

Skeena District

MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENT

July 2000

for Prudhomme Lake
Provincial Park



Ministry of Environment
Lands and Parks
BC Parks Division



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MEMORANDUM

HIGHWAY 16 PROTECTED AREAS MANAGEMENT DIRECTION STATEMENTS - BINDER APPROVALS PAGE

Forward

This binder contains 11 management direction statements developed by BC Parks. These protected areas are all long established, some parks existing since the early 1950s. The 11 management direction statements provide strategic direction for these protected areas. Protected areas' roles, strategies and objectives will not change extensively over time. Management actions, implemented through operations plans, however, will change as priorities, funding and support resources come available.

- Diana Lake Park
- Driftwood Canyon Park
- Ethel F. Wilson Park
- Kleanza Creek Park
- Lakelse Lake Park
- Pendleton Bay Park
- Prudhomme Lake Park
- Red Bluff Park
- Ross Lake Park
- Seeley Lake Park
- Tyhee Lake Park

Approved by:

Hugh Markides
District Manager
Skeena District

Date: 6 July 2000

Denis O'Gorman
Assistant Deputy Minister
Parks Division

Date: 2000-07-17



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Introduction

Purpose of Management Direction Statements

Management Direction Statements provide strategic management direction for all protected areas that do not have a full management plan. MDS do not negate the need for future, more detailed management plans. Management Direction Statements also describe protected area values, management issues and concerns; management strategy focused on immediate priority objectives and strategies; and, directional statements from other planning processes.

Setting and Context

Prudhomme Lake Park covers 7 ha on the south shore of Prudhomme Lake, 16 km east of Prince Rupert (area population ~19,000; Figure 1). Highway 16 borders the park. The park lies within asserted traditional territory of the Allied Tsimshian Tribes.

The park, donated by Canadian Cellulose Company Ltd. in 1964, provides access to lake recreation and lakeshore camping opportunities for local residents and travelers along the Highway 16 corridor. Due to the small size of the park and to the proximity of the highway, most campers are en-route travelers, particularly those traveling on ferries leaving from Prince Rupert. The nearest BC Parks campground is Exchamsiks River, about 75 km east along Highway 16. Nearby Diana Lake Park provides day-use recreation opportunities, including hiking trails, a beach, fishing and boating.

Protected Area Attributes

Conservation

- remnant Hecate Lowland Ecosystem; CWHvh2 (very wet hypermaritime coastal western hemlock subzone, central variant)

Recreation and Tourism

- en-route camping on travel corridor near Prince Rupert ferries

Cultural Heritage

An inventory of cultural heritage features has not been completed; however, the following values have a likelihood of being present:

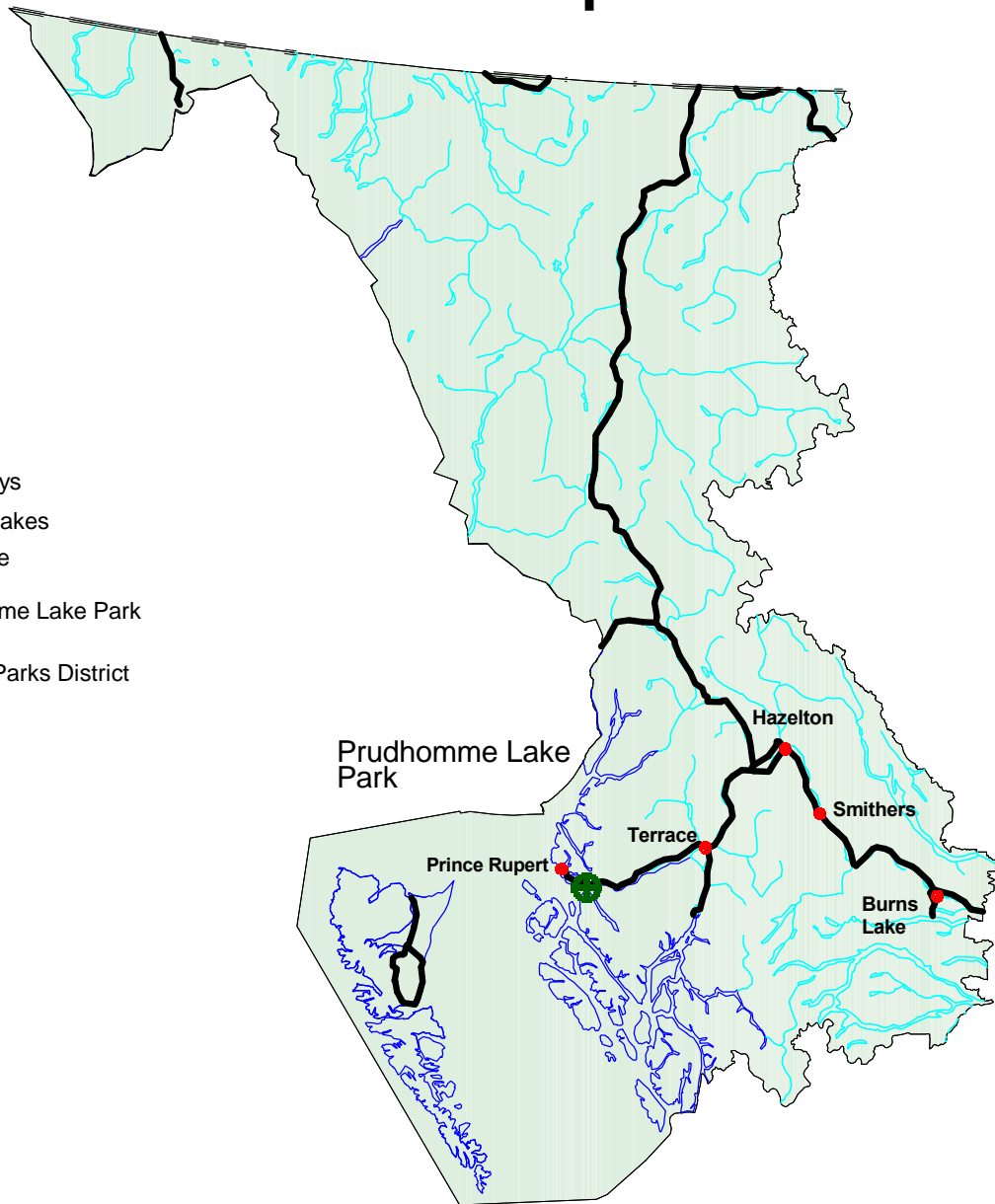
- culturally modified trees
- evidence of sites used for fishing and trapping

Significance in the Protected Areas System






- provides accommodation for Highway 16 and ferry travelers

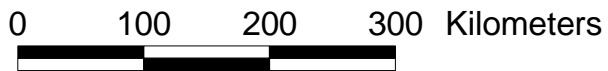
Figure 1 – Context Map

Prudhomme Lake Park Locator Map



Legend

-  Highways
-  Rivers/Lakes
-  Coastline
-  Prudhomme Lake Park
-  Skeena Parks District



