

KALAMALKA LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

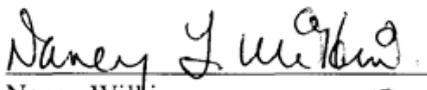
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Approved by:



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Date: Feb. 10, 2003



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Date: March 11, 2003

KALAMALKA LAKE PARK

Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The primary purposes of Kalamalka Lake Park are to protect its grasslands, parkland and upland forest, lakeshore and species at risk and provide a wide range of day use upland and lake-oriented outdoor recreation activities.

The approximately 1,000 hectare park, situated 8 km south of Vernon, is a regionally important day use destination for locals and travellers of the Highway 97 corridor through the north Okanagan. Facilities include a vehicle-accessible beach area in Twin Bays, boat-accessible beach opportunities in Cosens Bay and an extensive multi-use trail system. Recreational opportunities include swimming, boating, walking, hiking, biking, horseback riding, bird-watching and nature study.

The park has important representative values in the greatly under-represented Northern Okanagan Basin and Northern Okanagan Highland ecosections, each only having about 4% - 5% protected. The park is one of the larger contributors to the Northern Okanagan Basin Ecosection providing 15% of the area protected.

The park protects 4 biogeoclimatic zones/variants (IDFmw1, IDFxh1, IDFxh1a and water) in the Northern Okanagan Basin ecosection and 4 in the Northern Okanagan Highland (ICHmk1, IDFmw1, IDFxh1 and IDFxh1a). It protects 92.4% of the very under-represented IDFxh1a in the Northern Okanagan Basin. In the Northern Okanagan Highland Ecosection, it contributes 33.1% and 24.35% of the province-wide protected area in the under-represented IDFmw1 and IDFxh1 respectively.

Kalamalka Lake Park also has special feature values including painted turtles, red-listed western rattlesnakes and western yellow-bellied racer, blue-listed cottonwoods and CDC records for occurrences of the blue-listed western harvest mouse and immaculate green hairstreak. Over 130 bird species are known to occur in the park.

The secondary role of the park is to protect its cultural heritage values including its First Nation archaeological sites, its ranching and World War II training history.

Known Management Issues	Response
<p>The court finding that the Cosens Bay Road through the park is a public road resulted in unauthorized off-road/park use problems and demands by private owners east of the park that the road be upgraded to Ministry of Transportation standards. The road has serious impacts on the grassland values of the park and may be better located elsewhere.</p>	<p>Continue to work with Ministry of Transportation and the private land owners to resolve the issue in a mutually satisfactory manner that provides as much protection of the park values as possible.</p>
<p>The grassland/parkland forest values have been impacted by tree in-growth over the years, largely due to the lack of fire which is a natural occurrence in this fire-dependent ecosystem.</p>	<p>Continue to work with Ministry of Forests and the community to reduce the tree in-growth through the use of prescribed fire as part of an ecosystem-based management regime to improve habitat for the many species dependent on these habitats.</p>
<p>The park's trail system and the conservation values are heavily impacted by increasing use. Many new unauthorized trails have been created, particularly by the mountain bike users.</p>	<p>Work with the local trail user groups to identify strategies to discourage new trail development and protection of the conservation values.</p>

Zoning

The park is zoned Intensive Recreation around the vehicle-accessible day use beach area of Twin Bays, as well as around the boat-accessible day use beach area of Cosens Bay (approximately 87 hectares or 9% of the park). The remainder of the park (approximately 891 hectares or 91% of the park) is zoned Natural Environment.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- ecosection

■ Northern Okanagan Basin – only 4.75% is in the protected areas system. Kalamalka Lake Park contributes 15.12% of the province-wide PA representation. Other significant contributors are Okanagan Mountain (53.98%) and Myra-Bellevue Protected Area (11.87%).

Northern Okanagan Highlands – about 4% is protected in the protected areas system. Kalamalka Lake contributes 4.37% of the province-wide PA representation. Significant contributors are Graystokes Protected Area (36.04%), Myra-Bellevue Protected Area (19.48%) and Okanagan Mountain (13.29%).

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

■ Contributes significantly (92.4%) to representation of the under-represented IDFxh1a subzone/variant - only 1.96% in the Northern Okanagan Basin.

Contributes significantly to 2 subzone variants that are under-represented in the Northern Okanagan Highlands - 33.08% of the province wide protected area IDFmw1 subzone/variant and 24.35% of the IDFxh1.

