# Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan



**Approved by the RDCO Board November 28, 2005** 



### **Vision Statement**

Kalamoir Regional Park encompasses a large area of natural environment in a suburban / rural landscape. The park protects important regional ecosystems including a large length of Okanagan Lake foreshore, local intermittent watercourses, and provides people of the region with a place to experience and appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature close to where they live. Visitors marvel at the grassland escarpments carpeted with wildflowers, a stand of ponderosa pine / mixed grasslands forest, and a beautiful 1.8 kilometer foreshore adjacent to Okanagan Lake. Many areas in the park retain a feeling of wildness and serenity.

People of all ages come to the park to experience a beautiful natural area.

Recreational activities in the park are compatible with their natural character and environmental sensitivities. Park visitors and adjacent landowners respect and care for the parks, and each other. Conflicts between recreational activities are rare. The park is an integral component to the Okanagan Trail 2000 project, linking regionally significant public spaces throughout the Central Okanagan.

Volunteers, educational institutions, government agencies and non-government organizations work together to improve the health and management of the park.

The integrity of the natural environment in the park is carefully considered in all decisions about land use and development within the park and on surrounding lands.

# **Acknowledgements**

RDCO Parks gratefully acknowledges the following members of the Technical Working Group for their significant contribution to the Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan. Completion of this plan would not have been possible without the dedication and commitment of these and many others in the Central Okanagan.

#### **Technical Working Group**

Larry Cochrane, Sunnyside Residents Association Mike Duggan, Casa Loma Residents Association Janette Kaipio, Casa Loma Lakeshore Resort Troy McCrae, Member at Large Lars Pada, Friends of Kalamoir Regional Park Darryl Ruff, Member at Large Hugh Westheuser, Member at Large

The Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan was approved by the Regional District of Central Okanagan Board on November 28, 2005.

#### **Executive Summary**

Kalamoir Regional Park is classified as Regional Conservation Park in the RDCO Official Regional Park Plan (RDCO Bylaw No. 884). The primary purpose of a Regional Conservation Area is protection of the natural environment. The park covers an area large enough to make a significant contribution to the long-term viability of the natural features. In the environmentally sensitive parts of the parks, only activities that have minimal impact on the natural environment are provided for. Although this classification sets out the overall context for park management, different areas within the park must still be managed according to their environmental sensitivity and unique features. The landscapes that make up this regional park can be described according to a combination of ecological factors that define each park zone.

The management objectives identified in the Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan are :

- 1. Protect and prevent disturbance to existing natural areas and resources contained within the park that have not been impacted by human use.
- 2. Institute park management practices that will prevent future use from encroaching onto existing healthy natural areas.
- 3. Protect and restore degraded priority natural areas.
- 4. Direct outdoor activities away from the more fragile ecosystems in the park.
- 5. Provide appropriate opportunities for outdoor activities in areas of the park that can sustain further use without causing environmental damage.
- 6. Manage use in the parks in a way that it does not impact the park's natural values and features.
- 7. Monitor public use over time and adjust management practices to protect the park resources.

Through the management planning process, several important issues have been identified that need to be addressed in the management plan for Kalamoir Regional Park. These include:

Issue A	Shoreline And Mixed Forest Habitat Conservation
Issue B	Foreshore, Riparian And Intermittent Watercourse Conservation
Issue C	Park Visitor Impact On The Natural Environment
Issue D	Public Education / Environmental Interpretation
Issue E	Park Trail Maintenance Program
Issue F	Park Trail Designations And Sign Program
Issue G	Waterfront Trail Multiple User Management
Issue H	Foreshore Area Improvements – Controlled Access To Okanagan Lake
Issue I	Park Land / Trail Acquisition Interests
Issue J	Grassland and Invasive Plant Management
Issue K	Forest Fire Fuel Modification and Emergency Response Planning

Implementation of the Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan is proposed for completion in phases, with some actions proposed for soon after the plan is adopted, and others scheduled in the following years.

#### **Phase 1 Implementation Priorities**

- Land Acquisition
- Kalamoir Regional Park Entrance
- Cultural Environment Assessment
- Waterfront Trail and Amenities
- Park Restoration
- Kalamoir Regional Park Trails (Upper Elevation)
- Public Education

#### **Phase 2 Implementation Priorities**

- Trails
- Park Restoration
- Public Education
- Park Custodian Option

#### **Phase 3 Implementation Priorities**

Public Education

Implementing the actions proposed in the management plan will be a combination of initiatives that can be covered in the annual core budget of RDCO Parks, and some initiatives that will require new or additional money. Previous capital and significant operational park projects undertaken by the RDCO have successfully established partnerships with affiliated groups such as the "Friends of Kalamoir Regional Park and development of this type of financial model has been supported by the Technical Working Group and through the respondents to the October 2005 park management plan survey. Continued effort and resource support aimed at increasing the capacity of affiliated supporters of Kalamoir Regional Park is strongly encouraged in this plan.

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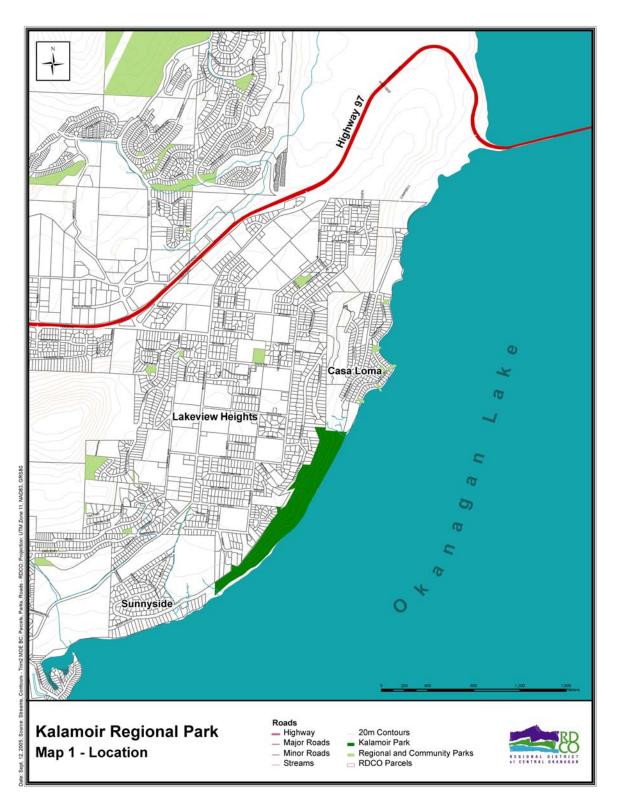


#### Section 1 – Background

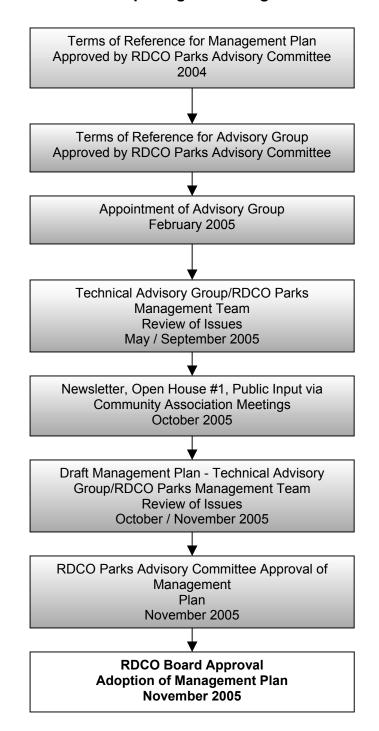
The RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan (RDCO Bylaw No. 884) adopted by the RDCO Board in September 2000 sets out the broad strategic goals for regional parks for this decade. It is system-wide in scope, and provides the vision and purpose for RDCO Regional Parks. It also provides direction for achieving the highest standards of public service and stewardship in protecting the natural environment, while at the same time providing opportunities for outdoor experiences and activities. The Plan establishes a framework for managing the regional parks and trails system, and assists the RDCO Board in making related decisions.

The Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan is organised into five sections. The background section gives the regional context and the purpose of the management plan and a brief overview of the park area. Section 2 provides the ecological context of the plan, including the various park management zones. Section 3 discusses the boundaries of the parks, and identifies lands outside the present park boundaries that are of interest to RDCO Regional Parks. Section 4 is the specific management initiatives proposed for Kalamoir Regional Park. These sections outline the park's history, features, issues, actions and management priorities. Section 5 describes how the plan will be implemented, and identifies priorities for management actions.

## Map 1 - Regional Context



#### **Process for Completing the Management Plan**



#### **Regional Context of the Management Plan**

It will be important to secure and manage a land base for the park and manage it in a way that maintains its ecological health. This will be a challenge to all public land managers, and will require continued commitment to the principles of ecosystem management which are:

- To protect the natural environment of the parks, including land, air, water, plants and wildlife.
- To sustain regional parks for the benefit of people and other living things by maintaining the long-term environmental health of ecosystems inside and outside the parks.
- To incorporate environmental conservation and stewardship into all aspects of park management and operations.
- To conduct environmental conservation through the careful protection, use and planned management of living organisms and their vital processes, and to prevent their depletion, exploitation, destruction or waste.
- To provide environmental stewardship through caring, thoughtful and cautious management of land and associated natural and cultural values.
- To pass on healthy ecosystems to future generations.

#### **Purpose of the Management Plan**

The RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan sets the direction for all management plans. It outlines the main goals and principles of managing regional parks and defines the overall planning process for this integrated management plan as outlined below. Direct references from the Official Regional Parks Plan used in this management plan will be identified in italics. The planning framework is as follows:



The management plan focuses on issues and policies that relate specifically to Kalamoir Regional Park. The plan relies on key background information such as the Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory (SEI), visitor-use surveys and information from the public in formulating park management policies. It sets out, in a broad but comprehensive way, park management goals and objectives, and defines specific actions for achieving them that address:

- How natural environment and cultural values in the parks will be protected and managed
- What types of outdoor activities will be permitted and where
- The types and locations of park facilities
- The proposed park boundaries and identification of areas that have regional park potential
- How specific management issues will be addressed
- The types of services that RDCO Parks will provide
- Priority management actions and implementation strategy

The management plan provides a set of policies that will define a logical, trackable rationale for making decisions in the management of the parks.

