



Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park

Landscape Description

Sturgeon Bay is located in the central Interlake region along the western shore of Lake Winnipeg about 225 km north of Winnipeg, and was designated as a park reserve in 2001 in order to provide interim protection to lands representing the Manitoba Lowlands Natural Region, as well as important wildlife habitat. To continue protecting important natural and cultural values of the region while discussions took place, the park reserve was renewed in 2006 and 2011. Sturgeon Bay is now designated as a wilderness provincial park and all lands are classified under the Wilderness Land Use Category.

Outstanding Features

Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park is 14,490 ha in size and includes lands adjacent to Sturgeon Bay on Lake Winnipeg. Sturgeon Bay itself has a width of 17.7 km and an approximate length of 25.7 km (Tree Island to the mouth of the Mantagao River). The park features alder, willow and birch stands in riparian environments adjacent to the Mantagao River, which is an important spawning ground for fish. It contains Whitefish, freshwater Drum and trophy size Northern Pike and Walleye. The head of the Mantagao River is an excellent fall stopover for ducks. Inland areas of the park include black spruce forests interspersed with marsh lands. The area provides habitats to populations of moose, white-tailed deer, wolves, various ducks and geese, pelicans, and numerous songbirds.

The Provincial Parks Act specifies that provincial parks are dedicated to the people of Manitoba. Provincial parks are recognized as special places that play an important role in the protection of natural lands and the quality of life for Manitobans.

The rights of Indigenous people to access this area for hunting, trapping, fishing and other traditional pursuits will continue to be respected. Existing commercial fishing activities will also continue. There are no intentions to develop park infrastructure such as campgrounds or roads, but the development of outfitting lodges may be permitted.

Lands classified with a Wilderness Land Use Category are categorized as an International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) protected area management category II - protected area managed for ecosystem protection and recreation. These protected lands are free from logging, mining, hydroelectric development, oil and gas development, exploring for or harvesting peat, and any other activities that may significantly or adversely affect habitat.

Map 1: Sturgeon Bay Provincial Park

