

Mount Parke Regional Park Management Plan

Capital Regional District | November 2019



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Acknowledgements

The Capital Regional District (CRD) would like to acknowledge and thank the Mayne Island Parks & Recreation Commission and the Mayne Island Conservancy Society for their collaboration on this plan. Further, the CRD recognizes and thanks the Mayne Island Conservancy Society for its on-going park restoration efforts through a Partners in Parks agreement. Lastly, the CRD appreciates the ideas and suggestions contributed by the public—they helped in the creation of this draft management plan.

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Cover photo of Mount Parke Regional Park courtesy of Neil Boyle

1 Executive Summary

Mount Parke is one of six regional parks in the Southern Gulf Islands. This 49 hectare, largely forested park, is centrally located on Mayne Island and provides the highest viewpoint on the island. Mount Parke is classified as a regional natural area. The natural area classification is used to protect key greenspaces that are important to the natural character of the region. In these parks, the Capital Regional District (CRD) protects the natural environment and provides appropriate and compatible outdoor experiences and activities. Mount Parke Regional Park includes a mature forest of western red cedar, red alder, sword fern and Oregon-grape. It is best known for its hiking trails, viewpoint overlooking the Gulf Islands, and its connection to Plumper Pass Park, a 15.5 hectare community park. Together these two parks create the largest protected area on Mayne Island.

The Southern Gulf Islands are part of the traditional territory of several Coast Salish Nations. The WJOLÉP (Tsartlip Nation) has reserve lands at Helen Point at the west end of Active Pass on Mayne Island. In developing this management plan, invitations were made to the WJOLÉP (Tsartlip), SÁUTW (Tsawout), WSÍKEM (Tseycum), and BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin) First Nations to participate in the project.

The Mayne Island Local Trust Committee (responsible for land use planning), the Mayne Island Parks & Recreation Commission (responsible for the adjacent Plumper Pass community park), and the Mayne Island Conservancy Society (responsible for restoration through a Partners in Parks agreement established in 2013 with the CRD) were also invited to participate in the development of the park management plan. The CRD website and on-island opportunities provided the public, both on Mayne Island and from the wider region, with optional ways to provide input into the planning process.

The vision for Mount Parke Regional Park is:

“Mount Parke Regional Park is recognized as a key destination on Mayne Island by island residents and visitors alike, who appreciate its forest walks and the breathtaking views from the ridge. The regional park and neighbouring community park play an important part in the protected areas network on Mayne Island, and in the region generally, by conserving coastal woodland and forest ecosystems. This centrally-located park has both challenging and relatively easy hiking opportunities which allow a wide range of people to experience the natural values and maintain an active lifestyle. The park is seen as a perfect place to enjoy nature and the park is used in ways that respect and protect its values.”

The key management actions for Mount Parke Regional Park include:

- Continue the existing Partners in Parks agreement with the Mayne Island Conservancy Society for ongoing park restoration.
- Continue to collaborate with the Mayne Island Parks & Recreation Commission on joint interests and park connections.
- Maintain existing trails and provide minimal additional visitor facilities, such as benches.
- Create two consolidated park trailhead/access points, by Kim Road and Montrose Road.



Old Gulch Trail

2 Introduction and Context

The Southern Gulf Islands are part of the traditional territory of several Coast Salish Nations, and First Nation peoples have lived on and regularly used the lands and waters in these islands. Today, WJOLĒLP (Tsartlip Nation) has reserve lands on Mayne Island at Helen Point at the west end of Active Pass. Mayne Island, known as S,ƷƑAK in the SENĆOƑEN language, and surrounding waters have been used for hunting, fishing, gathering food and medicines, and other cultural practices for millennia. These areas continue to be of importance to and used by the WJOLĒLP (Tsartlip), SƐÁUTW (Tsawout), WSĪKEM (Tseycum), and BOKÉĆEN (Pauquachin) First Nations.

The CRD manages and operates 34 regional parks/park reserves and 3 regional trails. Regional parks help secure the region's biodiversity, conserve natural systems, and mitigate climate change. They also help maintain a high quality of life through the provision of natural areas with compatible outdoor recreation and education opportunities. Regional parks are integral to creating a human connection with nature—fostering appreciation and respect—and maintaining a vibrant regional community.

Mount Parke Regional Park (hereinafter Mt. Parke) is one of six regional parks/park reserves in the Southern Gulf Islands (Map 1). These island parks protect a variety of landscapes within the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem and are part of the tourism offer on-island.

In the 1980s, the original 32-hectare parcel was a provincial park reserve, managed by the Ministry of Crown Lands. In 1988, the CRD applied to the Province for tenure on this parcel to establish Mt. Parke. In 1992, 31 hectares were conveyed to the CRD by means of a free crown grant for regional park purposes. A small triangular area on the southwest corner was retained as a government reserve for gravel pit purposes. An additional 17 hectare parcel was acquired through a donation/purchase in 1992. In combination with the adjacent Plumper Pass Community Park (15.5 hectares), this is the largest protected area on Mayne Island. Map 2 illustrates the park's location.

