



Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, May 24, 2023

9:30 AM

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

C. McNeil-Smith (Chair), J. Brownoff (Vice Chair), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson, G. Holman,
L. Szpak, M. Tait, S. Tobias, K. Williams, R. Windsor, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex officio)

The Capital Regional District strives to be a place where inclusion is paramount and all people are treated with dignity. We pledge to make our meetings a place where all feel welcome and respected.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

2. Approval of Agenda

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [23-372](#) Minutes of the April 26, 2023 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

Recommendation: That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of April 26, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

Attachments: [Minutes - April 26, 2023](#)

4. Chair's Remarks

5. Presentations/Delegations

The public are welcome to attend CRD Board meetings in-person.

Delegations will have the option to participate electronically. Please complete the online application at www.crd.bc.ca/address no later than 4:30 pm two days before the meeting and staff will respond with details.

Alternatively, you may email your comments on an agenda item to the CRD Board at crdboard@crd.bc.ca.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [23-366](#) Capital Regional District Regional Parks Dam Safety - Critical Infrastructure

Recommendation: There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Attachments: [Staff Report: CRD Parks Dam Safety - Critical Infrastructure](#)
 [Appendix A: CRD Parks Dam Portfolio - Map](#)
 [Appendix B: Parks Dam Safety Pgrm - Critical Infrastructure Investment Plan](#)

6.2. [23-367](#) CRD Regional Parks Division - 2023 Operational Update

Recommendation: There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Attachments: [Staff Report: CRD Regional Parks Division - 2023 Operational Update](#)
 [Appendix A: Regional Parks Divisional Priorities - Gantt Chart](#)
 [Presentation: Parks 2023 Operational Update](#)

6.3. [23-363](#) Presentation: A Journey to Reconciliation: Learning from the Central Coast

Attachments: [Presentation: A Journey to Reconciliation: Learning from the Central Coast](#)

7. Notice(s) of Motion

7.1. [23-368](#) Notice of Motion: Island View Beach Mosquito Management (Director Windsor)

Recommendation: [At the May 10, 2023 CRD Board meeting, the following notice of motion was read and referred to the next meeting of the Regional Parks Committee:]
WHEREAS, the Island View Beach region is within the Tsawout First Nation, Capital Regional District, and District of Central Saanich jurisdictions; and
WHEREAS, the Island View Beach region has drainage and pest mosquito issues across the three jurisdictions;
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that staff be directed to report back on creating an engineering working group with Tsawout First Nation, CRD and Central Saanich to conduct a holistic assessment of the drainage of the Island View Beach area this year so that improvements to the drainage system can be made to address the pest mosquito issues.

8. New Business

9. Adjournment

The next meeting is June 28, 2023.

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

Meeting Minutes

Regional Parks Committee

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

9:30 AM

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

PRESENT

Directors: J. Brownoff (Vice Chair), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson (EP) (9:38 am), G. Holman (EP), L. Szpak, M. Tait, S. Tobias, K. Williams, R. Windsor, C. Plant (Board Chair, ex officio) (EP)

Staff: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; L. Hutcheson, General Manager, Parks and Environmental Services; K. Morley, General Manager, Corporate Services; J. Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; S. Orr, Senior Committee Clerk; T. Pillipow, Committee Clerk (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: Director C. McNeil-Smith

The meeting was called to order at 9:31 am.

1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Acting Chair Brownoff provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

2. Approval of Agenda

MOVED by Director Tait, **SECONDED** by Director Coleman,
That the agenda for the April 26, 2023 Regional Parks Committee meeting be approved.
CARRIED

3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [23-305](#) Minutes of the March 22, 2023 Regional Parks Committee Meeting

MOVED by Director Williams, **SECONDED** by Director Szpak,
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of March 22, 2023 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

4. Chair's Remarks

Acting Chair Brownoff stated that a report will be brought to this committee regarding the April 12th discussions held at the Tsawout offices around the mosquito program at Island View Beach.

She further stated that if any directors should like to attend this afternoon's First Nations Relations Committee, staff will be making a presentation on their trip to the Central Coast, where they learned about the First Nations Guardian Watchmen program with BC Parks.

5. Presentations/Delegations

There were no presentations or delegations.

6. Committee Business

6.1. [23-327](#) Capital Regional District Regional Parks and Trails - 2022 Progress Report

L. Hutcheson introduced J. Leahy who presented Item 6.1. for information.

Discussion ensued on the following:

- continuing our work with Tsawout First Nation and Central Saanich staff for Lochside Regional Trail improvements
- traffic concerns at Thetis Lake Regional Park
- the effect climate change has on the arboreal canopy closure
- managing the opposing goals of conservation and accessibility within the parks
- managing invasive species in regional parks
- staff providing a carbon sequestration report to this committee
- the status and funding sources of various regional trail projects
- providing the species-at-risk inventory report to region's municipalities
- the Accessibility Advisory Committee's Terms of Reference

7. Notice(s) of Motion

There were no notice(s) of motion.

8. New Business

There was no new business.

9. Adjournment

MOVED by Director Tait, **SECONDED** by Director Szpak,
That the April 26, 2023 Regional Parks Committee meeting be adjourned at 10:28 am.
CARRIED

CHAIR

RECORDER



Making a difference...together

REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023

SUBJECT **Capital Regional District Regional Parks Dam Safety – Critical Infrastructure**

ISSUE

To provide information on the Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks Dam Safety Program, which supports the operations, maintenance and lifecycle planning of critical dam infrastructure.

BACKGROUND

Dams within the Province of British Columbia are regulated under the *Water Sustainability Act* and its related *Dam Safety Regulation*. The CRD manages a portfolio of dams within regional park lands (Appendix A) and operates a comprehensive dam safety program to manage dam infrastructure within the legislative framework. Eleven dams are considered critical infrastructure and are included in the CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program. The CRD also owns other dams, associated with drinking water systems, that operate under the same legislative framework. Those dams are managed under the Integrated Water Services Dam Safety Program.

To meet the regulatory requirements, Regional Parks invests in and maintains critical aging dam infrastructure and undertakes regulatory inspections and engineered assessments to mitigate dam failure risks. Eighty percent of the dams included in the CRD Regional Park Dam Safety Program have a consequence classification of “significant” or greater, requiring a dam safety review be completed by a qualified professional engineer every 7 to 10 years.

The CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program 2023-2032 critical infrastructure investment plan is outlined in Appendix B. Plan implementation is complex, given the diversity of dam safety requirements, aging critical infrastructure, competing capital program priorities and climate impacts.

