

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

November 2003



## for Stikine Country Protected Areas

Mount Edziza Provincial Park  
Mount Edziza Protected Area (Proposed)  
Stikine River Provincial Park  
Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park  
Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve  
Pitman River Protected Area  
Chukachida Protected Area  
Tatlatui Provincial Park

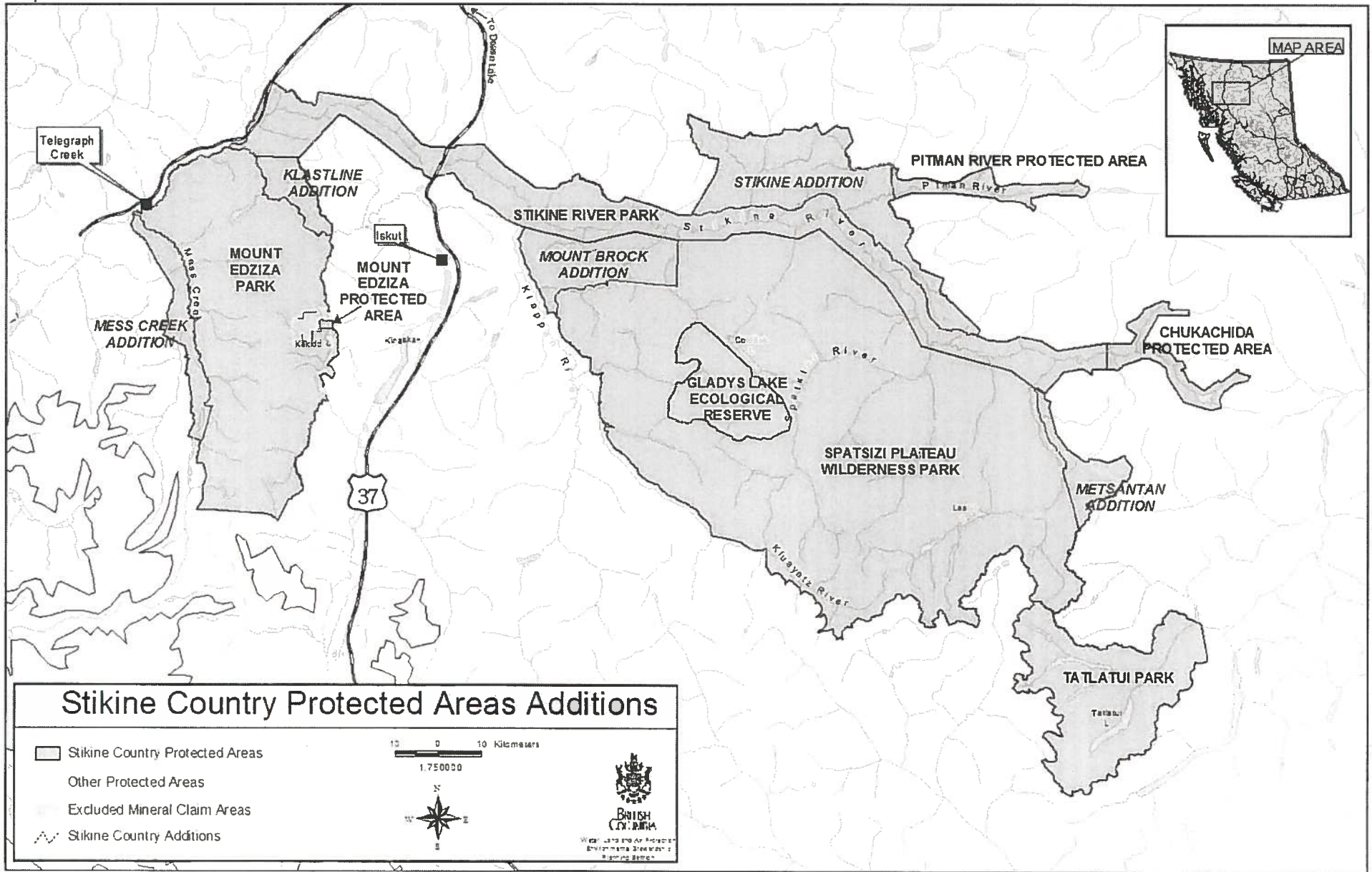


BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

Ministry of Water, Land  
and Air Protection  
Environmental Stewardship  
Division  
Skeena Region