Scale 1:6,000,000

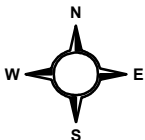
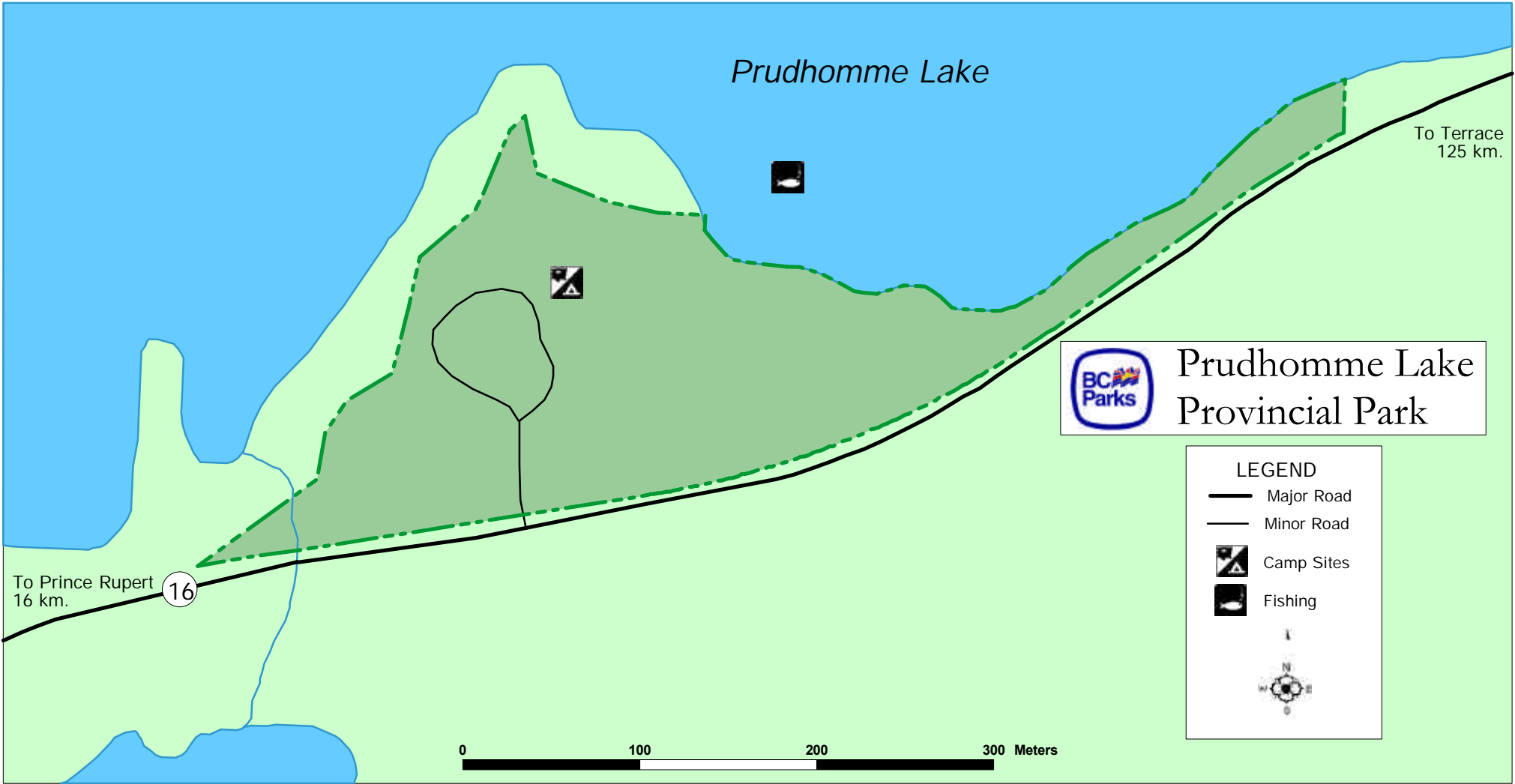


Figure 2 – Park Map



Land Uses, Tenures and Interests

Access

The campground lies directly to the north of Highway 16.

Existing Tenures

- Water licenses - water level controlled
- BC Hydro right-of-way

Existing Land Use Activities and Facilities

- 24 pad-and-spur campsites
- pit toilets, water pump

Adjacent Patterns of Land Use

- crown land, within the municipality of Port Edward, and not subject to timber harvest, surrounds the park

First Nations Interests

- part of the asserted traditional territory of the Allied Tsimshian Tribes
- general concern regarding the management of the fishery resource and spawning grounds
- interested in the protection of any cultural heritage sites identified
- interest in a First Nations history panel that describes some of the areas Tsimshian history
- would like to investigate the feasibility of establishing a First Nations Rediscovery Camp within various parks in the asserted territory of the Allied Tsimshian Tribes
- would like to consider the potential of being the Park Facility Operator
- interest in commercial cultural tours

Other Agency Interests

- BC Environment and Department of Fisheries and Oceans have an interest in the fishery on Prudhomme Lake
- Ministry of Forests has an interest in forest recreation issues on nearby crown land
- Regional District of Skeena-Queen Charlotte Islands has an interest in regional tourism

Private and Public Stakeholder Interests

- recreational users: picnickers, anglers, boaters
- local residents: Prince Rupert and Port Edward communities

Role of Prudhomme Lake Park

Prudhomme Lake Park's role is to provide campground accommodation for Highway 16 and ferry travelers. The park complements the important dayuse opportunities Diana Lake Park offers for local residents of the Prince Rupert region. Prudhomme Lake Park also presents

modest nature appreciation opportunities through a self-guiding trail interpreting the attributes of the remnant forest within the park.

The park's extremely small size of seven hectares limits its conservation role to one of only minor local importance.

Management Commitments and Issues

Direction from Previous Planning

Prudhomme Lake Park has been managed as a Class A Park since 1964. Annual Management Plans provide year-to-year direction.

