

Figure 2 - Location Map



III. Other Land Uses and Interests

A. Existing Tenures

- Park designation under the *Park Amendment Act* ensures that all existing liens, charges, and encumbrances other than those applying to commercial logging, mining or energy exploration and development will continue to be authorized through issuance of park use permits. This policy recognizes all existing land act tenures, water rights, trapping licenses and other legal tenures and rights. Park includes powerline, access road to communications site and communication towers and facilities.
- Park designation provides for continuance of existing grazing under administration and management of the *Range Act*

B. Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- cutblocks and associated access roads. See Longer Terms Issues and Concerns on page 6.
- Tunkwa Lake road
- cattle grazing throughout

C. First Nations Interests

• Management of the park will require ongoing consultation with the Shuswap Nation to incorporate First Nations interests.

D. Other Agency Interests

The Park will be managed in close co-ordination with various resource agencies, particularly BC Environment and Ministry of Forests.

• grazing is managed by Ministry of Forests

E. Private and Public Stakeholder Interests

- access road and communications facilities are included in the park
- four grazing licenses

IV. Management Issues and Concerns

A. Integration with Other Land Use Planning Processes

This management statement, future management plans, and all resulting management actions will follow the intent and criteria set out by the Kamloops LRMP for the Mount Savona protected area.

B. Consultation and Future Planning

Planning and management of the park will conform to the goals, directions and guiding principles as set forth in the Provincial Protected Areas Strategy. BC Parks is accountable for planning, administration and management of the park through application of the laws, policies and regulations granted under the *Park Act*. BC Parks will coordinate with other agencies, the LRMP table, various public planning groups and First Nations in amending the MDS or

developing management plans for all of the new protected areas arising from the Kamloops LRMP.

This Management Direction Statement has been reviewed and approved in principle by the Kamloops LRMP implementation team.

C. Role of the Park

The primary role of this park is the protection and conservation of natural and cultural values of the site. Mount Savona Park provides representation of dry forests of the Thompson plateau with a diverse array of habitats and regionally important cultural/heritage features. A secondary role is to allow opportunities for low impact, dispersed types of recreation activities such as hiking, nature study and hunting.

D. Zoning

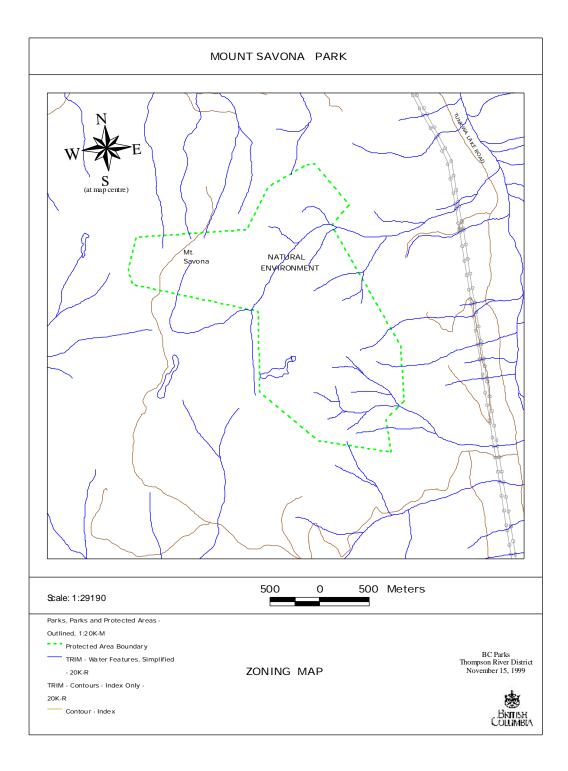
The zoning plan as shown on the adjoining page reflects the intent of the LRMP recommendations for Mt. Savona Park. The Park is primarily zoned as **Natural Environment** to maintain the area in a natural condition while allowing some recreational use. A small **Heritage Areas and Natural and Cultural Sites** zone is designated over the cave and pictograph site to protect the cultural heritage features of the site (not shown on map to protect the integrity of the site). The zoning plan may be changed in a future management planning process.

