

# Pinawa Provincial Park

## Management Plan

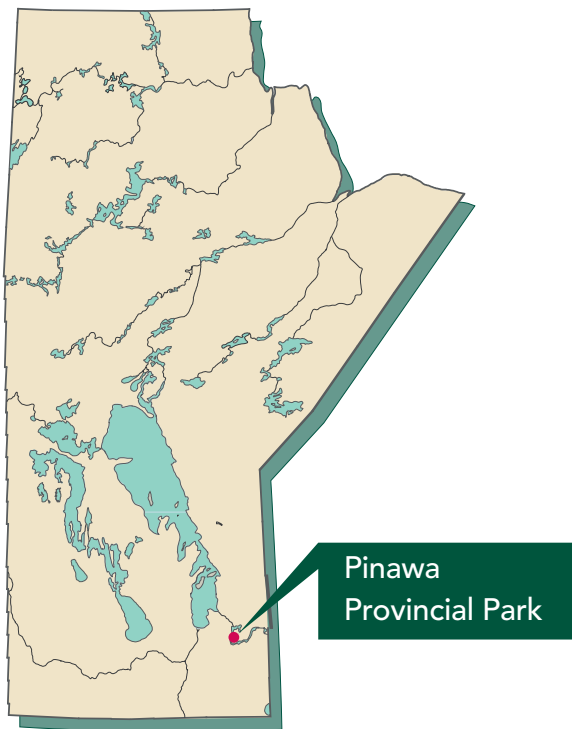


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This management plan for Pinawa Provincial Park was prepared in consultation with park users under the authority of *The Provincial Parks Act*.

Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship  
Parks and Natural Areas Branch  
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## 1. Introduction

*The Provincial Parks Act (1993)* requires that a management plan be prepared for each provincial park. Management plans establish long-term direction for parks and address issues pertaining to resource protection, use and development of park land. The management plan for Pinawa Provincial Park is based on its role in Manitoba's system of parks and the participation of those who use and care about the park. The plan is to be used in conjunction with park regulations, directives and other departmental and government policies and legislation.

The process of preparing this management plan and co-ordinating the public involvement process was the responsibility of a team involving staff from Parks and Natural Areas branch, regional staff of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship and a consultant contracted to work on the project. Preparation of the management plan involved a number of steps. The first step was to review the current operation of the park, its attributes, and its history of use. Information collected through that process was used to prepare a draft plan. The public was then invited to comment on the draft plan. Involving park users was an important part of preparing the management plan. Public input was primarily collected through the Manitoba Parks website. Once the public consultation process was completed in August of 2012, the plan was finalized based on planning objectives and any new information received through the consultation process.

This management plan is to guide the work of Manitoba Conservation and Water Stewardship over the next 10 to 15 years. In this context the plan will be utilized and examined on an ongoing basis. Where an update or new direction on any matters described in this management plan may be needed, a process for publicly reviewing and updating the plan should be undertaken.

The Treaty and Aboriginal rights of Aboriginal peoples to pursue traditional uses and activities within Pinawa Provincial Park are acknowledged and respected within the context of this management plan.

## 2. Park History

Pinawa Provincial Park was designated in 1974. It is one of a handful of parks that were established that year. The parks were referred to as wayside parks and were developed to provide roadside picnic stops along Manitoba's highways for a rapidly growing amount of highway traffic. Establishing such rest stops was also intended to encourage travel across Canada. Today, the park functions as a day-use area.

## 3. Park Attributes

Pinawa is Manitoba's smallest provincial park, only 0.68 hectares in size. It is located on the east shore of the junction of Provincial Road 211 and the Winnipeg River. The park is roughly 80 kilometres from the city of Winnipeg and eight kilometres west of the town of Pinawa.

