



Riding Mountain

National Park of Canada

and

Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex

National Historic Site of Canada



Management Plan 2012 Amendment



Visit the Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site of Canada website at: www.parksCanada.gc.ca/

Cover photo: Birdtail Valley in Riding Mountain National Park

Library and Archives Canada Cataloguing in Publication

Parks Canada

Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site of Canada : management plan amendment. -- Amended 2012.

Issued also in French under title: Parc national du Canada du Mont-Riding et lieu historique national du Centre-d'Inscription-de-l'Entrée-Est-du-Parc-du-Mont-Riding, plan directeur, projet de modification.

Available also on the Internet.

ISBN 978-1-100-20846-6

Cat. no.: R61-82/2012E

1. Riding Mountain National Park (Man.)--Management. 2. Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site (Man.) --Management.

I. Title.

FC3364 R53 P37 2012

333.78'30971272

C2012-980123-2

Riding Mountain National Park
of Canada and
Riding Mountain Park
East Gate Registration Complex
National Historic Site of Canada

*Management Plan
Amendment*

Amended June 2012

Foreword



Canada's national historic sites, national parks and national marine conservation areas are part of a century-strong Parks Canada network which provides Canadians and visitors from around the world with unique opportunities to experience and embrace our wonderful country.

From our smallest national park to our most visited national historic site to our largest national marine conservation area, each of Canada's treasured places offers many opportunities to enjoy Canada's historic and natural heritage. These places serve as sources of inspiration, relaxation, learning and discovery. They represent the very best that Canada has to offer, and it is through these special places that we are all deeply connected to what it means to be Canadian.

Having been entrusted with this important legacy for over a hundred years, we reflect upon the steady growth of the Parks Canada network of protected areas as we continue to expand it. As we plan for the years to come, we can encourage lasting connections to our heritage and promote our protected places to be enjoyed in ways that leave them unimpaired for present and future generations.

We see a future in which these special places will further Canadians' appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of Canada, the economic well-being of communities, and the vitality of our society.

Our Government's vision is to build a culture of heritage conservation in Canada by offering Canadians exceptional opportunities to build personal connections with our natural and cultural heritage.


These values form the foundation of the amended management plan for Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and Riding Mountain East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site of Canada. I offer my appreciation to the many thoughtful Canadians who helped to develop this plan, particularly to our dedicated team from Parks Canada, and to all those local organizations and individuals who have demonstrated their good will, hard work, spirit of co-operation and extraordinary sense of stewardship.

In this same spirit of partnership and responsibility, I am pleased to approve the Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site of Canada Management Plan Amendment.

Peter Kent
Minister of the Environment and Minister responsible for Parks Canada

Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and
Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex
National Historic Site of Canada
Management Plan

This plan has been recommended for approval by:



Alan Latourelle
Chief Executive Officer
Parks Canada



Robert Sheldon
Superintendent
Riding Mountain National Park of Canada
Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex
National Historic Site of Canada

Introduction to the Amended Management Plan

2012

The current management plan for Riding Mountain National Park of Canada and Riding Mountain Park East Gate Registration Complex National Historic Site of Canada was approved in 2007. In accordance with the *Canada National Parks Act* which requires plans to be reviewed every five years, this management plan has been reviewed and is proposed for amendment. The amendment would enable proposals to be considered for the redevelopment of a ski hill operation at the Mount Agassiz Ski Area.

All sections of the 2007 management plan would remain in force with the exception of two parts. The first part is an amendment to Section 7.9 - Mt. Agassiz Ski Area. This section would be replaced in its entirety with:

Strategic Goal

Continue to foster memorable visitor experience opportunities on the east side of RMNPC. Link these opportunities with others in the region outside the national park and national historic site.

Actions:

- a) Consider financially sustainable proposals for the redevelopment of a ski hill operation at the Mt. Agassiz Ski Area, including multi-season recreational activities.
- b) If it is determined that a ski hill operation is viable, any redevelopment and use at Mt Agassiz will be guided by the 2006 Ski Area Management Guidelines, Parks Canada's ski area planning process, and national and park-wide direction on new recreational activities. Parks Canada will work with a potential operator to develop site specific guidelines which will outline development limits, parameters and conditions to guide specific redevelopment and use proposals. Based on approved site guidelines, development and use proposals will be advanced by the operator through long-range plans and the application of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.
- c) Continue to involve key stakeholder groups and First Nations in discussions about other opportunities for visitor experiences on the east side of RMNPC, and continue to develop an area plan. Implement the area plan as resources are available.

The second part is an addition to Section 13 - Summary of the Environmental Assessment. This amendment provides the required environmental assessment for the above amendment:

“A strategic environmental assessment will be conducted on site guidelines which must be prepared if a ski hill is to be developed. A detailed environmental assessment of a ski area proposed long-range plan for the development and use of the ski area will be conducted in accordance with the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act*.”