

LOC {CASTL} MB/148320
GV/191.24/W5/N0./1976:1
C. 1
GALL, MICHAEL.
ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL PLANS FOR THE

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSAL



B001623180

PLANS

for the

VALHALLA'S



SUBMITTED TO: LEN DUNSFORD

SUBMITTED BY: MIKE GALL

LOCAL
FC
3815
V35
G35
1976

FOR: WILDLAND RECREATION

-274 TERM PROTECTION

EXACT

TABLE OF CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION.....	3
SYSTEMS PLANNING STUDY.....	6
RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VALHALLA'S.....	8
EXISTING PROPOSALS FOR THE VALHALLA AREA.....	10
PLAN CONCEPT FOR ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS.....	13
ALTERNATIVE A - VALHALLA RECREATIONAL AREA.....	14
- Introduction.....	14
- Objective.....	14
- Administration.....	14
- Zoning Scheme.....	15
- Proposed Development.....	16
- Management Plans.....	17
ALTERNATIVE B - VALHALLA PARK.....	21
- Introduction.....	21
- Objective.....	21
- Administration.....	21
- Zoning Scheme.....	21
- Proposed Development.....	23
- Management Plans.....	24
ALTERNATIVE C - VALHALLA WILDERNESS AREA.....	28
- Introduction.....	28
- Objective.....	28
- Administration.....	28
- Zoning Scheme.....	28
- Proposed Development.....	30
- Management Plans.....	31
SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES.....	34
CONCLUSION.....	36

TABLE OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1	- Study Area Boundaries.....	5
FIGURE 2	- Generalized Geology.....	9
FIGURE 3	- Kootenay Mountaineering Club Proposal.....	11
FIGURE 4	- Beatrice-Evans Lakes Proposal & The Slocan Valley Resources Committee Proposal.....	12
FIGURE 5	- ALTERNATIVE A - Valhalla Recreational Area.....	20
FIGURE 6	- Alternative B - Valhalla Park.....	27
FIGURE 7	- Alternative C - Valhalla Wilderness Area.....	33

costs ?

system planning argument weak

bibliography ?

average technical report

mapping excellent

late

spelling errors

summary excellent

B-

INTRODUCTION

This paper deals with the Valhalla Mountain Area in the West Kootenay Region of British Columbia, (see Figure 1). It is a virtually untouched area of wilderness truly worthy of some form of preservation.

The purpose of this paper is to first provide evidence that this wilderness area should in fact be included in some preservation system of the British Columbia Parks Branch. Secondly, it offers three alternative land use schemes that could be used as a basis for a management preservation system for the Valhalla's.

A Systems Planning Study was undertaken to show the natural, biological, physiological and geological divisions that make up the Valhalla Area. The objective of this study was to indicate the diversity of natural features that the Valhalla Mountains contain.

The paper studies how well the Columbia Mountains Natural Region is represented by the present Provincial Parks in the West Kootenay Area. It was found that the Valhalla Area was more representative of this Natural Region than other existing Provincial Parks in the West Kootenays.

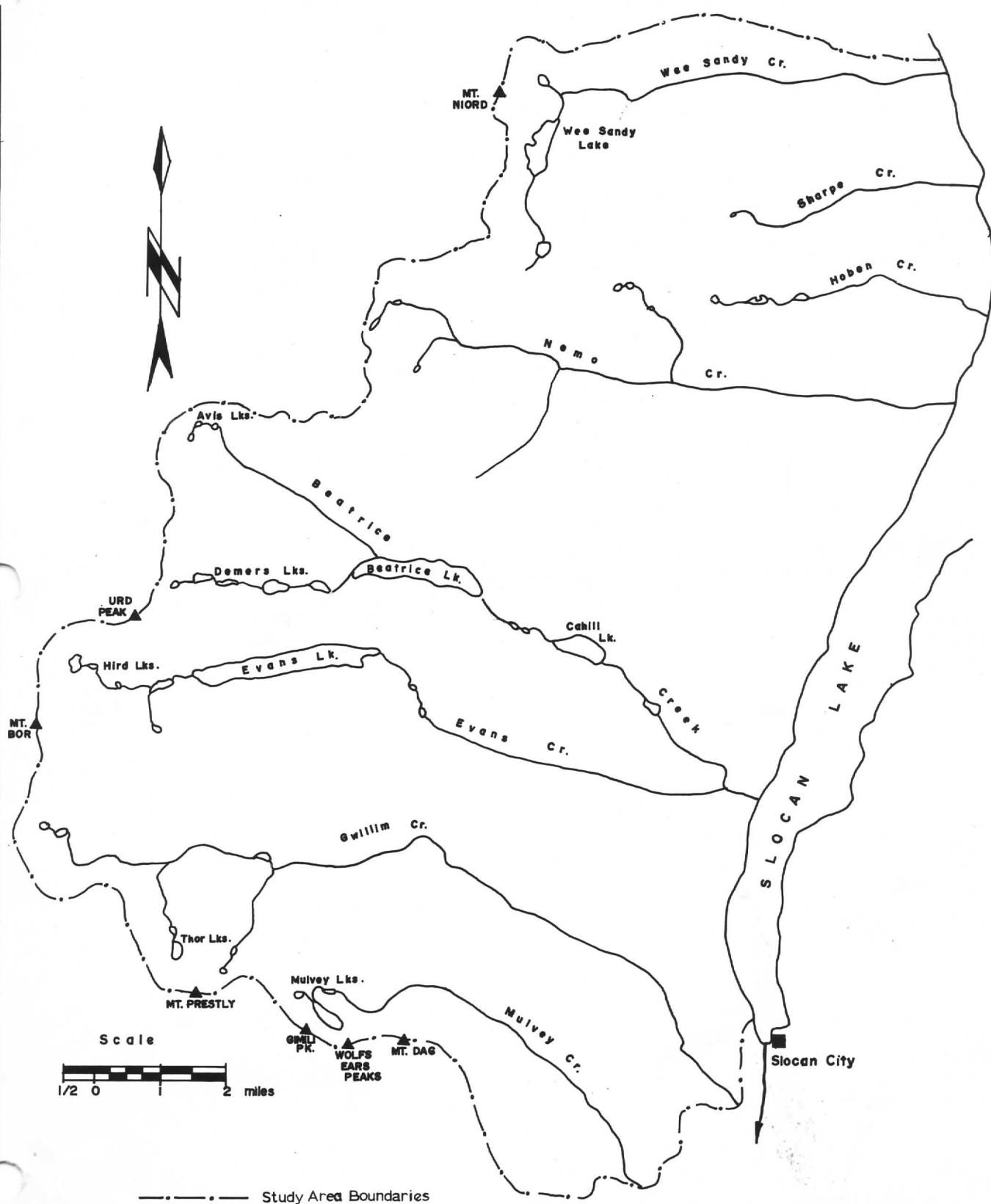
The paper then looks at the outdoor recreational opportunities that the Valhalla Area contains. It was concluded that a greater variety of recreational activities are available in the Valhalla Area as compared to other existing Provincial Parks in the Kootenay Region.

