



**BC Parks  
Kootenay Okanagan Region**

**Silver Star Park Draft Management Plan Public Feedback  
Compiled Public Comments Received through Online Form**

**Date Range: December 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021**

**Note: The entries contained herein are direct extracts from public submissions and have not been corrected for grammar, etc.**

**The range of questions are as follows:**

*What type of activities do you like to do in the park or in the general land area?*

*Page 2 to 7*

*What are your general thoughts about the management plan?*

*Page 8 to 17*

*Have the draft objectives/strategies addressed your key management issues in the park?*

*Page 18 to 24*

*Is BC Parks missing any information that would assist this management planning process?*

*Page 25 to 30*

**Additional comments received by email (not through the Online Form)**

*Page 31*

***What type of activities do you like to do in the park or in the general land area?***

Mountain biking, hiking, snowmobiling.

\*\*\*

Nordic skiing, and hiking. We alpine ski at the adjacent Silverstar resort and might take up mountain biking.

\*\*\*

Biking, downhill skiing, hiking xcountry skiing

\*\*\*

Cross country skiing at Sovereign is my primary activity in the winter

\*\*\*

Hunting, Horseback Riding

\*\*\*

Mountain bike and skiing

\*\*\*

XC ski, alpine ski, xc mountain bike, road bike

\*\*\*

Winter: cross-country ski, snowshoe, and snow board  
Summer: Cross country mountain bike both at sovereign and silver star, road ride into the park to silver star, downhill mountain bike, and trail running

\*\*\*

downhill ski, cross country ski, mountain bike, hiking, snowshoeing

\*\*\*

nordic skiing, backcountry skiing, mountain biking, king, trail running, alpine skiing, occasional bike park (lift serviced) biking.

\*\*\*

Mountainbike in summer, Nordic skiing in winter.

\*\*\*

Snowshoe, cross country ski, mountain bike (class 1 e bike), hike.

\*\*\*

mountain biking, fat tire biking (winter), snow shoeing, generally enjoying nature and exercise outdoors.

\*\*\*

Snowmobile and snowshoe

\*\*\*

snowmobiling.

\*\*\*

-nature appreciation  
-cross country skiing

\*\*\*

Snowshoeing and Cross country skiing

\*\*\*

Snowmobiling and cross country skiing within park, ATViing in general.

\*\*\*

Nordic skiing, snowshoeing

\*\*\*

Cross country ski, Back country ski, Downhill ski, Snowshoe, Hike, Mountain bike

\*\*\*

Cross country skiing, snowshoeing, ski touring, tobogganing, skijoring

\*\*\*

Hiking: summer  
Snowshoeing: winter

\*\*\*

Cross country skiing, snow shoeing, mountain biking and hiking.

\*\*\*

Hike, ski, scootering, snowshoeing

\*\*\*

Cross country skiing both classic and skate skiing.

\*\*\*

Mountain bike and cross country ski

\*\*\*

Nordic ski, snow shoe, mountain bike

\*\*\*

Mountain biking and trail running. Backcountry skiing in some steeper areas. Occasionally I've snowshoed just to get off the beaten path.  
Nordic skiing

\*\*\*

I have been an Alpine skier at Silver Star since 1959 and still ski 50 days or more. My father helped develop Sovereign Lake Nordic center. I worked as a telecom tech for BC Hydro and accessed the microwave repeater many times. My family and I enjoy snowshoeing the parks trails as opposed to the pay trails. I enjoy mountain biking and hiking at Silver Star in the summer as well.

\*\*\*

Mountain biking, cross country skiing, hiking.

\*\*\*

mountain biking, fat biking, snowshoeing, skiing, snowboarding, XC skiing, hiking

\*\*\*

I enjoy hiking and mountain biking in the summer and snow shoeing in the winter.

\*\*\*

cross country mountain biking, snowshoeing, xc skiing (both classic and skate), and finally hiking too!

\*\*\*

more opportunities for recreation in this park would be awesome!

\*\*\*

Summer: Mountain biking, hiking  
Winter: Nordic skiing, snowshoeing

\*\*\*

Mountain biking and camping!

\*\*\*

Mountain Biking, XC and DH Skiing

\*\*\*

Cross Country ski and Mtn bike and snow shoe

\*\*\*

We typically mountain bike at Sovereign area several dozen times per year. We also cross country mountain bike at silverstar resort whenever we have access. We also ski 50+days in the winter. We are NOCS members and help out with trail maintenance whenever possible.

\*\*\*

Mountain Bike , Hike, Back Country Skiing and Nordic Skiing

\*\*\*

Mountain biking!! Not at the resort but in the park elsewhere would be fantastic!

\*\*\*

Hike snowshoe ski tour

\*\*\*

Mountain bike, ski, hike

\*\*\*

Mountain Bike, Fat Bike, Snowshoe, and Nordic Skiing

\*\*\*

Our family are avid users of Silver Star Mountain in summer and winter and recently have been enjoying the facilities offered by Sovereign Lake. We primarily utilize the nordic skiing, snoeshowing and and mountain biking trails in Silver Star Park.

