


CARDIFF MOUNTAIN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE

PURPOSE STATEMENT

July 2003

Approved by:



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Date: July 31/03

CARDIFF MOUNTAIN ECOLOGICAL RESERVE
Purpose Statement

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Cardiff Mountain Ecological Reserve is to protect an outstanding geological formation (columnar tertiary basalt lava) of volcanic origin, and associated plant communities.

Known Management Issues	Response
Access through the northwest portion of the ecological reserve to access television and telephone transmission towers.	The legal description will be amended to except the existing corridor through the ecological reserve to provide access to the transmission towers.
Possible expansion of transmission towers may encroach upon ecological reserve boundaries.	Work with proponents to ensure no trespass occurs.
Local recreational use of area may be inconsistent with purpose of area.	Post signs stating area is ecological reserve and explaining the purposes of ecological reserves.

CONSERVATION

Representation

- **ecosection** ~65 hectares to the under-represented Chilcotin Plateau (4.02%). Cardiff Mountain's contribution is negligible (only 0.12% of overall protected area representation of this ecosection). Other protected areas include Stum Lake, Bull Canyon, Nunsti, Nazko and Big Creek provincial parks and Churn Creek Protected Area.
- **biogeoclimatic subzone/variant** ~65 hectares of SBPSxc, which is under-represented in the PA system (3.19%). Nunsti and Big Creek provincial parks provide the vast majority of the protected areas system representation of the SBPSxc. Cardiff Mountain's contribution is negligible (only 0.2% of overall protected area representation of this subzone).

Special Feature

- Very good example of symmetrical, vertical columnar basalt capped with fractured basalt. Notes suggest best example in B.C. Unique biogeoclimatic relationship involves a small fern found in rocky crevices which has adapted from the cool, moist shady environment to an open, dry, windy and hostile environment. A small, clear, shallow lake with an aquatic moss covered bottom is located on top of this volcanic plug.

Rare/Endangered Values

- None noted from inventory work completed to date.

Scientific/Research Opportunities

- Fern population may be of interest to botanists.

RECREATION

Representation:

- **backcountry** n/a
- **destination** n/a
- **travel corridor** n/a
- **local recreation** n/a

Special Opportunities

- n/a

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

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CULTURAL HERITAGE

Representation

-

Special Feature Nothing noted, but significance of feature in the Nemiah Valley should trigger more consultation with bands that have an identified interest in the area.

OTHER MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

Other Designations n/a

Relationship to Other PAs n/a

Co-operative Management Arrangements n/a

Partnerships Williams Lake Field Naturalists undertake informal annual field trips and inventory work.
A volunteer ecological reserve warden is in place.

Vulnerability Low. Natural barriers, isolation and difficult access minimize human and domestic livestock use.

Relationship to Other Strategies n/a

Area: 65 ha

Date of Establishment: May 28, 1974