

UPPER VIOLET CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

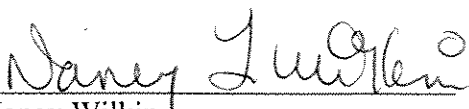
February 2006

Approved by:



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Okanagan Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb 14, 2006



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date: March 26, 2006

Upper Violet Creek Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Introduction

Upper Violet Park is located 12 kilometres southeast of Salmon Arm on the southeastern edge of the Larch Hills. The 124 hectare park captures the major sections of Upper Violet Creek that flow into Mara Meadows Ecological Reserve. Park boundaries generally run 50 metres parallel on either side of the main stream course for about five and half kilometres, and along either side of two short tributaries. Boggy wetlands at the top end of the two tributaries are included in the park boundaries. The continuity of park boundaries along the stream is interrupted by a 660 metre section of private land near the lower end. The legal park boundary definitions also exclude the rights-of-way of three forest development roads that cross through the park.

Primary Role

The **primary role** of Upper Violet Park is to protect one of two major sources of water entering Mara Meadows Ecological Reserve. Conservation of the unique wetland habitats and rare plants of Mara Meadow is dependent upon the maintenance of the existing quantity and quality of water flowing in from Upper Violet Creek. The pending designation of Mara Meadows Park (recommended in the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan) around the north and east sides of the ecological reserve will provide similar protection along the other main drainage leading into the meadows. As further measure of protection, water rights to the creek are reserved in favour of the Ministry by Order-in-Council.

The riparian habitats along the creek and around the boggy wetlands are covered in mixed forest of western red cedar, hemlock, paper birch and cottonwood trees with shrubby understory of willows and red osier dogwood. These habitats are very stable and the location and condition of the pre-existing road crossings ensure little risk of damage from erosion or runoff. Forest developments on adjacent woodlot and crown lands may, however, have potential to impact the watershed.

A **secondary role** of Upper Violet Creek Park is to provide for continued recreational use of the cross country ski trails that cross through the area. These trails pre-exist the park and are well maintained by the local cross country ski club. The trails and the use of the trails pose little threat to park values.

Known Management Issues	Response
Protecting Ecological Values: 1. The long narrow shape of the park, extending along both creek edges, poses management difficulties. Some of the map boundaries may not correlate with actual field locations of the creek courses.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ground truth map boundaries and ensure that any resulting errors in mapping and legal descriptions be corrected.• Mark and sign park boundaries at strategic locations such as road edges and trail crossings.

<p>2. Outside water and land uses may impact water flow into the park or the Ecological Reserve.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain ongoing liaison with Ministry of Forests and Range and the Ministry of Environment Water Stewardship Division to review any development plans in the watershed, with particular focus on protecting water flows entering the creek. • Monitor water flow and water chemistry
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Zoning

The whole of the protected area is zoned as Nature Recreation.

Protected Area Values and Significance Summary Matrix

Conservation

Representation

 Ecosection

Shuswap Highland – The ecosection is well represented (16.7%) in the protected area system. Contribution to the province-wide protected area representation of this ecosection by the park is less than .01%. Contributes less than .01% to the province-wide representation of ICH mw2. This subzone/variant is reasonably well represented (7.9%) in the protected areas system.

 Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

Special Features

Rare/Endangered Values

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Recreation

Representation

 Backcountry

 destination

Travel corridor

Local recreation

Cross country ski trails that cross through the area are maintained by local cross country ski club.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage

Representation

Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to Other Protected Areas

Upper Violet Park essentially serves to protect a main source of water entering Mara Meadows Ecological Reserve.

