

Thompson River District

**MANAGEMENT DIRECTION
STATEMENT**

June, 1999

**for Taweel
Provincial Park**



**Ministry of Environment
Lands and Parks
BC Parks Division**



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APPROVALS

KAMLOOPS GOAL 1 PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENTS BINDER APPROVALS PAGE

Forward

This binder contains 15 management direction statements developed under the direction of the Kamloops Land and Resource Plan Implementation Table and BC Parks. The government designated these protected areas in May, 1996. The 15 management direction statements provide strategic direction for these protected areas until management plans can be developed with full public involvement. Protected areas' roles, strategies and objectives will not change extensively over time. Management actions, implemented through operations plans, however, will change as priorities, funding and support resources come available.

- Arrowstone Protected Area
- Blue Earth Lake Park
- Bonaparte Park
- Clearwater River Corridor
- Cornwall Hills Park
- Dunn Peak Park
- Elephant Hill Park
- Emar Lakes Park

- High Lakes Basin Park.
- Momich Lakes Park
- Oregon Jack Park
- Porcupine Meadows Park
- Roche Lake Park
- Taweel Park
- Upper Adams Park

Approved by:

District Manager
Thompson River District
BC Parks Division

Date:

93/04/30

Assistant Deputy Minister
Park Management Committee
BC Parks Division

Date:

99 10 25

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Purpose of Management Direction Statements

Management Direction Statements provide strategic management direction for all protected areas that do not have a full management plan. MDS do not negate the need for future, more detailed management plans. Management Direction Statements also describe protected area values management issues and concerns; management strategy focused on immediate priority objectives and strategies; and, directional statements from other planning processes

TAWHEEL PARK

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

I. Introduction

A. Setting and Context

The 4,353-hectare Taweel Park has significant conservation, recreation and cultural values. Situated west of Clearwater and centered on Taweel Lake, access is by gravel roads from Highway 24, 20 km. west of Little Fort.

This protected area was recommended through the Kamloops LRMP process and formally established on April 30th, 1996 as a provincial park through Order-in-Council under the *Environment and Land Use Act*. Subsequently, the park was designated under Schedule E of the *Park Amendment Act, 1997*.

This Management Direction Statement is intended to provide direction and guidelines for managing Taweel Park until a more comprehensive management plan is developed for the area.

II. Protected Area Values

A. Conservation

- a representative area of the provincially significant Sub-boreal Spruce forests in the region.
- riparian areas at the north end of Taweel Lake and some patches of old growth
- important habitat for fisher, moose, marten, and several bird species
- wild native rainbow stock are in both Taweel Lake and the small side lakes

B. Recreation and Tourism

- picturesque large lake connecting with network of trails to small side lakes
- fishing for wild stock fish, hiking and nature appreciation in a wilderness-like setting

C. Cultural Heritage

- possible First Nations use
- probable route of an historic trail from Canim Lake to the North Thompson River

D. Significance in the Protected Areas System

- protects a portion of Sub-boreal Spruce forest that is provincially significant, with one of the very few unstocked lakes in the system.
- Taweel Park is provincially significant for its conservation values and regionally significant for recreation values.

III. Other Land Uses and Interests

A. Existing Tenures

- designation under the *Park Amendment Act, 1997* ensures that 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. This policy recognizes all existing *Land Act* tenures (Wilderness Resort Operations), SUP's, trapping licences and other legal tenures and rights.
- designation under the *Park Amendment Act, 1997* provides for continuance of existing grazing under administration and management of the *Range Act*

B. Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- forestry roads and cutblocks to the south

C. First Nations Interests

- unknown

D. Other Agency Interests

- The park will be managed in close co-ordination with various resource agencies, particularly BC Environment and Ministry of Forests.
- Ministry of Forests manages grazing use in the protected area
- Ministry of Energy and Mines - mineral claims and recent exploration