The regional park is classified as a regional natural area. The natural area classification is used to protect key greenspaces that are important to the natural character of the region. In these parks, the CRD protects the natural environment and provides appropriate and compatible outdoor experiences and activities. The park is within the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone which extends along the east side of Vancouver Island, the Southern Gulf Islands, and a narrow strip along the Sunshine Coast. The Ecosystem Restoration Plan 2017-2027, developed by the Mayne Island Conservancy Society, notes that most of the park is composed of a north-facing series of rolling hills and benches with a canopy dominated by Douglas-fir, with varying amounts of western red cedar and arbutus. Western hemlock

occurs in cooler north-facing areas and patches of red alder can be found in wetter sites. Mt. Parke is recognized as an area of high conservation value because of its ecosystems, particularly the woodlands, coastal bluffs and herbaceous ecosystems located along the summit ridge (approximately 3% of the park) and the mature forest (approximately 54% of the park). The Douglas-fir/Alaska oniongrass on the summit ridge is recognized by the BC Conservation Data Centre as a red-listed or endangered ecosystem. The rest of the park is represented by a mix of the red-listed Douglas-fir/dull Oregon-grape ecosystem type as mature older forest and some young forest. Three species of garter snake have been observed in the park and adult red-legged frogs have been observed, although there is no suitable breeding habitat for red-legged frogs within the park. In April 2014, the Mayne Island Conservancy Society conducted a songbird survey and detected 30 species of birds, with Pacific wren, chestnut-backed chickadee, and Pacific-slope flycatcher being most prevalent. The park ecosystems are illustrated on Map 3 and further detail about the natural environment is provided in Appendix 1.

Mt. Parke was officially opened as a regional park in April 1995, once initial facility development was completed, including a new trail to the summit (Map 4). Park accesses and parking are at the end of both Montrose Road and Kim Road. Currently there are two loop trail opportunities in the park—the 1.3 km Lowland Nature Trail and the 2.9 km loop following the Halliday Ridge Trail, Old Gulch Trail and a portion of the Lowland Nature Trail. Park visitors note the beauty and uniqueness of the area as important qualities. The adjacent Plumper Pass Community Park provides a third loop trail option (2.2 km) that connects to Old Gulch Trail in the regional park. A toilet is located at the junction of the Lowland Nature Trail and the Halliday Ridge Trail. In developing the management plan, many people noted through public comments that the park in general is fine as it is and few issues exist.

The Mayne Island Conservancy Society has an ongoing park restoration program through a Partners in Parks agreement with the CRD. The Conservancy has identified specific prescriptions for three invasive plant species of primary concern—Scotch broom, daphne, and English holly—and has established an early detection rapid response approach for management of invasive plants. This program has helped maintain a low presence of invasive plant species within the park.

This park management plan will provide management direction for at least the next 15 years. The management plan translates the broad direction of the Regional Parks Strategic Plan into more specific direction, such as a park vision, goals, management statements, and actions based on the features and values of the park and input from the public. A summary of the engagement process for this management plan is provided in Appendix 2.



Map 1
Mount Parke Regional Park
Context

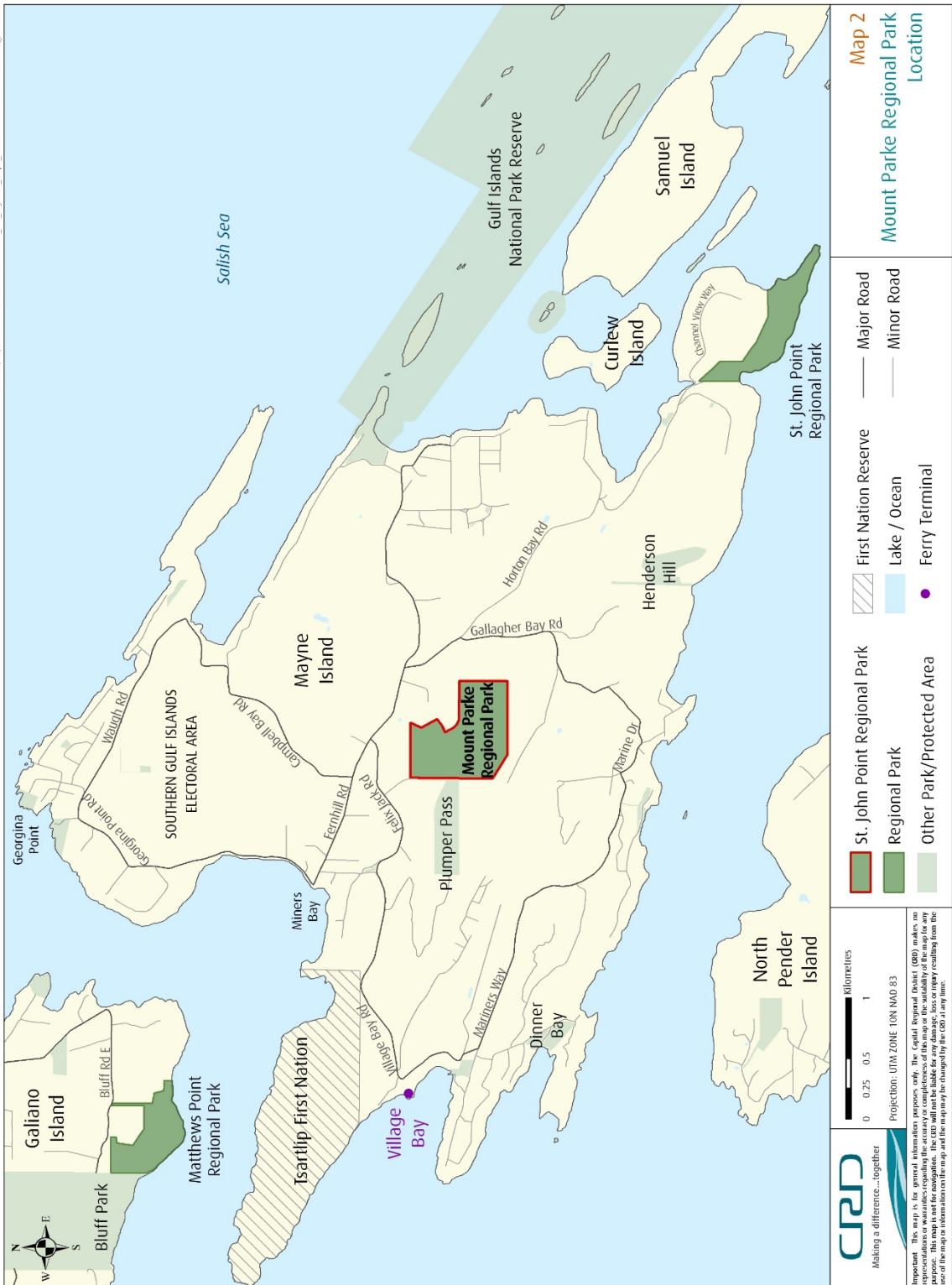
- Regional Park
- Regional Park Reserve
- Other Park/Protected Area
- First Nation Reserve
- Municipal / Electoral Area Boundary
- Capital Regional District Boundary
- International Boundary
- Lake / Ocean
- Major Road

