

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area

Community Parks Strategic Plan



CRD
Making a difference...together



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

JUAN DE FUCA ELECTORAL AREA PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

Over the past 15 years, residents and representatives of the Sooke Electoral Area, and Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commissions, have worked towards the vision of providing a network of community parks and trails throughout the Juan de Fuca area—that protects important natural features, species and habitats, as well as providing for a range of recreational opportunities for the communities.

I am very pleased that after several years of preparatory work and engaging community members, the Parks and Recreation Commission's Community Parks Strategic Plan is ready for implementation. This plan presents many challenges for us, but also a significant step forward in not only setting out a strategy for the development and use of our community parks and trails, but also ensuring their ongoing management and maintenance needs.

This strategic plan, and where we have come to, would not have been possible without the hard work and dedication of volunteers, societies, organizations and local residents that have worked with us over the years. Also key have been the guidance and support of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area elected officials, CRD staff and other Commissions. This is an achievement all should be proud of.

Over the life of this plan our goal is to bring about noticeable improvements in how our community parks are acquired, developed and managed. Equally important will be sign and information strategies that will clearly identify where and what our community parks are, and the recreational opportunities we want to provide to residents and visitors.

These are your community parks, and I look forward to your continued support and involvement in their protection, use and management.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Louise Paterson', written in a cursive style.

Louise Paterson

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This document replaces the Sooke Electoral Area Long Range Plan (1995) initiated by the former Sooke Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission. With the incorporation of the Sooke District in December 1999, the remaining seven unincorporated communities of East Sooke, Shirley/Jordan River, Otter Point, Willis Point, Malahat and Port Renfrew comprised the newly amalgamated Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JdFEA). The Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation Commission was established in December 2004 with the responsibility for the acquisition, development, maintenance and operation of all community parks and park properties within the JdFEA. Since that time, work had begun to revise and redraft the original Sooke Electoral Area Long Range Plan as the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Long Range Plan – Public Open Spaces. This Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Community Parks Strategic Plan represents the culmination of that work.

The total land area of the JdFEA is approximately 1,502 sq.kms (comprising more than two-thirds of the CRD lands on southern Vancouver Island). Currently, the CRD has responsibility for 22 Community Parks (approximately 62.1 hectares) ranging from undeveloped Special Preservation and Nature Parks to highly manicured Intensive Recreation Parks, and includes interests in formal establishment and management of a range of trail networks and selected road and foreshore accesses (under Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure jurisdiction). The delivery of recreational opportunities and stewardship of community parks and trails throughout the JdFEA is greatly enhanced by the support of a number of societies and organizations that provide services both within and beyond those lands falling under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission.

The vision for community parks and recreation within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area is to establish and maintain a sustainable network of parks, trails and other recreational opportunities that enable protection of their natural characteristics and habitats, as well as addresses the needs of its residents. To achieve this vision there will be a strong reliance on collaboration with other parks jurisdictions and developing partnering opportunities through volunteer agreements and working with other recreation related societies.

The establishment of community parks, trails and other amenities is largely the result of land dedications (minimum 5%), or cash in lieu, as a result of property subdivision and development or rezoning applications. This plan sets out park land acquisition opportunities, policies and a selection criteria

that ensures appropriate selection of park lands and amenities that best suits the objectives of this strategic plan, and the needs of the JdFEA communities.

Much of the focus of the Parks and Recreation Commission over the years has been the acquisition of park lands, versus the development of these lands for public access and use. Key objectives of this plan will be:

1. to establish overall goals for the acquisition, use and management of parks and trails;
2. to articulate the types of community parks and trails being established, and their associated appropriate uses; and
3. to set long term management principles and strategic direction for community parks and trail development, use and ongoing maintenance needs.

Commencing in 2010, an operations and maintenance program will be established that will be guided by the Key Management Actions (2010 – 20) set out in the plan.

As required, more in-depth site plans will be developed to guide the development and use aspects of particular parks, commencing with William Simmons Memorial Park (Otter Point) in 2010.

Residents of the JdFEA communities will continue to acquire information, make recommendations, or be consulted on the site plans and initiatives of this strategic plan, through their Parks and Recreation Commission members. The Commission will also utilize a suite of personal and non-personal media to inform communities on its network of parks, trails and foreshore accesses through updating of the CRD Juan de Fuca Electoral Area website, preparation of information brochures and site specific interpretive or information signs.

Actions taken through the implementation of this strategic management plan will continue to be monitored and evaluated to ensure intended goals and objectives remain consistent with the plan vision, policies and strategic directions.

JUAN DE FUCA ELECTORAL AREA

COMMUNITY PARKS OVERVIEW MAP

1. Aspen Road Park
2. Amanda Place Park
3. Brotherstone Park
4. Carpenter Road Park
5. Copper Mine Park
6. Corby Park
7. DeMamiel Park
8. Eaglecrest Park
9. Elrose Park
10. Elrose II Park
11. Fishboat Bay Park
12. Kaulitz Park
13. Otter Point Park
14. Otter Point Access Park
15. Park Heights Park
16. Priest Cabin Park
17. Seagirt Ponds Park
18. Sherringham Point Park (Trail)
19. The Park in Port Renfrew
20. The Shores Park (Trail)
21. William Simmons Memorial Park
22. Wigglesworth Park

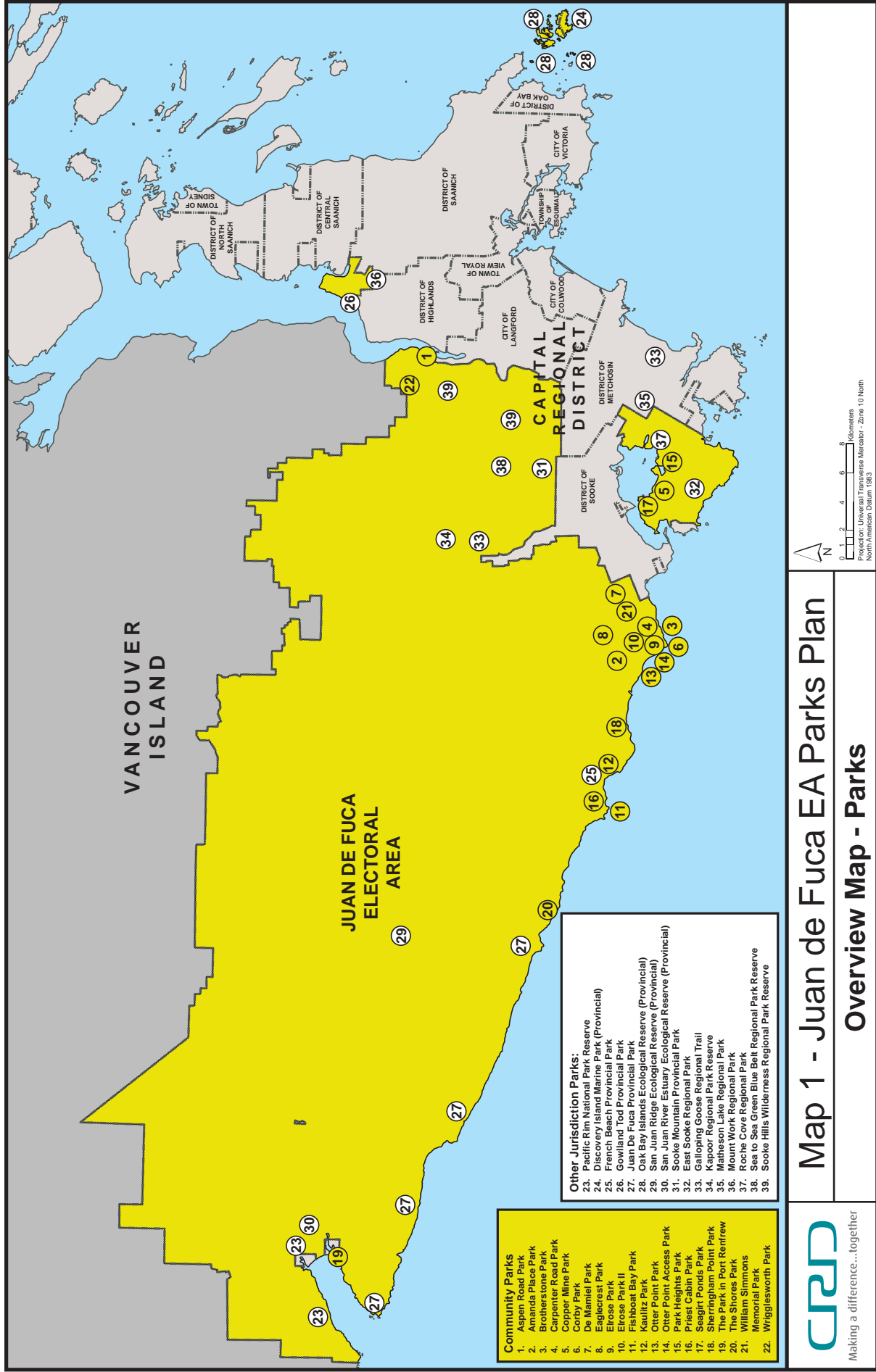


TABLE OF CONTENTS

Executive Summary	4
JdFEA Community Parks Map	7
1.0 Introduction	13
2.0 Legislative Authority and Guiding Documents	15
3.0 Scope and Purpose of the Community Parks Strategic Plan	18
3.1 Scope of the Strategic Plan	18
3.2 Purpose of the Strategic Plan	19
3.3 Strategic Plan Time Horizon	19
4.0 Vision	20
5.0 Overall Goals	21
5.1 Goals for Park and Trail Acquisitions	21
5.2 Goals for Park and Trail Use	21
5.3 Goals for Park and Trail Maintenance	22
6.0 Community Parks	23
6.1 Types of Community Parks	23
6.2 Appropriate Uses	24
6.3 Objectives and Management Principles	26
6.3.1 Acquisition Objectives for Community Parks	26
6.3.2 Management Principles for Community Parks	27
6.4 Strategic Direction	27
6.4.1 Special Preservation Parks	27
6.4.2 Nature Parks	28
6.4.3 Natural Area Recreation Parks	28
6.4.4 Intensive Recreation Parks	29
7.0 Community Trails	31
7.1 Community Trail Guidelines	31
7.2 Community Trails Strategic Direction	32
7.3 Other Trail Networks	33
8.0 Public Road and Foreshore Accesses	35
8.1 Public Road Accesses	35
8.2 Foreshore Accesses	35
8.3 Foreshore Accesses Strategic Direction	36

9.0	Rural Resource Lands	37
9.1	Strategic Direction	37
10.0	Acquisition of Park Lands	38
10.1	Acquisition Planning	39
10.2	Park Acquisition Policies	39
10.3	Park Identification and Selection Criteria	40
11.0	Park Management	41
11.1	Site Planning	41
11.2	Development and Maintenance Program	41
11.3	Regulatory Framework	43
11.4	Safety and Liability	43
12.0	Other Related Policy Direction	45
12.1	Riparian Protection	45
12.2	Facilities for Off-Road Vehicles	46
13.0	Collaboration & Partnering Opportunities	47
13.1	Volunteer Agreements	47
13.2	Working with Other Societies	47
13.3	Collaboration with Other Parks Jurisdictions	48
14.0	Communications	50
14.1	Internal Communications	50
14.2	Public Consultations and Information	51
15.0	Key Actions 2010-20	52
16.0	Plan Integration with Official Community Plans	54

Maps

Map 1:	Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Park	7
Map 2:	Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and Sub-Regions	13
Appendix D:	Community Parks Site Maps	75

Tables

Table 1:	Community Park Types	24
Table 2:	Appropriate Community Park Uses by Park Type	25
Table 3:	Community Parks	62
Table 4:	Foreshore Accesses	64
Table 5:	Neighbourhood Parks Not Under JdFEA Parks & Recreation Jurisdiction	68
Table 6:	Regional Parks and Trails	68
Table 7:	Federal and Provincial Parks	69
Table 8:	Existing Trails	70
Table 9:	BC Forestry Recreation Sites	71
Table 10:	Other Recreation and Tourist Sites	72

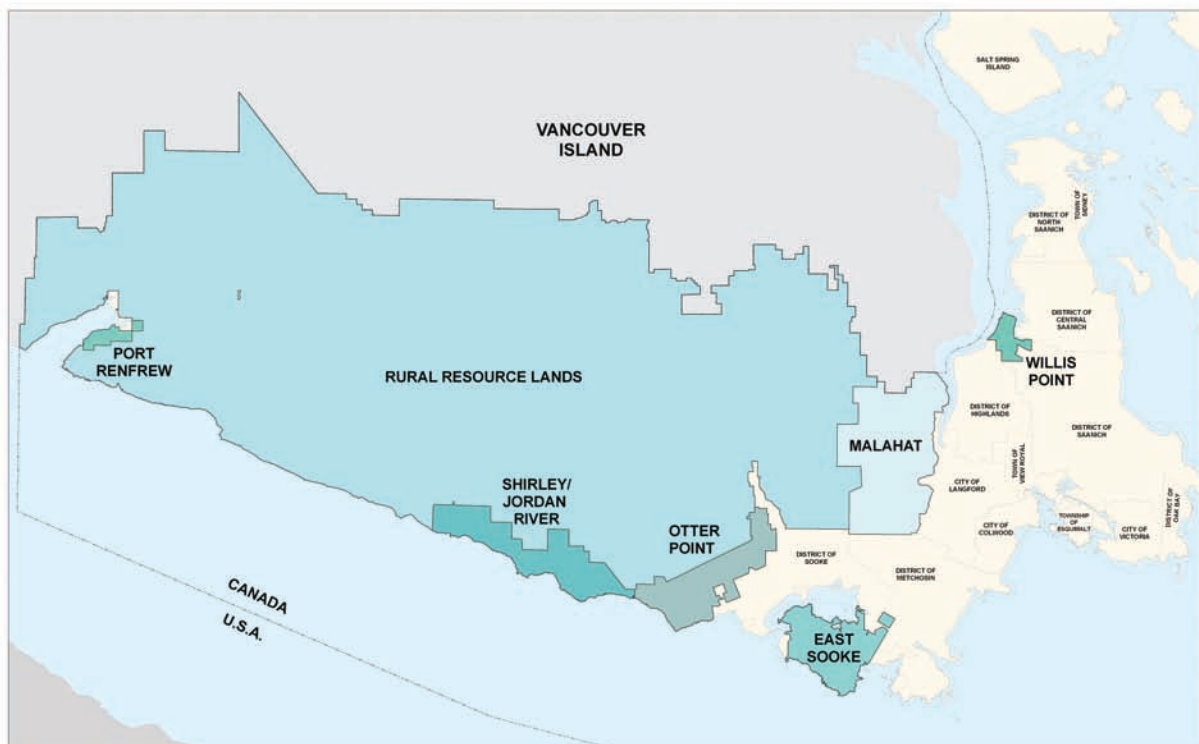
Appendices

A.	Political Structure	55
B.	Parks Acquisition	57
C.	Juan de Fuca Parks and Recreation Areas	61
	• Community Parks	61
	• Foreshore/Road Accesses	64
	• Parks Under Other Jurisdictions	68
	• Trails	70
	• BC Forestry Recreation Sites	71
	• Other Recreation and Tourist Sites	72
	• Historic and Archaeological Sites	73
D.	Community Park Maps and Existing/Planned Facilities	75

1.0 INTRODUCTION

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (JdFEA) comprises more than two-thirds of the Capital Regional District (CRD) on southern Vancouver Island. It encompasses a total of approximately 151,189 hectares dominated by resource lands owned by the Provincial Crown and by forestry and resource companies.

Map 2. Juan de Fuca Electoral Area & Sub-region Locations



JdFEA is a rugged, picturesque area rich in natural diversity and cultural features. The landscape varies from accessible beaches to wind-swept, high bluffs and from forested mountain areas to pastoral farmland. In addition to the beauty of the area, amenities such as parks, trails, beaches, campsites and undeveloped resource lands make the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area a particularly attractive place in which to live. The recreational resources of the JdFEA also draw tourists and visitors from all parts of the Capital Regional District and beyond, providing an economic benefit. More than 80 kilometres of

beaches provide residents and visitors with a wide variety of water-related recreational opportunities, including some of the world's best surfing. Hiking, biking, swimming, kayaking, canoeing and camping are also popular activities in the Juan de Fuca area. Residents and visitors value the quality of life that the area offers, including access to the waterfront, panoramic ocean and inlet views, mountain backdrops and forested areas. There is also a strong conservation ethic among the residents and visitors.

Undeveloped areas, agricultural land and forestry resource lands sustain ecosystems - communities of animals and plants - some of which are unique to the area. The community values these ecosystems and considers it necessary to preserve viable representation of the animal and plant communities, which contribute to our human community. Healthy riparian systems, functioning streams, lakes and wetlands are essential ecosystems for salmon and other fish species that are important for both the commercial and the sport fishery in the area. These areas contain key watersheds and sources of potable water for electoral area communities. A Provincial Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory of lands has been completed east of the Sooke River; similar inventories have not been completed west of the Sooke River. This makes a physical inventory of sensitive plants and ecosystem elements necessary when developments are proposed.

Only a fraction of the JdFEA is protected lands. Further, the majority of the existing parkland is east of the Sooke River while development has been focused to the west in the area between the Sooke River and Port Renfrew. Some private land is open to the public by formal agreement with forestry companies or other landowners. The main residential areas are along the south coast of the Island and around the Saanich Inlet. The sub-regions with Official Community Plans in place are Port Renfrew, Shirley/Jordan River, Otter Point, East Sooke, Malahat and Willis Point. These sub-regions comprise a total of 21,265 hectares (52,246 acres).

In 2006 the JdFEA's population was 4,700. Otter Point has the largest population in the Electoral Area (1,660). East Sooke had 1,580 residents. Shirley/Jordan River had 436 residents; Willis Point, north of Gowlland Tod Provincial Park between Finlayson Arm and the District of the Highlands had 419 residents; Port Renfrew and Malahat sub-regions had populations of 280 and 155 respectively, and the Rural Resource Lands has a population of approximately 160.

The CRD Regional Growth Strategy (2003) projects a population increase for JdFEA over the next two decades—expecting it to reach 6,500 in 2026. This would be an increase of almost 50% to the 2006 population over 23 years. It is anticipated that regional growth will reach 5,500 people in the Juan de Fuca Area by 2011 (approximately 1,000 person increase in the five years between 2006-2011).

While data is not available for the JdFEA, it is estimated that by 2038 the West Shore community's largest growth in population (17%) will occur in the 65+ age group and a 1% increase will occur in the 25-34 age group. All other age brackets are expected to decline. Similar changes can be expected in the Electoral Area and the majority of the new population may be retired, semi-retired, and active seniors.

