

Thompson Region

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

March 2006



**for Pukeashun Provincial
Park**



Ministry of Environment
Environmental Stewardship
Division


Pukeashun Provincial Park

Approvals Page

Foreword


Pukeashun Provincial Park was established to protect the wilderness values of a small area of alpine tundra, subalpine parkland and forested slopes, and a high elevation pass in the southern Shuswap Highlands. Special features include mountain caribou and grizzly bear habitat and unusually varied wetland complexes.

This Management Direction Statement for Pukeashun Provincial Park provides management direction until such time as a more detailed management plan is prepared. Management decisions are deliberately conservative to protect conservation and cultural heritage values that have not yet been adequately documented.



John Metcalfe
Regional Manager

Date: May 30/04



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Date: June 20, 2006

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Introduction

Purpose of the Management Direction Statement (MDS)

The purpose of this Management Direction Statement (MDS) is to provide strategic management direction for Pukeashun Provincial Park. The limited complexity of issues associated with Pukeashun Park did not require a full management plan. However, development of this MDS does not negate the need for a future, more detailed, management plan.

Management Direction Statements describe protected area values, management issues and concerns, directional statements from other planning processes, and management strategies focused on immediate priority objectives. Implementation and completion of strategies are subject to available funding. In addition, all development within the park associated with these strategies is subject to the BC Parks Impact Assessment Policy.

Setting and Context

Pukeashun Provincial Park was one of a package of parks recommended through the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OS LRMP) in September, 2000. The OS LRMP was approved by Cabinet on 13 January, 2001. The OS LRMP provides strategic direction and guidance to lower level plans by way of a number of management zones, along with goals and objectives to guide the activities in each zone.

Pukeashun was originally designated as a protected area under the *Environment and Land Use Act* in 2001. The area was established as a Class A park in 2004 when it was named and described in Schedule D of the *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act*.

Pukeashun Provincial Park encompasses 1,779 hectares of steep ridges, high-elevation forests and alpine areas rising to Mt. Pukeashun at 2,252 metres. It is situated in the dissected uplands between Adams Lake and Seymour Arm of Shuswap Lake, in the southern portion of the Shuswap Highlands Ecosection. In the headwaters of Scotch Creek, it contains a deep east-west valley with significant wetlands and the small Grizzly Lake. Mountain caribou and grizzly bear habitats are found throughout.

Pukeashun Provincial Park is situated 42 kilometres north of the North Shuswap community of Scotch Creek (Figure 1). Narrow gravel roads and the travel distance to the park mean that it is only visited by a very few hikers and ATV users in summer and by snowmobilers in winter.

Figure 1: Provincial and Regional Context

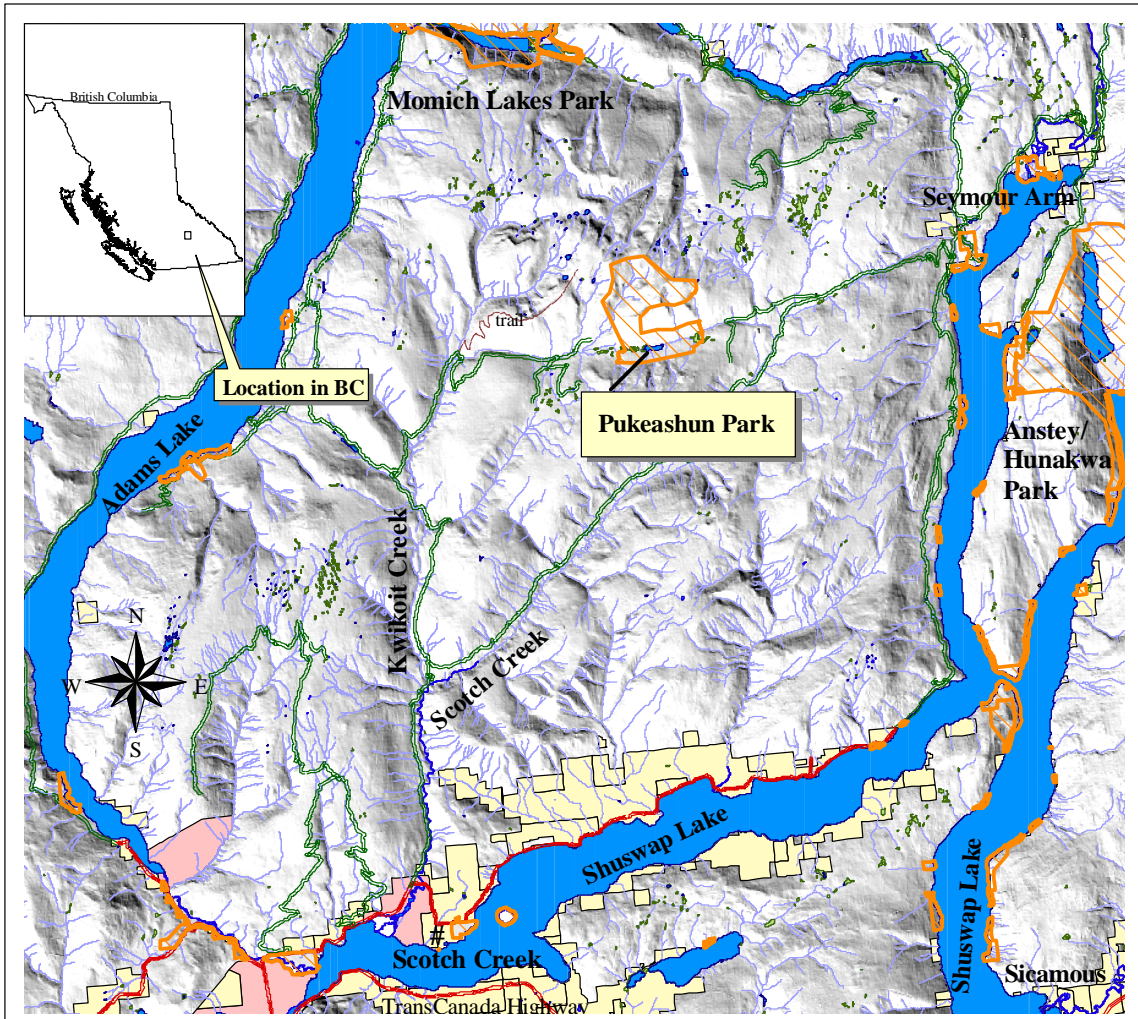
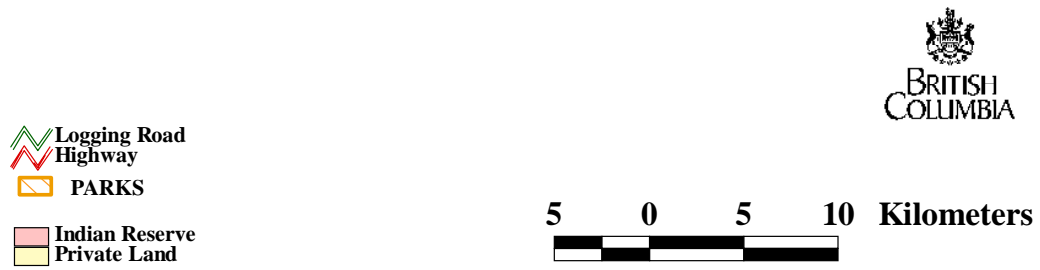


