Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan August 1989



unique coastal formation processes - ISLAND VIEW BEACH

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT BYLAW NO. 2469

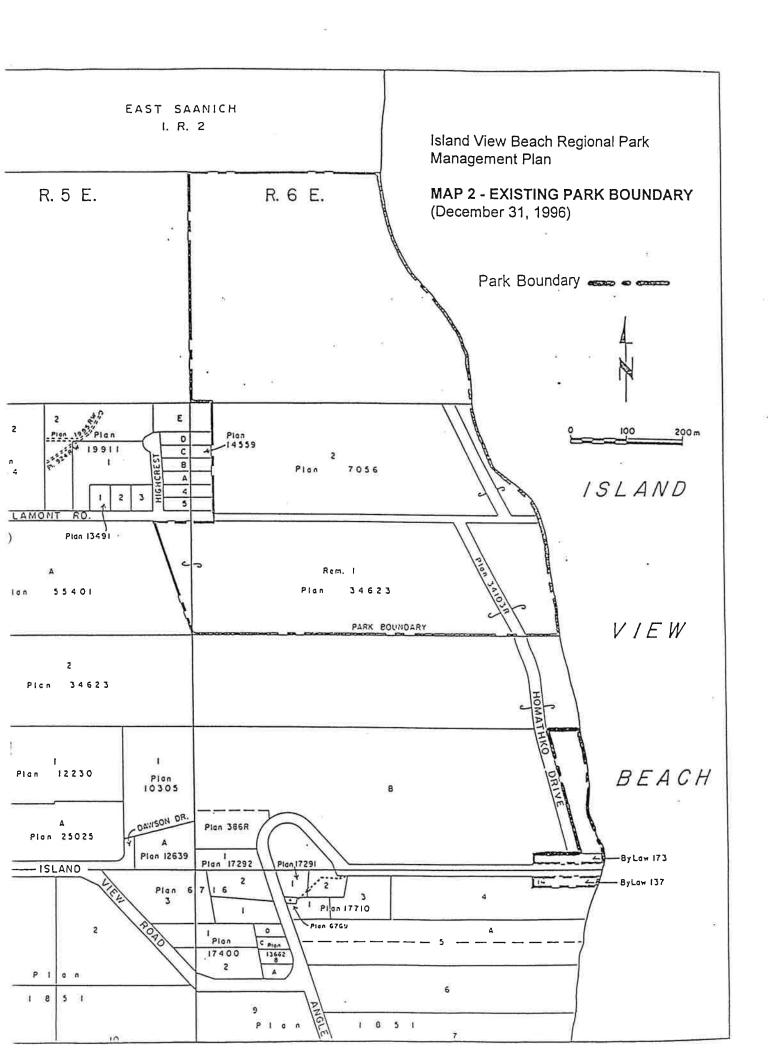
A BYLAW TO AMEND BYLAW NO. 1732 "ISLAND VIEW BEACH REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN BYLAW NO 1, 1989"

The Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

- 1. Bylaw No. 1732, the "Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan Bylaw No. 1, 1989" is amended by deleting Map 2 Existing Park Land and replacing it with Map 2 Existing Park Boundary (December 31, 1996).
- 2. This bylaw may be cited as "Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan, Bylaw No. 1, 1989, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 1997".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	15th	day of	January	1997
READ A SECOND TIME	15th	day of	January	1997
READ A THIRD TIME	15th	day of	January	1997
ADOPTED THIS	15th	day of	January	1997

SECRETARY



CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 2393

A BYLAW TO AMEND BYLAW NO. 1732
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"ISLAND VIEW BEACH REGIONAL PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN BYLAW NO 1, 1989"
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The Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled enacts as follows:

- 1. Bylaw No. 1732, the "Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan Bylaw No. 1, 1989" is amended by adding a new Section 3.7.2 (ix) as follows:
 - "3.7.2 (ix) The CRD Board may permit a mobile food stand on a trial basis in Island View Beach Regional Park from May 15, 1996 to September 15, 1996."
- 2. This bylaw may be cited as "Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan, Bylaw No. 1, 1989, Amendment Bylaw No. 1, 1996".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	22nd	day of	May	1996
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	22nđ	day of	May	1996
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	22nd	day of	May	1996
ADOPTED THIS	22nd	day of	May	1996

CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

BYLAW NO. 2386

****	*****	*****	*****	*******	*****	
	A BYLAW TO AMEND BYLAW NO. 1492, "OFFICIAL REGIONAL PARK PLAN BYLAW NO. 1, 1986"					
****	*******	****	****	******	******	
The B	oard of the Capital Regional Dist	rict in open meet	ing assembled e	enacts as follows:		
1.	Bylaw No. 1492, the "Official Regional Park Plan Bylaw No. 1, 1986" is amended by adding a new Section 3.3.2.8 under 3.3.2 Commercial Services in Volume 2: POLICY STATEMENTS as follows:					
	3.3.2.8 The CRD Board may p	permit mobile co	ncession stands	in regional parks.		
2.	This bylaw may be cited as "C 1996."	Official Regional	Park Plan Byla	w No. 1, 1986, Amendme	nt Bylaw No. 1,	
REAL	A FIRST TIME THIS	10th	day of	April	1996	
REAL	A SECOND TIME THIS 10th	10th	day of	April	1996	
REAL	A THIRD TIME THIS	10th	day of	April	1996	
APPROVED BY THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT, LANDS AND PARKS THIS 30th day of April 1996						
ADOI	PTED THIS	22nd	day of	May	1996	
CHAIRPERSON SECRETARY						

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT

BY-LAW NO. 1732

A BY-LAW TO ADOPT A MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR ISLAND VIEW BEACH REGIONAL PARK

WHEREAS the Board of the Capital Regional District deems it necessary to adopt a by-law for the Management Plan for Island View Beach Regional Park;

NOW THEREFORE the Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

- 1. The Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan, marked as Schedule "A" attached hereto and forming part of this by-law, is hereby designated as the Management Plan for Island View Beach Regional Park.
- 2. This by-law may be cited as the "Island View Beach Regional Park Management Plan By-law No. 1, 1989".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	9th	day of	August	1989
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	9th	day of	August	1989
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	9th	day of	August	1989
RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY	ADOPTED	THIS 9th	day of August	1989

CHAIRMAN

SECRETARY



DUNES/SALTMARSH



BEACH ACTIVITIES

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Preparation of a park management plan for Island View Beach Regional Park has been a top priority for the Capital Regional District for the past two years. While Island View Beach has been a Capital Regional District Park for over two decades, the time has come to create a clear vision and commitment for expanding the extent of the park and for improving the facilities and public access in the park.

During the planning process, widely divergent views have been expressed by landowners, recreational vehicle owners, equestrians, and environmentalists. In the end, compromises have been made; however, I am confident that the plan presents a park concept that will benefit the entire region and many generations to come.

This plan reflects the input of many individuals. Five public meetings were held. Newsletters and questionnaires were available to residents in several locations throughout the region. Newsletters were mailed to 187 people, including all adjacent landowners. The plan was also presented on two occasions to the major and council of Central Saanich.

In addition, an adhoc public advisory group was established to address the issue of equestrian use in the park. Members of the group were:

Mrs. Karen Harris, Saanich/Victoria Horse Trails Association

Mr. Bruce Whittington, Victoria Natural History Society

Dr. Robert Ogilvie, Royal British Columbia Museum

Dr. Adolf Ceska, Royal British Columbia Museum

Ms. Jan Garnett, local resident and park user

On behalf of the Capital Regional District, I would like thank all the people who have given their time and input in the preparation of this plan.

Wayne Watkins,

Capital Regional District

Chairman, Regional Parks Committee

Members of the 1989 Regional Parks Committee:

Director W. Watkins, Chairman (Central Saanich)

Director M. Aldersmith (View Royal)

Director J. Baird (Victoria)

Director J. Garrison (Saanich)

Director L. Michaluk (North Saanich)

Director H. Sturrock (Saanich)
Director H. Volk (Metchosin)

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The management plan outlines how Island View Beach Regional Park will be managed, developed and used in the future. The plan states in a broad but comprehensive manner park management goals, objectives and strategies for achieving them. The goals, objectives and policies are highlighted in section 3 of this document. The main points of the plan are summarized here:

- * Acquisition of additional land for regional park purposes is considered a high priority. It is proposed that the area east of Homathko Drive between the two park areas and the area west of Homathko Drive and adjacent to the main park area be acquired;
- * The park classification as "Nature Appreciation" in the Official Regional Park Plan will be remain; however, an "Outdoor Recreation" zone is assigned to the beach and additional waterfront property proposed for acquisitions, located south of the existing park.
- * Increased emphasis will be placed on interpretation of the park's natural resources. An interpretive trail will be developed;
- * Disturbed natural areas, particularly the dune area and the new dyke, will be rehabilitated;
- * The preparation of a natural resource inventory and assessment, particularly of vegetation, is a high priority;
- * The existing equestrian cross country course will permitted to remain in the park but shall not be expanded. Measures will be taken to minimize the impact of this use on the natural features and other visitors use of the park;
- * No general public equestrian use will be permitted in the park;
- * Public nudity will be prohibited; and
- * The existing parking area located on Homathko Drive is proposed to be relocated closer to the main park area.

Implementation of this plan is considered the highest priority in the context of the overall Regional Park system.

SECTION 1

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 PURPOSE OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

A management plan is a statement of how a park will be managed, developed and used in the future. It states in a broad but comprehensive manner park management goals, objectives and the strategies for achieving them. The plan will outline:

- * the opportunities that will be available for visitors to enjoy and appreciate the park,
- * how the park's resources will be managed and protected,

* what facilities and services will be provided,

* park boundary,

* park interpretive/educational themes and programs,

* guidelines for responses to requests to use/develop park land (requests made by community groups, private organizations, interest groups or businesses),

* development priorities and phasing, and

* the financial and human resources implications of developing, operating and maintaining the park.

1.2 THE PARK IN THE CONTEXT OF THE REGIONAL PARKS SYSTEM

In 1987, the Capital Regional District Board adopted an Official approved by the Regional Parks Plan. This plan was also The Provincial Minister Environment and Parks. of System's Regional Parks for the framework establishes а development, management and operation. This framework includes statements on the purpose and goals of regional parks.

1.2.1 Purpose and Goals of Regional Parks

The purpose of Regional Parks is:

to provide a diversity of protected natural landscapes for the residents of the Capital Regional District to enjoy and appreciate, offering them the opportunity to incorporate outdoor activities in the natural environment into their lifestyle.

