


# THINAHTEA NORTH AND THINAHTEA SOUTH PROTECTED AREAS

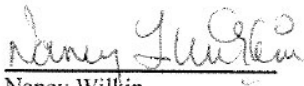


## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN Peace Region 2006

Approved by:

  
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Andy Ackerman,  
Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division  
Peace Region

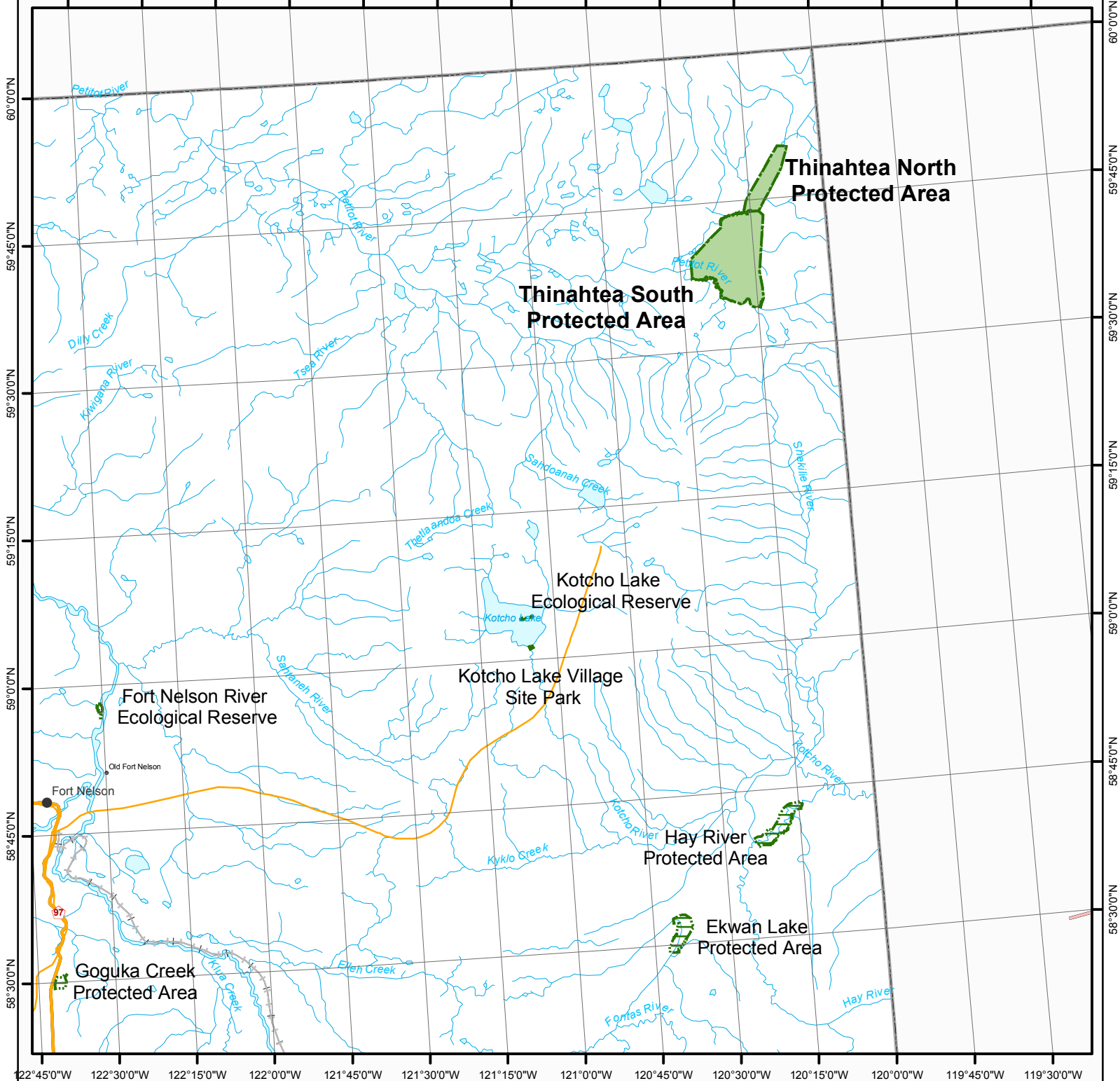
Date: July 13 2006

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: October 8 2006





**Figure 1: Regional Context**

**Thinahtea North and South Protected Area**



Projection: UTM Zone 10  
Datum: NAD83

Produced in June 2006 for  
Ministry of Environment  
by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands  
Integrated Land Management Bureau

