

## Appendix F: History of the Churn Creek Protected Area

Archaeological evidence shows the Churn Creek area has a long history of First Nations' use. This archaeological evidence includes cultural depressions from pithouse villages and surface scatters of stone tool debris. In addition to this physical evidence, a number of oral accounts of the occupation and use of the area from the distant past to the present exist. However, since no formal archaeological work has been done of these sites beyond surface surveys, dates and other details are not currently available.

Although specific archaeological information is not currently available for Churn Creek beyond the fact that it was used for winter settlement, general patterns of use identified in the wider Fraser River area may be used to suggest the probable time frame and lifeways that occur at Churn Creek.

Research undertaken by archaeologists suggests that a distinct culture based on hunting ungulates had developed on the Interior Plateau as long as 7,000 years ago and a tradition of river fishing and Douglas-fir forest adaptation was well established as long as 5,500 years ago. Archaeologists believe pithouses were in use as far back as 4,300 years ago, reflecting an adaptation to the economic patterns that were in evidence when Europeans arrived in the 1800's. These patterns included living in essentially permanent pithouse villages during the winter months and travelling during the remainder of the year to procure plant, animal and mineral resources. Portions of these resources were then stored for winter consumption in the village.

The most well researched site in the Interior is Keatley Creek, located approximately 40 kilometers south of Churn Creek on a terrace above the Fraser River. Based on stone and bone artifacts recovered and plant remains found, archaeologists have determined the village was occupied for more than 2,000 years between 3,500 and 1,200 years ago. This site was also used and occupied as early as 7,000 years ago and as recently as 30 years ago. This gives some idea of when First Nations may have used and occupied the Churn Creek area.

The primary groups that used the Churn Creek area in more recent times were the Shuswap (Secwepemc) and the Chilcotin (Ts'ilqot'in). The Chilcotin are an Athapaskan speaking Nation further subdivided into a number of other divisions known as bands. The Shuswap are a Salishan speaking Nation, and are further divided into tribal divisions and bands. These divisions are recognized as occupying a distinct area.<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>18</sup> Much of the historical information on First Nations use of the Churn Creek area comes from a 1994 report prepared by Robert Tyhurst for Parks Canada entitled "Shuswap and Chilcotin Use of Churn Creek: A Review of Written Sources." One of Tyhurst's primary sources of information was a 1909 report by James Teit, an ethnographer who published one of the most detailed and comprehensive studies of Shuswap life just before and shortly after European contact.

Churn Creek itself was the boundary between the Canyon (Se'tLemux) and the Fraser River (Slemxu'lexamux) divisions of the Shuswap. The western boundary of the Fraser River Shuswap, (adjacent to Chilcotin territory) included an area fifty kilometers west of the Fraser River to Big Creek and included all other creeks emptying into the Fraser north to Churn Creek, including Empire Valley.

The Canyon Shuswap lived west of the Fraser, from north of Churn Creek to Hanceville. The main Canyon Shuswap village was located at the mouth of the Chilcotin River. Big Creek was also a boundary marker, which in turn defined the eastern limit of Chilcotin hunting grounds. The Canyon Shuswap division was separated into four bands – Riske Creek band, North Canyon band, South Canyon band and the Chilcotin Mouth band. The Chilcotin Mouth Band lived in the large village near the mouth of the Chilcotin River.

The Fraser River Shuswap division was also divided further into four bands - the Alkali Lake band (Esketemc), Dog Creek band (Xatl'tem), Canoe Creek band (Stwecem'c) and the Empire Valley band. Of these, the Alkali Lake band was closely allied to the Chilcotin Mouth band of the Canyon Shuswap. Some members of the Alkali Lake band intermarried and wintered at the mouth of the Chilcotin River. These bands were so close that some archaeologists class the two bands together.

Intermarriage and friendly relationships occurred between the Chilcotin Mouth band and the Empire Valley band. It is speculated that the mouth of Churn Creek, which may have been an important fishing area, was shared between the Chilcotin Mouth and Empire Valley bands. As mentioned, the Chilcotin Mouth band enjoyed good relationships with the Alkali Lake band while the Empire Valley band had good relationships with the Canoe Creek band. However, relationships between the Chilcotin and the Fraser River Shuswap were hostile and characterized by common raiding and warfare.