#### **Overview of Kalamoir Regional Park**

Kalamoir Regional Park is located immediately adjacent to Okanagan Lake and between the mixed urban / rural neighborhoods of Casa Loma, Lakeview Heights and Sunnyside in the rapidly developing unincorporated community of Electoral Area Westside (Map 1). The park is 27.75 hectares (68.57 acres) in size and includes stands of older Ponderosa Pine forest, Okanagan bunchgrass, and small wetlands and stream corridors that are regionally significant. The park also protects many plant communities and species considered threatened and endangered in British Columbia. The park is a critical link to the urban communities within the Region through the Okanagan Trail 2000 initiative. Increasingly, Kalamoir is becoming natural area island in an urban and suburban setting, as surrounding lands are developed for residential uses.

#### **General History of Kalamoir Park**

At the time of European contact (Father Pandosy), the area encompassed by Kalamoir Regional Park was the traditional territory of the Okanagan First Nation, known collectively as the syilx speaking people. The lands that make up the park were an important part of their territory, and there is evidence that these First Peoples fished in Okanagan Lake and hunted on lands now occupied by the park. When Europeans began populating the traditional Okanagan peoples territory, disease and rapid cultural changes reduced the numbers of First Peoples here. First Peoples were assigned to reserve areas in the vicinity of Kalamoir Regional Park (I.R. # 9 and I.R.# 10) in 1877 and 1888 respectively and much of their traditional territory was taken over by European descendants, cleared and converted to farms. European settlers pre-empted much of the land near the park, and clearing for farming activities altered the landscapes from their original forested nature. Subsequent land uses have erased most traces of the original culturally significant areas, with only a few specific archaeological finds (hunting artifacts and middens) remaining in the vicinity of Kalamoir Regional Park.

The lands above Kalamoir Regional Park now known as Lakeview Heights were subdivided under the Veterans Land Act administration. A series of property subdivisions have occurred since 1959 and are illustrated in the attached "Acquisition Map". Currently Kalamoir Regional Park is comprised of six (6) parcels that have been secured through subdivisions applications dating between 1959 and 2001. From 1959 – 1983, Kalamoir Park was administered by the Province of British Columbia as a "Class C" Provincial Park. A local Board of Directors assisted in the administration of the properties until 1982 when the Regional District of Central Okanagan assumed responsibility for park administration as a "Regional Park" with the Central Okanagan.

In the late 1960's the Kalamoir Park Board were also members of the Lakeview Irrigation District Board. The following chronology highlights key moments in the parks recent history:

March 17 1971, the RDCO hears a representation from a group of concerned citizens of Lakeview Heights. Subject: a marina proposed for Kalamoir Park involving two lane road down into the north park where 500 feet of shore front was to be lease of a marina construction.

March 18, 1971 a one-day petition of residents received 542 signatures representing 89% of the local population, opposing the project.

March 25, 1971 the park board's application is disallowed by BC Parks and Recreation Administration.

December 1971 the Kalamoir Park Board resigned.

The affairs in Kalamoir park were in care of the West Side Recreation Commission until Jan 17, 1973.

Winter 1971-72 ice completely destroyed the wharf.

May 1972 (Sunday) 120 adults and children help clean up the beach area.

January 18, 1973, BC Parks appointed the new Kalamoir Park Board made up of local volunteers. L. Pada and C. Gilbert included.

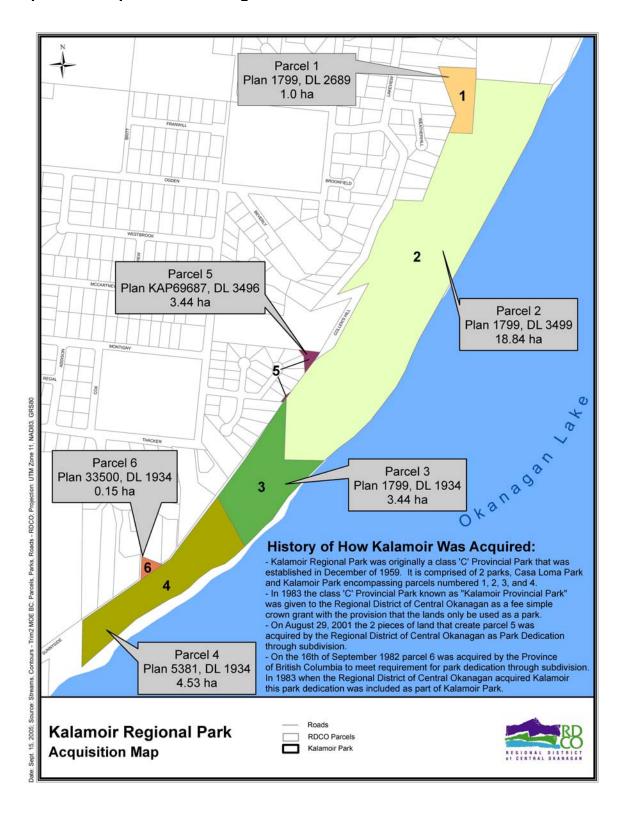
1973 -74 the present park trail system was designed and built under an LIP grant at a cost of \$10,726. Parking and picnic areas were improved. The washroom facility was constructed.

1975 The road was paved at a cost of \$4560, \$4000 paid by RDCO. During the years 1973 to 1982. The park was patrolled and the gate was closed by the park board volunteers. Each season a life guard was hired and red cross swimming lessons were offered, and trails were maintained as resources permitted with assistance from the West Side Recreation Commission.

February 17,1975, McMillan Bvd, originally planned to connect Casa Loma to Sunnyside, and probably the vision of the above marina advocates, is cancelled at the request of the Kalamoir Park Board. BC Highways transfers the road allowance to BC Parks and Recreation. The park's future was secured as a nature preserve.

February 24, 1982 The Kalamoir Park Board recommended to the Provincial Park Commission, that the park be transferred to RDCO administration.

#### Acquisition Map - Kalamoir Regional Park



# Section 2 - Ecological Context of the Management Plan

Kalamoir Regional Park is within the Ponderosa Pine / Bunchgrass biogeoclimatic zone found along the western shoreline of Okanagan Lake. Under this classification system, zones are named for the dominant tree species, in this case Ponderosa Pine. In the first years of the new century, Environment Canada, the provincial Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks (now Ministry of Environment) the Habitat Conservation Trust and the Regional Dstrict of Central Okanagan combined forces to conduct an inventory of sensitive ecosystems in Central Okanagan. The Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory project mapped the key remnant ecosystems, including older forest, woodland, meadow, wetland, riparian and maturing forest categories. Older growth forests have been mapped by the inventory because of their rarity in the Central Okanagan. Map 2 shows the extent of Ponderosa Pine / bunchgrass ecosystems protected by the park. The importance to the biodiversity of the southern interior of B.C. cannot be over emphasized. The map also shows that many of the natural ecosystems end abruptly at park boundaries. Park ecosystems in the context of the surrounding landscape are becoming increasingly isolated. The ecosystems described by Map 2 can be interpreted for the creation of environment protection zones within the park.

This planning process has highlighted key environment protection issues:

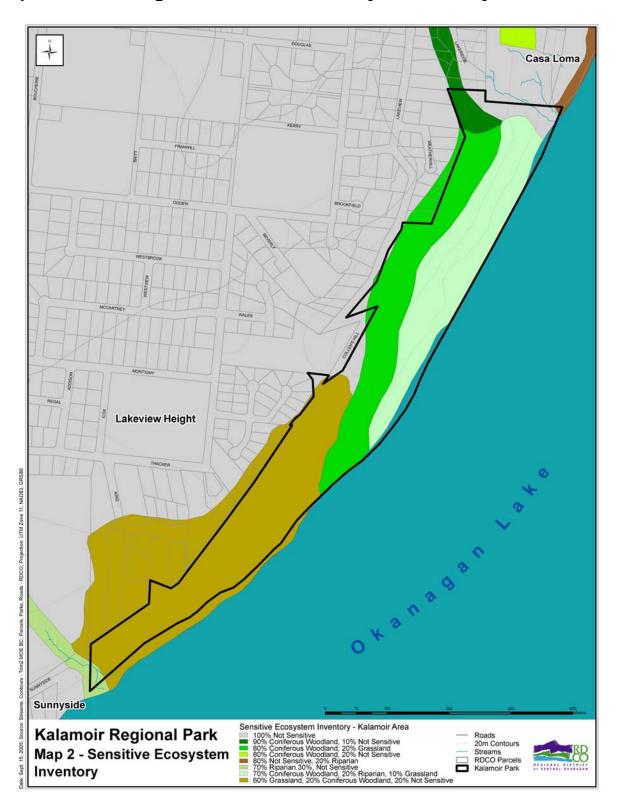
- increased use of the parks, including unofficial trail use, for all kinds of outdoor recreation
- more intensive recreation uses, such as inappropriate foreshore uses near sensitive riparian habitat
- maintenance and upgrading of eroding trails that do not adequately consider the protection of rare plants and ecosystems
- residential development directly adjacent to the park, with minimal allowance for natural area buffers
- encroachment of invasive exotic plant and animal species that compete with and replace native species

Having this information available as the park and the park settings evolve will facilitate ecosystem management as the basis for decision-making in regional parks. Outdoor activities can be managed for ecological sustainability. Facilities can be matched to outdoor activities that meet the environmental protection requirements. Ecological information already gathered in the parks will assist in more clearly defining the various zones within the park, and various special areas within the zones that require different levels of protection in order for the parks to be environmentally sustainable. The key recommendations in the report are for RDCO Parks to:

 develop an environment assessment policy for trail and facility planning, maintenance and upgrades

- assess remnant natural areas adjacent to the park for their value as ecological buffers, and
- investigate options for parkland acquisition, stewardship, covenants or community park designations, include communications outreach to residents living adjacent to the parks in conjunction with Friends of Kalamoir Regional Park
- control priority invasive exotic plants in priority areas in the parks
- encourage academic research and apply an adaptive management ethic.
   Adaptive management encourages the use of the best information available to manage natural environments and the adoption of new management methods, as more information is available, usually through scientific research.

Map 2 - Kalamoir Regional Park - Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory Data



#### **Regional Parkland Management Zones**

Kalamoir Regional Park is classified as Regional Conservation Park in the RDCO Official Regional Park Plan (RDCO Bylaw No. 884). The primary purpose of a Regional Conservation Area is protection of the natural environment. The park covers an area large enough to make a significant contribution to the long-term viability of the natural features. In the environmentally sensitive parts of the parks, only activities that have minimal impact on the natural environment are provided for. Although this classification sets out the overall context for park management, different areas within the park must still be managed according to their environmental sensitivity and unique features. The landscapes that make up this regional park can be described according to a combination of ecological factors that define each park zone.