To give a basic understanding of the amount of land being considered for preservation in the Valhalla Area the three existing proposals, that have been submitted to the B.C. Parks Branch are noted. These proposals vary in land areas as well as their preservation objectives.

The paper then offers three alternative development management land use plans for the Valhalla Area and briefly outlines the particular objectives of each scheme.

VALHALLA PARK PROPOSALS

fig.1



November 19/75

Mike Gall

SYSTEMS PLANNING STUDY:

It was felt that in order to determine whether the Valhalla Area should be included, either in part or in whole, within some form of preservation system, a systems planning study needed to be undertaken. This was done by studying the make up of the Valhallas in terms of its natural, biological, physiological and geological divisions.

The Valhalla Area is found in the Columbia Mts. Natural Region and is made up of two major physiographic subdivisions; the Northern and Southern Plateaus and the Mt. Areas. In terms of geological make-up, there is intrusive igneous rock and volcanic-faulted as well as volcanic-sedimentary rock. (see Figure 2). The area is well represented in the Biogeoclimatic Zones with Engelmann Spruce, Alpine Fir, Alpine Areas, Interior Western Hemlock and Interior Douglas Fir being dominant.

In general the Valhalla's contain a wide variety of representative features, from, low elevation areas (Slocan Lakeshore 1754') up to high alpine meadows (8500' elevation), that are truly representative of the Columbia Mt. Natural Region. Some of the more unique natural features include:

- Nemo Creek drainage, a virtually untouched drainage basin some eight miles in length and made up of climax Western Red Cedar - Western Hemlock.
- Stepped lakes, subterranean creeks, hanging valley, U-shaped valleys, and unique rock formations.
- Beatrice-Evans Creeks drainage basin a one unit spectrum of natural conditions from low level Slocan Lake (1754') to high alpine lakes (8500').
- A stand of Yellow Cedar that has been designated as an Ecological Reserve.

It was concluded that the Valhalla's does indeed contain a wide variety of natural features that make it very representative of the Columbia Mountains Natural Region.

The final step was to look at existing Provincial Parks in the Kootenays Region and determine whether there exists ample representation of the Columbia Mountains Natural Region within these Parks. An inventory was made of existing Provincial Parks within an approximate seventy-five mile radius of the Valhalla's. It was felt that such an area illustrated a representative portion of the Natural Region. In total, some sixty Provincial Parks were noted with only six of these being over 1000 acres. The Purcell Wilderness Conservancy was also noted with its three million acres, but as the future of Misconservancy is still undetermined, it was not included in this study. Only two Parks were in close proximity to the Valhalla: Class B-Kokanee Glacier Park with its 6400 acres and Class A-Champion Lakes Park with 3,250 acres. It was felt that of the sixty Provincial Parks studied, none of them were as representative of the Columbia Mountains Natural Region or the Valhalla Area.

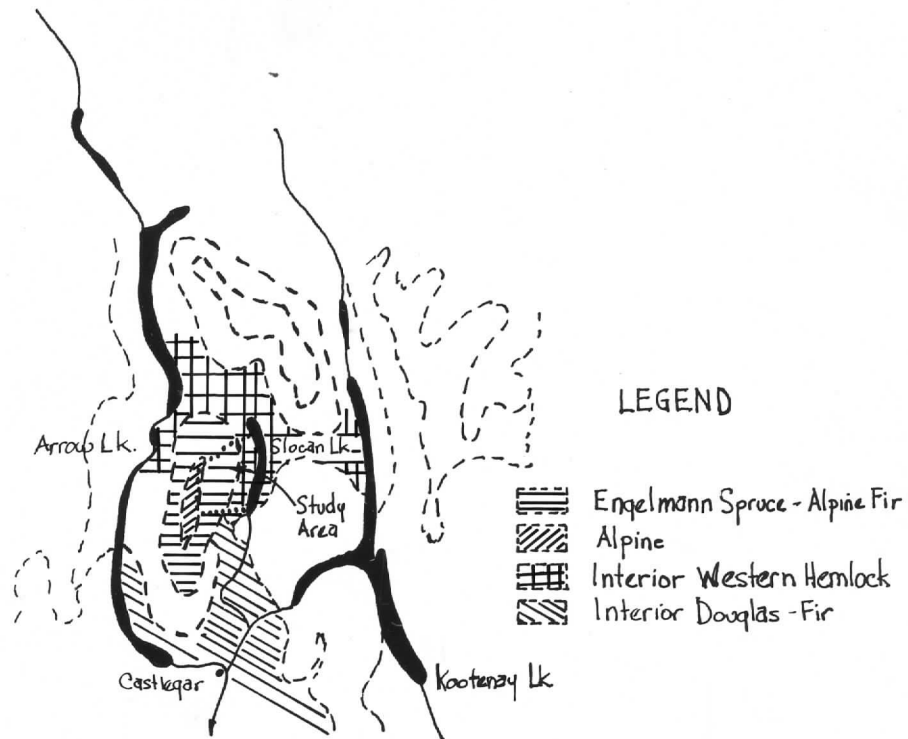
It is therefore concluded, from this study that as the Valhalla's are in fact very representative of the Natural Region, more so than any existing Provincial Parks, that it should be included within the Provincial Parks System.

RECREATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE VALHALLA'S

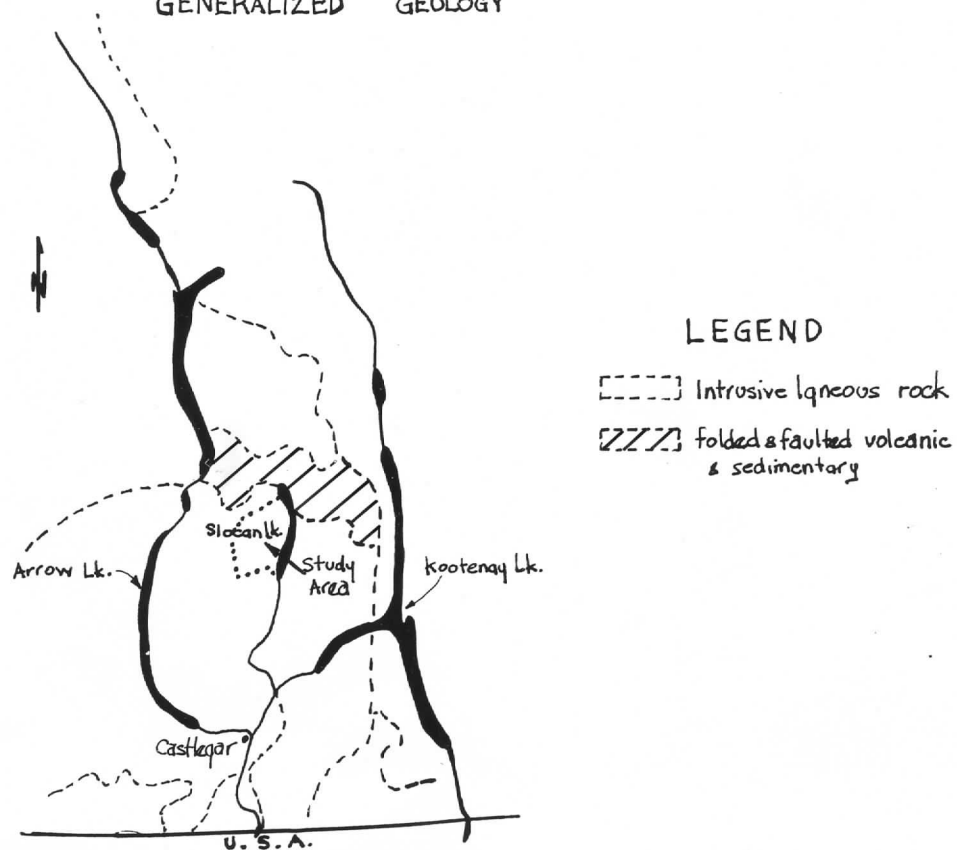
As the Valhalla Area contains a wide variety and opportunity for a number of outdoor recreational activities, an inventory of them was made. They were found to include wildlife photography and viewing, alpine recreation, camping, hiking, climbing, fishing- both in winter and summer, snowshowing, ski-touring. It is felt that the potential for outdoor recreation is unlimited and cannot be found anywhere else as concentrated and as readily available as in the Valhalla's.

