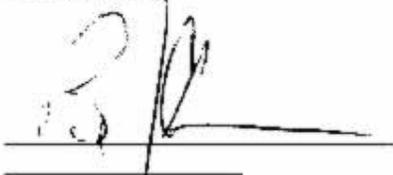


NAIRN FALLS PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

December 2002

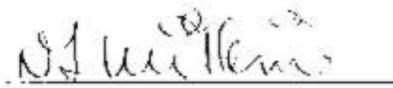
Approved by:



Brian Clark
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date:

Jan 24/03



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date:

Feb 17/03

NAIRN FALLS PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary role** of Nairn Falls Park is to protect the impressive waterfalls, a significant special feature within the park. Presentation of this feature and its associated geology is an important regional and local attraction. Day-use hikers, commercial groups and bus tours walk the 1.5-km trail to a viewing platform.

The park also provides important recreational facilities and services along the Sea to Sky Highway. Situated 32 km north of Whistler, this park lies on one of the most popular travel corridors in the province. A lack of camping facilities in the Sea to Sky corridor makes the 94-site campground an important overnight and destination facility for visitors to the Whistler and Pemberton area.

Secondary Role

The **secondary role** of Nairn Falls Park, although small in size, is to protect conservation values in this high-development corridor. The vegetation and plant communities are important to the protection of wildlife habitat for species such as the blue-listed rubber boa. Nairn Falls is part of a Special Resource Management Zone (SRMZ) for the red-listed spotted owl, due to its old-growth Douglas-fir and other habitat attributes. The park falls within the diverse transition zone between the wet coastal ecosystem and the drier interior ecosystem.

Tertiary Role

A **tertiary role** is the opportunities for mountain biking, rockclimbing and kayaking. With the increasing popularity of these activities, and the expanding population in the Whistler and Pemberton area, these activities will continue to grow in importance.

Known Management Issues	Response
Unauthorized rockclimbing activity is occurring on the east side of the river above the falls. Access across the river is by cable. Impacts of climbing on the park ecosystem are unknown.	Environmental Stewardship is working with the local rockclimbing community to resolve this issue.
The development of new unauthorized mountain biking trails has occurred. There is concern about the location of these trails due to rubber boa habitat in the same area.	Environmental Stewardship will work with the local mountain biking association to ensure no new trails are constructed.
The amount of day-use parking is not	Environmental Stewardship is considering

adequate for average daily use during the peak season.

parking-lot expansion, and will work with Ministry of Highways to determine appropriate location and design.

Zoning

Intensive Recreation – This zone (9% of the park) provides opportunities for an overnight campground and a day use parking area and trailhead.

Natural Environment – This zone (88% of the park) protects a small but ecologically valuable area containing species and habitat in transition between the wetter coastal regions and the drier interior.

Special Feature – This zone (3% of the park) protects and presents an impressive waterfall, the surrounding setting, and the viewing opportunity of the falls.

Conservation

Representation
- ecosection
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

minor contribution to the well represented Eastern Pacific Ranges ecosection
minor contribution to the slightly under-represented CWHds1 subzone

Special Feature Protection of scenic viewing opportunity of Nairn Falls.

Rare/Endangered Values Rubber boa, spotted owl habitat (SRMZ)

Scientific/Research Opportunities Opportunity to study rare species, and flora/fauna of the transition zone between wet coastal and dry interior climates.

Recreation

Representation
backcountry
destination
travel corridor Camping and day-use for Highway 99 corridor travellers.

local recreation Recreation opportunities increasingly important due to the growth of Pemberton.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage

Representation Typical use site for Mt. Currie First Nations for food and plant gathering, and access to falls.

Special Feature Foot-like impression in rock near falls related to First Nations oral histories.

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to other PAs One of a series of parks along Highway 99 which link to form a key resource for corridor recreation and tourism.

Co-operative Management

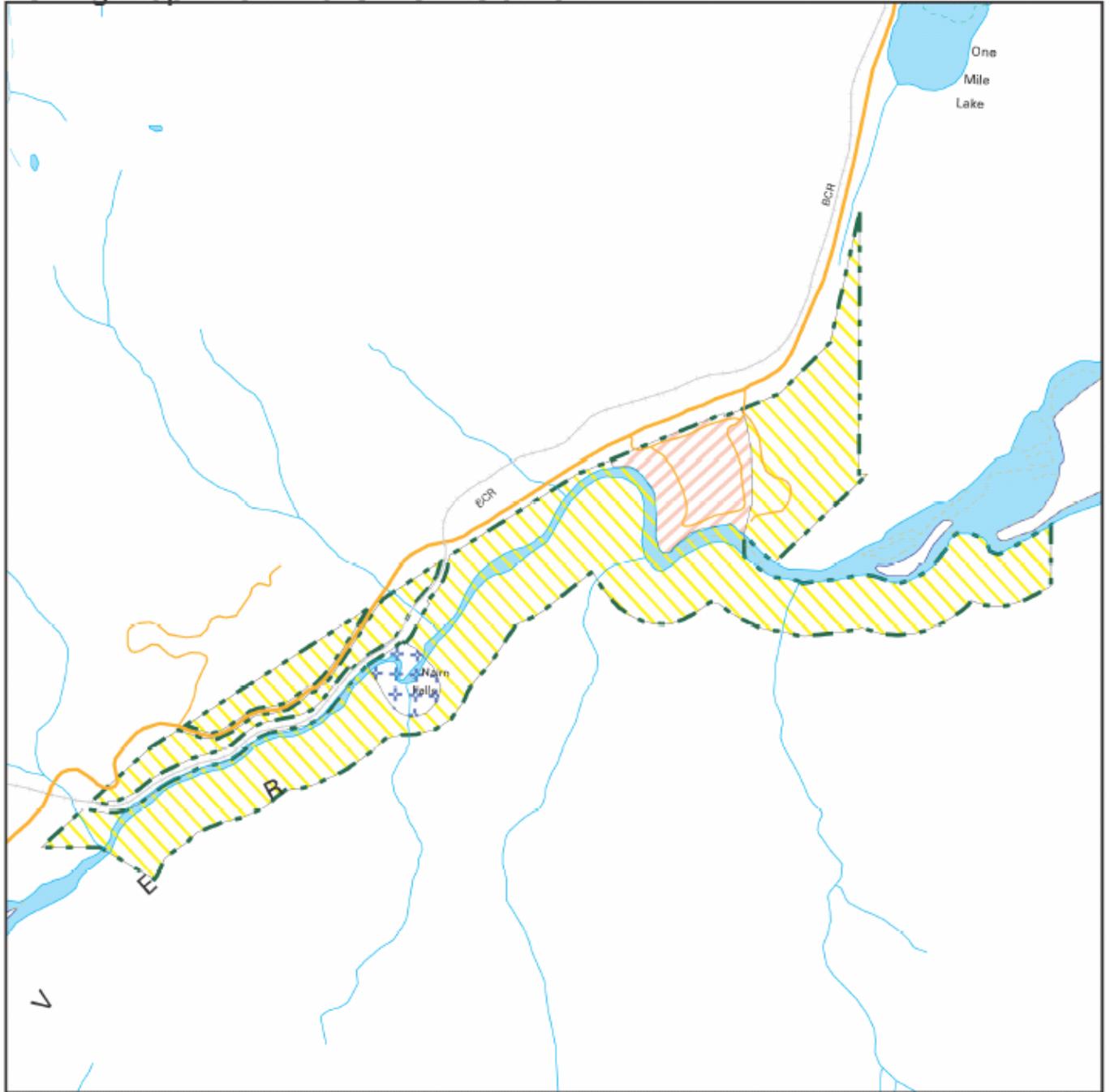
Partnerships

Vulnerability

Relationship to other Strategies

Area: 170 hectares
Date of Establishment: April 4, 1966

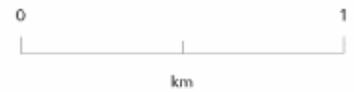
Zoning Map - Nairn Falls Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Jan 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
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