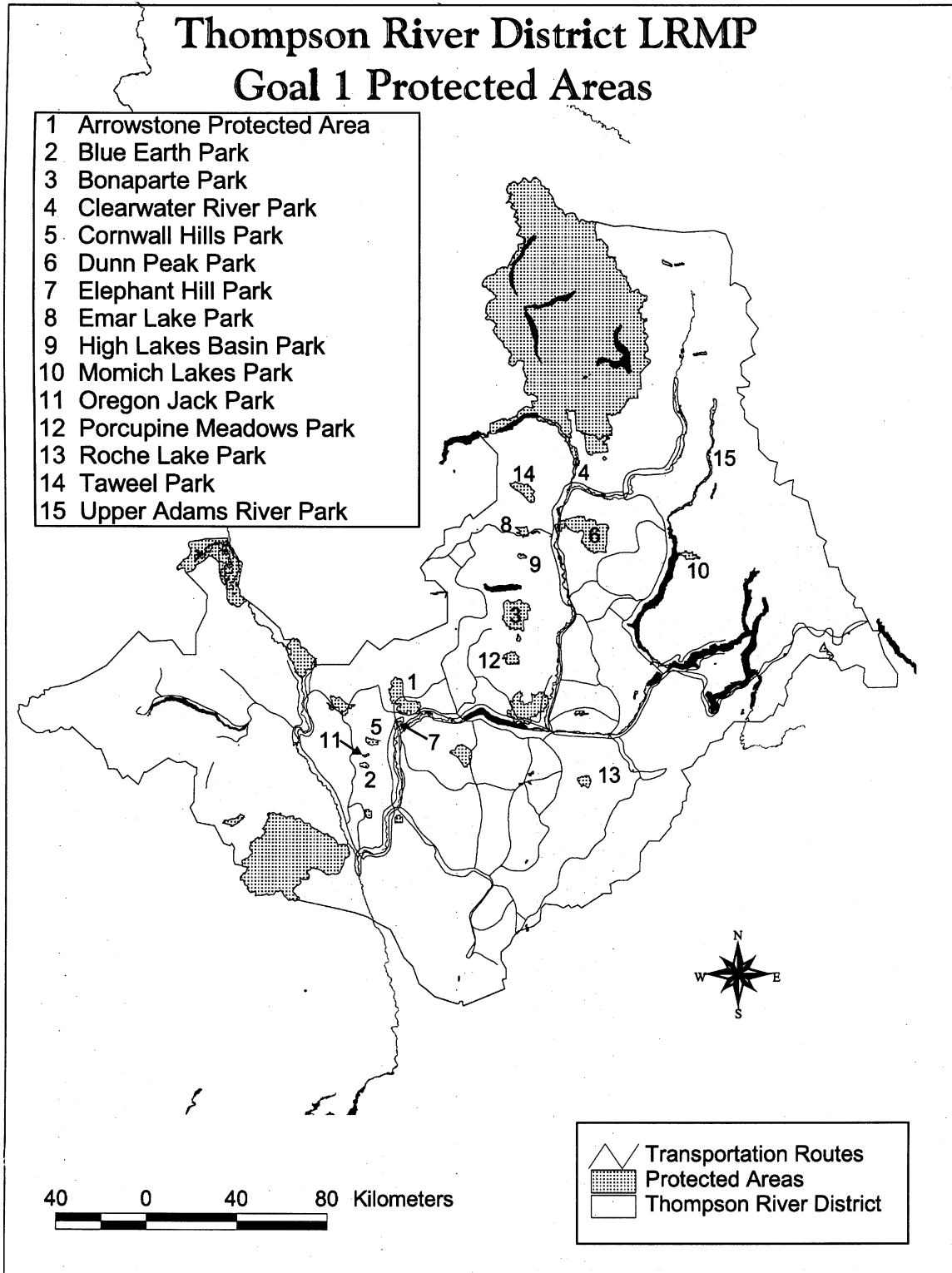
E. Private and Public Stakeholder Interests

- private resorts on east end of Taweel Lake

IV. Park Role Statement

Taweel Park protects an extensive wilderness setting with the large Taweel Lake as the dominant feature and a number of smaller lakes, wetlands and old-growth forest habitats. Taweel Park contributes special features within a system of six parks including Porcupine Meadows in the south and extending north through Tsintsunko, Bonaparte, High Lakes Basin, Emar Lakes and Taweel parks which, in combination, capture the biological diversity of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosession, a major landscape component of the Kamloops Forest Region. Taweel Park provides regionally significant wilderness recreation and tourism opportunities particularly relating to fishing for native rainbow trout.

Figure 1 – Regional Context Map



V. Management Issues and Concerns

A. Integration With Other Land Use Planning Processes

This Management Direction Statement, future management plans, and all resulting management actions will follow the intent and criteria set out by the Kamloops LRMP for the Taweel protected area.

Also the park will be planned and managed in co-ordination with the Nehaliston Local Resource Use planning process of the Ministry of Forests to ensure compatibility and complementary support for objectives of the protected area and surrounding forest land base.

