

**Okanagan Region**

**MANAGEMENT DIRECTION  
STATEMENT**

**March, 2003**

**for Chopaka West Site**  
South Okanagan Grasslands  
Provincial Protected Area



**BRITISH  
COLUMBIA**

**Ministry of Water, Land  
and Air Protection  
Environmental  
Stewardship Division**

# Chopaka West Site

## South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area

### Forward and Approvals Page

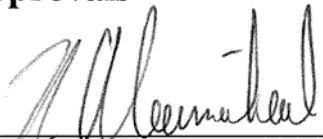
#### Forward

The Richter Pass area has long been a priority for conservation efforts in the Okanagan. The dry grasslands and open forests in this area are an integral part of one of the four most endangered ecosystems in Canada. Partners and programs of the inter-agency-supported South Okanagan - Similkameen Conservation Program have worked to promote the conservation of the natural heritage of this area. Scientific research has complemented these conservation efforts, through universities, and Provincial and Federal government sponsorship.

The Chopaka West Site, also known as Little Chopaka or Barber Mountain, is one of 4 geographically separate but related Sites (Chopaka East, Kilpoola and Mt. Kobau) that form the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area. The Site is bounded by the International Boundary, land held by The Land Conservancy of B.C., and some private, undeveloped holdings.

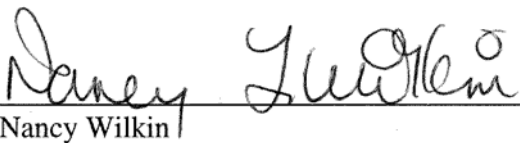
The 470 hectare Site plays an important role in the conservation of many red and blue-listed wildlife, plants and plant communities. There are eleven red-listed and nine blue-listed plant and animal species known from the Site. The Site contributes significantly to the Protected Areas Strategy target for ecosystem representation and the protection of arid grasslands. Chopaka West also provides a critical movement corridor for rare species from the arid landscapes in the adjacent United States.

#### Approvals



Drew Carmichael  
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Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 12, 2003



Nancy Wilkin  
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Date: May 31/03

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# Introduction

## Purpose of the Management Direction Statement

A management direction statement (MDS) provides strategic management direction for a protected area. A MDS also describes protected area values, management issues and concerns; management strategies focused on immediate priority objectives; and directional statements from other planning processes. While strategies may be identified in the MDS, the development and implementation of all these strategies is subject to funding. In addition, all development associated with these strategies within the protected area is subject to the BC Parks' Impact Assessment Policy.

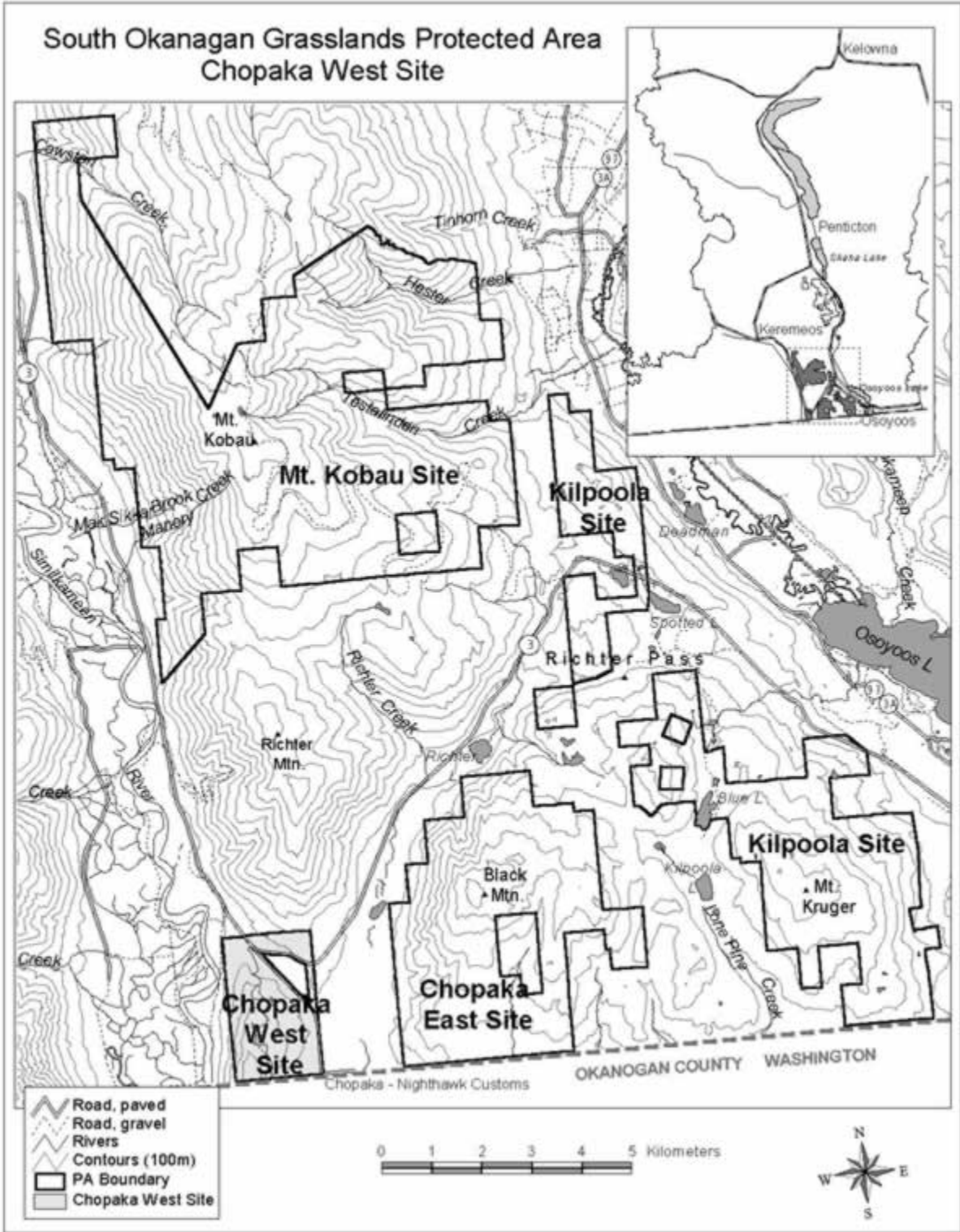
This MDS was developed through direction received from the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (OSLRMP), as well as comments from stakeholders and interest groups. The MDS is intended to provide direction and guidelines for future management of the Chopaka West Site.

