# **Goal II Recommendation List Presentation to IAMC and RRC**

November 2, 2004 Final Draft

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# Introduction

The Cariboo-Chilcotin Land Use Plan (CCLUP) recognized that, of the commitment to include 12% of the regional land base in protected areas, 11.75% was resolved initially by the Plan and that the balance (0.25%) remained to be allocated by protecting relatively small special feature areas. These small special feature areas, also referred to as "Goal 2" areas, were to be identified and designated through subsequent planning at sub-regional and local levels. The Plan identified the following actions:

- 1. The Implementation Team (IT) and the Regional Protected Areas Team (RPAT), based upon candidate areas identified through earlier consultation processes (CORE, Protected Areas Strategy [PAS], Parks and Wilderness for the 90's) and RPAT assessment criteria, will immediately identify a prioritized short list of candidate areas, totalling a maximum of 30,000 ha.
- 2. The candidate list, including specifications of size and location for each candidate and accompanied by a map representing the candidates, will be submitted by mid March 1995 to the Land Use Planning Working Group of Cabinet for approval as the interim candidate list (subsequently known as Cabinet approved proposals). Interim protection (deferred areas) will be established for these candidates.
- 3. The resource management agencies and the IAMC will insure that the candidate list is provided to the sub-regional and local planning bodies. As those bodies prepare or revise their plans in the context of the regional Land Use Plan, they will consider candidates from the recommended list. They may propose additions and deletions to the candidate list on a hectare-for-hectare basis. Such proposals for revising the candidate list must be reviewed by the IAMC and the RRB, at its discretion.
- 4. Sub-regional or local level planning bodies may recommend to the IAMC that one or more candidates in their planning area become formally designated as protected areas. The IAMC will take the appropriate steps to consider such recommendations, including appropriate adjustments to the candidate list and correction of the remaining available percentage for Goal 2 protected areas.
- 5. The candidate list is a temporary mechanism. Areas will be taken off the list as new small protected areas are established. Government will move as quickly as possible to establish sub-regional processes to accomplish this task. Once the 0.25% target is achieved, the balance of the candidate list, and any associated deferred areas, will be eliminated.

In 1995, 45 areas totalling 29,902 hectares were identified as candidate Goal 2 study areas for the 22,000 hectare Goal 2 target. Sub-regional plans were subsequently directed

to identify approximately 75% of target (16,500 hectares). The remaining portion of the Goal 2 target was to be identified at the discretion of the IAMC and RRB (5,500 hectares). Based on that direction the approximate targets, in hectares, by SRP/SRMP are as follows:

Anahim Round Table	1200
Chilcotin	4500
Horsefly	1600
100 Mile House	2500
South Chilcotin	300
Quesnel	4200
Williams Lake	2200
Total	16500

The Anahim Round Table SRMP and the South Chilcotin SRMP have been endorsed by the IAMC/RRC. Within the 100 Mile House SRMP there has been extensive public consultation undertaken with respect to Goal 2 areas and although not all of the short-listed candidate areas are supported by all stakeholders it is believed that the best majority option has been identified. The Horsefly, Williams Lake and Quesnel SRMPs have had moderate to extensive public consultation completed with the proposed Goal 2 areas short listed to include the most desirable Goal 2 proposals. Within the Chilcotin SRMP there has been moderate public consultation and proposed Goal 2 areas require further short listing. As a result of this review there are currently 33 Goal 2 proposals and six additions/refinements to existing protected areas being considered amounting to over 24,000 hectares in total area.

Area	Number of proposals	Total Approximate Size (in hectares)
ART SRMP	1	1162
Chilcotin SRMP	7 and $1/2^{1,2}$	9886
Horsefly SRMP	9 and $1/2^{3,4,5}$	1805
100 Mile SRMP	$6^6$	3004
South Chilcotin SRMP	1	589
Quesnel SRMP	3 <sup>7</sup>	4690
Williams Lake SRMP	5	2890
Total	33	24,026
Adjusted SRMP Goal 2 Target (.75)		16,500
Total Goal 2 Target within CCLUP		22,000

# Summary of current Candidate Goal 2 areas by SRMP

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Hanceville Canyon candidate area is shared between Chilcotin and Williams Lake

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The Ts'yl?os Park expansion is not listed here as a discrete area but the hectares are included.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Eight of the Horsefly candidate areas make up a system of parks for Quesnel Lake.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The Beaver Valley/Rye Lake candidate area is shared between Horsefly and Williams Lake.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> The Cedar Point Park expansion is not listed here as a discrete area but the hectares are included.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> For 100 Mile House three candidate areas are additions to Goal 1 areas thus are not listed here as discrete areas (Eagle Creek, Flat Lakes and Moose Valley) but their hectares are included in the total.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> For Quesnel one candidate area is an expansion of the Narcosli Lake Ecological Reserve thus is not listed as a discrete area but the hectares are included in the total.

AREA NAME	SIZE (ha)	PAS Candidate	SRMP
Beaver Valley/Rye Lake	742	No	Horsefly/Wms Lake
Beecher's Prairie	119	Yes	Williams Lake
Big Basin	589	No	South Chilcotin
Cedar Point Park addition	6	No	Horsefly
Centennial including Bridge Lake Island	337	No	100 Mile House
Chilanko Marsh	892	No	Chilcotin
Chilcotin Lake	978	Yes	Chilcotin
Copper Johnny	578	No	100 Mile House
Crater Lake	94	No	100 Mile House
Dante's Inferno	304	Yes	Williams Lake
Desous Mountain	1211	No	Williams Lake
Deka/Sulphurous Lake	388	No	100 Mile House
Donnely Lake	541	Yes	100 Mile House
Dragon Mountain	1839	Yes	Quesnel
Eagle Creek West	580	No	100 Mile House
Eleven Sisters	3148	Yes	Chilcotin
Flat Lakes Park Extension	26	No	100 Mile House
Fraser River Breaks	885	Yes	Williams Lake
Hanceville Canyon	1928	Yes	Chilcotin/Wms Lake
Klinaklini	1162	No	ART
Long Creek Caribou Mineral Lick	259	Yes	Horsefly
Moose Valley Park Extension	146	No	100 Mile House
Narcosli Ecological Reserve	1218	Yes	Quesnel
Expansion			
Patterson Lake	1255	No	Chilcotin
Punti Island	9	Yes	Chilcotin
Quesnel Lake Park System	1169	See Below	Horsefly
Bouldery Creek	85	No	Horsefly
Cariboo/Twain Isl.	96	No	Horsefly
Faux Bay	71	No	Horsefly
Horsefly Bay	316	No	Horsefly
Peninsula Bay	86	No	Horsefly
Roaring River	423	Yes	Horsefly
Watt Creek	63	No	Horsefly
Welcome Point	29	No	Horsefly
Redbrush	1093	Yes	Chilcotin
Tatla Lake	228	Yes	Chilcotin
Titetown	1016	Yes	Quesnel
Ts'yl?os Park addition	355	No	Chilcotin
Wentworth Lake	617	Yes	Quesnel
Young Lake	314	Yes	100 Mile House

The following summary provides a brief description of each of the currently short listed candidate areas from all sub-regional planning processes within CCLUP.

The candidate areas highlighted in green have had much review and comment and it is felt that they should proceed as soon as possible to the recommended designated status proposed in this report. In the majority of cases that means proceeding to Class A Park status. The green areas in this document total 9,329 hectares.

It is felt that the candidates highlighted in yellow should also proceed as recommended, but not before an understanding of the concerns, and where indicated, an IAMC and RRC decision is provided before they proceed. The yellow areas in this document total 13,577 hectares.

The areas in red are recommended not to proceed for reasons indicated on individual sheets. They total 1,120 hectares.

All proposals that proceed need to have the following list of items reviewed and or completed: a) boundary rationalization, b) no staking reserves confirmed or established and incorrect ones removed, c) land status and tenure information within the proposal area confirmed, d) final public and First Nation review, and e) a schedule of when and by whom this should be completed.

# Considerations

Following IAMC and RRC decisions on the yellow short listed areas in this report, the following items need to be considered:

- A) Should a possible selection/replacement of the yellow short list candidate areas (above) be supplemented with previous candidate approved areas (listed in appendix) to bring total to 22,000 hectares?
- B) Proceed with a list less than the 22,000 hectares?
- C) Combination of both as some areas may take a fair amount of time to resolve?

Of the previously recommended candidate areas in 1995, (29,902 hectares), only 17 areas are included in this list of 2004 recommended areas. Therefore only 12,725 hectares are carried over from the 1995 list. (See attached list of 1995 candidate areas at the back of the report as Insert # 1).

# ✤ Beaver Valley/ Rye Lake

Size: 742 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list. Straddles boundary between Horsefly SRMP and Williams Lake SRMP areas. This candidate was submitted by Richard Case and Norm Zirnhelt, and has the support of a number of people and tenure holders in the Beaver Valley area.

**Representation and Values:** Includes the Cariboo Plateau ecosection, of which less than one per cent is currently protected. Less than six per cent of the SBS BEC zone is protected provincially. It would also protect a portion of the SBSdw1 variant (Horsefly variant of the Sub-Boreal Spruce dry warm BEC subzone), of which less than one per cent is currently protected. Other very small parks in this ecosection include Bridge Lake, Bridge Lake/Centennial, small portions of Green Lake, and Ruth Lake. The lower Beaver Valley Creek is the only slow water ecosystem in this BEC subzone. The remainder of this subzone is located along the faster moving Quesnel and Fraser Rivers. The area is characterised by annually inundated floodplains, and a chain of lakes and wetlands connected by a meandering stream. The area has a cool climate with warm, moist summers and cold, high snowfall winters. The unique combination of flooding regimes, a long growing season, a moist hot climate and the biologically rich stream/wetland/lake complex make the valley highly productive in terms of aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems. The amounts and varieties of annual succulent growth (fruits and shoots) support a highly productive aquatic and terrestrial food web.

Blue listed species found in the area include trumpeter swans, sandhill cranes, fishers, northern bitterns, wolverine, sharp-tailed grouse, and blue heron. The first observation of the red-listed Northern Long Eared Myotis in the Cariboo was recorded in this valley.

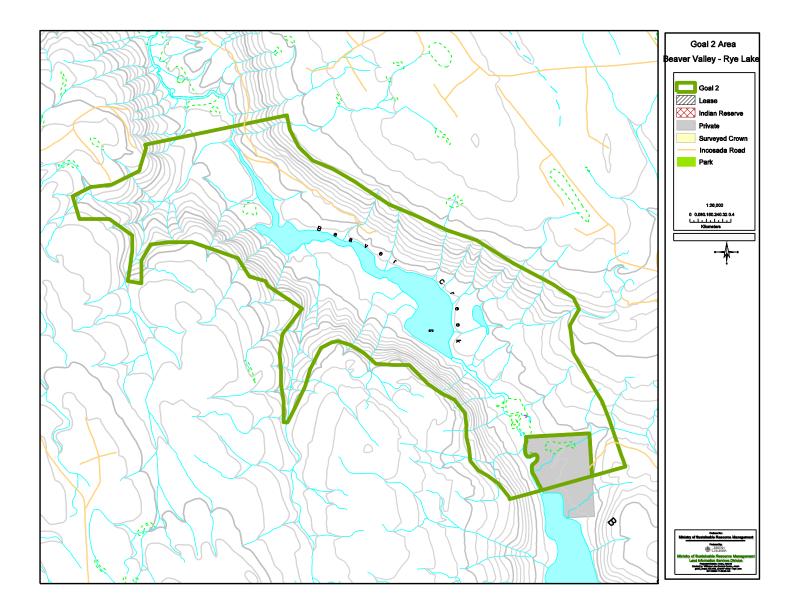
**Land Status:** This area is Crown land, with no encumbrances. The private land has been excluded.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Soda Creek, Red Bluff, and Williams Lake Bands.

Public Support: High

<u>Concerns</u>: Ministry of Energy and Mines (MEM) expressed concerns about adverse impacts to exploration and development due to the very high mineral potential of this area. No mineral tenure (when last checked, i.e., in 2002).

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park, pending outcome of further discussion with MEM and the Mineral Industry.



#### ✤ Beecher's Prairie

Size: 119 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate, within Williams Lake SRMP. Proposal origin: This proposal was originally a BC Parks ecological reserve proposal, but has been reduced in size through the public consultation process.

**Representation and Values:** Includes portions of the Fraser River Basin (FRB), ecosection, of which 14% is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the IDFxm (Interior Douglas Fir very dry, mild) biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) sub-zone of which only 7% is currently protected. Other protected areas in this ecosection include Junction Sheep Range Park, Edge Hills Park and Churn Creek Protected Area. Area contains late seral and climax grasslands of the porcupine grass (Stipa curtiseta) ecosystem. This ecosystem is not known to occur in British Columbia outside of the Cariboo Region and it is anticipated that it will be "blue-listed" (declared threatened) for British Columbia in the near future. Within the Cariboo Forest Region, this grassland ecosystem is extensive only in the upper grasslands, primarily on Beechers Prairie and the plateaus north of Alkali Lake and north of Dog Creek. Small patches of this ecosystem occur at higher elevations within Churn Creek Protected Area but they have been significantly disturbed in this area by past livestock grazing. No other protected area in the Cariboo Region, or other portion of British Columbia, includes representation of this upland porcupine grass ecosystem. Small patches of a similar ecosystem occur in moist swales of the Middle Grasslands within Junction Sheep Range Park. The Goal 2 candidate area on Beechers Prairie has been relatively unaffected in recent years by livestock grazing and, as a result, is representative of late seral and climax vegetation of the porcupine grass ecosystem. In the immediate vicinity of the Rock Lake there is also a riparian area and with associated waterfowl species and nesting habitat and a snake hibernaculum for the Western terrestrial garter snake (Thamnophis elegans) and common garter snake (Thamnophis sirtalis) that will be protected.

