

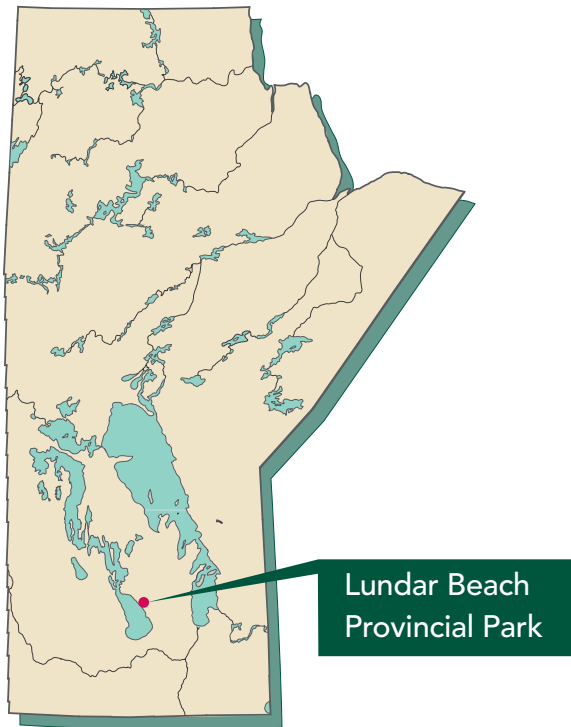
Lundar Beach Provincial Park

Draft Management Plan



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1. Introduction

The Provincial Parks Act (1993) requires that a management plan be prepared for each provincial park. Management plans establish long-term direction for parks and address issues pertaining to resource protection, land use and development. They are to be used in conjunction with park regulations, directives and other departmental and government policies. The process of preparing the management plan for Lunder Beach Provincial Park and co-ordinating the public involvement process was the responsibility of a team involving staff from the Parks and Natural Areas branch, regional staff of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship, and a consultant contracted to work on the project.

The management plan for Lunder Beach Provincial Park is based on its role in Manitoba's system of parks and the participation of those who use and care about the park.

The treaty and Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples to pursue traditional uses and activities within Lunder Beach Provincial Park are acknowledged and respected.

2. Park History

The province began developing a recreation area around a high quality beach near the town of Lunder in 1957. The site was designated Lunder Beach Provincial Park a few years later in 1961, the year following the proclamation of *The Provincial Parks Act*. In 1997 the boundary of the park was adjusted to incorporate land to the east in order to ensure that all campsites were within the park.

3. Park Attributes

Lunder Beach is 23.41 hectares in size. It is located on the east shore of Lake Manitoba, 120 kilometres northwest of Winnipeg and 18 kilometres west of the Town of Lunder. It is accessed from Provincial Road 419.

3.1 Natural

Lunder Beach is in the Aspen/Oak Parkland Natural Region. Vegetation in the campground and day-use area includes aspen, willow and oak, which are typical of this region. On the east side of the park is a wetland area with typical marsh vegetation such as reeds and sedges. A one kilometre stretch of shoreline beach ridge defines the west edge of the park. Although the beach is habitat for the endangered piping plover (Province of Manitoba, 2011), nesting occurrences have not been documented. The park contains habitat for water birds, migrating and nesting warblers and other songbirds, and promotes public appreciation of wetland habitats.

3.2 Recreational

The campground offers beach front nightly and seasonal camping with 41 basic and electrical campsites. The park contains a day-use area with a playground, picnic shelter, cook-shack, shower building and modern washroom building. Water access for small craft to Lake Manitoba is provided in the park. A boat launch at a cottage subdivision just south of the park provides an alternate water access point.

The 3.2 kilometre long Dianne Jacobs walking trail through the marsh on the east side of the park features a boardwalk, viewing platform and interpretive signage. It provides opportunities for bird watching and learning about marsh birds. The trail was developed and is maintained by the RM of Coldwell.

The shoreline provides ample opportunity for swimming and walking along the beach. The beach extends beyond the park boundary to the north and south. Cottage subdivisions are located immediately to the north and south of the park.

3.3 Additional Features

A small portion of the marsh on the east side of the park is used for haying in dry years. This use predates the park expansion that occurred in 1997. The area that is hayed is contiguous with a larger hayfield east of the park.

4. Park Management Framework

4.1 Classification

Manitoba's provincial park system is made up of almost 100 different parks and park reserves. The role of an individual park within this system is identified by its classification. Classification descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

Lundar Beach Provincial Park is classified as a Recreation Park. The main purpose of a Recreation Park is to provide recreational opportunities in accordance with *The Provincial Parks Act (1993)*.