BIOGEOCLIMATIC ZONES

fig. 2



GENERALIZED GEOLOGY



EXISTING PROPOSALS FOR THE VALHALLA AREA

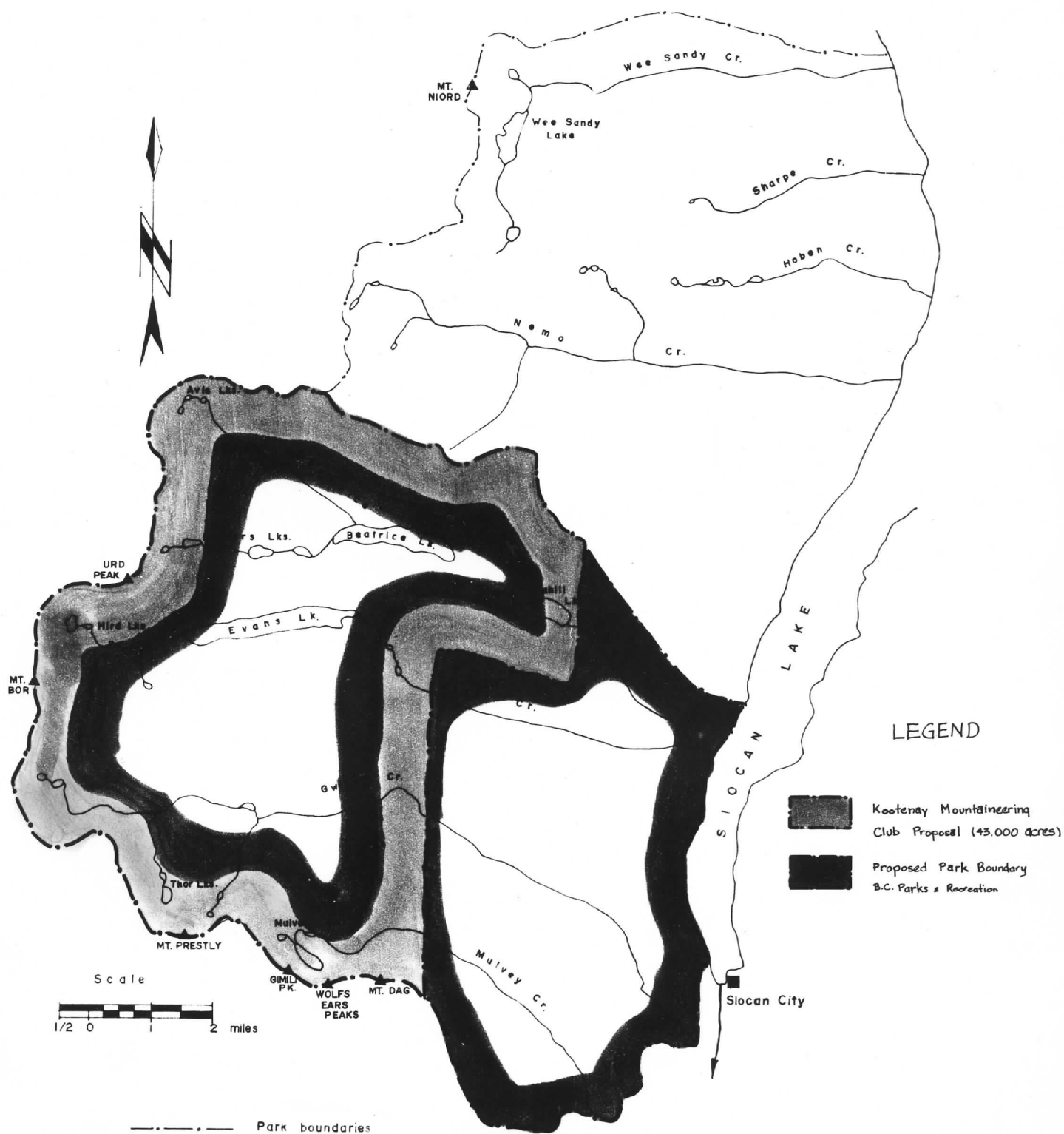
Included is a brief summarization of the existing proposals that have been submitted to the B.C. Provincial Parks Branch for the Valhalla Area. It is included to give some idea of the boundaries and areas that this particular paper is concerned with.

In 1968 the Kootenay Mountaineering Club proposed that approximately 43,500 acres of primarily alpine area be set aside for the people of the Province as Park. (see Figure 3). A Nature Conservancy consisting of some 38,000 acres was proposed by Mike Gall (Selkirk College Student) in 1972, which took in Beatrice and Evans Lakes Drainages (see Figure 4). The final proposal was made in 1973 by the late A. Ewesone, (Slocan Valley Resources Committee) this encompassed about 110,000 acres. (see Figure 4).

These proposals were all aimed at preserving a specific portion of the Valhalla Area and all three proposals varied in purposes. The Kootenay Mountaineering Club was primarily concerned with saving a prime area of high elevation land for its recreational opportunities. The Beatrice-Evans Lake proposal was intent on preserving a complete drainage basin for backcountry travel and its wilderness qualities. The main purpose of the Nature Conservancy proposed by A. Ewesone was to preserve most of the Northern watershed of Slocan Lake from any extractive activities, with the only use to be foot oriented backcountry travel.

