

Anna.Fonseca

From: Ferdinands, Anne LUCO:EX [Anne.Ferdinands@gems1.gov.bc.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2001 10:58 AM
To: 'Anna.Fonseca@gov.yk.ca'
Subject: RE: land use planning in BC

Hi: Michael Coon has asked me to respond to your questions below.

-----Original Message-----

From: Anna.Fonseca [mailto:Anna.Fonseca@gov.yk.ca]
Sent: Wednesday, March 21, 2001 9:10 AM
To: Coon, Michael LUCO:EX
Subject: land use planning in BC

Hello, Michael.

From what I understand, BC government considers that the protected areas strategy is complete, as it achieved the goal of protection of 12% on the landbase, and in spite of only 27% of the ecosections being protected.

1. Is that correct?

A. BC government announced in Nov. 2000 (with the approval of the Mackenzie land use plan) that it has met its goal of protecting 12% of BC.

Of BC's 100 terrestrial ecosections, only one ecosection (Bulkley Ranges) has zero% protected. This ecosection falls within the Morice Forest District in northwest BC where land use planning has yet to occur. The total size of the BUR ecosection is 276,377 hectares (0.3% of BC).

As for representation of other ecosections:

10 have less than 1% protected
22 have 1% - less than 4% protected
21 have 4% - less than 8% protected
10 have 8% - less than 12% protected
and 36 have more than 12% protected

2. Did BC government officially inform the WWF or Brundtland commission, or any other conservation agencies that it achieved its target of protection?

A. I am not aware of govt. advising Brundtland of reaching 12%. Most environmental organizations are very much aware of BC reaching 12% (via media, govt mailouts of news releases, enviro reps who participate in our LRMPs, etc.).

3. Currently BC is carrying out strategic land use planning. Does this involve protection of the ecosections not covered by the 12% protected areas strategy? If so, is that government policy?

A. The Protected Areas Strategy (on line at <http://www.luco.gov.bc.ca/pas/pasforbc/home.htm>) has two goals. The first is to protect viable, representative examples of natural diversity in the province, representative of the major terrestrial, marine and freshwater ecosystems, the characteristic habitats, hydrology and landforms, and the characteristic backcountry recreational and cultural heritage values of each ecosection.

The second goal is to protect the special natural, cultural heritage and recreational features of the province, including rare and endangered species and critical habitats, outstanding or unique botanical, zoological, geological and paleontological features, outstanding or fragile cultural heritage features, and outstanding outdoor recreational features such as trails.

For those areas where planning is underway (see map at ftp://ftp.gis.luco.gov.bc.ca/pub/pas/pas_overview_update/maps/slup_c.gif), planning tables are developing recommendations for new protected areas that would meet the two goals, including ecosections that currently have little or no representation.

4. Is there a new target for percentage of the landbase to be protected under the strategic land use plans?

A. No.

5. If there is no new target, what is the best guess of the percentage of BC's landbase that will be protected at completion of the strategic land use plans?

A. An estimate of total protected area in BC after all LRMPs are done is difficult to calculate. However, we have looked at what areas could be added (based on official study areas, areas of high values identified by govt. staff and areas of interest to ENGOs and communities). A low estimate/projection is that we will reach 13.1% when all LRMPs are done.

If you need further clarification, let me know.

Anne Ferdinands
Research Officer
Land Use Coordination Office

Saskatchewan



Saskatchewan
Energy and Mines

2101 Scarth Street
Regina, Canada
S4P 3V7

Fax: (306) 787-1284

Exploration & Geological Services

Date: *March 20/01*

Telecopier Transmittal Sheet

From: *Murray Rogers*
Sask. Energy and Mines

To: *ANNA FONSECA*
YTG Mineral Resources Branch

Fax No. *(867) - 393 - 6232*

Message/Note *Enclosed is the information that you requested.*

5 pages being transmitted including this page.

This message is intended only for the use of the individual to whom it is addressed and contains information that may be privileged and confidential. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately.

If you do not receive completed message please phone: (306) 787-1932

March 20, 2001

Anna Fonseca
YTG Mineral Resources Branch

Anna;

Further to your request. Enclosed are 3 summary pages of the various types of parklands and protected areas in Saskatchewan. The sizes are included. These are additional to those recently designated or proposed sites under the RAN program that I sent to you. All of the lands described in the summaries are also included in the provincial RAN program. These include provincially and federally designated lands.

However, the level of protection and allowable activities varies with the types of lands. National and Provincial parks, and those specifically designated for the RAN program (since 1997) are generally highly protected areas and do not allow for mineral and oil and gas exploration or development. These areas normally have Crown Reserves placed by our department that prohibits new mineral and oil and gas dispositions. The other land designations such as the Wildlife Habitat Protection Act lands, Wildlife Development Fund lands, Community Pastures, and Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration lands have lower levels of protection that allow for exploration and development. These areas are open to disposition. These areas are managed to maintain their ecological integrity.

If you have any questions, comments, or would like more information please feel free to contact me.

Regards,
Murray

Saskatchewan park lands have a dual role: to preserve and protect selected natural and cultural resources for future generations, and to provide recreational, educational and interpretive opportunities for a people of Saskatchewan and visitors to the province.