B. Consultation and Future Planning

Planning and management of the park will conform to the intent and directions as set forth in the Provincial Protected Areas Strategy. BC Parks is accountable for planning, administration and management of the park through application of the laws, policies and regulations granted under the *Park Act*. BC Parks will coordinate with other agencies, the LRMP table, various public planning groups and First Nations in developing management plans for all of the new parks arising from the Kamloops LRMP.

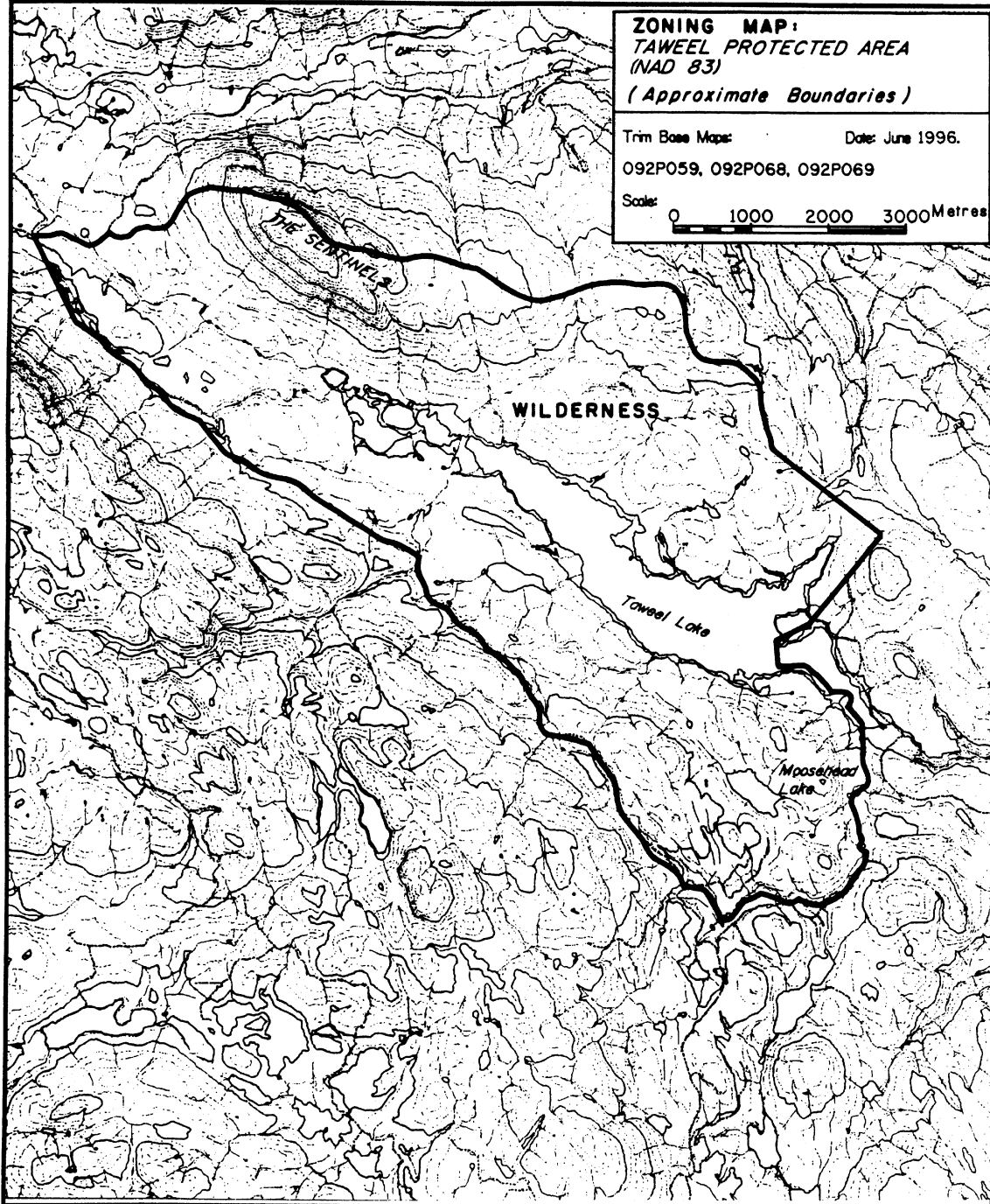
This Management Direction Statement has been reviewed and approved in principle by the Kamloops LRMP table. As well, the local Native Band(s) and the various stakeholders have had opportunity to review and provide comments on this Direction Statement.

