

SCHEDULE P PARKS

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Area A Parks

Access to recreation and social infrastructure and the provision of community services are essential for the quality of life and social sustainability of the communities within the South Cowichan. There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. See Parks Master Plan for Area A for more information. The CVRD supports a collaborative approach to local planning for parks.

Huckleberry Park is a 0.3 ha neighbourhood park located on Huckleberry Road. It includes a picnic shelter, playground, basketball court and washroom facilities. It was purchased by the CVRD in 1991 and developed in 1994. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

Hollings Creek Park is a 14.3 ha nature park located off Lilmac Road and includes the Hollings Creek riparian area. This park was purchased by the CVRD in 2003 for environmental protection and to provide a trail network linking Kerry Village to Mill Springs. The park was expanded in 2010. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

Mill Springs Park includes a walking trail totalling 2.4 ha along Good Hope Creek. It was acquired by the CVRD through subdivision in 2006. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

George Patterson Park is a 1.46 ha park acquired by subdivision in 2007. It is a nature park with no amenities. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

Memory Lane Trail is a 0.21 ha park acquired through subdivision in 2006. It is currently undeveloped. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

Additional parks in the growth containment boundary are:

- Bakerview Beach Access
- Barry Road Walkway
- Deloume Connector Trail
- Deloume Park
- Deloume Park East
- Deloume Park West
- Deloume Trail
- Gatewheel Road Greenbelt
- Hidden Estates Park
- Mill Bay Marina Boardwalk
- Mill Bay Traffic Island
- Rozon Road Trail
- Sentinel Trail

Parks in electoral area A outside the growth containment boundary are:

- Briarwood Park
- Fern Ridge Park
- Inlet Drive Beach Access
- Malahat Trail

- McCurdy Point Park
- Mill Bay Boat Launch
- Mill Bay Historic Church
- Mill Bay Nature Park
- Mill Bay Wharf
- Shawnigan Creek Park
- Shorewood Road Beach Access
- Welch Road Beach Access
- Whiskey Point Beach Access
- Wilkinson Park

As Mill Bay Village continues to develop, it is anticipated that more parks and trails will be developed. For example, several parks should be provided through development of the Stonebridge Future Development area designation and the Comprehensive Development designation.

The local plan separates Parks and Institutional designations, and this will be more fully considered in the modernization.

Additionally, there is one provincial park in the local plan area: Bamberton Provincial Park. Bamberton Provincial Park fronts on Saanich Inlet in electoral area A Mill Bay/Malahat. It includes 53 provincially operated campsites and a variety of amenities, including parking, picnic areas and toilet facilities.

The Parks designation is intended to provide recreation opportunities, which are essential for the quality of life and social sustainability of the communities within the South Cowichan and Mill Bay local plan area.

Parks Objectives

1. Provide a variety of appropriately scaled parks, trails and recreational opportunities for the diverse resident population and visitors to Mill Bay Village.
2. Provide a diverse range of recreational opportunities.
3. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages between commercial areas, parks and residential neighbourhoods.
4. Acquire new parkland and maintain and improve existing parks.
5. Encourage a healthy, vibrant and aesthetically pleasing community with an abundance of indoor and outdoor public and open spaces.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

To be considered in the modernization.

Area B Parks

There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails, and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. See Parks Master for Area B for more information.

As the community grows, it will become even more important to ensure that a variety of recreational uses and walkways are provided. There are several existing parks:

Dougan Park is a 2 ha park that accommodates the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. It includes a well-equipped adventure playground and walking trails overlooking the lake. The park was purchased by the CVRD in 1989, the community centre was opened in 1994 and the playground was built in 2006. Elise Miles Park shares the same site and consists of the open field adjacent to the former Elise Miles School.

Galland Road Park is a 0.4 ha tot-lot nestled among beautiful, mature trees. This park is owned by a strata corporation and maintained by the CVRD. A small playground and a picnic area were installed in 2002.

Gibsons Park is a 0.6 ha park located in a forested area on Wilmot Avenue and features a playground, picnic area, trails and washroom facilities. This neighbourhood park was acquired by the CVRD during a subdivision approval process in 1988 and was developed between 1992 and 1994.

Masons Beach is a 0.7 ha waterfront park that the CVRD has operated since 1991. It includes a large sandy beach, a swimming area, a picnic area, parking, change rooms and washroom facilities.

Old Baldy Mountain Trail is a 0.55 ha trail network off Shawnigan Lake Road that meanders through subdivisions, offering majestic lake views. This park was acquired by the CVRD in 1985, and the trail was built in 2000. Both are open daily from dawn until dusk.

Old Mill Park is a popular 6.9 ha waterfront park with trails, a swimming area, a playground, a picnic area, parking, washroom facilities, an informational kiosk about the history of the park and a viewing platform for bird watching. The park was the original sawmill site from 1891 until 1945.

Recreation Road boat launch is a 0.09 ha site located south of the commercial core area. It includes a large ramp facility, washroom facilities and parking for boat trailers. The boat launch was upgraded in 2005.

Shawnigan Hills Athletic Park is a 3.7 ha community park located on a plateau in the north village area, adjacent to Shawnigan Beach Estates. It features a sports field, two ball fields, an enclosed sports court, parking and washroom facilities. It was acquired through subdivision in 2001 and development commenced in 2007.

Shawnigan Wharf Park is a 1.2 ha waterfront park located off Thrush Road. It offers a beautiful beach area, swimming area, volleyball court, parking, washroom facilities, public wharf and boat launch. In 1989 the CVRD leased the foreshore and beach from the Ministry of Crown Lands for the purpose of a public wharf, community park and moorage for a fireboat. The following year, the Shawnigan Lake Volunteer Fire Department constructed a boathouse and wharf to house and launch their fire fighting boat. The volleyball court was installed in 2007.

William Rivers Park is a 0.3 ha neighbourhood park in a stunning setting with a picnic area. This park was named after William Rivers, a pioneer who lived in Shawnigan Lake during the 1890s. The parking and picnic area, overlooking Shawnigan Creek, was developed in 1993.

Highland Ridge Park is a 0.4 ha community park with no amenities. It was acquired through subdivision in 2008.

Ceylon Park is a 1.03 ha community park acquired through subdivision in 1983. It has no amenities.

Courtney Way Park is a 1.34 ha community park with no amenities. It was acquired through subdivision in 2000.

Bob-O-Link Trail is a 0.64 ha trail. It was acquired through subdivision from 2007 to 2009. Melrose Park is nestled in a tree-lined area in electoral area B Shawnigan Lake, at the base of Cobble Hill Mountain. It is a 0.6 ha neighbourhood park equipped with a playground and a picnic area. This park was purchased by the CVRD in 1981 and developed in 1997.

Memory Island Park is a 1 ha island sanctuary on Shawnigan Lake that provides quiet nature viewing on one of the only protected park islands found on a major destination lake. It is accessible only by boat, and offers hiking trails, a beach, a picnic area and toilet facilities. The CVRD has had a permit to operate a park on the site since 2002.

Silvermine Park is a 3.7 ha nature park off Glen Eagles Crescent in electoral area B Shawnigan Lake. This park features rugged hiking trails in a beautiful rainforest setting. It was developed in 2004 and upgraded in 2009.

Spectacle Lake Park is a regional park featuring a gorgeous spring-fed freshwater lake. It is a popular hiking destination and its recreational opportunities include swimming, fishing, hiking, picnicking, beach activities, mountain biking, canoeing and equestrian trail riding. There are numerous sensitive ecosystems within the park. Amenities include a beach, a picnic area, trails, parking and toilet facilities. It was originally the site of a sawmill, in the 1920s and 1930s, and is issued under permit to the CVRD from BC Parks.

Additional existing community parks in are B Shawnigan Lake local plan include:

- Bell Irving Beach Access
- Campbell Park
- Elkington Ecological Reserve
- Elkington Park
- Empress Park
- Hill Park
- Ida CVT Access
- Ingot Drive Park
- Kelvin Creek Park
- Kingburne Park
- Koksilah River Park
- Leonard Park
- Mays Road Beach Access
- McCooey Park
- McGee Creek Park

- Meadowview Park
- Millicent CVT Access
- Mountain Park
- Nugget Park
- Old Baldy Mountain Park
- Peerless Road Park
- Royce Park
- Shawnigan Beach Estates Greenbelt
- Shawnigan Creek Nature Park
- Shawnigan West Arm Park
- Siddoo Regional Park
- Silvermine Trail
- Sooke Lake Road Community Forest
- Stebbings Road Community Forest
- Sylvester Trail
- Taylor Park
- Thain Road Park
- Trestle Estates Park
- Worthington Park
- Worthington Road Beach Access

There are four regional parks (Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area, Cowichan Valley Trail, Kinsol South Park and Stebbings Road Park) and two provincial parks (Koksilah Provincial Park and West Shawnigan Lake Provincial Park) in the plan area.