Extreme weather events and unpredictable climate scenarios are exposing the dams managed through the CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program to stressors the dams were not initially designed to accommodate. Existing dam safety guidelines and regulations do not address how to adapt dams to climate change conditions. CRD staff are exploring federal and provincial disaster mitigation and adaptation grant opportunities to conduct dam climate change vulnerability and risk assessment activities.

IMPLICATIONS

Financial Implications

The total value of dam infrastructure renewal funds needed to meet regulatory requirements over the next 10 years is approximately \$12 million. The CRD Board-approved 2023-2027 Regional Parks Capital Plan includes \$4 million to design and construct upgrades to Beaver Lake, Durrance

Lake and Humpback Reservoir dams, representing 10% of the total approved budget. Additional ongoing funding is required to complete dam safety review and engineered assessments, based on timelines defined by the dam consequence classification. Regional Parks core operating funds are allocated annually to meet the operations, maintenance, surveillance and emergency response planning requirements.

Service Delivery Implications

CRD staff are tasked with implementing the CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program with contracted dam engineer experts. Operational and surveillance inspections, preventative maintenance activities, engineered assessments and emergency response processes are required to meet regulatory requirements.

Alignment with Board and Corporate Priorities

The *Capital Regional District 2023-2026 Board Priorities* identify Climate Action and Environment as a regional priority, including an initiative to increase resilience, community and adaptation planning to address climate-related risks and disasters (3c).

The CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program aligns with the *Capital Regional District 2023-2026 Corporate Plan* goals of enhancing the safety of aging dams in watersheds and mitigating against the risk of failures (2b-1), investing in and maintaining capital assets and undertaking regulatory monitoring (2b-2) and effective emergency management (9a).

Alignment with Existing Plans and Strategies

The *Interim CRD Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032* identifies a priority action to develop and implement an Asset Management Plan for regional parks and regional trails that achieves critical infrastructure lifecycle renewal that is well-planned, managed and funded, and is consistent with legislative requirements (4-3c).

Intergovernmental Implications

The Canadian Dam Association *Dam Safety Guidelines* and the Province of BC's *Dam Safety Regulation* states dam owners are accountable for the safe management of a dam through the dam's lifecycle and for any dam with a consequence classification of "significant" or greater, must have a dam emergency plan developed. The Dam Emergency Plan provides a description of the actions to be taken during an emergency, lists local emergency authority and contact information, and is to be reviewed and shared with local authorities annually.

CONCLUSION

The CRD manages 11 dams on regional park lands and operates a CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program to manage the dam infrastructure within the *Dam Safety Regulation* set by the Province of BC. The aging dam infrastructure is being exposed to climate-related stressors that the dams were not initially designed to accommodate and will require ongoing CRD staff resources and investment to meet regulatory requirements and mitigate dam failure risks.

RECOMMENDATION

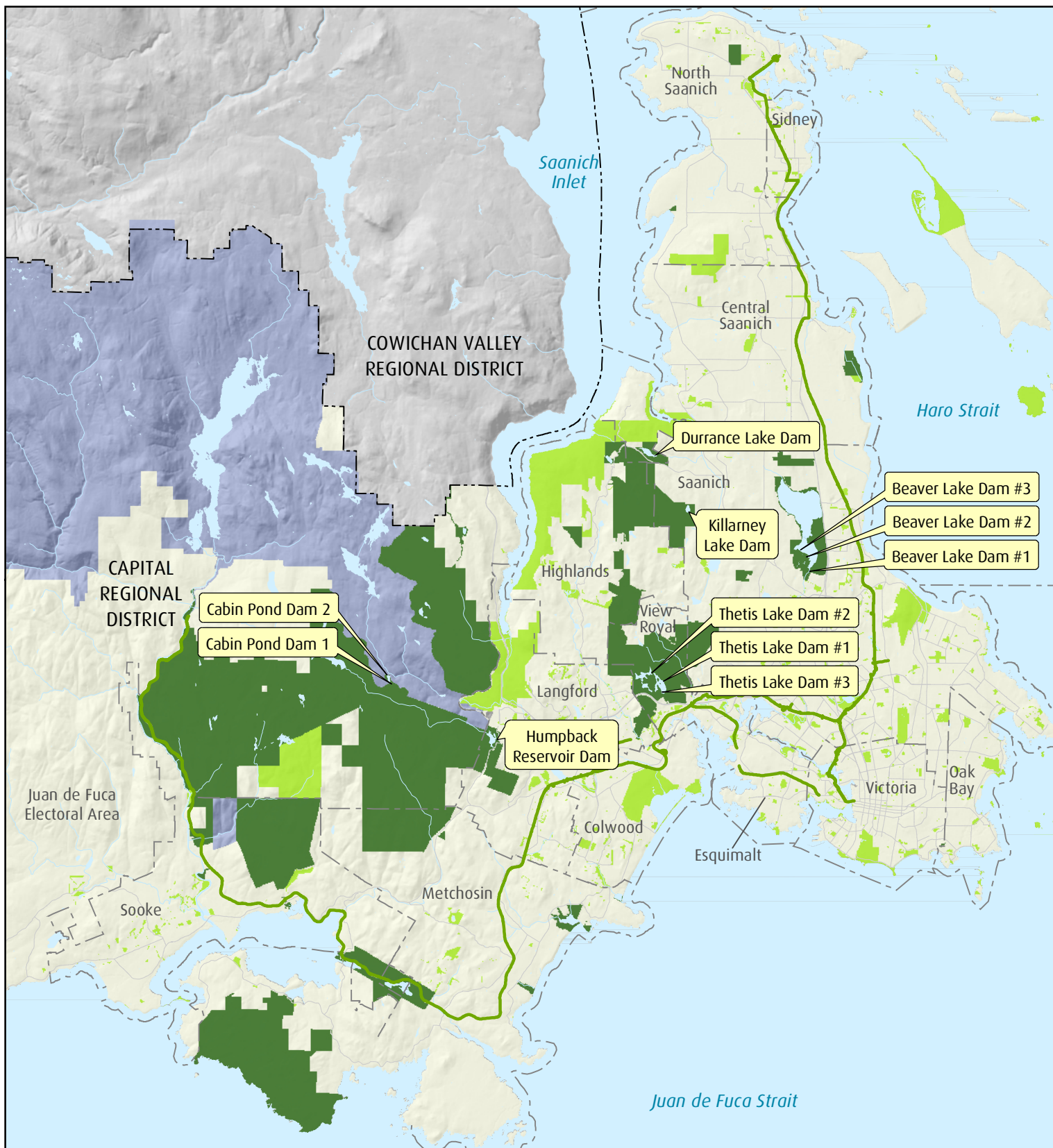
There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Jeff Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P. Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: CRD Regional Parks Dam Portfolio – Map

Appendix B: CRD Regional Parks Dam Safety Program – Critical Infrastructure Investment Plan



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Kilometres

UTM Zone 10N NAD 1983



Important This map is for general information purposes only. The Capital Regional District (CRD) makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map or the suitability of the map for any purpose. **This map is not for navigation.** The CRD **will not be liable** for any damage, loss or injury resulting from the use of the map or information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

2023-05-24-SR-RPC-DamSafetyCriticalInfrastructure.mxd | May 2023

- Regional Park
- Other Park / Protected Area
- Greater Victoria Water Supply Area
- First Nations Reserve
- Regional Trail
- Road / Highway
- Municipal / Electoral Boundary
- Regional District Boundary

Appendix A

CRD Regional Parks Dam Portfolio

Regional Parks Committee

Staff Report

May 24, 2023



**CRD REGIONAL PARKS DAM SAFETY PROGRAM
CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INVESTMENT PLAN**

Dam Name	Type of Dam	Consequence Classification	Dam Safety Review*	Critical Dam Infrastructure Investment		
				Activity	2023-2027 Capital Plan	2028-2032 (Anticipated)
Beaver Lake Dam #1	Earth	High	2027	Design dam upgrade	Yes	No
				Submit dam alteration plan	Yes	No
				Construct dam upgrade	Yes	Yes
Beaver Lake Dam #2	Earth Saddle	High	2027	Design dam upgrade	Yes	No
				Submit dam alteration plan	Yes	No
				Construct dam upgrade	Yes	Yes
Beaver Lake Dam #3	Earth Saddle	High	2027	Design dam upgrade	Yes	No
				Submit dam alteration plan	Yes	No
				Construct dam upgrade	Yes	Yes
Durrance Lake Dam	Earth	Significant	N/A	Submit dam alteration plan	Yes	No
				Implement dam alteration plan	Yes	Yes
Killarney Lake Dam	Earth	Low	N/A	Site characterization	Yes	No
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes
				Implement dam alteration plan	No	Yes
Thetis Lake Dam #1	Earth Saddle	High	2027	Geotechnical assessment	Yes	No
				Design dam upgrade	No	Yes
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes
				Construct dam upgrade	No	Yes
Thetis Lake Dam #2	Earth Saddle	High	2027	Geotechnical assessment	Yes	No
				Design dam upgrade	No	Yes
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes
				Construct dam upgrade	No	Yes
Thetis Lake Dam #3	Earth Saddle	Very High	2027	Geotechnical assessment	Yes	No
				Design dam upgrade	No	Yes
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes
				Construct dam upgrade	No	Yes
Humpback Reservoir Dam	Concrete	Very High	2023	Upgrade dam spalling	Yes	No
				Breach and inundation assessment	No	Yes
Cabin Pond Dam #1	Earth	Low	N/A	Site characterization	No	Yes
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes
Cabin Pond Dam #2	Earth	Significant	N/A	Site characterization	No	Yes
				Submit dam alteration plan	No	Yes

* Required submission year as defined by the Province of British Columbia Dam Safety Regulation, to be carried out by a Qualified Professional Engineer in accordance with the requirements of Section 20/36(4) of the Dam Safety Regulation.

**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023**

SUBJECT **CRD Regional Parks Division – 2023 Operational Update**

ISSUE SUMMARY

To provide an update to the Regional Parks Committee on Regional Parks initiatives and projects.

BACKGROUND

Information is provided to update the Regional Parks Committee on current initiatives and projects.

Strategic Plan Priorities

**Continued First Nations Engagement on the Strategic Plan
Board Direction**

As part of initial engagement on development of the Strategic Plan, feedback was received from eight First Nations, and others expressed an interest in providing input but requested more time. On July 13, 2022, the CRD Board approved the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 on an interim basis for one year, while engagement with First Nations continues. Engagement has been ongoing with First Nations between August 2022 and April 2023. Staff are currently compiling feedback in preparation for bringing an engagement summary report and proposed edits to the Strategic Plan to the Committee and Board for consideration in Q2-Q3.

**Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan Progress Report
Strategic Plan Priority 5.1**

Progress on the implementation of the 10-year Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan will be reported each year. The progress report will reference the intended reporting indicators identified for each strategic priority, as well as provide an action status reflecting general progress made towards actions supporting each goal. The 2022 Progress Report was prepared in Q1 of 2023 and presented to Committee and Board this spring. The overall status for the 2022 year was calculated as 'on track', meaning 75-100% of the annual targets were progressed as envisioned within the Strategic Plan's 10-year action plan.

**Species at Risk State of the Parks
Strategic Plan Priority 2-1a**

Species at Risk are an important component of biodiversity within the region. Knowledge gaps impact the ability to effectively protect and manage species at risk, therefore work is underway to survey federally-listed species at risk in regional parks; this work will help inform an assessment of the state of ecological values in the regional parks system. The initiative is supported by several multi-year federal grants totalling up to \$227,000. The CRD hired two Conservation Technician staff in January 2023 to support additional data collection. A report on the state of parks is anticipated to be completed in Q4 of 2023.

Outdoor Recreation and Conservation Plan

Strategic Plan Priority 2-1b, 3-1a

Staff are scoping the development of a Conservation Plan that sets goals and targets for ecological research, protection, restoration, monitoring and enhancement and that incorporates traditional ecological knowledge, as well as the development of an Outdoor Recreation Plan that considers a range of desired user experiences, user objectives, compatibility and recreation setting characteristics. Due to the interconnectedness of managing environmental values within the CRD's regional parks while providing a diverse range of outdoor recreation opportunities for park visitors, staff will undertake these planning processes together and under one plan. A key component that will inform the development of the plan is the preparation of a State of Natural Values Report, which inventories and assesses the current condition of natural systems within CRD parks. Staff are presently developing a project charter and securing the necessary resources to undertake this initiative in 2023-2024.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Strategic Plan Priority 2-1c

The CRD Regional Parks Division is implementing an Impact Assessment process to improve infrastructure planning by assessing and mitigating the potential negative impacts of projects. After piloting a draft process, staff have finalized and are implementing the Environmental Impact Assessment Process. The process was informed by a similar one developed by BC Parks and takes into consideration cultural and environmental values.

Trail Guidelines

Strategic Plan Priority 3-1b

The CRD's regional parks contain over 485 kilometers of trails for people to visit and enjoy. In 2023, staff will develop a set of trail guidelines and best management practices to steer the location, development, maintenance and management of trails within regional parks. The guidelines and best management practices will help to protect the ecological, cultural and recreational values of the CRD's regional parks.