VALHALLA PARK PROPOSALS

fig. 3



November 19/75

Mike Gall

ALTERNATIVE PROPOSALS

Plan Concepts: Three concept alternatives are proposed for the Valhalla Area, each containing their own objectives and management plans. The plans were based on information compiled from a previous planning paper on the Valhalla's as well as from interviews and general talks with British Columbia Forest Service, Fish and Wildlife and Parks Branch. Additional data was taken from aerial photographs, topographic maps, Canada Land Inventory maps, and slides.

Before getting into the actual descriptions of each alternative, there is one topic that is common throughout each plan.

The Valhalla Area is intended to have no road access within it, all users of the area will travel by foot only. All management plans will be based on foot access for the Valhalla Area, except in cases of emergency or management situations, whereby aerial access will be incorporated.

ALTERNATIVE A - VALHALLA RECREATIONAL AREAINTRODUCTION:

This particular alternative scheme was chosen as it insures a good level of protection to those areas suitable for outdoor recreation and at the same time, allows for extractive uses in those areas not suitable for outdoor recreation. It offers a number of resource agencies the opportunity to take part in the management proceedings of the area to insure that outdoor recreational activities, as well as resource uses, may take place in the same area with minimal conflicts.

OBJECTIVE:

The main objective is to provide optimum outdoor recreational opportunities while at the same time making these areas available for other non-conflicting resources uses.

By providing a broad ~~range~~ of recreational opportunities from both private and government sources, as well as adhering to pre-determined standards of services and facilities set forth by management, it is intended that outdoor recreational activities will be the highest priority of all resource uses taking place.

ADMINISTRATION:

It is intended that the area will be administered by the British Columbia Dept. of Recreation and Conservation-Parks Branch with the B.C. Forest Service, B.C. Fish and Wildlife Branch, Water Rights Branch, Slocan Valley Resources Committee and representative individual groups making up the Valhalla Recreational Area Resources Management Committee (V.R.A.R.M. Comm.).

All management plans will be formulated and passed for implementation by this committee with Parks Branch dictating the final decision.

ZONING SCHEME:

The following zoning classification was proposed to resolve conflicts between competitive resource uses as well as to provide protection for land capability and long term productivity. This scheme is intended to be used by the management committee as a management tool in developing multiple resource use plans.

I. ⁵⁰Multipel Use Zone - As the main resource use of this area would be the harvesting of timber, this particular zone has been found to allow for this activity. Other resource uses of the land would be permitted in this zone also. It is beleived that this zone offers little in terms of opportunity for outdoor recreational activities and therefore minimal use by recreation people will occur. A legitimate use may however exist once the area has been selectively harvested and wildlife population have moved into those open areas.

II. Special Preservation Zone - These lands include historical and cultural areas, unique natural features, wildlife reserves and other sensative areas that have been ²disignated for preservation for present and future generations. As these areas have varrying carrying capacity, use by man would have to be monitored and adjusted to according to predetermined standards set by the V.R.A.R.M. Committee.

III. Outdoor Recreational Zone - As to be expected these lands will be used extensively by outdoor recreational people and receive the majority of use within the entire proposal. The make up of this zone is primarily in the form of corridors which are found along valley bottoms and along lake shoreline.

IV. Canoe-Boat Tripping Zone - This zone was proposed to include the shoreline bordering the proposed area along Slocan Lake. This zone insures that a given area of water along the shoreline is available for canoe and boat tripping, thus allowing the user continuous access for travel and viewing.

V. Wilderness Zone - All remaining lands are included within zone with the only use being outdoor recreational activities. These lands are intended to be the backcountry of the proposal where natural *processes* take priority over any types of development. Use in this zone will be maintained on a low level basis by management.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS:

Primitive Campgrounds: The only campsites in this proposal will be primitive in design and be limited to a maximum of six sites per camping area.

Picnic Sites: These sites will only be for day-use. They will be primitive in design and limited to a maximum of six tables per site. They also will be situated in places where access is only within one days travel from Slocan City.

Alpine Hut: This will be a permanent hut established with a maximum capacity of twenty-five people. The hut will be so designed to be compatible with this surrounding landscape.

Hiking Trails: A system of hiking trails will be developed to allow the user access to a variety of landscapes. These trails will follow the major recreational corridors and range in elevation from Slocan Lake shoreline (1754') up to high alpine meadows (8500').

Private Outfitter: It is anticipated that with designation and development of the Valhalla Recreational Area, that increase use will occur. It is proposed that a registered guide-outfitter be employed by the Parks Branch to cater to this increase in users.

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

It is anticipated that this alternative is least demanding in terms of initial investment and that monies will be made available by the Department of Recreation and Conservation for the development of this Recreational Area. Also it is expected that when the V.R.A.P.M. Committee has established its development plans for selective removal of timber, that the economic return generated from this resource use could be applied back to the managing of the area.

The following management procedures are proposed:

Staff - Two permanent rangers will be situated at Slocan City to supervise use by seasonal recreation people and other resource users. It is proposed that seasonal staff include at least eight members, to look after over all maintenance of the Recreational Area. The guide-outfitter mentioned would be in charge of supplying acceptable equipment as well as for guiding those particular groups

of people wishing to get away from the main trails. This would be a management method of controlling and monitoring use in the wilderness zones.

Facilities - A permanent combination residence office and information area, maintenance shop and area, and seasonal staff facilities would be situated near Slocan City. It is also expected that the guide-outfitter would establish permanent residence in the same vicinity. Both developments would have land, water and air access facilities into the Recreational Area.

Fish & Wildlife - As the V.R.A.R.M. Committee is represented by a member of the B.C. Fish & Wildlife, it is proposed that this branch will be responsible for the management of the fish and wildlife resources. It is proposed that a good quality fisheries be established on the larger lakes and maintained accordingly. A specially developed wildlife plan will seek to maintain and enhance mountain goat habitat. Hunting and fishing will be allowed but only in designated areas and time periods. These will be subject to regulations determined by the V.R.A.R.M. Committee. Trapping will be allowed only as a short term control for wildlife and under the administration of the V.R.A.R.M. Committee.

Historical and Cultural Areas - The basic objective will be to manage and preserve these sites that are of historic and archaeological significance. An interpretative plan will be incorporated during the high use season for these sites.

Timber Management - The objective will be to maintain and improve big game, small-game and none-game wildlife habitat from timber harvesting. A selective logging concept and removal by aerial means in those low use seasons will be enforced for the Recreational Area.

