

Thetis Island Community Profile



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Cover photos by Brett Korteling

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FOREWORD

The purpose of this Community Profile is to identify key characteristics and background information to support the review of Thetis Islands Official Community Plan (OCP). Each community in the Province of British Columbia periodically reviews their OCP to ensure that future plans for the community reflect current needs, address relevant issues and work towards community goals for the future. This document provides information to aid in this community deliberation.



Photo by Pat English



See Schedule B Land Use Designations and Road Systems in the Map Appendix for the arrangement of current land use designations.

INTRODUCTION

Thetis Island is northwest of Penelakut Island (formerly Kuper Island), the traditional home of the Penelakut First Nations. Sometime between 1851 and 1853, both Thetis and Penelakut received their western names from a crew of British surveyors. These two largest of a group of islands were named after the captain Augustus Leopold Kuper and his frigate, HMS *Thetis*. In Greek mythology Thetis is the leader of fifty nereids (sea nymphs) and daughter of Zeus.

Thetis Island was settled by Europeans in two waves. The first set of British pioneers who arrived in 1874 did not fare too well in the harsh and isolated environment and did not build permanent homes. The second wave of settlers in the late 1890s and early 1900s established the initial community and many of their descendants still remain today.

The names of these early settlers are commemorated in the names for road, physical features such as mountains as well as the common terminology for properties around the island. The strong self-sufficient nature of these original settlers continues today and Thetis Islanders take pride in taking care of themselves and each other in the traditional fashion of a small community.

Thetis is home to 372 (2006 census) full-time residents which live in 170 homes. There are also varying amounts of visitors to bible camps and retreats throughout the year. These populations can increase to 1,000 residents (add about 600

more seasonal residents to occupy the 313 seasonal homes) and 1,000 visitors to various bed and breakfasts, two marinas and three bible camps/retreats during the warm, dry summer months. Some B & B's are open all year.

The island topography is defined by two north/south trending ridges topped with Burchell Hill in the East and Moore Hill in the West. There is a central valley that supports some human made and seasonal wetlands. Thetis is famous for having the best protected harbour on the west coast - Telegraph Harbour. There are no community, regional or provincial parks on the island. There is a community trail that stretches from the southern tip of Cufra Inlet, a narrow intrusion in the northeast of the weather exposed North Cove, to the southern nexus of community hall and school house.

Thetis Island remains a representation of how small communities evolved and survived on the West Coast of BC through industrious effort as many residents hold a few different jobs and almost all of the local services are provided by volunteers. Visitors can experience the island from one of three bible camps/retreat centres, Overbury Farm Resort, a handful of Bed and Breakfasts or two marinas. This document will offer some insight into the unique features of this beautiful island.

Background to this profile

Generation of this community profile is based on a review of historical documents, the proceedings of numerous Advisory Planning Committee meetings, two visioning sessions, interviews with island Trustees, island residents and an island tour as well as the review and summary of other factual geographic and statistical information.

A review from planning staff and representatives of Thetis Island ensures that information accurately represents the local context and important details are not left out.



Photo by Brett Korteling

1 SETTING

Location

Thetis Island is located near the centre of the southern Gulf Islands, midway between Gabriola to the north and the Salt Spring to the south. These islands are all in the Strait of Georgia, between Vancouver Island and the mainland of British Columbia. The closest town is Chemainus, a 7 kilometre ferry to the south. The direct ride to Thetis from Chemainus takes 25 minutes or 45 minutes on runs with a stopover first at Penelakut; and similarly an added 15 minutes for the return to Chemainus if it's via Penelakut.

The island has an area of 1,129 hectares and it is approximately 7 kilometres in length and 3 kilometres wide. The maximum elevation on the island is at Burchell Hill, 180 metres above sea level just to the west of the centre of the island.

Thetis is separated from Vancouver Island on the west side by Stuart Channel. When travelling to Thetis, the ferry passes by the small islands of Scott and Dayman. Hudson Island, another small island just southwest of Thetis has its own airstrip. Just south of Thetis and bordering the southern shores of Telegraph Harbour and Clam Bay is Penelakut Island. Penelakut Island is similar in size and the two islands are separated by a very thin dredged canal that was originally opened in 1905 and maintained to help the fishing fleet access the Georgia Strait with more ease. From the northernmost tip

of the island, Mudge, Ruxton and Pylades Islands are visible to the northwest and Valdes Island to the northeast. Due east through Trincomali Channel are Reid Island and the northern tip of Galiano. Thetis Island is an access point for many residents of Reid Island who travel home from Thetis via boat after gathering supplies with their vehicles on Vancouver Island.

Coastline

The ferry docks on the western side of Thetis in Preedy Harbour where the community-managed wharf is also located. The western coastline follows a fairly regular curve north to Fraser Point. A deep bay called North Cove separates Fraser Point from Pilkey Point. Pilkey Point is a scenic viewpoint and is composed of the unique sandstone formations that the Gulf Islands are famous for. If you travel southward from Pilkey Point, the coastline stretches in a fairly smooth curved fashion along the eastern shore. The coast dips in westward to form Clam Bay and continues west and then south to cradle the northern side of protected Telegraph Harbour with Penelakut Island to the south and east. Telegraph Harbour is home to the island's two marinas; Telegraph Harbour Marina and Thetis Island Marina & Pub. Heading south, there is a significant southern jutting peninsula that must be traveled round before reaching Preedy Harbour.



Photo by Lon Wood

Physical Characteristics

Thetis Island is defined by the shape of its coastline, the two north/south running ridges covered predominantly with Douglas-fir trees and the lowlands which contain large wetland features. The shape of the island resembles a heart with a wider southern half or a leaf with a stem. The lower portion is larger than the upper portion. There is a very distinctive opening in the north that forms North Cove and a skinny, mudflat tidal inlet just south of the eastern side of North Cove. This inlet connects with a valley that runs the length of the island and contains the singular community trail.

The eastern portion of the island heart has much steeper terrain than the western side and apart from the slopes leading up to Burchell Hill, the western side offers a much more gradual slope and definition. There is agricultural activity in the lowlands and the rest of the island is left more or less to itself to grow back from previous logging to a coastal island forested ecosystem. Much of the island has already been logged; therefore many of the trees are young in age.

A few of the predominant wetland features were constructed either for water supply or aesthetic amenity. Nature in her gradual way has taken the cue and adopted these features with botanical brilliance and these sites offer home and refuge for many birds and aquatic species.

Thetis is a destination sailing and diving spot due to its location and the characteristics of its beaches and coastal shelf.

There are iconic gulf islets nearby and the variety of shoreline features that include rock and gravel, sand and gravel, sand and mudflat beaches. These beach features are matched in their diversity with how the land meets the ocean in steep descending cliffs or gentle drops from flat lands. The orientation of the passageway between Thetis and Penelakut provides a prime refuge for boaters from the prevailing winds.

See Map 3 in the Map Appendix: Terrain and Surface Water for a view of the island terrain.

Geology

The Island of Thetis has many unique geologic features shaped by a few different physical processes.

The island is believed to have formed over 55 to 42 million years ago as plate tectonic activities transformed the region. These plate movements pushed seabed sediments towards the mainland with massive pressure. As a result, Thetis Island geology has a characteristic bent U shape. The seismic activity that formed Thetis Island has left faults and fissures in the geology. These fractures act as water conducting highways that move water quickly through and across the island's aquifers.

The numerous cliffs, points, and bays are attributed to past glacial activity and erosion processes. The Fraser glaciation event influenced the region between 11,000-13,000 years ago, long after the island was formed.

Thetis Island is entirely made up of sedimentary rocks, ranging from sandstone to shale, which formed on the sea floor over a period of millions of years during the late Cretaceous Period. These sedimentary rocks form the Nanaimo Group and are divided into four formations and are the foundation of Thetis Island. From west to east they are:

- The Geoffrey formation is found on the western coast and includes a massive conglomerate embedded with medium-grained sandstone and mudstone layers.
- The Northumberland formation is a massive mudstone layer with thinner embedded sandstone layers. This formation forms a north/south strip on the interior of the western Geoffrey formation.
- The De Courcy formation again runs north/south on the eastern side of the Northumberland section as well as the southern tip of the island. It also runs the full length of the eastern shore. The De Courcy geology is similar to the Geoffrey formation with additional elements of marine sandstone and conglomerate
- The Cedar formation is composed of marine silty-shale and dominates the central and southern lowlands.

There is one Quaternary deposit that tells of past glacial activity and is located in the south central part of Thetis. This deposit is composed of ice-age sediments; glacial till, sand and gravel.

Pilkey Point, located at the northeast tip of the island, offers a glimpse of the unique layers within the island sandstone as well as the erosion of wave action.

The geology of Thetis Island is of extreme importance in understanding issues of groundwater supply. Natural Resources Canada developed a waterscapes poster to graphically explain how to manage land use in ways that protect our water supply. A version of this poster can be found online:

http://geoscape.nrcan.gc.ca/h2o/gulf/index_e.php.



Photo by Brett Korteling

See Map 4 Geology in the Map Appendix for a view of the geologic patterns.

Climate

For this report, Thetis Island’s climate data is represented by Environment Canada’s Chemainus station as this is the closest station that contains values in the Canadian Climate Normals 1971-2000 database. The figures from the Chemainus station are not wholly representative of Thetis Island’s climate as Thetis receives both milder winters and summers because of the surrounding ocean’s moderating effects.

Thetis also contains many distinctive microclimates from the cooler higher altitude forested areas that receive more winter snow, to the lowlands with southerly aspects that receive more sun, and because of this exposure, can have earlier blooms in the spring and a longer growing season. Thetis is a fairly “dry” island similar to most of the Gulf Islands because many storms pass-by and the clouds often hold moisture until they reach the higher altitude hills and mountains of the mainland.

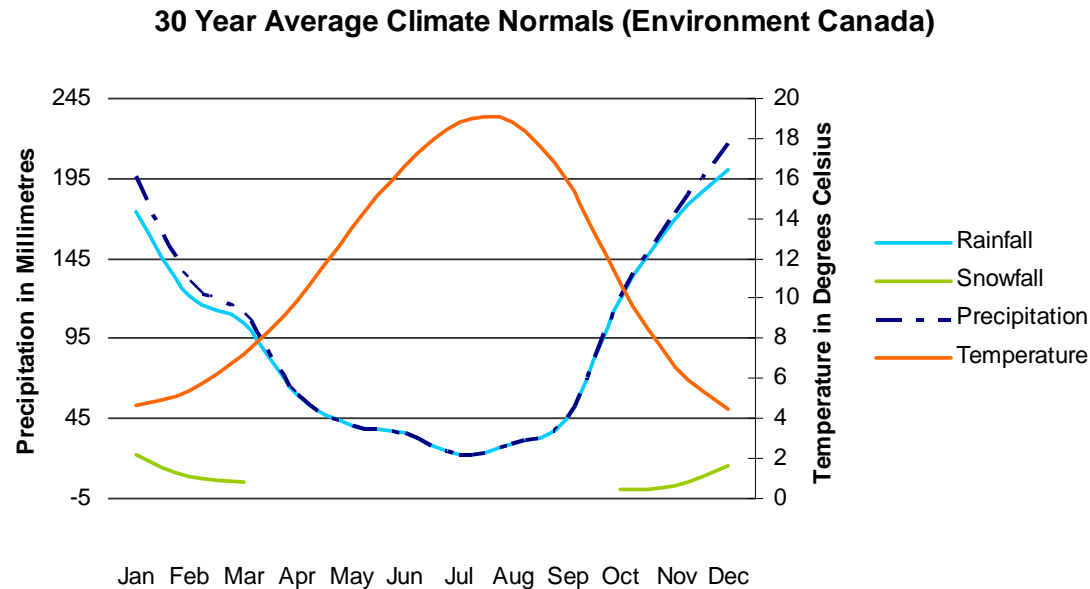


Figure 1: Climate Averages based on information from 1919 - 2004

Thetis Island has a mild temperate climate that is characterized by cool winters and mild-to-warm summers. On average, the Island receives approximately 1,124 mm of precipitation (Figure 1), usually as rainfall and, in some cases, as trace snow amounts. The temperature rarely reaches an extreme.

Winter temperatures are cool with wet weather. Snowfall only represents a trace amount of the total. The daily average temperature during the winter months is just above 4°C. The climate during the winter months can be variable due to recent climate change or trends such as El Nino. The spring months on Thetis are mild and bring a gradual increase in temperature.

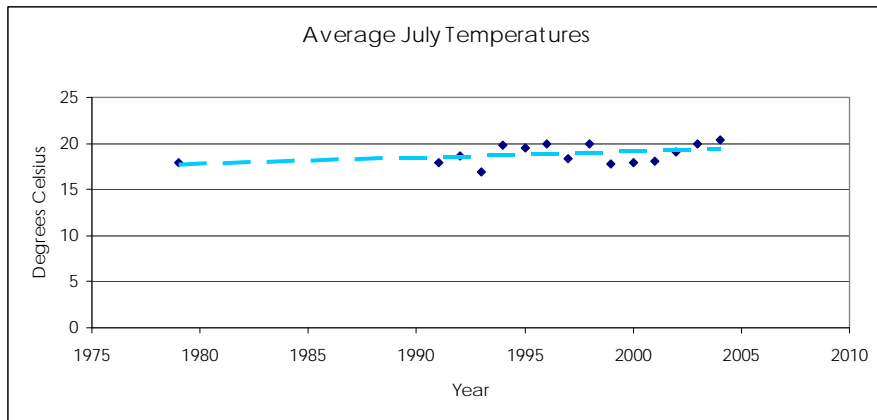


Figure 2: Average July Temperatures

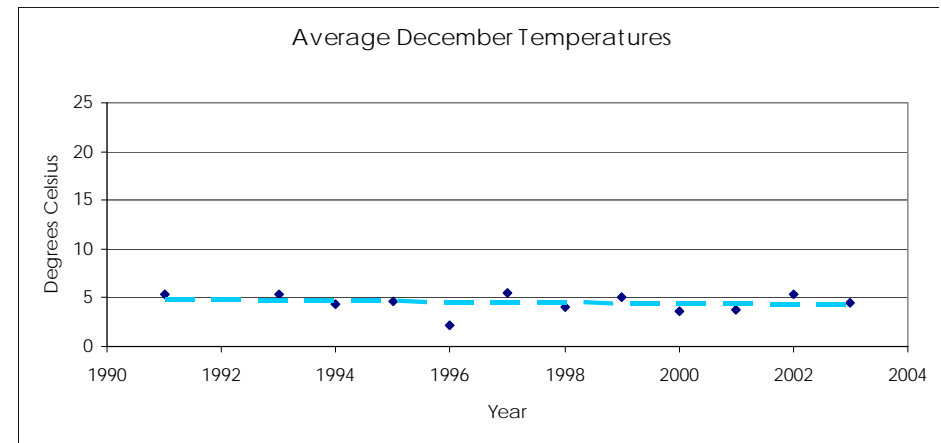


Figure 3: Average December Temperatures

The summer months are warm and receive minimal precipitation as compared to the rest of the year. The most precipitation of the summer occurs in June, with a lull in July and a slight increase in August. The daily average temperature on Thetis during the summer is just below 19°C. A maximum recorded temperature of 34°C occurred on July 23rd 2004. September remains generally mild with a daily average temperature around 14°C. Precipitation levels increase in October. As temperatures get cooler precipitation occasionally begins to fall as snow.

Looking at the graphs for total yearly precipitation, and average December and July Temperatures, it is hard, but possible, to see subtle trends; total precipitation is increasing, winters are getting a little cooler and summers are getting hotter. This climate data only covers information up to 2004. Recent data for the last five years could offer more indication of how the global trend of climate change is affecting Thetis Island.

A further analysis of weather extremes, their durations and shifting times for normal seasonal processes may offer a more refined view of how the climate for Thetis Island is changing and how best the local community can respond and prepare.

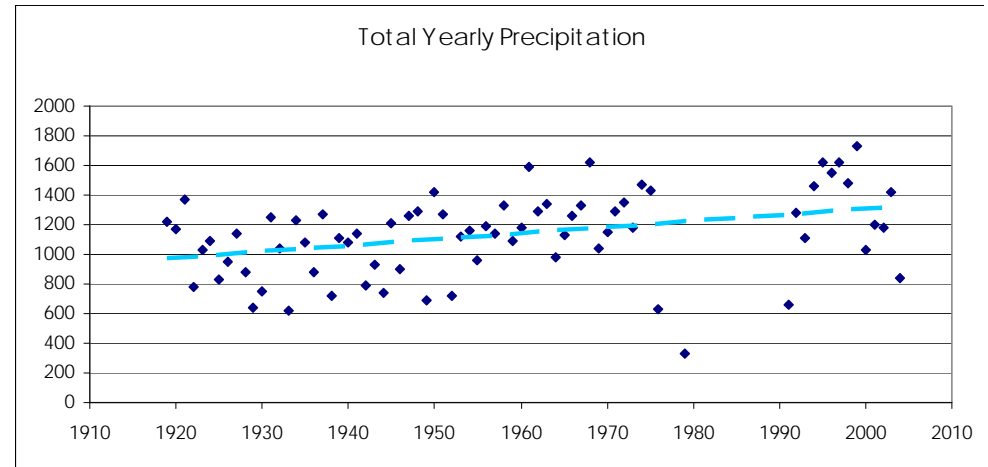


Figure 4: Total Yearly Precipitation



Photo by Rob English



Photo by Lon Wood

Natural Environment

Local Species

Sea creatures near Thetis include orcas (rarely seen), sea lions, seals, otters, wolf eels, octopuses, and salmon, as well as a variety of shellfish including oysters, mussels, and clams. The numerous birds that call Thetis their home include blackbirds, chickadees, crows, finches, flycatchers, grosbeaks, hawks, hummingbirds, jays, juncos, nuthatches, owls, pine siskins, ravens, robins, sparrows, swallows, towhees, turkey vultures, vireos, warblers and woodpeckers. There is one reported Bald Eagle nest on the western shore of North Cove and several call Clam Bay home.

Thetis Island's geographical location is on the Pacific Flyway, which is a migratory path for bird species traveling between their southern wintering areas and their northern breeding grounds. Favourable climatic conditions and available habitat make it an important wintering area for many species of water birds. More than 250 bird species live in or migrate through this area. There are some caves protected by a private covenant that provide bat habitat.

Terrestrial wildlife includes deer which forage on roadsides and residents' gardens, raccoons which forage in residents' garbage and the native Douglas fir squirrel. Thetis Island also offers habitat to the Red-legged frog and tree frogs.

In the Map Appendix, see Map 5. Islands Trust Ecosystem Mapping and Schedule Natural and Heritage Resources for the distribution of ecosystems and other natural features

Protected and Environmentally Sensitive Areas

There are no crown lands (other than beaches) on Thetis Island and no areas with protected designation other than one conservation covenant on the Meadow Valley Properties. This covenant protects the ecological values of three areas:

- A 14-acre piece includes head areas of Lawrence Marsh and Adam Marsh, the upper stretches of the Holy Brook ephemeral creek and the surrounding riparian area. This portion also surrounds the community trail.
- There is a southern 4-acre covenanted area called "Willow Fen". This area has standing water most of the year and thriving reeds, bulrushes and willow.
- Phase II of development for this large lot subdivision will protect a further 4 acres of dry sandstone bluffs that support the growth of Arbutus, Garry oak and a dry herbaceous understory.

The ecological features protected with this covenant are indicative of the type of features on Thetis that have high natural significance; wetlands and riparian zones, dry herbaceous areas and cliff features. There are a few small areas of more mature trees on the surrounding islets and select stands in the interior of the island. The other predominant natural feature is the different inter-tidal areas. Whether they are mudflats, rocky areas or sandy beaches all these intertidal regions are ecologically vital and require a coordination of effort to protect and preserve. The Islands Trust creates zoning regulations to moderate activities that occur on these crown

lands, the province manages leases for docks, other infrastructure and aquaculture activity and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans regulates what occurs within the column of water.

Ecosystem Mapping

The ecosystems of Thetis Island have been mapped a few times in order to understand the extent of significant natural systems such as: Mature Forests, Cliff areas, Wetlands, Herbaceous zones and other sensitive ecological complexes that define island habitat. Map 5. Islands Trust Ecosystem Mapping shows a view of the distribution and extent of these natural ecosystems. This information helps with parks and protected areas planning and provides the ability to track the health of the natural environment over time.



Photo by Brett Korteling



Photo by Brett Korteling

2 PEOPLE

History

The history of the European settlement of Thetis Island is well documented and recounted specifically in a two sources; a chapter in "Memories of the Chemainus Valley" and the stories in "The Lives Behind the Headstones" that describe the lives of people buried in St. Margaret's cemetery. Oral history is still strong with Thetis Islanders and many direct descendants of some of the original settlers are still on island. Many islanders can recount which pioneering family built or contributed to some of the defining buildings, roads and other features of the landscape.

The story of the first nation occupation or use of Thetis Island is hard to find. References to early First Nations culture and activity refer mainly to Penelakut Island which is now a reservation and was historically a First Nations settlement. There are many middens on Thetis.

Settlement Patterns

Thetis was first surveyed and named by British explorers sometime between 1851 and 1853 from their 36-gun frigate ship "HMS Thetis", the name of which defined the island. This boat was named after the Nereid sea nymph daughter of Zeus and mother of Achilles. Penelakut Island just to the south

was at one time named Kuper Island, after the ship's captain, Augustus Leopold Kuper.

Pioneers first moved to the island in 1873 and constructed initial roads and homesteads that provide some today's defining features of Thetis Island. In 1896 the "Lawrence Trail" was built to connect Preedy Harbour to Pilkey Point. The iconic setting of Capernwray bible camp was first initiated through the hands of Henry and Helen Burchell and the Chinese workers whom Henry had recruited after their railroad labours were finished. One of the central buildings at Capernwray was restored from the original the Burchell barn.

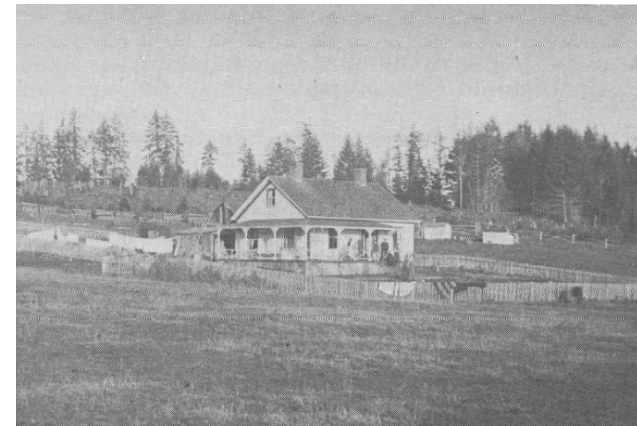
The Burchell home brought many people to Thetis and it was a regularly visited spot before and after the First World War. Henry started a boys' school to train young Englishmen who were seeking adventure in the new world. This school set the historical tone for the later development of the bible camp.

Henry Burchell had a hand in the starting of Overbury Poultry Farm as well. He built the farm for his sister-in-law Geraldine Hoffman who traveled to visit Thetis in 1907, fell in love with the island and returned in 1910 to establish the Overbury Poultry Farm. This farm became a central home for a large and growing family. There were hard times during the Great Depression after Geraldine's passing and the cancellation of the Canadian Pacific Railway ferry service. Geraldine's son Rupert was urged by his wife, Laura to use some lumber from the farm houses to build summer cabins to rent. This was the first instance of the Overbury Farm Resort.

There are many stories to recount of the original settlers, their love of the island and the hard work and community spirit that continues to be hallmark of Thetis Island. One more pioneer family that needs an introduction is the Hunter family because their work logging and building roads on Thetis created much of the island's current infrastructure. When Adam and Margaret Hunter got married, they took up residence in the large home at North Cove. This became the centre of the successful logging company as well as a social destination. Margaret had a reputation for her baking skills and this home was a place to visit. With six boys their home was a lively place as all the teenagers on the island were always welcome at the "Big House".

The Hunter family also supported the creation of another island institution through their donation of land just west of the North Cove "Big House" for the Christian Camp, Pioneer Pacific.

More than homesteads, roads and Christian camps originated with the first pioneers. The Burchell property was bought by Hans Hunter, a multi-millionaire from Japan, who in turn hired Gregory and Iris Gaitskell to mind their property. The stock-market crash did not bode well for Mr. Hans Hunter and he left the property to the Gaitskells as he could no longer afford to pay them. Mr. Gaitskell sold the possessions he could and then, and in an effort to earn some income, seeded the beach of Telegraph Harbour with Japanese seed oysters. This was the start of an oyster population in Telegraph Harbour.



Preedy Harbour Home of the Burchells

Photo scanned from The Lives Behind the Headstones 1993.



Chapel built by the Gaitskells after the fire at Preedy Harbour

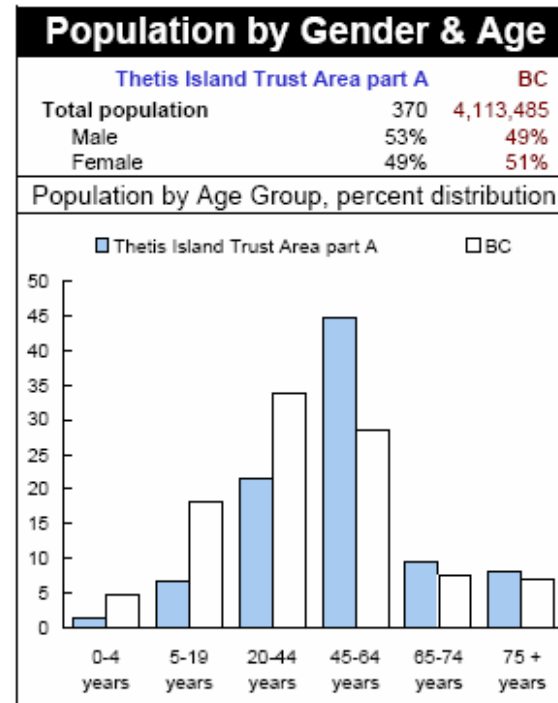
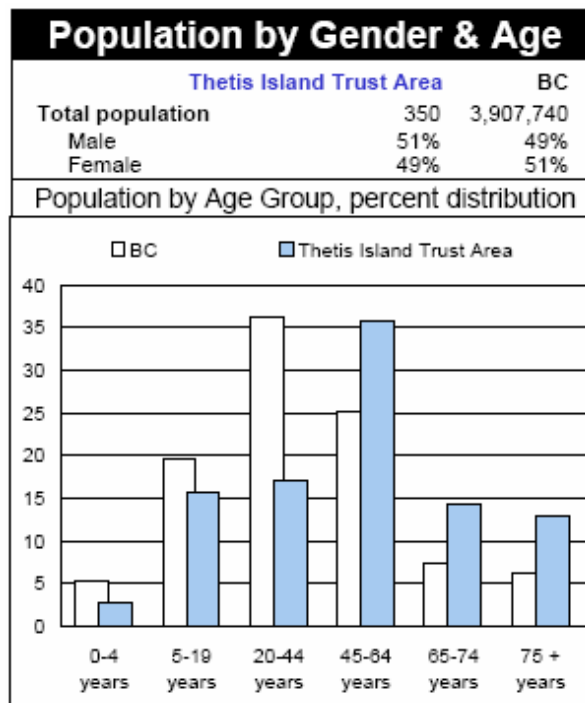
Photo scanned from The Lives Behind the Headstones 1993.

Present Day

Approximately 372 people call Thetis their full time home and a large number of people – mainly from BC, some from Alberta, and others from points around the globe - make Thetis their second home on weekends, especially during the summer season. In the summer the population can triple with the addition of summer residents and tourists. The residents of Thetis Island and first nation residents of Penelakut Island share a common connection of island life, ferry service and some commercial ties. Penelakut residents will often visit Thetis for supplies, to perform work and to participate in weekend craft shows.

Demographics

Accounting for mortalities and emigrations, 2006 Census data shows Thetis Island had an increase in population of 23 people from 349 to 372 between 2001 and 2006. This represents a 6.6% increase which is fairly close to the provincial increase of 5.3% for the same period. A review of the population by age cohort (charts below), shows an increase in population for age classes 20-44 (from approx. 17% to 22%) and 45-64 (from approx. 36% to 45%) and a drop in all other age groups. Anticipated growth for the province is 1.16% per year from 2006-2021 and anticipated growth for the Cowichan Valley Regional District is 1.02% per year from 2006-2021.



16 Table 1: 2001 Total Population - 349

Table 2: 2006 Total Population - 372

Marital Status

As illustrated in Table 3, most Thetis Island residents are legally married and not separated, a higher percentage than found in BC. The second largest number of people is those that have never been legally married, a lower percentage than found in the rest of BC. This high concentration of married couples reflects the trend that many couples choose to live and retire on Thetis. The remaining designations follow the same general pattern found in BC.

Marital Status	Thetis Island		British Columbia
	Population	Percentage	Percentage
Population 15 years and older	345	100%	100%
Never legally married	80	23.2%	32.1%
Legally married and not separated	200	58%	50.4%
Separated, but still legally married	15	4.3%	3.2%
Divorced	30	8.7%	8.3%
Widowed	15	4.3%	6.0%

Table 3: Legal Marital Status for Thetis Island



Adam, Fred and Marge Hunter – third, fourth and fifth from left.
Photo scanned from *The Lives Behind the Headstones* 1993.

Immigration and Migration

In comparison with BC as a whole Thetis Island received a larger influx (more than double) of international immigrants before 1961, again larger during the 1960's and then significantly less than the rest of BC in the 1980's until present day. There are not many visible minorities; only 6% of the permanent population. Thetis has a very stable population with 94% non-movers.