Resident Survey

Strategic Plan Priority 3-1c

A resident survey about Regional Parks and Trails will be mailed out to more than 5,000 CRD households in the fall of 2023. The CRD Regional Parks Division conducted resident surveys in 1992, 1998, 2005 and 2017. The surveys help to document public satisfaction, confirm visitor activities in the parks, assess understanding of the benefits of parks for conservation and recreation and get feedback on priorities for park management and facilities. Survey responses will be collected from September to November 2023. Data analysis and reporting of the resident survey results will occur between December 2023 and March 2024 (aligning with 2024 Regional Parks Committee, Transportation Committee and Board meeting schedules).

Lochside Regional Trail Licence Agreement

Strategic Plan Priority 4-1a, 4-1f, 4-3c

Securing a Licence Agreement for managing and operating the Lochside Regional Trail is a CRD Regional Parks Division priority for 2023. Staff have drafted a new licence agreement and are currently preparing associated mapping and asset inventory information to inform discussions with First Nations, provincial and municipal partners. Development of this Licence Agreement relates to an update of the Regional Trails Management Plan (priority action 4-1a), implementation of the regional active transportation network (priority action 4-1f) and work on an Asset Management Plan for regional trails (priority action 4-3c).

Regional Trails Widening and Lighting – Design (Phase A, B, C)

Strategic Plan Priority 4-1b

Preliminary design work for a section of the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, between Selkirk Trestle and Switch Bridge, is underway. The CRD has partnered and engaged with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI) and the City of Victoria to initiate designs for Phase A trail widening and lighting. Detailed designs for Phase A, a 300 m section between Gorge Road and Cecelia Road, are at 90% completion. Phase A detailed design project funds (\$67,000) are secured. Funds to complete detailed designs for Phases B and C are grant dependent; however, options to finance the project will be presented to the Transportation Committee in Q2.

Mayne Island Regional Trail

Strategic Plan Priority 4-1b

Construction of the Mayne Island Regional Trail is in progress with an anticipated completion date of December 2023. The total project cost to construct the 2.3 km multiuse trail between Village Bay (ferry terminal) and Miners Bay village is \$4M. The Government of Canada and Province of British Columbia are providing \$2.5M in funding through the Investing in Canada Infrastructure Program – Community, Culture and Recreation Infrastructure Grant. Additional grant funding of \$500,000 was secured in February 2023 through the BC Active Transportation Infrastructure Grants Program.

Regional Trails Closure Policy

Strategic Plan Priority 4-1d

Staff developed a new CRD Regional Parks Division policy for managing closures on regional trails in Q1 of 2023, in response to an initial Board motion in 2021 and Strategic Plan priority action 4-1d. An information report was provided to the CRD's Transportation Committee in May 2023. Municipalities have provided input into the development of this policy through participation in the CRD's Transportation Working Group between 2021-2023. The policy strives for a consistent approach to regional trail closures that minimizes disruptions to trail users through communications messaging, traffic management protocols, and by either implementing a partial closure that allows trail users to traverse safely through a work site or by providing a detour route that meets the region's All Ages and Abilities facility standard.

Electric Vehicle Charge Stations (Mill Hill, 728 and Regional Parks)

Strategic Plan Priority 4-2e

Feasibility studies are underway for the installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) charge stations at Mill Hill, and at 728 worksites, and at high-use regional park parking lots. The charge stations have been purchased through the CRD's Climate Action Program (with funding support from the Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program). Installations of the EV charge stations are anticipated in October/November 2023. Electrical capacity considerations at Mill Hill and 728 worksites will influence the total feasible number of EV charge stations to install in 2023. Priority high-use regional parks under consideration for public parking lot EV charge station installations include Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park and Witty's Lagoon Regional Park.

Regional Trails Asset Renewal Plan

Strategic Plan Priority 4-3c

Through the Regional Trails Asset Renewal Plan Project, regional trail asset registry information is being updated and used to create a 20-year asset renewal plan. The updated information, including trail asset lifecycle status, condition and replacement values, will be used to inform the Regional Park Capital Project prioritization. The project is underway with a budget of \$66,000 and will be completed by June 2023.

Planning Process Update Project

Strategic Plan Alignment Priority Action 4-4a and 4-4b

In accordance with Strategic Plan direction, staff are undertaking a review and update of the existing regional parks management planning process that is based on the 2006 *Pathway for Regional Parks and Trails Management Planning* document. The update focuses on developing a planning process that is efficient, adaptable, evidence-based, addresses service level needs, financial implications and climate mitigation measures. An updated planning process would see an overall increase in the percentage of parks with management plans less than 15 years old. The update also emphasizes early and ongoing collaboration with First Nations and meaningful and inclusive stakeholder and public consultation. An updated planning process will be presented to the Board later this year.

Policy Review Project

Strategic Plan Alignment Priority Action 4-4a

Staff are creating an inventory of existing plans, procedures, standards, manuals, guidelines and policy documents related to regional parks and trails. Staff are reviewing the inventory to determine which policies are still in use and whether they need updating and are developing standardized templates for the update of existing, and development of future, policy documents. The inventory and templates may be used by Regional Parks to improve the management of policy documents that are under their purview. Staff have completed the inventory and are working to develop standardized policy document templates. This work will be ongoing and inform the planning process project.

Mount Work Management Plan

Strategic Plan Priority 4-4b

The process to finalize the Mount Work management plan continues. The draft management plan went out for public comment in 2022, and feedback received was incorporated into the final draft. In April 2023, the WSANEC Leadership Council (WLC) requested an extension to the management planning process for six months to provide time to work through remaining outstanding issues in the management plan. Staff are working with the WLC to determine a budget and timeline for completion of the management plan. Staff anticipate bringing the final version of the plan to the Regional Parks Committee and Board in Q3, 2023.

First Nations Engagement on Land Acquisition Strategy

Strategic Plan 4-5a, 4-5b

The process to update the Land Acquisition Strategy will take place over the rest of 2023 and into 2024. The first phase of the project is engagement with First Nations and is anticipated to run through the duration of 2023. Through the engagement process, the CRD is looking to understand First Nation interests related to land acquisition and key considerations that should be reflected in an updated strategy.

Regional Parks Asset Renewal Plan

Strategic Plan Priority 4-3c

Through the Regional Parks Asset Renewal Plan Project, regional park asset registry information is being updated and used to create a 20-year asset renewal plan. The updated information, including park asset lifecycle status, condition and replacement values, will be used to inform the CRD Regional Parks Division's Capital Project prioritization. The project will be initiated in June 2023, following the completion of the Regional Trails Asset Renewal Plan Project, and is anticipated to be completed March 2024, with a total project budget of \$100,000.