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Scale: 0 2 4 6 Kilometres

Projection: UTM, Zone 10N, 1803 83

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Map 3
Mount Parke Regional Park
Ecosystems

Primary Ecosystem Unit Label: **DG**
 Secondary Ecosystem Unit Label: **DS**

Mount Parke Regional Park
 Other Park / Protected Area
 Local Road

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0 50 100 150
 Metres

Projection: UTM, ZONE 10N, NAD 83

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3 Strategic Direction

3.1 Park Classification

The regional park classification system provides a method of distinguishing the different roles that individual parks play in achieving the overall purpose of regional parks. Each regional park is classified based on its management focus. Four park classifications exist: wilderness areas, conservation areas, natural areas, and recreation areas. Although protection and recreation occur in all regional parks, these classifications indicate the primary purpose of the park.

Mt. Parke is classified as a regional natural area. The natural area classification is used to protect key greenspaces that are important to the natural character of the region. In these parks, the CRD protects the natural environment and provides appropriate and compatible outdoor experiences and activities.

3.2 Vision for Mount Parke Regional Park

The vision for a park must be compatible with the park's classification. The purpose of the vision is to express the desired end state; where one wants to be in 15-20 years. The vision for Mt. Parke is:

“Mount Parke Regional Park is recognized as a key destination on Mayne Island by island residents and visitors alike, who appreciate its forest walks and the breathtaking views from the ridge. The regional park and neighbouring community park play an important part in the protected areas network on Mayne Island, and in the region generally, by conserving coastal woodland and forest ecosystems. This centrally-located park has both challenging and relatively easy hiking opportunities which allow a wide range of people to experience the natural values and maintain an active lifestyle. The park is seen as a perfect place to enjoy nature and the park is used in ways that respect and protect its values.”

3.3 Management Goals

Flowing from the vision, goals set the desired outcomes one wants to achieve. The goals will lead toward the long-term vision. The goals for Mt. Parke are:

Goal 1: To maintain the park as a natural area, recognizing that a changing climate situation may alter the specific natural values.

Goal 2: To provide low-impact recreational opportunities that are compatible with protection of the park's natural values.

Goal 3: To create a connection between the public and the park's natural heritage that fosters understanding and respect.

3.4 Management Statements

Along with the park classification, vision and goals, the following statements provide more detailed direction for park management and decision-making. They guide the development of actions for the park, as well as provide direction for decision-making on items that may arise in the future that are not specifically addressed within this management plan.

Environmental Conservation

- Mt. Parke will be managed to conserve the park's natural values, recognizing that the specific values may change over time.
- A park restoration program is important to continue through a Partners in Parks agreement with the Mayne Island Conservancy Society or another appropriate group or agency. Considerations need to be given to the long term effects of climate change and how natural environments adapt.

- The CRD will consider future acquisitions of high natural value, undisturbed lands in the vicinity of the park to provide additional natural area protection and potential trail connections.
- In line with the CRD's Climate Action Plan, park management will contribute to long term climate change goals and the protection of important ecosystem services, such as carbon sequestration.
- The CRD may participate in provincially-endorsed wildlife management programs related to non-native wildlife species affecting the park ecosystems (e.g., Fallow deer). When completed, the CRD will consider how the Mayne Island Fallow Deer Management Strategy impacts or is applied within regional parks on the island.

Cultural Heritage

- If sensitive cultural heritage exists on site, measures will be taken to protect them from negative impacts from park infrastructure or visitor use.
- In recognition of past and present use by Coast Salish Nations in this area, the CRD will work collaboratively with First Nations to understand First Nations values in this area and to collect additional cultural heritage information, and will work to consider and incorporate First Nations interests in cultural heritage management initiatives within the park.

Visitor Experience

- Visitor opportunities in Mt. Parke will be linked to appreciation of the natural values of the park, particularly the forest environment.
- Walking/hiking will be the mainstay of the visitor opportunities in the park, with minimal, low-impact ancillary facilities and services being provided to support the visitor experience.
- Educational information about the park's natural and cultural values may be provided in a variety of ways, including the CRD website, park signage, or programming undertaken by authorized providers through a CRD permit.
- Visitor-related infrastructure will be consolidated in key locations (e.g., at park entrances, in the vicinity of the toilet building and at the viewpoint area on the ridge). As needed, a portion of the Old Gulch and Lowland Nature Trails will be used for service vehicles to address toilet pump-outs.

3.5 Park Zoning

The CRD uses park zoning to provide more specific land management, based on environmental values, needs and features. The regional park zoning system provides six different zones that can be used as appropriate within each park to guide conservation and use. In Mt. Parke, three zones apply, as described below and as shown on Map 5.

