

Site Name: **North Cooking Lake**

Site Type: **Natural Area**

Status: Order-in-council (OC)

Subtype: Recreation

PASite ID (Map Ref #): 62

O.C. No. (Land Ref. Manual): 584/92

Site # (Parks Website): 456

Reserved Area: 0.00 ha. (0.00 ac.)

Designated Area: 164.00 ha. (405.24 ac.)

Total Area: 164.00 ha. (405.24 ac.)

Additional Protected Areas: none

Lat/Long Co-ordinates: 53.4763770172 N, -112.98882394 W

Natural Region: Boreal

Natural Subregion(s): Dry Mixedwood

2nd Natural Region:

2nd Natural Subregion(s):

IUCN Classification: II

Operated By: Parks Division

Info Phone: 403-340-7691

Steward(s) Aug2002: Volunteer(s) 2+

Steward(s) Aug2003: Volunteer(s) 2+

Steward(s) Dec2011: yes

**Petroleum & Natural Gas Surface
Access Aug2002:**

Conditional

Day Use Site(s): North Cooking Lake

Recreation Activities: Cross-country skiing, Hiking and Nature observation,
hunting - game birds

Access: Rough trails throughout the area

Notes: North Cooking Lake Natural Area encompasses an area of "knob & kettle" topography with steep-sided hills (knobs) interspersed with wetland depressions (kettles). The area's rough topography provides important wildlife habitat. Ponds are ringed with cattail and willow and provide nesting and feeding habitat for red-winged blackbirds and other songbirds. Many types of waterfowl, including blue-winged teal and northern shoveler, use the ponds. Depressions contain willow shrublands, sedge wetland and black spruce peatland. Aspen forests are common in upland areas and provide habitat for deer, moose, snowshoe hare and weasel.

This site is in the Boreal Forest Natural Region, Dry Mixedwood Sub-region. The Dry Mixedwood Sub-region is the only Boreal Forest sub-region that does not have excellent representation within Alberta's parks and protected areas network. There are still significant shortfalls in the glacial lakebed, ground moraine, sandplain and sand dune natural history themes.

Listed in "Other Natural Areas" (Alberta Parks web site, 2012).

Images:





