

**WHYCOCOMAGH PROVINCIAL PARK**

**DRAFT**

**MANAGEMENT STATEMENT**

**Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources**

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Whycocomagh Provincial Park is located on the Trans Canada Highway 105 at Whycocomagh, Inverness County, Nova Scotia. Overlooking the Bras d'Or Lake, one of Nova Scotia's premiere tourist destinations, the 212 hectare property provides opportunities for camping, hiking, picnicking, scenic viewing and lake access. Portions of the park are relatively undisturbed and provide opportunities to conserve natural values and ecological processes.

The purpose of this management statement is to define a vision and philosophy that will guide management decisions for Whycocomagh Provincial Park over the next 20 years. In addition, the management statement identifies the actions necessary to support that vision and philosophy.

In keeping with the legislative mandate of Nova Scotia's provincial parks system, four principal management objectives have been adopted for Whycocomagh Provincial Park. The first is to provide opportunities for a range of nature-based outdoor recreational activities. Secondly, important natural and cultural heritage values will be protected and conserved. Thirdly, the park will provide opportunities to understand and appreciate the park's heritage values. Fourthly, Whycocomagh Provincial Park will contribute to Nova Scotia's tourism industry by providing one of a limited number of public access points to the Bras d'Or Lake.

Park management priorities will be directed toward providing sustainable, nature-based outdoor recreational activities which compliment the park's setting on the Bras d'Or Lake. To that end, Whycocomagh Provincial Park will be classed as an Outdoor Recreation Park as defined by the Provincial Park Regulations. Protection and conservation of natural and cultural heritage values will also be a priority and in that regard 93 percent of the park is included in a Resource Conservation zone that emphasizes the conservation of heritage values. The remaining 7 percent of the park is included in a Recreation Development zone where facilities and services and park use is concentrated.

This management statement provides a framework for a proposed upgrading of park facilities and services which is expected to occur in 2010-11. This upgrading will occur largely within the existing park development footprint. Campsites and park roads will be upgraded to current standards, up to eight serviced (electrical) sites will be added, up to four yurts will be provided, the program area will be enhanced, and a group and program area shelter will be constructed.

Maintaining ecological integrity is an important goal of the park management statement. To that end, the Department will undertake an inventory of the park's flora and fauna. Where appropriate, measures will be implemented to minimize the impact of park visitors.

# **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

## **Nova Scotia's Provincial Park System**

The mandate of Nova Scotia's Provincial Parks System is to permanently protect significant elements of Nova Scotia's natural and cultural heritage while providing opportunities for compatible, ecologically-sustainable outdoor education, recreation and tourism. The Department of Natural Resources (DNR) is responsible for managing provincial parks as well as park reserves, trails and protected beaches.

This management statement will guide the management, development, and operation of Whycomomagh Provincial Park over the next 20 years. The management statement may be reviewed or amended as the need arises. Section 8.0 describes the process for the review and amendment of this management statement.

## **Whycomomagh Provincial Park**

Whycomomagh Provincial Park is a 212 hectare regionally-significant Outdoor Recreation class park located on the Bras d'Or Lake, one of Nova Scotia's most prominent tourism and outdoor recreation destinations. The park borders the Village of Whycomomagh, Inverness County, and is situated approximately 35 kilometres west of Baddeck and 50 kilometres east of Port Hawksbury (Figure 1). Highway 105 bisects the park. The park occupies a dramatic hillside overlooking the Bras d'Or Lake and Skye River Valley. Salt Mountain, at 240 metres above sea level, is the dominant natural feature of the park, and offers panoramic views of the Bras d'Or Lake and surrounding countryside.

Lands were first acquired for Whycomomagh Provincial Park in 1947 when 5 hectares were donated by the Whittemore family as a memorial to Hugh MacLennan. In 1959, Whycomomagh Provincial Park was officially opened, making it one of Nova Scotia's first provincial camping parks. Until the mid-1970's, the park was one of the busiest provincial campgrounds in Nova Scotia and during that time offered upwards of 150 campsites. Since the mid-1970's, however, campground use has declined dramatically due, in part, to trends in the tourism and camping. In particular, park facilities and services offered at Whycomomagh Provincial Park have not kept pace with changing camper expectations.

In 1972 Whycomomagh Provincial Park was designated under the Provincial Parks Act. Although various plans have been developed over the years to guide specific park development projects, a formal document that provides comprehensive park management direction has never been adopted.

