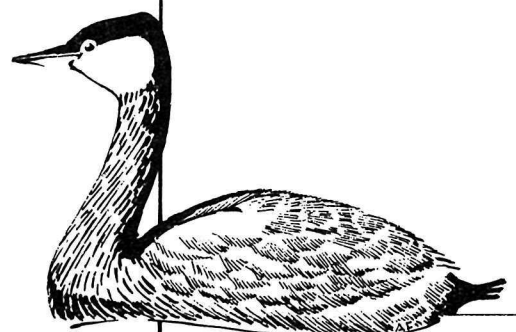


ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK MASTER PLAN

Public Participation Program Stage 2

PLAN PROPOSALS





134 - 11 Ave. S.E.
Calgary, Alberta T2G 0X5
April 7, 1977

Dear Sir/Madame:

Your file *Votre référence*

Our file *Notre référence*

The public participation program for Elk Island National Park has entered its second stage. Based on the park resource inventories, visitor use patterns and the public input from stage 1, a set of proposals have been drawn up for a master plan for the park. These proposals are now being presented to the public for their consideration and comments.

To facilitate discussion of these proposals, a series of Open House Meetings have been arranged for the times and locations listed on the attached sheet. We hope that you, will have an opportunity to attend one of the meetings to discuss the proposals with a Parks Canada Representative.

Written responses can be mailed to:

Western Region
Parks Canada
134 - 11 Ave. S.E.
Calgary, Alberta
T2G 0X5

Yours sincerely,

Gordon Toffan
Public Participation Officer
for Director
Western Region
Parks Canada

Enc.

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

OPEN HOUSE MEETINGS

FOR

MASTER PLAN PROPOSALS

LAMONT RECREATION CENTRE April 25, 1977	1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
VEGREVILLE CENTENNIAL BUILDING 5125 - 49 Ave. Vegreville April 26, 1977	1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
TOFIELD ICE ARENA April 27, 1977	1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
FORT SASKATCHEWAN LEGION HALL 9964 - 93 Ave. Fort Sask. April 28, 1977	1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
NATURE CENTRE - FORT EDMONTON PARK S.W. OF QUESNELL BRIDGE, Edm. April 29, 1977	1:00 P.M. - 9:00 P.M.
April 30, 1977	11:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

CONTENTS

I	THE PLANNING PROCESS	
	1.1 Introduction	1
	1.2 Natural Resources	1
	1.3 Cultural History	1
	1.4 Interpretive Analysis	1
	1.5 Visitor Use	1
	1.6 Regional Setting	1
II	PUBLIC PARTICIPATION	
	2.1 Introduction	1
	2.2 Stage I	1
	2.3 Stage II	5
	2.4 Stage III	5
III	PLAN PROPOSALS	
	3.1 Introduction	6
	3.2 Park Theme	6
	3.3 Park Objectives	6
	3.4 Park Zoning Plan	8
	3.5 Park Land Use Plan	16

I THE PLANNING PROCESS

1.1 INTRODUCTION

The planning process consists of three stages namely:

- i the Inventory - i.e. information gathering.
- ii the Analysis - i.e. consideration of the inventory material from the point of view of resource preservation visitor use, interpretation etc.
- iii the Synthesis - i.e. the combination of inventory and analysis material and the development of plan proposals.

The planning process for Elk Island is now in the Synthesis stage. The inventory and analysis stages are summarized below.

1.2 NATURAL RESOURCES

The natural resource inventory was compiled using a variety of sources including:

- i records compiled by park staff
- ii inventories and research conducted by consultants
- iii general knowledge acquired through extensive fieldwork by Parks Canada and Canadian Wildlife personnel and other researchers.

The material is presented in three documents entitled:

- i Elk Island National Park
Natural Resources Workshop - Background Paper
- ii Elk Island National Park
Preliminary Resource Inventory and Analysis Atlas
- iii Elk Island National Park
Natural Resources Workshop - Proceedings

At the above mentioned workshop the natural resources of the Park as identified in the inventory were analysed in terms of three attributes namely:

- Rarity - on a park, a regional, or a national basis
- Representativeness - high representativeness in the context of the Park or region
- Tolerance - in terms of various levels of visitor use

Detailed results of the Analysis are contained in the "Proceedings" of the workshop and in the "Atlas".¹

1.3 CULTURAL HISTORY

As part of the planning process a Cultural History of the Park was prepared under contract. The document covers several facets of the Park's history. Following a regional description, occupance and use of the area by native people is described and the first reduction in wildlife species discussed. The preservation of one of these species, the bison, and its return to the Beaverhills in 1907 is examined in Chapter Four. The comparatively rapid settlement of the Beaverhills area in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries and its implications for landscape are described in Chapter Five. The next two chapters provide a detailed description of the conservation movement and what this meant for portions of the study area. The second of these chapters provides a detailed account of the land use history of Elk Island National Park to about 1970. A brief concluding chapter and appendices complete the study.

1.4 INTERPRETIVE ANALYSIS

Based on consideration of the natural and cultural resources of the Park, a series of potential Interpretive themes and storylines were outlined in a report entitled "Interpretive Analysis". Each such theme or storyline was then identified as an individual Interpretive Management Unit and potential locations throughout the Park for "off site" or "on site" interpretation were mapped. A "receiver analysis", which involved a review of visitor use data, was also conducted to develop "visitor profiles". These three basic inputs i.e., "Unit Identification", "Location Analysis" and "Receiver Analysis" will be used, after completion of the Master Plan, in the development of media plans for each unit. A media plan details the way in which the theme or storyline for a specific unit will be communicated to the park visitor.

1.5 VISITOR USE and FACILITIES

An inventory of visitor facilities in the Park was developed along with a compilation of all available visitor use data. The latter was obtained from two basic sources.

- a statistics maintained on a regular basis as part of the operation of the Park
- b a number of special studies covering such features as visitor characteristics and traffic surveys.

The resulting material was analyzed and a number of conclusions concerning existing visitor use of the Park were arrived at as were a number of proposed objectives for future visitor use and facilities. Arising from the latter, specific studies were conducted covering:

- a trail potentials
- b boating potentials
- c site (day use, picnicking, camping) potentials.

The results of the inventory and analysis of existing visitor facilities and use and the recreational potential studies can be found in the document entitled "Elk Island National Park - Visitor Facilities, Visitor Use and Related Resource Capabilities."

¹ These and other resource documents prepared as part of the planning process, are available for reference at the locations identified in Appendix A

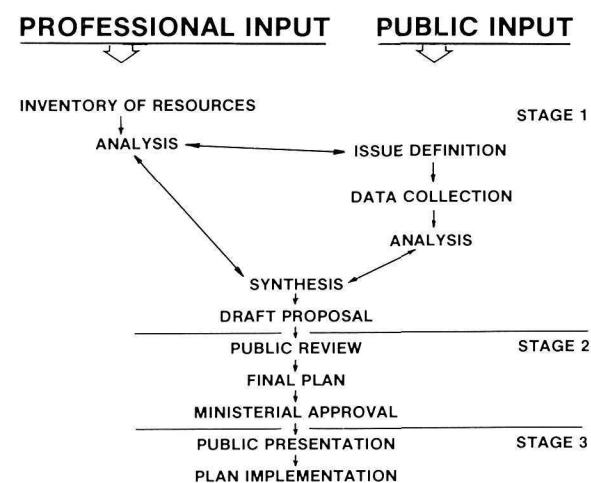
1.6 REGIONAL SETTING

A National Park is not an entity unto itself. It affects and is affected by the region surrounding it. Any master planning process must therefore include an analysis of the region around the park in question. The results of this exercise for Elk Island are contained in Part 1 of the report entitled "Elk Island National Park - Visitor Facilities, Visitor Use and Related Resource Capabilities." This analysis included information on the natural history, population and land use of the region with specific emphasis on circulation and recreation.

II PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

2.1 INTRODUCTION

To reflect the increased public interest and involvement in the planning of National Parks, a public participation program was incorporated into the development of the master plan for Elk Island. Following the collection and analysis of the inventory of the Park's resources and uses, a three stage program as illustrated below was initiated in the latter part of 1975.



2.2 STAGE I

The first stage of this program was designed to:

- i inform the public that a master plan for the Park was being developed;
- ii provide the public with an opportunity to examine the technical information that had been compiled on the park resources and uses;
- iii identify the public's ideas, comments and concerns with regard to the future use and development of the Park.

To accomplish this, initial contact was made through a number of public meetings arranged by interested groups and organizations during March and April of 1976. Parks Canada representatives participated in these meetings by presenting a synopsis of the planning process, the public participation program and several issues that the planning team felt would be of interest or concern to the public.

To expand on this introduction, an information brochure was compiled and distributed to all who expressed an interest in learning more about the plan or making a contribution to the process. This brochure contained a summary of the planning and public participation process, a regional and natural history of the area, a theme, a set of proposed park objectives and eleven issues identified by the planning team.

To supplement the meetings and the information brochure, the six background documents containing resource and interpretive inventories, maps, land use patterns and visitor use statistics were distributed to a number of publicly accessible locations (e.g. libraries and schools) in Edmonton and communities in the vicinity of the Park. (See appendix A).

In addition, a display containing maps and the six background documents was set up in the Park information office located in the main recreation area during the summer months (1976) to encourage input from the travelling vacationer. A slide presentation and talk describing the program and encouraging public input was developed by the Park's Interpretive Section with the aim of generating further interest. This presentation was included in the regular schedule of programs provided for the summer visitor.

By the end of the first stage, over 1600 information brochures had been distributed and over 700 people had attended the public meetings.

The comments provided by the public as a result of this first stage of the public participation program were utilized by the planning team in conjunction with the technical data in the development of the planning proposals outlined in this document. The following table summarizes the main comments put forward by the public. It also indicates whether or not they have been incorporated into the planning proposals.

SUMMARY OF PUBLIC INPUT — STAGE I

Public Comments	Incorporated in Proposals			Remarks
	Yes	No	Under Consideration	
RESOURCE MANAGEMENT				
Vegetation				
Allow the natural processes of successional change to operate unhindered by man-caused interferences.			X	Management decisions must be based on more research e.g. studies into historical vegetation patterns are required to determine the character of the vegetation under more natural conditions.
To ensure, through management action that the diversity of vegetation types is not reduced.			X	Diversity of vegetation types is seen as a positive feature of the Park by many people.
Manage the vegetation to ensure an adequate food supply for the large animals.		X		Management is based on reflecting natural conditions. In nature, food supply controls the wildlife population.
Remove deadfall and plant new trees in some areas.		X		The death and decomposition of trees and other forms of biological life are a normal part of natural conditions.
Employ controlled burning to manage the vegetation.			X	
Introduce new plants - e.g. landscaping with flowering plants.		X		It is against policy to introduce exotics.
Large Mammals				
Allow herd populations to fluctuate naturally.			X	Because of factors such as the boundary fence and lack of predators it is difficult to recreate truly natural conditions. In addition theories related to self regulation of wildlife populations are extremely tenuous at this time. More information is required.
Maintain herd populations slightly below range carrying capacity.	X			Favoured by bulk of respondents.
Maintain herd populations well below range carrying capacity.		X		Reduces safety margin for survival of various species in Park and involves excessive levels of management interference.
Relocate excess animals to other areas.	X			This is the present policy where arrangements can be finalized.
Provide feed for the animals during severe winters.		X		Winter mortality is a recognized natural population control mechanism.
Introduce large predators to control herd populations.		X		Impossible because of conflicts with land use around Park.
Do more research to determine the best management option.	X			
Increase the variety of large animals e.g. move animals from Alberta Game Farm to Elk Island National Park.		X		Against Park's Policy to introduce exotic species.
Retain/remove the bison paddock.			X	Public comment is requested on this issue. (see section 3.4.2.1.)
Develop paddock facilities for other large mammals.		X		This represents an unnatural condition and is contrary to Park's Policy.
Allow public hunting to control herd levels.		X		Too difficult to manage population structures using this method.
Make the animals more accessible.	X			Through improved trail access to remote sections of the Park.
Maintain herd levels by slaughtering old and diseased animals.	X			Where relocation is not possible or practical.
Surplus bison should be sold to ranching concerns.	X			Present policy.
Beaver Management				
Allow beaver populations to fluctuate as nature dictates.	X			Except in a limited number of specified locations.
Maintain beaver population at a low level by periodic reductions.		X		An unnatural approach which could reduce positive contribution to natural conditions made by beaver.
Remove excess beaver by live trapping and relocation to other areas.			X	This would be considered should there be a request for beaver.
Allow licenced trapping by professional trappers to control beaver population.		X		Game management is the responsibility of the Warden Service.
Purchase the private land that is being flooded by beaver activity.		X		
VISITOR CIRCULATION				
Roads and Gateways				
Retain West access road.	X			The majority of the respondents favoured removal of the road and relocation of the administrative facilities. It is estimated however that the cost of relocating the administrative facilities will exceed \$1.5 million. The facilities should therefore remain in their present location. The West access road will be relocated away from the shoreline of Astotin Lake and will be reconstructed to function primarily as an access road for the administrative facilities.
Remove West access road.		X		
Relocate administrative facilities (compound and headquarters building)		X		
Retain administrative facilities in the Park.	X			
Close West gate	X			Demand does not warrant continued operation of the gateway. Phasing out is recommended by April 1, 1978.
Retain West gate		X		
Hiking Trails				
Construct a limited number of short, high density use walking trails in key areas.	X			Such trails will be provided adjacent to Astotin Lake.

Public Comments	Incorporated in Proposals			Remarks
	Yes	No	Under Consideration	
Construct a mix of high density trails and longer low density use walking trails to more remote areas of the Park.	X			Preferred by majority of respondents.
Maintain the present system of trails.	X			
Build primitive bridges to the islands.			X	Only supervised use of the islands will be permitted because of their special nature.
Construct hiking trails that can be used for snowshoeing and crosscountry skiing in the winter.	X			
Provide garbage and picnic facilities along the trails.		X		Such facilities will be provided on high density trails and at trailheads for low density trails.
Construct separate trails for large groups, small groups and handicapped people.	X			Proposed mix of trail types will provide varying opportunities.
Develop all weather surfaced and well developed trails with adequate parking at the trail head.	X			Some of the proposed trails will fall in this category.
Provide a trail link-up with the Waskahegan trail system.	X			
Construct a floating gangway over the narrows between the Tawayik Lakes.		X		Area is extremely delicate during summer months. Structure is not needed in winter.
Develop a system of overnight trails with primitive campsites, fire pits, etc.		X		Demand is apparently very limited and the concept was questioned on account of the limited size of the Park.
Bicycle Trails				
Restrict bicycles to existing public roads.	X			Majority of respondents favoured this restriction
Develop bicycle trails beside or slightly removed from existing roadways and in high use areas.		X		} Demand is very limited and does not justify cost of major facility development.
Develop old or abandoned roadways for bicycle trails.		X		
Develop bicycle only road from West gate to campground.		X		
Make bicycling safer by: -widening road shoulders in dangerous sections -restricting the speed of automobile traffic			X	
Develop trails for motor bikes.		X		Against Park Policy.
Allow bicycles on hiking trails.		X		Would cause conflicts with hikers and wildlife.
Lake Access				
Continue to restrict small boats to specified areas of Astotin Lake.	X			
Open up additional water bodies to small boat use under strictly controlled conditions.	X			
Eliminate boating from the Park.		X		Boating can be a high quality method of experiencing the Park environment.
Allow small boats on only Astotin and Tawayik Lakes.		X		There are other water bodies with high boating capability.
Allow unrestricted boating in the Park.		X		
Allow canoeing on all the lakes but do not provide easy access.		X		
Develop service roads, docking facilities and parking for easier access to the lakes.		X		Facilities are not required for boating levels proposed.
RECREATION AND VISITOR FACILITIES				
Campgrounds				
Phase out camping in Elk Island National Park.		X		Identified by majority of respondents as important to their park visit.
Replace the present campground with one of 80 - 100 sites in a different location.	X			
Maintain the present campground.		X		The present facility is old and rundown.
Develop a park operated campground outside the Park.		X		Cost and control problems would be encountered.
Encourage the development of provincial or private campgrounds outside the Park.			X	The role of Parks Canada can only be a passive one.
Use part of the golf course as a new site for campground.		X		
Implement a reservation system for use of the campground.			X	This possibility is reviewed periodically in the context of all National Parks.
Convert existing group camping area into a walk-in camping site.		X		Facility is to be replaced since present location is in a key wildlife area.

