MANAGEMENT PLAN

November 2003

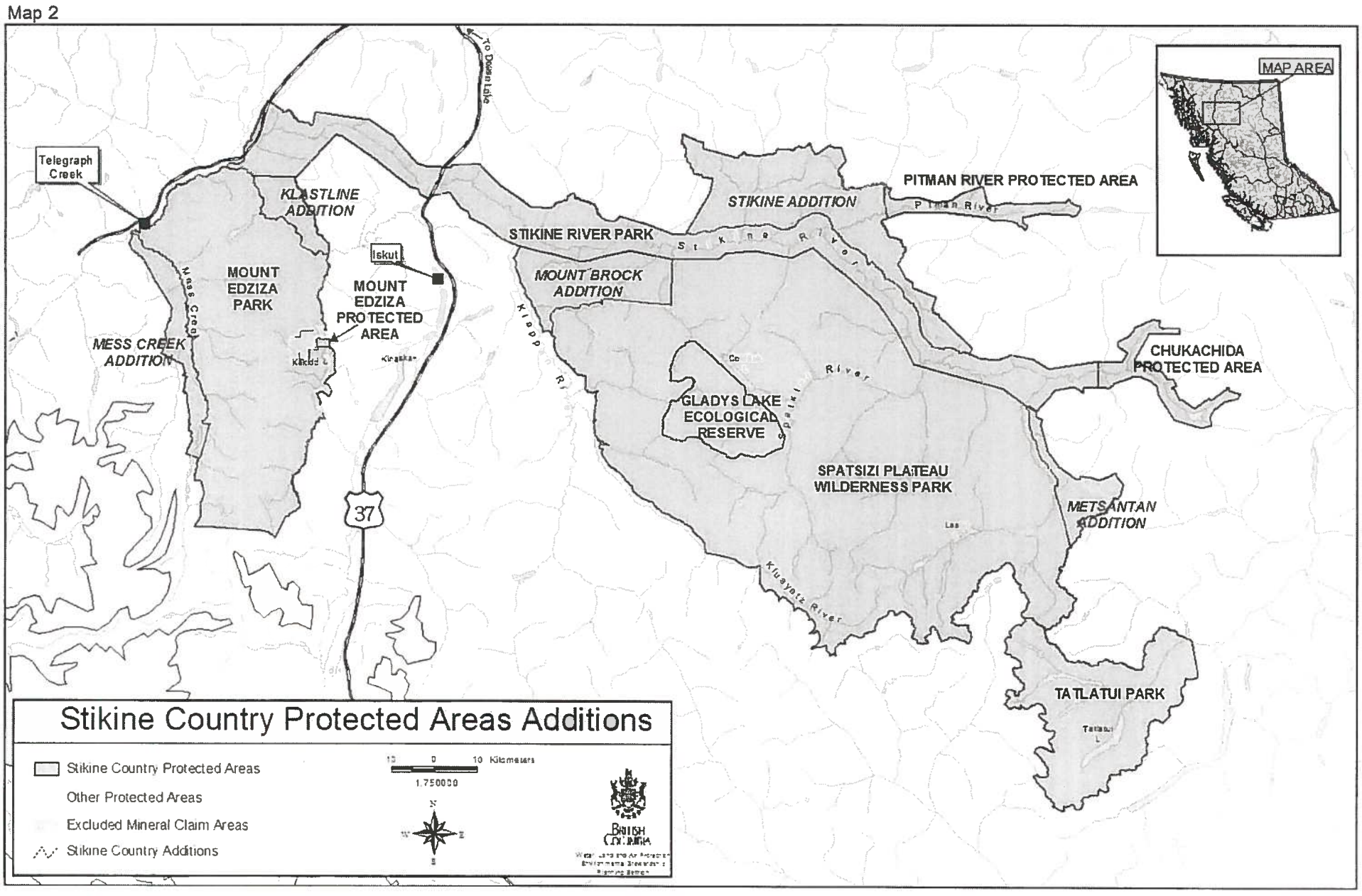
for Stikine Country Protected Areas

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

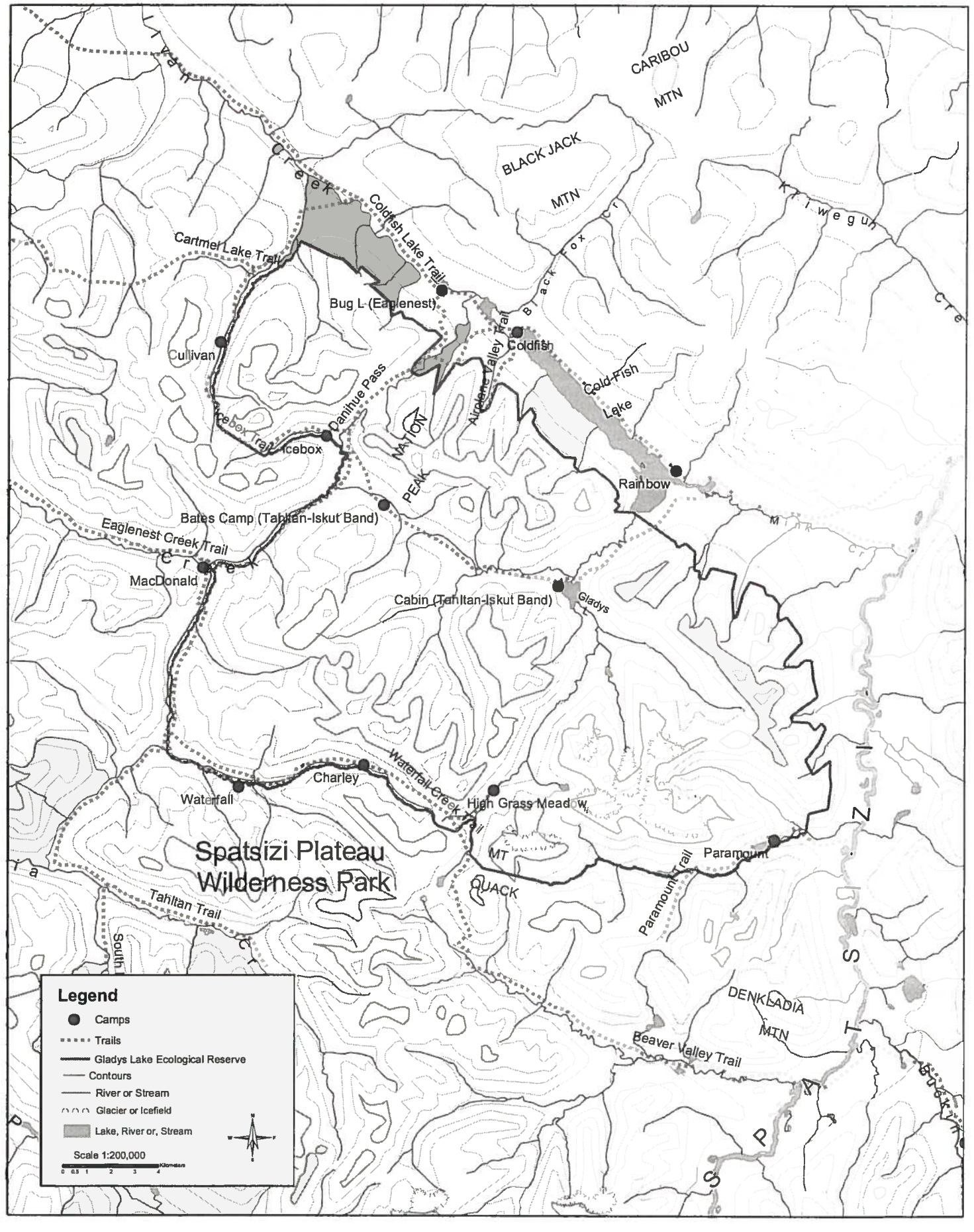
BRITISH COLUMBIA

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

Map 2


Stikine Country Protected Areas Additions
Stikine Country Protected Areas
Other Protected Areas
Excluded Mineral Claim Areas
Stikine Country Additions
10 0 10 Kilometers
1:750000
BRITISH COLUMBIA
MAP AREA
Telegraph Creek
To Dease Lake
KLASTLINE ADDITION
MOUNT EDZIZA PARK
Iskut
MOUNT EDZIZA PROTECTED AREA
MESS CREEK ADDITION
Mess Creek
STIKINE RIVER PARK
MOUNT BROCK ADDITION
Klappan River
STIKINE ADDITION
Stikine River
PITMAN RIVER PROTECTED AREA
Pitman River
CHUKACHIDA PROTECTED AREA
GLADYS LAKE ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
Spatsizi River
SPATSIZI PLATEAU WILDERNESS PARK
METSANTAN ADDITION
Kluayatz River
TATLATUI PARK
37

Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve Trails & Campsites - Draft 2.0



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

Chairperson: Larry Boudreau

Recording: Janice Joseph

Seats:
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 -

Represented by:
Larry Boudreau/Janice Joseph

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, Iskut/Tahltan, guide-outfitters, Friends of Ecoreserves, FBCN 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 /Tahltan representatives for resolution. The East-West Danihue 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 Tahltan 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 HAZELWOOD
Life Member, BCWF
Grant

Blackwater Lake Mar. 15-16

Lorne MacIntosh - Friends of Ecological Reserves

Ray Collingwood - Guide · Outfitter in Spatsizi Park
Never been into Blackwater Lake!

