

SCHEDULE P PARKS AND TRAILS

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Parks and Trails

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 Cowichan Valley Regional District (CVRD), 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.

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 CVRD. There are numerous parks and trails in the electoral areas, and the CVRD encourages additional acquisitions as suitable lands become available. As the population continues to grow, priority will be placed on the maintenance of existing parks and trails, as well as new acquisitions, including trail linkages and Active Transportation connections. The CVRD supports a collaborative approach in planning for local parks and trails.

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

Parks and trails are typically acquired through the CVRD's capital budget process or 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 acquire parks and trails infrastructure through charitable donations in exchange for tax receipts. Establishment of public park spaces and trail corridors can also occur through negotiated, long-term leases, licences or permit agreements with land agencies, such as the Nature Trust of British Columbia or the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure.

Parks Designation

The Parks designation is intended to provide outdoor recreation and social infrastructure and the provision of community services. The Official Community Plan for the Electoral Areas (OCP) provides Parks objectives and policies. Additional objectives and policies specific to the local area may be considered in the modernization.

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.

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 population of the area it will serve.

Area A Parks & Trails

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

Hollings Creek Park is a 19.0 ha nature park generally located between Lilmac Road south to Deloume Road. It includes riparian areas along Hollings and Good Hope Creeks. Major portions of this park were acquired by the CVRD in 2003 and 2006 for environmental protection and to provide an integrated trail network for the community. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

George Patterson Park is a 1.46 ha nature park acquired through subdivision in 2007, and it has no park amenities. This park is in the growth containment boundary.

Deloume Park is a 0.2 ha park located on McClaren Road that was acquired through subdivision in 2010. The park currently has a playground, small picnic shelter and multi-use sport court.

Additional parks and trails in the growth containment boundary are:

- Bakerview Beach Access
- Barry Road Walkway
- Deloume Trail
- Gatewheel Road Greenbelt
- Hidden Estates Park
- Memory Lane Greenspace
- Mill Bay Marina Boardwalk
- Mill Bay Boat Launch
- Rozon Road Trail
- Sentinel Trail

Parks and trails in electoral area A outside the growth containment boundary include:

- Briarwood Park
- Fern Ridge Park
- Inlet Drive Beach Access
- Malahat Trail
- McCurdy Point Park
- Mill Bay Historic Church
- Mill Bay Nature Park
- Mill Bay Community 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 established for community outdoor recreation use and environmental protection. For example, several park spaces are anticipated through development of the Stonebridge Future Development Area and Comprehensive Development designations.

Electoral area A separates Parks and Institutional designations, which will be more fully considered during the modernization. Bamberton Provincial Park is the only provincial park located in electoral area A, and it fronts on Saanich Inlet. It includes 53 provincially operated campsites and a variety of amenities, including parking, picnic areas and toilet facilities.

Parks and Trails Objectives

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

Parks and Trails Policies

The regional board:

To be considered in the modernization.

Area B Parks

Dougan Park is a 2.3 ha community park that accommodates the Shawnigan Lake Community Centre. It includes a well-equipped 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. A new acquisition, north of the Recreation Centre, occurred in 2021, adding additional area for parking and trails to access the Shawnigan Rail/Trail, which runs within the rail right-of-way. The area will also provide grassy open space for picnicking.

Elise Miles Park is 1.5 ha and is considered the heart of the community. Plans are underway to continue developing this park as a centre point for the village. A pavilion shelter has been constructed, and the adopted Elsie Mile Park concept plan includes future establishment of an entry plaza, playground, pathways and other park amenities, along with planned expansion of the Shawnigan Lake Museum operated under agreement by the community historical society.

Galland Road Park is a 0.4 ha neighbourhood park nestled among beautiful, mature trees. This park is owned by a strata corporation and maintained by the CVRD under an agreement. A small playground and picnic area were installed in 2002, with the playground apparatus replaced in 2020.

Gibsons Park is a 0.6 ha park located in a forested area on Wilmot Avenue. It features a playground, picnic area and trails. This neighbourhood park was acquired by the CVRD during a subdivision approval process in 1988 and was developed between 1992 and 2009.

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

Old Baldy Mountain Park is a 102.6 ha park acquired in 2015 as a nature park. Plans are underway to develop a parking lot and formalize trails on the mountain.

Old Baldy Mountain Trail is a 0.7 ha trail network off Shawnigan Lake Road that meanders through the local residential area, offering views of Shawnigan Lake. This park was acquired by the CVRD in 1985, and the trail was built in 2000. There are plans to eventually connect the trail to Old Baldy Mountain Park.

Old Mill Park is a popular 6.9 ha waterfront park with trails, swimming area, playground, picnic area, parking and a viewing platform overlooking the lake. The park is in the location of a sawmill that operated on the shores of Shawnigan Lake from 1891 until 1945.

Recreation Road boat launch is a 0.1 ha site located south of the Shawnigan Lake village area, and it is within the road right-of-way under permit with the Provincial Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure. The site includes a single lane boat ramp and roadside 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 within the Shawnigan Beach Estates. It was acquired through subdivision in 2001. Development of the park commenced in 2002, and it currently features a sports field, two ball fields, an enclosed sports court, parking, a playground, changerooms and a washroom facility.

Shawnigan Wharf Park is a 1.2 ha waterfront park located off Thrush Road, offering a swimming beach area, volleyball court, parking, public wharf and single lane boat launch. In 1989, the CVRD leased the foreshore and beach from the Province for the purpose of managing the public wharf

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 acquired through subdivision in 2008. It has no amenities.

Ceylon Park is a 1.0 ha community park acquired through subdivision in 1983. It has no amenities.

Courtney Way Park is a 1.3 ha community park acquired through subdivision in 2000. It has no amenities.

Bob-O-Link Trail is a 0.6 ha trail and was acquired through subdivision from 2007 to 2009.

Melrose Park is nestled in a tree-lined area to the south of Cobble Hill Mountain. It is a 0.6 ha neighbourhood park equipped with a playground and picnic area. This park was purchased by the CVRD in 1981 and developed in 1997.

