



Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, February 26, 2020

10:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

B. Isitt (Chair), D. Screech (Vice Chair), F. Haynes, J. Loveday, C. McNeil-Smith, R. Martin,
R. Mersereau, J. Ranns, L. Seaton, M. Tait, G. Young, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex-officio)

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [20-154](#) Minutes of the January 22, 2020 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of January 22, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Attachments: [Minutes - January 22, 2020](#)

4. Chair's Remarks

5. Presentations/Delegations

6. Committee Business

6.1. [20-053](#) Response to Notice of Motion: Dog Management Policy Applied to CRD Regional Parks and Trails within the District of Sooke

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee receives this report for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Dog Management Policy - Regional Parks in Sooke](#)
[Appendix A: Comparison of Dog Management Policy](#)
[Appendix B: Record of Feedback from Management Planning Process](#)

6.2. [20-153](#) Regional Parks - Sustainable Service Delivery

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That Regional Parks sustainable service delivery report be received for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: Regional Parks – Sustainable Service Delivery](#)
[Appendix A: Asset Renewal Forecast](#)

6.3. [20-149](#) Regional Parks - Visitor Use Surveys - 2018 and 2019

Recommendation: The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:
That this report be received for information.

Attachments: [Staff Report: RP Visitor Use Surveys – 2018 and 2019](#)
[Appendix A: RP 2018-2019 Visitor Use Survey Summary Report](#)
[Presentation: RP 2018-2019 Visitor Use Survey Summary Report](#)

7. Notice(s) of Motion

8. New Business

9. Motion to Close the Meeting

9.1. [20-179](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

Recommendation:

1. That the meeting be closed for Land Acquisition in accordance with section 90 (1)(e) of the Community Charter.
2. That the Board considers that disclosures could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the Regional District

10. Adjournment

Next Meeting: March 25, 2020

To ensure quorum, please advise Tamara Pillipow (tpillipow@crd.bc.ca) if you or your alternate cannot attend.

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, January 22, 2020

10:00 AM

6th Floor Boardroom
625 Fisgard St.
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

PRESENT:

Directors: B. Isitt (Chair), D. Screech (Vice Chair), F. Haynes, J. Loveday, C. McNeil-Smith, R. Martin, R. Mersereau, J. Ranns, L. Seaton, G. Young, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex-officio)

Staff: R. Lapham, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; A. Orr, Senior Manager, Corporate Communications; S. Henderson, Manager, Real Estate; B. Schultz, Manager Planning, Resource Management and Development, Regional Parks; E. Gorman, Deputy Corporate Officer; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

Regrets: Director Tait

Guests: Director Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 10:02 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Chair Isitt provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED by Director Martin, SECONDED by Director Seaton,
That the agenda for the January 22, 2020 Regional Parks Committee meeting be
approved.
CARRIED**

**MOVED by Director Isitt, SECONDED by Director Loveday,
That the agenda be amended to permit one (1) additional delegate to speak,
Claire Reynolds of the Saanich Legacy Foundation: Re: Item 7.3.
CARRIED**

**MOVED by Director Plant, SECONDED by Director Haynes,
That Director Taylor be allowed to participate without vote in the January 22,
2020 Regional Parks Committee meeting.
CARRIED**

3. Adoption of Minutes

There are no minutes as this is the first reconstituted Regional Parks meeting.

4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Isitt looks forward to working with this committee and staff.

5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. [20-074](#) Delegation - Adam Kreek; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 7.3.: Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park
Adam Kreek spoke in favour of Item 7.3. Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park
- 5.2. [20-075](#) Delegation - Rob Vanzella; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 7.3.: Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park
Rob Vanzella spoke in favour of Item 7.3. Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park.
- 5.3. [20-076](#) Delegation - Ian Graeme; Resident of Saanich: Re: Agenda Item 7.3.: Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park
Ian Graeme spoke in favour of Item 7.3. Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park.
- 5.4. Delegation - Claire Reynolds; Representing the Saanich Legacy Foundation
Re: Agenda Item 7.3.: Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park
Claire Reynolds spoke in favour of Item 7.3. Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park.

6. Motion to Close the Meeting

- 6.1. [20-070](#) Motion to Close the Meeting

**MOVED by Director Haynes, SECONDED by Director McNeil-Smith,
That the meeting be closed for Land Acquisition in accordance with the
Community section 90 (1)(e).
CARRIED**

The meeting moved into closed session at 10:22 am and arose at 11:21 am.

7. Committee Business

- 7.1. [20-058](#) Regional Parks Committee - Terms of Reference
L. Hutcheson introduced the 2020 Terms of Reference
Discussion ensued on the wording in section 1.0 a) i.
**MOVED by Director Mersereau, SECONDED by Director Isitt,
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District
Board:**

The the Terms of Reference be approved.
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Mersereau, **SECONDED** by Director Haynes,
That the Terms of Reference be amended at section 1.1 (a) i. to read:
Regional parks and trails, including land acquisition, management, operations
and programs
CARRIED

MOVED by Director Mersereau, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
The Regional Parks Committee recommend to the Capital Regional District
Board:
That the Terms of Reference be approved as amended.
CARRIED

7.2. [19-861](#) 2019-2022 Parks & Environment Service Planning

Chair Isitt introduced item 7.2.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- increasing the land acquisition fund in future
- introducing an escalator clause
- correspondence from Cycling Coalition

Director Martin left the meeting.

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Screech,
That the Regional Parks Committee receives the report for information.
CARRIED

7.3. [20-063](#) Options for CRD Contribution toward the Acquisition of Kings Road Park

L Hutcheson introduced Item 7.3.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- preservation of the property in its entirety
- clarification of the three alternatives provided in Staff Report
- party responsible for maintenance and operation of the park
- implications of updating criteria for Land Acquisition Strategy Fund
- equity of access
- grant opportunities

Director Martin returned to the meeting.

MOVED by Director Haynes, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,
That the Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District
Board:
That the CRD use \$2 million from the Land Acquisition Fund to purchase a
portion of the Kings Road property from the District of Saanich for the purposes of
regional park. (Alternative 2)

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Young,
That the Regional Parks Committee postpone consideration of the above

Alternative 2, pending resolution of Alternative 3 from the Staff Report .

CARRIED

OPPOSED: Haynes

MOVED by Director Isitt, **SECONDED** by Director Screech

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff explore innovative approaches or alternate opportunities with the District of Saanich for the CRD to purchase other property and report back to the Regional Parks Committee. (Alternative 3)

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,

That the Regional Parks Committee postpone Alternative 2 pending the results of Alternative 3.

CARRIED

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Haynes,

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That staff bring a renewed land acquisition strategy and land acquisition criteria to the Regional Parks Committee in March 2020 for review and recommendation to the Board. (Alternative 1)

CARRIED

7.4. [20-053](#)

Response to Notice of Motion: Dog Management Policy Applied to CRD Regional Parks and Trails within the District of Sooke

Chair Isitt introduced item 7.4.

Discussion ensued on whether feedback was provided to staff by Sooke representatives.

MOVED by Director Plant, **SECONDED** by Director Isitt,

That this matter be referred to the next Regional Parks Committee meeting.

CARRIED

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no Notice(s) of Motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Motion to Close the Meeting

9.1. [20-070](#)

Motion to Close the Meeting

MOVED by Director Mersereau, **SECONDED** by Director Plant,

That the meeting be closed for Land Acquisition in accordance with the Community section 90 (1)(e).

CARRIED

The meeting moved into closed session at 12:39 pm and arose at 12:47 pm without report.

10. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Screech, SECONDED by Director Mersereau,
That the January 22, 2020 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at
12:47 pm.
CARRIED

Chair

Recorder

**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 22, 2020**

SUBJECT **Response to Notice of Motion: Dog Management Policy Applied to CRD Regional Parks and Trails within the District of Sooke**

ISSUE SUMMARY

A Notice of Motion was approved at the November 27, 2019 Parks & Environment Committee (PEC) meeting requesting that the Dog Management Policy Framework be applied to five Regional Parks and Trails within the District of Sooke and to provide a record of feedback from previous parks planning processes.

BACKGROUND

The PEC, at its November 27, 2019 meeting, approved a recommendation to the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board that the Regional Parks Dog Management Policy Framework be approved and implemented. The CRD Board approved the Dog Management Policy Framework at its December 11, 2019 meeting.

The District of Sooke (Sooke) introduced a Notice of Motion (Motion) at the November PEC meeting regarding “Dogs On-Leash Policy within District of Sooke Parks.” The Motion, as approved by PEC, requested:

that staff apply the decision matrix as per the Dog Management Policy to five CRD Parks and Trails within the District of Sooke and report back to the committee with that report and the record of feedback from previous parks planning processes.

The five regional parks and trails identified are Ayum Creek Regional Park, Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Sooke Potholes Regional Park, Sea to Sea Regional Park and Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

The Motion states that 23 of the CRD’s 34 regional parks and trails are identified as dog off-leash, whereas five of the 11 regional parks that are designated as on-leash are, in whole or in part, within Sooke. The Notice of Motion maintains that this is a disproportionate number of on-leash areas in Sooke, which prevents Sooke residents from responsibly walking their dogs under effective command, as is the right of residents in other CRD municipalities.

The Motion also requests feedback from the public consultation component of the five management planning processes to summarize what the public said about dog management.

In response to the Motion, Appendix A applies the Dog Management Policy Framework to the five regional parks and trails. Appendix B provides a summary of public feedback on dogs from the five regional parks and trail management planning processes.

IMPLICATIONS

Intergovernmental Implications

Within the CRD, there are federal parks, provincial parks, regional parks and municipal parks. Each of these park systems contribute to a landscape of protected areas. The system, rather than individual parks, provides for a diversity of ecosystem protection and outdoor recreation opportunities. As such, not all types of allowable uses are appropriate within individual park or trail units. Regional parks and trails are classified by management focus. The management focus underscores the different management emphasis for each regional park/trail, not municipal or electoral area boundaries.

Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities

The 2019-2022 CRD Corporate Plan identifies dog management as a Board priority and directs Regional Parks to develop a dog management policy framework. A Dog Management Policy Framework was developed and approved by the CRD Board at its December 11, 2019 meeting. The policy framework provides a consistent, systematic way to determine how dogs will be managed within the regional park system. The policy framework is forward-looking and will primarily be applied during park and trail management planning processes with public input.

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

Management plans typically undergo a high degree of public consultation, as well as First Nations and local government engagement. Plans are meant to be in effect for 15 to 20 years. The dog management approach for each park or trail is consistent with their management plan direction and with *Regional Parks Bylaw No. 1, 2018*. The record of public feedback for the dog management direction in the management plans for the regional parks and trails identified in the Motion were either supported or not contested.

Of the regional parks and trails identified in the Motion, there are two instances where the baseline dog management category identified in the policy framework differs from the approved dog management direction identified in the management plan:

Kapoor Regional Park—The baseline condition in the policy framework is dogs on-leash in the *Environmental Protection Zone*, where they are now managed as leash optional under control throughout the park.

Sooke Potholes Regional Park—The baseline condition in the policy framework is dogs leash optional under control in the *Natural Environment Zone*, where they are now managed as on-leash throughout the park. Appendix A provides additional detail for each park and trail.

Staff are currently reviewing Regional Park Management Plans, criteria, process and outcomes. The results of this review will be presented to the Regional Parks Committee in the summer of 2020.

CONCLUSION

A Notice of Motion at the November 27, 2019 PEC meeting requested that staff apply the decision

matrix from the approved Dog Management Policy Framework to the five regional parks and trails that lie wholly, or in part, within the District of Sooke, and provide a record of public feedback from those planning processes concerning dogs. The Notice of Motion maintains that the regional parks and trails in Sooke disproportionately require dogs to be on-leash. Appendix A applies the policy framework to the management plans for the five regional parks and trails, and Appendix B provides a summary of public feedback about dogs from the park and trail management planning processes. After this report is received by the Regional Parks Committee, it will be submitted to the Board for information.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee receives this report for information.

Submitted by:	Jeff Leahy, RPF, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P. Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: Comparison of Dog Management Policy for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes and Sooke Hills Regional Parks

Appendix B: Record of Feedback from the Management Planning Processes

Comparison of Dog Management Policy for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes, and Sooke Hills Regional Parks

The Dog Management Policy Framework (policy framework) was approved by the CRD Board at its December 11, 2019 meeting. The policy framework provides a consistent and systematic approach to determining dog management within the regional park system. A Notice of Motion was presented at the November 27, 2019 Parks & Environment Committee (PEC) meeting requesting that the policy framework be applied to five regional parks and trails that lie wholly, or in part, within the District of Sooke.

Table 1 below provides a comparison between current dog management policy in the park units, based on their CRD Board-approved management plans, and the policy framework.

Table 1. Application of Policy Framework						
Park or Trail Management Plan				Dog Management Policy Framework	Consistency between Management Plan and Policy Framework Baseline Condition	Comments
Description	Classification	Zones	Dog Policy Statements	Baseline Dog Management Category		
Galloping Goose Regional Trail Plan Approved: 2016 <i>Jurisdiction:</i> Victoria, Saanich, View Royal, Colwood, Langford, Metchosin, Sooke, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area	Bike & Pedestrian Trail: <i>Victoria to Langford</i> Multi-Use Trail: <i>Luxton to Kapoor Regional Park</i>	N/A	Under 2.4 Overarching Policies for Regional Trails 2.4.1 General “For the safety of trail users, their pets, and wildlife, all pets must be on-leash at all times while on regional trails.”	Regional Trails: <i>Dogs on-leash</i>	Consistent	The dog management approach for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail is consistent between the management plan and the policy framework baseline condition.
Ayum Creek Regional Park Plan Approved: 2010 <i>Jurisdiction:</i> District of Sooke	Regional Conservation Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Environmental Protection Zone 	Under 3.6.3 Visitor Experience Action: “Retain Ayum Creek, and surrounding riparian areas, as off-limits to dogs during salmon spawning season; and on-leash/on-trails the rest of the year.”	Conservation Area/Environmental Protection Zone: <i>Dogs on-leash</i> May be considered: <i>Dogs not permitted</i>	Consistent	The dog management approach for Ayum Creek Regional Park is consistent between the management plan and the policy framework baseline condition.