## **Management Direction**

The Provincial Parks Act empowers the Minister of Natural Resources to prepare management direction to guide the long-term development and operation of a provincial park. To ensure management of Whycomomagh Provincial Park is consistent with the mandate of the provincial parks program, DNR has prepared this park management statement. This statement is also intended

to establish a policy and resource management framework that will provide guidance for a modest capital infrastructure redevelopment proposed for Whycomomagh Provincial Park in 2010.

The management statement is based on the Department's legislative mandate under the *Provincial Parks Act and Regulations*, its Provincial Parks Policy, other Provincial and Departmental policies and guidelines, together with the park's heritage and outdoor recreation values. The term heritage values, as used throughout this document, encompasses both cultural heritage and natural environments.

## **2.0 PARK CLASSIFICATION**

Nova Scotia's provincial parks are organized into broad classes or categories, each of which has particular purposes and characteristics. Provincial Park Regulations define seven classes of parks: Wildland; Natural Heritage Reserve; Historic; Natural Environment; Outdoor Recreational; Wayside; and, Wildlife. Each class contributes differently towards the provincial park system while collectively ensuring that the province's natural, cultural and recreational environments are protected.

Whycomomagh Provincial Park, by virtue of the opportunities it provides for outdoor recreational activities, will be managed as an Outdoor Recreational Park as defined by the Provincial Parks Regulations. An outdoor recreational park incorporates quality recreational resources capable of supporting a wide variety of outdoor activities and is established to meet the recreational needs of residents and visitors.

### **Park Goal**

The goal of Whycomomagh Provincial Park is to provide opportunities for a range of outdoor recreational opportunities, including camping, picnicking, hiking, scenic viewing and coastal access, while ensuring protection, understanding and appreciation of the park's heritage values. In addition, with much of the Bras d'Or Lake shoreline in private ownership, the park will play an important role in the regional and provincial tourism economy by providing public access to the Bras d'Or Lake.

### **Park System Objectives**

Nova Scotia's provincial parks system has five objectives as stated in the Provincial Parks Act:

- provide opportunities for a wide variety of outdoor recreational opportunities ranging from relatively high intensity near-urban facilities to low intensity wildland experiences.
- preserve unique, rare, representative or otherwise significant elements of the natural environment and historic resources of Nova Scotia.
- provide opportunities for exploration, understanding and appreciation of Nova Scotia's natural and cultural heritage through interpretation, information and educational programs.

- provide resident travellers and out-of-province visitors with opportunities to discover, experience and enjoy Nova Scotia's distinctive outdoor recreational and heritage resources.
- assemble and maintain, within a system of provincial parks and park reserves, a land base adequate to meet present and future needs of Nova Scotians for outdoor recreation and heritage resource protection.

Whycocomagh Provincial Park will contribute to these objectives by providing sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities which complement its setting on the Bras d'Or Lake while ensuring the park's ecological integrity is maintained. In addition, the park will ensure that park visitors have an opportunity to better understand and appreciate park values.

### **3.0 PARK VALUES**

#### **Natural Heritage**

Whycocomagh Provincial Park is found in the Nova Scotia Uplands Ecoregion, a geologically diverse and complex area stretching from Cape Chignecto, Cumberland County, to Kellys Mountain, Victoria County. Elevations within this ecoregion generally range from 150 to 300 metres above sea level. The Uplands Ecoregion is further subdivided into eight ecodistricts that have been judged distinctive on the basis of broad-scale elevation, macro climate as influenced by elevation, coastal proximity, geology and landforms. The park falls within two of these ecodistricts - Cape Breton Hills and Bras d'Or Lowlands.

A majority of Whycocomagh Provincial Park is located within the Cape Breton Hills Ecodistrict. In this ecodistrict the higher, steep-sloped hills are underlain with older resistant rocks and are covered with well-drained, moderately coarse textured tills. In general, the lower, more gradually sloping hills are underlain by coarse carboniferous sediments. The soils tend to be imperfectly drained, fine textured tills. This ecodistrict is predominantly covered with a tolerant hardwood forest with scattered spruce and fir. Yellow birch, sugar maple and red maple grow on better drained soils.