Memory Island Provincial Park is a 1.0 ha island on Shawnigan Lake that provides for passive public recreation use on one of the only protected park islands found on a major destination lake within the Cowichan Valley Regional District. The park is accessible only by boat and offers a walking trail, small swimming beach and picnic site. The CVRD has had a permit with BC Parks to operate the island park since 2002.

Silvermine Park is a 3.7 ha nature park off Glen Eagles Crescent that features rugged hiking trails. The park was developed in 2004 and upgraded in 2009.

Additional existing community parks and trails in area B Shawnigan Lake include:

- 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
- McCooey Park
- McGee Creek Park
- Meadowview Park
- Millicent CVT Access
- Mountain Park
- Nugget 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 two regional parks, a regional trail and one regional recreation area (Kinsol South Regional Park, Siddoo Regional Park, Cowichan Valley Trail and the Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area); one provincial park managed by BC Parks (Koksilah Provincial Park); and three provincial parks managed by the CVRD (Memory Island Provincial Park, West Shawnigan Lake Provincial Park and Spectacle Lake Regional Park) in electoral area B.

Parks and Trails Objectives

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

Parks & Trails Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages a range of community parks, neighbourhood parks and tot-lot parks, 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 CVRD 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 CVRD 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 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 and trails. The many parks and trails help to define Shawnigan Village as a community and raise the quality of life for residents.

Village Parks Objectives

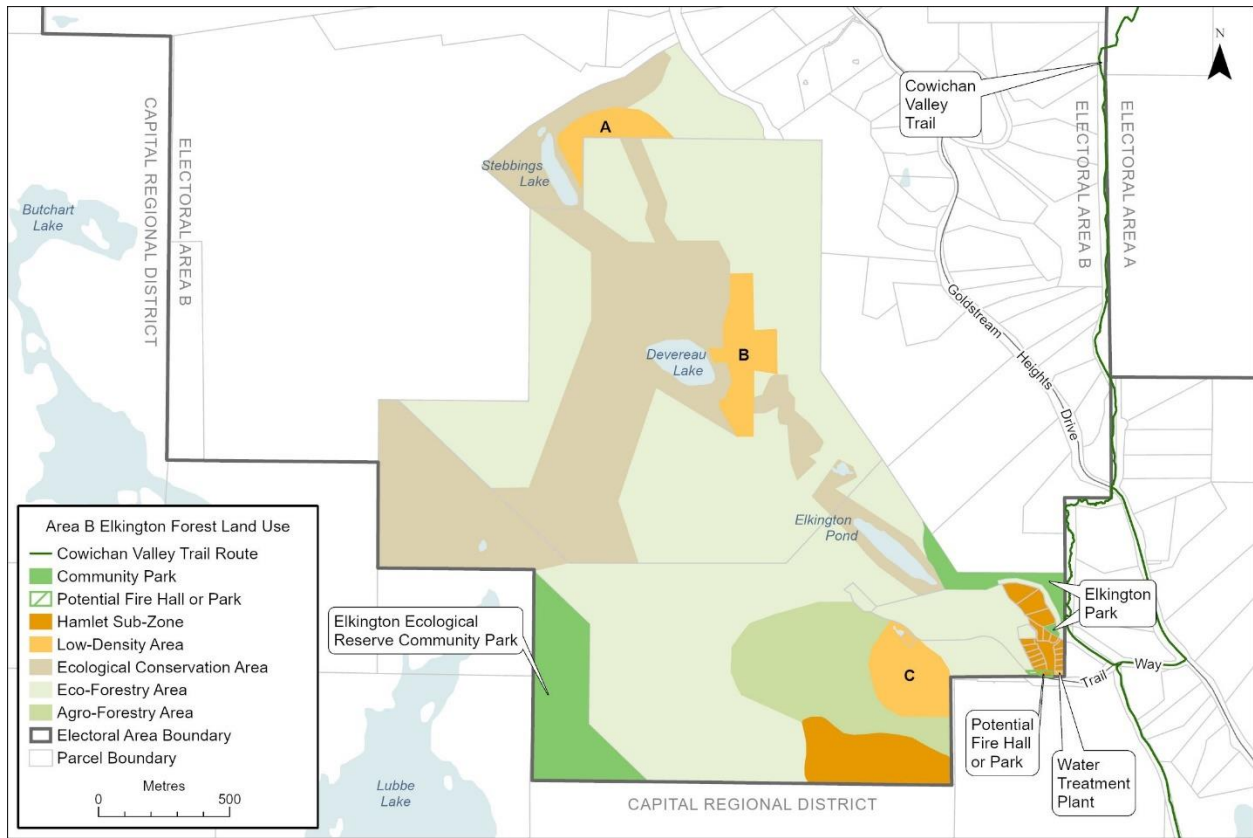
1. Preserve, enhance and increase green space, parks and trails.
2. Maximize opportunities for outdoor recreation and active living in Shawnigan Village.
3. Provide pedestrian access between parks and trails and residential areas, the commercial core and the lake.
4. Acquire new parkland and trails while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

Village Parks Policies

The regional board:

1. Supports parks and outdoor 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 open spaces.

Figure 1 Community Land Stewardship - Area B Shawnigan Lake



Area C Parks

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, improvements were completed by 1997 and a full rehabilitation of the park was undertaken in 2015.

Cherry Point Nature Park is a 0.1 ha nature park with ocean views, located along Satellite Channel. It includes a beach, benches and parking. The CVRD manages the park through a lease agreement with the Province.

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 with minor additional updates occurring through subsequent years.

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

Hammond Way Trail is an off-road walking pathway within the Aros Road provincial 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 the community of 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 under a permit with the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure, thus increasing the size of the park.

Maple Hills Park is a 0.7 ha neighbourhood park that was acquired through subdivision and originally called Sitka Park. This park has a picnic area and a short trail system through the forest.

Merilees Nature Park is a 2.7 ha nature park located along Hutchinson Road. It includes a viewing platform for birdwatching and nature appreciation. 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.

Quarry Nature Park is a 9.6 ha community park located just west of Cobble Hill Village. This once productive industrial site features multi-use trails, an old steam compressor display, the South Cowichan off-leash dog park and Cleasby Bike Park. The park also includes a picnic area, parking and washroom building and is the gateway into the Cobble Hill Mountain Regional Recreation Area.