The goals of Regional Parks are:

- to protect a system of diverse natural areas that will support appropriate recreational pursuits and which illustrate the natural characteristics of the region,
- (ii) to provide regionally significant opportunities for a variety of appropriate outdoor recreational activities for people of all ages and abilities,
- (iii) to provide regionally significant opportunities for park visitors to learn about the natural environment, and
 - (iv) to provide park areas in proximity to all residents of the CRD.

1.2.2 Park Classification

The Official Regional Parks Plan defined a park classification system. The park classification system is composed of four classes:

- * Nature Appreciation,
- * Recreation,
- * Wilderness Recreation, and
- * Park Corridors.

The classification system provides fundamental direction for each park class. Within a park class, parks share a common primary purpose and similar goals. Therefore, the park class purpose and goal statements outline what the dominant character of parks in a particular class will be. They also provide general guidance to the management plan and subsequent park development and management.

Island View Beach Regional Park is classified as a Nature Appreciation Park.

The purpose of Nature Appreciation parks is;

"to provide opportunities for visitors to increase their awareness and knowledge of these special protected landscapes and the natural environments of the Capital Regional District in general that they represent".

The goals of Nature Appreciation Parks are;

- To protect the natural landscapes and/or seascapes of the park, particularly regionally significant representative or sensitive resources.
- 2. To present and interpret, through the use of a thematic approach, the natural history of the park and the associated human resources.
- 3. To develop appropriate park facilities and to manage park activities in order to avoid deterioration of the park's natural setting and features.
- 4. To promote and encourage use of the park for residents of and visitors to the CRD.
- 5. To provide opportunities for environmentally compatible passive day use recreational activities.

Distinctive features of this class are emphasis on nature interpretation, limited number of recreational activities in the park and preservation of park natural resources in as pristine a condition as possible.

The park has many regionally significant natural features that provide opportunities for nature interpretation. These opportunities should be taken advantage of, and are considered an integral part of activities in the park.

Protecting the natural environment is also important as many users state that the "naturalness" of the park is why they recreate at Island View Beach. The park has a long history of human intrusions (e.g. dyke, drainage ditches) and an established cross-country equestrian course. Under the "Nature Appreciation" classification, existing use will be managed to minimize impact on the natural resources of the park and further intrusions and damage in the park will be curbed. Vegetation and dune processes will be allowed to rehabilitate as much as possible.

Although the park classification will remain "Nature Appreciation", the outdoor recreation component of the park is important. At Island View Beach in the summer months, beach-oriented activities, including sunbathing, beachcombing, and group and family picnicing involve the highest number and concentration of visitors. The proposed acquisition of the additional waterfront property to the south of the existing park recognizes the regional significance of Island View Beach for these outdoor recreation activities. Therefore, the primary emphasis for the southern portion of the park should be recreation and zoned for development of park facilities to support such activities (refer to page 14 and 15 "Zoning").

1.2.3 Park Type

The Official Regional Parks Plan identifies that the natural characteristics of the Capital Region should be represented in regional parks. The aim is to reflect the landscape features and geography of the region. There are three park types; coastline, highland forest and freshwater lakes and rivers. Island View Beach Regional Park represents Ocean Coastline.

The Official Regional Parks Plan places emphasis on the acquisition and development of coastline parkland. The quality and size of Island View Beach is unique on the peninsula and is regionally significant. The uniqueness and shortage of this type of environment dictates a need to protect it.

Island View Beach is a significant example of the shoreline environment in a number of ways. The park is a representative example of a dynamic coastal formation process, with erosion from Cowichan Head to the south through to formation of Cordova Spit to the north. It is the longest sand beach on the peninsula and has a significant backshore area. The park also has regionally significant dunes. Although they are not large in elevation, they cover a large part of the park. In addition, they have a cross section representative of a typical dune formation. That is, they have a foredune, a lower area behind the foredune know as the dune slack, and the backdune. These areas have plant communities which are unique in the region and include some rare plant species.

The salt marsh also contains unique plant communities and is important bird habitat. Although there are a few other salt marshes in the region, the one at Island View Beach is significant both in terms of its size and also its association with the adjoining dune areas.

1.2.4 Regionally Significant Features

Island View Beach Regional Park has a number of regionally significant features. As discussed above, the shoreline of the park is part of a dynamic coastal process. The coastal strip is an interrelated unit that requires protection in order to function undisturbed. The dune area also has high regional significance. Not only are there several rare plant species in this area but the plant communities as a whole are significant.

The birdlife at Island View Beach is also significant because of its diversity. Not only are there many species sighted at the park but there are several different habitat types. These provide birdwatching opportunities throughout the year.

SECTION 2

2.0 PARK CHARACTERISTICS

This section provides a summary of the park's characteristics

2.1 Regional Setting

Island View Beach Regional Park is located in the Corporation of the District of Central Saanich at the end of Island View Road (see map 1). It is the only regional park in Central Saanich. Island View Beach is part of one of the largest sand beaches on the Saanich Peninsula and it is also one of the only remaining public beachfronts on the peninsula.

The geographic location of the park in the region has a number of influences on the role of the park. The park is very close to major regional population sources. It is one of the closest regional parks to the four core municipalities (Victoria, Oak Bay, Esquimalt and Saanich). In addition, it is conveniently located to a local rural population and is within fifteen minutes of the centres of Brentwood, Saanichton and Sidney.

Despite the proximity to population, the physiography of the surrounding area provides for isolation of the park. The park is physically separated from surrounding areas by sandcliffs and a large drumlin ridge. It is also buffered by low density surrounding land use, particularly agricultural and some rural residential. Along the shoreline, the park is mid-distance between heavy shoreline population. Cowichan Head serves to buffer the park from residential areas in Cordova Bay to the south. Similarly, the Indian Reserve provides a buffer from residential areas to the north.

2.1.1 Official Community Plan

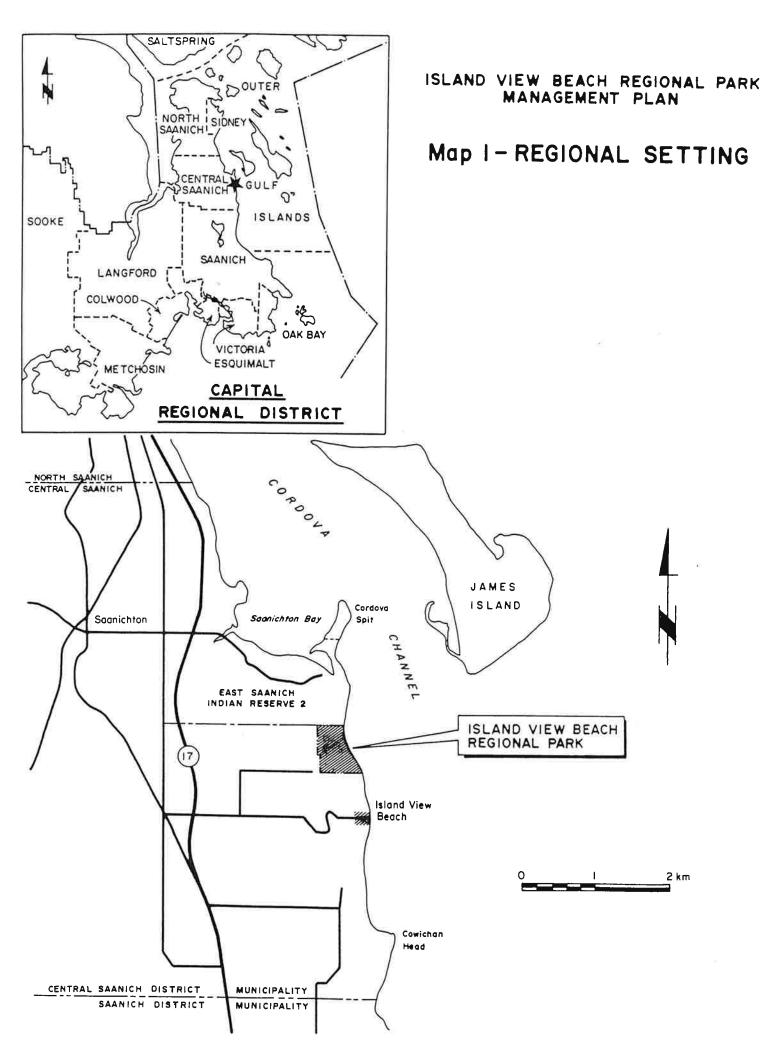
The Official Community Plan for the Corporation of the District of Central Saanich (By-law 773 as amended by by-law 864, adopted November 2, 1987) contains some specific policies regarding land acquisition at Island View Beach Regional Park. The relevant sections are as follows:

3.10.2 Objective:

To support the eventual acquisition of the Island View Beach area bounded by the waterfront, Island View Beach Park, Homathko Road, and Island View Road by the Capital Regional District as regional park.

Policy:

Council will encourage the Capital Regional District to achieve the objective of park aquisition in the Island View Beach area.



3.10.3 Objective:

To encourage use of the area between Cordova Spit and Cowichan Head that is compatible with the existing Regional Park and its planned expansion, which is passive recreation use.

Policies:

- (a) Agricultural use should be the predominant use of the flats between Homathko Road, its southerly extension, and the ridge.
- (b) Service Commercial uses which are not compatible with the passive recreation use of the area shall not be permitted.