\*\*\*

Mountain biking and snow shoeing.

\*\*\*

Mountain biking, snowshoeing, Cross-country skiing. Downhill skiing and hiking at SilverStar mountain resort.

\*\*\*

I mountain bike, downhill ski, xc ski, and snowmobile

\*\*\*

Mountain Bike, Snowshoe, Cross-country Ski, Snowboard

\*\*\*

summer: hiking and cycling

winter: nordic skiing & some downhill skiing, snowshoeing

\*\*\*

My favourite activities in Silver Star Park are backcountry and nordic skiing. I also enjoy snowshoeing.

\*\*\*

Nordic skiing and hiking

\*\*\*

Snowshoeing, cross country skiing, hiking, nature appreciation and field studies

\*\*\*

Primarily nordic skiing and some snow shoeing.

\*\*\*

I am a full time Silver Star resident. I mainly use the trails at Sovereign in the summer to walk and occasional cross country skiing in winter.

\*\*\*

Cross-country skiing  
hiking  
biking

\*\*\*

Nordic skiing and snowshoeing

The Nordic skiing is incredible with early season snow. I believe slnc should open with groomed trails as soon as possible with adequate snow. 20 cm is enough to start packing.

\*\*\*

Cross Country skiiing. snow shoeing, hiking and horseback riding.

\*\*\*

***What are your general thoughts about the management plan?***

Great to see this happening!

A more detailed map overlay with the Nature Rec Zone and trails would be useful. Overall it seems useful to extend the NR into the SW corner to provide opportunity for future trail expansion and connections with adjacent land more easily.

\*\*\*

Well written and constructed. Outlines the multiple factors and helpful use of images, maps.

Missing synthesis of all the information such as statement of implications or simple description of conflict of use.

In my personal use of the park, I find that Recreational Snowmobiles smell terrible and their exhaust lingers in the air. Dirty engines. Noisy, disruptive and unwelcome in close proximity to nordic trails. Recreational snowmobile day use seems incompatible with non-motorized recreation like hiking, backcountry skiing or Nordic skiing

\*\*\*

I like the plan.

\*\*\*

The management plan was extremely interesting to read and I found it very comprehensive.

\*\*\*

There have been recent changes to the SSP in regard to the permitting of hunting and the zones that are available, and I don't think these are addressed sufficiently .

\*\*\*

Looks like it's well thought out and considers all stakeholders. It would be great if there could be a plan for a cohesive mountain bike trail network which can allow for challenging trails for all levels of abilities (novice to expert) while keeping sensitive areas in mind.

\*\*\*

It appears to be a very comprehensive review of the ecosystems and impacts, past, present and future.

\*\*\*

Overall the plan looks good. Great that the OK band and other aboriginal groups are consulted with changes

\*\*\*

I'm hoping we can accommodate all of the user groups. My thoughts are that in the future we need to provide more opportunities for non-motorized recreation

\*\*\*

Good to see continued support for the mountain biking. I think more easily accessible hiking would attract more locals to the park in summer.

\*\*\*

Good

\*\*\*

Too restrictive in the wilderness management zone. Please enable more well planned biking trails that can create larger /longer loops with easy/intermediate skill level. NOCS appears willing to assist in management of trails. BC Parks has almost fully delegated this responsibility? Why not have BC Parks build some nicely constructed easy technical multi use trails and marry them up with NOCS trail networks.

Too much emphasis on climate change - I feel you are wasting your vital resources doing research in this park. The representation of "natural ecosystems" for the park can be captured in many areas of the Okanagan Timber Supply areas. Research institutions can do the research more effectively independent of BC Parks.

Too much emphasis on bio-diversity. Leaving the park alone simply creates forest slums and ultimately they burn - in many cases catastrophically. Manage this park for all the important recreation values and you will automatically maintain healthy ecosystems throughout. I believe this BC Park should have the highest priority in it's management plan for recreation for the enjoyment of the public of BC. This plan tries to "do" too much but in reality you won't be able to do it due to lack of budget. Focus on the core recreation objectives and prepare the management plan accordingly with accountability and action plans that support your Service Plans and budgets.

\*\*\*

I agree with the principals and considerations of the plan, I would like to see allowance for expansion of trail networks for public access to mountain biking / snow shoeing, outside of and connected to Silver Star Resort. The key value I would like to see is an inclusive rather than restrictive approach to recreational usage of the park and trails.

\*\*\*

Seems very one sided towards the SLNC. BC Parks is going to support the SLNC to revitalize the day use lodge and associated facilities, but the snowmobile cabin that was built before I was born is all on the VSA to upgrade. That's terrible. Not to mention the facilities (or lack of) in the parking lots.

\*\*\*

Very good.