The Parks designation is intended to provide recreation and social infrastructure and the provision of community services. The OCP has the Parks objectives and policies. Additional objectives and policies specific to the local area may be considered in the modernization.

Parks Objectives

1. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages throughout the South Cowichan, with links between various land uses and neighbourhoods.
2. Encourage alternatives to automobiles and support active lifestyles.
3. Encourage the Province of BC to allow for the creation of parkland on all Crown land due to the general shortage of Crown land in the local plan area.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages a range of community parks, neighbourhood parks and tot-lots, for a diverse population.
2. Supports community participation in the planning, development and stewardship of community parks and trails.

Community Land Stewardship Designation

The Community Land Stewardship designation is intended to provide limited development with the remaining 85% protected through conservation covenants for nature preservation, an eco-forestry conservation area and parkland.

Lands within the Community Land Stewardship designation are located in the southern portion of electoral area B Shawnigan Lake, south of Stebbings Road, adjoining the Capital Regional District. (See Figure 2-1 Community Land Stewardship) The designation allows for a maximum of 90 dwellings within a 411 ha area. The majority (about 80) of the dwellings will be clustered into two hamlets in the southeastern portion, while the remainder will be situated in the central and northern part of the designated area. Within the Community Land Stewardship designation, development is permitted on 15% of the total designated area, with the remaining 85% protected through conservation covenants for nature preservation, an eco-forestry conservation area and parkland.

Within the hamlet areas the designation allows for a small-scale coffee/tea house, bed and breakfast accommodations and home-based businesses. There is also provision for a guest lodge use, which would have a spa and related accessory activities. There will also be a retail commercial store use. A value-added forest industrial area is also included in the designation, primarily to process the logs harvested within the designated lands. This designation represents one of the only areas on this portion of the Malahat that has not been recently clear-cut. Logging activities are a provincial responsibility, and the CVRD has had no measurable influence over the management of working forestlands in the region. Within the Community Land Stewardship designation, forestry activities are restricted by covenants requiring that only sustainable logging practices may occur.

Forest management will be further controlled through the donation of those timber rights to the registered Canadian charity the Trust for Sustainable Forestry, which will manage the harvesting according to the established forest management plan, as per the Forest Stewardship Council certification process. The ownership of the timber rights by a third-party, not-for-profit entity will ensure that local or strata pressures will not influence harvesting procedures beyond what is permitted by the covenants and FSC certification. Lands within the Community Land Stewardship designation include the headwaters of Shawnigan Lake—an extremely important series of wetlands, lakes and streams that feed into and sustain Shawnigan Lake. The CVRD and the Land Conservancy of British Columbia are party to the covenants that are in place to protect this area. In specified areas where logging can occur, careful logging practices are required to reduce the risk of local flooding, nutrient and siltation loading of the lake, and sustainability of the forest resource.

Community Land Stewardship Objectives

1. Preserve the headwaters of Shawnigan Creek and Shawnigan Lake, including riparian areas and sensitive ecosystems.
2. Promote sustainable logging practices that reduce the risk of local flooding and nutrient loading or siltation of watercourses.

Community Land Stewardship Policies

To be developed in the modernization.

Village Parks Designation

The primary purpose of the Village Park designation is to protect, enhance and acquire parks. The many parks help to define Shawnigan Village as a community and raise the quality of life for residents.

Village Parks Objectives

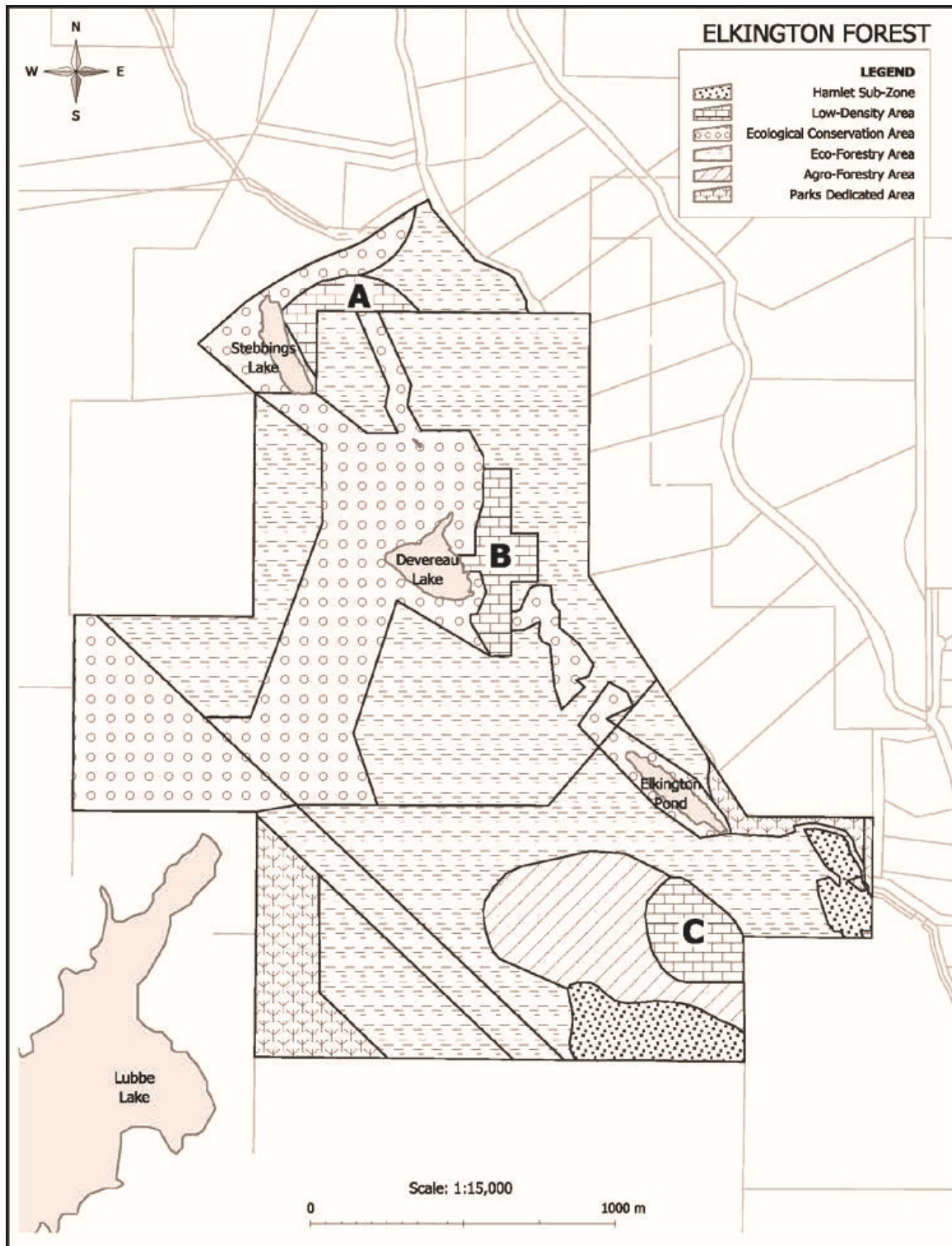
1. Preserve, enhance and increase green space, parks and trails.
2. Maximize opportunities for recreation and active living in Shawnigan Village.
3. Provide pedestrian access between parks and trails and residential areas, the commercial core and the lake.
4. Acquire new parkland and maintain and improve existing parks.

Village Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Supports parks and recreation as essential to personal health, strong families and healthy communities.
2. Encourages a healthy, vibrant and aesthetically pleasing community with an abundance of indoor and outdoor public and open spaces.

Figure 1 Community Land Stewardship - Area B



Area C Parks

Access to recreation and social infrastructure and the provision of community services is essential for the quality of life and social sustainability of the communities within the South Cowichan. There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails, and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. See Parks Master for Area C for more information. The CVRD supports a collaborative approach to planning for parks. The plan has one Parks designation, Village Parks. As the Cobble Hill Village community grows, it will become even more important to ensure that a variety of recreational uses and trails is provided.

Boatswain Park is a 0.8-ha community park. It has a picnic area tucked into the forest, a playground, a basketball court and a network of trails. This park was purchased by the CVRD in 1989, and improvements were completed by 1997.

Cherry Point Nature Park is a 0.06-ha nature park with stunning ocean views, located along Satellite Channel. It includes a beach, benches, parking and toilet facilities. The CVRD received a license to operate the park in 1996 from the Ministry of Environment.

Farnsworth Park is a 1.2-ha neighbourhood park located along Farnsworth Road. It has an extensive playground, basketball court, picnic shelter, picnic area, trails, parking and toilet facilities. This park was created through subdivision in 1992, and the improvements were completed in 1995.