2.1.2 Existing Park Boundary and Facilities

Island View Beach Regional Park was established in 1966. The park consists of two areas which are made up of four parcels of land (see Map 2). The total area is 25.9 hectares (64 acres). The parcels of land are:

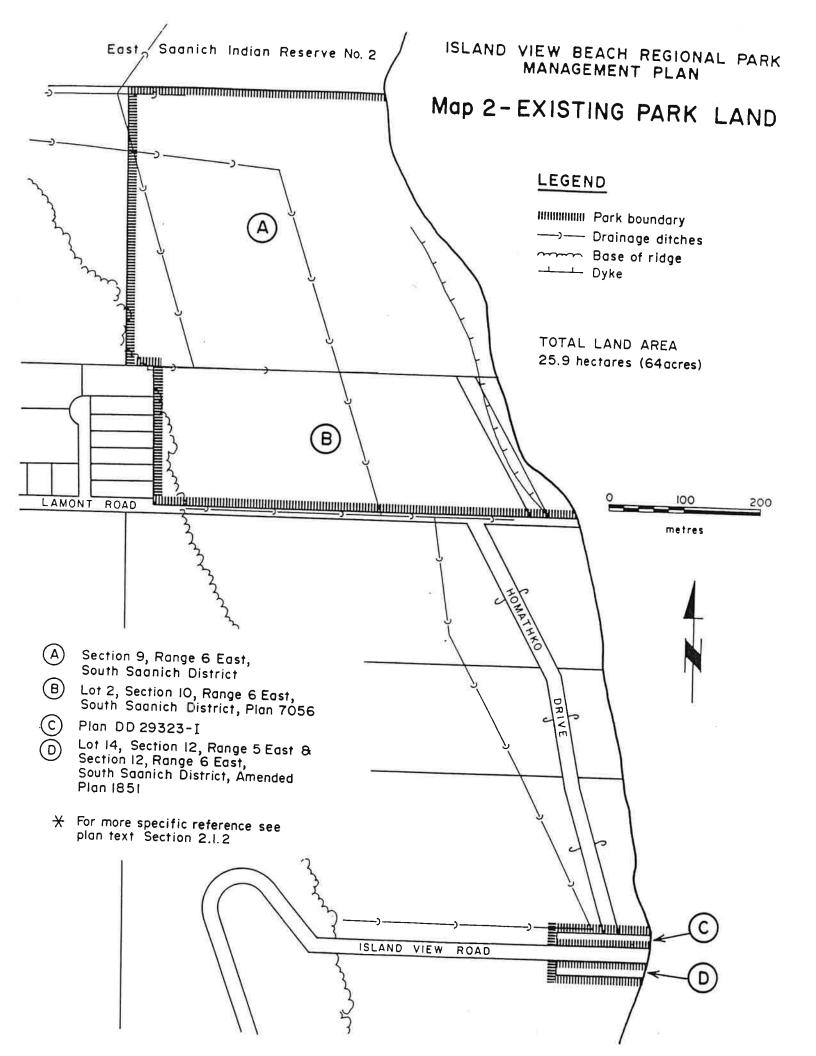
- * Section 9, Range 6 East, South Saanich District, (Easement Northerly 66 feet DD362267-I Appurtenant to Section 9, Range 5 East South Saanich District - Said Easement being for the purpose of access to the foreshore of Section 9, Range 5);
- * Lot 2, Section 10, Range 6 East, South Saanich District, Plan 7056;
- * Plan DD 29323-1 Parcel "C"; and
- * Lot 14, Section 12, Range 5 East and Section 12, Range 6 East, South Saanich Distrcit, Amended Plan 1851.

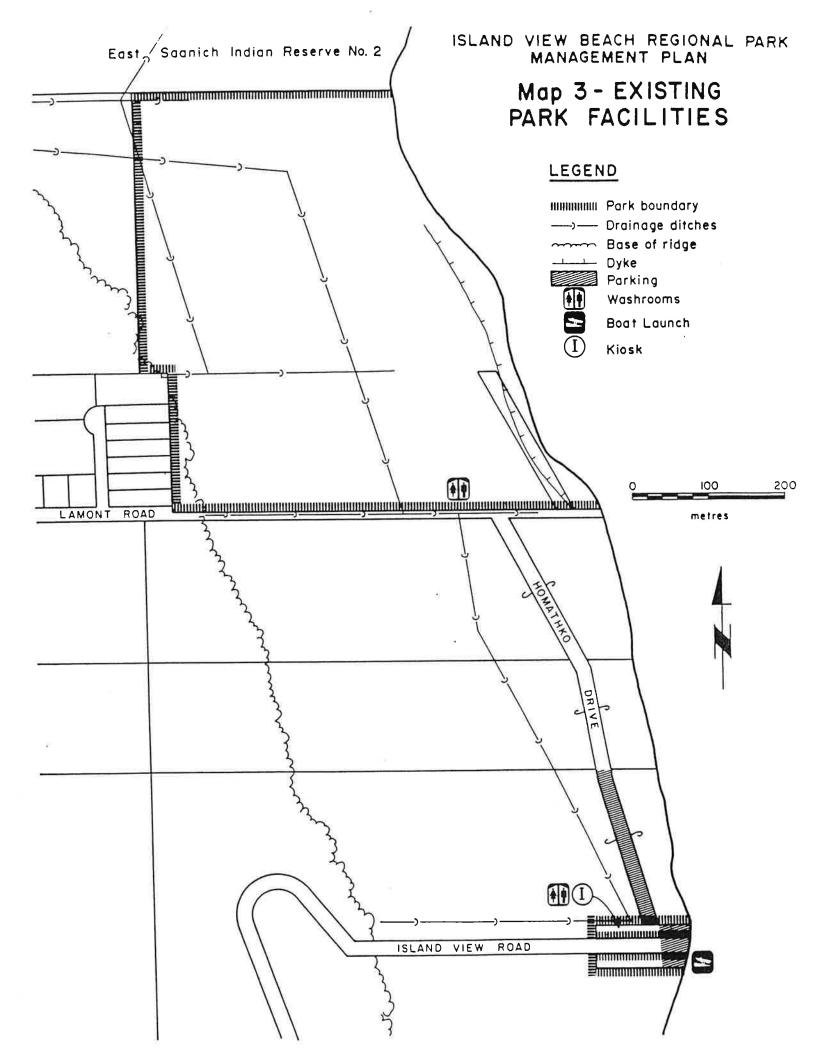
The main part of the park is located at the end of Homathko Drive and is 25.5 hectares (63 acres). The smaller and area is 0.4 hectares (1 acre) and is situated at the foot of Island View Road. Vehicle access to the main portion of the park is not provided. Visitors can walk to this portion of the park along Homathko Drive from the parking area or along the beach.

The separation of the two areas creates problems for visitors. They tend to be confused about the location of the main park area and how to get there. This situation needs to be rectified. Relocation of the parking area, a better access trail and signage could improve this situation.

2.1.3 Existing Park Facilities

Existing park facilities are shown on map 3.





Parking areas are located on Homathko Drive and at the end of Island View Road. The area on Homathko Drive holds approximately 75 vehicles. This parking area should be relocated closer to the main park area. Based on 1988 visitor use statistics and estimates for future use a parking area that accommodates approximately 150 vehicles is required. This type of facility cannot be located in the present park area because of its size and that it would have a negative impact on the character and natural resources of the park. The parking area at the end of Island View Road holds approximately 10 vehicles and is used primarily by people using the boat launch.

Toilets are located at the southern edge of the main park area and near Island View Road. A kiosk is also located near Island View Road. A boat launch is located within the park at the end of Island View Road.

Equestrian cross-country courses are also located in the park. Their location is shown on map 4.

2.1.4 Adjacent Land Uses

The property between Island View Road and the southern boundary of the large park parcel is privately owned. There are three parcels of land. These parcels are bisected by Homathko Drive. A portion of the two southerly parcels east of Homathko Drive are used for seasonal recreational vehicle parks. The recreational parks are currently allowed by temporary use permits. The permits expire in September 1989. The area west of Homathko Drive is farmland. All the parcels are zoned A-1 (Agricultural) but are not in the ALR.

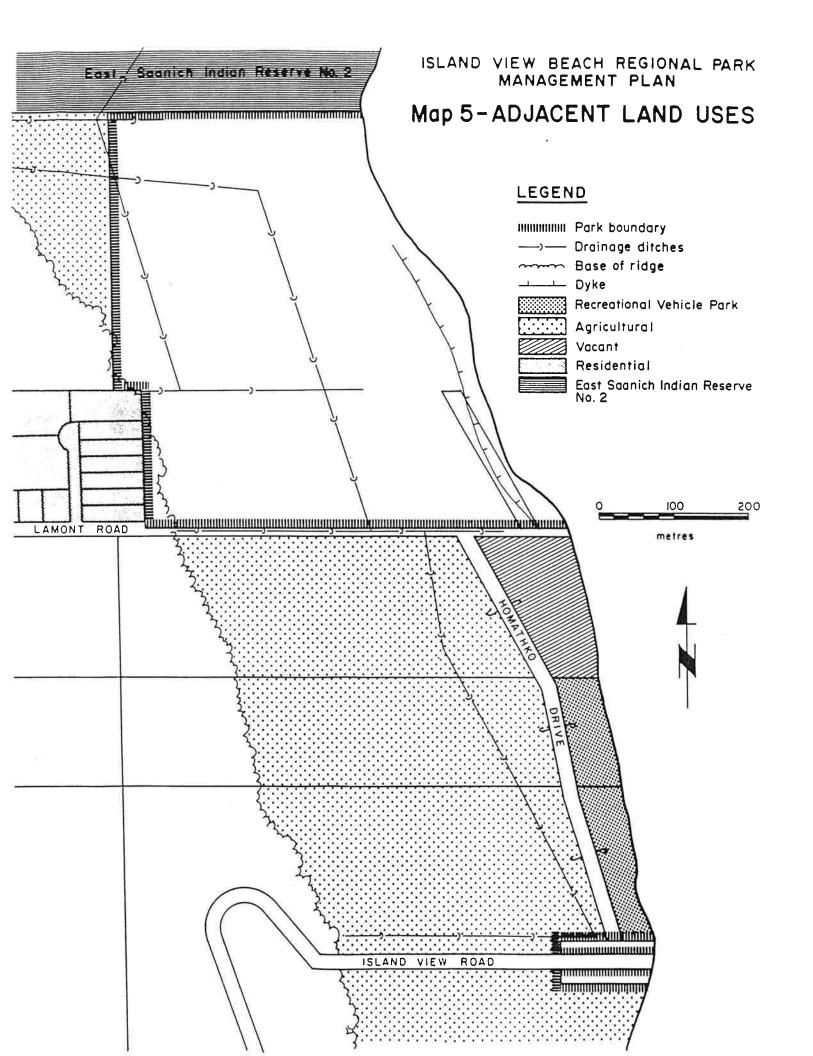
To the north the park is bordered by East Saanich Indian Reserve No. 2. The area to the west of the large park parcel is privately owned and is in residential and farmland use.

The area to the south of Island View Road is privately owned and farmland.

2.2 NATURAL RESOURCES

Island View Beach Regional Park is situated in a primarily natural setting, isolated by the ridge behind the park. The beach, dunes and marshes of the park are part of a larger coastal formation process. The beach and dunes are part of a dynamic system of erosion from Cowichan Head (south of the park), northwards to depletion at Saanichton Spit.