\*\*\*

-It appears that a major focus of this Plan is to carry on existing activities and allow for new cabins and a bigger parking lot.  
-The terminology used is very general and does not focus on taking action (e.g. "explore", "subject to available resources and funding", "consider", "foster efforts", "encourage", "promote"). Is this more of a "plan to plan" than a "plan for action"?

\*\*\*

The management plan does a good job to strike a balance between the various user groups and supporting their needs while preserving the natural value of the park. I support the development of sustainable trails and infrastructure where needed within the NR and IR zones.

\*\*\*

I support the upgrade and expansion of the day-use lodge at Sovereign Lake Nordic Centre  
I support the upgrading/expansion of the snowmobile parking lot. Presently there are so many snowshoers trying to park in that lot and there is insufficient space allocated to them.

\*\*\*

Good to see focus on healthy, non-motorized activities that have minimal harm to the environment. Limited snowmobile use seems to be ok, although noise and exhaust fumes are stressful and harmful to animal and bird populations.

\*\*\*

Fairly comprehensive and clear. The three management zones seem distinct and reasonable. However, I wonder if it is possible to determine regions that currently have very limited human access and therefore could be set aside to protect their ecology and conservation, with absolutely no recreation or visitation use. In other words, protect regions as pure wilderness - and create a 4th Zone with no recreational use at all.  
There seems to be no action outline as to implementation of the management plan.

\*\*\*

The plan looks very good. One suggestion would be to develop a long-term solution to the fragmented park. The park was split into two separated sections when 500 hectares was deleted in the southeast corner for Silver Star Resort's proposed golf course. The course was supposed to open in 2000, but it was never built. It may never be completed. Regardless, the East site is never used for recreation. It will likely be added to the resort's CRA in the future once more chairlifts are added in the Vance Creek drainage. Therefore, the East site should be deleted, but the same amount of land should be added to the west side of the West site, with the objective of establishing a linear corridor for skiing all the way back to Vernon. I have skied from Sovereign Lake to Vernon and also to Armstrong many times, and it is an interesting and enjoyable adventure. With an official maintained trail corridor, skiing back from Sovereign Lake to Vernon could become a very popular pastime. The same corridor could be used for mountain biking as well.

\*\*\*

The plan seems to protect the environment while also allowing locals the use of it.

\*\*\*

Environmental impact and stress of snowmobile noise and exhaust fumes on wildlife, bird life, and early spring bird nesting activities.

\*\*\*

Please limit power vehicles (motorcycles, etc.) from the Sovereign trails.  
Create better maps.

\*\*\*

Overall ok

\*\*\*

With the increased membership of SLNC, there is definitely a need for a new Lodge to allow space for its members and all the various cross country ski and snow shoeing activities.

\*\*\*

Would like expanded trail network for mountain biking

\*\*\*

In Section 4.1 you state "To avoid new trail clearing/forest canopy removal, foster efforts to utilize existing trails for multiple uses (e.g., early seasonal use of snowmobile trails as Nordic trail alternatives where feasible)." Using snowmobile trails for early season use for nordic makes no sense given where the snowmobile trails are located. Why would Sovereign spend time and money packing and grooming trails only to use them for a short period of time. There is no value to a skier for doing this as there are plenty of early season trails in the Sovereign network that work well already. Early season really is only November anyway, and often only the first part of November. Is your intent here simply to say, no new nordic trails? If so, say that. Continuing in Section 4.1 under "Nordic Skiing" you state in parentheses "e.g., partnering on signage, event planning, trail and facility strategies/development, social media/public outreach.". Does this mean BC Parks wants to be a partner in running the nordic club? The wording is not clear what you mean. If you want to be a partner, is there money coming with that as all I see is overhead having to deal with Parks on operational issues but no funding. Another point "Encourage SLNC to harmonize the Nordic ski trail system's signage, facility optics, and marketing with that of the BC Parks' brand. " SLNC has spent a lot of time and money over the years improving its trail signage, most recently over the past several years. Are you suggesting replacing all of that signage in order to "harmonize" the signs with your brand? Will you fund this or offload it onto SLNC which is a non-profit organization (which is fortunate enough to have a small staff but cannot absorb additional overhead from Parks)? BC Parks signs are expensive, and there are nearly 100 hundred intersections on the trail network meaning the investment would be significant. Where is the value in doing this? By encouraging marketing with BC Parks brand, you are also adding another layer of overhead onto the club by requiring all things to run through Parks. Do you have the staff to do this in a timely fashion, or any money to go along with this "encouragement"? I am glad to see BC Parks paying attention to this area and a good example is the new signage in the snow shoe area. This was badly needed and my observation is that this has resulted in a large user increase in this trail network so thank you for that. But that shouldn't mean you should spend money on areas that don't need it (e.g., harmonizing Sovereign nordic trail signs). Use your budget and staff resources to add or fix things that are really broken/missing in Silverstar Park, or anywhere through the parks network. A good example of what I am talking about is the new outhouse in the snowshoe parking lot, excellent!