The Bras d'Or Lowlands ecodistrict encompasses the lowland areas around the Bras d'Or Lake and the Sydney coalfield, Boularderie Island and the Salmon River Valley on the east side of the East Bay Hills. In comparison to the surrounding uplands, this ecodistrict benefits from a more moderate climate due to its proximity to the Bras d'Or Lake and the shelter afforded by the surrounding uplands of the Cape Breton Hills ecodistrict.

The predominant forest species on the lowlands include black and white spruce. On steeper slopes, white pine can be found, while red spruce and hemlock can be found in the valley canyons, steep ravines and along some watercourses coming off the uplands. The clearing of land by early settlers and then subsequent abandonment of the fields and pastures has given rise to large areas of old field white spruce.

Whycocomagh Provincial Park itself is dominated by the steep-sided valley slopes of Whycocomagh and Salt Mountains and dissected by Saltwater Brook. For the most part, the section of the Bras d'Or Lake coastline is composed of steep, high, and somewhat eroding glacial tills.

The dominant surficial material is a thin layer of predominantly rock rubble overlying predominantly sedimentary bedrock on steep-sided valley slopes. Less frequent are thin veneers of glacial till over bedrock on mountain-top flats and imperfectly to well drained moderately coarse textured tills on undulating to rolling terrain in the campground area. A small floodplain area is restricted to the western part of the day-use area, along Saltwater Brook. All surficial materials produce moderately coarse to coarse-textured soils.

The vegetation is more or less equally distributed between old-field white spruce forests, intolerant hardwood forests, tolerant hardwood forests, and the open fields and developed portions of the campground and day-use areas. A few very small groves of eastern hemlock are located along the eastern slope of Saltwater Brook.

This park does not protect representative natural values associated with the Bras d'Or Lowlands ecodistrict. It does, however, provide limited protection of representative natural values for the Cape Breton Hills ecodistrict, representing well one of 19 ecosection types associated with that ecodistrict (well-drained, medium-textured ecosection). Overall, ecological integrity is limited due to extensive park development and relative small size of the property.

## **Marine Environment**

While the boundaries of Whycocomagh Provincial Park do not include any portion of the Bras d'Or Lake, the park does have a fairly extensive frontage on the lake. This frontage provides public access to one of Nova Scotia's most popular tourism attractions in a landscape that is otherwise dominated by private ownership.

The Bras d'Or Lake is an irregular brackish body of water covering 260 square kilometres. The western part of the lake is generally shallow, with the sheltered bays of West Bay, Denys Basin, and Whycocomagh Bay. Three long narrow arms extend to the east: East Bay, St. Andrews Channel, and Great Bras d'Or Channel. Great Bras d'Or Channel connects to the open sea in the Sydney Bight across a depth of at least 8 metres. Little Bras d'Or Channel is a 6-metre deep, sinuous estuary that connects St. Andrews Channel with the sea. A narrow isthmus at St. Peters separates the southern part of Bras d'Or Lake from St. Peters Bay.

The Bras d'Or Lake occupies a regional lowland that developed in soft Windsor Group rocks before the Quaternary glacial period. Some deepening of the floor of the lake might have resulted from solution collapse of gypsum, but the main excavation of the very deep channels (280 metres in St. Andrews Channel, 81 metres in East Bay) appears to be a consequence of glacial erosion, probably over hundreds of thousands of years through the Quaternary. The cliffs bordering the lake are unusual because they preserve organic sediments predating the last glaciation that provide a window on earlier environmental conditions.



The shallowness of the links between the Bras d'Or Lake and the Atlantic Ocean have resulted in a complex post-glacial history. Final melting of glacial ice probably occurred about 10,000 years after the Younger Dryas climatic oscillation. The first sediments deposited above glacial till in the central part of the lake, probably 10,000 to 9,000 years ago, contain dinocysts that indicate some penetration of marine water into the lake. The relatively high sea level inferred at this time reflects the continuing depression of the land from loading by glacial ice. Rebound from this depression cut off marine-water influx from about 9,000 to 4,500 years ago and the Bras d'Or Lake was fresh. Late Holocene subsidence resulted in a renewed influx of marine water in the last 4,500 years. The effects of this subsidence are seen in the transgressive character of many of the shoreline features and the extensive shoals of upper Whycomomagh Bay, Nyanza Bay, and Denys Basin, which lay at the mid-Holocene lake shoreline. Coastal erosion of glacial sediments has led to the formation of many sandy and gravelly barrier beaches and spits.

