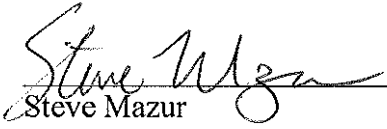


NASKO LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

May 2005

Approved by:



Steve Mazur
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: May 20/05



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: July 10, 2005

NAZKO LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Nazko Lake was one of 17 new protected areas recommended by the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan. The area was previously managed by the Ministry of Forests as a canoe route and recreation site. Nazko Lake was formally established as a Class A park on July 12, 1995. The park is 7,854 hectares in area and situated within the Chilcotin Plateau and Nazko Uplands ecosections.

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Nazko Lake Provincial Park is to protect extensive wetlands and forests important for moose and aquatic fur-bearers. The lakes are also used for feeding and loafing by the red-listed American white pelican. Old growth Douglas-fir occurs in the southern area of the park, near Nazko Lake. Contributes significantly to the poorly represented IDFd4 and SBPSdc biogeoclimatic zone variants by contributing 19.54% and 30.47% respectively, to the protected area representation of these variants.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of Nazko Lake Provincial Park is to provide a diversity of outdoor recreation opportunities, including an important 2 - 3 day recreational canoeing and paddling route in an undisturbed natural setting and vehicle accessible camping in a natural setting.

Small rustic campgrounds are situated on Loomis and Deepelt lakes. Recreation opportunities include canoeing, fishing, hunting, camping and wildlife viewing. Use levels are low, which is part of the experience that visitors expect. Access to the staging area for the canoe route is along a 20 km dirt road off of Highway #20.

Known Management Issues	Response
Bark beetle activities in park	Continue to monitor and work with the ministry of Forests on methods to control spread of bark beetle activities and prevent impacts to adjacent commercial forests.
Random camping may be impacting shoreline areas.	Monitor impacts using Backcountry Recreation Impact Monitoring (BRIM).
Potential displacement of pelicans.	Monitor pelican use and habits.
Unauthorized ATV use	Sign park boundaries and work with user groups to communicate <i>Park Act</i> regulations.

Zoning

The northern portion of the park is zoned Wilderness Recreation (approximately 6,048 ha or 77% of the park), while the southern area with road access is Nature Recreation (approximately 1,728 ha or 22% of the park). A small area which encompasses two camping spots with road access, a staging area and a boat launch is zoned Intensive Recreation (approximately 78 ha or 1% of the park).

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection

Contributes minimally to the Nazko Uplands Ecosection (10.91% protected). Nazko Lake contributes only 3.33% of the overall protected areas system representation of this ecosection. Major contributors are Tweedsmuir (31.68%) and Entiako (47.44%). Contributes to the under-represented Chilcotin Plateau Ecosection (4.02% protected). Nazko Lake contributes 7.8% of the overall protected area representation of this ecosection. Major contributors are Nunsi Park (33.99%), Big Creek Park (40.8%) and Churn Creek Protected Area (10.78%).

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Contributes significantly to the poorly represented IDFdk4 variant (2.19% protected). One of only 4 protected areas contributing to the representation of this variant. Nazko Lake is the second greatest contributor (19.54%) behind Churn Creek (64.98%). Contributes significantly to the under-represented SBPSdc subzone . (5.41% protected). One of only 5 protected areas contributing to the representation of this variant. Nazko Lake is the second greatest contributor (30.47%) behind Kluskoil Lake (64.62%). Contributes modestly to the SBPSxc subzone, of which 3.19% is protected. Nazko Lake contributes 6.97% of the overall protected areas system representation of this subzone. Major contributors are Big Creek (25.14%), Nunsi (54.64%) White Pelican (8.19%).

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values

American white pelican

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry

2 - 3 day paddling experience
- destination

Regionally, not provincially
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Popular area regionally for fishing and hunting.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature None known

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability Medium. Logging and seismic lines may increase access to northern park boundary. Increased use may impact pelican use of area.

Relationship to Other Strategies Recommended in the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan.

Area: 7,854 ha

Date of Establishment: July 12, 1995