Granfield Way is a 490-metre-long trail overlooking the Boatswain Bank area. Wildflowers and shrubs line the trail. It is registered as a right of way in favour of the CVRD and connects Aros Road to Manley Creek Park off the end of Ratcliff Road.

The Hammond Way Trail is an off-road walking trail within the Aros Road right-of-way. It is just under 1 kilometre (km) long. Improvements were jointly funded through partnerships with RONA, the Rotary Club of South Cowichan and the CVRD. The park provides a safe and enjoyable walking route to Satellite Park with links to either Manley Creek Park or Cherry Point Beach.

Manley Creek Park is a 2.1-ha nature park located near Cherry Point Beach. It includes approximately 0.5 km of trails that are moderately difficult with steady inclines, and features a beach, picnic area, parking and toilet facilities. In 1983 the CVRD received permission to develop the trail on a road right of way, thus increasing the size of the park.

Maple Hills Park is a 0.7-ha neighbourhood park that has a beautiful picnic area in a natural setting. This site has been a park for many years, although it was previously called Sitka Park.

Merilees Nature Park is a peaceful and beautiful 2.7-ha nature park along Hutchinson Road. It includes a viewing platform for the many bird species present. This park was acquired by the CVRD from the Merilees family in 2004 with an agreement that it remain as a protected wetland nature park, free of any development.

Quarry Nature Park is a 9.6-ha community park located just west of Cobble Hill Village. This once productive industrial site now has a rich and diverse plant and wildlife community. It

features equestrian trails, an old steam compressor display, the South Cowichan off-leash dog park and Cleasby Bike Park. This park has picnic area, trails, parking and toilet facilities.

Additional community parks in the area C Cobble Hill local plan area are:

- Clearwater Road Beach Access
- Cobble Hill Common
- Fairfield Road Park
- Fisher Road Pedestrian Crossing
- Galliers Road Park
- Hatch Point Trail
- Memorial Park
- Ross Park
- Satellite Park Drive Beach Access
- Watson Park
- White Cap Road Connector Trail
- William Shearing Park

There is one regional park in the plan area, Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area.

Parks Objectives

4. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages throughout the South Cowichan, with linkages between various land uses and neighbourhoods.
5. Encourage alternatives to automobiles and support active lifestyles.
6. Encourage the Province of BC to allow for the creation of parkland on all Crown land due to the general shortage of Crown land in the local plan area.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

3. Encourages a range of community parks, neighbourhood parks and tot-lots, for a diverse population.
4. Supports community participation in the planning, development and stewardship of community parks and trails.

Village Parks Objectives

1. Acquire new parkland and maintain and improve existing parks, including Galliers Road Park and Memorial Park, for the leisure and enjoyment of residents and visitors.
2. Develop a trail network that is aesthetically pleasing and encourages walking and cycling, between residential neighbourhoods and commercial, industrial, institutional and recreational areas.
3. Enhance and improve community interaction and vibrancy by providing additional parks.
4. Maintain and improve Galliers Road Park, including the basketball court, playground, picnic area, walking trails and restroom facilities within the park, for the recreation and enjoyment of residents and visitors.
5. Maintain and improve Memorial Park as a gathering place during Remembrance Day and other celebrations, as this park has historical and cultural significance to the community.

6. Provide Provincial Government with an expression of interest in any provincially held lands to be declared surplus within the village plan area.
7. Identify Cobble Hill Village area a potential park acquisition area.
8. Support development of an efficient trails and pathways network through the village from Quarry Nature Park to Cobble Hill School, with linkages to commercial and residential areas.

Village Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages healthy, vibrant and aesthetically pleasing community with an abundance of indoor and outdoor public and open spaces.

Area D Parks

There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages.

Regional parks, trails and recreation areas are intended to serve the wider region, while each of the CVRD's electoral areas has its own system of community parks and trails. At the time of adopting this plan, electoral area D Cowichan Bay currently has 32 ha of parks, including six trails and two formal beach accesses. Most parks in the plan area are focused in Cowichan Bay Village, Cherry Point and Kingscote. Significant wooded areas remain, which are not yet protected as parks or nature preserves but provide important habitat for wildlife and contribute to the rural aesthetic character of the area.

Parks and trails provide numerous community benefits to health and well-being, economic development, tourism, social interaction and cultural enrichment, in addition to ecological benefits of providing habitat and wildlife corridors. Parks provide passive recreational opportunities such as walking, hiking and wildlife viewing; they may serve to protect important plants and wildlife; or, they may be used more actively for sports fields or playgrounds. They can also provide active transportation linkages as part of a community's overall transportation network.

Parks and trails are typically acquired through the CVRD's capital budget process for electoral area D Cowichan Bay and when lands are subdivided or rezoned. The provision of parkland at the time of subdivision is a legal requirement of the *Local Government Act*.

The funding and maintenance of parks and trails infrastructure continues to be a challenge, particularly with respect to providing value-added components such as interpretive and directional signage, invasive plant removal, protective fencing and park restoration. However, the CVRD has other options to enhance parks and trails infrastructure including charitable donations in exchange for tax receipts, land leases and licences and agreements with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

For more information, see the Parks Master Plan for area D. The following objectives and policies apply to all area D Parks.

Parks Objectives

1. Encourage bequests, gifts of land and financial contributions to the Parks Service, in cooperation with land trusts and/or conservancies.
2. Collaborate with other government agencies, Cowichan Tribes, non-profit organizations and community members to establish parks and trails infrastructure and connections to adjacent jurisdictions.
3. Consult with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure for land leases, licenses and/ or permits to construct within public roadways to secure parks and trails.
4. Adopt a development cost charge (DCC) bylaw as a means to secure parks and trails for the community.
5. Support the Cowichan Bay Estuary Centre's ongoing environmental education activities.
6. Ensure a strategic and planned approach to the acquisition and maintenance of parks and trails.
7. Separate CVRD-constructed roadside pathways from motorized vehicles to the greatest extent possible.
8. Recognize the Wilmot roadside pathway between Wilmot Road and Koksilah Road as the standard for roadside pathways.



Photo: Lucy on the Hof Trail (P. Holmes).



Photo: Cowichan Bay (CVRD).

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Supports land considered for park land dedication being maintained in its natural state.
2. Considers taking cash in lieu of land for future park and/or trail if the parcel is small.

Area E Parks

The Parks designation is intended to ensure that adequate parkland and park amenities are available to all residents in the plan area. For the purposes of this plan, parks and trails are designated as Parks. Parks and trails are compatible with any land use designation and the implementing zoning bylaw should reflect this.

Electoral area E has approximately 114 ha of community parks, and 160 ha of subregional (Bright Angel Park) and regional parks (Chemainus River and Sandy Pool Regional parks). Cowichan River Provincial Park (1,414 ha) is also partly located in area E and the Cowichan Valley Trail, part of the Trans-Canada Trail, traverses the plan area

Existing community parks and green space in area E Cowichan Koksilah local plan include:

- Alron Park
- Belvedere Trail
- Boal Road Park
- Boys Road Pullout
- Busy Place Creek Park
- Caromar Park 1
- Caromar Trail Corridor
- Currie Park
- Dons Park
- Eagle Heights Park
- Fairbridge Park
- Glenora Riverside Park
- Glenora Trails Head Park
- Granite Road Park
- Hawkhill Park
- Inwood Creek Park
- Jack Fleetwood Memorial Park
- Keating Park
- Maplewood Park
- Miller Road Rest Area
- Riverbottom Road Park
- Sahtlam Greenway Park
- Wake Lake Nature Reserve

The CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. See the Parks and Trails Master Plan for area E for full information.

Parks Objectives

1. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages.
2. Focus land acquisition on ecosystem.
3. Encourage the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, Ministry of Environment, non-governmental organizations and community groups to fund and implement habitat conservation and communication projects. These may include, but are not limited to,

fisheries restoration, amphibian and ungulate protection corridors, roadside wildflower areas, and connected riparian waterways and wetlands (green infrastructure). The focus will be on

- a. Sh-hwuykwselu (Busy Place Creek) fisheries enhancement, integrated riparian waterways, educational development and green flood buffering infrastructure;
- b. protection of migration routes for amphibians in the vicinity of Wake Lake, including measures such as use of signage, temporary road closures during migration periods and education campaigns regarding habitat on private property; and
- c. living with Roosevelt elk, which includes protection of corridors, limiting fencing and using appropriate fencing when fencing is required.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Establishes standards for roadside pathways that are separated from motor vehicles to the greatest extent possible.
2. Acquires parkland through subdivision in the following circumstances:
 - a. When parcels designated as Village Residential, Rural Residential, River Corridor or Manufactured Home Park are considered for subdivision into three or more additional lots, will determine whether the owner of land being subdivided shall
 - i. provide, without compensation, community parkland equivalent to 5% of the parcel size and in a location acceptable to the CVRD to be designated as Park on the plan of subdivision; or
 - ii. pay to the CVRD an amount that equals the market value of the land that may be required for park purposes, not to exceed 5% of the land being proposed for subdivision.
 - b. Ensures when parcels are not designated as Village Residential, Rural Residential, River Corridor or Manufactured Home Park, but are considered for subdivision, the owner of the land being subdivided shall pay to the CVRD an amount that equals the market value of the land that is required for park purposes.
 - c. Ensures Cowichan and Koksilah River corridors and other lands that provide critical ecosystem services (e.g., flood mitigation or rare and endangered ecosystems) are a priority.