2.0 | LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY AND GUIDING DOCUMENTS

Legal Authority

Regional districts derive their authority to plan, acquire and dispose of parkland and trails through the *Local Government Act* (Sections 176 (1)(d), 303, 304, 941 and 941.1) and the *Community Charter* (section 30). Agreements with developers can be used to acquire park and recreational amenities.

Political Structure

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area encompasses unincorporated areas of the Capital Regional District on Vancouver Island. The electoral area is represented on the CRD Board by one elected Regional Director. In CRD-wide issues the whole Regional Board votes whereas on JdFEA issues depending upon the location sub sections of the Board vote, in addition to the Regional Director. The Regional Director is advised by standing commissions and committees composed of JdFEA residents. Refer to Appendix A for description of JdFEA Commissions and Committees.

Parks and Recreation Commission

Regional districts may enact bylaws on behalf of unincorporated areas within their jurisdiction. The power to acquire, develop, operate and maintain community parks within the JdFEA was conferred upon the Capital Regional District, by supplementary Letters Patent, on August 28, 1978. Further, Bylaw No. 3243, establishing the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Commission, was adopted December 15, 2004 and Bylaw No. 3409 which modified the Commission to a Parks and Recreation Commission was adopted on January 10, 2007. Bylaw No. 3487 (February 2008) provides for the continuation of a Joint Community Parks and Recreation Commission for the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.

Guiding Documents

A number of documents provide guidance for the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission Community Parks Strategic Plan. This conforms to the broad policies and objectives of these higher-level planning documents.

Regional Growth Strategy (RGS): The CRD adopted a Regional Growth Strategy (RGS) in 2003 to guide development over the coming years. It describes important goals and sets basic direction for region-wide policies, planning and action.

CRD Parks Master Plan 2000: The goal of the Parks Master Plan is to protect the natural environment while giving people the means to remain in close touch with nature through a system of regional parks. The CRD Parks Master Plan also contains many goals for parks development in the JdFEA west of Sooke and outside the CRD Green Blue belt. The current plan will be undergoing review in 2009-10.

Official Community Plans (OCP): The intent of these plans is to guide land use and development decisions, provide detailed planning direction with respect to community development and to establish regulatory functions. These plans outline the goals and objectives the community has for the area.

Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory Mapping: Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory Mapping (SEI Mapping) of the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area is currently limited, with no coverage west of the Sooke River. Where available, SEI maps show the locations of sensitive ecosystems such as coastal bluffs, sparsely vegetated and terrestrial herbaceous ecosystems, older forests, woodlands, wetlands and riparian ecosystems, as well as seasonally flooded agricultural fields and older second-growth forests.

CRD Natural Areas Atlas: The CRD Natural Areas Atlas is a publicly-available on-line program which maps the topography and identifies, among other things, the locations of parks and protected areas. It uses high-resolution ortho-photography and provides marking and labelling capabilities and cadastral information that can be used for parks planning and development purposes.

Recreational Trends: Recreational trends that have been noted both at the national level and in the JdFEA will inform the development of the Community Parks Strategic Plan. Some are:

- Generally healthier lifestyle continuing into the older age brackets & increasing demand by retired active seniors.
- Increased growth in day activities such as walking, day hiking, mountain biking, fishing, gardening, appreciation of nature and golfing.
- The number one request for facilities is for trails.
- Decrease in demand for multi-day outdoor pursuits such as backcountry hiking and camping in favour of outdoor activities that are available within a day's reach of the larger cities. Demand for

opportunities to appreciate nature and wildlife, to enjoy vistas, to enjoy the forests and wilderness, and for activities such as whale and marine mammal watching.

- Demand for backcountry access for motorized vehicles and for specific facilities to accommodate activities with 4x4s, ATVs and dirt bikes.
- With population growth, increasing community need for high-energy sports facilities for BMX biking/jumping, skateboarding, rock climbing, soccer, baseball, cycling, and hockey. (At this time, these facilities, aimed primarily at youth, are available to JdFEA residents in neighbouring communities such as Langford, Colwood and Sooke).



ORVEAS BAY BEACH ACCESS © IMAGE COURTESY OF MINETTE LAYNE

3.0 | SCOPE & PURPOSE OF THE COMMUNITY PARKS STRATEGIC PLAN

3.1 | Scope of the Strategic Plan

The Juan de Fuca EA Parks and Recreation Commission has been delegated responsibility for the development, maintenance and operation of all community parks and the organization and conduct of recreational programs within the Electoral Area. The Commission also is responsible for maintaining a community parks plan.

Community parks, trails and public foreshore/beach accesses (Ministry of Transport and Infrastructure roads) provide for local outdoor recreation needs in addition to protecting the natural environment. All of these are considered part of the “community parks and recreation” system and are covered in the community parks strategic plan.

There are a range of park types, trail types and public accesses within the Electoral Area. In some cases, protecting the natural environment is of highest priority to ensure the long-term maintenance of the picturesque natural beauty and wildlife that is valued by the community. In others, providing active recreational pursuits for the community are paramount. And of course, many others fall on a scale somewhere in between these two.

The Community Parks Strategic Plan will provide guidance relating to each of the types of parks, trails and public accesses. It will focus on parks, trails and accesses that fall within the jurisdiction of the CRD and JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission. It will provide guidance to developers to encourage the incorporation of parks, green spaces and trails in their development plans. It will also provide guidance on how the Commission should collaborate with others who can provide parks, protected areas and recreational opportunities within the region.

3.2 | Purpose of the Strategic Plan

The Strategic Plan will:

- Establish a community-based vision for parks, trails and recreational pursuits;
- Set goals for the community system of parks, trails and recreational areas;
- Provide the basis for reasoned recommendations by the Commission to JdFEA Planning and the Land Use Committee and other governance bodies on the acquisition of parkland and trails;
- Provide policy direction on acquisition, management and use of parks, trails and foreshore/beach accesses that will help achieve the goals;
- Provide long term direction on the operational and management priorities for parks, trails and associated recreational facilities;
- Create a strategy for ongoing community participation in park, trail, and open space system planning and management;
- Outline the JdFEA's parks and recreation values, vision, needs and plans for others who may undertake work within the JdFEA.

3.3 | Strategic Plan Time Horizon

This plan is intended to direct the development and management of the community parks, trails and recreational accesses for a maximum period of ten years. If significant changes occur within the JdFEA during that span of time, consideration should be given to updating the plan sooner. Otherwise, the plan should be reviewed at ten year intervals.

4.0 | VISION

The vision for community parks and recreation in the JdFEA is to establish and maintain a sustainable network of parks and trails across the Electoral Area that address the needs of its residents.

In this network of parks, trails and recreational areas, community members and visitors can undertake various active and passive recreational pursuits that help them maintain active, healthy lifestyles. The network also provides connections among key community areas.

Park use and management is undertaken in ways that maintain the natural characteristics and key features and habitats that add to the quality of life that residents in this region value.

To achieve this vision, a high degree of communication and collaboration occurs with residents, regional and provincial park organizations, developers, private land owners and organizations who can assist in protection and the provision of recreational opportunities and services within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.

The development, use and management of the community parks, trails and recreation areas is part of a greater vision for a sustainable community.



JUAN DE FUCA STREAM © IMAGE COURTESY OF THE CRD

5.0 | OVERALL GOALS

5.1 | Goals for Park and Trail Acquisitions

1. Provide/acquire parks and trails (including designated foreshore accesses) across the Electoral Area to ensure that residents in each of the associated communities can easily access a range of recreational opportunities.
2. Acquisition effort is focused on acquiring lands in those parts of the Electoral Area that are currently under-represented, or provide opportunities for expanding existing parks.
3. Dedication of parkland and trails through sub-division will provide for a range of protection, connectivity and/or uses of high quality.
4. Consolidation of smaller parks, and creation of trail linkages between parks, should be achieved whenever possible.

5.2 | Goals for Park and Trail Use

1. Levels and types of activities and facilities within the various community parks and trails are in keeping with the vision and a clearly defined range of park types and associated site characteristics and facilities.
2. Community park/trail use planning focuses on the recreational needs of residents. Needs and desires of visitors to the Electoral Area that are beyond the scope of the Commission will be provided largely by other park jurisdictions.
3. Park use is undertaken in a sustainable manner that recognizes protection of the natural environment and the range of appropriate recreational activities valued by the residents of JdFEA.
4. The Parks and Recreation Commission advocates for the development and management of addi-

tional regional, provincial and private land recreational opportunities that will benefit the residents of the JdFEA.

5.3 | Goals for Park and Trail Management

1. The management of parks and trails on those lands under the jurisdiction of the CRD is undertaken in a financially sustainable manner.
2. Management of parks and trails in a manner that reduces negative impacts of human use and discourages inappropriate uses.
3. Multi-use and alternative transportation opportunities are considered desirable in/on community parks and trails, subject to natural and social considerations.
4. Opportunities for active engagement of residents, volunteers and others in park planning and management are provided in order to enhance the community parks and recreation system.



VIEW FROM PRIEST CABIN PARK © IMAGE COURTESY OF MALEEA ACKER

6.0 | COMMUNITY PARKS

There are currently 22 community parks in the JdFEA (refer to Appendix D for individual park maps). Community parks are public spaces which offer outdoor recreation opportunities to primarily local residents. These parks are largely located in townsites, such as Port Renfrew, and in more densely populated areas such as the settlement containment areas established in the Official Community Plans (OCPs). Their location and size varies directly with the size and density of residential lots.

Community parks are developed for a range of active and passive uses, which can include largely protected nature areas to highly manicured recreational playgrounds and sports fields. Community parks may include activities/facilities not normally supported in regional or provincial parks.

A community park should be centrally located within residential subdivisions, however in some instances parks may be located on outer boundaries of subdivisions in order to consolidate dedicated parklands. All households within a typical neighbourhood of medium density should ideally be located within 400 metres of the park, but may not always be possible based on the location and characteristics of a subdivision. Appendix C provides a listing of the community parks.

6.1 | Types of Community Parks

For Juan de Fuca Electoral Area planning purposes, all community, regional and provincial parks in the JdFEA are designated as Zone P-1 Park. From a community park management perspective though, four types of community parks can exist, and these are defined as: Special Preservation Parks, Nature Parks, Natural Area Recreation Parks and Intensive Recreation Parks. Each park type, illustrated in **Table 1. Community Park Types**, addresses a different management and use need, as further described in 6.4 Strategic Direction.

Community parks, normally located within a subdivision, may provide facilities such as washrooms, playscapes for young children, picnic tables and benches, sports fields, multi-purpose trails, and/or special skills areas such as skateboarding or tennis courts. These park types are described as follows:

Table 1. Community Park Types

Type	Characteristics	Examples	Activities	Facilities Permitted
Special Preservation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undeveloped parkland • High ecological values 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Difficult Access • Unique habitat or species 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walk-in access 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None Planned
Nature Park	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • High natural values • Important species or habitats • Undeveloped 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mature Forests • Riparian shoreline • Limited disturbance • Ocean and lake shoreline 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature viewing • Hiking 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails/structures • Benches, viewpoints
Natural Area Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Good natural features • Often subject to past human disturbance • Informal trails • Multiple uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second growth forest • Open areas/fields 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Nature viewing • Hiking • Cycling on trails • Equestrian use • Community uses 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Trails/structures • Equestrian trails • Cycling trails • Benches/tables • Community garden • Picnic Area
Intensive Recreation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limited natural values • High recreational opportunities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports facilities • Play areas • Multiple-uses • Highly manicured 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Group and individual recreation • Multiple facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tennis courts • Soccer/ball fields • Playgrounds • Boat launches

Special Preservation Parks: DeMamiel, Amanda Place, Aspen Road, Kaulitz, Park Heights.

Nature Parks: Seagirt Ponds, Otter Point, Otter Point Access, Corby, Elrose II, Carpenter Road, Brotherstone, Fishboat Bay, Priest Cabin, Wrigglesworth, The Shores (Trail).

Natural Area Recreation Parks: Eaglecrest, Sheringham Point (Trail), William Simmons Memorial.

Intensive Recreation Parks: Copper Mine, Elrose, The Park (Port Renfrew).

6.2 | Appropriate Uses

The objective of having multiple park types is to ensure that the types of use are appropriate and compatible to the park characteristics, including the protection of important physical or natural attri-

butes of the site. The design and types of infrastructure used must also be compatible to the park type and associated recreational experiences being sought. By articulating appropriate uses and facilities by park type, standards for the long term development and maintenance and associated costs can also be realized. Certain activities are not considered appropriate in community parks. Some of these, such as camping, may be provided through Regional or Provincial parks. Some recreational activities (such as golfing, equestrian ring-riding, racing or showing, paintball, mountain bike stunt riding, lawn bowling) are also considered more appropriately provided by commercial ventures. Table 2 describes appropriate community park uses by park type.

Table 2. Appropriate Community Park Uses by Park Type

Type of Use	Special Preservation	Nature Park	Natural Area Rec.	Intensive Recreation
Walking/Hiking	✓	✓	✓	✓
Nature Viewing	✓	✓	✓	
Photography	✓	✓	✓	✓
Horseback Riding			✓	
Cycling			✓	✓
Beach Use		✓	✓	✓
Picnicking		✓	✓	✓
Kayak/Boat Launches			✓	✓
Playgrounds				✓
Sports Fields (ie: Baseball, Soccer)				✓
Sports Courts (ie: Tennis, Basketball)				✓
Skateboard Facilities				✓
Community Gardens/Flowerbeds			✓	
Community Events (by Permit)			✓	✓
Special Preservation/Conservation	✓	✓		

6.3 Objectives and Management Principles

6.3.1 Acquisition Objectives for Community Parks

Details on the identification and acquisition procedures for new parklands are provided under Section 10.0 Acquisition of Park Lands and in Appendix B – Parks Acquisition. General objectives for the acquisition of lands for community parks are:

- The initial focus for new community park acquisitions will be west of the municipality of Sooke;
- Generally, park dedications will be preferred to cash-in-lieu in subdivision situations. In some instances it may be more appropriate to seek cash-in-lieu (for future land acquisition) than to pursue park dedication in marginal locations;
- The preservation of natural areas and the provision of community parks and trails should be considered as amenities during the rezoning process.
- Wherever possible, park dedications should be consolidated within and between subdivisions;
- To improve park accessibility by local residents, trail access should be included in park dedication or as an amenity in subdivision developments.



SUNSET ON JUAN DE FUCA STRAIT © IMAGE COURTESY OF EVAN LEESON

6.3.2 | Management Principles for Community Parks

- Community parks will be day-use only;
- To improve park accessibility, parking and access routes should be included in new park dedications or as an amenity in subdivision developments;
- Where required, opportunities for parking or connecting trails will be pursued for existing parks;
- Parks and trails will be managed to provide safe, yet challenging opportunities for the community to enjoy the natural environment and outdoor recreation activities;
- Park trails and facilities should be designed and located to minimize impacts on important natural features;
- Where practical, park access and facilities should accommodate persons with disabilities;
- Types of appropriate uses and development will be guided by the designated park type;
- Community gardens/landscaped gardens are supported in general as sustainable food sources and/or for aesthetics but such park types must be maintained by volunteers or societies;
- Whenever possible, partnering opportunities through agreements with volunteers and societies will be used to increase cost efficiencies for the development and management of parks. New parks will be managed as park reserves (not accessible to the public) until a management plan is completed and implemented.

6.4 | Strategic Direction

6.4.1 | Special Preservation Parks

Special Preservation Parks are designed to protect sites with unique or important natural values that require a high degree of protection. Typically such parks would have values that may include important riparian, marshland, fish bearing streams or habitat for wildlife or important species. Such parks could be available, under permit, for third party conservation initiatives.

This designation is also used for those parks that have difficult access, are more remote and do not have development needs at this time. These parks are still accessible by the public, but do not have formal access facilities.

- Although still accessible for hiking and viewing, formal development of trails and facilities will likely not occur.

6.4.2 | Nature Parks

Nature Parks are established to protect natural features, views, important floral and wildlife habitat, as well as to maintain the overall character and ambiance of the region for the enjoyment of current and future generations. Planning for these protected areas may include provision of wildlife corridors and protected riparian areas. These parks will accommodate low-impact recreation such as hiking, photography and enjoyment of and education about nature.

The only development permitted is that which:

- is necessary to protect the natural environment from damage by users (e.g. fences, trails and markers);
- allows access to the site (e.g. parking areas and directed pathways governing flow through the site). Parking should generally be kept to a minimum, with small sites having no parking and larger ones having some parking on the periphery to avoid disturbing the park. In some instances the amount of parking can be regulated to limit the amount of use and reduce the level of potential negative impacts;
- supports low impact types of uses as well as viewing areas and benches;
- protects areas of particular wildlife significance by signing access restrictions where necessary;
- provides signage to segregate recreation uses as appropriate;
- where necessary, the provision of small vault privies;
- is subject to planning standards that regulate and limit activity to a level sustainable by the natural vegetation or physical features of the park.

6.4.3 | Natural Area Recreation Parks

Natural Area Recreation Parks are multi-purpose parks similar to natural parks but oriented more to recreation than conservation. The typical user might spend time engaged in outdoor relaxation. A recreation park should be chosen for its attractive features such as beach/lake front, viewpoint or the presence of open space to use as a picnic area or other appropriate activities. Appropriate access and separation of uses must be achievable if multiple-use is permitted.

Such parks may also be considered as sites for landscaped gardens (floral and vegetable) as these present a strong, positive visual impression as well as providing residents with opportunities to garden in a public space.

Park development varies with site characteristics but may include:

- walking, cycling and/or horse trails within and to the site;
- on-site parking for private vehicles, bicycles and boat and horse trailers;
- on-site vault type washroom facilities.

They may also include features such as:

- specific parking areas for horse trailers, bike racks, docks and kayak ramps
- open fields for play areas
- picnic sites with tables and shelters
- interpretative signs
- beaches
- special use areas (eg: Landscaped/Community Gardens).

Landscaped and community gardens are a special use opportunity permitted only within this park type to accommodate both sustainable floral (native plants) and vegetable gardens, as these provide a strong, positive visual impression and focal point for the community and can be used to engage community members in gardening activities. Whether such features are small developments in road medians, around a civic building, at the entranceway to the community, or located in schools, parks or other public areas, they are an important part of any public open-space system. The following strategic direction applies:

- Because of the high cost of developing and maintaining landscaped garden areas, they should be used sparingly and are more suited to those Natural Area Recreation Parks that are closer to high profile urban or built-up areas, versus more rural areas.
- Landscaped gardens/community gardens may be permitted in community parks if the park is of sufficient size to adequately separate the various user groups.
- It is beyond the financial abilities of the JdFEA Parks and Recreation to develop and manage such gardens, however non-profit groups such as a horticultural society may request to do so. It will be the responsibility of such organizations to plan, execute and maintain a proposed garden under a negotiated management or stewardship agreement. A detailed site plan should be required for review/approval before landscaped gardens are created in parks.

