

**Okanagan Region**

**MANAGEMENT DIRECTION  
STATEMENT**

**March, 2003**

**for Kilpoola Site**  
South Okanagan Grasslands  
Provincial Protected Area



**BRITISH  
COLUMBIA**

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

# Kilpoola 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 represent 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 as well as Provincial and Federal government sponsorship.

The Kilpoola Site is one of 4 geographically separate but related Sites (Chopaka West, Chopaka East, Kobau) that form the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area. The 2350-hectare Site is comprised of two components: the northerly component straddles Highway 3 east in the vicinity of Spotted Lake, and the southerly component extends from Kilpoola Estates to the International Boundary. Most of the Site is surrounded by private, currently undeveloped lands.

The ecological value of the Site is increased by the potential to participate in conservation management practices with the The Nature Trust of BC and the US Bureau of Land Management (BLM) whose lands contribute to a natural corridor almost to the Similkameen River.

The Site contributes significantly to the Protected Areas Strategy target for ecosystem representation and the protection of arid grasslands and dry forests.

#### Approvals



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Date: March 7, 2003



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Date: Mar. 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 Kilpoola Site.

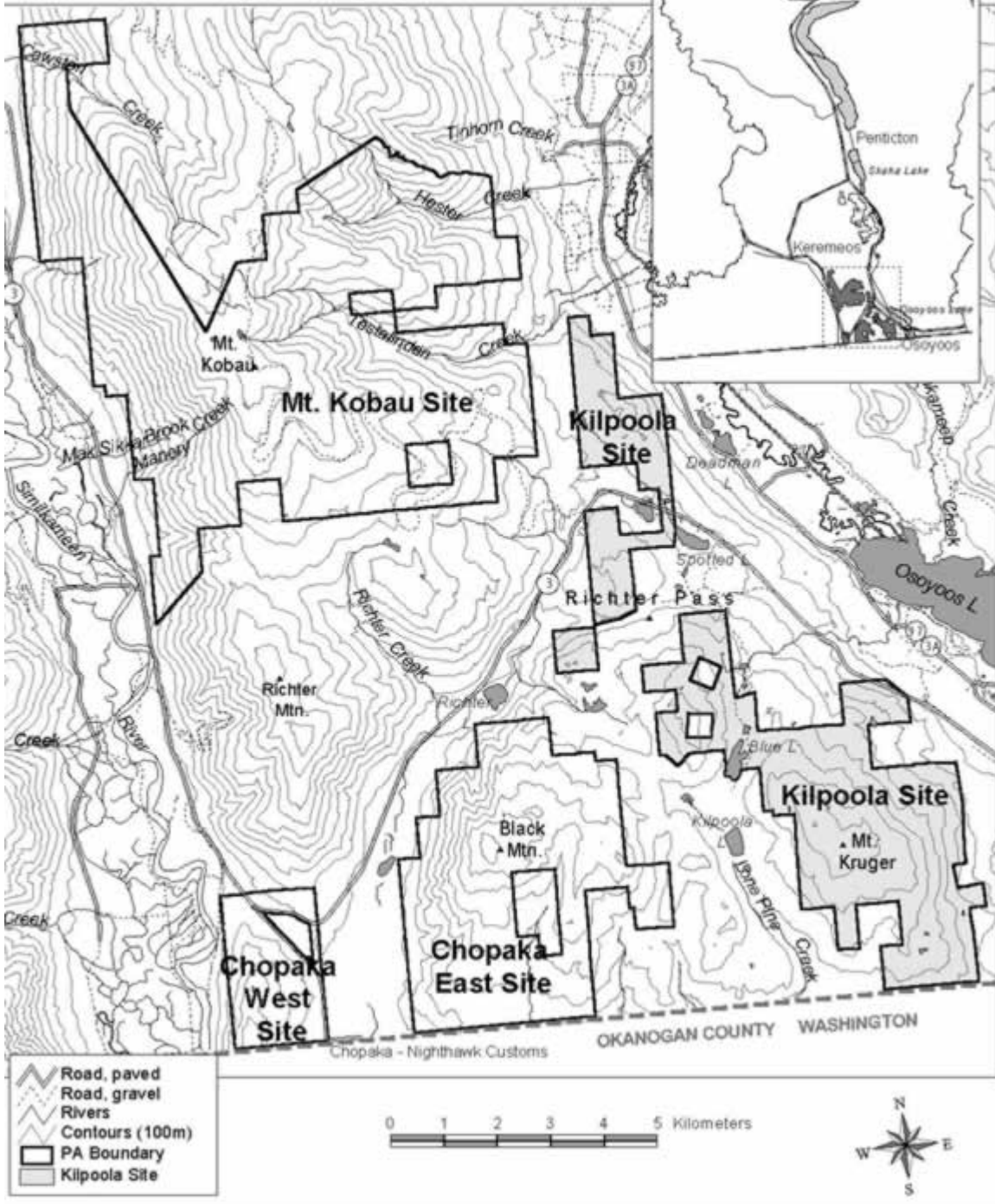
## Setting and Context

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 Areas Strategy as a guide in the selection of protected area 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 provincial park status by including it in Schedule D of the Protected Areas of British Columbia Act.

The 2,350 hectare Kilpoola Site is situated north and south of Highway 3 including the southeast slopes of Mount Kobau, Blue Lake and Kruger Mountain to the International Boundary. The entire Site is within the Southern Okanagan Basin Ecoregion and consists of the very hot, xeric subzones of the Bunchgrass (BGxh1), Ponderosa Pine (PPxh1), and Interior Douglas-fir (IDFxh1) biogeoclimatic zones. Eight of the province's red-listed and seventeen blue-listed animals plus three red-listed and one blue-listed plants are found within the Site.

South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area  
Kilpoola Site



## Protected Area Attributes

### Conservation

- entirely within the South Okanagan Basin Ecoregion, comprised of nearly equal proportions of very hot and xeric Bunchgrass (BGxh1), Ponderosa Pine (PPxh1) and Interior Douglas-fir (IDFxh1) biogeoclimatic variants.