Land Status: Crown Land. Grazing tenures.

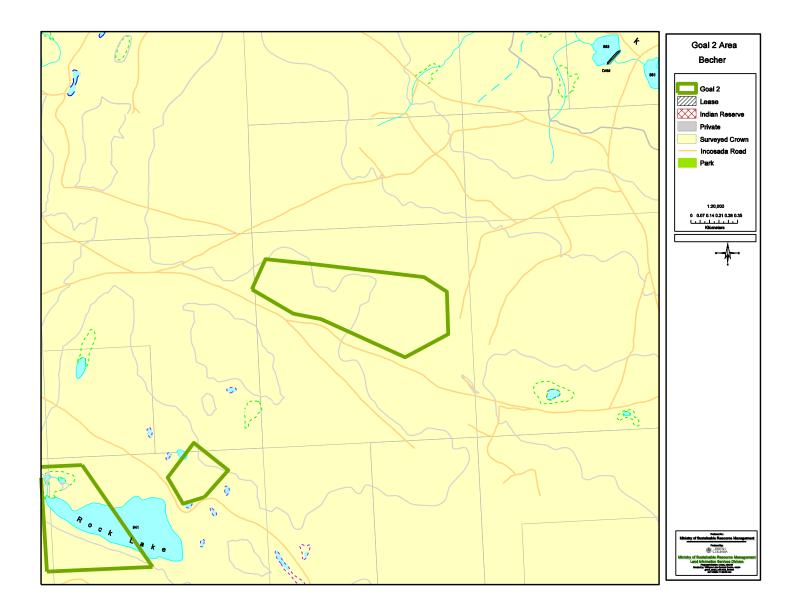
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Williams Lake and Toosey Bands as well as the Cariboo Tribal Council.

Public Support: Williams Lake SRMP

**Concerns**:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.

<u>**To do:**</u> Final boundary rationalization required although past boundaries refined to alleviate ranching concerns. No staking reserves to be confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.





Size: 589 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list. A new proposal by participants of the South Chilcotin SRP. IAMC endorsed

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: A diverse and regionally unique forest cover of aspen, spruce, pine, Douglas-fir and grasslands. Gently sloping slump terrain of the area has created a number of small wetland drainage areas and three small lakes. There is a natural scree slope at the base of the rim rock on the west side of the area. Numerous wildlife trails lead through the area. The area is located in the Chilcotin Plateau (CHP) ecosection, which is currently under represented in the protected areas system.

Includes Interior Douglas-fir, dry cool (IDFdk4), biogeoclimatic subzone which is also under represented. The important natural values of the proposed Goal 2 area include wetlands, habitat for mule deer, California bighorn sheep, waterfowl and a diversity of forest cover. The recreational values include a 4x4 trail and a horse trail leading from a break in the rim rock and meandering through the area to Churn Creek and opportunities for hiking fishing, hunting, wildlife viewing and horseback riding.

**Land Status:** One placer lease partially overlapped during SRP process but not currently shown on placer maps. If an actual overlap still exists the overlap can be resolved by:

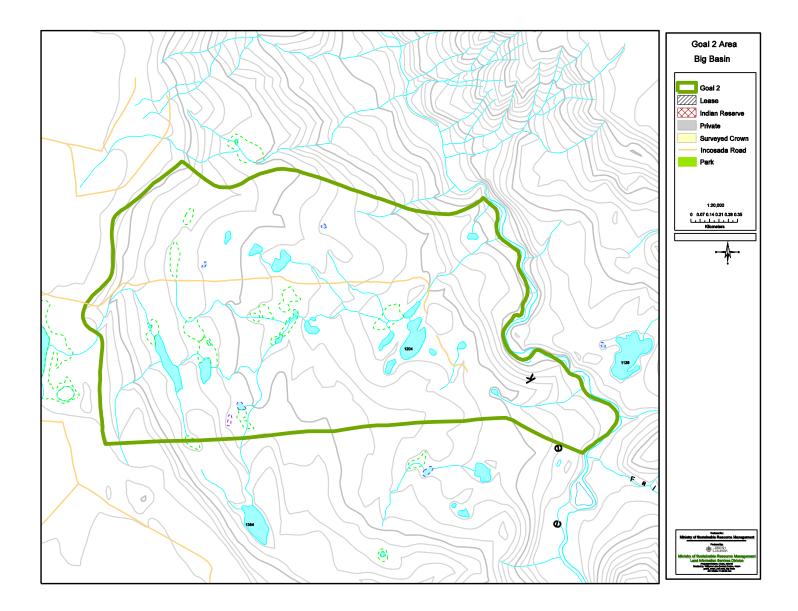
- adjusting PA boundary;
- grandfathering the claim; or
- expropriating the claim.

**First Nations:** This candidate is in the area of interest of the Toosey, Stone, Canoe Creek, High Bar and Alkali bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: High. Good support to increase the size of the area if possible. Particularly to the south, to include more of the basin.

**<u>Concerns</u>**: If the pacer lease still exists then there will be a concern regarding protected area classification. South Chilcotin SRP indicates trapping, grazing, hunting and fishing are to continue in the area.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending clarification of the placer lease tenure. **IAMC and RRC decision required.** Suggest increasing the area with the boundary rationalization.



### \* Cedar Point Park Addition

Size: 6 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within Horsefly SRMP. This candidate was submitted by Robin Hood from Likely, and was accompanied by a letter of support signed by about 300 people.

**Representation and Values:** Includes a small portion of the Quesnel Highland (QUH) Ecosection, of which 12 per cent is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the ICHwk2 BEC variant, of which 11 per cent is currently protected, the vast majority of it in Cariboo Mountains Park. Other parks in this ecosection include Wells Gray, Cariboo Mountains, Cariboo River, Bowron Lake, Canim Beach, and Cedar Point. The values in this small addition are natural, recreational and cultural/historical. Portions of this ancient fluvial fan have been harvested, but in the 50+ year range, and a second growth stand of fir, hemlock, and cedar is well established and showing attributes of an old growth forest. The shoreline component is marshy and has a significant deciduous component. Culturally, the area had a long history of mining, as gold had been actively mined on Cedar Creek. It is also suspected that the Interior Shuswap people used the area as a stopover. The northwestern side of the fan was made a Class C Provincial Park in 1962. Recreationally, the area is a natural extension of Cedar Point Park, and can be used for the construction of an interpretative trail and use of the shoreline.

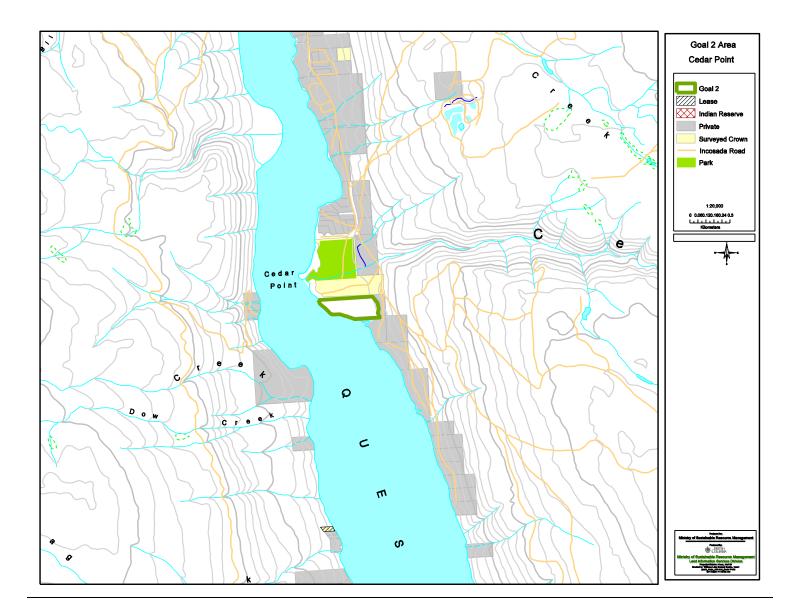
**Land Status:** This area is Crown land, with no encumbrances. The private land has been excluded.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Soda Creek, Red Bluff, and Williams Lake Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: High from the local community. Cedar Point is a Class C Park with local community support. Extension is also highly supported.

**<u>Concerns</u>:** Not adjacent to the original park. Consider possible expansion if land becomes available.

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class C Park.



### Centennial including Bridge Lake Island

Size: 337 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Public Input from 100 Mile House SRMP.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** Includes a portion of the Cariboo Plateau (CAP) Ecosection, of which only 0.66% is currently protected. As well, only 107 hectares, or 0.4% of the Sub-Boreal Pine-Spruce Moist Cool (SPBSmk) BEC zone is currently protected in this ecosection and only 6.2% of the SBPS BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects a SBPSmk remnant in an underrepresented ecosection. Schoolhouse and Canim Lake Parks are the only other parks in this ecosection.

The proposal area is a large, underdeveloped shoreline area of Crown land on Bridge Lake. The area is bounded on the north by Stack Lake and on the other three sides by Bridge Lake. A small creek joins Stack Lake to Bridge Lake.

The area had a small sawmill working in the early part of the century, but significant stands of large Douglas fir and spruce still exist in the area. Local naturalists have reported the presence of numerous bird species and several eagle nests, along with bears, fox, coyote, deer, mink, otter, and several very active beaver colonies. They also report Kokanee spawning in Stack Creek.

The area is very important for local recreation and resorts, who use the area as a day hiking site. Hiking, wildlife viewing and horseback riding occurs on the old logging and skid roads, which are overgrown and make excellent trails. Canoeing, swimming, boating and fishing are popular along the shoreline, which is quite open and has several small bays and inlets.

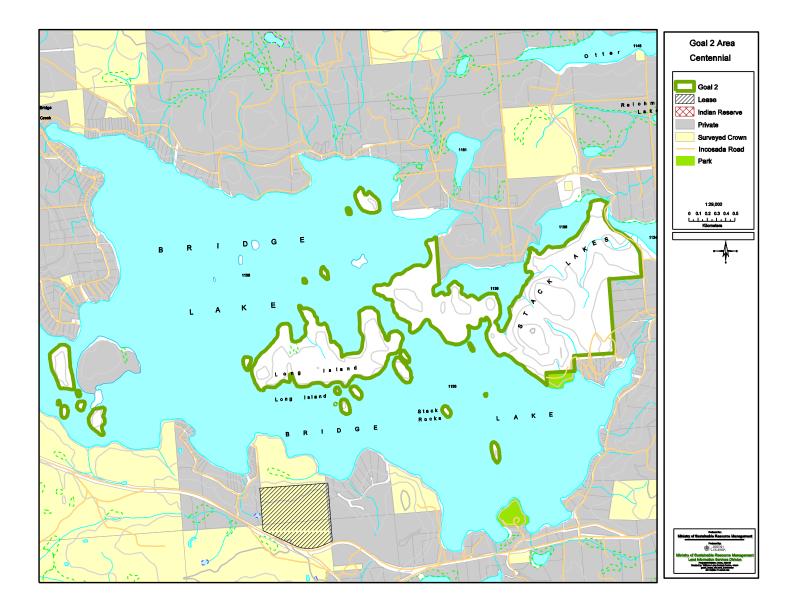
Land Status: Crown land. Right of way to BC Hydro may be in boundary.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake and North Thompson Chu Chua Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: This area has significant public support from local residents in the Interlakes area. Approximately 100 support letters have been received. Support from forest licensees and other community groups are unknown.

# **Concerns**:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.





Size: 892 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Proposal was not previously Cabinet approved but was included in the "other" selection list database of possible Goal II candidates. Within the Chilcotin SRMP area.

### **Representation and Values:**

Land Status: Much of the land is within a Wildlife Management Area.

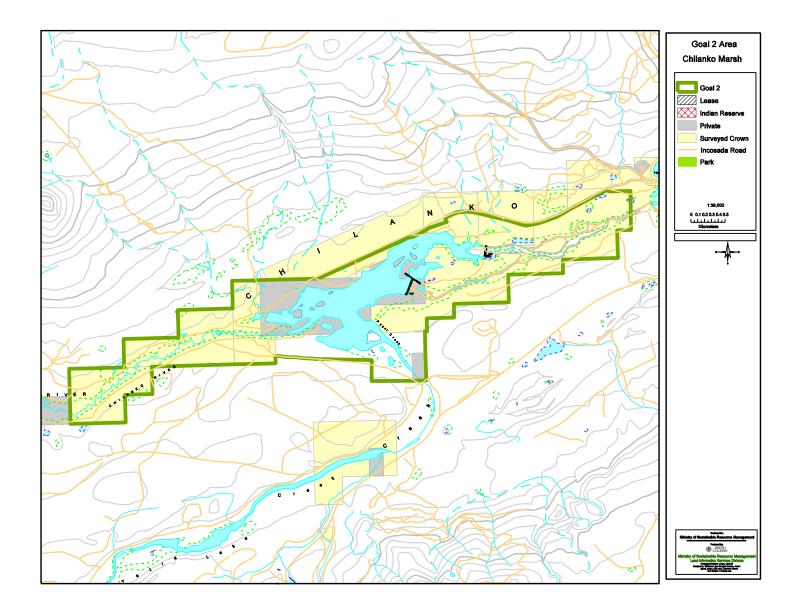
First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Alexis Creek band.

### **<u>Public Support</u>**:

**Concerns:** Remove pending Chilcotin open house comment and TNG review period. High use area, with highly impacted landscape resulting in possible Park Management concerns. The overall Goal 2 target in the Chilcotin SRMP is high.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Remove from the proposed list pending Chilcotin Open House comment period and TNG review.