Area F Parks

There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. The master parks plan for area F objectives and policies is included in this plan. The pristine natural and visual environment of the Cowichan Valley is a major contributing factor to the quality of life and attractiveness of the area. Outdoor recreational opportunities are abundant in the plan area, with forest covered uplands, ocean shorelines, lake shorelines and scenic river corridors. At the same time, these features represent important ecological systems that provide domestic water and habitat for fish, plant and wildlife species.

The intention of this plan is to provide outdoor recreational opportunities of various types in areas that have the appropriate biological capabilities to sustain the varying levels of impacts associated with recreational uses.

(See [Figure 2 Recreational Areas Index – Area F](#), [Figure 3 Recreational Areas West – Area F](#) and [Figure 4 Recreational Areas East – Area F](#))

The plan area consists of community and regional parks and trails and provincial and federal parks. Community parks and trails consist of land dedicated as park at the time of subdivision or land acquired by the regional district for community or regional park purposes. These parks provide residents with nature preservation, children's playground areas and space for organized sports and other forms of outdoor recreation. They vary in size and are often situated in or adjacent to residential areas. The Cowichan Valley Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail, since 2016 also known as “The Great Trail”) is also located in the plan area and is a regional trail. Provincial and federal parks are larger and have more appeal to people on a provincial, national and international scale. There are four provincial parks and one federal park reserve in the plan area—Cowichan River Provincial Park, Gordon Bay Provincial Park, Carmanah Walbran Provincial Park, Nitinat River Provincial Park and a portion of Pacific Rim National Park reserve. These parks are designated as Parks.

The Parks designation is intended to ensure adequate parkland and park amenities are available to all residents in the plan area. Parks and trails are designated as Parks. Parks and trails are compatible with any land use designation and the implementing zoning bylaw should reflect this.

Community parks in the electoral area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls local plan include:

- Bear Lake Park
- Block 12
- Block 13
- Central Park (Honeymoon Bay)
- Hawkhill Park
- Lily Beach Park
- Mayo Lake Park
- Mesachie Lake Park
- Riverbottom Road Park
- South Shore Trail
- Stin-Qua Parks

This local plan area also includes one regional park, six provincial parks and one national park:

- Chemainus River Park (Regional Park)
- Carmanah Walbran Park (Provincial Park)
- Cowichan River Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Gordon Bay Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Honeymoon Bay Ecological Reserve (Provincial Park)
- Nitinat River Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Nitnat Lake Ecological Reserve (Provincial Park)
- Pacific Rim National Park Reserve (National Park)

Parks Objectives

1. Maintain, improve and expand the community pathway connections.
2. Encourage improvement of access to the west coast national and provincial parks for residents and visitors.
3. Provide for institutional uses that serve the needs of area residents.
4. Promote, encourage and foster partnerships with other government agencies, private companies, land trusts and interest groups through relevant legislation.
5. Encourage the provision of parks for the protection of sensitive ecosystems as well as fish and wildlife habitat.
6. Increase public access to the lakefront.
7. Coordinate park development within the Cowichan River corridor with relevant agencies.
8. Encourage government agencies to improve and provide safe public road access to recreational resources.
9. Develop a community parks and trails master parks plan for area F.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

5. Will acquire parkland as guided by community parks and trails master plans.
6. Supports depositing cash-in-lieu received at subdivision into the parkland acquisition reserve fund for electoral area F.
7. Considers amalgamating community and regional parks and trails with more than one land registry.