Figure 1: Provincial and Regional Context



Protected Area Attributes

Conservation

Pukeashun Provincial Park is a small park that protects subalpine parkland and alpine tundra, a high elevation pass, and a lake with extensive wetland complexes between forested slopes.

- It is the only park to protect undisturbed high-elevation and alpine features in the southern portion of the Shuswap Highlands Ecosection.
- Pukeashun Park is underlain by a small area of Early Tertiary Pukeashun granites of the Pukeashun Sheer Zone, representing the extreme deformation and metamorphism of the Shuswap Complex of rocks.
- Precipitation falls mainly as snow, from October until May, with mid-winter snow depths exceeding two metres.
- Exceptionally large old growth (over 250 years old) spruce and subalpine fir are found in the Grizzly Lake valley wetland.
- The park contains a relatively continuous patch of old forest with abundant caribou forage.
- Grizzly bears find spring forage in the extensive valley bottom wetlands, with summer forage provided by alpine and subalpine vegetation.
- Other carnivores, such as black bear, wolf and the marten, are known to pass through the park on a seasonal basis.
- The extensive, rich wetland area covering most of the valley bottom that contains Grizzly Lake is rare for the ESSFwc2. A number of wetland sequences of unusual variety are found on the south side of the valley.
- A wild population of small rainbow trout resides in Grizzly Lake.
- Red or blue listed species have not been recorded within the park. Mountain caribou and grizzly bear occur, although caribou have not recently been seen.

Ecosystems in Pukeashun Provincial Park

Ecoprovince	Southern Interior Mountains		
Ecoregion	Columbia Highlands		
Ecosection	Shuswap Highland		
Biogeoclimatic Variant	Area (ha)	% protected in province	% of protected variant within Pukeashun
ATwc	36	29.8*	0.01*
ESSFwcw	358	28.2	0.3
ESSFwcp	519	22.9	0.3
ESSFwc2	867	22.0	0.6

* percentages taken from amount of provincial AT (ATWC not differentiated from AT)

Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

Pukeashun Park is remote from the population centres in the North Shuswap and not generally known or appreciated, even among local residents. Tourism interests are more local in nature and oriented towards activities on and near Shuswap Lake.

The remote nature of Pukeashun Park, with rugged access and only a small alpine area in the park itself, limits the opportunities for the variety of activities normally found in this type of landscape. Access is along sometimes-rough gravel roads that end in areas of former logging activity. A six kilometre Forest Service trail to the alpine areas west of the park is very steep, with a further two kilometres to the park boundary. Pukeashun Provincial Park offers:

- A rich, colourful alpine area in summer and a spectacular snow-draped landscape which in winter offers opportunities for exploration and appreciation.
- Alpine ridges and peaks which provide views in all directions across the southern section of the Shuswap plateau.
- An occasional destination for local hiking groups.
- Winter snow depth over two metres -- attractive to snowmobilers.
- Moderate potential for development of horseback riding and a cabin system and low potential for development of snowmobiling and mountain biking (*Shuswap Tourism Opportunity Strategy*).