To do: Suggest deletion



# ✤ Chilcotin Lake

Size: 978 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Chilcotin SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Includes mature and old pine forest typical of the SBPSxc. Also includes deciduous forests, wetlands, marshes and riparian forests. It is considered to be one of the most important migration stop over in the Chilcotin area for migrating ducks and geese. It is one of the few high use foraging lakes for the Chilcotin plateau nesting colony of American white pelicans.

The lake also supports Chinook salmon, steelhead, rainbow and bull trout and mountain whitefish. Non game species, important to pelican are also present in the lake.

Land Status: Shape of area constrained by adjacent Private Land and Indian Reserve

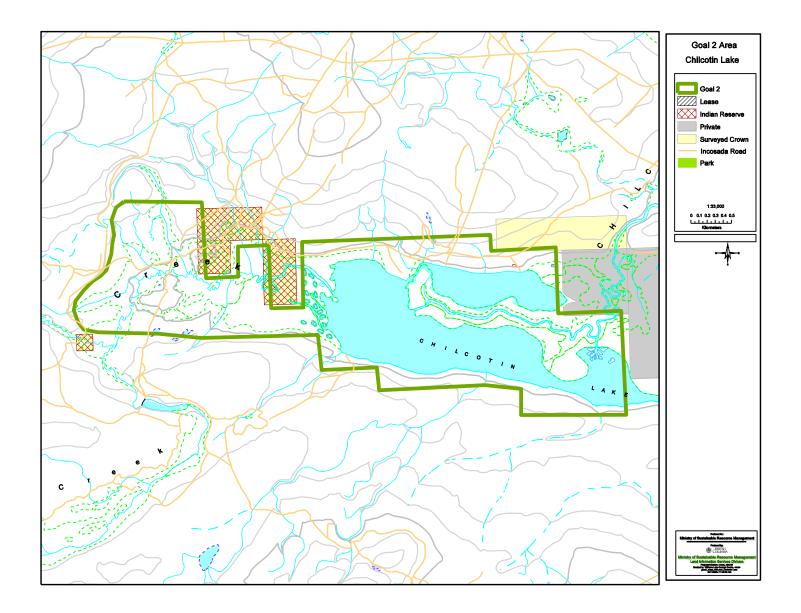
First Nations: TNG review in progress

# Public Support:

**Concerns:** Concern regarding amount of existing settlement and First Nation interest in area which may not be consistent with a park designation or potential park management direction. Overall Chilcotin District Goal 2 target high.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending discussion of issues and following Chilcotin Open House review period, TNG review period, and review of mineral resource values.

**<u>To do:</u>** Final boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.





Size: 578 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Public input from 100 Mile House SRMP.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: This area protects a portion of the Cariboo Basin Ecosection, of which only 1.12% is currently protected. As well, only 5955 hectares, or 0.71% of the Interior Douglas Fir Dry Cool Fraser variant (IDFdk3) BEC zone is protected in the CAB ecosection and only 3.97% of the IDF BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects an IDF remnant in an underrepresented ecosection. Other Parks in this ecosection include, Chasm, Green Lake, Lac la Hache, Big Bar, Flat Lakes, Loon Lake and Moose Valley.

This area encompasses a diverse wetland complex, glacial features (eskers), pothole and alkali lakes and grasslands. The area is bounded on the east by a wetland complex which drains Clink Lake. To the west, several small lakes and a large alkali lake (Ridge Lake) form the boundary. Access to the area is provided by a recent logging road which has been deactivated about a kilometre from the candidate area.

A number of bird species abound in the wetland areas, along with moose, beavers, and deer. Forest cover is consistently fir and pine, with spruce located in wetland and low areas. The area has great potential for wildlife viewing and hiking along the linked, semicircular system of wellformed gravel eskers. The eskers provide excellent viewing opportunities into the wetland areas, which are rich in bird and mammal life. The area has high interpretation potential.

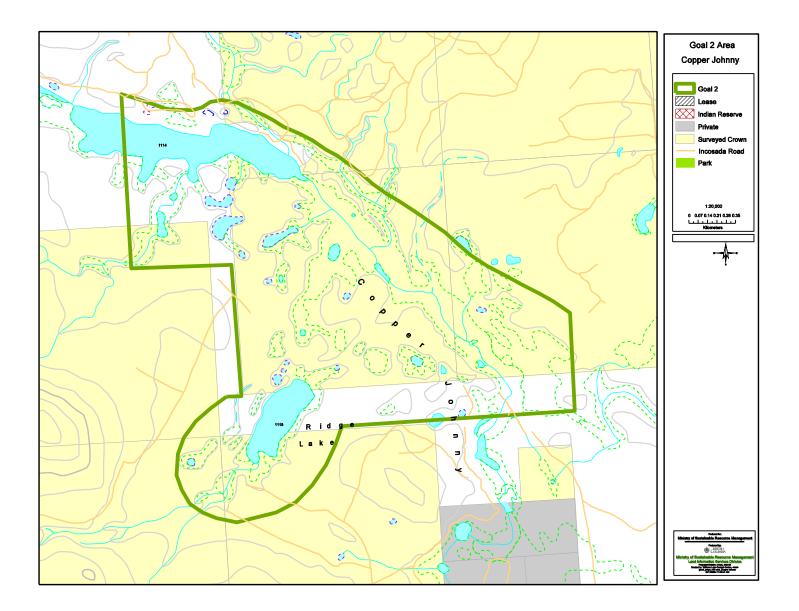
Land Status: Crown land, no encumbrances.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canoe Creek, Whispering Pines and Highbar Bands.

**Public Support:** Originally a Kamloops LRMP candidate.

Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.



Size: 94 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Proposal origin: Public Input 100 Mile House SRMP

**Representation and Values:** Includes a portion of the Cariboo Basin Ecosection, of which only 1.12% is currently protected. As well, only 5955 hectares, or 0.71% of the Interior Douglas Fir Dry Cool Fraser variant (IDFdk3) BEC zone is protected in the CAB ecosection and only 3.97% of the IDF BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects an IDF remnant in an underrepresented ecosection.

Other Parks in this ecosection include Chasm, Green Lake, Lac la Hache, Big Bar, Flat Lakes, Loon Lake and Moose Valley,

The proposal protects a unique lake feature which is also not currently protected in the region. The lake is steep sided and deep, surrounded by basalt formations and fed by a canyon/gorge and a series of large, visually attractive waterfalls. Most lakes in the region tend to be shallow potholes with flat marshy shorelines. The lake has a resident population of rainbow trout and is reported to have freshwater clams.

Recreation use is presently focused on wildlife viewing and scenic appreciation, fishing, picnicking, and hiking with some motorized ATV use. In the winter, snowmobiles use a rough 4x4 trail on the west side of the Rayfield River.

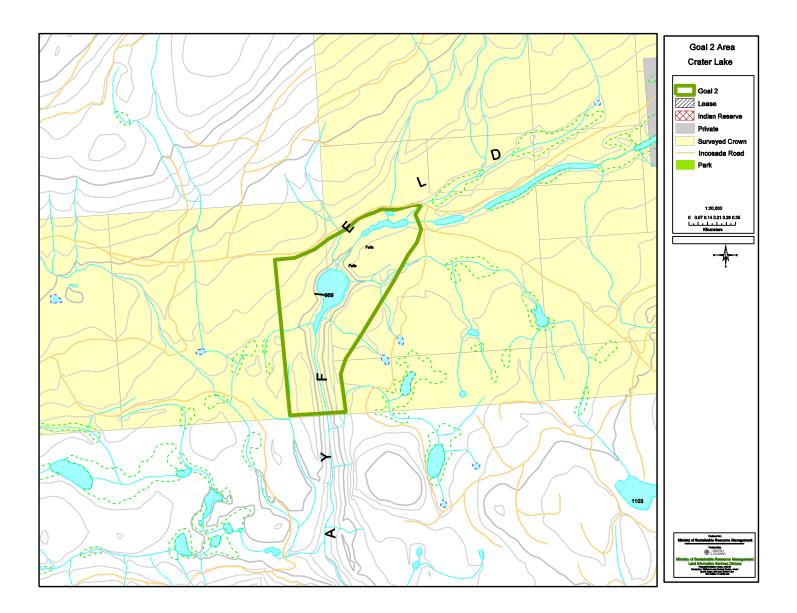
**Land Status:** Crown land, no private land or encumbrances. Land Act Section 16 UREP to Parks around Crater Lake.

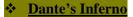
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake, Whispering Pine and Highbar Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: This area is heavily supported by the Green Lake Ratepayers Association, who were the original proponents.

# Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.





Size: 304 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate, within Williams Lake SRMP. Proposal origin: This candidate has been a government proposal since the 1950's, and was on the original Regional Protected Area Team (RPAT) candidate list. It has received high levels of support from the public.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** This proposal would protect a portion of the Fraser River Basin (FRB) ecosection, of which 14% is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the IDFxm (Interior Douglas Fir very dry, mild), RG biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) sub-zone of which only 7% is currently protected. Other parks in this ecosection include Junction Sheep Range, Churn Creek Protected Area, and Edge Hills.

Dante's Inferno offers a number of unique recreational, ecological and scenic features. It contains a recreational lake with good early season fishing opportunities surrounded by a scenic setting of basalt cliffs. Dry old growth, Douglas-fir forests, cottonwood forests, shrub riparian vegetation, marsh, shrub streamside vegetation, bedrock and talus are all features which can be found in the area.

Several species of bats utilize the basalt cliffs in the area, and pikas, flammulated owls and poorwills near their northern extent live in the area. A very large population of aquatic and other insects are an important feature of the area and their presence is likely attributable to the relatively warm lake and vigorous riparian vegetation.

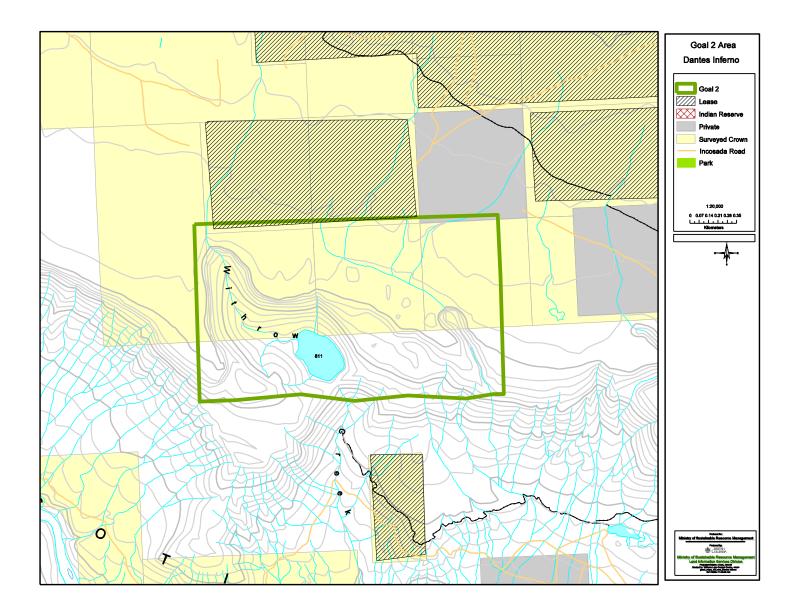
**Land Status:** Private land and grazing leases surround the area, and water licenses and grazing tenures exist in the area.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Williams Lake and Toosey Bands as well as the Cariboo Tribal Council.

Public Support: High.

Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.



### ✤ Desous Mountain

Size: 1211 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within Williams Lake SRMP. Proposed by public input through the Williams Lake SRMP.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** This proposal would protect a portion of the Cariboo Basin (CAB), ecosection, of which only 1% is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the IDFdk3 (dry, cool) BEC sub-zone, of which only 1% is currently protected, and a small amount of the IDFxm (very dry, mild) sub-zone, of which 7% is currently captured in the province's protected area system.

This area is on the edge of the IDFdk3 and IDFxm BEC zones. The higher, dryer side of the mountain has xm (very dry, mild temperature) attributes and the lower, flatter areas contain larger Douglas-fir and more open forest canopies associated with the dk3 sub-zone variant. In addition, the candidate has a diversity of ecosystems within it, ranging from dry west and south facing open rocky slopes to flatter, moister north and east facing slopes. The area contains a small creek and associated riparian area and a set of waterfalls.

The Forest Service maintains a fire lookout at the top of the mountain, and the area is very popular for local mountain bikers, who utilize the system of trails.

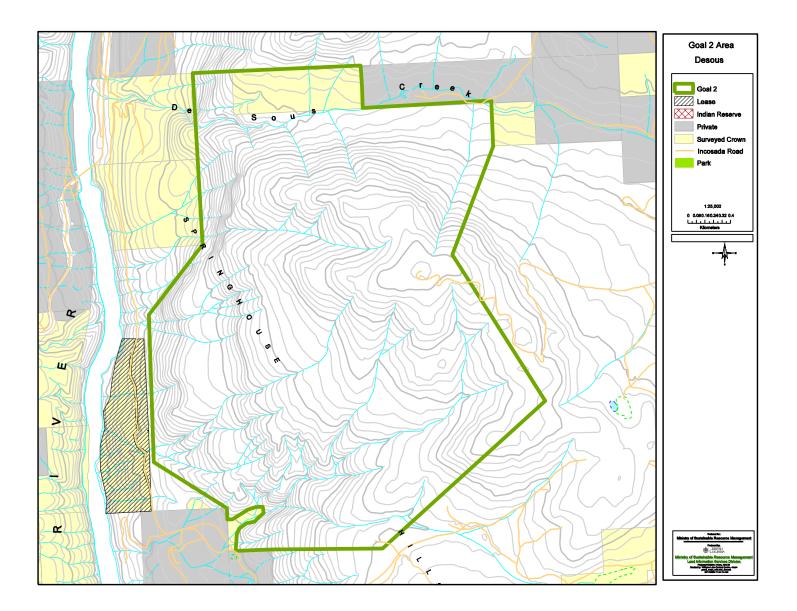
Land Status: Crown Land. Grazing tenures in the area.

