



and the environment, planning land for natural heritage, and land/water planning.

Under federal-provincial agreements, the Canada Land Inventory (CLI) was developed to classify lands according to their capabilities for agriculture, forestry, recreation, wildlife and sport fishing. These data, used for regional planning, have been entered into a computerized Canada Land Data System (CLDS). More than 3,000 CLI maps are available, as well as Census data, information on federal land holdings, watershed boundaries and ecological land data. The maps and data provide a basis for the analysis of options for land-use planning and management.

1.7 Heritage resources

1.7.1 Federal parks

National parks. Canada's national parks system, encompassing more than 180 000 km², is one of the largest in the world.

In 1885 the Canadian government reserved from private ownership the mineral hot springs of Sulphur Mountain in what is now Banff National Park. Two years later this reserve was extended and named Rocky Mountains Park, the first federal

park in Canada. At present, there is at least one national park in each province and territory.

About 20 million visits a year are now recorded in the national parks. Details of the parks with their description, size and location are given in Table 1.8.

To protect outstanding areas of the Canadian land and seascapes which are representative of their physical, biological and oceanographic characteristics, 39 terrestrial regions and 29 marine regions have been identified, with the objective of establishing a national park in each of these natural regions. There are now 22 terrestrial regions and 2 marine regions represented in the parks system.

South Moresby/Gwaii Haanas Agreement.

Following negotiations with British Columbia, a federal/provincial agreement was signed in July 1988 to establish South Moresby/Gwaii Haanas National Park Reserve. The Agreement provides for the establishment of a South Moresby/Gwaii Haanas National Marine Park Reserve within five years.

National marine parks. Canada is bounded by three oceans and has the largest volume of fresh-water among all countries of the world. Extension of the national parks system to represent Pacific, Arctic, Atlantic and Great Lakes environments