- 40% is grassland or shrub steppe, some of which is a red-listed plant community; almost 40% is open ponderosa pine forest (Appendix IV); these dry habitats are very fragile and represent the driest subzones in the province

Habitat Type	BGxh1 (% of PA)	PPxh1 (% of PA)	IDFxh1 (% of PA)	Total
Grassland	7.9	7.1	0.0	15.0
Antelope-brush Shrub-Steppe	0.1	0.0	0.0	0.1
Sagebrush Shrub-Steppe	17.8	4.2	0.0	22.0
Rocky Habitats	2.9	6.4	6.2	15.5
Wetland	0.3	0.3	0.9	1.5
Riparian	2.0	3.3	0.9	6.1
Forest	0.0	15.6	22.3	38.0
Other	1.8	0.0	0.1	1.9
Total	32.7	36.8	30.4	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 Pentiction Forest District potentially occur in the Site, depending on range condition, including grassland/shrub-steppe, dry forest and riparian ecosystems (Appendix III)
- mosaic of age class 1-7 open forest, burned areas, grassland, deciduous and wetland habitats
- a diversity of rolling hummocky landscape with interconnecting gullies and bedrock knolls
- eight red-listed and seventeen blue-listed animals in or adjacent to the Site (Appendix III); additional species are expected to occur
- important mule deer winter range
- part of important wildlife corridor linking with the Chopaka East and Mount Kobau sites
- three red-listed as well as one blue-listed plant species occur within the Site (Appendix III)
- Blue Lake has unusual water chemistry and high salinity; significant growth of rare anaerobic purple sulphur bacteria; extreme temperature gradient with depth (no mixing)

### Recreation/Tourism

- nature appreciation and wildlife viewing, especially bird watching, are important recreation activities
- recreational use is moderate in the southern component and low in the northern component; the continuity of activities is dependent on permission for access through interspersed private lands in some areas
- hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling are ongoing activities
- hunting is valued but limited due to interspersed private lands
- potential to contribute to wildlife viewing and nature study tours

## Cultural Heritage

- the Site has a moderate-high rating for cultural heritage
- there is a long history of Aboriginal use in the vicinity of Spotted Lake
- Okanagan First Nations traditional use is generally not known
- additional archaeological sites are expected; more systematic archaeological surveys are required
- the historic Dewdney Trail passes through the centre of the Site
- includes historic mining and early farm settlement

## Scientific

- research conducted on sagebrush nesting birds, small mammals, and invertebrates
- important vegetation plots
- limnological research at Blue Lake

