

<u>Category</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Hectares</u>
Provincial Parks		
Class A	443	6,838,617
Class B	2	3,778
Class C	21	562
Recreational Areas	25	816,774
Environmental and Land		
Use Act Designations	25	452,989
Ecological Reserves	139	159,477
Wilderness Areas	1	19,273
National Parks and Reserves	6	632,280
Wildlife Management Areas	13	23,372
Creston Valley WMA	1	1
Migratory Bird Sanctuaries	7	3,091
National Wildlife Areas	5	2,301
Other	98	116,000
Total	786	9,068,515

Protected areas include Tatshenshini-Alsek Wilderness Park, the largest internationally-protected area in the world, that connects national parks in the United States and Canada; Kitlope Valley, the world's largest protected coastal temperate rainforest; Khutzeymateen Valley, the first grizzly bear sanctuary; Ts'Yl-Os Provincial Park, formed through negotiations with 37 representatives of local and provincial organizations and the Nemiah Valley Indian band; old growth rainforests on Vancouver Island; and a great variety of mountains, lakes, and streams.³⁴ The following management principles provide guidance for protected areas:

The system, rather than individual areas, provides for the diversity of ecosystems, special features and outdoor recreation opportunities and experiences sought.

Zones within protected areas should range from areas which exclude public access in order to protect fragile and vulnerable ecosystems and sensitive, rare and endangered species, to zones which accommodate and/or enhance recreational and cultural opportunities and experiences.

Protected areas are established in perpetuity so that the ecological systems they encompass can continue to evolve with the minimum of intervention. Active management/habitat manipulation may be allowed when the structure or formation of ecosystems is seriously altered and manipulation is the only possible or best alternative available to restore ecological integrity.

Use of protected areas will be encouraged, where appropriate and consistent with the principle of maintaining ecological integrity, in order to realize the spiritual,