6.4.4 Intensive Recreation Parks

Intensive Recreation Parks focus on playgrounds and team sport needs (playing fields, diamonds, courts, and pitches) and may be used by formal or informal community sports as well as for commu-

nity events such as festivals, fairs and Canada Day celebrations. These parks have limited natural values and are typically highly manicured.

- These parks should be large enough to accommodate the official size requirements of the game to be played, provide room for spectators and displays, and may provide permanent or temporary toilet facilities. Parking should also be available.
- Both playground and sport activity areas may occur in a park where such uses can be safely accommodated.
- Playground areas may focus on equipment specific to certain age groups, with appropriate separation of equipment types and associated age groups to ensure the safety of users.
- The provision of major athletic parks, to support organized sports teams and major sports events, are beyond the capacity of JdFEA Parks and Recreation and such development is not anticipated within the timeframe of this plan.



THE COMMUNITY PARK, PORT RENFREW © IMAGE COURTESY OF MALEEA ACKER

7.0 | COMMUNITY TRAILS

Trail systems are considered essential to support a healthy community by accommodating such activities as walking, cycling, hiking, horseback riding or mountain biking. They also provide access to nature for relaxation, appreciation and education. Trails also provide alternative transportation routes as put forward in the CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan and Regional Growth Strategy.

Community trails can also provide linkages to regional and provincial parks and facilities, providing a multiplier effect to the recreational potential.

For purposes of this plan, a community trail means trails within community parks, trail amenities through subdivisions, or on easements that are the responsibility of the CRD and under the administrative authority of the Juan de Fuca EA Parks and Recreation Commission.

7.1 | Community Trail Guidelines

The design of trails should consider:

- Trail design specifications appropriate to the location, level and types of uses. Trail width may vary from one to two meters. Where possible, surfaces should be of packed earth or fine granular materials in order to blend in with surroundings and/or accommodate high use levels;
- Opportunities for shared use by pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians. Local topography and adjacent land uses will constrain such versatility in some cases;
- Opportunities for participation by all age groups and ranges of capabilities, including where feasible, wheelchair accessibility;
- Possible linkages with larger community-wide or regional trails whenever feasible;
- Connection between key community elements such as residential areas to natural features, community parks and to other neighbourhoods;
- Dedicated trail corridors as public rights-of-way and planned in concert with the patterning of lots, roads (ie: MoTI right-of-way “sidewalks”), and green spaces;
- Creating loop or circuit trails with various options for length;

- Modest parking areas at major trail-road intersections. Parking areas should be kept small and simple to discourage conflicts with adjacent residences;
- Bicycle stands adjacent to stopping points at community or commercial facilities. These amenities may be provided and maintained by agencies other than the Parks and Recreation Commission;
- Trail networks may be established in existing parks or as new linear parks. They may also be created using existing road allowances, widening of road allowances to accommodate roadside trails, or through statutory rights-of-way.

7.2 | Community Trails Strategic Direction

- Primary responsibility will be to develop and maintain trails on CRD lands;
- Whenever feasible, trails should support mixed use, as defined by the Park Type;
- In subdivision planning, cul-de-sacs and dead-end roads with trail entrances and exits should be promoted;
- Wherever practical, achieve universal access;
- Trail location and design will respect ecologically sensitive features and the special needs of watershed areas especially the protection of drinking water supplies and fish habitat;
- Trail location and design through unstable slope and soil conditions must be adequately engineered;
- Trail locations and levels of use must respect privacy and residential sensitivity;
- Trail locations should not negatively impact local heritage or archaeological sites;
- Trails should provide access to viewpoints and scenic lookouts;
- Where practical, hiking opportunities will be enhanced by linking community trails to regional or provincial trail systems;
- Whenever possible, cost efficiencies for the development and management of parks will be provided through agreements with volunteers or societies;
- The construction of trails dedicated through subdivisions will be designed and constructed using recognized standards and design specifications;
- The JdFEA Parks & Recreation Commission will be a strong advocate for the development and management of third party trails and networks that provide connectivity and support to the community parks and trails;
- Designated “pedestrian and cyclist friendly” road routes should be established with paved shoulders (Otter Point Road, Kemp Lake Road and West Coast Road to Tugwell are examples of unpaved shoulders). The JdFEA Parks & Recreation Commission will be a strong advocate for the development of such routes.

7.3 | Other Trail Networks

This plan recognizes that a wide range of trail networks exist within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area that are managed by other government, societies or volunteer organizations. As part of the broader recreational opportunities within the electoral area, the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission will be a strong advocate for the establishment and ongoing maintenance of such trail networks and for connectivity to community trails and local destinations. Appendix C provides a list of existing trails in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area.

The main regional trails in the JdFEA include:

The Galloping Goose Trail: This is a multi-purpose regional trail that serves as a recreation corridor connecting Victoria to Kapoor Park at Leechtown. This trail supports walking, cycling and horse riding but not motorized vehicles.

The Trans Canada Trail: This trail crosses the JdFEA in the Malahat sub-region. This trail is a segment of a national trail that serves the same functions as a regional trail. It is characterized by spectacular views. This trail will go through the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park and be a regional trail, managed by CRD.



SHERINGHAM LOOP TRAIL © IMAGE COURTESY OF MALEEA ACKER

The Kludahk Trail: This is a remote wilderness trail within sensitive ecosystems and near-alpine swamps, meadows and forests. The Kludahk Trail (operated by the Kludahk Outdoors Club in Sooke) supports wilderness camping/backpacking and provides cabins for members of the Kludahk Outdoor Club. Cycling, horses or motorized vehicles are not allowed on the trail

The Juan de Fuca Marine Trail: This provincial park trail provides a challenging wilderness backpacking experience. It is characterized by rugged coastline and beaches. The JdF Marine trail does not support cycling, horses or motorized vehicles.

The East Sooke Regional Park: This park has hiking trails that have features in common with the JdF Marine Trail but are more accessible. The East Sooke Regional Park is for day use only. Although horses may use a designated trail, cycling and motorized vehicles are not permitted on trails.

Many informal community trail systems exist largely on private or Crown land, resulting in situations of recreational trespass. It is necessary to identify the best trail system for community needs and work towards acquisition of key areas or of the rights-of-way required to protect them. Creating linkages with the above-noted trail networks and ensuring designated access points for emergency operations is important.



OTTER POINT PARK © IMAGE COURTESY OF MALEEA ACKER

8.0 PUBLIC ROAD AND FORESHORE ACCESSSES

8.1 Public Road Accesses

The Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MoTI) is responsible for the establishment of public (road) accesses. These accesses, typically 20 meters in width, are MoTI titled lands required as a condition of subdivision as set out in Section 75 of the Land Title Act [RSBC 1996] CHAPTER 250. They are generally required at least every 200 m. In a rural area where the parcels into which the land is being subdivided all exceed 0.5 ha, they may be up to 400 meters apart. These public road accesses may be opened as roads by MoTI or kept as unopened rights-of-way.

The MoTI public accesses can provide opportunities for community trail accesses within subdivisions as well as connecting corridors to foreshore/beach areas.

8.2 Foreshore Accesses

There are approximately 67 MoTI foreshore accesses (**Appendix C**) located in the JdFEA. The report “CRD Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Foreshore Access Report (2003)*”, documents opportunities and attributes for the foreshore accesses from East Sooke to Jordan River.

** I. Bourhill, CRD Planning Services, January 2003*

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area is endowed with an extensive and diverse coastline that attracts residents and visitors to the area which is known as the foreshore (see Figure 1 for definition of foreshore). Spectacular rocky cliffs and cobble beaches are common in this region and are coveted for their value as venues of recreation. The foreshore is also valuable as habitat to scores of local plants and animals. Economically the JdFEA foreshore facilitates various commercial operations from heavy industry to eco-tourism.

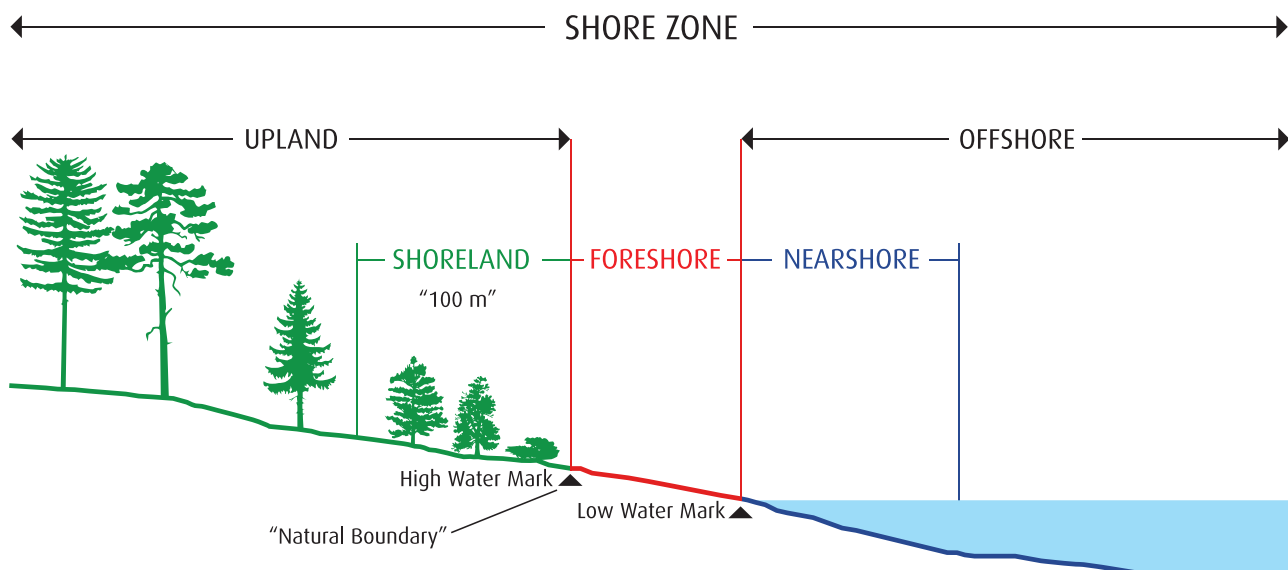
In addition to being significant places for nature, the foreshore is also where many go to enjoy beaches, launch boats and take part in water sports. There is a growing need for new sustainable access routes to the foreshore in many areas of the JdFEA.

All foreshore accesses will remain public access routes unless formally closed by MoTI for management purposes. A Memorandum of Agreement was negotiated between the CRD and Ministry of Transportation (October 2006) granting secure tenure to the CRD, for those accesses deemed sufficient to permit the development, management and regulation of accesses to water for public recreational purposes.

8.3 Foreshore Accesses Strategic Direction

- Most of the foreshore accesses are undeveloped and difficult to access. As well, because of associated liability responsibilities and costs for improvements, the majority of foreshore accesses in the JdFEA will remain under the management responsibility of MoTI;
- The JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission will evaluate which road accesses are of high priority for improvements and will enter into agreements with MoTI for licences of occupation and permits to develop and manage such locations as community trails;
- As all public accesses are available for public use, it is not necessary to seek management of all accesses (through a licence of occupation) unless the values of an access complements the park and recreation objectives of the plan;
- The JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission will collaborate with local area planning and MoTI during subdivision to establish the most beneficial location of public accesses.

Figure 1. Foreshore Definition



9.0 | RURAL RESOURCE LANDS

The rural resource lands represent a significant part of the JdFEA that are recognized by local residents as not only important for resource-based activities, but also as a vast natural forest ecosystem that provides ongoing protection and recreational opportunities. It is anticipated that there will be little settlement within this area, therefore there will be limited opportunities for community parkland dedication. Through the rezoning process however, there will be opportunities to work with land owners to protect and preserve regionally important natural areas and afford trail or other recreational opportunities. Opportunities to acquire and include Rural Resource lands within the system of Regional or Provincial parks should be considered within their strategic plan reviews.

9.1 | Strategic Direction

- The establishment and management of regionally significant natural areas and recreational opportunities will likely be the principal role of regional or provincial parks;
- The JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission will encourage development of trails that complement community parks and trail systems, as well as encouraging opportunities for community members to access key recreational sites on crown and private lands.

10.0 | ACQUISITION OF PARK LANDS

Where existing open space is insufficient to meet the needs of local residents, provincial statutes can be used to acquire all new open space needed to accommodate growth. Most new public open space in BC communities is tied to growth and acquired at the time of property subdivision and development. Provincial statutes (Section 941 of the Local Government Act) allow for dedication of a portion of the land (minimum 5%) at time of subdivision to meet the needs of new residents in the subdivision. However, this statute does not apply to a subdivision where fewer than 3 additional lots are created or a subdivision with parcels greater than 2 hectares in size. Consequently, this method of park acquisition will likely not be available in the rural resource lands or in areas zoned for large lots.

Alternatively, if the proposed parkland amenity (which may also be in the form of trails) is deemed not suitable for these forms of recreational use, then cash in lieu can be taken, based on the appraised value of the land. The cash settlement is required to be paid into a fund used to acquire and develop additional off-site parkland in more opportunistic areas, or to expand existing parkland. In addition to these two legally mandated (land or cash in lieu) ways of providing open space to respond to growth, other strategies must be used to acquire land where there is an existing shortfall. In some cases, land or cash is donated or bequeathed by community-minded citizens or groups. In other cases, negotiations with developers and property owners are used to acquire land on a voluntary basis. Land purchases on the open market can be financed by local taxpayers, as approved by the CRD Board.

Crown lands also provide particularly good multi-recreational and wildlife viewing opportunities, etc., and when available, should be identified for acquisition. This can be designated as parkland or reserves and turned over to a local parks and recreation authority for management. Typically crown lands will also be of interest to other government departments and First Nations.

Land does not always need to be acquired outright to be used as parkland. When consistent with the objectives of this plan, covenants or rights-of-way can be negotiated with property owners. These protective measures are attached to the land title and legally protect public use of privately-owned land. This method is particularly effective to allow connection of trails to community parks and sites or associated trail networks.

Appendix B provides details on the methods available to acquire or manage parkland and trails.

10.1 Acquisition Planning

Proposals for new residential developments are referred to the Commission for comments well in advance of being considered by the Land Use Committee and CRD Board. Although at the subdivision planning stage the Local Government Act requires up to 5% dedication of land or cash-in-lieu, the Commission may accept more than 5% if offered in a proposal. The Commission requires sufficient time to review and assess the application to determine the lands which are most suitable for park purposes and meets the long-term interests of the community.

The Commission receives referrals of rezoning applications at the agency circulation stage. The Commission, in consultation with Local Area Planning, can work with an applicant or provide specific comments to the Land Use Committee to acquire parkland that would normally be dedicated at a later stage through the subdivision approval process, based on requirements established in this plan. As the body created by the CRD responsible for community parks, the Commission is a pivotal agency in the approval process. Its comments regarding the need for parks in the community are given serious consideration as part of the development approvals process.

10.2 Park Acquisition Policies

The following policies guide decisions with regard to community parks and trail acquisition:

- To ensure public access in perpetuity, acceptance of a lot of land in fee simple as an amenity at the time of subdivision, or the purchase of fee simple lands, are the preferred methods for acquiring new parks;
- Environmentally sensitive areas and sensitive ecosystems will be given priority for protection and will be considered appropriate only as natural parkland or green space when appropriate recreation opportunities may be permitted without damage to the area;
- Other than in Special Preservation type parks, emphasis will be given to acquiring lands that can afford a range of appropriate and unstructured physical activities and recreational experiences;
- Emphasis will be given to ensuring that every neighbourhood and community is served by appropriate public parkland;
- The ten-year focus of additional parks acquisitions will be in those areas that are experiencing the greatest growth, such as Otter Point, Shirley/Jordan River and Port Renfrew;
- A set of selection criteria will be used to assess potential or proposed park and trail sites for acquisition;
- Wherever possible, acquisition of parkland or green space will take into consideration opportunities to protect historical or archaeological features;

- Trails that can serve more than one user group or provide wildlife corridors will be given priority. The Commission will work together with the CRD, area residents, landowners, special-interest groups, resource companies, utility companies, land trusts and other agencies to ensure that the natural environment and public recreational opportunities are sustained.

10.3 Parks Identification and Selection Criteria

The suitability of any site for park purposes will be determined primarily by consistency with objectives of this plan, and a site analysis that may include additional factors, such as:

- changing population size and demographics of the community
- gaps in the existing types of parks or trails needed
- trails that connect existing parks, other trails, green spaces and public areas
- areas that allow families the ability to spend time together, pursuing a variety of activities such as hiking, swimming and picnicking in one location
- improvements required at the site
- maintenance and liability issues
- location, topography and features of the property
- sensitive ecosystems
- the presence of wildlife and important habitat
- the integrity of watershed areas
- accessibility and connectivity
- land ownership
- current and past land use
- surrounding land uses
- applicable OCP policies
- potable water protection

11.0 | PARK MANAGEMENT

11.1 | Site Planning

Appendix D provides maps of the community parks and existing and planned facilities. For most of the parks, this level of information is sufficient for management purposes. For some parks though, particularly those larger in size and affording opportunities for a wider range of uses and facilities, specific park site plans will be developed. These plans provide a process whereby competing uses can be considered so that uses, if deemed appropriate for a particular site, can be designed so that multiple use experiences can be optimized and limit potential conflicts. Site plans are also necessary to identify and avoid hazards, provide good access and parking, as well as identify the appropriate locations for support facilities and services.

Each site plan will have a particular interest to the community the park is located in, as well as local organizations. The decision on which types of uses are appropriate and compatible for a particular park will be based on the policies of this plan and public consultations undertaken.

A site plan will be developed and initiated in 2010 for William Simmons Memorial Park (Otter Point). Additional site plans will be developed as required.

11.2 | Development and Maintenance Program

Previous to, and since the establishment of the newly organized Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission (December 2004), the CRD has largely focused on the acquisition and consolidation of parklands and green spaces for protection and recreational purposes. Until 2009, the management and maintenance of community parks and trails had been largely limited to intensive recreation parks, with limited selected improvements and removal of hazards in the other parks. The development and/or maintenance of some parks and trails was also achieved through the use of volunteer maintenance or stewardship agreements, emphasizing the need for this type of support, as well as the strong commitment by communities to improving their parks and trails.

Although the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area (151,189 hectares) represents more than two-thirds of the CRD lands on southern Vancouver Island, its population of approximately 4,500 residents provides only a relatively small tax base to draw on for ongoing park and recreation requisition budgets. Even though the amount of parkland may continue to expand over time with new subdivision plans, the associated budgets and program support organization will remain small, necessitating focused annual work plans and prioritized projects, in addition to an ongoing reliance on volunteer agreements and organizations to assist in the development and maintenance needs of the program.

