SPRINGBROOK BIO-PHYSICAL

PHYSICAL CARRYING CAPACITY FOR RECREATION

DESCRIPTIVE LEGEND

Physical carrying capacity may be defined as the inherent ability of the landscape to sustain recreational use. The designation of units is based mainly on soils, landform and vegetation information. Climate, wildlife and hydrologic data have been used when available. Base data maps for soils, landform, vegetation and climate as well as biophysical capability maps for forestry, agriculture and wildlife are available from the Resource Analysis Unit of the E.L.U.C. Secretariat.

This carrying capacity map applies mainly to spring, summer and fall recreational use. The full amount of information necessary to produce a winter recreation carrying capacity inventory was not available.

Carrying Capacity Classification

The carrying capacity classes represent the relative quantity of recreational use that can be sustained per unit area of land per year. No attempt has been made to relate actual numbers of users to the individual classes.

The carrying capacity map estimates the quantity of recreation use that can be sustained. The quality or recreation attraction value of the landscape is expressed on the recreation features map.

Class 1 carrying capacity indicates that a high amount or intensive type of recreational use can be sustained. The other four classes with their increasing number and/or severity of limitations reflect a decreasing ability to sustain intensive use. Lower carrying capacity classes will permit extensive use activities within certain landscape areas. It would be possible, using the carrying capacity map, the recreational features map and the available base data information, to develop a suitability map for any specific recreational activity provided that the needs of that activity are recognized.

Carrying capacity classes are based only on biological and physical parameters of the environment and do not reflect social or economic factors. They do not reflect present land use, ownership, lack of access or distance from cities. (Note - present land use is reflected in one specific limitation as will later be described).

No management inputs have been assumed in the designation of these classes. The limitations expressed may be interpreted to reflect the problems that may be expected in the event of recreational use facility development.

CLASS 1: HIGH

These lands have slight to no limitations for recreational use and are capable of supporting an intensive amount of use.

CLASS 2: MODERATE-HIGH

These lands have few to moderate limitations for sustaining intensive recreational use.

CLASS 3: MODERATE

These lands have moderate limitations for sustaining recreational use. In some cases, these lands would be well suited to extensive recreational use.

CLASS 4: LOW

These lands have moderate to severe limitations for sustaining a high amount of recreational use. Extensive use can occur but it is limited to some extent.

CLASS 5: SEVERE

These lands have severe limitations in sustaining any amount of recreational use. Intensive use could not be considered and extensive use would be very limited if it were to occur at all.

LIMITATIONS

LIMITATIONS	TYPE	SYMBOL
Soil	Soil erosion (sheet, rill, creep)	s^E
	Compaction	s^P
	Septic tank limitation (this is additional information and is used in higher capacity areas in which intensive facility development may be expected)	s^t
	Organic soils	s^o
	Soil texture: stoniness : fine textured	s^R s^C
	Shallow soils (impervious horizons, often associated with minor bedrock outcrops)	s^R
	Unspecified soils factor/factors	s^u
	Soil drainage: poor drainage : poor drainage (receiving position) : excess drainage	s^w s^{wr} s^D
	Soil inundated (flooding)	s^I
Landforms	mass-wasting: avalanching : failing slope : talus	L^a L^s L^t
	erosion - gullying	L^E
	periglicial erosion (elvation, solifluction, congeliturbation)	L^p
Bedrock		R
Topographic	steep bluff (cliff) - (river bank)	T^b
	steep slope	T^s
	variable topography (undulating, hummocky, rolling)	T^u
Vegetation	density (undergrowth density, canopy density)	V^d
	nuisance/hazard species	V^n
	Vulnerability (sensitivity)	V^v
Climate	aridity	C^a
	permanent ice or snowfield	C^E
	other (fog, exposure)	C
Hydrologic	physical limitations: steep offshore : hazardous currents : cutbank erosion : inadequate water depth : high number water - no foreshore : flooding	H^s H^h H^E H^d H^n H^f
	biological nuisance (aquatic weeds, leeches)	H^b
	pollution (industrial waste, sewage effluent, logging debris)	H^P
Faunal	conflict (waterfowl nesting area; migration route)	V^c
	hazard (grizzly area; rattlesnake area)	V^h
	nuisance/pest (mosquito, blackflies)	V^n
Man-made	railway or highway obstruction (i.e. beach areas) This applies only to Class 1 or 2 areas in which the feature value as well as the carrying capacity is decreased by the occurence of the obstruction.	Z
Miscellaneous	minor limitation	x (m)

NOTE - s^{l*} This is used in map units where only those areas adjacent to water bodies are affected by the septic tank limitation.

- s^{ec} (unspecified soils factor): In all cases, within the Springbrook unit only, this limitation refers to the calcareous nature of the soils. This in addition to the climatic aridity occurring mainly in the drier Interior Douglas Fir Subzone create a vegetation sensitivity limitation to intensive recreational use.
- v^{n1} (vegetation nuisance): Poison Ivy is found in some areas of this unit (i.e. Ram Creek hot springs area).
- v^{c1} (wildlife conflict): These are important waterfowl habitat areas.

MAPPING PERCENTAGES

50 - 50
60 / 40
80 // 20
90 - 10

GEOGRAPHIC DIVISION
ENVIRONMENT AND LAND USE COMMITTEE
SECRETARIAT
VICTORIA, B.C.

COMPILED BY: V.R.
DRAWN BY: A.K.C.
DATE: APRIL 1975
CHECKED BY: V.P.
DATE: APRIL 1975

AMMENDMENTS:

PROJECT: SPRINGBROOK
SHEET 11 OF 27

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