Wildlife Viewing

- Wildlife viewing in the Pukeashun Park area is largely incidental to other activities.
- People engaged in outdoor activities within the park usually mention their encounters with, or viewing of, wildlife.
- The alpine parkland and alpine areas, and the Grizzly Lake valley, have some potential as remote areas for bird watching, plant discovery and wildlife viewing.
- The best opportunities for viewing wildlife are from July to September, when most wildlife is active.
- The difficulty of access to Pukeashun Park limits opportunities.

Snowmobiling

- Snowmobiling primarily occurs in the alpine zones of the park. Limited use occurs in the lower elevation, wetland areas.
- Alpine ridges, bowls and steep slopes are particularly appealing and challenging for advanced intermediate to expert snowmobilers.
- Access is gained by trails that access the alpine to the northwest of the park.
- An estimated 30 - 40 snowmobilers use the park per weekend.
- There are an estimated 3,000+ snowmobile days in the Pukeashun and Lichen Mountain area (just south of Pukeashun Provincial Park), with an annual growth rate of 5% in snowmobile days.

Catskiing

- A small, 12 bedroom lodge, about two kilometres west of the park boundary, accommodates visitors for a cat-skiing operation that uses the area surrounding the park. Currently, there is no cat-skiing within the park.

Hunting and Fishing

- Occasional hunting for moose, deer and bear occurs on the lower slopes of the park and the valley containing Grizzly Lake.
- The park is part of a guide-outfitting territory, but there is little opportunity for commercial guided hunting within the park itself.
- Fishing at Grizzly Lake yields small, 15 to 20 cm wild rainbow trout.
- There is no guided fishing opportunity.

Tourism

- Snowmobiler visits to the park peak on weekends and over the Christmas season.
- The cat-skiing is generating some increase in visitors to the region during the winter season.

Cultural Heritage

- The park is within the traditional territory of the Little Shuswap, Adams Lake and Neskonlith Indian Bands. Pukeashun can be translated as “White Rock.”
- Old trails have been identified, and Grizzly Lake and Pukeashun Mountain are mentioned many times as the end point of the ancient Scotch Creek Trail.
- One family in the Little Shuswap Indian Band still uses the Grizzly Lake valley area for hunting and food gathering.
- First Nations trapped and traded furs from the Pukeashun area with the Hudson’s Bay Company.
- In the 1860s, waves of people moved through the area south of Pukeashun to mine gold.
- Pukeashun Mountain is identified on a 1934 BC Forest Service map as a sheep trail destination.

Significance in the Protected Areas System

- Pukeashun is the only park to protect undisturbed high-elevation and alpine features in the southern portion of the Shuswap Highlands Ecoregion.
- The park contains large, varied wetlands in Grizzly Lake valley with associated, exceptionally large, old growth spruce and subalpine fir.
- The undisturbed lake and wetland sequence across the lower park is rare for the ESSFwc2.
- Similar areas at nearby Lichen and Crowfoot Mountains have been heavily developed by forestry activities and recreation trails.

Land Uses, Tenures and Interests

Access Management

- Access to the park is by 42 kilometres of logging roads north from Scotch Creek or 30 kilometres west from the community of Seymour Arm.
- The last 10 kilometres of the road from Scotch Creek are along a deactivated forest access road, requiring the use of high-clearance 4x4 vehicles.
- Parking is in an old cutblock landing from which visitors make their own way into the park. There is no defined trailhead.
- A Forest Service trail starting 10 kilometres west of the park provides access up a long ridge to the alpine, from which access can be obtained into the park.
- ATVs access alpine areas and Grizzly Lake from Forest Service roads and trails.
- Winter access is by snowmobile, generally along existing trails and open forest.

Existing Tenures, Alienations & Encumbrances

Park designation ensures that all existing liens, charges, and encumbrances, other than those applying to commercial logging, mining, or energy exploration and development, will continue to be authorized through issuance of park use permits. This includes activities previously authorized under *Land Act* tenures, Special Use Permits, trapping licenses and other legal tenures and rights.

Trapping Licenses

- The park is totally contained within two trapping licence territories (0336T005 and 0336T006).

Guide-Outfitting Licenses

The park is included in a guide-outfitter territory.

Leases and Permits

- BC Parks issues Park Use Permits for approved activities. No permits have yet been issued for Pukeashun Park.

Adjacent Patterns of Use

Forestry

Forested lands adjacent to the park on the east, west and south are in the Timber Supply Area of Federated Cooperatives Ltd. of Canoe. Forest Development Plans within a kilometre of the park boundary are referred to BC Parks.

- Logging roads and cutblocks dating back 4 to 30 years are found in areas adjacent to the park.
- Many cutblocks are planned for the next five years that will be closer, or adjacent, to the park.

