# WHITE RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

# PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

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Approved by:

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1916,0

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## WHITE RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

#### Primary Role

The **primary** role of White River Park is to protect and present an old growth Douglas-fir stand. This stand of fir is so impressive that the loggers operating in the area refused to fall any of the trees, and it has been described as a "Mini Cathedral Grove". By protecting this stand of forest, habitat for Roosevelt elk, black bear and fish is also protected. Summer steelhead, summer coho, rainbow trout, and anadromous Dolly Varden are all found in this section of the White River.

#### **Secondary Role**

The **secondary** role is to provide a river fishing opportunity. The park is located on the White River, approximately 25 kilometres south of Sayward and seven kilometres west of Schoen Lake Provincial Park on Vancouver Island. In the provision of recreation, the park serves to provide local recreation opportunities, and thus meet the goal for providing local recreation.

#### **Management Issues**

Known Management Issue	Response
Impact of adjacent logging and timber theft on hydrology and other natural values	<ul> <li>Work with Ministry of Forests to address management of adjacent areas to protect park features. Ensure appropriate hydrology, windthrow and recharge area testing has been completed before harvesting proceeds.</li> <li>Work with other agencies to increase patrols to stop illegal timber theft.</li> </ul>
Lack of identification and public awareness of park	<ul> <li>Explore a forest stewardship agreement with forest companies and local community to develop trail/parking lot and interpretive information to help protect park values.</li> <li>Install boundary and directional signs so that the park is easier to find.</li> </ul>

#### Zoning

**Natural Environment Zone** – covers the entire park (68 hectares) in recognition of the natural and recreational values. The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

## Conservation

Representation - ecosection		Contributes minimally (0.13%) to the representation of the Northern Island Mountains Ecosection, which has only 9.12% protected provincially.		
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		Very minimal contribution of 0.04% to the representation of CWHvm1, which has only 7.01% protected provincially, but is significant as an old growth remnant of this highly impacted variant.		
Special Features	$\boxtimes$	Old growth forest; elk, bear, and fish habitat		
Rare/Endangered Values	$\boxtimes$	Blue-listed Roosevelt elk and Dolly Varden.		
Scientific/Research Opportunities		Ecological integrity of remnant patches of old growth and their value as wildlife habitat		
Recreation				
Representation backcountry destination travel corridor local recreation		Not Applicable Possible destination to view big trees Not Applicable Angling		
Special Opportunities		Not Applicable		
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	$\boxtimes$	Old growth		
Cultural Heritage				
Representation		Values unknown		
Special Feature		None known at this time		
Other Management Considerations				
Other Designations		Not Applicable		
Relationship to other PAs	$\boxtimes$	Part of a system of protected areas in the north end of Vancouver Island		
Co-operative Management Arrangements		Not Applicable		
Partnerships		Not Applicable		
Vulnerability	$\boxtimes$	Vulnerable to adjacent logging and timber theft, and small size limits ability to protect values		

Relationship to other Strategies Create

Created as a result of recommendations made in the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan Goal 2 process.

Area: 68 hectares

Date of establishment: April 30, 1996