Zone classifications may be used to determine the general uses the lands in each category can support, and are defined by the limits of acceptable environmental change that can occur within each park zone. In general, five management zones can define the parklands. (Individual site-specific areas containing pockets of rare species may appear in other zones, but are not the general character of the zone, and must be managed as individual ecologically significant sites). Kalamoir Regional Park contain lands in all five zones, reflecting the diversity of features found in this park.

#### **Management Zones**

#### Sensitive Environment

Lands that have exceptionally high environmental value or sensitivity to development are in the sensitive environment category. Lands within this designation are limited in what they can provide in terms of recreational use and facilities. Specific sections may have limited or special access such as boardwalks, if used for educational purposes. Examples are bogs, wetlands, riparian shorelines, mossy outcrops, or ecologically sensitive areas sheltering rare and endangered plants or animals.

#### Natural Area Conservation

Areas of the park that are largely left in their natural state (the biggest part of most regional parks) fall into the natural area conservation category. Trails, viewpoints or viewing towers may be situated to provide better access to natural settings. Some recreational development can occur on these lands, but activities are commonly dispersed over a large area.

#### Natural Area Recreation

These large natural areas have often been subjected to human disturbance in the past, and may contain a number of informally used areas that have not had natural area management. Other areas, such as those beneath power lines, are subject to on-going

vegetation management practices. Because of their disturbed nature, they do not always support rare ecosystems, and may be suitable for recreational activities.

#### Recreation Zone

Areas of the park that are set aside for intensive or active recreation are included in the recreation zone. Included are sites with specific facilities such as developed beaches, boat launches, centralized picnic areas and play areas.

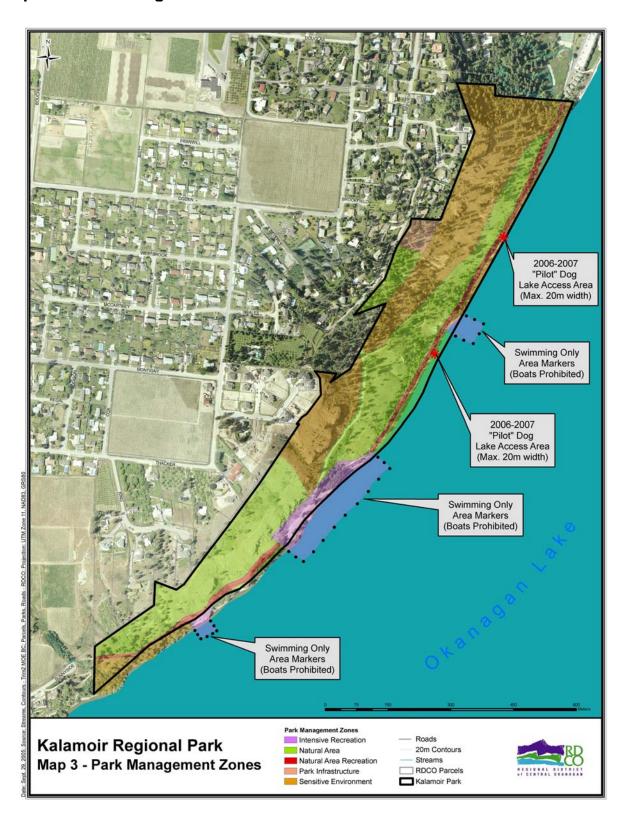
#### Park Infrastructure Zone

Parking lots, necessary roads, service yards, administrative buildings and storage areas in the park are in the park infrastructure zone. Efforts are made to ensure that facilities will have minimal impact on the park. Park management zones, their descriptions and the activities they support are summarized in the following Table.

## **Park Management Zone Guidelines**

Management Zone	Characteristics	Examples	Activities	Facilities Permitted
Sensitive Environment	High natural values Rare or endangered species or habitats	Mossy outcrops Wildflower meadows Riparian shoreline	Nature study Environmental interpretation Limited hiking	Low impact nature trails Boardwalks Viewing blinds
Natural Area Conservation	High natural values Outstanding natural features	Large, contiguous land areas Large forested areas Natural viewpoints Lake shorelines	Hiking Cycling on trails Horseback riding Activities dispersed over wide area	Trails
Natural Area Recreation	Often subject to past human disturbance Informal trails and use occurring May be used to buffer other areas	Second growth forest Areas beneath power lines subject to vegetation management	Equestrian use Mountain biking	Equestrian trails Cycling trails
Intensive Recreation	Outstanding recreation features Natural values may be compromised	Recreation beaches Play areas Picnic areas	Multi-use trails Swimming Boating Fishing Group picnicking	Change rooms Boat launch sites Beaches
Park Infrastructure Zone	Necessary park service structures Natural values minimal Considerable landscape modification	Parking lots Staging areas	Visitor oriented services	Nature houses Washroom buildings Concession buildings Operations buildings

Map 3 - Park Management Zones



#### Section 3 - Park Boundaries

For the most part, the boundaries of Kalamoir Regional Park are based on property lines rather than geographical contours, or other ecological features such as watershed boundaries. Lot lines periodically divide ecological features, resulting in part of a natural feature being left outside the park. Adding these adjoining natural areas to existing natural systems within the parks would improve the overall ecological health of the natural feature. In addition, the park is threatened by suburban development on three sides. The result is a need to protect what natural areas already exist, whether they are in the parks or not. Working with the public, a number of actions can be taken to protect sensitive ecosystems.

The RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan states that RDCO Parks will strive to:

- protect and maintain the natural environments in existing regional parks
- use ecological or watershed boundaries for making decisions about park boundaries
- provide adequate buffers from activities on adjacent land
- protect natural environments adjacent to regional parks, in order to consolidate ecosystems bisected by park boundaries.

Strategic Direction 2 of the Official Regional Park Plan identifies Kalamoir Regional Park as containing natural systems that can be improved by adding certain environmentally significant lands to the parks. RDCO Parks has identified areas outside the park boundaries as having environmental and/or operational significance, and in need of protection or special consideration when development occurs.

#### Lands of Interest to RDCO Parks

RDCO Parks has an interest in a number of specific natural areas immediately adjacent to the parks, as shown on Map 4. Identifying lands outside the park boundaries as areas of interest does not commit the RDCO to acquire these or any other lands. The guidelines and criteria for the acquisition of regional parks and trails are outlined in the RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan, and apply to all areas of interest. The regional park acquisition guidelines are as follows:

- Acquire land for regional parks and trails based on fair market value, and a willing buyer and seller
- Whenever possible, RDCO Parks will work in partnership with community groups, land trusts, and other levels of government to acquire land
- Acquire property in accordance with the Official Regional Parks Plan and park
  management plans, giving careful consideration to operating and program needs,
  RDCO Parks' financial position, and timing factors that affect the sale of the property
- Before acquiring land or land rights, RDCO Parks will prepare an acquisition evaluation for the proposed land, based on the best available information, to determine its consistency with the Official Regional Parks Plan or park management

plan and its suitability as an addition to the regional parks and trails system

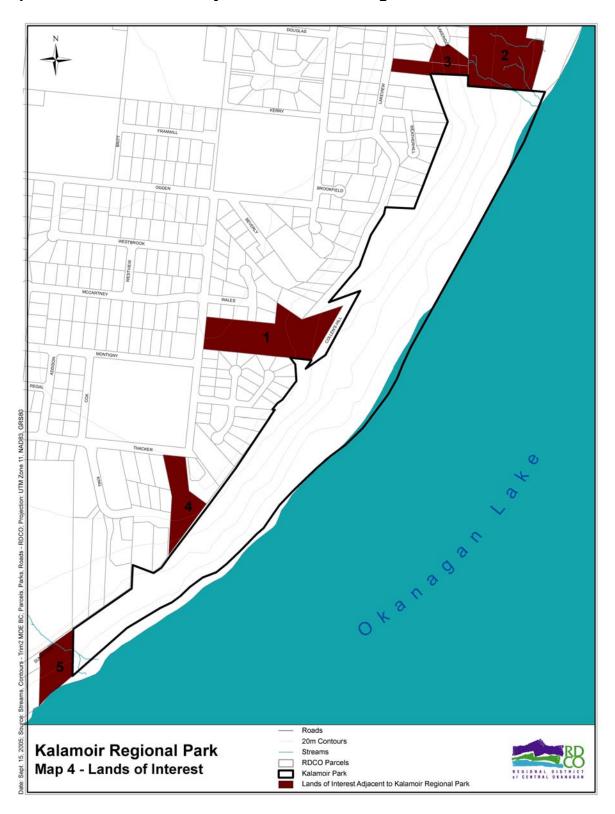
Four general areas of interest outside the present boundaries of Kalamoir Regional Park have been identified. Numbers refer to locations shown on Map 4. (The numbers on the map are for area identification only, and do not indicate any order of priority assigned to these lands by RDCO Parks).

- 1. A rural residential lot to the west of the Collins Hill Entrance Gate would make a good addition to Kalamoir Regional Park. The forest in this area, although it has been selectively logged, was identified as an extension of the natural areas in the adjacent regional parkland. The main RDCO Parks access road/multiple use trail passes through this area. This parcel is important in maintaining the integrity of the entrance of Kalamoir Regional Park and is included as an area of interest to RDCO Parks, should the lands come onto the market and resources are available to purchase it.
- Potential parkland dedications and desirable buffer areas are found on private lands positioned for development in the Casa Loma area north of Kalamoir Regional Park. Development of a park trailhead / parking area would be a desirable outcome in this area. The SEI identified older Ponderosa Pine / Douglas Fir and a number of wetlands on these properties and some of these woodlands are an extension of existing plant communities found within the park. Preserving a vegetation corridor along this escarpment, and protecting the fish habitat in these watercourses, is a considered a priority. The wetland and watercourse corridor flowing into Kalamoir Regional Park and the forested areas adjacent to the park are worthy of protection through parkland dedication, or as a buffer to the park using conservation covenants or other land stewardship arrangements. The area is also a designated Development Permit Area. requiring protection of the natural environment and assurance that the development is acceptable to the RDCO. The Official Community Plan provides design guidelines focused on a 10 meter wide wildfire interface "Priority 1" zone that should be considered in conjunction with any development adjacent to Kalamoir Regional Park and specifically any housing development on these lands.
- 3. Access from to the park from Lakeview Heights and future land use change in the Casa Loma community would be well served through a connection via Lakeridge Road. The property would afford an alternate pedestrian route into the park and would enhance opportunities for the community to follow a walking circuit that would include the access to park values as well as residential integration with the park. This property is also included included as an area of interest to RDCO Parks, should the lands come onto the market and resources are available to purchase it.
- 4. Enhanced access from both Thacker Road and King Road would afforded

through the addition of this rural residential lot. Further access for the adjacent community as well a potential for enhanced vehicle parking and user access could be afforded through the addition of this property to the park. This property is also included included as an area of interest to RDCO Parks, should the lands come onto the market and resources are available to purchase it.

