SHUSWAP LAKE MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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Will in

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Date: Feb 12/2003

SHUSWAP LAKE MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK

Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The **primary role** of the Shuswap Lake Marine Provincial Park is to provide a system of sites for marine overnight and day use of Shuswap Lake. Shuswap Lake is provincially recognized for its tourism and recreation attractions. The marine park system is the basis for a thriving tourism economy with house boat rentals and associated businesses catering to residents of British Columbia, Albertans and international clients.

The Shuswap Lake Marine Provincial Park consists of 27 small and widely dispersed sites around the perimeter of Shuswap Lake. The creeks, waterfalls and lakeshore sites provide a range of features and a major boating destination for all types of vessels and user groups. All sites are popular for fishing and water sports and a number of sites are popular for hiking and nature study. Some sites are road accessible, but most are water access only. Facilities at the sites vary from nothing to 3 or 4 wilderness tenting sites with a pit toilet. There are only a few stretches of foreshore suitable for beaching boats in the eastern part of Shuswap Lake, and most of them are part of Shuswap Lake Marine Park.

As a **secondary role** the foreshore areas of the park contain important (albeit small) habitat areas for lake char, salmon, kokanee, rainbow, bull trout and other fish species.

Known Management Issues	Response
Heavy recreational use pressures are creating impacts (illegal firewood cutting, littering, vandalism) to park environments and facilities.	 No firewood cutting permitted. Use of chainsaws is not permitted. Contractor provides firewood at two sites. Provide no information on location of nictographe
Cultural values (pictographs) are susceptible to vandalism.	 pictographs. Maintain security patrols of the various sites. Maintain ongoing liaison with houseboat rental companies to promote ethical use of the marine park system.
On many sites there are conflicts between user groups.	

A **tertiary role** is the protection of numerous archaeological resources in the park sites. Of particular note are kekuli pits (especially at Anstey View) and pictographs (several locations).

Zoning

All of the sites except for Paradise Point and Albas are completely zoned for **Intensive Recreation**. The shoreline and immediate upland of Paradise Point is zoned **Intensive Recreation** (approximately 22 ha or 34% of the park) and the remaining upland is zoned as **Natural Environment** (approximately 43.5 ha or 66% of the park. The **Intensive Recreation** zone for Albas covers the road access campsites and 2 marine access sites (34%), and the remaining upland is zoned as **Natural Environment** (66%).

Representation - ecosection		Very minor representation of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. The sites are all considered too small to contribute to ecosection representation.		
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	\boxtimes	The individual sites are too small and disturbed to contribute to ecosystem representation.		
Special Feature				
Rare/Endangered Values	\boxtimes	foreshore of many of the sites are considered as bull trout habitat		
Scientific/Research Opportunities		none identified		
Recreation				
Representation backcountry				
destination		very popular destination site for marine access camping, and beach and water based activities. Facilities are used to capacity throughout summer season		
travel corridor				
local recreation destination use	\boxtimes	heavy regional day use and		
Special Opportunities provincial	\boxtimes	Marine system is considered of		
		significance and attracts heavy out of province tourism use. The marine park system is the basis for a thriving tourism economy with house boat rentals and associated businesses catering to residents of BC, Albertans and international clients.		
Education/Interpretation Opportunities				
Cultural Heritage				
Representation		First Nations occupation and use – evidenced by kekuli pits and pictographs. Some of these		

features are of provincial significance.

Special Feature					
Other Management Considerations					
Other Designations					
Relationship to other PAs form	\boxtimes	Sites at the top end of Anstey Arm			
		access points to Anstey-Hunakwa Park. Shuswap Lake Parkand Herald Park provide boat launch and staging areas for people to access the marine system. At the crossover between Seymour and Anstey Arms, Cinnemousun Narrows Park provides a strategic site for use and operational management of the marine system. Silver Beach at the north end of Seymour Arm also serves a day use site.			
Co-operative Management Arrangements					
Partnerships					
Vulnerability forest	\boxtimes	extensive damage by visitors to			
		ecosystems through tree cutting and removal of woody debris.			
Relationship to other Strategies					

Area: 1,022.16 hectares (725.86 hectares of upland and 296.3 hectares of foreshore)

Date of Establishment: May 11, 1988