## **Flora**

Prior to the establishment of Whycomomagh Provincial Park, the property's forests had been harvested, perhaps several times, and portions cleared for agriculture. Since 1959, a section of the property has been developed for park infrastructure and public use. No systematic inventories have been conducted on the flora of this park.

Of interest in this otherwise anthropologically-disturbed landbase, are relatively natural areas located in the upper reaches of Saltwater Brook and on the slopes and hilltop of Salt Mountain. Several small stands of eastern hemlock are located along Saltwater Brook. There are no known endangered or at-risk flora within Whycomomagh Provincial Park.

## **Fauna**

Despite its small land base, past disturbance and existing park development, Whycomomagh Provincial Park provides habitat for a range of terrestrial fauna. Wintering white-tailed deer have taken advantage of the abundant wild apple crop over the years and the park has been home to a small herd (up to 25) in the past. Whycomomagh Provincial Park was also one site chosen for the release of Pine Martin in an effort to re-establish a native population. Small mammals such as snowshoe hare, raccoons and skunks are common.

With the abundance of blueberries, blackberries and raspberries, and fruit bearing shrubs and trees, a considerable assortment of song birds are found within the park. Bald eagles frequent the skies over the park, taking advantage of the thermal drafts along the edges of Salt Mountain. With its proximity to the Bras d'Or Lake, osprey are often seen from the park.

The adjoining Bras d'Or Lake is support a variety of marine life, including American Oyster, sand shrimp, Blueback Herring, Black-spotted Stickleback, and a southern population of Greenland Cod. A feral population of Rainbow Trout and a native population of Brook Trout are present in the lake as well. These support strong populations of Great Blue Heron, Double-crested Cormorant, and Bald eagle.

## **Cultural Heritage**

The Whycomomagh area, and the broader Bras d'Or Lake region, is of high cultural significance to the Mi'kmaq people. The Waycobah First Nation is located near Whycomomagh Provincial Park. The area is also a centre of Scottish heritage in Nova Scotia.

At Whycomomagh Provincial Park three separate but adjoining farmsteads dating from the early to mid-1800s provided open agricultural pastures and fields. Remnants of the park's agricultural past, in the form of stone piles, stone fences, building foundations and apple orchards can still be readily located.

## **Outdoor Recreation**

Whycomomagh Provincial Park offers a 62-site campground, picnic area, access to the Bras d'Or Lake, washroom and showers, playground, group campsite, trailer dumping station and over 5 kilometres (3 miles) of trails that provide invigorating hikes to the summit of Salt Mountain. The Bras d'Or Lake is important for recreational boating. The significance of Whycomomagh Provincial Park in an outdoor recreation context is that it offers one of the few public access points to Bras d'Or Lake and it is located on the Trans-Canada Highway, a major tourism route.

## **Outdoor Education**

In recent years, a well-attended "Campfire Series" educational program has been offered at Whycomomagh Provincial Park to provide varied interpretive venues for both park clients and the general public. The focal point of these talks, displays and demonstrations has largely been around a "campfire pit" located in the park's program area. Other interpretive displays are located at the summit of Salt Mountain, and two commemorative plaques have been erected within the park.

The park has also been identified in a study currently in progress as having potential to present Mi'kmaq stories and culture.

## **Tourism**

Whycomomagh Provincial Park is located on the Trans Canada Highway overlooking the Bras d'Or Lake, one of Nova Scotia's most popular tourism destination areas. Once heavily used by the travelling public, park use has declined significantly over the past 40 years in part due to a outdated facilities and upgraded services.

The local Whycomomagh Development Commission, a corporate body consisting of local business owners and entrepreneurs, has been highly supportive of initiatives to encourage increased park usage and overall tourism. Through their direct efforts, laundry facilities have been established in

the park, a first for Nova Scotia's provincial parks system. The result has been to increase the length of camper stays which, in turn, has generated added benefits to the local economy.

## **4.0 PARK ZONING**

Park zoning allocates park lands and waters on the basis of the importance attached to their protection as heritage resources and to their capability and suitability for recreational use and associated facility and service development. Zoning defines the degree of protection, conservation, and development that may occur within respective park areas. The Provincial Parks Regulations establishes three park zones: Environmental Protection, Resource Conservation, and Recreation Development. The first two are protection-oriented, while the third allows for more intensive development and use.