5. This property is administered by the Ministry of Transportation and Highways and was secured in conjunction with the subdivision of property in the Sunnyside community. The RDCO currently administer a number of properties adjacent to Okanagan Lake through a "Permit to Construct and Operate within a Road Right of Way". The property would complement the outlined park management objectives supporting increased park user access and could also serve to assist in better controlling user impact to the adjacent community by creating an improved park entrance option. Development of a park trailhead would be a desirable outcome in this area. The plan supports consideration of the RDCO Board toward the submission of an application to the Ministry of Transportation and Highways for administrative capacity in this area.

Map 4 – Lands of Interest Adjacent to Kalamoir Regional Park



# **Encroachment, Neighbourhood Access and New Development on Adjacent Lands**

Residential subdivisions (Lakeview Heights and Casa Loma) are being developed adjacent to Kalamoir Regional Park. There is often local encroachment onto parklands from residents making their own access into the park. This causes park fragmentation, as many small paths created collectively have a significant impact on a park's natural features. Because of this, RDCO Parks will endeavour to have a clear single access to park from adjoining neighbourhoods when the subdivisions are built. RDCO Parks will work co-operatively with neighbours to ensure that multiple small accesses are not created. Where so-called "desire line" trails are found, every effort will be made to close them off and re-vegetate the damaged areas. RDCO Parks will work with the community to educate landowners about the cumulative damage to parks caused by encroachment, and by creating several small access paths into the parks. The RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan states that:

"RDCO Parks may undertake an environmental impact assessment of an action taken on land outside of a regional park or trail that could have an adverse impact on the natural environment of a regional park or trail. RDCO Parks may ask the proponent of the action to pay for the environmental impact assessment."

#### Section 4 – Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan

#### Park Features

Kalamoir Regional Park is 27.75 hectares (68.57 acres), largely a glacial lacustrine escarpment adjacent to Okanagan Lake, contains some wetlands, relatively dispersed stands of older un-logged Ponderosa Pine / Douglas-fir forest, several rocky outcrops (conglomerate) and is predominantly a grassland ecosystem. The Kalamoir Regional Park area has been a popular recreation spot since the early 1900's. It is this combination of environmentally sensitive areas and increasing public use that makes park management at Kalamoir Regional Park a challenge.

Kalamoir Regional Park provides opportunities for hiking and swimming. The primary swimming beach, with an outhouse, is located at the center of the park. A smaller beach, mainly used by locals is a short distance south of the main beach. Numerous hiking trails cross through this large natural area, as well as multi-purpose trail utilized by cyclists, pedestrians and runners. Some activities have increased dramatically over the past few years. Without a management plan in place, many of these activities take place in areas that cannot sustain their impact. Kalamoir Regional Park was originally conceived as a nature sanctuary, a place where nature was to be enjoyed with as little impact as possible. As a result, this management plan has to deal with a number of complex issues, and some management actions will require changes in park use.

#### **Park Management Objectives**

Kalamoir Regional Park is designated in the RDCO Official Regional Parks Plan as a Regional Conservation Area. This designation in a broad way defines how the park will be managed. The primary purpose of a Regional Conservation Area is the protection of the natural environment. Although this classification sets out the overall context for park management, specific areas within the park may need to be managed according to their specific environmental sensitivity and unique features. With this in mind, the management objectives for Kalamoir Regional Park are to:

- 1. Protect and prevent disturbance to existing natural areas and resources contained within the park that have not been impacted by human use.
- 2. Institute park management practices that will prevent future use from encroaching onto existing healthy natural areas.
- 3. Protect and restore degraded priority natural areas.
- 4. Direct outdoor activities away from the more fragile ecosystems in the park.
- 5. Provide appropriate opportunities for outdoor activities in areas of the park that can sustain further use without causing environmental damage.
- 6. Manage use in the parks in a way that it does not impact the park's natural values and features.
- 7. Monitor public use over time and adjust management practices to protect the

park resources.

#### **Key Park Management Issues and Proposed Actions**

Through the management planning process, several important issues have been identified that need to be addressed in the management plan for Kalamoir Regional Park. These include:

Issue A	Shoreline And Mixed Forest Habitat Conservation
Issue B	Foreshore, Riparian And Intermittent Watercourse Conservation
Issue C	Park Visitor Impact On The Natural Environment
Issue D	Public Education / Environmental Interpretation
Issue E	Park Trail Maintenance Program
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Each of these issues has been reviewed using an interest-based approach to solving the park management challenges facing the parks. An interest-based approach uses interests to define the issues and to help develop solutions. Interests get at the roots of the issues, and the real motivations that people have for becoming involved in park issues. They are the concerns, needs, wants, objectives and focus that RDCO Parks, other levels of government, interest groups and the public have about a park management issue. A set of actions is proposed to address each issue.

#### <u>Issue A</u>: Shoreline and Mixed Forest Habitat Conservation

#### Interests:

Where possible, preserve growth as close to indigenous vegetation scheme as possible.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

The shoreline and mixed forest habitat are viewed as one of the great assets of this park as so much of the Okanagan Lake shoreline has been developed on the west side or is in private hands and not available to the general public. Wildlife in the park are given unrestricted and open access to water. Waterfowl use the shoreline for feeding, resting and nesting. Some fish species may also use this shoreline that has not been altered or used by humans. Human access to the shoreline area should be limited throughout the park foreshore, with the exception of limited and controlled recreation areas, were swimming and or dog use can be carried out. Boats should not use any of

the wildlife areas under any circumstances with the one exception of when under emergency situation.

#### <u>Issue B</u>: Foreshore, Riparian and Intermittent Watercourse Conservation

#### Interests:

Kalamoir has several riparian areas along the foreshore, which provide valuable and diverse wildlife habitats. The foreshore aquatic environment provides valuable undisturbed habitat for aquatic species which should continue to be conserved.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

The riparian areas are supported by small creeks which seem to run most of the year. The Black Cottonwood trees that are found in these wetter areas are extremely valuable to a wide diversity of wildlife. These areas should not be impacted in anyway, if possible. Human use should be restricted, except for observation areas on the perimeter of the area. A 2005 study titled "Central Okanagan Lake Foreshore Inventory and Mapping" project determined that 1919 meters of foreshore at Kalamoir represent a low disturbance level (2%), with a vegetated shore (5 – 50 meter littoral zone), and low levels of observed Kokanee spawning locations.

#### <u>Issue C</u>: Park Visitor Impact on the Natural Environment

RDCO Parks is faced with balancing increased recreation demands in a developing urban area with its primary role of protecting the lands it has been entrusted to manage. While use of the parks will undoubtedly increase, the rare and valuable natural resources within the parks must be protected. Balancing these competing needs is a park management challenge.

#### **Current RDCO Parks Position**

The Official Regional Parks Plan states that "RDCO Parks' purpose has two complimentary parts: (1) to protect regionally significant natural environments, and (2) to provide a range of opportunities for outdoor recreation. Both are reflected in the establishment and management of all regional parks. Although the two parts of the purpose complement each other, they can- and often do- create management challenges. Residents of the region have said that while they want RDCO Parks to emphasise both parts, protecting the natural environment is considered RDCO Parks' primary responsibility. This will be reflected in selecting and establishing areas for a regional park and managing regional parks." Visitor use guidelines in the Official Regional Parks Plan state that RDCO Parks will "try to accommodate a range of appropriate activities in regional parks and on

regional trails, while minimizing the impact on the natural environment."

#### Interests:

Some recreational activities are damaging park resources.

The population is increasing, and the popularity of some recreation activities (e.g., mountainbiking) is growing. Recreationists want expanded opportunities to participate in their sport.

The increasing use of the waterfront trail has strong potential to deteriorate much of this primary waterfront corridor. To avoid walking on wet, muddy or rutted portions of the trail, park visitors go off to either side of the main trail, which expands the footprint (overall width) of the trail, damages tree roots and tramples vegetation. Trail users want to walk on well-defined trails, and park visitors concerned with the environmental impact of this trail "braiding" want the main trails improved to prevent further expansion of the trail footprint in the park.

There is currently no clearly identified location to get information about the park and its features. There is a need for a central location to:

- disseminate information about park policies
- educate the public about the sensitive nature of the parklands
- convey other park management messages.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Designate specific areas within the park as off limits to recreation activities that are damaging to the park's natural environment such as cycling in environmentally sensitive areas.

Establish a clearly defined trail adjacent to the lake (to direct park visitors along a sustainable all-season trail corridor. Conduct site mitigation where damage to the natural environment has already occurred. The site mitigation should be conducted in conjunction with an educational and regulatory signing program.

Redesign the park entrance at Collins Hill Road and the main parking area at the base of Collins Hill Road to create a focal point for park visitors to get information as they enter. Provide a central location where park visitors can obtain interpretive messages about the park's natural assets as well as important park visitor messages regarding the management of park visitors in the park's sensitive environments.

As park use increases, provisions for future construction of a park custodian facility should be considered in the area off Collens Hill Road. Recent sanitary sewer service and community water system availability would allow for a residential home site to be constructed to facilitate seasonal or full time park custodian duties.

Install informative regulatory signs at strategic locations in the park, in an effort to educate park visitors about the fragile nature of the parklands.

Extend educational messages outside the park into the community, such as at schools and cycling shops. Develop communication approaches to show park visitors what each trail is designated for, and require visitors to adhere to restrictions imposed by trail designations.