Environmental Protection Zone provides the highest level of protection. Its objective is to protect ecologically significant areas through long-term science-based stewardship. Typically, this zone is applied to areas with rare or endangered species and ecosystems that require a higher level of protection or monitoring. Low impact nature trails are permitted, but visitor use may be restricted if needed to protect the rare or endangered species or ecosystems. In Mt. Parke, this zone covers the sensitive and important woodland, mature forest, and bluff/herbaceous ecosystems. In this zone, for protection of sensitive coastal bluff/herbaceous features, park users are to leash their pets.

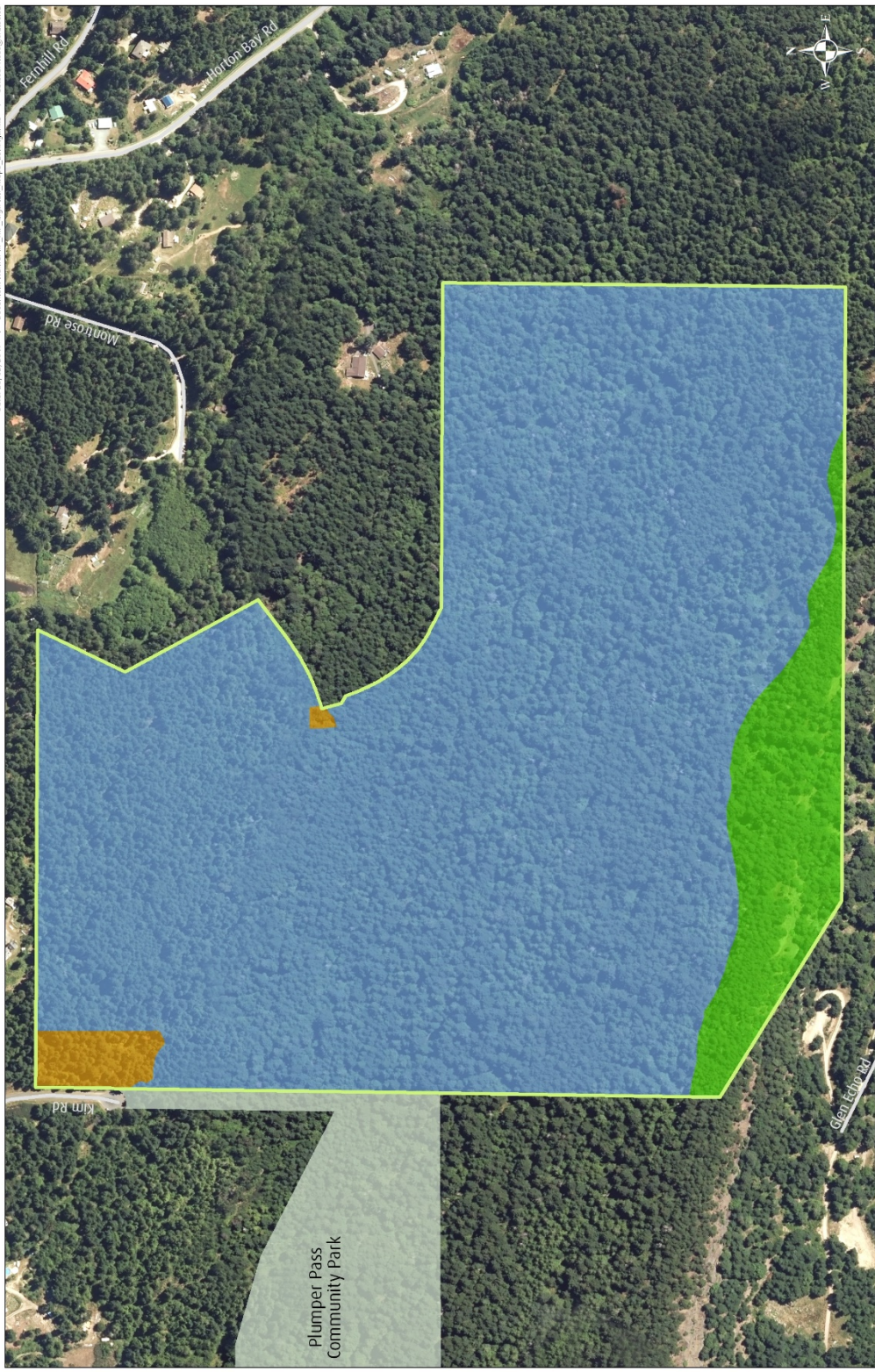
Natural Environment Zone is used for easily accessible natural areas within parks. These areas are generally more able to withstand outdoor recreation use without significant impacts to sensitive ecological or cultural values. The natural environment zone covers the Young Forest ecosystem, largely located on the north side and to a lesser degree on the east side of the park.

Park Services Zone is used to identify areas where support services will be focused. Generally, this zone will cover areas where natural values are less significant and more intensive infrastructure can be consolidated without major impact. Landscape modification is allowed for visitor or operational services, such as parking lot, visitor orientation, toilets, and operational storage areas. An area of park services zone is centred over the existing toilet building location and at the Kim Road access to the park where park information will be focused.



Mount Parke on a foggy morning.

Date: 26/02/2019 J. Bevan/T. Jones: 60_200_AerialMap_Zoning.mxd J. abraham@crpd.co.za



Map 5
Mount Parke Regional Park
Zoning

Zoning

- Environmental Protection Zone
- Natural Environment Zone
- Park Services Zone

Mount Parke Regional Park

- Other Park / Protected Area
- Local Road

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Scale: 0 50 100 150 Metres
 Projection: UTM ZONE 10N NAD 83

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4 Development Concept

The overall development concept for Mt. Parke is to maintain the park largely in a natural state, with the existing three walking/hiking trails, the connection to Plumper Pass Community Park, and minimal, low-impact visitor facilities. Among other things, no camping or fires will be permitted in the park. Ongoing restoration work will be addressed through the Partners in Parks agreement with the Mayne Island Conservancy Society or another appropriate group or agency.