The Resource Conservation and Recreation Development zones will be used at Whycomomagh Provincial Park (Figure 2).

### **Resource Conservation Zone**

The Resource Conservation Zone includes those areas of the park containing significant natural, cultural, and recreational features and landscapes that require a high standard of conservation. This zone permits activities and land uses that do not conflict with or compromise the inherent natural character and aesthetic qualities of the park.

The Resource Conservation Zone may also incorporate and protect small, scattered sites with highly sensitive or significant natural or historic sites and features. These sites and features may otherwise warrant inclusion within an Environmental Protection Zone but due to the limited landbase involved, have been incorporated into the Resource Conservation Zone. Planning for any activities or land uses within the Resource Conservation Zone must consider the full range of protection options as the priority.

Within the Resource Conservation Zone are several non-park developments that are typically viewed as inconsistent with the intent of this zone. A high voltage power transmission line parallels Highway 105 and two municipal wells and associated water storage tank, as well as a communications tower, are located just off the Whycomomagh Mountain Road. All developments were approved prior to adoption of park zoning and this management statement and given the relatively limited landbase involved, it was felt appropriate to include them within the Resource Conservation Zone.

Those Resource Conservation Zone represents approximately 93 percent of the park.

### **Recreational Development Zone**

A Recreational Development Zone includes an area of a park that is capable of supporting the development of facilities and services associated with outdoor recreation activities and more intensive visitor use. This zone is used to focus park facilities and services, as well as public use, within the most appropriate park areas without compromising protection-oriented values of the park.

The Recreation Development Zone encompasses lands associated with the campground and day-use area and represents about 7 percent of the park landbase.

## **5.0 DEVELOPMENT POLICIES**

All park development undertaken by the Department of Natural Resources will strive to meet site planning and development standards for provincial parks. In the case of a park redevelopment such as proposed for Whycomagh Provincial Park, it may not be possible to meet all standards. In those situations, effort will be made to achieve as closely as possible the relevant standards.

Park development provides the facilities, infrastructure and appropriate opportunities necessary to ensure appreciation and enjoyment of the park. Whycomagh Provincial Park has been in operation since 1959. On the north side of Highway 105, park elements include a 62-site campground with associated facilities and services (park administration, washroom and showers, playground, group campsite, program area and trailer dumping station) and over 5 kilometres of hiking trails. On the south side of Highway 105, a day-use area provides a picnic loop and access to the Bras d'Or Lake. This level of development, which occupies less than 7 percent of the park land base, is consistent with the property's classification as an Outdoor Recreation Park, and with the level of development in similar provincial parks.

A redevelopment of the park is planned for 2010 (Figure 3). While still in the planning stages, the redevelopment is intended to occur largely within the existing development footprint of the campground and day-use areas. Proposed redevelopments include upgrades to existing campsites and roads, construction of new road sections, the addition of up to eight serviced (electrical) campsites, remediation of water drainage issues in the campground, construction of a group and program area shelter, the addition of up to four yurts and relocation of the existing playground to a more central location within the program area.

## **6.0 ZONE-SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT POLICIES**

Lands within Whycomagh Provincial Park are zoned in accordance with their heritage values and their need for protection. Zones differentiate the sensitivity of the heritage values and the permissible degree of development, recreational uses, and management practices within the park.

Two zones are identified within the park: Resource Conservation and Recreation Development.

### **Resource Conservation Zone**

Resource Conservation zones include areas of the park containing important natural, cultural, and recreational features and landscapes that require a high standard of conservation. This zone permits activities and land uses that do not conflict with or compromise the inherent natural character and aesthetic qualities of the park. Development is generally limited to hiking trails, scenic look-offs, signage and minimal interpretive facilities.

The Resource Conservation Zone is the largest of the two zones used at Whycomomagh Provincial Park. This zone protects the most undisturbed areas of the park while permitting limited infrastructure such as hiking trails, directional signage, look-offs, and minimal interpretive facilities.

Development will be limited to those activities that do not conflict with the focus on conservation and protection of park values. Specifically, infrastructure will be restricted to that which supports low-intensity, non-motorized recreational activities such as hiking and walking trails, directional signage, scenic look-offs and self-directed interpretive information. New trails will be developed only in areas that will not impact ecologically significant features.