Public Comments	Incorporated in Proposals			Remarks
	Yes	No	Under Consideration	
Develop several small low density campsites along main road.		X		Economically unacceptable.
Develop campground to accommodate large mobile units.	X			Universal sites will be provided to accommodate all types of camper: on-site utilities will not be provided.
Restrict length of stay at campground.	X			Already restricted.
Leave campground near main recreation area.	X			
Provide an area for group camping.	X			
Develop the campground for tenting only.		X		Too restrictive.
Power Boating				
Continue present controlled use of Astotin Lake by powerboats.		X		
Phase out power boat use in Elk Island National Park.	X			Recommended by majority of respondents because of noise and impact on resources. (Implementation proposed for April 1, 1978)
Impose strict speed controls for power boats (max. 35 m.p.h.)		X		
Restrict motor size to 10 h.p.		X		
Install better docking and launching facilities.		X		
Continue present controlled use, but eventually eliminate power boat use from the Park.		X		Elimination proposed by April 1, 1978.
Golf Course				
Retain present 9 hole golf course, replace clubhouse and upgrade parking.	X			Recommended by majority of respondents.
Phase out course and allow area to revert to a natural state.		X		
Retain golf course but do not upgrade facilities.		X		Not practical; clubhouse is in poor condition and there are severe parking problems.
Extend golf course to 18 holes.		X		Against Park's Policy.
Phase out golf course and use land for new campground.		X		
Increase green fees to pay for improvements to facilities.			X	Policy indicates that fees should be in line with local fee structures.
Continue maintenance of golf course but gradually phase out as use declines.			X	
Build a clubhouse that can be used for winter activities.		X		Need is questionable.
Allow a golfing club to be formed.		X		This course is run as a public facility. No special privileges can be granted.
<i>Encourage development of a golf course outside the Park.</i>			X	<i>The role of Parks Canada can only be a passive one.</i>
Other Concerns				
Enlarge picnic facilities at North end of Tawayik Lake.			X	Limited expansion may be possible.
Enlarge parking facilities at on-site exhibits.			X	
Replace private cabins, bandshell, baseball diamond.		X		Against Park's Policy - not appropriate National Park facilities.
Clean up lake and beach area to provide better swimming.		X		The beach will be maintained but no interference with natural condition of the lake will occur.
Build a swimming pool in the Park.		X		
Develop the South end of the Park.	X			This is dependent on relocating part or all of the Wood Bison herd.
Control use of the Park as a meeting place for large groups.			X	Should the problem become severe.
Provide a store for camping supplies.	X			Limited facilities will continue to be provided at the concession in the day use area.
Provide a car service station at the recreation area.		X		Should be provided by private enterprise in locations adjacent to Park.
Build a restaurant in the main recreation area.		X		Existing take-out services will be upgraded.
Build washroom facilities closer to the campground.			X	Will be considered in design of new campground.
Improve playground facilities.			X	Will be considered in the redevelopment of day use area.
Provide rental facilities for canoes, bicycles, etc.		X		Facilities for bicycles will be limited.
Build a newer and larger youth hostel.		X		Demand does not justify.
Expand the interpretive program.	X			A key element in the Plan proposals.

Public Comments	Incorporated in Proposals			Remarks
	Yes	No	Under Consideration	
Develop visitor centre at South gate	X			An information centre will be constructed at the South gate.
Use federal funds to develop facilities outside the Park.		X		
Expand the Park into Blackfoot Grazing Reserve.		X		
Develop horse trails in the Park.		X		Problems of disease introduction.
Restock the lakes with fish.		X		Water conditions would not justify.
Improve drinking water supply.			X	
Relocate administrative facilities and staff housing out of the Park.			X	Administrative facilities will remain in the Park but the feasibility of relocating staff housing will be studied.
Remove all internal fencing.	X			Except for key management paddocks.
Allow snowmobiling in the Park.		X		Not compatible with heavy X-C ski use and dense wildlife populations.
Develop more cross country ski trails.		X		Access is already available to all major sections of Park. Further development may impinge on wildlife resource.
Develop a public transit system to the Park.		X		Beyond control of Parks Canada.
Limit automobile and truck traffic passing through the Park.		X		Difficult to apply such a restriction.
Reassess fee structure for admission to the Park.			X	Entrance fees to all National Parks are reviewed periodically.
Develop West side of Astotin Lake.	X			Old West access road adjacent to Astotin Lake will become high density hiking trail.
Co-ordinate regional recreation needs with the provincial government.	X			

2.3 STAGE II

The second stage of the public participation program is designed to:

- i present to the public the draft proposals for a master plan that have been developed by the Parks Canada planning team.
- ii provide the public with an opportunity to examine all the information that was used to develop the proposals.
- iii promote further public comments, inquiries and ideas relating to the master plan for Elk Island National Park prior to producing a final document.

The format for this second stage of the public participation program includes preparation and distribution of this document and a series of open house meetings to be held in the vicinity of Elk Island National Park. These meetings, scheduled for the end of April 1977 are designed to present to the public the proposals that have been developed for the Park. All the background resource information will be included in the display along with the resource, land use and zoning maps that have been developed during the synthesis stage. This informal atmosphere will allow the Parks Canada representatives an opportunity to discuss on an individual basis any inquiries that arise. Stage II gives the public another opportunity to express their views on the proposals for the master plan. With this point in mind, the public is strongly urged to make their comments known in writing by May 31st so that they may be considered before the final draft of the master plan is drawn up for presentation to Senior Management.

2.4 STAGE III

Following the drafting of the final master plan document, it will be presented for Parks Canada management approval. Stage III of the public participation program will involve a final public presentation of the completed master plan document for Elk Island National Park. Although the formal public participation program for the development of the master plan will end with this final presentation, a follow up program will be developed to keep the public informed of and involved in changes to the master plan as changes in park use, management techniques or the discovery of new resource information take place.

III PLAN PROPOSALS

3.1 INTRODUCTION

Section IV of the National Parks Act states that the National Parks are "dedicated to the people of Canada for their benefit, education and enjoyment ... and shall be maintained and made use of so as to leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations."

The mandate is therefore twofold - to preserve the Park's resources and to provide appropriate opportunities for public appreciation and experience of them.

With this mandate in mind, the planning team has integrated the material obtained from:

- i the inventory and analysis stages of the planning process.
 - ii the first stage of the public participation program.
- and has developed the following plan proposals.

3.2 THE PARK THEME

It is proposed that "The Island Anomaly"

be adopted as the theme for Elk Island National Park. The term "Island" is defined in Webster's Dictionary as: "something resembling an island by its isolated surrounded or sequestered position; as (1) an elevated piece of land surrounded by swamp or alluvial land (or) (2) a piece of woodland surrounded by flat open country."

An "Anomaly" is defined in the same dictionary as "the state or fact of being out of place, out of tune or out of normal or expected position ...b. biol., a deviation in excess of normal variation from the form characteristic of a natural group (or) c. geol., a local departure from the general regional conditions..."

In the context of Elk Island this combination of terms is designed to reflect the significance of the Park in the Canadian National Park System. This significance arises from the fact that Elk Island is a 75 square mile representation of the Alberta Plains which is a sub-unit of the vast Interior Plains Physiographic Region.¹ Although Prince Albert, Riding Mountain, and a small portion of Wood Buffalo National Parks are also in this major physiographic region, none lie within the Alberta Plains sub-unit.² Of greater importance however, is the fact that the Land Ecosystem theme represented in Elk Island National Park is the Mixedwood Forest sub-unit of the Boreal Forest, similar to that of Prince Albert and Riding Mountain National Parks. However, in contrast to the above parks, Elk Island, because it is surrounded by Aspen Grove, another Land Ecosystem sub-unit, becomes a vegetation "island" or anomaly that contrasts considerably with its environs. This occurrence is unique to the National Park System, and constitutes one of two such plant community "islands" in Canada.

The theme also has relevance in the regional context in that it is intended to reflect a number of differences between the Cooking Lake Moraine/Beaverhills area as exemplified by Elk Island and the surrounding region. These include:

- i the difference of approximately 200' between the elevation of the Park/Beaverhills and the surrounding area.
- ii probable microclimatic differences
- iii predominantly luvisolic (grey wooded) soils in the Park compared to chernozemic (black) or solonchic (alkaline) soils in the surrounding areas.
- iv the mixed wood climax vegetation as compared to the aspen grove situation in the surrounding area.
- v the large size and high density of the wildlife population in the Park compared to the diminishing wildlife resource in the region.
- vi the relatively natural and undisturbed landscape within the Park as compared to the developed cultural landscape(s) of the surrounding area.
- vii the historical role of the Park as a wildlife preserve and National Park.

Normally a theme is supposed to express the key feature of the park, which is generally related to the role of the park in the National System, in a brief and self explanatory fashion. The fact that the role of Elk Island is related to an exceptional situation, rather than a representative one, makes an explanation of the significance of the Park a complex proposition. For this reason the "Island Anomaly" theme was chosen not only because it reflects the exceptional value of Elk Island but also in the hope that as a result of its structure it will arouse the curiosity of the actual or potential visitor to the Park.

3.3 THE PARK OBJECTIVES

The following four objectives are proposed for the overall planning and management of the Park.

- To preserve the natural features and processes occurring in the Park.
- To manage the natural features and processes only where such management is necessary in order to compensate for man-induced changes, or to protect man made facilities.

1 Source - Canadian National Parks System Planning Manual

2 It should be noted that if negotiations are successful with Saskatchewan, the Val Marie area would also represent this physiographic sub-unit

- To provide an integrated communications program which will present to the public.
 - i the natural features and processes occurring in the Park.
 - ii the human activities which had or were taking place in the Park or the surrounding areas and the impact of these activities.
 - iii the management programs necessary to compensate for these activities.
 - iv recreational opportunities available in the Park, and,
 - v limitations governing use of the Park related to public safety and resource protection.
- To provide opportunities for participation in outdoor recreational activities where such opportunities are compatible with the preservation of the Park.

From these overall objectives combined with the results of the inventory and analysis stages, subobjectives were developed for the specific programs related to Natural Resources, Visitor Use, Communications, Maintenance and Administration. The proposed subobjectives are summarized below.

3.3.1 Natural Resources Subobjectives

Subobjectives were developed on the basis of resource base components as follows:

FOR PHYSIOGRAPHIC RESOURCES

- To protect to the greatest extent possible the hummocky morainic land form of the Park, and especially those features or areas identified during the resource analysis as being highly representative or rare.
- To conduct research to identify the surficial deposits and landform features present in the Park.

FOR AQUATIC RESOURCES

- To protect, to the greatest extent possible the many rare and representative features identified in the analysis.
- To protect and preserve the natural process of eutrophication and/or succession of open water bodies, streams, bogs, marshes, swamps and fens.
- To prepare and conduct a comprehensive aquatic resource inventory program in order to determine:
 - i the extent and patterns of aquatic resources.
 - ii successional trends
 - iii interrelationships with dryland areas.

SOILS

- To protect the sand deposits and soapholes (rare features identified in the analysis) against degradation.
- To analyse the soils before any development occurs on a specific site in order that their suitability for development can be determined.
- To conduct a complete soils inventory of the Park to at least the land-type level of detail.

FOR FLORA

- To protect against artificial change the representative examples of vegetative community types and the area supporting rare plants or vegetative associations, identified in the analysis.
- To allow natural processes of successional change including natural modifiers such as fire to operate unhindered by man-caused interferences wherever possible subject to the special requirements of the following three subobjectives.
- To ensure, through management action where necessary, that the diversity of vegetation types is not reduced, either through man-made interference, or through succession.
- To allow the actual pattern or mosaic of vegetation types to vary extensively in space and time. Only when any one vegetative type is in danger of disappearing should preventative action be taken.
- To conduct research into the historical vegetation patterns in the Beaverhills area. This study should attempt to identify the historical role of fire, climate, grazing and browsing to aid park resource managers in deciding what actions may be necessary to compensate for man's influence on or interference with these natural environmental modifiers.

FOR AVI-FAUNA (BIRDLIFE)

- To conduct a detailed inventory of land oriented avi-fauna in the Park and to augment the existing inventory of water oriented avi-fauna.
- To conduct research to determine effects of various types of human activity on birds during different seasons.
- To protect habitats of the rare birds identified in the analysis.
- To protect key areas from disturbance during waterbird's nesting, moulting, and migration times, notably the following:
 - The Northwest end of Astotin Lake - through open water season.
 - Long Lake - through open water season.
 - Walter Lake - through open water season.

1 Refer to the "Natural Resources Workshop - Proceedings" and the "Preliminary Resource Inventory & Analysis Atlas" for details of Rare and Representative Values

- Tawayik Lake - early May to mid - August
- Goose Lake - early May to mid - July
- Moss Lake - through open water season
- Long Lake - mid - July to mid - August
- Astotin Lake - during migration staging

For water birds, nesting time is from early May to mid-July, moulting is from mid-July to mid-August, migration is from late August until freeze up.

FOR HERPETO-FAUNA (REPTILES and AMPHIBIANS) and INSECTS

- To conduct a detailed inventory of herpeto-fauna and insects found in the Park.

FOR MAMMALS

- To maintain large mammal populations at a level slightly below the carrying capacity of the range through herd reduction or transplant programs: population levels for each species are to be based on the availability of graze and browse, food preference and consumption, territoriality and interspecies behavior.
- To minimize handling and harrasement of large ungulates within the constraints imposed by the need to meet requirements of the Health of Animals Act.
- To determine the cause for the decline in the mule deer population
- To conduct research to determine factors of importance for the survival of the rare mammals.
- To determine the feasibility of re-introducing mammals which may have disappeared or been excluded from the Park with the exception of large predators.
- To make no attempt to impede any natural increase of predators (in terms of visiting or returning species).
- To allow beaver populations to increase or decrease as nature dictates except in designated areas where control is required to avoid flooding of:
 - visitor facility/developments with substantial capital investment
 - land adjacent to the Park
 - prime wood bison range as long as the present herd remains intact within the Park

MISCELLANEOUS

- To develop and implement a system for monitoring all components of the resource base in an integrated, consistent and continuous fashion.
- To carry out impact assessments, covering both natural and historico-cultural resources prior to the development of any major new facility
- To maintain liaison with provincial, regional and municipal authorities concerning protection of Elk Island National Park from incompatible land uses in areas adjoining the Park.

3.3.2 Visitor Use Subobjectives

- To provide those facilities regarded as essential requirements for desired visitor exposure to park values.
- To concentrate on the provision of opportunities for activities which stress the natural environment, rely on the natural environment for user satisfaction, or are participated in as a medium through which to appreciate the natural environment.
- To concentrate on provision for activities which do not involve damage to park values.
- To concentrate on opportunities which require minimal facilities or facilities, construction and use of which do not involve damage to park values.
- To provide opportunities for visitor use throughout the year. To distribute use more evenly throughout the Park.
- To provide an integrated circulation system which optimizes access to park features, minimizes intrusion by physical facilities and provides for a range of travel modes.
- To ensure that the Park is attractive to Canadians as an example of the Alberta Plains and the heritage of the Cooking Lake Moraine/Beaverhills area, and is useable by them.
- To provide opportunities for use by the population of the greater Edmonton region consistent with -
 - constraints imposed by the National Parks Act, National Parks Policy and natural resource protection considerations.
 - general and recreational land use planning for that region.