Special Feature

■ grasslands

Rare/Endangered Values

■ Red-listed western rattlesnake and western yellow-bellied racer; blue-listed cottonwood, western harvest mouse and immaculate green hairstreak

Scientific/Research Opportunities

■ Rare species, grassland values

RECREATION

Representation:

- backcountry
- destination
- travel corridor
- local recreation

□

■ Regionally significant day use beach and upland-oriented activities; extensive multi-use trail system

■ Contributes to regional tourism sector associated with the Okanagan (Highway 97) corridor by providing a wide range of day-use opportunities

■ Significant water-oriented activities, walking, horse riding, mountain biking

Special Opportunities

□

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Grassland, lagoon, western rattlesnake and other species nature study in a new urban setting

CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

Some archaeological evidence. Not well known

Special Feature

Cattle ranching history, World War II mortar training site

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations

Relationship to Other PAs

Provides complimentary day use opportunities to Kekuli Bay and Ellison parks. Destination for boaters launching at Kekuli Bay.

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships

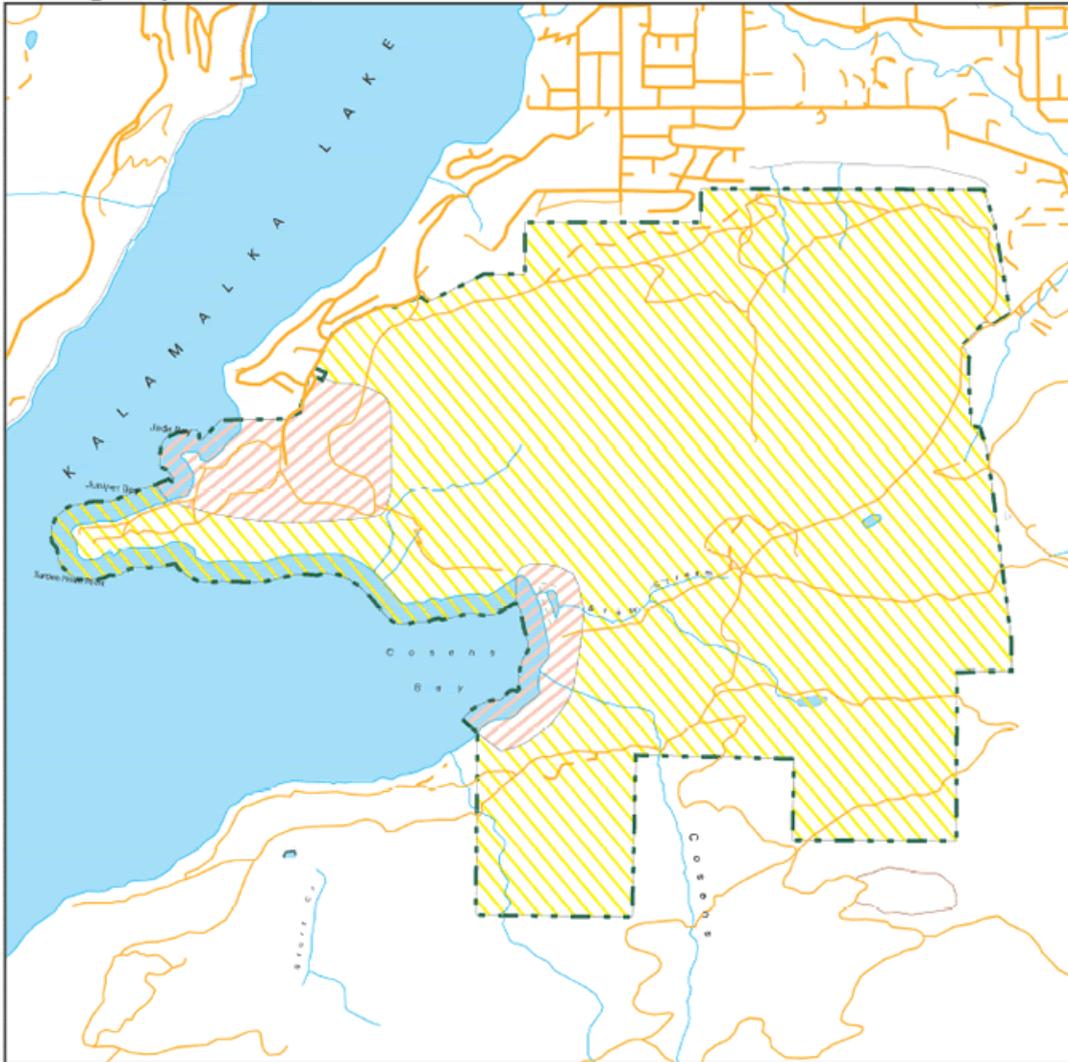
Vulnerability

Relationship to Other Strategies

Area: 978 hectares (890 hectares of upland and 88 hectares of foreshore)

Date of establishment: September 11, 1975

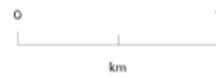
Zoning Map - Kalamalka Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Protected Area Boundary



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