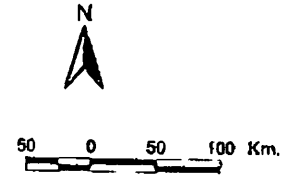
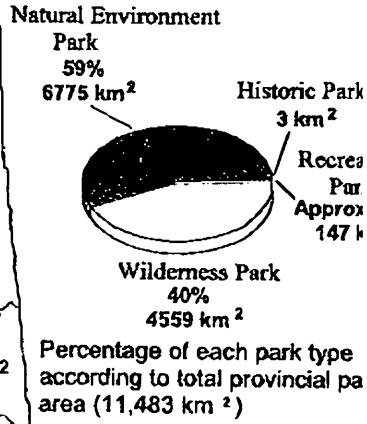
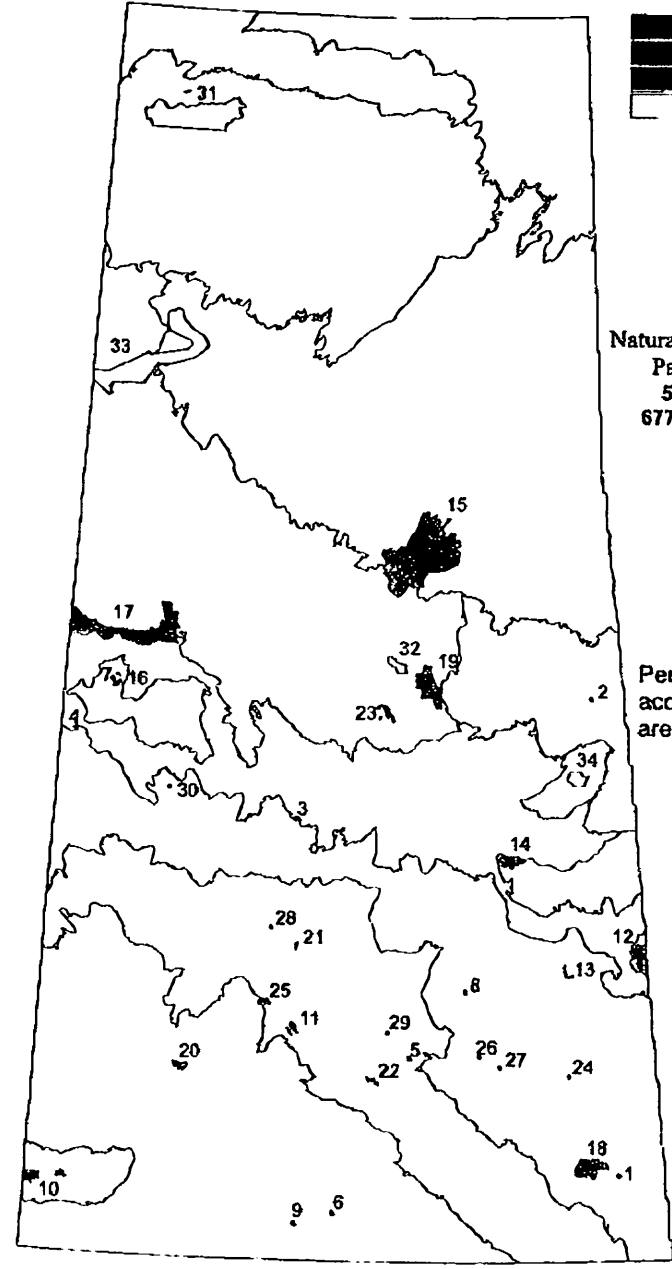
HISTORIC PARKS:
 preserve and interpret prehistoric or historic resources representative of themes and events which contributed to the history of Saskatchewan, and b) provide opportunities for a variety of outdoor recreation activities that are largely dependent upon an historic setting. Their primary goal is to preserve and interpret selected provincially significant artifacts, resources or themes at the actual site where a historic event occurred. A secondary goal is to provide tourist attractions which will generate economic activity in the surrounding area and province.

NATURAL ENVIRONMENT PARKS:
 Natural Environment Parks are relatively large natural tracts of land which protect representative and unique landscapes in Saskatchewan. They have a dual goal of landscape protection and the provision of appropriate recreation opportunities for the public. Moreover, they should not be viewed as the primary sites for recreational activities.

RECREATION PARKS:
 Recreation Parks provide opportunities for intensive recreational activities in a natural setting. Three Tiers are recognized: Tier 1 have a high level of capital development and management commitment, and offer a great diversity of facilities and opportunities; Tier 2 parks have a more moderate level of development, management commitment and recreational opportunities. Their primary goal is to offer high quality and readily accessible outdoor recreational opportunities to Saskatchewan residents, as monetary resources allow. They also serve to redirect conflicting recreational activities away from Natural Environment Parks.

WILDERNESS PARKS:
 Wilderness Parks serve large and remote tracts of undisturbed Crown land in a natural state, and b) allow for the provision of low-intensity and non-mechanized wilderness recreation. The overall intent of a wilderness park is to provide representative landscape protection through legal designation.

PROVINCIAL PARKS



PARK TYPE	NUMBER, NAME & AREA (km²)	ECOREGION AND AREA (km²)
Historic	1. Canington Manor (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	2. Cumberland House (<1)	Mid-Boreal Lowland
	3. Fort Carlton (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	4. Fort Pitt (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	5. Last Mountain House (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	6. Saint Victor Petroglyphs (<1)	Moist Mixed Grassland
	7. Steele Narrows (<1)	Mixed Grassland
	8. Touchwood Hills Post (<1)	Mid-Boreal Upland
	9. Wood Mountain Post (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	10. Cypress Hills (194)	Mixed Grassland
Natural Environment	11. Douglas (61)	Cypress Upland
	12. Duck Mountain (262)	Moist Mixed Grassland
	13. Good Spirit Lake (20)	Boreal Transition (1); Mid-Boreal Upland (261)
	14. Greenwater Lake (207)	Aspen Parkland
	15. Lac La Bonge (3362)	Boreal Transition (28); Mid-Boreal Upland (179)
	16. Makwa Lake (26)	Mid-Boreal Upland
	17. Meadow Lake (1659)	Mid-Boreal Upland (19); Churchill River Upland (3343)
	18. Moose Mountain (401)	Mid-Boreal Upland
	19. Narrow Hills (536)	Boreal Transition (44.3); Mid-Boreal Upland (1216)
	20. Saskatchewan Landing (58)	Aspen Parkland
Recreation	21. Blackstrap (5)	Mid-Boreal Lowland (47); Mid-Boreal Upland (489)
	22. Buffalo Pound (19)	Mixed Grassland
	23. Candle Lake - Minowukaw Beach (76)	Moist Mixed Grassland
	24. Crooked Lake (2)	Mid-Boreal Upland
	25. Danielson (22)	Aspen Parkland
	26. Echo Valley (6)	Mixed Grassland (2); Moist Mixed Grassland (19)
	27. Katapwa Point (<1)	Aspen Parkland
	28. Pike Lake (5)	Aspen Parkland
	29. Rowans Ravine (3)	Moist Mixed Grassland
	30. The Battledords (6)	Moist Mixed Grassland
Wilderness	31. Athabasca Sand Dunes (1925)	Aspen Parkland
	32. Clarence-Steppbank Lakes (175)	Athabasca Plain
	33. Clearwater River (2240)	Mid-Boreal Upland
	34. Wildcat Hill (218)	Churchill River Upland (1148); Mid-Boreal Upland (1092)

306-787-1284 SEM MINING LANDS

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INTERNATIONAL

ISAR SITES:

Designated wetlands of international importance, especially as waterfowl habitat. A major objective is to stem the progressive encroachment on and loss of wetlands, now and in the future.