Community Parks and Trails Maintenance

In 2010, a small maintenance staff will be established to provide ongoing support for the development and maintenance of community parks and trails. The available budget will allow for staff to be available through the main operating season (May through September), and occasionally through the shoulder seasons. The maintenance staff will be responsible for maintenance, repair and replacement of playground/sports equipment, trails, signs, minor structures and facilities and removal of hazards and unauthorized structures. The development of new trails and major structures and facilities will largely be carried out under contract.

Work plans will be developed each year that will detail maintenance and project priorities and associated budgets. During the course of the Community Parks Strategic Plan, the objective will be the development and maintenance of the majority of the parks within its jurisdiction.



CHOCOLATE LILY © IMAGE COURTESY OF MARY SANSEVERINO

11.3 | Regulatory Framework

A range of provincial regulations may be utilized to ensure the protection needs of community park-land and safety of users, which can be enforced by the RCMP and CRD bylaw enforcement officers. Unlike the CRD Regional Parks though, Electoral Area community parks do not yet have a regulatory bylaw specific to the management and protection needs of community parks.

Strategic Direction:

- To develop and implement a regulatory bylaw for community parks as the primary enforcement tool for community parks management;
- Develop a regulatory sign strategy for visitor management and park protection needs.

11.4 | Safety and Liability

Liability concerns are an important consideration in decision-making for parks and open space management. Through careful risk identification, evaluation, reduction and communication practices, liability in parks and open space system can be controlled. In the course of protecting natural conditions and providing challenging recreational opportunities, not all risk can be eliminated. However, professional evaluation and effective management of an appropriate level of risk can improve public and environmental safety in providing recreation and greenspace value to the community.

Strategic Direction:

- Encourage a sense of personal responsibility on the part of all park users in the use and enjoyment of park and open space areas;
- In the design of park and trail infrastructure, encourage creative design and maintenance of improvements that reduce exposure to liability, enhance's the public's own perception and recognition of natural hazards, and that are sensitive to the natural character and quality of experiences being sought;
- Develop a routine for inspecting sites and associated equipment, facilities and structures, identifying management needs and prioritizing future actions based on a proper standard of care and maintenance;

- Monitor fire hazard in parks as part of an inspection routine, identifying problems and working to minimize fire risk;
- Work with landowners and the Ministry of Forests, Coastal Fire Centre to ensure that fire restrictions or closures are observed, and ensure that fire hazard resulting from public access to community parkland and open space land is communicated to the public;
- Active parkland (lands available for public use and recreation and managed accordingly) will be subject to management practices including maintaining improvements to park sites, tree and vegetation maintenance, vandalism repair, environmental and public safety inspections, natural damage repair and signage placement and maintenance.



SUNSET PADDLE © IMAGE COURTESY OF MINETTE LAYNE

12.0 | OTHER RELATED POLICY DIRECTION

12.1 | Riparian Protection

The Provincial Fish Protection Act requires local governments to protect riparian areas from development through the Riparian Areas Regulations (RAR). Its purpose is to protect the features, functions and conditions vital to the natural maintenance of stream health and productivity, riparian areas and water and prohibits development within 30 m (98 ft) of watercourses in specific regional districts. The CRD is one of the listed Regional Districts to which the RAR applies.

Through a RAR assessment by a qualified environmental professional (QEP), a stream protection and enhancement area (SPEA) of approximately 10 – 15 metre zone where there is no development or vegetation removal.

Other freshwater watercourses such as non fishbearing streams, and their related sensitive ecosystems are protected throughout the area by means of Development Permit Areas (DPA). Freshwater DPA areas include all lands within 30 m from the high water mark of all watercourses as defined by the Riparian Areas Regulation.

Strategic Direction:

- primary responsibility will be to support the ecological function of fish habitat;
- trail access will not occur within a SPEA;
- SPEA areas should be protected by covenant versus park dedication;
- trail access may occur within a RAR assessment area or DP area based on QEP assessment.

12.2 Facilities for Off-Road Vehicles

For purposes of this plan, off-road vehicles includes all motorized vehicles and mountain biking activities. The use of off-road vehicles on community trails and in community parks under the responsibility of this plan will be considered as inappropriate use. An objective of this plan is to ensure safe, non-conflicting uses of parks and trails, while limiting negative impacts on natural features, species and experiences of other appropriate user groups.

It is also recognized though that recreational areas for off-road vehicles are desired by various recreational groups, and should be accommodated within the JDFA through the establishment of Special Recreation Areas. The provision of such recreational areas is supported by the Commission, but beyond the scope of this plan. Off road vehicle recreation areas will need to be considered through other Local Planning Services OCPs and planning initiatives.

Strategic Direction:

- For purposes of this plan, use of community parks and trails for off-road vehicles is considered an inappropriate use;
- Because of the safety and liability risks associated with these types of recreational activities and associated facilities, areas for these should be managed through recognized organizations or societies that foster responsible use and are self-insured;
- Designated trails and backcountry corridors for off road vehicles should only be located on existing disturbed lands;
- As a recognized activity, the establishment of designated Special Recreation Areas within the rural resource lands, will be supported outside designated parklands;
- Responsible organizations are encouraged to provide proposals on recommended off-road vehicle sites as planning initiatives provide these opportunities;
- Off-road vehicle special recreation areas may occur on existing disturbed lands or designated trails and backcountry corridors, but must be managed through agreements with recognized organizations having appropriate insurance and liability coverage, and have the permission of the tenure holder of the area;

13.0 | COLLABORATION AND PARTNERING OPPORTUNITIES

13.1 | Volunteer Agreements

In addition to a CRD support maintenance and management organization, the success of the strategic plan towards achieving its objectives will also continue to rely on the support of individuals and organizations through volunteer work and agreements.

Volunteer groups can assist in the management of parks from participating in smaller tasks, such as garbage removal and trail clearance, through to full park development. If community involvement for support of parks takes place, all activities will be under the guidance of professional staff to ensure adequacy of maintenance, the integrity of signage, and for evidence of damage, encroachment and misuse.

The use of volunteers may be for short term initiatives (such as a park or trail cleanup), which only require a volunteer form, up to long term arrangements which are formalized through an agreement. The latter is necessary to ensure oversight, and may take the form of either a Stewardship Agreement (limited numbers of volunteers and resources) or Management Agreement (where volunteer organizations, under the direction of CRD staff, are self-sufficient financially and organizationally, and can assume a more direct role in the development, management and maintenance responsibilities of a park or trail). Typically such Agreements with the CRD must be through relevant registered societies. For individuals or volunteers working under a Stewardship Agreement, the CRD will provide liability insurance coverage and operational support as required.

13.2 | Working with Other Societies

The principal mandate of the JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission is to manage lands, foreshore accesses (under licences of occupation), easements and agreements under its jurisdiction. The success of providing broader recreational opportunities within the JdFEA is achieved through working with a

number of government and community-based groups and registered societies that have an interest in parks and recreation. Typically, these groups and societies provide information or services regarding community land use and recreation that complements the vision of this plan. They also may provide connectivity to community parks, trails and other similar networks within the electoral area through lands of their own, conservation covenants or stewardship agreements. Many have been consulted to develop the vision objectives for future potential parks and green spaces. Some of the societies, such as the Boy Scout and Girl Guide Groups, also operate significant recreation (i.e. camps) within the electoral area.

13.3 Collaboration with Other Parks Jurisdictions

Within and adjacent to the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, there are several other government jurisdictions responsible for parks and/or recreation programs (refer to Appendix C). These include:

- Incorporated municipalities such as the Districts of Sooke, Metchosin, Colwood and Langford;
- Neighbouring jurisdictions such as the Cowichan Valley Regional District;
- Regional Parks under the jurisdiction of CRD Parks;
- Provincial Parks under the jurisdiction of the province of BC; and
- National Parks under the jurisdiction of the Canadian Government.

Although the government park organizations in the JdFEA represent mandates from a community to a national level of interest, they each share common interests in providing protected parkland and a range of recreational activities. Two objectives of the Parks and Recreation Commission are to advocate and support whenever possible, the development of parks, trails and recreational opportunities within the JdFEA that complement the vision of this plan, and where possible, to provide opportunities to linking the network of lands set aside or protected for those purposes.

There are currently no community parklands within the Juan de Fuca Rural Resource Lands. Through the development of the Official Community Plan there will opportunities to fully engage regional parks in the identification of potential parkland as part of the regional parks strategic plan review. In addition to advocating for more public parks and recreational areas and opportunities for all user groups, the Commission has some key areas of interest, some of which include:

- Acquisition of a park corridor on each bank of the San Juan River from Port Renfrew to the source of the river, in order to support backcountry hiking, canoeing and camping. A protective corridor along the San Juan River is identified in the existing CRD Parks Master Plan;
- Support for the Kludahk Outdoor Club in its stewardship of the Kludahk trail. Acquisition of the trail corridor and assets should occur if the Kludahk Outdoor Club were to dissolve;

- Create a trail corridor by acquisition of public access from the Galloping Goose at Kapoor Provincial Park Reserve along the Leech River to Bear Creek and Diversion Dam, Wye Creek, Loss Creek to the Loss Creek Provincial Park and the JdF Marine Trail. This is one means towards satisfying the CRD Parks Master Plan regional objective of linking the Galloping Goose Regional trail to the JdF Marine Trail;
- Create a trail corridor by acquisition of public access in the Muir Creek area at Highway 14, along the watershed and to the summit of Mount Muir thence north to connect with the Loss Creek corridor described above at the Bear Creek reservoir;
- Creation of trails in the forest lands to provide access to Weeks Lake and connection to the Cowichan Valley trail systems;
- Creation of trails to popular fishing lakes;
- Support for the connectivity of the Trans Canada Trail.



RED BREASTED NUTHATCH © IMAGE COURTESY OF MINETTE LAYNE

14.0 | COMMUNICATIONS

Throughout the preparation of the Community Parks Strategic Plan, consultations were carried out with CRD, JdFEA and Regional Parks, and BC Parks. It is in accordance with the CRD Long Range Plan and the CRD Regional Growth Strategy. It has been developed in light of substantial public consultation in each of the sub-regions, particularly with the various interest and advocacy groups and societies. Further, it has been developed in conjunction with the CRD Health and Transportation Study and in consultation with community groups such as the Otter Point and Shirley Residents and Rate Payers Association (OPSRRA).

14.1 | Internal Communications

Communication should occur with all stakeholders including neighbouring municipalities and Regional Districts. This parks plan provides the basis of this communication with respect to parks, green space, trails and public access.

The community park inventory included as **Appendix C**, as well as the vision and objectives set out in this plan, is available to members of the Juan de Fuca Advisory Planning Committee (APC) and Local Planning Services, in order to better coordinate and communicate the Commissions strategies for future parkland opportunities and acquisitions. All subdivision plans are forwarded to the Commission for recommendations and coordination through CRD planning and parks and recreation staff. In most instances, the Commission will require presentations from planning and the subdivision proponent. Information on the type of development proposal, topography, drainage, vegetation, or associated environmental or cultural issue are provided so that options for dedication of appropriate community parkland, trails or cash in lieu can be assessed and determined. Similarly, the Commission reviews each application with consideration of the relevant OCP, Land Use Bylaw and the Community Parks Strategic Plan. Should questions arise concerning specific applications, they may be put to the APC or Local Area Planning at the earliest possible time, in order to reduce the time required for considering an application.

Commission members are responsible for familiarizing themselves with the Local Government Act, OCP, zoning requirements, severance and subdivision processes in order to be able to understand

the implications of their decisions and to achieve what is best in providing parks in the long term. Familiarity with not only the process involved but also the electoral area landscape and on-the-ground details of each site proposal needs to be part of the communication and decision-making process. Through it's familiarity with these documents and processes, the Commission will be able to plan and direct the creation of a community parks system. In addition, existing lands dedicated for parks will be addressed in a coordinated fashion.

All parks acquisition recommendation decisions are made by open vote at Parks Commission meetings, which are advertised and open to the public. In many cases development planning is subject to a presentation. Advance notice is required in order to address the Commission.

14.2 | Public Consultations and Information

The Commission is comprised of designated representatives from each of the JdFEA communities, as well as a staff member responsible for managing the community parks and recreation programs. As such, members of these communities have points of contact to acquire information, make recommendations, or be consulted on the plans and initiatives carried out by the Commission.

The Community Parks Strategic Plan will undergo review and updating every five years. Community consultations and input will be integral to each review process. In addition, more detailed site plans for specific parks may be required from time to time, and will likewise undergo a community consultation process before being finalized.

It is similarly important that the Commission be able to communicate to the public at large, its role and responsibilities, commission meeting minutes, as well as utilizing a suite of personal and non-personal media to inform the public on its network of parks, trails and foreshore accesses. Such communication methods will include regular updating and refreshing of the CRD Juan de Fuca Electoral Area website, preparation of information brochures and site specific interpretive or information signs. As communities also want to be closely identified with their local parks and trails, these should be easily recognizable through the application of a uniform and distinct sign program.

15.0 | KEY ACTIONS 2010-20

Much of the focus of the CRD and Parks & Recreation Commission over the years has been on the acquisition of parkland or land acquisition funding through subdivision plans and amenities. This will continue as opportunities arise, but there is also the need to enhance the development of the community parks and trails for public access and use.

Appendix D provides individual site maps of the JdFEA Community Parks, and associated levels of development. Over the next ten years (2010-20), the Parks and Recreation Commission will focus on the following key management objectives:

1. Establish in 2010, a JdFEA Parks and Recreation operational and management organization to deliver on the community park plan objectives and day-to-day operational needs;
2. On a park by park basis in the first five years of the plan (2010-15), implement development strategies for access and use for the following priority parks:
 - Fish Boat Bay (Shirley/Jordan River)
 - Otter Point (Shirley/Jordan River) and Otter Point Access parking
 - William Simmons Memorial (Otter Point)
 - Carpenter Road (Otter Point)
 - Seagirt Ponds (East Sooke)
3. For the remaining five years of the plan (2015-20), actions will include:
 - Development of parking and access trails to connect the adjoining parks of Elrose, Elrose II, Brotherstone, Corby and Otter Point Access;
 - Development of access trails and support facilities for other parks;
 - Improved parking where opportunities exist;
 - Additional trail or facility improvements to developed parks.
4. Sign and/or develop the following MoTI foreshore accesses:
 - Tsonoqua (Port Renfrew)
 - Fish Boat Bay (in association with Fish Boat Bay park)
 - Poirier Lake (William Simmons Memorial Park)

5. Develop specific site plans for those parks that afford opportunities for multiple use activities, commencing with William Simmons Memorial Park in 2010;
6. Develop and implement a corporate identity strategy (signs and information) for JdFEA community parks and trails that is consistent with CRD regional formats;
7. Negotiate Stewardship Agreements for Eaglecrest Park, Seagirt Ponds Park and other parks and trails as opportunities arise;
8. Identify and mitigate risks and hazards related to structures, playgrounds, recreation equipment and park/trail use;
9. In collaboration with planning services, coordinate JdFEA Parks and Recreation Commission opportunities for creation of trail and parkland through subdivision plan dedications and amenities (Local Government Act, s941);
10. In collaboration with CRD Corporate, develop a Community Parks Regulations By-law (spring 2010) applicable to all CRD Electoral Areas;
11. Respond to day-to-day operational and management needs, issues and complaints;
12. Ensure sustainable parks and recreation programs and budgets within current Reserve Funding limits;
13. Refresh as required the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area website and develop communications methods to provide public information on the parks and recreational opportunities under the jurisdiction of the Parks and Recreation Commission.



ANENOME © IMAGE COURTESY OF MINETTE LAYNE

16.0 | PLAN INTEGRATION WITH OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLANS

There are six adopted Official Community Plans within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area and one for the Rural Resource Lands is in preparation. The Shirley/Jordan River, East Sooke, and Otter Point Official Community Plans all reference the Juan de Fuca Parks Plan in Section 4.6 Parkland and School Site Dedication Policies, item 4.6.1 Parkland, as follows:

“3] For information relative to the acquisition, development, operation, preservation and maintenance of parks in the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, applicants shall refer to the parks Appendix of this Official Community Plan, the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan.”

The Malahat Official Community Plan, the Port Renfrew Comprehensive Community Development Plan, and the Willis Point Comprehensive Community Plan do not reference the Parks Plan. All of these existing plans are to be updated and if required specific park policies will be incorporated at that time. The proposed Rural Resource Lands Official Community Plan includes park policies.



FISHBOAT BAY © IMAGE COURTESY OF MALEEA ACKER

APPENDICES

Appendix A | Political Structure

Political Structure

The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area encompasses unincorporated areas of the Capital Regional District on Vancouver Island. The electoral area is represented on the CRD Board by one elected Regional Director. In CRD-wide issues the whole Regional Board votes whereas on JdFEA issues depending upon the location sub sections of the Board vote, in addition to the Regional Director. The Regional Director is advised by standing commissions and committees composed of JdFEA residents. Some key committees are:

Land Use Committee (LUC): The LUC consists of the Electoral Director and representatives from each of the sub-regions - East Sooke, Otter Point, Willis Point, Shirley/Jordan River, Malahat and Port Renfrew. The LUC recommends land use actions to the CRD board for approval. The LUC can conduct both public and in camera meetings.

Advisory Planning Commissions (APC): There is an APC for each of the sub-regions, except for the Rural Resource Lands. Members are nominated through local elections and appointed by the Board. The APC meets whenever a land use issue is referred to them by the LUC. The APC can also meet at the request of the chair. All APC meetings are public meetings. The APC makes land use recommendations to the LUC.

Economic Development Commission (EDC): The EDC consists of members appointed to represent each of the sub-regions. The focus of the EDC is on maintaining and improving the economic resources and developments in the area.

Agricultural Advisory Planning Commission (AAPC): The AAPC consists of appointed representatives from each sub-region. The AAPC may make recommendations to the Land Use Committee or the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Director on agricultural issues relating to land use planning matters referred to them.

Parks and Recreation Commission (PRC): The PRC consists of appointed representatives from all sub-regions. The Regional Board has delegated to the PRC administrative powers with respect to the development, maintenance and operation of all community parks and the organization and conduct of recreational programs within the Service Area. The PRC maintains a community parks plan and recommends to the Regional Board the acquisition or disposition of all additional lands for parks purposes that are of community interest.

Optional Special Advisory Planning Committees: The Regional Director **may** appoint members to a special Advisory Planning Committee to consider items such as, but not limited to, zoning regulations and formulation of Official Community Plans. Such committees conduct public meetings on their specific mandate.

Sooke & Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission (SEAPARC): They are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Recreation and Leisure Complex and related sports facilities at Sooke. As residents of the JdFEA support these services, through recreation program tax requisitions, the JdFEA Regional Director sits on this Commission.

Appendix B | Parks Acquisition

This section discusses the means through which parkland may be acquired.