Two access points will be maintained—at Kim Road and Montrose Road. The CRD will work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding park-related use of the road dedications. Over time, the Kim Road access will be recognized as the primary park entrance. If at any time in the future there is a need for a parking lot, the northwest corner, off Kim Road, will be considered the primary location for consideration. A park information kiosk will be developed cooperatively with the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission and the Mayne Island Conservancy Society for the Kim Road access. In the short term, an orientation map will be provided at the Montrose Road access, and a second park information kiosk may be developed in the future at the Montrose Road access or in the vicinity of the toilet building. Portions of the Old Gulch Trail and Lowland Nature Trail will be maintained to a level that allows service vehicle access to the toilet building.

To enhance opportunities to connect with nature, and recognizing differing abilities of park visitors, the CRD will consider the addition of a bench or two in the park. The location of the benches will be determined based on an environmental review to protect park values. Opportunities to assist with park stewardship may be considered through the Partners in Parks restoration program or through existing CRD programs. To enhance educational opportunities, the two existing interpretive signs will be updated. If other organizations wish to provide on-site interpretive programs such as nature walks, the CRD will consider proposals through a park permit application.

Liaison with the local Parks and Recreation Commission and the Mayne Island Conservancy Society will occur at least annually to maintain ongoing interactions regarding the larger Mt. Parke - Plumper Pass park complex.

View from Halliday Ridge Trail



5 Management Actions & Implementation

The Mt. Parke Management Plan comes into effect upon CRD Board approval and continues to apply until a new or updated plan is approved by the Board.

5.1 Proposed Actions & Anticipated Timeframe

The table below identifies and prioritizes the proposed management actions. Implementation of the proposed management actions will be undertaken subject to availability of staff and financial resources. Generally, it is anticipated that short-term actions will be addressed in the first five years after approval of the management plan (2020-2025). Actions that are spatially-based are illustrated on Map 6.

Proposed Action	Desired Outcome	Timeframe
1. Continue the existing Partners in Parks agreement with the Mayne Island Conservancy Society for ongoing park restoration.	Conserve the parks natural values and habitat.	Ongoing
2. Maintain the three main hiking trails in a low-impact, sustainable manner. Note: includes addressing water management, erosion and safety as needed.	Provide low-impact recreational opportunities that are compatible with protection of the natural values.	Ongoing
3. Maintain a connection/access trail to the Plumper Pass Trail from Mt. Parke.	Facilitate use of both the regional park and adjacent community park to allow for multiple hiking opportunities.	Ongoing
4. Undertake an archaeological assessment of park trail and facility areas.	Ensure the park infrastructure is not impacting significant cultural heritage features.	Short term

<p>5. Work with the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission and the Mayne Island Conservancy Society on consolidating the Kim Road park entrance/trailhead signage, including installation of a park information kiosk, and standardizing other signage in key areas.</p> <p>Note: The Kim Road access will be the initial focus for a kiosk and include information about the regional park, the community park and the Partners in Parks agreement.</p>	<p>Have obvious and cohesive park entrance and trailhead areas where people accessing the park can orient themselves at the outset of their visit.</p>	<p>Short term</p>
<p>6. Install an orientation map at the Montrose Road access point.</p> <p>Note: In the longer term, an information kiosk may be considered at Montrose Road or by the toilet building.</p>	<p>Have obvious park entrance and trailhead areas where people accessing the park can orient themselves at the outset of their visit.</p>	<p>Short term</p>
<p>7. Install up to two benches on the park trails.</p> <p>Note: Locations to be determined. Best management practices will be used to assess potential locations before they are installed.</p>	<p>Facilitate creating a connection between the public and the park’s natural heritage by providing opportunities for people to sit, rest, and enjoy the park scenery.</p>	<p>Short term</p>
<p>8. Work with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure regarding park facilities located within surveyed road dedications at Montrose and Kim roads.</p>	<p>Authorization from provincial agency for park-related infrastructure.</p>	<p>Short term</p>
<p>9. Review and update the interpretive panel on the Ridge Trail and at the Kim Road access.</p>	<p>Ensure facilities and information are up-to-date and accurate and located appropriately.</p>	<p>Short to Medium term</p>
<p>10. Through the Regional Parks Land Acquisition Strategy, consider potential land acquisition</p>	<p>Enhance conservation or opportunities for public access and use.</p>	<p>Ongoing</p>

needs and opportunities in the vicinity of Mt. Parke.		
11. Consider and promote opportunities for volunteering in the park.	Facilitate a connection between the public and the park's natural heritage through volunteerism	As available
12. Liaise with local groups, such as the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission, Mayne Island Conservancy Society, and Mayne Island Pathways and Trails Association, regarding initiatives in the vicinity of Mt. Parke.	Maintain working relationships within the community and ensure that potential initiatives positively impact Mt. Parke.	As needed