<u>First Nations</u>: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Williams Lake and Alkali Bands as well as the Cariboo Tribal Council.

**<u>Public Support</u>:** High interest from public but interest includes extreme Mountain bike use. See attached letter (Insert #2) from PuddleBike Mountain Bike Club.

**Concerns:** Mountain Bike Use (extreme sport activity in this area) creates a high risk management issue resulting in possible conflict with Park designation. A boundary adjustment as a result of the latest open house comments to address ranching concern, see other attached letter (Insert # 3), J.W. Herrick, has not been reviewed by the public. Adjacent woodlot owners have a concern regarding the protected area becoming a catchment area for beetle.

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park. **IAMC and RRC decision required.** 



Size: 388 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Proposal origin: 100 Mile House SRMP process

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** Includes a portion of the Cariboo Plateau (CAP) Ecosection, of which only 0.66% is currently protected. Only 4,201 hectares, or 1.6% of the Sub-Boreal Spruce dry warm (SBSdw) biogeoclimatic (BEC) zone is currently protected in the CAP ecosection and only 3.94% of the SBS BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects a SBSdw remnant in an underrepresented ecosection.

Schoolhouse and Canim Lake Parks are the only parks in this ecosection.

Protects important water quality in the Bridge Creek watershed, pockets of old Douglas fir, locally important recreation trails, possible archaeological values, and wildlife and lakeshore habitat.

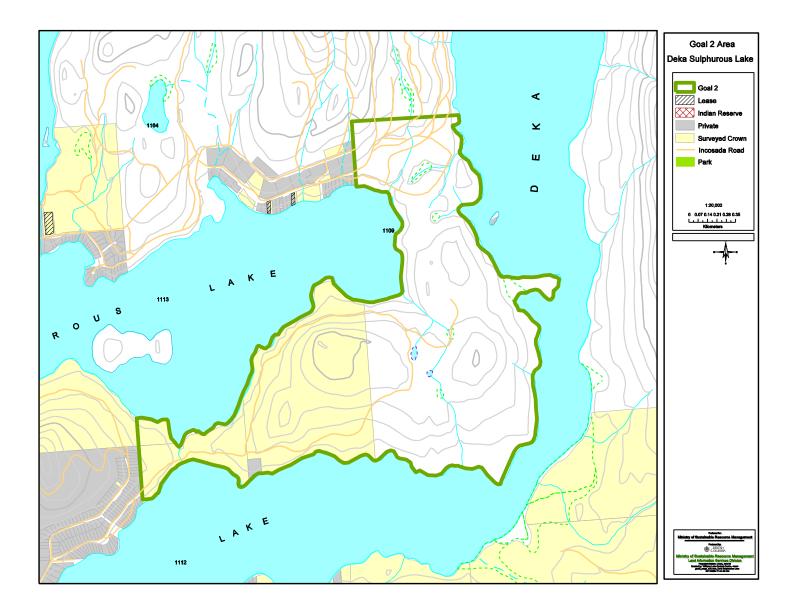
**Land Status:** Crown land, no encumbrances. D.L. 8175 and D.L. 7372 are save and excepted. Land Act Section 16 UREP to Parks on the northern boundary and two Section 15 Order in Council UREPs to Parks around the small stream at the southwest boundary of the proposal.

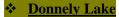
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake and North Thompson Chu Chua Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>:** This candidate is heavily supported by the Deka Lake Ratepayers Association and the Sulphurous Lake Volunteer Firemen's Association. It was originally a submission from the Cariboo Communities Coalition.

# Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.





Size: 541 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area, within100 Mile House SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** Includes a portion of the Cariboo Plateau (CAP) Ecosection, of which only 0.66% is currently protected. Only 4,201 hectares, or 1.6% of the Sub-Boreal Spruce dry warm (SBSdw) biogeoclimatic (BEC) zone is currently protected in the CAP ecosection and only 3.94% of the SBS BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects a SBSdw remnant in an underrepresented ecosection. Schoolhouse and Canim Lake Parks are the only parks in this ecosection.

This candidate area protects a regionally significant wilderness walk-in fishery and camping in a wilderness setting. As well, it protects an entire small watershed, which is unique in the Cariboo. Rainbow trout up to 10 pounds. The slopes surrounding the lake are mature and old spruce. Douglas-fir and pine forests and represent a range of ecosystems in the SBSdw1. Timber harvesting and road access are not compatible with the recreation and wilderness values of the area.

Land Status: Crown land, no encumbrances. Cancelled Land Act Section 16 UREP to Ministry of Forests.

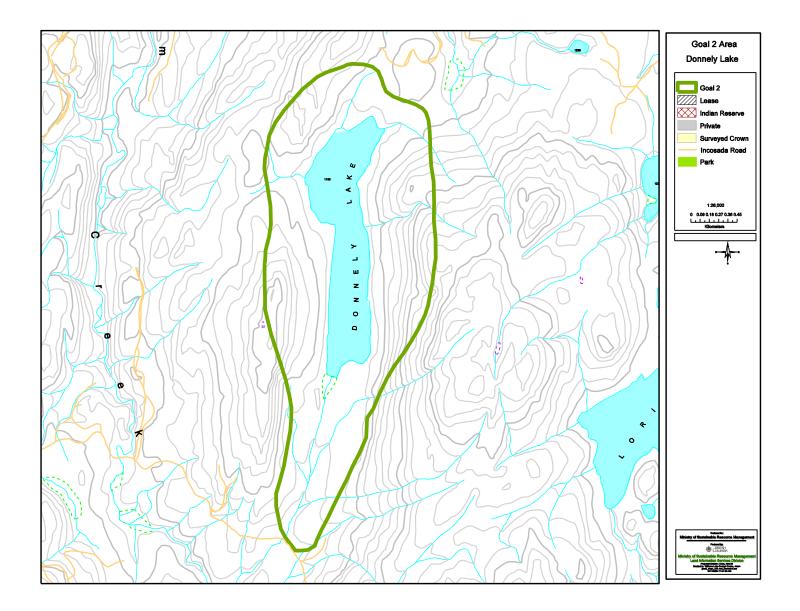
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake and North Thompson Chu Chua Bands.

# **Public Support:**

# Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.

**<u>To do</u>**: Final boundary rationalization required to insure boundary follows height of land. Final public and First Nations review required.



Size: 1839 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Quesnel SRMP.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** The principal values are ecosystem representation of the SBSdw1 and the importance of protecting the viewscapes in this area along with mule deer winter range values. This area is mostly immature and mature conifer forests, (Douglas-Fir and Lodgepole Pine) with some deciduous forests and a small amount of old forest.

**Land Status:** This area is Crown land, with no encumbrances. The private land has been excluded.

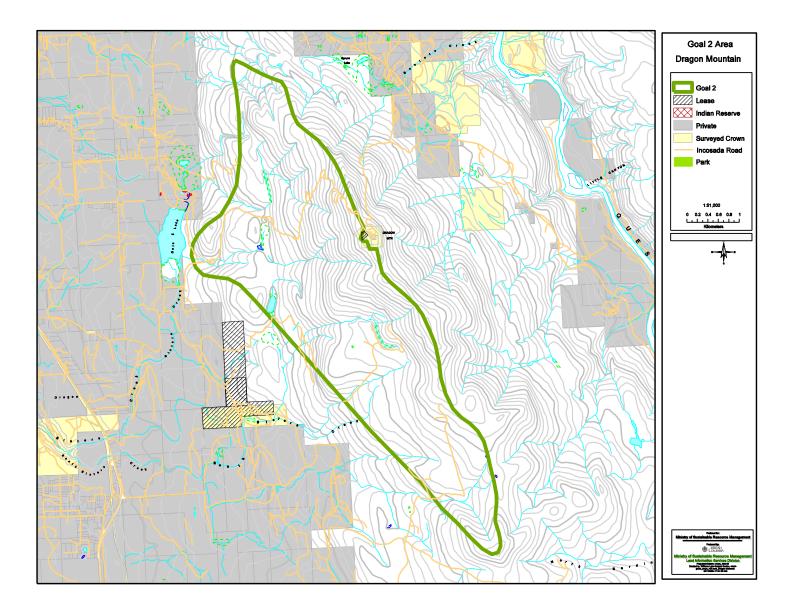
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Alexandria, Williams Lake, Soda Creek and Red Bluff Bands.

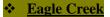
# Public Support:

### Concerns:

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending Quesnel open house comment period and review of mineral resource values.

<u>**To do:**</u> Final boundary rationalization required in consideration of areas current shape and adjacent private holdings. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.





Size: 580 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. From public input from 100 Mile SRMP process

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Includes the Cariboo Plateau (CAP) Ecosection, of which only 0.66% is currently protected. Only 4,201 hectares or 1.6% of the Sub-Boreal Spruce dry warm (SBSdw) biogeoclimatic (BEC) zone is currently protected in the CAP ecosection and only 3.94% of the SBS BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects a SBSdw remnant in an underrepresented ecosection. Schoolhouse and Canim Lake Parks are the only other parks in this ecosection.

Protects high value old Douglas fir, spruce, and pine in riparian area, a wilderness recreation fishery, and wildlife travel corridors. Provides logical northern boundary to Schoolhouse Park. No other significant stream systems protected in the Cariboo Plateau.

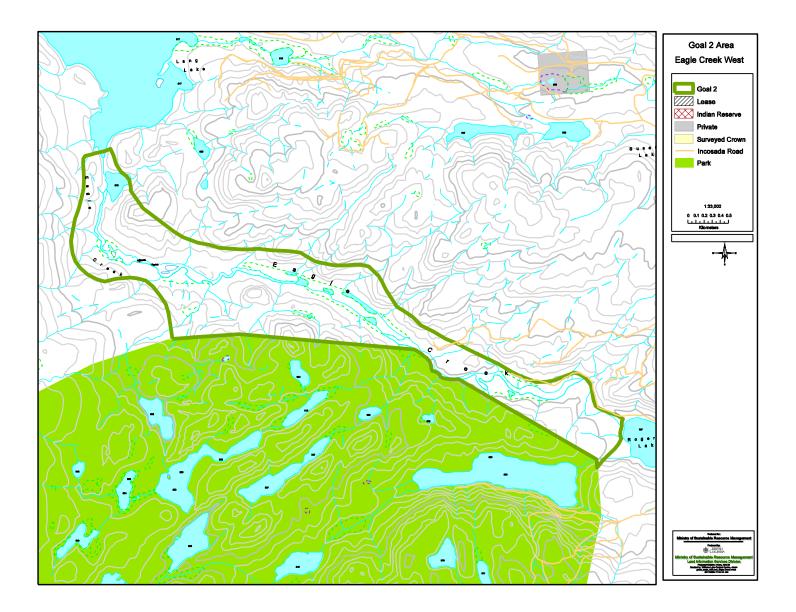
**Land Status:** Crown land, no private land or encumbrances. Area around the mouth of Eagle Creek at Lang Lake is a Land Act Section 16 UREP to Parks.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake and Williams Lake Bands.

Public Support: 100 Mile House SRMP

### Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.



# ✤ Eleven Sisters

#### Size: 3148 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area was 1166 hectares and has now been expanded to 3148 hectares within the Chilcotin SRMP. Extension proposed by Ministry of water, Land and Air Protection.

**Representation and Values:** This Haines Creek chain of small productive lakes provides a wilderness setting for recreational sport fishing, hiking and canoeing. Wild native rainbow trout are the only fish species in the system which has been enhanced through water diversion from Tete Angela Creek. The combination of high lake productivity, (150 mg/l), the wild monoculture rainbow stock and the wilderness setting of this large chain of lakes makes this area very unique in the Cariboo. The lakes in the area have a good recreational fishery and , as access is limited, it also provides for small wilderness recreation experiences. The lakes provide good viewing opportunities for waterfowl. This is an area of gently undulating plateau representing ecosystems of the under represented SBPSxc.

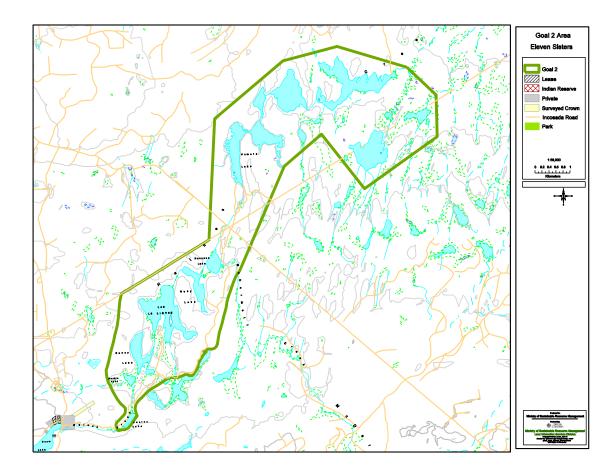
### Land Status:

First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Stone Band.

Public Support: High. TNG review in progress

**Concerns:** CCLUP recommends Backcountry focus in this area, and target Quality Wilderness Fisheries Lakes in this area as well. Concern regarding fisheries values? Concern from adjacent mining tenure holder. See attached letter and map (Insert # 4) from Durfeld Geological Management LTD. and attached CCLUP pages 100 and 101 (Insert #5) for the EAGLE IRMZ targets. Consider recreational values in and around the area? Possibly consider replacement of area or proceed with lesser original portion following TNG input and open house comment period. (May not really solve adjacency issue though.) Overall Chilcotin district target high.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park for the entire area **OR** manage resource values and uses by alternative (non-PA) means (e.g., lakeshore and riparian reserves; fisheries management; Land Act reserves; etc;). **IAMC and RRC decision required.** 





#### Size: 26 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Park extension. Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Previously IAMC approved. Proposal origin: Park management plan process extension allows for better park management.