The vegetation of the park is unique in the region. The vegetation units are shown on map 6. The diversity of environments (beach, dune and salt marsh) results in a full range of plant communities and a high diversity of plant species. The primary area of concern is the sand and dune habitats. There are many plant species within the park that are considered rare. Based on the plant specimens in the B.C. Provincial Herbarium, their are eighteen rare vascular plants at Island View Beach Regional Park (the species listed are those designated as rare in Retailing the Catalogue of Rare Vascular Plants of British Columbia - National Museum of Canada, 1985);



(i) Park Attributes

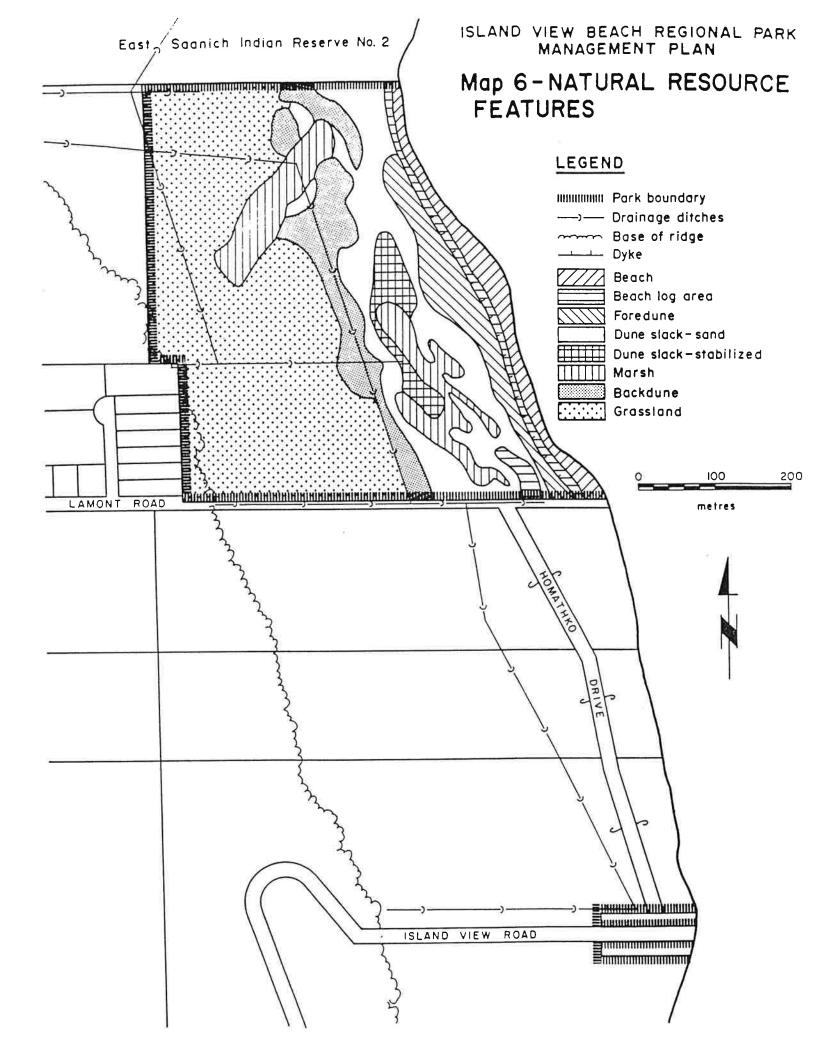
In order of importance park attributes are rated as follows:

- * Solitude and Relaxation;
- * Aesthetic/Scenic Value;
- * Outdoor Recreation; and
- * Nature Study/Appreciation

(j) Activities

In order of inportance park activities are rated as follows:

- * Tan/Relax;
- * Beachcombing;
- * Sightingseeing;
- * Picnicking;
- * Swimming;
- * Walk Dog;
- * Nature Study;
- * Birdwatch;
- * Play Games;
- * Ride Horse; and
- * Fishing, Attend Event, Row Boat, Sailing and Wind Surfing.



Yellow sand-verbena - Abronia latifolia, Beach morning-glory - Calystegia (Convolvulus) soldanella, Twisted pod evening-primose - Camissonia (Oenothera) contorta, Big-head sedge, Carex macrocephala, Beach silver-top, Glehina littoralis ssp. leiocarpa, Fleshy jaumea- Jaumea carnosa, Gray beach peavine - Lathyrus littoralis, Dune bluegrass - poa confinis, Seashore bluegrass - Poa douglasii ssp. macrantha, Beach knotweed - Polygonum paronychia, Beach sand spurrey - Sergularia macrotheca, Taper-tip onion - Allium acuminatum, Thrift, sea pink - Armeria maritima, Harvest brodiaea - Brodiaea coronaria Farewell to spring - Clarkia amoena, Saltmarsh dodder - Cuscuta salina beach silvertop - Glehnia littoralis ssp. leiocarpa Howell's montia - Monita howellii, and Least mousetail - Myosurus minimus.

Eighteen rare species in the park is a large number for such a small area. many of these species belong to the southern floristic element. These rare plants are of special botanical importance for several reasons.

Southern British Columbia is the only place in Canada where many of these species are to be found. Most grow on the loose sands and sand-dunes of the sea-shore, a relatively restricted habitat in the province. Such habitats are also easily eroded and highly susceptible to human disturbance. Indeed, there are very few such habitats remaining that have not been disturbed by human activity.

The range of environments within or adjacent to the park also results in a diversity of wildlife habitats. There are mammals common to the area, and there are very few times of the year when the park is not frequented by sea or shore birds, waterfowl, woodland or field species.

2.3 RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES

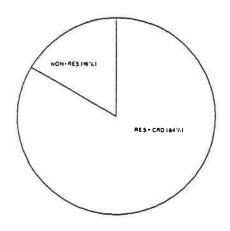
The primary recreation opportunities at the park are sunbathing, beachcombing, nature study and appreciation, birdwatching, picnicking, and activities associated with the equestrian cross-country courses. There is also a boat launch in the park. This is the only public boat launch between Oak Bay and Sidney.

2.4 VISITOR USE

In the summer of 1988 a visitor use survey was conducted at Island View Beach Regional Park. The results of this survey only apply to use of the park during the period June 15 to August 15, 1988. Therefore, the results cannot be interpreted to represent use in the park at other times of the year. The findings of the visitor use survey are as follows.

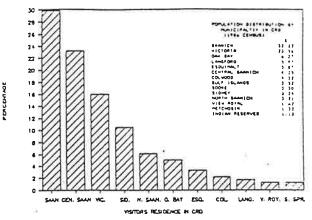
^{*} Visitor Attendance Estimates: July 1988 - 27,500

(a) Visitors Place of Residence (b) Resident Visitors Place



- * 84% non-residents
- * 16% residents of CRD

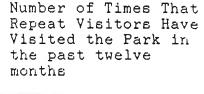
(b) Resident Visitors Place of Residence in CRD PLACE OF RESIDENCE IN CRD

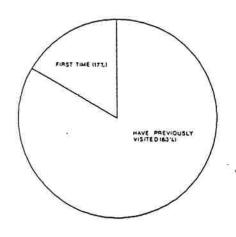


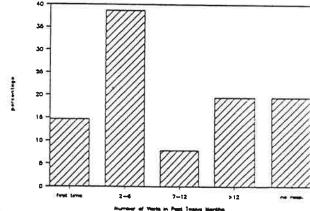
* 23% of resident visitors from Central Saanich

(c) Visitation Characteristics

Comparison of First Time/Repeat Visitors



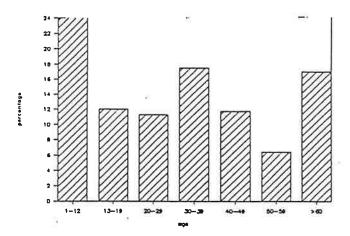




(d) Average Group Size

The average group size was 3.7 people.

(e) Age Distribution of Visitors

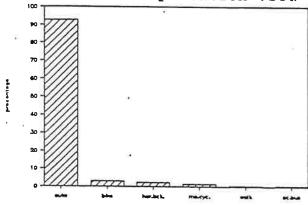


- * 24% of vistors are less than 12 years old
- * 18% of visitors are 30-39 years old
- * data indicates that many families with children visit the park

(f) Average Length of Stay

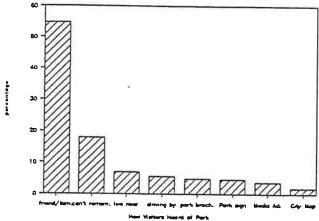
The average length of stay in the park for visitors was 2.0 hours.

(g) Method of Transportation Used to Reach Park



* over 90% of visitors use an automobile to reach the park

(h) How People Heard About the Park



* majority of visitors hear about the park from family and/or friends

SECTION 3

.

3.0 MANAGEMENT PLAN

3.1 MANAGEMENT PLAN GOALS

The management plan goals express the desired direction for the future management and development of the park. All objective and policy statements are directed and limited by the goals. Therefore, the goals are the cornerstone of the plan.

- * TO PROTECT THE NATURAL RESOURCES AND CHARACTER OF THE PARK, PARTICULARLY THE REGIONALLY SIGNIFICANT REPRESENTATIVE AND SENSITIVE RESOURCES (i.e. dune area, salt water marsh and unique plant communities, bird habitat and life).
- * TO PROVIDE OPPORTUNITIES FOR A VARIETY OF ENVIRONMENTALLY COMPATIBLE DAY USE OUTDOOR RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES FOR PEOPLE OF ALL AGES AND PHYSICAL LEVELS.
- * TO MINIMIZE CONFLICTS AMONG RECREATIONAL USERS.
- * TO DEVELOP APPROPRIATE PARK FACILITIES AND TO MANAGE THE PARK ACTIVITIES IN ORDER TO UTILIZE THE NATURAL RECREATIONAL POTENTIAL OF THE PARK WHILE AVOIDING DETERIORATION OF THE PARK'S NATURAL FEATURES AND SETTING.
- * TO PRESENT AND INTERPRET, THROUGH THE USE OF A THEMATIC APPROACH, THE NATURAL HISTORY OF THE PARK AND ASSOCIATED HUMAN HISTORY.
- * TO PROMOTE AND ENCOURAGE USE OF THE PARK FOR THE RESIDENTS OF AND VISITORS TO THE CRD.
- * TO ACQUIRE ADDITIONAL LANDS FOR PARK PURPOSES.
- * TO COOPERATE WITH THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL SAANICH AND ADJACENT LAND OWNERS REGARDING THE MANAGEMENT, DEVELOPMENT AND OPERATION OF THE PARK.