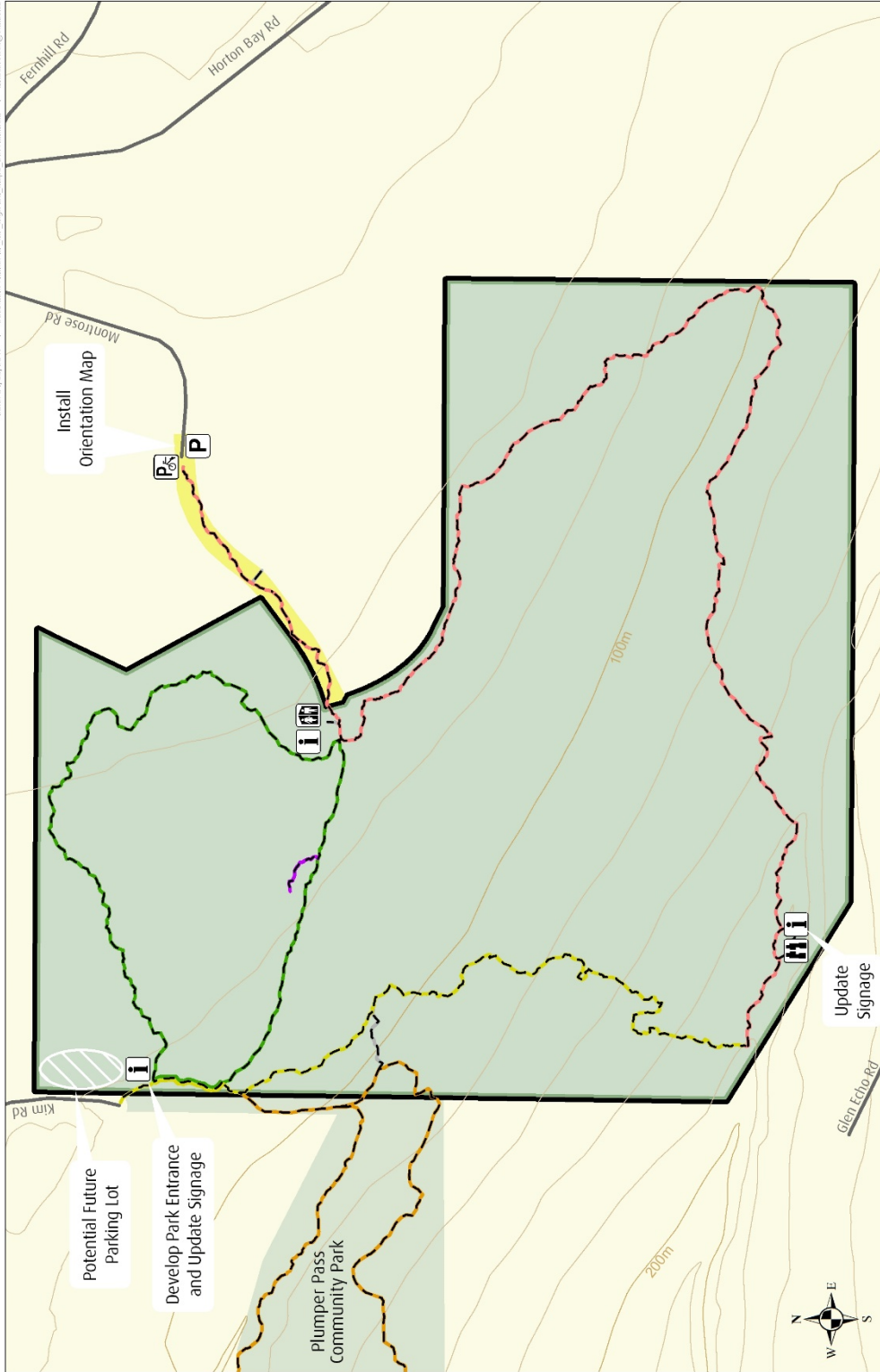
5.2 Implementation Monitoring

The CRD will monitor the implementation of the management plan through the Regional Parks Service Plan, Regional Parks Capital Plan, annual Mt. Parke Operational Plan, and regular work planning processes.

If unexpected circumstances, significant issues, or critical new information arise over time that warrant substantive changes to the management direction in this management plan, a plan amendment may be considered. If new lands are acquired and park infrastructure is envisioned, a plan amendment will be undertaken before any development occurs. Public consultation will be held for substantive amendments and all amendments must be approved by the CRD Board.

Prior to initiating a full management plan update in the future, an evaluation of the current plan will be undertaken to determine:

- if the strategic direction has adequately addressed major issues that have occurred.
- the level of implementation of management plan actions, and if outstanding actions are still relevant.
- what changes might be needed to provide appropriate direction for the future.



Map 6

Mount Parke Regional Park

Development Plan

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<p>CRPD Making a difference...together</p>	<p>Metric</p> <p>0 50 100 150</p> <p>Projection: UTM_ZONE_10N_NAD_83</p>	<table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td>Mount Parke Regional Park</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td>Hiking Trail</td> <td style="width: 15%;"></td> <td>Plumper Pass Loop Trail (2.2km)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Other Park / Protected Area</td> <td></td> <td>Halliday Ridge Trail (2km)</td> <td></td> <td>Giant Aibutus Trail (55m)</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Access Use Permit</td> <td></td> <td>Lowland Nature Trail (1.3km)</td> <td></td> <td>No Official Name</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Local Road</td> <td></td> <td>Old Gulch Trail (895m)</td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td>Contour - 20m interval</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </table>		Mount Parke Regional Park		Hiking Trail		Plumper Pass Loop Trail (2.2km)		Other Park / Protected Area		Halliday Ridge Trail (2km)		Giant Aibutus Trail (55m)		Access Use Permit		Lowland Nature Trail (1.3km)		No Official Name		Local Road		Old Gulch Trail (895m)				Contour - 20m interval				
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Appendix 1: Background Information