3.3.3 Communications Subobjectives

The total communication program proposed for the Park is broken down into five levels as shown in the table below:

Communication Level	Audience
1: Awareness-Extension	Canadian public and potential visitor outside Park
2: Orientation-Information	Visitor primarily upon arrival at Park.
3: Presentation	Visitor in Park wishing to enhance understanding and appreciation of Park's resources through structured media programs.
4: Participation-Experience	Visitor in Park wishing to enhance understanding and appreciation of Park's resources through participation in unstructured activities.
5: Feedback-Dialogue	Visitor reaction during and after visit.

The specific subobjectives for each level are:

FOR AWARENESS-EXTENSION

- To promote an awareness of the existence, nature and purpose of Elk Island National Park to the Canadian public.
- To provide potential visitors with an appreciation of the activity opportunities available in Elk Island National Park and the various ways in which they may derive optimum benefit from a visit to the Park.

ORIENTATION - INFORMATION

- To satisfy visitor requests for information.
- To inform park visitors of the nature and purpose of Elk Island National Park.
- To orient park visitors to the facilities, activities and limitations affecting their visit.
- To motivate park visitors to visit facilities, attend programs and participate in activities that fall within their area and level of interest.

FOR PRESENTATION

- To provide a creative public communications program which will:
 - interpret the physical and biological processes which characterize Elk Island National Park.
 - interpret the Park's historical and cultural heritage.
 - promote public understanding of the management objectives and programs of Elk Island National Park.

PARTICIPATION - EXPERIENCE

- To provide park visitors with the background information on local conditions they require to pursue specific park - related activities and interests safely and enjoyably. (e.g. bird watching, photography, boating, swimming, wildlife observation, etc.)
- To provide park visitors with selected opportunities to experience natural events and areas of the Park enjoyably and safely. (e.g. bird migrations, the soapholes, etc.)
- To provide the general public with opportunities to participate in selected public involvement programs. (e.g. litter clean-up campaigns, bird counts, etc.)

FEEDBACK - DIALOGUE

- To provide opportunities for the general public to respond in a meaningful way to their experience with Elk Island facilities, services and programs.
- To establish and maintain ongoing dialogue with the general public and associated interest groups on Park related events, policies and programs.
- To conduct public participation programs which will provide individuals, other government agencies, interested groups and industry with opportunities to participate in the planning for management and development of Elk Island National Park.

3.3.4 Maintenance Subobjectives

- To maintain man-made facilities within the Park to an optimum level, i.e. one which:
 - ensures an acceptable level of visitor satisfaction
 - minimizes damage to the environment
 - minimizes costs

3.3.5 Administrative Subobjectives

- To coordinate planning and management of the Park's financial resources.
- To coordinate the management of the Park's manpower resources including such elements as manpower planning, administration and personnel matters.
- To administer facilities oriented towards internal Park functions e.g.; staff housing and office accommodation.

3.4 PARK ZONING PLAN

3.4.1 Introduction

Zoning is a recognized planning tool which is utilized to organize and allocate land uses. The primary determinant of a Zoning Plan for a National Park is the distribution and character of the natural and historical resources of the park in question. The plan is developed in order to classify areas of the Park according to the degree of resource preservation and protection required and the type and intensity of visitor use desired.

The Canadian National Park Zoning System contains the following five zones:

ZONE I

Preservation; (provides the highest degree of protection) areas embodying features which are rare, unique, outstanding and/or endangered and which are susceptible to impairment.

ZONE II

Primitive; areas embodying high quality representations of park natural history themes and features capable of providing for a true wilderness or back country visitor experience requiring very limited facilities.

ZONE III

Natural environment/outdoor activity/buffer or transition; areas embodying high quality environments capable of providing for and supporting, with minimal resource impact, moderate levels of outdoor activity generally of a day use nature and requiring limited facility development.

ZONE IV

Recreation facilities; areas required for and capable of withstanding intensive visitor use for outdoor recreative activities requiring more substantial facilities.

ZONE V

Visitor services; areas required for and capable of withstanding development for park management and visitor support facilities.

The development of the zoning plan for Elk Island National Park was divided into two distinct stages as described below.

3.4.2 The Preliminary Zoning Plan

This zoning plan was based entirely on natural resource considerations. Preparation involved the following steps:

- i the contents of 12 representative value maps, 10 rarity value maps and 11 tolerance rating maps contained in the "Resource Atlas" were digitised so that they could be fed into a computer. A grid system with ¼" square cells each representing 6.4 acres was employed for this purpose.
- ii a map showing the total number of representative values occurring in each cell was produced (see Map 1)
- iii a map showing the total number of rarity values occurring in each cell was produced (Map 2)
- iv a map recording the lowest tolerance rating in each cell was produced (Map 3)
- v a map recording the lowest tolerance rating associated with a rarity value in any cell was produced (Map 4)
- vi using manual overlay techniques and the combinations of resource analysis criteria identified below each cell was assigned to a zone and Preliminary Zoning Plan (#1) was produced (Map 5)

PRELIMINARY ZONING PLAN (#1) - RESOURCE CRITERIA

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Zone 1 | - All no tolerance ratings
- All rarity values with low tolerance ratings |
| Zone 2 | - All rarity values with moderate tolerance ratings |
| Zone 3 | - All remaining low tolerance ratings
- All remaining rarity values
- All remaining representative ratings |
| Zone 4 & 5 | - All remaining areas |

Facilities compatible with low tolerance ratings included such developments as low density trails or canoe routes. Those compatible with moderate tolerance ratings included low density, limited capacity facilities such as rustic picnic areas and interpretive trails and exhibits. Facilities compatible with high tolerance ratings included such things as major day use areas, parking lots etc.

- vii Review of the Preliminary Zoning Plan (#1) revealed that strict adherence to the zoning constraints would severely limit development and use of the Park to the point that the Visitor Use subobjective's would be largely unattainable.
- viii On the basis of a modified combination of resource criteria shown below a second plan referred to as Preliminary Zoning Plan (#2) was produced. This plan shows Zone III areas divided into three subzones. (Map 6)

PRELIMINARY ZONING PLAN (#2) - RESOURCE CRITERIA

- | | |
|------------|--|
| Zone 1 | - All no tolerance ratings
- All rarity values with low tolerance ratings |
| Zone 2 | - All rarity values with moderate tolerance ratings |
| Zone 3-A | - All remaining low tolerance ratings
- All remaining rarity values |
| Zone 3-B | - All remaining moderate tolerance ratings |
| Zone 3-C | - All remaining representative values |
| Zone 4 & 5 | - All remaining areas |

The Preliminary Zoning Plan (#2) was subsequently used in the development of the land use plan for the Park. It's use was based on the principle that, wherever possible, larger facilities generally associated with relatively extensive physical impact should be located in areas identified as Zone IV or V. Where this was not possible the following types of facility, where essential, would be acceptable in Zone 3B or 3C-

Zone 3B: rustic picnic areas, interpretive trails and signs

Zone 3C: rustic picnic areas, interpretive trails and signs, campgrounds, activity areas, roads, major structures.

3.4.3 The Final Zoning Plan

In order to develop the final Park Zoning Plan it was actually necessary to first complete the proposed Land Use Plan. The procedure involved in preparing the Land Use Plan and the contents thereof are described in the following section. Finalization of the Zoning Plan was a matter of integrating the completed Land Use Plan with the Preliminary Zoning Plan (#1). The results of this procedure are displayed in Map 7.

The management criteria proposed for each zone in the case of Elk Island National Park are as follows:

ZONE I

Preservation:

Management is oriented towards provision of the highest degree of protection for features with no tolerance and rare features with limited tolerance. In certain cases the tolerance condition exists throughout the year. Use in such areas should be restricted to approved research and supervised interpretive visits. In other cases tolerance is a seasonal condition and visitor use at non-critical times of the year may be permitted. The maximum facility development permitted in any Zone 1 in Elk Island National Park is a low density trail.

ZONE II

Primitive:

Management objectives involve (i) provision of a high degree of protection for rare features with only moderate tolerance and (ii) preservation of natural conditions. Visits to such areas on foot are permitted but are not encouraged. No facilities should be provided.

ZONE III

Natural Environment/Outdoor Activity:

Management objectives involve (i) provision of protection for features that are rare, or highly representative, or have low tolerance to human use and development; (ii) preservation of natural conditions in their own right, (iii) preservation of a natural environment for selected visitor activities. The latter include low impact visitor uses such as day hiking, canoeing, cross country skiing, nature observation and photography. Permitted facilities are limited to rustic trails and directional signs.

ZONE IV

Recreation Facilities:

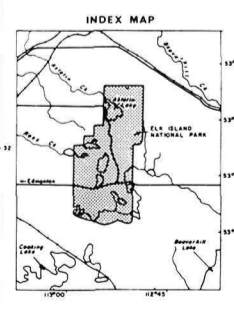
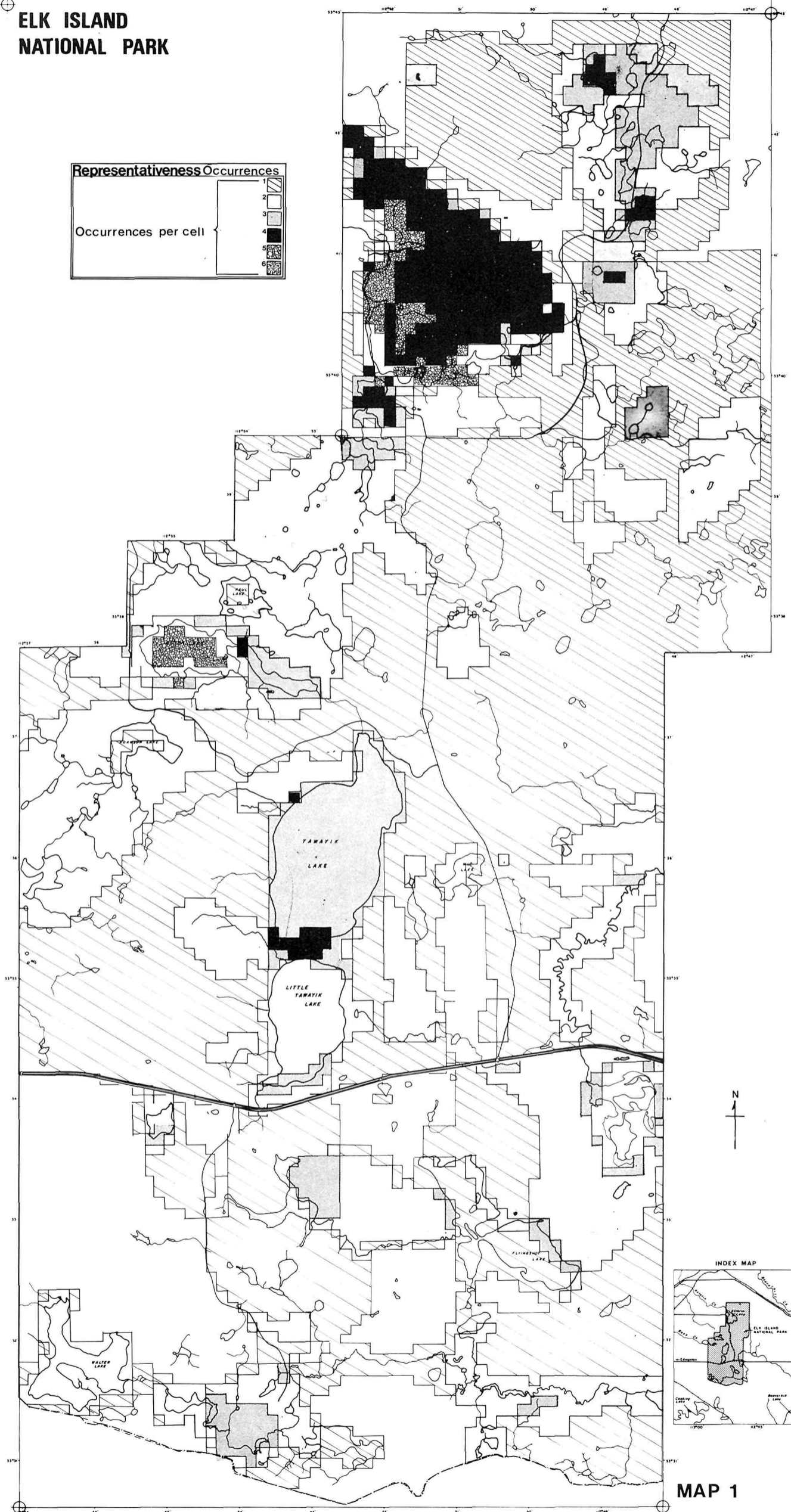
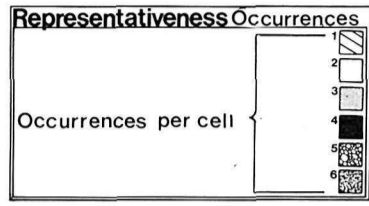
Management is oriented to preserving natural conditions to the greatest extent possible while providing opportunities for participation in park activities which involve moderate to intensive levels of visitation and/or facility development. Manipulation of the environment may be necessary to ensure aesthetic surroundings for visitor use. Permitted uses include walking, cross country skiing, picnicking, camping and swimming. Facility developments include high density trails (i.e. with prepared surfaces), activity areas, campgrounds, roads, interpretive structures and exhibits, gateways and information centres.

ZONE V

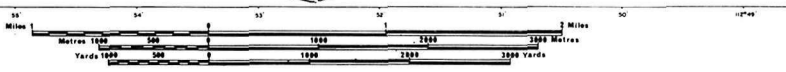
Visitor Services:

Management is oriented to minimizing the impact of essential facilities located in these zones on the more natural park areas adjacent to them. Facilities in Zone V should be of high quality and follow a consistent architectural motif in keeping with the natural scenic beauty of the Park. Facilities located in these areas will include the administration building, maintenance facilities and staff housing where necessary.