### **Representation and Values:**

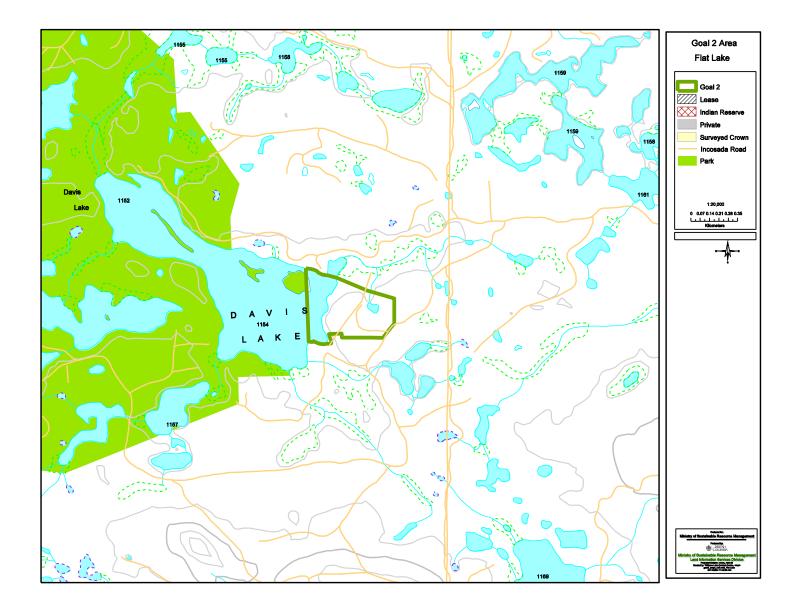
#### Land Status:

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canim Lake, Canoe Creek, Whispering Pines and the High Bar Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>:** High interest from Park management plan process. Members of the Canim Lake and Canoe Creek Bands participated in the Park Management Plan process.

#### Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.



### ✤ Fraser River Breaks

Size: 885 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate was 127 hectares and now expanded, within Williams Lake SRMP.

**Representation and Values:** Includes a portion of the Cariboo Basin (CAB), ecosection, of which only 1% is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the IDFxm (Interior Douglas Fir very dry, mild) BEC sub-zone of which only 7% is currently protected. A small amount of IDFdk3 (Interior Douglas Fir dry, cool BEC subzone) is also included in the area. Only 1% of the IDFdk3 is protected provincially. Other parks in this ecosection in the Cariboo Region include Moose Valley, Flat Lake and a number of other very small areas, such as Lac la Hache and Cariboo Nature Park. The area contains areas of old growth Douglas-fir and open grasslands, both at their northern extent in British Columbia. The area is also classified as mule deer Winter Range.

This area was expanded from 130 hectares to 800 hectares as part of a proposal by the Williams Lake Field Naturalists. Originally a BC Parks Ecological Reserve Proposal, the area is at the northern extent of the range of the flammulated owl, a blue-listed species in British Columbia. BC has one of Canada's only populations of flammulated owls, and this area has one of the highest densities of these owls in BC. The owls most commonly nest in snags larger than 55 centimetres diameter at breast height, surrounded by multilayered canopies. Most records of sightings and or singings have been in old Douglas-fir forests. The owls also need grassy openings in the forest for feeding. They consume large quantities of insects, some of which are forest pests. This area may be especially valuable for owls relative to the adjacent plateau landscape, as the uplifting air currents adjacent to the Fraser River bring insects up from the river. It is much more valuable than the adjacent plateau landscape. The area is also habitat for the blue-listed Townsend's big eared bat, which is also at its northern limits.

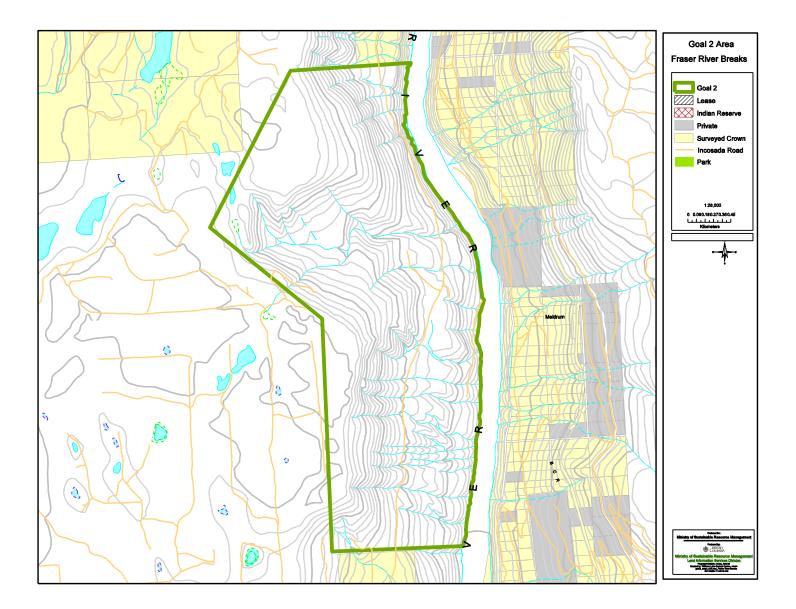
Land Status: Crown Land. Existing grazing licensees.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Williams Lake, Soda Creek and Toosey Bands as well as the Cariboo Tribal Council.

**<u>Public Support</u>:** This was originally a BC Parks Ecological Reserve Proposal, and a Regional Protected Area Team (RPAT) candidate, but was expanded by the Williams Lake Field Naturalists.

**Concerns:** Placer lease and Mineral claim exist. Concern regarding maintaining road access through the area.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park but exclude right of way suitable for current and future industrial use. Permanently exclude, grandfather or expropriate mineral tenures. **IAMC and RRC decision required.** 



## ✤ Hanceville Canyon

Size: 1928 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area was 639 hectares in size. Original proposal was within the Chilcotin SRMP and expanded area now extends into the Williams Lake SRMP. Expanded proposal submitted by Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** This area is made up of steep slopes , towering limestone cliffs, caves and rubbly talus slopes. The area contains a range of ecosystems of the IDFxm and un-impacted Bunchgrass representation. South facing slopes are vegetated with widely spaced Douglas-fir and dry open grasslands. North aspects are more continuously forested with Douglas-fir. The limestone cliffs with their ledges, crevasses and caves are important habitat for red and blue listed species including several species of bats. Flammulated owls have also been recorded in this area.

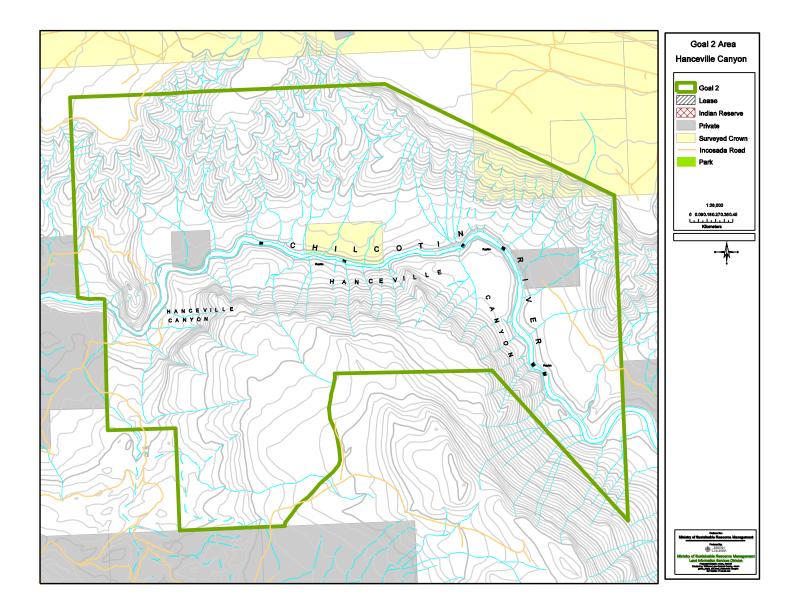
**Land Status:** Some private land within expanded area and road access exists through proposed expansion.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Anaham, Toosey and Williams Lake Bands.

## Public Support:

<u>Concerns</u>: Impacts on ranching and existing access through the area causing concern with continued use. Private land may also be a concern. Area was expanded into the Williams Lake SRMP during the Chilcotin SRMP process.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park, pending Chilcotin Open House comment period and **IAMC and RRC decision** regarding ranching access and private land concern. The overall Goal 2 area budget is high in the Chilcotin SRMP.



## Klinaklini

Size: 1162 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on the PAS candidate list. New proposal from the consensus Anahim Round Table SRP process. This plan was reviewed by RRB and endorsed by the IAMC in 2000.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** IDFdw and IDFww (BEC) subzones including rich riparian bottomland. Vegetation is heavily influenced by the warm, moderating effects of the coast. Deciduous tree species dominate with very large cottonwood, birch, willow and aspen and a shrub layer of rose, elder berry, willow and alder. Only small patches of old growth Douglas-fir and spruce occur within the proposal but provide important thermal cover for ungulates and habitat for fur bearers. Large sedge meadows (greater then 10 hectares) exist adjacent to the river and are subject to seasonal flooding resulting in rich mineral soils.

Fisheries values including tributary streams for spawning habitat are very high, for Bull trout (blue listed) with fish exceeding 5 kg in weight. Rainbow trout are also common. Extensive stands of willow provide important forage and thermal cover is provided by mature Douglas-fir and spruce. The large sedge meadows provide important spring and early summer forage for grizzly bears. Excellent riparian habitat is also available for beaver, fisher and marten.

Land Status: Private in holdings

**First Nations:** This candidate is in the area of interest of the Ulkatcho and the Kwakuitl bands.

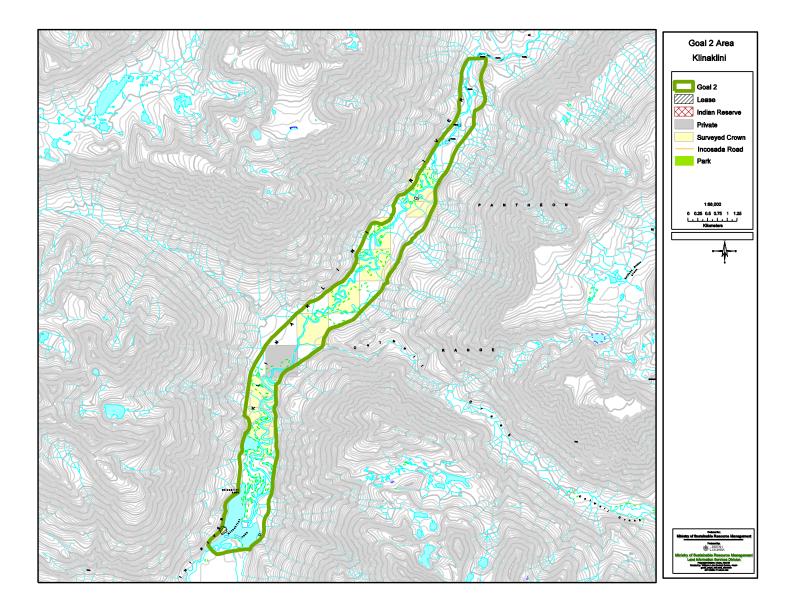
**<u>Public Support</u>**: IAMC endorsed consensus recommendation from the ART SRP including Ulkatcho First Nation support. First SRP signed by a First Nation.

<u>Concerns</u>: The initial proposal boundary has been assessed and adjusted to address Ministry of Energy and Mines concerns regarding elimination of a strategic road corridor from the Interior to the Coast. Impacts from mineral exploration and development to upslope areas may still need to be discussed between the public and some Agencies. This area is a scenic area but no Visual Quality Objectives are proposed.

Candidate would be contiguous with a candidate protection area endorsed in the adjacent coastal plan,(CCLRMP). The OIC designation of the coastal area allowed for the possibility of future industrial corridors and or crossings within the area for a designated time frame. Road access through the ART proposal is not desirable by both ART participants and WLAP. The effect on the boundary, of the 2004 fire in the area also needs to be resolved (see second map as insert # 6). There will also need to be consideration for the impact of the extension of the Chilcotin Forest District outside the original CCLUP boundary. This proposal extends into part of that area.

**<u>Recommendation:</u>** Proceed as a Class A Park, as recommended by SRP participants including the Ulkatcho First Nation, or temporarily designate the PA under the Environment and Land Use Act and manage in the same way as the much larger (38,087 ha) Upper Klinaklini Candidate Protection Area in the CCLRMP. **IAMC and RRC decision required.** 

**<u>To do</u>**: Final boundary rationalization required to confirm future industrial road access beside and beyond protected area. Establishment of no staking reserve required. Final public and First Nations review required.



# ✤ Long Creek Caribou Mineral Lick

Size: 259 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate, within Horsefly SRMP. This candidate was submitted by the RPAT as part of its 1996 recommended list of protected areas.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** This proposal would protect a portion of the Quesnel Highland (QUH) Ecosection, of which 12 per cent is currently protected. It would also protect a portion of the ESSFwc3 and ESSFwk1 biogeoclimatic ecosystem classification (BEC) variants, of which 33 per cent and 12 per cent are protected respectively. Other parks in this ecosection include Wells Gray, Cariboo Mountains, Cariboo River, Bowron Lake, Canim Beach, and Cedar Point. It protects a unique mineral lick used by the red-listed Mountain Caribou and other wildlife. The lick is located in a low, wet, sub alpine meadow at the confluence of a number of small streams. It is believed to be one of the few mineral licks used by Caribou in this area.

