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BERG LAKE CORRIDOR

VISITOR USE MANAGEMENT PLAN

DECEMBER 2025

BRITISH COLUMBIA | BC Parks

The Berg Lake Corridor in Mount Robson Park is within the territory of multiple Nations. BC Parks reached out to seek their input on the Berg Lake Corridor Visitor Use Management Plan; Simpcw First Nation acted as a close partner in the drafting of this plan.

SIMPCW FOREWORD

Secwépemc beliefs and values in relation to the land are best expressed by our Knowledgeable Elders. One Simpcw Elder described it as follows:

> *The Secwépemc people, our Ancestors, have lived in the Tête Jaune [Cache] and Jasper areas for thousands of years. The remains of ancient houses are still on the Fraser Riverbank. The bones of our Ancestors are buried here. The spirit of those people still live there. Our people lived in that area because the land was plentiful. The river gives us clean water to drink and salmon every year. The mountains provide deer and elk and small game.*
>
> *Our people understood the gift that the land has given us. The Creator gave us this land to share and enjoy forever, not to destroy. We in turn, were given the responsibility to look after the land, forever. We are its caretakers, its stewards.*[1]

As Secwépemc, we have used and occupied the vicinity of the Berg Lake Corridor for millennia. Our historical presence is verified by the original naming of what is now known as Mount Robson in the Secwépemc language. The first and original name for the mountain is *Tsyéceĺcten*, a Secwepemctsín word which reflects the appearance of a spiral road running up the face of the mountain. It was sometimes also known as *Yexyexéscen*, which is an older spelling. It was phonetically transcribed as Yuh-hai-has'-kun by a surveyor and geologist in the 19th century. *Tsyéceĺcten* provided a visual reference point for travel and served as notification, that if 'one could see the mountain, one was in… Simpcwúĺecw' (Simpcw territory).[2]

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VISION FOR THE BERG LAKE CORRIDOR

The Berg Lake Corridor offers an extraordinary recreation experience where the variety of recreational activities fosters a meaningful connection to nature. With careful management and minimal development, visitors are encouraged to explore respectfully and help protect the area's stunning natural beauty, cultural values, and ecological integrity.

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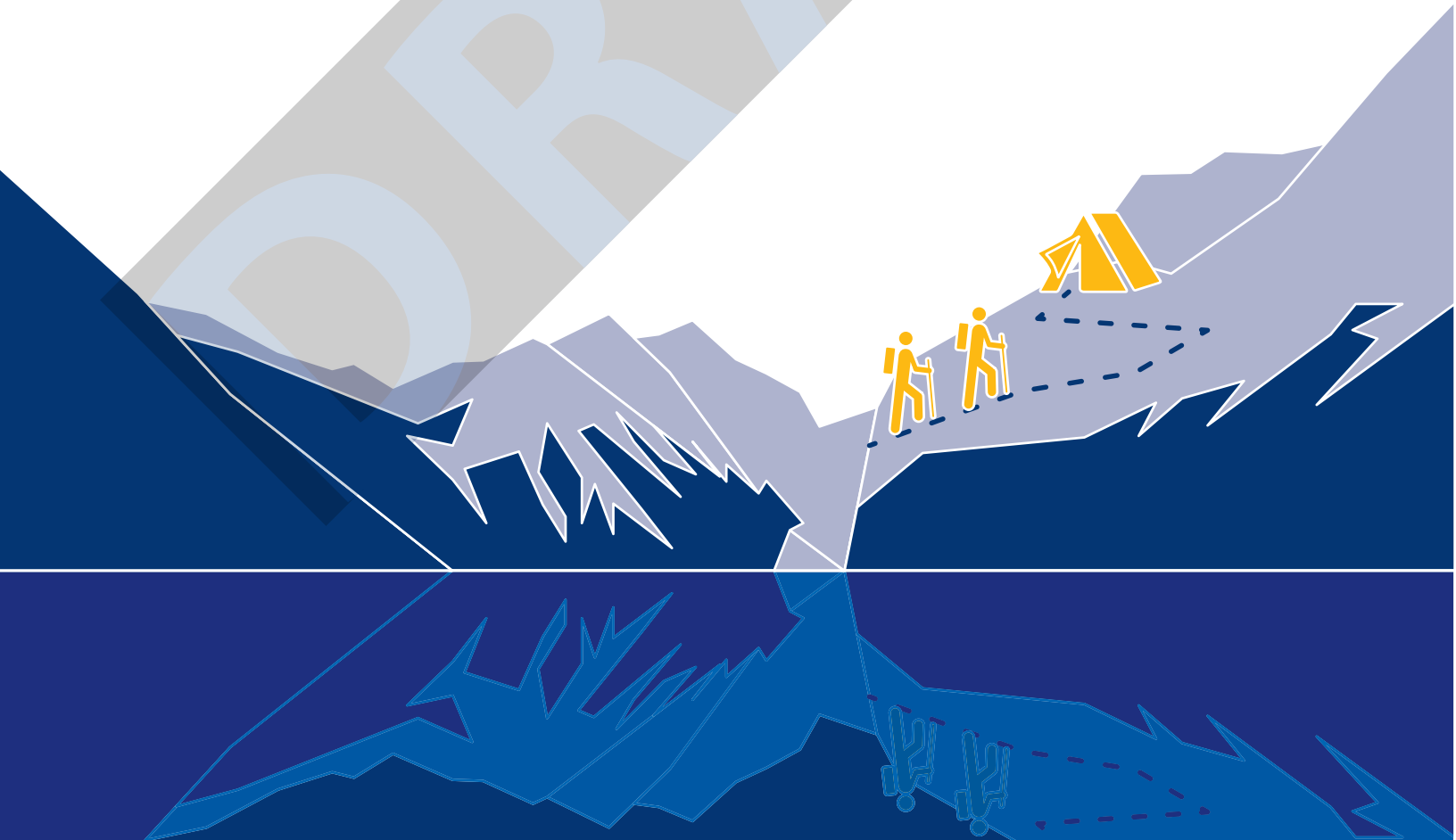

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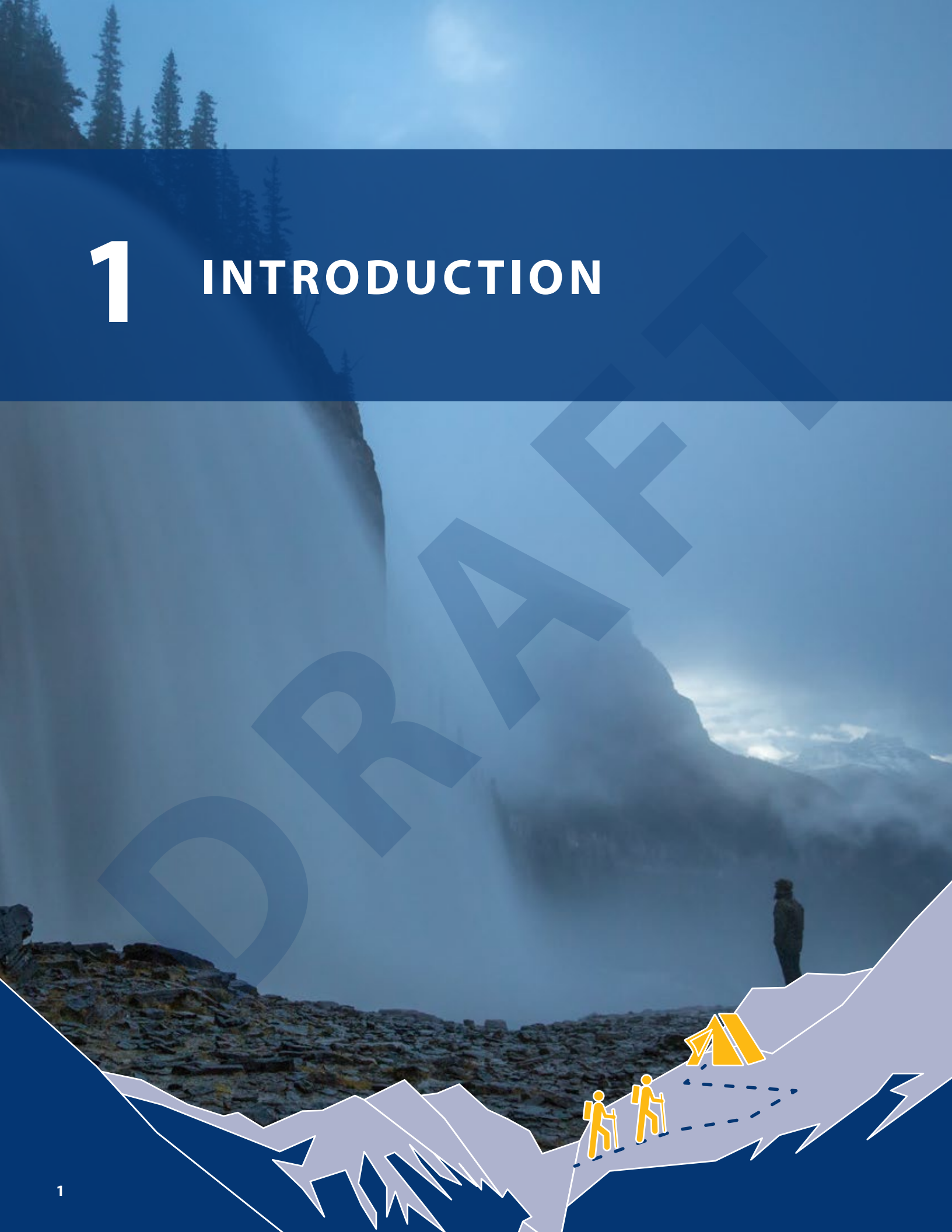
1 INTRODUCTION



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Mount Robson Park is a Rocky Mountain destination celebrated for its awe-inspiring landscapes. The park was established in 1913 to protect the mountains in the vicinity of Mount Robson for public enjoyment. It is one of British Columbia's oldest and best-known provincial parks and is part of the Canadian Rocky Mountain Parks UNESCO World Heritage Site.

At the heart of the park lies the Berg Lake Corridor (BLC), its most popular destination. This corridor is home to the world-renowned Berg Lake Trail (BLT), a 46-kilometre out-and-back route that winds through shimmering lakes, ancient forests, glaciers, waterfalls, and the breathtaking alpine landscapes of the Great Divide. The BLT attracts hikers of all levels—beginner, intermediate, and experienced—drawn by its inviting trails, spectacular views, and diverse campgrounds.

Surrounding the trail are some of the region's most iconic alpine features, including the 3,954-metre Mount Robson, Mumm Basin, Whitehorn Mountain, and Snowbird Pass—making it a premier destination for experienced mountaineers and climbers from around the world. The park and the BLC also serve as a gateway to British Columbia, conveniently located along Highway 16, a major national transportation corridor that provides easy access for a high volume of visitors.

Recognizing the recreational value and popularity of the BLC, the original Park Management Plan (1992) identified the need for a dedicated recreation management plan for the corridor. In response, the Berg Lake Corridor Plan was developed in 2000 and has successfully guided recreation management in the area for the past 25 years. However, the BLC now faces growing and evolving pressures, including increased visitation, shifting recreational trends, and climate-related challenges. Building on the strong foundation established by the 2000 Plan, there is a clear need to develop an updated Visitor Use Management Plan. This new plan will address current challenges and provide a renewed strategic direction to guide recreation management for the next 25 years.

1.1 PURPOSE

The Berg Lake Corridor Visitor Use Management Plan (VUMP) offers a comprehensive, long-term, and adaptive framework for managing visitor use within the BLC. The plan:

- Identifies and articulates the corridor's key values,
- Provides an updated understanding of visitor use and summarizes current conditions,
- Documents the primary visitor use management issues and concerns,
- Defines the desired conditions for the BLC and suggests ways to monitor those conditions, and
- Outlines strategies and actions that BC Parks and its partners may implement to achieve and maintain the desired conditions.

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1.2 PLANNING AREA & PLANNING UNITS

The planning area, known as the Berg Lake Corridor (Figure 1), extends from Highway 16 to the BC–Alberta border. It encompasses the Berg Lake Trail and surrounding areas, including Mumm Basin, Whitehorn Mountain, Phillips Mountain, the Mount Robson complex, and Snowbird Pass.

Visitor use patterns vary across the Berg Lake Corridor (BLC). To reflect these differences and support more targeted management, three distinct planning units have been established (Figure 1). An overview of each planning unit and its characteristics is provided in Table 1. Subject to future feasibility assessments and approvals, Planning Unit 2 may be expanded to include any recreational development in the Campion Mountain area. Currently, Campion Mountain and adjacent undeveloped areas is included in Planning Unit 3.

Table 1: Planning Units & Characteristics

Planning Area		
Planning Unit 1 **BLT - Welcome Centre to Kinney Lake Outflow**	**Planning Unit 2** **BLT - Kinney Lake Outflow to Robson Pass**	**Planning Unit 3** **Remaining Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT**
Characteristics		
• Large diversity of visitor activities. • Greatest concentration of parks infrastructure. • Higher standard of visitor infrastructure. • Highest volume of visitation. • Accessible to visitors with a wider range of abilities & requires limited technical skills & specialized equipment.	• Lower concentration of infrastructure and amenities. • Trail conditions are more natural with increased barriers. • Lower volume of visitors and less diversity of activities. • Accessible to visitors with a narrower range of abilities and those with backcountry skills and equipment.	• Minimal to no infrastructure and amenities. • Very low concentration of visitors. • Very narrow scope of visitor activities. • Rugged and natural terrain with no managed trails. • Limited to visitors with backcountry abilities & mountaineering skills & equipment.