Bob Henderson - B.C. Guides
worked in Spatsizi 1963-1969

Rob Chernick - lawyer for Tsekani Band (6 mos. once worked for BCWF!)
Bill Ottway, Bob Cobb, etc.

Larry Bondreau - Parks Br. Skeena Head

Grant Hazlewood - B.C.W.F.

Rosemary Fox - Fed. B.C. Naturalists. Was Park Host

Chief Louie Lonie - chief of Tsekani Band
intends to open ecosome to their use

James Lennie - former trapper in Blackwater Lake, Tsekani Band
father was there before Walker

Bob Palzieff - Mediator of sub-committee on Blackwater Lake
Will attempt to reach consensus on trails, campgrounds
etc. to access historic trails.

Reg info. re: guide outfitters
Highland Valley - old Indian pasture for horses

✓ Cariboo Cr. camp just in Reserve
Sanitine Pass Trail - historic day hikes in Pass
✓ Retreat Canyon - camp on boundary
Bill Bates Camp - historic Indian campground
✓ Waterfall Cr. Camp -
✓ Paramount Camp
✓ McLeod Camp
✓ Charlie Camp
Highpass Camp

Tsilhqot'in Band - assert full aboriginal rights over Stoney Lake and Goldfish Lake
Lemieux grandfather trapped Stoney Lake and trapped furs to Steele Hyland at Hyland Post.
Lack of consultation by Tom Lee & gov't officials were granted Lieist cabin for their use when he left but never happened.
Hotsprings at Mink Cr. (original goldfish camp)

BCWF, BCNF - both insist on maintaining integrity of reserve
- hope to get into land claims issues
Options on Vert trading - can't move trails
- move boundary
- fence
- bring 100 metres from main Trails
Camps - horse grazing a problem
- exclude Highpass camp, Bates camp from reserve

Sanitine Trail - 100m gone on trail to allow horse stays in pass

Stoney Lake cabin - Indians want it + trail from Bates to Goldfish base

March 16/05

ISSUES – continuation of Aboriginal Rights + Title
duty to consult + accommodate
integrity of Eco Reserve

PRINCIPLES – solution should not compromise:
continuation of Aboriginal rights
long term protection of naturally functioning ecosystems
maintain original research + education values
historic (pre 1975) modes of transportation be recognized
solutions should be practical + meet most interests

Horse trails along West boundary – where trail enters ER change boundary back to exclude trail using treeline where practical and approx 100 m when trail is above treeline
– Parks will groundtruth in Summer of 2005

Camps + Grazing – apply same guidelines as for trail

Sanitroc Bass trail – delete a 100 metre corridor – 3 designated rest spots (at 2 ends + middle)
– no discharge of firearms

Goldfish Lake campsites – deferred to joint Tsilhqot'in/Parks Committee

Bladey Lake Cabin – deferred to joint Committee

Bates Camp – Exclusive camp for Tsilhqot'in/Tsilhqot'in use

STIKINE COUNTRY ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP May 5th, 2005	
	Number of seats
BC Parks • Larry Boudreau & Janice Joseph	2
Stikine Country Guides & Outfitters	1
Tahltan First Nations • Iskut • Telegraph Creek • Dease Lake	 2 2 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

MANAGEMENT PLAN

November 2003

Prepared by
Skeena Region
Environmental Stewardship Division

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Smithers BC

National Library of Canada Cataloguing in Publication Data
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Stikine Country Protected Areas management plan

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"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.

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F1089.S85B74 2004

Stikine Country Protected Areas

Management Plan

Approved by:

Hugh Markides
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Oct. 24, 2003

Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date: December 19, 2003

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.

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/mgmtplns/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

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[1]	Legislation
Chukachida Protected Area	19,637	2001	2001	*Environment and Land Use Act*
Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve[2]	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[3]	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*

[1] 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*

[2] Changes to the Gladys Lake Ecological Reserve boundary were inadvertlly 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.

[3] 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.