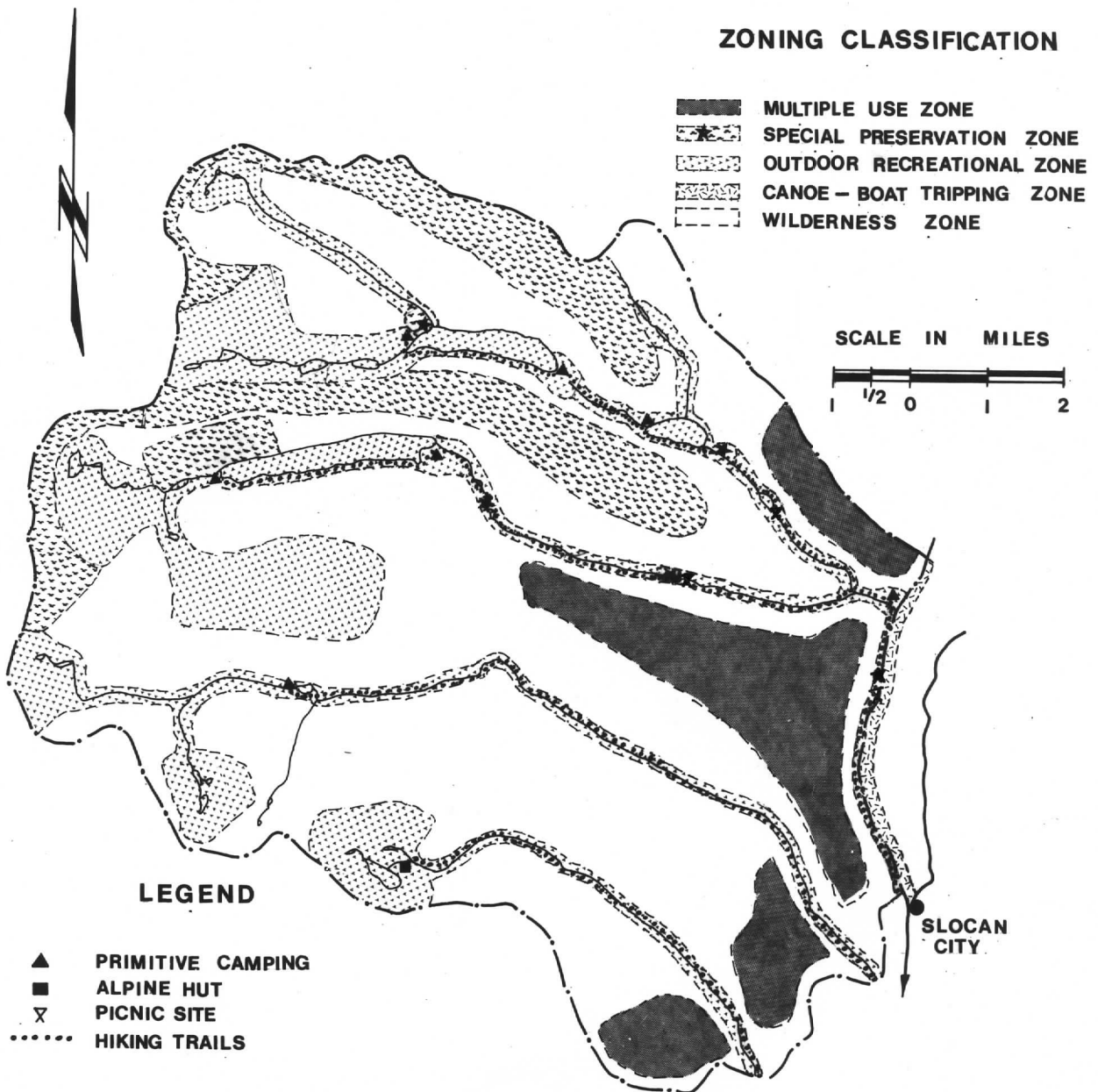
Sanitation - A policy of carry in - carry out will be established, thus reducing the number of periodic trips needed by aircraft to remove buildups of garbage.

Trails - Where existing trails are present and are acceptable in terms of quality, they will be upgraded slightly and maintained in a seasonal basis. New proposed trails will built to a low quality trail standard.

Winter Outdoor Recreation - No present management plans are proposed for winter use in the area. Use will be monitored and if a sufficient demand occurs, the V.R.A.R.M. Committee will formulate plans.

fig. 5

PROPOSED VALHALLA RECREATIONAL AREA ALTERNATIVE A



MARCH 1976 — MIKE GALL

ALTERNATIVE B - VALHALLA PARKINTRODUCTION:

This classification was chosen as it offers the highest level of protection from other resource uses and insures that the unique natural qualities of the area will be preserved for present and future generations.

OBJECTIVE:

The major objective is to provide a vast opportunity for foot-oriented recreational activities, in the backcountry areas of the Valhalla's.

ADMINISTRATION:

The Department of Recreation and Conservation-Parks Branch will be the administering body of this alternative and will manage the area according to their existing standards and methods.

ZONING SCHEME:

The following zoning classification was chosen to allow management the opportunity to regulate the various levels of use in specific areas of the Park.

I. Outdoor Recreation Zone - This consists of camping areas and sites, lakes and travel corridors designated primarily for backcountry travel use and study.

II. Intensive Use Zone - This zone includes those areas that have possibilities for organized camping, with the carrying capacity being more than six units per site. A high degree of monitoring will be carried out by Parks staff to determine the management techniques to be applied to these areas.

III. Natural Zone - Found in this zone are natural feature areas that are very representative of the VALhalla's and are of prime importance in terms of preservation and scientific study. It's proposed that special management plans will be formulated for these areas in terms of use and carrying capacity.

IV. Historic Zone - Examples of mans first visits and some of his activities are found in this zone, some of the more important are: past logging operations, trapping cabins and Indian pictographs.

V. Buffer Zone - This area of natural environment has been designated to act as both a buffer strip and carry-over area, between the wilderness areas and the outdoor recreational zones. This zone would be of sufficient size to allow for its incorporation into the recreational zone if increased use demanded it.

VI. Wilderness Zone - That area of land that will be virtually untouched except by those energetic people wishing to experience a wilderness environment. Users of this zone will be encouraged to do so only on a daily basis with a no-overnight restriction present. Included also in this zone is an area of prime habitat for a small mountain goat population. Special consideration and monitoring will be the responsibility of the management staff to safeguard this habitat and population.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS:

Camping Area - It is proposed that three high capacity camping areas be developed with a maximum of twenty units per camping area. These campsites will be primitive in design and include only necessary facilities. Maintenance of these sites will be done by seasonal staff who will be present in all three campsites.

Primitive Campsites - These camping areas will be very primitive in design and each will have a maximum capacity of ten units per area. All development needed for these sites will be done on a low level basis and done in a manner that is aesthetically acceptable in terms of the surrounding landscape.

Alpine Hut - This will be a permanent hut with a maximum capacity of twenty-five people. The hut will so designed as to be compatible with its surrounding landscape.

Hiking Trails - Each major drainage basin will have a high quality trail system within it, ending at an alpine meadow. These trails will allow the user access through a number of natural environments, thus fulfilling the experience of variety. A primitive campsite will usually be the destination of users on these trails.

Picnic Sites - These sites are primarily designed for the day-oriented users, who's actual time for hiking is very limited. A maximum of six tables per site will exist and these sites will be fairly primitive in design. A carry out policy for garbage will be encouraged so that build up of materials left are minimal.