Figure 2 Recreational Areas Index - Area F

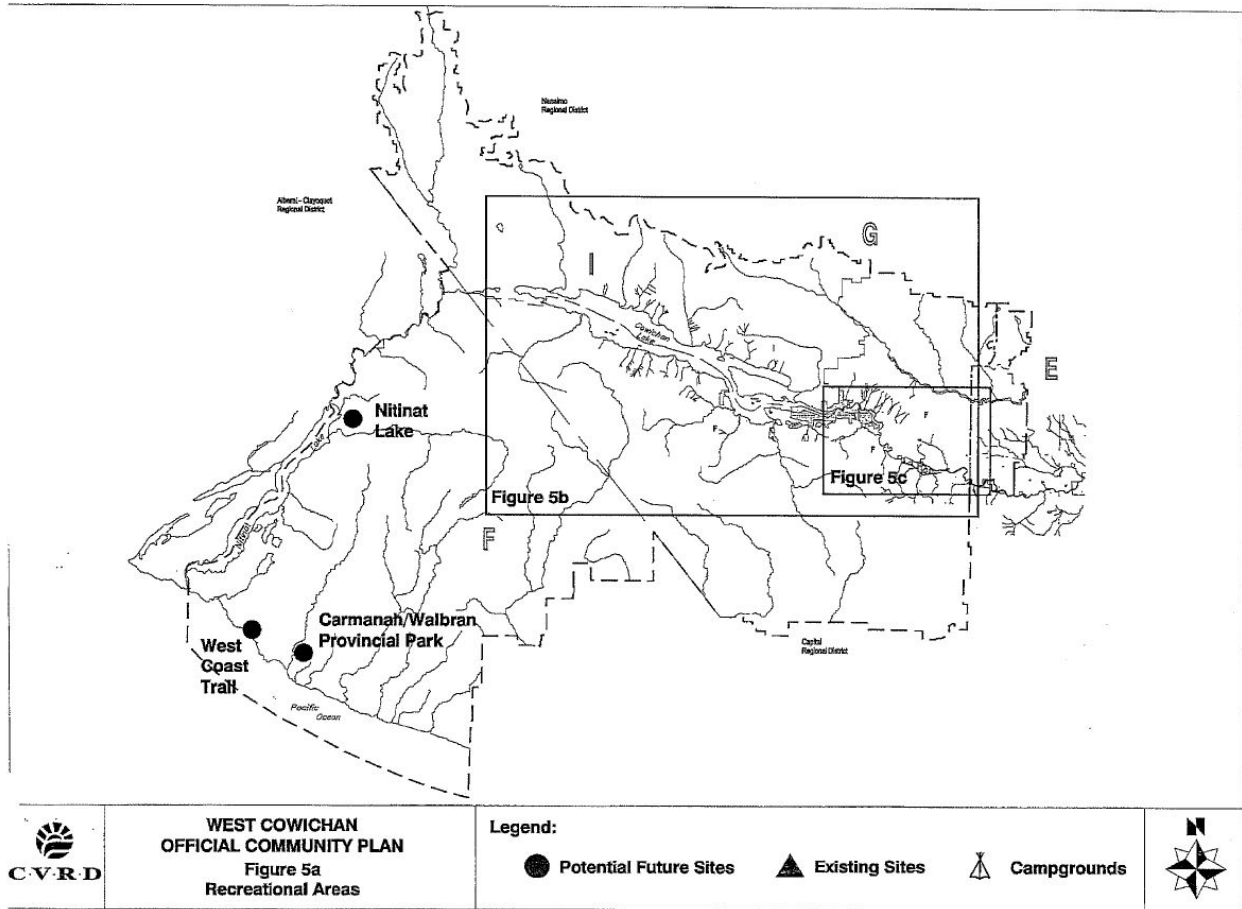


Figure 3 Recreational Areas West - Area F

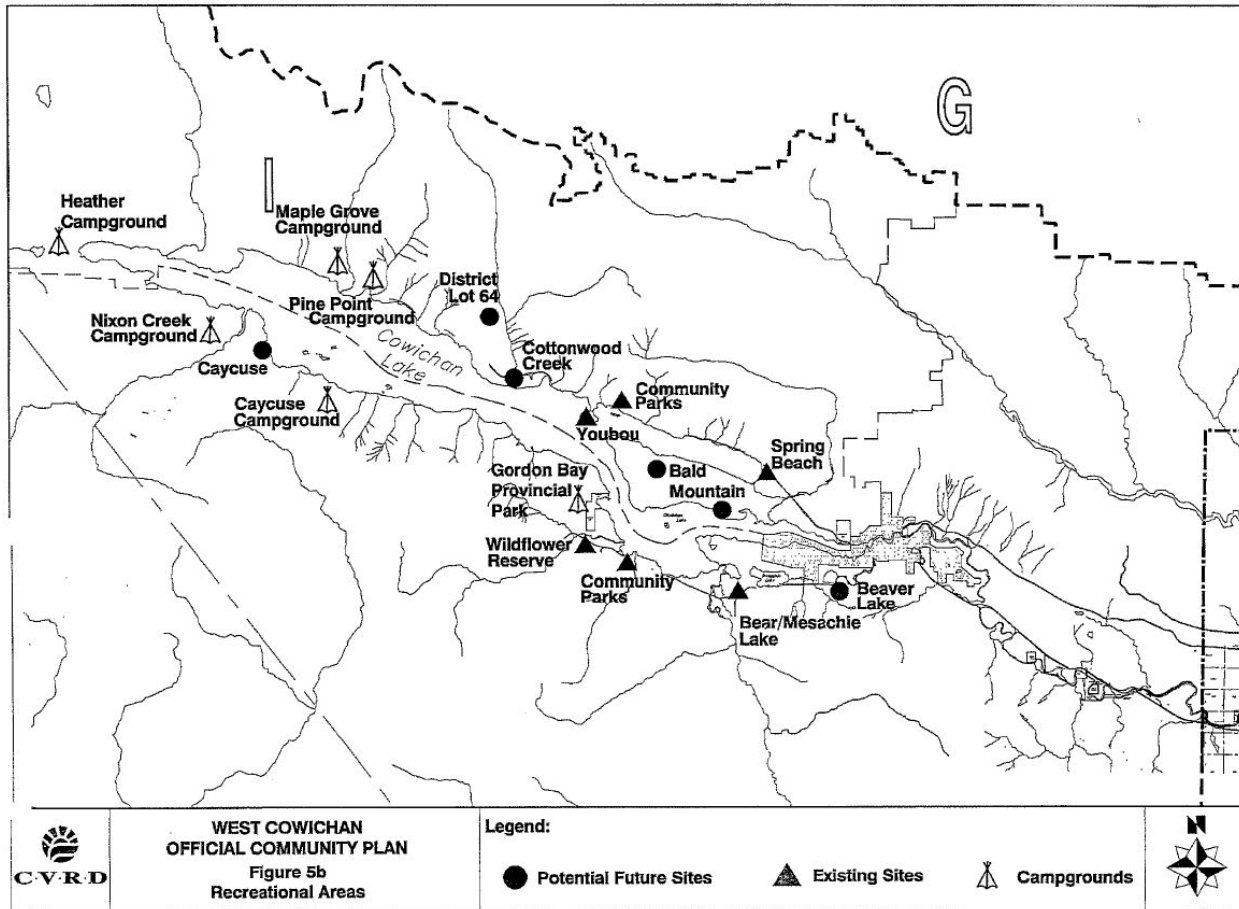
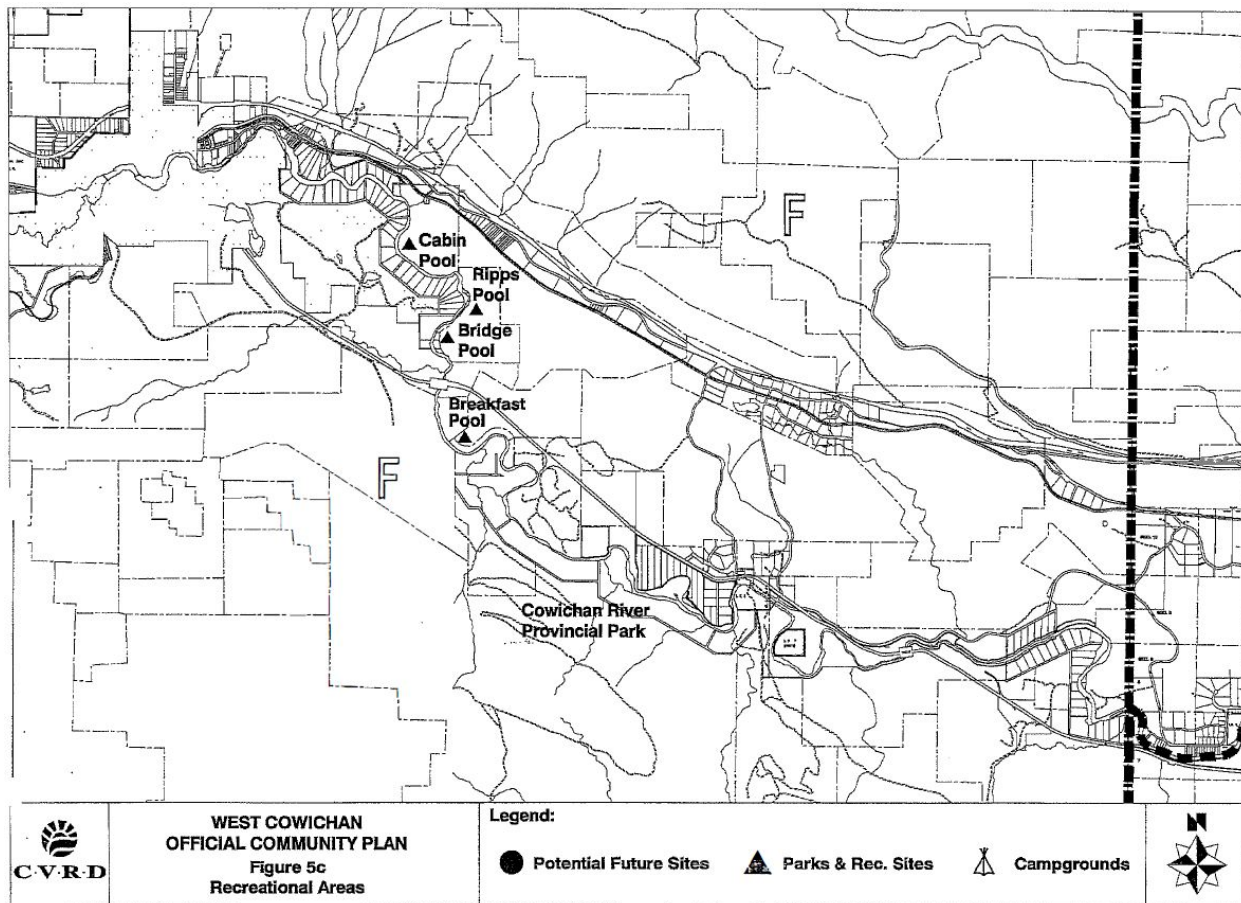


Figure 4 Recreational Areas East - Area F



Area G Parks

There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. (See Figure 2–1 Parks North Saltair and Figure 2–2 Parks South Saltair) As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. The CVRD supports a collaborative approach to planning for parks. The local plan has one Parks designation.

Twelve community parks exist in electoral area G Saltair LAP:

- Bazan Road Beach Access
- Boulder Point Beach Access
- Clifcoe Park North
- Clifcoe Park South
- Clifcoe Road Beach Access
- Diana Princess of Wales Wilderness Park
- Lagoon Bridge Beach Access
- Saltair Centennial Park
- Skinner Road Beach Access
- Solmie Road Beach Access
- Stocking Creek Park

There is also one regional park, Stocking Heart Lake Regional Park, in the local area.