E. Management Objectives and Strategies

In addition to accepting the basic principles of maintaining existing tenures and rights, the following objectives will direct the short and long-term management of the area:

- to maintain the natural qualities and conditions of the park
- to foster relationships with First Nations through ongoing consultation and discussion of their concerns and views on protected area management and planning
- to maintain the visual, recreational and tourism values
- to maintain the diversity of wildlife species and habitats
- to discourage the introduction of non-native plant species
- to allow for continued casual recreation use hiking, nature study, wildlife viewing, cultural heritage appreciation, rock hounding, hunting, ATV use and mountain biking.

Figure 2 - Zoning Map



F. Longer Term Issues and Concerns

Specific issues that will be considered in the longer term can be highlighted under the following topics:

Conservation

- inventory of conservation values, in particular distribution of *Talinum sediforme* (Fame flower)
- vegetation management protection for areas of special species and habitats; insect and disease control; grazing management, fire management.
- forest activities on adjacent lands will be reviewed through the normal Ministry of Forests referral process.

Recreation and Tourism

- access management, especially around the pictograph site, areas of *Talinum sediforme*; cliffs and canyons
- recreation use appropriate activities and levels of use

Culture

- inventory of archaeological sites
- protection of archaeological sites
- recognition of any identified traditional native uses in conjunction with Shuswap Nations

G. Short Term Issues and Concerns

The following Activity/Use Matrix outlines guidelines for managing uses, activities and facilities in the Park. These guidelines reflect the intent of the LRMP and, in general principle, follow the policies as set out for use and management of provincial park "Natural Environment" and "Heritage Areas and Natural and Cultural sites" zones.

Appendix - Activity / Use Matrix for Mt. Savona

Activity/Use Facility	Natural Environment	Heritage Areas tural and Cultural Sites
Hunting	Y	N
Fishing	N/A	N/A
Trapping	Y^2	N2
Grazing (domestic livestock)	Y	N
Recreational Gold Panning/Rock Hounding	N	N
Utility Corridors	N2	N
Communication Sites	N2	N1
Horse Use/Pack Animals	Y^3	N
Guide Outfitting (hunting)	Y^2	N2
Guide Outfitting (fishing)	N/A	N/A
Guide Outfitting (nature tours)	Y^2	Y^2
Guide Outfitting (river rafting)	N/A	N/A
Cat-Assisted Skiing	N/A	N/A
Ski-Hills	N/A	N/A
Heli-skiing	N/A	N/A
Heli-hiking	N	N
Tourist Infrastructure - Resorts	N/A	N/A
Backcountry Huts / Lodges / Cabins / Guest Ranches	N/A	N/A
Water Control Structures	N2	N/A
Fish Stocking and Enhancement	N/A	N/A
Road Access	\mathbf{Y}^{1}	N
Off-road Access (snowmobiling)	Y ³	N
Off-road Access (motorized)	Y ³	N
Off-road Access (mechanical activities)	Y ³	N
Motorized Water Access	N/A	N/A
Aircraft Access	N1	N
Fire Management Wildlife Management Prevention & Preparedness Prescribed Fire Management	N1	N1
Fire Management (suppression)	Y	Y
Forest Insect / Disease Control	Y	Y
Noxious Weed Control	Y	Y
Exotic Insect / Disease Control	Y	Y
Scientific Research (specimen collection)	N1	N1
Scientific Research (manipulative activities)	N1	N1

allowed, subject to conditions identified in the interim management statement or Y=

management plan not allowed

N1=

allowed for expressed management purposes only not normally allowed, but if present at time of PA establishment, will normally be allowed N2= to continue

¹ Road access plan for this area designates open and closed roads

By permit only
 On designated trails only
 On designated lakes only