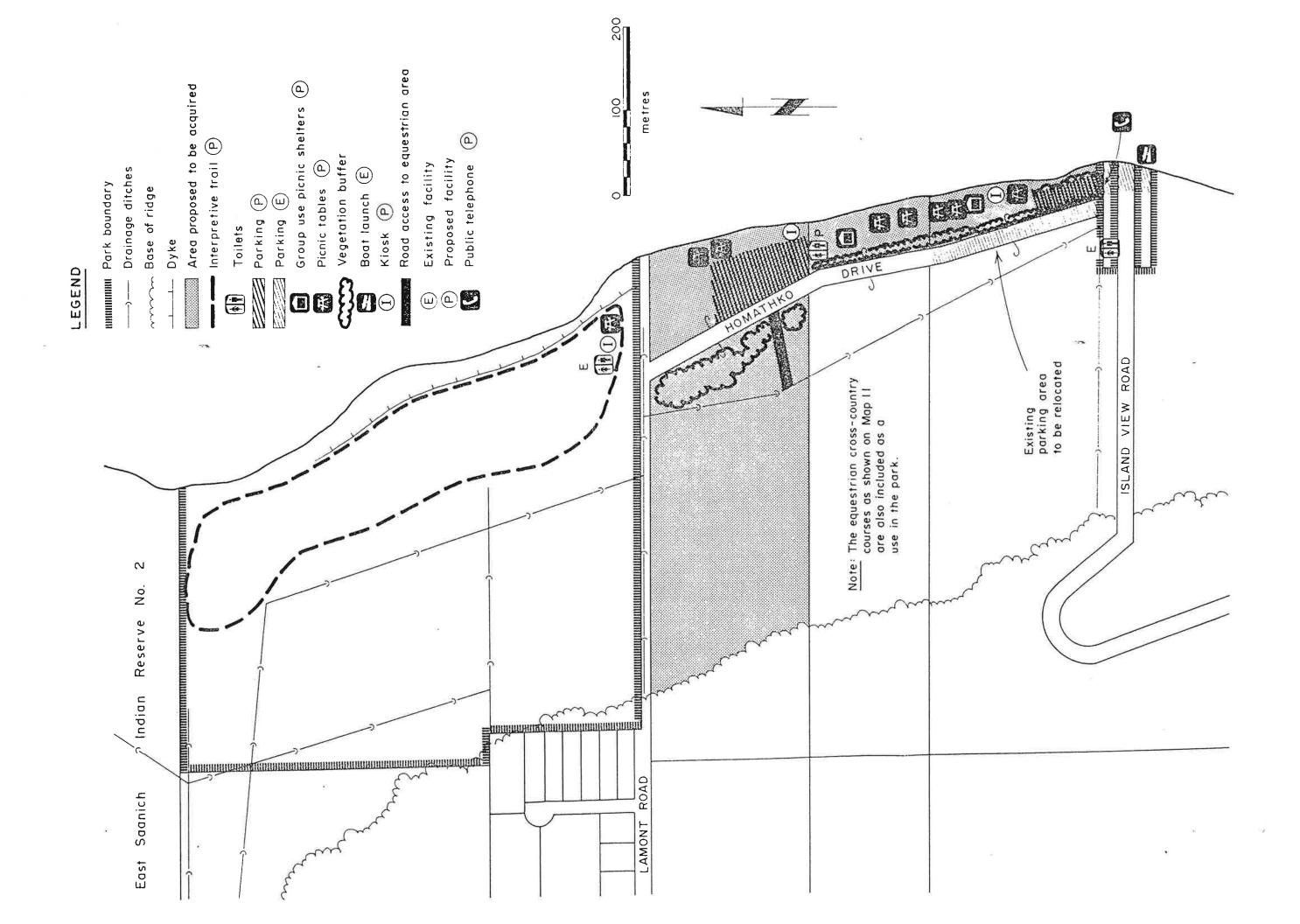
3.2 PARK CONCEPT

The intent of this section is to summarize within one overall concept the different elements of the plan. The plan concept is shown on map 7. In the plan concept two scenarios are defined.

The first scenario assumes that additional land will be acquired. This will provide for increased recreational opportunities. These activities would include two group picnic areas and an expanded public beach area. Improved parking facilities and access to the park would also be provided.

The second scenario focuses on managing the existing park lands. This scenario assumes that the only additional land acquired would be approximately .6 hectares (1.5 acres) adjacent to the main park area. The purpose of acquiring this area is to relocate the existing parking area on Homathko Drive adjacent to the main park area. This use cannot be located in the present park because it would have a negative impact on the parks' natural resources and character. Therefore, the acquisition of this area is ESSENTIAL

Map 7 - PLAN CONCEPT



for improving access to the park if lands identified in the first scenario are not acquired.

The second scenario also stresses managing the traditional recreational uses of the park; nature study, birdwatching, beachcombing, walking and the cross-country equestrian courses. Few new facilities would be provided. The goal is to provide good basic facilities that meet the needs of visitors. In this scenario, recreational opportunities for group picnics as well as an expanded public beach area will not be provided.

Both scenarios emphasis protection of the natural features and character of the park; particularly the lands north of the east-west drainage ditch. Another common element is that there will be an increased emphasis on interpretation of the parks' natural resources. The equestrian cross-country course is also permitted in each scenario. The equestrian use will, however, be managed through a licence of occupation and monitored to ensure that it has minimal impact on the natural resources and character of the park or on other visitors experience or enjoyment of the park.

3.3 BOUNDARY DEFINITION

The question of whether the park boundary should be expanded is a major issue of the plan. Expansion is supported by the public and municipality. It is also considered important for the development of park facilities required to support the level of visitor use at the park and to protect the parks' natural resources and character.

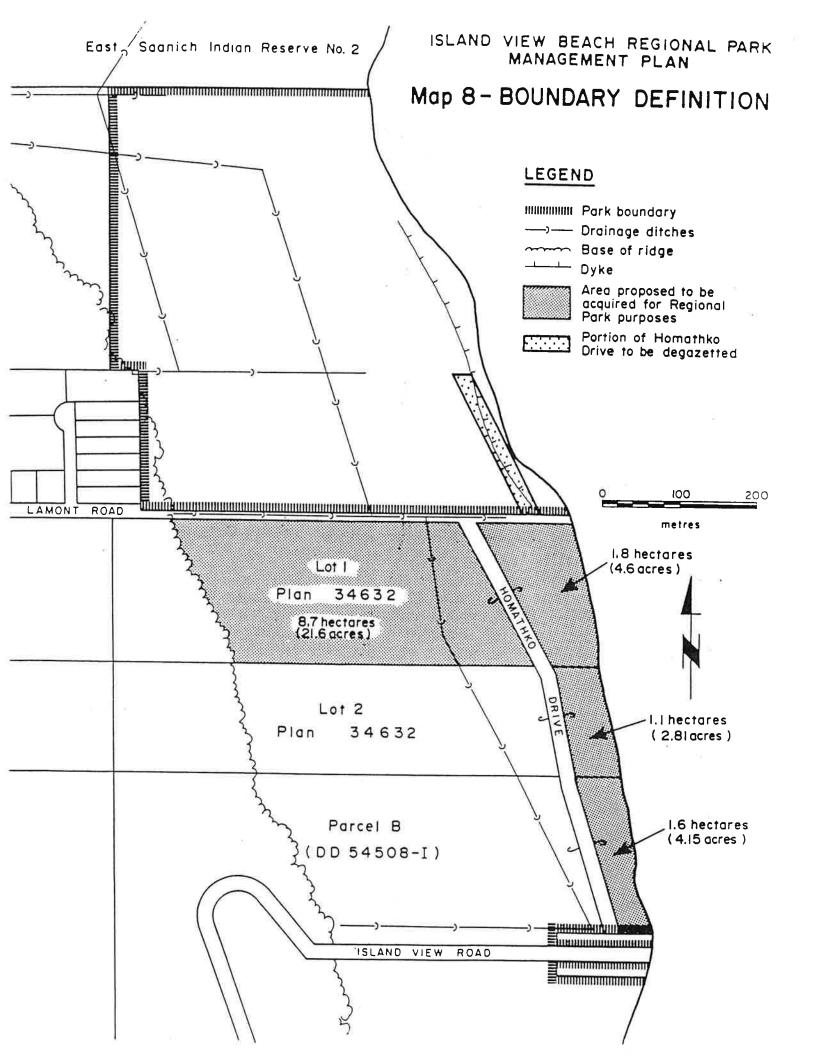
The issue of land acquisition was referred to the Regional Parks Committee (October 1988) and the Capital Regional District Board (November 1988). Both unanimously endorsed the acquisition of additional land for park purposes. The area endorsed is shown on map 8.

Objective:

(i) To acquire the land east of Homathko Drive between the existing two park parcels and an area west of Homathko Drive and adjacent to the main park area (see map 8).

Policies:

- (i) The Capital Regional District shall negotiate with property owners to acquire the area shown on map 8 for regional park purposes.
- (ii) The CRD does not object to the area west of Homathko Drive on Lot 2 Plan 34623, Section 11, Range 5 and 6 and Parcel B (DD54508-I) of Section 11, Range 5 and 6 East being considered for Recreational Vehicle Park use subject to a vegetation buffer being provided on those parcels adjacent to Homathko Drive. (THE CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT RECOGNIZES THAT THE MUNICIPALITY OF CENTRAL SAANICH CONTROLS LOCAL LAND-USE DECISIONS THROUGH ITS OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN AND ZONING BY-LAW.)



- (iii) If additional land is acquired a detailed site development plan will be prepared and submitted to the Regional Parks Committee for approval prior to any development taking place.
- (iv) If no additional land is acquired the need to retain the two parcels of land at the end of Island View road for regional parks purposes shall be assessed.
- (v) Lamont Road will be not included as part of the park.
- (vi) The Regional Parks Department shall request the Municipality to degazette the portion of Homathko Road that is located within Island View Beach Regional Park (see map 8).

3.4 ZONING

Zoning is a park management technique that classifies parks areas according to management intent on the basis of their significance for protection and their potential for use.

Zoning prescribes the balance between preservation and use of an area by outlining the type and level of acceptable uses, thereby minimizing conflicts between incompatible activities and land uses.

Three zones will be applied to Island View Beach Regional Park; Special Preservation, Natural Environment and Outdoor Recreation. They are defined below and are identified on map 9.