Figure 5 Parks North Saltair - Area G

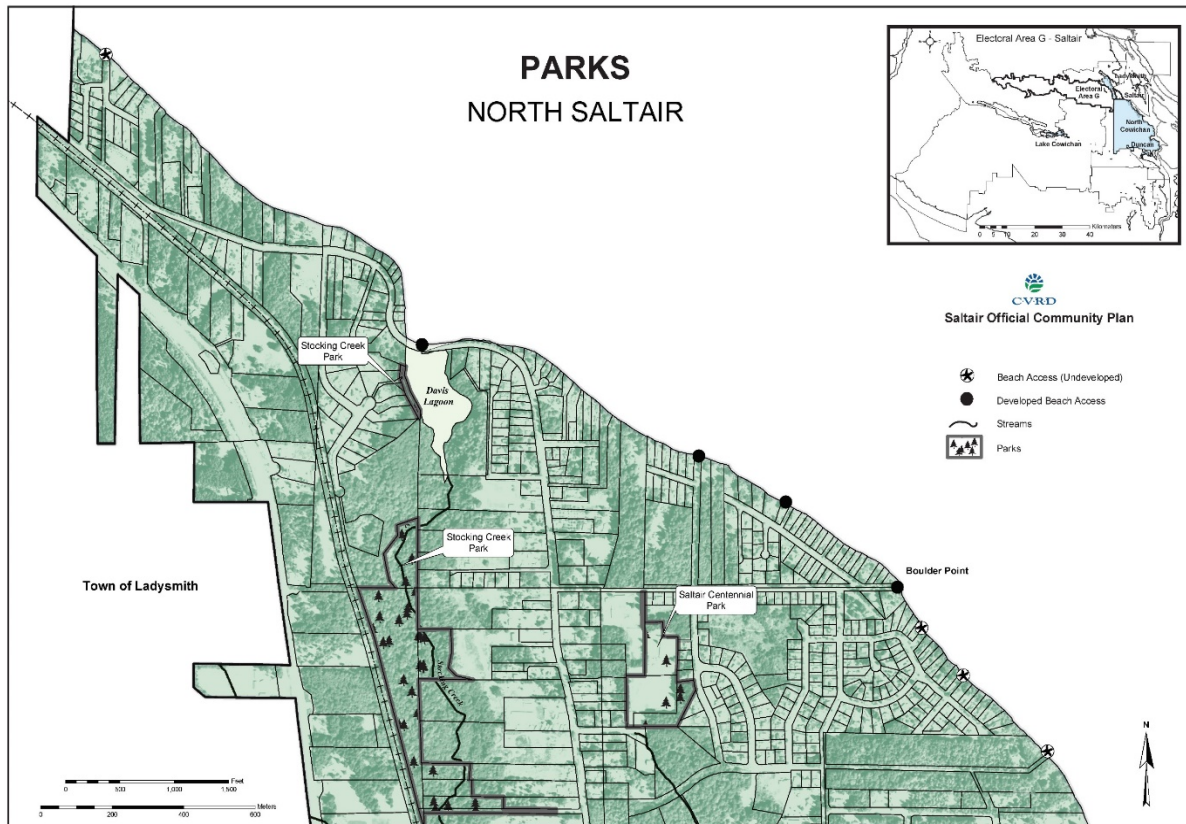
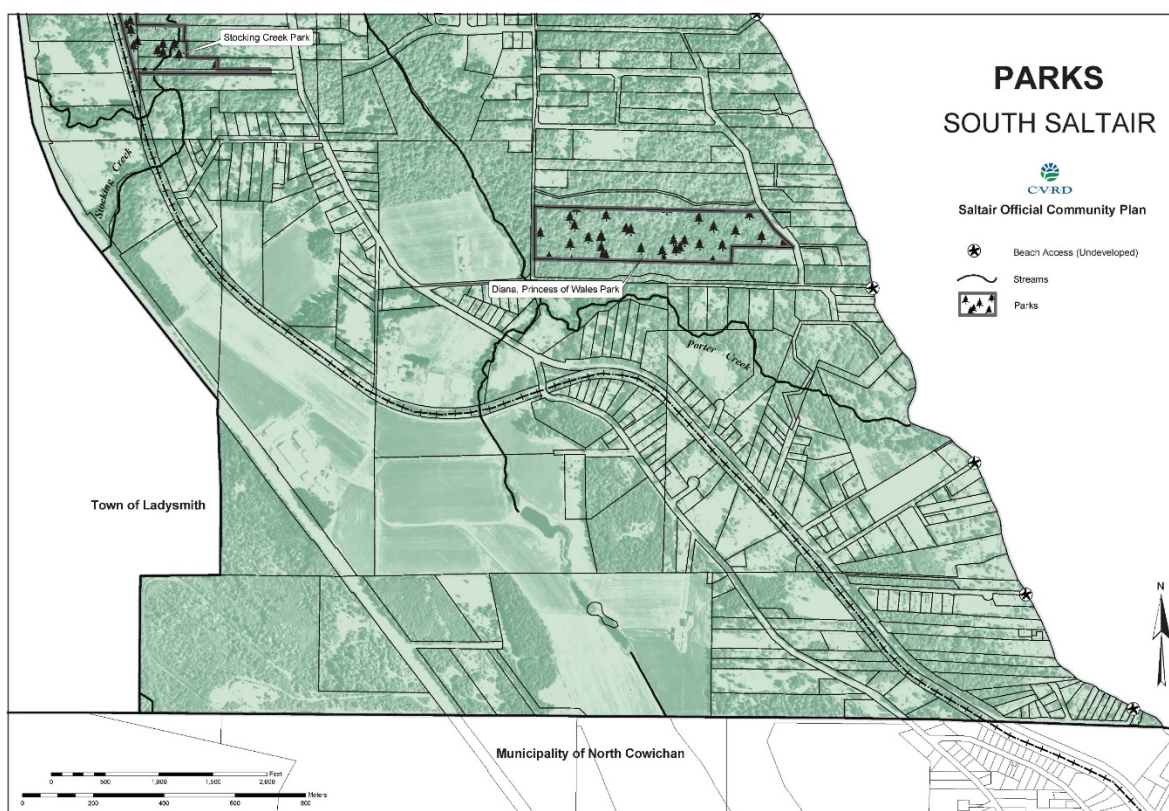


Figure 6 Parks South Saltair - Area G



The Parks designation intends to advocate a network of safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling trails, paths and walkways to link the community facilities, commercial areas, parks, beach accesses, natural areas and residential areas within the community and to connect Saltair with Ladysmith and Chemainus. (See Figure 2–1 Trails North Saltair and Figure 2–2 Trails South Saltair) The following objectives and policies complement the OCP Parks objectives and policies.

Parks Objectives

1. Increase recreational opportunities as well as preserving aquatic habitat, rare and fragile native plant communities, wildlife habitat and corridors, significant geographical or historical features and the natural beauty of Saltair.
2. Encourage a strong outdoor recreational component in the community.
3. Develop a network of safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling trails, paths and walkways to link the community facilities, commercial areas, parks, beach accesses, natural areas and residential areas within the community.
4. Expand Stocking Creek Park.
5. Increase public beach access and accessible public beaches.
6. Develop a network of trails connecting residential areas with commercial, parks, other communities and beaches.
7. Encourage the Province to consider dedication of parks at road ends and road closures.

8. Encourage the Province to retain Crown land for parks, recreational and environmental protection.
9. Increase lands to enhance Saltair's open space system.
10. Provide safe and convenient linkages for pedestrians and cycling between community facilities, commercial areas, parks, beach accesses, natural areas and residential areas within the community, and to connect Saltair with Ladysmith and Chemainus via the Cowichan Valley Trail (The Great Trail), and possibly the ocean shoreline.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages green mapping where significant features, both natural and historical, are identified and preserved.
2. Supports the creation of a parks master plan and a trail strategy with the following considerations:
 - a. a trail map that marks and maps trails and records heritage features and historical knowledge;
 - b. a commemorative plaque at the former Saltair train station site;
 - c. public beach access points with standardized signage; and
 - d. a plan to add additional lands to Saltair's open space system.