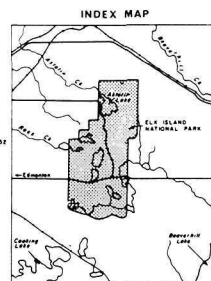
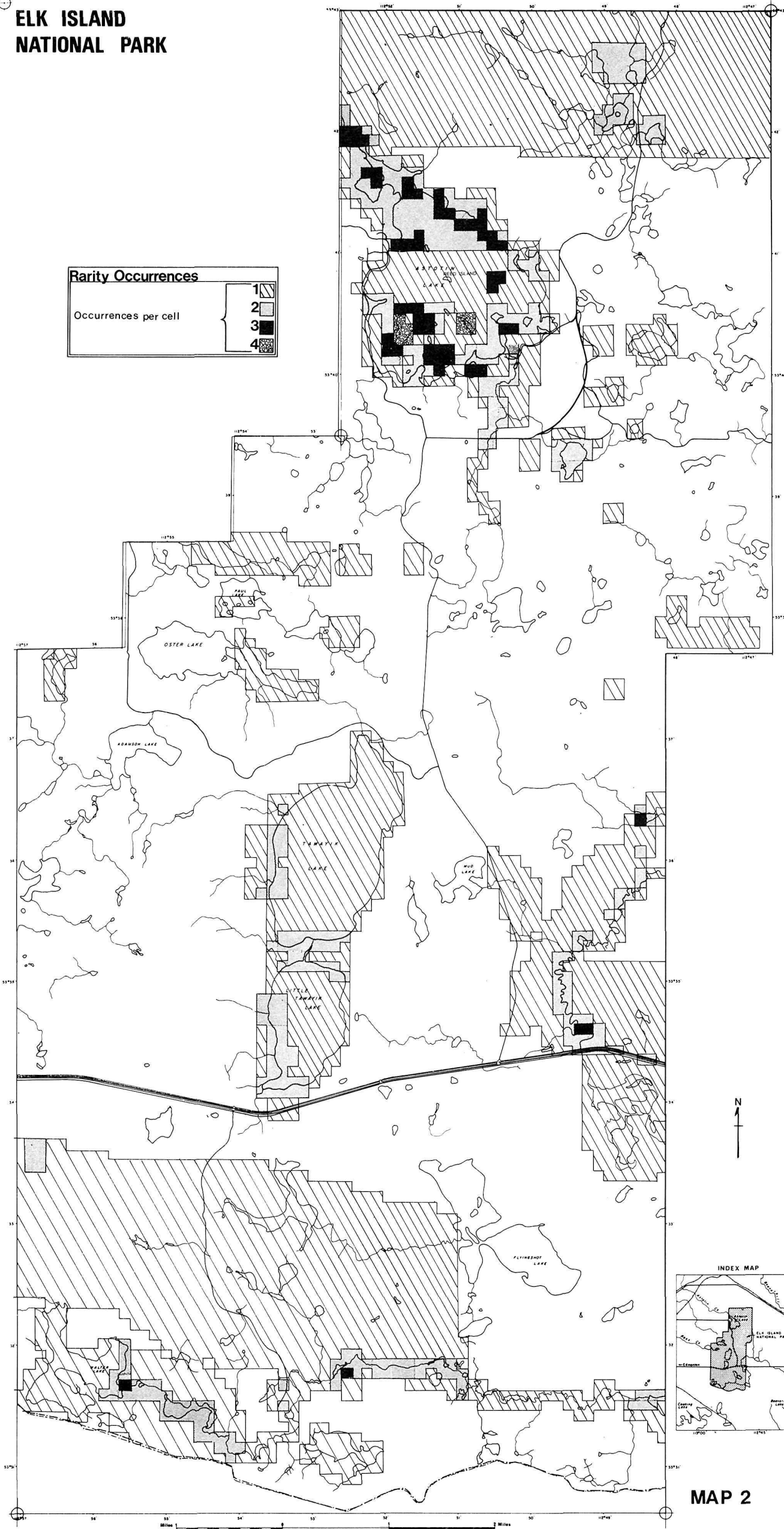
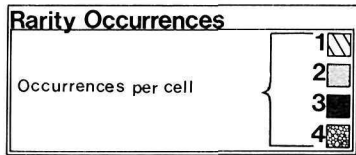
ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK



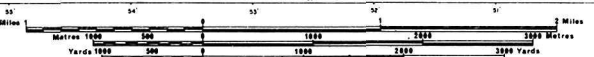
MAP 1



ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK



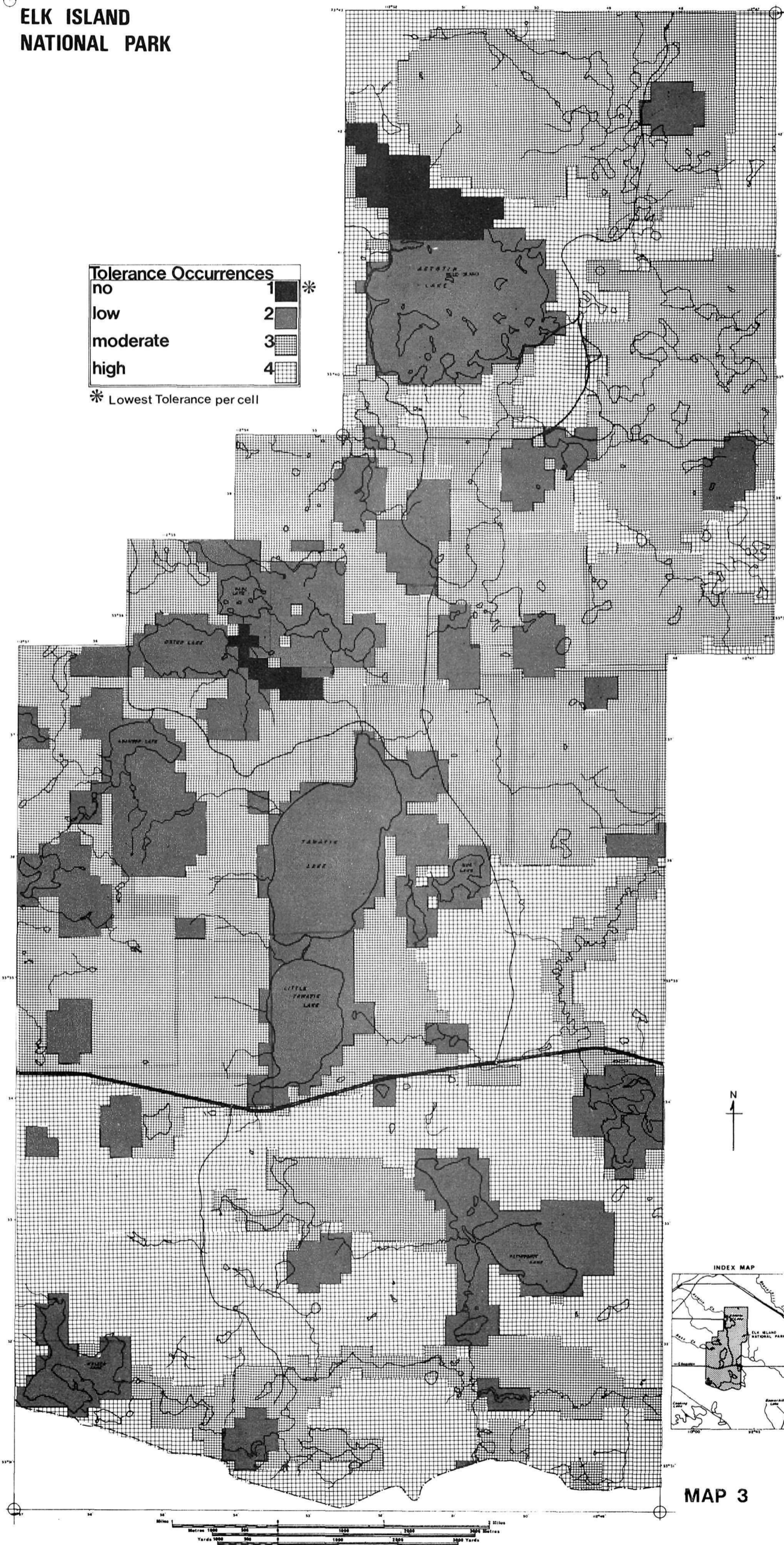
MAP 2



**ELK ISLAND
NATIONAL PARK**

Tolerance Occurrences	
no	1 *
low	2
moderate	3
high	4

* Lowest Tolerance per cell

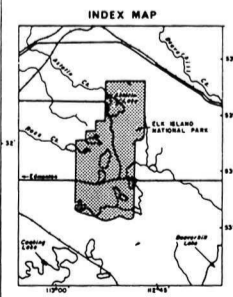
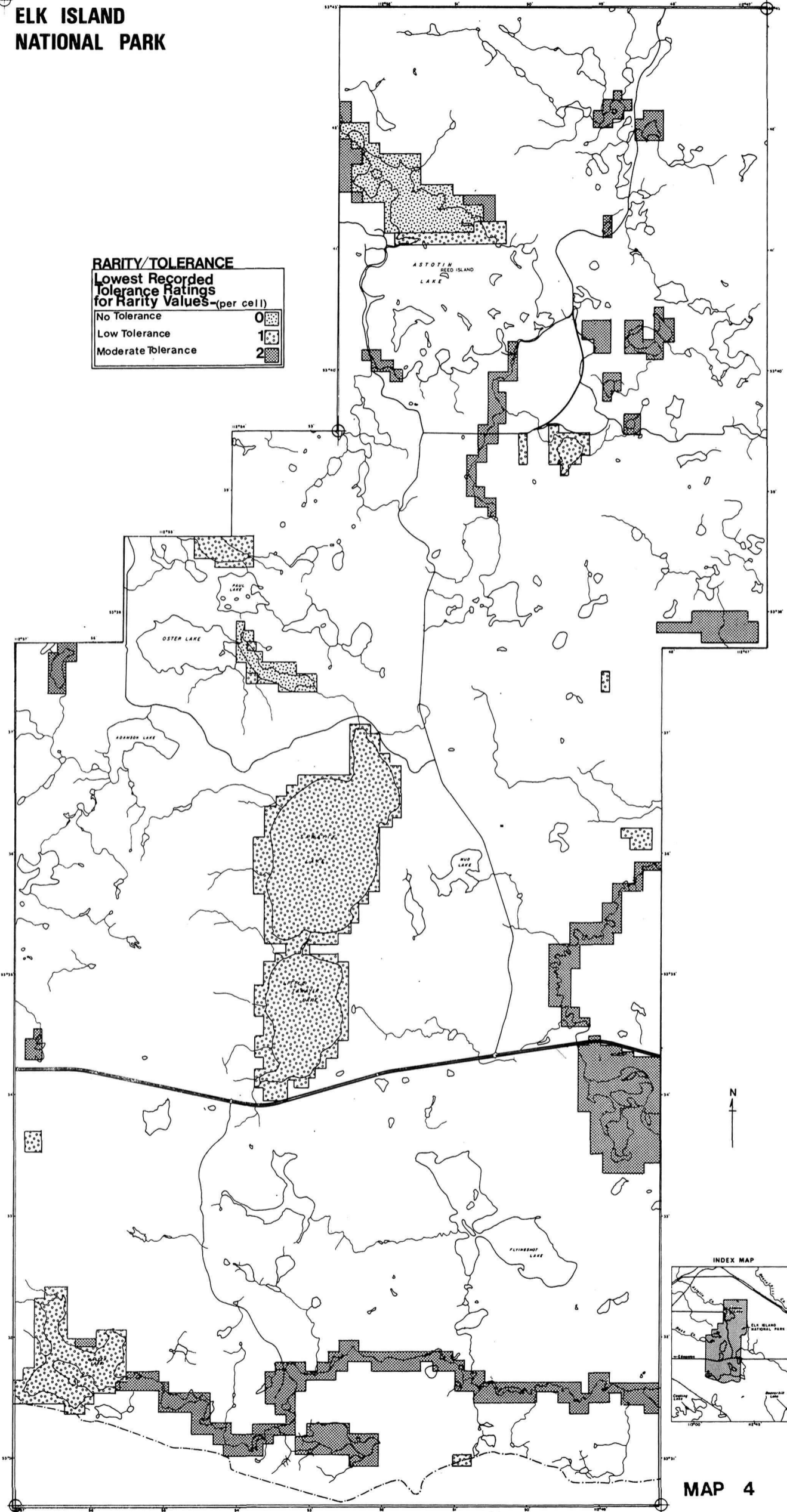


MAP 3

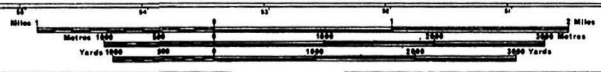
ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

RARITY/TOLERANCE
Lowest Recorded Tolerance Ratings for Rarity Values—(per cell)

No Tolerance	0
Low Tolerance	1
Moderate Tolerance	2



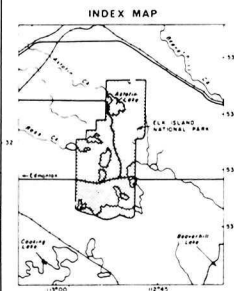
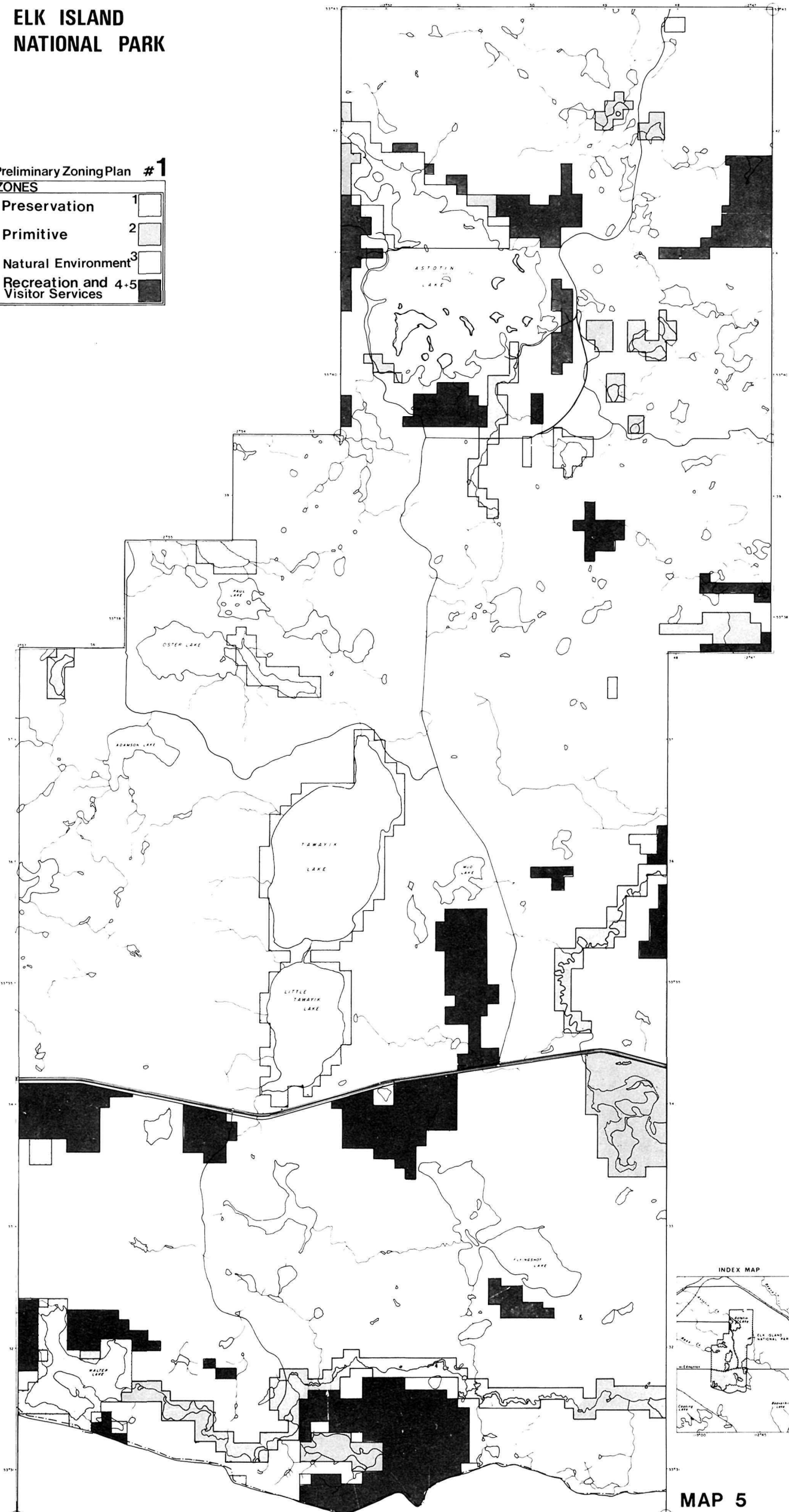
MAP 4



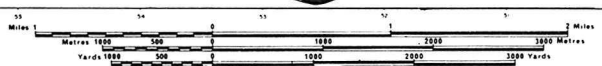
ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