## Setting and Context

The provincial Protected Areas Strategy (PAS) provided the framework for identifying areas that would contribute towards ecological representation within the province. As part of that strategy, the provincial government undertook many strategic level regional planning initiatives (Strategic Land Use Plans), throughout the province. The Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan concluded that a number of protected areas should be established to protect natural, cultural and recreational values. The LRMP Table used the Protected Area Strategy as a guide in the selection of protected areas and in providing direction for their management. With respect to the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area, the OSLRMP plan recognized the primary need for conservation of its red- and blue-listed plants and animals.

The South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area was recommended for protection by the OSLRMP in 2000. It was formally established as a protected area on April 18, 2001 by Order in Council under the *Environment and Land Use Act*. The *Park Act* and Regulations apply as if the protected area is a Class A provincial park. The intent is to transfer the protected area to Class A provincial park status by including it in Schedule D of the *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act*.

The 470-hectare Chopaka West Site is situated between Richter Mountain and the International Boundary. Highway 3 and the Chopaka/Nighthawk Border Crossing road transect and border portions of the Site. Most of the Site is within the Southern Okanagan Basin Ecosection (60%), with the remainder in the Okanagan Range Ecosection. Most of the site (74%) is represented by the very hot, xeric Bunchgrass biogeoclimatic subzone variant (BGxh1). The remaining 26% of the Site is represented by the very hot, dry Ponderosa Pine biogeoclimatic subzone variant (PPxh1). Eleven of the province's red-listed and nine blue-listed plants and animals are found within the protected area.



## Protected Area Attributes

### Conservation

- most of the Site is within the South Okanagan Basin Ecosection (60%); the remainder is in the Okanagan Range Ecosection (40%)
- most of the site (74%) is comprised of the very hot and xeric Bunchgrass biogeoclimatic subzone (BGxh1); the remainder (26%) is comprised of the very hot and xeric Ponderosa Pine biogeoclimatic subzone (PPxh1)
- more than 70% is grassland or shrub-steppe; about 15% is open ponderosa pine forest (Appendix IV); these habitats are very fragile

Habitat Type	BGxh1 (% of PA)	PPxh1 (% of PA)	Total
Grassland	40.1	5.0	45.1
Sagebrush Shrub-Steppe	26.7	0.0	26.7
Rocky Habitats	1.5	6.9	8.4
Riparian	0.1	0.0	0.1
Dry Forest	0.0	14.5	14.5
Other	5.2	0.0	5.2
Total	73.6	26.4	100.0

Compiled from Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (1:20,000).

More detailed habitat representation is tabulated in Appendix IV

- many of the red- and blue-listed plant communities identified in the Penticton Forest District potentially occur in the Site, depending on range condition, including grassland/shrub-steppe, dry forest and riparian ecosystems (Appendix III)
- south-facing, dry, rocky slopes providing critical wildlife habitats
- eleven red-listed and nine blue-listed wildlife species have been recorded in or adjacent (within 500 metres) to the protected area (Appendix III); two of these red-listed species which have been observed are thought to now be extirpated in the province (pygmy short-horned lizard and white-tailed jackrabbit); additional species are expected to occur
- important mule deer winter range
- rare opportunity for conserving important habitats on the valley bottom
- there are no water sources on the Site although there are across the International Boundary and on adjacent private lands; the Similkameen River is contiguous through a conservation holding of The Land Conservancy of BC on the western boundary of the site

### Recreation/Tourism

- the arid and exposed nature of the site limits recreation use
- hiking and horseback riding are ongoing activities
- wildlife viewing, especially bird watching, is an important part of outdoor recreation activities
- hunting is valued but limited due to the isolation of this site
- potential to contribute to wildlife viewing and nature study tours

### Cultural Heritage

- lack of systematic archaeological surveys, but sites should be present
- the site rates an overall cultural heritage rating of Moderate (3)

- traditional Aboriginal use is not known
- may include early farm settlement
- Dewdney Trail (1861) passes through the northern portion of the Site

**Scientific**

- site of a number of previous wildlife surveys (songbirds, rare bats, and invertebrates)
- history of range research and vegetation plots

**Significance in the Protected Areas System**

- the Site lies within the South Okanagan Basin (SOB) and Okanagan Range (OKR) ecosections; the SOB is the fourth smallest ecosection in the province; both ecosections host the highest number of red- and blue-listed plant and animal species in the province; the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area is the largest contributor of protected area in the SOB ecosection accounting for 4,481 hectares (46.1%); for the OKR ecosection, the protected area is a moderately small contributor (5,013 hectares, 6.4%) compared to Cathedral Park (42%), Snowy Protected Area (32.5%) and E. C. Manning Park (18.7%); the Site (consisting of 60% SOB and 40% OKR ecosections) makes a small but important contribution to the protection of the SOB ecosection and a minor contribution to the OKR ecosection
- consists entirely of provincially and regionally significant ecosystems, including the hottest and driest biogeoclimatic subzones in the province