## Significance in the Protected Areas System

- contributes ecological significance to the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area, in combination with three other Sites (Chopaka West, Chopaka East, Mt. Kobau)
- the Site lies within the South Okanagan Basin (SOB) Ecosection, which is the fourth smallest ecosection in the province yet hosts the highest number of red- and blue-listed plant and animal species; the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area is the largest contributor of protected area in the ecosection (46.1%); the Site makes up a large share of that contribution..
- extends through three biogeoclimatic zones (BGxh1, PPxh1 and IDFxh1); also contains the very hot and xeric grassland phase of the Ponderosa Pine (PPxh1a); South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area is the sole contributor to the representation of this variant; the Kilpoola Site accounts for about two thirds of the total with the other one third occurring in Chopaka East)
- consists entirely of provincially and regionally significant ecosystems

Ecosystem Classification	Province (ha)	% within OSLRMP	% within existing Protected Area	% within Goal 1	% Protected (existing + Goal 1)	% of Protected within Kilpoola	% of Total within Kilpoola
Ecosection <sup>1</sup>							
SOB	78739	100	NA	13.02	NA	NA	3.0
Biogeoclimatic Unit <sup>2</sup>							
BGxh1	61913	100	0.7	4.1	4.8	25.3	1.2
PPxh1a	4491	100	0.0	21.2	21.2	67.7	14.3
IDFxh1 *	241392	71	2.3	3.7	6.0	6.5	0.4

Sources of areas for area calculations:

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

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

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

\* includes only Protected Areas within OSLRMP

- hosts large number of rare wildlife species significant in the province (eight red-listed, seventeen blue-listed) as well as several rare plants (three red-listed and one blue-listed); also potentially contains many red-listed plant communities (e.g. big sagebrush - bluebunch wheatgrass)
- high biodiversity enhanced by surrounding important habitats, especially Osoyoos West Bench and private lands to the west of the Site
- opportunities for nature study/interpretation of rare species/grassland values; picnicking opportunities on Blue Lake (former UREP map reserve)
- protects First Nation and early settlement cultural features

## Other Land Uses and Interests

### Access

Highway 3 divides the northerly part of the Site. A non-status road accesses the very northern part, terminating at the communication site. The southerly part is also accessed from Highway 3 via Kruger Mountain road to Blue Lake. A number of other non-status roads and trails, including Strawberry Creek and Dividend Mine, braid their ways eastward toward Osoyoos. North of Blue Lake there is a non-status road heading west which is access for excluded mineral tenures.

### 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.

Recognized tenures in the Site:

- four water licences for domestic or stock watering plus one just outside the Site
- one trapline
- a guide outfitter has a non-transferable sundry permit throughout the Site that is reviewed and issued annually; the license will not be issued to another person when the present tenure holder decides to not actively guide in the area
- two ranch operations have pastures through Range Use Plans; range improvements consists mostly of fencing and livestock water developments
- access to communication sites via non-status road north of Highway 3; actual communication site excluded from the Site (Cantel, Okanagan Valley TV and CBC)
- utility corridor (WKP power line, and Telus communication line)

Untenured interests in the Park include:

- Canadian Helicopters has a long history of using the area for mountainous helicopter training

### Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- private rangelands interspersed
- rural residential/hobby farms in the middle near Highway 3 east.
- critical desert habitat on Crown lands to the southeast; the Town of Osoyoos lies beyond
- The Nature Trust of BC conservation holding at Kilpoola Lake
- Osoyoos Desert Centre and Fields Ecological Reserve (#33) to the northeast
- south of the International Boundary, mostly public land administered by the Bureau of Land Management

### First Nation Interests

- interests of the Okanagan First Nations are not known

### Other Agency Interests

- partners of the South Okanagan - Similkameen Conservation Program have long-standing involvements with conservation and resource management on these lands. In particular, the Site should be managed in close co-ordination with the Bureau of Land Management and the Town of Osoyoos