### **Recreation Development Zone**

This zone encompasses much of the day-use area along the Bras d'Or Lake as well as the campground on the north side of Highway 105. Development in this zone will be limited to infrastructure associated with car camping and picnicking, a program area, trails, and park administrative functions. There are currently 62 campsites and this number will not change appreciably as a result of the proposed park redevelopment.

Recreation Development zones typically include car camping and day-use areas, along with associated facilities and services. This zone also includes areas of intensive park use.

## **7.0 OPERATIONAL POLICIES**

Whycomomagh Provincial Park will be operational for both overnight and day-use activities.

### **Park Operating Plan**

A park operating plan will be prepared to provide the necessary information required to operate the park on a day-to-day basis. In addition to addressing the following operational policies, the park operating plan will include such topics as budget, staffing, public health and safety, maintenance schedules and enforcement.

## **Cultural Heritage**

Remnants of past settlement and agricultural use of Whycomomagh Provincial Park (e.g. foundations, stone walls, old orchards, old fields) are found throughout the park. These heritage sites will not be actively managed but they will be protected by provisions of the Provincial Parks Act, associated Regulations and provisions of this management plan.

## **Geocache**

Several geocache sites are located within Whycomomagh Provincial Park. When conducted properly, geocaching is an appropriate activity within most provincial parks. Geocache sites will be identified within the park and those not properly located will be removed. All geocache sites must meet the requirements of the Department's Geocaching Policy.

## **Vegetation Management**

The Department of Natural Resources has developed guidelines to provide clear direction on vegetation management objectives and options within provincial parks. These guidelines will be applied to Whycomomagh Provincial Park.

In the context of Whycomomagh Provincial Park, the following zone-based guidelines help define the general approach to vegetation management:

- Vegetation management must be consistent with park goals and objectives
- Within the Resource Conservation Zone, a non-intervention approach will be adopted so that evolutionary natural processes will be maintained. Within trail corridors and scenic look-offs, vegetation will be managed for access, safety and to maintain viewscales.
- Within the Recreation Development Zone, vegetation management may be undertaken to allow for the development of park facilities and services, associated open spaces and to address public safety issues.

## **Natural and Cultural Heritage Education**

The goal of heritage education is to develop visitor awareness and appreciation of the natural and cultural heritage of Nova Scotia's provincial parks. Heritage education programming at Whycomomagh Provincial Park will focus on the self-use level with interpretive signage and displays at key locations. Park education and/or interpretive events such as the "Campfire Series" may also enhance educational programming. Partnership opportunities with the Mi'kmaq community will be explored to foster greater visitor knowledge.

## **8.0 SPECIAL MANAGEMENT ISSUES**

## **Park Boundary**

In 2003, the Province acquired a 7.7 hectare property adjoining Whycomagh Provincial Park (see Figure 3, Area “D”) and assigned administrative responsibility to DNR through the provincial parks program. As the balance of Whycomagh Provincial Park is designated under the Parks Act, this recent acquisition should also be designated under that legislation as part of the park to enhance management capabilities.

Between Provincial Park Road, which provides access to the campground, and Highway 105, two parcels of parkland are separated by a 3.5 hectare private property (PID # 50113794). Acquisition of this property on a willing seller-willing buyer basis would consolidate the two disjunct parcels of parkland, offer enhanced options for future park development and protect against future uses that might be incompatible with the provincial park.

Three additional privately-owned properties totalling approximately 1.5 hectares are located on the south side of Highway 105, adjacent to the park’s day-use. Options for acquiring these properties should also be explored.

## **Research**

A comprehensive inventory of the flora and fauna within Whycomagh Provincial Park has not been completed. Such an inventory would assist park managers in ensuring that park values have been identified and enable appropriate management decisions to be made. The Department of Natural Resources, either utilizing its own staff or in partnership with others, should ensure that such an inventory is completed in the near future.

## **9.0 MANAGEMENT STATEMENT REVIEW**

The vision and objectives of this management statement are intended to guide the management of Whycomagh Provincial Park for the next 20 years. A management statement can be reviewed or amended to address changing issues or conditions. In 10 years, or sooner if necessary or desirable, this statement will be examined for the need to review or amend. A review may involve a reassessment of all or part of the statement, including classification, zoning, goal, objectives, and all resource management, development, and operational policies. An amendment can be considered to address specific changes or needs. In considering any significant deviation from this management statement, the Department will provide opportunity for public review and comment.