Ecosystem Classification	Province (ha)	% within OSLRMP	% within existing Pas <sup>3</sup>	% within OSLRMP Goal1 <sup>3</sup>	% Protected (existing + Goal1)	% of Protected within Chopaka West	% of Total within Chopaka West
Ecosection <sup>1</sup>							
SOB	78739	100	NA	13.02	NA	NA	0.5
OKR	258650	68	NA	24.9	NA	NA	0.1
Biogeoclimatic Unit <sup>2</sup>							
BGxh1	61913	100	0.7	4.1	4.8	13.9	0.7
PPxh1	110292	100	2.9	5.8	8.7	2.1	0.2

Sources of areas for area calculations:

<sup>1</sup> Ecoregion mapping, MWLAP (1:250,000)

<sup>2</sup> BEC mapping, MOF (1:250,000)

<sup>3</sup> Multiple Accounts Analysis, OSLRMP

- hosts large number of rare wildlife species significant in the province (eleven red-listed, nine blue listed)
- two species, believed to be extirpated, occurred on this Site (white-tailed jackrabbit and short-horned lizard); three other extirpated species are suspected to have used the site (burrowing owl, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse)
- the only consistent breeding site in British Columbia for the COSEWIC ranked Endangered sage thrasher (red-listed)
- Chopaka West also provides a critical movement corridor for rare species from the arid landscapes in the adjacent United States
- provides low-intensity and low-impact recreational opportunities
- protects part of the Dewdney Trail

## Other Land Uses and Interests

### Access

Access is from Highway 3, at its intersection with the Nighthawk/Chopaka Border Crossing road, between Osoyoos and Cawston. The Site is fenced and has four gates. One non-status road climbs Little Chopaka.

### Existing Tenures, Alienations and Encumbrances

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 (PUPs). This policy recognizes all existing *Land Act* tenures, special use permits (SUPs), water rights, trapping licences and other legal tenures and rights. Most tenure holders require motorized access into or through the Site. Tenure holders are included in Appendix II.

There are few tenures in the Site:

- one utility corridor, situated parallel to and within the northern boundary of the Site (West Kootenay Power distribution line)
- no water licenses
- a Ministry of Forests Reserve (341-8550-40) for a weather station
- part of a trapline area
- a guide outfitter has a non-transferable sundry permit throughout the Site which is reviewed and issued annually; the licence will not be issued to another person when the present tenure holder decides to not actively guide in the area
- one ranch operation has licenced range through their Range Use Plans; there are only a few range improvements including perimeter fencing, water troughs and a corral
- Ministry of Forests enclosure site for range research

### Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- private rangelands are extensive in the area and are largely undeveloped
- one inholding currently used as a horseback riding training facility
- rural agricultural holdings along the Similkameen River
- The Land Conservancy of B.C. has a conservation holding along the western boundary
- the U.S. Bureau of Land Management has tenure on lands across the International Boundary
- a customs post

### Aboriginal Interests

- interests of the Okanagan First Nation are not known

### Other Agency Interests

- the South Okanagan – Similkameen Conservation Program has a long-standing involvement with conservation and resource management on these lands; this Site should also be managed in close co-ordination with The Land Conservancy of B.C. and the Bureau of Land Management
- Canadian Wildlife Service is undertaking a five year sage thrasher habitat improvement project in the area; the Site provides the most critical habitat for this species in the province
- important vegetation plots exist within this Site
- Ministry of Forests manages existing grazing licenses, in conjunction with the Environmental Stewardship Division under a protocol agreement
- Ministry of Forests has a range enclosure and has conducted range research on the Site; important vegetation plots are situated within this Site
- Ministry of Forests assists in the management of forest health but there are no concerns at this Site



- Ministry of Forests' Fire Protection Branch manages wildfire responses, prevention and assists prescribed burns; this agency has concerns about fire response (require a pre-attack plan) and fire prevention activities
- US Forest Service will respond to fires adjacent to the International Boundary through the Canada-U.S.A. Fire Protection Agreement
- South Okanagan Similkameen Weed Committee provides a venue for cooperative weed control; weed control has traditionally been undertaken through rancher initiatives and the Ministry of Forests on these lands
- Ministry of Transportation has two roads (Highway 3 and Border Crossing road) that pass through the site but are excluded; Ministry of Transportation may wish to undertake fire abatement and weed control on their rights of way; there are no major road improvements planned for these roads in the near future

### **Public Stakeholder Interests**

Stakeholders are listed in Appendix II. Overall interests include:

- casual outdoor recreation (hiking, horseback riding, and mountain biking)
- nature viewing (casual and club-sponsored)
- recreational hunting
- cultural and heritage values
- nature conservation and ecosystem management (non-government groups and organizations)
- fire management for ecosystem health and protection of adjacent private holding protection
- bluebird trail nest-box program conducted by the Southern Interior Bluebird Trail Society
- scientific research by universities and non-government organizations

## **Role of Chopaka West Site**

The primary role of the Chopaka West Site is to protect the very hot and dry grassland communities in the valley bottom. This Site provides critical habitats for many red- and blue-listed plant and animal species. The feature species of this protected area is the sage thrasher (red-listed; federally listed as Endangered under COSEWIC). Chopaka West Site is the only place that they regularly breed in the province. Sage Thrashers require robust sagebrush plants for nesting. Extremely rare species, now thought to be extirpated, have been seen at or near this Site and may possibly still occur.

The Site contributes to the ecological integrity of the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area (including Chopaka East, Kilpoola and Mt. Kobau Sites). These combined holdings provide a unique opportunity for conserving expanses of low-elevation, arid grasslands.