Preliminary Zoning Plan #1

ZONES	
Preservation	1
Primitive	2
Natural Environment	3
Recreation and Visitor Services	4-5



MAP 5

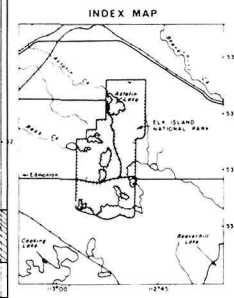
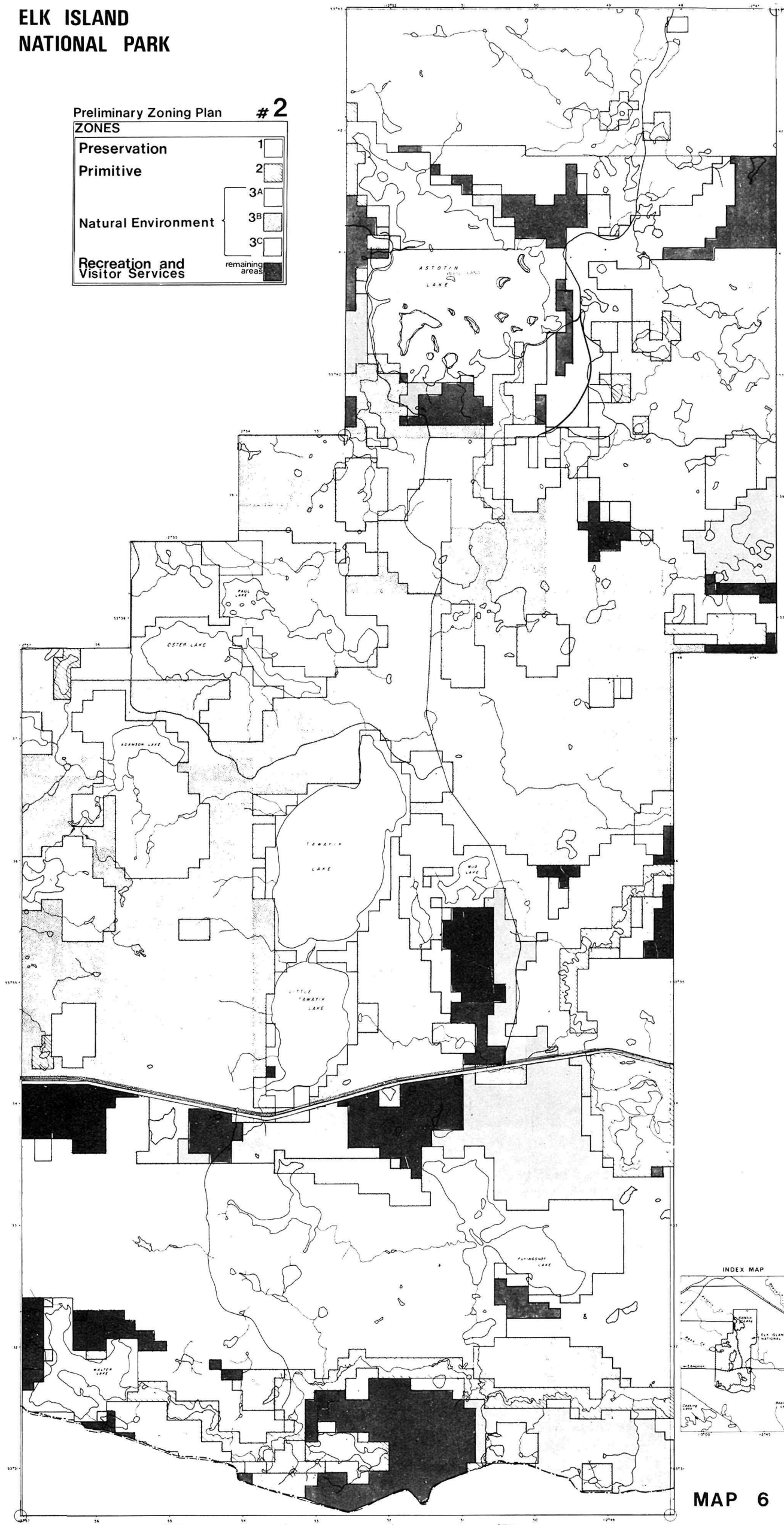


ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

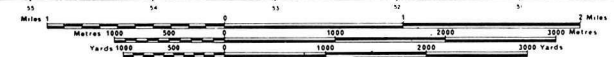
Preliminary Zoning Plan #2

ZONES

Preservation	1	
Primitive	2	
Natural Environment	3A	
	3B	
	3C	
Recreation and Visitor Services	remaining areas	

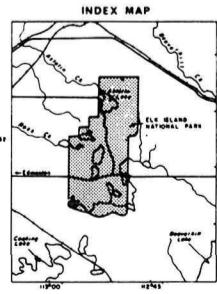
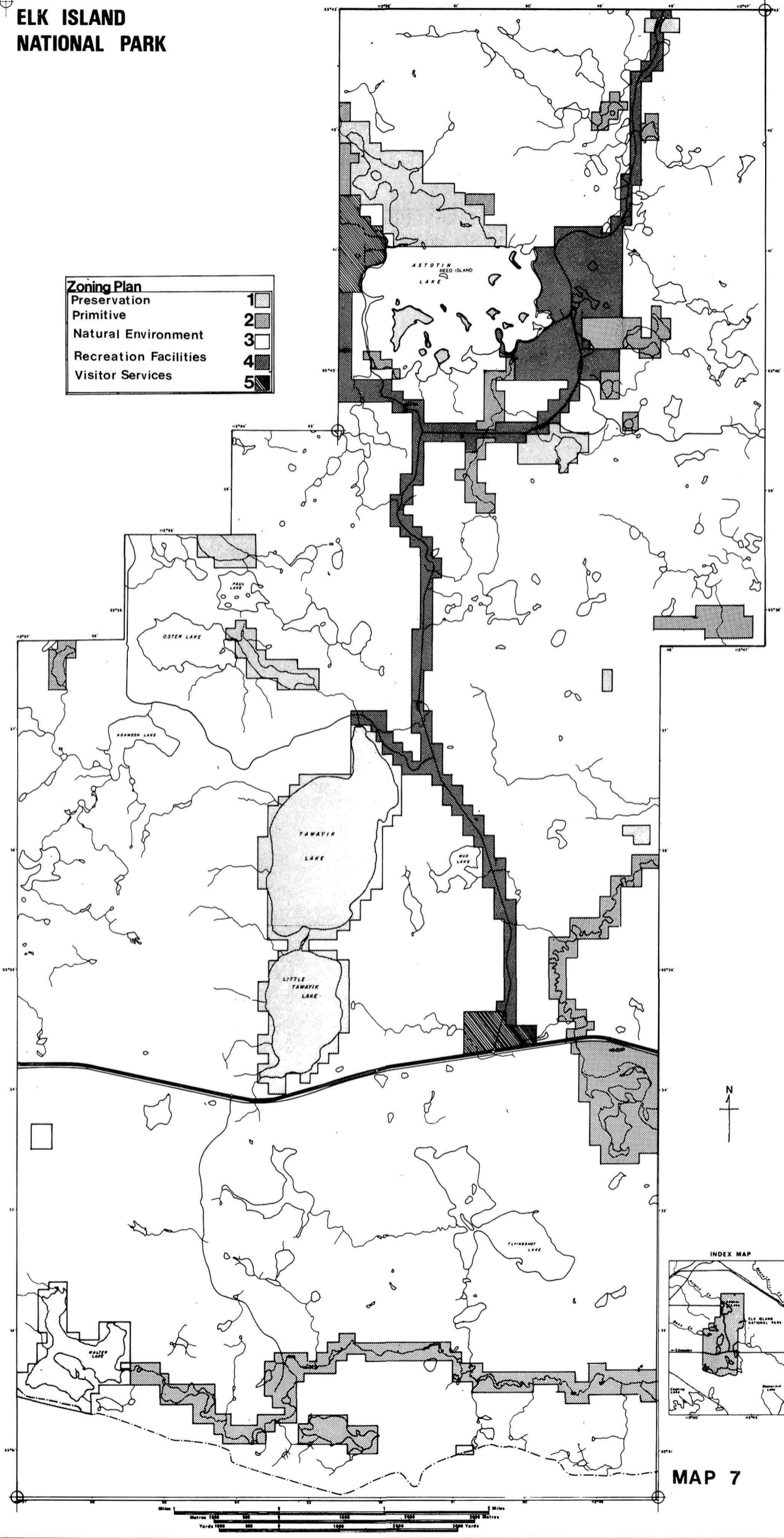


MAP 6

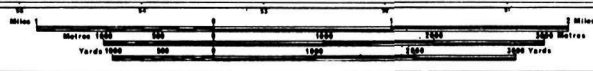


**ELK ISLAND
NATIONAL PARK**

Zoning Plan	
Preservation	1
Primitive	2
Natural Environment	3
Recreation Facilities	4
Visitor Services	5



MAP 7



3.5 THE PARK LAND USE PLAN

3.5.1 Methodology

The proposed land use plan for the Park is shown in Map 8. Procedures employed in the development of this plan were as follows.

- i An inventory of potential land uses was drawn up based on National Park policy, demand and existing land use considerations.
- ii The contents of the inventory were reviewed individually in the context of the Park Objectives and Program Sub-Objectives.
- iii Where a facility was judged desirable to meet proposed objectives locational alternatives were identified. In most cases the source for the alternatives was one or more of the following maps.

Existing Land Use	(Map 9)
Trail Capability Ratings	(Map 10)
Site Capability Ratings	(Map 11)
Boating Capability Ratings	(Map 12)
Interpretive Potentials	(Map 13)

- iv Selection of the preferred location(s) then took place based on criteria such as access and relationship to other facilities and consideration of resource preservation constraints as embodied in four maps as follows:

Preliminary Zoning Plan (#2)	(Map 6)
Soils - Water Erosion Hazard	(Map 14)
Soils - Limitations for Trails	(Map 15)
Soils - Limitations for Campsites	(Map 16)

Existing facilities were also reviewed in the context of the above maps and a number of changes were proposed.

A narrative summary of the specific proposals follows:

3.5.2 Natural Resources

MANAGEMENT ROADS

- All old management roads and trails should be allowed to revert to a more natural condition with the following exceptions.
 - i the fire guard and management road around the perimeter of the Park should be maintained.
 - ii the old South Boundary Trail (East end) should be maintained to provide access to the East boundary and to facilitate ungulate management programs.
 - iii the Cooking Lake Trail, the Oster Lake Trail and the Oxbow Lake Trail should be maintained in the West central section of the Park to permit access to the West boundary and to facilitate ungulate management programs which occur most frequently in this section of the Park.
 - iv the Cooking Lake Trail South of Highway 16 should be retained for management purposes in the isolation area.

FENCES and ENCLOSURES

- The boundary fences should be maintained.
- All internal fencing should be removed with the following exceptions:
 - i the Sandy Beach Activity Area - golf course - campground complex, which is a high visitor density area, should remain fenced to avoid conflict between visitors and large mammals.
 - ii the headquarters area should remain fenced off.
 - iii the management paddocks and abattoir to the North of Highway 16 and those on Flyingshot Lake should remain to facilitate large mammal management programs.
- Negotiations should be undertaken with the Canadian Wildlife Service to have the enclosure in the South West corner of the Park removed so that, once the major relocation of the Wood Bison has occurred, visitor access to Walter Lake may be provided.
- The Bison Paddock - at this time there is no specific proposal with regard to the bison paddock. The planning team has identified two options as follows:

OPTION I — RETAIN PADDOCK

Retention of the paddock would be based on the following considerations;

- i the general popularity of the paddock.
- ii during the summer months park visitors are assured of seeing a bison as long as the paddock is retained.
- iii for many people, Elk Island National Park is synonymous with preservation of the bison.
- iv there are paddocks in other National Parks.

OPTION II - REMOVE PADDOCK

Removal could occur on the grounds that;

- i fencing the animals in, is unnatural and is therefore contrary to National Parks policy.
- ii retaining the paddock is contrary to the subobjective of removing all internal park fencing except that required for essential management programs.
- iii the existence of a bison paddock creates an inaccurate impression in visitors' minds concerning the significance of the bison in Elk Island. The latter was actually established to protect elk not bison. It is also a National Park where the management emphasis should be on preservation of the total environment, not merely one component of it.
- iv the other National Parks, which still have bison paddocks, do not have free roaming herds elsewhere in the park. Elk Island has a population of approximately 400 bison in the 50 square mile area North of Highway 16.
- v because of the density of the bison population referred to above and because of their lack of timidity it is one of the easiest species to see in Elk Island National Park.
- vi an alternative opportunity to see bison in a paddock exists at the Alberta Game Farm which is located approximately 20 miles from Elk Island National Park.

3.5.3 Visitor Use

CIRCULATION SYSTEM

- The primary component of the circulation system should be the centrally located "Parkway" linking the North and South gateways.
- Access to the Park should be via the North and South gateways; the West gateway should be closed since visitor use does not justify its continued operation. (Implementation proposed by April 1978)
- A secondary public vehicular route should be provided along the Oster Trail to permit access to the Tawayik Lake Picnic Area.
- The West access road should be retained to provide access to the Headquarters area; it should be relocated away from the shoreline of Astotin Lake and should be reconstructed to a Park "Access Road" standard as described in the National and Historic Parks Road Classification System.

TRAILS

- A third element of the circulation system consisting of non-vehicular trails should be provided to permit access to more rustic areas of the Park.
- To this end the existing winter trails should be utilized as year round trails with the exception of the trail crossing the Narrows between Tawayik and Little Tawayik Lakes: the latter trail should remain as a cross country ski trail only on account of resource sensitivity during the summer months.
- Research should be undertaken into the impact of both winter and summer trail use on the natural resources of the Park, particularly large ungulates, and if necessary trails may have to be reduced or rerouted.
- Until the above-mentioned research has been carried out no new trails should be identified in the Northern section of the Park.
- Trails should be developed in the section of the Park South of Highway 16 along the routes shown on the land use plan as soon as the Wood Bison herd has been partially or totally relocated.
- All new trail proposals, including those in the Southern section of the park, should be subjected to an ecological impact assessment prior to development.
- The old West access road adjacent to Astotin Lake should be converted into a moderate density walking trail (as per Map 8) and a linkage with the road system should be provided in the vicinity of the old junction.
- Bicycles should be restricted to Park roads.

PICNICING

- The Sandy Beach Activity Area should continue to be the major single day use facility in the Park. Redevelopment of the area to improve circulation and the distribution of visitor use, to improve the aesthetics of certain sections and to upgrade aging facilities should occur.
- Rustic picnic facilities (maximum 20 parties: 8 parties per acre: no structures other than toilets) should be provided at Tawayik Lake (existing) and at Astotin Creek (proposed); major improvements to improve views and to slightly expand capacity could occur at Tawayik Lake.
- The existing Beaver Bay picnic area should be converted to a walk-in facility and should retain its present rustic standard.

BOATING

- Boating on Astotin Lake should be limited to non-motorized boats such as canoes, dinghies or small sail boats; prevailing spatial and temporal restrictions to protect the waterfowl resource should be continued; landing on the islands should be permitted only as part of a supervised interpretive program:
- Power boating should be discontinued as of 1 April, 1978.
- Boating in small parties supervised by members of the Park staff may be permitted on Walter Lake, (Big) Tawayik Lake, and the Oster-Paul-Spruce Island Lake circuit subject to suitable resource conditions and the availability of Park staff.

SWIMMING

- Water conditions in Astotin Lake do not lend themselves to a pleasurable swimming experience. The existing beach at the Sandy Lake Activity Area should, however, continue to be maintained and manned during the summer visitor season as long as use warrants it.