Recreation Interests

- Snowmobilers access the park by three routes:
 - Primarily along the Forest Service trail up a ridge that accesses the alpine to the west of the park. A small cabin has been erected along the trail. Snowmobiles can then access the northern portion of the park through the extensive, open alpine areas.
 - By trails from the end of the road 2 km west of the park up to Pukeashun Mountain and into the Grizzly Lake valley.
 - Occasionally from Crowfoot Mountain, up the slopes east of the park, to the top of Pukeashun Mountain.
- Snowmobile trails have been established on Lichen Mountain, immediately south of the park, since the 1970s.
- Local hikers access the small lakes and extensive alpine areas west of the park by the Forest Service trail used in the winter by snowmobilers.
- All-terrain vehicle activity takes place around the park, but its full extent is unknown. ATV activity has been documented in the valley east of Grizzly Lake.
- Areas abutting the west, south, east and northeast boundaries of the park are under a 20-year Licence of Occupation for a cat-skiing operation beginning in 2003. An associated lodge is located approximately 2 km west of the park.

First Nations Interests

- Little Shuswap, Adams Lake and Neskonlith Indian Bands have completed Traditional Use Studies and a trails study that indicate long-time and continuing interest in and use of the area.
- A draft Cooperative Working Agreement between Little Shuswap Indian Band and BC Parks was created in June 2000 to “facilitate dialogue and joint identification of interests and opportunities” in specified parks and ecological reserves.
- Little Shuswap Indian Band has expressed an interest in management and planning of the park. They have a referral process guide for proposed developments in their interest area.
- Little Shuswap Indian Band are partners with a cat-skiing operation being developed around Pukeashun Park.

Other Agency Interests

- Fisheries BC manages non-anadromous fish in the park, including the establishment of regulations for seasons of use and catch limits.

Private & Public Stakeholder Interests

- Powderhounds Cat-skiing and Snowmobiling has constructed the 12-bedroom Kekuli Mountain Lodge about two kilometres west of the park boundary to accommodate 24 visitors to a new cat-skiing operation.
- Area licences for catskiing surround the park, with clients using a variety of ski areas each day. Trail clearing and other preparations are ongoing for the operation.

Relationship with Local Government

- The park is within the Columbia-Shuswap Regional District (CSRD). Any permitted uses in the park that may have implications for land uses outside the park will be referred to the CSRD.

Commercial Recreation Opportunities and Economic Contribution

New authorizations or commitments to activities will depend upon direction provided in this plan and the outcome of impact assessments for each proposed activity.

Wildlife Viewing

- Wildlife viewing would largely be an incidental benefit or attraction during other activities.
- Viewing activity is limited by the long distance and difficulty of accessing Pukeashun Park.
- Some potential economic benefit to the local community if backcountry tours were made from tourism facilities during the summer and fall months.

Snowmobiling

- Economic impact of snowmobiling in the Pukeashun Mountain area is estimated at \$42,000.00 annually with annual growth rate of 5%. (Kamloops Snowmobile Association, 2002.)
- Economic contributions include: snowmobile sales, sales tax, gasoline sales, restaurant, accommodations, grocery stores, repair shops.
- Contributions occur during the winter season when other tourism business is limited.

Cat-skiing

Cat-skiing takes place adjacent to Pukeashun Park, providing some economic benefits to the North Shuswap area:

- Visitors staying at local accommodations on their way to and from cat-skiing come at a time when visitor numbers are usually low.
- The cat-ski operation provides some opportunities for local employment.
- Spin-off benefits in the local North Shuswap community could include: purchase of equipment and business supplies, staff accommodation and other related business services, as well as sources of employment. (Brett Harley and Associates Ltd. 2001.)

There is an interest by the cat-ski company to extend its operation by developing a series of winter access trails immediately adjacent to and within the park. This includes cutting an access cat trail through the park above the west end of Grizzly Lake valley and providing ski runs from Pukeashun Mountain down slopes toward the valley.

Tourism Opportunities

- There is a demand among older tourists for backcountry experiences associated with quality accommodation.
- Peak visitor numbers in the North Shuswap are during the months of July and August.
- Pukeashun Park is remote from the population centres in the North Shuswap and is not generally known or appreciated, even among local residents.
- The Adams River sockeye salmon run attracts many visitors to the North Shuswap area in October, but few stay in the area for other activities, and the attraction of Pukeashun Park would be limited at this time of year.
- The large variety of accommodations and services in the North Shuswap area could benefit from new tourism opportunities.
- Focussed planning could increase outdoor recreation tourism opportunities.
- New opportunities suggested in the 2002 *Shuswap Tourism Opportunity Strategy* include snowmobiling, horseback riding and ATV riding, all in the Crowfoot Mountain area about 15 km to the south of Pukeashun.

Protected Area Role Statement

The primary role of Pukeashun Park is to protect a small example of undisturbed high-elevation and alpine habitats in a remote setting. This park provides one of the few opportunities to protect an unusual variety of high-elevation wetlands in the Thompson Region. Together, Anstey-Hunakwa and Pukeashun Provincial Parks represent the range of ecosystems in the southern portion of the Shuswap Highlands Ecoregion. A secondary role is to provide remote recreation opportunities for backcountry hiking, wildflower and wetland appreciation, wildlife viewing and winter activities.