The area south of Churn Creek itself was considered the territory of the Empire Valley band of the Fraser River division of the Shuswap. The Empire Valley band was known as Tcexwe'pkamux, named after a pillar of rock on the lower portion of Lone Cabin Creek where some members of the band wintered. The band also wintered in the Empire Valley and along the western side of the Fraser. The population of the band was reduced by a war party of Lillooet in 1825, who massacred a large camp in the Empire Valley. A smallpox epidemic in 1862 further reduced their numbers and the remainder settled with the Canoe Creek band.

The Chilcotin and the Canyon Shuswap were mutually important trading partners. Both Chilcotin and Shuswap sometimes shared winter villages in the area of the lower Chilcotin River. They intermarried and shared fishing sites along the lower Chilcotin. The Canyon Shuswap sent dried fish, salmon oil and woven baskets to the Chilcotin in return for goat wool blankets, caribou skins, fur, mineral paints, obsidian and copper. The Canyon Shuswap however, monopolized this trading relationship and did not permit other Shuswap to trade with the Chilcotin.

The smallpox epidemic of 1862-63 caused near extinction of the Canyon Shuswap and also severely impacted both the Chilcotin and the Fraser River Shuswap. The Chilcotin quickly occupied the area between Hanceville and the mouth of the Chilcotin River, territory previously occupied by the Canyon Shuswap.

It was about this time that non-natives were beginning to affect the traditional lifestyle of the Chilcotin and Shuswap bands. After first contact with Alexander Mackenzie in 1793 and the more famous meeting with Simon Fraser in 1808, the fur trade began to grow in the interior. Fur traders established Fort Alexandria on the banks of the Fraser River in 1821 and the profits from this activity encouraged native men to stay away from home, which in turn affected the subsistence economy and hunting. By the turn of the century, log cabins and tents had, for the most part, all but replaced pithouses, and as a result of disease, native populations were half to a third of what they had been 60 years earlier. Despite the social and technological changes that the First Nations experiences at this time, they continued to use the land for food resources and ceremonial purposes. Until as recently as the 1960's, when much of the population moved onto reserves due to social and political pressures, people were still making a living directly off the land in the Churn Creek area.

Land pre-emption, the Gold Rush, non-native ranching, residential schools, *the Indian Act*, resource development and government legislation all affected First Nations use of the land. The Churn Creek area, however, is still used today for hunting, fishing, food and medicinal plant gathering, religious and recreational activities, all integral to First Nations' culture.

By the 1860's the fur trade declined due to waning populations of furbearers. The discovery of gold in the Barkerville area further increased the non-native presence in the Churn Creek area. Men who did not find success in the goldfields settled in the Cariboo, starting stores, ranches and hotels, and demand for beef in the goldfields led to the creation of the first cattle ranches in the Cariboo.

Some of the first non-native residents of the Churn Creek area would have been pack train operators bringing supplies to the gold fields at Barkerville and Quesnel Forks. While the majority of travelers used the Cariboo Wagon Road through Clinton and 150 Mile House, a few looked for alternative routes up the Fraser River corridor. These individuals looked for cheap feed for their pack animals and attempted to avoid charges at the numerous road houses and liverys on the wagon road. These early packers may have overwintered to allow their animals to graze on the huge areas of quality grass they would have found around Churn Creek.

As more people became aware of the area around Churn Creek, they probably began to consider living there on a permanent basis. The ready supply of grass would have been an incentive for anyone with a background in raising cattle or horses.

Much of the history of the early settlers in the Churn Creek/Empire Valley area comes from speculation. The first formal surveys and titles do not appear until 1891. Before Confederation, settlers who wanted to claim the land they were living on had to file for a preemption with the British Columbia Government in New Westminster. These preemptions were limited to 320 acres at the time.

By the 1880's, British Columbia had a large Chinese population. Some came to work in the goldfields, some came to work on the Canadian Pacific Railroad, and others were imported by the wealthier class as coolies. These coolies were admitted by paying a head tax of \$200 per person. After completing work on the CPR, many of these Chinese workers ended up in the Dog Creek area, which in the 1880's had four Chinese run stores and a saloon. Many of these Chinese workers were used as cheap labour to dig mile upon mile of ditch from lakes and streams to placer mines on the Fraser River.

While there is little formal documentation of the activities of the Chinese miners, we know they established two mines in the Empire Valley area, one located at the Fisheries Bar and the other located upstream at Onion Bar. In order to obtain the water they required, the miners went all the way back to Koster Lake (a.k.a. China Lake). It is suspected that it was these Chinese miners who built the original dam to impound large quantities of water in Koster Lake. Two ditches were dug from Koster Lake, one traveling through the Gap adjacent to where the calving barns are now located, and the other one traveling north of Airport Mountain to the Onion Bar Mine. The miners left the area around 1910.