#### <u>Issue D</u>: Public Education / Environmental Interpretation

#### Interests:

Kalamoir can be used to educate the public, and particularly children and this type of use is strongly encouraged. The more widely the values of the park are known, the more protected it will become.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Support the development of appropriate school curriculum interpretive programs to encourage field trip use of the park by School District #23.

#### <u>Issue E</u> : Park Trail Maintenance Program

#### Interests:

Provide quality trails so that all age groups in as many days of the years as weather permits may hike safely and comfortably. Most trails are of a standard that they are accessible by all age groups. Though the surfaces are narrow in some places it is primarily the over growth from the slope above that would potentially limit access. The over growth becomes extreme where moisture is trapped in the soil. These locations are identifiable each season. Some trails are impacted with adjacent poison ivy growth. Though most adults recognize these plants, children are vulnerable and are at risk of impact.

#### **Proposed actions:**

Provide maintenance crews with maps of moist locations so that these areas may be targeted in early growing season so that plants do not become over grown and time expensive to cut back. Being proactive will keep the trails from being over grown requiring a more costly time intensive attack. Poison ivy flourishes in moist shaded areas. Locations of these infestations included in the moist area mediation would be included with the early season pruning as a result not likely to invade the trails.

#### <u>Issue F</u>: Park Trail Designations and Sign Program

The trail system in Kalamoir Regional Park has expanded over the years to include forest fuel modification areas, a primary waterfront multi-purpose trail and numerous small hiking-only trails. While some of the trails are remote, and user incidents few, increased use of many of the more popular trails has resulted in some conflicts. Designating trails for particular uses can resolve some of these conflicts, and trails can be built to accommodate the uses they are designed for.

#### **Current RDCO Parks Position**

The Official Regional Parks Plan states that a goal is: to provide, for regional residents and visitors of all ages and abilities, opportunities for a range of experiences and activities that have a minimal impact on the natural environment of regional parks and trails, are appropriate to the purpose of each park or trail, and best serve visitor needs.

An appropriate outdoor activity is defined as one that:

Is dependent upon a natural environment
Has a minimal impact on the natural environment
Encourages an appreciation for and understanding and enjoyment of the natural
environment, and is compatible with other park uses

#### Interests:

Cyclists, commuters, and hikers wish to have access to more park trails. The waterfront trail must be built to a multi-use standard, which is considerably greater in width and often requires a greater amount of surfacing than a conventional hiking trail. There is a need to connect the hiking trails through the park, creating loops wherever practical. Hikers wish to have narrower, less developed trails to access the natural areas of the park. Traditional network of existing minor use trails fragment the park. Not all routes are needed. Some park visitors wish to have some of these trails blocked off and rehabilitated.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Designate each of the main trails for specific user groups in Kalamoir Regional Park. Ensure that only those trails that have been designated for hiking are used for those purposes. Modify the design and manage the waterfront trail. Work directly with user groups to ensure that cyclists remain on trail designated for them, and stay off hiking-only trails. Identify any trails or fire access roads that are not required and allow natural re-growth. Create physical barriers to block off unnecessary trails and sign them as closed. Create loops wherever possible in the trail network. Continue to support a

regional access route (Okanagan Trail 2000) adjacent to the foreshore of Okanagan Lake.

#### <u>Issue G</u>: Waterfront Trail Multiple User Management

#### Interests:

This is the main trail in the park, and is part of an proposed Okanagan Trail 2000, a trail that is proposed to run along the west side of the lake from Peachland to the City of Kelowna.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

The trail should be upgraded minimumly, for safe bicycle use, and hiking only. No motorized or horse traffic is envisoned. Some of the present wooded bridges over wet areas can be very slippery in wet conditions, and hazardous to hikers and bicycles. Wherever possible it should be moved back from the foreshore, except in locations designed to permit access to the lake. Limited areas allowing access for dogs to the water should be provided north and southof the proposed recreation zone at the base of Collens Hill Road.

#### <u>Issue H</u>: Foreshore Area Improvements – Controlled Access to Okanagan Lake

#### Interests:

Provide shore and water facilities that offer safe quality recreation.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Create an access to water that offers safe swimming for all ages, area should be accessible to parking lot at the base of Collens Hill Road but not limit parking capacity. Provide comfortable enjoyable picnicking and relaxation. Replace existing toilet and table with installations similar to those found in other quality public parks. In the location of the old wharf installation create a foreshore "groin" or "jetty" which would capture and assist in the retention of a sandy beach on the north slope away from prevailing storm movement. Such a feature could offer a sandy sloped entry into the water, safe for all ages, free from the requirement of expected guarded supervision, free from vandalism and natural damage expected with wharves and rafts.

Implement a two (2) year pilot project to provide two (2) controlled lake access points for dogs. These areas should not interfere with habitat values or human recreation interests and should be limited to a twenty(20) meter width. If adopted, the management plan will reflect implementation of the pilot project in 2006 and 2007 and assess continuation of the project in conjunction with the park opening for the 2008 operational season.

#### **Issue I**: Park Land / Trail Acquisition Interests

#### Interests:

Due to it's proximity to Okanagan Lake and the terrain that comprises Kalamoir Regional Park, the park site currently provides a limited capacity for increased numbers of park users. Several surrounding properties and potential trailhead/staging area locations have been identified that alleviate current and future park user access limitations. Of particular interest would be the acquisition of improved park user access points from the Lakeview Heights, Sunnyside and Casa Loma communities.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Initiate discussions in conjunction with current or future land use applications and/or investigate property acquisition at four (4) locations adjacent to Kalamoir Regional Park as identified in Map 4 (Lands of Interest Adjacent to Kalamoir Regional Park) of the Kalamoir Regional Park Management Plan and in accordance with RDCO Bylaw No. 884 policies for regional park acquisition which are described as follows:

- Acquire land for regional parks and trails based on fair market value, and a willing buyer and seller
- Whenever possible, RDCO Parks will work in partnership with community groups, land trusts, and other levels of government to acquire land
- Acquire property in accordance with the Official Regional Parks Plan and park management plans, giving careful consideration to operating and program needs, RDCO Parks' financial position, and timing factors that affect the sale of the property
- Before acquiring land or land rights, RDCO Parks will prepare an acquisition evaluation for the proposed land, based on the best available information, to determine its consistency with the Official Regional Parks Plan or park management plan and its suitability as an addition to the regional parks and trails system

**Issue J**: Grassland and Invasive Plant Management

#### Interests:

Over 80% of Kalamoir Regional Park has been identified as a grassland ecosystem and increasingly this habitat is threatened by the encroachment of invasive non-native vegetation species. Management of the park to ensure the long term integrity of the grasslands ecosystem will be critical to preserving this important Central Okanagan environment.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

- Maintain healthy ecosystems, since they are more resilient to invasive species.
- Base priority setting and control treatments on susceptibility of ecosystems to the invasive species on the landscape; therefore, focus on species that will affect ecosystems and economic and environmental values the most.
- Prevent or minimize disturbances in any land use activities.
- Restore disturbed areas and degraded ecosystems to their natural state as soon as possible, or seed quickly to temporary cover.
- Treat ecosystems individually, and determine the appropriate management approach to invasive species and priorities based on knowledge of them.
- Consider other values when managing for invasive alien species, such as water quality, species at risk, wildlife, nesting sites and invertebrate food sources.
- Utilize best management practices, including the use of bio agents, found in the BC Integrated Pest Management Guide to assist in reducing or eliminating invasive vegetation species in Kalamoir Regional Park.

#### Issue K: Forest Fire Fuel Modification and Emergency Response Planning

#### Interests:

Assess forest fire fuel levels and implement program to modify to acceptable level in conjunction with effort undertaken by adjacent residential development. Coordinate emergency fire response planning with Westside Fire Department, Ministry of Forests and adjoining communities.

#### **Proposed Actions:**

Implement a program of controlled forest vegetation understory fire prescriptions in conjunction with community emergency evacuation simulations. Partner agencies and associations would include the adjacent community associations and residents, Westside Fire Department and the Ministry of Forests for the coordination of an early season controlled event. It is imperative that adjacent property owners must continue to undertake "Fire Smart" initiatives within their own properties to assist in reducing fire risk to both private and public properties in the area. Community involvement in reducing risk of fire originating from private property that could affect the sensitive ecosystems within Kalamoir Regional Park will assist in ongoing park management objectives.

#### **Park Management Priorities**

Because Kalamoir Regional Park is a Regional Conservation Area, park management priorities will be based upon environmental considerations. Management actions over the next five years will be implemented according to the following priorities:

#### 1. Protecting the natural environment.

- Establish a clearly defined trail adjacent to Lake Okanagan to direct park visitors along the all-season trail corridor in an effort to minimize trail "braiding" and compaction of the soil around tree roots.
- Work directly with organized cycling groups to educate other riders and assist RDCO Parks in keeping cyclists away from environmentally fragile lands.
- Create a public recreation and environmental education area at the base of Collins Hill Road entrance.

#### 2. Protecting the cultural environment.

 In conjunction with consultation with Westbank First Nations, undertake a cultural environment assessment of Kalamoir Regional Park and implement appropriate measures to protect the cultural assets and provide education opportunities where available.

#### 3. Rehabilitating areas that have been damaged by public use.

- Conduct site restoration on damaged and trampled areas at northern portion of waterfront trail.
- Conduct site mitigation and reclamation in areas that have been damaged from trail braiding and unsanctioned off trail uses.
- Conduct site mitigation on the waterfront trail where damage to the lakeshore vegetation from public use has caused some areas to be eroded.
- Identify any trails in excess of park requirements and allow them to grow over.
   Create physical barriers to block off unnecessary trails, allowing natural regrowth.

#### 4. Informing park visitors about their park management responsibilities.

- Redesign the entrance to the park and the main parking area. Create a focal point for park visitors to get information about the park as they enter. Provide a central location for park visitors to view messages about the park's natural assets and important messages on the management of park visitors in the park's sensitive environments.
- Install signs at strategic locations in the park that are regulatory and informative to educate park visitors about the fragile nature of the parklands, and why park management actions have become necessary.
- Create educational materials that explain the need for park management action



messages and make them available to the community, especially schools and cycling shops.

Park management actions over the next five years should reflect these priorities. Budgets and work plans should be set each year to implement the recommendations in the management plan. It is recognized that annual budgets are subject to RDCO Parks Advisory Committee and Board approval.