-  Subject Area
-  Other Protected Areas
-  Highway
-  Road

1:1,000,000  
0 2 4 6 8 10  
Kilometers



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only and should not be used for  
legal purposes

## THINAHTEA NORTH AND SOUTH PROTECTED AREAS Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

### Primary Role

The **primary** role of North and South Thinahtea protected areas is to provide a representative example of the Petitot Plain Ecosection and the Boreal white and black spruce biogeoclimatic zone. The two protected areas contain riparian habitats, wetlands and upland forests with important habitat for caribou, moose, wolf, black bear and several other mammals as well as waterfowl, including Trumpeter swans. The areas provide a good example of muskeg, mixed with some associated upland forest including significant jackpine stands.

North and South Thinahtea protected areas are located in the north east corner of the province near the confluence of Thinahtea creek and the Petitot River, 170 km northeast of Fort Nelson. There are no designated roads in the vicinity of the protected area.

Known Management Issues	Response
Lack of management presence	Increase management presence as resources permit
The Fort Nelson Land and Resource Management Plan directed that directional drilling to access oil and gas be permitted for both Thinahtea North and South.	Work with the Oil and Gas Commission and any tenure holder to ensure protected area values are protected during any directional drilling to access deposits under the protected areas
Designation of Thinahtea South as a Class A Provincial Park: amendments to the <i>Park Act</i> in 2003 have enabled directional drilling to occur under Class A Provincial Parks, provided there is no surface disturbance or surface access into the park. Therefore, there is no longer any impediment to designating the area as a Class A Park.	Following consultation with local government, re-designate the area as a Class A Provincial Park if appropriate.
The Fort Nelson Land and Resource Management Plan directed that an underground pipeline be permitted through Thinahtea North provided that installation of the pipeline be done by directional drilling from outside the protected areas	Work with the Oil and Gas Commission and any pipeline companies operating in the protected areas to ensure values are protected during construction and operations.
Thinahtea Lake and Creek are known to have high fisheries values, but knowledge of species present and abundance is limited.	Conduct fisheries inventory.

### Zoning

The entirety of both Thinahtea North and Thinahtea South protected areas are zoned Wilderness Conservation in order to maintain the areas' pristine wilderness character.

### Conservation

- Representation  
- ecosection  Thinahtea North and South together contribute 100% of the protected areas system representation of the Petitot Plain Ecosection. This ecosection is just 3 % represented in the protected areas system.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant  These protected areas provide representation of the BWBSmw 2 (Black and White Boreal Spruce, moist, warm) variant. 2% of the total area of this variant is protected throughout the province. The two protected areas contribute 12.7 % of that protection.
- Special Feature
- Rare/Endangered Values  Trumpeter Swan nesting sites within the protected areas, and water hemlock (*Cicuta virosa*)
- Scientific/Research Opportunities

### Recreation

- Representation
- Backcountry
- Destination
- Travel corridor
- Local recreation
- Special Opportunities
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities

### Cultural Heritage

- Representation  These protected areas lie within the area traditionally used by the First Nations of Treaty 8. The area is significant for food and medicinal values for First Nations and there is potential for archaeological, cultural and heritage resources, although none have been inventoried in the protected areas at this time.
- Special Feature

### Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to other PAs

Collaborative Management Arrangements

The protected areas will, once the agreement is signed, be subject to the Memorandum of Agreement respecting the management of provincial parks between the Government of BC and the Treaty 8 First Nations.