(i) Special Preservation Zone

The basic purpose of the Special Preservation zone is to preserve significant natural features or areas of the park. These features or areas deserve special preservation because of unique, rare, endangered, or representative nature. The primary park management objective is the preservation of the park resources included in this zone.

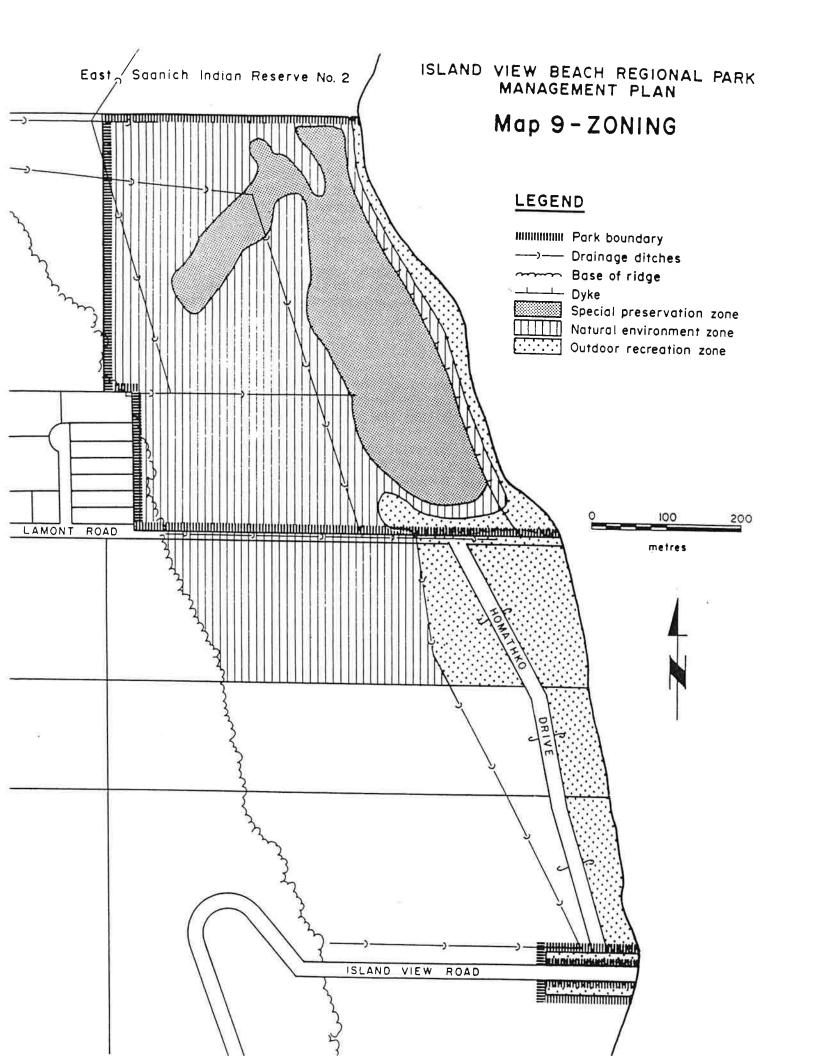
The uses that are permitted will be controlled according to the degree of fragility of the designated features. Specific resource management techniques must be employed that will preserve the resources.

This zone includes the foredune, the dune slack and the marsh area in the existing park.

(ii) Natural Environment Zone

The basic purpose of the Natural Environment zone is to preserve natural settings. The management objective for resources is preservation of their natural characteristics. This zoning also expresses duality of management objectives related to maintaining a natural setting while providing compatible recreational opportunities.

This zone includes the backdune area, grasslands and beach log area.



(iii) Outdoor Recreation Zone

This zone designation has resource protection objectives oriented towards minimizing the negative impacts of a broad range of general outdoor opportunities and facilities on the natural environment.

The basic purpose of this zone in terms of visitor use is to provide visitors with general outdoor opportunities and facilities to permit them to participate in the full-range of activities permissible in regional parks, and keeping with the capability of resources to support this use.

This zone includes the beach area and the additional waterfront property proposed for acquisition, located south of the existing park.

3.5 NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Objectives:

- (i) To protect the natural resources and character of the park.
- (ii) To develop and maintain a natural resource inventory and management system for the park.
- (iii) To manage and protect the natural processes in the park so that they do not have a negative impact on adjacent land.
- (iv) To provide a high degree of protection and management for the vegetation of the park.
 - (v) To rehabilitate disturbed natural areas of the park.

- (i) A natural resource data base will be developed and maintained for the park. In particular, a detailed inventory and assessment of vegetation shall be prepared. The most crucial areas are the marsh and sand dunes. The Regional Parks Department will consult with the Royal British Columbia Museum, Provincial Ministry of Environment and University of Victoria in preparing this inventory and assessment.
- (ii) The natural resource inventory and assessment will detail unique, rare or endangered species or features and will define management and protective measures.
- (iii) There shall be no removal of vegetation except where necessary for park development and management;
 - * vegetation removal of exotic or introduced species such as broom or other noxious weeds may be necessary in order to allow for reestablishment of native species, and

- * vegetation removal for park development and management shall be minimized but may include grass mowing and removal for mosquito and drainage control.
- (iv) The Parks Department will endeavour to be a "good neighbour" with adjacent landowners. In special circumstances, action may be taken to protect adjacent land from natural processes (e.g. flooding). In this context, material may be added to the dykes as required to reinforce, stabilize, and maintain them for normal winter conditions. The dykes should have an impervious core and be designed to tie into the natural environment. Ideally the dyke should be perceived to be part of a frontal dune system.
- (vi) Disturbed natural areas, particularly the new dyke, will be rehabilitated whenever possible. This will include the planting of native species. This will be done in consultation with the Royal British Columbia Museum, Provincial Ministry of Environment and University of Victoria.
- (vii) Baseline cross-sectional surveys of the park and adjacent foreshores should be undertaken to serve as basic park design data and a reference to monitor foreshore change.
 - (v) Loose sand areas in the foredune and dune slack areas shall be stabilized against erosion from wind, water and visitor use. The areas needing immediate attention for stabilization and/or rehabilitation include those which have been most modified by previous use; in particular the berm area located adjacent to the salt marsh, the north half of the dune slack and segments of the foredune.
 - (vi) Hunting shall be prohibited in the park, including the use of predatory birds.
- (vii) Cutting of logs will be prohibited in the park.
- (viii) Some of the areas in the park that contain unique, rare or endangered plant species will be closed to public use. These areas will be managed as an undisturbed natural environment. These areas shall be defined in the natural resource inventory and assessment and shall be included in the interpretive program for the park.

3.6 CULTURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION

Objective:

(i) To identify and protect the historical, archaeological and paleontological resources of the park.

Policies:

- A study of the historic land uses of the park shall be prepared.
- (ii) An inventory and assessment of the archaeological resources shall be prepared. This survey would focus on the area identified on map 10. Although this is not required immediately, it should be done prior to implementing any plans to alter this area in any way which could adversely effect subsurface deposits. The Heritage Conservation Branch (Impact Assessment Section) should be consulted in this matter.

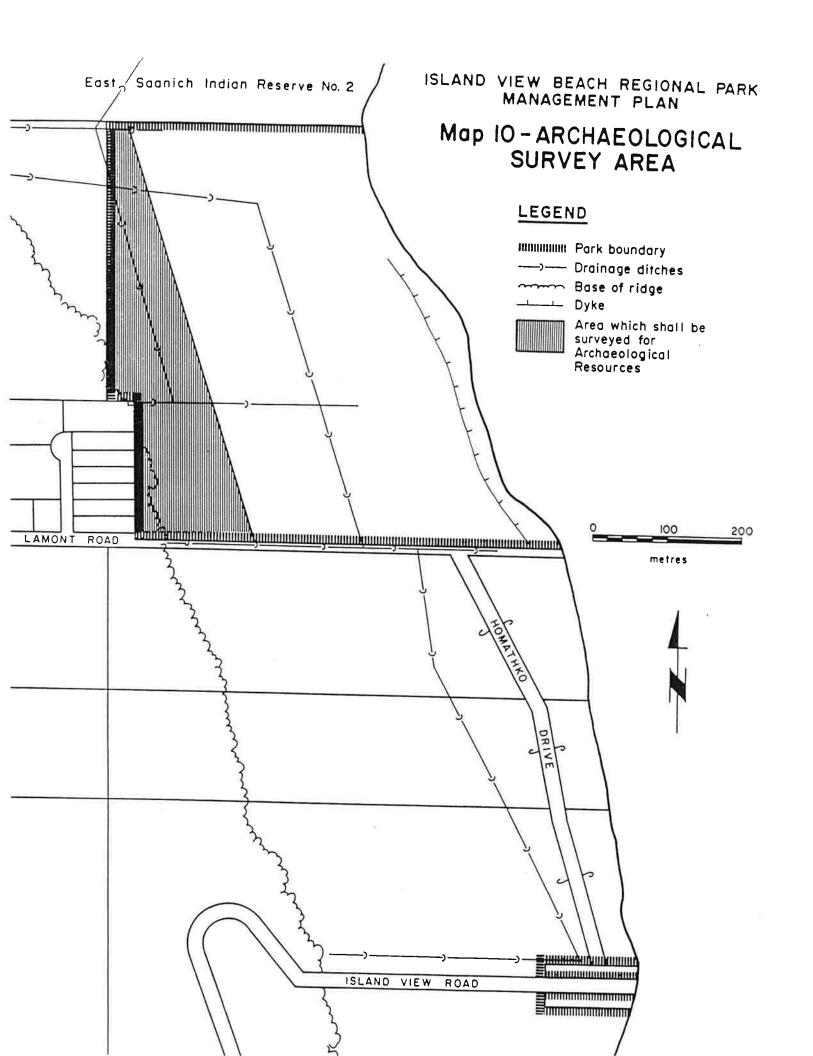
3.7 VISITOR USE AND FACILITIES

3.7.1 Visitor Use

Objectives:

- To provide opportunities for a variety of environmentally compatible outdoor recreational activities for people of all ages and abilities.
- (ii) To provide opportunities for people to explore and enjoy the different natural areas of the park.
- (iii) To ensure that recreational activities have a minimal impact on the natural resources and character of the park.
- (iv) To permit the Saanich/Victoria Horse Trials Association (SVHTA) to provide a preliminary, training and pre-training cross-country course in the park.
 - (V) To ensure that equestrian use has minimal impact on the sensitive natural areas of the park.
 - (vi) To ensure that the character or other visitors' experience and enjoyment of the park will be minimally affected by equestrian use.
- (vii) To ensure that equestrian use does not create unsafe conditions for other recreational users of the park.