Boat-Mooring-Storage - This facility will be for those users arriving by water who required a safe place to leave their watercraft while hiking in the backcountry. A permanent staff member would be on hand during the high use periods to manage this facility.

Parking - These would be areas where people could leave their vehicles while travelling in the Park by foot. A periodic patrol would be made of these areas by Parks staff to prevent vandalism.

Park Headquarters - This area would include an office and information centre, maintenance shop area and permanent residence quarters and seasonal staff accommodation. A boat launching area, as well as a parking lot, would also be included in this area.

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

As this alternative will be developed for the greatest amount of users and will also contain the most in terms of development facilities and services, management plans will be most detailed when developed.

The following management plans are proposed:

Staff - It is proposed that two permanent Park Rangers be employed and based out of headquarters at Slocan City. In terms of seasonal rangers, it is felt that fifteen would be needed to maintain the Park during the high use season.

Facilities - The major Parks headquarters mentioned in the Proposed Developments would be located within the Slocan City near the Park boundary at the South end of Slocan Lake.

Access - All access within the Park would be by hiking trails, only in emergencies situations or necessary management cases would air access be used. No power engines will be allowed on any of the lakes within this proposal.

Patrols - It is intended that management staff will use those same means of transportation as the public to conduct their patrols of the Park. Only under certain extreme circumstances will they be encouraged to use air or power boat access.

Fish and Wildlife - As fishing is accepted as a legitimate recreational experience, a sport fisheries will be established and maintained in the larger lakes. In terms of wildlife management, the main emphasis will be to study and maintain the mountain goat population and its habitat. Trapping and hunting will only be used on a short-term basis as a management control. If a bear problem exists, it is proposed that trapping and removal by air be incorporated when possible.

Sanitation - It is intended that there will be a periodic removal of garbage by aircraft from those areas of high garbage accumulation. A carryin-carryout policy for materials is proposed to cut down on the build up of garbage within the Park.

Winter Recreation - No winter recreational facilities are proposed within this alternative except that use in the winter be monitored and management plans formed if use demands.

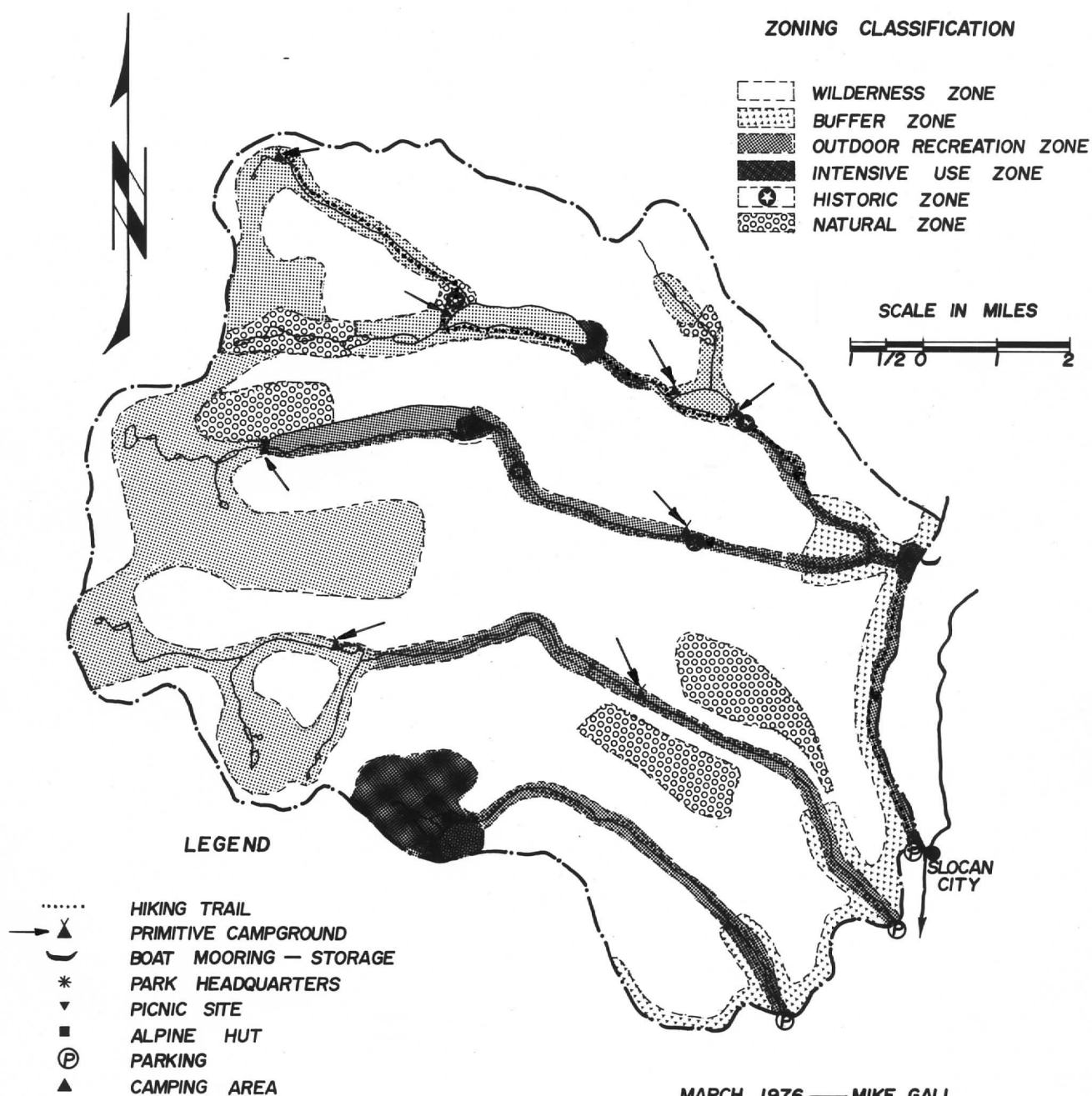
Private Holdings - As policy states that no private land can exist within a Provincial Park, all the existing private lands will have to be expropriated for inclusion into the Park.

Historic and Cultural Areas - An interpretive programme will be available for those periods of high seasonal use with the Park.

fig. 6

PROPOSED VALHALLA PARK

ALTERNATIVE B



MARCH 1976 — MIKE GALL

ALTERNATIVE C - VALHALLA WILDERNESS AREA

INTRODUCTION:

This classification was chosen as the Valhalla's is the last remaining area of virtually untouched wilderness in the Kootenays and it offers a variety of opportunities for the energetic travellers of today to experience. It is felt that this roadless track of land could be preserved in its natural state and left for natural successional patterns to take place.

OBJECTIVE:

The overall objective of this alternative is to provide opportunity for a low intensity wilderness recreational experience and at the same time to preserve this unique area of Kootenay wilderness for present and future generations.

ADMINISTRATION:

The area would be under the administration of the British Columbia Department of Recreation and Conservation-Park Branch.