FEDERAL

PROVINCIAL BIRD SANCTUARIES:

These are areas set apart for special protection of migratory birds, their nests, eggs and habitat.

NATIONAL HISTORIC PARKS:

These are federally owned lands which have been set aside to a) commemorate an historic event; or b) preserve an historic landmark or object of historic, prehistoric or scientific interest of national significance.

NATIONAL HISTORIC SITES:

These places declared by the federal Minister of the Environment to be of national historic interest or significance. They may include either buildings or structures by reason of architectural design, or lands set aside in accordance with the National Parks Act to commemorate an historic event; b) preserve an historic landmark; or c) an historic (includes prehistoric) or scientific object of national importance.

NATIONAL PARKS:

Extremely large tracts of land and/or water designated and managed by the federal government, in order to protect representative natural areas or ecosystems of Canadian or international significance.

NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREAS:

These are federally owned lands which protect migratory birds and other wildlife as well as their habitat.

AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITY PASTURES:

Original lands which have been established to accommodate sustainable grazing practices and other compatible land uses.

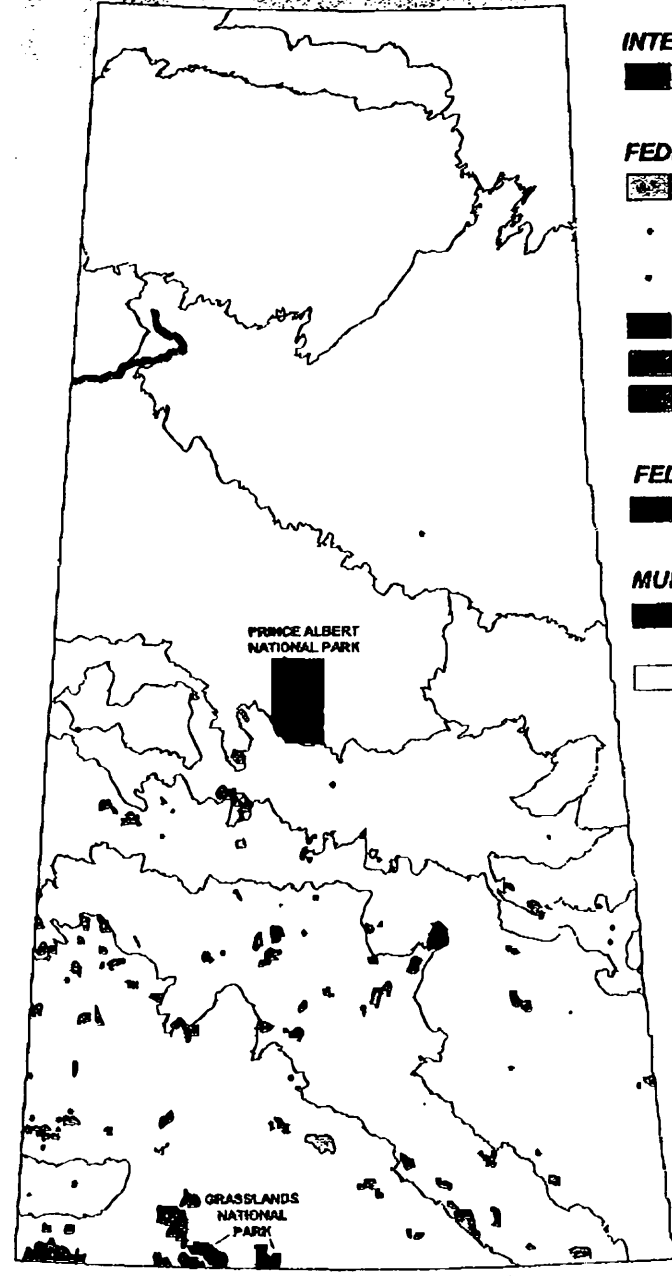
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL

INDIAN HERITAGE RIVERS:

Heritage Rivers are designated to give national recognition to Canada's outstanding rivers to ensure long-term management and conservation of their natural, cultural, historical and recreational values.

ECOREGION	MANAGED LAND CATEGORIES (Area km ²)		
	INTERNATIONAL	FEDERAL	FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL
SELWYN LAKE UPLAND			
TAZIN LAKE UPLAND			
ATHABASCA PLAIN			
CHURCHILL RIVER UPLAND			1322
MID-BOREAL UPLAND		163	1001
MID-BOREAL LOWLAND			
BOREAL TRANSITION		4370	
ASPEN PARKLAND	634	1019	
MOIST MIXED GRASSLAND	157	2073	
DRY MIXED GRASSLAND		5226	
CYPRESS UPLAND		8	
TOTAL	791	12859	2323

INTERNATIONAL, FEDERAL & FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL



INTERNATIONAL:

■ Ramsar Sites

FEDERAL:

■ Migratory Bird Sanctuaries

• National Historic Parks

• National Historic Sites

■ National Parks

■ National Wildlife Areas

■ PFRA Community Pastures

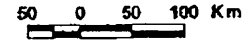
FEDERAL/PROVINCIAL:

■ Canadian Heritage Rivers

MULTIPLE DESIGNATION

■ Ramsar Site and National Wildlife Area

□ Ramsar Site, National Wildlife Area, Migratory Bird Sanctuary



The boundary for the Grasslands National Park is the proposed boundary once all the lands have been acquired.

OTHER PROVINCIAL CATEGORIES

Ecological Reserves:
 Provincial Crown lands which sustain
 are associated with unique or
 representative parts of the natural
 environment.

Historic Sites:
 preserve and interpret historic or
 historic resources representative of
 times and events which have
 contributed to the history of
 the province; and b) provide
 opportunities for a variety of outdoor
 recreational activities that are largely
 dependent upon an historic setting.

