



BC Parks



Letter of Understanding

Between

BC Parks, West Coast Region and Galiano Island Local Trust Committee

The purpose of this letter of understanding, signed by BC Parks, West Coast Region and the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee, is to confirm and affirm the management direction BC Parks has for Bodega Ridge Provincial Park. Should the Dewinetz lands (Islands Trust File GL-RZ-2011.2), presently under consideration, be rezoned and the resulting Nature Protected (NP) lands are transferred to BC Parks, those lands would be designated as an addition to Bodega Ridge Provincial Park under the *Protected Areas of British Columbia Act*, to be managed under the *Park Act*.

Islands Trust has the mandate 'to preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of the province generally'.

BC Parks mission and mandate is to meet the dual mandates of conservation and recreation as set out in the BC Parks Mission Statement:

BC Parks Mission Statement:

As a public trust, BC Parks' mission is to protect representative and special natural places within the province's Protected Areas System for world-class conservation, outdoor recreation, education and scientific study.

BC Parks is committed to serving British Columbians and their visitors by:

- *Protecting and managing for future generations a wide variety of outstanding park lands which represent the best natural features and diverse wilderness environments of the province.*
- *Providing province-wide opportunities for a diversity of high quality and safe outdoor recreation that is compatible with protecting the natural environment.*

Inherent in this mandate is the requirement to maintain a balance between BC Parks' goals for protecting natural environments and outdoor recreation.

In order to meet the dual mandate of conservation and recreation, management plans are used by BC Parks as the guiding tool for park managers and operations staff to meet the goals of protecting natural environments while providing outdoor recreation that is compatible with the natural environment. The management plans guide management actions and set parameters and conditions around activities, development and protection of the protected area values. Management plans are developed with consultation with First Nations and the public.

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Bodega Ridge Provincial Park has preliminary management direction set out in the *Bodega Ridge Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan, March 2003* (attached). Additional lands have been acquired and designated as part of Bodega Ridge Provincial Park, since March 2003. Bodega Ridge Provincial Park is managed under the direction of the existing purpose statement. The purpose statement sets out the environmental and conservation values of the park, identifies the need for control of invasive plant species (as part of BC Parks overall Invasive Plant program). The purpose statement limits recreation activities, to provide for local recreation in the form of 'day hiking, wildlife viewing, photography and nature appreciation'.

Until such time as a management plan is developed for Bodega Ridge Provincial Park, the uses and management direction set out in the *Bodega Ridge Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan March 2003* will apply to the park and associated Nature Protected (NP) lands awaiting designation to Bodega Ridge Provincial Park.

The development of any additional trails or trailhead/staging area for Bodega Ridge Provincial Park would be considered through a comprehensive management planning process with the Galiano community.

The purpose statement also notes the need for cooperation with Islands Trust and stewardship with local islanders/interest groups. It is the intention of BC Parks to request the Galiano Island trustees to consider participating in future management planning for Provincial Ridge Park as part of a planning advisory committee.

This Letter of Understanding confirms and affirms the current management direction BC Parks has for Bodega Ridge Provincial Park, which would apply to new lands acquired through the successful rezoning of the Dewinetz lands (Islands Trust File GL-RZ-2011.2).



Don Cadden
Regional Director
West Coast Region, BC Parks

APRIL 9, 2013

Date



Ken Hancock
Chair, Galiano Island Local Trust Committee
Islands Trust

April 17, 2013

Date

BODEGA RIDGE PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Bodega Ridge Provincial Park is to protect the natural values associated with the Coastal Douglas-fir (moist maritime) environment. The park, 190 hectares in size, contains unique plant communities such as the hairy manzanita and Gray's desert-parsley. The park also provides excellent habitat for peregrine falcon and bald eagle nesting and offers outstanding views along the ridge overlooking Trincomali Channel.

The foreshore area is important habitat for rockfish (especially copper and quillback), lingcod, sea perches and invertebrate species such as crabs, bivalves, red and green sea urchins, shrimp, starfish and sponges. The weathervane scallop is found in Trincomali Channel, only one of two areas in British Columbia with sizeable populations.

Recreation activities are limited to day hiking along a ridge trail, wildlife viewing, photography and nature appreciation.

Known Management Issues	Response
Vegetation may be impacted by increased visitor use and invasive plant species.	Develop vegetation management plan to address issues such as invasive species (e.g. Scotch broom, ivy, gorse).
Legal access to park.	Acquire right-of-way or purchase private lands to ensure legal access to the park.

Zoning

The entire park (190 hectares) is zoned Natural Environment.

Conservation

Representation
- ecosection

Southern Gulf Islands Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented with only 5.6% protected. One of more than 35 protected areas contributing to the representation of this ecosection and ranking 6th overall (park contributes 5.6% of total protected area representation of the ecosection).
Marine foreshore protects 40 hectares in the Strait of Georgia (Marine) Ecosection (0.94% protected provincially); Bodega Ridge protects 0.53% of the total protected area.

- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant

CDFmm – this biogeoclimatic variant is poorly represented in the protected areas system (2.43%). Bodega Ridge contributes only 2.33% of the overall representation of the CDFmm.