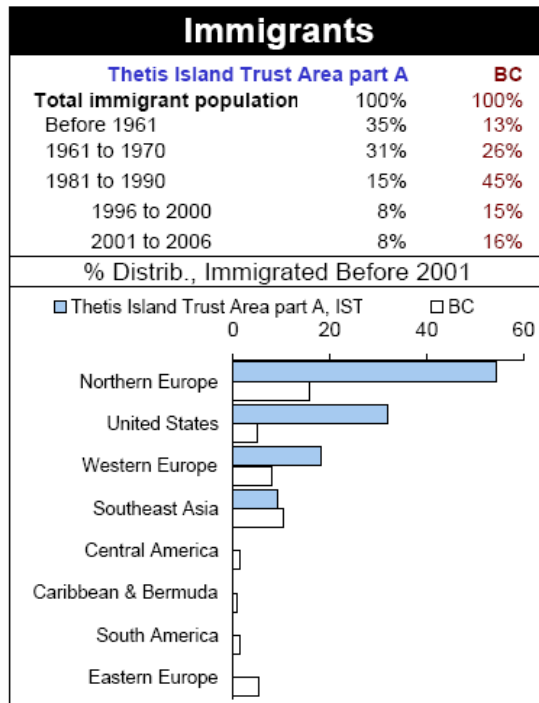


Table 4: Immigrant Status

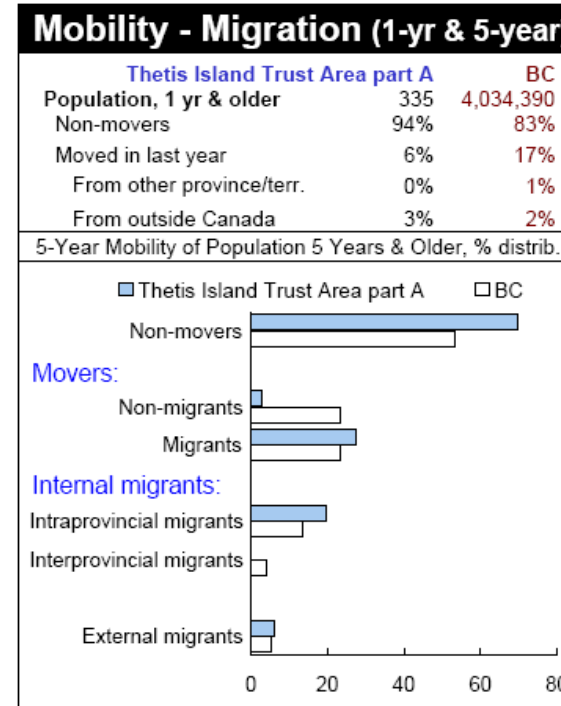


Table 5: Mobility - Migration

Income

The average after tax income for males on Thetis Island is less than the average in BC with the majority of earnings in the lower pay spectrum; under \$30,000. There is only a small percentage more females on Thetis in the below \$30,000 wage group than in the rest of BC and the average income for women is almost equal the BC average. The earnings of economic family groupings are slightly less than the BC average with three distinct income ranges relatively equal in the number of families; \$20,000 to \$40,000, \$50,000 to \$80,000 and \$100,000 and over.

The grouping of higher earning families can probably earn more by some form of independent consulting that involves a commute to larger business centres or a financial relationship to these larger centres. There are a number of families nestled in the centre of the economic spectrum and the final third of families are situated in the \$20,000 to \$40,000 range.

After-tax Income in 2005		
	Thetis Island Trust Area part A	BC
Population 15 yrs or older	315	3,394,910
Males	52%	49%
Females	48%	51%
Median after-tax income	\$21,275	\$22,785
Males, 15+ with a-tax income	\$21,102	\$28,251
Females, 15+ with a-tax inc.	\$21,293	\$18,930
Males 15+, no after-tax income	10	69,950
Males 15+ with income	160	1,579,640
Under \$10,000	16%	18%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	53%	35%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	19%	15%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	0%	12%
\$50,000 and over	13%	21%
Average total income	\$25,710	\$34,652
Females 15+, no a-tax income	10	95,660
Females 15+ with income	140	1,649,660
Under \$10,000	32%	26%
\$10,000 - \$29,999	50%	48%
\$30,000 - \$39,999	18%	14%
\$40,000 - \$59,999	7%	7%
\$50,000 and over	11%	9%
Average total income	\$23,687	\$23,408

Table 6: After-tax Income

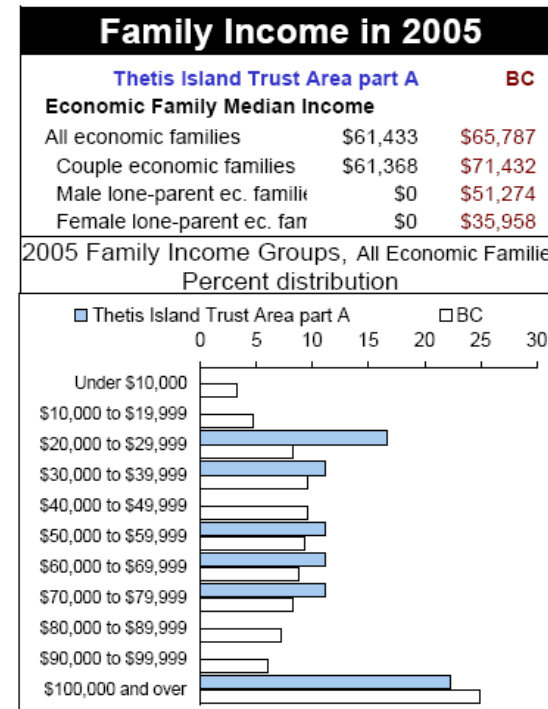


Table 7: Family Income

Education

A higher percentage of the population holds a university certificate, diploma, or degree on Thetis than the BC average. The percent of the population with no certificate, diploma, or degree is smaller than the BC average. The post-secondary degrees held by Thetis residents are mainly in the arts with minimal science and technology and math and computing science degrees recorded. In the categories where Thetis Islanders have earned degrees, there is a higher percentage than the BC average except in the architect/engineer category.

There were 22 students registered in the Thetis Island one room school house in the 2008 to 2009 school year. Home schooling students can be supported by a selection of programs and self-organize their personal and collective activities. High school students can attend Chemainus Secondary or study at home. Thetis offers many religious learning opportunities with three separate bible schools/camps; Capernwray, Pioneer Pacific and Camp Columbia. Indeed many people first fall in love with each other and Thetis at these religious retreats. Some couples return years later to spend more time on the peaceful Gulf Island.

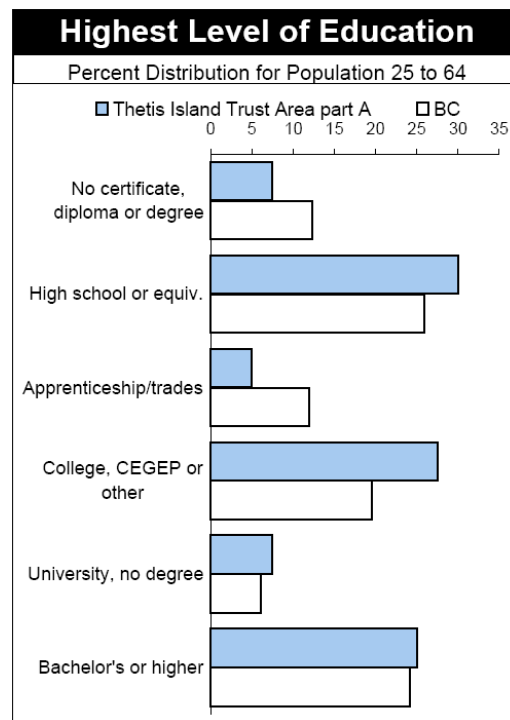


Table 8: Highest Level of Education

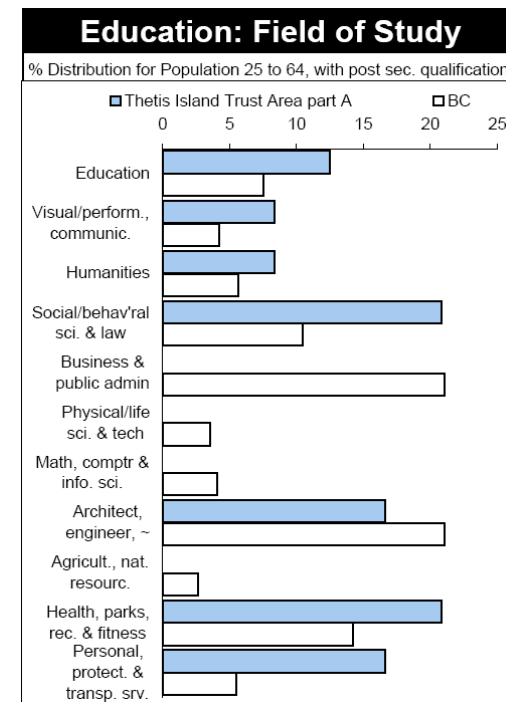


Table 9: Education: Field of Study

3 PROVISIONS

Water

On Thetis water is supplied from individual wells or rainwater harvesting. Wells which draw water from shallow depths are more likely to be impacted by seasonal variations in water quality and quantity. Deep wells tend to be characterized by a more consistent availability of water. Many factors, including geologic conditions, soils, vegetation cover, sewage disposal methods, agricultural runoff and proximity to the sea can influence the quality and quantity of the island's water supply.

The lack of rainfall during the dry summer lessens the ability for the island's aquifers to recharge and also hinders the ability of rainwater harvesters to gather significant amounts of water. Coincidentally, the summer is also the time that the population can double. This combination requires all people on the island to be aware of the finite water supply. In recognition of this finite supply of water, many individuals on the Island practice water conservation methods with onsite water storage, low water use appliances, and the reuse of grey water. Uses that require a great deal of water are discouraged in the summer months.

Early in 2009, a workshop held by the Ministry of Environment for the purpose of conducting water surveys enticed 50-60 Thetis Islanders to attend. Forty-three of these

participated in the water survey project. The large number of people that came to this public meeting is an indication of how important knowing about and taking care of groundwater is to islanders.

