

Front Counter BC  
Ministry of Forests, Lands, and Natural Resource Operations  
411 Columbia Street  
Kamloops BC, V2C 2T3

Re: Crown Land Tenure Development Plan,

The Kamloops Wildlife Park Society is applying for a Crown Land Tenure for the purpose of future expansion of the BC Wildlife Park. In Keeping with our Philosophy to connect people to BC's wildlife and wild places in order to encourage a sustainable society within a healthy natural environment, we are proposing a multi-year plan that covers both immediate and long range development that is designed to enhance the educational experience of our guests. This plan includes both the expansion of our wildlife habitats over time and to construct a Trail Network for the use and enjoyment of visitors to the BC Wildlife Park.

The proposed land is steep in nature which fortunately presents the Park with an excellent opportunity for future expansion of a new Grizzly Bear Habitat in such a way that the habitat will better reflect the characteristics of their natural environment and will result in both increased educational value for our guests and better conditions for the Bears in our care. The new Grizzly Habitat as indicated on Map 3 (attached) is on the west edge of the proposed land and takes advantage of the naturally steep terrain. We also believe that with future Park expansion into this area, the habitats and the wildlife in our care will benefit in the same way from the character of this area.

This property also presents us with an excellent site to effectively expand our Nature Trail network. With the inclusion of interruptive signage of the natural surroundings, this nature trail system will offer outstanding viewpoints of the BC Wildlife Park and again enhance the overall experience of our visitors. We plan to expand on our existing guided tours to provide a more complete "Natural Experience" to our guests while proving them with an excellent outdoor activity which highlights BC's natural beauty at its best.

Finally, we are quite concerned with the negative impact future residential and commercial development may have on the Park boundaries. With the expansion of the Campbell Creek residential subdivision the park has seen an increase in vandalism and unsupervised after hour activity. For example, on the south east corner of the proposed Land, ATVs have been using the area causing erosion of the natural landscape and causing noise pollution with which is highly disruptive to the wildlife we have at the south end of the Park. Approval of our request would provide a buffer zone to the BC Wildlife Park and protect our Park's boundaries.

Glenn Grant  
General Manager  
BC Wildlife Park