Comparison of Dog Management Policy for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes, and Sooke Hills Regional Parks

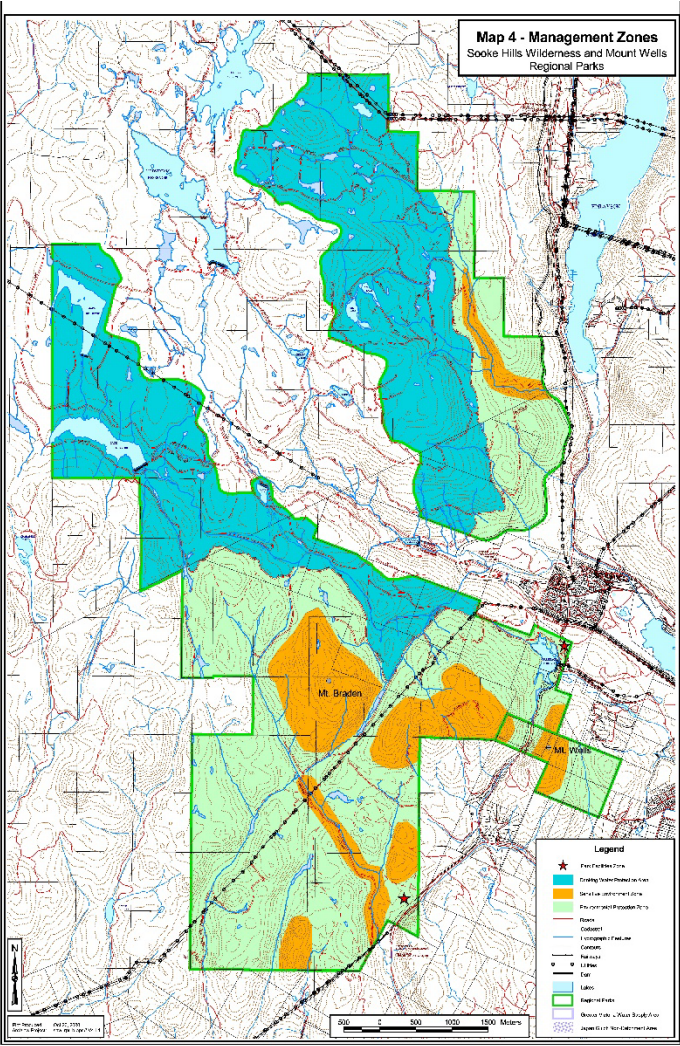
Table 1. Application of Policy Framework						
Park or Trail Management Plan				Dog Management Policy Framework	Consistency between Management Plan and Policy Framework Baseline Condition	Comments
Description	Classification	Zones	Dog Policy Statements	Baseline Dog Management Category		
Kapoor Regional Park	Regional Natural Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Environmental Protection ZoneNatural Environment Zone	Not stated in plan Default is: <i>dogs leash optional under control</i>	Natural Area/Natural Environment Zone: <i>Dogs leash optional under control</i> Natural Area/Environmental Protection Zone: <i>Dogs on-leash</i>	Consistent in <i>Natural Environment Zone</i> Inconsistent in <i>Environmental Protection Zone</i>	If the policy framework was applied to the Environmental Protection Zone, it would stipulate that dogs are required to be on-leash as the baseline condition. This is more restrictive than the current dog management approach.
Plan Approved: 2010						
<i>Jurisdiction:</i> Juan de Fuca Electoral Area						
Sea to Sea Regional Park	Regional Wilderness Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Wilderness ZoneNatural Environment ZoneEnvironmental Protection ZonePark Services Zone	Under Section 5.6.3 Visitor Experience: “Dogs will be required to be kept on-leash at all times in the park. This protects dogs (and their owners) from hazards such as encounters with large carnivores. It also protects park flora and fauna from undue disturbance.”	Wilderness Area/All Park Zones: <i>Dogs on-leash</i>	Consistent	If the management plan goes through a public amendment process, according to the policy framework under <i>7.1 Visitor Experience Considerations</i> , a leash optional under control designation <i>may</i> be considered for temporally or spatially defined park areas or internal park trails where the visitor experience may be safely enhanced by permitting dogs to be off-leash under control. Such a designation should be limited in scope and application, and be founded on a strong rationale. Decisions to deviate from the baseline dog management category should be based on an impact assessment and take into account any legal or regulatory requirements, risk and liability concerns, and public input received.
Plan Approved: 2010						
<i>Jurisdiction:</i> District of Sooke, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area						

Table 1. Application of Policy Framework						
Park or Trail Management Plan				Dog Management Policy Framework	Consistency between Management Plan and Policy Framework Baseline Condition	Comments
Description	Classification	Zones	Dog Policy Statements	Baseline Dog Management Category		
<div><div>Sooke Potholes Regional Park</div><div>Plan Approved: 2010</div><div>Jurisdiction: District of Sooke, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area</div></div>	Regional Natural Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Natural Environment ZoneEnvironmental Protection ZonePark Services Zone	<p>Under Section 6.6. Management Objectives and Actions</p> <p>6.6.1 Environmental Conservation:</p> <p>“Special measures will be undertaken to protect salmon, black bear, and other sensitive species from undesirable human impacts. Dogs will be required to remain on-leash and on trails at all times in the park.”</p> <p>6.6.4 Park Development and Operations:</p> <p>“Black bears may be present in the park during salmon spawning season. Strategies should be developed to address bear habituation, displacement, and public safety.”</p> <p>Action: Require dogs to remain on-leash and on trails.</p>	<p>Natural Environment Zone: <i>Dogs leash optional under control</i></p> <p>Environmental Protection Zone: <i>Dogs on-leash</i></p> <p>Park Service Zone: <i>Dogs on-leash</i></p>	<p>Inconsistent in <i>Natural Environment Zone</i></p> <p>Consistent in <i>Environmental Protection Zone</i></p> <p>Consistent in <i>Park Service Zone</i></p>	<p>The policy framework baseline condition for dog management in the <i>Natural Environment Zone</i> is leash optional under control. The policy framework also allows for dogs to be on-leash or not permitted in this zone.</p> <p>The policy framework is not retroactive to existing management plans, so it does not automatically apply to this management plan.</p> <p>In order to consider changing the current dogs on-leash direction for the <i>Natural Environment Zone</i> to dogs leash optional under control, the Sooke Potholes park management plan would need to undergo a new management planning process, with a public engagement component.</p> <p>In determining whether dogs should be allowed to be leash optional under control in the <i>Natural Environment Zone</i>, the policy framework’s decision considerations must be considered (i.e., impacts to visitor experience, visitor safety, environmental values, or cultural heritage).</p> <p>Decisions to deviate from the baseline dog management category should be based on an impact assessment and take into account any legal or regulatory requirements, risk and liability concerns, and public input received.</p>

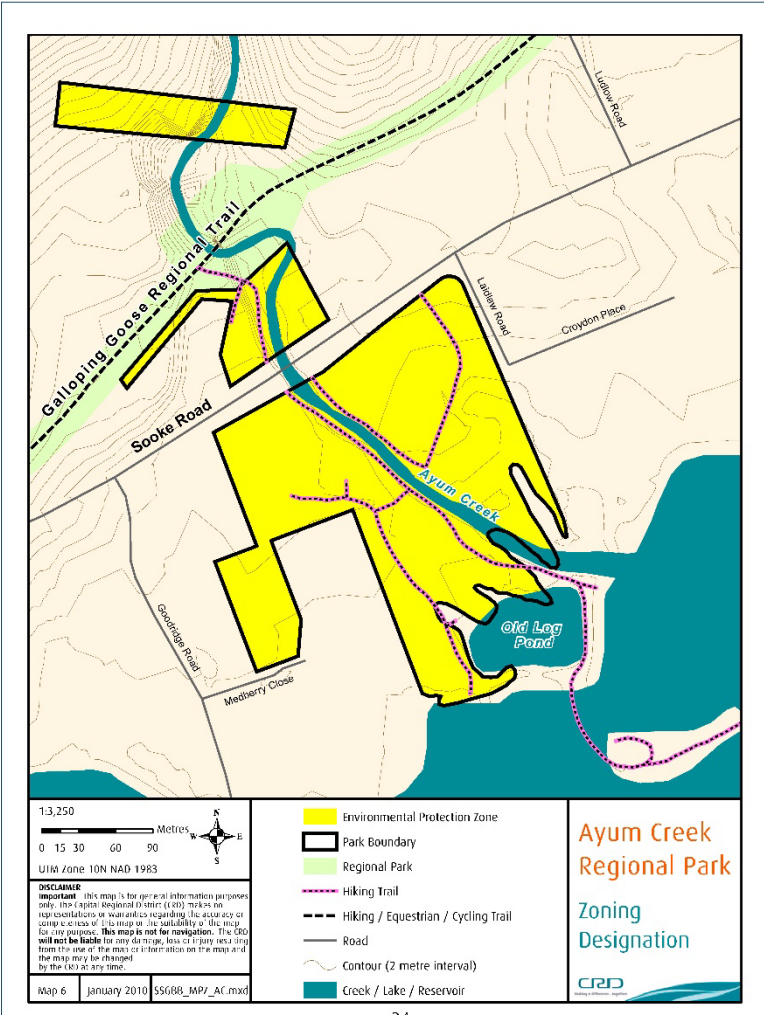
Table 1. Application of Policy Framework						
Park or Trail Management Plan				Dog Management Policy Framework	Consistency between Management Plan and Policy Framework Baseline Condition	Comments
Description	Classification	Zones	Dog Policy Statements	Baseline Dog Management Category		
<div><div>Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park</div><div>Plan Approved: 2001</div><div>Jurisdiction: District of Metchosin, City of Langford, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area</div></div>	Regional Wilderness Area	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Drinking Water Protection ZoneSensitive Environment ZoneEnvironmental Protection ZonePark Facilities Zone	<p>Under Drinking Water Protection Zone:</p> <p>“These wilderness areas support wildlife species that pose a threat to dogs, or could be at risk from dogs and other domestic animals that can carry human disease into the Water Supply Area. For these reasons, dogs will not be allowed in the Drinking Water Protection Zone. Dogs must be on-leash in all other park zones.”</p> <p>Under Managing Dogs Within the Parks</p> <p>Management Policies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Dogs will not be permitted in the Drinking Water Protection Zone.Dogs must be on-leash in all other portions of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.	<p>Wilderness Area/All Park Zones: <i>Dogs on-leash</i></p> <p>Wilderness Area/Drinking Water Protection Zone: <i>Dogs not Permitted</i></p>	Consistent in all zones	<p>The Sooke Hills Wilderness Management Plan has identified the process to review and amend the management plan (p. 13):</p> <p>“Once the management plan has been adopted, CRD Board and Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection approval will be required for major changes to the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park portion of the management plan. Major changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Changes to the boundaries of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park;Changes to the boundaries of the Drinking Water Protection Zone;Changes to basic park management policies as stated in the management plan. <p>Changing the existing dog management policy is considered a major change to the management plan. This would require CRD Board approval and Province of B.C. Ministerial approval. A process to review the management plan would require:</p> <p>“Relevant provincial and federal government agencies and departments, local governments, park user groups and First Nations to be consulted in the review process.”</p>

Comparison of Dog Management Policy for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes, and Sooke Hills Regional Parks