\*\*\*

I am happy to see that a management plan is in progress because I have concerns about the water quality degradation in the watersheds contained in the park.

I also have an issue with not being able to access the wilderness areas of the park without paying to go through the Controlled Recreation Area. I believe the park should have better access to everyday citizens who just want to go for a snowshoe, back country ski or hike much like other provincial parks.

\*\*\*

It's fine. Nothing unexpected. Although I don't understand why backcountry skiing and dogs are allowed in nature areas but mountain bikers are not. Dogs chase wildlife. I'm not suggesting that mountain bikers do not disrupt wildlife either but maybe the rules should apply to all and not a few. People out backcountry skiing or snowshoeing in those areas will not have their dogs on leashes.

\*\*\*

Overall seems well thought out. There is currently no mention of fat biking in the winter months and I feel this should be allowed/developed/encouraged.

\*\*\*

Looks pretty good, would love more mountain bike trails to be built. They are great for hiking and biking in the summer but also make perfect snow shoe trails in the winter. This seems to cater to all the main non xc ski user groups which is great for everyone.

\*\*\*

one example is: fire suppression is a good thing...we could cut fire breaks farther out towards the northern boundary and use them for both recreational purposes (new xc ski trails) as well as for the fire suppression...

\*\*\*

The plan is an excellent outline of what is, I do think that a method for evolving the size of the Nature Recreation Zone with agreement from stakeholders needs to be included in the plan. As usage and population grow their will be need for modifications in order to protect areas from over use which could be done by accommodating an increase in the Nature Recreation Zone in other areas.

\*\*\*

Increased bike trails outside of the silverstar bike park authority would be great for the area. A provincial camp site would also be good, even recreation sites that are unserviced.

\*\*\*

It appears to be thorough and to take all user groups into account.

As park usage continues to grow, I hope to see the trail networks expanded (snowshoeing, Nordici skiing, mountain biking) so people can disperse and have a nature experience.

I like that an outhouse was added at the snowshoe parking lot. It is well used.  
I like that specific areas are dog friendly .

\*\*\*

I think that more mountain bike trails and forestry campsites should be made available!

\*\*\*

The plan acknowledges the value of recreational land use within the park and is open to further sustainable development of recreation activities.

\*\*\*

Great to see the management plan updated.

\*\*\*

Plan seems reasonable. We would like to see a larger network of mountain bike trails developed in Silver Star park, as Silverstar resort has been severely limiting access to cross country bike trails (bike park hours only, no mornings/evenings/etc.)

\*\*\*

It seems comprehensive, but I have not made it through the whole plan in detail. I am impressed to see the effort put into the park management and use. It is an amazing place and needs to be preserved.

\*\*\*

Good

\*\*\*

I prefer to have non motorized sport. But am pleased to have parking to access snowshoe trails. I am pleased," BC Parks offers an additional 16 kilometres of snowshoe trails which do not require a fee/pass for use. "

\*\*\*

I appreciate the recognition of First Nations rights and the positive relationship with the mountain bike community

\*\*\*

Seems reasonable to me

\*\*\*

I like the idea of a new day lodge for Sovereign Lake - their membership just topped 3,000 and it could definitely use an upgrade. They seem to be very good stewards of the surrounding area. I would like to see more hiking trails, especially those that link with other trail systems.

I am concerned about snowmobile expansion, and the general expansion of motorized use in wildlife areas.

Last - ebikes are very damaging to trails and I don't believe they should be encouraged.

\*\*\*

With the increased need for outdoor recreation, the NR zone is on the small side. I think there should be some sustainable trails in the Wilderness Rec Zone as well. Or extend the Nature Recreation zone.

The other issue is the allowance of hunting and trapping in the WR-zone. With the huge surrounding of crown land and the extensive possibilities for hunting and trapping there, those activities should not be allowed at Silver Star provincial park. It also exposes the generic public who ventures into the WR zone to the risk of injury or death.

\*\*\*

Seems fairly similar to what is currently done. Greater land and nature protection measures could be implemented.

\*\*\*

I think it is extremely unique to have all these user groups in the same area and have it functional. I love to be able to all these things so close to my home. It's part of the reason I moved to Vernon.

\*\*\*

I feel that it is in the direction that best suits the area and the user groups that are active in it. The thoughtful expansion of trail networks (both summer and winter) within the appropriate zones is important as the area becomes more popular.

\*\*\*

If the land is spiritually important to Indigenous communities - we should NOT be building on it! And if this reason alone is not a strong enough case, then there is no reconciliation happening in Canada and yet again Indigenous communities are ignore for profit. Also - I'm White and this infuriates me.

\*\*\*

concerned that high impact activities like snowmobiling have such a high presence. Even if on designated trails the physical impact on the environment like a park is huge, and the noise impact even bigger. Seems incompatible with the concept / vision for the park

Likewise the whole question of hunting in a park seems utterly out of place. There are vast areas where this can occur. Parks should be a shelter from the high impact activities like ATVs, snow mobiles and hunting.