Agriculture and Food

There are a few farms on Thetis Island that sell produce and eggs at weekend markets or farm gate sales:

- Dragon Rock Farm
- Howling Wolf Market
- Lawrence Spring Farm
- Woolly Bodies Farm

*Names found on Thetis Island Community Website:
<http://www.thetisland.net/business2006.htm>*

At certain times of the year local chickens, turkey and other livestock can be purchased. There are some lowland areas in the south central part of the island and these areas are reserved for farming related activities by provincial Agricultural Land Reserve designations and Islands Trust Agricultural zoning. Many people grow some food at home and most folks head to Vancouver Island once a week to stock up on groceries. There is limited chance to purchase food on island and the only places to buy bare essentials (milk, butter, bread, etc.) are the marinas.

See Map 6. Agricultural Land Reserve in the Map Appendix for a view of dedicated agricultural lands.

Power

Thetis is connected to Hydro and as is customary on many Gulf Islands wood stoves provide either a consistent source for winter heat or a back-up supply to live through power outages that can accompany winter storms.

Housing

Thetis Island offers an island rural setting with large lots, quiet nights and no hustle and bustle. The total number of private dwellings occupied by permanent residents is 170. The majority of these dwellings are single-detached houses at 91% of the total occupied private dwellings. The rest of the dwellings are semi-detached houses (3%) and moveable dwellings (6%).

The greater part of these private dwellings are owned rather than rented. Owned residences number 155 of the total dwellings compared to 10 rented dwellings. Major construction periods are 1946 – 1960 (15%), 1971 – 1980 (24%) and 1991 – 1995 (30%). The 1990s was a big building boom and 40% of construction dates to this time period.

Another attractive feature of housing on Thetis is the size of the properties that the houses are on. Thetis lots are two, five or ten acres.

Infrastructure

There is no sewer or water service on Thetis; people have septic fields and wells. There are power, cable, and telephone services, including high-speed Internet for all but Pilkey Point, on the Island. Roads are maintained by an on-island contractor to the Ministry of Transport.

Services

Liquid Waste

Sewage disposal on Thetis Island is primarily taken care of through in-ground septic field disposal systems. These systems were historically approved through a permit system by the Ministry of Environment and are now administered by the Ministry of Health in combination with a self-regulating system that includes a code of practice to be followed by certified installers. For larger systems, the Ministry of Environment will still be part of the application and maintenance process. It is possible that innovative treatment methods that treat effluent to higher water quality standards and greywater reuse systems that reuse non-potable water for appropriate needs will increase as the cost of these innovative systems becomes less prohibitive and the cost of standard septic systems increases.

Since groundwater from wells is the principle source of drinking water, the safe disposal of all effluent is essential. Equally important is the need to prevent sewage seepage into the Island's marine or surface waters.

Solid Waste

The solid waste and recycling services are run by the Thetis Island Resident's and Ratepayer's association and all work organizing and transferring materials is handled by an on-island contractor. The system is very effective in its process and design. There is a central location where everyone drives to dump their waste, drop-off recyclables and grab any recyclables they may have a need for. The recycling drop-off and exchange is open all the time. Garbage drop-off is open on Wednesdays and Saturdays each week for a four-hour window. Garbage is taken weekly to a transfer station at Chemainus.

For all this service, the ratepayers ask for a yearly fee of \$90. Most people pay and so far the amount is enough, but a more advanced service may require more money. The organization has built a structure to offer shelter for easy transfer of recyclables during inclement weather.

Other Services

- Policing services are provided by the Royal Canadian Mounted Police Ladysmith detachment and there is no detachment on Island.
- Fire protection services are provided by the Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department, which also provides first responder services. Depending on the severity of the call, the BC Ambulance Service will arrive at the community dock and potentially come on shore and travel to the accident site. Patients are often evacuated by jet-boat to Chemainus where they are met by a BC Ambulance crew.
- Cowichan School District 79 supports a one-room elementary school as an annex to a school on Vancouver Island. Administratively the Thetis Island School is treated as another room of Chemainus Elementary. From grades 8-12, students travel daily to Chemainus.
- There is a Community Library, Community Hall and Post Office. There is no medical care available on island unless there is a doctor on a seasonal visit. When doctors are on island they generally make themselves available to be on call.

4 ECONOMY

The economy of Thetis is diverse and creative with a range of services and products to provide some necessities. There are:

- approximately 10 places to stay including bed and breakfasts and resorts. This number does not include the three larger Christian retreats which offer a good portion of island employment
- a plethora of arts and crafts are for sale from harps, to pottery, to glassworks and photography
- one mechanic
- A number of construction, renovation and landscaping companies
- Thetis Island marina has a restaurant and pub, Telegraph Harbour marina has a café and a store for essential supplies. On occasion if there is a large wedding party, other B&Bs on the island can provide more meals for their visitors and it is possible to grab a lunch at one of the bible camps on island
- two real estate agents
- two marinas, a dive charter and sailing charter
- one retail gift store
- lawyer, insurance broker and office technical support
- hair design, counselling and Tarot reading
- a cleaning service
- coffee roasting and mail order

For a more complete listing of local businesses, please visit the Thetis island community website

<http://www.thetisisland.net/business2006.htm>.

There are many factors to consider with Thetis Island's economy. The most influential is the island setting: the cost of the ferry and the cost of housing are two determinants that strongly effects those who live on-island and the labour pattern these residents generate. High ferry costs make it harder for people to commute to Chemainus or run a business that requires regular trips off-island. High housing costs make it harder to provide housing for workers that earn lower wages.



Photo by Lon Wood

Labour Force

The 2006 Census data for Thetis Island found that the labour force participation rate was 55.6% with a 0% unemployment rate. English is the predominant language in the workplace, and 88% of the population that are 15 years of age or older reported having an income in 2005.

In 2005, the median after tax income of a person 15 years or older was \$23,067 – a decrease from \$24,170 in 2000.

Government transfer payments in 2005 composed 19.4% of the total income – an increase from 18.7% in 2000. As seen in Table 10, the industry distribution of workers on Thetis is fairly evenly distributed with a small emphasis on admin support, health care and social assistance.

In the labour force, 25% of people worked in the same census area, 80% worked from home, and 25% worked at no fixed address in 2005. The predominant method of commuting is driving, followed by walking.

As seen in Table 12, the distribution of occupations is quite even with a minor majority of people working in the construction trades.

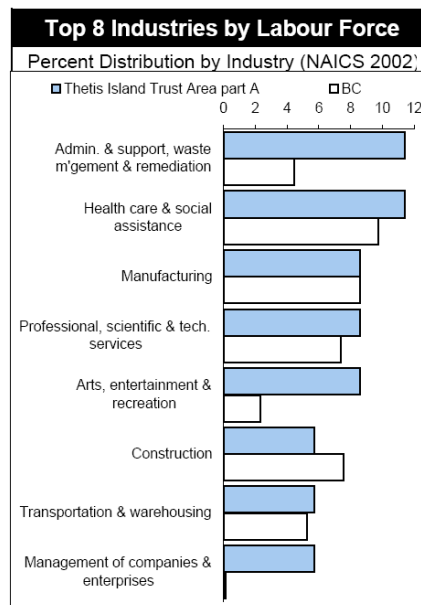


Table 10: Top 8 Industries by Labour Force

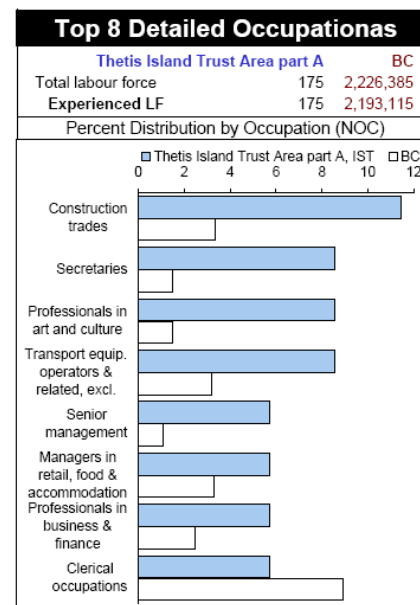


Table 11: Workplace and Transportation

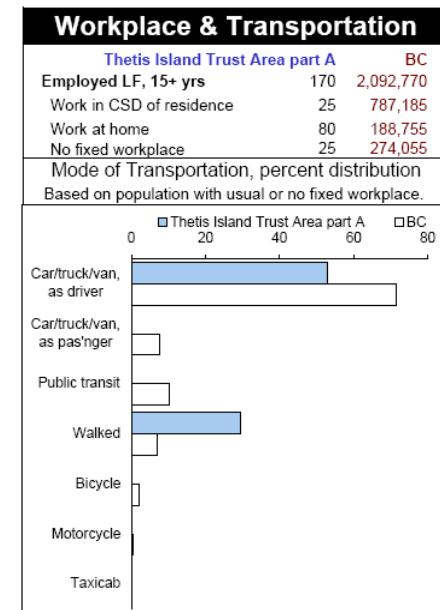


Table 12: Top 8 Detailed Occupations

Tourism

Tourism is a large contributor to the Thetis Island economy. People visit the island for the Christian retreats, weddings at Overbury Farm Resort and as a boating destination and for the beaches and ocean activities such as kayaking, canoeing, diving and swimming. The protection of Telegraph Harbour has made Thetis a boater's favourite Gulf Island destination.

Accommodation

It is estimated the bible camps/retreat centres, bed and breakfasts and marina moorage provides short-term accommodation for an additional 300 to 400 people. Compared to the 372 full time residents, Thetis Island has the ability to house a considerable number of people. Many of these places offer the possibility of purchasing meals. The fact that many places provide accommodation and meals makes it possible for large wedding events to occur and the profit from such events reaches other businesses on the island.