ZONING SCHEME:

The following zoning scheme was selected as it forms a basis for managing the wilderness area. By actually delineating these areas, it give management the opportunity to dictate use within them.

I. Wildlife Zone - This zone has been created primarily to protect that area of habitat used by a small mountain goat population. This zone will not be used for any recreational activities.

II. Natural Zone - This zone contains a variety of natural features that make the Valhalla's so unique. Some of the more interesting features include:

- New Denver Glacier
- Cirques, tarn lakes, hanging valley, U-shaped valleys, and stepped lakes.
- nature western red cedar stand cedar stand approximately (200 acres)
- ecological reserve of yellow cedar (458 acres)

III. Historical-Cultural Zone - Those features and areas that are significant in terms of human history or cultural development, such as old trappers cabins, Indian pictographs and remnants of past logging operations, make up this zone. As these features are not in line with the wilderness theme of the area they will be left to deteriorate naturally with time. These areas will not be marked and hiking trails will not be oriented towards them.

IV. Recreational Corridor Zone - A system of corridors suitable designed for access to predetermined areas.

V. Alpine Recreation Zone - This zone includes areas of alpine environment suitable for a low level types of alpine recreational activities. Overnight use will only be allowed in those designated primitive campsites. Management will monitor use in these zones and based on the use of an area is receiving, will formulate carry capacities for in these areas.

VI. Canoe-Boat Tripping Zone - It is intended that an imaginary lake area be designated along the shoreline of the proposed alternative. This area will be used strictly by recreational watercrafts and no commercial uses of any type will be allowed within this imaginary zone. As a boundary is difficult to mark a water area so large, an imaginary distance from shore of 500 feet will be assumed to be the boundary limits.

VII. Wilderness Zone - All remaining lands are included in this zone with the only use being low level types of wilderness recreation. Use in these areas will be monitored and management plans implemented if over-use is evident. The objective is to maintain this area as a natural wilderness environment and at the same time provide opportunity for low level wilderness recreational activities.

PROPOSED DEVELOPMENTS:

Hiking Trails - All trails designated in the area will be of low quality and primitive in design, utilizing natural materials and therefore being compatible with the natural landscape. These trails will be maintained on a seasonal basis in a primitive manner (no power equipment used).

Primitive Campsites - The campsites will be primitive in design and contain up to a maximum of six sites per camping area. All facilities provided will be developed utilizing natural materials and conform with the surrounding landscape.

MANAGEMENT PLANS:

As the aim of this proposal is to provide opportunity for low-level use within a wilderness area, initial development of facilities and services will be minimal. It is, however, felt that in order to maintain this "wilderness environment" that management plans will have to be detailed and reviewed on a periodic basis. The following management plans are then proposed:

Staff - It will be ^{SP} imperative that two full time Rangers are employed to monitor year round use, work on management plans and be concerned with general maintenance work for the area. At least ten seasonal staff will be required to cover the area for general maintenance procedures.

Facilities - A small maintenance yard and building, headquarters station and seasonal accommodation will be located on the proposal boundary at the South end of Slocan Lake near Slocan City. Facilities for boat launching and a limited parking area will also be located near the headquarters.

Access - Access throughout the area would be limited to boat, except in the case of management, where aircraft could be utilized in special situations. Boat access on Slocan Lake to those take-off points is a legitimate access.

Fish & Wildlife - It is proposed that fishing be allowed in the wilderness area and that management plans insure that a sufficient fish population exist in the major lakes. Trapping and hunting will not be allowed except in special cases on a short term basis for management control.

Registration - A registration fee for all users of the area is proposed based on the carrying capacity of the area, which will be determined by management. All users will be required to register all materials brought in as well as those materials brought back out. A percentage penalty will be enforced on the amount of materials not brought back out.

Private Holdings - All private holdings will be expropriated and returned to their natural stat.

Garbage - As a carryin-carryout policy is proposed for the wilderness are; periodic trips by aircraft to remove buildups of garbage will be kept to a minimum.

Winter Recreation - No plans have been proposed for winter recreation, but if sufficient demand occurs, management plans will then be formulated to insure that these activities are compatible with the objectives of the wilderness area.