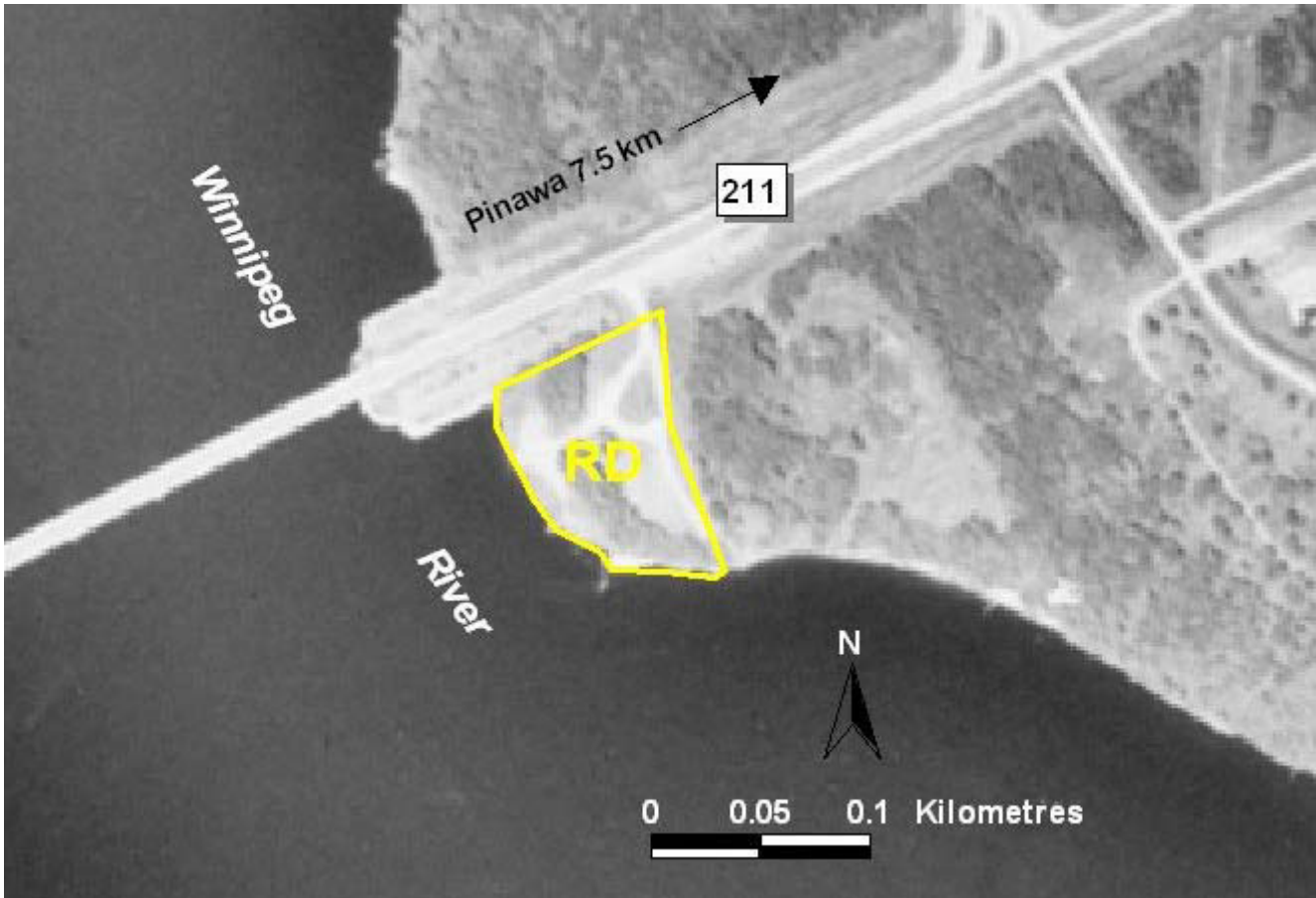
### 3.1 Natural

The park is located in the Lake of the Woods portion of the Manitoba Lowlands Natural Region. Much of the land in the area around the park is underlain by Precambrian bedrock. The park is very small and contains little in the way of flora and fauna, but forests in the area are typically composed of mixed vegetation, with common tree species including ash, jack pine, white birch, black and white spruce, balsam fir, balsam poplar and trembling aspen. Wooded areas around the park provide habitat for wildlife such as white-tailed deer, black bear, ruffed grouse and a variety of birds and small mammals (Smith et al., 1998). Great gray owls are also present in the area around the park, as the nearby Whitemouth Falls Provincial Park includes a staging and nesting area for the species (Penziwol & Blahut, 2011).