CAMPING

- A new semi-serviced campground facility should be provided adjacent to the Sandy Beach Activity Area to replace the existing facility: capacity should be approximately 100 sites; density should be 4 sites per acre; universal sites should be provided.
- In conjunction with the above campground, group tenting facilities capable of handling two parties of up to 50 members each should be provided. The existing Oster Lake group tenting area should be phased out since it is situated in a Zone III and is on a game migration route.
- Winter camping on a primitive basis may be permitted in existing facilities as designated by the Superintendent.

GOLFING

- The existing golf course should remain but its future should be subject to periodic review in the context of golf course development in the region around the Park. Improvements should be limited to the provision of a new clubhouse and upgrading of the parking facilities.

ACCOMMODATION and SERVICES

- The existing youth hostel should be phased out in view of limited demand and the heavy day use orientation of the park visitor. (removal by 1980 recommended)
- The food and small groceries concession should continue to be provided in the Sandy Beach Activity Area. Demand for other retail services should be met by communities and establishments outside the Park.
- Snack bar service should be available to golfers in the new clubhouse.

3.5.4 Communications Program

AWARENESS-ORIENTATION

- An information centre should be provided at the South gate which is the prime point of access for the majority of park visitors.
- For visitors entering via the North gate this function should be provided in capsule form in the Interpretive Centre discussed below.

PRESENTATION

- On-site interpretive management units should be developed at the locations identified in the Land Use Plan (Map 8) related to the following themes:

- | | | |
|-----|----------------------|------|
| i | Land Use Sculpturing | (#2) |
| ii | White Spruce | (#3) |
| iii | Poplar Forest | (#4) |
| iv | Aspen Parkland | (#5) |
| v | Wetlands | (#6) |
| vi | Living Waters | (#7) |

- An Interpretive Centre should be developed in the Sandy Beach Activity Area to interpret the following themes off-site:

- Buried Bedrock
- Native Man & Landscapes
- Land & Manscapes
- The Island Anomaly

- and to integrate the total Park interpretive story. The specific site of the interpretive centre should be determined during preparation of the concept plan for redevelopment of the Activity Area. Capsule orientation facilities should be provided for visitors entering the Park via the North gate. Information services should also be available.
- Interpretation of the Elk Island Preserves theme could occur either at the Bison Paddock or at the Interpretive centre depending on the decision on the future of the Paddock.
- Media plans should be drawn up for each Interpretive Management Unit prior to development. Those plans for themes to be interpreted in the interpretive centre should be developed jointly.
- Media plans should respect the use and development constraints imposed by the Park Zoning Plan.

PARTICIPATION - EXPERIENCE

- Operational plans for special events (e.g. canoe trips on restricted waters) should be developed; proposals should respect the use and development constraints imposed by the Park Zoning Plan.

3.5.5 Administrative Facilities

MAINTENANCE

- The maintenance compound should remain in its present location.
- All maintenance facilities (e.g. indoor and outdoor storage facilities) should be located in Zone V areas.

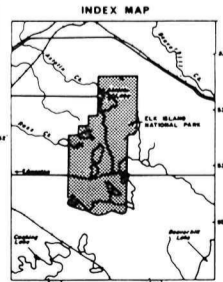
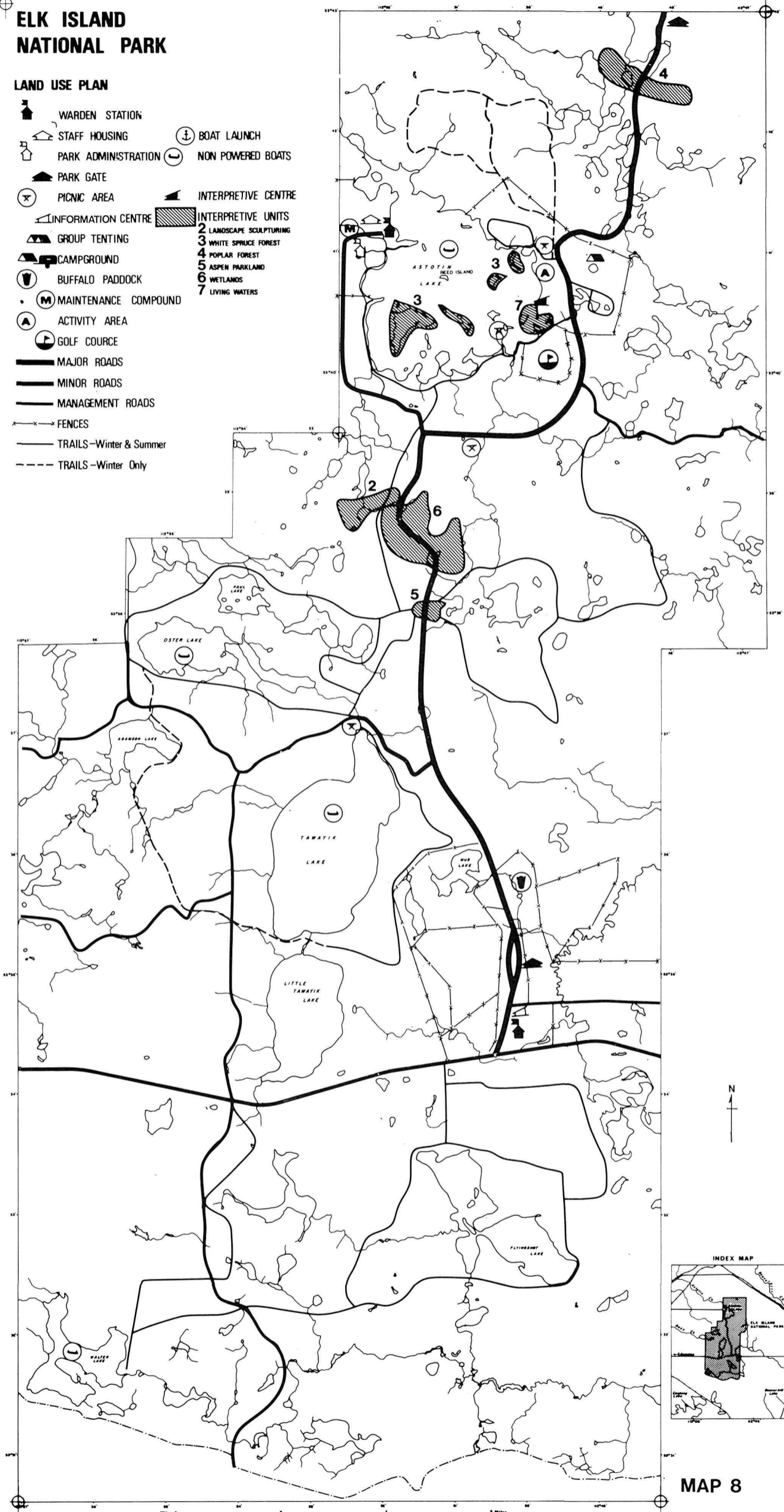
ADMINISTRATION

- The administration building should remain in its present location.
- A socio-economic study should be conducted to determine the feasibility of locating staff housing in a community adjacent to the Park.
- Staff housing facilities should be removed from the point overlooking Astotin Lake; short term action should be taken to paint them a less obtrusive color.
- Warden housing facilities should be located only in the Zone V areas located at the South gate and in the Headquarters area.
- Seasonal staff housing should be located only those areas identified as Zone V.

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

LAND USE PLAN

- WARDEN STATION
- STAFF HOUSING
- PARK ADMINISTRATION
- PARK GATE
- PICNIC AREA
- INFORMATION CENTRE
- GROUP TENTING
- CAMPGROUND
- BUFFALO PADDOCK
- MAINTENANCE COMPOUND
- ACTIVITY AREA
- GOLF COURSE
- MAJOR ROADS
- MINOR ROADS
- MANAGEMENT ROADS
- FENCES
- TRAILS - Winter & Summer
- TRAILS - Winter Only
- BOAT LAUNCH
- NON POWERED BOATS
- INTERPRETIVE CENTRE
- INTERPRETIVE UNITS
- 2 LANDSCAPE SCULPTURING
- 3 WHITE SPRUCE FOREST
- 4 POPLAR FOREST
- 5 ASPEN PARKLAND
- 6 WETLANDS
- 7 LIVING WATERS



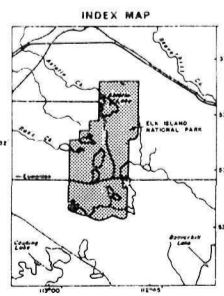
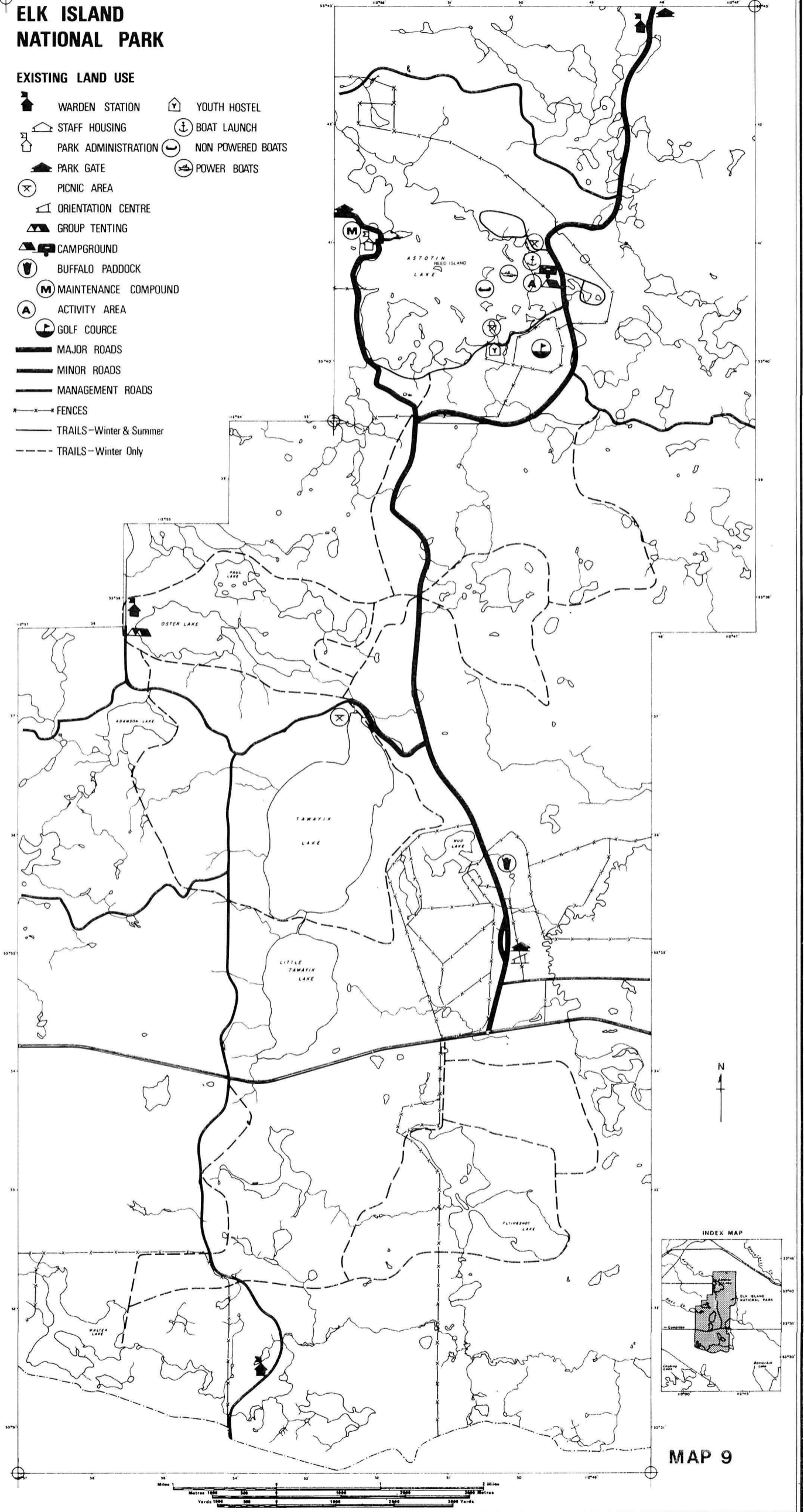
MAP 8



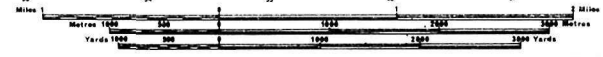
ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

EXISTING LAND USE

-  WARDEN STATION
-  YOUTH HOSTEL
-  STAFF HOUSING
-  BOAT LAUNCH
-  PARK ADMINISTRATION
-  NON POWERED BOATS
-  PARK GATE
-  POWER BOATS
-  PICNIC AREA
-  ORIENTATION CENTRE
-  GROUP TENTING
-  CAMPGROUND
-  BUFFALO PADDOCK
-  MAINTENANCE COMPOUND
-  ACTIVITY AREA
-  GOLF COURSE
-  MAJOR ROADS
-  MINOR ROADS
-  MANAGEMENT ROADS
-  FENCES
-  TRAILS - Winter & Summer
-  TRAILS - Winter Only



MAP 9

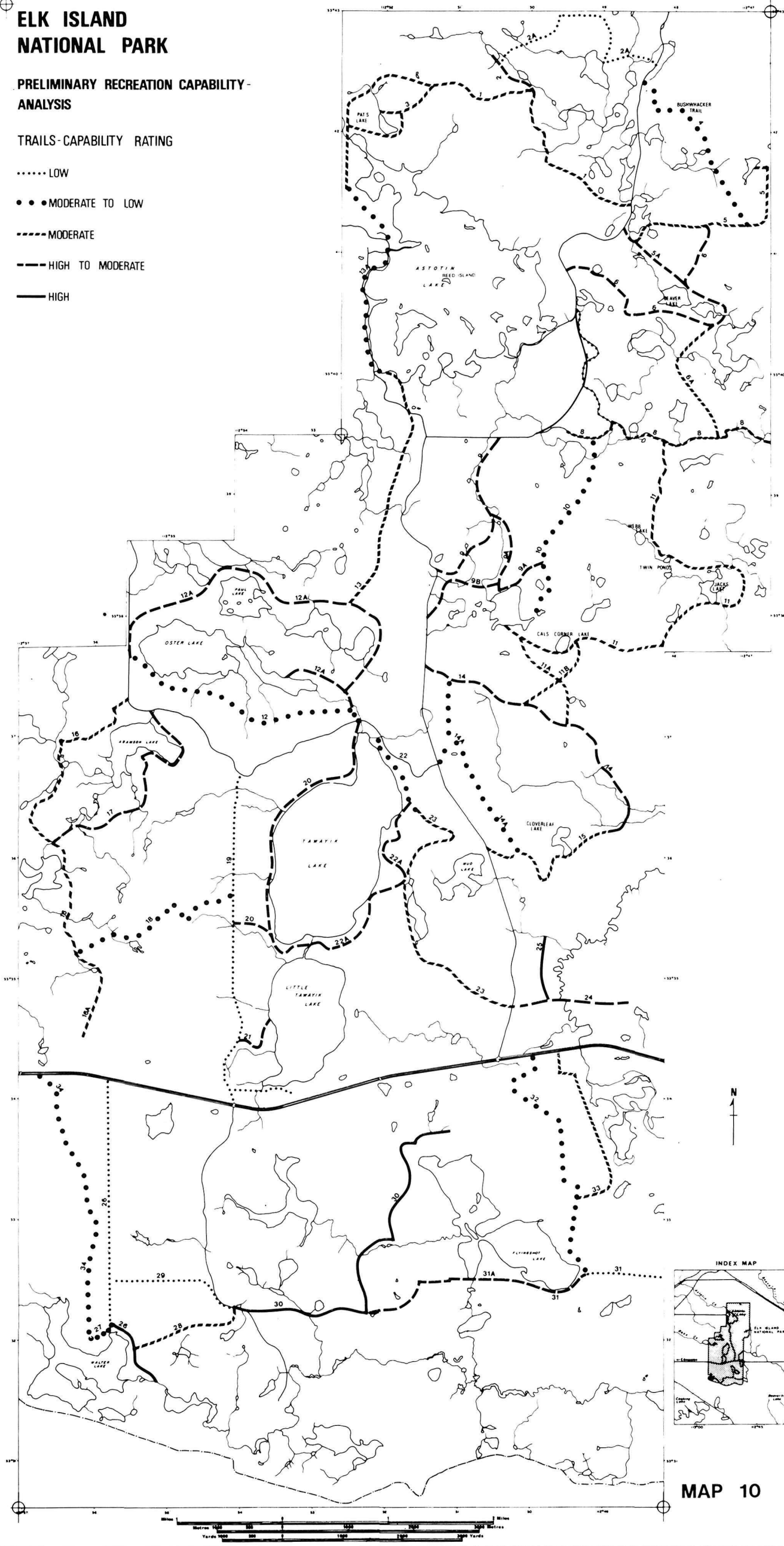


ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY RECREATION CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