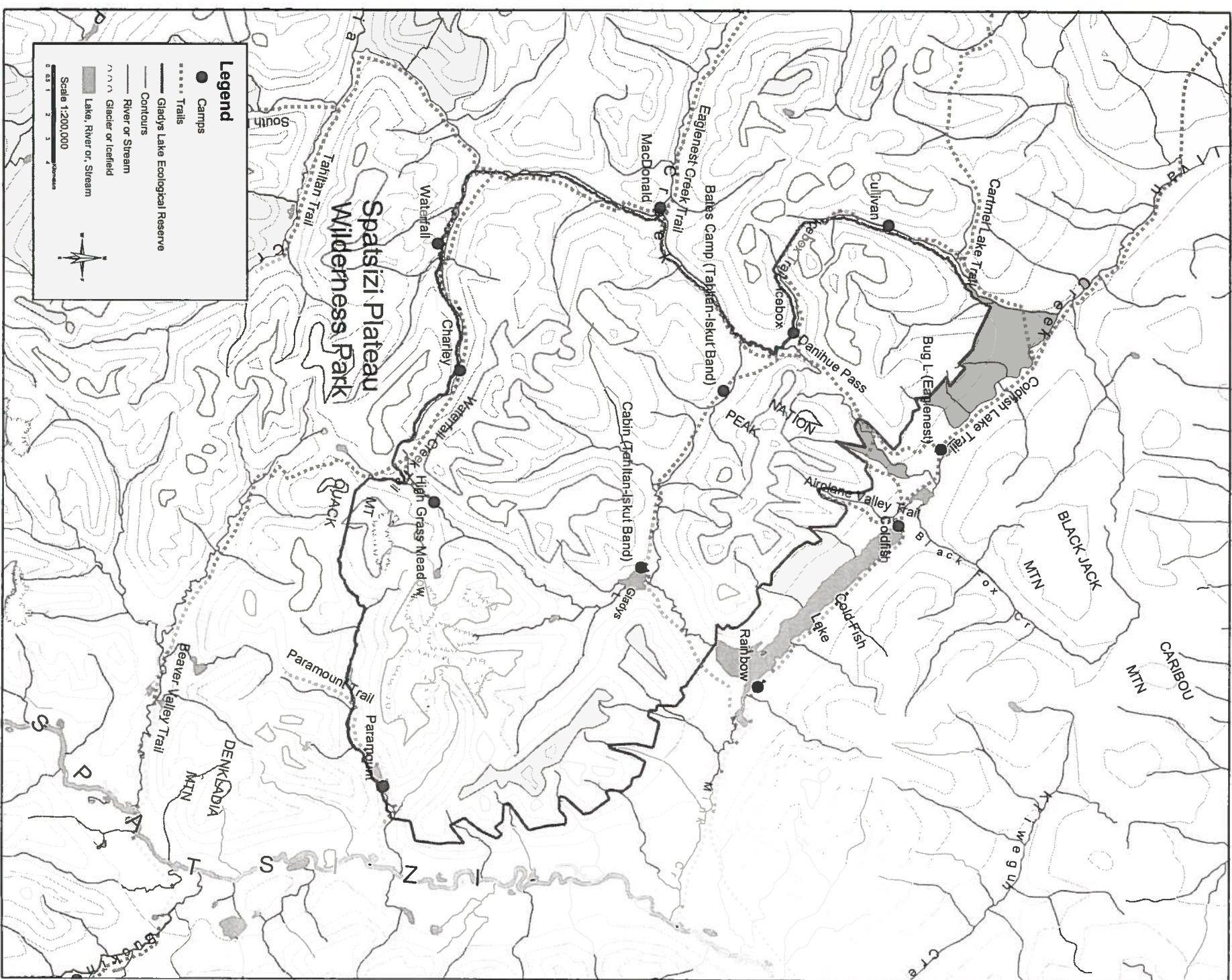


Map 2





# Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve Trails & Campsites - Draft 2.0





**STIKINE COUNTRY PROTECTED AREAS  
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING**  
9:00 am – 4:30 pm on May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2005  
Northern Lights College - Dease Lake, BC