This Site is relatively small and therefore its ecological viability is dependent on land practices outside its boundaries. Opportunities exist to promote stewardship and complementary land management on adjacent private lands, a conservation holding of The Land Conservancy of BC and public lands across the border (Bureau of Land Management). The arid lands on both sides of the border provide important corridors for species movement. Consideration also should be given to participating in ecosystem research and rehabilitation projects through South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program. This should include ongoing range research.

The Site may contain regionally significant archaeological sites and be of special value for traditional First Nations uses. Wildlife viewing, natural history interpretation and other limited-access recreation opportunities are ongoing. There are immense opportunities for improving these

experiences through interpretation. Commanding views and other aesthetic values add to the visitor's experience.

The importance and sensitivity of this arid Site requires that recreational and other uses of the site are of low intensity and avoid impacting conservation objectives. Further ecological inventory and monitoring will be required to ensure that conservation objectives are being met.

## **Management Commitments and Issues**

### **Management Direction from Previous and Ongoing Planning**

Management direction was originally provided through the now-defunct Oldtimers Coordinated Resource Management Plan (CRMP). High conservation values were first identified through the South Okanagan Critical Areas Program (Erickson and Torrance 1989). Research and management strategies were developed and partly implemented by the South Okanagan Conservation Strategy (Hlady 1990). Subsequently, the former BC Environment's Wildlife Branch established a Notation of Interest for conservation purposes over the Site in 1991. A summary of the area's values, attributes, issues and recommendations was prepared for the South Okanagan Conservation Strategy (Bryan 1996). All of these initiatives provide guidance for ecological management directions.

The OSLRMP provided statements of management direction for the interim management of the site; these have been incorporated into the preparation of this MDS.

### **Management Issues**

The following are over-riding management issues that have been identified through previous documentation and preliminary consultation with agencies and stakeholders:

- inadequate resource inventory of natural and cultural values to establish sensitive sites
- inadequate knowledge of how human activities impact conservation values
- need for increased public understanding of the conservation values and strategies
- inappropriate access and activities (e.g. type, intensity, location, and timing) that are incompatible with conservation objectives
- impacts to ecological integrity from non-native plants (weeds) and animals
- lack of adequate inventories, strategies, and resources to manage weeds
- lack of detailed information for appropriate fire response and management
- compatibility of activities on adjacent lands with protected area objectives
- ability to monitor and enforce permitted uses
- compatibility issues may exist or arise among uses of the Site
- public desire for ongoing opportunities to participate in Site planning
- consistent, fair, and timely management strategies to resolve new and outstanding issues in the Site
- lack of knowledge of First Nation values and traditional uses to appropriately manage these interests

The following table lists specific issues, by theme, requiring management action:

Theme	Issue
Protecting natural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• public appreciation of the Site’s conservation values</li> <li>• sensitive sites are not adequately identified, including adequate inventories of rare fauna and flora</li> <li>• management of public motorized vehicle access</li> <li>• an undetermined effect of access and recreational activities on the Site’s soils, vegetation, and wildlife</li> <li>• impact of any future facilities on the aesthetic values of the Site</li> <li>• impacts of tenured uses</li> <li>• habitats degraded through past uses and management</li> <li>• weeds compromising the vegetative integrity of important habitats</li> <li>• non-native animals and feral cats and dogs impacting conservation values</li> <li>• fire response planning to protect ecological values (stands of sagebrush)</li> <li>• seral stage representation may not reflect natural disturbance regimes</li> <li>• forest encroachment into grasslands, ingress, and fuel loading; all resulting from fire suppression</li> <li>• threat from human-caused fire</li> </ul>
Managing recreational opportunities and impacts	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access planning; safe, well-marked access routes that do not impact critical wildlife habitat, endangered species or livestock operations; private lands are not adequately posted along trails and fence lines</li> <li>• increased fire hazards caused by increased public use</li> <li>• need for self-guided interpretive kiosks explaining the values, sensitivities, and permitted uses of the Site</li> <li>• wildlife-human interaction hazard areas along hiking trails</li> </ul>
Protecting cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cultural features not adequately identified (e.g. archaeology sites, Dewdney Trail, pioneer ranch sites)</li> </ul>
Recognized Tenures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• extent of motorized access authorized for tenured uses</li> <li>• concern about livestock-human conflicts</li> <li>• lack of knowledge about appropriate grazing prescriptions that complement conservation objectives</li> <li>• unintentional trapping of red-listed wildlife (e.g. badger)</li> <li>• utility companies will require access to their facilities for maintenance and rehabilitation; impact of utility projects on Site values</li> </ul>
Aboriginal Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lack of First Nation involvement</li> </ul>
Scientific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access for ongoing and future research and inventory compatible with conservation and recreation values</li> <li>• upkeep of research facilities (e.g. range exclosures)</li> </ul>

## Management Direction

### Management Objectives and Strategies

The overall intent of this Site is conservation of the ecological and cultural values, while maintaining low-intensity recreation and nature appreciation activities. The following over-riding management strategies are critical to the preservation of the primary values of this Site (red- and blue-listed plants and animals, and ecosystem representation). Furthermore, these strategies are urgently required for delivery of the initial management direction and essential to future planning. Strategies are listed in order of priority.