Acquisition Methods

The CRD board makes all parks acquisition decisions and holds title to all lands acquired. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission has the responsibility of identifying and recommending acquisitions to the Regional Board through the Land Use Committee. The Commission may consider a range of park acquisition methods, beginning with purchasing property for freehold (fee simple), and including leasehold, licenses, easements, rights-of-way and other agreements. Purchase is the preferred method, to ensure public access in perpetuity. Where purchase is not possible or practical, other forms of land dedication may serve. Methods of acquiring parkland and trails are outlined below.

Purchase

The Commission may recommend purchase of land that has been identified for acquisition or that meets the criteria for parks acquisition. Funds are obtained through cash-in-lieu.

Amenity

The Commission may recommend acceptance of a lot of land in fee simple as an amenity and acceptance of a cash amenity to be applied to the purchase of land. In instances of a rezoning application, there is the potential to negotiate for amenities such as maintenance or enhancement of parks, if the applicant is willing to do so.

Dedication at the Time of Subdivision

Provincial statutes (Section 941 of the Local Government Act) allow a Local Approving Officer to require up to 5% of land to be dedicated as public open space at the time of subdivision. The land is dedicated to the Crown and turned over to the local government “with right of possession and control” to manage on behalf of local citizens. Dedication at the time of subdivision may take the form of land dedication, cash in lieu, or a combination of both. However, this statute is limited to relatively small lots of 2 hectares or less and applies to subdivisions of three lots or more. Consequently, this method of park acquisition may not be available in the resource lands or in areas zoned for large lots.

Decisions on the area and location of the land are at the discretion of the Commission, which in consultation with Local Area Planning, works with the landowner to achieve the amount it deems necessary

within the 5% maximum. The 5% dedication is based on the gross area of the site to be developed, i.e. the total amount of land prior to dedications for other purposes such as roads, utility rights-of-way, setbacks, etc. Lands acquired through dedication should have recreational value with potential as parkland or trail. It should be capable of development for recreation, e.g. marshland or rock face, however it does not need to include prime building sites. The Commission should only accept lands that meet the goals and objectives of the plan. Sensitive ecosystem lands, not suitable for recreation, should be preserved through covenant or other means, versus being dedicated as parkland.

In the event of dedication, the Commission has the authority to consult with property owners for suitable parcels to ensure the area of land acquired is adequate and satisfies the OCP and Parks Plan policies for appropriate park requirements. As the 5% dedication is required, there should be flexibility shown by both parties.

Exclusions to the 5% dedication are when there are fewer than three additional lots being created or when the subdivision lot size is greater than 2 hectares (5 acres) or where an existing number of lots are brought together (consolidated) into a fewer number of lots. The rationale for the inclusion of these provisions in the Act is that park standards applicable in more densely developed areas do not apply in rural areas, where there are large lots.

The Local Approving Officer may also request dedication of watercourses and setbacks from them in addition to the 5%.

The process of land dedication has two basic problems associated with it.

1. Connecting need for open space to percentage of land being brought into use ignores what is happening in the remainder of the subdivision. For example, if 95% of a subdivision is being used for high-density residential development, the remaining 5% is probably insufficient to meet the need for open space. If, however, 95% of a subdivision is being used for low-density residential development (e.g. very large private lots or acreages) then the remaining 5% is probably more than adequate to meet the needs of the subdivision.
2. Another problem with using percentage of land dedicated at time of subdivision is that when land holdings are small, subdivisions are small, and the 5% dedication of each subdivision results in numerous very small parks but no large neighbourhood parks. Such small parks or “tot lots” are too small to serve more than one limited age group and are expensive to maintain on a per acre basis.

One way of maximizing the potential of land dedication is to preplan large developments and create agreements about optimal configuration of the dedicated parcels rather than dealing with small amounts of dedication as each phase of a large project is completed.

Another way of responding to the problem of inappropriately small parks or trails being dedicated in small subdivisions is to request cash-in-lieu of the land and then using the money to finance more appropriately configured public open space elsewhere. The benefit of accepting such “cash-in-lieu” may be offset by the potential for the cash not to equal the post-subdivision value of the parkland which might otherwise be dedicated. Another problem in a period of land price inflation is the time lag between receipt of the cash and its use to acquire other property, resulting in a reduction of the purchasing power of the cash-in-lieu.

Cash in Lieu

The Commission may recommend to the LUC to accept cash in lieu for some or all of the required 5% land dedication.

Calculation of the 5% cash in lieu amount is based on the average market value of all land in the subdivision, as that value would be on the date of application for the subdivision. The value of the land means land without improvements and should not include surveying, servicing, financing or other costs. The value of the land can be determined through independent appraisal, market value of the land on the assessment roll or reassessment by the assessment authority. Further, the value of the land should be based on the zoning required for a subdivision being in place. The date of application is interpreted to mean the date of the initial tendering of a proposed subdivision for preliminary layout approval.

Funds from cash in lieu dedications must be deposited in a specific reserve account and used according to the requirements of the Local Government Act and appropriate bylaws.

Donation

The Commission may recommend acceptance of a donation or bequest of land. The donation usually includes covenants or terms describing the allowed use of the land and usually benefits the public through allowing access. A donation could also be fee simple with conditions of non-sale.

Transfer from Federal and Provincial Governments

The Commission may recommend acceptance of grants or transfer of Crown land for the purpose of parks and green space.

Leases

The Commission may recommend acquisition of park and recreational assets through land leases or licenses.

Statutory Rights-of-Way

The Commission may negotiate a statutory right-of-way to obtain public access to portions of lands

that are not available for purchase. These agreements are registered on the title to the property and may include restrictive covenants as to use of the right-of-way.

Also, the Commission may apply to the MOT for a license to occupy “gazetted” roads and access rights-of-way. This provision is typically used for foreshore access and for the implementation of trails pending implementation of the right-of-way as a road.

Restrictive Covenants and Easements

The Commission, in consultation with Local Area Planning, may negotiate a restrictive covenant and easement for purpose of public access. This may be particularly important in the case of a riparian area in private land.

Transfer to Senior Levels of Park Authority

The Commission may recommend assignment or transfer of parklands to a senior government authority (e.g. Regional or Provincial Parks) whereby the community still derives the benefit of having a park.

Appendix C | Juan de Fuca Parks & Recreation Areas

Introduction

Each of the communities within the JdFEA contains a number of designated green and recreation spaces. These include areas that are protected as parks, including community, regional, provincial and federal parks. There are also other recreational assets that have a lesser or no degree of protection. These include forestry recreation sites, other recreation and tourist sites, historical and archaeological sites and certain trails.

A1 | Community Parks

The Community parks have been divided into four management zones, ranging from Special Preservation (high protection, limited development), Nature (limited multiple use) and Natural Area Recreation (natural areas with multiple uses), to Intensive Recreation sites (such as playgrounds and athletic parks). Trails vary, from short isolated trails connecting two points in the neighbourhood, to networks of community trails and regional trails. Beach accesses, including opened and unopened road rights-of-way, are an important means of providing public access from roads to waterfront and related recreational opportunities.

Refer to Appendix D for specific park site maps and locations.

Table 3. Community Parks

Community	Area (ha.)	Management Zone Category
Port Renfrew		
The Park	0.21	Intensive Recreation - playground
Shirley/Jordan River		
Fishboat Bay Park	3.13	Undeveloped Nature Park; beach access. Incorporates former Merrill Ring Property A
Kaulitz Park	0.68	Undeveloped Nature Park
Priest Cabin Park	6.88	Undeveloped Nature Park, viewpoint. Formerly Merrill Ring Property B
Sheringham Point	0.50	Nature Park (trail)
The Shores	5.81	Nature Park (trail) along First Creek to waterfront. Trail currently closed (land slides)
Otter Point		
Amanda Place Park	0.51	Undeveloped Nature Park
Brotherstone Park	1.02	Undeveloped Nature Park
Carpenter Road Park	0.97	Undeveloped Nature Park
Corby Park	1.68	Undeveloped Nature Park
Eaglecrest Park	1.42	Undeveloped Natural Area Recreation Park; potential equestrian trail
Elrose Park	0.82	Developed Intensive Recreation Park (minor athletic park)
Elrose Park II	0.51	Undeveloped Nature Park
Otter Point Park	1.83	Undeveloped Nature Park
Otter Point Access Park	0.19	Potential for access and parking from Otter Ridge Dr. to West Coast Rd. and Otter Point Park
William Simmons Memorial Park	6.59	Undeveloped Natural Area Recreation Park at Poirier Lake
Demamiel Park	3.11	Special Preservation Park (potential Salmon Enhancement Program)
East Sooke		
Copper Mine Park	1.25	Intensive Recreation Park (minor athletic/ playground park)
Seagirt Ponds Park	7.24	Nature Park
Park Heights Park	1.2	Undeveloped Nature Park

Table 3. Community Parks

Community	Area (ha.)	Management Zone Category
Malahat		
Aspen Road Park	1.02	Undeveloped Nature Park
Wrigglesworth Lake	15.53	Undeveloped Nature Park. Reserve (closed) status pending development
Willis Point		
No parks		

A2 | Foreshore/Road Accesses

Foreshore/road accesses are designated and owned by the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The main ones are documented in: I. Bourhill, *CRD Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Foreshore Access Report-2003*, CRD Planning Services document dated January 2003. All foreshore/road accesses are public accesses. The Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks and Recreation Commission will acquire licences of occupation and permits for selected foreshore accesses it wishes to develop.

Table 4. Foreshore Accesses

Community	Description/Location
Port Renfrew	
Cerantes Road	Viewpoint near Cerantes Rd.
Cerantes Road	6491 Cerantes Rd.
Godman Road	Viewpoint 6552 Godman Rd.
Island Road	Near bridge
Pachena Road	Canoe launch near 7350
Tsonoqua Drive	Beach access across from The Park. Recommended for Management by Commission
Questo Drive	Viewpoint off Clo-Oose place
Shirley/Jordan River	
Fishboat Bay Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way. Recommended for Management by Commission
Flea Beach Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Seaside Drive to the Strait
Jordan River Town-site	Approximately 300 metres of road right-of-way along West Coast Road and adjacent to the foreshore. This right-of-way is impractical for development or use
Marion Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait
Packham Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait
Poseidon Place	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Fishboat Road to the Strait
Pork Chop Hill Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Sunnybrae Road to the Strait
Salmon Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to Orveas Bay. This access is impractical for development or use
Seaside Drive #1	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Seaside Drive to the Strait
Seaside Drive #2	Undeveloped road right-of-way from the eastern end of Seaside Drive to the Strait
The Shores	Trail from Hwy 14 along First Creek to beach adjacent to China Beach

Table 4. Foreshore Accesses

Community	Description/Location
Otter Point	
Blackfish Road	Undeveloped right-of-way extending from southwest end of Blackfish Road to Orveas Bay. Splendid lookout. Access to ocean impractical
Blue Jay Way	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait. This is a steep slope requiring a staircase
Breakers Place	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road at an intersection of Otter Point Road to the shores of Orveas Bay. This was moved by deed prior to 1990. Has a potential park adjacent, needs research to develop further
Carpenter Road	Undeveloped L-shaped portion of Carpenter Road extending south from West Coast Road to Sooke Bay. Potentially a valuable and extensive access. Needs to be surveyed and developed
Chisholm Road	Eastern boundary of Otter Point Park. Excellent addition to Otter Point Park, may be suitable for providing parking
Fillippo Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait
Ford Lane	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait. This is a steep slope access requiring a staircase
Orveas Bay Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from West Coast Road to an area of Orveas Bay known as "Gordon's Beach". This is quite useable with no development required
Poirier Lake	Road access to Poirier Lake adjacent to William Simmons Park. Recommended for management by Commission
Razzo Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from West Coast Road to Orveas Bay. Used by wind surfers. No development required
Romeo Lane	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait
Shoemaker Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait
Surf Lane	Undeveloped road right-of-way from West Coast Road to Orveas Bay
West Coast Road #1	Small undeveloped and unnamed road right-of-way from West Coast Road to the Strait. Potential trail. There is no parking or connection to other trails. Low priority
West Coast Road at King Creek	A 120-metre stretch along West Coast Road running adjacent to the Strait and located at the mouth of King Creek. Provides an attractive beach area and possible connection to King Creek trails
West Coast Road #2	Undeveloped and unnamed road right-of-way extending southeast from West Coast Road to the Strait. This access is impractical for development or use

Table 4. Foreshore Accesses

Community	Description/Location
East Sooke	
Anderson Cove Access at East Sooke Regional Park	Three access points developed by CRD Parks and consisting of a picnic area, a flat area on the shoulder of the road with a nature trail to the beach, and a short access lane used for launching small boats
Basso Road North	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Tideview Road to Sooke Harbour
Basso Road South	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Tideview Road to Sooke Harbour
Berkeley Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from East Sooke Road to Sooke Harbour
Bishop Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Seagirt Road to Sooke Basin
Bracken Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Seagift Road to Sooke Basin
Cockle Lane	Partially-developed road right-of-way extending northeast from Woodcock Road to Sooke Basin
Cornelius Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from East Sooke Road to Sooke Basin
Covina Drive	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Anderson Cove to the southern shores of the Sooke Basin
Discovery Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from East Sooke Road to Anderson Cove
Eaglewood Place	Undeveloped road right-of-way extending southeast from Anderson Cove Road to the northern reaches of Anderson Cove
East Sooke Road	At the estuary of Barnes Creek
Edith Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from East Sooke Road to Sooke Inlet
Eliza Point Road	Paved section of Eliza Point Road located off East Sooke Road
Ensign Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from East Sooke Road to Sooke Harbour
Fife Lane	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Beecher Bay Road to Beecher Bay
Gillespie at Roche Cove	Three or four parking spaces at the northern end of the bridge across from Roche Cove
Inch Arran Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Gillespie Road to the Sooke Basin
Klatza Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way extending from East Sooke Road and encompassing Shingle Spit
Large Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Tideview Road to Sooke Harbour

Table 4. Foreshore Accesses

Community	Description/Location
East Sooke	
Lascalla Place	Undeveloped road right-of-way from Pim Head Road to the south side of the Sooke Basin
Midden Road	Undeveloped road right-of-way extending southwest from Gillespie Road
Norwach Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Pim Head Road to the southern shores of the Sooke Basin
Roclair Place	Decommissioned road right-of-way extending northeast from Pim Head Road towards the Sooke Basin
Seagirt Road	Partially-developed road right-of-way from the western end of Seagirt Road to Sooke Basin
Thornett Place	Partially-developed road right-of-way from Thornett Place to Sooke Harbour
Malahat	
None identified	
Willis Point	
Quiet Lane	Cleared and in daily use as a boat ramp and by divers
Thunderbird Place - Tip of Willis Point	Links up well with 60-foot strip along the shore. Suitable for stairs
Mark Lane	6678 Mark Lane. Undeveloped foreshore access
Mark Lane	6678-6800 Mark Lane. Undeveloped foreshore access
Mark Lane	6900-6930 Mark Lane. Undeveloped foreshore access
Mark Lane	7048-7066 Mark Lane. Undeveloped foreshore access
Mark Lane	7624 Mark Lane. Undeveloped foreshore access (Morning Dew)

A3 | Parks under Other Jurisdictions

A considerable amount of parkland in southern Vancouver Island is owned and maintained by the regional, provincial and federal levels of government. While some of these parks are not located in the JdFEA area, they are accessible to residents living in proximity to these remarkable amenities. These parks are described briefly below .

There are also community parks located in the JdFEA, but under the jurisdiction of Community Associations. Municipal parks under the jurisdiction of neighbouring municipalities are not included in this listing.

Table 5. Neighborhood Parks not under the JdFEA Parks & Recreation Jurisdiction

Park	Area (ha.)	General Location/Description Management Focus
Shirley Pioneer Park	0.45	Established passive park, under the jurisdiction of Shirley Community Association

Table 6. Regional Parks and Trails

Park	Area (ha.)	General Location/Description Management Focus
Kapoor		South of Sooke Lake, Park Reserve
Sea to Sea Green Blue Belt	2,299	Malahat area, Park Reserve
Trans Canada Trail		Malahat area
Sooke Wilderness	4,108	Malahat area, Park Reserve, wilderness area
East Sooke	1,423	East Sooke, wilderness area
Ayum Creek	5	Sooke Basin, conservation area
Roche Cove	160	East Sooke, conservation area
Matheson Lake	162	East Sooke, conservation area
Mount Work	612	Willis Point area, natural area
Galloping Goose Trail	153	Regional Trail
Sooke Potholes Regional Park	58	Sooke District, Natural Park, Recreation. Camping available in TLC administered portion
Jordan River to Sandcut		300 ft. water preserve

Table 7. Federal and Provincial Parks

Park	General Location/Designation
Pacific Rim	Port Renfrew, National Park Reserve
Port Renfrew Beach	National Park, beach access
San Juan River Estuary Ecological Reserve	Port Renfrew area, Provincial Ecological Reserve
Botanical Beach	Provincial Park
Juan de Fuca	Strait of Juan de Fuca, Provincial Park
Parkinson Creek	Provincial Park
Loss Creek	Provincial Park
San Juan Ecological Reserve	Provincial Ecological Reserve
China Beach	Provincial Park
Sooke Potholes	Provincial Park
French Beach	Shirley/Jordan River area, Provincial Park
Sooke Mountain	Provincial Park
Gowlland Tod	Willis Point area, Provincial Park
Oak Bay Islands	East of District of Oak Bay, Provincial Ecological Reserve
Discovery Island	Adjacent to Oak Bay Islands, Provincial Marine Park

A4 | Trails

The following list are existing trails within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area, but outside of the Parks & Recreation jurisdiction. It is important to note that trails that are not part of a community, regional, provincial or national park are not protected. Several trails exist on private lands and do not have formal status, although they may have potential to be formalized.