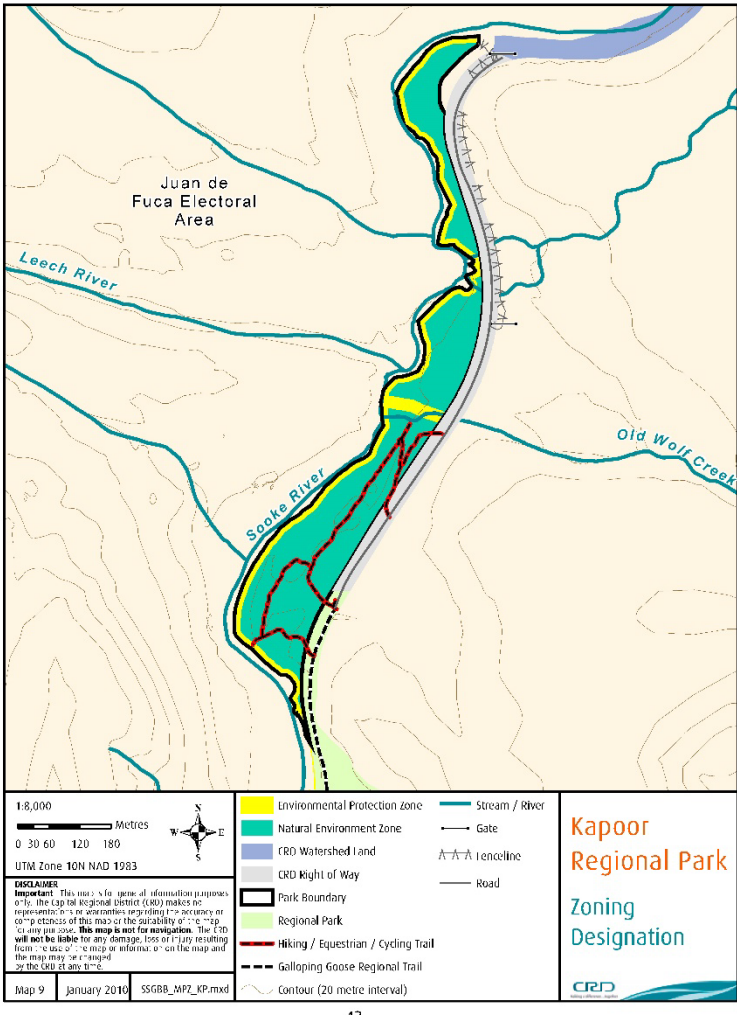
Park Management Plan - Zoning Maps



Sooke Hills Wilderness Zoning Map

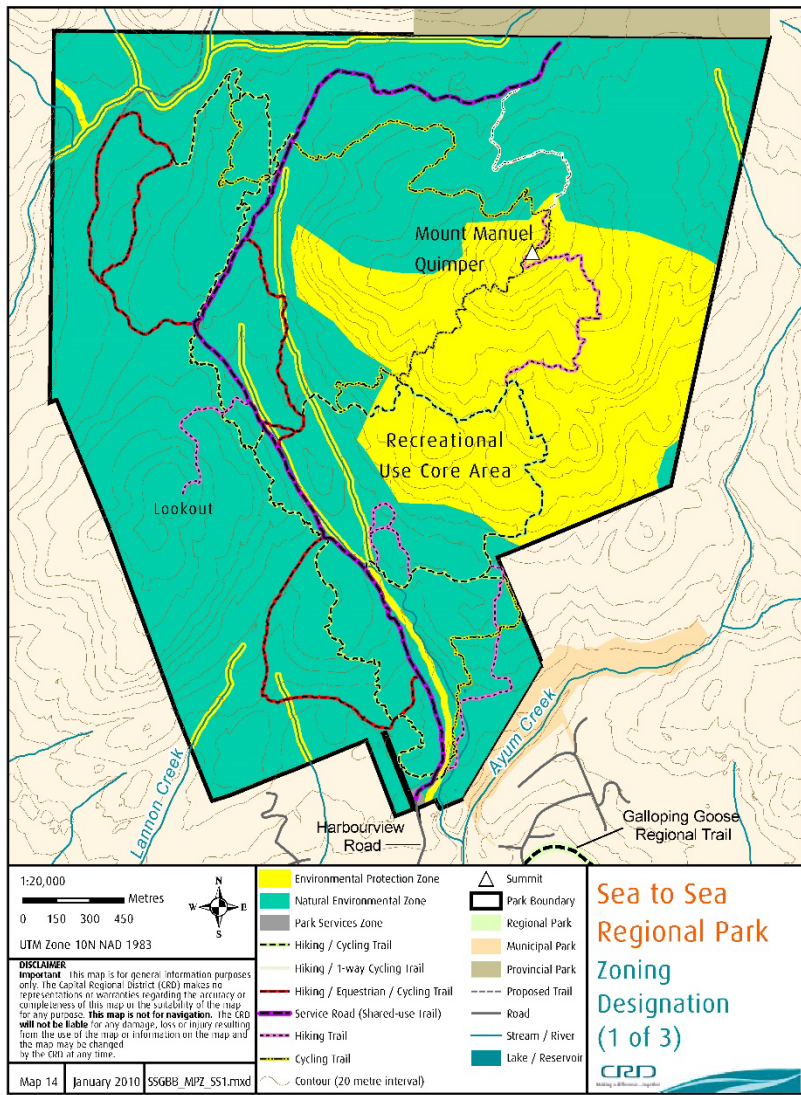
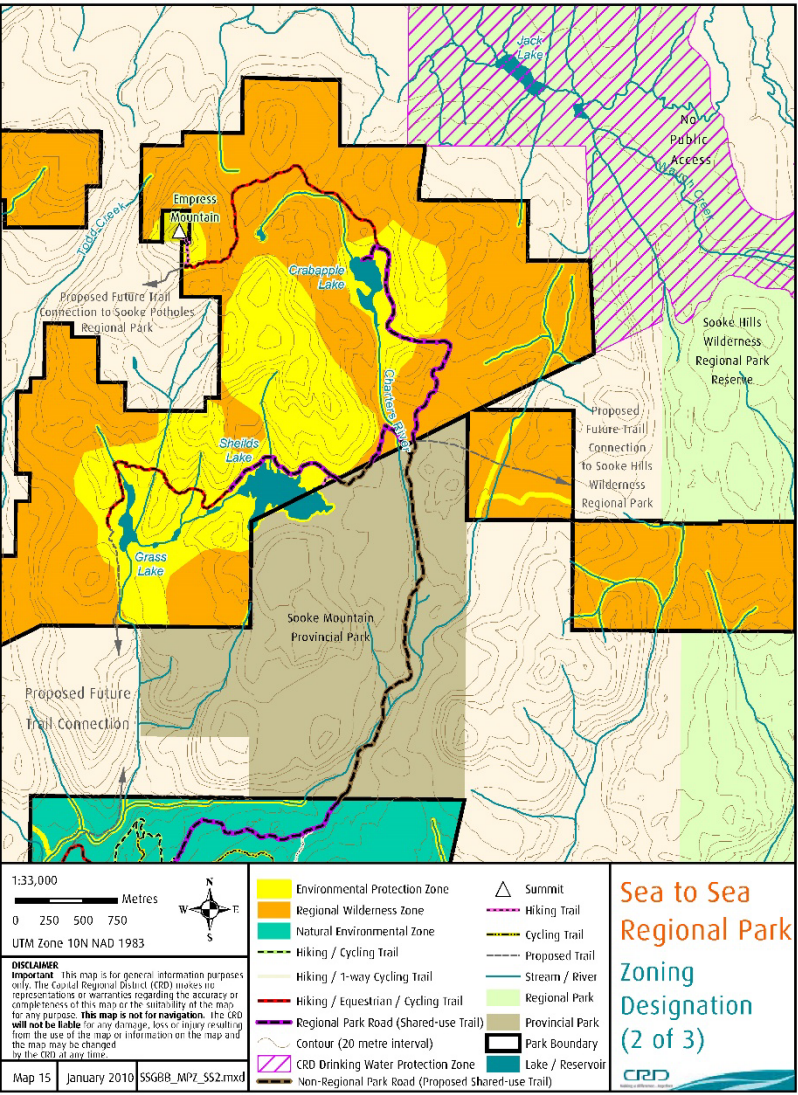
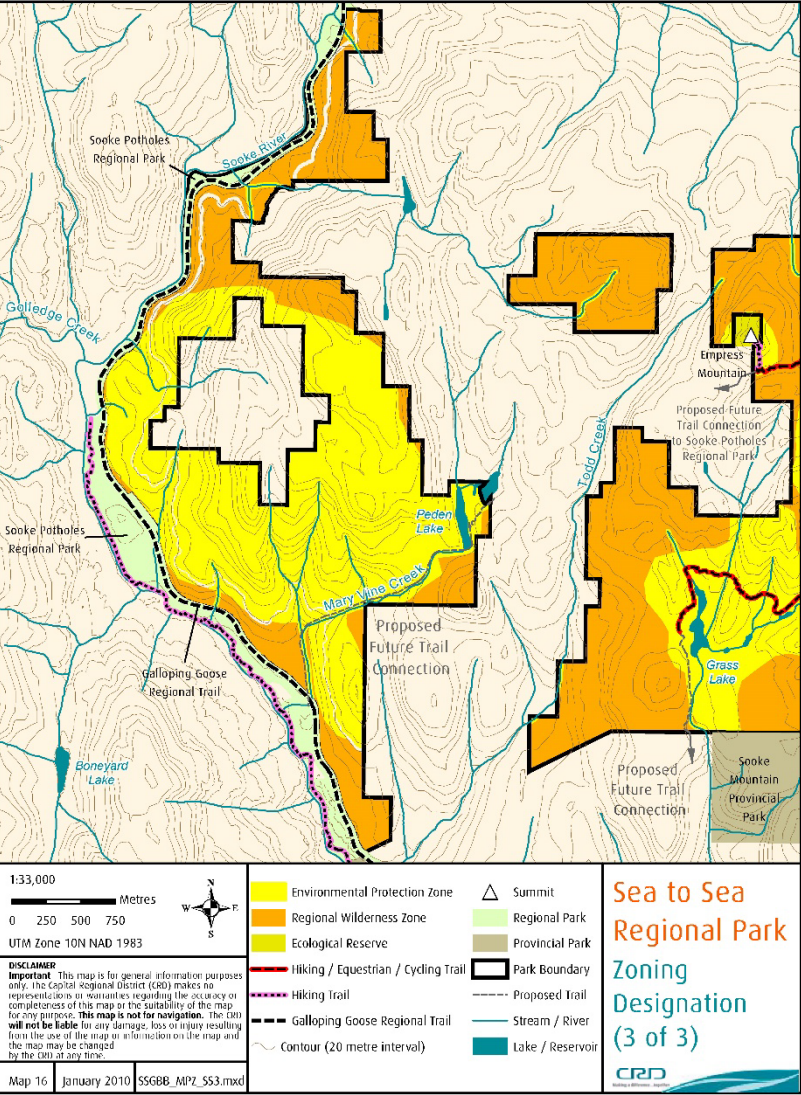


Ayum Creek Regional Park Zoning Map



Kapoor Regional Park Zoning Map

Comparison of Dog Management Policy for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes, and Sooke Hills Regional Parks



Sea to Sea Regional Park Zoning Maps

Record of Feedback from Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, Sooke Potholes and Sooke Hills Wilderness Management Planning Processes

A single park management planning process was undertaken for Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sooke Potholes, and Sea to Sea regional parks from 2006-2010. The CRD Board approved the *Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea, and Sooke Potholes Regional Parks Management Plans* in March 2010. A single management planning process was undertaken for the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, E&N Rail Trail—Humpback Connector, and Lochside Regional Trail between 2013 and 2016. The CRD Board approved the *Regional Trails Management Plan* in November, 2016. A single park management planning process was undertaken for Sooke Hills Wilderness and Mt. Wells between 1999 and 2001. The CRD Board approved the *Sooke Hills Wilderness and Mount Wells Regional Parks Management Plan* in June, 2001; and as required, the Minister of Water, Land and Air Protection approved the plan in November, 2001.

Table 2 summarizes the public engagement processes and record of feedback from the five park and trail management planning processes as it relates to dogs.

Table 2. Record of Public Feedback				
Description	Summary of Public Consultation Process	Record of Public Feedback – Plan Initiation	Record of Public Feedback – Draft Plan	Comments
Galloping Goose Regional Trail	<p>The Regional Trails Management Plan (RTMP) was developed with significant input provided by the public, First Nations, and municipal representatives. Public input was gathered through three rounds of public participation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regional Trails Survey (2013). Over 2,000 respondents submitted a survey. Initial information gathering process (2014) Comments on the draft Regional Trails Management Plan (2015-2016) <p>Public sessions were advertised in local newspapers, on the CRD website, and on social media. E-mails were also sent to known interest groups alerting them about the processes.</p> <p>Overall, there was a reasonably strong level of public support for the draft RTMP.</p>	<p>An initial round of three public sessions and an online comment form, available between May and June 2014, were used to gather ideas and suggestions from the public for a vision statement for regional trails, overarching management principles/values, strategic policies for all regional trails, and key management needs for each of the existing regional trails—Galloping Goose, Lochside and E&N Rail Trail.</p> <p>Initial engagement with First Nations was also undertaken in 2014, with five meetings and/or community sessions held with two interested First Nations.</p> <p>Together, over 1,300 ideas and suggestions were received in 2014 to help develop the draft plan.</p>	<p>A draft RTMP was released for public comment in late 2015. The draft RTMP and a related online comment form were available between November 24, 2015 and January 31, 2016. Two public open houses were held in January 2016.</p> <p>The CRD received 435 comment forms and 162 other types of qualitative communications between November 2015 and February 2016. The qualitative comments were provided by the public through open houses, emails, Facebook, and other types of communications.</p> <p>Section 2.4 of the draft plan lists strategic policies for Regional Trails, including:</p> <p><i>“For the safety of trail users, their pets, and wildlife, all pets must be on-leash at all times while on regional trails.”</i></p> <p>The RTMP Public Participation Report (2016) identified that 75% of respondents supported the strategic policies in the draft plan.</p>	<p>In preparing the RTMP, municipal input was gathered through two steps:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A CRD-Municipal-Provincial Working Group, with staff representatives appointed by their municipalities/electoral areas/ministry, was established in 2014. The Working Group met four times to discuss and advise on different aspects of the planning process, including public participation and draft sections of the RTMP. The draft RTMP was referred to Municipal Councils and Electoral Area Directors in November 2015 requesting comments by January 30, 2016. By request, presentations were made to seven municipalities or electoral areas or their respective committees. <p>Responses on the draft RTMP were received from 11 municipalities and electoral areas. On balance, there was good support expressed for the draft RTMP.</p> <p>No municipal comments on the draft RTMP specifically relating to dogs were mentioned in the 2016 Public Participation Report.</p>

Table 2. Record of Public Feedback				
Description	Summary of Public Consultation Process	Record of Public Feedback – Plan Initiation	Record of Public Feedback – Draft Plan	Comments
Ayum Creek Regional Park	<p>The CRD Regional Parks Committee and CRD Board approved a public consultation process for the Ayum Creek, Kapoor, Sea to Sea and Sooke Potholes in July 2006. The public consultation process included the following components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Establishment of a Management Plan Advisory Group (MPAG) consisting of nine representatives.Consultation with other CRD departments, other levels of government, First Nations, and public stakeholders.Preparation and distribution of a newsletter to explain the planning process and provide background information on the plan units.Three public meetings at the start of the planning process to identify public interests and values.Two public meetings to gather input on the draft park management plan and newsletter.Presentation of the draft park management plan to the District of Sooke Mayor and Council.Preparation and distribution of a newsletter once the final plan was approved. <p>The purpose of the MPAG was to provide advice and recommendations on the plan</p>	<p>CRD Regional Parks hired Judith Cullington & Associates to manage the initial public consultation.</p> <p>Three meetings were held for the first round of public consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">November 15, 2006: T’Sou-ke NationNovember 23, 2006: VictoriaNovember 25, 2006: Sooke <p>In all, nearly 200 people attended the meetings. Participants were given an opportunity to provide their input by verbal comments during the meetings, written comments on a response form, and by other written comments (i.e. fax, email, or letter).</p> <p>The public was asked to comment on their vision and values for the four parks; activities they would (or would not) like to see in the park areas; and issues that the park management plan should address, and ways to resolve these issues.</p> <p>The key messages from the public consultation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Wilderness and conservation are very important values for the parks.Public recreation is important, but the types of access envisioned varied.Facilities and services should be limited and minimal.	<p>CRD Regional Parks conducted a public consultation process to hear feedback on the draft management plan in 2009. Two meetings were held:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">November 24, 2009: SookeDecember 1, 2009: Victoria <p>In all, 71 people attended the meetings. In addition, 16 response forms were received.</p> <p>People were given an opportunity to comments in several ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Verbal comments from facilitated discussions at the public meetings;Written comments on a response form available at the public meetings;Written comments on an on-line response form; andFormal written comments from the District of Sooke, District of Metchosin, JdFEA Area Director, T’Sou-ke Nation, and Beecher Bay First Nation. <p>A presentation of the draft plan was made to the District of Sooke Council on January 25, 2010. In response, the District of Sooke sent a letter outlining their comments and concerns. The letter did not mention dogs as an issue or concern.</p> <p>The public was asked to respond to three questions:</p>	<p>The draft plan was brought forward at the District of Sooke Council meeting on January 25, 2010. The District’s comments can be summarized as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">A concern over the restricted use of the Sea to Sea park by the elderly, young families, and physically challenged residents who require access by motorized vehicles.The need for provision of a designated area for off-road recreational access in the park management plan, and consultation with off-road recreational groups as to their needs for park use and stewardship opportunities.The need to address access for emergency vehicle access in the park management plan.The need to consult with the District of Sooke before acquiring additional Regional Park lands within the District of Sooke’s boundaries. <p>There is no record of the District’s representative sitting on the MPAG contesting the dog management direction identified in the four draft park management plans.</p> <p>-----</p> <p>Several management themes were identified during the background information gathering, MPAG, and public input phases of the planning process. One of these themes was dog management:</p> <p>2.12.6 Dog Management (p. 22)</p>
Kapoor Regional Park				
Sea to Sea Regional Park				
Sooke Potholes Regional Park				