Additional community parks in the area C Cobble Hill 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
- Watson Park
- White Cap Road Connector Trail
- William Shearing Park

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

Parks and Trails Objectives

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

Parks and Trails Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages a range of community parks, neighbourhood parks and tot-lot parks, for a diverse population.
2. 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 for the leisure and enjoyment of residents and visitors.
2. Develop an Active Transportation trail network that is aesthetically pleasing while encouraging 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 and trails.
4. Maintain and improve Galliers Road Park, including the basketball court, playground, picnic area, walking trails and toilet facilities within the park, for the enjoyment of residents and visitors.
5. Maintain and improve Memorial Park as an outdoor gathering place during Remembrance Day and other celebrations, as this park has historical and cultural significance to the community.
6. Provide the Provincial Government with an expression of interest for 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 a healthy, vibrant and aesthetically pleasing community with an abundance of indoor and outdoor public open spaces.

Area D Parks

Electoral area D Cowichan Bay has approximately 32 ha of parks, inclusive of six trails and two developed public beach accesses. Most parks and trails in the area are in the Cowichan Bay Village, Cherry Point and Kingscote communities. Larger wooded areas remain, which are not 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 Objectives

1. Encourage bequests, gifts of land and financial contributions to the CVRD Parks and Trails Division, in co-operation 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, licences 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 Nature 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 (Active Transportation).
8. Recognize the Wilmot roadside pathway between Wilmot Road and Koksilah Road as a minimum standard for establishment of roadside pathways.



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



Photo: Cowichan Bay Marine Gateway (CVRD).

Parks and Trails 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

Electoral area E has approximately 116.9 ha of community parks and 160 ha of subregional (Bright Angel Park) and regional parks (Sandy Pool Regional Park). Chemainus River Provincial Park and a portion of Cowichan River Provincial Park (approx. 1,414 ha) are also located in area E, and the Cowichan Valley Trail, part of The Great Trail, traverses the area.

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

- Alron Park
- Boal Road Park
- Boys Road Pullout
- Busy Place Creek Park
- Caromar Trail
- 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
- Polkey Road Trail
- Sahtlam Greenway Park
- Wake Lake Nature Reserve

Parks and Trails Objectives

1. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages.
2. Focus park land acquisition on management of ecosystem.

Parks and Trail Policies

The regional board:

1. Adopts 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 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; or
 - ii. pay to the CVRD an amount that equals 5% of the market appraised value of the land being proposed for subdivision to be deposited into the park acquisition reserve fund.

- b. 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 for acquisition to establish as park.

Area F Parks

Area F consists of community trails, as well as provincial and federal parks.

(See [Figure 2 Parks Index – Area F Cowichan Lake/Skutz Falls](#), [Figure 3 Parks West – Area F Cowichan Lake/Skutz Falls](#) and [Figure 4 Parks East – Area F Cowichan Lake/Skutz Falls](#))

The Cowichan Valley Trail (part of the Trans Canada Trail, since 2016 renamed “The Great Trail”) is also located in the area and is a regional trail. Provincial and federal parks are larger and can provide more appeal to people on a provincial, national and international scale. There are four provincial parks, two ecological reserves and one national park reserve in the area—Cowichan River Provincial Park, Gordon Bay Provincial Park, Carmanah Walbran Provincial Park, Nitinat River Provincial Park, Honeymoon Bay Ecological Reserve, Nitinat Lake Ecological Reserve and a portion of Pacific Rim National Park reserve. These are all designated as Parks in the plan.

Community parks and trails in electoral area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls plan include:

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

This local area also includes five provincial parks, two provincial ecological reserves and one national park:

- Chemainus River Provincial Park (operated by CVRD through the regional parks function)
- Carmanah Walbran Park (Provincial Park)
- Cowichan River Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Gordon Bay Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Honeymoon Bay Ecological Reserve (Provincial Ecological Reserve)
- Nitinat River Provincial Park (Provincial Park)
- Nitinat Lake Ecological Reserve (Provincial Ecological Reserve)
- Pacific Rim National Park Reserve (National Park)

Parks and Trails Objectives

1. Maintain, improve and expand community pathway connections inclusive of Active

Transportation routes.

2. Establish a community trail system to link Honeymoon Bay to Mesachie Lake to the Town of Lake Cowichan.
3. Encourage improvement of access to the west coast national and provincial parks for residents and visitors.
4. Provide for institutional uses that serve the needs of area residents.
5. Promote, encourage and foster partnerships with other government agencies, private companies, land trusts and interest groups through relevant legislation.
6. Encourage the provision of parks for the protection of sensitive ecosystems, as well as fish and wildlife habitat.
7. Increase public access to the lakefront.
8. Coordinate park development within the Cowichan River corridor with relevant agencies.
9. Encourage government agencies to improve and provide safe public road access to outdoor recreational resources.
10. Develop a Community Parks and Trails Master Plan for Area F, as may be required in future.

Parks & Trails Policies

The regional board:

- May consider amalgamating CVRD park properties with more than one land registry parcels into one park parcel.

Figure 2 Parks Index – Area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls

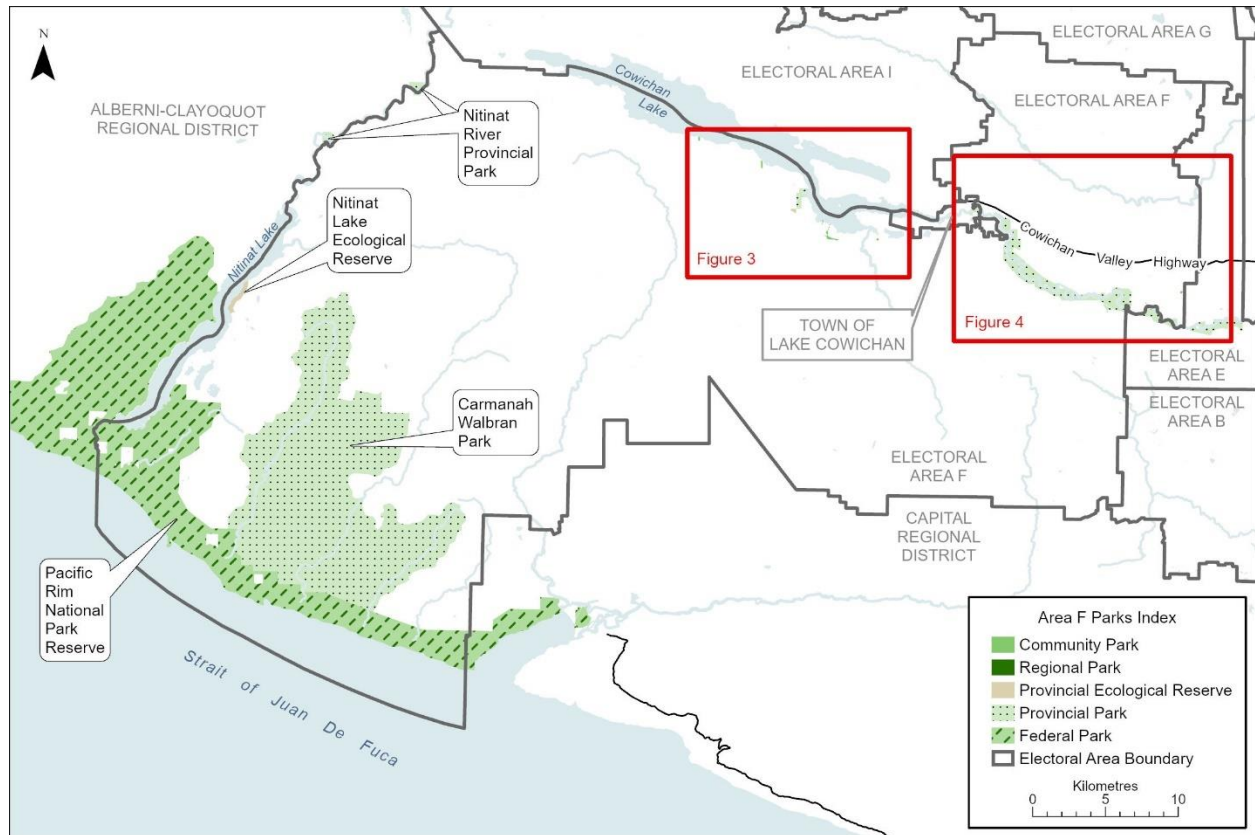


Figure 3 Parks West - Area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls

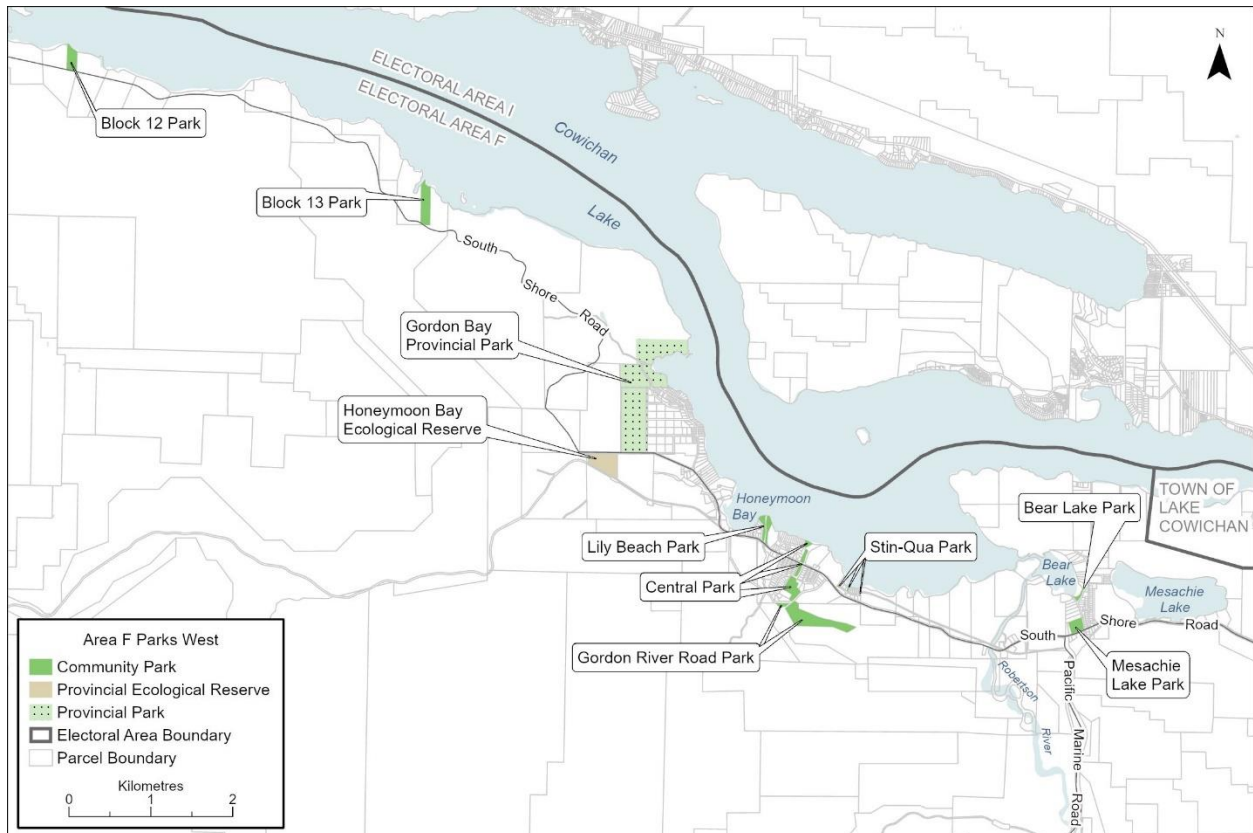
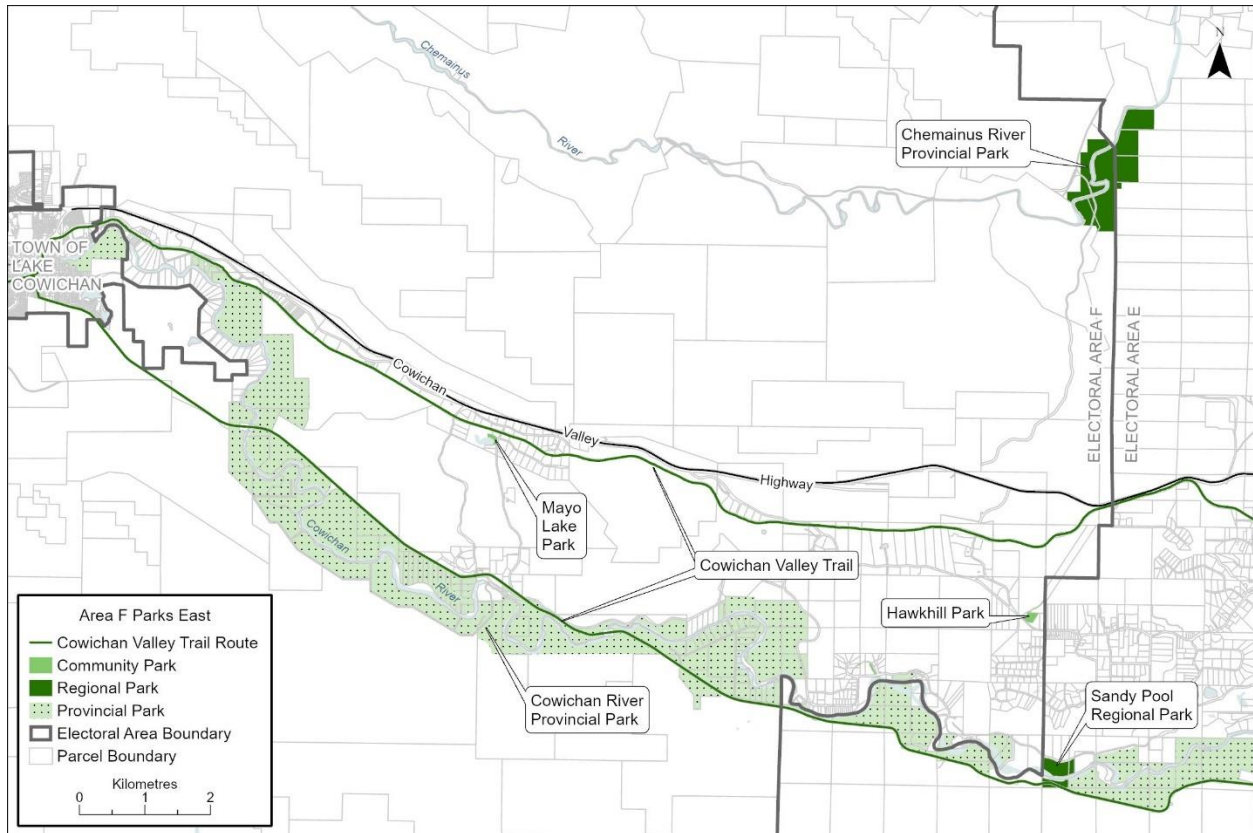