Table 8. Existing Trails

Trails	General Location/Designation
West Coast Trail	Eastern end of this Parks Canada Trail is in the Port Renfrew area of the Pacific Rim National Park Reserve
Galloping Goose Regional Trail	Victoria to Leechtown
Kludahk Trail	Starts in Juan de Fuca Provincial Park, heads north, then eastward along San Juan Ridge (Kludahk Outdoor Club, Ministry of Forests, Western Forest Products, TimberWest Ltd.)
Juan de Fuca Marine Trail	Along the coast in Juan de Fuca Provincial Park
Deacon Beauchene Trail	Port Renfrew area
Sandbar Trail	Port Renfrew Area
1st and 2nd Creek Trail	Port Renfrew Area
Falls Creek Trail	Port Renfrew Area
Stan Harrison Plankboard Trail	Port Renfrew Area, Mosquito Creek Mainline
Fairy Lake Nature Trail	Vicinity of Fairy Lake Recreation Site, off Harris Creek Main Line
Riverbank Trail	Off Red Creek Main Line
Lens Creek Trail	Off Harris Creek Main Line
De Mamiel Creek Watershed	Extensive trail networks exist through Camp Barnard to Mount Bluff, Trap Mountain and along the De Mamiel Creek watershed. These trails are used by hikers, horse-riders, mountain-bikers, dirt-bikers, ATVs, 4x4 trucks, salal harvesters and hunters
Kemp Lake	Trails are established around Kemp Lake and from Kemp Lake into the Broom Hill Crown Lands. There are also trails in the King Creek Crown Lands across from Kemp Lake Road. These trails are used by hikers and horse-riders
Sandcut Creek	Trails exist from West Coast Road to Sandcut Beach and Fossil Bay. These are used for family outings and hiking

Table 8. Existing Trails

Trails	General Location/Designation
East Jordan Main	Mountain Bike Trails
Muir Creek	Trails exist along Muir Creek. These progress through spectacular old growth forest and provide access to Mount Muir and north to Bear Creek
Matterhorn Trails	There is a popular hiking trail from French Beach to a scenic promontory known as the Matterhorn
Jordan Meadows	There are extensive trails in the Jordan Meadows. These are used by hikers, bikers and motorized off road vehicles, swimmers and campers

A5 | BC Forestry Recreation Sites

The BC Forest Service arm of the provincial Ministry of Forests maintains and operates a number of recreation sites on provincial Crown land. These campsites are located within the Juan de Fuca Electoral Area. These are:

Table 9. BC Forestry Recreation Sites

Site	General Location
Fairy Lake Forestry Recreation Site	Port Renfrew Area
Lizard Lake Forestry Recreation Site	On tributary of the San Juan River, on the Pacific Marine Route
San Juan River (bridge) Forestry Recreation Site	On San Juan River
Wye Lake	Wye Lake is used as a campsite
Weeks Lake	Weeks Lake is used as a campsite
De Mamiel Creek reservoir	The De Mamiel Creek Reservoir is used as a campsite

A6 | Other Recreation and Tourist Sites

There are a number of privately owned campgrounds, unofficial campsites and popular destinations for both local residents and visitors to the region. These include the following:

Table 10. Other Recreation and Tourist Sites

Site	General Location
Bear Creek	East end of Bear Creek Reservoir
Bear Creek Reservoir	East of Diversion Reservoir
Diversion Dam	At Diversion Reservoir at the head of Jordan River
Forsland Lake	Southeast of Bear Creek Reservoir
Elliot Reservoir	On River Jordan at the old generating site
Gordon River	Port Renfrew area, north end of Port San Juan
Grass Lake	North of District of Sooke boundary
Harris Creek	On San Juan River (Port Renfrew)
Jordan River	Northern boundary of Shirley/Jordan River area
Loss Creek	On Loss Creek at Strait of Juan de Fuca
Muir Creek	Otter Point area
Pixie Lake	On tributary of the San Juan River
San Juan River	Flows westward into Port San Juan
Sheilds Lake	North of District of Sooke boundary
Weeks Lake	
Western Forest Products Campsite*	Mouth of the Jordan River

*Sites shown on SEAPARC maps

A7 | Historic and Archaeological Sites

A number of historic and archaeological features have been recorded by the Heritage Branch of the provincial Ministry of Tourism, Sport and the Arts. Because of their fragility and sensitivity, the location and specifics of archaeological sites and many historical sites are kept in confidence by the Ministry to be used for official purposes only.

The Sooke Region Museum is a comprehensive source of information on historical sites such as the Otter Point School on Otter Point Road.

Appendix D | Community Park Maps and Existing/Planned Facilities

1. The Park in Port Renfrew	76
2. The Shores Park (Trail)	77
3. Fishboat Bay Park	78
4. Priest Cabin Park	79
5. Kaulitz Park	80
6. Sherringham Point Park (Trail)	81
7. Group Parks - Otter Point Access, Elrose, Elrose II, Corby & Brotherstone	82
8. Otter Point Park	83
9. Amanda Place Park	84
10. Eaglecrest Park	85
11. Carpenter Road Park	86
12. William Simmons Memorial Park	87
13. DeMamiel Park	88
14. Wrigglesworth Park	89
15. Aspen Road Park	90
16. Seagirt Ponds	91
17. Copper Mine Park	92
18. Park Heights Park	93

DL 751 Plan



Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan

The Park in Port Renfrew

Bench

Trailhead

Trails

River/Stream

Juan de Fuca Community Park

Park in Juan de Fuca Electoral Area

Lot Boundaries

First Nation Reserve

Lake

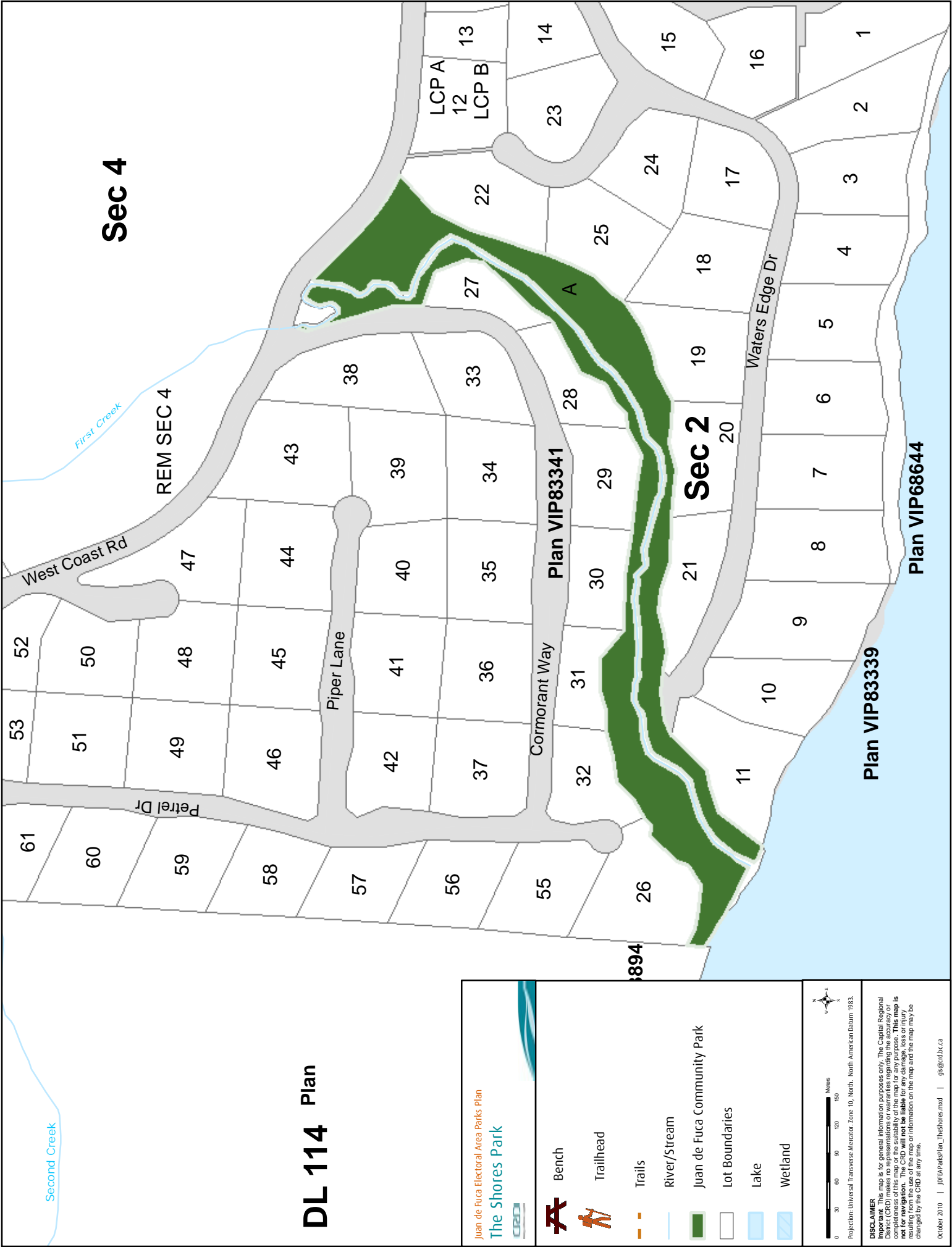
Wetland

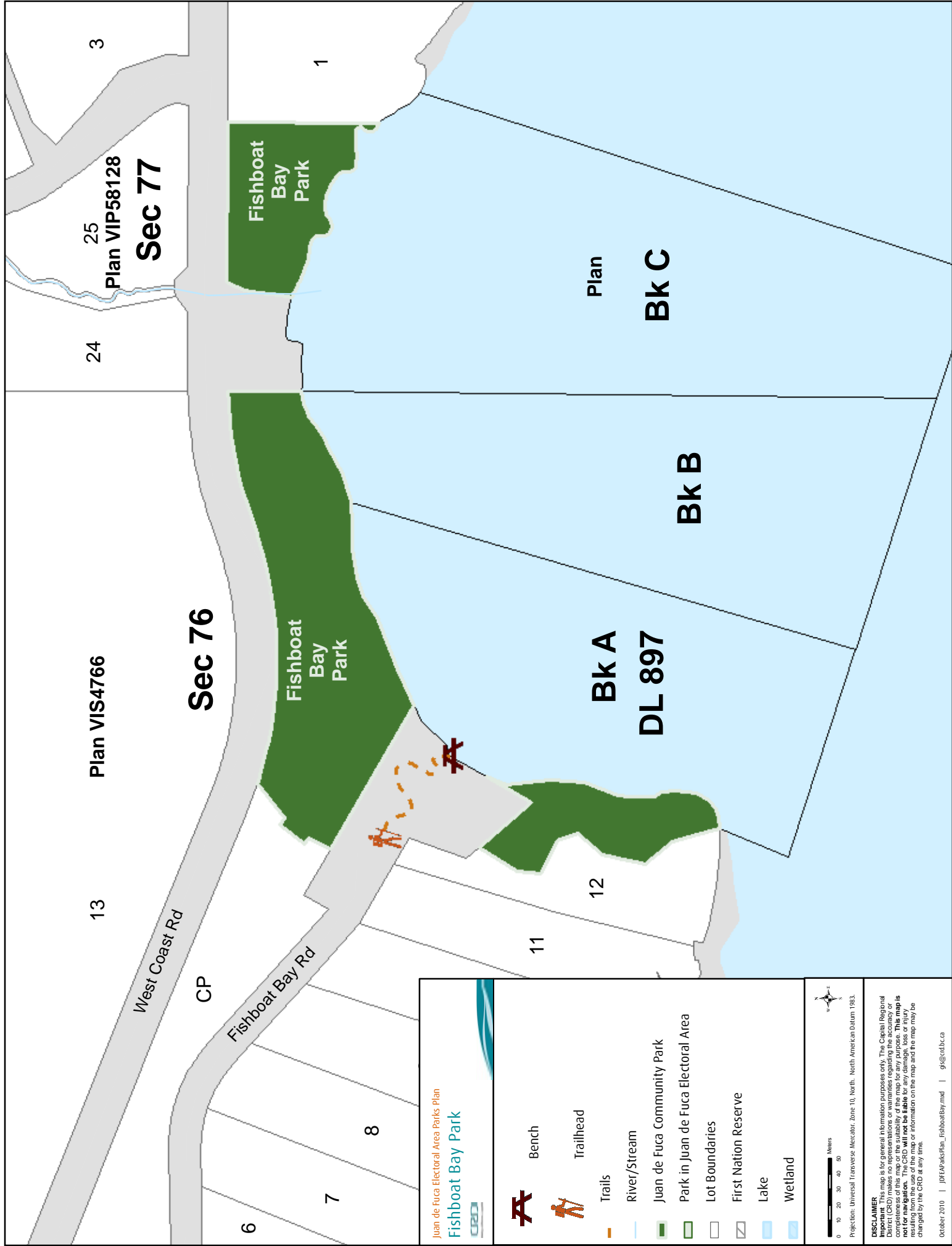
0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters

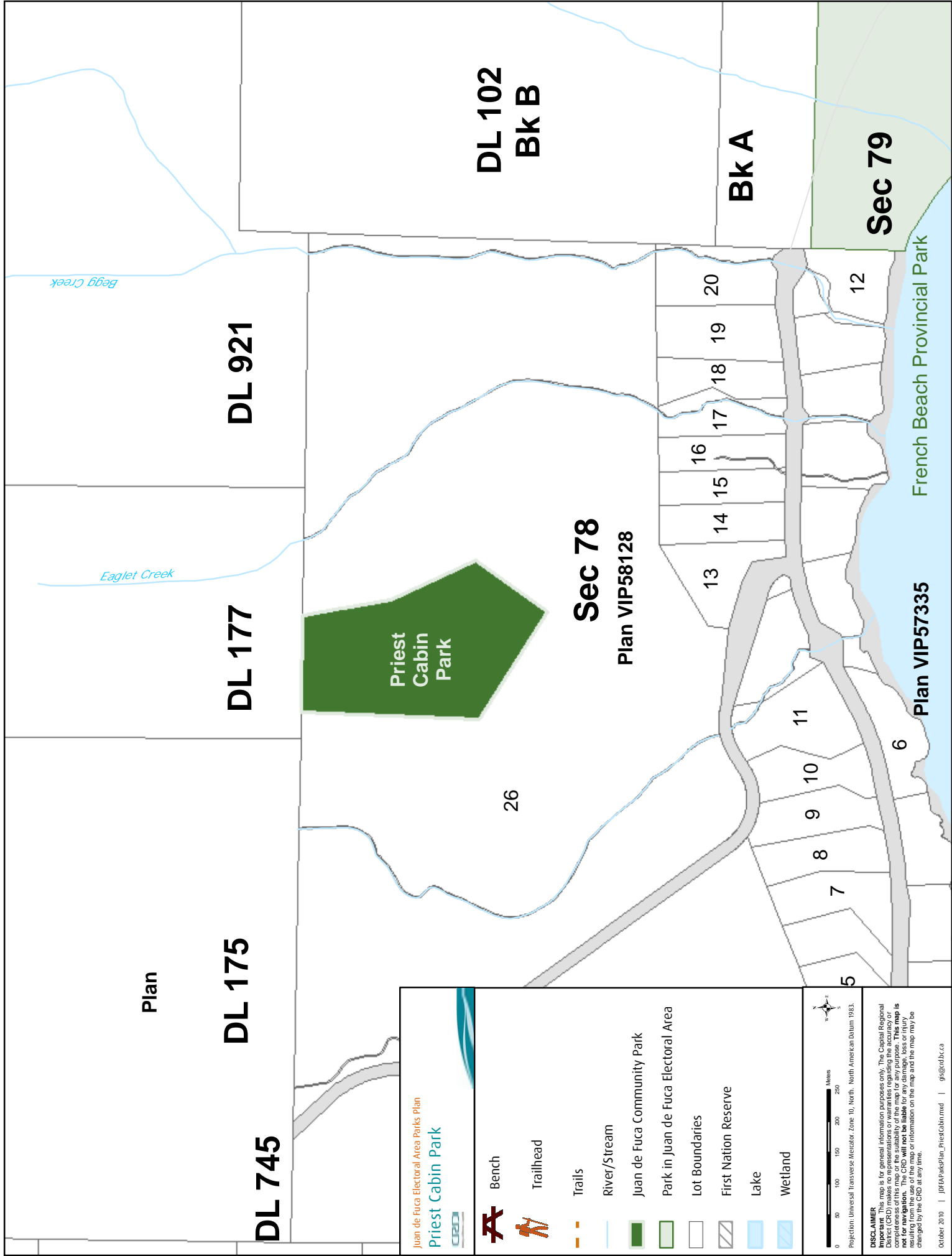
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 10, North, North American Datum 1983.

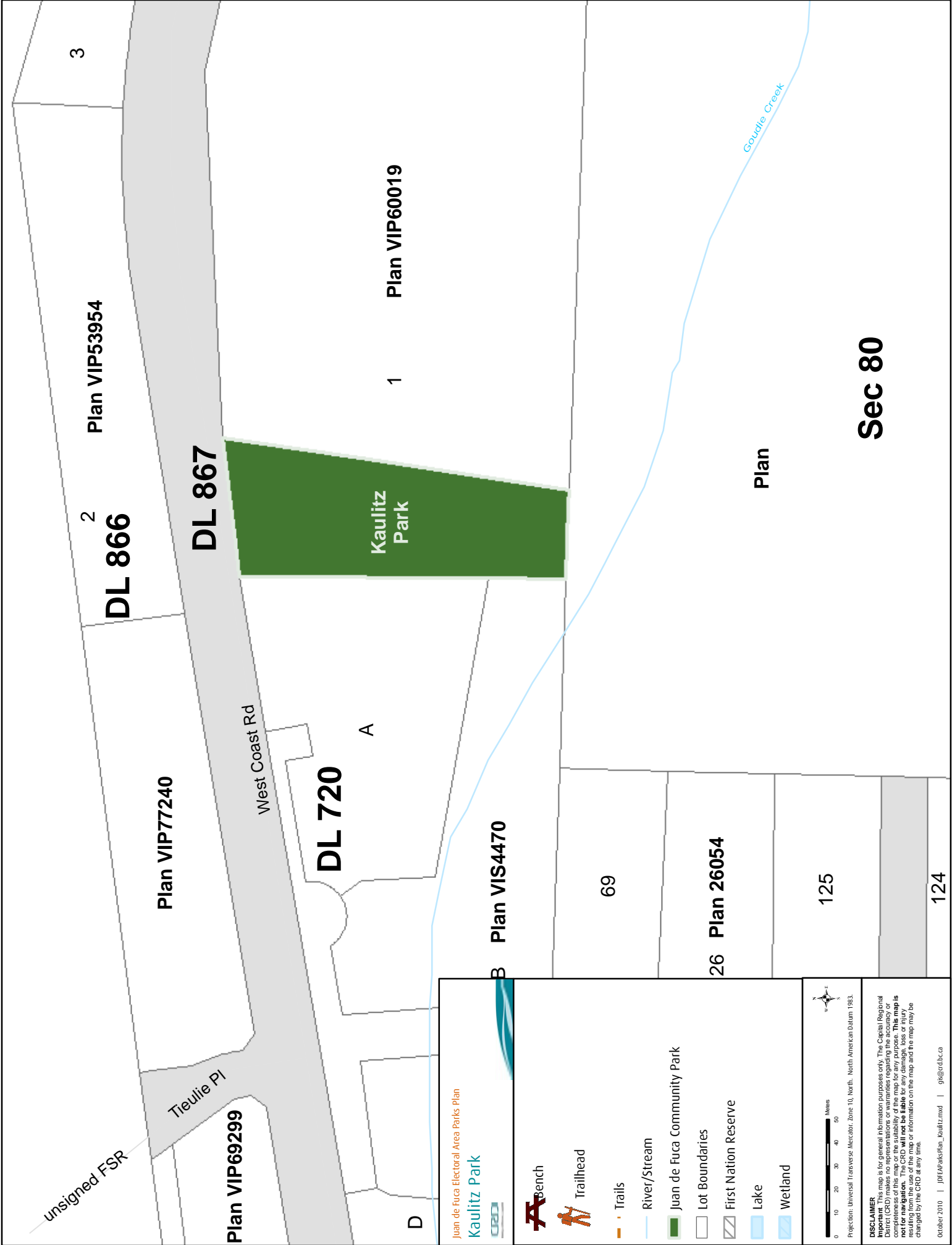
DISCLAIMER
This map is for general information purposes only. The Capital Regional District (CRD) makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map or the suitability of the map for any purpose. This map is not for navigation. The CRD will not be liable for any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