\*\*\*

It was interesting to see the different recreation zones explained - I hadn't heard of those categories before. Reading the management plan made me feel satisfied that BC Parks is doing their best to address many challenges, including climate change and trying to keep many different user groups happy. Overall I was happy with it!

\*\*\*

The management planning process is somewhat flawed since it is missing key information such as an inventory on biodiversity and an evaluation of the impact of recreational use on wildlife. This data should have been obtained before deciding a plan to manage the park. At least these needs are identified in the management strategies to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological values.

\*\*\*

Really pleased to see emphasis on maintaining integrity of conservation, especially the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and ecological values. Teaching and encouraging park users to be stewards is fantastic!

Please keep snowmobiling to an absolute minimum. I'd prefer all motorized recreation eliminated in the park. It greatly disturbs wildlife, pollutes the air, degrades the environment, etc.

\*\*\*

Very comprehensive and informative.

\*\*\*

I think that the plan covers most of the bases and identifies clearly the three categories that naturally exist in the park. I think it is appropriate to maintain that segmented view and preserve that which is still largely untouched wilderness.

\*\*\*

I would like to see the park expand for conservation purposes.

\*\*\*

Excellent. Well done.

\*\*\*

Please include horse back riding. We have been riding up there for many years and the park provides a cool place to ride on hot summer days. We have been discouraged from using Sovereign Lake XC trails as horses may disrupt the surface affecting early winter skiing with limited snow cover

\*\*\*

***Have the draft objectives/strategies addressed your key management issues in the park?***

It would be great to see the following added

-more proactive to develop more summer trails, Kal and Ellison are very busy with all users and it's quickly moving up to this park. If it's not actively pursued, this park will become over crowded in the near future.

-More established parking lot at bottom of road for summer use

-options for camping

\*\*\*

Not sure. Expert level pre-knowledge seems to be required to understand this report.

\*\*\*

Yes although I would like to see plans for trail expansions and additions

\*\*\*

Hunting is allowed within the park boundaries and Horseback riding is another non-motorized method of accessing these zones .

As well current trails could be used for horseback riding at anytime in the summer.

Please consider Ganzeveldt and Passmore as horseback/multi use trails as they both give access through the Park to public lands , and to hunting zones within the Park

\*\*\*

No. I think snowmobiling is no longer consistent with the stated goals of maintaining wildlife habitat, high quality, non-motorized recreation trails, and mitigating climate change impacts. In my opinion, a strategy for phasing out motorized recreation is long overdue.

\*\*\*

yes, however I feel like the park is heavily under utilized in the summer, more efforts on cross country cycling for all types (beginner to advance) of riders would be beneficial for the community and sports tourism.

\*\*\*

Yes

\*\*\*

No comment

\*\*\*

I would like to see SS Park (and BC Parks in general) limit E bikes to areas where other motorized vehicles are allowed and only mountain bike trails that are double track and are of low angle grade. They are not compatible with true self propelled cycling recreation from a trail design, maintenance, and human interaction/experience point of view.

\*\*\*

No - wildfire management is weak.

Recreation areas being limited by zoning - forcing the recreation to be limited in a park that is highly sought after for recreation values.

Conservation priority seems too high - it can be an outcome of a good management plan.

Politically you need to address Indigenous values but in reality this park doesn't need management objectives associated with actions on this.

Expanding the mountain biking network and putting BC Park resources towards that - this is missing from the management plan.

Separation of motorized and non motorized recreation seems to be implied in the plan. This is a good objective to have detailed action plans associated with it.

\*\*\*

I would say generally yes.

\*\*\*

Somewhat - not really. I appreciate that the day use parking lot has better signage, but the snowmobile parking lot is the smallest of all the parking lots and it has the largest vehicles to park (large trucks with decks and trailers. What are the specific plans and timelines around expansion of the parking lot? Will you not provide any assistance for updated facilities for snowmobilers? A new cabin, new out houses by the cabin and in the parking lots, improved signage, warming hut in the parking lots. There's so much that could be improved and nothing was mentioned. I guess it's entirely up to the VSA and the people like me that support them to improve the area - as it always has been. So sad.

\*\*\*

Would like more fire prevention ,protection

\*\*\*

- there should be greater focus on source water protection as an important use for this park area.
- There should be a prohibition of allowing development, visitor use or activities that might impact the Silver Star lake complex (rather than just "direct use" away from it).
- There does not appear to be reference to monitoring/managing the impacts of neighbouring activities (e.g. does mining at the park's edge have on this watershed?)
- there is a need to consider proactive management and monitoring of the implications of snowmobiling on the park ecosystem
- this plan does not address the incompatibility of hunting with the objectives of recreational values and ecological integrity
- The strategies should go beyond just "evaluating the impacts of high visitor use" and "fostering visitor stewardship". The Plan should specifically focus on addressing the impacts of high visitor use on wildlife/ecological integrity and include specific action to address the impacts. (other than just "fostering visitor stewardship").