fig. 7

PROPOSED VALHALLA WILDERNESS AREA ALTERNATIVE C

LEGEND

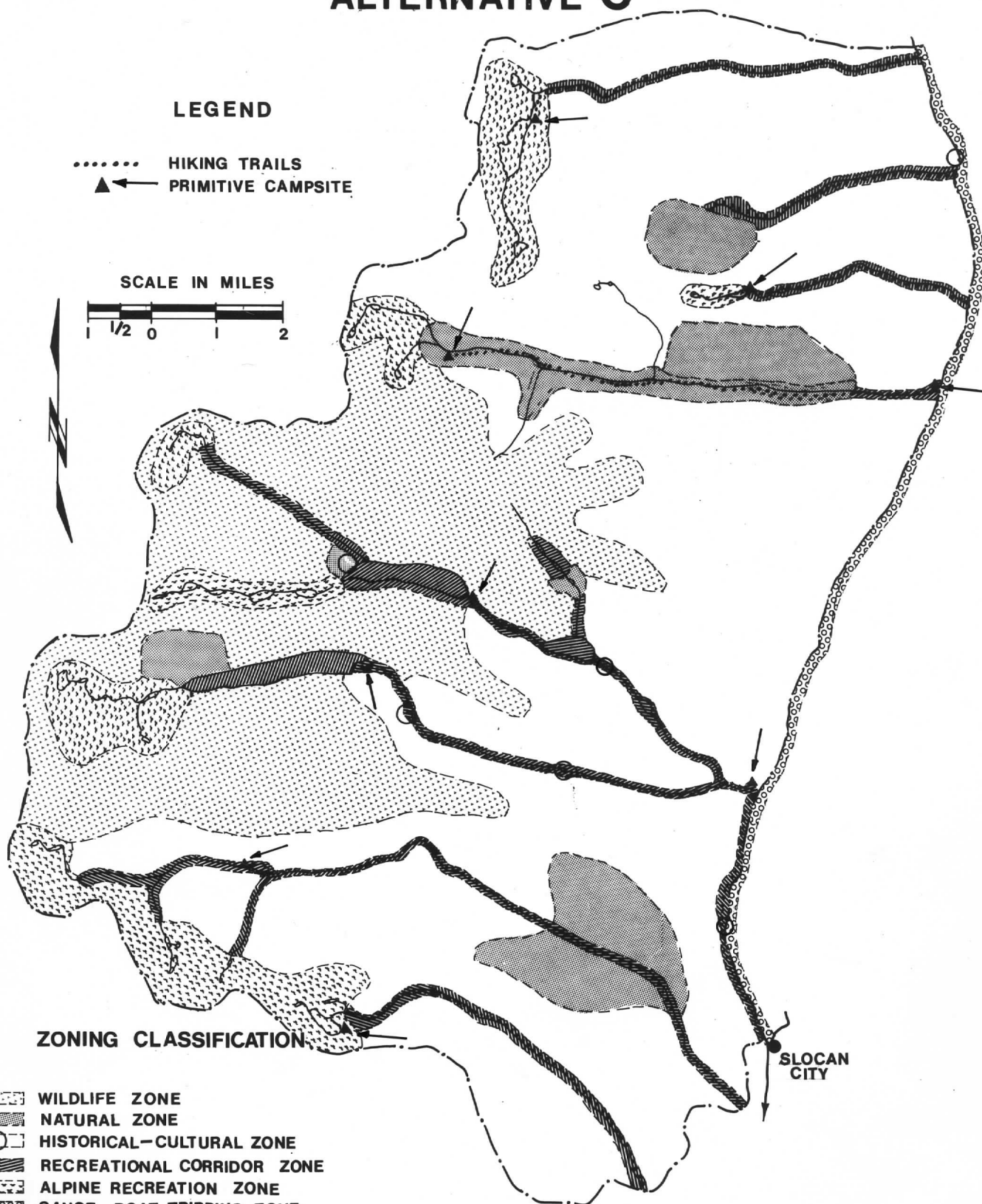
- HIKING TRAILS
▲ PRIMITIVE CAMPSITE

SCALE IN MILES



ZONING CLASSIFICATION


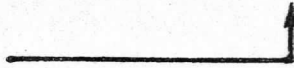
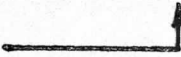

- WILDLIFE ZONE
- NATURAL ZONE
- HISTORICAL-CULTURAL ZONE
- RECREATIONAL CORRIDOR ZONE
- ALPINE RECREATION ZONE
- CANOE-BOAT TRIPPING ZONE
- WILDERNESS ZONE



MARCH 1976 — MIKE GALL

give one the opportunity to study and compare the specific developments as they pertain to each alternative plan.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES	ALTERNATIVE A VAHALLA RECREATIONAL AREA	ALTERNATIVE B VALHALLA PARK	ALTERNATIVE C VALHALLA WILDERNESS AREA
Total Land Required	approx. 70,000 acres	approx. 70,000	approx. 110,000 acres
Hiking Trails	-medium standard trails -existing trails to be upgraded -approx. 24 miles of new trails to be constructed	-high standard trails -all existing trails to be rebuilt -36 miles of new trails to be constructed	-low standard trails -utilize all existing trails -20 miles of new trail to be constructed
Primitive Campsites	-7 sites to be built with a capacity of 6 units per site.	9 sites to be built with a capacity of 10 units per site.	8 sites to be built with a capacity of 6 units per site
Camping Area	Nil	-3 sites to be built with a capacity of 20 units per site.	Nil
Picnic Area	-3 sites built with a capacity of 6 tables per site	-3 sites built with a capacity of 6 tables per site.	Nil
Alpine Hut	-have a maximum capacity of 25 people. -seasonal hutkeeper	-have a maximum capacity of 25 people -seasonal hutkeeper	Nil
Staff	-2 permanent Rangers -6 seasonal Rangers -summer maintenance crew	-15 seasonal Rangers	-10 seasonal Rangers
Headquarters Facilities	-combination office information & residence building -seasonal staff accommodation -maintenance shop and yard area -boat mooring and launching area with adjacent parking lot capacity for 25 cars	-information centre and office buildings -residence building -boat mooring & launching area with adjacent parking lot for 35 cars	-combination office information & residence building -boat launching area with parking lot for 20 cars.

SUMMARY OF PROPOSED ALTERNATIVES	ALTERNATIVE A VAHALLA RECREATIONAL AREA	ALTERNATIVE B VALHALLA PARK	ALTERNATIVE C VALHALLA WILDERNESS AREA
Fisheries	-good quality fisheries main- tained in the larger lakes		
Hunting	-hunting allowed in prescribed areas during designated times.	-no hunting allowed	-no hunting allowed
Trapping	-only to be used as a short term control of wild- life by manage- ment.		
Historical - Cultural Areas	-manage and preserve these sites	-manage, preserve and interpret these sites	-no plans
Sanitation	-periodic removal programme by air- craft and boat when needed	-removal programme on a regular basis by aircraft & boat	-carryin-carry- out policy of garbage with removal by air- craft only when necessary.
Fire Plans	-all fires to be suppressed	-all fires to be suppressed	-fire manage- ment plans formulated with a let burn con- cept.
Resource Uses	-timber harvesting by aerial methods in prescribed areas -hunting & fishing -mineral removal by air.	-fishing only	-fishing only
Private Developments	-a private guide-out- fitter to be employed by Parks Branch	-no plans	-no plans

CONCLUSION:

This paper has attempted to indicate why the Valhalla Mountain Area should be included for preservation in the British Columbia Parks Branch system. This area is extremely unique in terms of its natural features as well as its unlimited opportunity for wilderness recreational activities. Also of prime importance, is the fact, that the area is one of the last remaining wilderness areas so representative of the Kootenay Region.

Three alternative proposals have been outlined by this paper, each designating some form of preservation for the Valhalla's.

Alternative A classifies a portion of the entire study and as a Recreational Area. (see Figure 5). It was felt that this particular area contained the majority of outdoor recreational features and would attract the most users. In specially designated areas of low recreational capability, multiple-use zones were created. These zones allow for extraction of resources, such as wildlife, timber and minerals. Management would propose guidelines which would govern these extractive activities, thus insuring that environmental standards are followed. It is anticipated that revenue would be generated from this multiple-resource use scheme and could be put back into the management of the area. This proposal then is the least expensive to the general public of the Province, as monies will be created from uses in the area, at the same time providing opportunity for high levels of recreation.

Alternative B establishes the same given area of land as the previous alternatives as a Provincial Park. This proposal recognized the high potential for outdoor recreational opportunities in this area and proposes high levels of protection, to insure that present and future generations will be able to enjoy these opportunities. This proposal follows existing Parks Branch standards with emphasis on primitive styled developments. The cost of this alternative would be the highest as new high standard trails would be buildt, private holdings purchased, and facilities developed, with high standards.

Alternative C proposes that the entire study area be designated as a Wilderness Area, under the British Columbia Parks Branch. This is a relatively new classification, intended to provide preservation to a large area of wilderness. (see Figure 7). This alternative would ^{be} least developed, with all facilities such as trails and camping areas, being primitive in design. The area has been zoned to allow management better opportunity to insure that over-use does not occur, thus threatening the wilderness qualities of the area. The proposal requires the greatest amount of land area to be set aside, to insure that the Valhalla Area is preserved as a wilderness unit. The major expense will be the purchasing of private holdings, but as the majority of these lots are only used on a seasonal basis and are not developed, an agreement of "no further development" and purchasing by the Parks Branch over time is a possibility.

In conclusion then, it is felt that the three alternative plans proposed, offer a variety of preservation schemes, at the same time insuring that the wilderness qualities of the Valhalla Area are preserved for present and future generations to enjoy.

bibliography