- Canadian Wildlife Service is undertaking a five year sage thrasher and white-headed woodpecker habitat improvement projects in the area; the Site provides habitat critical for this species
- Ministry of Forests manages existing grazing licenses, in conjunction with the Environmental Stewardship Division under a protocol agreement
- Ministry of Forests assists with 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 with 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 (one mile border response)
- 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 Forests is currently preparing a weed plan for Environmental Stewardship Division approval
- Ministry of Transportation has one public road, Kruger Mountain Road, that goes through some of the southerly part to Blue Lake; the Old Richter Pass Road and small segments of Highway 3 east dissect parts of the Site in an east- west direction; 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 (picnicking, hiking, horseback riding, mountain biking, cross-country skiing and snowmobiling)
- nature viewing (casual and club-sponsored)
- recreational hunting
- cultural and heritage sites
- nature conservation and ecosystem management (non-government groups and organizations)
- fire management for ecosystem health and protection of adjacent private properties
- bluebird trail nest-box program conducted by the Southern Interior Bluebird Trail Society
- scientific research by university and non-government organizations

## **Role of the Kilpoola Site**

The primary role of the Kilpoola Site is to protect red- and blue-listed species and ecosystem representation of the driest and hottest subzones in the province. These ecosystems include grasslands, shrub-steppe and open pine forests. Associated rock outcroppings are also very important wildlife habitats. Feature species are the grasshopper sparrow and extremely rare plants.

The Site contributes to the ecological integrity of the South Okanagan Grasslands Protected Area (including Chopaka West, Chopaka East and Mount Kobau Sites). These combined holdings provide a unique opportunity for conserving expanses of low and mid-elevation, arid grasslands and open forests. The contiguity of habitat between the Site and other Water Land and Air Protection reserve lands on the Osoyoos West Bench is critical for many rare species. Cooperative management practices with the Bureau of Land Management lands south of the border, Crown lands held by Water Land and Air Protection under reserve (Osoyoos West Bench) and private properties adjacent to the Site would increase the conservation values and diversity of the overall area.

The Site may contain regionally significant archaeological features and be of special value for traditional Aboriginal uses. Wildlife viewing, natural history interpretation, and other limited-access recreation opportunities, including a small picnicking site at Blue Lake, 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 values. 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 established 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 Notation of Interests and Map Reserves for conservation purposes over much of the Site in 1993. A summary of the area's values, attributes, issues and habitat management 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 in their final recommendations 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
- difficulties managing and protecting conservation values due to the fragmented and irregular shape of the Site
- 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, both existing and future, on adjacent lands with Site objectives
- ability to monitor and enforce permitted uses
- compatibility issues may exist or arise among uses of the Site
- inadequate public facilities especially in the vicinity of Blue Lake
- 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>• need for 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>• public off-road motorized vehicle access, especially in the vicinity of Strawberry Creek Road and Dividend Mine Road</li> <li>• an undetermined effect of access and recreational activities on the protected area’s soils, vegetation, and wildlife</li> <li>• impact of any future facilities on the aesthetic values of the Site</li> <li>• possible 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>• seral stage representation may not reflect natural disturbance regimes</li> <li>• fire response planning to protect ecological values</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>• lack of access planning; safe, well-marked access routes that do not impact critical wildlife habitat, endangered species or livestock operations</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> <li>• Site contains unsightly garbage, including old vehicles (southeast portion)</li> </ul>
Protecting cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• cultural features not adequately identified (e.g. archaeological sites, pioneer ranch sites, historic mines)</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 and lack of awareness of tenure-holder rights and requirements (closing gates)</li> <li>• lack of knowledge about appropriate grazing prescriptions that complement conservation objectives</li> <li>• non-target, red-listed wildlife (i.e. badger) potentially being trapped</li> </ul>
First Nation Involvement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• lack of First Nations involvement</li> </ul>
Scientific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• access for ongoing and future research and inventory that is compatible with conservation and recreation values</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 preserve conservation and cultural values, while allowing acceptable uses and activities.
- Work with the agencies and non-government interests to develop complementary land management strategies. For example, the contiguity of habitat between the Site and Crown lands of interest to the Fish and Wildlife Science and Allocation Section on the Osoyoos West Bench is critical for many rare species.
- 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
- 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 appropriate 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 Site 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:

Management Objectives	Strategies
Protect natural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Increase public awareness of the purpose of the Site through interpretative signage and promotion</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>• Monitor and enforce permitted and tenured uses of the Site; develop a volunteer warden program for the area</li> <li>• Encourage stewardship of the Site (e.g. monitoring)</li> <li>• Minimize visitor impacts on the Site’s red- and blue-listed plants and animals and sensitive areas; ensure recreation activities are generally maintained at low levels to minimize impacts on conservation values</li> <li>• Complete impact assessments before improving or promoting recreational opportunities</li> </ul>