Figure 7 Trails North Saltair - Area G

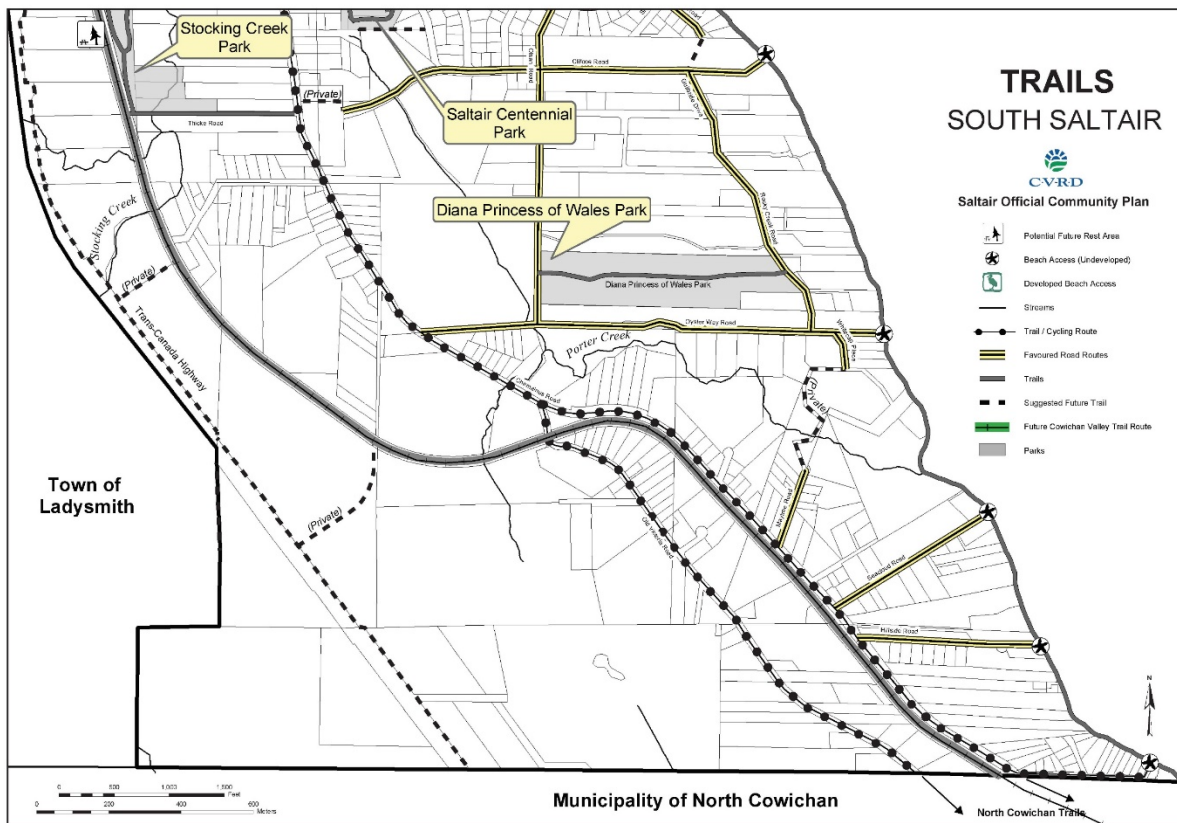
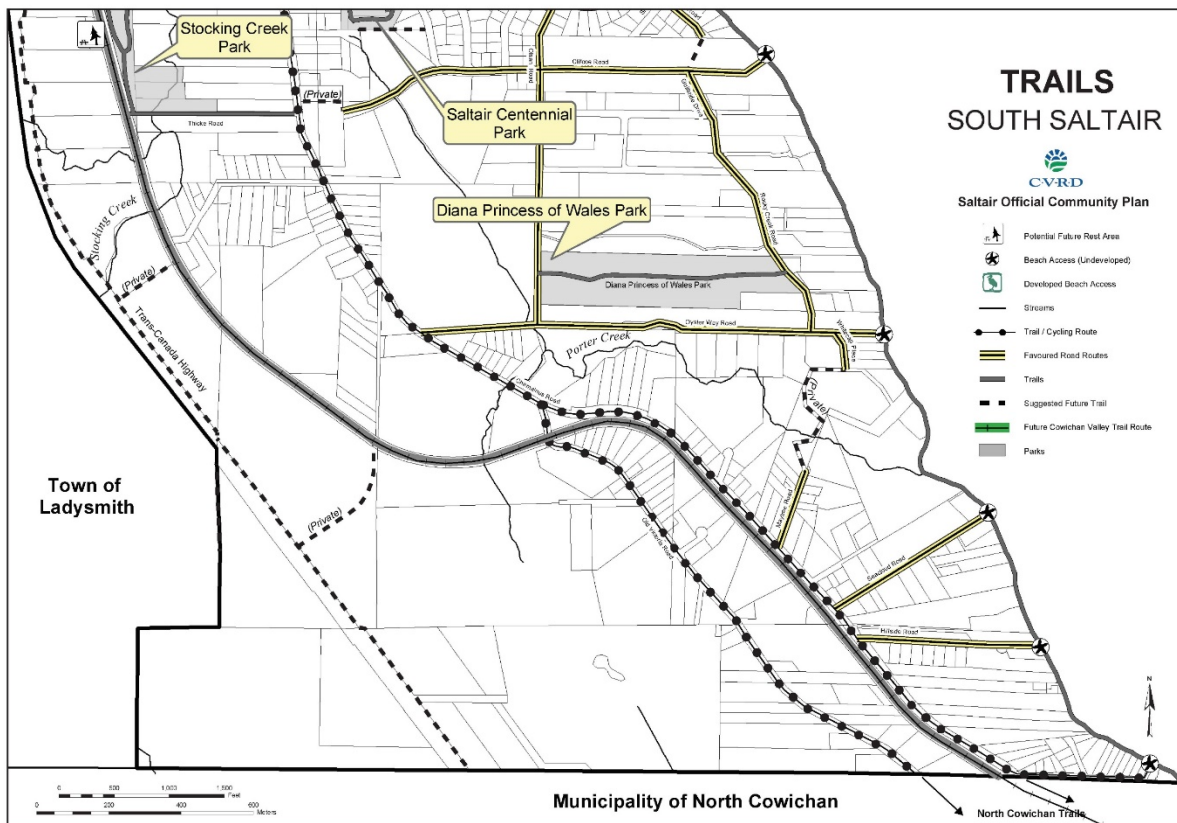


Figure 8 Trails South Saltair - Area G



Area H Parks

There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. (See Figure 2–2 Area H Parks) As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages.

Parks, trails and institutional uses are generally compatible with any designation of the community plan. The final determination of where a park, trail or institutional use will be located is a function of land being available, the type of use it is and the area of population it will serve.

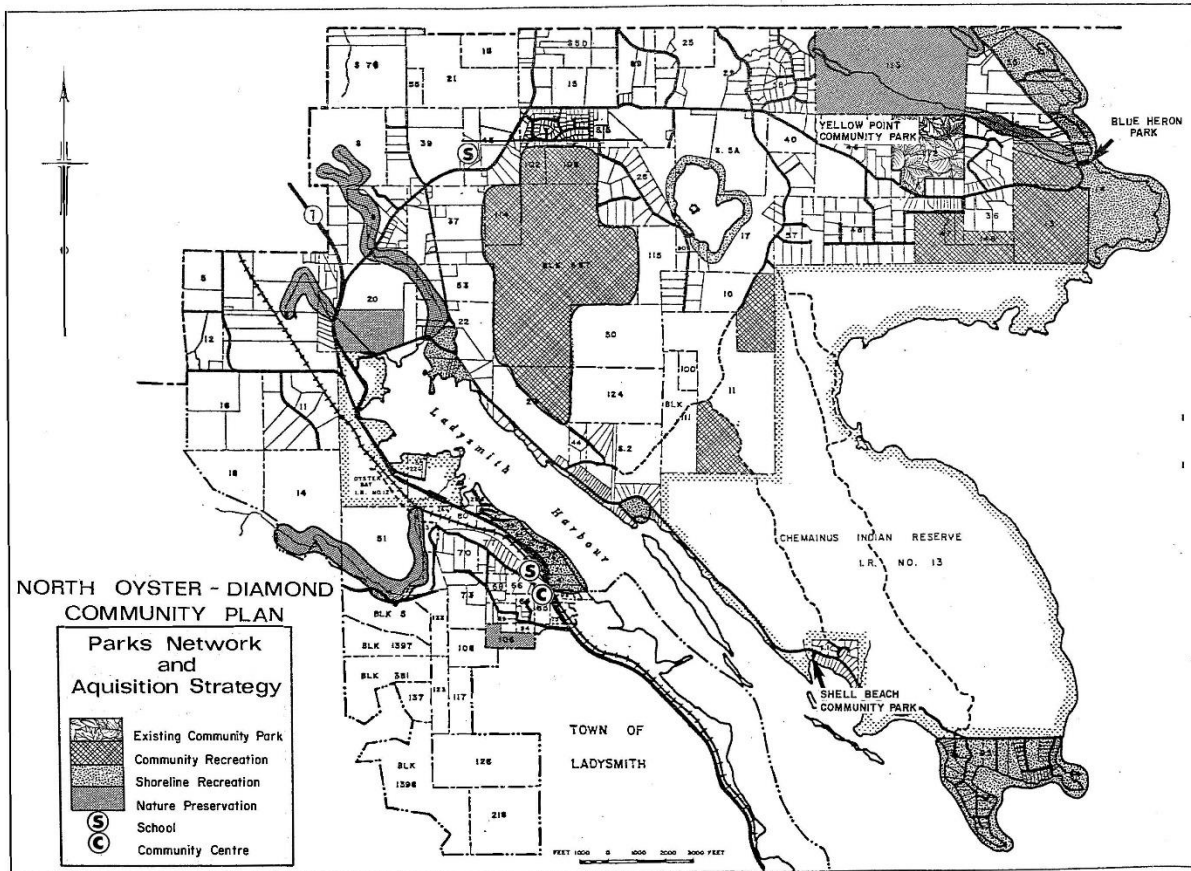
Existing parks in North Oyster/Diamond include:

- Blue Heron Park
- Christie Road Park (neighbourhood park)
- Elliots Beach Park
- Michael Lake Trail (under permit with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure)
- Oriosi Park (linear corridor park)
- Raise Road Beach Access (under permit with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure)
- Raven Park
- Trillium Park (nature park)
- Yellow Point Park (nature park)
- Nature preservation park on Woodley Range

Parks can be smaller neighbourhood parks for active outdoor recreational opportunities, linear corridor parks for trail connectivity or larger nature parks that generally have passive outdoor use.

Additionally, there are two provincial parks in the local plan area: Woodley Range Ecological Reserve and Yellow Point Bog Ecological Reserve.

Figure 9 Area H Parks



The Parks designation is intended to ensure a strategic and planned approach to the acquisition and maintenance of parks and trails by using the full suite of tools available to the CVRD to acquire parkland and trails.

