NORTH THOMPSON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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Date: 141). 12/03

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NORTH THOMPSON RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The **primary role** of North Thompson River Provincial Park is to serve as a strategically situated overnight and stay use stopover for the travelling public on Highway 5 (Yellowhead Highway). It is essentially the only provincial park facility on Highway 5 between Kamloops and Mount Robson Provincial Park.

North Thompson River Provincial Park is located at the confluence of the Clearwater and North Thompson rivers, about 5 kilometers south of the town of Clearwater. The park is popular with travellers on Hwy #5, with families, or as a base camp for visitors exploring Wells Gray Provincial Park and the Clearwater area. The 126 hectare park contains a campground with 61 units, a riverside picnic area, a playground and hiking trails. Other nearby campgrounds at Spahats Creek, Pyramid and Clearwater Lake are situated in Wells Gray Provincial Park and exclusively serve Wells Gray visitors.

As a **secondary role**, the park conserves river riparian habitats and a small, but relatively important example of the IDFmw2 subzone/variant (1.8 % of the provincial protected representation of this subzone/variant). This subzone/variant is underrepresented in the protected area system (only 4% captured).

As a **tertiary role** the park protects locally significant archaeological values (kekuli pits).

Known Management Issues	Response
Root rot is an ongoing issue.	Maintain annual inspection and removal of
	hazard trees. Apply biological control agents
	to prevent infection of Armillaria.

Zoning

The main access road, service yard, campground and associated day use facilities are zoned for **Intensive Recreation**. The remainder 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		Minor contribution to representation of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. Facility development has modified natural condition in the south part of the park.			
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		Some representation of IDFmw2 subzone/variant in the upper north portion of the park and on an island on the river.			
Special Feature	\boxtimes	confluence of Clearwater River and North Thompson River; salmon runs in the river			
Rare/Endangered Values		none identified			
Scientific/Research Opportunities		none identified			
D	Recrea	ition			
Representation backcountry					
destination		some destination use for visitors in the Clearwater area; serves as a base for day visits to Wells Gray Park.			
travel corridor		popular campground and day use site primarily serving Highway transient use off of Highway 5. The only provincial park campground on Highway 5 between Kamloops and Mt. Robson.			
local recreation	\boxtimes	regional day use and destination use			
Special Opportunities	\boxtimes	Access to Clearwater River and North Thompson River for fishing and canoeing			
Education/Interpretation Opportunities					
C	ultural H	eritage			
Representation	\boxtimes	First Nations occupation and use – protects kekuli pits			
Special Feature					
Other Management Considerations					
Other Designations					
Relationship to other PAs	\boxtimes	Serves as an overnight base for day trips			

			into Wells Gray Park
Co-operative Management Arrangements			Service yard used co-operatively with Conservation Officer Services, Fores Service Protection and Park Facility Operator.
Partnerships			
Vulnerability		\boxtimes	On going hazard tree program.
Relationship to other Strateg	ies		
Area: 126 hectares			
Date of establishment:	November 16,	1967	