**Chairperson:** Larry Boudreau

**Recording:** Janice Joseph

**Seats:**

**Represented by:**  
Larry Boudreau/Janice Joseph

BC Parks -  
Tahltan First Nations -

Iskut -  
Telegraph -  
Dease Lake -

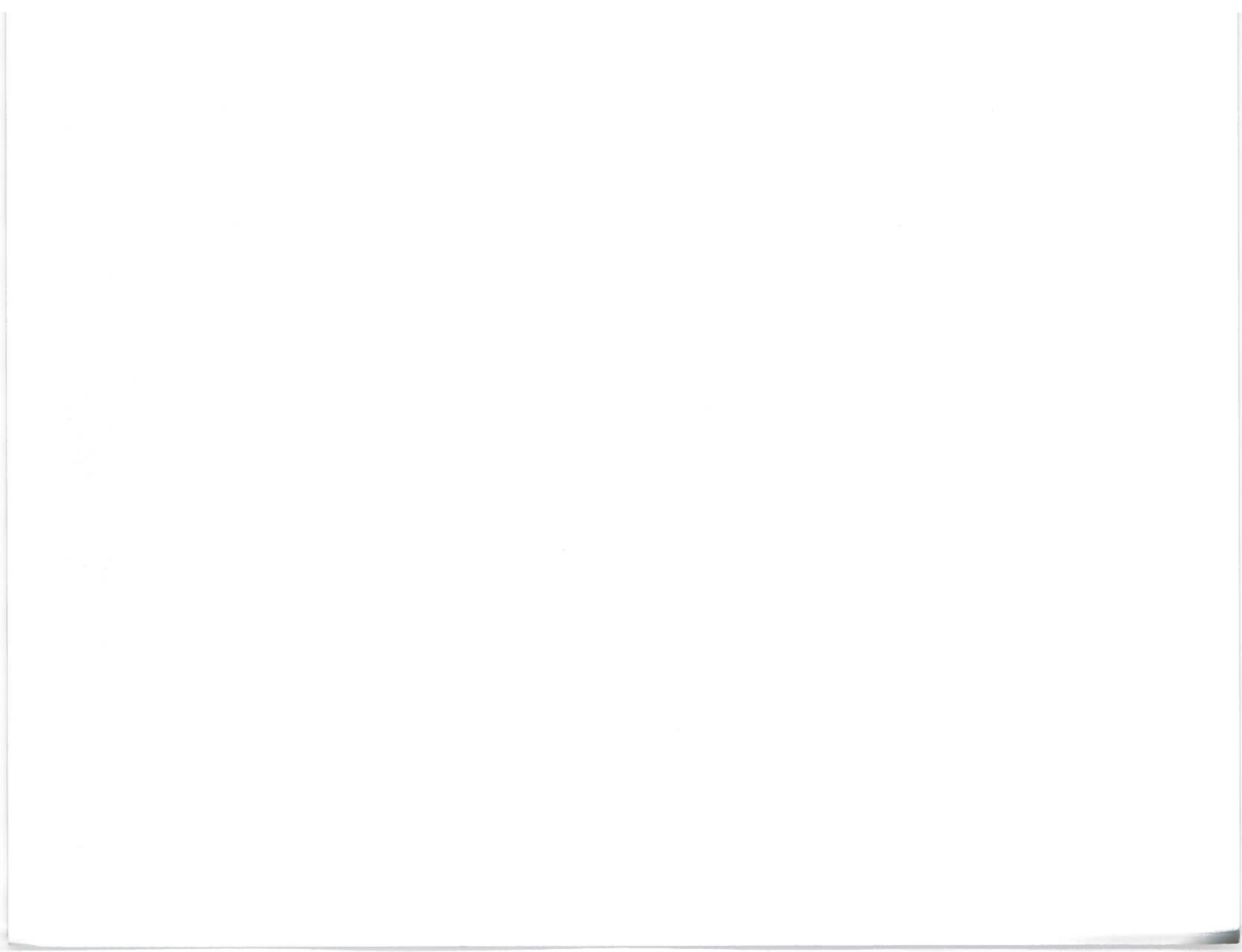
Tourism and Commercial Recreation -  
Stikine Country Guides & Outfitters -  
BC Float Plane Association -  
BC Federation of Naturalists -  
Friends of the Stikine -  
Friends of Ecological Reserves -  
Local Communities -

**Open seat:** (for non-committee members to address agenda items)

**Guest(s)/Observer(s):**

**AGENDA**

9:00 – 9:15	Welcome/Introductions	Larry
9:15 – 9:30	Review and adopt agenda	All
9:30 – 10:00	Review past meeting minutes & recommendations	All
10:00 – 10:30	Review recommendations (actions)	All
10:30 – 10:45	Coffee Break	
10:45 – 11:15	Finalize Committee Membership	Larry
11:15 – 12:00	Finalize Terms of Reference	Larry
12:00 -1:00	Lunch (to be provided)	
1:00 – 2:00	Update – Gladys Lake Sub-committee work	Larry
2:00 – 2:30	Conservation Corps (Buckley/Stikine Projects)	Janice
2:30 – 2:45	Creel Survey – Cold Fish Lake	Janice
2:45 – 3:00	Coffee Break	
3:00 – 3:15	Wings Over Canada – Film Production in Spatsizi	Janice
3:15 – 4:00	Open Discussion	All
4:00 – 4:20	Comments from open seat or the public	Larry
4:20 – 4:30	Closing remarks - Schedule next meeting date	All