Figure 4 Parks East - Area F Cowichan Lake South/Skutz Falls



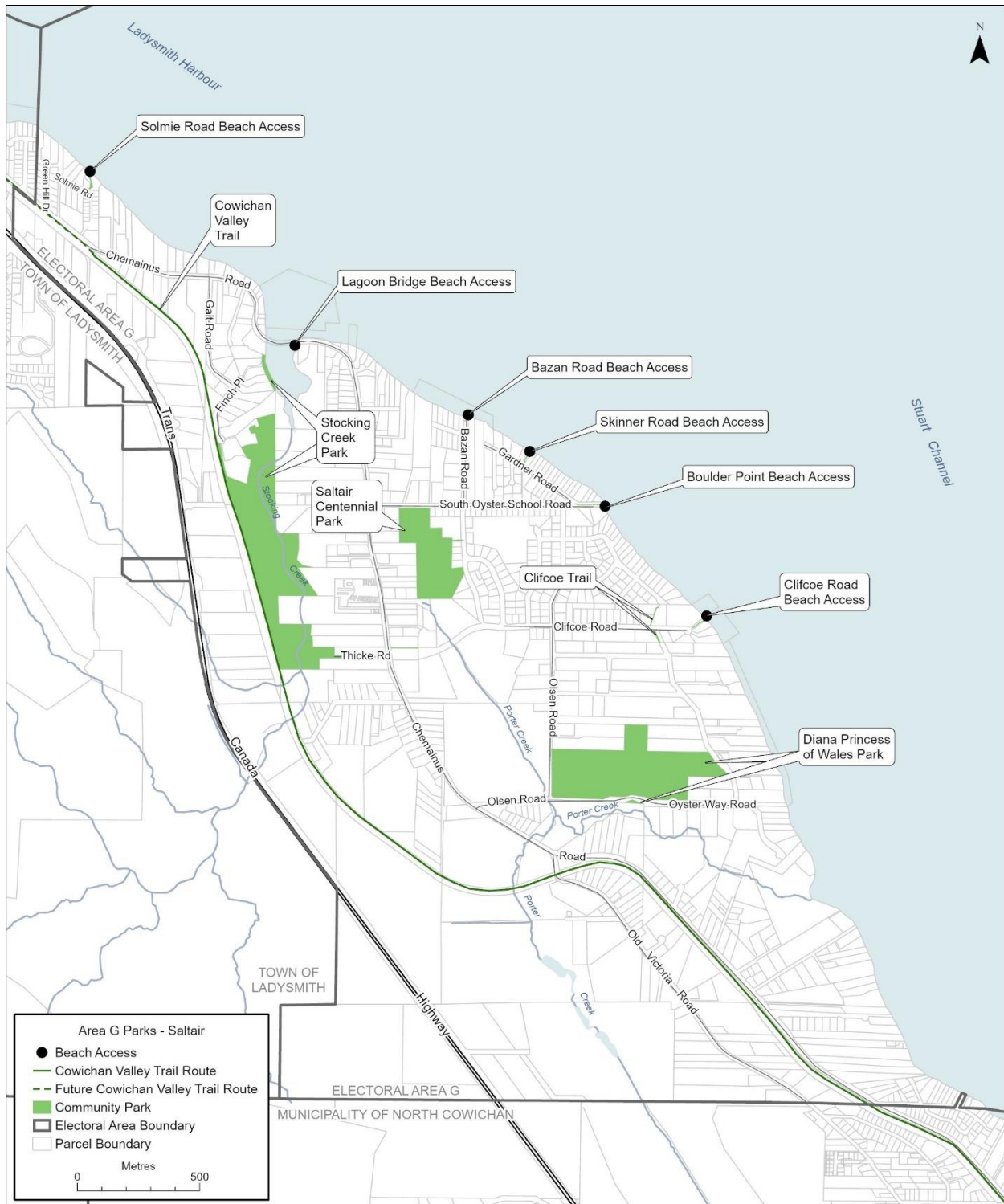
Area G Parks

Twelve community parks exist in electoral area G Saltair:

- Bazan Road Beach Access
- Boulder Point Beach Access
- Clifcoe Trail
- 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 area.