### 3.2 Recreational

Pinawa Provincial Park is a somewhat regularly used park where visitors can expect a natural-looking setting in a developed area and the potential opportunity for interactions with other people. Most park users come from local communities, and many use the park as a meeting place for birdwatching activities in the surrounding area. Facilities at the park include a picnic area, a boat launch and a non-modern washroom. The boat launch offers the only access point for boaters and anglers to enter the Winnipeg River between the Seven Sisters Generating Station and Lac du Bonnet (Penziwol & Blahut, 2011). Anglers in the park have a chance of catching a variety of fish, including walleye, northern pike, goldeye, yellow perch, bass and lake sturgeon. The Winnipeg River lake sturgeon population has been assessed as Endangered by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) (Species at Risk Public Registry, 2011).

### Pinawa Provincial Park Map



## 4. Park Management Framework

### 4.1 Classification

Manitoba's provincial park system is made up of almost 100 different parks and park reserves. Each of these areas plays a role in conserving ecosystems, preserving natural, cultural or heritage resources, and providing outdoor recreation or educational experiences. Classification descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

Pinawa Provincial Park is classified as a Recreation Park. The main purpose of a recreation park, as defined in *The Provincial Parks Act (1993)*, is to provide recreational opportunities.

### 4.2 Park Purpose

Manitoba's provincial park system was established to conserve ecosystems and maintain biodiversity, to preserve unique and representative natural, cultural and heritage resources, and to provide outdoor recreational and educational opportunities in a natural setting. Within this larger framework, individual parks contribute towards the overall objective of the provincial park system.

*A System Plan for Manitoba's Provincial Parks (1997)* states that the purpose of Pinawa Provincial Park is to provide outdoor recreational opportunities and experiences in a natural setting in eastern Manitoba. According to that plan, the park will:

- provide a point of access to the Winnipeg River for boating and fishing
- provide picnicking and day-use opportunities

### 4.3 Land Use Categories

Land Use Categories (LUCs) identify the important attributes of broad areas within a provincial park. Land may be categorized as Wilderness, Backcountry, Resource Management, Recreational Development, Heritage or Access LUCs. LUC descriptions can be found in Appendix A.

All of the land comprising Pinawa Provincial Park has been categorized as a Recreational Development LUC (RD). The main purpose of this categorization is to accommodate recreational development.

## 5. Park Management Guidelines

The following guidelines will direct park management actions in Pinawa Provincial Park.

### 5.1 Natural Values

1. The park will be maintained as a natural-looking area that is characteristic of the surrounding landscape.
2. Site modifications in undeveloped portions of the park will be minimal.

### 5.2 Recreation

1. Basic facilities for day-use activities will be provided.
2. Access to the Winnipeg River will be provided through a boat launching ramp.

## Appendix A – Park Classification and Land Use Categories

### Park Classifications

In accordance with section 7(2) of *The Provincial Parks Act* (1993), all provincial parks are classified as one of the following types:

- (a) a wilderness park, if the main purpose of the designation is to preserve representative areas of a natural region;
- (b) a natural park, if the main purpose of the designation is both to preserve areas of a natural region and to accommodate a diversity of recreational opportunities and resource uses;
- (c) a recreation park, if the main purpose of the designation is to provide recreational opportunities;
- (d) a heritage park, if the main purpose of the designation is to preserve an area of land containing a resource or resources of cultural or heritage value;
- (e) any other type of provincial park that may be specified in the regulation.

### Land Use Categories

In accordance with section 7(3) of *The Provincial Parks Act* (1993), all provincial parks are categorized into one or more of the following land use categories:

- (a) a wilderness category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect representative or unique natural landscapes in an undisturbed state and provide recreational opportunities that depend on a pristine environment;
- (b) a backcountry category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect examples of natural landscapes and provide basic facilities and trails for nature-oriented recreation in a largely undisturbed environment;
- (c) a resource management category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to permit commercial resource development or extraction in a manner that does not compromise the main purpose of the park classification;
- (d) a recreational development category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to accommodate recreational development;
- (e) a heritage category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to protect a unique or representative site containing a resource or resources of cultural or heritage value;
- (f) an access category, if the main purpose of the categorization is to provide a point or route of access in a provincial park or a location for a lodge and associated facilities;
- (g) any other category that may be specified in the regulation.

## Bibliography

Manitoba Natural Resources. "A System Plan for Manitoba's Provincial Parks." 1997.

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*The Provincial Parks Act*. C.C.S.M., c. P20. 1993.