

MARTHA CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

February 2003

Approved by:



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Date: 13-02-03



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Date: 25-02-03

MARTHA CREEK PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The primary role of Martha Creek Provincial Park is to maintain the outdoor recreation holiday destination opportunities and tourism travel route opportunities oriented to a lakeside (reservoir) setting. Martha Creek Provincial Park is the only provincial park campground on the Revelstoke Reservoir and a popular destination because of its close proximity to the town of Revelstoke. The park adds to the diversity of tourist attractions in association with nearby Revelstoke National Park and the Revelstoke Dam. There are a number of Forest Service recreation sites along the reservoir as well.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of the park is to ensure access to local outdoor recreation opportunities for residents of the greater Revelstoke area. The park provides playground recreation opportunities, a boat launch and has one of the few sandy beaches in the area.

| Known Management Issues | Response |
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| South end of park contains old growth hemlock trees which are susceptible to wind throw. Illegal camping often occurs within this area. Public safety and conservation concerns. | Blocking access by de-activating roads and signage. Continued monitoring of unauthorized activity. |
| Fluctuating reservoir levels reduce usability of the boat launch. | Liaison with BC Hydro. Good response by BC Hydro in regulating water levels to benefit visitation at the park. |
| Invasive non-native plant species (e.g. orange hawkweed, oxeye daisy, common tansy, spotted knapweed) are spreading and impacting indigenous flora. | Inventory plants. Additional public awareness signage required and continued monitoring of infested sites. Develop control strategies and implement. |
| Spawning channel constructed by BC Hydro near the north boundary of the park. The channel does not work (i.e. loss of water onto road). | BC Hydro intends to rectify structural problems. |

Zoning

Approximately 73% of the park has been zoned Intensive Recreation to provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.

The remainder of the park (27%) has been zoned Natural Environment to protect scenic values and to provide for recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

- Representation
- ecosection Minimal contribution to the Northern Kootenay Mountains Ecosection (10.4%). Quality of representation is poor due to the small size.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Minimal contribution to the very well represented ICH mw3 (25.01%).
- Special Features None identified.
- Rare/Endangered Values Unknown. The values in the developed portion of the park are virtually nonexistent. The values south of the creek are unknown, but the area does contain stands of old growth hemlock.
- Scientific/Research Opportunities None identified.

Recreation

- Representation
backcountry Not applicable.
- destination Lake (reservoir) camping (25 sites), boating, fishing.
- travel corridor Highway 23 (Revelstoke Reservoir).
- local recreation Beach and playground, (150 vehicle parking/boat launch).
- Special Opportunities None identified.
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities None identified.

Cultural Heritage

- Representation None identified.
- Special Feature Archeological sites may exist within the area but no research or study has been undertaken.

Other Management Considerations

- Other Designations None identified.
- Relationship to other PAs None identified.
- Co-operative Management Arrangements None identified.

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| Partnerships | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | BC Hydro maintains a fish spawning channel on the northern boundary of the park. |
| Vulnerability | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Old growth forest on south end of park is at risk because of illegal camping and unauthorized access. Non-native plants will reduce and compete with natural flora. |
| Relationship to other Strategies | <input type="checkbox"/> | None identified. |

Area: 71 hectares (49 hectares of upland; 22 hectares of foreshore)

Date of establishment: June 14, 1993