Figure 5 Parks – Area G Saltair



Parks and Trails Objectives

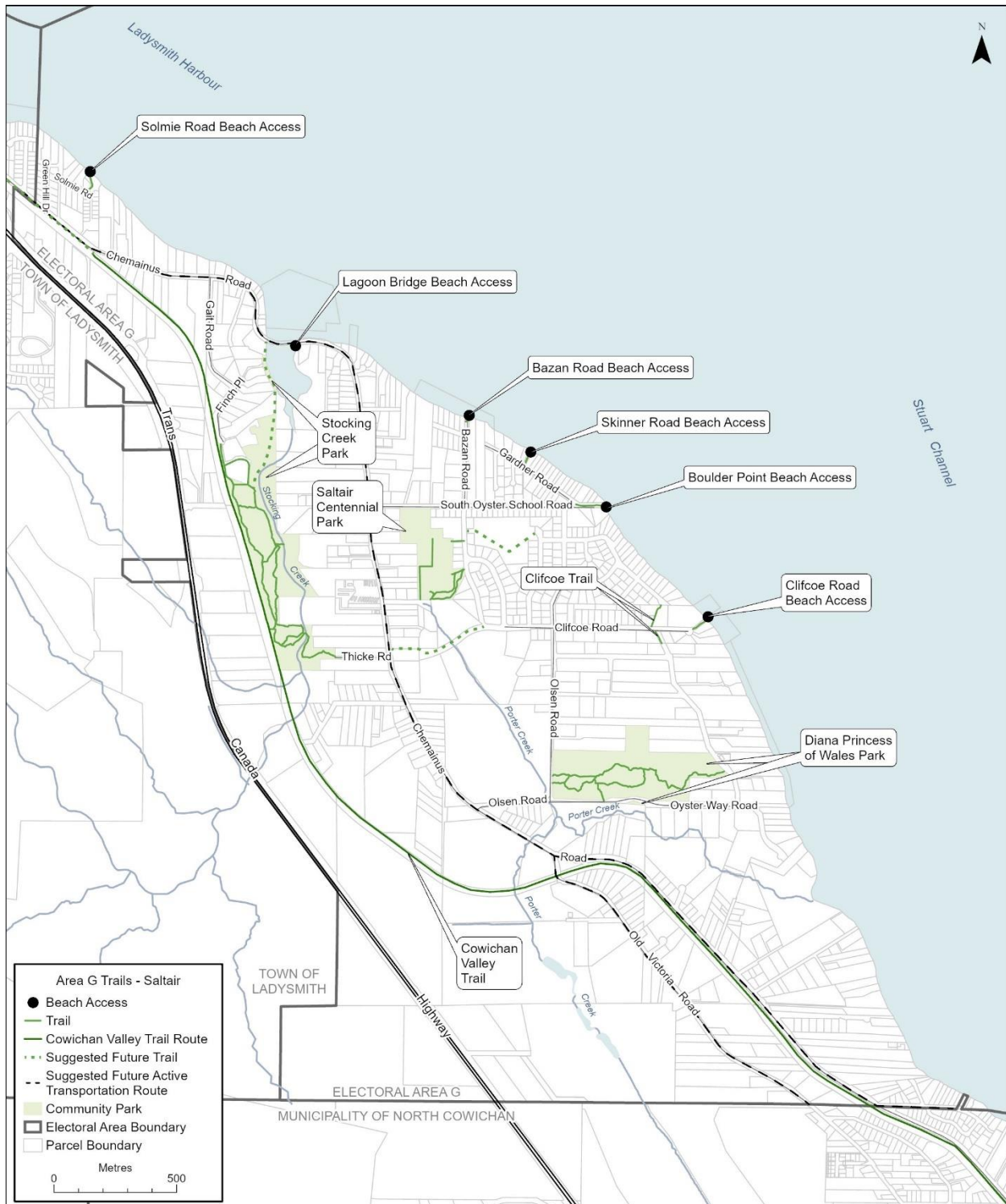
1. Increase outdoor recreational opportunities as well as preserving aquatic habitat, rare and fragile native plant communities, wildlife habitat and corridors, significant geographical or historical features and the natural beauty of Saltair.
2. Encourage a strong outdoor recreational component in the community.
3. Develop a network of safe and convenient pedestrian and cycling trails, paths and walkways to link 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.
4. Expand Stocking Creek Park through donation and acquisition.
5. Increase the accessibility of public beaches.
6. Encourage the Province to retain Crown land for parks, outdoor recreation and environmental protection.
7. Increase park land to enhance Saltair's open space system.

