

**PURPOSE
STATEMENT
AND ZONING PLAN**

February 2007

for Nickel Plate
Provincial Park



Ministry of Environment,
Environmental Stewardship
Division

Nickel Plate
Provincial Park

Purpose Statement and
Zoning Plan

Approved by:



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Date: Feb 15, 2007



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Date: March 8, 2007

Nickel Plate Provincial Park

Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Background Summary

Nickel Plate is a small park located at the northeast corner of Nickel Plate Lake. The park is about 39 km west of Penticton and about 5 km from Apex Mountain Resort. Access into the park is via a rough road off the Hedley-Nickel Plate Forest Service Road.

In summer, the park offers opportunities for camping, hiking and fishing for stocked Kamloops and rainbow trout. Camping facilities include a pit toilet and 5 user-maintained campsites. The Ministry of Tourism, Sports and Arts forest recreation site located at the west end of the lake has better road and boat access and is more popular for camping.

The Nickel Plate Lake area is an important regional winter destination for cross - country skiing and snowmobiling. West of the park, the Nickel Plate Cross - Country Ski Club has a system of well groomed trails at the south east end of the lake. The road through the park is part of an unmanaged cross - country ski trail system that extends to the north and east of the park. Snowmobilers use the rough road through the park to access lands to the north. Use of the area has been guided by a 1995 Nickel Plate Winter Trails Management Plan developed by the Ministry of Forests and Range in consultation with the multi-interest Nickel Plate Winter Trails Working Group.

The park is part of a guide outfitter area. The Similkameen Improvement District for Keremeos has a dam on the west end of the lake and storage rights on the lake. This does not significantly affect park use.

Primary Role

To provide opportunities for cross-country skiing, hiking, fishing and camping in a backcountry setting. Snowmobilers pass through the park to points beyond.

Secondary Role

To protect a small portion of the Okanagan Highland/Thompson Plateau landscape. No known red/blue listed species occur in the park.

Protected Area Values and Significance Summary Matrix

Conservation:

Representation

Ecosection

- Okanagan Range- contributes only 0.17% to the protected areas system representation of this ecosection, which is well represented within the province (14.17% protected).

Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

- ESSFxc1- minor contribution (0.36%) to the protected areas system representation of this subzone/variant. This subzone/variant is very well represented (41%) in the protected areas system.

ESSFxcw - minor contribution (<0.01%) to the protected areas system representation of this subzone/variant. This subzone/variant is very well represented (49%) in the protected areas system.

Special Features

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Recreation:

Representation

Backcountry

Destination

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Provides a range of summer and winter recreational experiences in conjunction with adjoining and nearby lands. Activities include fishing, camping, hiking, cross-country skiing, and snowmobiling.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage:

Representation

Special Feature

Other Management Considerations:

Other Designations

Relationship to Other Protected Areas

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area

105 hectares

Date of establishment

December 14, 1938

Management Issues

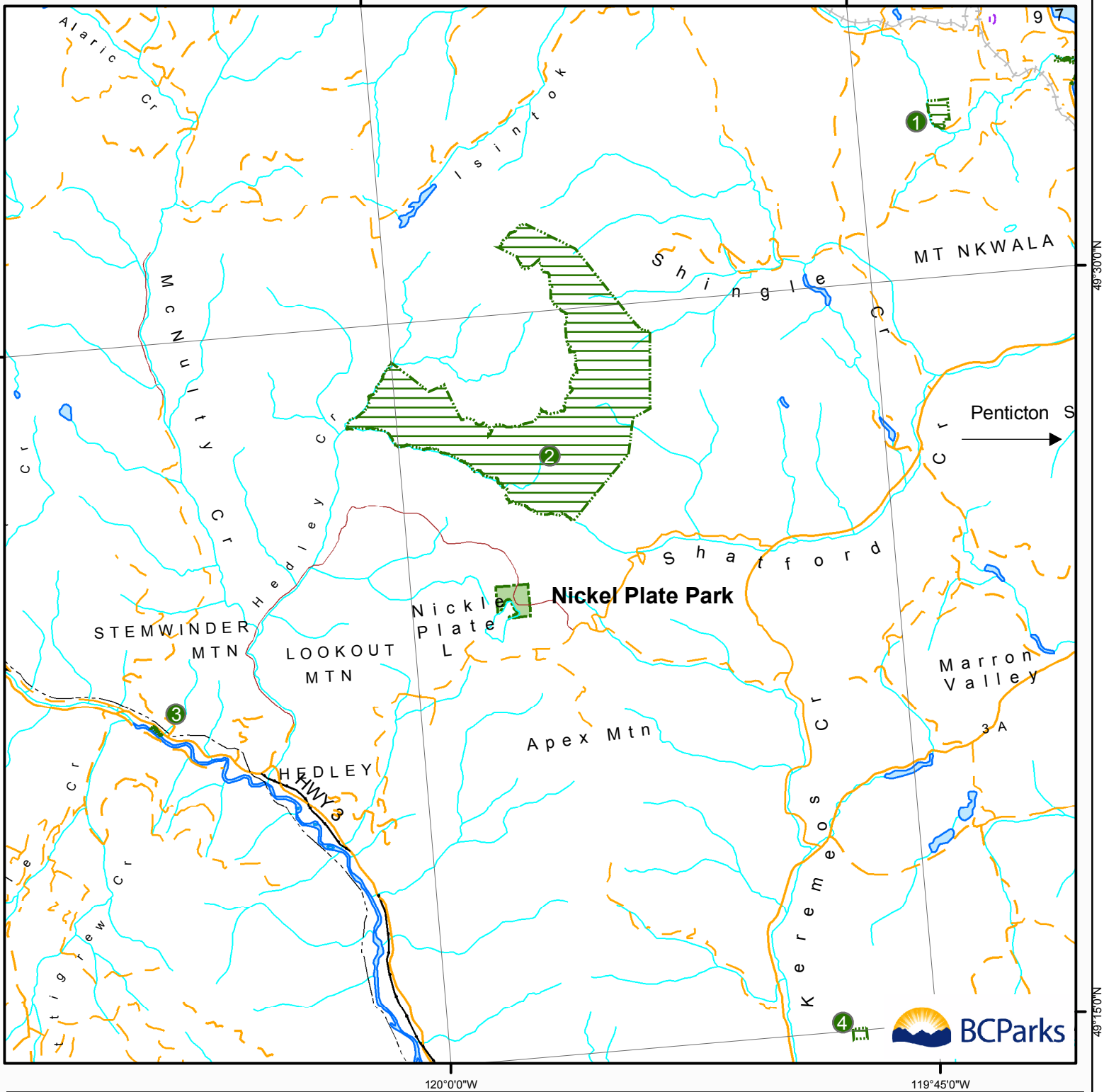
Known Management Issues	Response
Some erosion has occurred on the steep section of road to the camping area.	Monitor the condition of the road and make improvements if public safety becomes a concern.


Zoning

The entire park is Nature Recreation zone to protect its scenic values and to provide for recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.





Figure 1: Regional Context

Nickel Plate Park









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Ministry of Environment
by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Integrated Land Management Bureau

	Nickel Plate Park
	Other Protected Areas
	Highway
	Road

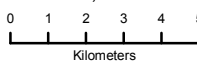
Other Provincial Protected Areas

-  Trout Creek Ecological Reserve
-  Brent Mountain Protected Area
-  Stemwinder Park
-  Keremeos Columns Park