The LRMP table considers Taweel Park as medium priority for management planning. A background document will be prepared for the park either in 1998 or 1999 as the first stage of management planning, depending on available funding. The management planning process, which will be undertaken after the background document is completed, will likely require 6 to 8 months to complete. The plan will be developed through involvement of other agencies, stakeholders and groups.

C. Zoning Plan

This zoning plan as shown on the adjoining page is preliminary and reflects the intent of the LRMP recommendations for the Bonaparte protected area. The zoning plan may be changed in a future management planning process. The only zone identified at this time is **Wilderness**, covering the entire park, with the objective to protect and retain the wilderness qualities and character of the protected area.

Figure 2- Zoning Map



D. Management Strategies and Objectives

In addition to accepting the basic principles of maintaining existing tenures and rights, the following objectives will direct the short and long term management of the area:

- to maintain the natural qualities and conditions of the park
- to maintain the visual, recreational and tourism values
- to maintain the diversity of wildlife species and habitats
- to discourage the introduction of non-native plant species
- to provide for continued recreation use with opportunities for quality fishing, canoeing, camping, nature viewing, hunting, nature viewing and other dispersed recreation activities

The more detailed management planning process will define how these strategies and objectives will be implemented. As well, there will undoubtedly be other strategies and objectives added to the list through the management planning process.

E. Longer Term Issues and Concerns

The longer term issues will be identified in detail through the background document. As a result of the LRMP and the LRUP processes there are a number of apparent longer term issues that will be addressed in the management planning process that can be highlighted under the following broad topics:

Conservation

- vegetation management - insect and disease control; fire management; grazing management
- wildlife management

Recreation and Tourism

- access management - appropriate road access to the south side of Taweel Lake will be addressed through local level planning
- recreation use - appropriate activities, insuring compatibility between user groups

Culture

- inventory and protection of archaeological sites and recognition of any identified traditional First Nations uses

F. Short Term Issues and Concerns

Appendix A outlines guidelines for managing uses, activities and facilities in strict preservation, natural environment and intensive use zones. The following provides further elaboration on some uses:

Forest Management

- recent blowdown occurrence and concerns related to spruce beetle infestation will likely require some actions to prevent escalation of the beetle outbreak

Access

- public demands for road access to the southeast end of Taweel Lake may require attention in the short term

Resort Uses

- park boundaries exclude private and leased lands; however adjacent and nearby fishing resorts use lakes in the park as part of their operations; these uses are considered legitimate but will be reviewed later through a management planning process.

Motorized Use

- motorized boating will be permitted on Taweel Lake; all other lakes are considered too small for use of motors
- ATV's will not be permitted

Recreation Use

- more intensive levels of management may be applied; i.e. periodic park ranger patrols. Emphasis will be placed on "User Maintained" co-operation of park users.

Appendix A - Activity/ Use Matrix for Taweel Park

Activity/Use/Activity	Wilderness Zone
Hunting	Y
Fishing	Y
Trapping	Y
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N2
Recreational gold panning/ rock hounding	N
Utility corridors	N
Communication sites	N
Horse use/ pack animals	Y ³
Guide outfitting (hunting)	Y ²
Guide outfitting (fishing)	Y ²
Guide outfitting (nature tours)	Y ²
Guide outfitting (river rafting)	N/A
Cat-assisted skiing	N/A
Ski-hills	N/A
Heli-skiing	N/A
Heli-hiking	N
Tourist infrastructure - resorts	N2
Backcountry huts/lodges/ cabins	N2
Water control structures	N2
Fish stocking and enhancement	Y
Road access	Y ¹
Off-road access (snowmobiles)	Y ³
Off-road access (motorized)	Y ³
Off-road access (mechanical activities)	Y ³
Motorized water access	Y ⁴
Aircraft access	Y ⁴
Fire management Wildlife management Prevention & preparedness Prescribed fire management	N1
Fire management (suppression)	Y
Forest insect/disease control	Y
Noxious weed control	Y
Exotic insect/disease control	Y
Scientific research (specimen collection)	N1
Scientific research (manipulation activities)	N1

Y = allowed, subject to conditions identified in the management direction statement or management plan

N1 = allowed for expressed management purposes only

¹ = road access plan for this area designates open and closed roads

³ = on designated trails only

N = not allowed

N2 = not normally allowed, but if present at time of PA establishment, will normally be allowed to continue

² = by permit only

⁴ = on designated lakes only