4.2 Park Purpose

Manitoba's provincial park system was established to conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity; to preserve unique and representative natural, cultural and heritage resources; and to provide outdoor recreational and educational opportunities in a natural setting. Within this larger framework, individual parks contribute towards the overall objective of the provincial park system.

A System Plan for Manitoba's Provincial Parks (1997) states that the purpose of Lundar Beach Provincial Park is to provide outdoor recreational opportunities and experiences in the Interlake Region. The park will:

- offer camping, swimming, picnicking and day-use opportunities.

4.3 Land Use Categories

Land Use Categories (LUCs) identify the important attributes of broad areas within a provincial park. Land may be categorized in Wilderness, Backcountry, Resource Management, Recreational Development, Heritage or Access LUCs. LUC descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

Lundar Beach Provincial Park has a Recreational Development LUC (RD). The main purpose of this category is to accommodate recreational development. Within Lundar Beach Provincial Park:

- Facilities include picnic areas, showers, playground, cook-shack, a self-guiding trail and a water access site for small craft.
- The campground has a variety of basic and electrically serviced campsites, some with direct access to the beach.

Lundar Beach Provincial Park Map



5. Park Management Guidelines

5.1 Natural Values

Lundar Beach Provincial Park contains both highly modified and natural areas. As its name suggests, the beach is the park's most significant natural feature and is well used by park visitors. The beach ridge protects the campground from the lake's wave action. The beach is also habitat for the endangered piping plover. The vegetation on the beach ridge is important for maintaining its integrity and protecting the park from erosion due to wave action. Flooding in 2011 caused significant damage to vegetation along the shoreline. The beach ridge is an important resource and measures are required to preserve this significant natural feature.

Guidelines

1. Shoreline erosion will be monitored and an erosion mitigation program developed focusing primarily on maintaining existing shoreline vegetation and implementing a shoreline planting program where necessary.
2. Monitoring of the beach for piping plovers will be done in conjunction with the Manitoba Piping Plover Recovery Action Group. Any nesting occurrences will be documented and appropriate protection measures for nesting birds will be put in place under the direction of the Manitoba Recovery Action Plan.

5.2 Recreation

Lundar Beach Provincial Park has a range of recreational facilities and is a valuable regional facility.

Guidelines

1. Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship will maintain facilities for camping, picnicking and swimming and a water access site for boating.
2. Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship will maintain its current agreement with the RM of Coldwell regarding maintenance of the Dianne Jacobs walking trail.

5.3 Commercial Operations

Commercial activities in a park have the ability to enhance or detract from the park experience and must be managed to best suit the park environment and user needs. Except for the haying in the eastern portion of the park, no commercial operations currently exist in the park. The park provides a very limited market for most commercial ventures.

Guidelines

1. Development of commercial facilities within the park will not be permitted.
2. Proposals for mobile commercial operations/vendors will be considered on a case-by-case basis.
3. The haying operation in the eastern portion of the park will be allowed to continue under an annual permit.

Appendix A – Park Classification and Land Use Categories

Park Classifications

In accordance with section 7(2) of *The Provincial Parks Act* (1993), all provincial parks are classified as one of the following types:

- (a) a wilderness park, if the main purpose of the designation is to preserve representative areas of a natural region;
- (b) a natural park, if the main purpose of the designation is both to preserve areas of a natural region and to accommodate a diversity of recreational opportunities and resource uses;
- (c) a recreation park, if the main purpose of the designation is to provide recreational opportunities;
- (d) a heritage park, if the main purpose of the designation is to preserve an area of land containing a resource or resources of cultural or heritage value;
- (e) any other type of provincial park that may be specified in the regulation.

Land Use Categories

In accordance with section 7(3) of *The Provincial Parks Act* (1993), all provincial parks are categorized into one or more of the following land use categories:

- (a) a wilderness category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect representative or unique natural landscapes in an undisturbed state and provide recreational opportunities that depend on a pristine environment;
- (b) a backcountry category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect examples of natural landscapes and provide basic facilities and trails for nature-oriented recreation in a largely undisturbed environment;
- (c) a resource management category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to permit commercial resource development or extraction in a manner that does not compromise the main purpose of the park classification;
- (d) a recreational development category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to accommodate recreational development;
- (e) a heritage category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect a unique or representative site containing a resource or resources of cultural or heritage value;
- (f) an access category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to provide a point or route of access in a provincial park or a location for a lodge and associated facilities;
- (g) any other category that may be specified in the regulation.

Bibliography

Manitoba Natural Resources. "A System Plan for Manitoba's Provincial Parks." 1997.

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