### Section 5 - Management Plan Implementation

Because Kalamoir Regional Park is classified as a Regional Conservation park and is identified for the RDCO Parks highest level of protection, park management priorities will be based upon environmental considerations.

While the objective is to implement the actions outlined in this management plan, it is recognized that not all recommendations can be implemented immediately. Actions need to be scheduled into work plans and future budgets. Some actions needed to address the outstanding issues can be undertaken right away as they do not involve major capital investment or large commitments of staff time. Other actions are more urgent, and require planning, scheduling and budget allocations. Actions that are easily implemented, and actions that are needed immediately to properly manage the parks, will be given a high priority.

Implementation is proposed for completion in phases, with some actions proposed for soon after the plan is adopted, and others scheduled in the following years.

#### **Phase 1 Implementation Priorities**

#### **Land Acquisition**

A key priority is to continue to improve the environmental significance of this Regional Conservation Area by securing land outside the current park boundaries that complement the parks' natural features.

#### Kalamoir Regional Park Entrance

Redesign the Kalamoir Regional Park entrance to create an improved visitor experience from the main gate on Collins Hill road to the parking area at the base of the road. Enhancements to include refurbishing the existing gate as well as the installation of a park visitor entrance kiosk which would create a focal point for park visitors to obtain information about the park as they enter. Provide a central location where park visitors can obtain interpretive messages about the park's natural assets as well as important park visitor messages regarding the management of park visitors in the park's sensitive environments. A road integrity evaluation and appropriate repairs/maintenance measures may be required to ensure the long-term viability of the primary vehicle access road into the park

#### **Waterfront Amenities**

Replace existing limited waterfront amenities (washroom) and replace with upgraded washroom (pump out tank) and changeroom. Improve public picnic opportunities and modify existing parking lot to improve capacity. Develop enhanced swimming opportunities through construction of a rock groin/jetty, swim float and sandy beach area in vicinity of old swim dock facility.

#### **Cultural Environment Assessment**

Undertake a cultural environment assessment of Kalamoir Regional Park and implement appropriate measures to protect the cultural assets and provide education opportunities where available. Ensure that First Nations are engaged in the development of a cultural environment review process.

#### Park Restoration

Conduct site restoration on trampled areas around the lakeshore trail where excess use has caused some areas to be eroded down to bare soil.

Conduct habitat restoration and reclamation in areas that have been damaged from unsanctioned off trail use.

#### Kalamoir Regional Park Trails

Complete the construction of a clearly defined multi use trail adjacent to Okanagan Lake to keep park visitors on the main trail corridor, and minimize trail "braiding" and compaction of the soil around the tree roots.

#### **Public Education**

Install signs at strategic locations in the parks to educate park visitors about the fragile nature of the parklands, and explain the reasons why park management actions are necessary.

#### Park Custodian Option

As park use increases, provisions for future construction of a park custodian facility should be considered in the area off Collens Hill Road. Recent sanitary sewer service and community water system availability would allow for a residential home site to be constructed to facilitate seasonal or full time park custodian duties.

#### **Phase 2 Implementation Priorities**

#### **Trails**

Rehabilitate trails in the escarpment and grassland areas of the park.

#### Park Restoration

Eliminate "desire line" and informal trails as well as clearly define the main trail network with consistent surfacing and signing that will encourage park visitors to stay to the main trails. Replant reclaimed areas with native vegetation in an effort to unify adjoining ecosystems.

#### **Public Education**

Prepare educational materials that explain the need for park management actions and distribute them outside the park into the community, such as at schools and cycling shops.

#### **Phase 3 Implementation Priorities**

#### **Public Education**

Work with the School District #23 administration to ensure that students have an appreciation for the sensitive nature of Kalamoir Regional Park, and work to ensure that the park is protected and even enhanced through school teaching programs. Consider having the school "adopt" portions of the park to foster good stewardship principles with students and teachers.

#### Financial Implications of Implementing the Management Plan

Implementing the actions proposed in the management plan will be a combination of initiatives that can be covered in the annual core budget of RDCO Parks, and some initiatives that will require new or additional money. Previous capital and significant operational park projects undertaken by the RDCO have successfully established partnerships with affiliated groups such as the "Friends of Kalamoir Regional Park and development of this type of financial model has been supported by the Technical Working Group and through the respondents to the October 2005 park management plan survey. Continued effort and resource support aimed at increasing the capacity of affiliated supporters of Kalamoir Regional Park is strongly encouraged in this plan.

The table below identifies budget items that will require additional funds if they are to be implemented. These are only preliminary cost estimates. Including these costs in the plan does not constitute automatic approval of funding for implementing the plan. Standard RDCO funding procedure approvals will be adhered to at all stages of plan implementation.

### **Phase 1 Actions**

Priority	Actions that Require Additional Funding	Estimated Costs
1	Complete the construction of a clearly defined	\$45,000
	multi use trail adjacent to Okanagan Lake	
	Coordinate forest health prescribed burn and	\$15,000
2	community evacuation simulation event with	
	Ministry of Forests and Westside Fire	
	Department	
	Assess and consider options for securing	Undetermined
3	lands of interest adjacent to Kalamoir Regional	
4	Park	<b>#40.000</b>
4	Collins Hill Road Repairs and Maintenance	\$10,000
5	Prepare a Cultural Environment Assessment	\$25,000
6	Create/install new park management/	\$20,000
	interpretive signs at strategic locations	
7	Conduct site restoration on trampled areas around lakeshore trail	\$19,000
8	Construct new picnic shelter and add swim	\$45,000
	float, rock jetty/groin to foreshore	Ф05 000
9	Demolish existing washroom and replace with	\$85,000
	new washroom (pump out tank) / change room	
	facility	#20.000
10	Redesign the Kalamoir Park Entrance	\$20,000
	Provide a central location to obtain interpretive	
	messages	\$000.000
	Total for Phase 1 Actions	\$289,000

Phase II Actions			
Core Budget Items			
Rehabilitate trails in the escarpment and	(Friends of Kalamoir Park and minimal		
grassland areas of the park	additional funds)		
Eliminate "desire line" and informal trails	(Friends of Kalamoir Park and minimal		
	additional funds)		
Prepare educational materials on park	(Friends of Kalamoir Park and minimal		
management issues	additional funds)		
Construct park custodian facility	\$175,000		
Total for Phase II Actions	~\$180,000		

Phase III Actions
Core Budget Items
(no additional funds)
Work with School District #23 administration to ensure that students have an
appreciation for the sensitive nature of Kalamoir Regional Park
Sign and protect sensitive environment zones

# Kalamoir Regional Park "Draft" Management Plan Survey



1)	How often do you visit Kala	amoi	r Re	giona	al Park pe	r month?	?
	□<1 □1-5 □6-	10		□ > 10	)		
2)	How do you currently use I	Kalar	noir	Regi	onal Park	(select al	I that apply)?
	□ Walk / Hike □ Bicycl	е		og W	alking	□ Swim	ming
	☐ Running ☐ Commuting		□В	ird	_	□ Picnio	king
3)	Please identify the attribute you (select all that apply)?	es of	Kal	amoi	r Regiona	l Park th	at appeal to
	□ Trail □ Beach □	Picr	nic A	reas	□ Nat	ure / Envi	ronment
	☐ Location ☐ On-Leash Do	g Wa	alkin	g	□ Wa	ter	
4)	Please rank the following p	ark r	man	agem	ent intere	ests:	
	Very Important Not so Important						o Important
	Habitat Conservation		5	<b></b> 4	<b>3</b>	2	1
	Visitor Use Impacts		5	<b></b> 4	<b>3</b>	2	1
	Public Education / Interpretation		5	4	<b>3</b>	2	1
	Trail Maintenance		5	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>	2	1
	Trail Signs		5	4	<b>3</b>	2	<b>1</b>
	Waterfront Trail Improvement		5	4	<b>3</b>	2	<b>1</b>
	Lake Access Improvements		5	4	3	2	1
	Park Boundary Expansion		5	4	3	2	1
	Dog use of the Park		5	<b></b> 4	3	2	1
	Forest Fire Fuel Management		5	<b></b> 4	3	2	1
	Fire Response Planning		5	<b></b> 4	<b>3</b>	2	1
	Invasive Weed Management		5	<b></b> 4	<b></b> 3	2	1
	Waterfront Recreation Amenity Improvements		5	<b></b> 4	<b>3</b>	2	<b>1</b>

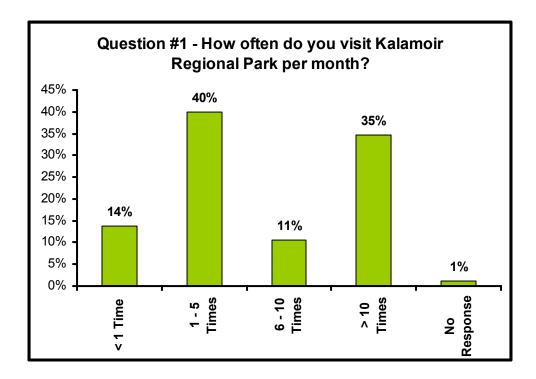
# Kalamoir Regional Park "Draft" Management Plan Survey

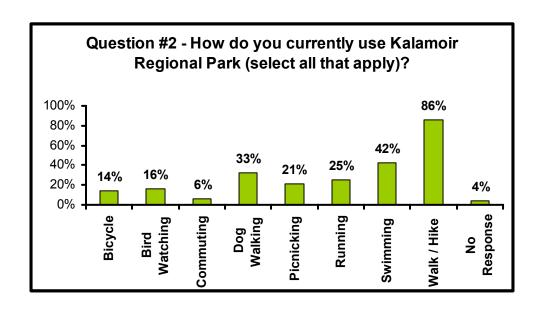


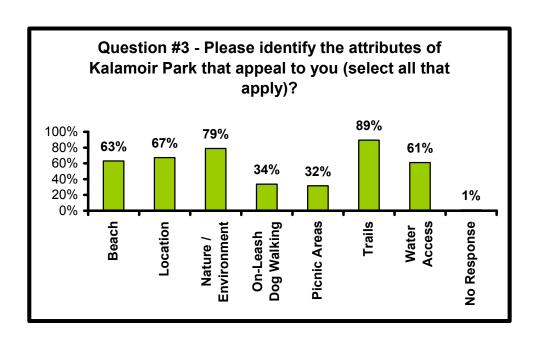
5)	What changes or improvements would you like to see in the future within Kalamoir Regional Park (select all that apply)?					
	☐ Picnic Areas	☐ Swim Platform	□ New			
	☐ Trail Upgrades	□ Dog Swimming	☐ Boat Moorage Buoys			
	☐ Parking	☐ Park Access	☐ Washrooms			
	☐ Picnic Shelter	☐ Park Expansion	☐ Preservation /			
	☐ Signage	☐ Interpretive Progr	ams / Education			
6)	Describe your preferred method for funding the preceding suggests improvements (if any)?					
	□ \$2 - \$5 Annu Property Tax Inc		Donation to "Friends of alamoir Regional Park"			
7)	) What is your age?					
	□ Under 18 □ 18	- 34 🗆 35 - 54	□ 55 +			
8)		l copy of the Kalam ide your email addr	oir Regional Park Management ess:			
9)	Any additional co	mments please add	below.			
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## **Results of Kalamoir Management Plan Survey**