History of the Park

First Nations

The Southern Gulf Islands are within the traditional territories of several Salish First Nations. The W̱SÁNEĆ People (Saanich), part of the Salish Nation, are also known as saltwater people. Dave Elliott Sr., of the Tsartlip Nation, said in his book *Saltwater People*, that the sea was very important to their way of life. Because there were no rivers in the Tsartlip traditional territory, they went to the sea to fish. In addition, sandy beaches provided clams and crabs; rocky beaches offered mussels, sea urchins and seaweed. Waterfowl could be found on mud flats and marshy beaches. On the islands, high rocky shores were the best places for camas to grow. Their bulbs were dug for food during the summers. The abundant forests provided many food plants like berries, fern roots, and nettle leaves, and medicines were made from plants like Oregon-grape, Indian consumption plant and yarrow. W̱SÁNEĆ peoples hunted elk, deer and some smaller mammals for the meat and fur hides. His book goes on to say that during April and May, men would hunt deer and elk. St. John Point, on Mayne Island, is noted as an area of deer drives. Mayne Island, known as S,ƷƷAK meaning “pass” or “narrows”, and surrounding smaller islands were used by First Nations for hunting, gathering, and other cultural practices for millennia—providing foods and medicines for First Nations peoples. The WJQŁŁP (Tsartlip) First Nation has reserve lands on Helen Point on Mayne Island. First Nations continue to use the marine and terrestrial resources in the Gulf Islands and continue to have ties to both Mayne Island and the park.

Contemporary History

In the 1980s, the original 32-hectare parcel was a provincial park reserve, managed by the Ministry of Crown Lands. In 1988, the CRD applied to the Province for tenure on this parcel for Mt. Parke Regional Park; it was conveyed by means of a free crown grant for regional park purposes in 1992. A small triangular area on the southwest corner was retained as a government reserve for a gravel pit. An additional 17 hectare parcel was acquired through a donation in 1992. In combination with the adjacent Plumper Pass Community Park (15.5 hectares), this is the largest protected area on Mayne Island.

Ecological Information

The Mayne Island Conservancy Society, in its 2017 Mt. Parke restoration plan, notes that Mt. Parke Regional Park is within the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone which extends along the east side

of Vancouver Island, the Southern Gulf Islands, and a narrow strip along the Sunshine Coast. Most of the park is composed of a north-facing series of rolling hills and benches, with a canopy dominated by Douglas-fir, and varying amounts of western red cedar and arbutus. Western hemlock occurs in cooler north-facing areas and patches of red alder can be found in wetter sites. The understory varies with salal, western sword fern, dull Oregon-grape and oceanspray. Most of the park is shaded so the herb layer is variable. In less shady areas, mosses dominate. The south-facing ridgetop contains an open, Douglas-fir-arbutus woodland with fescues dominant in areas of full sun exposure. The 2004 Terrestrial Ecosystem mapping (BA Blackwell) indicates that four terrestrial ecosystems, noted below, exist within the park. These four ecosystems are red-listed by the Province of BC. Red-listed means any species or ecosystem that is at risk of being lost (extirpated, endangered, or threatened).

Descriptions adapted from Blackwell report:

Douglas-fir - salal (DS)

This site association is considered the CDFmm "zonal" or "representative" site. Typical conditions are well to moderately well drained soils widely distributed on a range of parent materials, slopes and aspects. Forests are dominated by Douglas-fir with varying aMt.s of red cedar, arbutus, and occasionally grand fir. The understory typically features salal and Oregon-grape with varying aMt.s of oceanspray, honeysuckle (hairy and orange), and moss cover.

Douglas-fir - oniongrass (DO)

Found on dry, nutrient rich sites distributed on warm slopes and adjacent ridges. These site associations are often complexed with rock bluffs on accumulations of shallow colluvium; a key feature is high insolation due to physiography and characteristic open canopies. Forests are typically open grown and feature Douglas-fir, arbutus, and varying aMt.s of Garry oak. The shrub layer includes hairy honeysuckle, with salal being rare due to high surface temperatures. Mixed grass cover is characteristic with a variety of herbs such as cleavers, sanicle, woodland tarweed, dovefoot geranium, and hairy cat's-ear. Species composition is highly variable due to disturbance history such grazing. Garry oak has the highest probability of occurring as a seral tree species on these sites although its presence is variable and relatively uncommon.

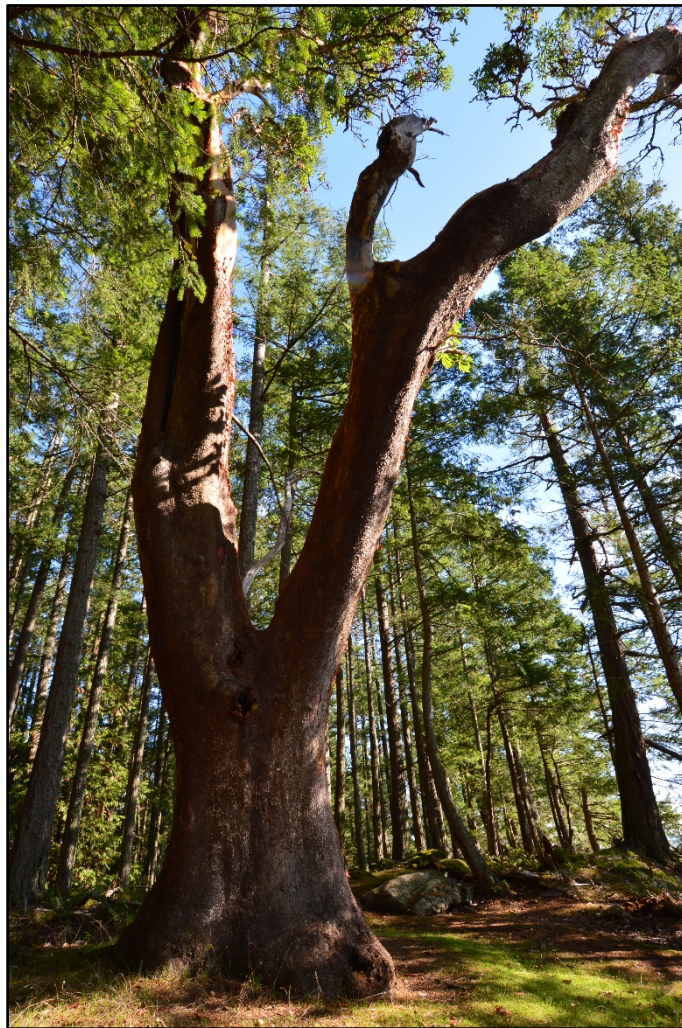
Douglas-fir/grand fir - Oregon-grape (DG)