Table 2. Record of Public Feedback				
Description	Summary of Public Consultation Process	Record of Public Feedback – Plan Initiation	Record of Public Feedback – Draft Plan	Comments
	<p>as it was developed through the final stage.</p> <p>The composition of the MPAG included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Councilor – District of Sooke• T’Sou-ke Nation• Sooke Harbour Chamber of Commerce• Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks & Recreation Commission• Society for the Protection of Ayum Creek• Habitat Acquisition Trust• The Land Conservancy of BC• Public Representative <p>The MPAG met regularly during the course of the management planning process to review and comment on all aspects of the four park plans, including the draft plan.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Many people preferred any business opportunities located outside the parks.• There are many important issues for the park management plan to address, including balancing recreational use and conservation. <p>The verbatim record of public comments indicates that dogs were barely mentioned from the hundreds of comments received. As such, dogs were not identified as an issue in this round of public consultation.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. For each park unit, what do you think about the proposed objectives and actions?2. What are your overall thoughts about the plan?3. Do you have any general comments to make? <p>The record of public comments confirmed the draft plan’s proposed objectives and actions. Comments about dogs were negligible, and where dogs were mentioned, the comments favored more control or requiring dogs to be on-leash. The proposed dog management direction was not flagged as an issue in any of the draft management plans.</p>	<p><i>“Parks within the Regional Park system have a high degree of environmental sensitivity, and inappropriately managed dogs can result in environmental disturbance and habitat/species decline. Other park visitors can also be disturbed by inappropriately managed dogs. Dogs in the four park units are required to remain under control at all times, and in some cases on-leash/on-trail. Some sections of the parks may be zoned off-limits to dogs, depending on the degree of environmental sensitivity, presence of species at risk, or other factors. Rules regulating dogs, and identification of off-limit areas or time periods, will be clearly stated in park communications materials.”</i></p> <p>This dog management theme was not contested during the public or MPAG review of the draft management plan.</p>
Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park	<p>The management plan for Sooke Hills Wilderness and Mount Wells was prepared with the assistance of a Project Management Team and a nine member public advisory group. The project team was represented by CRD Regional Parks; CRD Water; the Capital Health Region; the Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks; and the Ministry of Municipal Affairs.</p> <p>A nine-member Volunteer Public Advisory Group was also established to provide input into the management plan.</p>	<p>The public was given several opportunities to review the plan as it was being prepared. Two newsletters were circulated, and the public was invited to review the park proposals as they were being formed.</p> <p>The first newsletter, prepared in June of 1999, outlined the challenge of managing large areas of parkland adjacent to the closed drinking water supply.</p> <p>The second newsletter (November, 1999), focused on getting public input on the park vision.</p>	<p>CRD Regional Parks presented the draft plan at an open house and workshop held in November 2000. 48 members of the public participated in the open house and workshops that followed.</p> <p>A third newsletter was also released in November 2000 outlining the proposed park management policies and requesting input on specific park management proposals.</p> <p>The public was asked for their views on 14 key subject areas and given the opportunity to make written comments. A total of 137 response forms were received, indicating</p>	<p>Municipalities adjacent to Sooke Hills Wilderness and Mt. Wells regional parks (the districts of Sooke, Langford, and Metchosin) were invited to comment on the draft plan. The districts of Metchosin and Langford provided comments. CRD Regional Parks did not receive a written response from the District of Sooke or the JdFEA director.</p>

Table 2. Record of Public Feedback				
Description	Summary of Public Consultation Process	Record of Public Feedback – Plan Initiation	Record of Public Feedback – Draft Plan	Comments
	The CRD Regional Parks Committee and the CRD Board had an opportunity to review the Draft Management Plan, and approved the plan before sending it to the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection for approval. The CRD Board then adopted the management plan by bylaw in 2001.	There is no record available of the feedback received from the initial round of public consultation.	overall support for the draft plan, particularly on proposed environmental policies. From the response form, Question #7 was about dogs: <i>“The CRD Parks bylaw states that dogs must be under control in regional parks (either on a leash or returning immediately when called). The draft plan proposes that all dogs be leashed in Sooke Hills Wilderness to protect wildlife, themselves, and their handlers. What is your level of support for this policy?”</i> Support or strongly support: 71% Oppose or strongly oppose: 21%	

**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

SUBJECT **Regional Parks – Sustainable Service Delivery**

ISSUE SUMMARY

Options for reducing/phasing in funding to support sustainable service delivery in Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks.

BACKGROUND

In 2014, Regional Parks embarked on an asset management improvement initiative. The purpose of this initiative is to ensure Regional Parks asset management practices are aligned with industry best practices and standards to support sustainable service delivery.

This information has resulted in a Regional Parks Sustainable Service Delivery Plan Report Card for the Regional Parks service, as well as an infrastructure status report for each regional park and trail. The report cards show that our financial resources are no longer sufficient to meet our current asset renewal demands. An additional \$925,000/year was identified as being needed to support a sustainable service delivery over the next 19 years.

At the October 30, 2019 Committee of the Whole meeting, it was recommended that staff report back to the Regional Parks Committee on options for reducing/phasing in an additional \$925,000 per year for capital reserves to fund the refurbishment and replacement of CRD Regional Parks existing assets.

ALTERNATIVES

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

Alternative 1

That Regional Parks sustainable service delivery report be received for information.

Alternative 2

That the report be referred back to staff for additional information.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The completion of the Regional Parks Sustainable Service Delivery Plan Report Card provides an overview of the Regional Parks service, a summary of the condition of its assets and a snapshot of the service's financial state to help inform the regional parks future asset renewal program and ensure ongoing service delivery.

The report cards show that the total current replacement value for all Regional Park built

infrastructure over the current lifespan is estimated at \$105 million. Regional trail infrastructure costs make up 43.5% of asset replacement value (\$40 million). The current annual revenue contributions to capital are approximately \$925,000 less than the sustainable reinvestment level. This is for renewal and refurbishment of current assets only and does not include future new builds. This also does not include revised amenity requirements as demographics shift, and updating facilities for better environmental/energy performance, etc.

Staff have looked at various options for reducing/phasing in the financial impact of the Regional Parks infrastructure expenditure. One option was to phase in the \$925,000 over a three-year period; the first three years' \$500,000 will be requisitioned (see Appendix A).

In addition to the funding shift outlined above, staff will have to explore a number of strategies to ensure that sufficient funding is in place in future years to sustain the Regional Parks service.

Future additional requisition increases may be required to fund significant new infrastructure or to address unforeseen failures of existing priority assets.

Service Delivery Implications

Phasing in the additional \$925,000 capital reserve for the next three years at a level of \$500,000 will necessitate:

- a 15% reduction in asset renewal projects for 2022, which may impact service levels
- an 8% reduction in asset renewal projects in 2024, which may impact service levels
- the requisition to be increased to \$1,000,000 for the remaining 16 years of the 20-year Sustainable Service Delivery Plan

Reduction in service levels may include, postponing some asset renewal projects, or closing assets due to public safety concerns.

At the end of the four-year timeframe, the Sustainable Service Delivery Plan Report Cards will be updated to better reflect the additional assets acquired during this period.

Social Implications

Regional park visitation statistics indicate an upward growth trend in annual use (46% increase since 2010). Higher visitor use puts utilization pressure on existing infrastructure, creating an increased need for ongoing maintenance or earlier replacement of assets.

If built infrastructure is not adequately maintained and renewed, public safety issues will rise and visitor experience will decrease. Inadequate funding to renew or maintain our major assets, such as dams, trails, trestles and bridges, may lead to major recreational and transportation corridors being closed. The reputation of the CRD having a world-class regional park and trail system will be negatively impacted. This will also have a negative impact on the local economy, as the regional parks and trails system draws close to 8 million visitors a year.

Growth Management Implications

The regional population is increasing. In 2018, the population was 413,000, up 12.4% from 2011. The Regional Growth Strategy indicates an intent to protect, enhance, and expand natural areas

and to provide recreation areas. With increasing population and changing population demographics, there will be increasing demands on the existing regional park system. Sustainable service delivery needs to consider and plan for the environmental and social carrying capacity of the parks and trails.

CONCLUSION

Staff have analyzed options for reducing/phasing in the \$925,000/year. The results of this analysis show that an additional capital reserve of \$925,000/year is required to ensure there are no shortfalls in asset renewal.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That Regional Parks sustainable service delivery report be received for information.

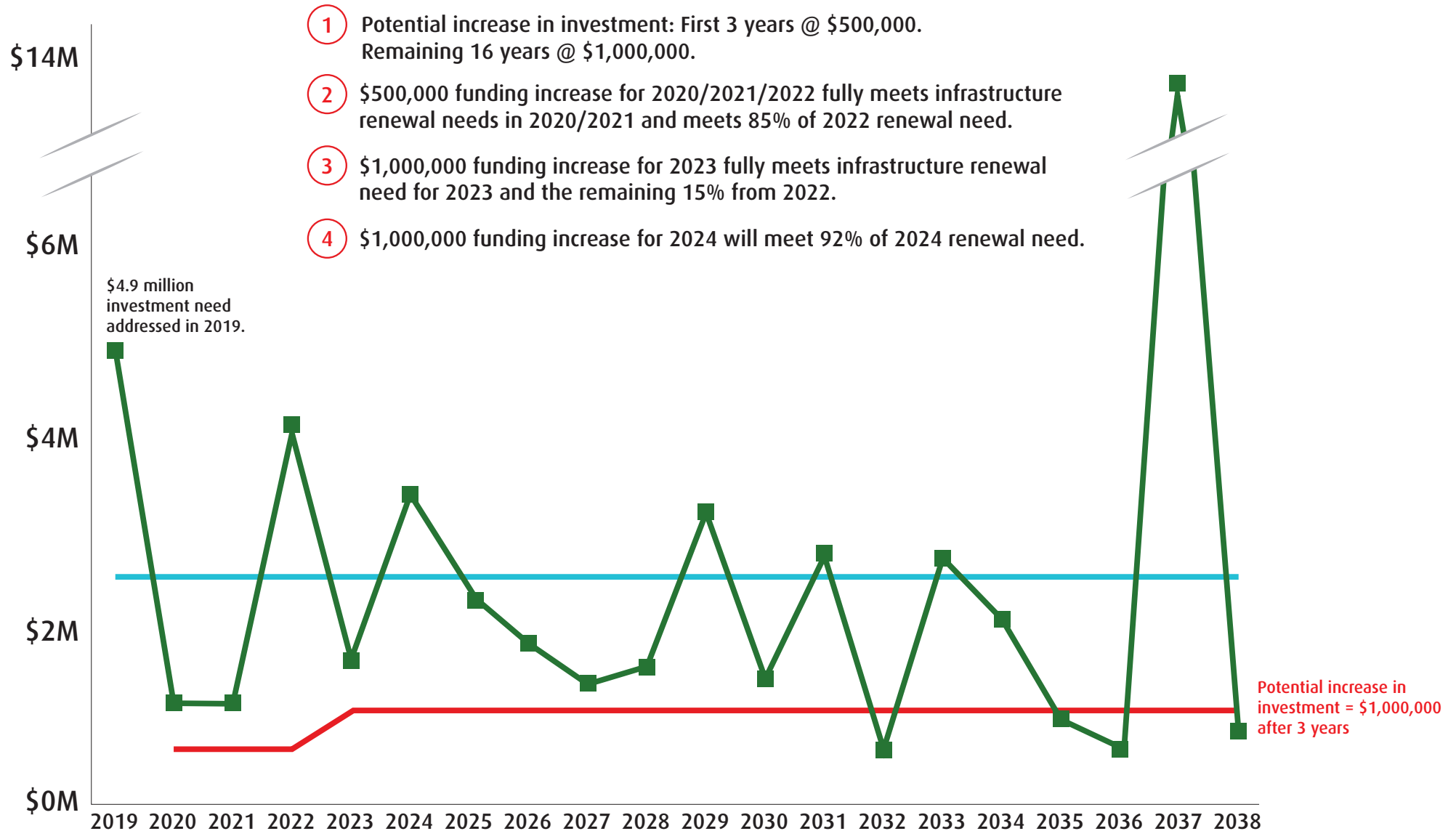
Submitted by:	Jeff Leahy, RPF, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P.Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Asset Renewal Forecast

ASSET RENEWAL FORECAST

Investment need 20-year forecast, average annual renewal need, and potential increase in investment



Projection is based on sustaining capital program average renewal funds at approximately \$1.6 million per year.

**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

SUBJECT **Regional Parks – Visitor Use Surveys – 2018 and 2019**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide information on the outcomes of the 2018 and 2019 Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks visitor use surveys.

BACKGROUND

CRD Regional Parks has developed a broad social science survey program to document public opinion toward the regional parks and trails system. This program involves conducting a resident survey every five years, in conjunction with canvassing seven to eight regional parks and trails yearly through a visitor use survey. These two levels of information gathering – at a regional and local scale – allow CRD Regional Parks staff to gather up-to-date information on visitor use, monitor public opinions and determine how local trends relate to the broader patterns concerning the region.

The first resident survey was conducted in 2017 and the results were submitted to the Regional Parks Committee at its meeting of February 21, 2018. This was followed by the first visitor use survey, which took place from June to September 2018 at Kapoor, Mt. Wells, Mt. Work, Sea to Sea, Sooke Hills Wilderness, Sooke Potholes and Thetis Lake regional parks. A second round of visitor use surveys took place from June to September 2019 at Lone Tree Hill, Francis/King and Witty's Lagoon regional parks, as well as the E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, the Galloping Goose and the Lochside regional trails. The data for both visitor use surveys was analyzed throughout 2019. Because of the differences between the visitor use pattern data collected in the regional parks versus the regional trails, a separate report will be generated for the E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, Galloping Goose, and Lochside regional trails and brought to the Regional Parks Committee for information in 2020.

There were 756 questionnaires filled out by park visitors in 2018 and 333 for 2019, respectively, for a grand total of 1,084. The survey report documents the input received from participants (Appendix A). The report offers a summary of answers provided by respondents regarding their use of and experiences in regional parks. Data collection was performed at randomly selected days and times at the main parking lots of the regional parks canvased. This methodology was chosen to maximize the diversity of respondents to the survey.

IMPLICATIONS

Social Implications

Only the views of people visiting the regional parks at the time of the survey who were willing to participate in the survey are represented in this report. People not visiting the regional park system due to concerns, such as those identified in the CRD Regional Parks Service Resident Survey 2017 (meeting dogs off-leash, too far from home, not enough time, feeling unsafe, and too many cyclists), are not represented in the report.

In all the parks surveyed, there was a general satisfaction rating of at least 84% or higher for overall experience. This is in line with the 2017 resident survey, which indicated that 85% of respondents were satisfied with their experience in regional parks and trails.