Dear ED,

March 22, 2005

RE: SUB-COMMITTEE MEET ON #ECORESERVE 58

As per your instructions I attended a meeting of 10 representatives of Government, Isku/Tahlhan, guide-outfitters, Friends of Ecoreserves, FB/CN and BCWF on March 15[8:30-6:00] and on March 16[8:30-6:00]. The location of horse trails in the Gladys Lake Eco-reserve relative to the boundary location as well as historic campsites were a contentious issue on the West side. How the boundaries were established? Why changes occurred from establishment in 1975 to rearrangement in 1981 O.I.C. and minor fine-tuning in 1993. Since I corrected the boundary line in 1979 it was imperative that I be in attendance at this meeting to explain the rationale and to shoulder the blame if necessary for any errors or omissions. My request to Parks to make available my report with metes and bounds was very useful to the meeting as a reference. Consensus was reached on the West boundary and the contentious items of Bates Camp and Gladys Lake were deferred to a higher committee of Parks /Tahlhan representatives for resolution. The East-West Danhue Pass trail was resolved by consensus as well. A mineral lick for Stone sheep on Cullivan creek was proposed for inclusion in the Ecoreserve but was rejected as being too distant. Recommended that Parks could offer greater protection if needed at that site.

All parties with the possible exception of Friends of Ecoreserves were pleased by the level of consensus that we reached. Parks stated that only this group of individuals could have achieved so much with our high blend of intelligence and desire to reach consensus by intense consultation. The guides and natives were particularly pleased after 24 years of frustration and impasse. Since the Spatsizi Park was imposed on the Tahlhan territory in 1975 with no consultation it is clear that the government will soon be pressured to address this issue directly.

A draft report by Bob Dalziel [facilitator], will be completed in the near future and the final Report is due out in May, 2005. A measure of confidentiality has been requested by Parks Branch until the final report is released.

Hope this interim report is acceptable for BCWF Parks Committee purposes.

Sincerely,

GRANT HAZELWOOD  
Life Member, BCWF





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Sincerely,

GRANT HAZEL WOOD  
Life Member, BCWF





Shady Side

Mar. 15-16

Gene MacIntosh - President of Ecological Society

Ray Collingwood - Birds. On field in postage book  
Went here in Shady Side!

Bob Henderson - D.C. Birds  
wrote in postage 1983-1989

Art Chernick - Manager for Seton Band <sup>Comm.</sup>  
(once worked for SCIF?)  
Bill Dwyer, etc. etc.

Long Sanderson - Banks St. Petri Head

Frank Hightwood - D.C. R.F.

Keeney Max - 7th. D.C. Metropolitan. 400 Bank West

Chief Louis Bowie - chief of Seton Band  
intends to open museum to their use  
James Dennis - former manager in Shady Side, Seton Band  
Walter was there above Walter

Bob Waldorf - Moderator of ant. committee in Shady Side  
Will attempt to reach someone at trails, campground  
etc. to access primitive trails.

By inf. 10: guide outlines  
Pineham Valley - old Indian pasture for horses

- ✓ Lytham Co. camp just in descent
- ✓ Pineham Pass trail - historic day hikes in Pass
- ✓ Tebeo Camp - camp on boundary
- ✓ Bill Bates Camp - historic infant campground.
- ✓ Hartsfield Mt. Camp -
- ✓ Government Camp
- ✓ McSinnah Camp
- ✓ Charlie Camp
- Highways Camp

John & Band - assert full Aboriginal rights over Stodops Lake and  
Caldwell Lake

Stannis goes further beyond Stodops Lake and  
traded pass to Steele beyond at Highland Court.  
lack of consultation by Jim Lee & govt officials  
now signed lease cabin for their use when he left but  
never happened.