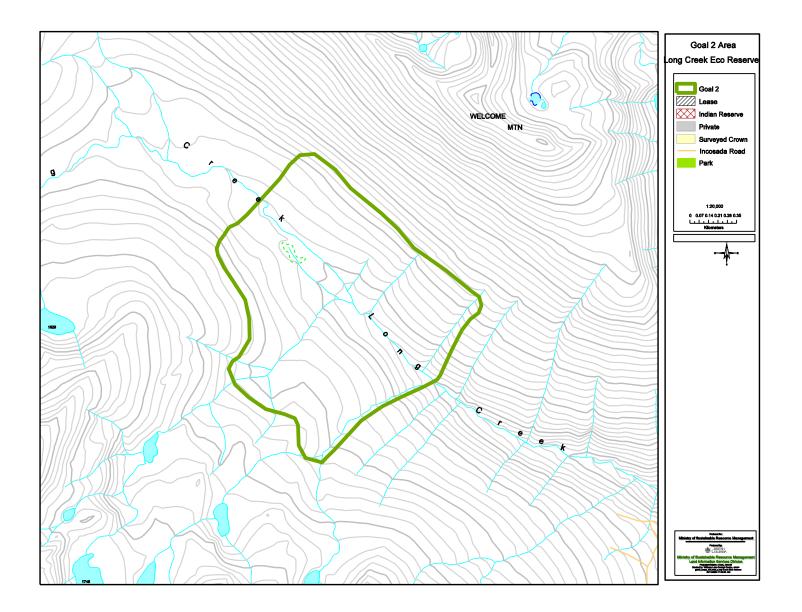
Land Status: This area is Crown land, with no private land or other encumbrances.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Soda Creek, Red Bluff and Williams Lake Bands.

## Public Support:

**Concerns:** Ecological Reserve would preclude hunting and trapping which could be considered inconsistent with the CCLUP Pg 34 and 35.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as an Ecological Reserve or a Class A Park with strict preservation management category. **IAMC and RRC decision required.** 



#### \* Moose Valley Park Extension

Size: 146 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, within 100 Mile House SRMP. Previously IAMC approved. Extension allows for better park management through refinement of Park boundaries. Proposed through the Moose Valley Park Management Plan process.

### **Representation and Values:**

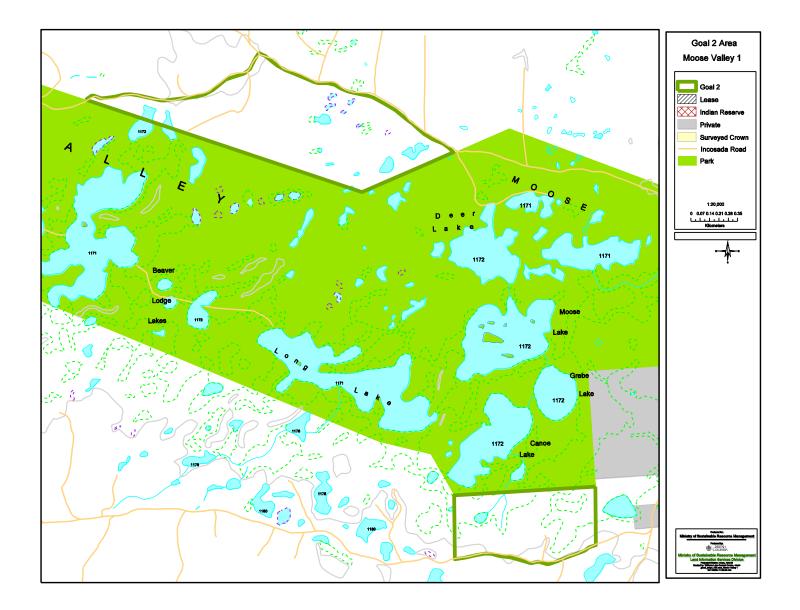
### Land Status:

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Canoe Creek, Canim Lake, Alkali and Williams Lake Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>:** High interest through Park management plan process. Members of the Canoe Creek and Canim Lake Bands participated in the development of the Park Management Plan.

#### Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.



## ✤ Narcosli Ecological Reserve Expansion

Size: 1218 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Quesnel SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>:** Narcosli Lake Ecological reserve is a relatively shallow lake with a narrow fringe of wetlands and upland forests west of Quesnel. The proposed expansion to the ecological reserve provides a wider range of ecosystems of the SBPSdc. Included are several wetlands and old forests on a variety of sites. Wetlands in the area provide important winter habitat for moose in this area. Three small shallow lakes in the area also provide additional waterfowl habitat.

Land Status: This area is Crown land, with no encumbrances.

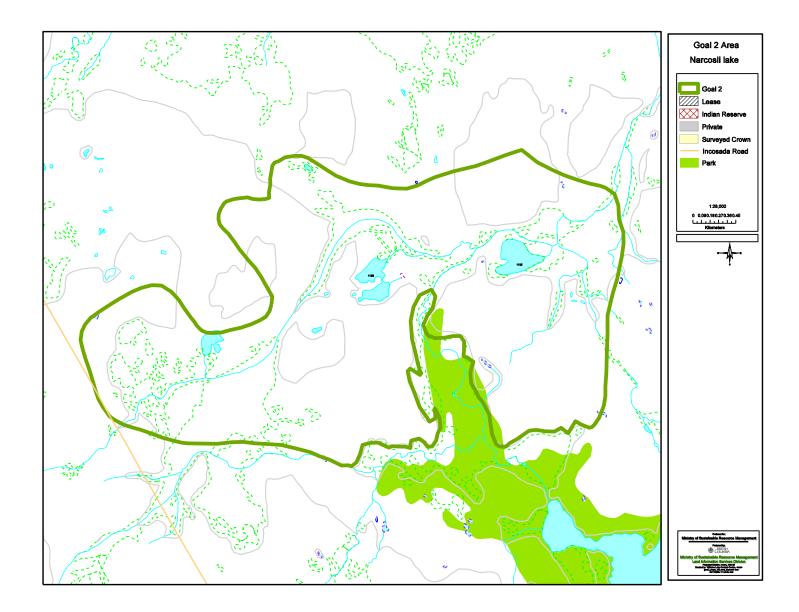
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Nazko and Kluskus Bands.

## Public Support:

**Concerns:** Ecological Reserve designation would preclude hunting, trapping and grazing which could be considered inconsistent with the CCLUP Pg 34 and 35. Stewart Fraser, Guide outfitter in the area requests further consultation if his guide outfitting area will be impacted and presently does not support the proposal. (See Quesnel Open House comment sheet, Insert # 7)

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed with Ecological Reserve expansion. **IAMC and RRC decision required** and pending Quesnel Open House review period, FN comment period and review of mineral resource values.

<u>**To do:**</u> Final boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.



Size: 1255 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list, located within the Chilcotin SRMP. Public input through the Chilcotin SRMP in particular the West Chilcotin Tourism Pilot group and the Tatla Resource Association.

**Representation and Values:** SBPS xc is well represented in this area and it is under represented in the region. (*Additional text to be updated*)

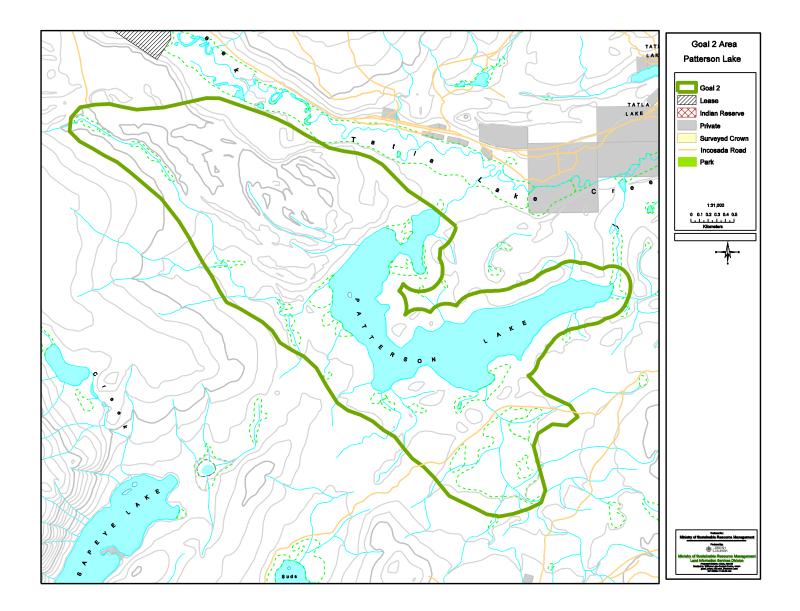
## Land Status:

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Homalco, Xeni Gwetin and the Alexis Creek Bands.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: Extensive local public support in the area including the Tatla Resource Association and West Chilcotin tourism pilot group. Tsi Del Del involved in public submission.

**Concerns:** The overall Goal 2 budget in the Chilcotin SRMP is high.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending Chilcotin Open House comment period and TNG review period.



# Punti Island

Size: 9 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 area within the Chilcotin SRMP.

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: It is proposed as an ecological reserve identified for the preservation of a climax bluebunch wheatgrass grassland in the IDFdk4. The site contains a variety of grassland species. It has been largely ungrazed owing to its location on a small island.

### Land Status:

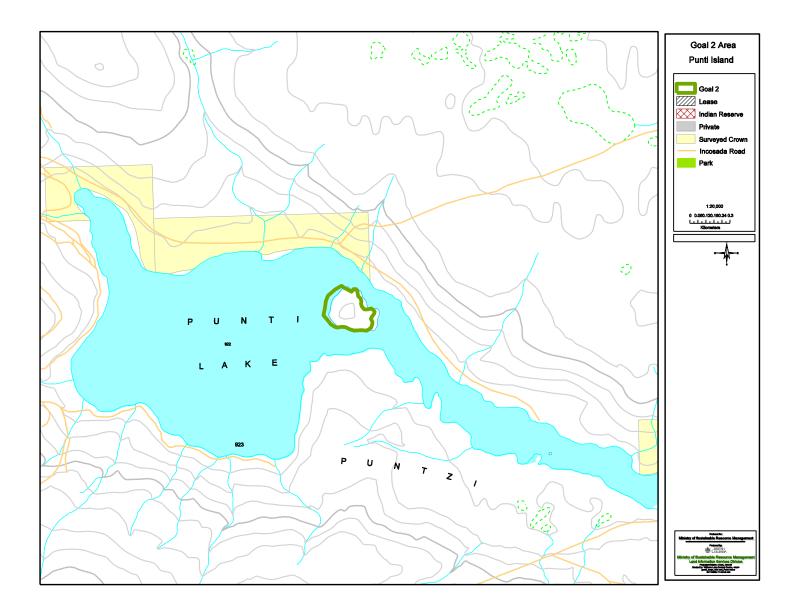
First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Alexis Creek Band.

### Public Support:

**<u>Concerns</u>:** High public use of area is a concern for conservation management. Proposed Ecological reserve is possibly inconsistent with the CCLUP Pg 34 and 35, as trapping and hunting would not be allowed in an Ecological Reserve.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as an Ecological Reserve pending Chilcotin Open House comment period and **IAMC and RRC decision** on management concerns. The overall Goal 2 area budget is high in the Chilcotin SRMP.

**<u>To do</u>**: Final boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.



#### Quesnel Lake Park System

Size: 1169 hectares.

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list except for Roaring River which was a previously recommended area. Primarily a BC Parks proposal and includes eight different areas around Quesnel Lake, including Watt Creek/Goose Point, Roaring River, Welcome Point, Peninsula Bay, Bouldery Creek, Cariboo and Twain Islands, Faux Bay, and Horsefly Bay. These areas are all located in the Horsefly SRMP area.

Representation and Values: All eight sites included in the Quesnel Lake Park System are located in the Quesnel Highland (QUH) Ecosection, of which 12 per cent is currently protected. All sites are also in the ICHwk2 BEC variant, of which 11 per cent is currently protected. The values in this system of small, generally water access only areas, are very diverse. Some sites have valuable fish habitat, including shore spawning by sockeye and kokanee (Roaring River, Welcome Point, Bouldery Creek, and Watt Creek) while others have creeks important for rearing and spawning (Roaring River, Horsefly River, Bouldery Creek, and Watt Creek). A number of the areas are considered important as early season foraging sites and late season access to salmon for grizzly bears (Watt Creek, Bouldery Creek, Roaring River). Several areas are also used as early wintering areas for caribou (Roaring and Watt Creek). The QLPS includes a number of features representative of landscapes around Quesnel Lake. These include sandy beaches (Bouldery Bay, Welcome Point, Faux Bay, Roaring, Watt), anchorages (Faux Bay, Bouldery Bay and Peninsula Bay), waterfalls (Roaring), wetlands and rivers (Horsefly delta, Roaring), creeks (Bouldery, Watt), large tree communities (Watt, Roaring), and wildlife viewing opportunities in all areas. Culturally, many of these areas may have received significant use by First Nations, and physical remains may exist. They may also be significant from a traditional use perspective, including hunting, berry picking, gathering areas, fishing, spiritual use etc. Wasko Creek was originally one of the proposed protected areas within the Quesnel Lake Park System and provides high known grizzly habitat and important spawning for sockeye and coho salmon. There is a known industrial mineral deposit north of the creek. The Inter-Agency Planning team (IPT) deferred this area from Goal 2 protection in recognition of the potential economic benefits from further mineral development (a Class A park would preclude mineral development within the park boundaries). The IPT chose alternative methods for protecting the area's wildlife and fisheries values that still allow for mineral exploration. The area will be managed (i) as a permanent OGMA with specific biodiversity and wildlife objectives to manage grizzly bear, and (ii) as critical fish habitat (designated by DFO) to enable the effective management of the fisheries values.