The survey results provide valuable visitor demographics. Of note, the majority of visitors live in the region, with the exception of Sooke Potholes Regional Park, which had a larger international demographic. All ages were represented across the system; however, certain parks showed stronger use by specific age groups. For example, 56% of the visitors surveyed in Francis/King Regional Park were over the age of 55.

The top four recreational activities in these parks were identified as hiking, biking, swimming and dog walking. Of the visitors surveyed, a third were visiting with a dog. The majority of visitors surveyed were satisfied with other visitor use of the trails within the park.

Service Delivery Implications

The information gathered by the visitor use surveys, combined with the visitation data, can help inform regional parks service delivery. The visitor use survey results will help guide staff in planning for the future management of the regional parks canvased, as well as identify emerging visitor use trends. For example, the visitors surveyed consistently noted that the protection of the natural environment and species should be an area of focus in these parks over the next five years. Overall, the highest areas of satisfaction were the trails and outdoor recreation opportunities. The areas identified for improvement varied by park; however, enforcing CRD Regional Park regulations and CRD Regional Parks information on the CRD website were two of the higher-ranked areas for improvement overall. By serving as a baseline, subsequent surveys will allow staff to measure any changes to visitor satisfaction and visitor use over time.

Financial Implications

The survey data offers a better understanding of the visitor use pressures regional parks are undergoing, especially in relation to use of park facilities and demand for services. For example, at least 75% of the visitors surveyed in each park indicated that they travelled to the regional park by car. As visitation increases, this could correlate with increased pressures on parking infrastructure.

Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities

The survey program supports the 2019-2022 CRD Corporate Plan Board Priority 6a-1 by providing a better understanding of parks user groups and demands on park infrastructure.

Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies

The program aligns with the Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2012-2021 strategic priorities of undertaking resident and visitor use surveys to strengthen community involvement and partnerships.

CONCLUSION

The Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2012-2021 identified conducting visitor use surveys as a strategic action to strengthen community involvement and partnership. The 2018 and 2019 CRD Regional Parks Visitor Use Surveys summarize key responses provided by respondents regarding their use of, and experiences in, the 10 regional parks canvassed. The survey results will help guide staff in planning for the future management of the regional parks and identify emerging visitor use trends as well as provide a baseline for subsequent surveys.

RECOMMENDATION

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

That this report be received for information.

Submitted by:	Jeff Leahy, RPF, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P. Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Robert Lapham, MCIP, RPP, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: CRD Regional Parks 2018-2019 Visitor Use Survey Summary Report (published February 2020)



CRD Regional Parks

2018–2019 Visitor Use Survey SUMMARY REPORT





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Published February 2020

This report represents current information as of the time of publication.

Cover photo: Witty’s Lagoon Regional Park

INTRODUCTION

The Capital Regional District (CRD) has developed a broad survey program aimed at documenting public opinion regarding regional parks and trails.

The survey program supports the 2019-2022 CRD Corporate Plan Board Priority 6a-1 by providing a better understanding of park user groups and demands on park infrastructure. The program aligns with the Regional Park Strategic Plan 2012-2021 strategic priorities of undertaking resident and visitor use surveys to strengthen community involvement and partnerships.

Summary report overview

Visitor use surveys enable CRD Regional Parks to understand what is happening in individual parks and identify emerging visitor use trends.

This document summarizes the highlights of visitor use surveys conducted in the summers of 2018 and 2019 at the following regional parks:

- ▶ Francis/King
- ▶ Kapoor
- ▶ Lone Tree Hill
- ▶ Mount Wells
- ▶ Mount Work
- ▶ Sea to Sea
- ▶ Sooke Hills Wilderness
- ▶ Sooke Potholes
- ▶ Thetis Lake
- ▶ Witty's Lagoon



Francis/King Regional Park

Survey methodology

A survey with a standardized set of questions was administered to the visitors of the ten regional parks canvassed in 2018-2019.

Data collection was performed on randomly selected days and times at the main parking lots of the regional parks canvassed. Data collection took place from June to mid September weekdays and weekends. This methodology was chosen to maximize the diversity of respondents for the survey.

This report represents the views of those who visited the regional parks listed and were willing to participate in the survey.

Summary report results

There were 756 questionnaires filled out by park visitors in 2018 and 333 for 2019, respectively, for a grand total of 1,084.

This report provides a snapshot of park user characteristics, use patterns, level of satisfaction, and opinions about regional parks and offers a summary of key answers provided by respondents in regard to their use of, and experiences, in the regional parks canvassed.





FRANCIS/KING REGIONAL PARK

94%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2019

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-3 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone or in a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
55-64 and 65+

Typical place of residence:
Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Overall cleanliness

► Trails

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Nature Centre hours

► Enforcement of park regulations

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

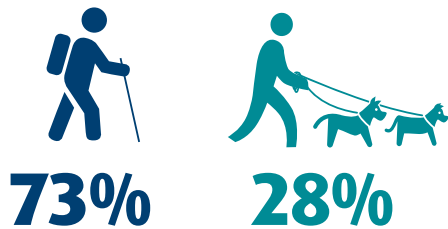
Francis/King Regional Park



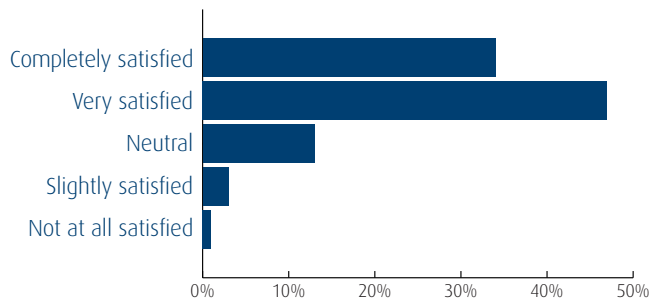
Francis/King Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to enjoy the trails, especially the Elsie King and Centennial Trails

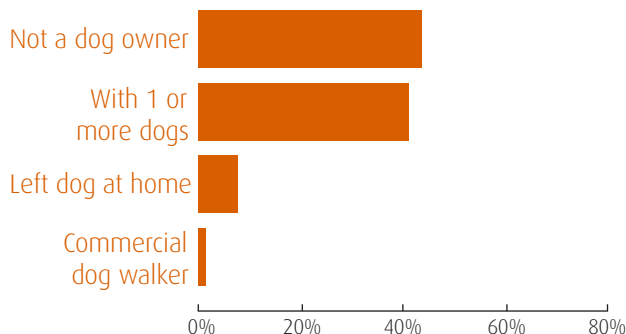
Respondents main activities in the park



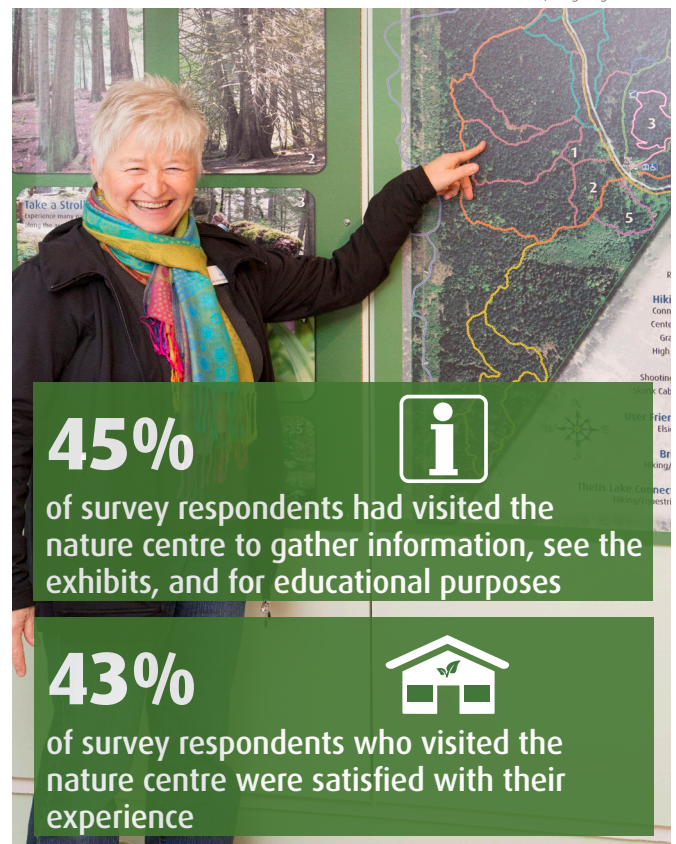
Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Francis/King Regional Park



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Focus on dog management
- Focus on environmental conservation
- Provide more signage, maps and interpretative panels





KAPOOR REGIONAL PARK

87%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or first time user

Typical group size:
A group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs

Typical transportation to the park:
Bike

Typical age ranges:
25-34 and 45-54

Typical place of residence:
British Columbia, Saanich, United States of America and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

➤ Overall cleanliness

➤ Trails

Lowest level of satisfaction

➤ Park information on the CRD website

➤ Enforcement of park regulations

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

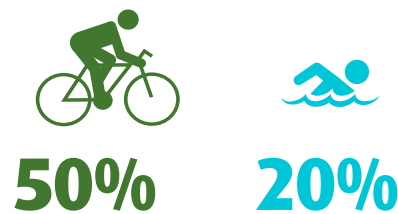
Rest station at Kapoor Regional Park



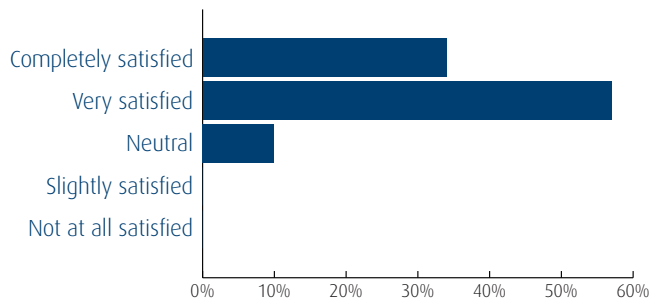
Kapoor Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to visit Leechtown and to reach the end of the Galloping Goose Regional Trail

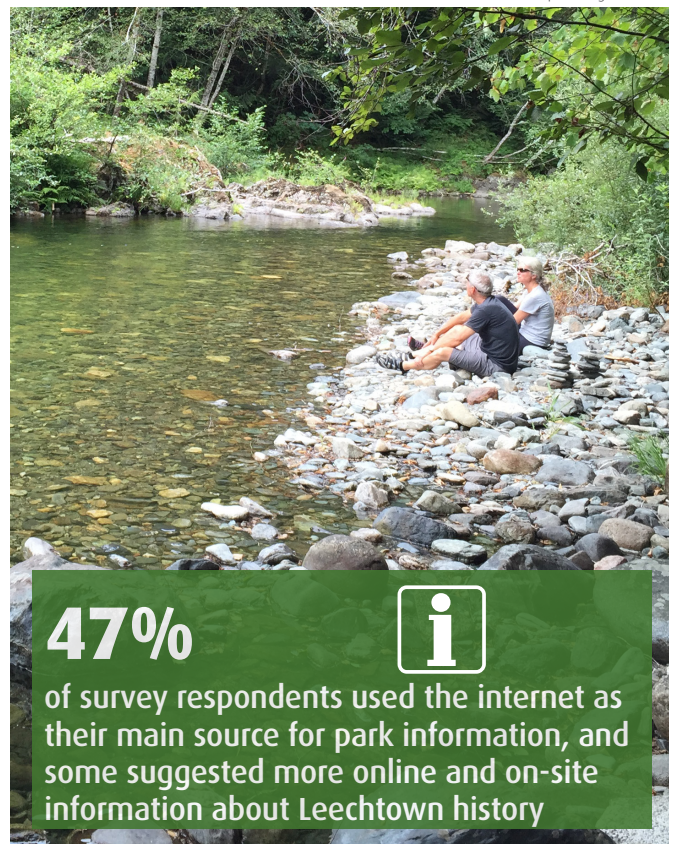
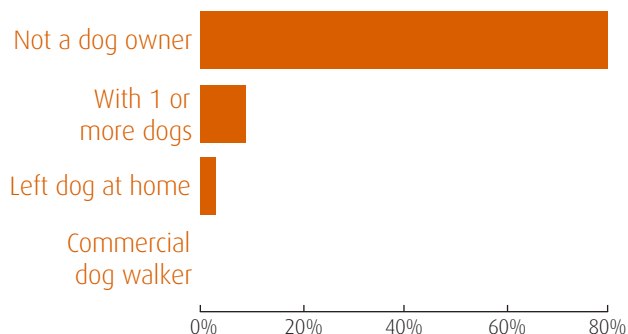
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Offer more outdoor recreation opportunities
- Address parking shortage at access points
- Provide more signage, maps and interpretative panels





LONE TREE HILL REGIONAL PARK

89%

of survey respondents were
satisfied with their overall
experience

Survey year:
2019

Typical amount of time spent in park:
Less than 1 hour to 1-2 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or first time user

Typical group size:
In a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or
nothing

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
25-34 and 35-44

Typical place of residence:
Langford, Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Nature protection

► Trails

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Park information on the CRD website
& toilet cleanliness

► Enforcement of park regulations

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential
areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

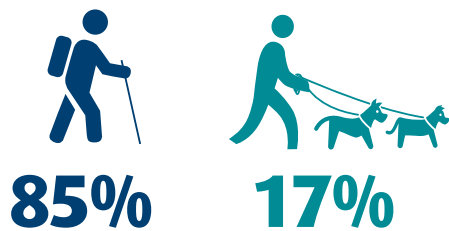
Lone Tree Hill Regional Park
Photo: Mary Sanseverino



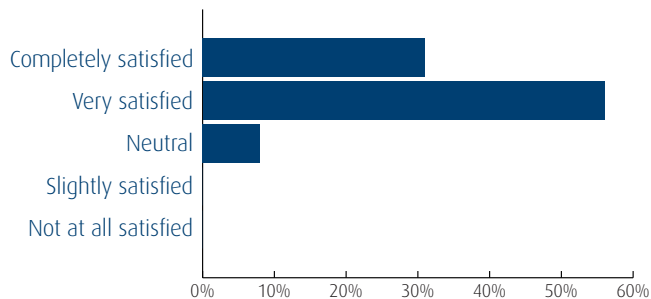
Lone Tree Hill Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to reach the summit and enjoy nature

