

SHUSWAP LAKE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

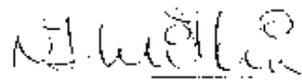
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Approved by:



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Date: 03/01/03



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Date: Feb. 12/03

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Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

The **primary role** of Shuswap Lake Park is to provide major provincial park opportunities on Shuswap Lake, supporting provincial and regional tourism and recreation interests for destination, transient and day use activities. Shuswap Lake Park along with Herald Park serve as the two major provincial park holiday destinations on Shuswap Lake Park, and are both fully occupied through the summer months.

The park is situated on the old delta of Scotch Creek, on the north shore of Shuswap Lake. Shuswap Lake is provincially recognized for its tourism and recreation attractions and Shuswap Lake Park, with 1 kilometre of beach and pleasant uplands is considered as a prime destination for vacationers from the Lower Mainland and Alberta as well as regional residents. With over 271 campsites, the park is considered the largest and most popular destination campground facility in the Thompson Region, and one of the largest and most popular in the province. The park also serves as a regional day use focus for swimming, beach use and boating access to Shuswap Lake.

As a **secondary role**, the park protects a Copper Island as a special feature on Shuswap Lake, representing natural dry habitats of the IDfMw2 subzone/variant. The small size of the park (149 hectares - 115 hectares of upland and 34 hectares of foreshore) combined with the extent of facility developments and recreation use limit the viability of maintaining natural habitats and conditions on the remaining portion of the park.

As a **tertiary** role, the park's history includes First Nations use and occupation, but there remains little onsite evidence of these activities.

Known Management Issues	Response
Larger, older trees are posing a hazard.	Continue with program of establishing and maintaining a thrifty second growth forest structure. This program involves heavy hazard tree removal.
Uncontrolled and heavy use of bikes is causing environmental impacts and conflicts with other park users.	Use information and trail management (designation of open and closed bike trails).
Sand beach has eroded.	Resand beach.

Zoning

Copper Island is zoned as **Natural Environment** with the primary intent to maintain the relatively undisturbed condition of the environment, while allowing for compatible recreation uses. The remainder of the park is zoned as **Intensive Recreation** and includes the campground, service yard and day use facilities.

Conservation

- Representation
- ecosection Very minor representation of the Northern Thompson Uplands Ecosection. Facility development has modified natural condition of park habitats.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Copper Island protects a relatively undisturbed example of dry forest conditions of the IDFmw2 subzone/variant, which is poorly represented in the park system. Only 4.08% of this ecosystem is in protected area status. Shuswap Lake Park contributes 1.9% of the overall protection of this ecosystem, making the park the 4th largest contributor.
- Special Feature Copper Island – The only island on Shuswap Lake - a large natural island
- Rare/Endangered Values none identified
- Scientific/Research Opportunities none identified

Recreation

- Representation
backcountry
- destination very popular destination site for camping, and beach and water based activities. Facilities are used to capacity throughout summer season
- travel corridor minor use from the Trans Canada for day use rest stop and overnight stopover
- local recreation heavy regional day use and destination use
- Special Opportunities High quality beach on Shuswap Lake, good access for disabled users
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage

- Representation First Nations occupation as evidenced by protected kekuli pits
- Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

- Other Designations
- Relationship to other PAs Shuswap Lake Park along with Herald Park serve as the two major provincial park holiday destinations on Shuswap Lake.
- Co-operative Management Arrangements
- Partnerships
- Vulnerability On going weed control
- Relationship to other Strategies

Area: 149 hectares

Date of establishment: November 14, 1946