Management Issues

The following management issues require attention:

Theme	Issue
Protecting ecological values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> inventory of flora and fauna is incomplete impacts of angling on fish populations is unknown
Protecting cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> significance of cultural features has not been identified status of documented CMT is unknown
First Nations Values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Protection of cultural heritage sites (see strategy for "cultural heritage values") Protection of fishery (see strategy for "Natural Values") First Nations History Panel Rediscovery Camp Interest in economic opportunities including Park Facility Operator and Cultural Tours
Park operations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> high deficiency
Unauthorised activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> vandalism destroys facilities

Management Strategy

The following table describes management strategies to deal with outstanding issues raised. In addition, figure 1 contains a list of acceptable land and resource uses for this park.

Priority Management Objectives	Priority Strategies
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ensure the park is safe for public use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Follow Hazard Tree Guidelines
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> protect the park's natural values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigate significance of flora and fauna; prepare Ecology Information Summary Quantify park-based angling effort and harvest on Prudhomme Lake if requested by BC Environment or DFO

Priority Management Objectives	Priority Strategies
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise sediment and nutrient addition to the lake and any streams during construction and maintenance activities • Consider developing Conservation Stewardship program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the park’s recreational values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimise vandalism through public education and public programs; consider developing Park Watch program
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect the park’s cultural heritage values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigate and collate existing information on cultural heritage values; investigate status of CMT; ensure CMTs are protected adequately, in consultation with Tsimshian; prepare Culture Features Information Summary
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Nations values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In conjunction with the Allied Tsimshian Tribes prepare a First Nations History Panel when funding permits • Entertain applications for rediscovery camps within Highway Parks in asserted Allied Tsimshian Tribe territory. First priority should be to identify and utilize sites outside of parks and then consider parks subject to MDS and park development objectives • when the park facility operator contract is up for bids advertise the contract in the local paper and endeavor to provide a copy of the bid package to the Allied Tsimshian Tribal Council • provide information on cultural heritage tours in the area when updating the local attractions section of the park information board. Entertain applications for cultural tours within the park subject to MDS objectives.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • develop and maintain standard facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maintain facilities to BC Parks standards
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce deficiency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Manage separately from Diana Lake Park • Consider strategies for Diana and Prudhomme Lake Parks together; review recommendations given in Highway 16 Overview Analysis • Promote Prudhomme Lake on BC and Alaska ferries • Maintain good relationship with communities about campsite management