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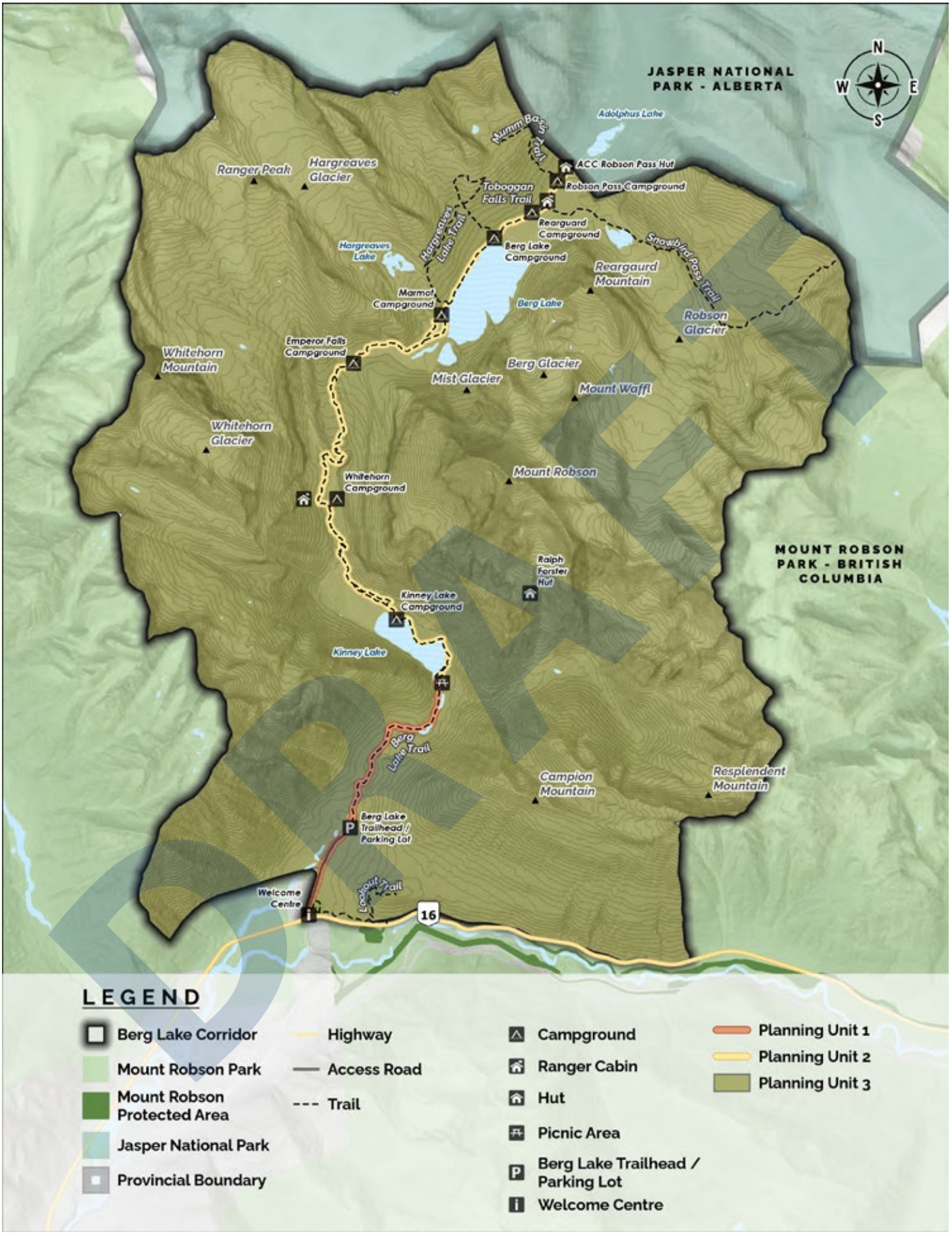

Figure 1: Map of Planning Area & Planning Units

1.3 PLANNING PROCESS

BC Parks worked with RC Strategies to update the BLC VUMP, which was informed through meaningful engagement with the public and interested parties. BC Parks sought to collaborate with the Nations on whose territories the park is located. Throughout the process BC Parks worked collaboratively with Simpcw First Nation (Simpcw) in the development of the management plan.

The planning process applied the Interagency Visitor Use Management Council's Visitor Use Management Framework and the level of engagement was informed by the Sliding Scale Analysis presented in Appendix A.[3]

The planning process involved the review of background information, existing management direction, and mapping available data, the preparation of updated visitor use management strategies, and suggestions for ongoing monitoring.

1.4 ENGAGEMENT PROCESS

The plan was informed through a two-staged engagement process.

STAGE 1 ENGAGEMENT

Prior to development of the draft plan, public, stakeholder, and First Nations engagement occurred to learn more about BLC visitors, identify visitor use management issues and concerns, understand desired conditions, and explore potential management strategies/actions. Information was shared via BC Parks' public engagement website. To solicit input, an online survey was implemented in the summer of 2024. BC Parks received 357 survey responses. A "Stage 1 What We Heard Report" was prepared to summarize the engagement input and was shared publicly on the *Help Shape BC* project website.

STAGE 2 ENGAGEMENT

The draft VUMP is available for public and interested party review and comment via the *Help Shape BC* project website sent directly to stakeholders in 2025. Public open houses and individual stakeholder meetings are also scheduled to occur. Following this second round of engagement, a "Stage 2 Engagement What We Heard Report" will be prepared and shared with the public via the project website.

Discussions with interested First Nations are occurring throughout the life of the project. Information and feedback received from the public, stakeholders and First Nations will be used to revise the content of the final VUMP.

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1.5 OVERARCHING MANAGEMENT DIRECTION

Overarching management direction for the Berg Lake Corridor (BLC) is provided by the **Mount Robson Park Management Plan** (2011)[4], along with applicable provincial legislation, regulations, and orders. The park management plan provides a vision for the park, management zoning, as well as a suite of broad visitor use related management strategies and actions applicable to the park as a whole. Due to the BLC's unique appeal and high levels of visitation, a dedicated recreation management plan was developed to ensure the long-term environmental and recreational sustainability. Known as the Berg Lake Corridor Plan, that plan was approved in 2000 and has guided visitor management in the BLC since.

Developed in alignment with the park management plan and designated management zones (see Management Zones), this Visitor Use Management Plan will guide future management of the BLC. Management decisions will be informed by the VUMP's desired conditions, strategies, and monitoring actions.

Future updates to the Mount Robson Park Management Plan will be aligned with the BLC Visitor Use Management Plan, and vice versa.

MANAGEMENT ZONES

The overarching Mount Robson Management Plan includes three main management zones within the BLC. For a comprehensive description of zone objectives, intended use levels, recreation opportunities, facilities, and environmental considerations, please refer to the Mount Robson Park Management Plan (2011) or any subsequent updated version.

- Transportation Corridor Intensive Recreation Zone (IR3)
- Nature Recreation Zones (NR1 and NR2)
- Wilderness Recreation Zone (WR3)

Almost the entirety of the Berg Lake Corridor is within Nature Recreation Zones. There are two small exceptions: 1) Kinney Lake Road and the trailhead parking lot are zoned Intensive Recreation, 2) a small portion of the corridor in the southeast corner, including Campion Mountain, is designated Wilderness Recreation.

Allowable activities and updates to this Visitor Use Management Plan have been made in coordination with the management zones. This document focuses on the Planning Units, which have been established to emphasize visitor use, recreation, and facilities throughout the Berg Lake Corridor.

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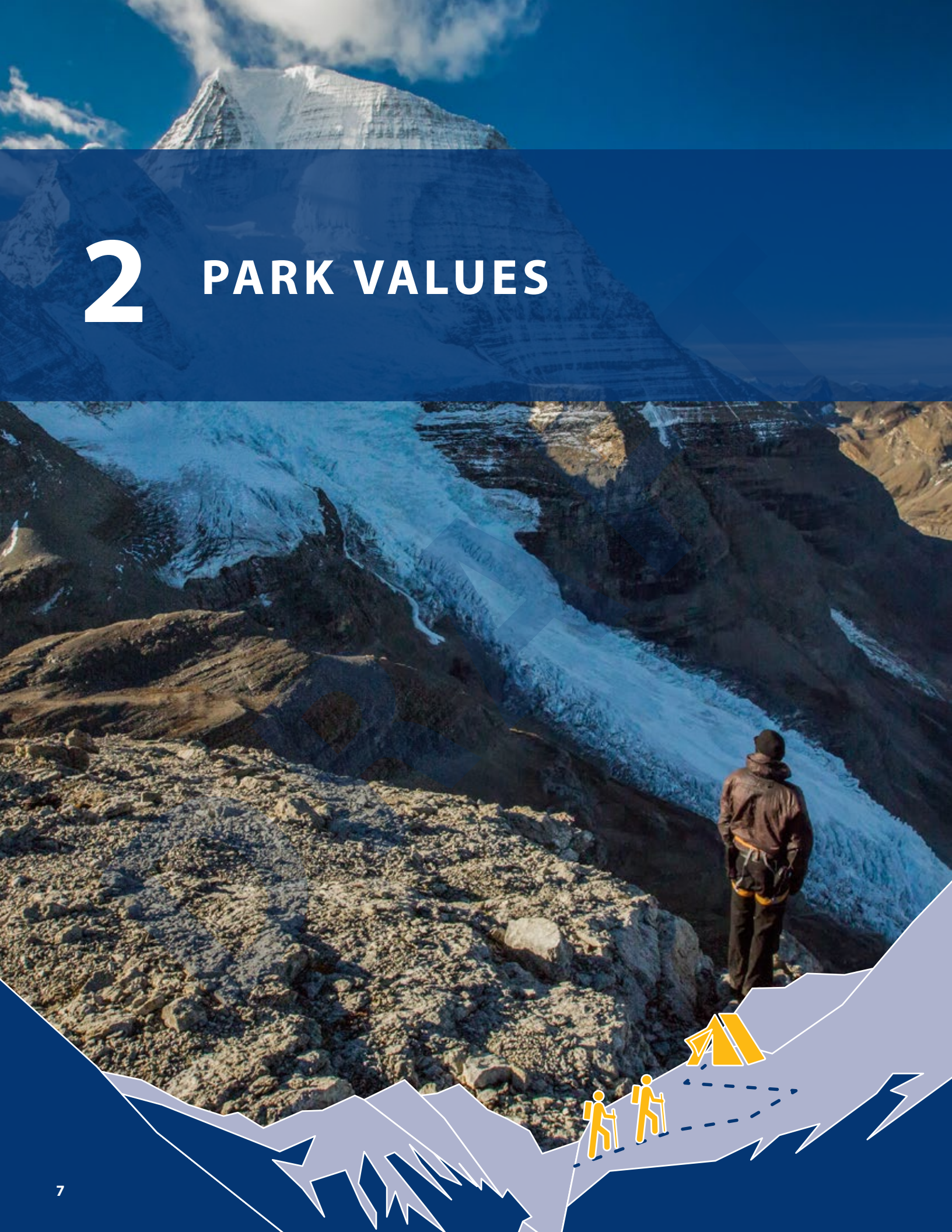
2 PARK VALUES



2.1 SECWÉPEMC CULTURAL VALUES

Respecting the Símpcwemc (Simpcw people) of the Secwépemc as guardians and caretakers of this *tmicw* (land) and learning about their values, knowledge, and respect for the land is a critical part of being a *sxlítemc* (guest) in Mount Robson Park and the Berg Lake Corridor. Simpcw, as a Campfire within the Secwépemc, and guardians of this area, have taken care of the *tmicw* now known as the Berg Lake Corridor since time immemorial. BC Parks encourages all park visitors to treat the land respectfully and embrace Secwépemc teachings and cultural values which tell us how to care for and conduct ourselves on the *tmicw*:

> Símpcwémc have thrived in Simpcwúɬecw (Simpcw Territory) since time immemorial. The *tmicw* (land), *tmesmescén* (wildlife), and *séwllkew* (waters) sustained us as we practiced seasonal rounds for harvesting food and resources. By combining a deep understanding of the familiar rhythms of the earth with a worldview that embraced our role as *yecwemínmen* (caretakers of the land), our approach assured the health and wellbeing of the *tmicw, tmesmescén, séwllkew*, and *qelmúcw* (people).[5] For Secwépemc, the well-being of the people is inextricably linked to the well-being of the land and is based on shared principles which have been expressed in Secwépemc stories and oral traditions for millennia. A core principle underlying the relationship between our people and the land, known in Secwepemctsín as *k'wseltktenéws* states that *"Humans, land and non-humans are interconnected and interdependent within a larger ecosystem."*[6]

> K'wseltktenéws include our collective responsibility as guardians and caretakers of the *tmicw* (land). It is valuable for guests, visitors and other users of the land learn and be educated about Secwépemc laws and understand our role as *yecwemínmen* (caretakers) of the *tmicw*. These laws include our commitments to:
>
> - ***Yecwmenúɬecw -*** *Take Care of the Land* by engaging with the community to ensure that policies reflect this principle;
> - ***Tknémentem re Tmicw -*** *Preserve the Land* by ensuring that all parts of the land will continue to flourish and be protected into the future; and
> - ***Xyemstém re Tmicw -*** *Have respect for the Earth*, prioritizing caring for the earth as paramount when carrying out activities in the natural world.[5]

The stated intention within the VUMP of maintaining the integrity of the ecosystem and ecological values of the BLC align with these Secwépemc values in that we understand ourselves to have a relationship to the land that protects the inherent wellbeing of Simpcwúɬecw and Secwépemcúɬecw. There is also alignment between Secwépemc values, and the VUMP's commitment to ensuring that visitors are informed about expectations of them in their use of the resources. *Sxlítemc* (guests) to Secwépemcúɬecw (Secwépemc Territory) *"are treated hospitably. The behaviour of guests is often described as respect for the community they are visiting and the rules that govern it. They are welcomed if that respect is maintained."*[6] For Secwépemc, this means that visitors have a responsibility to understand that Secwépemc are knowledgeable about the people, history, and health of the lands. Guests are expected to *"respect the integrity and the knowledge of the people who have invited a guest into their territory."*[7]

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2.2 GEOMORPHOLOGY AND HYDROLOGY FEATURES

The BLC showcases a remarkable diversity of hydrological and geomorphological features, including lakes, rivers, waterfalls, tributaries, wetlands, glaciers, and mountains (Table 2). The mountains visible today, shaped over millennia, are composed primarily of thick limestone and quartzite cliffs dating back to the Cambrian period. These flat, gently sloping rock layers form dramatic peaks, including Mount Robson, the highest peak in the Canadian Rockies (3,954 m).