This site association is typically found on moderately dry, nutrient rich sites commonly distributed on glaciomarine and marine soils in valley bottoms and swale topography at higher elevations; less frequently found on colluvial slopes. In variable terrain, this association can be complexed with moister and richer sites on marine soils. Forests are moderately dense and feature Douglas-fir, red alder, red cedar and varying amounts of big leaf maple and grand fir. Deciduous stands are dominated by red alder. Understory vegetation is characterized by a well developed herb layer featuring swordfern and

a variety of species such as cleavers, vanilla leaf, wall lettuce and stinging nettle. These sites have commonly been developed for agriculture due to favorable soils and physiography.

Douglas-fir/shore pine - arbutus (DA)

This site association is found on dry, shallow, poor to medium nutrient and well drained soils. Sites are commonly distributed on shallow bedrock controlled ridges, benches, and slopes where trees root in shallow soils and fractured bedrock. Forests are moderately dense and feature Douglas-fir and arbutus with varying amounts of red cedar. Understory vegetation typically features moderate salal and hairy honeysuckle cover with Oregon-grape, orange honeysuckle, and baldhip rose in the shrub layer. Herbs and mosses typically include cover of mixed grasses and moss.



Giant Arbutus off Lowland Nature Trail

Appendix 2: Summary of the Engagement Process

The initial engagement process for the Mt. Parke Regional Park management planning process was held in October-November 2018 and included:

First Nations

- Letters were sent in October 2018 to the Tsawout, Tseycum, Tsartlip, and Pauquachin First Nations introducing the project and seeking their interest in participating in the project. A meeting was scheduled with the Tsawout but it was cancelled by the Nation due to other priorities.

Other Government Agencies

- Letters were sent to the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee (Islands Trust) and the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission (part of CRD) introducing the project and seeking input.
- A meeting was held with representatives of the Parks and Recreation Commission in October 2018 to discuss the project and gather initial input.

Key Stakeholders

- The Mayne Island Conservancy Society, which has a Partners in Parks agreement with the CRD for an ongoing park restoration program, was contacted about the project and a meeting was held with key representatives in October 2018 to gather initial input.
- Letters were sent to park neighbours in October 2018 to introduce the project and identify that they could provide initial input through the CRD website. <https://www.crd.bc.ca/project/mt-parke-st-john-pt-management-plans>

General Public

- A media release was released in September 2018 to notify the public of the upcoming project.
- Information about the park and the planning process was posted on the CRD website in September 2018 following project initiation by the CRD Board.
- A comment form was posted online between October 1 and November 13, 2018 to gather input about a number of aspects that would provide background information and assist in developing the draft management plan.
- An ad was placed in the October and November issues of the *Mayneliner* to notify island residents of the project and the online input form.
- Posters were put up around the community notifying residents of the project and how to be involved.

- A sign was installed in the park notifying park users on various stages of the project.
- Social media notices were posted throughout the project.

A second round of engagement was held in May-June 2019 and sought input on the draft management plan. The draft management plan engagement included:

First Nations

- Letters hand-delivered in May 2019 to the Tsawout, Tseycum, Tsartlip, and Pauquachin First Nations. The letters provided an update on the project, the draft management plan, and offered to meet with Chief and Council or their representatives to discuss the plans. Follow up by email, phone or in person was undertaken.

Other Government Agencies

- Letters were sent to the Mayne Island Local Trust Committee (Islands Trust) and the Mayne Island Parks and Recreation Commission (part of CRD) in May 2019, providing a project update, the draft management plan and request for comments, and outlining the upcoming public engagement.

Key Stakeholders

- A letter was emailed to representatives of the Mayne Island Conservancy Society in May 2019. It provided a project update, copy of the draft management plan and request for comments. It also outlined the upcoming public engagement opportunities.
- Letters and a poster were sent to park neighbours to notify them that they could review or download the draft management plan online, provide comments online, and make them aware of planned on-island engagement events.

General Public

- A media release was put out following the CRD Board's release of the draft management plan.
- A comment form was posted online between May 9 and June 9, 2019 to gather input on the draft management plan.
- An ad was placed in the May and June issues of the *Mayneliner* to notify island residents and in the *Black Press* newspapers on southern Vancouver Island to alert other regional residents of the draft management plan and the opportunity to provide online input and/or through the market booth or open house.
- Posters were put up around Mayne Island to further notify the community of the opportunities to provide input about the draft management plan.

- An updated sign was installed in the park notifying park users of the timing on various stages of the project and a poster was installed in advance of the public sessions.
- Social media notices were posted as appropriate in advance of the public sessions and input deadlines.



View from Halliday Ridge