Hot Springs at Mind Cr. (original Caldwell camp)

BCWF, BCNE - both insist on maintaining integrity of scenery

Options on V&V history - can it more trails  
- road boundary  
- permits

- bring 100 meters from main trail

Camp - horse grazing & problem

- Bechold Ingess camp, Bates camp from pasture

Pineham trail - 100m gone on trail to allow horse stop in grass

Stodops Lake cabin - Indians want it & trail from Bates to  
Caldwell base

March 16/05

ISSUES - Estimation of Aboriginal Rights & Title  
due to Smith's account of  
integrity of the people

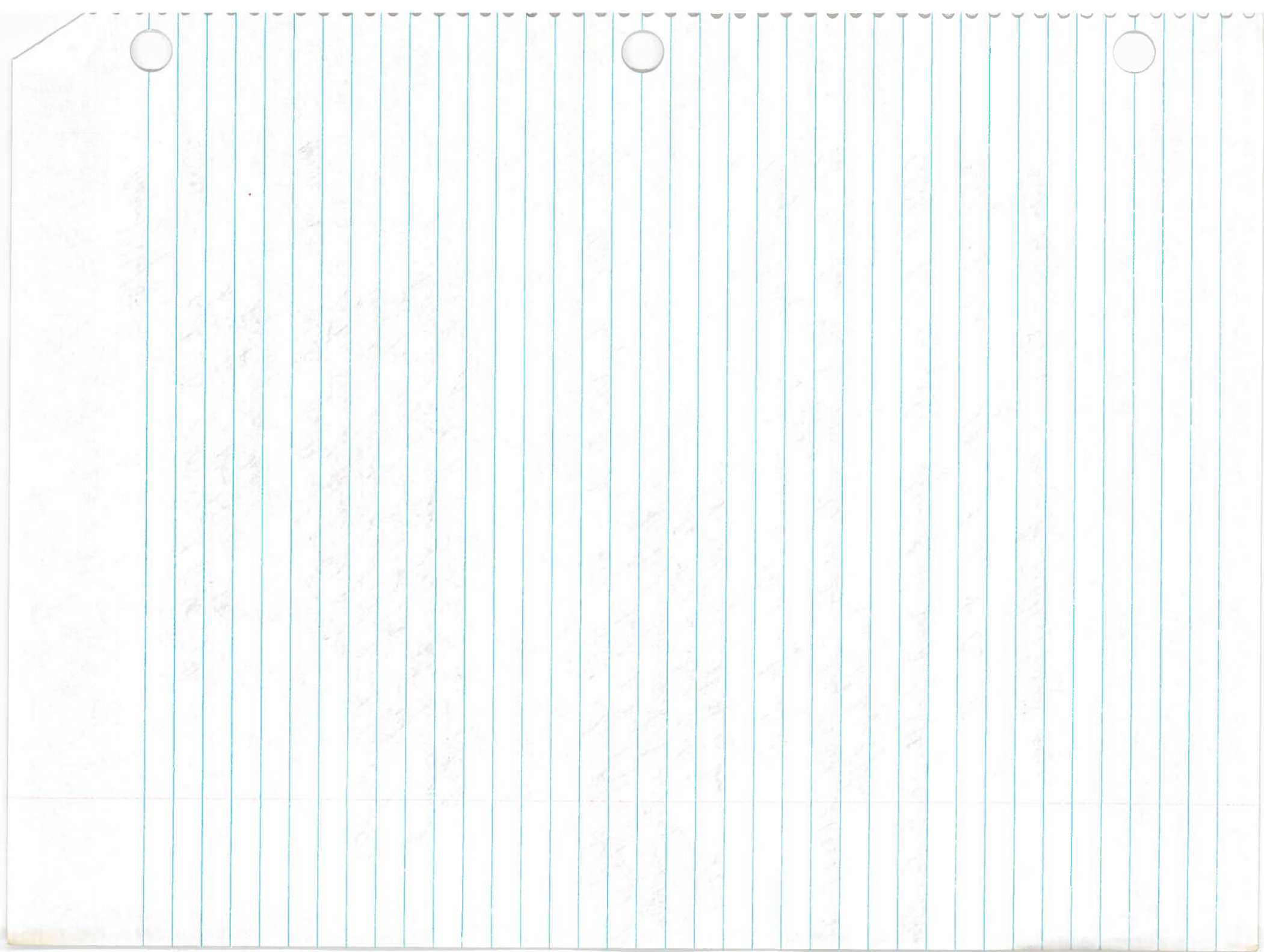
PRINCIPLES - solution should not compromise:  
- Estimation of Aboriginal rights  
- long term protection of naturally functioning ecosystems  
- maintain original network's structure and  
- historic (pre 1975) modes of transportation be recognized  
- solution should be practical & meet most interests

Upper trails along West boundary - where trail enters EA change  
boundary back to exclude trail along  
fence, where practical and approx 100m  
where trail is about 100m  
- fence will generally be in summer of 2005