TRAILS-CAPABILITY RATING

-LOW
- MODERATE TO LOW
- MODERATE
- HIGH TO MODERATE
- HIGH



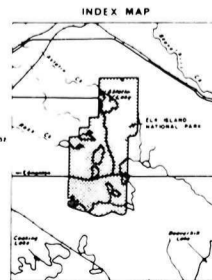
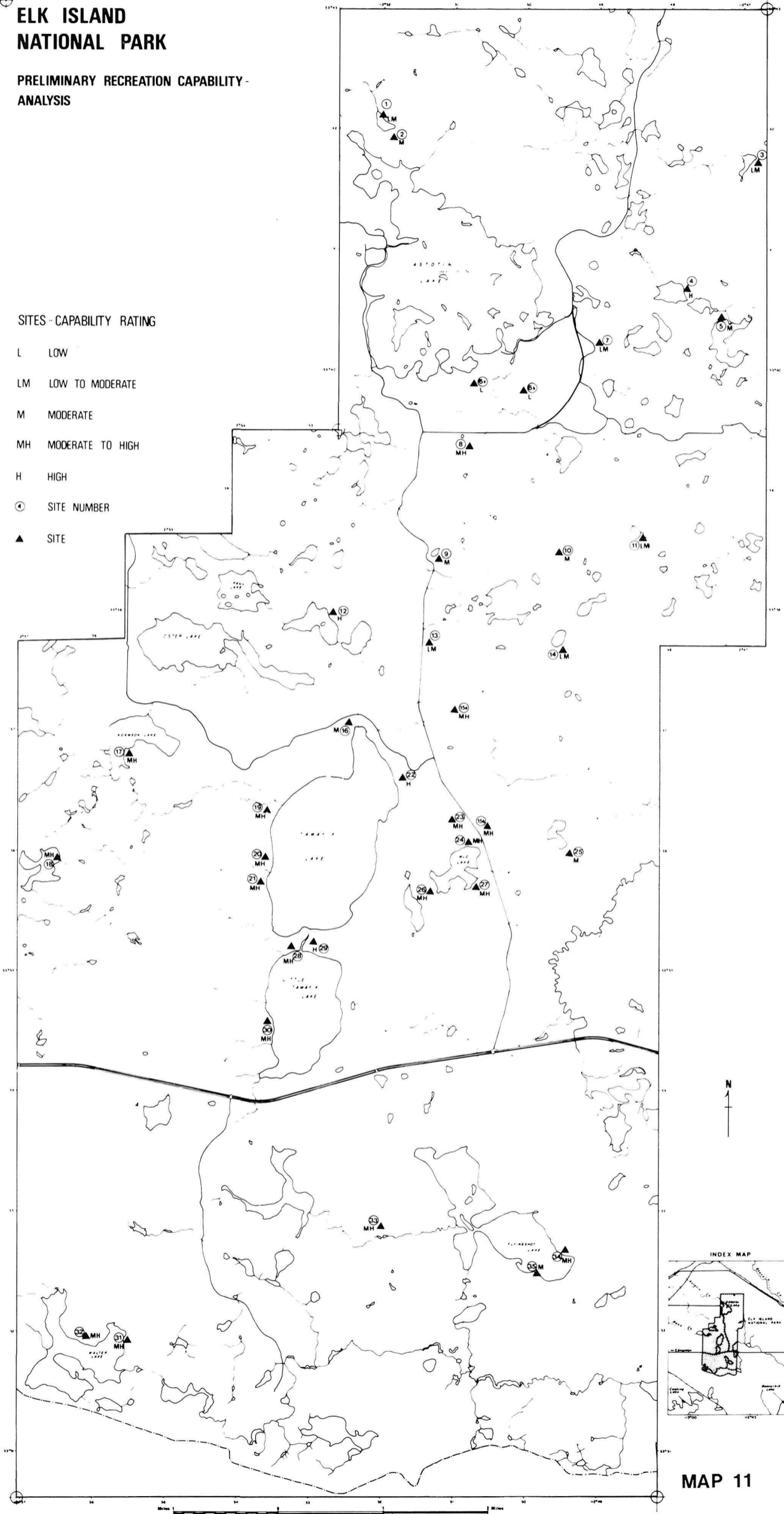
MAP 10

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY RECREATION CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

SITES - CAPABILITY RATING

- L LOW
- LM LOW TO MODERATE
- M MODERATE
- MH MODERATE TO HIGH
- H HIGH
- ① SITE NUMBER
- ▲ SITE



MAP 11

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY RECREATION CAPABILITY ANALYSIS

BOATING

- POTENTIAL PICNIC AREA
- EXISTING PICNIC AREA
- ▲ POINT OF ACCESS EGRESS
- PROPOSED PORTAGE TRAIL
- RESTRICTED AREA

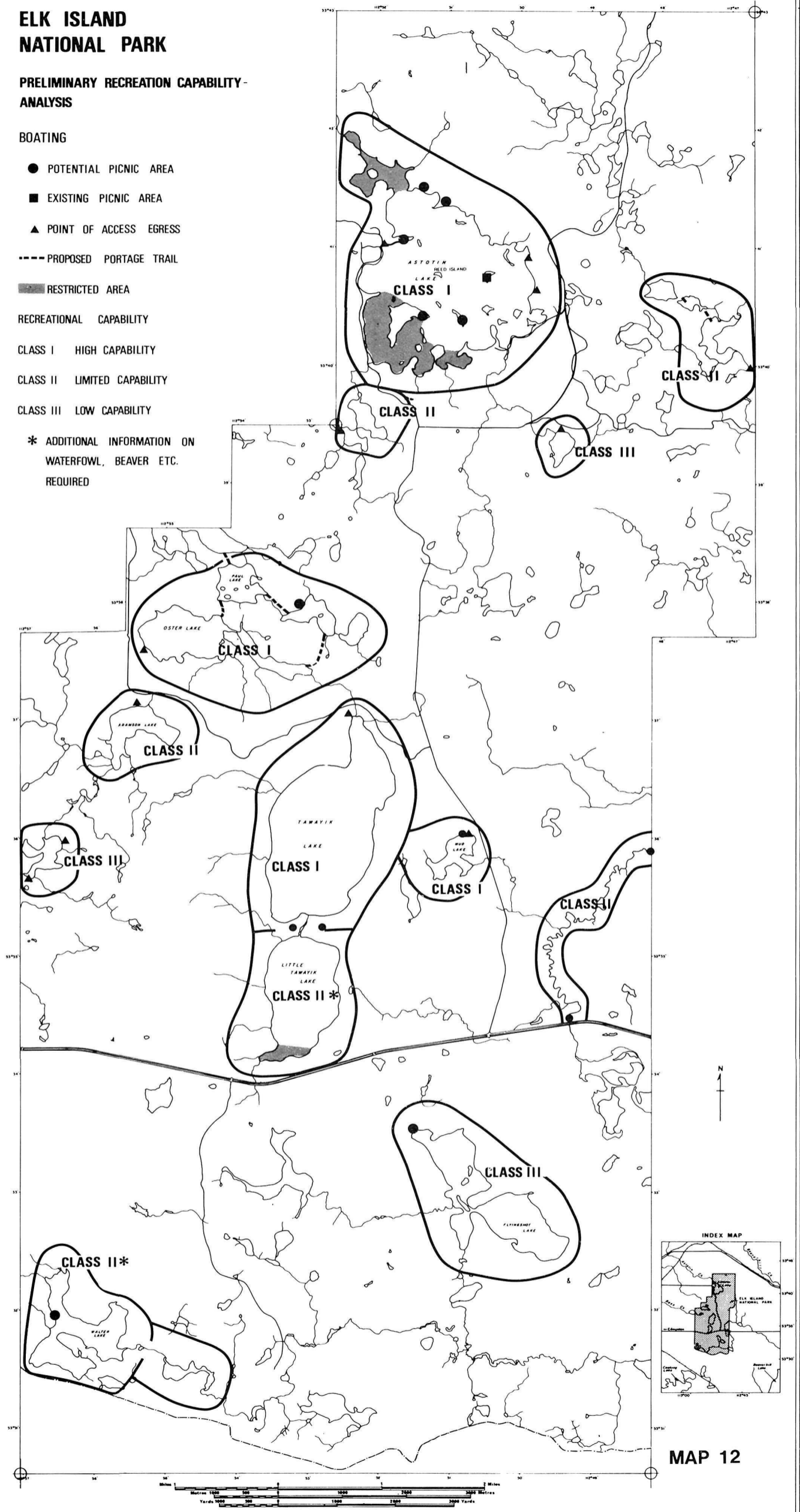
RECREATIONAL CAPABILITY

CLASS I HIGH CAPABILITY

CLASS II LIMITED CAPABILITY

CLASS III LOW CAPABILITY

* ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON WATERFOWL, BEAVER ETC. REQUIRED



ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

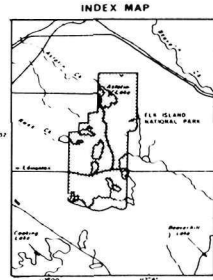
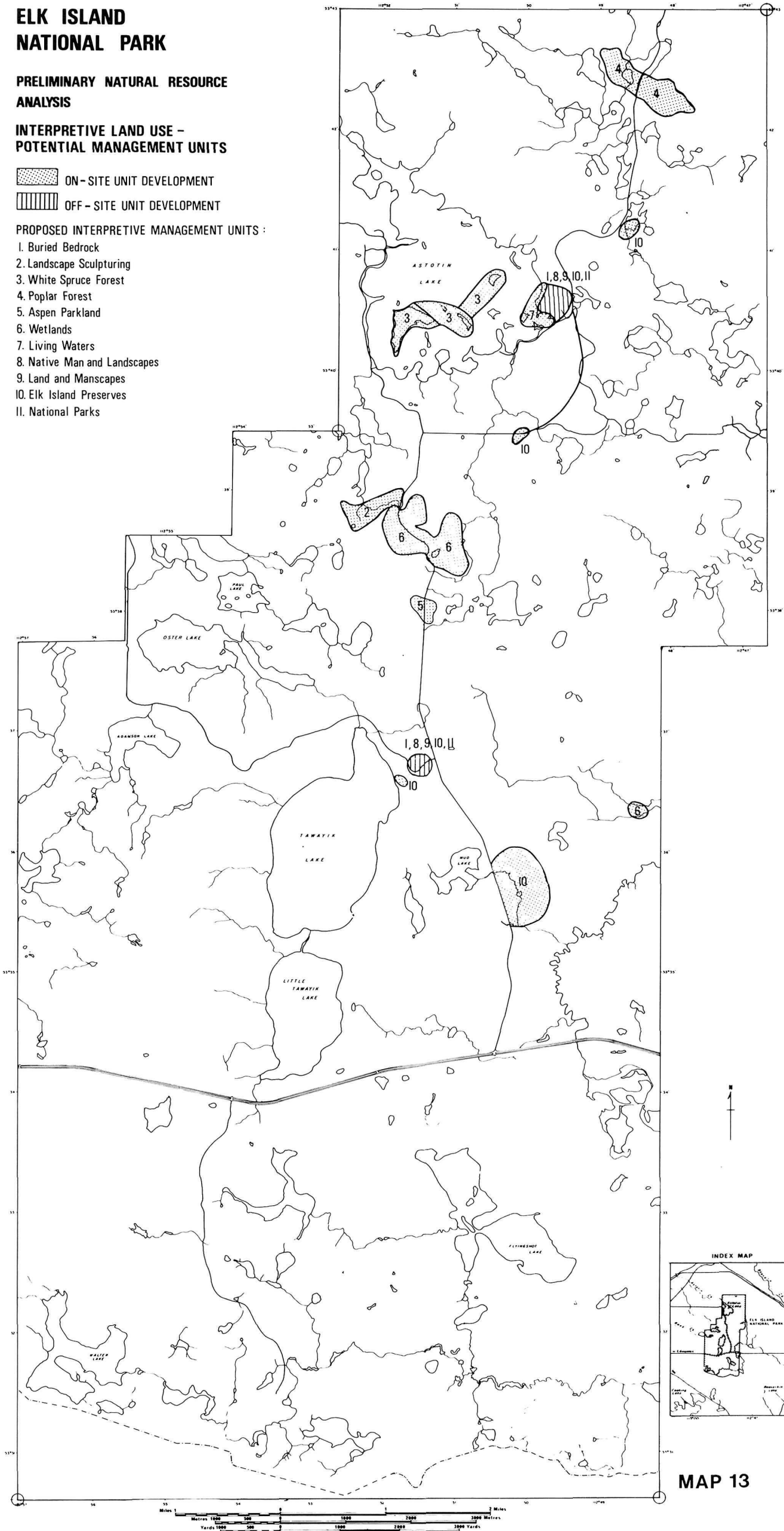
PRELIMINARY NATURAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

INTERPRETIVE LAND USE - POTENTIAL MANAGEMENT UNITS

-  ON-SITE UNIT DEVELOPMENT
-  OFF-SITE UNIT DEVELOPMENT

PROPOSED INTERPRETIVE MANAGEMENT UNITS :

1. Buried Bedrock
2. Landscape Sculpturing
3. White Spruce Forest
4. Poplar Forest
5. Aspen Parkland
6. Wetlands
7. Living Waters
8. Native Man and Landscapes
9. Land and Manscapes
10. Elk Island Preserves
11. National Parks