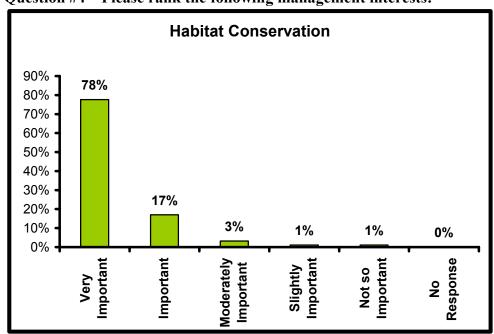
55 respondents at the October 1, 2005 Open House 33 respondents via the RDCO web page available between October 1 – 16, 2005

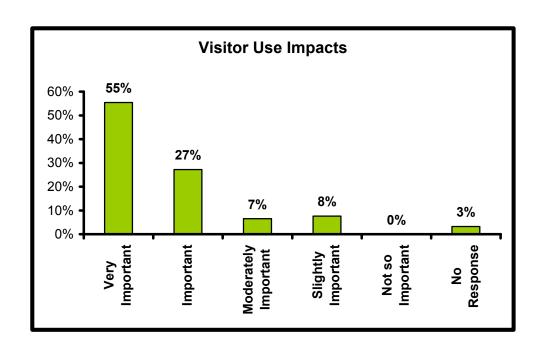


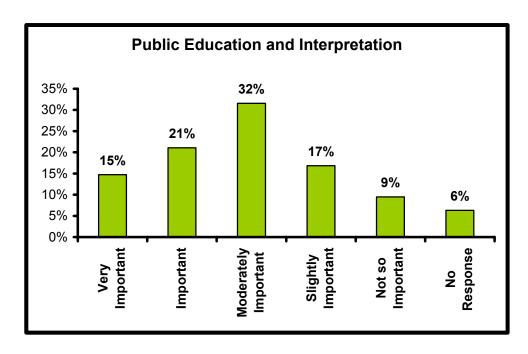


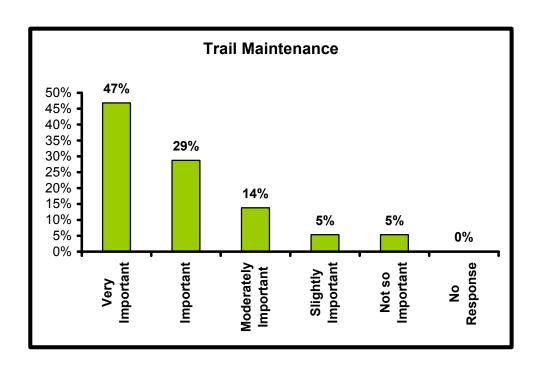


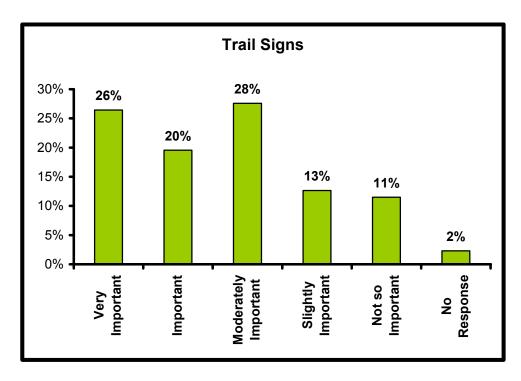
Question #4 – Please rank the following management interests:

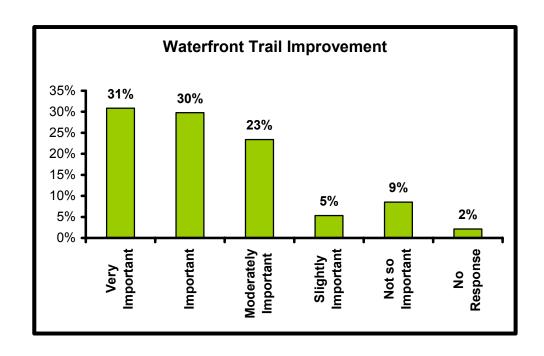


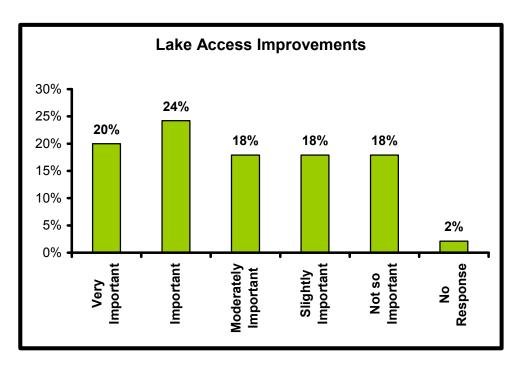


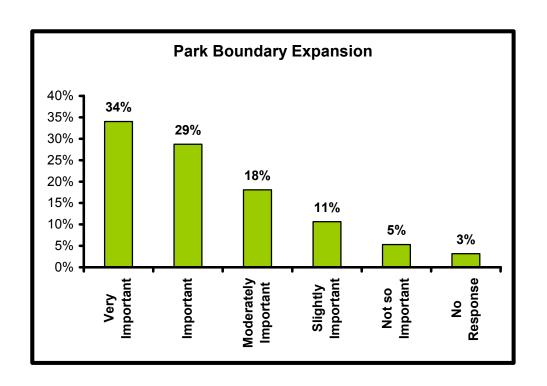


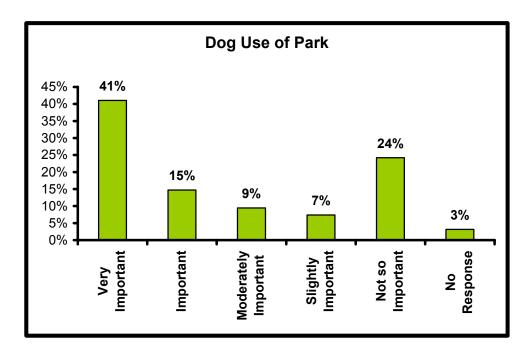


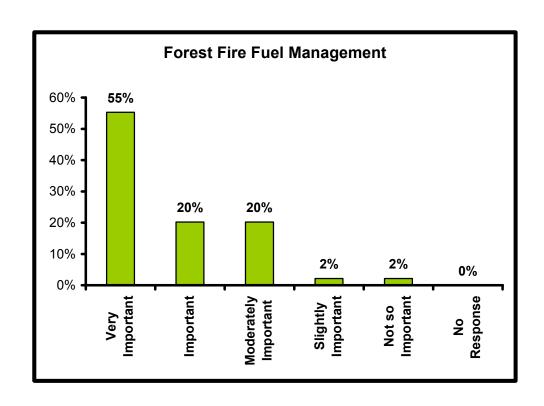


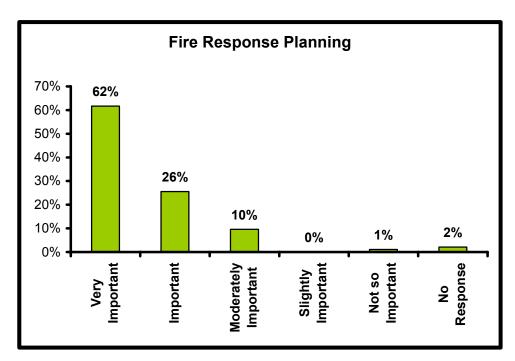


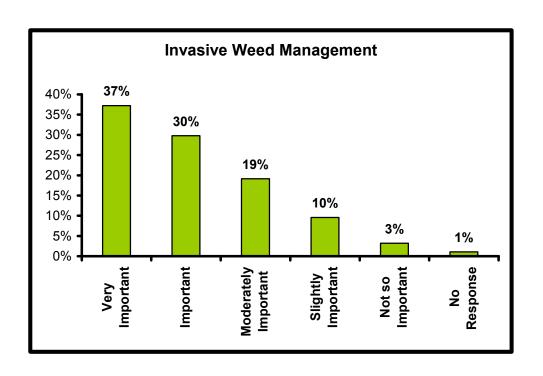


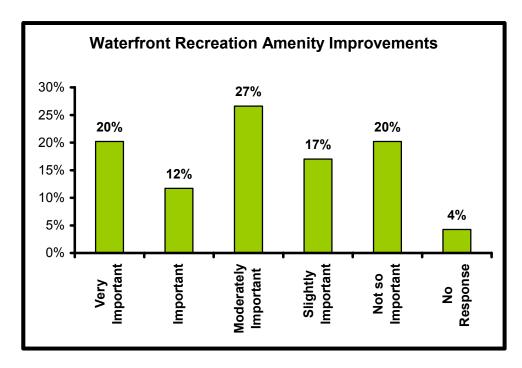


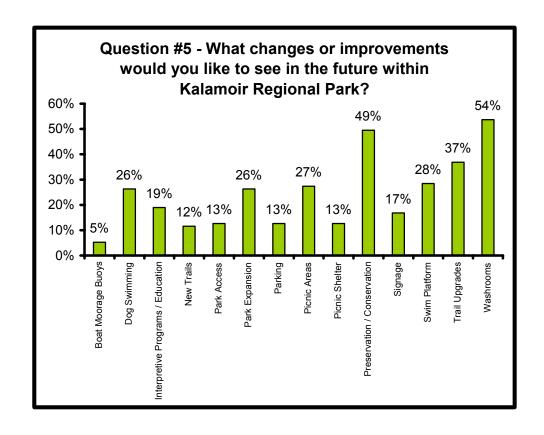


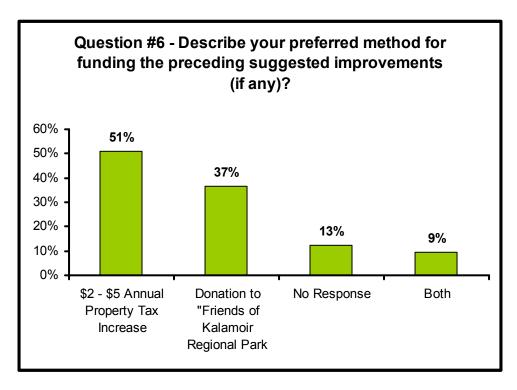


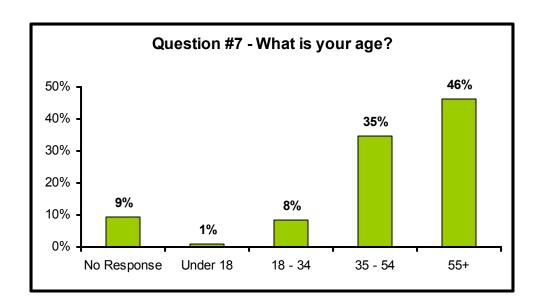












# KALAMOIR REGIONAL PARK "DRAFT" MANAGEMENT PLAN SURVEY RESPONSES

The following responses reflecting the October 1<sup>st</sup>, 2005 "draft" management plan were provided by the General Public at the October 1, 2005 Park Site Open House as well as between October 1<sup>st</sup> and October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2005 via an online web page questionnaire and survey.

#### **General Comments**

- Enjoy the park very much. Enforcement around dogs is rare and some families and children do not want dogs in their space, on their blankets etc.
- Great Work to get this process going. I'd really like to see it as a realistic cycle commute.
- Love this place leave it natural
- I love that the park is still private, not well known. It would be nice to have an off leash walk area. Would help with weed pulling.
- Yule log festivity identify log with a ribbon and hide the log. The group finds the log and brings back to centre to put on a sawhorse to be cut.
- Passmore Trail Concern around risk associated with steep exposure portions of trial. Trail improvements could include widening trail and barriers. Limit watercraft access in swim areas but provide moorage buoys in appropriate areas outside swim areas, only if boating is supported in park boundaries.
- Need to keep allowing on leash activity. Clear rocks from swimming area to allow easier access into water. Keep trails clear of overgrowth. Plan for loss of pine trees to beetles.
- Leave the park in its natural state the less human interference the better
- Object to dogs running loose in park. Please do not encourage more dogs damaging to habitat and dangerous for young children. Like to keep it as a natural park, not developed. Trails are important.
- I am alarmed by the fires and firearms in the park I have reported them. I love the park the way it is.
- Please preserve Kalamoir as it.
- Lovely park rustic is better.
- I am concerned that developing the park by adding boat moorage buoys or swimming platform will lead to overuse and problems with garbage etc. The park should be maintained as is for walking and beach access.
- Poison ivy control. Web or tent worm control. Cutting tall grasses along trails earlier in the year. Keep as natural as possible. Concerned about house boats mooring along shore line ie. Noise, garbage. I like the idea of a commissionaire employed to manage and monitor the park especially the trails and cave area. Thanks for organizing the breakfast. What a wonderful idea.
- I think we should add a dock with a slide and a diving board. I think it would make swimming more fun.



- Locals only!!!
- My dream is to be able to bike safely from Sunnyside to downtown Kelowna.
- Our family enjoys and appreciates the natural neighborhood concept of Kalamoir Park.
- More road signs to make the park easier to find.
- A great park. Very good idea to extend the trail. Keep improving the park
- Pancake breakfast information centre was a very good idea. More events, yearly perhaps, would be good to maintain interest and make more people aware of the park.
- We really appreciate the close proximity of the park to our neighbourhood. While we do have to drive to the park, we don't really have any problems with parking, although it would be nice to have a bit more parking available, especially since the waterfront is well used in the summer. The picnic facilities are not fancy, but functional. We primarily use this park for swimming, and some improvements in this area would be appreciated, perhaps more sand or a swimming platform and policing of the area to keep boats out. The plan proposal for dog access to the water north and south of the swimming area would be much welcome, as many people are already doing this even though they are not supposed to. Improving the Collens Hill entrance access would be welcome. Improved signage and information about the park, its trails and geological formations and unique environment would be nice. As it is a waterfront park, its difficult to keep people from coming in by boat, and lighting fires on the beach, especially on the south end where it is less traveled. Improving security to try and prevent this would be welcome and probably reduce any fire potential. Any expansion would be appreciated to protect the environment, but as the plan states, this is obviously only something that could happen if the owner of those properties identified are willing to sell at acceptable prices.
- My husband and I frequently visit Kalamoir Park because of the water access, the natural area and the low number of people compared with other water access areas. I would like to see these values maintained. However as the park becomes more popular I believe it is critical to implement some of the proposed management plans such as trail maintenance, signage, and managing park users to ensure the natural area is protected. For example, I believe the area should be dogs on leash only. I think its great that the RDCO is receiving public input on this as well!
- Leave well enough alone! The environment and habitat of the park will be at higher risk by implementing physical improvements to trails, improvements to lake access, addition of signs, etc. Maintain what you have. In your questionnaire, obviously everyone wants Habitat Conservation, but don't use this as an excuse for implementing improvements. Thanks for this comment box.
- I have been swimming and hiking at Kalamoir Park for the past 35 years. What I do not enjoy is having to swim next to unleashed dogs and having to sit around their droppings.
- I go to the park almost daily with my dog. My biggest concerns include the partiers and littering, as well as the boats landing in sensitive areas, disturbing

the wildlife. I would be really opposed to boat usage-there is enough of that nearby and it would increase the usage exponentially and destroy the natural habitat. I see the numbers of invasive weeds increasing. I would love it if the park were open for more of the year, say from March 1 to November 30th. Without people there to prevent littering (including dog poop), inappropriate boat usage and the partying and drugs usage that is currently a problem in the summer, I see the park deteriorating, which would be sad. Prevention of off-leash dog walking would be easier if there was a sanctioned off-leash area nearby for people to walk their dogs.

- As a child, I went swimming quite often to Kalamoir Park, even had swimming lessons there. Unfortunately, I have found the park has deteriorated so badly with dog droppings that I will not bring my children to swim there, as I feel it is too dirty. It is too bad, because we live in the neighbourhood and it would be nice if we could go for a swim without having to drive to another location further away.
- Please consider an off-leash dog compound/area. The Westside needs this badly
- The trails are great, scenery beautiful. I don't think mountain biking should be encouraged along most of the trails. More cleanup after dogs on the trails should be encouraged.
- A fenced off-leash dog park is needed on the Westside!!
- Please consider off leash dog use
- A beautiful area that needs to be preserved. Beach development would also provide a valuable resource to the people of Lakeview Heights.
- Excellent Park!! The one major concern I have is that the swimming buoys move each winter and getting them re-installed has taken far too long most years. In 2002 the buoys were in place by August 1st. In 2003 the buoys were to be in place by July 29th, but park was closed due to fire hazard and did not reopen in time to use the swimming area. In 2004 the buoys were in place by July 19th. It seems that in 2005 the buoys were in place by the beginning of the swimming season. Every year the swimming area changes dimensions, usually getting smaller. The biggest area of concern, even once the buoys are in place, is the north area. Ski-doos and pleasure craft speed close to shore, and "come upon" the buoyed area before they realize it. There is usually only one buoy between shore and the outside of the area. Often, this one buoy (and many others) are used as anchoring buoys by speed boats which makes them very hard to see for other boats. My husband and I have both been swimming in this area, as speed boats race through, usually only figuring out after they are half way through that they have just gone through a swimming area. I recommend that buoys be installed that do no permit boats to use them for anchoring, such as the ones used at City Park and Gyro Beach. I also recommend that more than one buoy be used at the north end of the swimming area. PLEASE consider these recommendations BEFORE someone gets seriously hurt!
- Park custodian facility \$175,000 Some parks have a motor home site dedicated to a couple to park their own recreation vehicle for the summer in exchange for duties of caretaking the area. This could be considered if costs are an issue.

- Please could the park be open for a longer period of time during the year. We would enjoy using even in the winter.
- Great Park, disappearing habitat. A little known jewel in the Park system.
- Such a shame to lose a park to development where only a few would be able to enjoy it.
- Our major concern is the vulnerability of Kalamoir to a major fire threatening the viability of the Park and adjacent residential areas. A good and encouraging change in philosophy and direct actions in relation to fuel modification in the Park has occurred in the past two years. Jim Mottishaw, the Regional District park crews, along with local volunteers have made a commendable start. It is vitally important that these efforts continue on a yearly basis. To us, all other improvements to the Park are secondary. If we don't have a fire-safe Park all other improvements that might be made could go up in smoke!!!! "Visitor Use Impacts" and "Public Education" and "Signage" should all be directed at no cigarettes and no campfires!!!!

#### **Negative Comments**

- Dog owners should clean up after their dogs! Sometimes a walking path looks disgusting. I do not have a dog but I end up taking a stick and pushing dog crap out of the path.
- Again, please appeal (or if necessary enforce the dog present policy) to the dog owners to strictly follow the dog policy (cleaning after the dogs)
- It is important to keep dogs on a leash. Widen trail to accommodate cyclists.
- The developer is also requesting to move the new Kalamoir park trail even further up the hill, which would finish half way up with a dangerous path to the beach! We hope that will not happen
- I hate the noise pollution from Sea Doos ect., therefore I do not encourage any future accessible beach.
- The early closure of the gate at the Collens Hill entrance means that access to a level walk along the lakeshore is unavailable to much of the population. The sign at this entrance also reads that the PARK is closed to everyone for a huge chunk of the year-not just that the closure is for vehicular traffic. The road only needs to be closed when it is icy and snowy for safety reasons. There is little or no 'party' traffic during the winter months and fire danger is low. There was a successful welcoming Pancake breakfast so it was stunning to see that the Park was closed just a few days later. Seems like a somewhat hollow promotion!
- It upsets me that dogs are not allowed water access. I prefer that the park remain 'leash only'.