Places to stay include:

For organized retreats:

- Capernwray Harbour Bible Centre
- Camp Columbia
- Pioneer Pacific Camp

For general tourist accommodation:

- Overbury Farm Resort (famous for weddings)
- Arbutus View B&B
- Canoe Pass Cottage
- Cedar Beach B&B
- Cufra Cliffs B&B
- Dawn's Song B&B
- Little Holm Cottage
- St. Columba House
- Secret Sea Cottage Retreat
- Sunrise Landing

Names found on Thetis Island Community Website:
<http://www.thetisland.net/business2006.htm>



Cottage at Overbury Farm Resort – from website
www.overbury.bc.ca

The Weekend Market

The Market occurs in the summer season from June until September on Sundays at Telegraph Harbour Marinas and items for sale include art, crafts and local food. Residents of Thetis and Penelakut Islands and visitors alike wander the market to visit with friends and purchase baked goods, locally grown fruits and vegetables, and other items such as local artwork.

Artists and Artisans

There is an active craft and visual arts scene on Thetis. The community hall is available as a central venue for performances. For visual arts, there are no art galleries, but there is a local tea and gift shop called The White Peony. Otherwise local art can be found at the marina markets or directly from the artist's studios.

Recreational Business (Marinas, Dive and Sailing Charters)

There are two marinas; Telegraph Harbour Marina and Thetis Island Marina, as well as diving and sailing charter operations.

Food

Farms, farmers and markets

There are a few small producers of vegetables and meat products, but the extent is limited. These producers sell at the weekend markets and from their farms.

Fish and Shellfish (Commercial and Sport)

Herring bring the waters to life in early spring and oysters, clams and mussels cover the beaches most of the year. Crabs and prawns as well as ling cod and other rock fish can be harvested in the various bays and offshore areas. Although Thetis is not a centre for commercial fishing, it is an idyllic place to stop on a sport fishing trip and as a departure point for a casual day on the ocean.

Home Businesses

The 2006 census records indicate that approximately 80% of the population works from home. Thetis Island is home to many independent entrepreneurs.

Services

Post Office and other Standard Services

There is a post office, community library, community centre, elementary school and volunteer fire department. The firefighters also act as first responders.

Food Services (Supermarket and shops)

There are minimal sources for grocery supplies. Only the marinas offer some basics. Most islanders travel to Vancouver Island once a week for supplies.



Thetis Island School - Photo by Brett Korteling

Development

Real Estate

The real estate market on Thetis has shown steady growth since 2000. Prices are often more affordable than nearby urban centres in BC. They have levelled out in the wake of the economic downturn after rising drastically since the 1990s. The island setting is beautiful, peaceful and remote. There is a steady attraction for people to buy on the island for retirement and recreation.

Builders and Contractors

Many Thetis Islanders take their time to build their dream home or buy an older house/cabin and nurse it back to health. A good portion of the workforce earns a living to help these “dream homes” become a reality. The work can be accomplished with experienced island labourers who are knowledgeable in the typical island issues such as rocky soil, septic and rainwater harvesting systems.

Home Services

A good number of the homes on Thetis are occupied seasonally or intermittently and to serve the needs of absentee owners, some home maintenance services are available.

Community Service Groups

Because Thetis has a small island population, many services that are available in a municipal setting or via the Regional District are taken care of by volunteers on Thetis. A list of some of the community organizations includes:

- St. Margaret's Cemetery Board
- Thetis Island Arts Council
- Thetis Island Community Association (formed to create the community centre and operate a "Health and Education Fund", TICA owns and operates Forbes Community Hall and grounds). TICA is in discussion with the CVRD about an annual grant of funds for recreation services.
- Thetis Island Community Fund
- Thetis Island Ferry Advisory Committee
- Thetis/Penelakut Friends of Furries
- Thetis Island Historical and Cultural Society
- Thetis Island Improvement District (raises funds for the Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department)
- Thetis Island Parents Association
- Thetis Island Port Commission
- Thetis Island Resident's and Ratepayer's Association (founded in 1955 TIRRA oversees cemetery land which is held in trust in perpetuity and guides garbage collection and recycling)
- Thetis Island Volunteer Fire Department
- Emergency Support Services Committee (coordinates Local Response Neighbourhood Plans)



5 GOVERNANCE

Development

Islands Trust Act

Implemented in 1996, the Islands Trust Act outlines the mandate of the Trust: “The object of the trust is 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 British Columbia generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.”

Local Government Act

Implemented in 1974, the *Local Government Act* provides local governments with a legal framework and foundation to function; the powers and abilities to carry out their purpose; and flexibility to deal with unique issues found in their communities.

Community Charter

Implemented in 2003, the *Community Charter* provides municipal governments with a legal framework and foundation to function; the powers and abilities to carry out their purpose; and flexibility to deal with unique issues found in their municipalities. This act does not affect Thetis Island as it is unincorporated.



Canal between Thetis and Kuper Islands and high and low-tide

Photo by Brett Korteling

Islands Trust Policy Statement

Both the *Islands Trust Act* and the *Local Government Act* provide authority to the elected trustees of which there are two on each island. These trustees meet four times a year for a Trust Council to discuss issues in common to all islands. In order to provide a common vision to guide the decision making for all Local Trust Areas, the Trust Council consolidated a policy statement in 2003. This document applies to the entire Islands Trust jurisdiction and provides guiding principles for the creation, adoption, and enforcement of local planning principles and bylaws.



View southeast to Reid Island

Photo by Brett Korteling

Some of the categories that the Islands Trust Policy Statement includes are:

- Purpose and Implementation of the Trust Policy Statement, including Roles and Responsibilities;
- Islands Trust's Object and Guiding Principles;
- Ecosystem Preservation and Protection, including policies for forest, freshwater and wetland, riparian, and coastal ecosystems;
- Stewardship of Resources including policies for agricultural land, forests, wildlife and vegetation, freshwater resources, coastal areas and marine shorelands, and soils; and
- Sustainable Communities with policies including aesthetics, growth and development, transportation and utilities, disposal of waste, recreation, cultural and natural heritage, economic opportunities and health and well-being.

Thetis Island Official Community Plan

(Bylaw No. 50, 1995)

Adopted in 1995 and amended 5 times since, this is a visionary document providing planning policies and guidelines for Thetis Island.

See Schedule B Land Use Designations and Road Systems in the Map Appendix for the current OCP Land Use Designations.

The categories that the Thetis Island Official Community Plan covers are:

- Perspectives, Principles and Community Objectives;
- Land Use and Development including residential, community, institutional, resource, institutional and commercial uses;
- Services including transportation, water, sewage and solid waste;
- Natural and heritage including environmentally sensitive areas, water resources, marine and coastal areas, wildlife and vegetation as well as air, hazard areas and heritage resources;
- Permit standards, and
- Administration.

Thetis Island Land Use Bylaw

(Bylaw No. 56, 1997)

Adopted in 1997 and amended 4 times since, this document provides specific planning and development regulations in the following areas:

- Administrative Provisions, including jurisdiction, interpretation, and compliance;
- General regulations including uses, buildings, structures, siting requirements, home occupations, and miscellaneous regulations;
- Establishment of Zones including division of zones, official zoning map, and interpretation of boundaries;
- Zoning, which is comprised of:
 - Agricultural
 - Residential (Rural Residential and Rural)
 - Commercial (Marine and Recreational)
 - Institutional
 - Community Service (including public utility)
 - Marine Conservation
 - Water Zones
 - Subdivision; Sign Regulations; and Parking Requirements.

See Thetis Island Land Use Bylaw No. 56 Schedule 'A' Zoning Map in the Map Appendix for the current Zoning Designations.

Other Regulatory Agencies

Some other Development Regulations that might be considered include:

- Agricultural Land Reserve (B.C. Agricultural Land Commission)
- Fish Protection Act – Riparian Areas Regulation (B.C. Ministry of Environment)
- Sewage Waste Disposal (Vancouver Island Health Authority)
- Mines/Quarries (B.C. Ministry of Energy and Mines)
- Highway Access Permit (B.C. Ministry of Transportation)
- Crown Land Tenures (B.C. Ministry of Agriculture and Lands)
- Subdivision Approvals (B.C. Ministry of Transportation/Islands Trust)
- Liquor Control and Licenses (B.C. Liquor Control and Licensing Branch)
- National Parks (Parks Canada)
- Provincial Parks (BC Parks)
- Regional Parks (Cowichan Valley Regional District)
- Local Parks (Cowichan Valley Regional District/Thetis Island Local Trust Committee)
- Communications Towers (Industry Canada)



Photo by Brett Korteling

6 CIVIC LIFE

Parks and Recreation

There are no public parks on Thetis Island. The only public spaces are the properties of the one room school house, community dock and community centre. There are some walking trails and residents find their own favourite beach access and enjoy nature from either their own property or a friend's house.

Walking Trails

There is one lengthy community trail that connects the inlet of North Cove with the public buildings in the south central part of the island

Arts and Culture

Thetis has the atmosphere of a relaxed neighbourhood where arts and culture occur organically in the atmosphere of backyards, market displays, at Forbes Hall and from time to time as part of a larger community gathering. The Thetis Island Arts Council works diligently to weave music and art into community events.

Thetis is an island of self-starters who take care of themselves and each other and in the same fashion the community has built its own community hall and established its own library. The hard work of community members enable a place to connect.

News of community events and other happenings travels over the Internet via the e-wheel SPOKES newsletter. Information on receiving this newsletter can be found on the community website <http://www.thetisisland.net/community2006.htm>.

There are 3 Christian retreats:

- Capernwray
- Pioneer Pacific
- Camp Columbia

Some islanders travel off-island to partake in worship at churches on Vancouver Island and there is a community Christian fellowship meeting held Sundays at the community hall.

Overbury Farm Resort has become a destination spot for weddings and other island bed and breakfasts help out with needed accommodation and food.

Like every island community, Thetis has an evolving list of organizations and associations that work on various initiatives of importance to the citizens of the island. Volunteerism is an important component of a healthy arts and culture community.

Annual Events

Thetis Island has a few different traditions for community gatherings. Some happen every year and some take a break for awhile before returning.