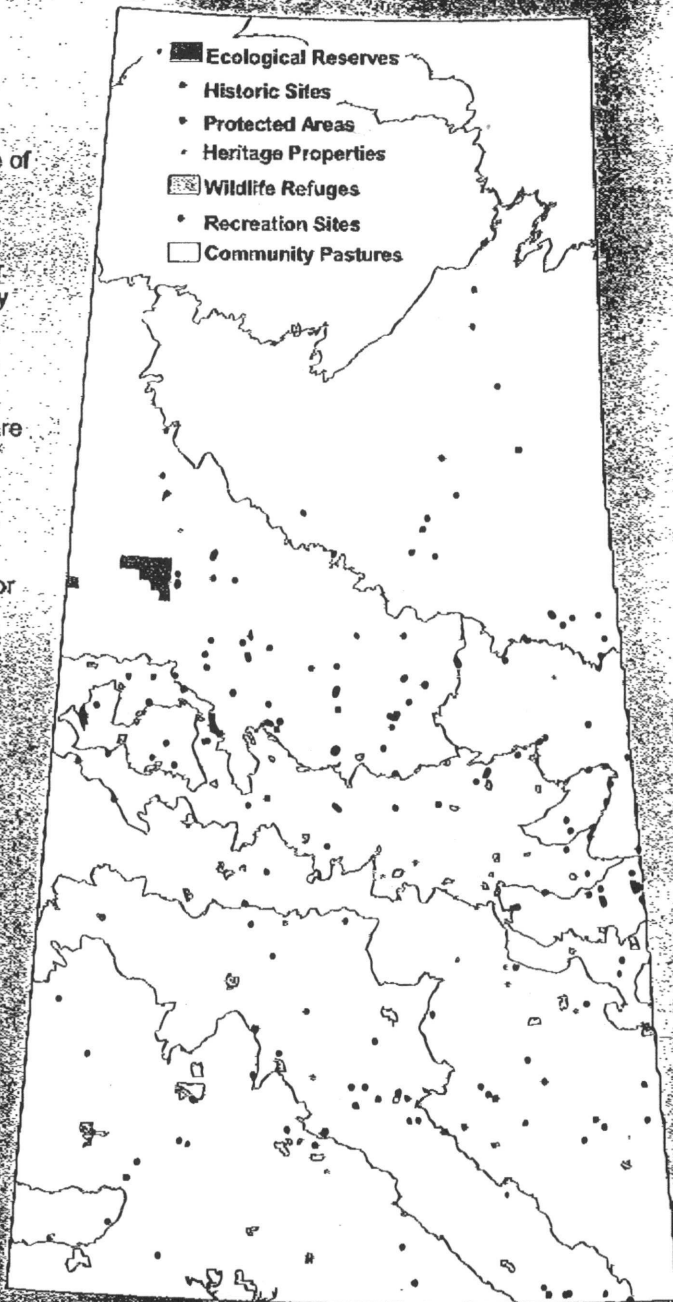
Protected Areas:
 Provincial Crown lands which offer
 maximum protection to important, rare
 and fragile resources, either natural,
 cultural or archaeological.

Heritage Property:
 property, whether a work of
 art or of man, that is of interest for
 architectural, historical, cultural,
 scientific, environmental, aesthetic or scientific
 reasons, including a site where
 such property is or may
 reasonably be expected to be found.

Wildlife Refuges:
 areas for the protection,
 propagation, perpetuation,
 management, control, regulation
 or enhancement of wildlife
 and its habitat.

Recreation Sites:
 parcels of provincial Crown
 land developed to take advantage
 of particular recreational activities or
 features, such as a campground,
 picnic area or lake access point.

Community Pasture:
 parcels of provincial Crown lands that
 have been assembled to provide
 supplementary grazing for livestock
 producers and to maintain marginal
 lands in permanent cover.



These river sections are Protected Areas

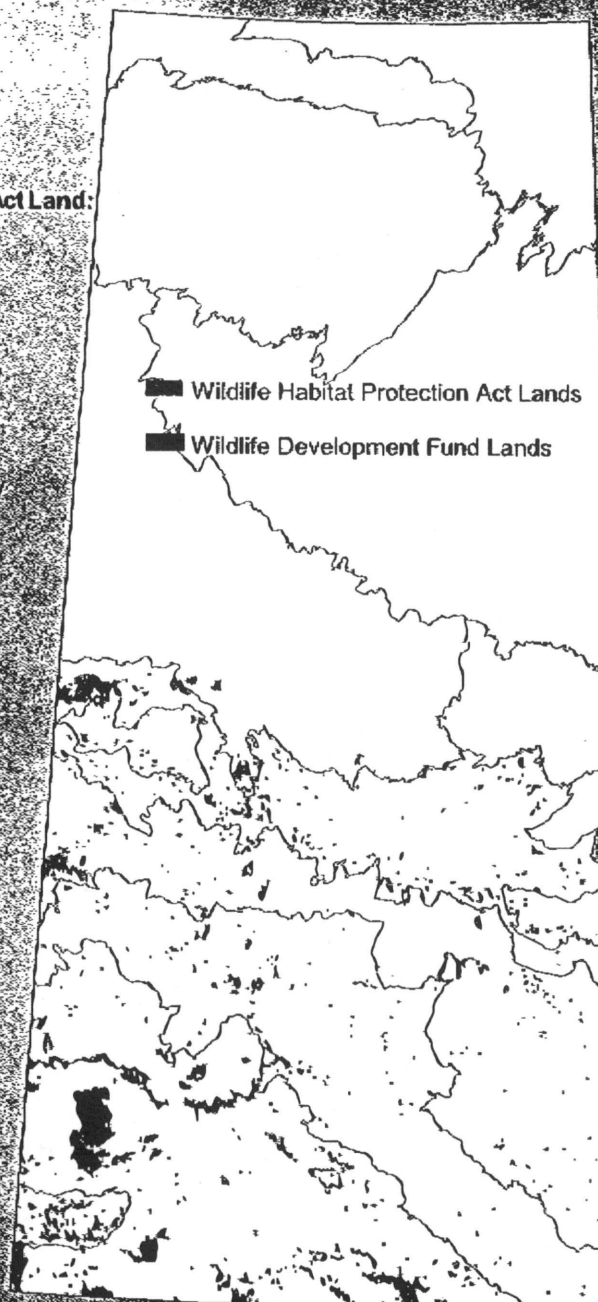
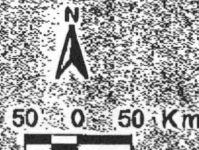
PROVINCIAL WILDLIFE HABITAT PROTECTION ACT LAND & WILDLIFE DEVELOPMENT FUND LAND

Wildlife Habitat Protection Act Land:
 (1,318,964 ha.; 13,189 km²)

These areas protect critically
 important wildlife habitat on
 provincial Crown land. The
 lands have been established
 in order to counter the loss of
 wildlife habitat on private
 land and to ensure that
 wildlife habitat is protected.
 These areas do not adversely
 affect present agricultural
 uses of the land. They serve
 as a mechanism or way of
 maintaining game stock,
 rare or endangered species
 and other forms of wildlife.