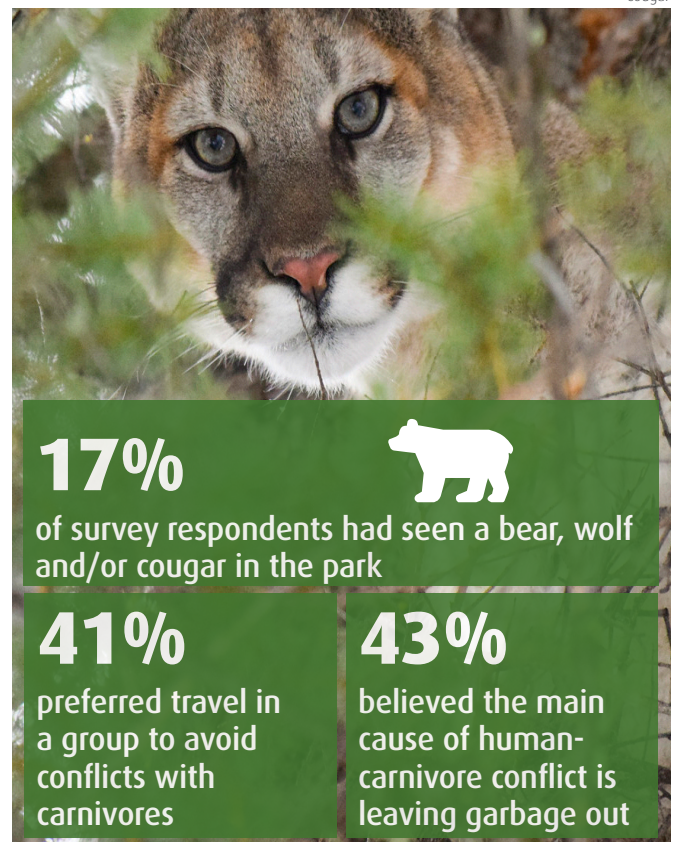
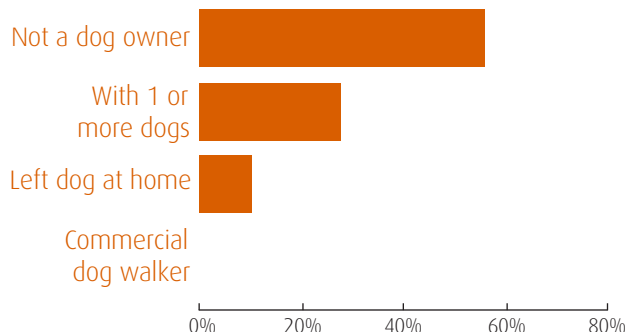
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Focus on environmental conservation
- Improve summit trail and expand trail network
- Address parking shortage





MOUNT WELLS REGIONAL PARK

85%

of survey respondents were
satisfied with their overall
experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours to 3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or first time user

Typical group size:
In a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or
experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
25-34 to 35-44

Typical place of residence:
Langford

Highest level of satisfaction

► Overall cleanliness

► Trails

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Outdoor recreation opportunities

► Enforcement of park regulations

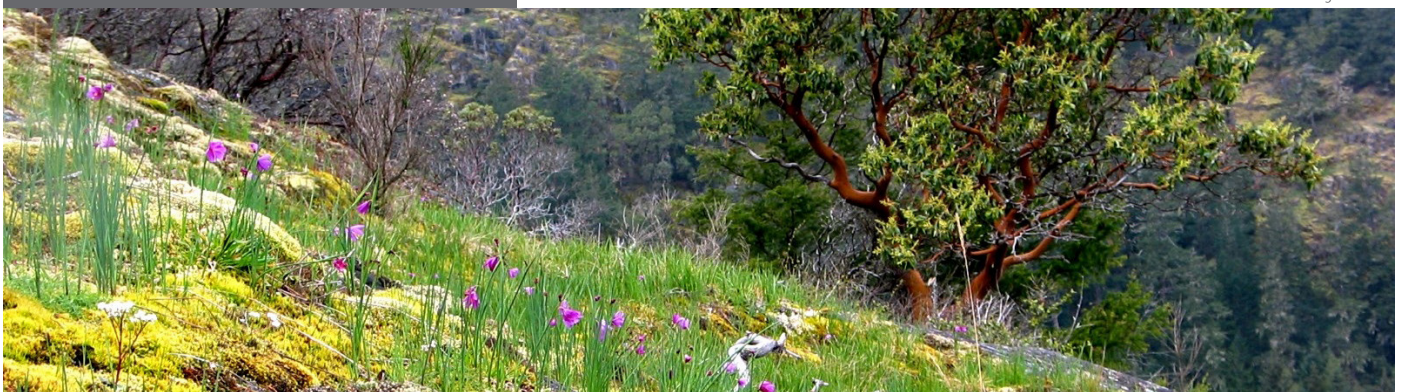
Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential
areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

Mount Wells Regional Park

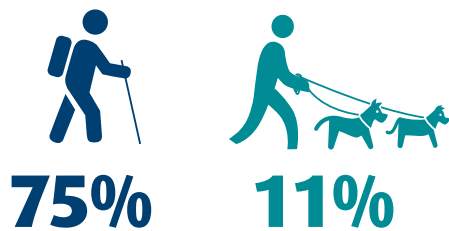


Mount Wells Regional Park

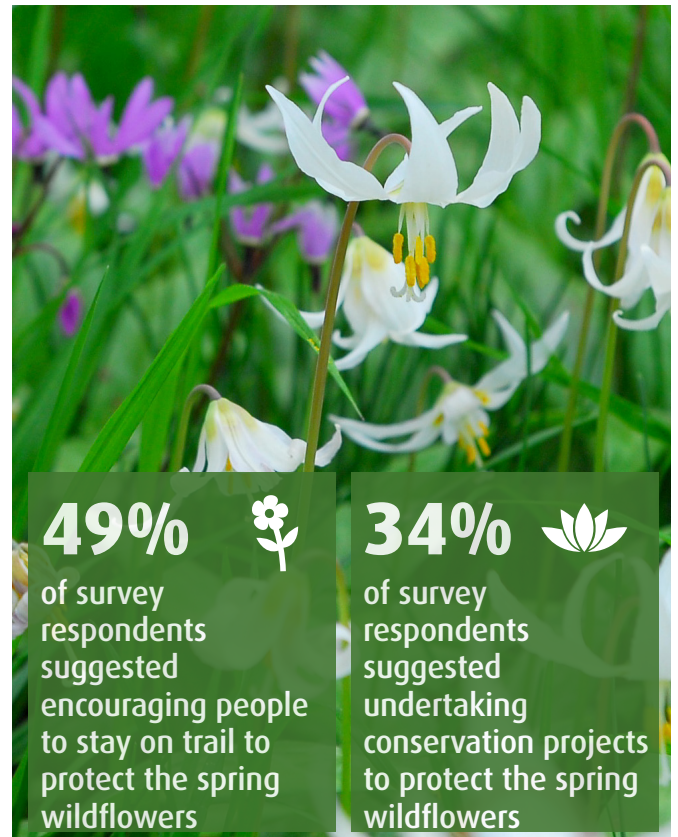
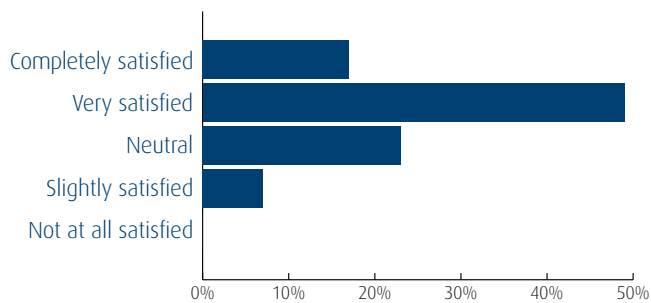
Survey respondents came to this park to reach the summit and enjoy the trails

Wildflowers
Photo: Deborah Kerr

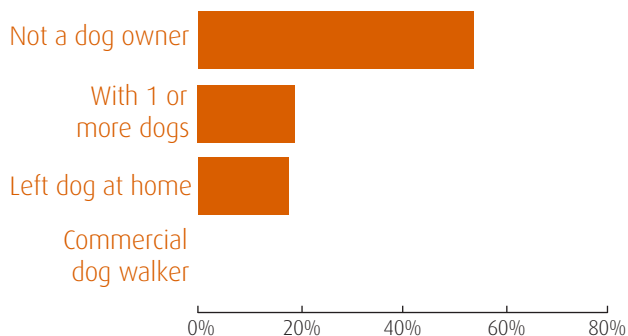
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Provide more trails and access points
- Offer rock climbing opportunities
- Provide more signage and garbage cans





MOUNT WORK REGIONAL PARK

84%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours to 3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone or in a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
25-34, 35-44 to 45-54

Typical place of residence:
Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

- Outdoor recreation opportunities
- Overall cleanliness

Lowest level of satisfaction

- Enforcement of park regulations
- Picnic facilities

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

View from Mount Work



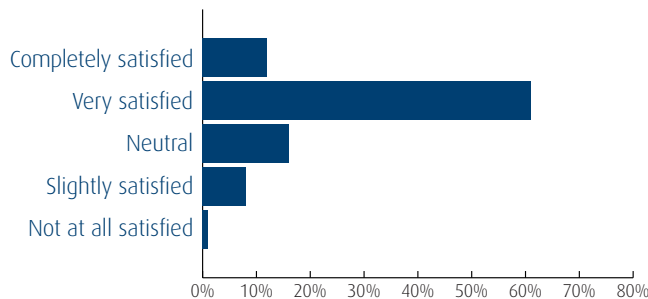
Mount Work Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to reach the summit, enjoy Durrance Lake and to use the mountain bike trails

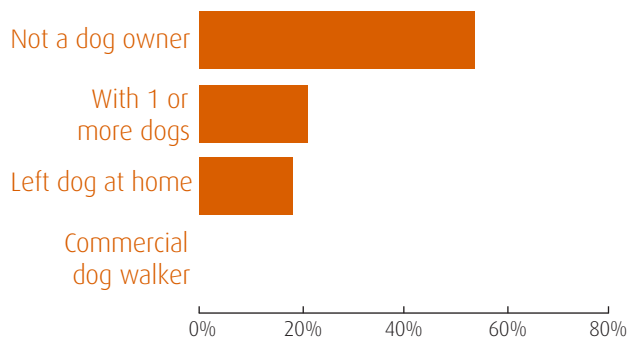
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Address visitor use conflicts
- Offer more mountain biking opportunities
- Provide more signage, parking and garbage cans





SEA TO SEA REGIONAL PARK

84%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours, 3-4 hours to 5-6 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone or in a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
Digital devices, CRD wayfinding signs and/or experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
25-34, 35-44 and 55-64

Typical place of residence:
Saanich, Sooke and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Trails

► Outdoor recreation opportunities

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Enforcement of park regulations

► Park information on the CRD website

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

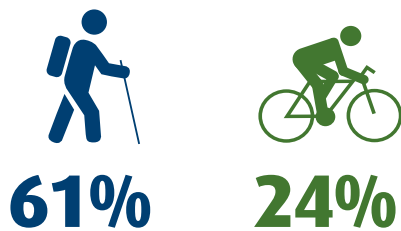
Sea to Sea Regional Park



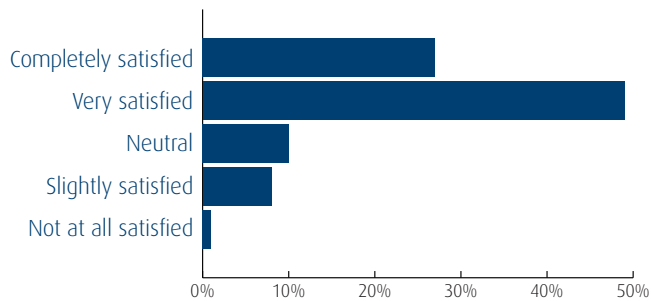
Sea to Sea Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to reach Mount Manuel Quimper, Sheilds Lake and enjoy the trails

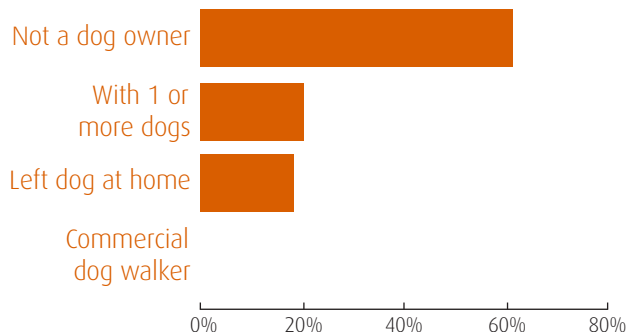
Respondents main activities in the park



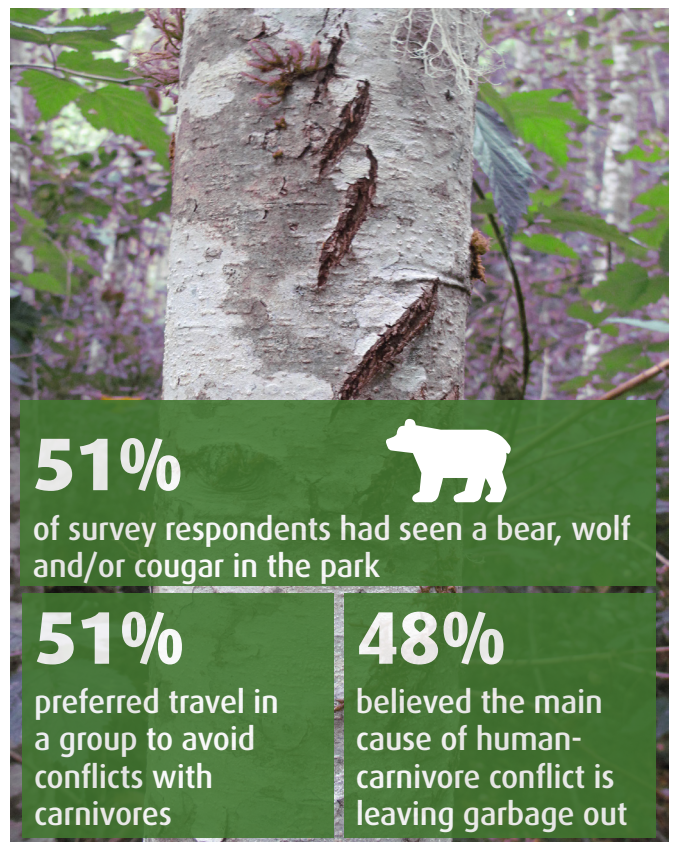
Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Bear scratches on tree



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Maintain the wilderness experience
- Offer more mountain biking opportunities
- Reduce environmental impacts caused by human activities





SOOKE HILLS WILDERNESS REGIONAL PARK

89%

of survey respondents were
satisfied with their overall
experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours, 3-4 hours to 5-6 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone

Typical tools used for navigation:
Digital devices and/or experience/
knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
35-44 to 45-54