- A consistent event is the round-the-island regatta. This event celebrates the good weather and sunshine of spring and in 2009 it occurred from May 8-10.
- Often there has been an event on May 1st to celebrate the Queen's birthday.
- On the Saturday of the May long weekend in 2009, there was a community parade for the first time. This was a great success.
- Often in the summer months there is a Thetis Island Fair with a traditional pie auction to gather funds for the community association. In the past the pie auction was initiated to support a health and welfare fund for everyone to chip in and help a young island resident receive medical treatment for complicated health issues.
- In the past there has been a Sportnik event at Don & Gwen Hunter's farm where many islanders got together for a community sports fair.

A "Get to the Point" walk is held every few years to raise money for rotating causes. During this event people walk, run and ride bikes all the way around Thetis with a ferry trip in the middle to cross North Cove.

- 2009 First Annual Parade
- Seniors dinners
- Drop-in lunches
- Christmas concert
- Library book and bake sale



Photo by Lon Wood

7 TRANSPORTATION

Water

The Thetis ferry is a car, passenger, and foot ferry that runs approximately every hour and a half between downtown Chemainus and Preedy Harbour on Thetis and another dock on Penelakut Island. A direct ride to Thetis takes 25 minutes and a trip with a stop at Penelakut, takes 45 minutes to travel between Thetis and Chemainus.

Passengers have priority for this ferry and sometimes if there are too many walk-ons, the number allowed on of cars is limited. There are no amenities at the ferry dock on Thetis other than a covered passenger seating area. The Chemainus Downtown terminal offers a washroom and indoor seating area. This route does not permit reservations.

The volume of ferry traffic follows a daily and seasonal pattern. During the fall and winter, busy ferries take commuters and high school students to Chemainus in the morning and for a return at night. In the summer, ferry traffic doubles due to an influx of seasonal residents and summer visitors (Figure 5).

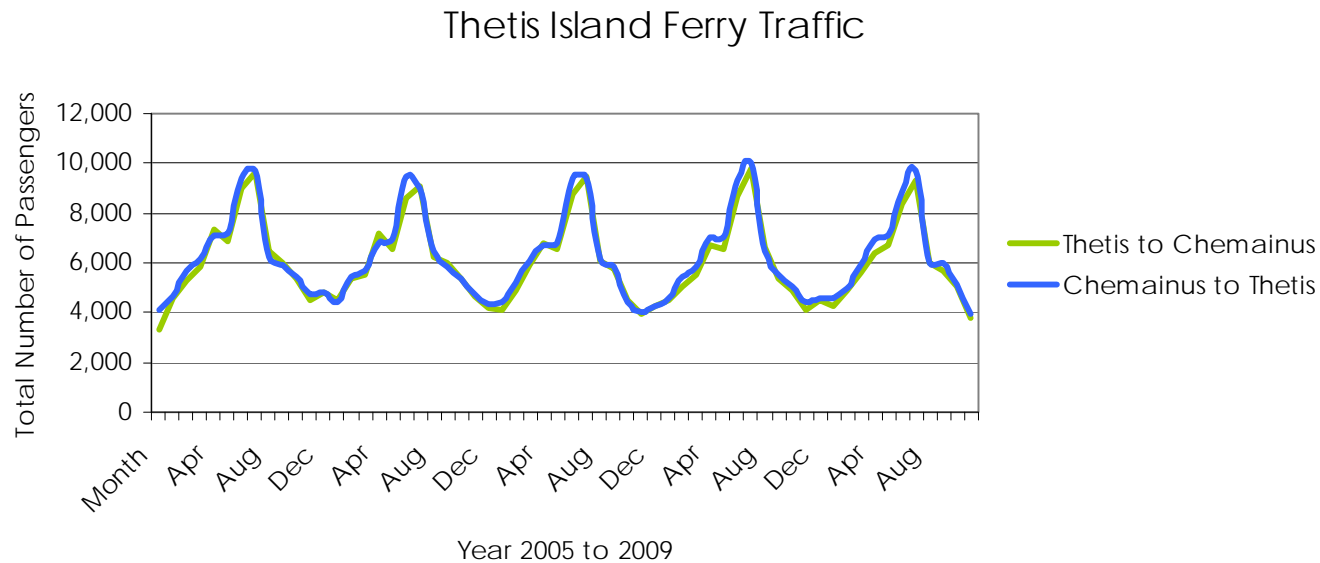


Figure 5: Ferry Traffic in number of passengers from 2005 on the left to 2009 on the right

There is a plateau before summer as seasonal residents come at the start of spring and in the early fall as many stay for the warm fade to autumn and more routine work schedules.

The two lines on the ferry traffic graph illustrate traffic to and from Thetis Island. The volume of travel on and off island follows a similar pattern with relatively more traffic to the island at the beginning of the summer season and a relative drop off in Thetis bound traffic at the end of summer as Vancouver Island bound traffic increases.

In the past decade BC Ferries has increased its fares on several occasions, passing increased costs of operations to passengers and slowly reducing the subsidization of the Thetis ferry route. Continued increases in the price of oil coupled with BC Ferries' goal of limiting subsidization of smaller routes will likely result in continued increases in ferry rates for Thetis residents and visitors. Additionally, the age of facilities at both terminals and the age of the vessel used on the run will necessitate capital investments in the coming years. Increasing costs of access to the Island in the next decade is an issue importance to residence, business and government alike.

Thetis Islanders through Thetrans and TIRRA coordinated a way to purchase the old government dock when the federal government was looking to discharge their management duties. This dock is available for public use and has a spot always reserved for emergency water taxi access. In order to secure ownership Thetis Islanders formed a Port Commission and partnership with the Cowichan Valley Regional District in order to have access to proper insurance for ownership and maintenance.



Photo by Lon Wood

Air

Sea Air Seaplanes offers a float plane service from the Thetis Island Marina to the float plane terminal near the Vancouver International Airport.

Land

The road infrastructure around Thetis Island is fairly well-developed; walking and biking trails along the roadside are minimal and less developed. There is a dependency of automobile transportation on the island. The low road density reflects the rural residential development of Thetis. The main roads, which extend throughout most of the land, are paved and in fair condition. Vehicle movement is often unimpeded on these main roads due to limited traffic and vehicles are able to travel these routes quickly. Secondary roads are mostly unpaved with a gravel surface. The construction and maintenance of street infrastructure is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI). This Ministry is therefore responsible for repairs to the potholes and surface of the roads, snowplowing and other jobs. This work is contracted out to an island company.

The road infrastructure is not accommodating for cycling or walking. There are very few paved or unpaved shoulders, sidewalks, or bicycle lanes on either the main or secondary streets extending throughout the island. There is one walking trail which connects the North Cove with the community

centre, but there is not a network to facilitate pedestrian and bike travel throughout the Island.

The Thetis Island Resident's and Ratepayer's Association are considering the development of a roadside pathway to connect the two marinas. In order to accomplish this they would need to organize a Transportation Commission with the Cowichan Valley Regional District to handle insurance issues and provide further opportunities for funding.

See Schedule B Land Use Designations and Road Systems in the Map Appendix for the designated transportation network.



Photo by Brett Korteling

8 ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

The ecological footprint is a figurative expression for how much of the earth's surface we require to maintain our current living practices. In order to calculate the ecological footprint, Mathis Wackernagel and William Rees organized human consumption into five major categories. For the North American lifestyle, it is often suggested that we need close to 4 planets to sustain our current practices. The footprint analysis offers an objective look at how much out of step we are with the earth's carrying capacity.

For an introductory survey of how life on Thetis Island relates to the Ecological Footprint five aspects of human life are considered: Food, Housing, Transportation, Consumer Goods, and Waste and Recycling. The reason these five aspects are considered is they relate directly to day-to-day life and the resulting consumption patterns influence how large an earthly footprint Thetis Islanders require.

Food

There are approximately 204 acres on Thetis Island governed by the agricultural land reserve. These lands are not completely farmed and there are small patches of land in other areas of the island that are farmed. The total area of shellfish harvesting closures has decreased from 179ha in 1999 to 162 ha in 2006 which indicates a subtle increase in shellfish harvesting opportunities.

- ⇒ There is the possibility for more farming to occur on Thetis
- ⇒ Exploration into the potential for more shellfish harvesting could also increase local food production



Photo by Lon Wood

Housing

Thetis Island's population increased from 349 in 2001 to 372 in 2006; a 6.6% increase. The majority of private dwellings are single detached homes, only 6% are rented and the cost of real estate makes it increasingly hard for starting families to buy on island.

- ⇒ There is discussion underway about how or whether to make housing available that suits all needs of the population. Whether it is called affordable, accessible or suitable, providing homes for a broad demographic is a challenge.
- ⇒ In order to lessen the footprint of housing, denser residential development with shared walls, more energy efficient construction and renewable energy sources for electricity and heating are needed.

Transportation

Road density on Thetis was 0.01 km/ha in 2006, while density per capita was measured at 0.099 km/person. The road density average in the Trust Area is 0.0163 km/ha. In 1996, the ratio of road kilometers to persons was equal to the average in the Trust Area of 0.049 km/person. The majority of the population (55%) drives a vehicle to work. Approximately 38% walk or bike. There is no public transit available.

- ⇒ The addition of a community shuttle bus or implementation of car stop stations like the ones in use on North Pender Island could reduce single personal vehicle use.
- ⇒ Enhancing safe opportunities for Thetis residents to exercise active transportation options with improved bike lanes and pedestrian trail networks would assist in decreasing private automobile use.
- ⇒ Limiting personal air flights would also decrease the transportation related footprint.

Consumer Goods

There was no data found to represent consumer trends on the Island. However, Thetis Island does not have its own big box stores and therefore a good portion of consumer goods would need to be bought in Chemainus or further afield on Vancouver Island.

- ⇒ A further exploration about how to shop with a lighter footprint could be carried out as a personal and/or community exercise and resource information can be found at the World Wildlife Fund's footprint calculator <http://footprint.wwf.org.uk/>. This site offers many helpful and innovative ideas to lessen personal ecological footprints.

Waste and Recycling

Thetis Island is active with reuse and recycling via the community run recycling exchange. These facilities are improving to allow transfer of goods under cover. This will support ongoing exchange over the winter months. Most Thetis Islanders compost and have drop off their own garbage. An embryonic "free store" was attached this year to the main recycling depot. The need to transport waste is a great inhibitor of waste accumulation.

