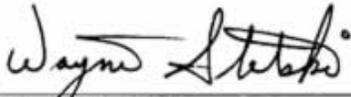


# SUMMIT LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

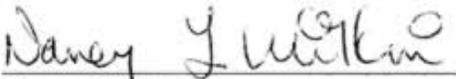
February 2003

Approved by:



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Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: 13-02-03



Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: 25-03-03

## **SUMMIT LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

### **Primary Role**

The **primary** role of Summit Lake Park is to maintain the outdoor recreation holiday destination opportunities and tourism travel route opportunities oriented to a mountain/lakeside setting.

Summit Lake is a small lake fishing destination that is popular with local residents and tourists. It provides easy access camping and day use opportunities associated with angling and a travel tourism route, Highway 6, which joins the Arrow Lakes Reservoir with scenic Slocan Lake. The park helps diversify local community tourism attractions (Nakusp is located just 15 kilometers north of the park) and is only one of two vehicle accessible day use provincial parks within the 3,400 km<sup>2</sup> Slocan Valley.

The goal 2 proposal for the park (an additional 451 hectares including the lake body) would complement the recreational boating opportunities within the park by providing a boat launch facility. The boat launch is located just south of the campground in a highway rest stop which is currently under management by the Ministry of Transportation.

### **Secondary Role**

The **secondary** role is to conserve important migration and breeding habitat, particularly on the northern end of the lake, for western toads. These primarily nocturnal and terrestrial amphibians frequent the park, usually in late summer when tadpoles undergo metamorphosis. Human caused mortality of this species from motor vehicles within the campground and along the highway is extremely high, often numbering in the tens of thousands.

In addition to the western toad habitat, a variety of ecosystems associated with wetlands and riparian areas are abundant immediately adjacent to the park. The proposed goal 2 addition would include this area, which consists of a series of three small islands and upland forests containing mature Douglas-fir and western red cedar. The islands present excellent nesting opportunities for shorebirds and provide perching refuge for eagles, hawks and kingfishers. The forests and rocky talus slopes north of the existing park offer suitable habitat for grizzly bear, mountain goat and cougar.

<b>Known Management Issues</b>	<b>Response</b>
Western toad is a species of conservation concern.	The migration of the western toad is under considerable threat by visitor use within the park. There were a number of recommendations made in an Ohanjanian report (2000). Implement recommendations.
Profile of this Class C park has increased in recent years (i.e. newly constructed campground and facilities) suggesting designation as a Class A provincial park. Moreover, the present park offers fewer conservation values than the proposed goal 2 addition. If the proposal were added, the conservation values of this park would be significant.	Reclassification and goal 2 proposal process should move forward.
Coarse woody debris was removed from the park during reconstruction.	A condition of the campground reconstruction was that coarse woody debris would be left. Almost all of it was removed. Develop a plan to replace both coarse and fine woody debris.
Annual Management Plan for the park has identified the newly constructed campground as requiring ongoing assessment for efficiency.	Review progress and success of campground operations and mitigate any problems associated with infrastructure (i.e. roads, water and sewer).
Highways rest stop/boat launch (outside of park and proposed in Goal 2 addition) is in need of repair.	Upgrade the facility to park standard should Goal 2 addition proceed.
Spread of invasive weeds (e.g. knapweed).	Inventory weeds. Develop and implement control strategies. Public education.

## **Zoning**

The entire park (6 ha) is zoned Intensive Recreation.

### Conservation

- Representation  
- ecosection  Minor contributor (0.002%) to the total PA system representation of the Central Columbia Mountains Ecosection (CCM) owing to its restricted size.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant  Contributes minimally to the total PA system representation of ICHmw2 in the CCM. Major contributors of ICHmw2 in CCM are Valhalla (30%) and Goat Range (36%).
- Special Feature  None identified.
- Rare/Endangered Values  Habitat for western grebe (r), great blue heron (b), (b), American bittern (b), A complete inventory of all red and blue-listed species has not been conducted.
- Scientific/Research Opportunities  There is an opportunity to study western toad mortality and whether or not it is having a detrimental effect on the species long term survival.

### Recreation

- Representation  
backcountry  Not applicable.
- destination  Vehicle camping (40 sites), fishing.
- travel corridor  Highway 6.
- local recreation  Angling for rainbow (stocked). Nature appreciation. Swimming adjacent to day use picnic area/shelters.
- Special Opportunities  None identified.
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities  Interpretive signage outlining trails, fishing etiquette, western toad breeding, boundaries of the park.

### Cultural Heritage

- Representation  Not yet assessed.
- Special Feature  None identified.

### Other Management Considerations

- Other Designations  None identified.

Relationship to other PAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	1 of 2 provincial parks (alternate is Rosebery- 18 km south) offering day use/ vehicle camping in the Slocan Valley.
Co-operative Management Arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	None identified.
Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	None identified.
Vulnerability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	There is a concern with western toad migration mortality.
Relationship to other Strategies	<input type="checkbox"/>	None identified.

**Area:** 6 hectares

**Date of establishment:** February 4, 1964

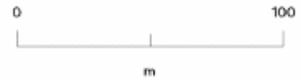
# Zoning Map - Summit Lake Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



 Intensive Recreation  
 Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Sep 2003 for  
Ministry of Water, Land and Air  
Protection by MSRM, Decision  
Support Services

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