- (i) Passive recreational activities such as beachcombing, hiking, nature study, birdwatching and picnicking shall be encouraged. The only active form of recreation that shall be permitted is equestrian use. Specific policies for this activity are outlined below.
- (ii) Public nudity at Island View Beach Regional Park will be prohibited. This shall be enforced through applicable Provincial and Federal laws. This prohibition will also be highlighted on park kiosks and brochures.



(iii) Equestrian Use

- (a) The preliminary, training and pre-training cross-country courses as outlined on map 11 shall be permitted in the park.
- (b) The courses shall only be used for one cross-country event annually and training sessions.
- (c) The cross-country courses and jumps shall be closed for general public equestrian use.
- (d) General public equestrian use of the park shall be prohibited, except along the beach below the high water mark from September 16 to May 31.
- (e) As outlined in the Regional Parks Regulation By-law No. 1 1987, the following statements apply to equestrian use in Island View Beach Regional Park;
 - Section 23
 - "No person shall ride, walk or drive any horse on beaches, picnic areas or hiking trails. Horses are permitted only on designated bridle trails and other designated areas in Schedule A."
 - Schedule A
 - "Designated Areas For Horses Island View Beach Regional Park;
 - * cross-country jumping course, and
 - * Island View Beach below the visible high water mark Sept. 16 to May 31".
 - Section 26
 - "Any person having custody of an animal in any park shall exercise control over their animal to ensure that the animal causes no annoyance or injury to any person and no damage to any property whatsoever."
- (f) The Capital Regional District Parks Department shall enter into a License of Occupation agreement with the (SVHTA). This agreement will specify what facilities can be provided and where and how these facilities are to be developed, managed and operated. The agreement will also detail what services, activities and events are permitted in conjunction with the facilities. This agreement shall be consistent with the policies of the management plan.

As part of the License of Occupation, an Advisory Management Group shall be established. This group will consist of members from the SVHTA, Victoria Natural History Society, Royal British Columbia Museum and a local resident. The group will meet at least once a year to address management concerns regarding equestrian use of the park.

- (g) The area encompassed by the cross-country course shall be closed for public recreational use during any event or training session. The SVHTA shall take all reasonable appropriate precautions to ensure public safety during the annual event and training sessions. In this respect, the SVHTA shall supply and post notices of the closure. These notices shall be posted at the entrance to the Park and at various locations throughout the Park. The Association shall also have sentries located where necessary along the perimeter of the course and at the following jumps: Wharf, Adrian's Drop, Dyke, Bomb Shelter, Fan, Sand Dunes, Picnic Table, Texas Miki and Wood Pile.
- (h) The cross-country course goes through a sensitive natural area of the park (see attached map). Mitigative measures shall be taken to protect the natural resources in this area. They are;

- events or training sessions will only be allowed in this area from May 1 to October 31.

- no vegetation shall be removed for the purpose of trail designation or jump maintenance,

- spectators shall be discouraged in this area,

- horses shall be required to stay within designated trails.
- equestrian use of this area will be monitored. This will include the preparation of a detailed vegetation inventory and assessment. This will be done in cooperation with the Royal British Columbia Museum, and
- if upon further study it is determined that equestrian use or any associated activity does have a negative impact on the natural resources of the area, particularly the dune area, action shall be taken to restrict equestrian use of the area.
- (i) If additional land is acquired for park purposes, the Regional Parks Department and SVHTA shall examine the option of relocating the portion of the course in the sensitive natural area to the acquired lands.
- (j) If the equestrian cross-country course is relocated to another location outside Island View Beach Regional Park no new equestrian facilities will be permitted in the park and the existing facilties will be removed.

(iii) Dog Use

- (a) Retriever use shall not be permitted in the park.
- (b) As outlined in the Regional Parks Regulation By-law No. 1 1987, the following statements apply to dog use in Island View Beach Regional Park;

Section 24

No person shall permit any dog or other animal owned by or under the care and control of that person on beaches and picnic areas in any park between June 1 and September 15.

Section 26

Any person having custody of an animal in any park shall exercise control over their animal to ensure that the animal causes no annoyance or injury to any person and to damage to any property whatsoever.

Section 28

The parks administrator may define any area or areas within any park in which the presence of dogs are prohibited, and no person shall take into or have his charge in any such area any prohibited animals. See scheduled "B" for prohibited areas. Such areas will be marked by signs.

Schedule "B" - Prohibited Areas to Dogs

Park: Island View Beach

Site: Beach

Dates: June 1 to September 15

(c) Dogs must be on a leash east of the north - south drainage ditch. Dogs may run free west of the ditch but must be under control at all times. The areas are identified on map 12.

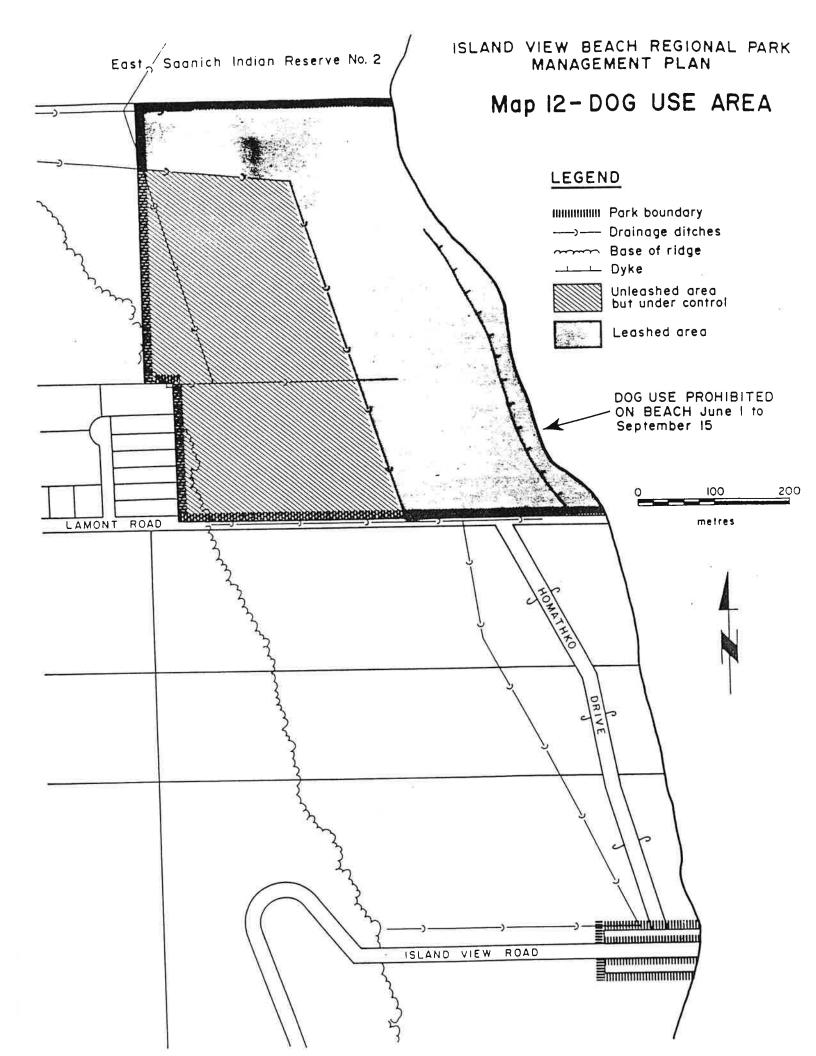
3.7.2 Visitor Facilities

The location of park visitor facilities is shown on map 7.

Objectives:

- (i) To provide the necessary park facilities to enhance visitors enjoyment of the park, to increase recreational opportunities and to protect the natural environment.
- (ii) To develop and maintain facilities which are safe and consistent with the natural qualities of the park.

- (i) Facility Appearance Guidelines
 - (a) All park facilities shall be of a high quality architectural design of natural and indigenous materials and finish of low profile respecting the landscape character of the park.



(ii) Parking

- (a) The existing parking area shall be retained for the short term. The location will be reevaluated once a decision has been made regarding land acquisition.
- (b) It is desirable to locate the parking area closer to the main part of the park. However, it cannot be located within the present park area. Rather, it is more appropriate to develop an access/activity node immediately adjacent to the present park boundary.
- (c) If there is no movement towards acquisition of the parcel adjacent to the southern boundary of the main park area by December 1990, the Capital Regional Parks Department shall initiate discussion with the Municipality of Central Saanich regarding relocating the parking area presently along Homathko Drive to the end of the right-of-way adjacent to the main park boundary.

(iii) Trails

- (a) Clearly designated trails will be constructed for access from the parking and activity area to the beach as well as for crossing areas of sensitive terrain. The trail system shall avoid, whenever possible, the equestrian cross- country course. A proposed location for the trail system is outlined on map 7.
- (b) The proposed trail system will also be important for developing an interpretative program. Therefore, the exact location of the trail system will be defined in conjunction with the interpretative plan.
- (c) Access for people with disabilities will be provided along a portion of the trail system and to the beach.
- (d) The proposed trail system will use the top of the berm and existing paths whenever possible and will be surfaced with gravel screenings. In some locations broadwalks may be necessary.

(iv) Toilets

- (a) The existing toilets will be maintained in the short term.
- (b) New toilets will be located in the main portion of the park, near the southern boundary of the main park parcel.

(v) Picnic Areas

(a) No group picnic area will be provided at this time.

If additional land is acquired two major group picnic areas, including shelters will be developed on these lands. The proposed areas are identified on map 7.

(b) A number of picnic tables will be located near the entrance to the main park area.

(vi) Fencing

- (a) A fence shall be maintained along the northern and southern park boundaries.
- (b) Fencing will be designed to fit into the natural environment of the park.

(vii) Boat Access

- (a) The existing boat ramp shall be retained for use by cartop or light trailer boats.
- (b) A support parking area for temporary storage of boat trailers and overnight kayakers shall be provided.
- (c) Part of the existing parking area shall be clearly designated for trailers and overnight kaykers.
- (d) When the boat ramp deteriorates beyond usable condition, it shall be replaced with a facility that only serves light boats.
- (e) Angling and boating groups shall be encouraged to participate in maintenance and improvements of the ramp. The Capital Regional District Parks Department shall also investigate the establishment of a cooperative capital development agreement with the boating and angling groups for the eventual replacement of the boat launch.