Camps & burning - apply same guidelines as for trail  
Sawhorse Pass trail - 100 m<sup>2</sup> with a  
- 3 designed nest gaps (17 x 2 and 1 m<sup>2</sup>)  
- no discharge of pesticides

Chickadee lake complex - depend to joint 2nd/3rd/4th/5th committees  
Wedge tailed lake - depend to joint 1st committee

Butter Camp - Exchange camp for 2nd/3rd/4th/5th





**STIKINE COUNTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP**May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2005

	Number of seats
BC Parks	2
• Larry Boudreau & Janice Joseph	
Stikine Country Guides & Outfitters	1
Tahltan First Nations	
• Iskut	2
• Telegraph Creek	2
• Dease Lake	2
BC Floatplane Association	
• (Rod Bianco or John Baker)	1
BC Federation of Naturalists (BCFN)	
• Rosemary Fox	1
Friends of the Stikine	
• Gil Arnold	1
Local Communities	
• James Bourquin or Wayne McLeod	1
Friends of Ecological Reserves	
• TBA	1
Tourism/Commercial Recreation	
• Roger McColm or Gladys Atrill	1
Open Seat	
• (for guests wishing to speak on an agenda item)	1


**Stikine Country Protected Areas**

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# **MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**November 2003**

**Prepared by  
Skeena Region  
Environmental Stewardship Division**



**Smithers BC**

**National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data**  
British Columbia. Environmental Stewardship Division.  
Skeena Region.

Stikine Country Protected Areas management plan

Cover title: Management plan for Stikine Country  
Protected Areas.

Issued by: Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection,  
Environmental Stewardship Division, Skeena Region.

"November 2003"

"Mount Edziza Provincial Park, Mount Edziza Protected  
Area (Proposed), Stikine River Provincial Park, Spatsizi  
Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park, Gladys Lake Ecological  
Reserve, Pitman River Protected Area, Chukachida Protected  
Area, Tatlatui Provincial Park"—Cover.

Also available on the Internet.

Includes bibliographical references: p.

ISBN 0-7726-5124-8

1. Protected areas - British Columbia - Stikine Region.
2. Provincial parks and reserves - British Columbia -  
Stikine Region. 3. Ecosystem management - British  
Columbia - Stikine Region. I. British Columbia. Ministry  
of Water, Land and Air Protection. II. Title.
- III. Title: Management plan for Stikine Country Protected  
Areas.

FC3815.S74B74 2004      333.78'3'0971185      C2004-960002-8  
F1089.S85B74 2004

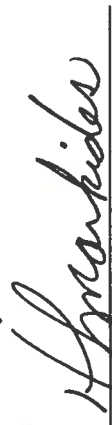
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**Stikine Country  
Protected Areas**

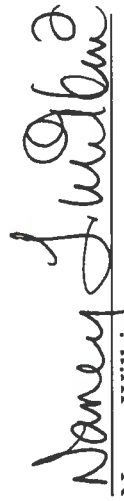
**Management Plan**

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Approved by:

  
Hugh Mackrides  
Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Oct. 24, 2003

  
Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date: December 19, 2003



The page contains extremely faint, illegible text that appears to be bleed-through from the reverse side of the paper. The text is scattered across the page and is not readable.





## **Acknowledgements**

Environmental Stewardship Division would like to thank the Tahltan Nation and all the people who participated in public workshops and open houses and who commented on management direction in earlier versions of the management plan, for their input into the Stikine Country Protected Areas management planning process.

Environmental Stewardship Division would also like to thank the following people for their involvement in the Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan. Deborah Cichowski, Caribou Ecological Consulting, drafted the Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan based on direction provided by Environmental Stewardship Division and prepared the ecological section of the Stikine Country Protected Areas Technical Background Information Summary. Adrian de Groot, Drosera Ecological Consulting, assisted with drafting initial management direction for public review, prepared the recreation section of the Technical Background Information Summary and summarized public comments from the first set of public workshops. Greg Meredith, Meredith and Associates, organized public workshops and open houses held in Dease Lake, Terrace, Smithers and Vancouver and summarized public comments from the second set of workshops. Stuart Gale, Stuart Gale and Associates, facilitated public workshops. Roger Norrish, Roger Norrish Consulting, and Ken Morrison, BC Parks and Protected Areas Branch, reviewed and edited the final version of the plan. Nikki Knuit, Environmental Stewardship Division prepared the maps for the plan. Dave Zevick, Environmental Stewardship Division, provided valuable technical information and met individually with stakeholders, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the public.