Management Commitments and Issues

Management Direction from Previous Planning

The Okanagan-Shuswap LRMP, approved in 2001, recommended establishment of Pukeashun Provincial Park, with logging, mining and related developments prohibited. The LRMP provided statements of management direction for the interim management of the protected area which have been incorporated into the preparation of this MDS, including:

- New tenure proposals are subject to direction from the Park Management Plan or Management Direction Statement. Proposals for new areas will respect existing uses.
- Activities are to respect conservation values, especially the needs of red- and blue-listed species.
- Management direction specific to Pukeashun Park included a “wilderness” designation, even though it was acknowledged that this was in conflict with continued snowmobile use.
- The impact of snowmobile use on wildlife must also be considered.

The Columbia-Shuswap Regional District has completed an Area ‘F’ Parks Plan that encompasses Pukeashun Park. There are no direct impacts on the park, but a proposed backcountry trail is identified in the nearby Scotch Creek Valley.

Management Issues

Conservation

THEME	ISSUES
Ecological Integrity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of meaningful ecological information about Pukeashun Park. • Detailed site-specific information on species and habitats is lacking. • Lack of information about red- and blue-listed plants in the park, reflecting lack of field work rather than lack of taxa or plant communities of concern. • Size and shape of the park restricts the potential for effectively managing ecosystems within the park. • Full extent of the Grizzly Lake wetlands is not within park boundaries. • Cumulative impact of openings for catskiing in and around the park on wildlife species. • Cumulative impact of adjacent forest developments impact on ecological values within the park. • Impacts of motorized activities (ATVs, snowmobiles) on wetland values.
Management for Mountain Caribou	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abundant winter habitat for mountain caribou in the park and surrounding area, but caribou have not been seen since 1988. • There is an interest in maintaining or increasing the area’s suitability for caribou habitat as directed by the OS LRMP.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activities outside the park contribute to site abandonment by caribou. • Snowmobiling inside and outside Pukeashun may hamper attempts for caribou to re-colonize the park.
Management for Grizzly Bear	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • At present, winter recreation is the most intensive human activity that might affect grizzly bears within the park. • Off-trail, high-elevation snowmobiling within 200 m of den sites is the greatest probable threat, though not shown to be a limiting factor for populations. • A serious future concern is the potential of increased, yearlong access as a result of trails created for motorized recreation or other resource development.
Fire, Insect and Disease Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A balsam bark beetle infestation exists at mid-elevation, but this is typical of the ESSFwcw forest type and needs no special management.

Recreation

THEME	ISSUES
Dispersed Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of information about how much dispersed recreation actually takes place in the park. • Impact of mechanised recreation activity on park values is unknown at present. • Lack of public knowledge of park identity and conservation values. • Isolation of the park makes regular monitoring of activities difficult. • A trail has been cut through treed patches in the Grizzly Lake valley, with evidence of ATV use and some wetland soil damage. Vegetation on organic soils can easily be disrupted with ATV use. Soils are susceptible to rutting, increasing susceptibility to erosion and establishment of weedy species. • Forest Development Plans indicate new roads and cutblocks in the areas of Grizzly Lake valley outside the park, with potential for closer access to the valley for ATVs. • ATV trails in the alpine flower meadows adjacent to the park increases potential for ATV use and damage within the park. • Snowmobilers have used the alpine areas of the park for many years before park establishment. The OS LRMP states: "Consider the impact of snowmobile use on wildlife."
Commercial Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The impacts of the cat-skiing operation that uses forested and alpine areas immediately surrounding the west, south and east sides of the park. • Impacts of proposed snowcat access trails associated with catskiing. • Proposed openings in and around the park for catskiing are within potential caribou winter and grizzly bear denning habitats, species that are known to be susceptible to disturbance. • Research indicates changes in bird numbers and species

	<p>composition with forest opening.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Impacts on wildlife and public use of open roads and trails associated with the catski lodge west of the park and the proposed snowcat access trail.
User Conflicts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A potential conflict between cat-skiing and snowmobiling may create tensions and impact on park management.

Culture

THEME	ISSUES
First Nations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of information about specific First Nations values in the park.
Non-Aboriginal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lack of information about specific non-aboriginal values in the park.

Park Identity

THEME	ISSUES
Park Awareness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Local knowledge of the park is lacking, but promotion of the park could have negative consequences on conservation values, such as grizzly bear and sensitive wetlands.
Park Boundary Identification	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Identification of the park boundary on the ground will be difficult, creating a constraint to ecosystem management.