\*\*\*

Communication and collaboration between the groups is important, at times there may be differences but everyone should to work together to recognize other groups needs and common goals of enjoyment of the park via whatever mode of recreation they choose.

\*\*\*

Yes

\*\*\*

Yes, except feel that snowmobile use should not be expanded.

\*\*\*

Mostly. I am still concerned that further bike trails, ski and snow shoe trails will be created in the Wilderness Recreation Zone(WR) simply by users pushing into these areas. I do not see in the plan any management strategies to keep people out of the WR zone. On page 29 it states 'visitor access within this zone "may" be restricted' - maybe this should read "will be restricted". Will signage be evident along this boundary? How will this be monitored?  
 Missing is a timeline for species inventory of sensitive ecosystem regions and for management of such sensitive areas.  
 Timeline is also missing for impact evaluations, monitoring of trail development, mountain bike and snowmobiling impacts etc.

\*\*\*

For the most part, yes.

\*\*\*

I am grateful that my family has an activity we can do in the winter that connects my children to the land without having to spend a ton of Money for the view.

\*\*\*

Concern regarding mountain bikers that camp out in the parking lot when no camping is permitted. In the plan it indicates no camping then further on sees "vehicle camping" (whatever that is!) as an opportunity. Also i believe dogs must be leashed on all trails in the park, yet the plan indicates winter leashing as per SLNC requirement (implies off leash is fine elsewhere in the park) and for summer states "in control" NOT "leashed". In control does not imply leash so would want the plan to clearly state leash requirements consistent with park laws. Also no mention of enforcement resources in the plan. I think it should be identified as a need particularly as you intend to encourage more use.

\*\*\*

Yes I believe so.

\*\*\*

The summer activities list mountain biking as the last on the list of summer activities, when it is the mountain bike community that manages the maintenance of all the trails in BC parks in the greater Vernon area.

\*\*\*

No, I would like to see more explicit encouragement for adding mountain bike trails which serve many user communities (trail runners, dog walkers, snow shoers). The terrain in SS Provincial Park is different from all other riding areas in Vernon including SS Resort and provide an excellent summer location for riding due to elevation and cooler temperatures, and is free vs. SS Resort which you have to pay for (and the cross country trails are nowhere near as good as in the park). And all the trail work is volunteer time through NOCS. You might think there are sufficient trails but some additional connectivity would be good for all user groups to add a range of options, from short hikes/bikes to longer loops.

\*\*\*

No

\*\*\*

Sure

\*\*\*

Aside from omitting fat biking, yes.

\*\*\*

Yes.

\*\*\*

yup

\*\*\*

Mostly, personally prefer a plan for long term development of the multi use trail system to accommodate easier trails.

\*\*\*

I think so. It's pretty dense so even after sitting down with it for a while, I'm not certain what the implications will be in "real life".

\*\*\*

Not quite

\*\*\*

Yes. I would like to see further development of XC ski trails and mountain bike trails specifically more mountain bike trails geared towards youth and families.

\*\*\*

I think so, expanded parking is needed for xc skiing. The trails capacity is much larger than the parking capacity. It is easy to find space and enjoy nature on the xc ski trails but the parking is often full. I know this must be balanced with the enjoyment of the park but as mentioned the trails can handle hundreds more people without taking away for the enjoyment of the trails. More trails could be built as well. I would like to see Sovereign Lake Road, #1 widened for safety ( it is too narrow now) and then #2 paved, it is very rough at times the entry and exit onto Silver Star road is incredibly rough.

\*\*\*

Yes, the Management objectives seem reasonable. I like the initiative to continue to connect resources with CRA and the park to maximize the potential for a collaborative use between all stakeholders which preserves the current joint use relationship.

\*\*\*

N/a

\*\*\*

I am concerned that there is enough/ proper maintenance for forest fire prevention in place

\*\*\*

Yes

\*\*\*

I would like to see plans for increasing the Mountain Bike trail networks

\*\*\*

Yes.

\*\*\*

yes, all areas are covered.

\*\*\*

Yes in terms of recreation opportunities maintained. A key issue to be addressed is obtaining and expanding the park to protect more land and watersheds, areas include land for sale on SilverStar road surrounding the park and adjacent crown land.

\*\*\*

From what I read, it seems that the plan is to maintain the existing relationship And access between all user groups, which I believe is a good thing.

\*\*\*

Yes

\*\*\*

If the land is spiritually important to Indigenous communities - we should NOT be building on it! And if this reason alone is not a strong enough case, then there is no reconciliation happening in Canada and yet again Indigenous communities are ignore for profit. Also - I'm White and this infuriates me.

\*\*\*

yes, some have

\*\*\*

I think so!

\*\*\*

I am not happy that hunting is allowed in the park. I don't see how it fits with one of the plan's key management objectives "to protect and enhance biodiversity and ecological values". The park has a relatively small area (500+ ha) that remains unaffected by human activity. That undisturbed area preserves habitat that attracts wildlife and gives them a refuge from development and human activity in and around the park. Hunters have a lot of other places outside the park where they can go.