Images used in this document were mostly obtained from the BC Parks and Protected Areas Section, Skeena Region image collection. The Tahltan Nation provided Figure 3. Dr. Jim Pojar provided the cover photo (Cold Fish Lake) and Figures 1, 5 and 6. Deborah Cichowski provided Figure 2.

## Preface

The Stikine Country Protected Areas System contains the following protected areas:

- Mount Edziza Provincial Park;
- Mount Edziza Protected Area (proposed);
- Stikine River Provincial Park;
- Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park;
- Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve;
- Pitman River Protected Area;
- Chukachida Protected Area; and,
- Tatlatui Provincial Park;

Management of these protected areas follows provincial government legislation and Environmental Stewardship Division policies and is subject to First Nations rights as established in court decision or subsequent treaties. In addition, management guidelines provided by the Cassiar Iskut-Stikine Land and Resource Management Plan (LRMP) apply to some of the newly designated protected areas, and to additions to existing protected areas including:

- all of Stikine River Provincial Park;
- all of Pitman River Protected Area;
- all of Chukachida Protected Area;
- the Metsantan addition to Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park;
- the Mount Brock addition to Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park;
- the Klastline addition to Mount Edziza Provincial Park;
- the Mess Creek addition to Mount Edziza Provincial Park; and,
- the Mount Edziza Protected Area (proposed).

Following the recommendations of the Cassiar Iskut-Stikine LRMP, the Mount Edziza Resource Management Zone will replace the existing Mount Edziza Recreation Area. This resource management zone will be managed as Crown land with no protected area status.

The proposed Mount Edziza Protected Area has been removed from Mount Edziza Provincial Park and will be reclassified as a protected area under the *Environment and Land Use Act (ELU Act)* to accommodate road access if potential mining activity in the Mount Edziza Resource Management Zone occurs. If a road is required through the proposed Mount Edziza Protected Area, the road corridor will remain under *Environment and Land Use Act* protected area status and the balance of the protected area will be upgraded to Class A park status. The proposed Mount Edziza Protected Area has not yet been established.

In this document, the Stikine Country Protected Areas System refers to all Class A parks, ecological reserves and *ELU Act* protected areas. When the term “protected areas” is used in lower case letters (except in capitalized titles), it includes all types of protected areas including Class A parks, ecological reserves and *ELU Act* protected areas. Where individual *ELU Act* designated protected areas are referred to, “Protected Area” or “Protected Areas” is capitalized.

## **Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan – November 2003**

Information on ecosection representation in the Stikine Country Protected Areas System was compiled for the Stikine Country Protected Areas Technical Background Information Summary that was completed in 2000. Ecosection representation information in this management plan includes new protected area boundaries but does not include recent updates to the ecosection map.

To distinguish between different types of prior uses in the Stikine Country Protected Areas System, the terms traditional use and historical use are used. The term “traditional use” refers to use or activities by First Nations that have occurred over time, while the term “historical use” refers to use by the non-native community.

In this management plan, “Tahltan Nation” refers to the confederation of Tahltan families, including both the Tahltan Band Council and Iskut First Nation. The Tahltan Band Council refers to the Tahltan band, as defined in the *Indian Act*, and is based in Telegraph Creek and Dease Lake and the Iskut First Nation is based in Iskut. “First Nations” refers to First Nations with traditional territories in Stikine Country Protected Areas.

This management plan is without prejudice to the position that either First Nations or the Province may take in treaty negotiations or court proceedings.

Just prior to developing the Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan, a new government was elected in British Columbia (2001) and some restructuring of ministries occurred. This management plan references a number of documents and agreements that were finalized prior to the change in government, and are therefore referenced with the former government agency and ministry names.

Ongoing consultation with First Nations, the proposed Stikine Country Protected Areas Advisory Committee, stakeholders and the public may result in the need for minor revision of this plan from time to time. Major revision of this plan would require a broader public involvement process.

A glossary is included to provide technical definitions for some terms.

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# 1 Introduction

## 1.1 Planning Process

Environmental Stewardship Division prepares a management plan to guide the management of a protected area over the next ten to twenty years. A management plan provides long-term vision and strategic guidance for the management and stewardship of Class A parks, ecological reserves and protected areas designated by the *Environment and Land Use Act (ELU Act)* and sets out objectives and strategies for conservation, development, interpretation and operation of a protected area. The plan relies on current information relating to such subjects as natural values, cultural values, and recreation opportunities within a protected area and resource activities occurring on surrounding lands. Environmental Stewardship Division will implement this plan subject to appropriate funding levels available to complete the tasks.

