

Logging Road Safety

- ▶ Always carry emergency supplies including a first-aid kit, tool kit, emergency food, extra fuel, fire extinguisher, warm clothing, waterproof matches and blankets.
- ▶ Follow safe driving habits as you would on any highway. Use your seatbelts and drive with your lights on at all times.
- ▶ Pay special attention to road signs on logging roads as signs have been placed to provide warnings and special driving instructions. Be on the alert for unexpected situations.
- ▶ Travel at safe speeds. The maximum legal speed on Forest Service roads is 80 kilometres per hour. Drivers are, however, responsible for adjusting their speed to suit road conditions.
- ▶ Logging trucks, forest companies and Forest Service vehicles use radios to communicate with each other. The radio frequency in use at a specific location is normally posted on a road sign. CB radios do not carry the same frequencies so they cannot be relied upon for logging road communication.
- ▶ If you meet logging trucks or other industrial traffic, give them the right of way. Use turn-outs to wait for traffic to go by. If you meet a stopped logging truck, you should also stop until you are sure it is safe to proceed.
- ▶ Park well off the road if you are stopping to sightsee.
- ▶ Logging trucks sometimes haul extra long logs which hang over the back of the trailer. These are called sweepers because, on a road with a tight curve, they could sweep a car right off the edge. In order to keep your vehicle out of the sweeper's path, you might, on occasion, see a sign asking you to drive on the left hand side when following a sharp left hand curve.

Help Protect the Park

Enjoy Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park, but leave it as you find it so that future visitors may also enjoy the park.

Maps

1:50,000 topographical maps 93F8 and 93F9 cover the Finger-Tatuk Park area. Maps are available from map retailers.

Getting There

Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park is located 65 kilometres south of Vanderhoof and 100 kilometres south-west of Prince George.

The park can be accessed on the west side via the Kluskus Forest Service Road. Access to the east side of the park is via the Pelican or Bobtail Forest Service roads.

For More Information

BC Parks

<http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks>



Ministry of Water, Land
and Air Protection



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PROVINCIAL PARK



Welcome. Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park, established in June of 1999, is a 17,151 hectare parcel of land surrounding Finger and Tatuk lakes and extending south to include a group of smaller lakes.

Nechako

Visitor Information

Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park is a significant addition to the protected area system for a number of reasons. This park provides one of the best representations of sub-boreal spruce and Engelmann-spruce, sub-alpine fir within the Nazko Upland Ecoregion. The Tatuk Hills, Iron Knoll and the surrounding hills are important viewpoints visible from the lakes.

The area supports regionally significant populations of grizzly, wild-stocked kokanee, and rainbow trout. Spawning fish in Finger, Tatuk, and Lavoie creeks and several unnamed tributaries provide a viable food source for the grizzly. High-value habitat is also provided for ungulates, black bear, small fur-bearers, waterfowl, shore birds and eagles.



The Finger-Tatuk area is part of the traditional territories of the Saik'us, Nazko and Kluskus First Nations. Food cache pits, burial sites, culturally-altered trees, and several large subterranean lodge depressions are a few of a number of archaeological sites indicating extensive First Nations use.

European settlers also contributed to the historical value of Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park. Trapping, ranching and a fur farm venture were activities in which early pioneers participated. Louis Kohse, Oscar Sweder, Joe Murray, Joe Lavoie, Sam Goodland and the Batnuni family are all names connected to the area. Rich Hobson, a familiar name to many, used the area as the setting for his novels. Some of the trails, a cabin and hay corrals used by the early ranching and trapping pioneers still exist.

Because of its size, viewpoints and accessibility from nearby communities, Tatuk Lake is a popular recreational lake. Both Tatuk and Finger lakes are used for boating, canoeing, hiking, picnicking, wildlife viewing, swimming, and fishing. Kokanee (up to two pounds) and abundant rainbow trout have been caught from these lakes. A number of the smaller lakes in the park are also popular fishing spots.

Development

BC Parks is in the process of developing and refining management plans to deal with Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park's resources. The challenge lies not only in trying to ensure that resources within the park are maintained in a natural and diverse manner, but also to look at the whole landscape with a broader perspective. By considering the needs and objectives of our various neighbours in the management of naturally-occurring events such as wildfire, forest disease and insect infestations, we will be better able to have our neighbours (other parks or part of the working forest) consider the needs of the park's resources. By working together we can ensure places like Finger-Tatuk Provincial Park do not become islands in a sea of development, while still encouraging sustainable, out-of-park development.

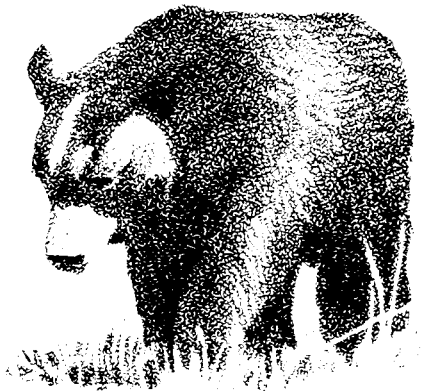
Facilities



Three rustic camping areas provide recreation facilities for campers. A site on the eastern shore of Tatuk Lake includes space for 14 vehicle units and provides a boat launch and pit toilets. A smaller, pull-out site is located on the western shore of Tatuk Lake. A third small site is located on Expansion Lake. BC Parks does not provide drinking water at any of these sites. These sites are user-maintained.

Commercial Facilities

Two private fishing resorts provide additional recreation facilities. Finger Lake Wilderness Resort is located at the west end of Finger Lake. Tatuk Lake Wilderness Resort is located on the northwest shore of Tatuk Lake. Check websites for more information.



Bear Aware

Bears frequent this park. Use bear awareness and avoidance techniques:

- ▶ Avoid conflict by practicing prevention. Be alert.
- ▶ Look for signs of recent bear activity. These include droppings, tracks, evidence of digging and claw or bite marks on trees.
- ▶ Be cautious when hiking with dogs, as dogs can antagonize bears and cause an attack. An unleashed dog may bring a bear back to you.
- ▶ Keep children close and within sight.
- ▶ It is illegal and dangerous to feed or attract bears with food, food waste or any other substance.
- ▶ Odours attract bears. Reduce or eliminate odours from yourself, your camp, your clothes and your vehicle.
- ▶ Store food so bears cannot smell or reach it. Do not keep food in your tent – not even a chocolate bar.
- ▶ Handle and store pet food with as much care as your own.
- ▶ Properly dispose all garbage.

Park Ethics

Visitors are encouraged to recognize that this area is now protected parkland. Participation in conservation efforts will help to effectively provide resource protection while, at the same time, allow continued recreational use.

- ▶ Practice “no-trace” camping and hiking. Pack out what you pack in.
- ▶ Park and camp in existing sites only. Avoid damaging the vegetation with careless vehicle parking or tent location.
- ▶ Flowers, trees, and shrubs are part of the park's natural heritage. Do not damage them.
- ▶ Keep pets quiet and under control at all times.
- ▶ Avoid activities that may annoy or offend others.
- ▶ Never leave your fire unattended, as even a small or smoldering fire can spread. Respect fire closures.
- ▶ Do not burn or bury your garbage. This attracts animals. Pack all garbage out.