

# SKOOKUMCHUCK RAPIDS PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 14, 2006



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Date: March 26, 2006

## **Skookumchuck Rapids Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

Skookumchuck Rapids Provincial Park is located 20 kilometres east of Enderby on a section of the Shuswap River known as the Skookumchuck Rapids. The 71 hectare park features steep rock sided canyon rapids and pools along a 3 kilometre stretch of river. The park boundaries follow the mid-channel of the river and include forest slopes along the south side of the river.

### **Primary Role:**

The primary role of Skookumchuck Rapids Provincial Park is to protect the recreation opportunities and visual setting of the Skookumchuck rapids section of the Shuswap River. The park maintains the picturesque backdrop of cliffs and steep forested slopes for people using the river. The whitewater rapids, pools and turbulent eddies along this section of river form a regional attraction for kayaking and rafting enthusiasts. The river is also used by local anglers who fish for rainbow trout, whitefish and spring salmon.

Public use of the river and park is constrained by lack of access and facilities. A small Ministry of Forests and Range recreation site adjacent to Mabel Lake road on the opposite side of the river from the park provides the only current public access to this section of river. Access for kayaking and fishing use are gained through private land from the Mabel Lake road. There are no viable options for providing access through the park. Demand and opportunity for public facilities are limited within the park, but there may be potential to formalize a few strategic kayak pull-out and resting sites.

Public safety along this section of river is an ongoing management concern. Kayaking in this stretch of river should only be attempted by experienced paddlers. Ministry control extends only to the mid stream of the channel on the south side and there is presently little authority to manage public use along the north side of the river.

### **Secondary Role:**

A secondary role of the park relates to conservation of river, riparian and upland habitats. Park forests are composed of mixed stands of red cedar, western hemlock, Douglas fir and white birch. The river and shrubby shoreline are important fish habitat.

<b>Known Management Issues</b>	<b>Response</b>
Current public access is dependent upon use of private lands.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Investigate potential to secure public right-of-way access at key locations upstream and downstream of the park.</li></ul>

## **Zoning**

The whole of the protected area is zoned as Nature Recreation.

## **Protected Area Values and Significance Summary Matrix**

### **Conservation**

Representation

Ecosection

Shuswap Basin – 1.0% contribution to the protected area system representation. This Ecosection is poorly represented (2.2%) in the protected areas system.

Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

ICH mw2 – contributes .12% of province-wide representation. This subzone/variant is reasonably well represented (7.1%) in the protected areas system.

Special Features

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

### **Recreation**

Representation

Backcountry

destination

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Whitewater kayaking and rafting, and fishing.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

### **Cultural Heritage**

Representation

Special Feature

### **Other Management Considerations**

Other Designations

Relationship to Other Protected Areas

Skoomkumchuck Rapids Park and Shuswap River Islands Park protect key conservation and recreation sections of the Shuswap River between Mabel Lake and Enderby.

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

### **Area**

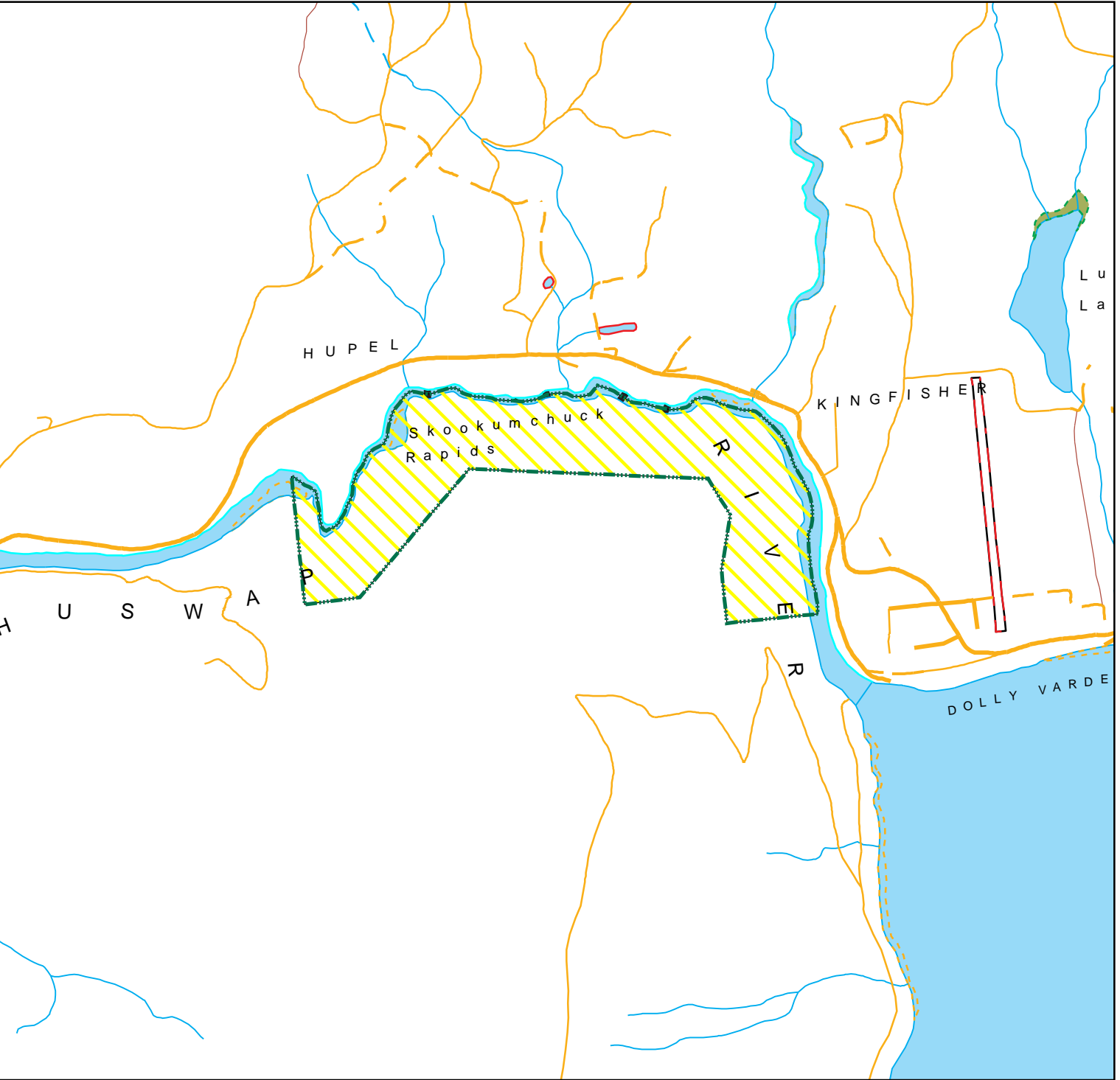
71 hectares


### **Date of establishment**

May 20, 2004

Zoning Map

Skookumchuck Rapids Provincial Park



 Nature Recreation



Produced in Nov 2005 for  
Ministry of Environment  
by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands  
Integrated Land Management Bureau

1:20,000  
0 0.070.140.210.280.35  
Kilometers

Projection: UTM Zone 11  
Datum: NAD83

This is a visual representation  
only and should not be used for  
legal purposes