Management Objectives	Strategies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify and restore degraded habitats</li> <li>• Aggressively control noxious weeds that impact the natural vegetation communities; integrates approach with adjacent landowners</li> <li>• Control non-native animals and feral dogs and cats</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 (possible seasonal closures of the south part of the Site)</li> <li>• Work with agencies and non-government interests (e.g. Bureau of Land Management, The Nature and Trust of BC) to manage the conservation values in a cooperative manner</li> <li>• Encourage conservation and sensitive land uses on adjacent private holdings</li> </ul>
Manage recreational values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Prohibit public, motorized vehicle access within the Site except on public roadways; close/gate non-status roads not required particularly near Strawberry Creek and Dividend Mine Roads</li> <li>• Provide low-intensity day use recreation opportunities such as hiking, nature study and hunting in areas where there is no threat to high ecological values; provide informal day use opportunities (e.g. picnicking) at the former UREP reserve at Blue Lake</li> <li>• Establish a trailhead, signage, and trail(s) which do not adversely impact conservation objectives; determine best location in consultation with affected users and stakeholders</li> <li>• Monitor use and impacts of recreational activities on conservation values; management of use may require seasonal or other temporary restrictions to minimize disturbance to conservation values, erosion on trails, public safety or fire hazards</li> <li>• Ensure that private lands and protected area boundaries are adequately posted</li> <li>• Prepare a fire response and management plan to ensure public safety</li> <li>• Reduce the potential for human/wildlife interactions; identify wildlife safety hazards</li> <li>• Clean up refuse</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>• Conduct further assessments of heritage values</li> </ul>
Manage tenures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Determine access requirements for tenure holders</li> <li>• Maintain access for excluded communications site in northerly component</li> <li>• Ensure tenured users of the Site use best management practices to minimize impacts on red- and blue-listed plants and animals</li> <li>• Encourage tenured users and visitors to work cooperatively to promote harmonious co-existence</li> <li>• Signage required to inform public of tenured rights and requirements</li> <li>• Encourage the relinquishment of unused water licences</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>• Ensure that Site management supports ongoing scientific research</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 Kilpoola Site. Management of the Site should be coordinated with land management of other levels of government, including First Nations and other compatible stakeholders in the area. This will 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. In addition, 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, adjoining landowners and interest groups will ensure ecosystem integrity and promote long-term stewardship of the area.

## **Zoning Plan**

The majority of the Kilpoola Site is zoned as **Special Feature** to provide protection for important ecosystems and red- and blue-listed plants and animals. Recreation will be directed along trails and to designated areas. Public access to important natural or heritage areas will be restricted. Existing recreation corridors have been identified and some have been designated for low-intensity trails, but remain subject to review. See Appendix I for a list of acceptable uses and a map of zoning and recreation corridors.

A small area in the northern portion of the south Kilpoola Site is zoned as **Natural Environment** to provide relatively low use recreational opportunities while protecting the conservation values. Higher levels of use would be permitted in association with nodes of activity or access. This zone is transected by a designated road, Kruger Mountain road, with motorized access to Blue Lake. Higher levels of recreational use (day use picnicking) is accommodated in the vicinity of the former UREP Reserve at Blue Lake, and on designated trails. Other recreation trails may be designated pending further assessment of habitat values and sensitivity. The extent of this zone is to be determined, pending an inventory of rare and sensitive species, plant communities, and features.

## Appendix I

### Acceptable Activities, Uses and Facilities in the Kilpoola Site

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

Y = allowed subject to conditions identified in this MDS and future management strategies