Inclusion and Accessibility Assessment Strategic Plan Priority 5-1b

In 2022, an accessibility contract was launched at five regional parks to learn more about barriers and deterrents to access, and to identify improvements that can be made to enhance visitor experience opportunities at those parks. In addition, staff recently completed an internal audit to identify potential improvements to existing accessible features in regional parks to improve barrier-free visitor experiences. Work to make small “quick-win” improvements to parking facilities, pathways, picnic areas and more has begun. Building on this work, an accessibility audit for the three regional parks campgrounds will take place in 2023 to identify ways the CRD can improve camping experiences.

Other CRD Regional Parks Division Priorities

Humpback Dam Safety Review

The Humpback Dam safety review is being undertaken by a CRD contractor with a completion date of October 2023. A dam safety review is a legislated periodic review of a dam with a consequence classification of “high, very high, or extreme”, as defined through the Province of BC *Dam Safety Regulation*. The dam safety review for Humpback Dam will include an assurance statement and report prepared by a qualified professional engineer and will be submitted to the Dam Safety Office in the fall of 2023.

Elk/Beaver Lake Water Remediation Infrastructure

The Elk/Beaver Lake Initiative is a multi-pronged, holistic approach to address high nutrient levels in Elk/Beaver Lake and surrounding ecosystem. This approach aims to improve water quality, reduce frequency of blue-green algae and improve fish habitat through the implementation of two plans: a Watershed Management Plan and an In-lake Remediation Plan. The In-lake Remediation Plan includes the construction and installation of an oxygenation system in Elk Lake to improve water quality. In early 2023, construction began on the building to house the oxygenation system, near Hamsterly Road. Later in 2023, a diffuser line and oxygenator will be installed in the lake. In 2021, the Province contributed \$750,000 to help buy an oxygenator for the project and the CRD will be responsible for the system and ongoing maintenance costs once the system is operational.

Annual Paving Projects

The CRD conducts annual maintenance on asphalt surfaces in regional parks and trails to address safety concerns, improve visitors’ experiences and extend the life of the assets. In 2023, maintenance efforts will be focussed on the regional trail network with the following four projects. The Lochside Regional Trail will be repaved between Mills Road and Beacon Avenue (800 metres), with the work being made possible by a grant managed by the Victoria Foundation. A 175-metre portion of the Lochside Regional Trail, near Lochside Drive at Heritage Acres, will also be resurfaced to address root heave, cracking and slumping. The Galloping Goose Regional Trail, between the Millstream Trestle and Wale Road, will have minor surface repairs completed to address asphalt cracking. The Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Camden Avenue to Wale Road, and E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, Hallowell Road to Island Highway, will have the centre lines and fog lines repainted. The value of these projects total \$393,502.

Galloping Goose Regional Trail – Bilston Creek Bridge #1 and Bridge #2 Replacement

The Galloping Goose Regional Trail has three bridges that span Bilston Creek. Situated in the City of Langford, Bilston Creek Bridge #1, located near Luxton Road, and Bilston Creek Bridge #2, located near Wild Ridge Way, are in poor condition and require replacement. The CRD has tendered the removal and replacement of the two bridges, with work scheduled to occur in the summer of 2023. Service disruptions to the trail will be managed by a detour route, with public communications provided in advance. The estimated value of the project is \$1.4 million.

Island View Beach Regional Park – Berm Design

Island View Beach Regional Park contains an approximately 320-metre-long berm that consists of varying material and was constructed prior to the establishment of the regional park. The berm separates the foreshore from low-lying park areas and supports the primary park trail. A 100-metre portion of the berm has been extensively damaged over the past few winter seasons and requires repair. Staff are seeking guidance from an engineering firm to design repairs and provide a cost estimate to restore the berm to its original state. The estimated value of this project is \$15,000.

Beaver Beach Waterline

The facilities at Beaver Beach provide essential infrastructure for Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park visitors and are used year-round. The existing waterline infrastructure at the Beaver washroom location is at the end of service life and requires replacing. The project scope includes engineered detailed designs to repurpose the existing irrigation box, the installation of a new waterline to connect the Beaver Beach public washrooms, visitor centre, and new pipes to the irrigation system, and repaving existing pathways near the nature centre and public washrooms. An impact assessment has been completed, the archaeological Notice of Intent is drafted, and construction mobilization is planned for October 2023.

Selkirk Phase 0

As a result of a detailed condition assessment undertaken in 2021, the CRD has initiated a plan for repairs to the Selkirk Trestle beginning with preliminary investigation of, and repairs to, trestle pilings and support structures. The CRD, MOTI and the BC Transportation Financing Authority are operating within an established Memorandum of Understanding to share costs towards aspects of the Selkirk Trestle repair.

Starting in mid-February 2023, CRD contractors carried out Phase 0, which included inspections, repairs and deck maintenance work. A trestle lift was attempted in April 2023 to meet an MOTI obligation. The project budget of \$165,000 was sufficient to complete the scope of work defined for Phase 0.

Selkirk Phase 1 and 2 (Design)

The CRD has initiated pre-planning activities for the Selkirk Phase 1 and 2 (Design) Project. A statement of intent, including draft performance specifications, is being prepared and requires input from MOTI. The full detailed design package will include specifications for below-deck piling repair and structural support activities and will be inclusive of widening and lighting considerations. Approved project funds are dependent on the outcomes of a federal Active Transportation Fund application, submitted March 2022 by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. A Regional Trails Widening and Lighting Project Funding Options staff report will be presented to the Transportation Committee July 2023.

Mill Hill Sanitary Service Upgrade

To gain compliance with the City of Langford bylaw and to take pressure off an aging septic system, a new sanitary line to connect CRD Regional Parks Division headquarters to the sewer main on Atkins Avenue will be installed. The project budget is \$500,000 and includes both design and construction costs. Detailed designs are complete and the invitation to tender was released on March 24, closing May 5. Construction mobilization will start late June 2023 and is expected to last eight weeks, during which there will be impacts to visitor access and parking at Mill Hill Regional Park. A communications plan has been initiated for the project.

**Brett Trestle Design
On Hold**

The Brett Trestle Design Project is on hold due to full dependence on provincial Strategic Priorities grant funding. CRD Regional Parks was not successful in acquiring the funds through an application to the grant program in 2022. A Regional Trails Widening and Lighting Project Funding Options staff report will be presented to the Transportation Committee in July 2023.

