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## Preface

BC Parks Conservation Management Program will be presented in three parts.

This document is **Part 1** and provides **policy** statements that are intended for BC Parks' staff who manage British Columbia's park<sup>1</sup> and ecological reserve system and for the information of other agencies and the public. This document is relatively static, in that the policies reflect long-term management direction which supports BC Parks' contribution to global conservation efforts.

**Part 2** and **Part 3** are being developed.

**Part 2** will contain **strategic direction** that will help BC Parks to face the challenge of effectively managing and protecting the natural and cultural values found in British Columbia's protected area system. It will enable BC Parks to set priorities for conservation management within the management cycle of the agency, including the annual operating plan.

**Part 3** will outline **procedural guidelines** for managers responsible for the task of operating the park and ecological reserve system. It is a dynamic document, which will contain contemporary conservation management methods and techniques consistent with approved policies. Part 3 will be updated frequently, as new knowledge, approaches, and advanced technology enable BC Parks' managers to adapt their management strategies to ensure the protection of natural and cultural values.

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<sup>1</sup> Throughout this document, provincial parks and recreation areas under the *Park Act*; and protected areas under the *Environment and Land Use Act* are referred to collectively as parks.