Typical place of residence:
Langford, Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Trails

► Nature protection

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Park information on the CRD website

► Enforcement of park regulations

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential
areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

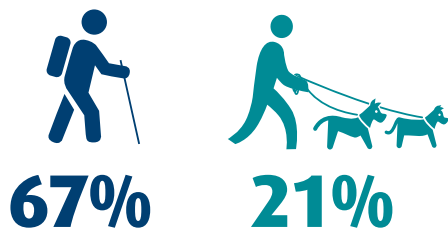
Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park



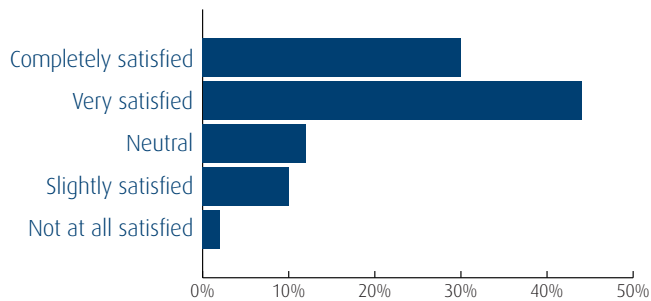
Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to reach Sugarloaf Mountain, Mount Braden and enjoy the trails

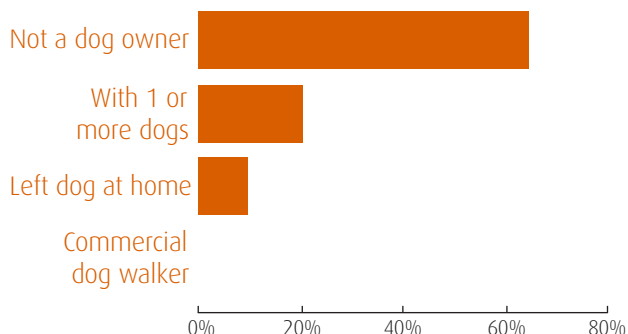
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Maintain the wilderness experience
- Offer basic facilities
- Reduce environmental impacts caused by human activities





SOOKE POTHoles REGIONAL PARK

84%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours to 3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year

Typical group size:
In a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
25-34, 35-44 and 55-64

Typical place of residence:
British Columbia, Europe, Sooke, and United States of America

Highest level of satisfaction

- Overall cleanliness
- Outdoor recreation opportunities

Lowest level of satisfaction

- Enforcement of park regulations
- Campground

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified **natural environment and species protection** as the top priority

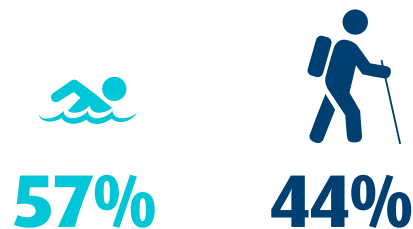
Sooke Potholes Regional Park



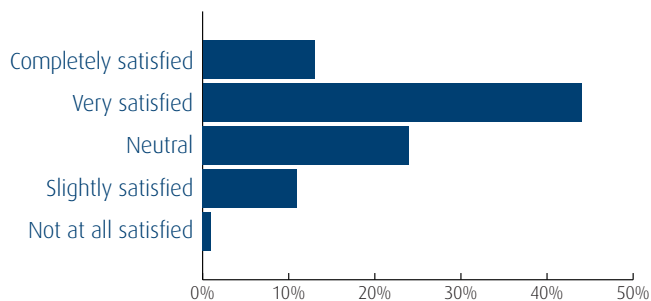
Sooke Potholes Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to enjoy the potholes and to access Sea to Sea Regional Park

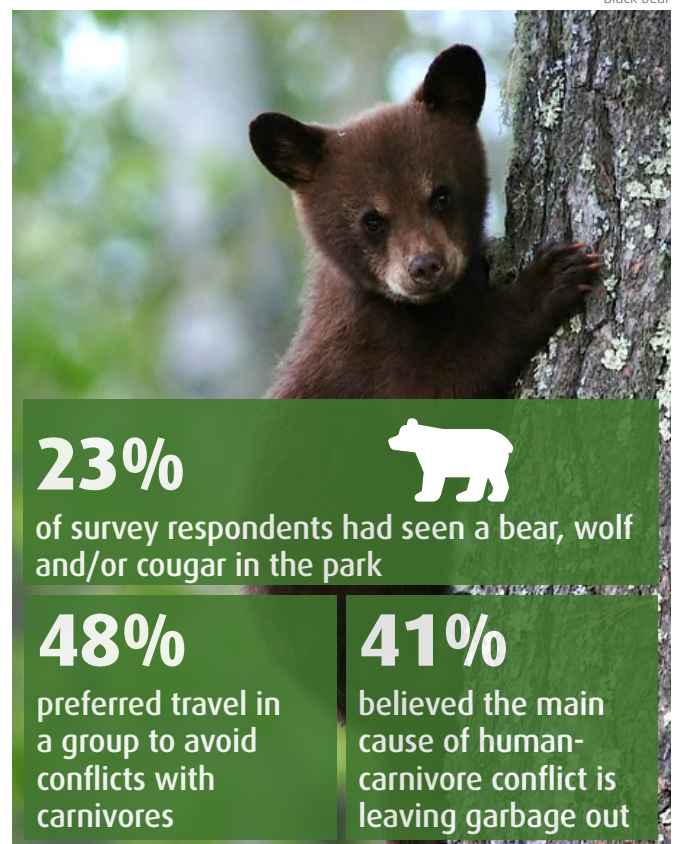
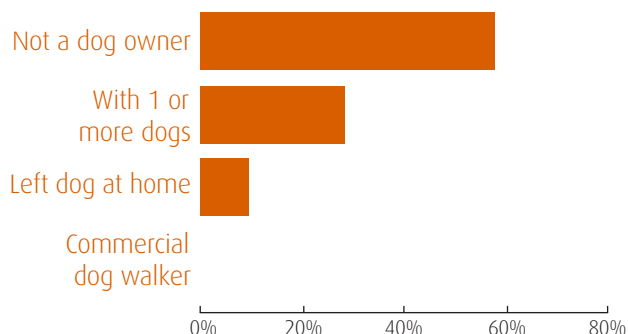
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Reduce environmental impacts caused by human activities
- Provide additional facilities and garbage cans
- Provide more signage and information





THETIS LAKE REGIONAL PARK

84%

of survey respondents were
satisfied with their overall
experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours to 3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone or in a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or
experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
All ages

Typical place of residence:
Langford, Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Trails

► Outdoor recreation opportunities

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Enforcement of park regulations

► Park information on the CRD website

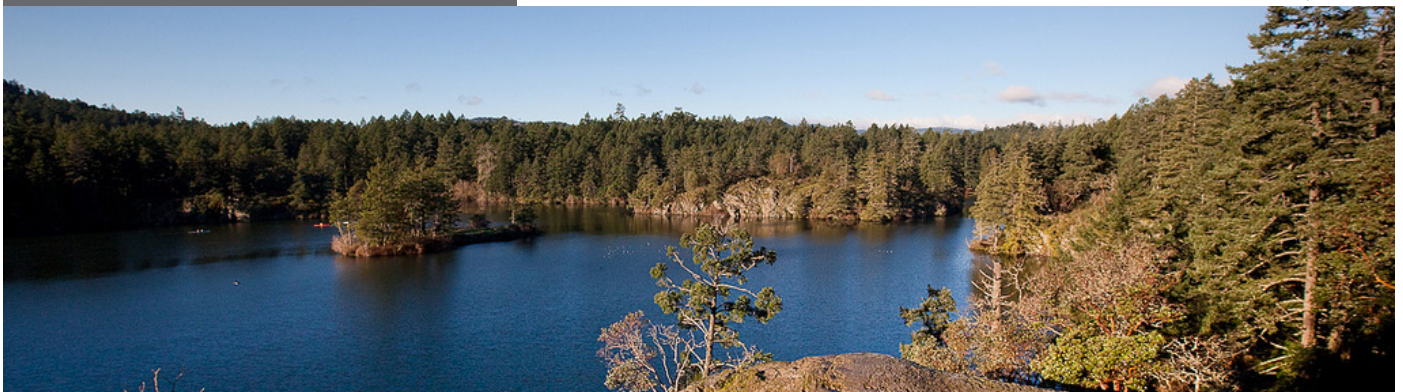
Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential
areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

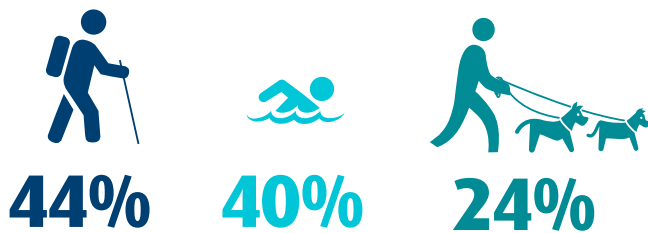
Thetis Lake Regional Park
Photo: Mary Sanseverino



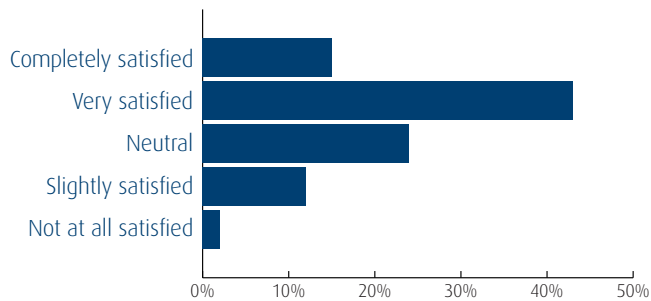
Thetis Lake Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to enjoy the trails, lake and beach

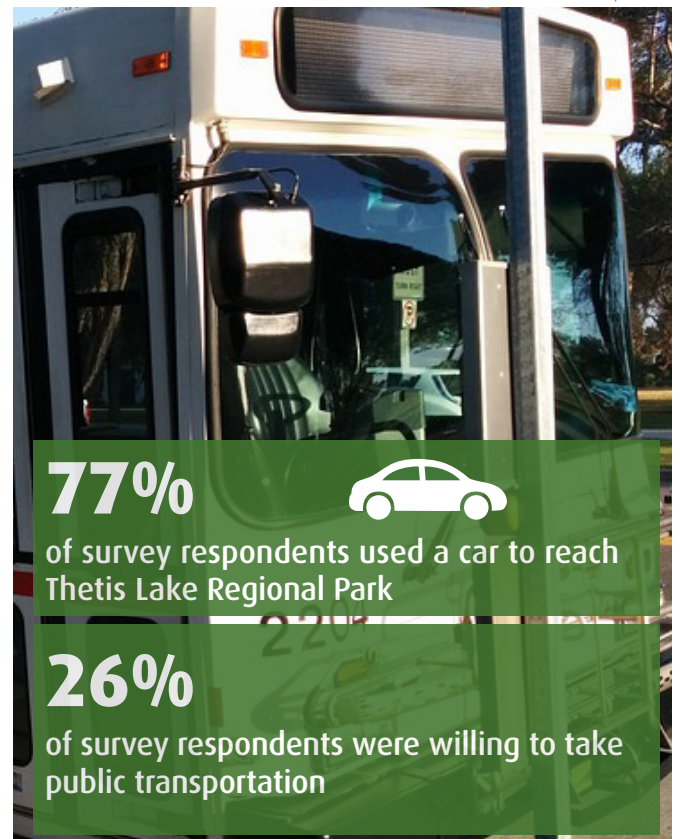
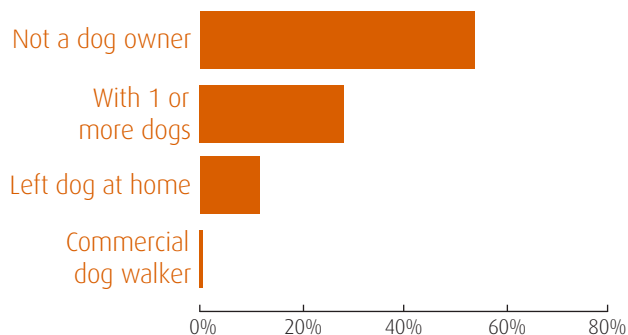
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



77%



of survey respondents used a car to reach Thetis Lake Regional Park

26%

of survey respondents were willing to take public transportation

Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

- Focus on environmental conservation
- Address visitor use conflicts
- Provide additional facilities, garbage cans and signage





WITTY'S LAGOON REGIONAL PARK

90%

of survey respondents were satisfied with their overall experience

Survey year:
2018

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours to 3-4 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
In a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
45-54, 55-64 and 65+

Typical place of residence:
Langford, Metchesin and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

► Trails

► Overall Cleanliness

Lowest level of satisfaction

► Enforcement of park regulations

► Nature Centre hours

Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential areas of focus for this park over the next five years



survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

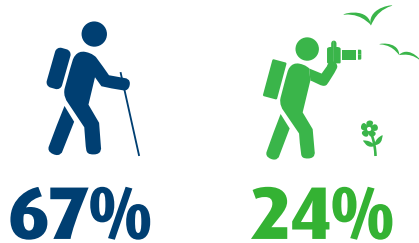
Witty's Lagoon Regional Park



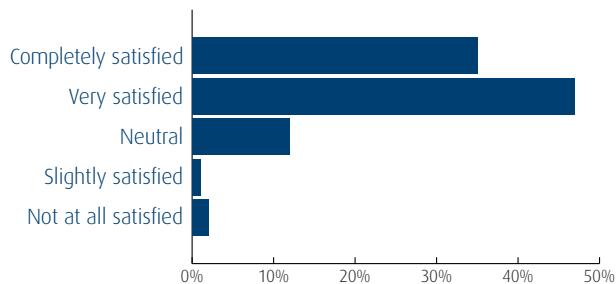
Witty's Lagoon Regional Park

Survey respondents came to this park to enjoy the lagoon, beach and Tower Point

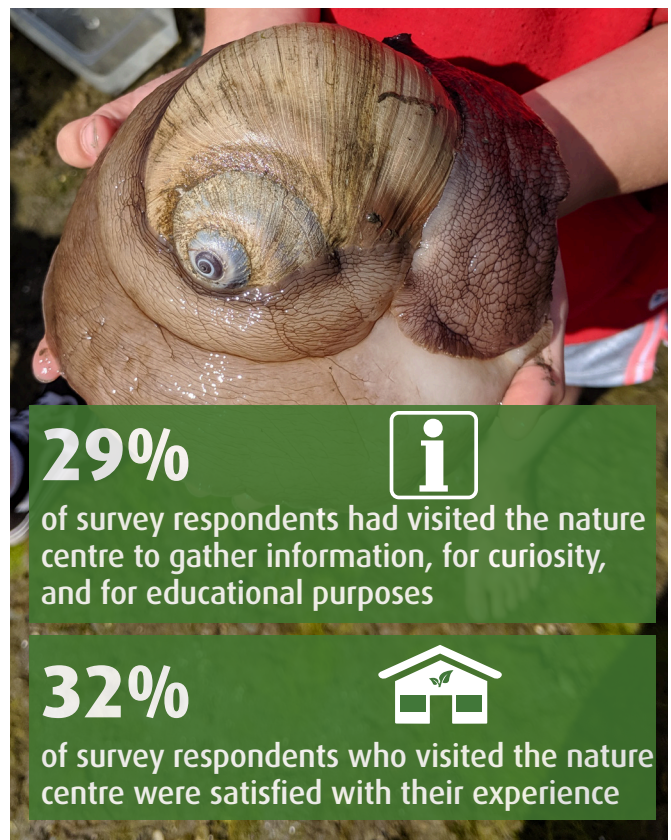
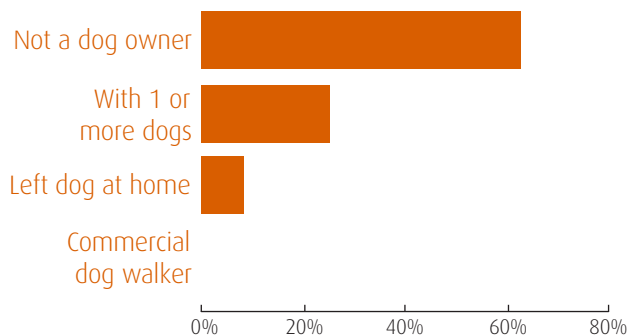
Respondents main activities in the park