- Implement priority access management improvements (e.g. gates, signage) intended to protect conservation and cultural values, while allowing acceptable uses and activities.
- Work with the agencies and non-government interests in the area to develop complementary land management strategies
- Develop interim pre-attack fire plan which reflects the conservation objectives.
- Encourage awareness and support of the conservation objectives of the Site (e.g. workshops, interpretative signage and material and press releases).
- Document existing ecological information and identify gaps. Where ecological risks are greatest, conduct ecological inventories and habitat assessments that will guide the development of management strategies. Special consideration may be required to protect extremely rare plants (e.g. Lyall’s Mariposa Lily).
- Conduct inventory of noxious weeds as required. Develop and implement a weed management plan, in cooperation with South Okanagan – Similkameen Weed Committee
- Collate existing knowledge of cultural features and values, and identify information sources as well as any information gaps and inconsistencies. Consult with the Okanagan First Nations to identify cultural sites and traditional values and activities. Identify existing and potential risks to these resources. Prepare management objectives to protect these interests.
- Pursue opportunities to collaborate with appropriate conservation projects and research being conducted in the Site.
- Develop interim plans for the management of non-tenured protected area uses (e.g. recreational activities). Interim plans are required to ensure, among other things, the protection of ecological and cultural values. These plans will include guidelines to address any potential conflicts with the various uses and between uses, and involve stakeholder consultation. Furthermore, the plans must recognize the need for adaptive management in the event of broad disturbance (e.g. wildfire).
- Conduct monitoring that can evaluate the effectiveness of management activities. Revise interim plans to reflect changes required to meet management objectives.

The following table lists specific strategies, by theme, to achieve management objectives:

<b>Management Objectives</b>	<b>Strategies</b>
Protect natural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public awareness of the purpose of the protected area through information and signage</li> <li>• Monitor and enforce permitted and tenured uses of the Site; develop a volunteer warden program</li> <li>• Encourage stewardship of the Site (e.g. monitoring)</li> <li>• As directed by the 2002 Conservation Risk Assessment, complete an inventory of rare fauna and flora</li> <li>• Identify areas of particular ecological importance that require special management or protection</li> <li>• Direct potentially harmful activity away from sensitive areas (e.g. fencing, trail management)</li> <li>• Identify and delineate limited access areas</li> <li>• Ensure recreation activities are maintained at low levels to minimize visitor impacts on conservation values</li> <li>• Complete vegetation and wildlife impact assessments before improving or promoting recreation opportunities</li> <li>• Ensure future facilities do not impact aesthetic values</li> <li>• Encourage conservation on adjacent private holdings</li> </ul>

Management Objectives	Strategies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Participate in conservation initiatives with The Land Conservancy of BC and Bureau of Land Management</li> <li>• Aggressively control noxious weeds that impact the natural vegetation communities</li> <li>• Control non-native animals and feral cats and dogs</li> <li>• Assess forest encroachment, ingress and fuel loading; develop and implement a strategy to recover habitats to a fire-maintained condition</li> <li>• Prepare a fire response and fire readiness plan</li> </ul>
Manage recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit public motorized access within the Site; close/gate non-status road on Little Chopaka</li> <li>• Provide low-intensity day use recreation opportunities such as walking and nature study, in areas where there is no threat to high ecological values</li> <li>• Establish a parking area, signage and trail which do not adversely impact conservation objectives; determine best location in consultation with affected users and stakeholders</li> <li>• Monitor use and impacts of recreation activities on conservation values; management of use may require seasonal or other restrictions to minimize disturbances to conservation values, erodable trails, public safety or fire hazard</li> <li>• Reduce the potential for human/wildlife interactions; identify wildlife safety hazards</li> </ul>
Protect cultural heritage values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Investigate and collate existing information on cultural heritage values; prepare Cultural Features Information Summary</li> <li>• Further assessment of heritage values</li> </ul>
Manage tenures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine access requirements for tenure holders</li> <li>• Ensure tenured users of Site resources use best management practices to ensure impacts on red- and blue-listed plants and animals are minimized</li> <li>• Encourage trappers to use selective techniques to avoid trapping red- or blue-listed wildlife (e.g. badger, white-tailed jackrabbit)</li> <li>• Ensure existing utility inspection, maintenance and rehabilitation is compatible with Site objectives</li> </ul>
Aboriginal values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consult with the appropriate Okanagan First Nations</li> </ul>
Scientific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Encourage scientific research that benefits Site management objectives</li> <li>• Facilities for research (e.g. range exclosures) must be maintained</li> </ul>

### Integration with Other Land Use Planning Processes

This Management Direction Statement, future Management Direction Statements, and all resulting management actions will follow the intent and criteria set out by the Okanagan-Shuswap LRMP for the Chopaka West Site. Management of the Site should be coordinated with land management of other levels of government, including First Nation and other compatible stakeholders in the area. This would be done within the confines of the *Park Act* and BC Parks' Conservation Program Policies. Increased awareness and cooperation is vital to ecosystem management.

### Consultation and Future Planning

Local groups will continue to be consulted to determine promotion, information and volunteer strategies. Also, the Environmental Stewardship Division will work with the appropriate Okanagan First Nations to further determine heritage and cultural values. Future planning will not compromise the ecological integrity of natural or cultural values within the Site, especially where there are species or communities that are considered at risk in the province. Integrated planning with other agencies,

adjacent landowners and interest groups will ensure ecosystem integrity and promote long-term stewardship of the area.

### **Zoning Plan**

The Chopaka West Site is zoned as **Special Feature** to provide protection for red- and blue-listed plants and animals. Recreation will be confined to designated areas. Public access to important natural or heritage areas will be restricted. Existing recreation trails and interest sites have been identified and designated for low-intensity recreation, but remain subject to review. See Appendix I for a list of acceptable uses in this zone, and a map of zoning and recreation corridors.

