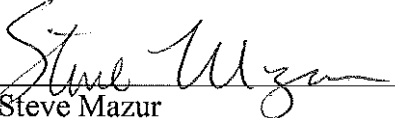


SCHOOLHOUSE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK


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 10/05

**SCHOOLHOUSE LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

Schoolhouse Lake was one of 17 new protected areas recommended by the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan. The park is 4,535.5 hectares in size, situated approximately 45 kilometres northeast of 100 Mile House.

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Schoolhouse Lake Provincial Park is to protect representative forests, wetlands and lakes in the Cariboo Plateau Ecosection . The Cariboo Plateau Ecosection is very poorly represented in the protected areas system, as only 0.68% is protected. Schoolhouse Lake is the largest park capturing these forested ecosystems and protecting the values of the ecosection.

A number of Goal 2 protected areas have been proposed to improve ecosystem representation and protection of features in the Cariboo Plateau Ecosection. They include the 555 hectare Eagle Creek proposed addition to Schoolhouse Lake, 388 hectares at Deka Lake, the 540 hectare Donnley Lake area, a 329 hectare addition to Centennial Park at Bridge Lake, and an 800 hectare proposal at Rye Lake on the Beaver Valley.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of Schoolhouse Lake Provincial Park is to provide backcountry recreation opportunities in a non-motorized setting. While small rough roads access the park boundaries, access to the handful of small lakes is primarily via a small system of informal trails.

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.

Zoning

The whole park (4,535.5 ha) is zoned Nature Recreation.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection Provides almost all (96.99%) of the protected areas system representation of the extremely poorly represented Cariboo Plateau Ecosection (0.68%). Schoolhouse Lake Park is one of 4 protected areas providing representation to this ecosection and the only one greater than 1,000 ha in size. The only other current protected areas in this ecosection include Bridge Lake, Ruth Lake and Green Lake, all small frontcountry/intensive recreation areas with minimal natural values.

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Provides almost all (89.16%) of the protected areas system representation of the very poorly represented SBSdw1 (1.29 %). Schoolhouse Lake Park is one of only 6 protected areas contributing to the representation of this variant, and the only one exceeding 1,000 ha in size. Other small protected areas with SBSdw1 include Ruth Lake, Cottonwood River, Ten Mile Lake, Cinema Bog and Pinnacles. Although one of only 2 protected areas contributing to the representation of the under-represented ICHdk (2.39%), Schoolhouse Lake contributes only 2.09% of the overall protected areas system representation of this variant. Wells Gray Park is the major contributor (97.91%).

Special Feature

Series of small lakes with populations of sport fish. Suitable for fly-in or walk-in fishing.

Rare/Endangered Values

None noted from inventory work completed to date.

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry Marginal, some fly-in fishing, few trails or destination features, several small lakes.
- destination Marginal
- travel corridor No
- local recreation Marginal, some walk-in fishing.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature Nothing noted

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations n/a

Relationship to Other PAs Goal 2 proposal through 100 Mile Sub-Regional Resource Management Plan would add the 555 hectare Eagle Creek watershed onto Schoolhouse Lake Park, providing riparian linkages to Lang Lake, improving ecological viability, recreational use and BEC/Ecosection representation.

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability Medium. Primarily associated with bark beetle activities.

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

Area: 4535.5 ha

Date of Establishment: July 12, 1995