**Wildlife Development Fund
 Land: (55,976 ha.; 560 km²)**

The priority of the Fish and
 Wildlife Development Fund
 is critical upland habitat
 acquisition, notably for
 white-tailed deer, although
 not to the exclusion of
 habitat for other species.



Areas smaller than 2.5 km are rounded to 2.5 km.

PROTECTED AREAS ARC/INFO COVERAGE OR ARCVIEW SHAPEFILE

NATIONAL PARKS, WILDERNESS AREAS, ECOLOGICAL RESERVES, WILDLAND PARKS, PROVINCIAL PARKS, NATURAL AREAS and CROWN RESERVATIONS (PNT's, CNT's, etc.)

DATA SOURCES

Site boundaries are digitized from 1:20,000 digital map data supplied by Resource Data Division, Alberta Environment. Where 1:20,000 files are not available, 1:250,000 data was used.

ATTRIBUTES

In addition to the standard default coverage fields the following attributes are included:

pasites_id

A unique numeric identifier specific to a site.

name

Site name

type

The code definitions for "type" are:

ER - Ecological Reserve

NP - National Park

NA - Natural Area

PP - Provincial Park

WA - Wilderness Area

WP - Wilderness Park

WPP - Wildland Park

BUFFER -

Where multiple type codes apply to the same parcel(s) of land, the type code appearing in this data set shall default to the highest level of protection. There are two examples of this currently in Alberta. Upper Bob Creek ER, which falls entirely within Bob Creek Wildland and Marshybank ER, which falls partly within Brazeau Canyon Wildland.

status

The code definitions for "status" are:

APP - Application for reservation

CNT - Consultative Notation reservation

EZE - Easement

PEND - Pending application for reservation

PNT - Protective Notation reservation

OC - Order-in-council (legislated)

Several sites contain designated lands (OC) as well as lands under crown reservation (PNT). In other instances the crown reservation may be identified by a separate site number.

COVERAGE INFORMATION

Projection: 10TM (10 degree Transverse Mercator)

Datum: NAD83

Units: meters

Scale Factor: 0.9992

Longitude of Central Meridium: -115 degrees

Latitude of Origin: 0 degrees

False Easting: 500 000 m

False Northing: 0 m

*L/other jurisdictions / Alberta
PAS shape.shp
Ab.shp*

Keathe Hearne
GNWT - Diand
Has compensation
research done for
Saskatchewan

Jurisdiction: George Patterson
Contact: Saskatchewan
Ecoregion Representation commitments:

Cap/target/goal:

no - Southern 1/2 all agricultural → less than 10% left
50 ~ 16% in N part
No accepted target

Current representation (goal 1&2):

~6-7%
+ target of Repres. Area Network proposed → will be over 11%

Grandfathering allowed:

yes

MOU → existing claims are to be avoided
like the plague
only on exceptional circumstances
they are to be include

- allowed to abbut to proposed parks to claims

- MOU - 2nd Part → Require Mineral Assessment
- not to be considerate if high
- try to avoid if med
- no comments if low

- No public discussion ~~for~~ select of proposed sites (done in camera)
- public reviews proposals

12 Ecoregions - each to be represented w/ balance

- In some cases mining + oil yes = can be multiple
- Mineral + oil field (Wood Mt. Provincial Park)
- exploration in some protect areas

MINERAL ASSESSMENT = hybrid between GSC + Ontario spending ~1 Million in NE Sask Phelps Lake

Have some SMA's represented Areas Networks
SMA's not full level of protection
Not shown in 5 part of RAN
Not include in 5 part of RAN
Not develop + gas considered representative part of → but are active of RAN

Representative Areas Network Program Summary – October, 2000

No.	Site Name; NTS Location	Area (ha)	Ecoregion(s) (%)	Status	Crown Reserves	Comments
1	Butala Ranch (72F)	5,300	Mixed Grassland (0.06%)	Announced 1997	In place	Crown Reserve does not include oil or natural gas.
2	Pasquia-Porcupine (26 sites) (63C,D,E,F,K)	76,402	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.45%); Mid-Boreal Lowland (1.08%); Boreal Transition (0.14%)	Announced 1998	In place	Public review through Pasquia-Porcupine land use plan.
3	Christopher Lake (73H)	86	Mid-Boreal Upland	Announced 1998	In place	
4	McCusker Lake (73K,N)	141,900	Mid-Boreal Upland (1.39%)	Announced 1998	In place	Within Primrose Lake Air Weapons Range.
5	Primrose Lake (73K,N)	28,883	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.28%)	Announced 1998	In place	Within PLAWR.
6	Wapwekka Hills (73I)	67,715	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.66%)	Announced 1999	CR in place over 56,700 ha.	Additional 11,015 ha comprise a Special Management Area where exploration and development is allowed.
7	Seager Wheeler (63L)	200,000	Mid-Boreal Lowland (9.25%)	Announced 1999	In place	Public review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
8	Selenite Point (73J)	3,207	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.03%)	Announced 2000	In place	
9	Jan Lake (63L,M)	32,905	Churchill River Upland (0.29%)	Announced 2000	In place	Public review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
10	Mari Lake (63M,N)	31,578	Churchill River Upland (0.28%)	Announced 2000	In place	Review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
11	Sturgeon-Weir River (63L)	4,569	Churchill River Upland (0.04%)	Announced 2000	In place	Review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
12	Amisk Lake (63L)	1,702	Mid-Boreal Lowland (0.08%)	Announced 2000	In place	Review through Amisk-Atik plan.
13	Perry Lake (64D)	39,674	Churchill River Upland (0.35%)	Announced 2000	In place	Review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
14	Halldorson Bay (64D)	6,687	Churchill River Upland (0.06%)	Announced 2000	In place	Review through Amisk-Atik land use plan.
15	Lobstick Lake (63E,F)	86,445	Mid-Boreal Lowland (4.0%)	10 year interim surface protection will be designated.	In place. CR over 22,900 ha. Interim 10 year CR over 63,545 ha.	Interim Crown Reserve area to be reviewed again in 2008 with updated geoscience and exploration information.
16	Ile-a-la-Crosse (73O)	3,740	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.037%)	Being reviewed by		Reviewed and approved by industry