Water flowing from Koster Lake powered a twelve foot, belt driven water wheel. This wheel (again, it is suspected this wheel was built by the Chinese miners) powered a small mill, which was used to saw planks for flumes and sluiceboxes. The water wheel was also used to power a small grist mill. Considering that the Dry Farm area was planted with wheat, the mill was probably used to produce flour for residents of the Empire Valley area.

Around the time the Chinese miners were working their placer mines, and even before Jerome and Thadeus Harper arrived in the 1860's to establish the Gang Ranch, a number of "old timers" lived in the Churn Creek area. Tom Wycott lived on the north side of Churn Creek on the bench that currently bears the name "Wycott Flats". Tom later sold this land to the Gang Ranch, who still owns the lots today. The old homestead can still be found back in the trees.

Another man named Simon Phillipine owned about 1,000 acres of land just north of Lone Cabin Creek and lived in a small cabin south of the creek. He had a small hayfield on the lot which produced just enough hay for a few horses. When he died in the 1950's, the Empire Valley Ranch purchased the land north of the creek. The deeded lots south of the creek where the old cabins are located are now owned by Ron Cable.

Harry Higgenbottom was another old time settler who owned 640 acres in what is now called Higgenbottom Valley. He lived with his common-law wife Mariah Wycott (related to the Churn

Creek Wycott's) in a cabin on Higgenbottom Creek just north of Lone Cabin Creek. They raised horses and a small herd of 30 cattle at the little ranch. Harry was killed in the 1920's while serving a year at Okalla prison for cattle rustling. Mariah sold the 640 acres at Higgenbottom to what was then the Empire Crows Bar Ranch. The family sold their horses and moved to the cabin lower on Higgenbottom Creek. This property was purchased by Ron Cable in 1983.

Another of the early residents who lived in the area was a packer named McGee, who lived on a low benchland now called McGee Flats. Plenty of grass and a small spring ensured he was there long enough to leave his name. However, he never obtained legal title to the land and little is known of him.

Title to McGee Flats was taken by the Brysons and the Carsons, who owned a sheep ranch at Pavilion. The Brysons and the Carsons eventually owned 3,000 acres of the deeded lands south of where the current ranch headquarters is located. They used these low elevation areas as their spring range while they waited to turn their sheep out on the high summer ranges. These summer ranges were later used by the Big Bar Sheep and Wool Company and then the Hayward Sheep Ranch based in Heffley Creek. This long string of sheep ranchers used these summer ranges well into the 1950's, when they were finally taken over by the Empire Valley Ranch. A small cabin, called the "shepherd's cabin" is still located on a little bench a few kilometers south of the ranch.

With the pending completion of the Canadian Pacific Railroad in late 1880's there was a growing interest in ranching and the establishment of cattle companies. In 1891 the Brysons and Carsons sold their deeded lands to a pair of Scottish brothers named Sandy and Thomas McEwen. Starting with these lands, Sandy and Thomas then surveyed the areas around where the present day ranch buildings are located. They built their ranch headquarters next to Grinder Creek, a short distance away from the current site of the ranch headquarters.

While the McEwens were busily procuring land and building a ranch in the south, a number of individuals and families were building ranches and securing land in the north. The four Brown brothers took title to the area around what is now called BC Lake as well as to the area where the Bishop hayfield is currently located. These 2,000 acres of land enabled the Browns to run about 100 head of cattle. They also ran the gristmill and sawmill at Koster Lake. The original Brown Ranch homestead can still be found in the big aspen grove above BC Lake. Brown's Lake is named after them.

In the early 1890's the Boyle family acquired three lots in the upper Empire Valley in the area known today as the Boyle Field/Boyle Ranch. Their house was located next to a spring above the present day hayfield and commanded a view of the whole valley. When the house burned down years later it was never rebuilt, and the McEwens eventually took ownership of the lots. Remnants of an old corral still stand on the grasslands above the valley, and while the natural

grasslands have largely returned to this area, furrow marks can still be seen in the fields on the benches above the old Boyle place.