Projection: UTM Zone 11
Datum: NAD83

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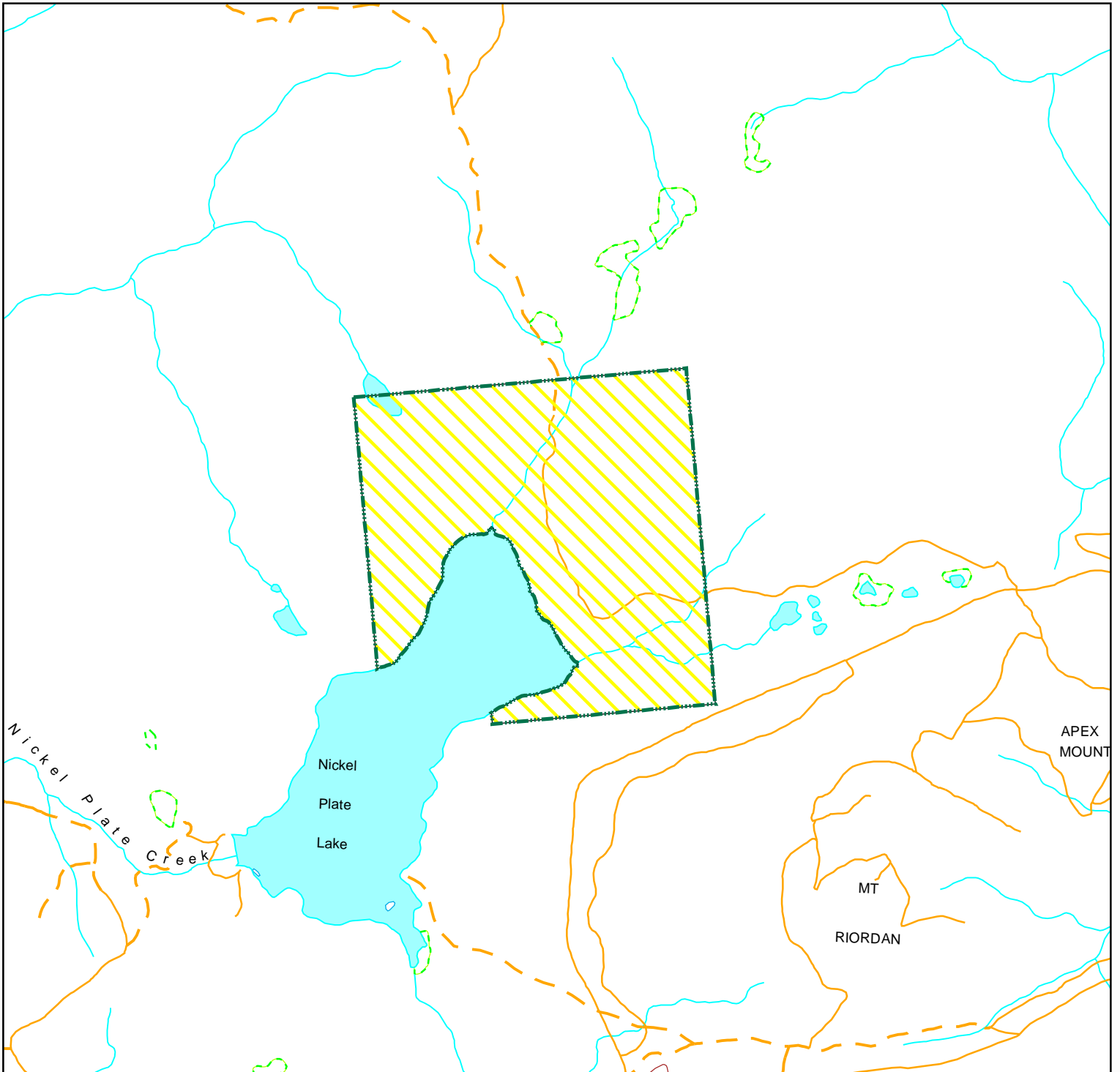
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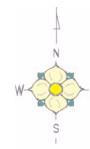
Kilometers

Zoning Map

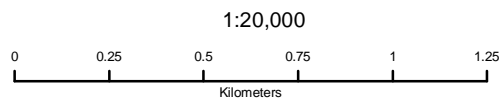
Nickel Plate Park



 Nature Recreation



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