				public.		and SEM.
17	Budd Lake (73J,O)	59,000 (est.)	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.58%)	Public review through Pinehouse-Dipper land use plan.		Reviewed and approved by industry and SEM.
18	Caribou Flats (73J,O)	9,000 (est.)	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.088%)	Requires public review.		Reviewed and approved by industry and SEM.
19	Quill Lakes (72P,73A)	24,200	Aspen Parkland (0.3%)	Unknown. May be dropped by SERM.		Reviewed and approved by industry and SEM with the provision that the Crown Reserve will not include potash or sodium sulphate.
20	Turtle Lake (73F)	1,800	Mid-Boreal Upland (0.018%)	Unknown. Proposed addition to Recreation Site.		Not approved due to high oil and natural gas potential.
21	Tazin Lake (74N)	124,190	Tazin Lake Upland (6.90%)	10 year surface-only designation by SERM.		Public review through Athabasca land use plan process.
22	Chappuis/Fontaine Lakes (74O)	319,680	Tazin Lake Upland (9.58%); Selwyn Lake Upland (5.15%)	10 year surface-only designation by SERM.		Public review through Athabasca land use plan process.
23	Misaw Lake (64M)	340,956	Selwyn Lake Upland (11.91%)	Interim surface designation under discussion. Further discussions following geoscience program.		Public review through Athabasca land use plan process.
24	Firebag Lake (74F)	156,300	Mid-Boreal Upland (1.13%); Athabasca Plain (0.20%); Churchill River Upland (0.23%)	Discussions between SERM and SEM.		
25	Pink Lake (74A)	350,000 (approx.)	Churchill River Upland (3.09%)	Discussions between SERM and SEM.		Public review through North-Central land use plan process.
26	Geikie River (74A,H)	260,000 (approx.)	Churchill River Upland (2.29%)	Discussions between SERM and SEM.		Public review through North-Central land use plan process.
27	Fort a la Corne (73H)	2,500 (est.)	Boreal Transition (0.046%)	Discussions between SERM and SEM.		Public review through Fort a la Corne land use plan process.

Jurisdiction: BC

Contact: Mike Cathro

Ecoregion Representation commitments:
not very good

Maps
Speak to somebody
Env. BC parks in
Victoria use coord.
or land use coord.
office

Cap/target/goal:

originally a cap
since last year, decided not to keep going
no more targets for each 1 rmp

Current representation (goal 1&2):

~ 12% in parks before Mackenzie

Grandfathering allowed:

yes, but getting into "save + accept"
when lapse, get incorporated into park
on edges → doughnuts
~~and~~ inside → expropriat
Myra Falls - class C park

[IWMS home]

Date: 15 February, 1999

From: Cassie Doyle, Deputy Ministry - Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks
Larry Pedersen, Chief Forester - Ministry of Forests

To: Regional Managers and District Managers, Ministry of Forests,
Regional Directors and Designated Environment Officials, Ministry of Environment,
Lands and Parks, and
Derek Thompson, Assistant Deputy Minister - Land Use Coordination Office
Regional Directors and Designated Environment Officials, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks
Regional Managers and District Managers, Ministry of Forests
All Staff Involved in Implementing the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy Interagency Management
Committees (IAMCs)
Interagency Management Committee Coordinators
Interagency Planning Teams (IPTs)
Integrated Resource Planning Committee (IRPC)

Re: Strategic Land Use Plans and the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy

Government recently released the Identified Wildlife Management Strategy (IWMS). The goals of the IWMS include minimizing the effects of forest practices on Identified Wildlife, and maintaining their limiting habitats throughout their current ranges and, where appropriate, their historic ranges. The intent of this letter is to clarify the role of strategic land use planning tables in managing Identified Wildlife.

Volume 1 of the IWMS describes the tools to manage Identified Wildlife, which include wildlife habitat areas (WHAs) and general wildlife measures (GWMs). In most cases these tools are considered to be sufficient to manage wildlife species. However, these tools will not always address all aspects of a species' habitat requirements. Some species have large home ranges, occur at low densities, have widely and sparsely distributed limiting habitats, or are sensitive to forest-level disturbances. The habitat requirements of such species must be addressed over large areas such as regions or subregions in order to effectively manage their populations. For this reason, some species habitat requirements are best addressed through other management practices recommended by strategic land use planning tables and established as higher level plans¹, as well as through the IWMS.

At this point, government has identified three species in the IWMS whose habitat requirements cannot be managed solely through WHAs, and are likely to exceed the one percent timber supply impact applied to the IWMS provincially. These species are called 'higher level plan species' in the IWMS, and include bull trout, fisher, and grizzly bear. The IWMS Volume 1 provides 'higher level plan recommendations' for these three species. These recommendations have been drafted by government staff for consideration by strategic land use planning tables and, if adopted, will help to ensure the population viability of these species.

Strategic land use planning tables which have not yet passed the scenario development stage may consider the recommendations for these 'higher level plan species', if this would not cause backtracking of the planning progress accomplished to date. In addition, they may recommend management objectives for these species that have a provincial aggregate timber supply impact greater than the one percent allocated to the IWMS. Where planning tables have passed the scenario development stage or where strategic land use plans have already been completed and approved, recommendations for 'higher level plan species' may be considered at the agreed-on times for plan review and amendment, unless otherwise directed by Cabinet.

Where a planning table wishes to consider the management of a 'higher level plan species', government members of the IPT should develop a range of management options for that species. The options may vary the amount of land to which the 'higher level plan recommendations' would be applied, and may identify different conservation risks and/or management objectives. Government staff will evaluate the environmental, social and economic impacts associated with each option before presenting this information to the full planning table.

'Higher level plan recommendations' from the IWMS are not mandatory, are not to be inferred as government direction, and are not intended to have application across the entire planning area. The recommendations are based on the best technical information on the species at this time, and some or all of them should be considered for application in localized portions of a planning area where the planning table intends to propose a conservation objective for the species. Where planning tables choose to address 'higher level plan species' they are expected to consider the 'higher level plan recommendations' along with other proposed timber and non-timber resource management objectives.