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to other Strategies

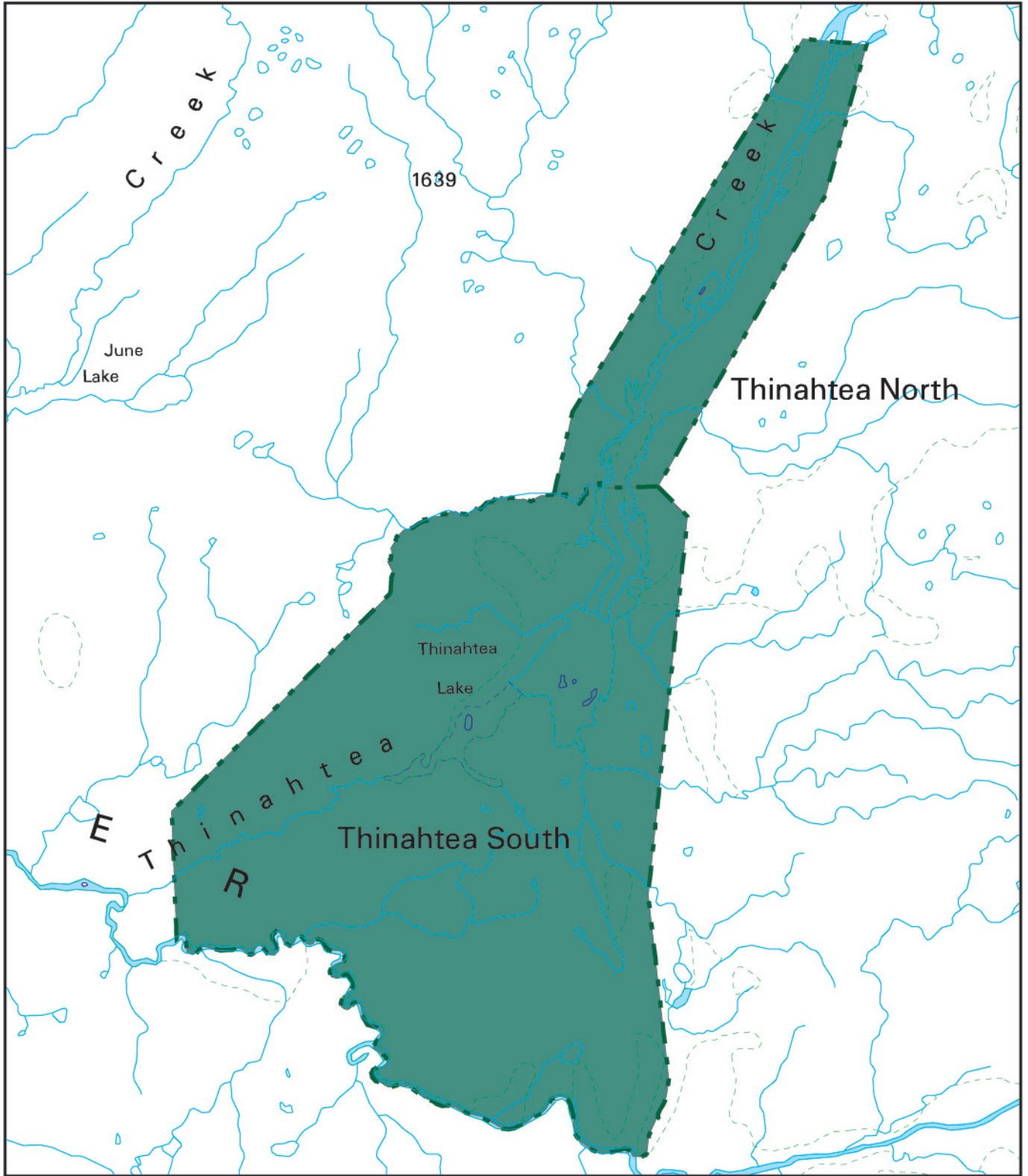
Thinahtea protected areas were identified as Goal 1 areas under the Fort Nelson Land and Resource Management Plan

**Area:**

Thinahtea North: 3,674 hectares  
Thinahtea South: 16, 705 hectares



**Date of establishment:**

March 30, 2001

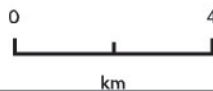


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 Wilderness Conservation  
 Protected Area Boundary

Produced in Jul 2006 for  
Ministry of Water, Land and  
Air Protection by MSRM, Business  
Solutions Branch



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