Another ranch that was developing about this time was owned by the Bishop brothers. Jack, Anthony and Tom started their ranch with four lots: one located on the site of the calving barn; another below Dry Lake; another north of Airport Mountain and another on the Churn Creek delta. The lot at Churn Creek was used to produce at least three crops of hay and vegetables, and another homestead was located up on a hillside north of Airport Mountain just below the old Chinese water ditch. Remnants of the old gardens can still be found at the Churn Creek delta.

The Bishops eventually acquired the lot on the Bishop hayfield from the Brown brothers. The Bishops went on to secure additional deeded land until they owned almost everything between Brown's Lake and Churn Creek, enabling them to run 300-400 head of cattle. They also acquired first water rights to Koster (China) Creek when the miners left. The Bishops built their main ranch against the hill in Bishop Hayfield. While the house burned down in the 1950's, the old barn still stands along with remnants of the old apple orchard.

Meanwhile, the McEwens were still working to expand their Empire Valley Ranch in the south. They obtained title to the Boyle Ranch, the Bryson and Carson Sheep Ranch and applied for title to the area stretching from the benchlands along the Fraser River all the way up to the high timber.

In 1910, the McEwens sold their holdings to John Kenworthy and his wife. Mrs. Kenworthy was the sister of Mrs. Wynn-Johnson, who owned the Alkali Lake Ranch with her husband, Charles. When it was sold to the Kenworthys, the Empire Valley Ranch consisted of 17,000 acres of deeded land extending from the Fraser to the upper timber and ran approximately 400-500 head of cattle.

It was also around 1910 that the Empire Valley obtained its first school. The Browns and the Bishops had children, and there were also other families in the area. However, a minimum number of children were required in order to qualify for a teacher. Someone from the Empire Valley was in Ashcroft and ran into a family called the Zimmerlys, who had a several children. The Zimmerlys were promised free land if they moved to the valley. As a result of their arrival, a school was built next to Brown's Lake, and remained open until 19xx. Foundations of the old school can still be seen on a flat spot next to the dam. The old Zimmerly homestead is located up Grinder Creek close to the Blackdome Road, although their original cabin was located next to Brown Lake by the Bishop hayfield.

In 1909 construction began on the bridge crossing the Fraser River. The ferry that had operated just north of Churn Creek since the late 1860's was rapidly losing its usefulness, especially in light of the ranches being built west of the Fraser. (During the winter the Fraser could only be crossed by ice bridge, rowboat or by the cable tramway located at fisheries rock.) A steam-

powered sawmill was set up on the site to cut the timbers for the bridge, which were skidded from the east side of the river. Iron and cables were hauled by horse team from Ashcroft. The bridge was finally opened in 1913.

In 1914, John Kenworthy, who was a captain in the British Army, went back to Europe to fight in the war, leaving his wife and young son to live on the ranch. He was listed as Missing in Action after the war and as a result, Mrs. Kenworthy put the ranch up for sale. It was also about this time that the Browns were trying to sell their ranch. The BC Cattle Company, located at Canoe Creek across the Fraser, eventually purchased the Brown Ranch. The name "BC" meadow comes from the BC Cattle Company name.

Across the Fraser River, Henry Koster Sr. (who was partner in the Alkali Lake Ranch until it was sold to the Wynn-Johnson's in 1909) purchased the Crows Bar Ranch in 1914. In 1923, after ten years on his new ranch, Henry Koster was approached by Mrs. Kenworthy with a proposal to become partners on the Empire Valley Ranch. It was a 50/50 arrangement where Henry Sr. would be manager and Mrs. Kenworthy a silent partner. The Crows Bar and Empire Valley Ranches were amalgamated into the Empire Crows Bar Ranching Company. Mrs. Kenworthy moved back to England, the Kosters moved to the Empire Valley and the Crows Bar was run with a hired man.

In 1925 Jack Bishop sold his 7,000 acres of deeded land to the Empire Crows Bar Ranch. (Actually he would not sell to "an Englishwoman", so he sold to Tom Campbell, a cattle dealer from Kamloops - Campbell promptly sold the ranch to the Koster-Kenworthy partnership). This gave the Empire Crows Bar complete control of the water systems that had been a source of conflict over the years. This also gave the Empire Crows Bar Ranch almost complete control over the area between Lone Cabin Creek and Churn Creek as well as portions of the Crown range to the west of Churn Creek, enabling the ranch to run about 1300 head of cattle. The only other significant property was owned by the BC Cattle Company.

