

MUSCOVITE LAKES PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Omineca Region 2005

Approved by:



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Date: Oct. 31 2005

Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park is a 5,708-hectare park located on the western shore of Williston Reservoir, approximately 135 kilometres northwest of Mackenzie on the Finlay Forest Service Road.

Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park was first identified for protected area status through the Protected Areas Strategy and Mackenzie Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) process to protect one of the few remaining examples of the Parsnip Trench Ecosystem. The park provides the best representation of the Parsnip Trench Ecosystem, an ecosystem heavily altered by natural disturbances, logging and road development.

Important winter range for moose is found within Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park.

Unique kettle topography and barren, fish-free lakes are special natural and scenic features.

Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park is a wilderness area, and there are no facilities, of any kind, provided.

Primary Role

The primary role of Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park is to provide representation of the Parsnip Trench Ecosystem, and associated moist, cool Sub-Boreal Spruce ecosystems (SBS mk2).

Secondary Role

The secondary role is to ensure the continuation of barren, fish-free lakes.

Known Management Issues	Response
Unauthorized Access	Monitor <u>and enforce</u> to ensure no unauthorized ATV or vehicle access is constructed into the lakes. Work with the Tsay Keh Dene on an observe, record, report initiative.
Fish introduction	Ensure lakes are not stocked. Consider signing to ensure public does not stock lakes.
Fire suppression	Allow natural fires to occur

Zoning

Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park has been zoned Natural Environment to protect scenic values and provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection X Best representation of the Parsnip Trench Ecosection (PAT): only 2.67% of this ecosection is protected provincially; this park provides 53.51% of this representation. Heather-Dina Lakes Park is the only other significant contributor (42.1%) to this ecosection.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant X Best representation of SBS mk2: only 3.7% is protected provincially; this park provides 55.14% of overall provincial representation. Heather-Dina Lakes Park is the only other significant contributor (39.8%) to this subzone.

Special Feature

- X Unique kettle lakes that are fish-free

Rare/Endangered Values

Unknown, not surveyed

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Kettle lakes ecology
Invertebrate ecology of a barren lake system

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry Wilderness recreation opportunities in a unique setting adjacent to a large reservoir
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Kettle lakes formation and ecology

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

unknown

Special Feature

unknown

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

- Relationship to Other PAs X Complements Heather-Dina Lakes Park in providing representation of the Parsnip Trench Ecosection and the moist, cool Sub-Boreal Spruce (SBS mk2) ecosystem.

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

The Conservation Risk Assessment Process identified 3 risk factors (the shape, terrestrial ecosystem replication, and the size of the park) for the park and rated them as highly significant. Three stressors/threats were identified for the park: fire suppression and the introduction of fish species was rated as highly significant; while adjacent forest harvesting activity was rated as low significance.

Relationship to Other Strategies

Identified by the Protected Area Strategy and recommended for protected area status by the Mackenzie Land and Resource Management Plan in February 2001.

Area:

5,708 hectares

Date of establishment:

April 11, 2001.

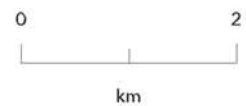
Zoning Map - Muscovite Lakes Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



 Natural Environment
 Protected Area Boundary



Produced in May 2003 for
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