Consultation and Future Planning

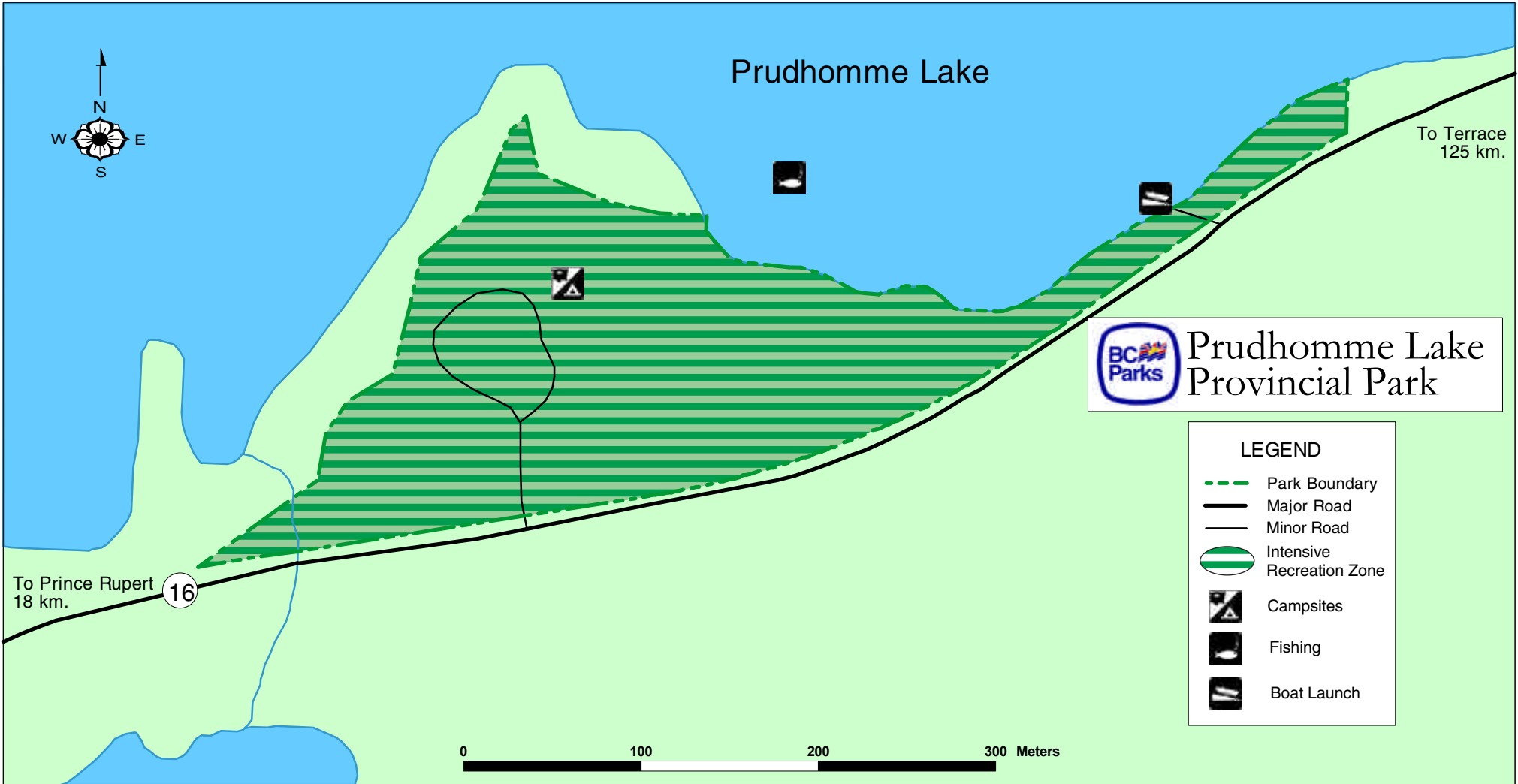
Good relationships with local communities are crucial in maintaining the park’s reputation and attracting repeat visitors. BC Parks will continue to build a relationship with the Allied Tsimshian Tribes and will discuss issues at Prudhomme Lake Park during scheduled Khutzeymateen Grizzly Sanctuary meetings and as necessary to deal with specific issues. BC Parks will continue to consult with Port Edwards about facility management and development at Prudhomme and Diana Lakes.

The priority for preparing a management plan for Prudhomme Lake Park is ranked as low.

Preliminary Zoning

Due to its small size, the entire park is zoned Intensive Recreation (Figure 3 - Zoning Map).

Figure 3 - Zoning Map










Prudhomme Lake



Prudhomme Lake Provincial Park

LEGEND

-  Park Boundary
-  Major Road
-  Minor Road
-  Intensive Recreation Zone
-  Campsites
-  Fishing
-  Boat Launch

To Prince Rupert
18 km.

16

To Terrace
125 km.

0 100 200 300 Meters

Appendix - Activity/Use Matrix for Prudhomme Lake Park

Activity/Use/Facility	Acceptable Uses
Aboriginal Rights	Y
Hunting	N
Fishing	Y
Trapping	N
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N
Recreational gold panning/rock hounding	N
Utility corridors	N2
Communication sites	N
Horse use/pack animals	N
Guide outfitting (hunting)	N
Guide outfitting (fishing)	N
Guide outfitting (nature tours)	Y
Guide outfitting (river rafting)	N
Cat-assisted skiing	N
Ski hills	N
Commercial recreation (facility-based)	N
Commercial recreation (non-facility-based)	M
Backcountry huts	N
Water control structures	Y
Fish stocking and enhancement	N1
Road access	Y
Off-road access (snowmobiling)	N
Off-road access (motorised)	N
Off-road access (mechanical activities)	N
Motorised water access	N
Aircraft access	N
Fire management (suppression)	Y
Fire management (prescribed fire management)	N
Fire management (prevention)	Y
Forest insect/disease control	M
Noxious weed control	M
Exotic insect/disease control	M
Scientific research (specimen collection)	M
Scientific research (manipulative activities)	M

Y = allowed subject to conditions identified in the management direction statement or management plan

M = may be permitted if compatible with protected area objectives

N = not allowed

N1 = allowed for expressed management purposes only

N2 = present and allowed to continue, but not normally allowed