

Yalakom Park Background Information Sheet

Area: 8,941 hectares

Representation: Extensive representation of the Camelsfoot Range, including extensive elevational sequence of biogeoclimatic zones.

Values: The park protects the whole of the undeveloped basin of Yalakom Creek and much of Nine Mile Ridge. The park contains:

- Old growth forest, areas of high elevation aspen stands and krumholz forest.
- A mosaic of dry forests and riparian forests.
- Extensive alpine grasslands, riparian systems and wet sites.
- Multiple California bighorn sheep, mountain goat and mule deer migration corridors.
- Thick metamorphosed sedimentary rocks forming scarp/dipslope topography.
- Many trails throughout the area for backcountry recreation and hunting.

Management Intent: Emphasis to be placed on maintaining the wilderness character of the area and ensuring use of the area is consistent with conservation of sheep habitat and migration routes. The following points were discussed during development of the Lillooet LRMP:

- The primary management intent was to preserve the area in a natural, undisturbed condition and to allow for non-roaded cultural and recreation opportunities.
- Retain the roadless, undisturbed condition of the area.
- Develop specific plans for fire and forest pest management
- Coordinate with provincial management plans and actions for California Bighorn Sheep and mule deer management in this unit and surrounding area.
- Maintain California Bighorn Sheep habitats in undisturbed condition, including seasonal movement patterns and connections to outside areas.
- Provide backcountry recreation opportunities dependent on a pristine environment.
- Manage to ensure low levels of recreation use. Acceptable activities include hiking, backpacking, hunting and horse use.
- Provide only minimal facility development. Evidence of human presence confined to trails and backcountry camps.
- Recognize appropriate commercial tourism opportunities; acceptable activities include guiding and outfitting, low impact ecotourism uses.

Land Status: Class A provincial park. It is located approximately 60 kilometres northwest of Lillooet.

Concerns: Maintenance of healthy wildlife populations and associated habitats. Ensure thorough and meaningful consultation with local community residents and First Nations communities.