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Okanagan-Shuswap LRMP

Area

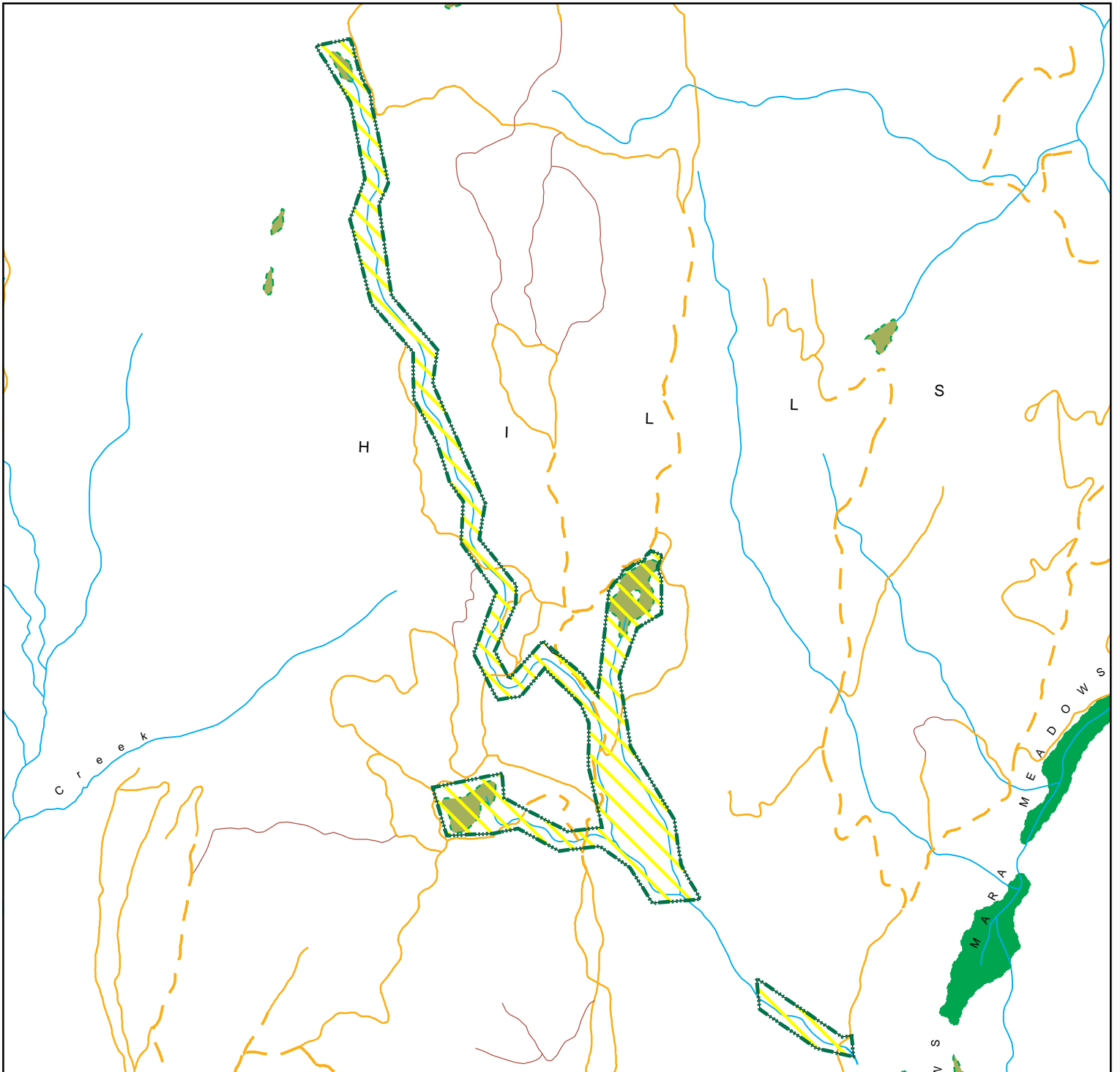
124 hectares

Date of establishment

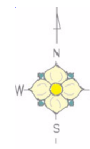
May 20, 2004

Zoning Map

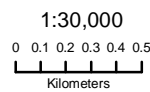
Upper Violet Creek Provincial Park



 Nature Recreation



Produced in Nov 2005 for
Ministry of Environment
by Ministry of Agriculture and Lands
Integrated Land Management Bureau



Projection: UTM Zone 11
Datum: NAD83

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only and should not be used for
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