The corridor's glaciers and rivers have sculpted the landscape over time, driving both alluvial and fluvial processes. As a result of its geomorphology, the BLC is susceptible to annual high-peak-flow events that can severely damage visitor infrastructure and pose risks to public safety. This vulnerability was highlighted during the 2021 heat dome event, which resulted in flooding across the corridor. Major recreational assets, including the Berg Lake Trail (BLT), experienced extensive washouts, leading to a multi-year reconstruction effort.[8,9]

Table 2: Prominent Hydrological Features in the BLC

Lakes	Major Rivers & Tributaries	Named Waterfalls	Glaciers	Mountains
• Kinney Lake • Berg Lake • Hargreaves Lake • Mist Lake	• Robson River • Philips Tributary	• White Falls • Falls of the Pool • Emperor Falls • Toboggan Falls	• Robson Glacier • Berg Glacier • Mist Glacier • Hargreaves Glacier • Whitehorn Glacier	• Mount Robson • Resplendent Mountain • Mount Waffl • Rearguard Mountain • Whitehorn Mountain • Campion Mountain

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2.3 CLIMATE CHANGE

With its water features, glaciers, and alpine environment, the corridor is susceptible to the effects of climate change. Climate change has the potential to dramatically alter the BLC's landscape and ecology and negatively impact park infrastructure. Climate change and its related impacts on annual temperatures, and rainfall is anticipated to create dynamic weather patterns, with predictions indicating extreme precipitation events ranging from one to five day sums reaching around 30 mm to 70mm[10,11] Average temperatures are predicted to rise by 5.6°C, increasing the number of days above 30°C from 0 per year to 5 or more depending on elevation, with lower elevation areas remaining considerably warmer than the mountains (e.g. Mount Robson). Further, glacier melt, and retreat is reducing slope stability and increasing landslide risks such as a persistent landslide occurring in the Mumm Basin.[12] It is anticipated that ongoing climate change impacts will continue to pose a risk to park infrastructure, visitor safety, and ecological values. These impacts are anticipated to influence the timing and nature of recreational activities that occur throughout the corridor and may lead to increased human-wildlife interactions.

2.4 VEGETATION AND RARE VASCULAR PLANTS

The corridor hosts a diverse array of plant and tree species, enriching both the ecosystem's biodiversity and the visitor experience. Below is a list of notable species found within the corridor, some of which are at risk and highly sensitive to recreational impacts.

Whitebark Pine - *Blue listed, COSEWIC Endangered*

- This tree species is known to have very sensitive bark, making it vulnerable to human modification on trails or campgrounds. The tree exists in high elevation forests and subalpine zones that have thin, rocky soil. This species occurs within many of the campgrounds, from Emperor hill to Robson Pass, and BC Parks has concerns over damage due to humans (e.g., using the tree to hang hammock tents). The BLC is part of a Whitebark pine recovery program where the health status of individuals is assessed, trees showing resistance to white pine blister rust have their cones protected and collections are made to help with recovery efforts. Whitebark pine contributes to the biodiversity of the parks forested ecosystems and contributes to food and shelter for species such as grizzly bears, black bears, and Clark's nutcrackers.[13]

Orchids - *Alaska Rein (yellow listed), Yellow Widelip (blue listed), COSEWIC not assessed*

- These and other species are known to exist in moist areas, often near water sources such as Kinney Lake. They are sensitive to human recreation through trampling and picking both on and off trail. Trails crossing through potential habitat could disturb this species and prevent them from growing.[13]

Rare Vascular Plants - *Meadow Willow (Blue listed, COSEWIC not assessed)*

- There are a variety of rare and endangered vascular/non-vascular plants within the park, however meadow willow is the most present throughout the park zones. This species is known to occur infrequently, often in moist habitats. Due to the rarity of this species, human disturbances pose a significant threat to the overall population.[13]

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2.5 WILDLIFE

The corridor and its ecosystems provide critical habitat for a variety of wildlife species, several of which are provincially or federally designated as species of special concern. The following section highlights the wildlife present in the corridor and discusses the potential impacts of recreational activities on their habitats.

Mountain Goats - *Blue listed. COSEWIC Not assessed.*

- An estimated 337 mountain goats inhabit the park, primarily in alpine terrain, steep rocky slopes, and meadows near glaciers. Snowbird Pass is a key habitat area and a popular hiking destination, raising concerns about disturbance, displacement and/or habituation of goats to humans. A seasonal closure is implemented from May–July 1 annually to protect goats during sensitive kidding and rearing periods. Goats are drawn to natural mineral licks and, in other parks, have been observed seeking out human urine due to its salt content (though this has not been documented in the Berg Lake Corridor). Research from the University of British Columbia highlights their sensitivity to disturbances such as hiking, climbing, and helicopter activity. [13,14,15,16]

Wolverine - *Blue listed, COSEWIC Special Concern.*

- Wolverines require large home ranges and have been observed in the BLC during the recent BLT closures. Dens, often snow tunnels, are used for birthing (Feb-Apr) (often every other year), making late winter a sensitive time. While highly sensitive to human activity, no dens were observed during recent environmental assessments associated with re-development of the BLT.[13,17]

North American Porcupine - *Yellow listed. COSEWIC Not assessed.*

- Current data on porcupine habitat or denning sites in the park is limited, but there is evidence of some old feeding sites on lodgepole pine trees. This species can pose a threat to park infrastructure due to their incessant chewing of wood infrastructure. Innovative infrastructure designs that prevent porcupine chewing help to foster coexistence with this species. While there could be potential for human-wildlife encounters along the BLT, off-leash dogs pose a greater disturbance to porcupines than humans.[13,18]

American Black Bears - *Yellow listed, COSEWIC Not at Risk.*

- Black bears exist in higher concentrations along the lower BLT, where grizzly bear presence is lower. Spring and fall are sensitive periods due to cub rearing and pre/post-hibernation foraging. Black bears are attracted to natural food sources like berries and small mammals but may also be drawn to human food and scents, increasing the risk of conflict. Habituation and food conditioning can lead to increased conflicts with park visitors, with food-conditioning often leading to aggressive behaviour. Current human-bear conflict levels in the corridor remain low.[13,19,20] Black bears can also be disturbed by park users and domestic dogs on and off trail leading to negative encounters.

Grizzly Bear - *Blue listed, COSEWIC Special Concern.*

- Grizzly bears occur at higher elevations in the BLC, although they frequent lower elevations and valley bottoms during spring and berry/summer seasons. Sensitive periods include spring (den emergence/cub rearing) and fall (pre-hibernation foraging). Grizzly bears may be attracted to human food/scents and can be disturbed by park users and domestic dogs on and off trail resulting in potential negative encounters.[13,21] Current conflict levels in the BLC are low.

Bats (Little Brown Myotis and Northern Myotis) - *Blue listed, COSEWIC Endangered.*

- Acoustic recordings confirm the presence of several bat species in Mount Robson Park. Foraging habitat is varied but is often near water. Caves, hollow trees, snags with loose bark, and human-made structures provide day roosts and maternity sites. Bats have been observed using the trailhead picnic shelters along the BLT while Toboggan Falls cave may also be used by bats, though further study is required to confirm their presence.[13]

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Black Swifts - *Blue listed, COSEWIC Endangered.*

- Waterfalls within the corridor are important for Black Swifts. These birds nest and forage for insects in areas with cliffs and ledges near waterfalls. While sensitive to climate change, they're not easily disturbed by recreation unless nesting areas are approached.[13,22]

Western Toad - *Yellow listed, COSEWIC Special Concern.*

- Western toads breed in stagnant water and use various nearby land habitats, sometimes traveling several kilometers. They have been observed in the lower Robson River watershed and Adolphus Lake, with potential presence along the upper BLT. Toadlets may be trampled if migrating across recreational trails within the corridor.[13]

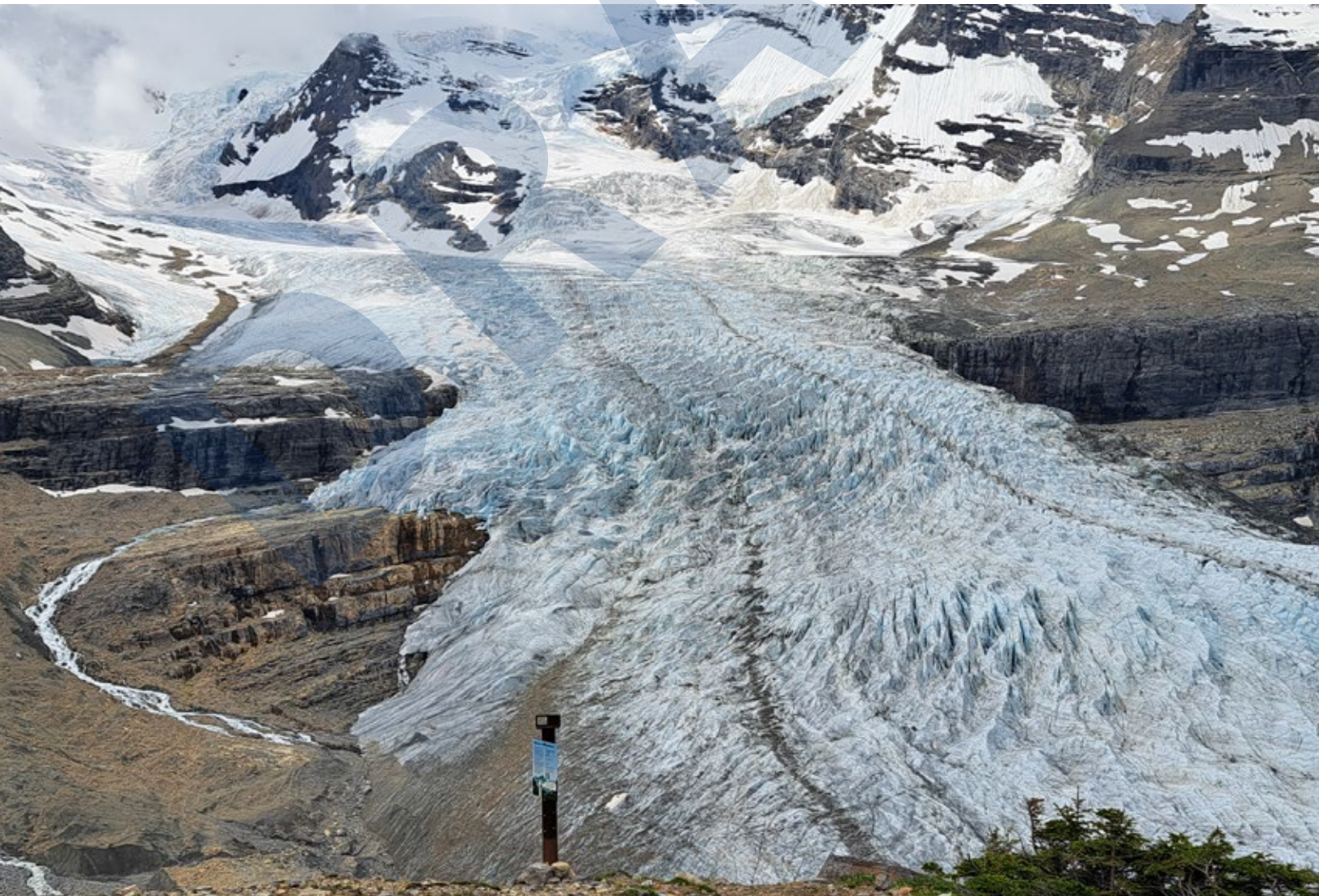
2.6 FISH

Kinney Lake and the Robson River contain natural populations of mountain whitefish and bull trout. Historical data suggest that rainbow trout were stocked in Kinney Lake between 1933 and 1954, although this practice was stopped decades ago.

2.7 HERITAGE FEATURES

Mount Robson Park has a rich history for visitors to learn, appreciate and protect for future generations. These heritage features help to tell a story that ultimately connects visitors on a deeper level to the landscape, including:[23]

- Hargreaves Cabin (built in 1927).
- Alpine Club of Canada (ACC) 1911 inscription rock.



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3 VISITOR USE

A key component of the planning process was identifying current recreational opportunities and patterns of use within the corridor. This involved documenting existing activities, settings, and supporting features in each planning unit to develop a clear and comprehensive understanding of visitor use throughout the corridor.

3.1 RECREATION ACTIVITIES

The corridor supports a wide variety of recreational activities that can be enjoyed year-round. The BLT is the primary draw to the area, attracting large numbers of visitors annually. The lower portion of the trail accommodates multiple uses, including hiking, biking (permitted up to kilometre 7), and trail running. While some adventurous users complete the round trip to Berg Lake in a single day, most day-use visitors typically travel as far as Kinney Lake or Whitehorn Campground.

Seven designated campgrounds along the trail provide opportunities for overnight stays, allowing visitors with reservations to experience the scenery at a more relaxed pace. Most overnight backpackers spend between two and five nights on the trail. The upper portion of the BLT also features several side-trail excursions for experienced hikers.

The area's awe-inspiring alpine environment attracts experienced climbers and mountaineers from around the world. Even the most accessible routes are considered highly challenging, typically rated Alpine Grade IV—indicating sustained, technical, and serious terrain. Summiting Mount Robson is a demanding multi-day expedition involving glacier travel and technical scrambling, often along classic routes such as the Kain Face or Emperor Ridge.

During the winter months, visitors can snowshoe or backcountry ski along the ungroomed BLT. However, the trail traverses challenging and complex avalanche terrain and is exposed to multiple avalanche paths. Winter services are limited, and visitors must be experienced in winter backcountry travel, knowledgeable in avalanche safety, and equipped with appropriate gear.

Table 3 provides a summary of key recreational activities within each planning unit.

Table 3: Recreation Activities by Planning Unit

Planning Unit 1 BLT - Welcome Centre to Kinney Lake Outflow		Planning Unit 2 BLT - Kinney Lake Outflow to Robson Pass		Planning Unit 3 Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT	
Warm Months	Cold Months	Warm Months	Cold Months	Warm Months	Cold Months
Domestic pet walking (on-leash)	Cross-country skiing (ungroomed)	Backcountry hiking	Snowshoeing	Rock climbing and Mountaineering	Ski-touring
Day hiking	Snowshoeing	Trail running	Winter camping	Backcountry hiking	Ski-mountaineering
Trail running	Hiking (when snow-covered trails)	Backcountry camping	Ski-touring		Ice climbing
Mountain biking	Ski-touring	Domestic pet walking (on-leash, day use)			
E-biking					

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3.2 RECREATION FEATURES & INFRASTRUCTURE

Recreational features are the foundation of the recreation opportunities available in the BLC. Visitor infrastructure and amenities support the visitor experience and play a critical role in managing recreation impacts. Recreation features and infrastructure varies throughout the corridor. Table 4 outlines the key recreation features and infrastructure currently present in each planning unit, which is subject to change over time based on management direction and operational needs of the park.