## Appendix I

### Acceptable Activities, Uses and Facilities in Chopaka West Site

Activity/Use/Facility	Special Features Zone
Aboriginal Traditional Uses	Y
Hunting	Y
Fishing	n/a
Trapping	N2
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N2
Recreational gold panning/rock hounding	N
Native Plant Seed Harvest	M
Utility corridors	N2
Communication sites	N2
Horseback trail riding (casual)	Y
Horseback trail riding (competitive)	N
Guided hunting	Y until existing tenure holder ceases guiding in the PA
Guided fishing	n/a
Guided nature tours	M
Commercial recreation (facility-based)	N
Commercial recreation (non-facility-based)	M
Backcountry huts	N
Water control structures (e.g. wells, reservoirs, and diversions)	N1
Fish stocking and enhancement	n/a
Road access	N1
Recreational hiking (on designated trails only)	Y
Recreational mountain bikes	N
Rock Climbing	N
Hang Gliding	N
Camping	N
Campfires	N
Pets (under control and on designated trails only)	M
Off-road access (motorized)	N
Aircraft access (helicopter)	N
Fire suppression (as per Fire Mgmt Plan)	Y
Prescribed fire (as per Fire Mgmt Plan)	Y
Fire prevention (as per Fire Mgmt Plan)	Y
Noxious weed control	Y
Forest Health (e.g. insect/disease control)	Y
Scientific research	M

Y = allowed subject to conditions identified in the management direction statement and future management strategies

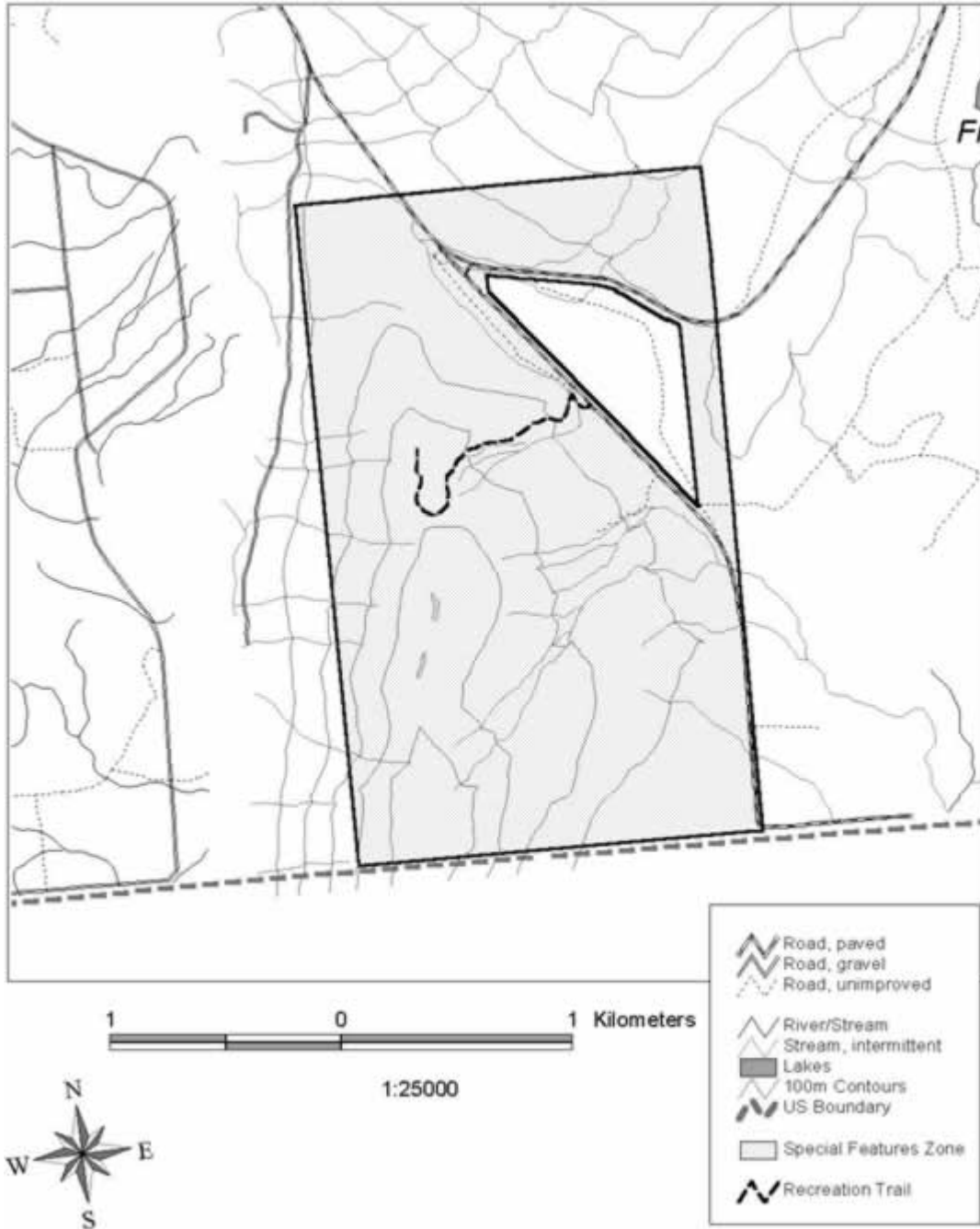
M = authorization required; may be permitted if compatible with Park objectives; may be subject to limitations established through future management strategies

N = not allowed

N1 = allowed for authorized purposes only (e.g. Environmental Stewardship Division, tenured uses)