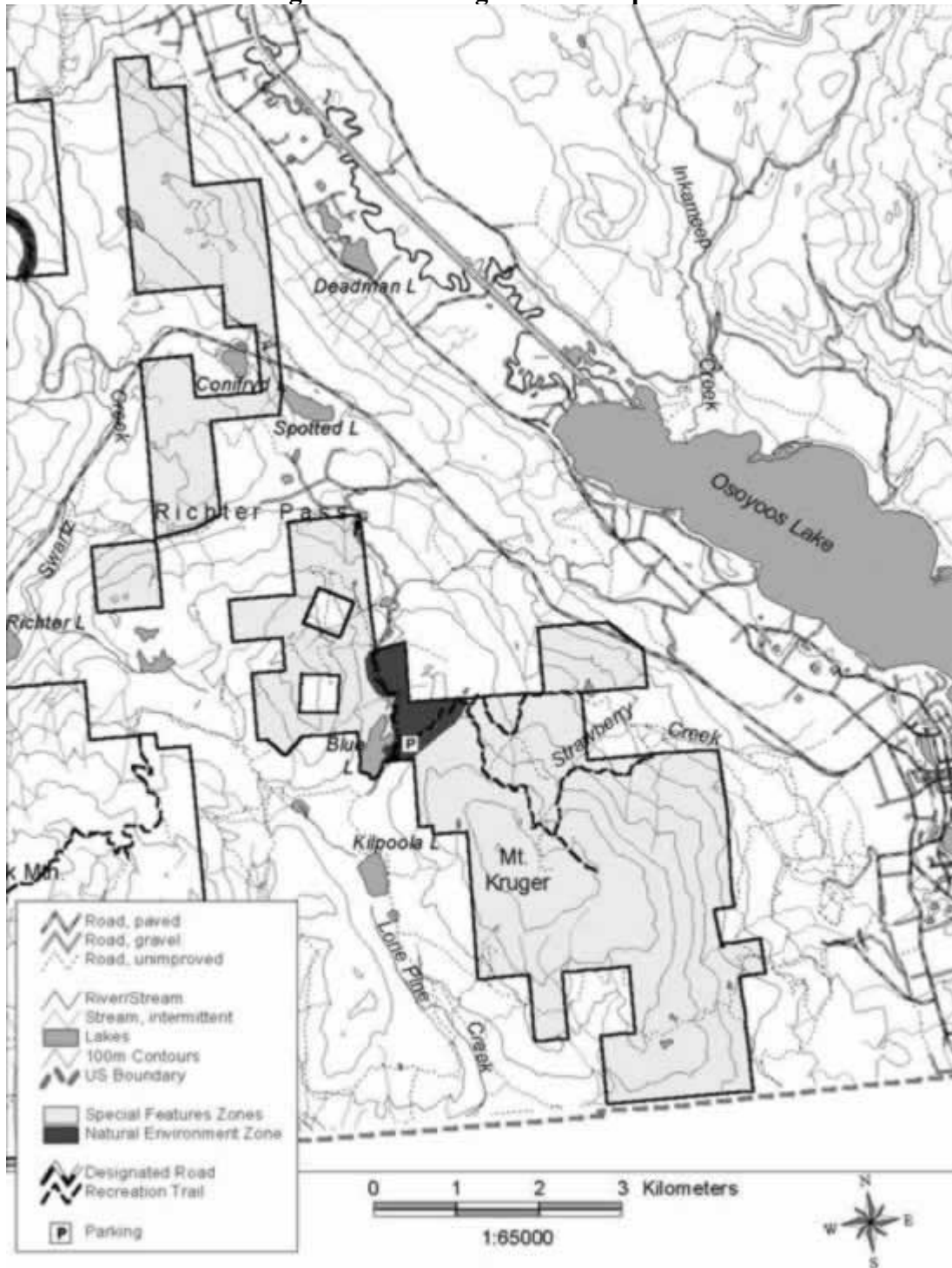
M = authorization required; may be permitted if compatible with Site objectives; may be subject to limitations

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 – Kilpoola Site





**Appendix II**  
**Stakeholders Contacted for South Okanagan Grasslands Park**

<b>Contact</b>	<b>Affiliation</b>
<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 Hanry	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 Elkind	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 and Commercial**

Kevin Jones	Aquila Networks Canada
Barry Radies	Acquila Networks Canada
Jan Rustad	Canadian Helicopters