October 2010 | J:\Data\ekplan_TheParkPR.mxd | gis@crd.bc.ca



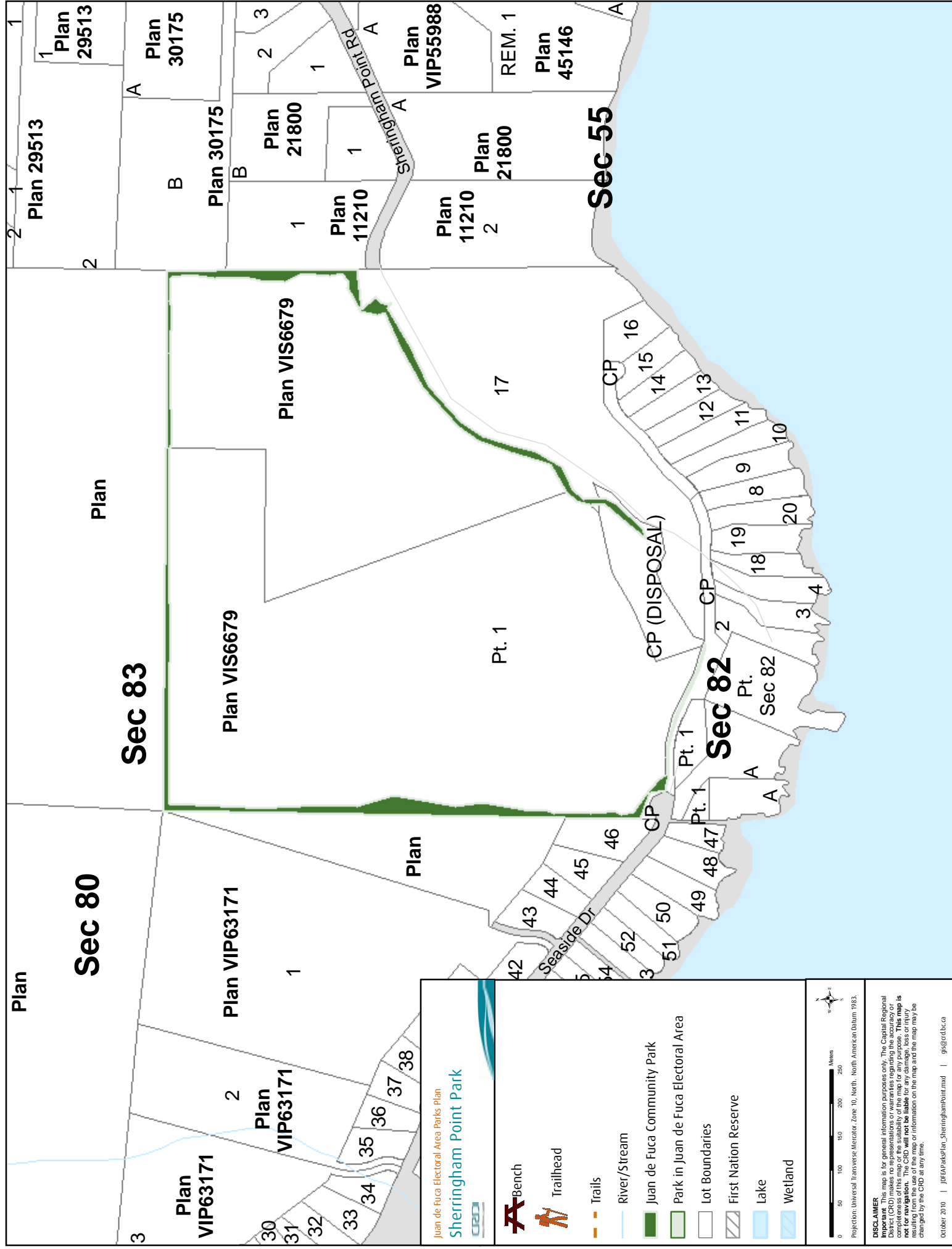


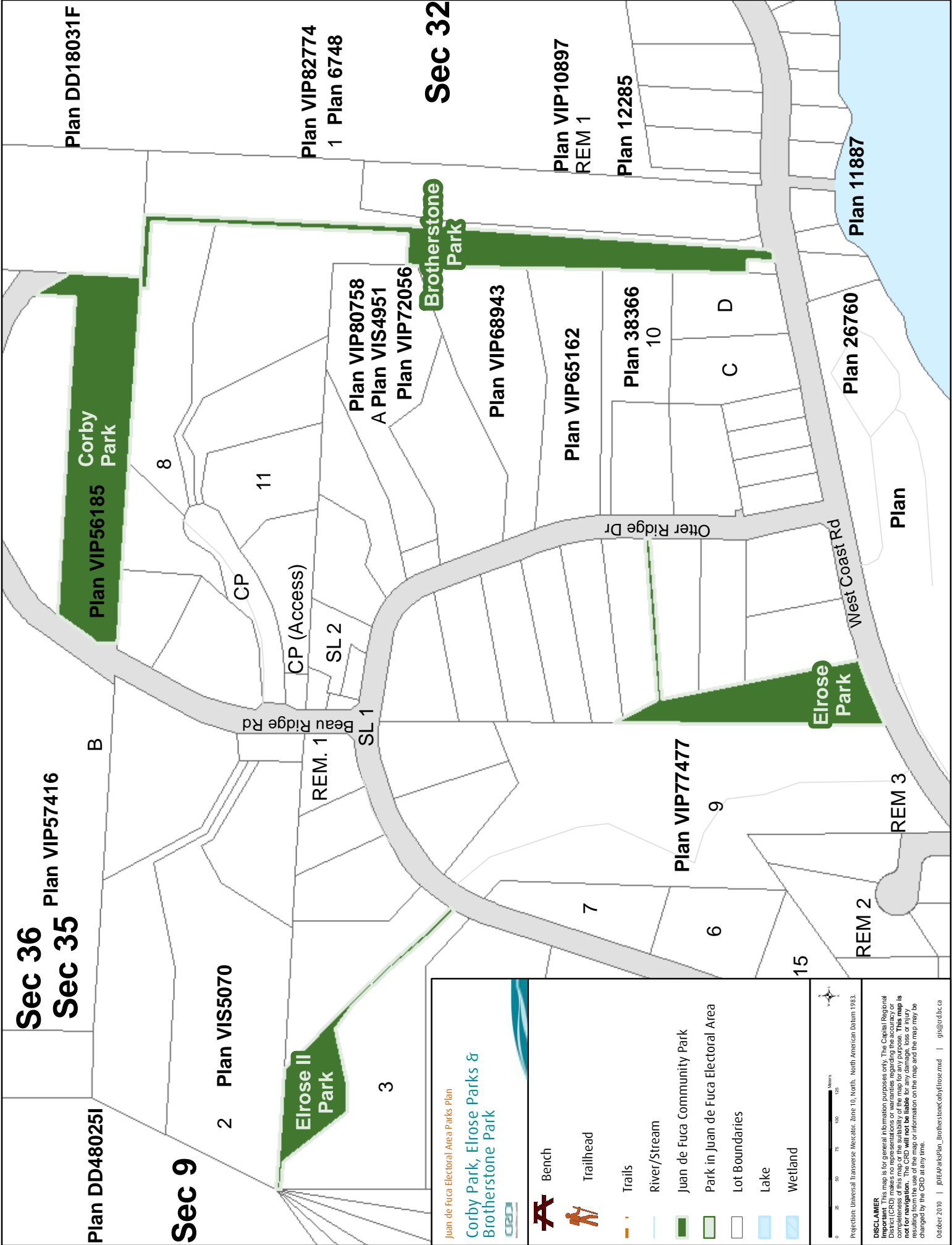


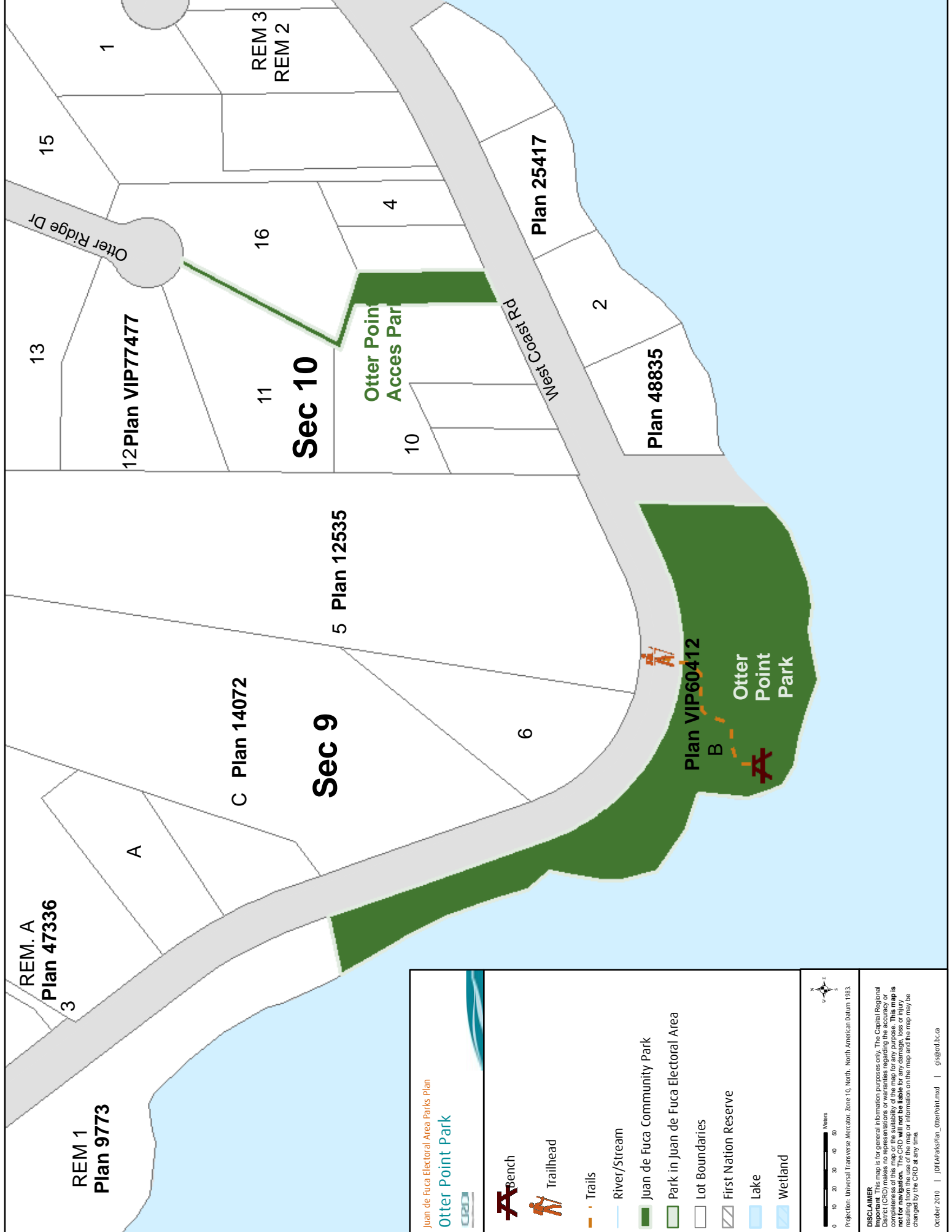


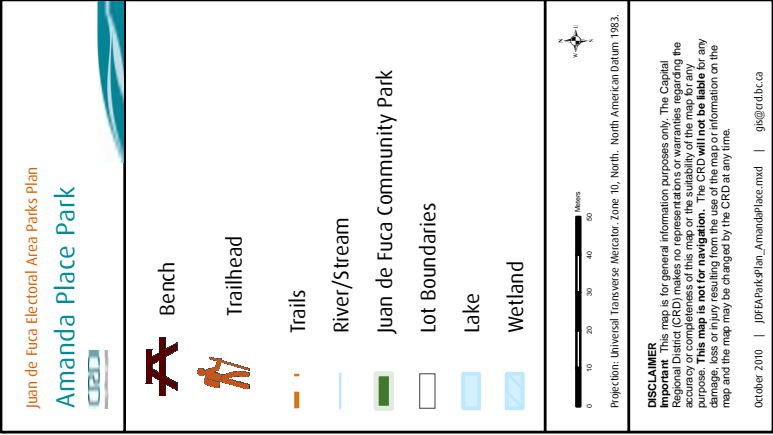
Sec 80

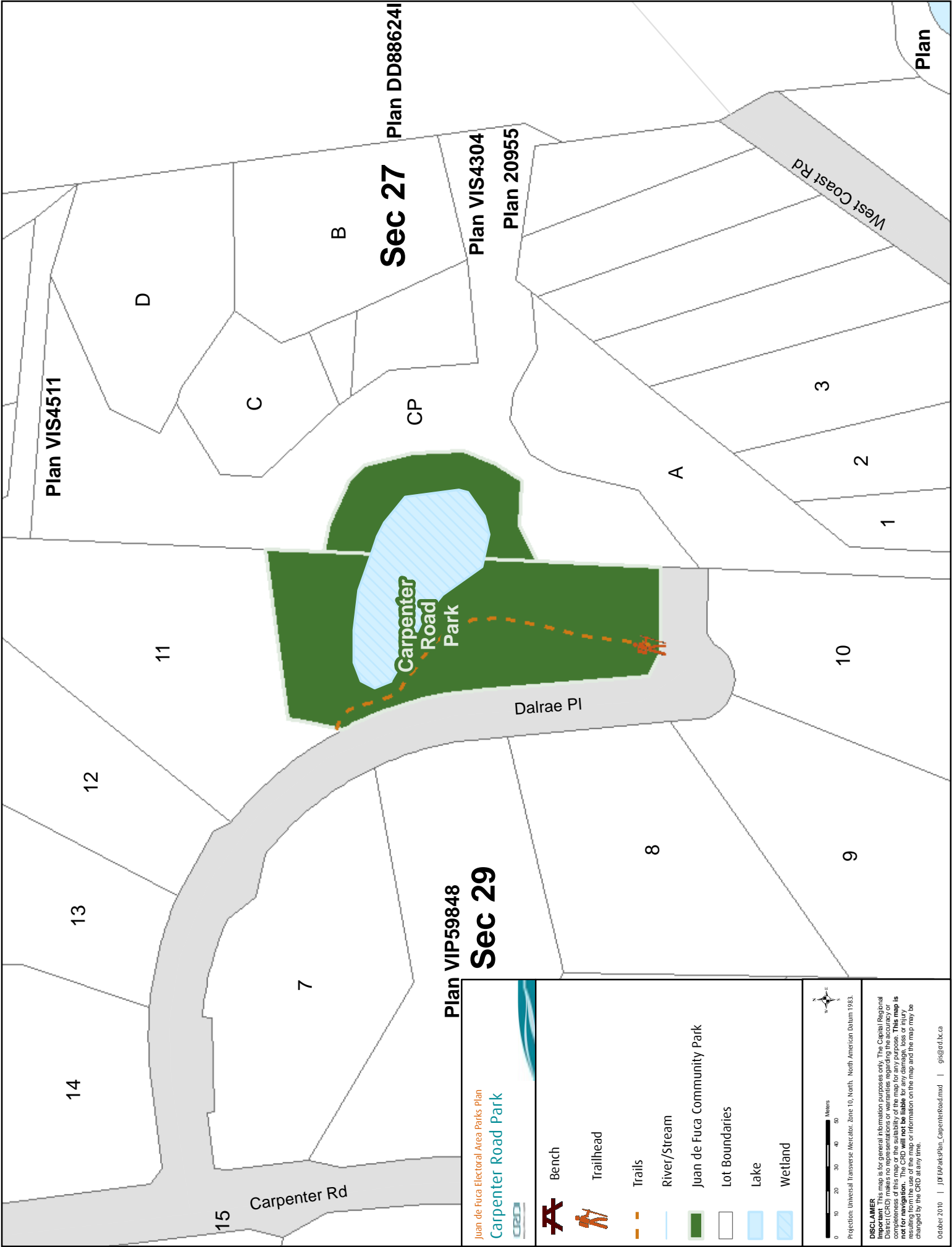
DISCLAIMER: This map is for general information purposes only. The Capital Regional District (CRD) makes no representations or warranties regarding the accuracy or completeness of this map or the suitability of the map for any purpose. This map is not for navigation. The CRD will not be liable for any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











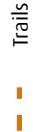
Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan
Carpenter Road Park