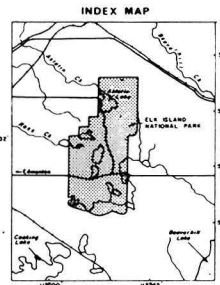
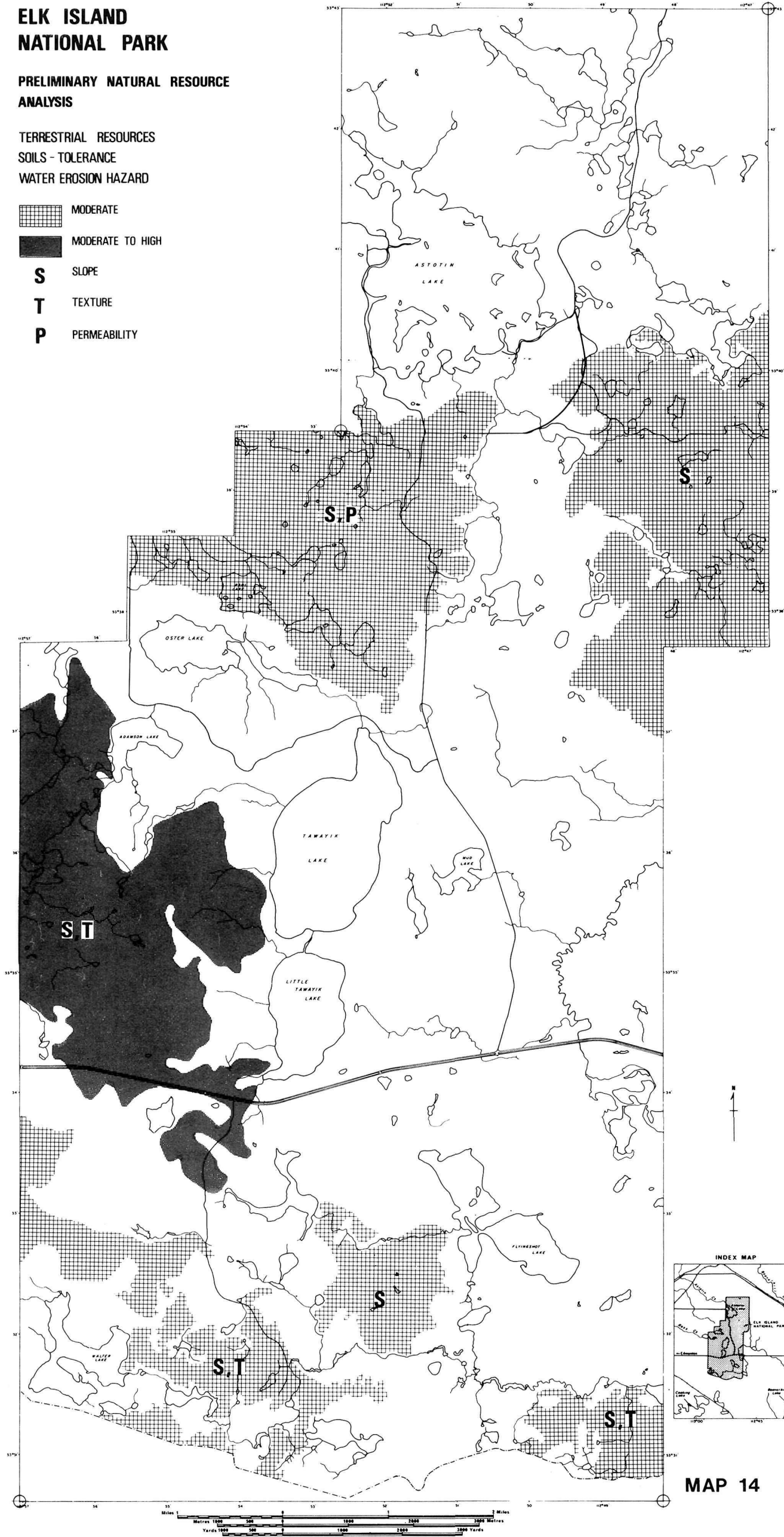
MAP 13

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY NATURAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES
 SOILS - TOLERANCE
 WATER EROSION HAZARD

-  MODERATE
-  MODERATE TO HIGH
- S** SLOPE
- T** TEXTURE
- P** PERMEABILITY




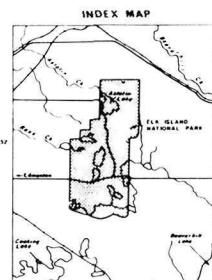
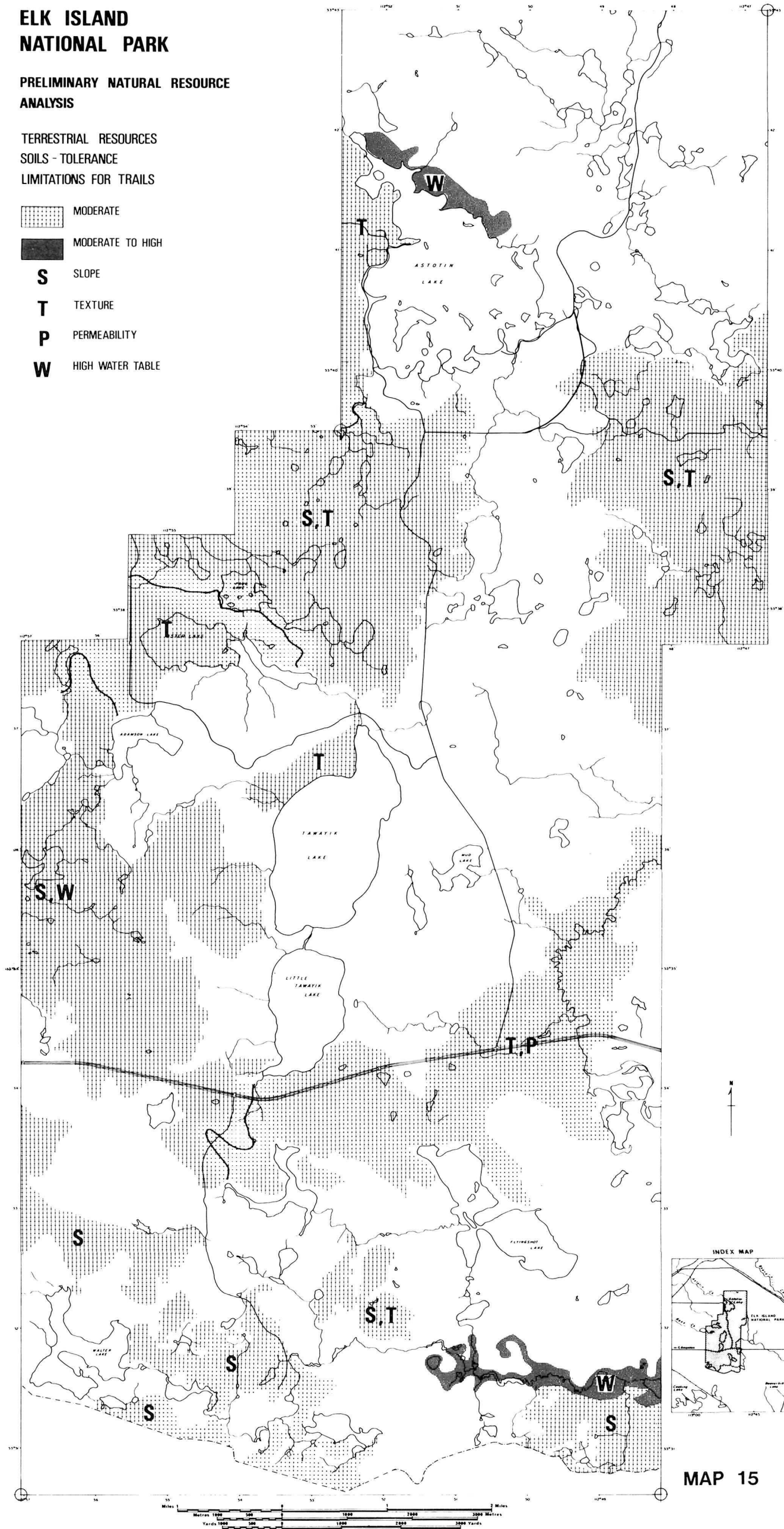
MAP 14

ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY NATURAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES
SOILS - TOLERANCE
LIMITATIONS FOR TRAILS

-  MODERATE
-  MODERATE TO HIGH
- S** SLOPE
- T** TEXTURE
- P** PERMEABILITY
- W** HIGH WATER TABLE






MAP 15

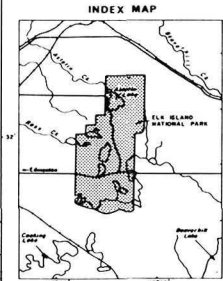
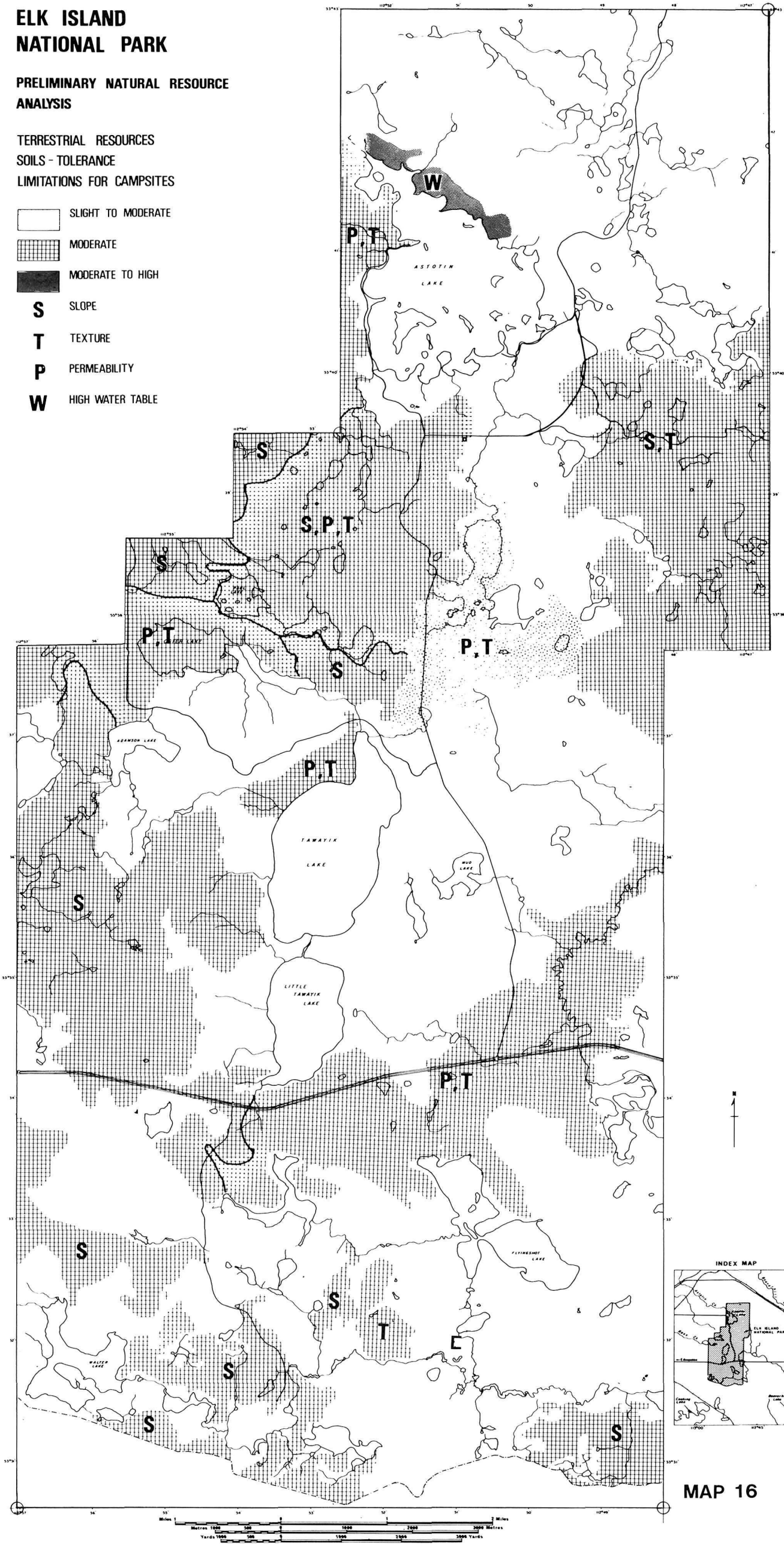


ELK ISLAND NATIONAL PARK

PRELIMINARY NATURAL RESOURCE ANALYSIS

TERRESTRIAL RESOURCES
SOILS - TOLERANCE
LIMITATIONS FOR CAMPSITES

-  SLIGHT TO MODERATE
-  MODERATE
-  MODERATE TO HIGH
- S** SLOPE
- T** TEXTURE
- P** PERMEABILITY
- W** HIGH WATER TABLE



MAP 16

APPENDIX A

Location of Reference Materials

Holden School Library
Box 119,
County of Beaver,
HOLDEN, Alberta

Ardrossen Elementary School Library,
County of Strathcona,
ARDROSSEN, Alberta

Ft. Saskatchewan Municipal Library,
Box 3060,
FORT SASKATCHEWAN, Alberta T8L 2T1

Athabasca University Library,
14515 - 122 Avenue,
EDMONTON, Alberta T5L 2W4

University of Alberta,
Extension Library,
Rutherford Library 1,
University of Alberta,
EDMONTON, Alberta T6G 2J8

Northern Alberta Institute of Technology,
McNally Library,
11762 - 106 St.,
EDMONTON, Alberta T5G 2R1

Leduc Public Library,
Yellowhead Regional Library,
SPRUCE GROVE, Alberta

Salisbury Composite High School,
2000 Brentwood Boulevard,
County of Strathcona,
SHERWOOD PARK, Alberta

Vegreville Municipal Library,
Box 129,
VEGREVILLE, Alberta T0B 4L0

Tofield Municipal Library,
Box 357,
TOFIELD, Alberta T0B 4J0

St. Albert Municipal Library,
Grandin Road & Churchill Ave.,
ST. ALBERT, Alberta

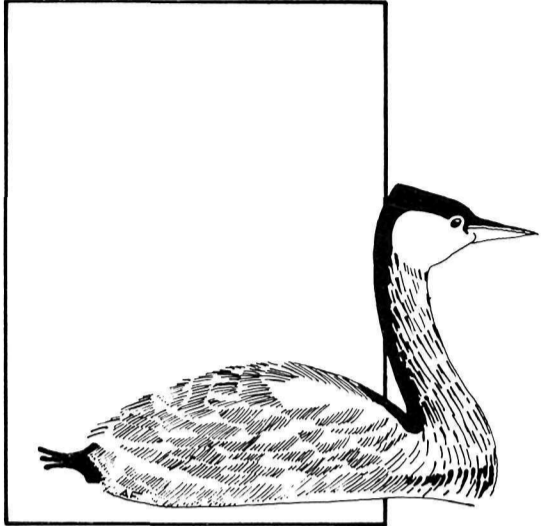
Alberta Culture Youth & Recreation,
Heritage Resource Development
Heritage Resource Library
12845 - 102 Ave.
EDMONTON, Alberta T5N 0M6

Lamont Municipal Library,
Box 180
LAMONT, Alberta T0B 2R0

Edmonton Municipal Library,
7 Sir Winston Churchill Square
EDMONTON, Alberta T5J 2V4

City of Edmonton,
Planning Department
Planning Library
7th Floor, City Hall
EDMONTON, Alberta T5J 0G4

Elk Island NATIONAL PARK



**PUBLIC
PARTICIPATION PROGRAM
STAGE II
Public Response**

AFFIX
STAMP

**TO:
WESTERN REGION
PARKS CANADA
134 - 11th AVENUE S.E.
CALGARY, ALBERTA
T2G 0X5**

This sheet is provided to assist you in preparing a response to the proposals presented in the brochure. Any information that you can provide in support of your viewpoints will assist us in the analysis of public response.

When preparing your comments on the proposals be sure to take into consideration the long-term objectives, and the tables of public proposals and opinions that are included in the manual.

The Planning proposals attempt to stress the fact that Elk Island is a National Park. As a result the proposals for management and use of the Park are oriented as much as possible towards preservation and appreciation of nature. The following are some of the topics you may wish to comment on.

- a) natural resource management
- b) circulation (roads and trails)
- c) interpretation
- d) camping
- e) boating
- f) the bison paddock
- g) zoning
- h) other

Your response should be returned by May 31st, 1977.

PLEASE TURN OVER . . .

your comments:

If you wish to receive a summary of the master plan, please print your name and address below.

Name

Address

Province

Postal Code