Parks and Trails Policies

The regional board:

1. Encourages green mapping where significant features, both natural and historical, are identified and preserved.

Figure 6 Trails – Area G Saltair



Area H Parks

There are several parks and trails in area H. (See Figure 7 Parks – Area H North Oyster/Diamond and Figure 8 Future Parks of Interest – Area H North Oyster/Diamond)

Existing parks in North Oyster/Diamond include:

- Blue Heron Park
- Christie Road Park
- Elliots Beach Park
- Michael Lake Trail
- Oriosi Park
- Raise Road Beach Access
- Raven Park
- Trillium Park

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

Figure 7 Parks – Area H North Oyster/Diamond

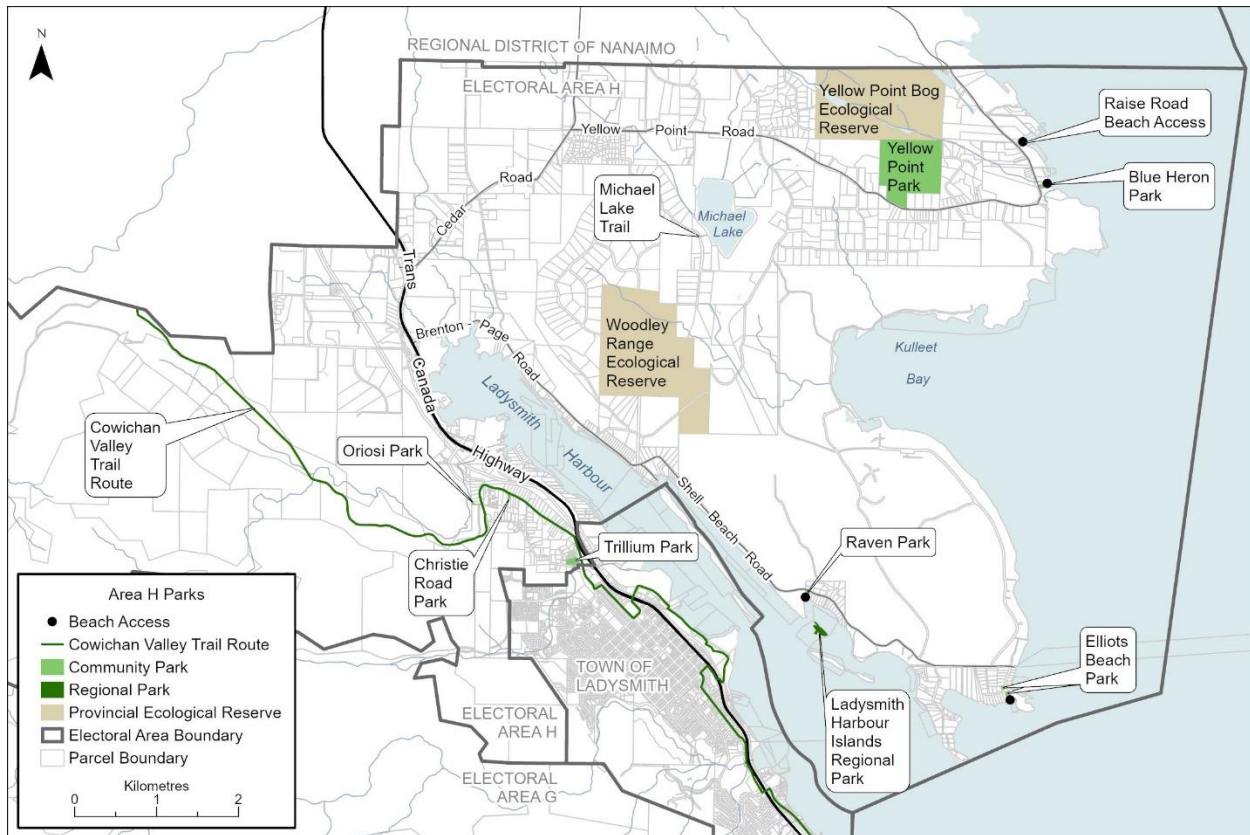
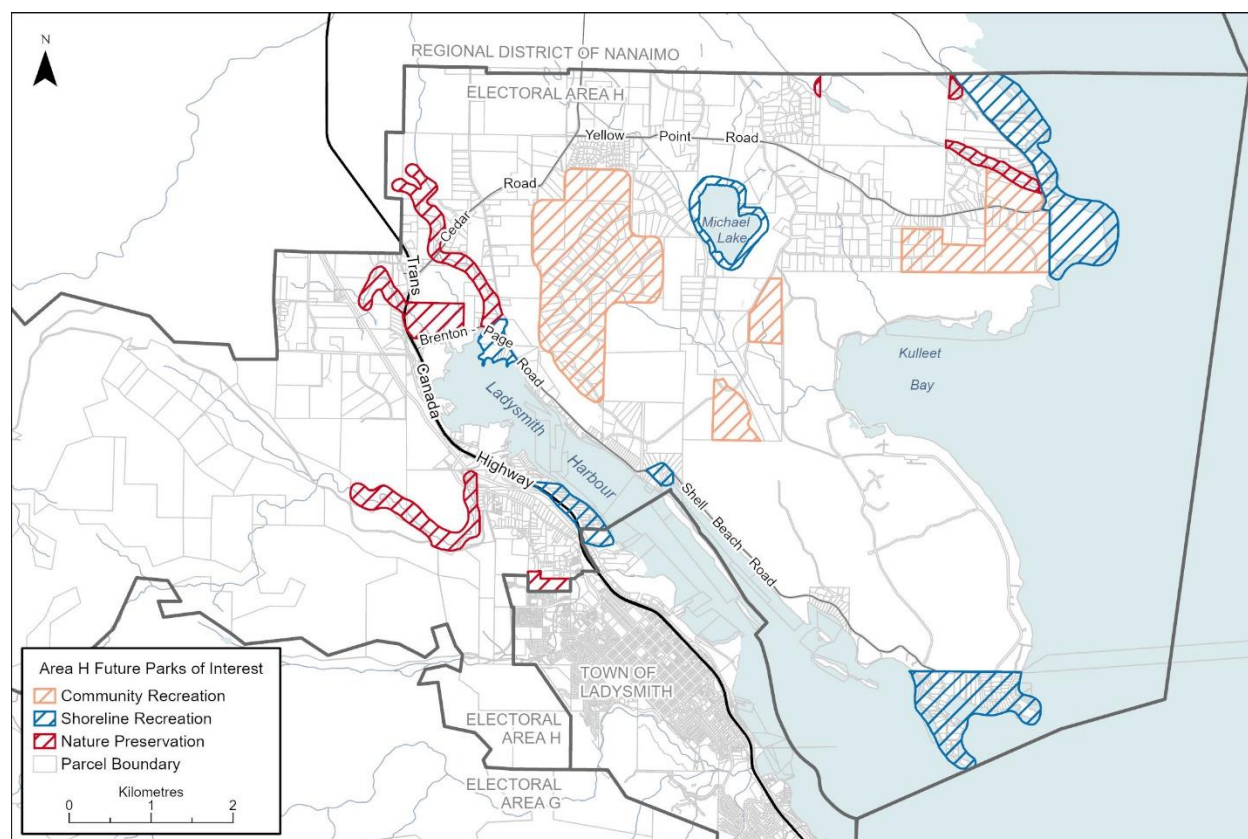