Bench



Trailhead



Trails



River/Stream



Juan de Fuca Community Park



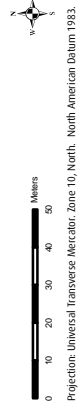
Lot Boundaries



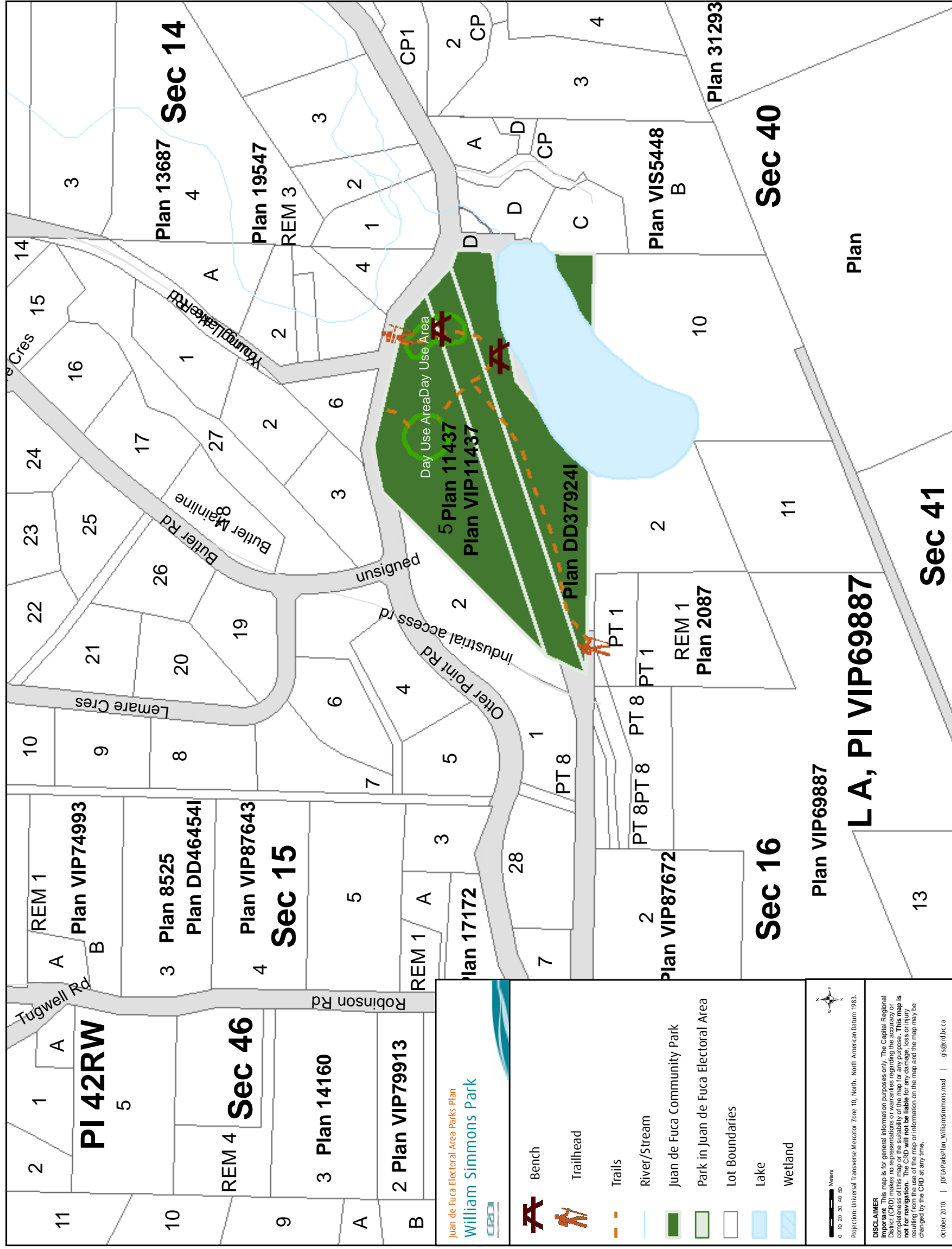
Lake

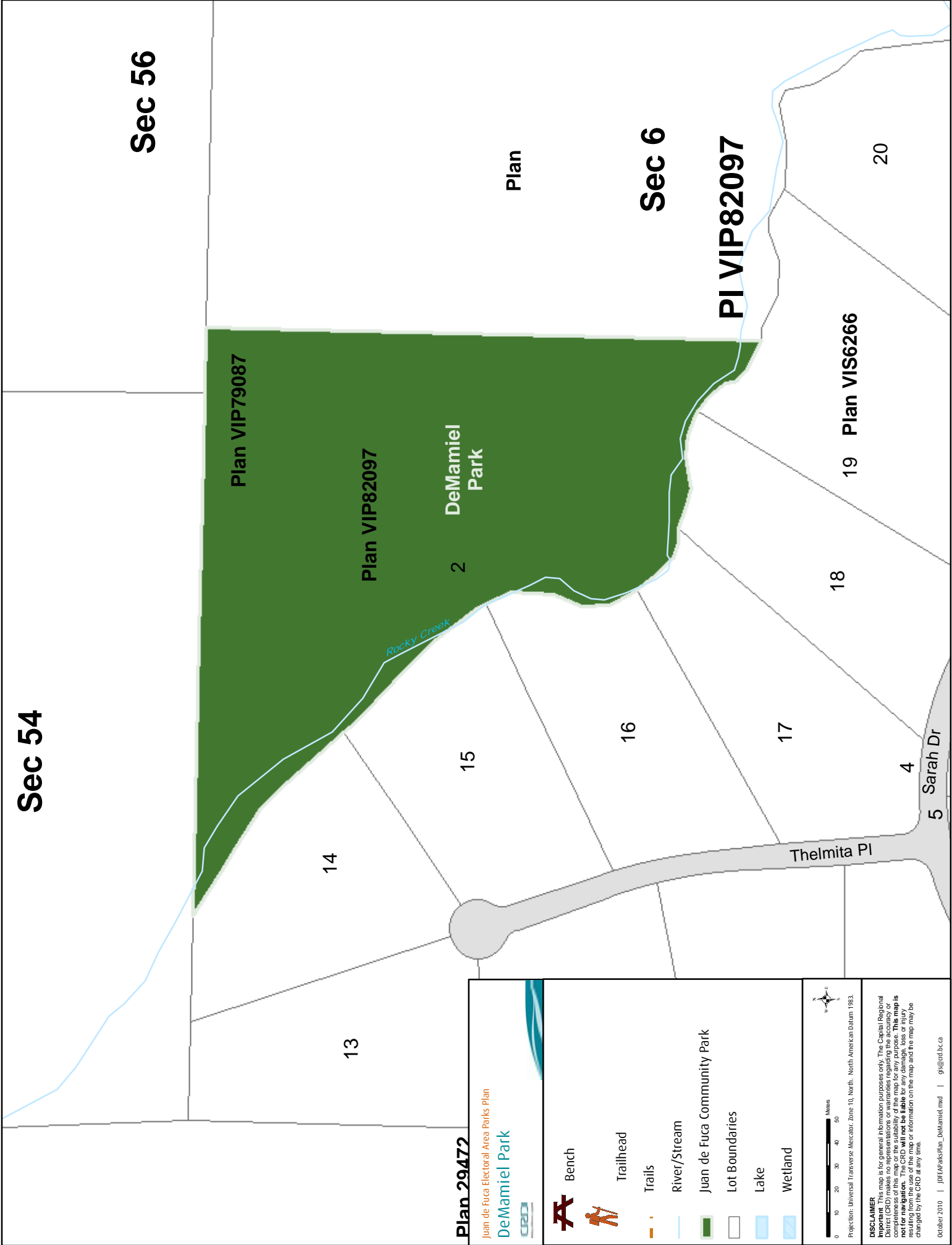


Wetland



DISCLAIMER: 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 this map or the information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.





Sec 54

Sec 56

Plan

Sec 6

PI VIP82097

19 Plan VIS6266

20

18

17

16

15

14

13

4

5 Sarah Dr

Thelmita Pl

Plan 29472

Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan

DeMamiel Park



Bench



Trailhead

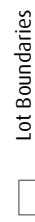


Trails



River/Stream

Juan de Fuca Community Park



Lot Boundaries



Lake



Wetland

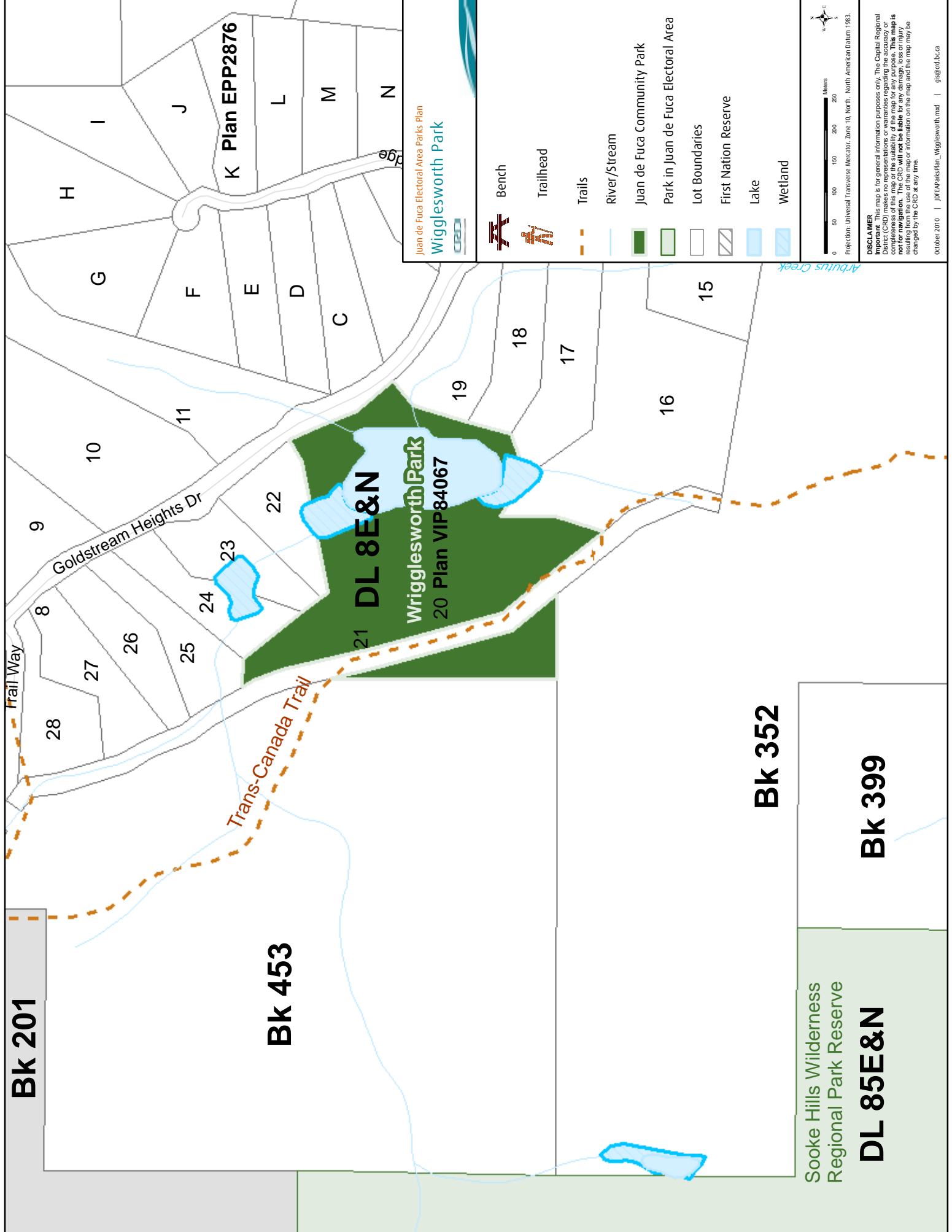


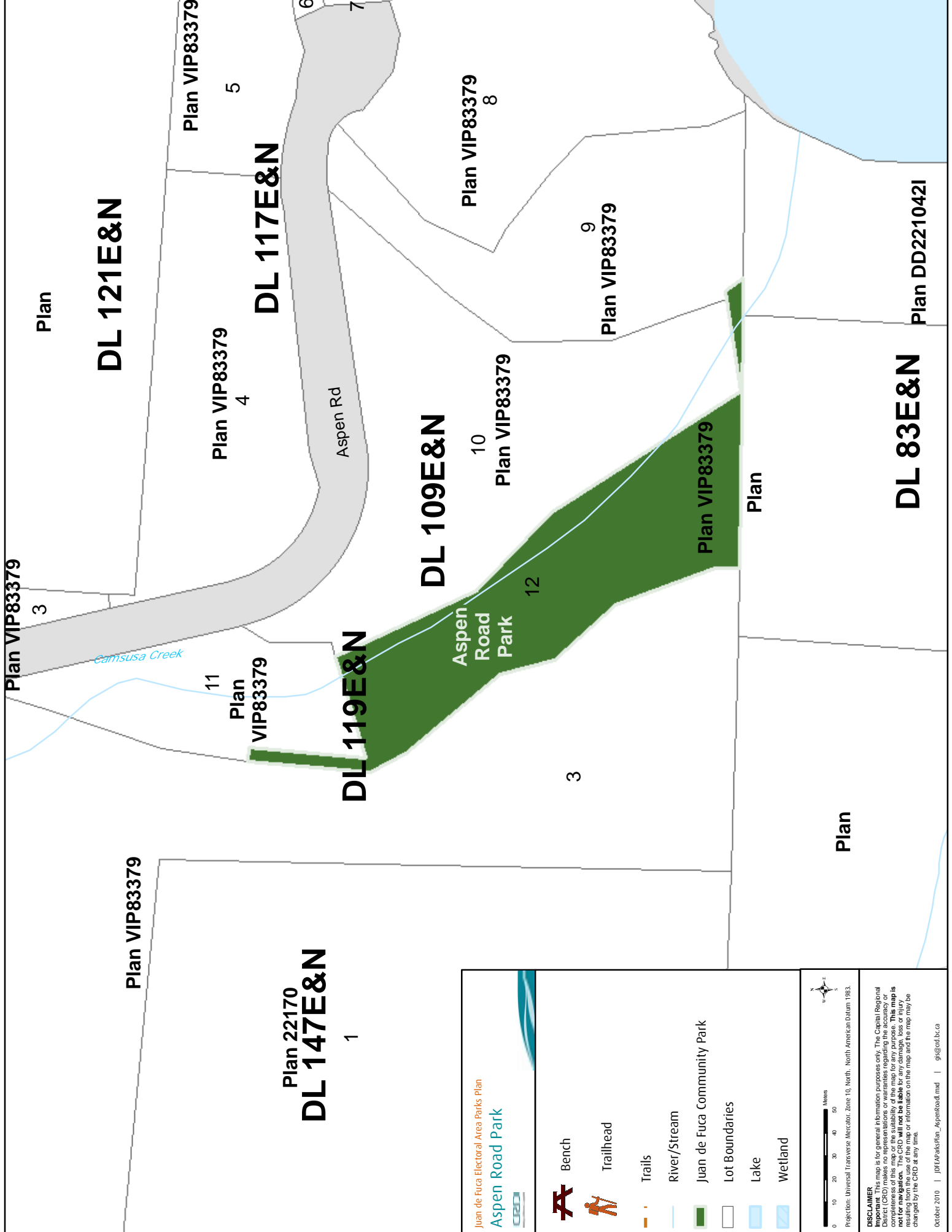
0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters

Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 10, North, North American Datum 1983.

DISCLAIMER: 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 caused by the use of this map. The CRD reserves the right to change or update information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

October 2010 | JDFEAParksPlan_DeMamiel.mxd | gis@crd.bc.ca





Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan

Aspen Road Park



Bench



Trailhead



Trails



River/Stream



Juan de Fuca Community Park



Lot Boundaries



Lake



Wetland



Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 10, North, North American Datum 1983.

DISCLAIMER: 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 caused by the use of this map. The CRD reserves the right to change the map at any time.



Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan

Copper Mine Park

Bench

Trailhead

Trails

River/Stream

Juan de Fuca Community Park

Lot Boundaries

Lake

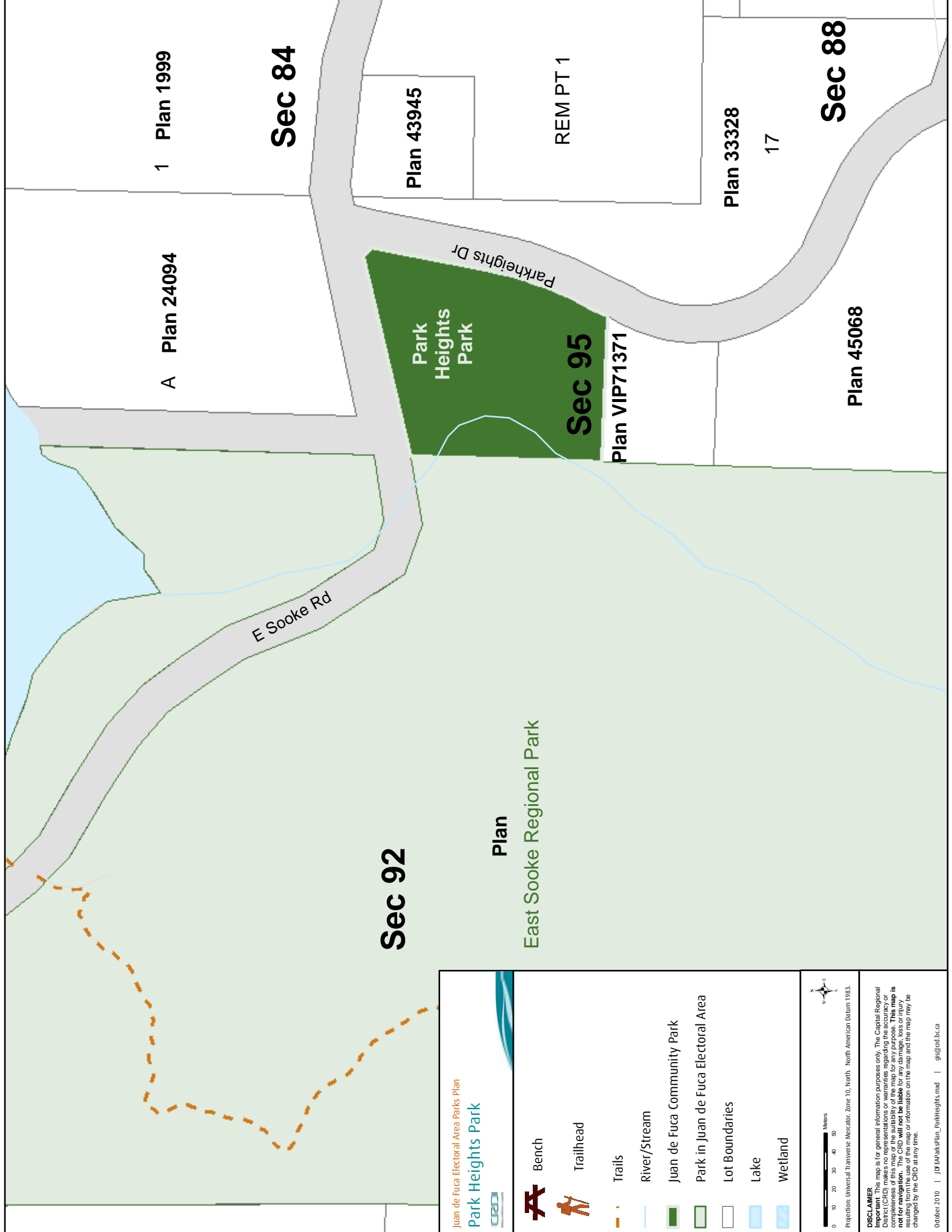
Wetland

0 10 20 30 40 50 Meters

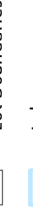
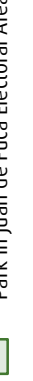
Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 10, North, North American Datum 1983.

DISCLAIMER: 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 caused by the use of this map. Information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

October 2010 | J:\EPA\MapPlan_CopperMine.mxd | gld@rd.bc.ca



Juan de Fuca Electoral Area Parks Plan
Park Heights Park



Projection: Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 10, North, North American Datum 1983.

DISCLAIMER: 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 this map. The information on the map and the map may be changed by the CRD at any time.