Management Direction

Priority Management Objectives and Strategies

Objective	Strategy
Protect the Park's Ecological Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish on-going monitoring of conditions and changes to park habitats for effective management of important terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems. Conduct an in-depth vegetation study in the Grizzly Lake valley to determine the complete pattern of wetland ecosystems and to ensure identification of potential red- and blue-listed species. Monitor forest development and other resource development activities on adjacent land for potential impacts to park values. Ensure forest development plans are reviewed. Discuss potential measures to prevent unplanned access to the park boundary with forest operators and cat-skiing operation. Seek agreements to minimize impacts on park boundary and values, including the consideration of a cat-ski access trail through the park if this will result in an overall lower impact on park

Objective	Strategy
	<p>values.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maximize the predictability of park activities in space and time by limiting use to specific locations and time periods. • Manage ecosystems and wildlife populations, especially wetlands, caribou and grizzly bear, in conjunction with best management within the surrounding ecosystems. • Do not promote the park as a destination for either casual or commercially organized visits. <p>Caribou conservation mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with forest development companies and commercial recreation operators to localize habitat disturbances such as clearings and roads. • Require the public and commercial operators to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Avoid caribou and caribou tracked areas. - Report caribou sightings to the Ministry of Environment. - Avoid overflights of caribou key habitat. <p>Grizzly bear conservation mitigation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adopt an adaptive management and monitoring approach to assess the effectiveness and facilitate continual improvement of conservation efforts. • Seek to monitor over the long term (through DNA mark-recapture estimates or collaring programs) to manage grizzly bear populations over the surrounding land base and assess the contribution of Pukeashun Park. • Commit to altering management practices and activities as new information arises. • Limit access into key habitats during spring and summer by controlling trail construction and placement. Do not allow mechanical access to park in order to minimize disturbance and as a safety measure. • Avoid helicopter flight routes that overfly the sub-alpine and alpine portions of the Pukeashun area or target wildlife for viewing. <p>Forest insects and disease</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Continue to monitor the impacts of insects and diseases in the park.
<p>Manage the Park’s Recreation Activities</p>	<p>Dispersed recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the impacts of recreational activity in alpine areas to determine future access management needs. • Protect wetland ecosystems by preventing access by recreational vehicles (e.g. ATVs and snowmobiles). • Prevent activities (e.g. off-road mechanical or motorized access) that could incrementally affect the “wilderness” aspect of the park outside of the winter season, or that could disturb or create safety concerns with grizzly bear. Existing levels of winter motorized activities (snowmobiling) can remain but must be reviewed in case of any negative effects on wildlife or vegetation. • Sign park boundaries at strategic locations. <p>Commercial recreation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure impact assessments are completed before commercial

Objective	Strategy
	<p>activities take place in the park.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fixed roof accommodation should remain outside of park boundaries to assist with maintenance of conservation values. • Work with the catski and nearby lodge operator to ensure: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Their commitment to access management around the park at all times of the year. - They will manage toward the lowest net impact on park values as a result of trail placement and use. - Staff and visitors are educated about the conservation values represented in Pukeashun Park. - The conservation values in the park are acknowledged in promotional material. - They are aware of the need to manage bear attractants such as food and garbage. • Consider non-motorized access by commercially accommodated guests to the wetland areas and Grizzly Lake, within limits required to protect wetland conservation values. No overnight excursions within the Special Feature Zone. <p>For mountain caribou:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit use of winter recreational trails. • Use predictable and limited routes for recreational activities. • Avoid improvements to snowmobile access. • Recognize the need to alter future activities or existing agreements should caribou return to the area, including curtailing snowmobiling and catskiing. <p>For grizzly bear:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit commercial recreation in areas of grizzly bear habitat. • Use predictable and limited routes for recreational activities. • Avoid any newly identified denning sites. <p>Snowmobile-Catski Agreement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Request an agreement between snowmobile users and the catskiing operation that incorporates the conservation of natural values within and adjacent to the park. • Once agreement has been finalised between the groups, define their activity areas and zone appropriately.
Protect the Park’s Cultural Resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work with First Nations to identify known cultural sites. • Work with local historians to identify known non-aboriginal sites.
Protect the Park’s Identity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Place map of park and Management Direction Statement on the BC Parks Website.

Consultation and Future Planning

Planning and management of the park will conform to the directions as set forth in the Provincial Protected Areas Strategy. BC Parks is accountable for planning, administration and management of the park through application of the laws, policies and regulations granted under the *Park Act*.

BC Parks will coordinate with other agencies, the OS LRMP implementation table and local First Nations in developing management plans for new parks arising from the OS LRMP.

Parks staff will work with local agencies, commercial and public recreation groups to determine recreation management needs and to ensure ecosystem and wildlife values are not compromised. Integrated planning with other agencies, commercial users and interest groups will ensure park ecological integrity and promote long-term stewardship of the area.

Zoning Plan

Zone Objective, Description & Rationale

The OS LRMP designated the park management category as “Wilderness,” but acknowledges there is a conflict between this proposal and the continued use of snowmobiles. The size and shape of the park, as well as adjacent activities, also preclude a wilderness designation, but important conservation values dictate that recreation activity in the park be limited and controlled.

Nature Recreation Zone:

Objective:

To protect scenic values and to provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Size: 1379 hectares, 77% of the park.

The portion of the park north of the Grizzly Lake valley will be zoned Nature Recreation, with emphasis on the protection of the wilderness characteristics, remote setting and important wildlife values of the park. Recreational uses will be managed to ensure protection of ecological and wildlife values.

Special Feature Zone

Objective:

To protect and present significant natural or cultural resources, features or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values

Size: 400 hectares, 23% of the park.