Table 4: Recreation Infrastructure & Amenities by Planning Unit

	Trails	Access and Parking	Comfort and Convenience Amenities	Campgrounds (Tent Pads) and Huts	Water Crossings
Planning Unit 1: BLT - Welcome Centre to Kinney Lake Outflow	• Km 0-4 of BLT • Type 2 » 2-3m wide » Gentle gradient » Compact surface, stable, well-maintained » Manicured (no intrusive rocks/roots) • 131m elevation/7km	• Access off Highway 16 • 1 parking lot (approx. 200 parking stalls) • RV and tour bus spaces • 6 accessible spaces • Looped flow design • Pedestrian walkways through lot	• Pit toilets • Change rooms • Day use shelter • Picnic tables & benches • Sani-station • Bear-proof garbage & recycling • Bike rack • Wayfinding, Regulatory, safety, and Interpretative, signage.	• N/A	• 2 bridges
Planning Unit 2: BLT - Kinney Lake Outflow to Robson Pass	• Km 4-23 of BLT • Type 2 » Narrow, natural surface » Less frequently maintained » Increased gradient from 12-17kms • 661m elevation gain	• By foot from trailhead • Hiking route to Jasper National Park (NE of Berg Lake) • 1 commercial-use helipad • Multiple operational-use helipads	• Tent pads • Grey water stations/ food drains • Enclosed shelter/ picnic tables • Bear-resistant food lockers • Pit toilets • Wayfinding, Regulatory, safety, and Interpretative, signage.	• Kinney Lake Campground (18) • Whitehorn (22) • Emperor Falls (9) • Marmot (7) • Berg Lake (26) • Rearguard (6) • Robson Pass (15) • 2 Ranger cabin stations • Robson Pass Hut	• 5 bridges • Alluvial system crossings by foot

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	Trails	Access and Parking	Comfort and Convenience Amenities	Campgrounds (Tent Pads) and Huts	Water Crossings
Planning Unit 3: Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT	• Type 3 » Side trails off BLT are maintained • Route/Type 5 » Climbing routes (unmanaged) » Rugged terrain » Exposed » Steep gradient » Significant elevation gain	• By foot from trailhead • Hiking route to Jasper National Park (NE of Berg Lake) • 1 commercial-use heli landing area (south of Extinguisher Tower)	• Limited safety and regulatory signage.	• Ralph Forster Hut • Dome high camp (unmanaged) • Various undesignated bivy sites	• N/A

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3.3 VISITATION

As a flagship provincial park and trail, the BLC attracts visitors year-round, with peak use during the warmer months when recreational opportunities increase, and the Welcome Centre is open. As visitation continues to evolve, understanding current use is essential to guide future management and balance park values with visitor experience. While visitation data is limited, the following sections provide an overview of visitation to the BLC based on available data.

3.3.1 Public Use

3.3.1.1 DAY USE

With its easy access from Highway 16, the BLC is a scenic stop for visitors traveling by car, RV, or tour bus. The easy access combined with incredible views and visitor comfort amenities lead many visitors to enjoy the area as a day-use destination, for sightseeing, a rest break, or a walk along the BLT to Kinney Lake. Currently, data is unavailable to quantify the day use visitation levels in the BLC.

3.3.1.2 OVERNIGHT VISITATION ON THE BERG LAKE TRAIL

Overnight visitation within the corridor is managed by the BC Parks reservation system for all seven designated campgrounds. Overnight visitors must make a reservation in advance, limiting the maximum capacity of people allowed on the trail within any given night. The BLT has seen a steady increase in overnight visitation over the years, ranging from 13,634 in 2014 to just under 19,000 in 2019 (Figure 2).

Overnight visitation on the BLT has been interrupted by complete or partial trail closures between 2020 – 2025. The trail was closed in 2020 due to the worldwide Covid-19 pandemic and from 2021-2024 due to the regional heat dome and subsequent flood event resulting in trail closures. Based on visitation trends prior to 2020, it is expected that overnight visitation will continue to increase in demand.

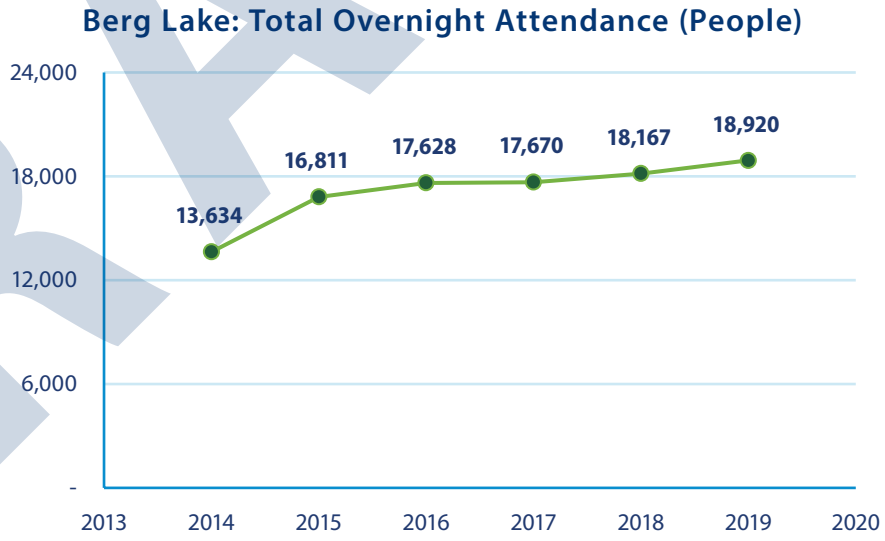

Figure 2: Berg Lake Overnight Attendance

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Overnight hikers on the BLT travel from far and wide to experience the beauty of the backcountry. In 2023, there were 1,652 (85.9%) hikers from across Canada on the trail, and 272 (14.1%) from abroad. That year, the largest international visitation population was from the United States, making up approximately 40% of overnight visitors. Figure 3 highlights BLT Canadian versus international visitation. It is important to acknowledge that this dataset from 2023 was during the partial trail closures on the BLT, so it may not fully represent a typical BLT hiking season.

There are no current restrictions in place for climbers or mountaineers within alpine terrain in the BLC. Currently, climbers follow a voluntary self-registration process before embarking on their overnight adventures. Research suggests that undesignated bivy sites and high camps such as the Dome are used by those completing alpine routes, but there is no recorded data specific to climbers or mountaineers.

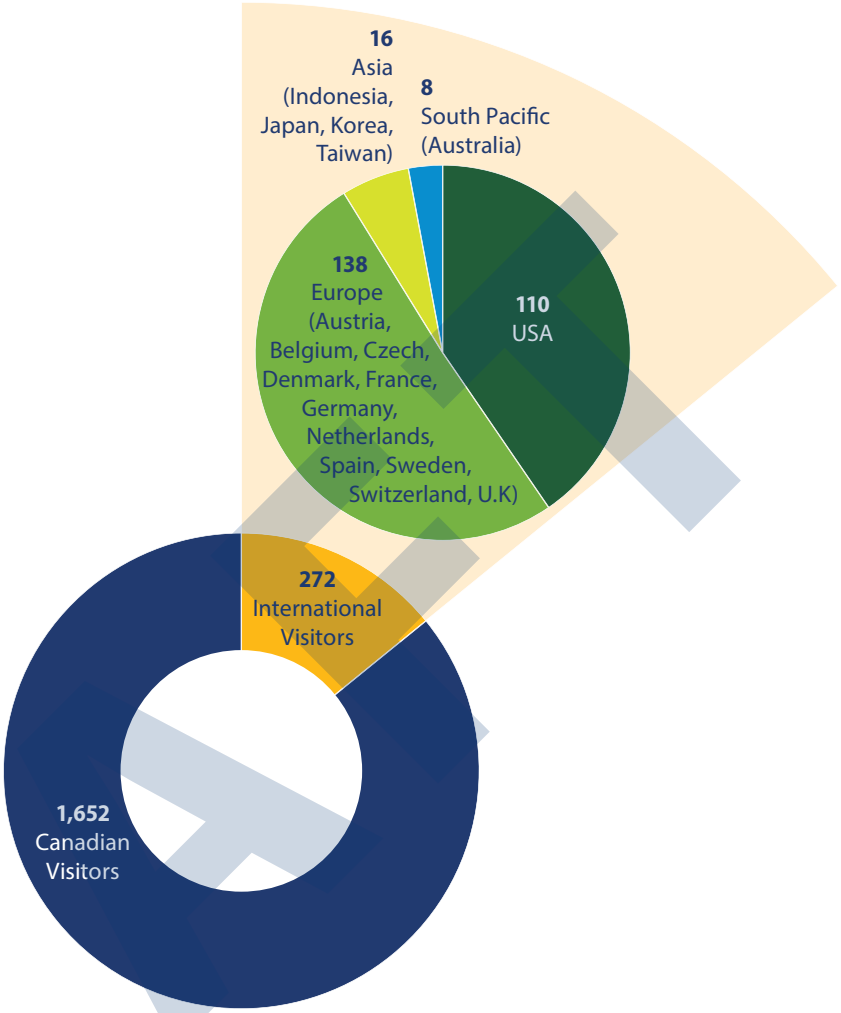

Figure 3: Overnight Visitors on the BLT by Country (2023)

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3.3.2 School & Custodial Group Use

BC Parks welcomes school groups onto the BLT to experience backcountry hiking and camping while learning about the park's ecological and cultural values. Data regarding the number of school or custodial groups visiting the BLC is unavailable.

3.3.3 Commercial Recreation Use

Commercial recreation activities, services and operators are permitted to occur within the BLC. Types of permits, the number of approved permits, and permit details within the BLC are subject to change. Permits within the BLC have been granted for the following purposes:

- Fixed-roof Accommodations
- Hiking/Backcountry Guiding
- Photography/Filming
- Special Events/Races/Competitions
  - » The annual Mount Robson Marathon, started in 2011, takes place the second weekend of September during peak season. It is scheduled to occur after the highest visitation months (July and August). The event is capped at 500 people who participate in a variety of race formats.
- Aviation
  - » One existing helicopter park use permit allows for up to 10 commercial flights per day on designated days of the week. Data indicates that most visitors who utilize helicopter transport into the BLC are landing at the Robson Pass helipad for hiking purposes and that a very small proportion of visitors are being flown to The Dome for climbing and mountaineering purposes. In 2018 and 2019, the busiest months for commercial recreation-related helicopter transport were July and August (Figure 4).
  - » Additional helicopter flights/landings throughout the BLC are for operational purposes and not included in the 10 allocated commercial flights. Data on private aircraft and commercial overflights is not available.

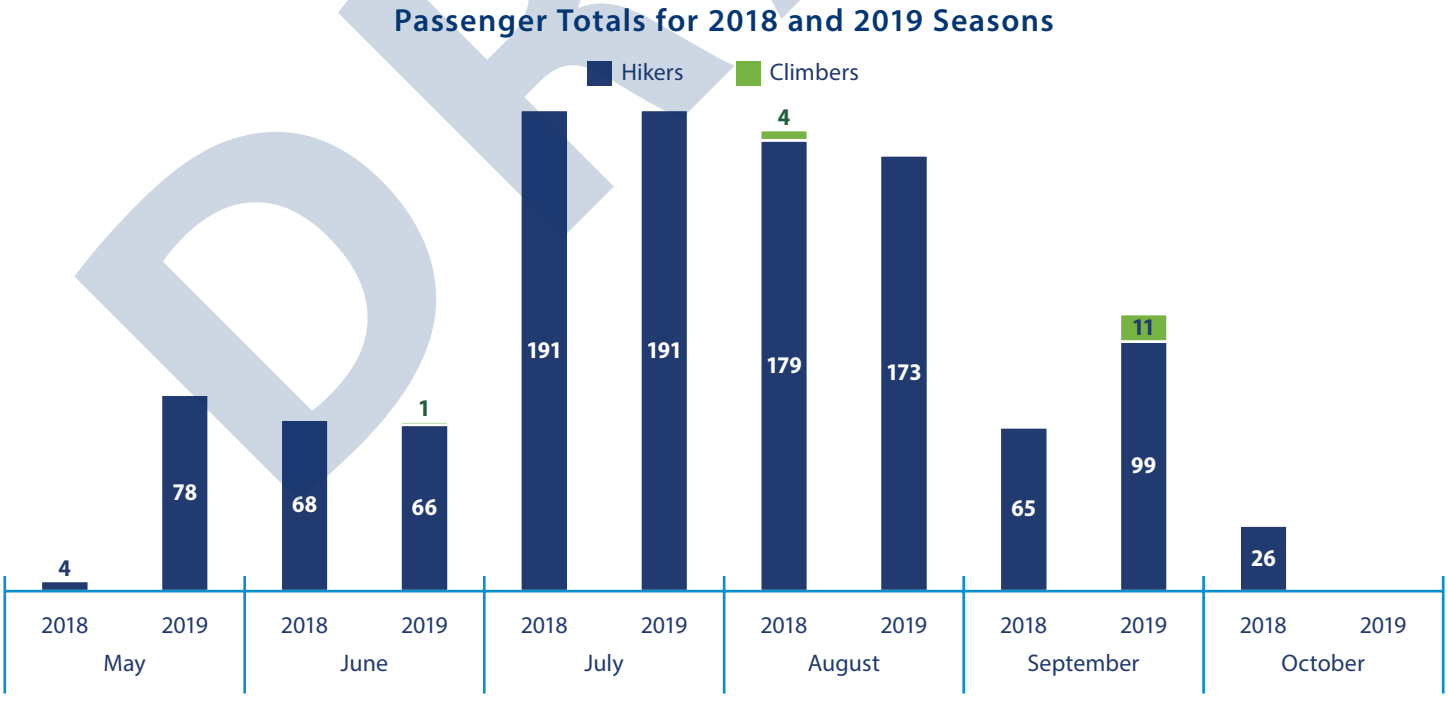

Figure 4: Helicopter Passenger Totals (2018 & 2019)

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4 VISITOR IMPACTS & MANAGEMENT CONCERNS

Efforts to maintain a quality visitor experience in the BLC have been largely successful to date; however, mitigating visitor impacts and preparing for emerging issues require continued, proactive management to sustain desired conditions into the future. Existing and emerging visitor management concerns are being driven by:

- increasing volumes of visitation, including increases in peak period visitation,
- introduction of new activities into the corridor (e.g. e-bikes, drones, hammock tents, etc.),
- expanding seasons of use (e.g. winter),
- changes in visitor segmentation (e.g. new to the outdoors), and/or
- new infrastructure development and demands (e.g. trail re-routes, fixed roof accommodation).