Government is not recommending any other species of Identified Wildlife be considered by planning tables at this time, and government agencies involved at planning tables will not be advocating that tables consider additional species from Volume 1 of the IWMS. This is because either their habitat requirements can be met by the strategy,

or there is insufficient information currently available to indicate that management through WHAs is inadequate. Should conservation assessments indicate that one or more other Volume 1 species cannot be adequately managed through the current provisions of the IWMS or other Code mechanisms, government may amend the strategy to include 'higher level plan recommendations' for the additional species. Additional 'higher level plan recommendations' are expected in Volume 2 of the IWMS, either as a result of the conservation assessments described above or to address the needs of additional species (e.g. Mountain caribou).

Notwithstanding the above direction, it is recognized that strategic land use planning tables may choose to recommend management objectives for any wildlife species. It is possible that recommendations from planning tables may imply a timber supply impact greater than the IWMS provincial limit of one percent. Regarding planning table recommendations for any Volume 1 Identified Wildlife species that do not already have HLP recommendations, government will consider the technical recommendations of staff as to the need for additional actions. It is unlikely that recommendations for additional species from Volume 1 of the IWMS will be approved by government unless the species are clearly shown, through conservation assessments, to require management measures that are incremental to the IWMS.

During plan approval, government will ensure all resource values have been addressed and will consider those recommendations that accomplish an acceptable balance between social, economic, and environmental values. Government is committed to continuing its work to establish higher level plans for approved land use plan recommendations, where higher level plans are necessary to ensure implementation.

In summary:

1. The IWMS is now released and provides the tools (WHAs and GWMs) to manage the approved Identified Wildlife species.
2. Three species (bull trout, fisher and grizzly bear) are identified as 'higher level plan species' because their habitat requirements cannot be managed solely through WHAs, and are likely to exceed the one percent timber supply impact applied to the IWMS provincially.
3. Strategic land use planning tables which have not yet passed the scenario development stage may consider recommendations for the 'higher level plan species', but they are not required to do so.
4. Strategic land use planning tables may recommend management objectives for any wildlife species, whether recognized as Identified Wildlife or not, and these recommendations may imply a timber supply impact greater than the IWMS provincial limit of one percent.
5. Government will consider technical advice from staff as to whether additional management actions are needed for Identified Wildlife that do not have HLP recommendations. Approval of recommendations incremental to the IWMS is unlikely, unless conservation assessments clearly indicate otherwise.
6. Government will ensure all resource values are addressed and will consider those recommendations that accomplish an acceptable balance between social, economic, and environmental values. It is anticipated that approved management objectives will be established as higher level plans, where this is necessary to ensure their implementation.

Signatures available on the official printed copy

Cassie Doyle

Deputy Minister

Ministry of Environment,

Lands and Parks

Larry Pedersen

Chief Forester

Ministry of Forests

Derek Thompson

Assistant Deputy Minister

Land Use Coordination Office

¹ For the purposes of the IWMS higher level plans are resource management zone objectives recommended by strategic land use planning tables and established as higher level plans by the three ministers responsible for the Forest Practices Code (MELP, MOF and MEM). Once higher level plans are established, forestry operations are legally bound to be consistent with them. Recommendations from planning tables that do not explicitly relate to forest resources and forest development are considered for policy status by government.

prj.adf

BC

Projection ALBERS
Datum NAD83
Zunits NO
Units METERS
Spheroid GRS1980
Xshift 0.0000000000
Yshift 0.0000000000

prj.edf

Parameters

50 0 0.000 /* 1st standard parallel
58 30 0.000 /* 2nd standard parallel
-126 0 0.000 /* central meridian
45 0 0.000 /* latitude of projection's origin
1000000.00000 /* false easting (meters)
0.00000 /* false northing (meters)

Current Status of Representative Areas Network by Ecoregion (October, 2000)

Selwyn Lake Upland Ecoregion (2,863,114 ha)

Original Protection:		0.00%
Current Proposals:		
Misaw Lake:	340,956 ha	11.91%
Chappuis/Fontaine Lakes:	147,460 ha ¹	5.15%
Total:	<hr/> 488,416 ha	17.06%

Tazin Lake Upland Ecoregion (1,798,772 ha)

Original Protection:		0.00%
Current Proposals:		
Tazin Lake:	124,190 ha	6.90%
Chappuis/Fontaine Lakes:	172,220 ha ¹	9.58%
Total:	<hr/> 296,410 ha	16.48%

Athabasca Plain Ecoregion (7,376,386 ha)

Original Protection:	206,539 ha	2.80%
Current Proposals:		
Firebag Lake:	15,000 ha	0.20%
	<hr/> 221,539 ha	3.00%

Churchill River Upland Ecoregion (11,339,303 ha)

Original Protection:	433,161 ha	3.82%
New RAN Sites:		
Jan Lake:	32,905 ha	0.29%
Mari Lake:	31,578 ha	0.28%
Sturgeon-Weir River:	4,569 ha	0.04%
Perry Lake:	39,674 ha	0.35%
Halldorson Bay:	6,687 ha	0.06%
Subtotal of New RAN Sites:	<hr/> 115,413 ha	1.02%
Current Proposals:		
Firebag Lake:	26,000 ha	0.23%
Pink Lake:	350,000 ha ²	3.09%
Geikie River:	260,000 ha ²	2.29%
Subtotal of Current Proposals:	<hr/> 636,000 ha	5.61%
Total:	<hr/> 1,184,574 ha	10.45%

Mid-Boreal Upland Ecoregion (10,196,448 ha)

Original Protection:	887,091 ha	8.70%
New RAN Sites:		
Pasquia-Porcupine:	45,486 ha	0.45%
McCusker Lake:	141,900 ha	1.39%
Primrose Lake:	28,883 ha	0.28%
Wapawekka Hills:	67,715 ha ¹	0.66%
Selenite Point:	3,207 ha	0.03%
Subtotal of New RAN Sites:	287,191 ha	2.81%
Current Proposals:		
Ile-a-la-Crosse:	3,740 ha	0.037%
Budd Lake:	59,000 ha	0.58%
Caribou Flats:	9,000 ha	0.088%
Turtle Lake:	1,800 ha	0.018%
Firebag Lake:	115,300 ha	1.13%
Subtotal Current Proposals:	188,840 ha	1.85%
Total:	1,363,122 ha	13.37%