The southern portion of the park that surrounds and includes the Grizzly Lake valley and wetlands complex will be zoned Special Feature in recognition of sensitive wetlands in the area and the need to protect those fragile values from destructive activities.

See Appendices 1 and 2 for Tables of Acceptable Activities, Uses & Facilities in each Zone. Figure 2 shows the location of the zones.

Figure 2: Protected Area Zoning

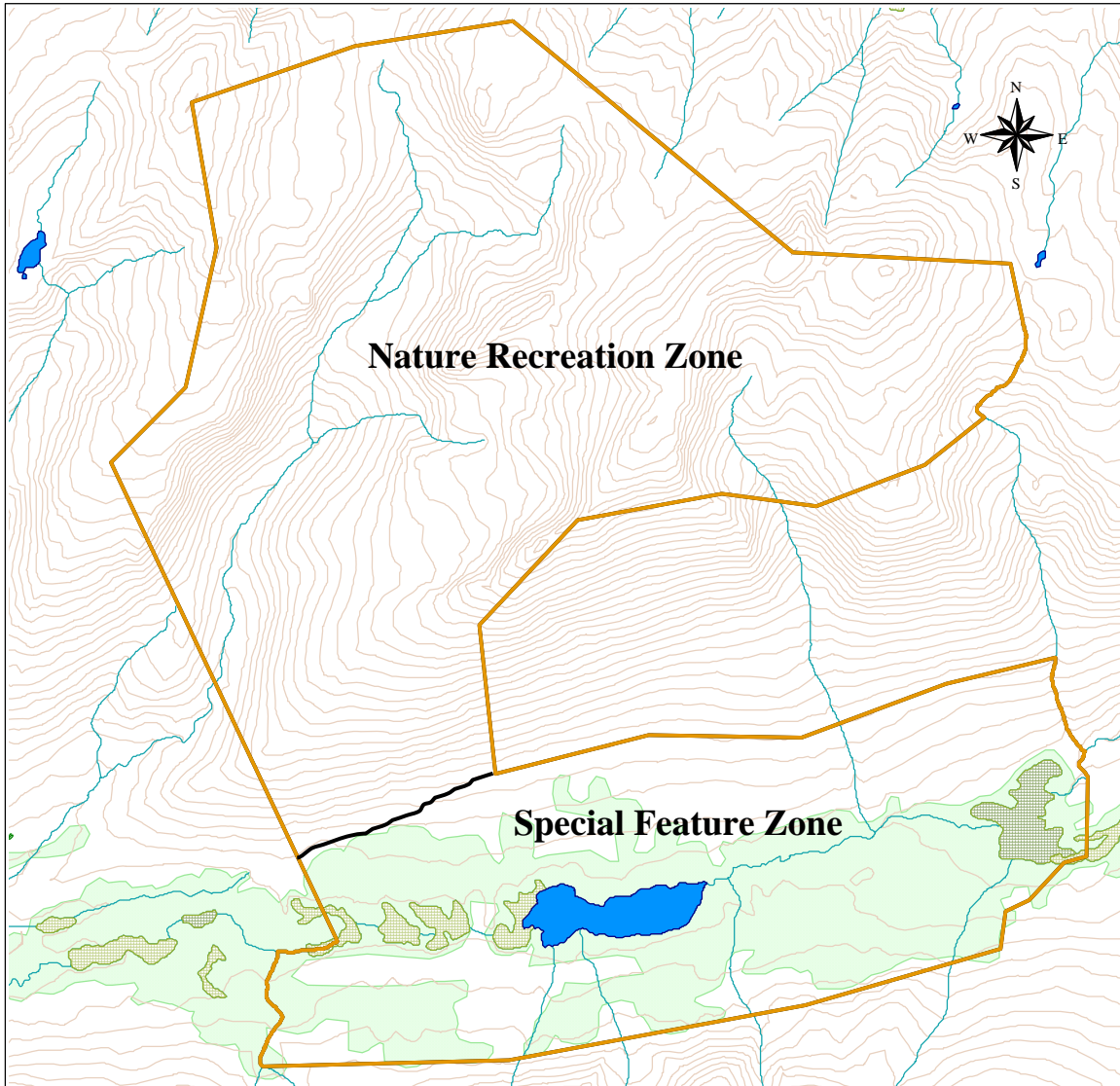










Figure 2: Protected Area Zoning

-  Protected Area
-  Zoning for Protected Area
-  Lake
-  Stream
-  Marsh
-  Swamp
-  Wetland/swamp complex

0.6 0 0.6 1.2 Kilometers



Appendices

Appendix 1: Table of Acceptable Activities, Uses & Facilities in the Nature Recreation Zone.