Each of the visitor management concerns addressed by this VUMP are summarized below. It is important to note that the management concerns described may be:

- currently occurring,
- perceived to be occurring by staff, partners, park visitors, or stakeholders, or
- not yet an issue but could emerge in the future if not proactively monitored or properly managed.

Visitor Experience

- Increased congestion on access roads, parking lots, trailheads, day use/rest areas and viewpoints.
- User conflicts between park visitors (hikers, bikers, pet walkers, no-show reservation holders).
- Noise from portable speakers, domestic pets (e.g. barking dogs), and helicopters can disrupt the peaceful enjoyment of the backcountry for others.
- Improper disposal of human waste along corridor trails, and throughout the high alpine and glaciated areas of the corridor.
- Domestic pet (e.g. dog) feces not being cleaned up/ disposed of properly.
- Accumulation of litter along the trails, day use/viewpoints, and campgrounds.
- Disposing of food, trash and broken equipment in food caches and leaving waste and in the high alpine and glaciated areas of the corridor.

Ecological

- Improperly stored food, garbage and other attractants and improper use of grey water disposal leading to the attraction of wildlife (e.g. mice, bears) to campgrounds and day use areas and the potential for wildlife to become food-conditioned.
- Displacement of wildlife from important habitat (e.g. mountain goat winter/natal range, wolverines, bears) through recreational activities and helicopter noise.
- Disturbance and harassment of wildlife (ungulates, bears, small mammals) by people and domestic pets being present on the trail.
- Park visitors approaching, feeding, or harassing wildlife.
- Potential for disease spread (e.g. White-Nose syndrome, whirling disease, chronic wasting disease, avian bird flu).

Vegetation Damage

- Visitors picking flowers/vegetation (e.g. orchid species) and damaging the plants.
- Off-trail travel and social trail creation in the alpine, within campgrounds and to points of interest along the corridor trails (e.g. trampling of shoreline vegetation due to water collection, beach-going, and photo-taking).
- Damage to sensitive and endangered trees (e.g. Whitebark pine tree) in campgrounds from visitors tying hammock tents and other equipment (e.g. gravity water filters) to the trees in and near the campgrounds.
- Cutting of trees and collection of downed wood debris for illegal campfires (heating, cooking).
- Introduction and spread of invasive species from contaminated hiking boots/bicycle tires, maintenance equipment, equestrian manure and feed.

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Public & Staff Safety

- Visitors unprepared for the rugged and challenging nature of the environment (e.g. don't bring appropriate gear/ equipment, wear adequate clothing and footwear, have satellite communications devices, etc.), increasing their risk of injury.
- Visitors not properly trained/conditioned for the environment (e.g. alpine, winter, etc.) and/or intended activity, and natural hazards/severe weather events creating potential for sudden danger, overall increasing their risk of injury.
- High visitation levels and a diversity of recreational activities occurring throughout the corridor complicate emergency response procedures in the event of forest fires, flooding, avalanches, landslides, and other natural hazards and emergencies.

Operations

- Infrastructure (e.g. campgrounds, trails) is vulnerable to the effects of climate change and extreme weather events which creates risks for further trail/area closures (e.g. trail erosion, bridge washout, flooded campgrounds) and increased operations and maintenance costs.
- The supply of infrastructure (e.g. parking, trails, toilets, benches, shelters) may not support increasing visitation.
- Capacity to provide sufficient staff presence throughout the year in response to increased visitation.
- Potential need to limit visitation to protect conservation values and visitor experience.
- Growing operational costs and staff time to respond to increasing visitor management issues

Data

- Data and information related to climbing and mountaineering activities is not available to monitor use levels and patterns in the alpine/sub alpine environments.
- Lack of data collected on winter use within the corridor, limiting the ability to assess seasonal patterns, visitor experiences, and associated management needs during this time of year.
- Data and information regarding day use visitation (e.g. visitor volumes, activities, timing, motivations) and the extent, type and location of visitor impacts is limited or unavailable.
- Although overnight use is tracked through a reservation system, the current data lacks details and transparency, limiting comprehensive analysis of visitation impacts and trends.

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5 DESIRED CONDITIONS

Desired conditions are future-focused aspirational statements that describe the visitor use related conditions that are to be achieved and maintained within the BLC. They focus on ***what*** the area should be like (a vision) and ***not how*** (instructions) to achieve the conditions.

First Nation & Secwépemc and Símpcw Cultural Integrity	Planning Unit(s)
• BC Parks centres reconciliation and partnership with local First Nations in the management of the BLC. • Visitors have opportunities to learn about Secwépemc and Símpcw teachings and lessons about Guardianship and respect for the land. • Secwépemc and Símpcw have meaningful input related to park operations, interpretation, and education. • Secwépemc and Símpcw have meaningful economic opportunities related to park operations and commercial activity, including tourism/guiding in the BLC. • Secwépemc and Símpcw wildlife and ecological knowledge are integrated into park management. • Archaeology and cultural heritage belongings, objects, and artifacts are left in place, not promoted to park visitors, and not damaged or removed from the park.	Planning Area

Visitor Experience	Planning Unit(s)
• Visitors enjoy world class day use, overnight and multi-night trail, camping and mountaineering experiences that feature awe inspiring panoramic views of mountain landscapes, peaceful enjoyment, and an uncrowded, tranquil, and backcountry recreation setting. • Visitors engage in a range of permitted activities across all seasons and have the appropriate skills, knowledge, and gear to have a safe and successful backcountry experience. • Commercial operators provide visitors with opportunities to enjoy appropriate guided recreational activities (e.g. mountaineering, climbing, hiking, fixed roof accommodation/hut, transportation) that may be otherwise intimidating/unattainable to visitors and contributes towards a diversified, robust local economy. • The impacts of park visitors are concentrated to main trails and designated campgrounds and impacts are minimized through proper infrastructure design, visitor signage and education/outreach. • Human waste, food waste, domestic pet (e.g. dog) waste and litter are properly disposed of and not left along trails, campgrounds and in the alpine. • Visitor behaviour and activities do not adversely impact wildlife and do not result in conflicts with bears and other potentially dangerous species. • Interactions between visitors and staff are pleasant and respectful and conflicts between visitors rarely occur. • Visitors apply responsible recreation practices and behaviours and are compliant with park rules. • Basic visitor amenities (e.g. trails, shelters, campsites, huts, viewpoints, day use areas, toilets) are rustic in nature and services are available but are limited to those necessary to protect park values, provide for safety, and enhance visitor experiences. The quality and condition of facilities continually meet or exceed visitor expectations. • Park users living with disabilities can enjoy both day-use and overnight adaptive recreation experiences and accessible comfort and convenience amenities between the trailhead and Kinney Lake Campground.	Planning Area
• Traffic congestion at the BLT parking lot and Welcome Centre is minimal and traffic flows along Kinney Lake Road remain efficient.	Planning Unit 1

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Ecological	Planning Unit(s)
• Wildlife (e.g. mountain goats, wolverine, black swifts, bears) are not displaced from their most productive seasonal ranges, natal areas, denning locations, escape terrain or habitat features by visitor use. • Predictable visitor travel patterns and behaviours allow wildlife to adapt to visitor use and limit disturbance, flight distances, and energy expenditures. • Visitors are aware and respectful of wildlife, and do not engage in behaviours that may result in the food conditioning or habituation of wildlife. Human and wildlife coexist, and wildlife conflicts are avoided. • Riparian areas, wetlands, and watercourses are free of visitor caused vegetation damage, sediment loading and pollution. • Vegetation and ground disturbance is minimized and confined to designated trails, campgrounds, bivouac sites, established climbing routes, and day use areas/viewpoints. • Native plants are the primary vegetation cover in the park and the introduction and spread of invasive plants is minimized.	Planning Area
• Trees within and adjacent to campgrounds are free from further visitor caused damage (e.g. hanging equipment, hammock tents, graffiti, carvings, etc.).	Planning Unit 2
• Alpine and sensitive sub-alpine areas are respected and remain intact and undisturbed from human recreational impacts. Visitors stay on trails and only camp in the designated campgrounds.	Planning Unit 3

Public Safety	Planning Unit(s)
• All visitors to the corridor are well-informed about the risks from natural hazards and arrive at the trailhead prepared and with the skills, knowledge and equipment needed to enjoy the corridor safely. • The frequency of visitor emergency responses does not increase despite increasing visitation. • Human caused wildfires do not occur and the potential for human caused wildfires are minimized to the maximum extent possible.	Planning Area

Operational	Planning Unit(s)
• Trails are actively maintained to BC Parks trail standards. • Signs throughout the area effectively communicate information, are seasonally appropriate, clear, and universal.	Planning Area

Economic	Planning Unit(s)
• Visitation to the corridor supports the local and regional economy.	Planning Area

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5.1 APPROPRIATE RECREATION ACTIVITIES, INFRASTRUCTURE & SERVICES

In alignment with the 2011 Park Management Plan's Appropriate Use Table, Table 5 provides updated and more detailed direction specific to the BLC. It outlines the activities, infrastructure, and services that are compatible with the desired conditions established for each planning unit either under typical or specialized management practices. The table also identifies activities, infrastructure and service that are incompatible with the desired conditions for the BLC.

Table 5: Appropriate Activities & Infrastructure by Planning Unit

Appropriate (Y)	Activities, infrastructure and services that align with desired conditions and are appropriate to occur under typical planning, designs and/or management practices.
May Be Appropriate (M)	Activities, infrastructure and services that may be appropriate with the desired conditions if specialized planning, designs and/or management practices are applied.
Not Appropriate (N)	Activities, infrastructure and services that are not appropriate with the desired conditions.
Not Applicable (N/A)	Activities, infrastructure and services that are not applicable for the planning unit.

	Compatibility (by Planning Unit)		
	Planning Unit 1: BLT Welcome Centre - Kinney Lake Outflow	**Planning Unit 2:** BLT Kinney Lake Outflow - Robson Pass	**Planning Unit 3:** Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT
ACTIVITIES			
Walking/Hiking/Backpacking/Trail Running	Y	Y	Y
Cycling – Unassisted (mountain, gravel, fat-biking)	Y	Y (only to km 7/Kinney Lake Campground)	N
Cycling – Class 1 E-bikes	Y	Y (only to km 7/Kinney Lake Campground)	N
Cycling – Class 2 & 3 E-bikes	N	N	N
Equestrian (horse) Use	M	M	N
Pack Animals (donkeys, mules, camelids)	N	N	N
Domestic Pets - on leash	M (on-leash, day use only)	M (on leash, day use only)	M (day use only. No dogs allowed in Snowbird Pass)
Domestic Pets - off leash	N	N	N
Mountaineering/Rock Climbing	N/A	Y	Y
Caving	N/A	M (subject to closures)	M (subject to closures)
Camping	N	Y (only in designated sites/ campgrounds)	M (subject to monitoring)
Bivouacs	N	N	Y (designated sites in popular areas)
Hammock Tents	N	N	N

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	Compatibility (by Planning Unit)		
	Planning Unit 1: BLT Welcome Centre - Kinney Lake Outflow	**Planning Unit 2:** BLT Kinney Lake Outflow - Robson Pass	**Planning Unit 3:** Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT
Tarps	N	Y	N
External Speakers	N	N	N
Air Transport – Helicopter Landing Areas (not constructed helipads)	N	M (subject to authorization)	M (subject to authorization)
Air Transport - Fixed Wing & Floatplane Landings	N	N	N
Flightseeing Tours	N (subject to Transport Canada regulations)	N (subject to Transport Canada regulations)	N (subject to Transport Canada regulations)
Swimming – Undesignated/No Lifeguard	N/A	Y	N/A
Watercrafts (canoeing, kayaking, paddle boarding, inflatable rafts)	Y	M (subject to closure)	N
Boating (power)	N	N	N
Fishing	Y	Y	N/A
Campfires	N	N	N
Backcountry Ski-touring & Cross-country Skiing	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)
Snowshoeing	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)	Y (may be unmaintained/ groomed)
Ice Climbing	N/A	N/A	Y (unmaintained/ ungroomed)
Hunting	N	N	N
Drone Flying	N (subject to authorization)	N (subject to authorization)	N (subject to authorization)
Off-road Vehicle Use (e.g. ATV, side-by-side, off-road motorcycle, snowmobile, etc.)	N	N	N
INFRASTRUCTURE			
Single track (0.3-0.5 m), natural surfaced hiking trails (all-difficulty levels)	Y	Y	Y
Double track (2-3 m), gravelled, multi-use trails (green difficulty)	Y	N	N
Paved trails	N	N	N
Mountain bike optimized gravity trails	N	N (unless Planning Unit 2 expanded to Campion Mountain)	N
Adaptive trails	Y (Trailhead to Kinney Lake Outflow)	M (possible future development)	N

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	Compatibility (by Planning Unit)		
	Planning Unit 1: BLT Welcome Centre - Kinney Lake Outflow	**Planning Unit 2:** BLT Kinney Lake Outflow - Robson Pass	**Planning Unit 3:** Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT
Benches	Y (along trail, accessible)	Y (at viewpoints and campgrounds only)	N
Picnic tables	Y (at picnic areas only, accessible)	Y (in designated campgrounds only)	N
Tent pads	N	Y	N
Pit/composting/urine diverting toilets	Y (accessible)	Y	N
Grey water disposal sumps	N	Y (in designated campgrounds only)	N
Food cache	N	Y (in designated campgrounds only)	N
Waste/recycling receptacles	Y (at trailhead only, accessible)	N	N
Constructed viewing platforms	Y	Y	N
Day use shelter	Y (in parking lot only, accessible)	Y (in designated campgrounds only)	N
Picnic area	Y (accessible)	Y (within campgrounds only)	N
Playground	N	N	N
Bicycle parking	Y	Y (at km7/Kinney Lake Campground)	N
Auto accessible & serviced campground	N	N	N
Fixed roof accommodation (hut)	M	Y (Robson Pass ACC hut only)	Y (Ralph Forster Hut only)
Park Ranger Cabin	N	Y	N
Visitor information/wayfinding/ regulatory signage	Y (accessible)	Y	Y
Interpretive signage	Y (accessible)	Y	N
Kiosks	Y (accessible)	Y (in designated campgrounds only)	N
Power boat launches	N	N	N
Roads and parking lots	Y (not allowed beyond the existing trailhead)	N	N
Constructed helicopter landing pads/ infrastructure	M	M	M
Administrative buildings and compounds	Y	N	N
Welcome Centre	Y	N	N
SERVICES			

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	Compatibility (by Planning Unit)		
	Planning Unit 1: BLT Welcome Centre - Kinney Lake Outflow	**Planning Unit 2:** BLT Kinney Lake Outflow - Robson Pass	**Planning Unit 3:** Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT
Adventure tourism/commercial recreation (e.g. guiding, outfitting)	M (subject to park use permit)	M (subject to park use permit)	M (subject to park use permit)
Races, competitions, special events (focused within or passing through BLC)	M (subject to park use permit)	M (subject to park use permit)	N
Pre-trip orientation training	Y	N	N
Reservations/permits	Y	Y	Y
Staff patrols	Y	Y	M (pending capacity)
Regular trail maintenance	Y	Y	M (pending capacity)
Servicing (electricity, potable water, etc.)	N	N	N
Toilet & campground maintenance/ cleaning	Y	Y	M (pending capacity)
Interpretation & education programming (guided group)	Y	Y	N

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6 MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

6.1 ACTIVITY SPECIFIC MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES

The following sections outline the strategies that will be implemented to manage each activity in a manner that supports achieving and maintaining the desired conditions established for the BLC.

