NISKONLITH LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The **primary role** of Niskonlith Lake Provincial Park is to provide opportunities for public recreation access and use of Niskonlith Lake, with emphasis on camping, fishing, boating and nature study. Niskonlith is a significant regional lake in the Chase, west Shuswap area.

Niskonlith Lake Provincial Park is situated northwest of Chase. It is a popular site with local fishermen and attracts family campers from the local region. Facilities are very rustic with fire rings, toilets and bear proof garbage containers provided. A well used boat launch provides access to the lake for fishermen and boaters. The intent at Niskonlith Lake is to provide a less structured camping experience than found in the nearby parks of Shuswap Lake and the planned development at Adams Lake Park.

The park has a **secondary role** in protecting lake shore riparian and upland habitats. Containing only 238 hectares, the park provides minor contribution to representation of two relatively underrepresented subzone/variants – IDFmw2 and IDFxh1 in the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. Old growth specimens of Douglas-fir occur in the park.

Known Management Issues	Response
Park recreation potential has not been realized because of under-developed facility base. (No tables, poorly defined sites). Opportunities at this park should allow for less formalized type of camping than found in standard campgrounds.	 Construct campground facilities to provide less structured campground facility than found in standard campgrounds. Consult with user groups in the preparation of development concept and design plans.
Undefined camping has conservation impacts.	 Road access through the park to adjacent private properties will have to be closed off before the campground facilities are developed.

Zoning

The lakeshore portion of the park is zoned for **Intensive Recreation** (approximately 41 ha or 16% of the park). The boundary for this zone is offset 30 meters on the uphill side of the Niskonlith Lake road, paralleling the length of the road through the park, and includes existing lake access, camping and day use sites. The remainder of the park (approximately 199 ha or 84% of the park) is zoned as **Natural Environment** with the primary intent to maintain the relatively undisturbed condition of the environment, while allowing for compatible recreation uses

Conservation

Representation - ecosection		Very minor representation of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. Very liitle of the park exists in an undisturbed natural condition. The area was selectively logged before it was designated as a park, and a number of old roads access through to the power line right-of-way above the park.		
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		Some minor representation of IDFmw2 (only 4.08% of this BGC is protected province wide of which .64% is contributed to by Niskonlith Lake Park) and IDFxh2 (6.85% protected province wide of which 1.2% is contributed to by Niskonlith Lake Park) subzone/variants, however, disturbed park habitats reduce significance for representation.		
Special Feature		none indentified		
Rare/Endangered Values		none identified		
Scientific/Research Opportunities		none identified		
Recreation				
Representation backcountry				
destination		popular destination site for camping and fishing; intent is to provide a less structure campground experience than those found in nearby parks at Shuswap and Adams lakes.		
travel corridor	\boxtimes	some use from the Trans Canada for day use rest stop and overnight stopover		
local recreation	\boxtimes	regional day use and destination use		
Special Opportunities	\boxtimes	quality fishing and less formalized camping on Shuswap Lake		
Education/Interpretation Opportunities				
Cultural Heritage				
Representation	\boxtimes	First Nations use but little on-site evidence of these activities		
Special Feature				

Other Management Considerations				
Other Designations				
Relationship to other PAs	\boxtimes	Complements high use recreation parks at Shuswap and Adams Lake, by providing less formalized facility base.		
Co-operative Management Arrangements				
Partnerships				
Vulnerability	\boxtimes	On-going weed control		
Relationship to other Strateg	ies 🗌			
Area: 238 hectares				
Date of Establishment:	September 4, 1975			