The process for preparing a management plan involves a careful analysis of the overall goals of the protected area, use patterns, management objectives, and possible sources of conflict among protected area policies. Through the planning process, various options for managing the protected areas are assessed. In choosing the most appropriate option, the intent is to reach a balance between protecting natural values from damage and providing opportunities for human use in the protected area. The first step of preparing for the management planning process was the preparation of a Technical Background Information Summary. This report is available on the Internet at: [http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/planning/mentplns/stikine/stikine\\_back.htm](http://wlapwww.gov.bc.ca/bcparks/planning/mentplns/stikine/stikine_back.htm).

Public consultation is a cornerstone of the management planning process, and results in balanced and informed plans. This management plan for the Stikine Country Protected Areas System incorporated public input at several stages of the planning process. Initially, the public contributed their views on current issues, long-term direction and a vision for the protected areas through workshops and open houses at Dease Lake, Terrace, Smithers and Vancouver in March 2001. As part of this process the public completed a questionnaire providing their vision for protected areas management direction.

The next step in the planning process took the initial direction and proposed solutions to identified management issues. Environmental Stewardship Division incorporated these solutions into “Draft Management Direction” and took this document back to the public for their discussion and comment in another series of workshops and open houses held in Dease Lake, Terrace, Smithers and Vancouver in March 2002. The comments and discussion from those workshops and written submissions played a vital role in developing the first draft management plan for Stikine Country Protected Areas. The first draft was made available for public comment for a period of 3 months. Subsequently, a final draft was tabled with the public.

## 1.2 Background Summary

The Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan covers the large connected protected areas in the Stikine River area in northwestern British Columbia (Map 1). These protected areas include previously established Class A parks, former recreation areas, new Class A parks and *ELU Act* protected areas resulting from the Cassiar Iskut-Stikine Land and Resource

**Stikine Country Protected Areas Management Plan – November 2003**

Management Plan (Table 1). This management plan replaces existing interim plans for some of Stikine Country Protected Areas.

**Table 1. Status of Stikine Country Protected Areas.**

Protected Area	Area (ha)	Date established	Most recent legal definition of boundary <sup>1</sup>	Legislation
Chukachida Protected Area	19,637	2001	2001	Environment and Land Use Act
Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve <sup>2</sup>	44,098	1975	2001	Ecological Reserve Act, Protected Areas of British Columbia Act
Mount Edziza Provincial Park	266,095	1972	2001	Park Act, Protected Areas of British Columbia Act
Mount Edziza Protected Area (proposed)	607			Not yet established
Pitman River Protected Area	16,316	2001	2001	Environment and Land Use Act
Stikine River Provincial Park <sup>3</sup>	257,177	2001	2001	Park Act, Protected Areas of British Columbia Act
Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park	695,102	1975	2003	Park Act, Protected Areas of British Columbia Act
Tatlatui Provincial Park	105,829	1973	2001	Park Act, Protected Areas of British Columbia Act

<sup>1</sup> All protected areas were under the Park Act and Ecological Reserve Act and more recently have been included in schedules in the Protected Areas of British Columbia Act

<sup>2</sup> Changes to the Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve boundary were inadvertently made in 2001 when the boundary for Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Park was expanded to add parkland as a result of the Cassiar Iskut Stikine LRMP. It is the intention of WLAP to seek a return to the pre 2001 boundary using current mapping standards.

<sup>3</sup> Much of Stikine River Provincial Park was originally established as the Stikine River Recreation Area in 1987 under the Park Act

When Spatsizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park was originally established, management direction included the following:

*“The area will be maintained as a wilderness landscape in which natural communities are preserved intact and the progressions of the natural systems may proceed without alteration. Hunting and fishing, within sustained yield limits, is permissible. Recreational use of the area shall be limited to activities that do not detract from or disturb the wilderness experience sought by visitors. These uses include: fishing, hunting, hiking, climbing, camping, horse travel and nature study.*

*While the use of aircraft for access shall be permitted in specific designated landing areas, subject to such conditions as may be established, otherwise the use of internal combustion engines for recreational purposes shall be prohibited. Any improvement or development will be limited to that which is required to protect the environment, to ensure the safety of the visitor, or to provide a minimal level of visitor service.”*

In this document, Stikine Country Protected Areas refers to all Class A parks, ecological reserves and *ELU Act* protected areas. When the term “protected areas” is used in lower case letters (except in capitalized titles), it includes all types of protected areas including Class A parks, ecological reserves and *ELU Act* protected areas. Where individual *ELU Act* designated Protected Areas are referred to, “Protected Area” or “Protected Areas” is capitalized.