Theme	Strategies
6.1.1 Day Use Activities	
Walking, Hiking & Trail Running	1. BLT visitors must stay on designated trails to reduce erosion and trail braiding. Specific management actions may be put in place to restore vegetation and keep visitors on trail. 2. In keeping with the desired conditions, planning unit 1 will be deliberately managed to provide a frontcountry recreation setting where higher volume of use, greater diversity of activities and frequent encounters with other visitors should be expected. The remaining planning units will be deliberately managed to provide a backcountry recreation setting where lower volumes of use, less frequent social interactions, and fewer activities are expected. 3. Periodic monitoring of the volume of day use activities and visitor perceptions of crowding may occur. If monitoring indicates that the volume of use and/or visitor perceptions of crowding are increasing, and desired conditions are not being achieved, BC Parks may implement management strategies to reduce the volume of day use and/or disperse day use to off-peak times of day/days of week. 4. To limit disturbance to mountain goats, the Snowbird Pass and trail will continue to be closed to all visitation between May 1 – July 1 annually. Seasonal closures may change in the future. 5. External speakers are prohibited on the BLT.
Cycling & Bikepacking	6. Cycling (mountain bike, gravel, fatbike, bikepack touring) is allowed on the BLT up to km 7.2. Cycling is prohibited on the BLT beyond km 7.2 as well as on any other trails connecting to the BLT. Cycling may be considered in the future should mountain bike trails be developed in the Mount Campion area. 7. Electric bikes and adaptive mountain bikes are allowed on any trails that allow cycling in the BLC, as per BC Parks policy. 8. Bicycle parking (bike racks) will be provided at the welcome centre, trail head and km 7.2. 9. While cycling is an allowable activity, it will not be actively promoted or marketed.

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Theme	Strategies
Winter Activities (e.g., Hiking, Fat-biking, Ski Touring, Snowshoeing, Mountaineering, Ice Climbing)	10. Monitor the volume of winter day use activities and the impacts this use is having on desired conditions. If monitoring indicates that desired conditions are not being achieved or are being negatively impacted, BC Parks may implement spatial closures, service level enhancements, or other management actions. 11. Winter activities will continue to be provided to an unmaintained/unserviced level of service. Snow clearing, track setting, trail marking, toilet servicing, etc. are not envisioned in the BLC in the near term but may be considered in the future should conditions warrant service level increases. 12. Collaborate with Avalanche Canada to maintain Avalanche Terrain Exposure Scale (ATES) ratings in the BLC and ensure Avalanche Canada includes this information in their online trip planning tool. » Much of the BLC is rated as complex and challenging avalanche terrain. All winter visitors to the BLC will be encouraged to have appropriate avalanche safety training and equipment for the conditions. 13. Signage with information for winter use will be provided at the BLT trailhead and updates to the park webpage as necessary.
Domestic Pets	14. Domestic pets are allowed in the BLC except in Snowbird Pass where they are prohibited at all times. 15. Domestic pets are not allowed to remain within the BLC overnight. 16. Domestic pets are required to be on-leash at all times throughout the BLC and their waste must be packed out. 17. If on-leash walking of domestic pets results in increased trail user conflicts and/or conservation impacts (e.g., dog poop bags left on the trail, negative interactions with wildlife, dogs off-leash, etc.), BC Parks will actively pursue options to educate or further restrict domestic pets on the trail.

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.2 Overnight Activities	
Backcountry Camping	1. Camping opportunities on the BLT will only be provided in planning unit 2, within the seven established campgrounds. No additional campgrounds will be considered along the BLT. 2. In the peak warm season, overnight users must obtain a camping permit to occupy a tent pad in the planning unit. 3. All registered guests are required to watch the Berg Lake Trail orientation video. 4. A maximum of 103 designated tent pads will be provided. A maximum of 6 people is allowed per tent pad, though this allowance may be reduced if the state of desired conditions warrant a reduction. The following table identifies the maximum number of camping permits that may be available each night by campground:

Campground	Tent pad Supply	Maximum Nightly Camping Capacity (Max. of 6 people/tent pad/ night)
Kinney Lake	18	108
Whitehorn	22	132
Emperor Falls	9	54
Marmot	7	42
Berg Lake	26	156
Rearguard	6	36
Robson Pass	15	90
BLC Total	**103 Tent Pads**	**618 people/night**

5. Each designated tent pad allows a maximum of 2 tents/accommodation units (e.g., bivouac) at a time.
6. To protect sensitive alpine trees, including species at risk, the use of backcountry hammock tents or other shelters designed to be attached to/hung from trees are prohibited in the BLC at all times.
7. Visitors are allowed to stay a maximum of 14 nights at Mount Robson Park, including all backcountry and frontcountry camping and bivouac sites. BC Parks will monitor desired conditions and, if necessary, explore options to limit the maximum number of nights visitors can stay within the BLC.
8. When ground conditions are snow free, visitors are required to place their tent/ accommodation unit on the designated tent pads. When the ground is covered in snow, visitors are allowed to self-identify the most suitable location.
9. Social trails within the campgrounds are kept to a minimum. Management actions may be implemented to restore vegetation and keep visitors on trail.
10. Campgrounds are not serviced or maintained during the shoulder and cold seasons. The volume of use and the status of desired conditions may be monitored to determine if/when increased service levels may be required in the shoulder/cold season.

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Theme	Strategies
Backcountry Camping	11. Overnight use and desired conditions during the shoulder and cold seasons may be monitored. If monitoring indicates that desired conditions are not being achieved, BC Parks may implement a shoulder/cold season camping permit system while ensuring the backcountry recreation setting is maintained 12. While the exact peak warm season reservation window may evolve over time, 100% of designated tent pads in the planning unit will be reservable, subject to campground or tent pad closures for maintenance and operations. 13. Reservations must be made through the BC Parks' reservation system. » Public sentiment regarding the allocation of tent pad reservations through BC Parks' reservation service may be monitored. Should feedback indicate that the public is unsatisfied with or perceives the current process to be unfair, BC Parks may examine the feasibility of implementing other methods (e.g. lottery) for allocating tent pad reservations on the BLT. » A camping permit guarantees that the named occupant and camping party has access to a tent pad within a designated campground on a first come, first served basis. To manage operational demands on parks staff, reservation of a specific tent pad within a campground on the BLT is not currently available. This approach to tent pad designation may be revisited in the future. 14. No-Show Reservations: » To ensure that unused tent pads(s) return to the reservation service as soon as possible, mechanisms to incentivize early cancellation of reserved tent pads may be explored. Additional mechanisms to disincentivize reservation no-shows may also be explored. » To limit the number of reservations that go unused, BC Parks will investigate the feasibility of developing new communication mechanisms to notify the public when last-minute tent pad reservation on the BLT becomes available. 15. BC Parks will explore options to have overflow camping in the Berg Lake Trail parking lot, when all other front-country campgrounds are full.
Bivouac Camping	16. Bivouac camping is allowed within Planning Unit 3 for technical mountaineers and climbers only. 17. Bivouac camping is not allowed within a 2.5 km buffer of any infrastructure in planning units 1 or 2 including trails and campgrounds (e.g., Snowbird Pass, Mumm Basin, Hargreaves, Toboggan Falls). 18. Bivouac camping is not currently restricted to designated campsites; however, BC Parks will actively promote and encourage mountaineers and climbers to utilize designated sites. BC Parks may monitor the volume of bivouac camping use and the impacts on desired conditions (e.g., mountaineering experience, crowding, litter, human waste, wildlife). If monitoring indicates that desired conditions are not being achieved or are being negatively impacted by undesignated bivouac camping, BC Parks may enforce use of designated campsites or take other management actions (e.g. day use carrying capacity and bivouac camping permits).

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Theme	Strategies
Fixed Roof Accommodations	19. Fixed roof accommodation in the form of fee for service backcountry huts will be allowed within the BLC, operated under park use permit, but limited to the existing Ralph Forster Hut and the Robson Pass Hut. 20. Ralph Forster Hut/Emergency Shelter: » The Ralph Forster Hut will continue to be operated as an alpine hut. BC Parks' preference is for the hut to be operated by an expert alpine mountaineering non-profit organization. » The Ralph Forster Hut is currently available to experienced mountaineers and climbers on a first come first served basis. Subject to future operating model decisions, overnight fees and a reservation system may be initiated through a future park use permit holder or by BC Parks. » Air transport of visitors to the Ralph Forster Hut is prohibited. 21. Robson Pass Hut: » The Robson Pass Hut will be managed under park use permit and have a maximum overnight guest occupancy of twelve people (12). The hut may be available for year-round public visitation with a reservation. Reservations will be available to all public with no special allowances to the permittee's members or commercial businesses. » The transport of visitors to the hut by helicopter is permitted subject to the Air Transport conditions set in this plan and in the helicopter operator's park use permit (e.g. helipads, flight days, daily flight maximums, helicopter models, wildlife avoidance, etc.). Helicopter use outside of the helicopter operator's park use permit conditions may be considered where necessary for hut resupply, operations, and improvements as authorized by BC Parks. » Work with the hut operator to ensure all registered guests watch the Berg Lake Trail orientation video.
6.1.3 Accessibility	
	1. BC Parks will explore opportunities to upgrade appropriate sections (e.g. Kinney Lake Outflow to Kinney Lake Campground) of the Berg Lake Trail to meet adaptive trail standards. 2. BC Parks will provide trail accessibility information for portions of the Berg Lake Trail (e.g. trail grade, width, tread surface) and associated amenities. Information will be provided at the trailhead, Welcome Centre, and on the Mount Robson Park accessibility webpage to enable users to determine if the experience is suitable for their unique abilities. 3. BC Parks will explore opportunities to improve accessibility at the Kinney Lake Outflow picnic site and Kinney Lake Campground.

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.4 Alpine Activities (Mountaineering & Climbing[i])	
	1. Explore the implementation of a mandatory online registration system for mountaineering, alpine skiing, and climbing in the BLC to improve knowledge of visitation and activities that would assist agencies responsible for emergency response. 2. Work toward monitoring the volume of mountaineering and climbing as well as the state of desired conditions (e.g., visitor experience, conservation impacts, and crowding concerns). Currently, BC Parks is not limiting the number of individuals mountaineering/climbing. Should monitoring indicate that desired resources conditions are not being achieved, BC Parks may limit the number of mountaineers/climbers (e.g. by zone, route, season) or apply other management actions to ensure the desired conditions are achieved. 3. Mountaineering and climbing parties will be limited to a maximum of 12 people. Commercial guiding may be further limited by a park use permit. 4. BC Parks will not provide, monitor, maintain or inspect fixed anchors, chains or other fall protection installed on mountaineering and climbing routes. 5. Spatial (e.g. vertical separation, horizontal separation) and/or temporary closures of mountaineering and climbing routes and bivouac/alpine camping areas may be applied as/when needed to protect sensitive wildlife, minimize disturbance to wildlife during sensitive periods (e.g. breeding, nesting, kidding) or to minimize the risks of unacceptable public safety hazards. 6. Collaborate with local mountaineering and climbing organizations to organize clean ups at popular base camps, staging and climbing routes to remove trash and equipment that is left behind, as needed. 7. Signage may be installed at an appropriate location on the Mount Robson south face approach route to the Ralph Forster Hut to advise park visitors that a) the route is for experienced and equipped mountaineers only and b) the objective hazards on the route. To minimize the potential that general visitors to the BLC decide to travel the route, the route will not be signed or physically connected at its junction with the BLT. 8. BC Parks will not lead the development of, publish, or share other sources of technical trip planning information for mountaineering and climbing in the BLC. Mountaineers and climbers will be required to source and validate technical trip planning information from other sources.

i For the purposes of alpine activity management strategies, mountaineers and climbers are defined as individuals or groups engaging in technical ascents of peaks, ridges or alpine objectives in the BLC that extend beyond regular hiking or designated trail travel (e.g. BLT). This includes, but is not limited to:

1. *Ascents of Mount Robson, via established mountaineering routes such as the Kain Face or Emperor Ridge, involving glacier travel, scrambling, and/or technical terrain.*
2. *Off-trail alpine travel or climbing on rock faces requiring specialized skills, equipment, and knowledge (e.g. rope systems, crampons, ice axes, etc.).*
3. *Overnight or multi-day alpine objectives that are not part of the designated trail network or standard backcountry camping areas*

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.5 Caving	
	1. Caving opportunities in the BLC are currently limited to a small limestone cave in the Toboggan Creek Valley. Caving will be self-directed and will not be actively improved or promoted. 2. Visitor impacts and wildlife presence in this cave may be monitored, including monitoring any bat populations for White Nose Syndrome. Should monitoring indicate that visitor use is creating impacts to wildlife or ecosystems in the cave, BC Parks may implement closures or permit requirements for recreational use of the cave.
6.1.6 Equestrian Activities & Pack Animals	
	1. Pack aniamls (donkeys, mule, horse, camelids (goats, llamas, etc.)) use in the BLC is prohibited. 2. Equestrian (horse) use is only permitted for operational purposes by BC Parks, partners, and Parks Canada staff.
6.1.7 Water Based Activities	
Swimming	1. Swimming is allowed within the water bodies throughout the BLC; the use of soaps, shampoos, etc. are prohibited. 2. Swimmers will be responsible for their own safety as lifeguards will not be provided. 3. No improvements (e.g., swim platforms, rock clearing, manicured beach development) will be provided.
Watercraft	4. The packing in and use of rigid or inflatable watercrafts (e.g. canoes, kayaks, floats, rafts, paddle boards, etc.) is discouraged and will not be promoted. 5. Liaise with helicopter operators to ensure they prevent visitors from transporting watercrafts in the BLC via helicopter. 6. No improvements (e.g. launches, docks) will be provided.
Fishing	7. Fishing is allowed within the BLC in accordance with provincial and federal fishing regulations; however, it will not be promoted. Stocking of the lakes or rivers is not currently being planned to support recreational fishing. Native fish stocking and reintroduction may occur in the future to support species recovery and conservation priorities, in collaboration with other government agencies.
6.1.8 Campfires	
	1. Campfires within the BLC are prohibited year-round; visitors are required to use portable camp stoves for cooking. 2. Warming stoves may be provided in shelters and are only to be used in emergency situations/inclement weather.