\*\*\*

For the most part, yes. See previous comments.  
Keep ecological disturbance to an absolute minimum to maintain ecological integrity.  
This is a special, unique, accessible subalpine wilderness ecosystem- the only one in the North Okanagan.

\*\*\*

Yes

\*\*\*

By and large yes. However, there is one ask that is mentioned but needs greater focus on execution. A trail corridor needs to be opened from the Silver Star village core to the Sovereign trails that can be used all year round, snowshoe and hiking across all 4 seasons. The permanent year round population at Silver Star is increasing and as the impacts of Covid get further ingrained into everyday life (work from home, population shift from densely populated urban areas to a more rural lifestyle orientation). Typically, hiking trails are only open in the winter and summer months and the desire to use the outdoors will only bring greater conflict between the resort operators and an increasing number of year round residents. An open trail corridor would help the resort by keeping people of "their" trails and provide residents with a viable option. Charging for a an annual walking pass I think would be seen as being acceptable.

\*\*\*

Mostly, but again I would love to see some discussion about expansion and controlling expansion of the ski hill in to sensitive areas.

\*\*\*

Yes, I am happy to see others can get a park permit for commercial recreation in the winter for Nordic skiing.

\*\*\*

***Is BC Parks missing any information that would assist this management planning process?***

Summer trails, "Rubber boot" and "Raw Bones" are missing

\*\*\*

A clear brief (2-3 page) executive summary in plain language with implications spelled out such that a person with moderate cognitive function, lower education level or a child or youth could understand would assist for long range planning.

\*\*\*

I have one suggestion. Is it possible to provide an alternative western bypass of the very steep hill just south of SQ2 (intersection of Silver Queen and Prince of Wales). The terrain looks like a short, more gentle, winding route is possible around this steep climb.  
Thank-you for your consideration.

\*\*\*

There are access points to the hunting zones that will be used by hunters that need to be considered for signage and public awareness  
As well, hunters are going to access those zones more as they get known, and various routes and methods of transport will be used or attempted.  
Mountain bike and horseback could both be used on Silver Queen and Revenge trails, allowing loop travel.  
Having Black Prince Cabin as a safety cabin may become important also.

\*\*\*

I don't know.

\*\*\*

No

\*\*\*

No

\*\*\*

After reading the plan in detail, I was not left with a clear picture of what is/will be different from what is in practice today (other than new SLNC lodge). A table of something that lays out what is new/ or different would be helpful. After I spent about an hour reading it, I wonder how those who skim it (recognizing that the attention span of most people our society is reducing daily) would get any clear direction changes to comment on (positive or negative).

\*\*\*

Im sure BC parks is aware of NOCS and the value mountain biking brings to residents of and visitors to Vernon. With the topography, rock outcrops and dirt, a couple world class advanced and expert level trails could be built. All this would be built for free by the club. With what is already present in Vernon it would be all the area needed to put it in the same category as Nelson, Squamish and Whistler. Huge opportunity.

\*\*\*

Engagement with NOCS (cycling club) with a BC Parks budget for trails, development and maintenance to assist volunteer groups like NOCS.  
More bike trails are needed. Especially long gentle loops for less skilled riders.

\*\*\*

I would like to see more development of mountain bike trail networks outside of the resort area.

\*\*\*

Work more openly with the VSA and provide them greater assistance in bringing visitors to the region. I live in Kelowna and often drive to Silver Star to go snowmobiling with my family because it is the best trail system for young families in the Okanagan. I'm not currently a member of the VSA, so I can't know for sure, but I can imagine just how forgotten the VSA must feel over the years with reports like this.

\*\*\*

not that i see. lots has gone into this process. well done

\*\*\*

- There is no explanation how this proposed plan differs from previous plans (1980,1990), nor how it will enhance the ability to address future issues
- It is not clear what future issues/opportunities (other than a general reference to climate change) have been identified as a basis for setting the direction in this plan.
- There are no timeframes, priorities or performance indicators included to ensure the plan is effective
- An accompanying Implementation Plan, developed in conjunction with this Management Plan, will enhance the success of its implementation. Plans developed without consideration of implementation issues/opportunities are less effective.

\*\*\*

Environmental impact and stress of snowmobile noise and exhaust fumes on wildlife, bird life, and early spring bird nesting activities.

\*\*\*

Yes. The ski resort's future plans will likely result in future deletions of parkland on the east side, which will be added to their CRA. B.C. Parks should consider these future additions to the resort CRA and ensure there is no net loss of parkland by adding to the west side of the park where it will enhance recreation at Sovereign Lake.