Figure 8 Future Parks of Interest – Area H North Oyster/Diamond



Parks and Trails Objectives

1. Maximize opportunities for outdoor recreation and active living and recognize them as being essential to personal health, strong families and healthy communities.
2. Provide a diverse range of outdoor recreational opportunities.
3. Improve pedestrian and cycling linkages and beach accesses.
4. Provide access to beaches for residents.
5. Consider parks in all land designations.
6. Acquire District Lot (DL) 106 and 109 as park land.
7. Encourage the Province to facilitate community recreational trails on Woodley Range.
8. Develop a nature park within DL 51 adjacent to Bush Creek.
9. Consider a children's playground in Christie Road Park.

Parks & Trails Policies

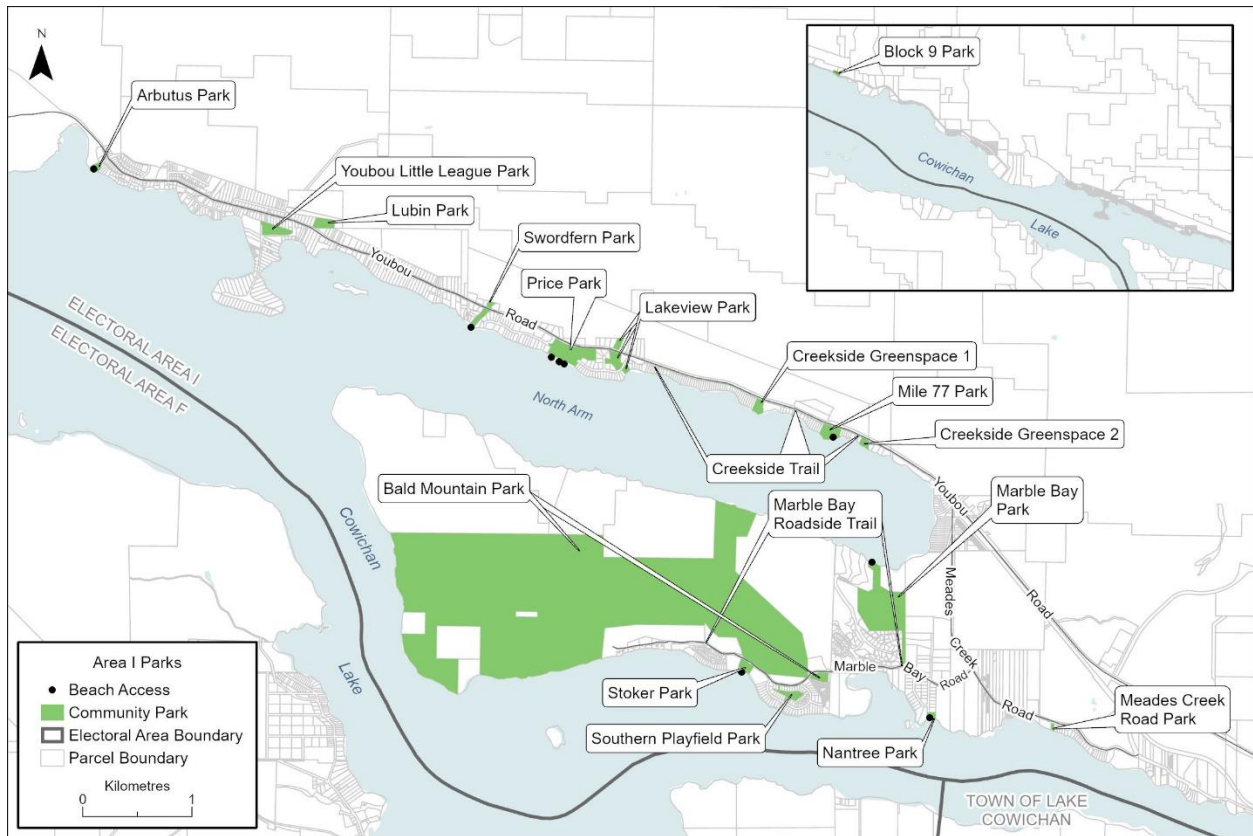
To be considered in the modernization.

Area I Parks

Area I has three outdoor recreation designations:

- Parks
- Comprehensive Recreational
- Environmental Conservation

Figure 9 Parks – Area I Youbou/Meade Creek



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

- Arbutus Park
- Bald Mountain Park
- Block 9 Park
- 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, 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 for protection of other areas of high value as forest land and habitat for native flora and fauna, notably including the Vancouver Island herd of Roosevelt elk.

Parks and Trails Objectives

1. Provide for public beach accesses and public boat launches.
2. Provide wildlife habitat within nature parks.
3. Accommodate, as much as possible, for accessibility of all users.
4. Protect Bald Mountain Peninsula.
5. Encourage the school district to sell closed public school properties to local community groups.
6. Implement a greenways vision plan with the following considerations:
 - a. qualifying lands should include community parks and trails, wildlife corridors, lake shorelines and abandoned rail rights-of-way;
 - b. qualifying watercourse and riparian areas and environmentally sensitive areas should be broad;
 - c. wide stakeholder interests and public participation;
 - d. parkland acquisition;
 - e. voluntary participation from other landowners including the private sector;
 - f. physical improvements;
 - g. a public trail around Cowichan Lake;

- h. trail system along abandoned railways and linkages to regional trail systems; and
 - i. Active Transportation options using roadside pathways where feasible through the community;
- 7. Encourage the Province to consider placing a park reserve on all Crown lands in the vicinity of Cowichan Lake 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 system.
 - 8. Encourage the provision of parks for the protection of sensitive ecosystems and fish and wildlife sites.

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 Shaw Creek and the habitat of Roosevelt elk.

Environmental Conservation Policies

To be considered in the modernization.