

SUN-OKA PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

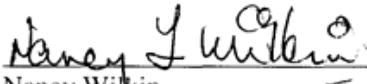
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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 10, 2003



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Date: March 11, 2003

**SUN-OKA BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK
Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

Sun-Oka Beach Park is located south of Summerland on Okanagan Lake, adjacent to Highway 97. The 30 hectare park includes provincial Crown land as well as federal leased land north of the developed area that is intended to be used for extensive recreation purposes.

The **primary purpose** of the park is to provide day use lake-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities as part of a system of day use and overnight parks focussed on Okanagan Lake.

Sun-Oka Beach Park is a provincially significant day use destination and a major contributor to the tourist economy of the area. The park is an extremely popular attraction for residents and Highway 97 corridor tourists. People staying at tourist accommodations in the Summerland/Penticton area make extensive use of the park. The park has an outstanding beach and provides high quality opportunities for swimming, water-skiing, wake boarding and picnicking. A private concession stand offers users refreshments and snacks.

The **secondary purpose** of the park is to protect its lakeshore and upland values typical of the Okanagan Valley.

Natural values include red-listed cottonwood, blue-listed Lewis' woodpecker and 400 metres of Okanagan Lake shoreline. Trout Creek provides kokanee and trout spawning and rearing habitat. The park makes a minor contribution to the protection of the Northern Okanagan Basin Ecoregion. It is 1 of only 4 protected areas in the ecoregion containing the very under-represented BGxh1 biogeoclimatic subzone/variant, contributing 14.5% of that protected. No CDC sites have been recorded.

The **tertiary purpose** of the park is to protect the First Nation cultural values. The park has evidence of past First Nation use.

| Known Management Issues | Response |
|---|--|
| The federal leased land has a series of rough trails running through the mainly red-listed cottonwood stand. It is uncertain if this use poses a threat to the cottonwoods. | Monitor use and impact on the cottonwoods to determine if there is a need for further action to protect the trees. |
| The portion of Trout Creek above the highway has been developed for flood control. This has affected riparian vegetation and impacted water temperature and fish habitat. | Work with the Trout Creek Round Table initiative in an effort to restore fish and riparian habitat values. |

Zoning

The western portion of the lakeshore and associated upland is zoned Intensive Recreation to provide lake-oriented day-use recreation opportunities (approximately 46% of the park). The remainder of the lakeshore and associated upland and the Trout Creek area west of the highway is zoned Natural Environment to protect its natural values and provide low-intensity recreation opportunities (approximately 54% of the park).

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection Northern Okanagan Basin – minor contribution (0.3%)
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Minimal contribution to the BGxh1, although the park provides 14.54% of the representation of this ecosystem in the North Okanagan Basin Ecosection

Special Feature

Rare/Endangered Values

- Cottonwood (red-listed ecosystem), Lewis' woodpecker (blue-listed)

Scientific/Research Opportunities

RECREATION

Representation

- backcountry
- destination Provincially significant day use destination
- travel corridor Day use opportunities to Okanagan corridor travellers
- local recreation Regionally important day use area for Penticton-Summerland area residents

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

- First Nation traditional use

Special Feature

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

- Part of Okanagan Valley system of day use and overnight sites

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

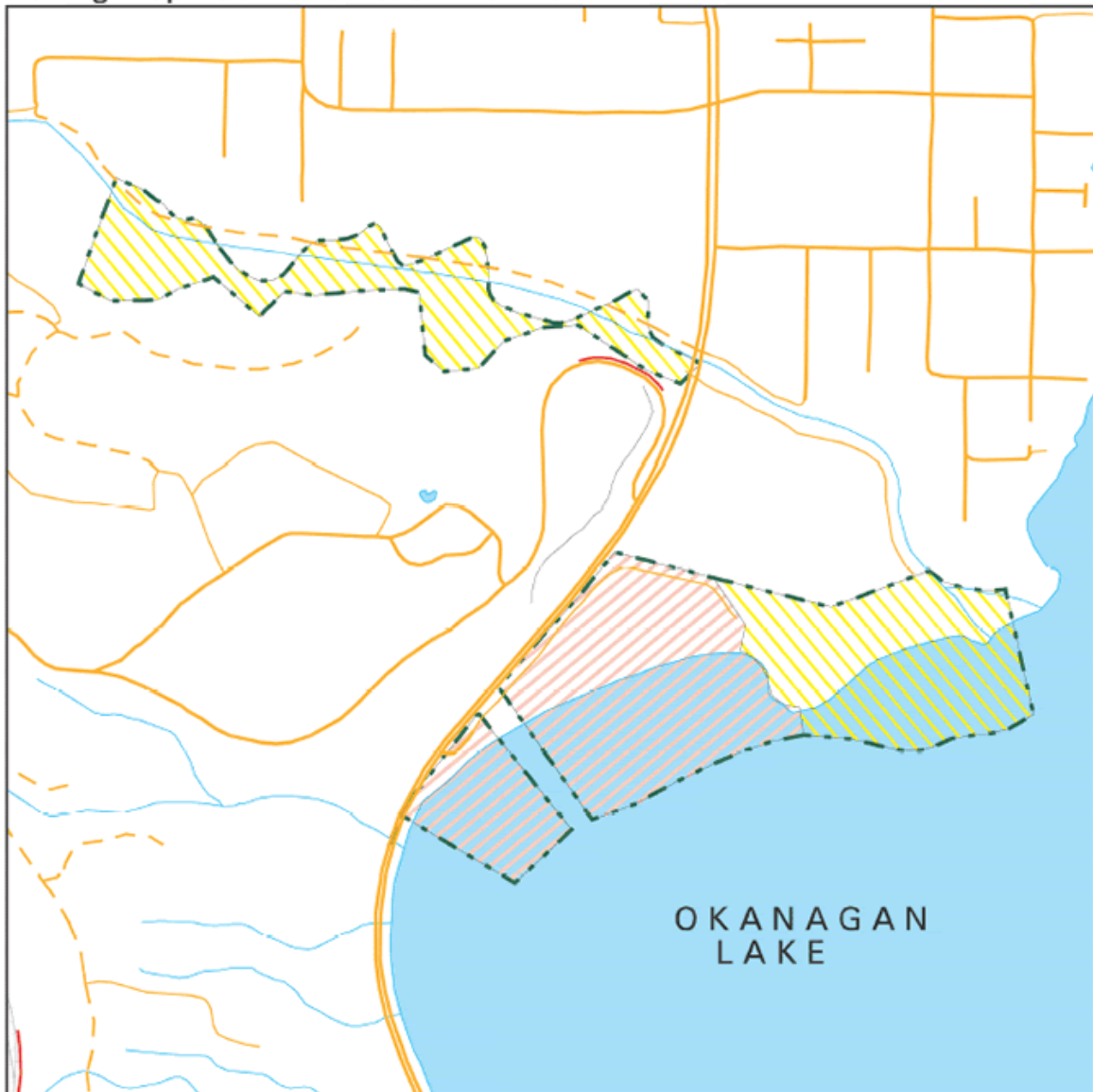
Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 30 hectares




Date of establishment: July 7, 1969

Zoning Map - Sun-Oka Beach Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary

0 100
m

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