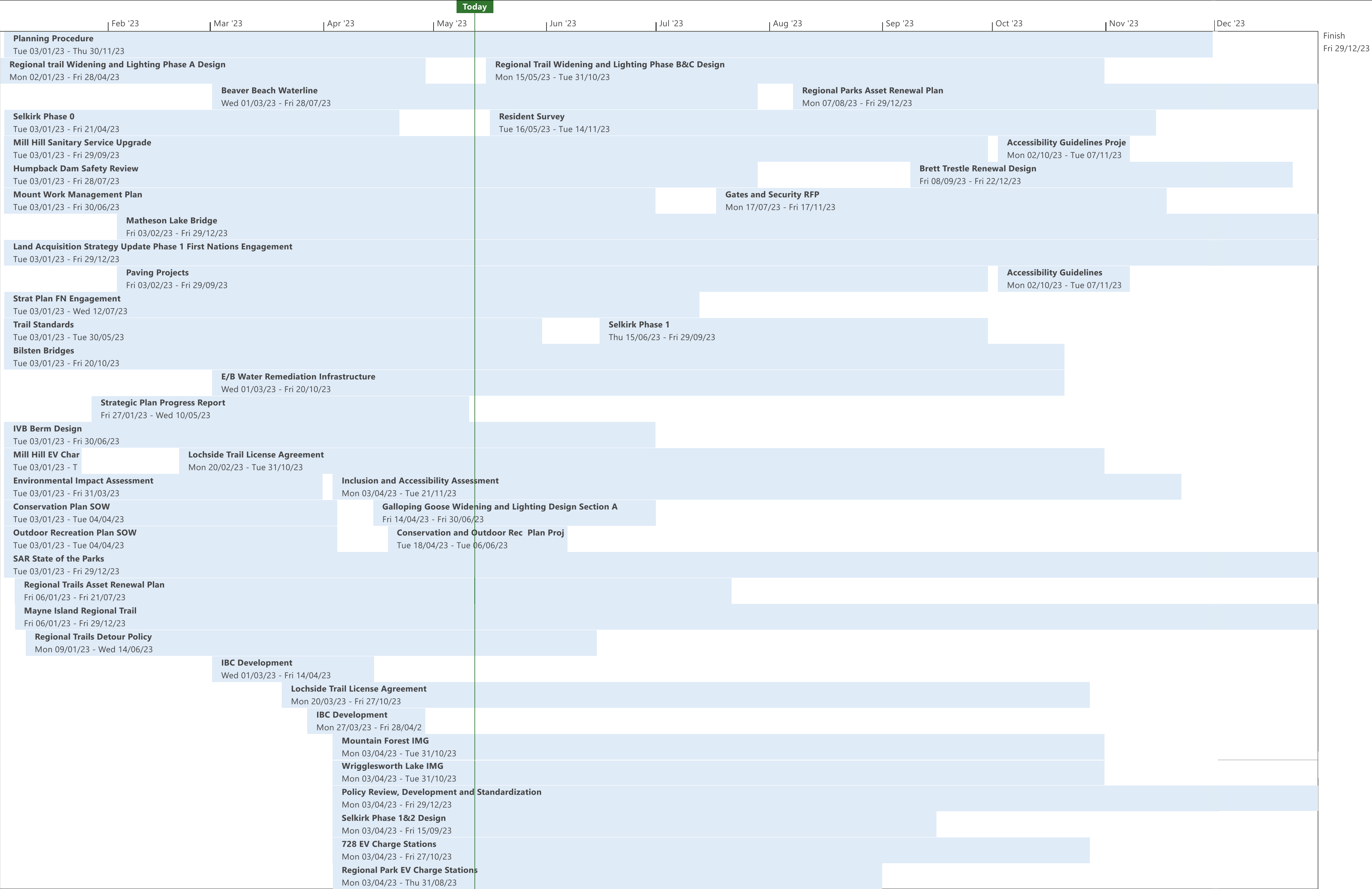
RECOMMENDATION

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Jeff Leahy, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Larisa Hutcheson, P. Eng., General Manager, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENT

Appendix A: Regional Parks Divisional Priorities – Gantt Chart



A photograph of a children's playground with wooden structures and green ropes. Several children are playing: one boy stands on a wooden stump, a girl in overalls and boots is climbing a rope, another girl is on a log slide, and a boy is sitting on a log. The background shows a lake and trees under a clear sky.

CRD Regional Parks Division 2023 Operational Update

May 24, 2023













Welcome to the Galloping Goose Regional Trail

From here you can go west where the trail travels into the working landscapes of Langford and Colwood. It gradually winds its way into the rural landscape of Metchosin and finally through the wilderness of Sooke.

To the east, the Goose links the Westshore communities to Saanich and Victoria. In this direction the trail is almost entirely paved asphalt. Start at the east end of Johnson Street Bridge or get on to the Lochside Regional Trail at the Switch Bridge.

Cycle, stroll or run along city back streets, rolling farmland and rugged ocean vistas. No matter which direction you choose, these trails offer spectacular West Coast scenery.



Excursions Abound!

Thetis Lake Regional Park off Six Mile Road is a popular excursion. This regional conservation area offers outdoor activities from hiking to swimming in a natural setting.

You will also travel near numerous points of interest, including Royal Roads University, Hatley Castle and Fort Rodd Hill National Historic Site.

To the east, scenic views await – Portage Inlet, the Gorge waterway, Victoria's inner harbour and its urban sights. You will pass over the historic Selkirk Trestle bustling with strollers and cyclists on a sunny afternoon.