## Appendix III

### Red- and Blue-listed Species Recorded in or Near Kilpoola Site

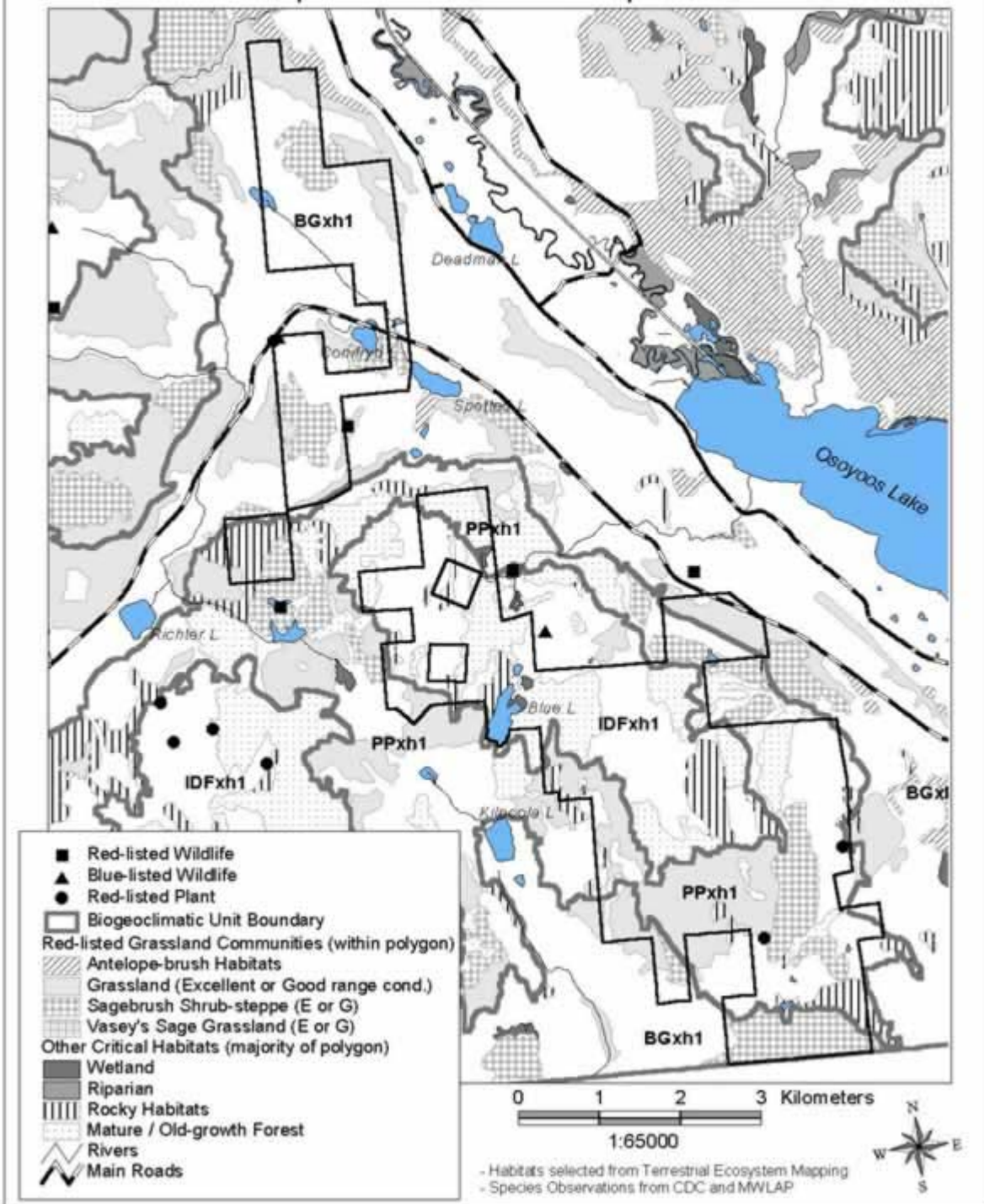
Common Name	Scientific name	Prov. Status	COSEWIC Status	Source **
AMPHIBIANS		2 species		
Great Basin Spadefoot Toad	<i>Spea intermontana</i>	Blue	Special Concern	CDC
Tiger Salamander *	<i>Ambystoma tigrinum</i>	Red		CDC,WLAP
REPTILES		5 species		
Gopher Snake *	<i>Pituophis catenifer deserticola</i>	Blue		WLAP
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	Blue		CDC,WLAP
Racer *	<i>Coluber constrictor</i>	Blue		WKAO
Rubber Boa *	<i>Charina bottae</i>	Blue		WLAP
Western Rattlesnake *	<i>Crotalus viridus</i>	Blue		WLAP
BIRDS		13 species		
Brewer's Sparrow	<i>Spizella breweri breweri</i>	Red		CDC,WLAP
Burrowing Owl *	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Red	Endangered	WLAP
Flammulated Owl	<i>Otus flammeolus</i>	Blue	Special Concern	CDC,WLAP
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus</i>	Red		WLAP
Lark Sparrow *	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Blue		WLAP
Lewis's Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Blue	Special Concern	CDC
Long-Billed Curlew *	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Blue	Special Concern	WLAP
Prairie Falcon *	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	Red		WLAP
Sage Thrasher *	<i>Oreoscoptes montanus</i>	Red	Endangered	WLAP
Sandhill Crane	<i>Grus canadensis</i>	Blue		WLAP
White-Headed Woodpecker	<i>Picoides albolarvatus</i>	Red	Endangered	WLAP
Williamson's Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus thyroideus</i>	Blue		WLAP
White-Throated Swift	<i>Aeronautes saxatalis</i>	Blue		WLAP
MAMMALS		5 species		
Badger	<i>Taxus taxidea</i>	Red	Endangered	WLAP
Great Basin Pocket Mouse *	<i>Perognathus parvus</i>	Blue		WLAP
Nuttall's Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus nuttallii</i>	Blue		WLAP
Spotted Bat	<i>Euderma maculatum</i>	Blue	Special Concern	WLAP
Western Small-Footed Myotis *	<i>Myotis ciliolabrum</i>	Blue		WLAP
PLANTS		4 species		
Beaked Spike-Rush	<i>Eleocharis rostellata</i> <i>Eleocharis</i>	Blue		CDC
Bushy Cinquefoil	<i>Potentilla paradoxa</i>	Red		CDC
Nettle-Leaved Giant-Hyssop	<i>Agastache urticifolia</i>	Red		CDC
Obscure Cryptantha	<i>Cryptantha ambigua</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 Observations - Kilpoola Site