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.9 Commercial Recreation Activities, Services & Operators	
	1. All commercial activities (e.g. guiding, training/instructional, filming), services (e.g. hut, concessions, rentals) and operators (e.g. helicopter) in the BLC require a park use permit. 2. The number of PUP's issued for each commercial recreation service or activity will be the minimum necessary to meet visitor demand for the permitted service or activity while ensuring desired conditions for the BLC are achieved. BC Parks will monitor the volume of commercial recreation services and activities occurring in the BLC and, if visitor demands are not being met or desired conditions are not being achieved or are being negatively impacted the number of park use permits issued may be adjusted, temporal capacity limits may be implemented, and/or other management actions may be taken. 3. Park use permits for commercial recreation activities may be solicited and allocated through a competitive selection process, if deemed necessary. Efforts will also be made to support/enable First Nations commercial recreation/tourism operations within the BLC. 4. Park use permits for commercial recreation activities in all seasons may be considered for the following activities: » Hiking/Trail Running/Snowshoeing » Backcountry Camping » Ski touring » Mountaineering/Climbing » Photography/filming instruction 5. Permits for other commercial recreation activities (e.g. water-based, fishing) in the BLC will not be considered. Park use permits for commercial concessions and rentals, if approved, will be limited to the Welcome Centre/Trailhead. 6. All commercial recreation activity providers that plan to overnight along the BLT in the warm season are required to obtain camping permits at the designated campgrounds as outlined by their park use permit. BC Parks does not pre-reserve any campsites within the BLT for commercial guiding operators; however, in the future tent pad allocations may be made.
6.1.10 Educational Institution/Custodial Group Use	
	1. Day use and overnight use of the BLT by educational institutions/custodial groups is allowed; camping permits through the BC Parks reservation system are required; however, in the future tent pad allocations may be considered. 2. The maximum group size for both day and overnight use is 24 (including students and teachers/chaperones).
6.1.11 Races, Competitions & Special Events	
	1. Organizers of races, competitions and special events are required to obtain a park use permit before hosting a race, competition or special event in the BLC. They will be encouraged to organize events outside of the peak season. 2. Organizers must demonstrate how the event will support the BLC desired conditions and that the event will not negatively impact the desired conditions or the experience of other visitors. 3. Off-trail orienteering events are prohibited throughout the BLC.

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.12 Air Transport	
Commercial Helicopter Landings	1. Permits: » Commercial helicopter landings in the BLC are prohibited unless the operator holds a valid park use permit. Park use permits will outline conditions for landings and flight paths. » Park use permits will only be issued for the purposes of air transport and flightseeing related landings, and will only be issued to companies that operate helicopters. 2. Planning Units 1 & 2 » Air transport and flightseeing landings within these planning units are limited to designated helipads (Figure 5), days of week, flight paths, and times of day, as specified by the park use permit. As deemed necessary, BC Park may alter designated helicopter flight paths and frequency (e.g., days, times). » A maximum of 10 landings per designated flight day are permitted at the Robson Pass helipad during the peak season. The number of landings per designated flight day may be change in the future. 3. Planning Unit 3 » Air transport (i.e. climber pick up and drop off) in the Robson Glacier area and terrain outside planning units 1 & 2 are permitted to occur year-round on the Robson Glacier but are restricted to The Dome landing site only. 4. Permitted flight paths and vertical wildlife separation distances will be periodically reviewed and updated in accordance with the latest research and policy to ensure helicopter landings and flight paths minimize noise, disruptions to visitors, and wildlife disturbance. 5. Greater restrictions on helicopter-based recreation may be warranted based on species management and recovery by the Species At Risk Act (SARA). 6. All permit holders will be required to inform and educate their clients about BLC rules and requirements. 7. Maintain a network of helipads throughout planning units 1 and 2 to support park operations and emergency response (Figure 5).
Commercial Fixed Wing (Float, Wheels & Skis) Landings	8. Park use permits for air transport and flightseeing landings by fixed wing aircraft (floats, skis, wheels) will not be issued in the BLC.
Commercial & Private Aircraft Overflights	9. BC Parks will work with Transport Canada if issues arise and desired conditions are not being met. The Canadian Aviation Regulations govern civil aviation in Canada, including the aviation use of air space over provincial parks. Commercial and private aviators are required to adhere the direction set in Transport Canada's Aeronautical Information Manual RAC- Rules of the Air and Air Traffic Services including sections 1.11.2 and 1.11.3 which state: » 1.11.2 – Protection of Wildlife - In the interest of conserving wildlife, pilots must not fly at an altitude of less than 2,000 feet AGL (Above Ground Level) when in the vicinity of herds of wild animals or above wildlife refuges/bird sanctuaries depicted on affected aeronautical charts. » 1.11.3 – National, Provincial and Municipal Parks, Reserves and Refuges - To preserve the natural environment of parks, reserves, and refuges and to minimize the disturbance to the natural habitat, overflights should not be conducted below 2,000 feet AGL. To assist pilots in observing this, boundaries are depicted on the affected charts.

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Theme	Strategies
6.1.13 Parking & Traffic	
	1. Parking for access to the BLC may continue to be provided at the Kinney Lake Road trailhead and the Welcome Centre year around. BC Parks may further expand the parking lot in the future should the state of desired conditions warrant expansion. 2. Unauthorized parking outside of designated stalls along the Kinney Lake Road is prohibited and may be actively managed to limit/prevent parking along the road. BC Parks may authorize parking along Kinney Lake Road at certain times (e.g. a park event). 3. Should parking demand at the Kinney Lake Road trailhead continually exceed parking capacity and parking and traffic congestion issues persist or worsen along the Kinney Lake Road, BC Parks may examine the feasibility of implementing a free or fee for service peak season visitor shuttle that would transport visitors to the trailhead.
6.1.14 Climate Change Adaptation & Resilience Strategies	
	1. To the extent technically and financially feasible, all new visitor infrastructure and replacement of end-of-life existing infrastructure will be designed to be resilient to extreme weather events that are expected with climate change. 2. Monitor the changing climate (e.g. earlier starts, snow conditions etc.) and proactively adjust operations within the BLC to respond to visitor patterns. 3. Monitor geomorphology (e.g. landslides), fluvial and alluvial processes (e.g. erosion, deposition), wildlife and vegetation presence, patterns and conditions in the park and may adjust visitor management strategies to respond to these climate-related changes. BC Parks will support partnerships with universities and other organizations for monitoring activities.

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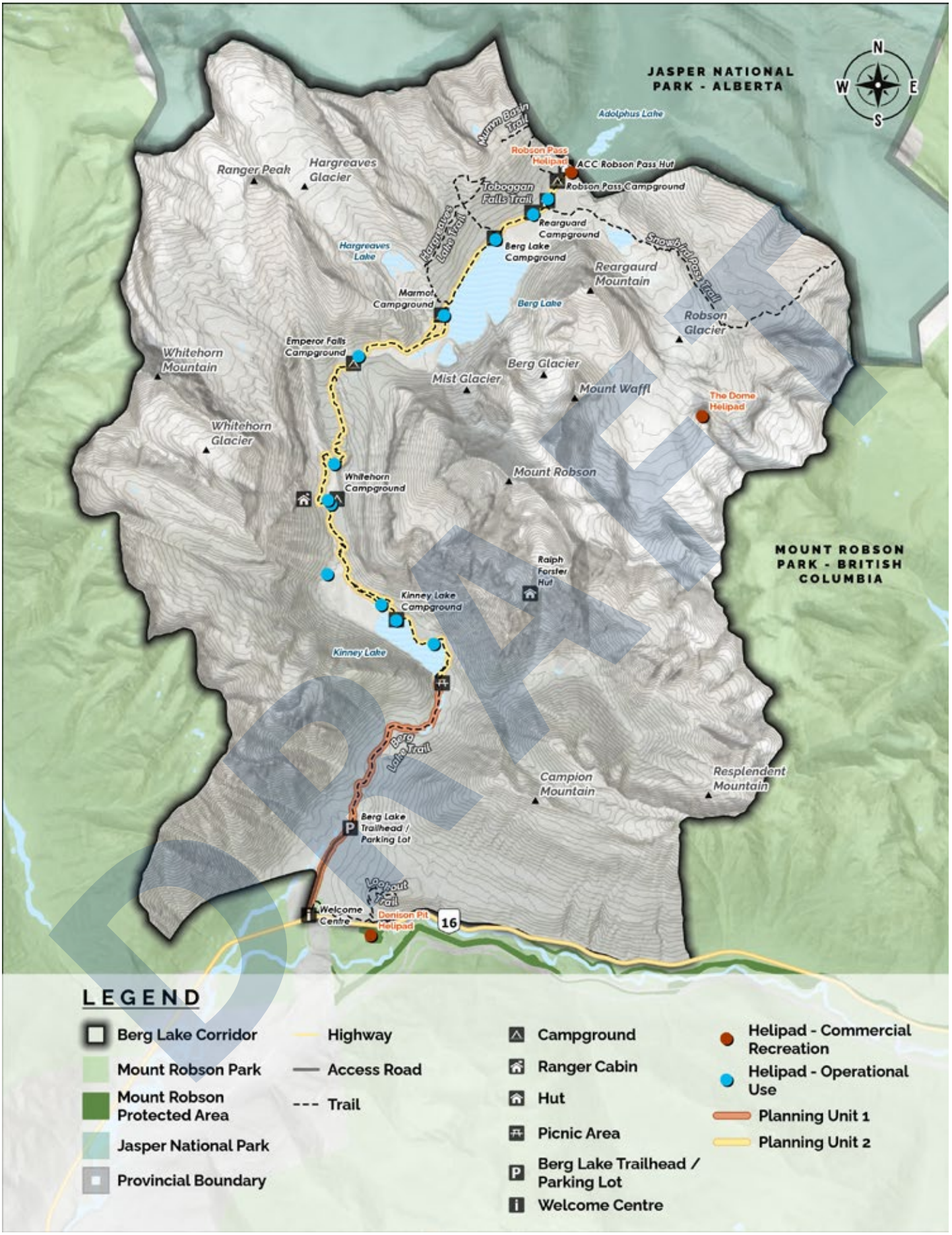

Figure 5: Map of Helipad Sites in the BLC

6.2 VISITOR INFRASTRUCTURE & AMENITY STRATEGIES

The following sections present the infrastructure strategies that will be applied to provide world class visitor experiences while also managing visitor use and visitor impacts in ways the support the achievement of desired conditions.

Theme	Strategies
6.2.1 General Design Direction	
	1. To the extent feasible, all visitor infrastructure and amenities will be sited and designed to integrate with, and compliment, the natural landscape (e.g. materials, colours, locations), mitigate impacts on wildlife and habitat features, and provide the highest quality visitor experience. 2. All infrastructure and amenities will be designed to deter wildlife use (e.g. bats in shelters, mice/rodents in grey water dumps) and resist damage from wildlife (e.g. porcupines chewing toilet buildings).
6.2.2 Designated Campsites/Tent Pads	
	1. Tent pads will be clearly delineated to ensure visitors are clear about where their tents should be placed. 2. Tent pads will be large enough to accommodate a maximum of two backpacking style tents.

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Theme	Strategies
6.2.3 Trails and Routes	

1. Maintained trails exist within all three planning units (e.g., Berg Lake Trail, Hargreaves/ Mumm Basin Trail, Toboggan Fall Trail, The Cave Trail, Snowbird Pass). Reflecting the difference in intended visitor use and experience, the following BC Parks trail types will be adhered to:

Planning Unit	Trail	Trail Type
1. Welcome Centre – Kinney Lake	Berg Lake Trail	Type 2
2. Kinney Lake – Robson Pass	Berg Lake Trail – all segments	Type 3
3. Alpine/Terrain Surrounding BLT	Snowbird Pass	Type 3
	Hargreaves/Mumm Basin Trail	Type 3
	Toboggan Falls Trail	Type 3
	The Cave Trail	Type 3
	Mt Robson South Face Approach & Ralph Forster Hut	Route (Type 5)

2. All access to mountaineer and climbing objectives as well as access to the Ralph Forster Hut will be managed as routes (Type 5) and not trails. While wayfinding supports may be provided periodically along a route, the route will not be managed to provide a distinct or immediately recognizable trail tread.
3. BC parks staff will manage sections of trails as deemed necessary (e.g. closure on the Mumm Basin loop).
4. To diversify the trail experiences available in the BLC and to help manage the potential for crowding and conflicts on the BLT by dispersing day use traffic and camping, BC Parks will continue to investigate the ecological, technical and financial feasibility of developing a new trail system on the south slope and ridgeline of Campion Mountain. Beginning at the Kinney Lake Road trailhead and with potential to connect into the BLT before Kinney Lake, the concepts for this trail system could include:
   - » Intermediate to advance signature mountain bike optimized trail(s) including climb trail, alpine ride trail, and gravity focused descent trail(s).
   - » Intermediate hiking and trail running trail into and through the alpine.
5. Backcountry camping in designated campsites.

6.2.4 Day Use Shelters	

1. A day use shelter will be provided at the BLT trailhead to support picnicking and day use.
2. Day use shelters exist along the BLT to elevate visitor safety during inclement/extreme weather events.