In 1928, the Empire Crows Bar Ranch purchased the BC Cattle Company Ranch at Canoe Creek and was given the new name of the BC Cattle Company. The headquarters were located at Canoe Creek. Basically, two complete ranches were formed as a result of the deal; an 18,000 acre ranch on the east side of the Fraser and a 27,000 acre ranch on the west side. The two properties together formed one of the largest and best cattle ranches in the Interior of British Columbia. An added benefit of the deal was that the Empire Valley side of the ranch gained control of the 2,000 acres of land around the BC Meadow. Simon Phillipine and the Higgenbottoms were the only other land owners on the west side of the Fraser

The Kosters moved to the Canoe Creek side of the ranch. In the mid 1930's Jack, Henry Sr.'s son, moved to Empire Valley and took over management of that side. In 1942, Henry Jr. took over management on the Empire Valley side of the Ranch and Jack went back to the Canoe Creek side to help his dad.

In 1947, Henry Koster Sr. passed away, leaving Jack as general manager. Not long after that, Mrs. Kenworthy's son Sam let the Kosters know he wanted to sell his share of the ranch, and the Kosters bought out the Kenworthys.

It was in late 1940's when Jack, Henry and their sister Evelyn Joel (Dodie) decided to make a number of changes to the Empire Valley side of the ranch. The main ranch headquarters, which had consisted of several old log building, was moved to it's present location. Two new bunkhouses, a cook house complete with cooks quarters and dining room, a three-bedroom house, horse barn and machine shed and shop were built. In order to put up more hay for the winter, a dam was built at BC Meadows, turning it into what we now call BC Lake.

In 1951, the Ranch purchased a RD7 bulldozer to complete the next round of major improvements. A new road was built into the ranch headquarters, the road through the main valley was upgraded, the Gap was turned into a hayfield by filling in the field to enable water to be brought to both sides of the field without using a flume. In addition, corrals and branding chute were constructed.

In 1952, Jack and Henry Jr. split the BC Cattle Company Ranch into two separate entities. Jack took the Canoe Creek Ranch on the east side and Henry took the Empire Valley Ranch on the west. Dodie, now Mrs. Doug Robertson, kept a one third interest in both ranches.

It was also in the late 1940's that gold was discovered on Blackdome Mountain by a prospector named Lawrence Frenier, who staked large areas on the western edge of the mountain. It was also about this time that gold was discovered on Churn Creek. Frenier, who used a small cat to prospect the area, also discovered what is known as the Frenier Perlite Deposit above Higgenbottom Creek. He sold his Blackdome claims to Jim Cooper and Earl Brett and left the valley. It was Cooper and Brett who built the original Blackdome mine road through the ranch headquarters, up Grinder Creek and then south to Porcupine Creek through the Higgenbottom Valley. The Kosters kept this gate locked, but allowed key access to Cooper and Brett.

The present Blackdome Mine Road was built around 1960 by a man named Fred Freize, who lived back on Porcupine Creek at a place called Freize Camp. Freize had access to his place through the lower part of the Empire Valley Ranch via Hog Lake. Freize apparently had a dispute with the Brysons about having to obtain a key to this locked gate every time he wanted to go through. To resolve his access problems, Freize took a bulldozer and built a road starting in the Higgenbottom Valley and skirted the deeded land of the Empire Valley Ranch. The road wound up and around Dry Farm and eventually joined the Empire Valley Road through a small break in the private lands near the end of Brown's Lake. Blackdome later extended and improved this road to provide a shorter route to the mine.

In 1956, the Empire Valley Ranch was sold to Clarence and Eleanor Bryson from Merritt. In order to strengthen their purchase price, the Bryson's sold the timber rights to 7,600 acres of the deeded land to MacMillan Bloedel, while retaining the grazing rights. The Kosters retained two private lots totaling 740 acres, later selling them to Pacific Pine. It was the interests of these timber companies that put an end to the practice of burning to kill the thousands of little Douglas firs that grew in the grasslands.

While the majority of the ranch improvements were completed by the Kosters, the Brysons constructed two more houses, improved the hay base, constructed sprinkler irrigation systems and focused the ranch on a cow-calf operation. The ranch supported 2000 head of cattle by the time the Brysons sold the ranch in 1967.

In the early 1950's, Henry Koster was looking to improve the summer ranges of the Empire Valley Ranch. He had completed some exploratory work in the Red Mountain Meadow and Tyaughton Creek areas, and had received permission from the Forest Service to cut a stock trail in order to use a portion of this summer range. They had just begun to use the new range around Red Mountain when a number of cows died from eating larkspur. They immediately hand pulled all the weeds they could find. A man hired to cut the trail out to Tyaughton Creek found similar weed problems and the range was never used.