## Appendix IV - Ecosystem Representation in Kilpoola Site

BEC / Habitat Type	BEC /	% of PA	Habitats Present
<b>BGxh1</b>		<b>32.7</b>	
Grassland	7.9	WB WS	Bluebunch wheatgrass - Sandberg's bluegrass deep soil Bluebunch wheatgrass - selaginella shallow soil
Antelope-brush Shrub-Steppe	0.1	AN	Antelope-brush - needle-and-thread grass coarse-textured
Sagebrush Shrub-Steppe	17.8	SN SS SW	Big sagebrush - needle-and-thread grass coarse-textured soil Big sagebrush - selaginella very shallow soil Big sagebrush - bluebunch wheatgrass mesic
Rocky Habitats	2.9	RO TA SO	Rock outcrop Talus Saskatoon - mock-orange talus
Water / Wetland	0.3	OW SB	Shallow open water Silverweed - bulrush meadow
Riparian	2.0	AS	Trembling aspen - common snowberry moist
Fields	1.5	PD PM	Pasture, dry Pasture, moist
Other	0.3	GP TC UR	Gravel pit Transportation corridor Urban
<b>PPxh1</b>		<b>36.8</b>	
Grassland	7.1	WA WF WJ WS	Bluebunch wheatgrass - arrow-leaved balsamroot deep soil Bluebunch wheatgrass - Idaho fescue coarse-textured soil Bluebunch wheatgrass - junegrass mesic Bluebunch wheatgrass - selaginella shallow soil
Sagebrush Shrub-Steppe	4.2	SS	Big sagebrush - selaginella very shallow soil
Rocky Habitats	6.4	RO TA SO	Rock outcrop Talus Saskatoon - mock-orange talus
Wetland	0.3	OW CT SB	Shallow open water Common cattail marsh Silverweed - bulrush meadow
Riparian	3.3	AS BS	Trembling aspen - common snowberry moist Paper birch - common snowberry moist, gully
Dry Forest	12.6	PS PW	Ponderosa pine - selaginella shallow soil Ponderosa pine - bluebunch wheatgrass mesic
Moist Forest	3.0	SP	Common snowberry - pinegrass moist
<b>IDFxh1</b>		<b>30.4</b>	
Rocky Habitats	6.2	RO SO	Rock outcrop Saskatoon - mock-orange talus
Riparian	0.9	AS BS	Trembling aspen - common snowberry moist Paper birch - common snowberry moist, gully
Wetland	0.9	LA OW CT SB	Large lake Shallow open water Common cattail marsh Silverweed - bulrush meadow
Forest	22.3	DP PS SP	Douglas-fir - pinegrass mesic Ponderosa pine - selaginella shallow soil Common snowberry - pinegrass moist
Fields	0.0	PM	Pasture, moist
Other	0.1	BE	Beach

### Ecosystem Representation - Kilpoola Site