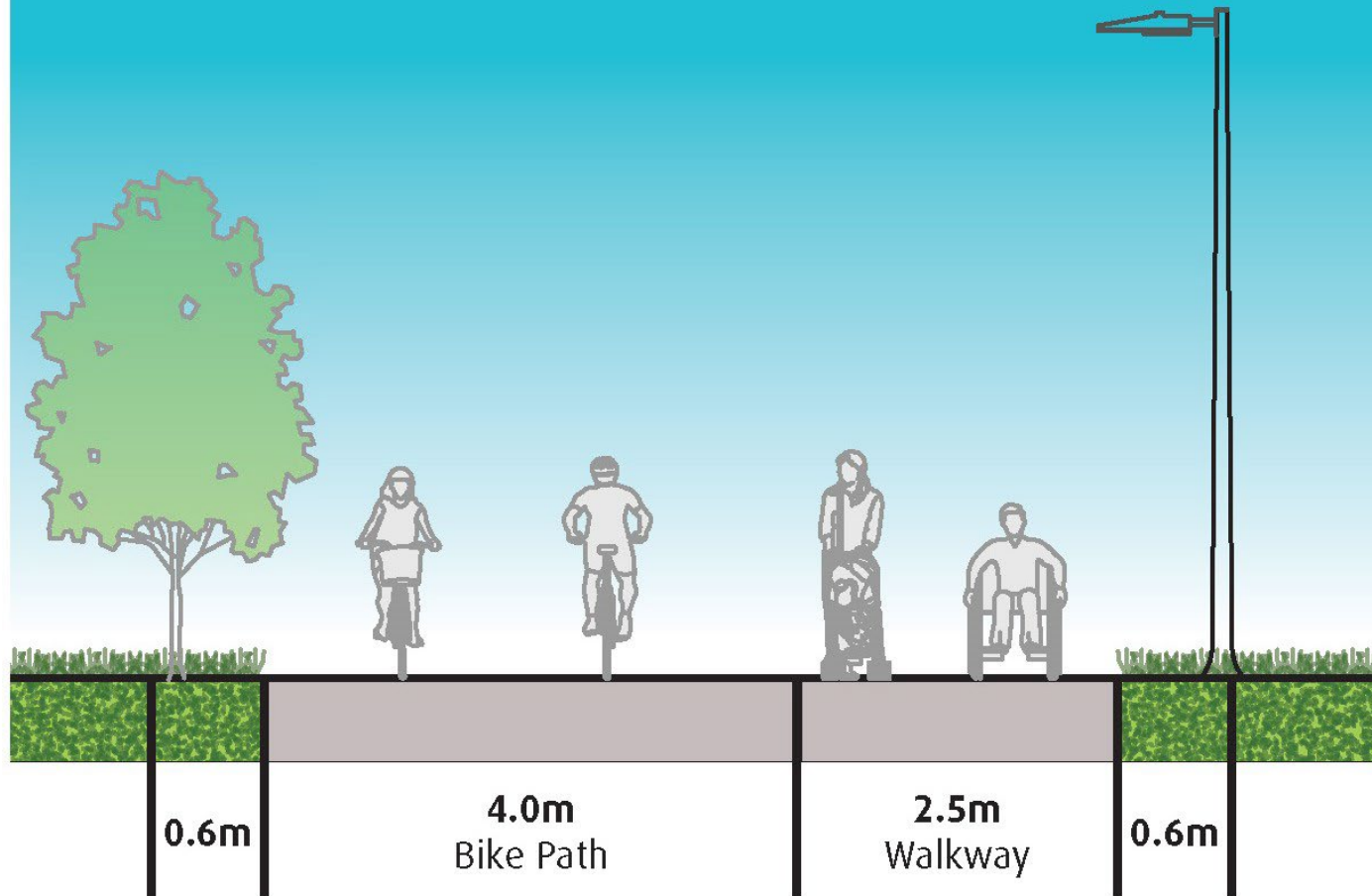
Visit www.crd.bc.ca/parks for suggested day and weekend cycle trips.

Tales of the Trails

The Galloping Goose and Lochside regional trails cover more than 80 kilometres on former historic railway lines. The Galloping Goose was named for the gas-powered passenger car that carried passengers twice daily between Victoria and Sooke during the 1920's.

Today, the 55 kilometre trail runs from Victoria to Kapooro. The Trans Canada Trail, a 29-km trail from the province and territory to Swartz Bay.

Separated Use Pathway



















Thank you!



@crdvictoria



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria

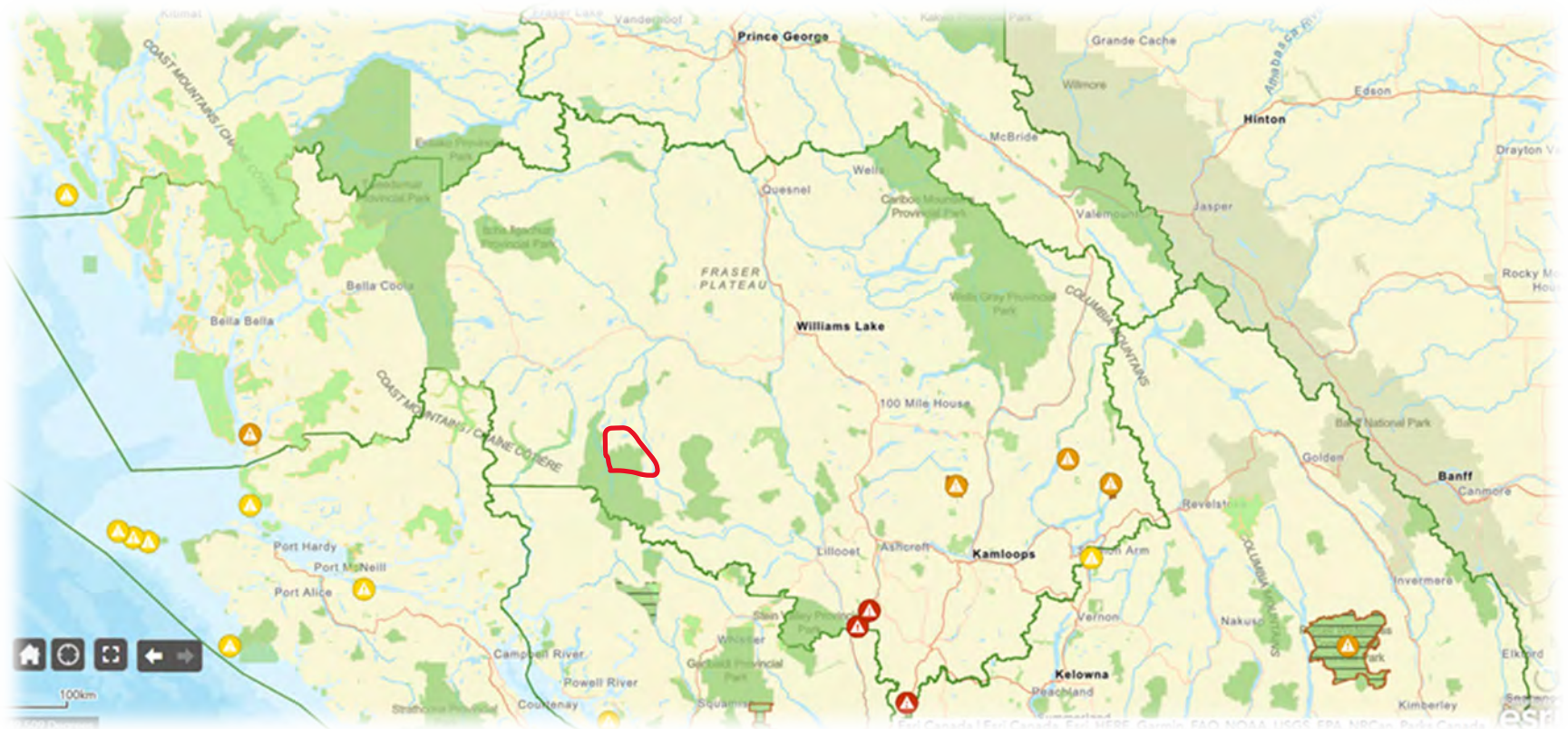


crd.bc.ca



A Journey to Reconciliation: Learning from the Central Coast

BC Parks Thompson/Cariboo Region



Arriving in Bella Coola

CRD



What we heard – some examples of how BC Parks collaborates with Nuxalk:

- Sourcing firewood for elders.
- Contracting Nuxalk to manage campgrounds.
- Traditional use, i.e., harvesting of mushrooms and other traditional foods and medicines.
- Training for Guardian Watchmen and Nuxalk volunteers for bear viewing.
- Supplying uniforms for Nuxalk – both Nuxalk and BC Parks logos displayed.



