

Oral Question - Manitoba Envirothon May 29, 1999

Examine the information and maps provided to you on Riding Mountain National Park and Duck Mountain Provincial Park as to their geography, vegetation, wildlife and management.

(1) Identify the (a) economic, (b) environmental (eg. ecological), (c) social implication of the fire management policies in both parks. What are the strengths and weaknesses of these policies?

(2) If a wildfire burned a large portion of Riding Mountain National Park what are the potential impacts on wildlife populations and the other factors in question (1) as far as nearby Dutch Mountain Provincial Park is concerned?

(3) The Province of Manitoba, in conjunction with the company that has forest management responsibilities for the area, is considering changing the fire suppression policies in Duck Mountain Provincial Park to allow an expanded role for wildfire. How would these changes affect the park in terms of the factors mentioned in question (1)?

(4) A climate change has been projected for the province over the next 50 years (see the Change in Ecozone Boundaries Map Model). Suggest how this change could influence the fire management policies for the two parks. What would be the economical, environmental, and social implications in the year 2050?