\*\*\*

Not aware of any missing info

\*\*\*

We should also be considering trails that connect Sovereign with its local communities, Vernon/Coldstream

\*\*\*

I would like to see your planning process show what changes are made from each step of the process. It is difficult to know what you change and from this process (SS Park), as well as the Kal Lake Park planning process, it appears that no changes have been based on user input over the entirety of the planning process. If there are never changes based on user input, what is the point of the input process?

\*\*\*

No. But more mountain biking trails in the Sovereign area would be much appreciated.

\*\*\*

I don't think so.

\*\*\*

more opportunities for recreation in this park would be awesome!

\*\*\*

I did not see fire control as part of the strategy. Example trail development that would assist fire services access.

\*\*\*

Are you aware that Sovereign Lake did a project over the last two years to re-signing the Nordic trails and upgrade snowshoe signage? There are nearly 200 intersections to sign (Nordic) and there are about 1000 snowshoe trail markers in place. I hope you are not planning to re-do this, It would be a significant investment of time and money with no added value for those who are using the trails.

The draft plan talks about re-doing signage to match other Parks signs. If you mean just a few signs, like at the road entrance and parking lots, I support that idea. A few signs are in place already, but they could be enhanced to make it more clear that SLNC, snowmobile club etc. are operating within a BC Park.

The plan could be be more specific - do you mean a full "re-do" of signs or just a few?

I can't think of other info that might be missing.

\*\*\*

No

\*\*\*

Since the new U.S. ownership of Silverstar ski resort, the access to trail networks within the CRA has been severely restricted. We are year-round season pass holders at Silverstar and there has been a significant reduction in access to hiking, biking, snowshoe trails. Perhaps the resort needs to be reminded that the land they occupy was once publicly accessible provincial park land! We have significant concerns about future resort expansion plans and improper wastewater management by the resort.

\*\*\*

What are the plans of the new ownership (Powder) of the CRA area ? Is a collaborative relationship being formed to solidify common objectives ?

\*\*\*

We (our family of 6) would love to see more mountain bike trails to access outside the resort. It is such a beautiful park that is really only accessible from the resort as far as we know?

\*\*\*

Allocate more space and funds for mountain bike trail development

\*\*\*

Silver Star's master plan should be noted as it will impact the park immensely.

\*\*\*

no

\*\*\*

Consider all user groups (cyclists, hikers, horses, etc.) with regard to trail use designation and management. With cooler summer temperatures, park popularity will continue to grow exponentially, ensuring usage is well thought out to avoid trail conflicts will be beneficial. Also consider how overnight parking or camping opportunities in the Intensive Recreation Area could benefit trail usage and tourism in the area.

\*\*\*

No

\*\*\*

If the land is spiritually important to Indigenous communities - we should NOT be building on it! And if this reason alone is not a strong enough case, then there is no reconciliation happening in Canada and yet again Indigenous communities are ignore for profit. Also - I'm White and this infuriates me.

\*\*\*

that is a big question.

what i don't see is the larger context of how this park fits within other parks in the region and province. What is special about this park that should take precedence when viewed vis a vis other parks/recreation opportunities. For example, the Nordic skiing is unique in North America--some of the very best--that, and the fact it is self propelled should warrant a higher priority.

\*\*\*

Encourage an affordable public bus transportation for the busiest times. Could be combined with Silver Star MR. Would reduce pollution, congestion and parking space. People don't need vehicles while skiing/ snowshoeing.

No fish stocking. No overnight accommodations or commercial food outlets / restaurants. These are available at nearby Silver Star MR. No further motorized recreation - Ebikes an exception.

\*\*\*

Not that I'm aware of.

\*\*\*

I think some demographic study of increasing populations in SilverStar specifically and the Vernon area more generally would help to ensure that the objectives of the plan account for a likely increase in the desire to access Provincial Parks in the area.

\*\*\*

Horseback riding trails

\*\*\*

***Additional comments received by email (not through the Online Form)***

I am quite curious the extend of the planning. Silverstar Provincial Park is a huge part of our family's rec activities each year. We are avid skiers xc and Dh I myself have average about 45-50 days at Sovereign lk during the winters over the past 6 yrs xc skiing. (Not to mention the snowshoeing) And an additional 20-30 days per yr at Silverstar resort. ( I dont think they should be aloud anymore land to develop housing etc, just saying....) And then also hiking and mountian biking in and around sovereign Lake area during the summer months. I also hunt outside but close to the park. (Just below Silverstar Lakes) Anyways I don't mean to take a lot of your time up here as you, I am sure are quite busy. I am not to savy in the tech world so hoping that this email with constitute as a please save every inch of the park from here on out. And every inch of every other park in BC. These should be saved at all costs!! Thanks for your time.

\*\*\*

Thank-you for the access to snowshoe trails at no cost. The prices for downhill, x-country, and snowshoeing at Silver Star and Sovereign have become beyond the reach of a lot of families. Your trails allow families to recreate where it could have been impossible. thank-you. Also for being allowed to access the top parking lot as the distance of the trail from the bottom lot can make the top trails inaccessible to the old, young and out of shape.

\*\*\*