(viii) Public Telephone

The Regional Parks Department shall pursue the placement of a public telephone at Island View Beach Regional Park.

3.8 INFORMATION/INTERPRETATION

Objectives:

- (i) To help residents of and visitors to the Capital Regional District understand, appreciate and enjoy the natural features of the park.
- (ii) To develop an interpretative program that emphasizes the special natural resources and features of the park and the human history associated with the park lands.

Policies:

(i) The interpretive program will be developed primarily around a self-guiding approach. This will be developed through the use of such tools as interpretative trails, trail guide, photometal interpretative panels, and kiosk. Interpretative programs offered by park naturalists shall also be provided as part of the Regional Parks nature program.

- (ii) All interpretative components shall be cost effective and designed to be low maintenance and vandal proof.
- (iii) The brochure should provide a comprehensive treatment of the natural resources and features of the park.
- (iv) An interpretative plan shall be prepared following approval of the management plan. The plan will address the location and development of an interpretive trail.
- (v) An interpretative and information kiosk shall be located at the south end of the main portion of the park.

3.9 PARK OPERATION/MAINTENANCE

3.9.1 Drainage

Objectives:

- (i) To improve the drainage system within the park.
- (ii) To consider the needs of the mosquito abatement program when defining any actions regarding drainage.
- (iii) To ensure that any changes to the drainage system are done in a manner that minimize the impact on the natural resources and character of the park.

- (i) The CRD Parks Department will cooperate with the Municipality of Central Saanich in preparing a drainage plan for the park. The purpose of this plan is to identify ways of improving the drainage system for purposes of alleviating flooding of private lands and controlling mosquito breeding sites.
- (ii) No new drainage ditches shall be constructed east of the existing north/south ditch.
- (iii) The Regional Parks Department will keep all ditches in the park clear of debris. This will be included in the annual maintenance program.
 - (iv) The main east/west ditch and floodgate are not within the park and therefore are the responsibility of the Municipality of Central Saanich.
 - (v) The Municipality of Central Saanich shall be permitted to enter park property for the purpose of maintaining the main east west ditch and floodgate.

3.9.2 Mosquito Abatement Program

Objectives:

(i) To cooperate with the Municipality of Central Saanich to help alleviate mosquito breeding sites in the park.

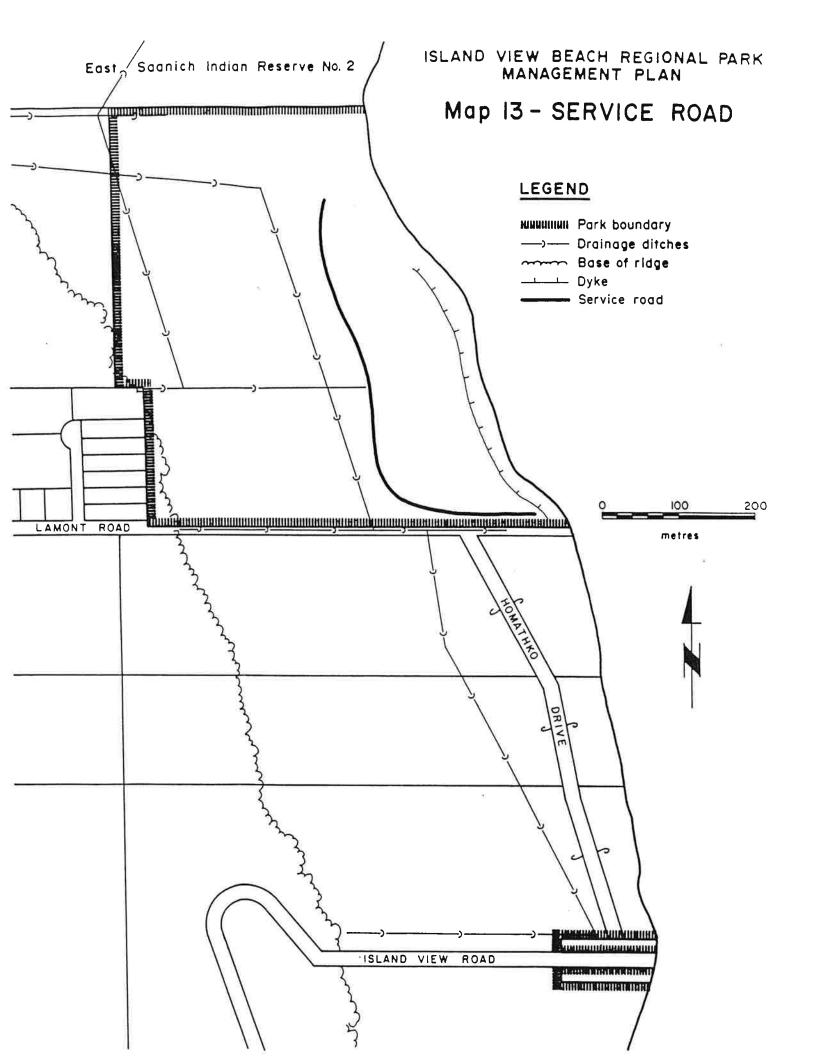
Policies:

- (i) The use of pesticides shall be prohibited in the park.
- (ii) The use of physical and biological control methods shall be permitted.
- (iii) The Regional District may cost-share with the Municipality of Central Saanich the cost of the mosquito abatement program. These costs will be addressed in the drainage plan and when requests from the municipality are presented to the Regional Parks Committee.
- 3.9.3 Fire Management and Protection

Objectives:

- (i) To minimize the risk of forest and grass fire in the park.
- (ii) To provide an access route into the park for fire fighting equipment.

- (i) No person shall be permitted to light or keep lit any fire in the park except in designated areas or where authorized by the Park Administrator in writing or permit (By-law 1573, section 18).
- (ii) No person shall be permitted to throw or place upon the ground any lighted match, cigar, cigarette or other burning substance in the park (By-law 1573, section 19).
- (iii) Fire prevention information will provided on signs, kiosks and in brochures. This information will highlight the measures that must be taken to prevent forest fires and what actions should be taken if the public spot a fire.
- (iv) Keys to all gates will provided to the Central Saanich Fire Department.
- (v) Access for fire fighting equipment will permitted on the park service road (see map 13). The surface of this road will be upgraded and maintained for fire fighting equipment.



3.9.4 Policing/Patrols/By-law Enforcement

Objectives:

- (i) To patrol the park on a frequent basis.
- (ii) To involve the public in the patrol of the park.

Policies:

- (a) The Regional Parks Department will patrol the park on a part-time basis during the summer. As use increases staff may be specifically assigned to the park on a full time basis during the summer.
- (b) A volunteer program will be developed for the park.
- (c) The designation of a caretaker for the park will be pursued by the Regional Parks Department.
- 3.9.4 Vehicle Use in Park

Policies:

(i) No vehicles will be permitted off the designated access/service road. The service road is shown on map 13. If off road use is necessary, approval from the Regional Parks Administrator is required.

SECTION 4

4.0 IMPLEMENTATION FRAMEWORK

4.1 INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this section is threefold;

- (i) To priorize projects and define a phasing schedule;
- (ii) To identify capital development costs; and
- (iii) To identify the annual operating and maintenance costs.

APPROVAL OF THE PLAN DOES NOT CONSTITUTE AUTOMATIC APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR IMPLEMENTATION. STANDARD CRD FUNDING PROCEDURE APPROVALS WILL BE ADHERED TO AT ALL STAGES OF THE PLAN IMPLEMENTATION.

4.2 PHASING PLAN

The phasing plan provides a guide to ensure that the execution of projects identified in the management plan proceed in a effective manner. The phasing plan is identified on table 1.

4.3 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF THE MANAGEMENT PLAN

4.3.1 Capital Costs

Table 2 outlines the capital costs for the implementation of the projects identified in table 1. These costs are presented in 1989 dollars. The figures give an indication of the broad financial resources required to implement the plan.

4.3.2 Annual Operating and Maintenance Costs

Table 3 outlines the annual costs for operating and maintaining the park.

4.4 MANAGEMENT PLAN REVIEW

The management plan will be reviewed periodically to permit adjustments to be made to accommodate changed circumstances and to address and resolve new issues. Specifically the plan will be reviewed;

- * if the Official Community Plan designation or zoning is changed on the area purposed to be acquired,
- * if additional land is acquired for the park, or
- * if no land is acquired for park purposes within two years.

Otherwise, a complete review will be undertaken in five years.

TABLE 1

PHASING PLAN

NOTES: 1. Many provisions of the plan depend upon acquisition of additional land. Therefore, the phasing plan only highlights those items that could be accomplished without land

	the phasing plan acquisition. 2. ** indicates the	he phasing plan only highlights those items that could be cquisition. * indicates the start of the project.	those :	tems t	nat co	uld be	accor
PLAN PRO	PROVISION:	1990	1991	YEAR 1992	1993	1994	

* *	Land Acquisition Negotiations (negotiations began winter 1989)Natural Resource Data Base	*			
	- vegetation inventory/assessment	*	*		
	- rehabilitation of disturbed areas		*	*	
*	Licence of Occupation with Saanich/	*			
	Victoria Horse Trails Association				
*	Public Telephone	*			
*	Parking (assessment of relocation	*			
	of parking area along Homathko				
	Drive if no land acquired)				
*	Interpretative Plan	*			
*	Interpretative Trail		*		
*	near new toilet)	*			
*	Picnic Tables	*			
*	Drainage Plan (work with	*			
	municipality to define plan)				

*

*

TABLE 2

CAFITAL COSTS (1990-1994)

CAFITAL PROJECT	COST (\$000°s:
* Natural Resource Inventory and Assessment * Interpretive Flan (to be prepared by consultar * Interpretive Trail (exact figure to be defined in interpretive plan)	
* Kiosk	2.0
* Picnic Tables	1.0
* Parking Area relocation	65.0
	TOTAL \$84.0

NOTES:

1. The capital costs shown here only represent those costs for developing existing park lands. If additional land is acquired development costs are estimated to be approximately \$150,000 and acquisition costs are estimated to be approximately \$750,000.

TABLE 3
ANNUAL OPERATING AND MAINTENANCE COSTS

ITE	EM .		\$0001s
* F * M * B	Staff patrols Sacility Inspection and Maintenance Maintenance Supplies Brochures Megal Fees	* 2	3.0 4.0 .5 .3 1.0
			8.8

Notes:

1. These costs are based on the operation and maintenance of the existing park lands. Additional costs will be incurred if additional land is acquired.

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