Belarko Wildlife Viewing Area

CRD



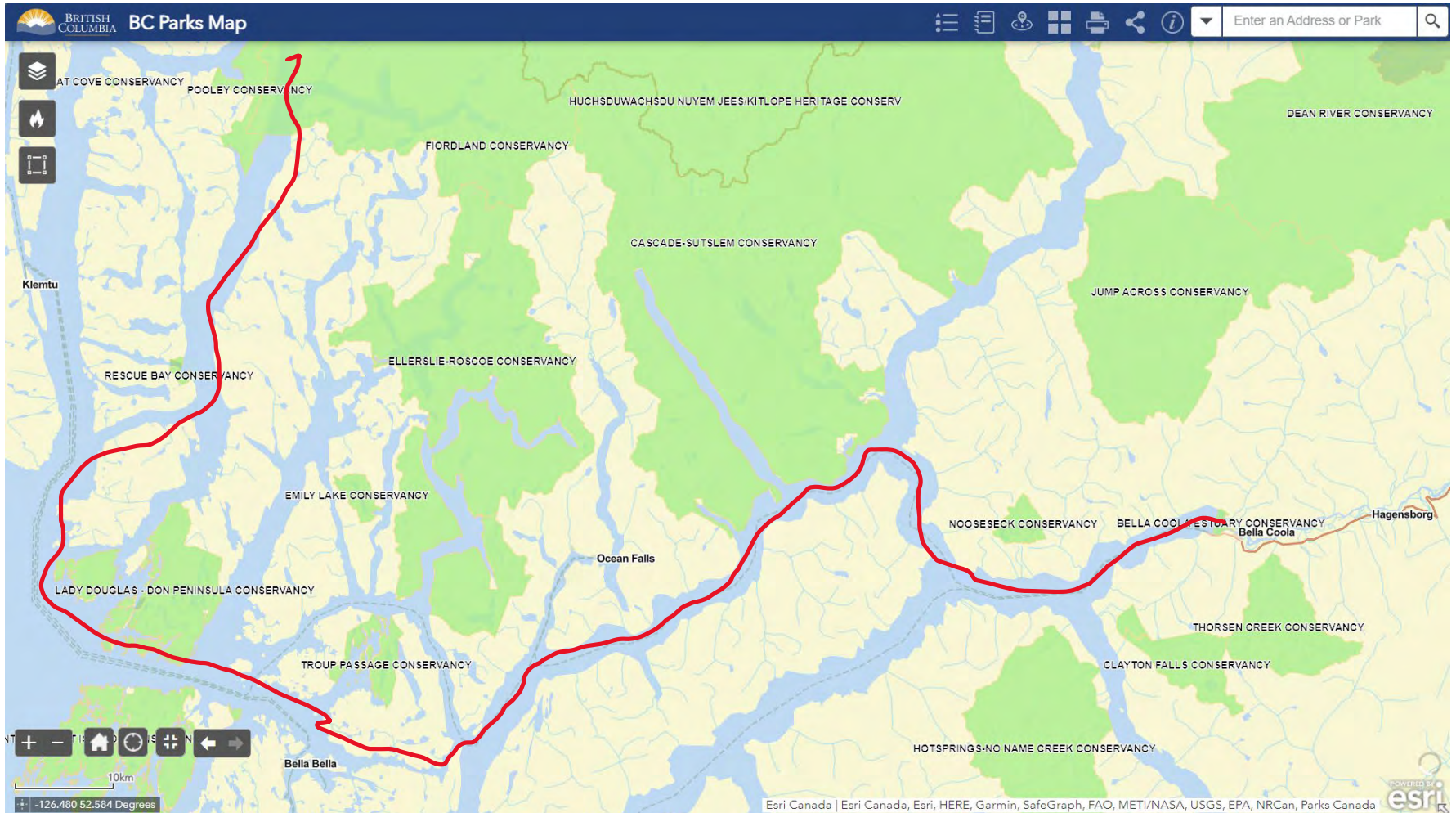
Petroglyph Tour

CRD



Next Stop: Mussel Inlet

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Getting There: Mussel Inlet

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Mussel Inlet

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Mussel Inlet

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Traditional village site of the Xai'xais



Kitasoo/Xai'xais Guardian Cabin

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Coastal Guardian Watchmen

CRD

WELCOME TO NUXALK TERRITORY

Nuxalk territory covers thousands of square kilometres on BC's Central Coast—from the lush coastline to the snow-capped peaks and rushing rivers of the Bella Coola Valley and surrounding region.

The Nuxalk Nation has the authority and responsibility under Nuxalk laws to protect these lands and waters, and to maintain the region's rich ecological and cultural diversity.

Protecting Our Homeland

Nuxalk Guardian Watchmen work for the Nuxalk Stewardship Office, the stewardship arm of the Nuxalk Nation. We protect, restore, and monitor our territory, including land and marine ecosystems and important cultural areas, such as old village sites and areas used for Nuxalk resource harvesting.

We strive to protect these lands and waters for all future generations and for the salmon, grizzly bears and all other life forms that share this territory with us.



COASTAL
GUARDIAN
WATCHMEN



NUXALK GUARDIAN
WATCHMEN

CONTACT US

Nuxalk Stewardship Office
250-799-5613 | Radio Channel 6
PO Box 65, Bella Coola, BC V0T 1C0

For more information about Nuxalk Stewardship,
visit: www.nuxalknation.ca

*We are the Eyes and Ears of
Our Ancestral Territories*

Help Us Protect Our Lands and Waters



Coastal First Nations • Great Bear Initiative
1660 - 409 Granville Street, Vancouver, BC V6C 1T2
Telephone: 604.696.9889 | Fax: 604.696.9887
www.coastalfirstnations.ca

Photo credit: Douglas Neelands

Coastal Guardian Watchmen

CRD



What We Heard: Supporting Guardian programs



- Ask Nations what they want to see monitored, where their concerns are.
- Create mentorship opportunities
 - hire staff from local Nations to accompany CRD monitors.
- Ongoing learning and training opportunities.

Moving Forward: What We Learned



Thank You!

CRD

Any questions?