N2 = present and allowed to continue, but not normally allowed

# Management Planning Zones Chopaka West Site





## Appendix II

### Stakeholders Contacted for South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area

Contact	Affiliation
<b>Resource Agencies</b>	
Bob Lincoln	ESD, WLAP
Al Hare	EPD, WLAP
Steve Roe	EPD, WLAP
Mike Watkins	EPD, WLAP
Jim Mottishaw	Fire, MoF
Alex McLean	Range, MoF
John Pethybridge	Weed Committee, MoF
Daryl Hunt	Roads, MoF
Roger Venables	Recreation, MoF
Margot Hollinger	Forest Health, MoF
John Parsons	Range, MoAF
Ken McAra	Region, MoAF
Tom Freeman	Roads, Reg MoT
Bill Bedford	Roads, MoT
Elsie Lemke	Town of Osoyoos
Glen Mandziuk	Osoyoos Business & Community Development Centre
Joan Bush	RDOS – Electoral Area B
Roger Mayer	RDOS Chair
John Piazza	RDOS – Electoral Area A
<b>Consultative Gov. Members</b>	
Tea Lea	WLAP
Hans Roemer	WLAP
Dennis Lloyd	Research, MoF
Orville Dyer	ESD, WLAP
Ernie Maynard	MSRM
Alex McLean	MoF
Grant Furness	ESD, WLAP
Mike Henry	ESD, WLAP
Dave Tudhope	MSRM
<b>In-Park Tenures</b>	
Bob Gibbard	LRMP Rep., Trapping
Albin Hochsteiner	guide-outfitter
Mark Quaedvleig	LRMP rep., ranching; range licence
Ace and Rose Elkink	range licence
Clarence Schneider	range licence
D.B. McCurdy	range licence
Carol Allison	range licence
George Thompson	Haynes Estate Ranch
Sherry Linn	Bluebird Trail Society

<b>First Nations</b>	
Chief Moses Louie	Lower Similkameen Band
Chief Clarence Louie	Osoyoos Band
Richard Holmes	Upper Similkameen Band
Stewart Phillip	Penticton Band
<b>Significant Adjacent Landowners and Tenures</b>	
Bureau of Land Management	United States
Jim Hope	TNT, adj. landowner
Marlin Clapson	Osoyoos Desert Society
Jim Pendergraft	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
Wayne and Hazel Pendergraft	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
Geral Pendergraft	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
Mrs. A. Dolynuk	adj. landowner
Daryl Gibb	adj. tenant
Bob Ellis	adj. landowner
Lee McFadyen	adj. landowner
Carol Allison	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
George & Richard Thompson	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
Peter Fodey	adj. landowner
Clarence Schneider	adj. landowner; grazing tenure
Nichola Walkden	The Land Conservancy of BC
Audrey Harper	adj. landowner
Steve Venables	adj. landowner
<b>Research / Science</b>	
Pam Krannitz	vegetation and endangered spp. - CWS
Geoff Scudder	invertebrates - UBC
Rob Cannings	invertebrates - UBC
Walt Klenner	small mammals - MoF
Nancy Mahony	song birds - UBC
Mike Miller	vegetation research
T.G. Northcote	limnology
David Dodge	HR MacMillan Space Centre
<b>Conservation</b>	
Robert Hawes	South Okanagan-Similkameen Conservation Program
Bruno Delesalle	Grassland Conservation Council
Brad Arner	Ducks Unlimited
Marlin Clapson	Osoyoos Desert Society
Clive Johnson	Okanagan-Similkameen Parks Society
Laure Neish	South Okanagan Naturalists Club
Dick Cannings	South Okanagan Naturalists Club
Harry Nielsen	Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalists Club
Harold King	Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalists Club
Don Sloan	Okanagan-Similkameen Parks Society
Lee McFadyen	Similkameen Naturalist Club

**Sportsmen Assoc.**

John Nett	Osoyoos Wildlife Federation
Joan McKay	South Okanagan-Similkameen Sportsmen's Association / BC Wildlife Federation
Ron Taylor	LRMP rep, BC Wildlife Federation
Ernie Marven	Kermeos-Cawston Sportsmen's Association

**Recreation**

Juergen Hansen	LRMP rep., recreation
Brad Houston	Penticton Outdoors Club
Eva Durance	Penticton Outdoors Club
Roberta Carleton	Equestrian
Terry Burke	off-road motorized
Chris Prowse	The Bike Barn
Peter Matthews	mountain biker
Bill Archibald	Trails BC VP & route chair
Jim Shaver	local astronomical group
Jim Failes	Mt. Kobau Astronomical Society