Activity/Facility	Appropriate in Nature Recreation Zone (Provincial)*	Appropriate in Nature Recreation Zone (Pukeashun PA)	Comments
Activity			
Aircraft Access	Y	Y	
Boating (power)	Y	N/A	
Boating (non-power)	Y	N/A	
Camping - no trace	Y	Y	
Camping – auto accessible	N	N	
Commercial Recreation Opportunities	Y	Y	Refer to pages 13-14
Exotic Insect/ Disease Control	N ¹	N ¹	
Filming (commercial)	M	Y	
Fire Management (prescribed fire management)	N	N	
Fire Management (prevention)	N ¹	N ¹	
Fire Management (suppression)	Y	Y	
Fishing	Y	N/A	
Fish Stocking and Enhancement	M	N/A	
Forest Insect/ Disease Control	M	M	
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N ^{1,2}	N	
Guide Outfitting	Y	Y	
Horse Use/ Pack Animals (not exotic)	Y	Y	
Hunting	Y	Y	
Noxious Weed Control	Y	Y	
Off-road Access (non-mechanical - dog sleds, horse sleds)	Y	N	
Off-road Access (mechanical activities)	Y	N	Refer to page 13
Off-road Access (motorised - not snowmobiles)	M	Y	Catskiing only
Off-road Access (snowmobiling)	Y	N ²	Refer to pages 13-14
Pack Animals (exotic)	N	N	
Recreational Gold Panning/ Rock Hounding	N	N	
Scientific Research (manipulative activities)	N ¹	N	
Scientific Research (specimen collection)	M	M	
Skiing (downhill & cross-country track based)	N	N	
Skiing (helicopter or cat-assisted)	Y	Y	Refer to pages 13-14
Skiing (other)	Y	Y	

Activity/Facility	Appropriate in Nature Recreation Zone (Provincial)*	Appropriate in Nature Recreation Zone (Pukeashun PA)	Comments
Trapping	N ²	N ²	
Facility			
Administrative Buildings and Compounds	N	N	
Backcountry Huts and Shelters	Y	N	
Boat Launches	Y	N	
Campgrounds and Picnic Areas (vehicle access and serviced)	N	N	
Campgrounds (other)	Y	N	
Communication Sites	N ²	N	None present
Interpretation and Information Buildings	N	N	
Roads and Parking Lots	N	N	
Ski Hills and Snowplay Areas	N	N	
Lodges and Other Serviced Accommodation	Y	N	
Trails (hiking, cross-country skiing)	Y	Y	
Utility Corridors (power/transmission lines and other rights-of-way)	N ²	N	None present
Water Control Structures	N ²	N	

*	Parks and Protected Areas Branch
Y	Normally appropriate
N	Not normally appropriate
N ¹	Not normally appropriate except for expressed management purposes as identified in the MP or MDS
N ²	Not normally appropriate but if the specific activity or facility existed at the time of establishment it is normally appropriate for it to continue
M	May be appropriate
N/A	Not applicable

Appendix 2: Table of Acceptable Activities, Uses & Facilities in the Special Feature Zone.

Activity/Facility	Appropriate in Special Feature Zone (Pukeashun PA)	Comments
Activity		
Aircraft Access	Y	
Boating (power)	N	
Boating (non-power)	N	
Camping - no trace	Y	No development or motorized access
Camping – auto accessible	N	
Commercial Recreation Opportunities	Y	Non-motorized. Refer to page 14
Exotic Insect/ Disease Control	N ¹	
Filming (commercial)	Y	
Fire Management (prescribed fire management)	N	
Fire Management (prevention)	N ¹	
Fire Management (suppression)	N ¹	
Fishing	Y	
Fish Stocking and Enhancement	N	
Forest Insect/ Disease Control	M	
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N/A	
Guide Outfitting	Y	
Horse Use/ Pack Animals (not exotic)	N	
Hunting	Y	
Noxious Weed Control	Y	
Off-road Access (non-mechanical - dog sleds, horse sleds)	N	
Off-road Access (mechanical activities)	N	
Off-road Access (motorised - not snowmobiles)	N	
Off-road Access (snowmobiling)	N	
Pack Animals (exotic)	N	
Recreational Gold Panning/ Rock Hounding	N	
Scientific Research (manipulative activities)	N	
Scientific Research (specimen collection)	M	
Skiing (downhill & cross-country track based)	N	
Skiing (helicopter or cat-assisted)	N	
Skiing (other)	N	

Activity/Facility	Appropriate in Special Feature Zone (Pukeashun PA)	Comments
Trapping	N ²	
Facility		
Administrative Buildings and Compounds	N	
Backcountry Huts and Shelters	N	
Boat Launches	N	
Campgrounds and Picnic Areas (vehicle access and serviced))	N	
Campgrounds (other)	N	
Communication Sites	N	None present
Interpretation and Information Buildings	N	
Roads and Parking Lots	N	
Ski Hills and Snowplay Areas	N	
Lodges and Other Serviced Accommodation	N	
Trails (hiking, cross-country skiing)	N	
Utility Corridors (power/transmission lines and other rights-of-way)	N	None present
Water Control Structures	N	

Y	Normally appropriate
N	Not normally appropriate
N ¹	Not normally appropriate except for expressed management purposes as identified in the MP or MDS
N ²	Not normally appropriate but if the specific activity or facility existed at the time of establishment it is normally appropriate for it to continue
M	May be appropriate
N/A	Not applicable

Appendix 3: Bibliography

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