



Parcs Canada

Parks

Canada





Process for national urban park designation: Activities, outcomes and deliverables

The four steps below outline the process for designating national urban parks. The approach to each step will be flexible and informed by the local context.









Designation



Implementation



Pre-feasibility

- Seek interest and support from local governments and other partners, including Indigenous governments and organizations
- Co-develop engagement approach with Indigenous partners
- Identify the study area(s) for the national urban park
- Conduct site-specific studies
- Explore considerations for vision, boundary, and governance
- Conduct initial stakeholder outreach

Expected outcomes

 Candidate site found to align with program objectives, with sufficient support from local partners to be feasible as a national urban park

Deliverables

 Pre-feasibility report published by Parks Canada (Represents Parks Canada's conclusion that pre-feasibility is concluded and the project is ready to move into planning)



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Planning

Planning

- Develop a park vision
- Determine governance model with partners
- Refine study area to identify park boundary
- Conduct stakeholder and public engagement
- Prepare draft budget and identify priority investments
- Begin initial operational planning

Expected outcomes

 Agreement to proceed to negotiation

Deliverables

- Summary of stakeholder and public engagement published
- Budget and investment plan prepared in draft
- MOU (non-binding) signed between Parks Canada and key partners (Represents a significant commitment to next steps and negotiating details)



Designation

- Finalize proposal for the national urban park
- Confirm roles of partners in governance of the national urban park
- Secure operational funding from funding partners (e.g. federal government, other jurisdictions)
- Develop operational plan

Expected outcomes

 National urban park designated under National Urban Parks Policy

Deliverables

- Operational plan completed
- Funding confirmed
- MOAs (binding) signed (to formalize national urban park partnership)



Implementation

- Final operational preparations for the national urban park, may include implementing governance structure; designing facilities, amenities and programs; and initiating conservation activities
- Begin operations of the national urban park, including development of infrastructure, staffing, development of management plan, and official opening

Expected outcomes

 National urban park officially launched

Foundational investments (if applicable, may occur during these phases)

• Pursue investments (e.g., land acquisition, restoration, infrastructure) in alignment with program objectives.