The majority of the summer range behind the Empire Valley Ranch belonged to the Hayward Sheep Ranch for years, but as the Brysons were in the process of taking over from the Kosters, the Haywards were also getting out of the sheep business. As a result, the Brysons were able to dramatically increase the range controlled by the Empire Valley Ranch. The new range included Red Mountain, Poison Mountain, Quartz Mountain, lower Relay Creek, Spruce Lake and Gun Creek. Cabins were built or acquired on Fairless Creek, Poison Mountain, Yodel Camp and Relay Creek. After 1977 grazing rights were gradually reduced, leading to the loss of the areas around Spuce Lake and Posion Mountain.

Robert Maytag (from the Maytag washer family), purchased the Empire Valley Ranch in 1967 and owned it until 1974. Maytag was responsible for negotiating an agreement with the school district to reopen the school at Empire Valley, which operated from 1969 until 1977. In 1974, Maytag sold the Ranch to Sophie Stegemann, an entrepreneur from Germany, and two of her children.

Mrs. Stegemann gained headline news when she shipped some of her horses from Germany to Vancouver by jet. Her tenure at Empire was greatly complicated by the fact that her team of advisors had severely misrepresented the financial information about the Ranch, which she felt had suffered under an absentee owner.

Coming from a strong farming background, she recognized the need to not only improve the fields but also change the grazing patterns of the upper and middle grasslands to repair damage done by overgrazing. New fences were built and existing ones repaired. Several additional fields

were put under sprinkler irrigation and weed control systems was put in place. At the Ranch headquarters many of the buildings were repaired as well as some of the range cabins. Under her management the Ranch was once again making money but her ownership was cut short when the German Tax Authority seized her assets in a dispute and she was unable to pay the mortgage. In 1977, Maytag foreclosed on Stegemann and the ranch went back into his hands.

In 1978 the ranch changed owners again. Robert Maytag exchanged the Empire Valley Ranch in a straight swap for a ranch in Colorado belonging to Tom Hook. Hook took a more conservative approach to stocking, keeping about 1000 head on the ranch. He also put Point Field under production. Hook also negotiated a deal where Fletcher Challenge purchased timber from both the ranch and the MacMillan Bloedel properties. Under the term of the deal Fletcher Challenge had five years to log both the ranch and the MB properties, after which the title to the land passed back to the ranch. In 1989, Tom Hook sold the ranch to Pepperling and Bothne. They in turn sold it to Otto Hueszner in 1992.

In 1995, the Cariboo Chilcotin Land Use Plan was announced by government, creating the Churn Creek Protected Area. The CCLUP recommended that the private lands of the Empire Valley Ranch be added to the Protected Area. In 1997, Hueszner sold the Ranch to Vesco Contracting, a logging and ranching company based in Prince George. In order to finance the purchase, Vesco began logging portions of their private lands. Public concern about this private land logging convinced Government to begin negotiations to acquire the ranch's private lands. In the spring of 1998, the Empire Valley Ranch was purchased by the province and added to the Churn Creek Protected Area.

## Appendix G: Goals for Protected Areas

BC Parks has adopted the goals of the Protected Areas Strategy<sup>19</sup>:

### **Goal 1: Representativeness**

*To protect viable, representative examples of the natural diversity of the province, representative of the major terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, the characteristic habitats, hydrology and landforms, and the characteristic backcountry recreational and cultural heritage values of each **ecosection**.*

Wherever possible, protected areas should combine natural, cultural heritage and recreational values. Where it is not possible to combine these in a common area, they may be represented separately. Where it is not possible to represent all values, the natural values will be given priority.

### **Goal 2: Special Features**

*To protect the special natural, cultural heritage and recreational features of the province, including rare and endangered species and critical habitats, outstanding or unique botanical, zoological, geological and paleontological features, outstanding or fragile cultural heritage features, and outstanding outdoor recreational features such as trails.*

Many protected areas will be set aside primarily to protect rare or vulnerable features. Others will combine protection with giving people the opportunity to appreciate and enjoy the intrinsic value of the areas. Others will be protected to attract people to experience and appreciate their natural and cultural heritage.

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<sup>19</sup>Province of British Columbia. 1993. A Protected Areas Strategy for British Columbia, Victoria, BC