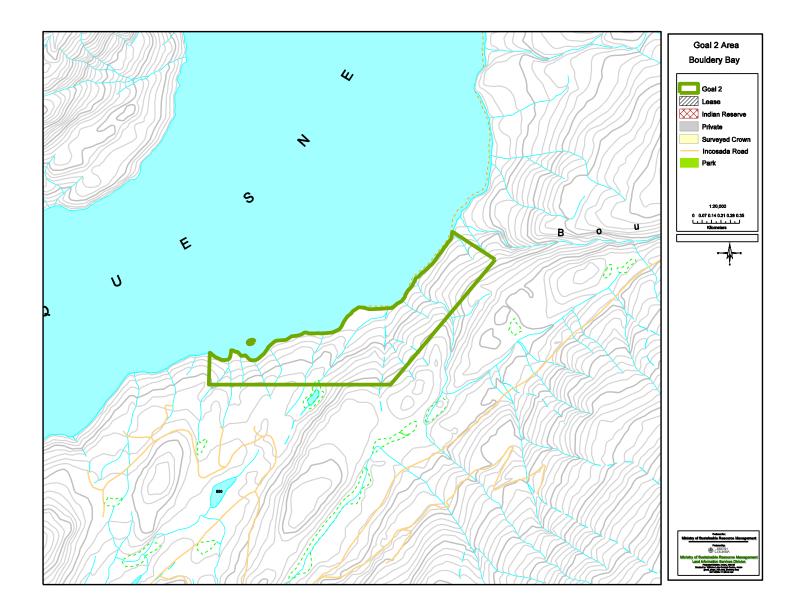
Land Status: Any private land has been excluded from the proposal.

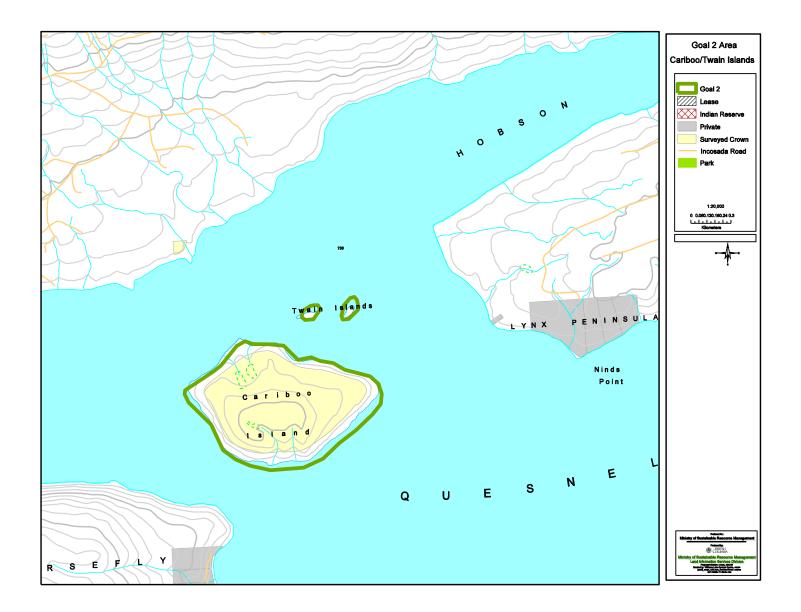
First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Red Bluff, Soda Creek Bands.

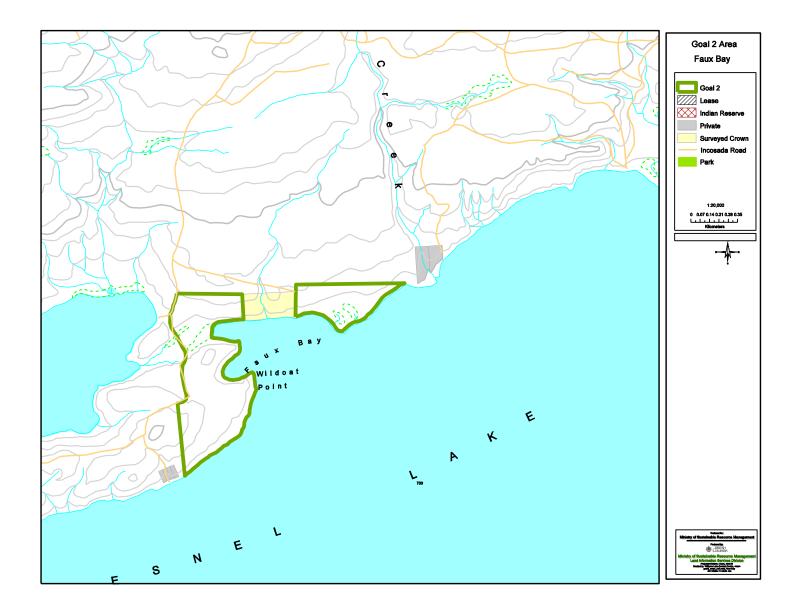
**Public Support:** Support from NStQ.

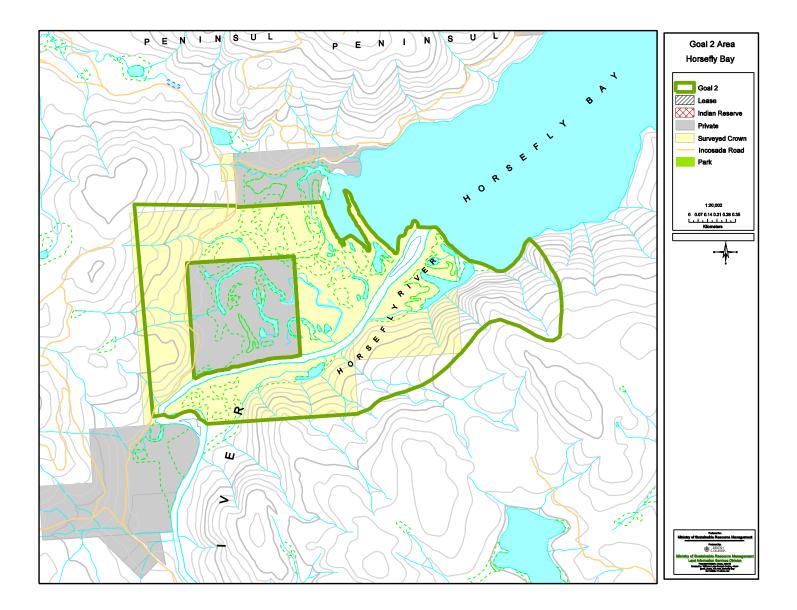
Concerns:

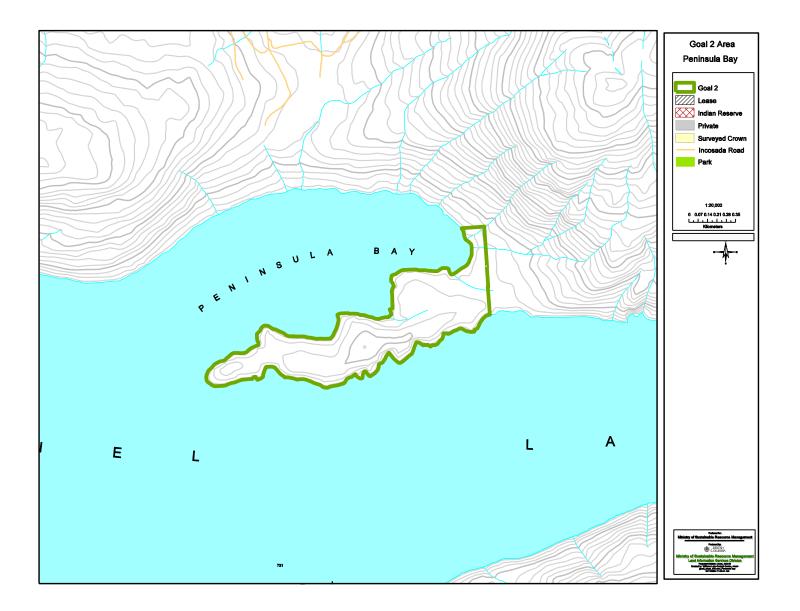
Recommendation: Proceed as a Class A Park System.

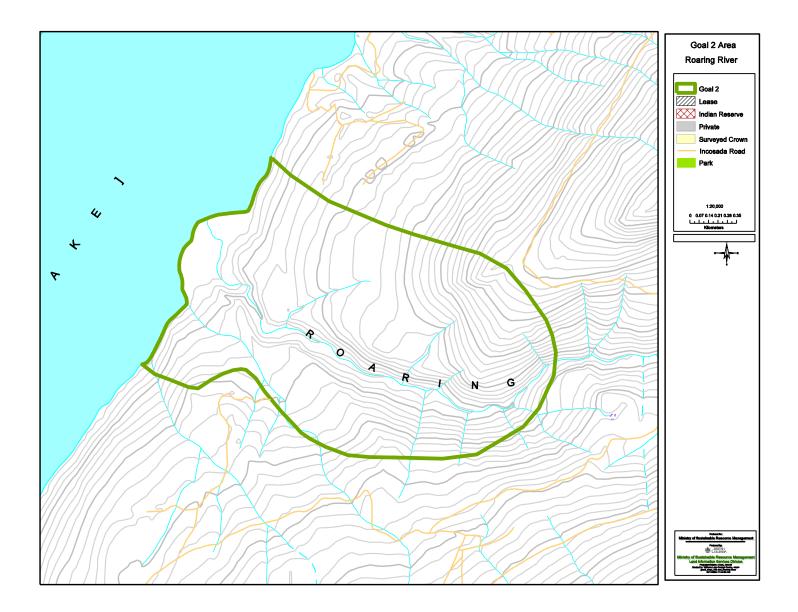


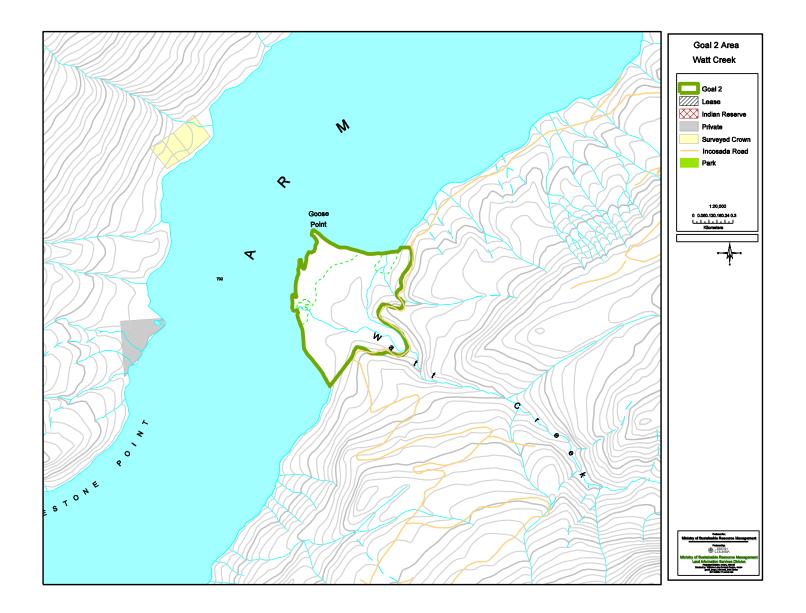


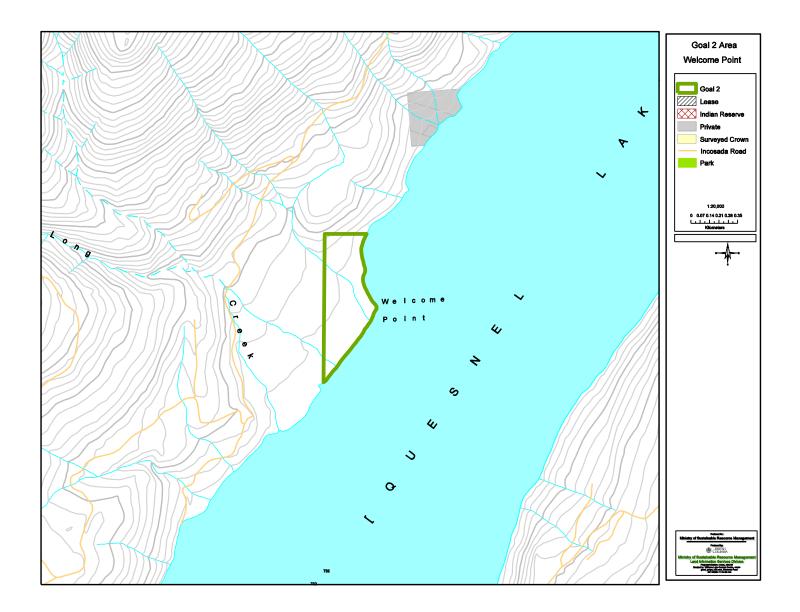












# Redbrush

Size: 1093 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Chilcotin SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Includes a complex of upland pine forests and wetlands representative of the SBPSxc. The wetlands include fens and shrub carrs. Alkaline meadows although present in other areas are more abundant in this area. This area includes some moose winter habitat. The SBPSxc is currently under represented, within protected areas thus could consider expanding this proposal.

