

Highlights of the Management Plan for Matthews Point Regional Park

Matthews Point was initially established in 1999, in partnership with The Land Conservancy of BC (TLC), and was expanded in 2005 and 2006. The park is 25 hectares, located between the north shore of Active Pass and Bluff Road East on Galiano Island.

Park vision

“Matthews Point Regional Park is recognized as a small gem within the larger island landscape. The park maintains the natural character along a portion of Active Pass, providing a natural viewscape for those travelling on the water. Further, it provides Galiano residents and visitors opportunities to connect with nature and helps protect the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem. Together with adjacent natural areas, the regional park is part of a wider natural area network that facilitates a healthy community.”



Key management actions

The park will be developed and managed over time primarily to keep the park natural, with minimal visitor facilities and services. Trail opportunities will be provided as the primary means for the public to experience the park.

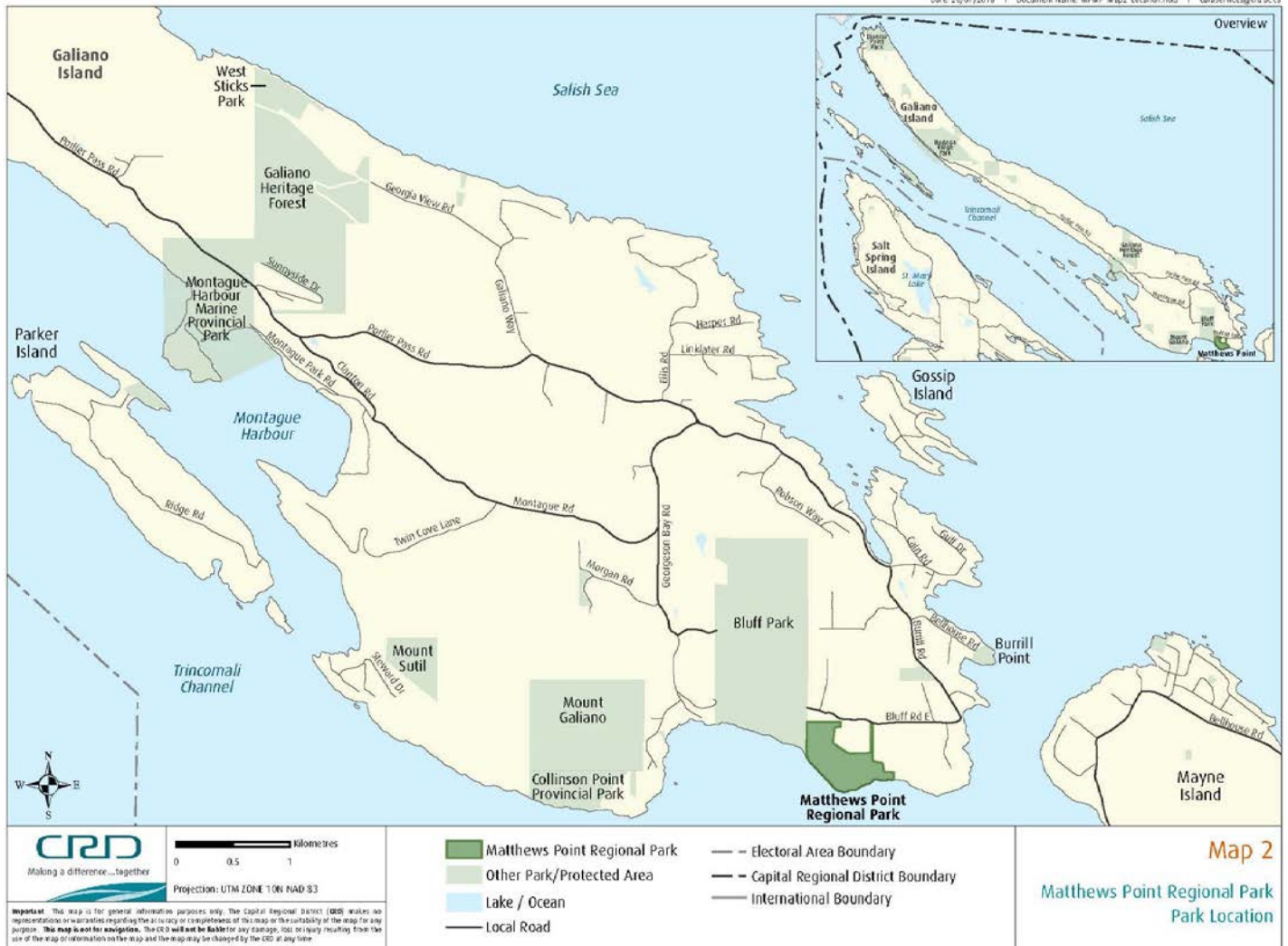
- Remove the former landowner’s shed and related infrastructure.
- Formalize the Ridge Trail route as the main trail opportunity in the park and permit hiking and horseback riding on it.
- Develop hiking-only trail links to the adjacent Bluff Park and to the adjacent Matthews Shore Access Trail, and close other informal trails in this area of the park.
- Develop a primary park entrance at the west park access, including an information kiosk, small parking area (3-4 cars), bike rack, and toilet.

Park features

- Steep bluffs with spectacular views of Active Pass
- Stands of mature Douglas fir with pockets of arbutus and Garry oak
- A long stretch of sandy beach
- Coastal bluffs

Acknowledgments

The plan was developed with input from Penelakut First Nation, Cowichan Tribes, Galiano Island Local Trust Committee, Galiano Island Parks & Recreation Commission, Southern Gulf Islands Economic Sustainability Commission, and the public.



Map 2

Matthews Point Regional Park Location