Mid-Boreal Lowland Ecoregion (2,162,233 ha)

Original Protection:	20,757 ha	0.96%
New RAN Sites:		
Pasquia-Porcupine:	23,250 ha	1.08%
Seager Wheeler:	200,000 ha	9.25%
Amisk Lake:	1,702 ha	0.08%
Lobstick Lake:	86,445 ha ³	4.00%
Subtotal of New RAN Sites:	311,397 ha	14.41%
Total:	332,154 ha	15.36%

Boreal Transition Ecoregion (5,429,600 ha)

Original Protection:	438,169 ha	8.07%
New RAN Sites:		
Pasquia-Porcupine:	7,754 ha	0.14%
Current Proposals:		
Fort a la Corne:	2,500 ha ²	0.046%
Total:	448,423 ha	8.26%

Aspen Parkland Ecoregion (8,153,347 ha)

Original Protection:	356,301 ha	4.37%
Current Proposals:		
Quill Lakes:	24,200 ha	0.30%
Total:	380,501 ha	4.67%

Moist Mixed Grassland Ecoregion (6,788,886 ha)

Original Protection: 340,802 ha 5.02%

Mixed Grassland Ecoregion (8,636,548 ha)

Original Protection: 1,239,345 ha 14.36%

New RAN Sites:
Butala Ranch: 5,300 ha 0.06%

Total: 1,244,645 ha 14.41%

Cypress Upland Ecoregion (502,065 ha)

Original Protection: 100,965 ha 20.11%

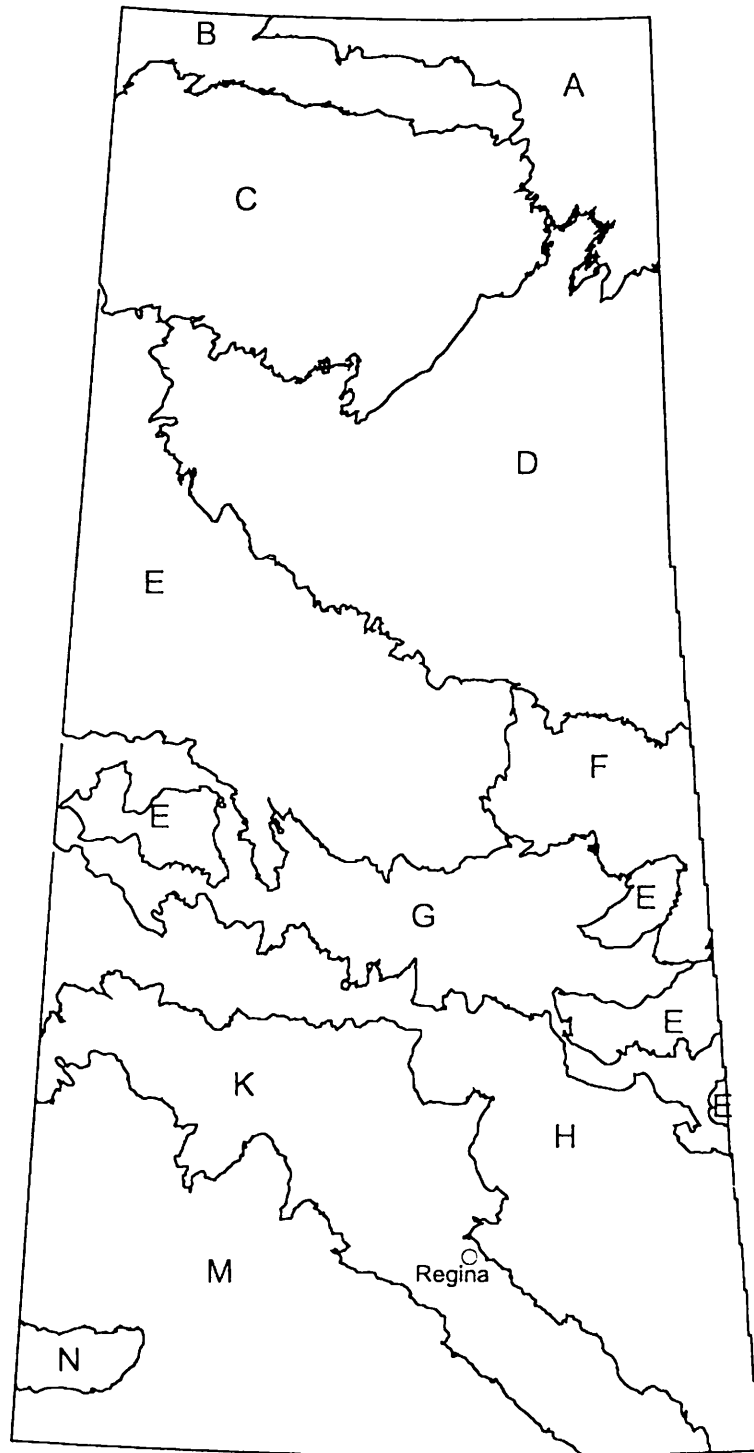
Total area of all Ecoregions: 65,246,702 ha
Total of existing RAN sites: 4,750,185 ha
Total of current RAN site proposals: 1,651,366 ha
Total of existing and proposed RAN sites: 6,401,551 ha
Total % of existing and proposed RAN sites: 9.81 %

¹ Part of the site is a Special Management Area where exploration and development are allowed under enhanced restrictions.

² Early stage proposals. The areas are estimated.

³ Permanent Crown Reserve over 22,900 ha. Remaining 63,545 ha has an interim 10 year Crown Reserve that will be reassessed starting in December, 2008 with updated geoscience and exploration information. An interim designation will also exist on the surface.

Murray C. Rogers
Geologist
October, 2000



- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| A - Selwyn Lake Upland | G - Boreal Transition |
| B - Tazin Lake Upland | H - Aspen Parkland |
| C - Athabasca Plain | K - Moist Mixed Grassland |
| D - Churchill River Upland | M - Mixed Grassland |
| E - Mid-boreal Upland | N - Cypress Upland |
| F - Mid-boreal Lowland | |

Figure 2. Ecoregions of Saskatchewan.