Respondents satisfaction with other visitors' use of the trails while doing activities



Percentage who were visiting with a dog



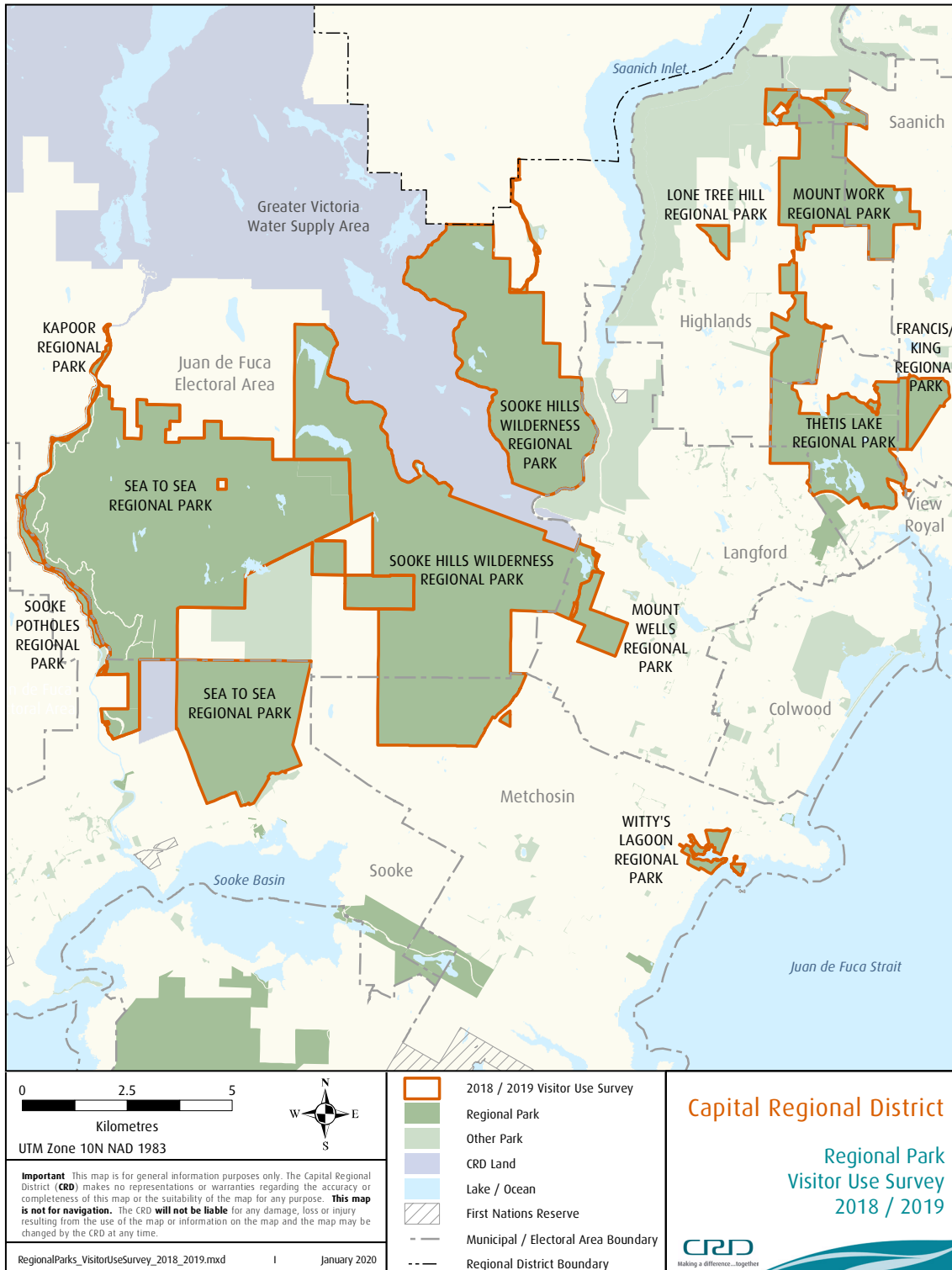
Survey respondents' suggestions to improve visitor satisfaction:

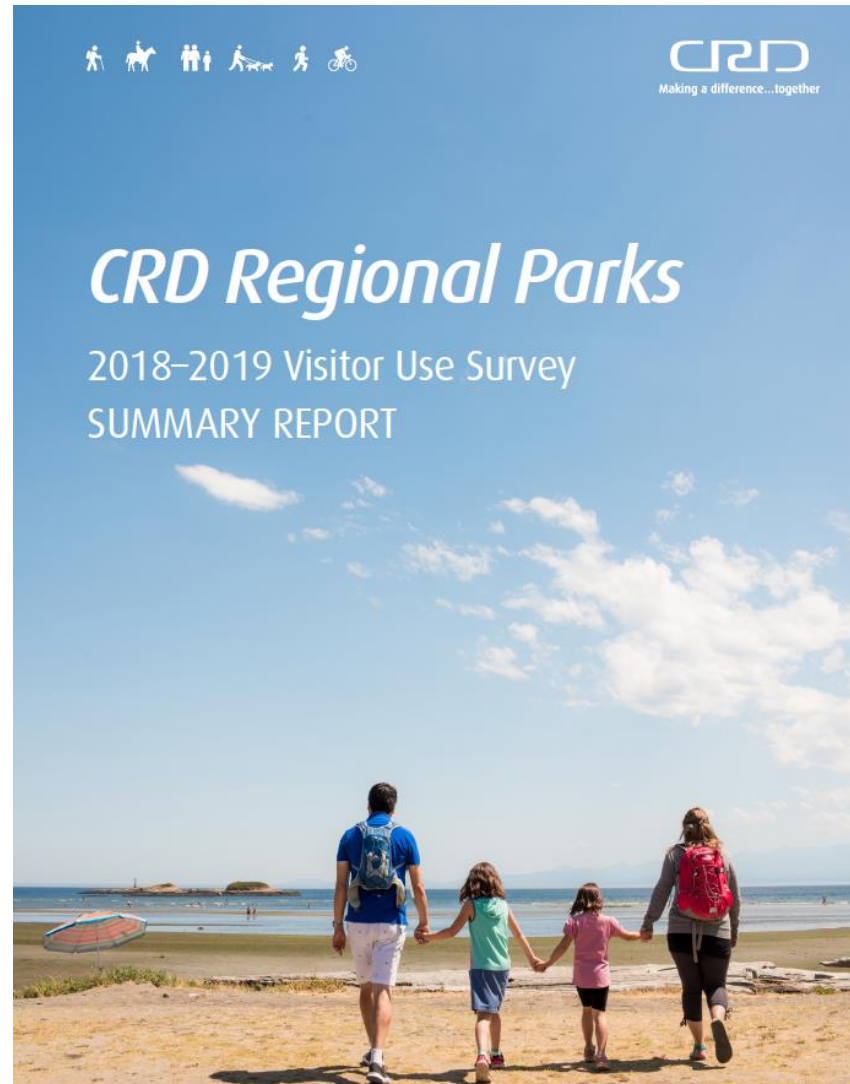
- Focus on environmental conservation
- Focus on dog management
- Provide more signage, garbage cans and parking





MAP OF REGIONAL PARKS SURVEYED





Regional Parks Committee
February 26, 2020

The CRD Regional Parks survey program supports:

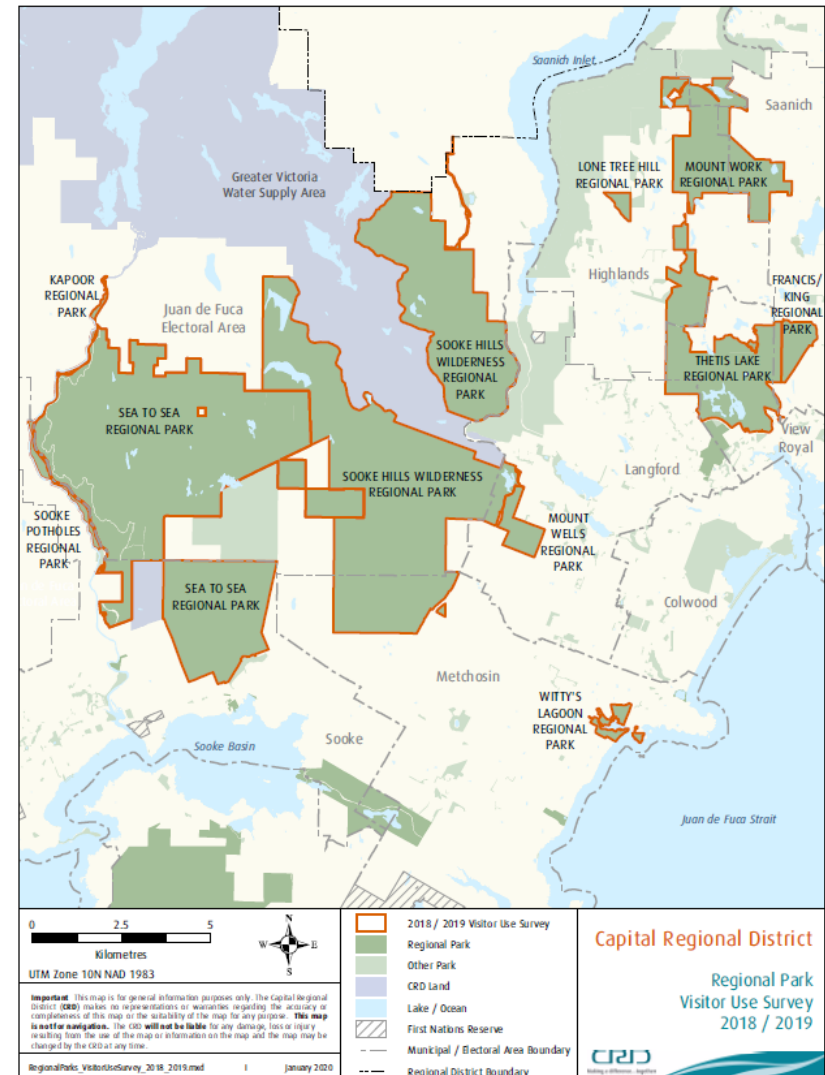
- 2019-2022 CRD Corporate Plan Board Priority 6a-1 by providing a better understanding of park user groups and demands on park infrastructure
- Regional Park Strategic Plan 2012-2021 strategic priorities of undertaking resident and visitor use surveys to strengthen community involvement and partnerships

Why a survey program in CRD Regional Parks?

- Gather up-to-date information on visitor use, experiences and satisfaction in regional parks and trails
- Get a snapshot of what is happening both in individual parks/trails and in the region in order to identify emerging visitor use trends
- Document how regional and local trends relate to the broader regional context
- Provide a baseline to assess how patterns change over time with the CRD regional park system
- Have a systematic approach to social science data collection

Regional parks surveyed:

- Francis/King
- Kapoor
- Lone Tree Hill
- Mount Wells
- Mount Work
- Sea to Sea
- Sooke Hills Wilderness
- Sooke Potholes
- Thetis Lake
- Witty's Lagoon



Regional parks survey methodology:

- Data collection took place at randomly selected days and times at main parking lots of the regional parks canvased
- Data collection occurred from June to mid September on weekdays and weekends
- 1,084 questionnaires filled out by park visitors in 2018-2019





FRANCIS/KING REGIONAL PARK

Overall
experience



94%

of survey respondents were
satisfied with their overall
experience

Survey year:
2019

Typical amount of time spent in park:
1-2 hours

Typical frequency of visitation:
1-5 times a year or more

Typical group size:
Alone or in a group of two

Typical tools used for navigation:
CRD wayfinding signs and/or
experience/knowledge

Typical transportation to the park:
Car

Typical age ranges:
55-64 and 65+

Typical place of residence:
Saanich and Victoria

Highest level of satisfaction

➤ Overall cleanliness

➤ Trails

Lowest level of satisfaction

➤ Nature Centre hours

➤ Enforcement of park regulations

Visitor
satisfaction



Visitor
use
patterns



Area of focus for next five years

Survey respondents were asked to prioritize five potential
areas of focus for this park over the next five years



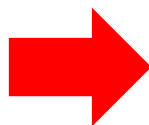
survey respondents identified
**natural environment and species
protection** as the top priority

Focus area
for next 5
years



Francis/King Regional Park

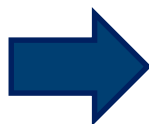
Reasons to visit the park



Main activities



Trails



Dogs



Special topic related to this park



Survey respondents' suggestions



2018/2019 survey highlights:

- General satisfaction rating of at least 84% or higher for overall experience in all regional parks surveyed
- Top four recreational activities were hiking, biking, swimming and dog walking
- A third of survey respondents were visiting with a dog
- The majority of survey respondents were satisfied with other visitor use of the trails within the park
- The majority of visitors were local, with the exception of visitors at Sooke Potholes Regional Park
- All ages were represented across the system; however, certain parks showed stronger use by specific age groups.

Thank you