

ENDERBY CLIFFS PROTECTED AREA

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

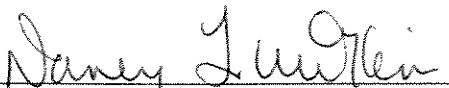
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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 14, 2006



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Date: March 26, 2006

Enderby Cliffs Protected Area Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Introduction

Located less than 5 kilometres to the northeast, the Enderby Cliffs Protected Area forms the scenic backdrop to the City of Enderby. The 1200 metre high Enderby Cliffs extend below a long ridge running south to north along the east side of the Shuswap River Valley. The cliffs were created by deep glacial scouring of old lava beds which flowed south from Shuswap Lake. Sections of the reddish hued cliffs have collapsed through the years creating dramatic landslide features.

The 2246 hectare protected area abuts private lands on the west and south sides and extends over the Enderby Cliffs to include rolling forested topography to the north and east. The primary aquatic feature is Reeves Lake, the small headwaters lake of Lambert Creek that flows north and west. Brash Creek is the main drainage on the south side of the area. Two well established trails provide very steep hiking access to the top of the cliffs from private land at the bottom. Alternate access can also be gained by a rough trail that leads from a forest development road along the north boundary to Reeves Lake and to the top of the cliffs. There is a rough four wheel drive road that comes in from the south which is gated on the private land below the Protected Area.

While the Enderby Cliffs are considered a regionally significant geological feature, conservation values also relate to the interesting transition and diversity of ecosystem types found in the area. Sagebrush and rabbitbrush grow at unusually high elevations in pockets of grassland along the south facing side of the ridge. Scattered stands of old growth Douglas fir and larch are found within a complex of successional stands. Moist and north facing slopes tend to have western red cedar and western hemlock, while lodgepole pine, Douglas fir and larch predominate on the drier, better drained sites. The ridge and south facing slopes of the protected area provide key winter range for mule deer and the cliff habitats are used by white-throated swifts, golden eagles and bats.

The Enderby Cliffs are a regional tourism attraction and form the focus for promoting the natural setting and beauty of the City of Enderby. Hiking to the top of the cliffs to take in the dramatic views has become very popular with up to 10,000 people making it to the summit each year. However, it is only through the good will of the current land owner that the public is permitted to cross private land to access the trail head. There are only a few locations where the topography allows for potential trail routes up through the cliffs but unfortunately private land ownership encumbers public access to all of them. Alternate access from logging roads approaching from above does not offer the quality of experience and attraction of the existing cliff face routes and can not be considered as a viable substitute. There is some local fishing use of Reeves Lake and the area is also used in the fall by local hunters. The non permitted use of ATV's to access Reeves Lake and the top of the Cliffs is causing environmental damage and conflicts with other users.

Primary Role

The **primary role** of the Protected Area is to protect the natural setting and environments of the Enderby Cliffs.

Secondary Role

The protected area has an important **secondary role** in providing for outdoor recreation, with particular emphasis on hiking, viewing and appreciation of the natural setting and attributes of the cliffs and associated environments and features.

Tertiary Role

The Enderby Cliffs will be protected for the reverence the Spallumcheen Indian Band holds for the area as a spiritual site.

Known Management Issues	Response
<p>Protecting Ecological Values:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Past years of active fire suppression have led to forest ingrowth and fuel buildup. As a result there has been loss of grasslands and open forest habitats and growing potential for catastrophic wildfire rather than the low intensity fires that would be associated with these ecosystems if there had been no interference with natural processes. Existing forest conditions pose potential wildfire concerns, particularly in relation to the proximity of private lands and the City of Enderby. 2. ATV and motor bike use is creating impacts to the environs of Reeves Lake and the Cliff ridge. Expanded and improved logging road access along the east side of the area may exacerbate the problem. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop a fire management strategy to reduce risks; may include fuel reduction, fire breaks and prescribed burning. • Post signs prohibiting the use of off-road motor vehicles in the protected area. Work with local ATV groups to secure their co-operation. Document conditions and impacts; monitor and act immediately to eliminate impacts if changes are found.
<p>Public Access and Safety:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Public access to primary trail route in the area could be closed off by private land owners. 2. Basic facilities are required at key locations in the Protected Area. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Secure legal public access through formal agreement with land owner or purchase on willing seller basis. • Provide toilet facilities at Reeves Lake and in vicinity of the Cliff summit.

<p>3. Old trapper's cabin at Reeves Lake is in an unsafe condition.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restrict public access to cabin. Remove cabin if no longer required.
<p>Consolidation of Protected Area Boundaries and conversion of Protected Area designation to Provincial Park status.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As directed through the Okanagan-Shuswap Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP), the east side boundary will be adjusted to the location of a planned logging road. • Move to Provincial Park designation when possible.

Zoning

The whole of the protected area is zoned as Nature Recreation.

**Protected Area Values and Significance Summary Matrix
Conservation**

Representation

Ecosection

Shuswap Basin – major 21% contribution to the protected area system representation. This ecosection is poorly represented (2.2%) in the protected areas system.

Shuswap Highland – Minor .3% contribution to 16.6% representation of this ecosection in the protected areas system.

Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

ICH mk1 – contributes 3.1% to the protected areas system representation of this subzone/variant. This subzone/variant is not well represented (5.1%) in the protected area system.

ICH mw2 – contributes .45% of province-wide representation. This subzone/variant is reasonably well represented (7.1%) in the protected areas system.

IDF mw1 – major contribution (23%) to province-wide representation. This subzone/vaiant is not well represented (4.6%) in the protected areas system.

IDF xh1 – contributes less than .01% to province-wide representation. This subzone/variant is reasonably well

Special Features	represented (7.2%) in the protected area system. Geological history and features of the Enderby Cliffs
Rare/Endangered Values	Historic peregrine eyries on cliffs – should be monitored. Further inventory and research required on possible occurrence of rare plants.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	Transition habitats between ecosections.

Recreation

Representation	
Backcountry	Extensive hiking trails.
Destination	Regional day use destination for tourists.
Travel corridor	
Local recreation	Fishing, hiking, hunting
Special Opportunities	The City of Enderby promotes the cliffs as an area attraction.
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	

Cultural Heritage

Representation

Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to Other Protected Areas

Collaborative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Established through recommendations of the Okanagan-Shuswap LRMP

Area

2246 hectares

Date of establishment

April 18, 2001