Parks Objectives

1. Maximize opportunities for recreation and active living and recognize them as being essential to personal health, strong families and healthy communities.
2. Provide a diverse range of recreational opportunities.
3. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages and beach access.
4. Develop a 20-year community parks and trails master plan to identify existing and future community parks, trails, and walking and cycling paths in the plan area.
5. Encourage the Province to upgrade ocean shore dead-end roads.
6. Provide beach access to residents.
7. Consider parks in all land designations.
8. Acquire a shoreline recreation park on the south shore of Ladysmith Harbour to provide linear beach access and permanence to traditional swimming areas.
9. Acquire community recreation parks on District Lot (DL) 106 and 109.
10. Encourage the Province to facilitate community recreational trails on Woodley Range.
11. Develop a nature park within DL 51 adjacent to Bush Creek.
12. Consider a children's playground in the Diamond community park.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Supports a strategic and planned approach to parks acquisition and maintenance of parks.

Area I Parks

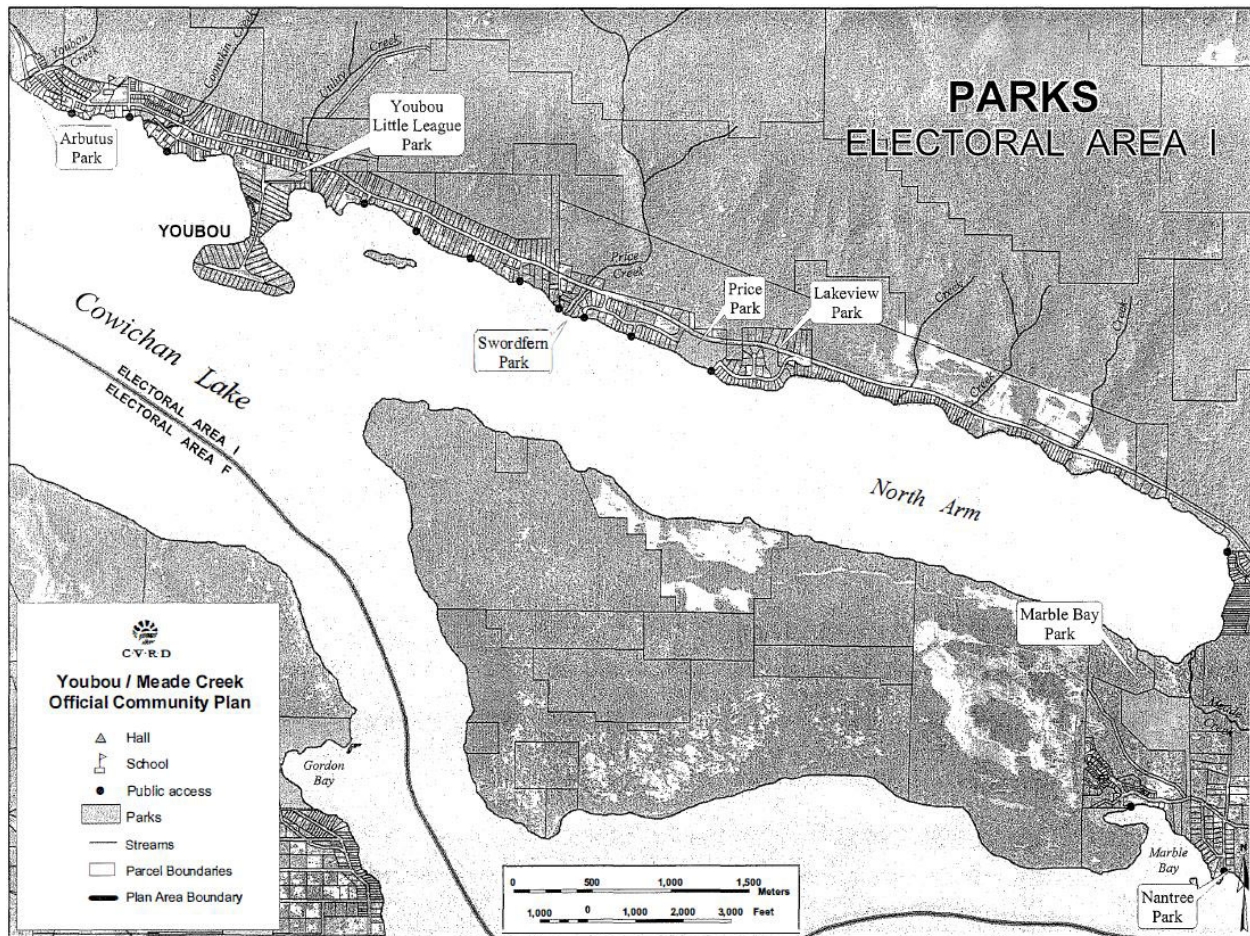
There are numerous parks in the local plan area, and the CVRD actively encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. (See Figure 2–1 Area I Parks) As the population continues to grow, a high priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails and the acquisition of new ones, including trail linkages. The CVRD supports a collaborative approach to planning for parks.

The plan has three Parks designations:

- Parks
 - › Comprehensive Recreational
 - › Environmental Conservation

The pristine natural and visual environment of Youbou/Meade Creek is a major contributing factor to the quality of life and attractiveness of the area. Recreational opportunities are abundant in the plan area, with forest-covered uplands, lake shorelines and scenic river corridors. At the same time, these features represent important ecological systems that provide domestic water, habitat for fish, plant and wildlife species, and the working forestry and mining land base. The intention of this plan is to provide for recreational opportunities of various types in areas that have the appropriate biological capabilities to sustain the varying levels of impacts associated with recreational uses.

Figure 10 Area I Parks



The Parks designation is intended to ensure acquisition of new parks and trail linkages and maintenance of existing parks and is permitted in any zone.

The following community parks are within the electoral area I Youbou/Meade Creek LAP:

- Arbutus Park
- Bald Mountain Park
- Block 9
- Creekside Greenspace 1
- Creekside Greenspace 2
- Creekside Trail
- Lakeview Park
- Lubin Park
- Marble Bay Park
- Marble Bay Roadside Trail
- Meade Creek Road Park
- Mile 77 Park
- Nantree Park
- Price Park
- Southern Playfield Park
- Stoker Park
- Swordfern Park
- Youbou Little League Park

Comprehensive Recreational Designation

The Comprehensive Recreational designation is intended to accommodate outdoor-oriented activities such as music concerts and festivals and public assembly events.

Environmental Conservation Designation

The Environmental Conservation designation is intended to leave a suitably large floodway and riparian zone for Cottonwood Creek and protect other areas that have high value as forest and habitat for native flora and fauna, notably including the Vancouver Island herd of Roosevelt elk.

Parks Objectives

1. Provide public beach access and boat launches.
2. Provide wildlife interpretation within parks.
3. Preserve the Cowichan Lake islands for public use.
4. Accommodate all societal segments.
5. Protect Bald Mountain Peninsula.
6. Encourage the school district to sell closed public schools to local community groups.
7. Develop a greenways vision implementation plan that delineates greenways and prioritizes actions including a monitoring program directing intensive land uses outside the greenway areas.
8. Implement a greenways vision plan with the following considerations:
 - a. qualifying lands should include community parks, recreational trails, wildlife corridors, lake shorelines, abandoned rail rights of way and tot play areas;

- b. qualifying watercourse and riparian areas and environmentally sensitive areas should be broad;
 - c. wide stakeholder interests and participation;
 - d. consideration given to guided and interpretive walks and communications as well as a stewardship program;
 - e. land acquisition;
 - f. voluntary participation from the private sector;
 - g. physical improvements;
 - h. a public trail around Cowichan Lake;
 - i. trail system along abandoned railways and linkages to regional trail systems;
 - j. alternative transportation options where feasible; and
 - k. linking institutional facilities.
9. Encourage the provincial government to place a park reserve on all Crown lands in the vicinity of Cowichan Lake. (In cases where these properties are adjacent or within close proximity to CVRD parks, consideration should be given to incorporating these lands into the regional district's park program).
 10. Encourage the provision of parks for the protection of sensitive ecosystems and fish and wildlife sites.
 11. Encourage the federal and provincial governments to preserve the islands in Cowichan Lake for public use.

Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Supports amalgamation of parks comprising more than one land registry.

Comprehensive Recreational Objectives

To be considered in the modernization. The Temporary Use Designation use exists within the zoning bylaw.

Comprehensive Recreational Policies

To be considered in the modernization.

Environmental Conservation Objectives

1. Protect Cottonwood Creek and the habitat of the Roosevelt elk.

Environmental Conservation Policies

The regional board:

1. Considers flood protection policies.
2. Encourages minimal improvements such as public trails on existing alignments and a pedestrian bridge.