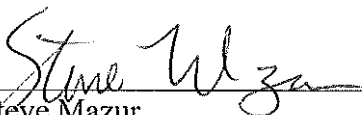


WHITE PELICAN PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

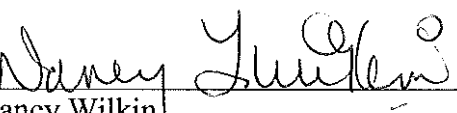
May 2005

Approved by:



Steve Mazur
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: May 20/05



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: July 10/05

WHITE PELICAN PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

White Pelican Park was one of 17 protected areas recommended by the Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan. The original park, which is nested within the new protected area, was established on April 8, 1971 and was 1247 hectares in size. With the additional area recommended from the land use plan the park is now 2,762 hectares in area. The park is situated 34 km north of Alexis Creek.

Primary Role

The **primary** role of White Pelican Provincial Park is to protect critical nesting and breeding habitat for the red-listed American White Pelican. Stum Lake supports the only known American white pelican nesting colony in British Columbia. The American white pelican is legally designated as an endangered species under the B.C. *Wildlife Act*, and are highly susceptible to disturbance during nesting periods. Hunting, trapping and the discharge of firearms is prohibited below the highwater mark of Stum Lake from March 1st to August 31st to protect the American white pelican. Access closures are in effect through the *Wildlife Act* and aircraft landing restrictions are enforced through the *Park and Recreation Area Regulation*.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of White Pelican Provincial Park is to provide representation of the SBPS biogeoclimatic zone in the Chilcotin Plateau and Nazko Uplands ecosections.

Known Management Issues	Response
Bark beetle activities in park.	Continue to monitor and work with the Ministry of forests on methods to control spread of bark beetle activities and prevent impacts to adjacent commercial forests.
Increased access to the park through adjacent forest development may disturb pelicans.	Continue access restrictions, both timing of use and physical restrictions. Work with other agencies and licensees to minimize access routes.
Potential displacement of pelicans.	Monitor pelican use and habitats.
Lack of cultural heritage information.	Work with First Nations to increase knowledge about cultural values in the park and ensure First Nations can use and access Reserves within the park in a manner which minimizes impacts to pelicans.

Zoning

The entire park is zoned Special Feature, in recognition of the special management that is required to protect the habitat of the provincially red-listed American white pelican.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection The majority (approximately 89%) of the park is in the Chilcotin Plateau Ecosection, with the remainder in the Nazko Uplands Ecosection. The Chilcotin Plateau Ecosection is under-represented (4.02%) in the protected areas system. White Pelican Lake contributes only 5.94% of the overall protected areas representation of this ecosection. The major contributors are Nuntsi Park (33.99%) and Big Creek Park (40.8%). White Pelican Lake contributes only 0.2% of the overall protected areas representation of the Nazko Uplands Ecosection (10.91% protected). Other Major contributors to the representation of this ecosection are Tweedsmuir (31.7%) and Entiako (47.44%).
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Provides 437 hectares to the SBPSdc subzone. A modest 5.41% of this subzone is currently protected, primarily in Kluskoil Provincial Park. Other protected areas with small amounts of SBPSdc include Nazko, Puntchesakut and Narcosli. Provides 2,769 hectares to the SBPSxc subzone, of which only a total of 3.19% is protected. Other protected areas that contribute to the SBPSxc include Nuntsi, Nazko and Churn Creek and the Cardiff Ecological Reserve.

Special Feature

- Only known breeding colony of American White Pelicans in British Columbia.

Rare/Endangered Values

- Medium sized breeding colony of American white pelicans utilize four islands in lake. *Pelecanus erythrophynchos* is red listed, ranked S1B S2N provincially, G3 globally. *Senecio plattensis* (Plains butterweed) is blue listed, ranked S2S3 provincially and G3 globally.

Scientific/Research Opportunities

- Relating to pelican use, breeding, habitat use and population dynamics.

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination Some low intensity wildlife viewing
- travel corridor
- local recreation

Special Opportunities

- Wildlife viewing

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

-

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Special Feature Several Indian Reserves save and excepted from the park suggest First Nations values may be significant.

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability High. Increased use may impact pelican use of area.

Relationship to Other Strategies Enlargement recommended by Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan

Area: 2,762.8 ha

Date of Establishment: July 12, 1995