**Utilities**

Kevin Jones	Aquila Networks Canada
Barry Radies	Aquila Networks Canada

### Appendix III

## Red- and Blue-listed Species Recorded In or Near Chopaka West Site

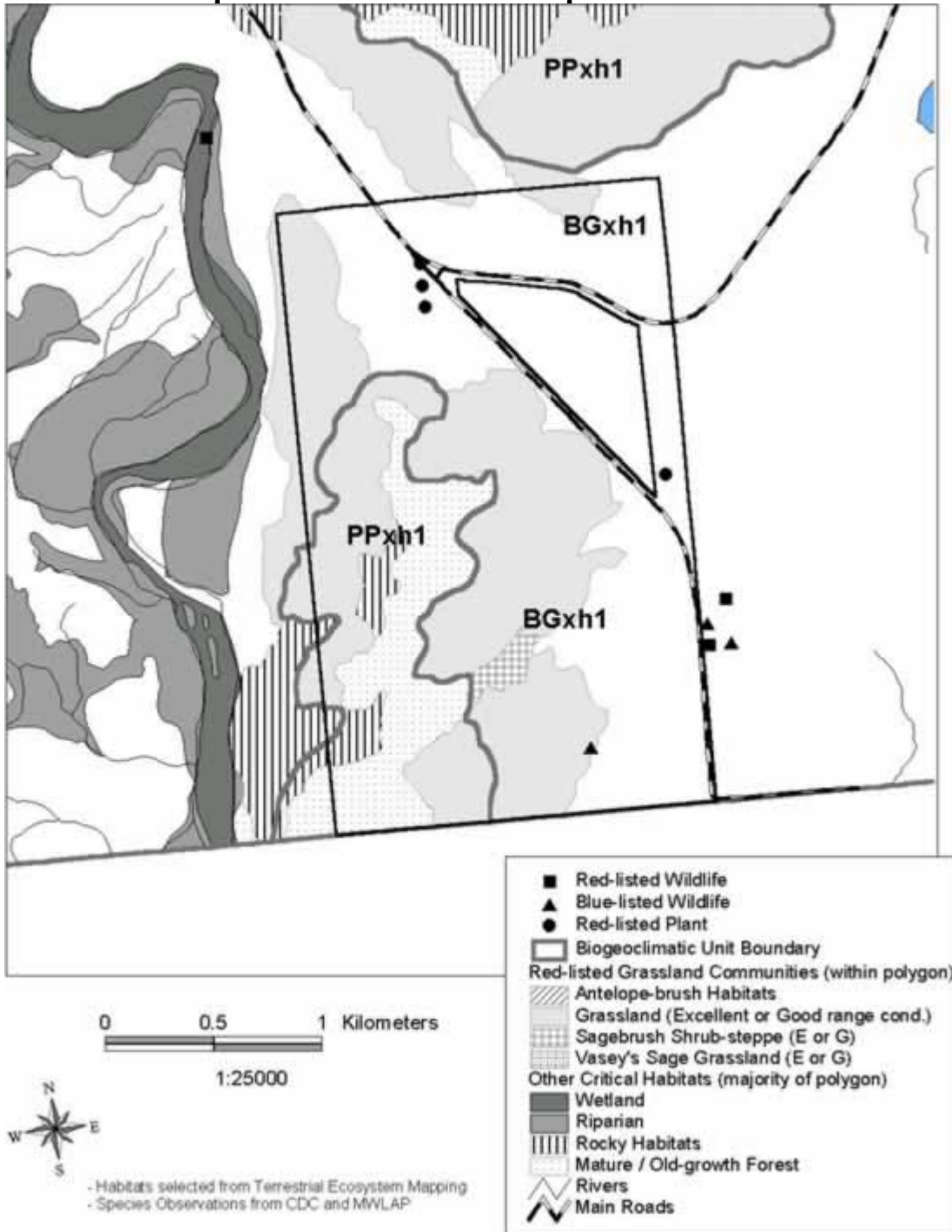
Common Name	Scientific name	Prov. Status	COSEWIC Status	Source **
AMPHIBIANS		1 species		
Tiger Salamander *	<i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>	Red		CDC,WLAP
REPTILES		4 species		
Gopher Snake	<i>Pituophis catenifer deserticola</i>	Blue		WLAP
Pygmy Short-Horned Lizard	<i>Phrynosoma douglassii</i>	Red	Extirpated	WLAP
Racer	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>	Blue		WLAP
Western Rattlesnake	<i>Crotalus viridus</i>	Blue		WLAP
BIRDS		5 species		
Brewer's Sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri breweri</i>	Red		CDC,WLAP
Canyon Wren	<i>Catherpes mexicanus</i>	Blue		WLAP
Lark Sparrow	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Blue		WLAP
Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Blue	Special Concern	CDC,WLAP
Sage Thrasher	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Red	Endangered	CDC,WLAP
MAMMALS		5 species		
Badger	<i>Taxidea taxus</i>	Red		WLAP
Great Basin Pocket Mouse *	<i>Perognathus parvus</i>	Blue		CDC
Nuttall's Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus nuttallii</i>	Blue	Special Concern	WLAP
Western Harvest Mouse *	<i>Reithrodontomys megalotis</i>	Blue	Special Concern	CDC,WLAP
White-tailed Jackrabbit *	<i>Lepus townsendii</i>	Red		WLAP
PLANTS		5 species		
Andean Evening Primrose	<i>Camissonia andina</i>	Red		CDC
Northern Linanthus	<i>Linanthus septentrionalis</i>	Red		CDC
Small-Flowered Ipomopsis	<i>Ipomopsis minutiflora</i>	Red		CDC
Western Stickseed	<i>Lappula occidentalis var cupulata</i>	Red		CDC
Whited's Halimolobos	<i>Halimolobos whitedii</i>	Red		CDC

\* Observation within 500m of Protected Area, but not recorded within Protected Area boundary

\*\* WLAP = Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection wildlife sightings database (Penticton); CDC = Conservation Data Centre element occurrence report

Note: Some additional species have been documented in this Site, but are not yet recorded by CDC or WLAP.

## Important Ecological Areas and Red/Blue Listed Species Observation – Chopaka West Site



## Appendix IV Ecosystem Representation in Chopaka West Site

BEC / Habitat Type	% of PA	Habitats Present
<b>BGxh1</b>	<b>73.58</b>	
Grassland	40.1	WB Bluebunch wheatgrass - Sandberg's bluegrass deep soil WS Bluebunch wheatgrass - selaginella shallow soil
Sagebrush Shrub-Steppe	26.7	SN Big sagebrush - needle-and-thread grass coarse-textured soil SS Big sagebrush - selaginella very shallow soil SW Big sagebrush - bluebunch wheatgrass mesic
Rocky Habitats	1.5	RO Rock outcrop TA Talus SO Saskatoon - mock-orange talus
Riparian	0.1	AS Trembling aspen - common snowberry moist
Fields	3.2	CF Cultivated field PD Pasture, moist
Other	2.0	BA Barren TC Transportation corridor (now excluded)
<b>PPxh1</b>	<b>26.4</b>	
Grassland	5.0	WA Bluebunch wheatgrass - arrow-leaved balsamroot deep soil
Rocky Habitats	6.9	RO Rock outcrop TA Talus SO Saskatoon - mock-orange talus
Dry Forest	14.5	PF Ponderosa pine - Idaho fescue warm aspect, deep soil PS Ponderosa pine - selaginella shallow soil PW Ponderosa pine - bluebunch wheatgrass mesic

## Ecosystem Representation – Chopaka West Site