Special Feature

Manzanito (shrub-like arbutus); Gray's desert parsley; west-facing bluffs provide marine habitat for rockfish.

Rare/Endangered Values

Habitat for peregrine falcon; park foreshore helps to protect habitat for weathervane scallop.

Scientific/Research Opportunities

Rockfish nursery and weathervane scallop ecology.

Recreation

Representation
backcountry

destination

travel corridor

local recreation

Day hiking; wildlife viewing, photography and nature appreciation.

Special Opportunities

Education/Interpretation Opportunities

Cultural Heritage

Representation

Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations

Relationship to other PAs Address access issue and future land acquisition on Galiano Island.

Co-operative Management Arrangements

Partnerships Cooperation with Islands Trust – stewardship with local islanders/interest groups.

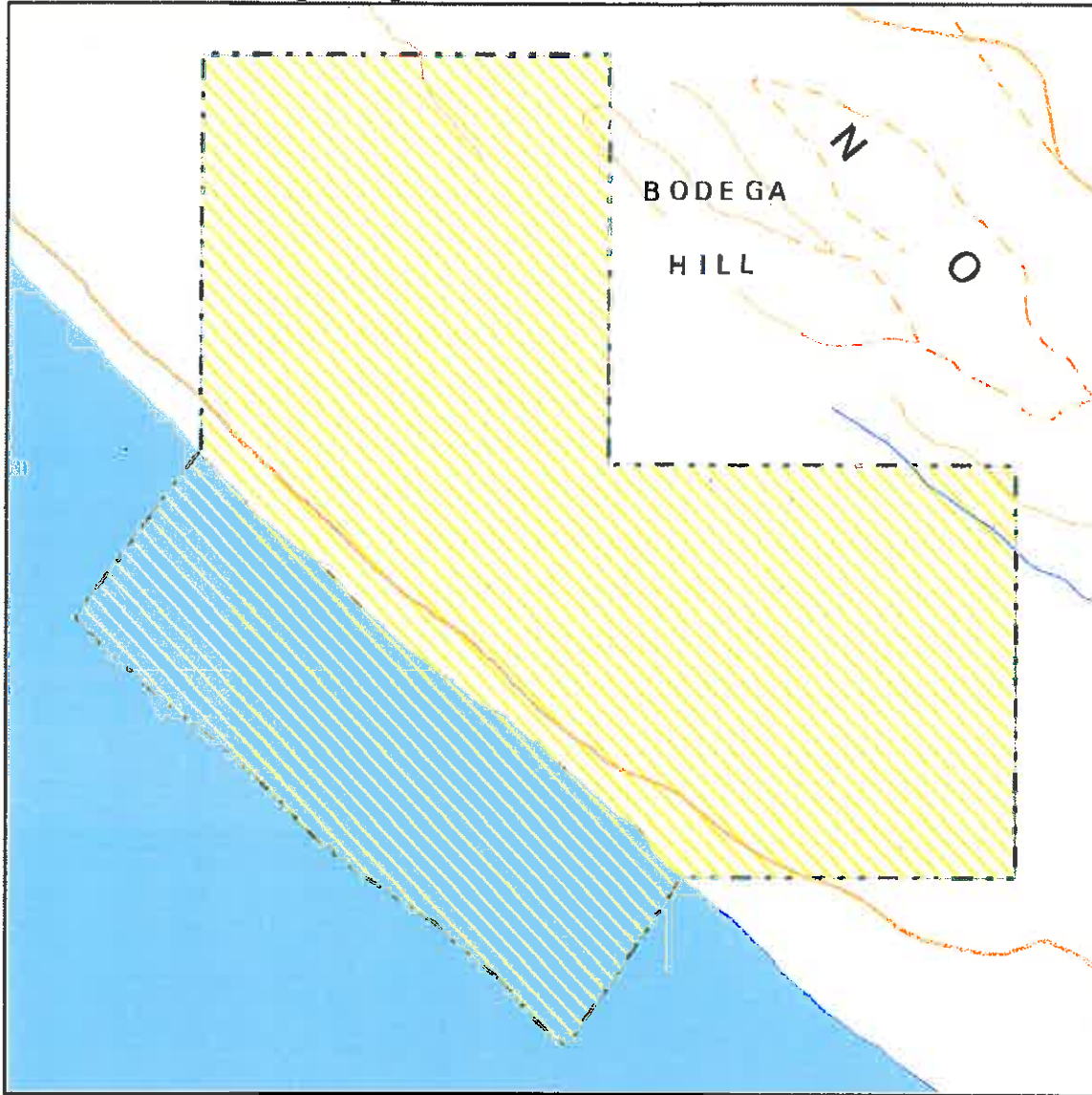
Vulnerability Fire, invasive plant species.

Relationship to other Strategies PMHL program and establishment of Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. Contributes to MPA strategy and National Marine Conservation study area. Orca Pass International Stewardship Area lies to the south.

Area: 190 hectares (150 ha upland; 40 ha foreshore)

Date of Establishment: April 11, 2001 (purchased in 1995)

Zoning Map - Bodega Ridge Provincial Park



Projection: Alberta Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83

 Natural Environment
 Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Mar 2003 for
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Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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