## Land Status:

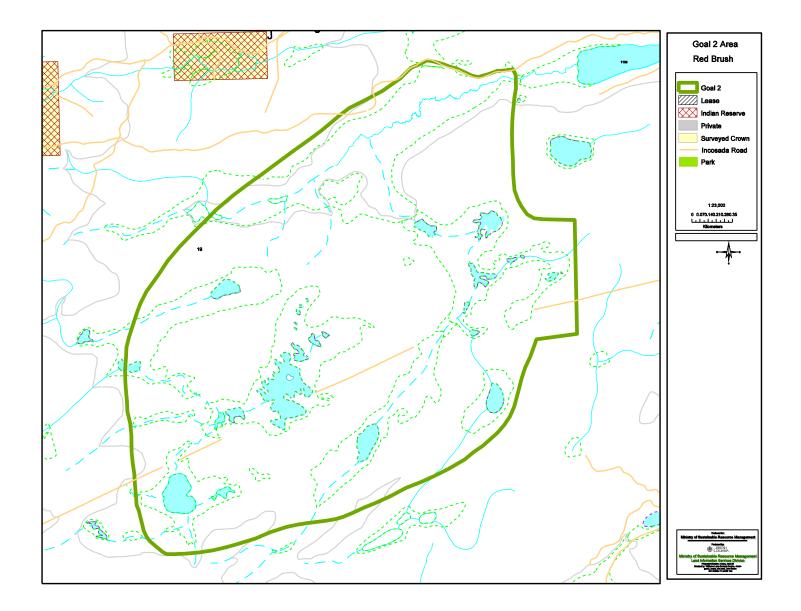
**First Nations:** This candidate is in the area of interest of the Alexis Creek Band.

## Public Support:

**<u>Concerns</u>:** Consider after other areas in the Chilcotin are determined i.e. Eleven Sisters as they may take in SBPS xc representation. The overall proposed Goal 2 area budget is high in the Chilcotin SRMP. First Nation Indian Reserve in close proximity.

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park, pending Chilcotin Open House comment period.

<u>**To do:**</u> Final boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.





Size: 228 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Chilcotin SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Includes gentle to moderately sloping spruce seepage forests. These forests are relatively uncommon in the SBPSxc. Much of the soil moisture provided to these forests is derived from hillside springs and seeps. The area also includes aspen forests and small wetlands.

Land Status: Proposed OGMA in the area.

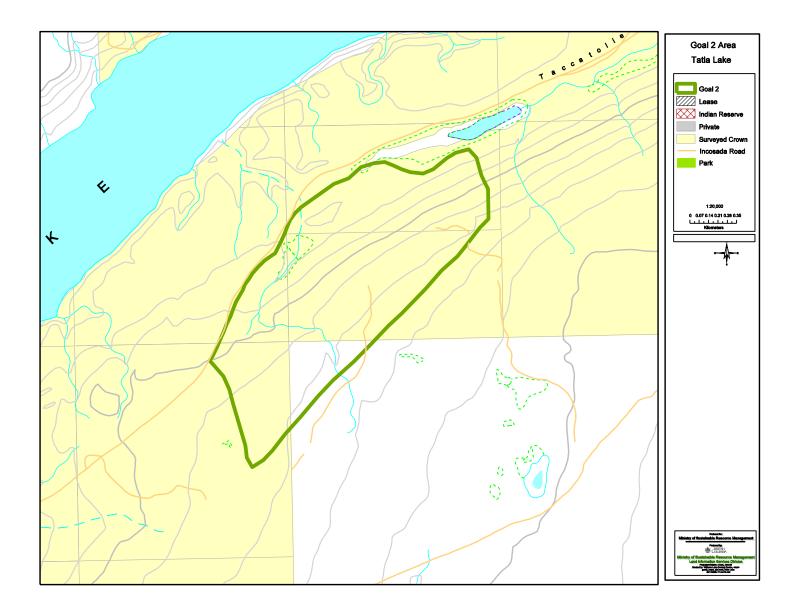
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Alexis Creek and Xeni Gwetin Bands.

**Public Support:** Local community preference for Patterson Lake proposal.

**<u>Concerns</u>:** A recent wildfire in 2003, has altered the local landscape (map not included). The overall proposed Goal 2 area budget is high in the Chilcotin SRMP.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Suggest deletion. Remove from the proposed list pending Chilcotin Open House comment period and TNG review.

**<u>To do</u>**: No staking reserve to be removed.





Size: 1016 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Quesnel SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Located on the east end Titetown Lake. The dominant vegetation is immature and mature pine and aspen forests. Small wet depressions are inhabited by shrubby wetlands while the steep south aspects are dominated by grass and dry shrub communities. The area is traversed by and provides access to the Alexander Mackenzie Heritage Trail. The area includes significant archaeological values related to aboriginal use. Large depressions locally referred to as 'Mackenzie's bowls' are a significant feature.

Land Status: This area is Crown land, with no private land or other encumbrances.

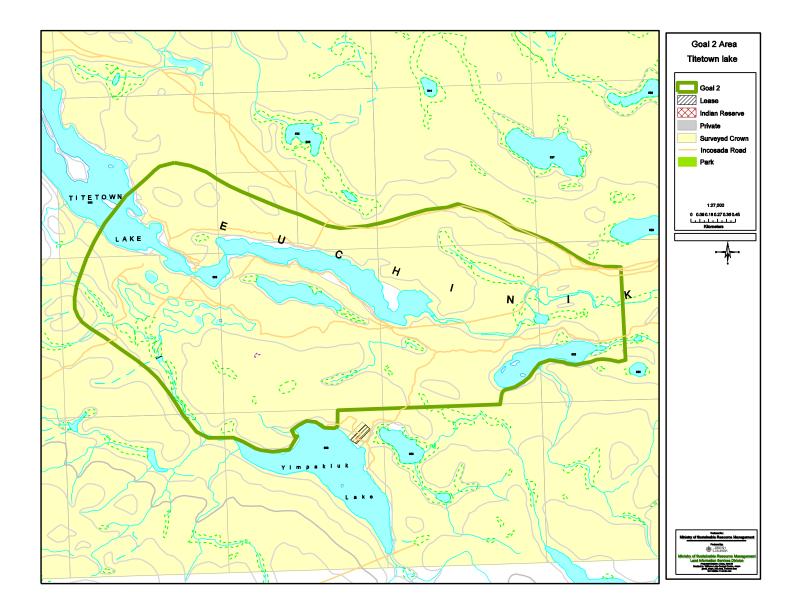
**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Carrier Sekani Tribal Council and the Kluskus Band.

## **<u>Public Support</u>:**

### Concerns:

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending Quesnel open house comment period and review of mineral resource values.

**<u>To do</u>**: Final Boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.



# ✤ Ts'yl?os Park Extension

#### Size: 355 hectares

**<u>History</u>**: Not on PAS candidate list. Area proposed by the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection. Agency and Public Input. The Chilko River site was suggested by Stefan Himmer, a bear biologist, who was conducting field work in the Chilko River area as part of a contract for the Ministry of Water Land and Air Protection.

**Representation and Values:** Grizzly bear bedding was found throughout the proposed area including beds found in dense spruce stands along the river, sometimes in squirrel cone caches or at the base of trees under overhanging branches. Generally, most bears chose to be some distance (200-750 m) from the river for day bedding. These areas were characteristically in dense spruce stands or shrub-carrs away from existing roads and trails or other human use areas. Two beds were also found in the area of the burn over 100m from the river. This area is adjacent to the Ts'yl?os Park boundary. Several bear family groups were seen on the river at the northeast end of Canoe Crossing. While investigating the area near these sightings several mark trees and mark trails were found. This area has some of the highest density of bear mark trails, mark trees and beds observed by the contractor outside of the coast. This area also has the least amount of human activity in the area. WHA status alone may not provide sufficient protection for such an important area. It has regional, if not provincial, significance when coupled with the important Canoe Crossing salmon feeding area.

The upper Chilko River supports large, strong runs of sockeye and chinook salmon with high availability to grizzly bears. Other than Chilko Lake, there are very few other salmon spawning areas within the Chilcotin District. This makes the upper Chilko River a regionally, if not provincially, important salmon fishing area for interior and coastal grizzlies in the Chilcotin Forest District.

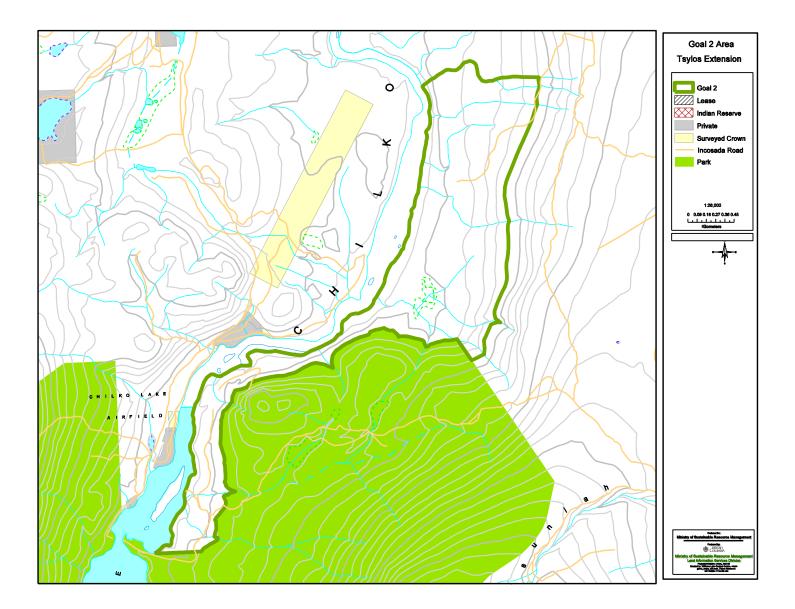
### Land Status:

First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Xeni Gwetin Band.

### **<u>Public Support</u>:**

<u>Concerns</u>: The overall Goal 2 budget is high in the Chilcotin SRMP. Proposal falls within the original Chilko Lake Study Area boundary. The area was influenced by fire in 2003. (See map insert # 8)

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending Chilcotin Open House, TNG and LAG comment period and review of mineral resource values. LAG and Xeni Gwetin review required.



Size: 617 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area within the Quesnel SRMP

**<u>Representation and Values</u>**: Wentworth Lake occurs on the gently undulating terrain of the Fraser Plateau southwest of Quesnel. The primary focus is the recreational sport fishery in a relatively natural area. The area surrounding the lake is vegetated primarily by pine and spruce forests and numerous wetlands and includes some moose winter ranges.

**Land Status:** This area is Crown land, with no encumbrances. The private land has been excluded.

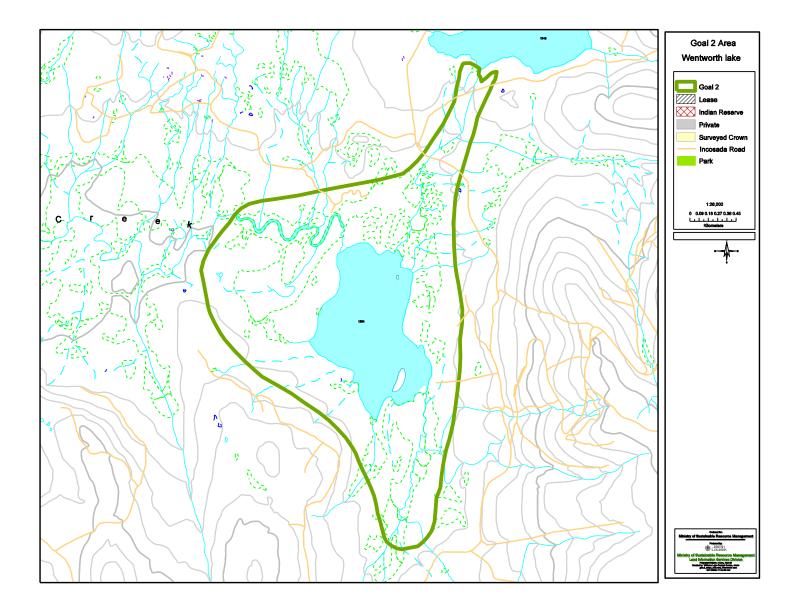
First Nations: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Nazko Band.

**<u>Public Support</u>**: This candidate was submitted by the RPAT in its 1996 recommended list of protected areas.

**<u>Concerns</u>:** Road access exists through this area and ROW considerations should be confirmed with users.

**<u>Recommendation</u>**: Proceed as a Class A Park pending Quesnel open house comment period and review of mineral resource values.

**<u>To do:</u>** Final boundary rationalization required. No staking reserve confirmed. Final public and First Nations review required.





Size: 314 hectares

History: Previous Cabinet approved Goal 2 candidate area, within the 100 Mile House SRMP.

**Representation and Values:** This area protects a portion of the Cariboo Basin Ecosection, of which only 1.12% is currently protected. As well, only 5955 hectares, or 0.71% of the Interior Douglas Fir Dry Cool Fraser variant (IDFdk3) BEC zone is protected in the CAB ecosection and only 3.97% of the IDF BEC zone is protected provincially. Therefore, this proposal protects an IDF remnant in an underrepresented ecosection.

Other Parks in this ecosection include Chasm, Green Lake, Lac la Hache, Big Bar, Flat Lakes, Loon Lake, and Moose Valley.

The area consists of a range of ecosystems of the IDFdk3 including old Douglas fir and spruce forests, wetlands and dry, steeply sloping forests. Mule deer winter range. Topography is varied – steep canyon and scree slopes leading to Young Lake in the southeast to a gently climbing slope in the northwest of the area and wetlands in the centre. The area also has a significant shoreline component and a steep canyon feature. Visual values from the north shore of Young Lake. Possible trail based recreation on the shoreline. Timber harvesting is not compatible with maintaining the natural values of the area. Main focus of area is representing an IDF remnant. The area also includes mule deer winter range and red and blue listed species.

**Land Status:** Crown land, no encumbrances. D.L. 7784 save and excepted. Land Act Section 16 UREP to Parks on the northwest boundary and Section 17 Reserve for Planning, Marketing and Development on the northern boundary adjacent to the UREP. Goal 2 Study area.

**<u>First Nations</u>**: This candidate is in the area of interest of the Skeetchestn, Highbar, and Bonaparte Bands.

### Public Support:

Concerns:

**Recommendation:** Proceed as a Class A Park.

To do: Final boundary rationalization required. Final public and First Nations review required.