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Theme	Strategies
6.2.5 Food Caches	
	1. Wildlife proof food caches are provided at each of the designated campgrounds along the BLT. Visitors must use the food caches to store all wildlife attractants overnight, such as food, cooking equipment, garbage, and toiletries (e.g. toothpaste, deodorant, bug spray). 2. Visitors must remove all food, personal items, equipment, and garbage from the food cache before leaving the campground.
6.2.6 Grey Water Disposal	
	1. Grey water pits will be provided at all designated campgrounds along the BLT to mitigate wildlife attraction and habituation within campgrounds. 2. Existing grey water pits will be replaces and updated at the end of the lifecycle of the pit. 3. Signage will be provided at grey water pits to inform visitors about how to use the infrastructure appropriately.
6.2.7 Waste and Recycling Receptacles	
	1. Visitors to the BLT will be required to pack out all trash. No waste or recycling receptacles will be installed along the BLT, unless deemed necessary and funding allows.
6.2.8 Toilets	
	1. Toilets will only be provided within planning units 1 and 2. 2. Visitors to planning unit 3 will be expected to pack out human waste and follow Leave No Trace Principles.
6.2.9 Benches and Picnic Tables	
	1. Picnic tables will be provided at key locations in planning units 1 and 2 (e.g., trailhead, campgrounds, picnic areas). 2. Benches and picnic tables will not be provided within planning unit 3.
6.2.10 Signage	
	1. Signage will be implemented throughout planning units 1 and 2 to: » Provide wayfinding support » Communicate rules of use and regulatory messaging » Identify hazards & safety preparations and procedures » Promote responsible recreation practices » Direct visitors on proper use of infrastructure » Enrich visitor experience through interpretation 2. Signage in planning unit 1 may be frequent as this part of the BLT sees the most visitation. Signage in planning unit 2 will be infrequent and limited to trail intersections, campgrounds, interpretive features, and hazard locations. 3. Signage in planning unit 3 will be limited to safety and seasonal or other temporal closure messaging (e.g. Snowbird Pass closure, Mumm Basin trail unmaintained section). 4. To enhance the effectiveness of signage, improve the integration of visitor messaging, reduce clutter, and improve the visitor experience, a signage strategy may be developed and implemented over time as existing signs reach the end of their lifecycle and as funds allow.

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6.3 VISITOR EDUCATION & TRIP PLANNING STRATEGIES

The following sections present the visitor education strategies that will be applied to ensure visitors are informed about park rules, aware of and motivated to apply responsible recreation practices, and are well prepared for their trip within the BLC.

Strategies

1. Visitor education and trip planning information will be deliberately designed to reach target BLC visitors with the right information at each step in the visitor experience cycle (Figure 6). Highlighting the need to engage with visitors both on and off site.
2. Educate visitors to the BLC about appropriate responsible recreation practices via the website, reservation system, orientation videos, signage, and staff/partners delivering key messages at check-in. Responsible recreation messaging will seek to follow best practices and align with BC Parks partners such as Leave No Trace Canada, Bear Aware, and Adventure Smart.
3. Provide necessary updates to the Mount Robson Park webpage and BLC specific information about trip planning, visitor safety, and responsible recreation information for visitors.
4. Explore options to minimize inconveniences for visitors and improve the effectiveness of the BLT orientation video (e.g. availability of video for viewing, simplified check-in procedures, implementation of Campers Code Pledge).
5. BC Parks staff, partners, and contractors may deliver responsible recreation awareness sessions to visitors at the trailhead and in designated campgrounds during the peak season.
    - » Key messages will align with Leave No Trace Canada and Adventure Smart. However, BC Parks will explore opportunities to emphasize critical visitor use management issues (e.g., proper storage and management of food and wildlife attractants, bear safety and proper use of bear spray, human wildlife coexistence, and trail etiquette).
    - » Ongoing visitor impacts will be monitored and updates to key messages will be reviewed based on the needs of the BLC (i.e. key messages will shift as impacts shift).
6. Explore ways of ensuring that information about the trail system throughout the BLC is current and accurate across external communications. (e.g., mobile apps). BC Parks will review third party messaging, as staff capacity allows, on a regular basis for accuracy and relevant responsible recreation messaging.
7. Continue to work with regional tourism agencies to promote appropriate and responsible use of the BLC and disseminate important BC Park messages, responsible recreation information and guidance.

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Figure 6: The Outdoor Recreation Visitor Experience Cycle

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6.4 COMPLIANCE ASSURANCE STRATEGIES

The following section presents the strategies that will be applied to ensure compliance with park rules in the BLC and support achievement of the desired conditions set in this plan.

Strategies

1. Park Rangers will maintain a presence within planning units 1 and 2 throughout the peak season.
2. Parks Rangers may undertake periodic patrols of planning unit 3 as capacity and technical skills of staff allow.
3. Park staff will actively promote voluntary compliance with park rules through public information and education; and/or apply enforcement mechanisms if needed (e.g. verbal warnings, written warnings, violation tickets, eviction) for all compliance issues, including:
   - » Dogs off leash and camping overnight.
   - » Camping without a BLT camping permits/camping with expired permit.
   - » Storage and management of food and attractants.
   - » Visitor noise/disruptive behaviours that disrupt the backcountry recreation setting/experience.
   - » Snowbird Pass temporal closure.
   - » Cycling past Kinney Lake campground.

   If issues increase, a compliance action plan will be developed.

6.5 PUBLIC SAFETY & EMERGENCY RESPONSE STRATEGIES

The following section presents the strategies that will be applied to ensure the public safety and emergency response related desired conditions are achieved.

Strategies

1. Emergency response pre-plans will be maintained to identify how BC Parks staff will respond to public safety hazards and work with emergency services.
2. BLC specific information will be made readily available to visitors on the Mount Robson Park webpage, during campsite reservation, at the Welcome Centre and at trailheads to notify visitors of hazards within the BLC.
3. Explore options to effectively communicate trail difficulty levels to visitors using a provincial standardized trail difficulty rating system.
4. Emergency procedures for floods and wildfires will be made available through signage at the trailhead and campgrounds.
5. Where ecologically, technically and financially feasible, visitor infrastructure will be sited and installed to avoid or mitigate objective visitor safety hazards along the BLT (e.g. warning signage, bridged crossings of swift water, barriers at viewpoints with fall hazards).
6. Active management will be utilized as necessary by BC Parks staff to open/close or change trails, campgrounds and visitor infrastructure within the BLC to respond to visitor safety hazards (e.g. presence of bears, flooding, slope failures, etc.).

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6.6 MARKETING STRATEGIES

The following section presents the strategies that will be applied to ensure the BLC is appropriately marketed in a way that supports achievement of the desired conditions set in the plan.

Strategies

1. As staff capacity allows, BC Parks will discourage local, regional and provincial destination marketing organizations (DMO) from over marketing and promoting the BLC to target markets, including the marketing and promotion of commercial operators and park use permit holders.
2. Encourage DMOs to market the BLC and promote visitor use in off-peak times of day, days of week and the shoulder season to help disperse use from peak periods.
3. To manage visitor expectations, BC Parks may encourage DMOs to develop marketing and promotional materials that:
   - » appropriately and accurately communicate the different visitor experiences in each planning unit (e.g. planning unit 1 as a more social/busier setting),
   - » communicate appropriate recreation activities and responsible recreation practices, and
   - » supply accurate information to visitors.
4. Work with local, regional, provincial, DMOs to cross-promote local and regional tourism destinations and products, and provide travel information at the Mount Robson Welcome Centre.
5. BLT and Mount Robson merchandise may be sold at the Welcome Centre to support park operations.

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6.7 DATA COLLECTION & RESEARCH STRATEGIES

The following section presents strategies that encourage data collection that will enable the evaluation of the desired conditions and support visitor management decisions throughout the BLC.

Theme	Strategies
6.7.1 Data Collection	
	1. BC Parks will work to improve data and insights regarding visitation. Priorities include: » Day-use visitation in the BLC during the warm and cold seasons (e.g., total visitation, visitation patterns, trip length, visitor origins, activity type, distribution of visitation within the BLC, visitor satisfaction, visitor management concerns, mode of transportation to the trailhead, proportion of visitors that are camped at nearby front-country campgrounds and drove to the trailhead) » Non-commercial alpine mountaineering and climbing in the warm and cold seasons (e.g., total visitation, temporal visitation patterns, trip length, visitor origins, distribution of mountaineering/climbing visitation, location of overnight camping, visitor satisfaction, visitor management concerns) » Commercial recreation activities and service use in the warm and cold seasons (e.g., number of trips by season, dates of trips, activity, number of clients, client origins, distribution of activities, location of overnight camping/accommodation) » Commercial helicopter use (e.g., all visitor Transport Landings throughout the year and associated metrics) » Fixed roof accommodation use (e.g., number of guests by day, guest origins, guest activities, number of guided groups, dates of each guided group, length of stay for each guided group, number of visitors in each group, guided group activities) 2. BC Parks will improve monitoring and tracking of booked but unused campsite reservations within the BLT campgrounds. 3. Engage partners to inventory and track the location and extent of invasive species along the trails and campgrounds within the BLC. 4. Track data regarding incidents/emergencies in the park including the visitor activity, type and location of emergency responses. Work with emergency service partners (e.g. BC Ambulance Service, Search and Rescue) to collect their data.
6.7.2 Research	
	1. BC Parks will seek opportunities to partner on research within the BLC: » Crowding perceptions and tolerances for day users, overnight users and mountaineers/climbers. » Spatial and temporal distribution of and location of critical habitat features for priority wildlife species (e.g. grizzly bears, mountain goats, wolverines, cliff birds). » Climate change and extreme weather event predictions and risk for visitors and park infrastructure. » Monitoring the impacts of human-use levels on wildlife-use within the BLC.

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7 IMPLEMENTATION AND MONITORING

Monitoring is fundamental to effective visitor use management. Regular monitoring of practical indicators provides the information needed to evaluate whether the desired conditions for the BLC are being achieved, or trending in the desired direction.

Monitoring, evaluation, and adjustment will be ongoing. As highlighted in the management strategies above, increased data collection to help better understand visitor numbers, visitor experience and associated impact on recreational, ecological and cultural values is critical. If desired conditions are not being met as monitoring continues, management actions may be adjusted to meet the desired conditions. Furthermore, as new information arises, management challenges evolve, and new recreational trends are identified, management strategies may be adapted to meet those challenges.

BC Parks will develop a monitoring approach to measure and assess progress towards achieving the desired conditions described in this plan. Regular monitoring of indicators will highlight whether the current mix of management strategies are successful or whether additional management actions/strategies are required. The monitoring approach will seek to highlight appropriate indicators, triggers, and thresholds for each desired condition, which are defined as:

- **Indicator:** a specific measurable variable that indicates the status of a specific desirable condition.
- **Trigger:** a condition of concern for an indicator that is enough to prompt a management response to ensure a threshold is not crossed.
- **Threshold:** the minimum acceptable condition for an indicator

The following suite of draft indicators, triggers and thresholds are provided as examples only.

Desired Condition	Example Indicator	Example Trigger/Threshold
1: Visitor Experience Visitors enjoy world class day use, overnight and multi-night trail, camping and mountaineering experiences that feature awe inspiring panoramic views of mountain landscapes, peaceful enjoyment, and an uncrowded, tranquil, and backcountry recreation setting.	Percentage of visitors that are satisfied or very satisfied with their experience throughout the BLC. *(goal is 95-100% of visitors are satisfied or very satisfied)*	*Trigger:* 90% of visitors are satisfied or very satisfied with their experience throughout the BLC. *Threshold:* 80% or less of visitors are satisfied or very satisfied.
	Percentage of visitors that report feeling crowded on the trails, at campgrounds, or while enjoying viewpoints. *(goal is less than 5% of visitors report feeling crowded)*	*Trigger:* 5-10% of visitors report feeling crowded on trails, at campgrounds, and/or at viewpoints. *Threshold:* 15% or more of visitors report feeling crowded on trails, at campgrounds, and/or at viewpoints.
2: Ecological Visitors are aware and respectful of wildlife, and do not engage in behaviours that may result in the food conditioning or habituation of wildlife. Human-wildlife conflicts are successfully prevented.	Number of human-wildlife conflict incidents reported/observed. *(goal is 0 human-wildlife conflict incidents)*	*Trigger:* 1-2 human-wildlife conflict incidents reported/observed. *Threshold:* 3 or more human-wildlife conflict incidents reported/observed.

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To ensure that the visitor use management direction for the Berg Lake Corridor remains relevant and effective, BC Parks staff will ensure that the VUMP is assessed by BC Parks staff on a regular basis. Minor administrative updates may be identified and completed at any time (e.g., correct spelling errors, update protected area details where needed), and will be documented according to BC Parks guidelines.

If an internal assessment reveals that the VUMP requires more significant updating or substantial new management direction is needed, a formal review by BC Parks, First Nations or other partner(s) may be initiated to determine whether the plan requires an amendment or if a new VUMP is required. The plan amendment process or development of a new VUMP includes an opportunity for public input.

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APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: SLIDING SCALE ANALYSIS

The sliding scale analysis is used to ensure the level of investment in time, money and other resources made in the planning process (analysis, engagement, data collection) aligns with the complexity of the site and management challenges that need to be resolved, the consequences of the decisions, and the level of public interest in the site. This structured and adaptive tool evaluates issue uncertainty, impact risks/threats to resource conditions and visitor experiences, stakeholder expectations/involvement, and the level of controversy associated with the site.

The analysis indicates that the BLC VUMP is ranked as "**moderate**" on the sliding scale (Table 6).

Table 6: Sliding Scale Analysis

Criteria	Rationale	Ranking (High. Moderate, Low)
A. Issue Uncertainty	Visitor-use issues in the corridor are well-documented through previous plans, providing a strong foundation of understanding. While much of the existing information remains relevant, data and information gaps exist (e.g. day use visitation, climbing/mountaineering, extent of impacted areas) which may require updates.	Moderate
B. Impact Risk	Previous plans and management approaches have helped minimize impacts, and the corridor continues to provide a high-quality visitor experience and support diverse ecological, cultural, and heritage values. However, habitat for some species of concern, such as white bark pine and mountain goats, remains vulnerable to human recreation. Growing visitation, particularly unmanaged day use, has raised concerns about its impact on both visitor experience and park values.	Moderate
C. First Nation & Interest Party Involvement	Given the park's high profile, popularity and role as a regional economic and tourism asset, First Nations and a diverse range of other interested parties have a very strong interest in any recreation management decisions made in the corridor.	High
D. Level of Controversy	There has been no First Nations or political pressures for initiating VUMP update. However, there are very high levels of public interest for this flagship park and trail.	Low
	Location on Sliding Scale	**Moderate**

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