- ⇒ There could always be improvement and key attention to the first option reduce is the most important.
- ⇒ Collaboration and awareness building on island with the help of CVRD would help spread awareness and foster support.



Photo by Brett Korteling

9 APPENDIX

References

The Lives Behind the Headstones 1993 for History

BC Stats for census and demographics

Environment Canada for weather related information

Islands Trust database for physical features and geologic information

Thetis Island Community Fund Statement of Purposes for general information

District of North Cowichan Population and Housing Forecasts for population growth estimates

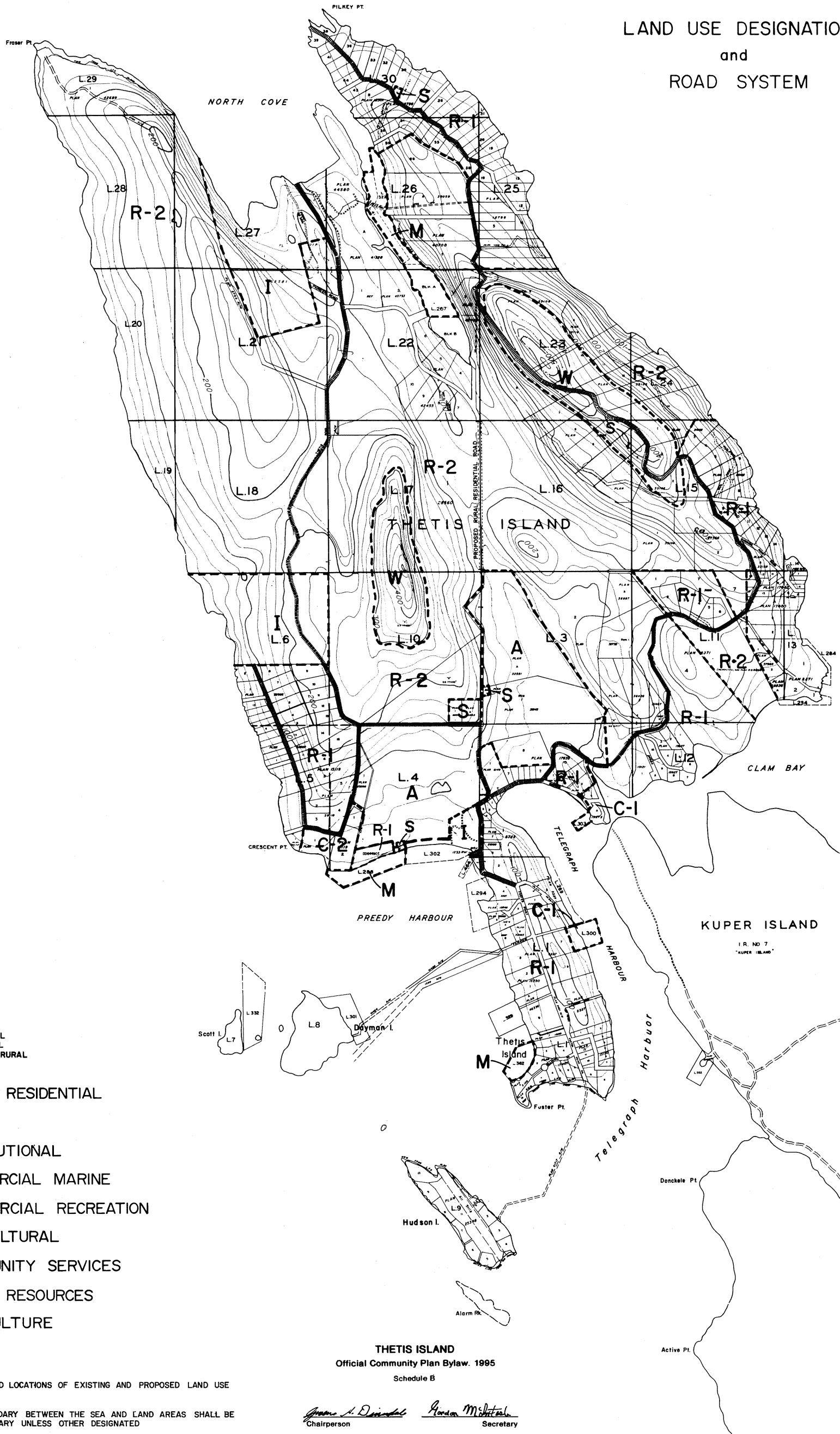
Personal Communication with Trustees Peter Luckham and Sue French for general information history and other information sources

Personal Communication with Ron Bannister for information on garbage and recycling

Thetis Island Community Website for information on local businesses and other general information

Maps

THETIS ISLAND
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN
BYLAW No. 50
SCHEDULE 'B'
LAND USE DESIGNATIONS
and
ROAD SYSTEM



LEGEND

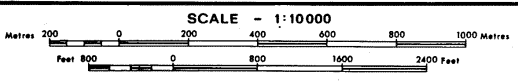
ROAD CLASSES
 - - - - - MINOR RURAL
 = = = = = MAIN RURAL
 All Others RESIDENTIAL RURAL

- [R-1] RURAL RESIDENTIAL
- [R-2] RURAL
- [I] INSTITUTIONAL
- [C-1] COMMERCIAL MARINE
- [C-2] COMMERCIAL RECREATION
- [A] AGRICULTURAL
- [S] COMMUNITY SERVICES
- [W] WATER RESOURCES
- [M] MARICULTURE

NOTATIONS:
 1) ALL BOUNDARIES AND LOCATIONS OF EXISTING AND PROPOSED LAND USE ARE APPROXIMATE
 2) THE NATURAL BOUNDARY BETWEEN THE SEA AND LAND AREAS SHALL BE A LAND USE BOUNDARY UNLESS OTHER DESIGNATED

Gordon A. Davidson *Gordon McArthur*
 Chairperson Secretary

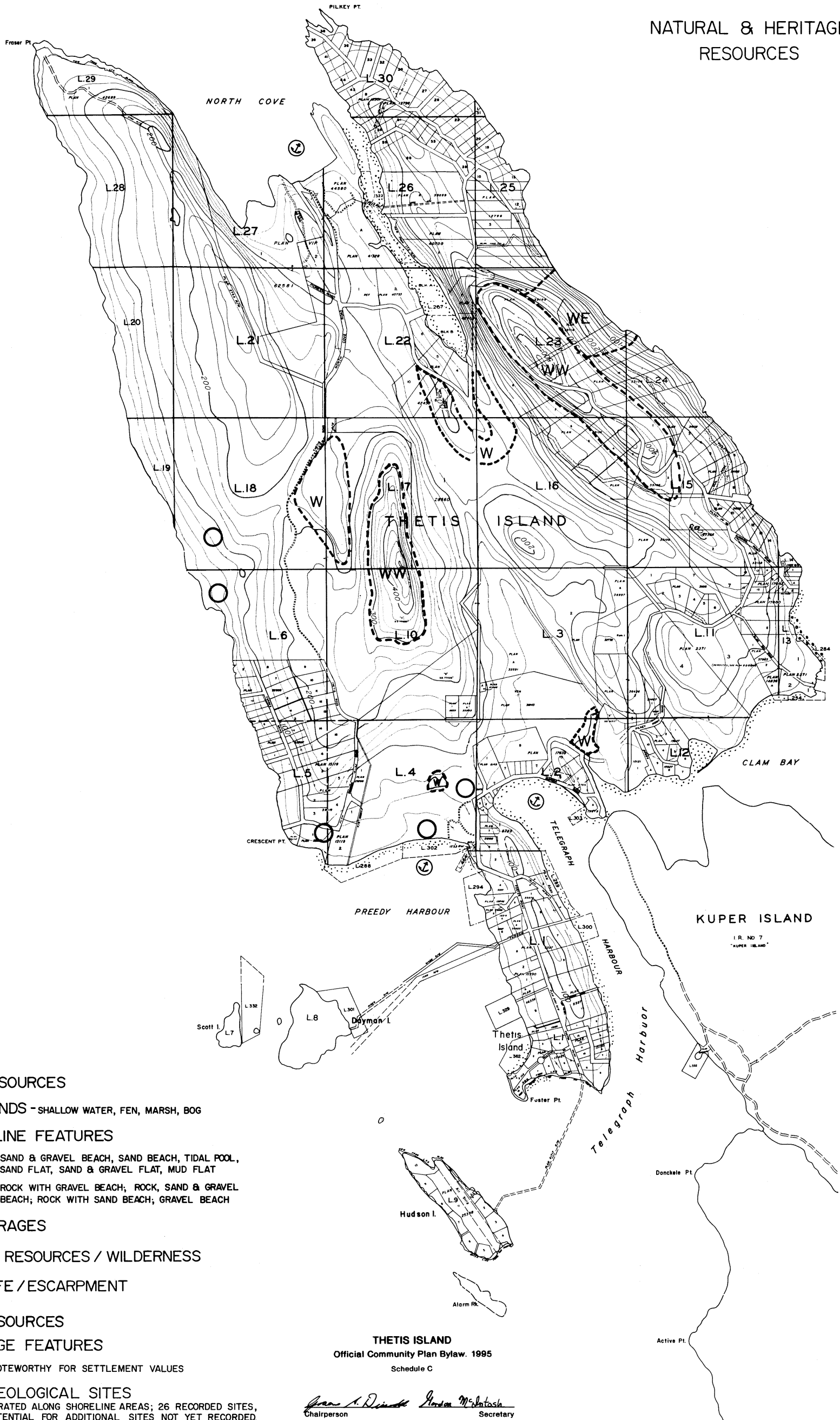
REVISIONS	
Nov. 1996	BL # 52
Nov. 1996	BL # 54
Oct. 1997	BL # 55
Oct. 1997	BL # 57
Oct. 1997	BL # 58



THETIS ISLAND

THETIS ISLAND TRUST COMMITTEE SCHEDULE B

THETIS ISLAND
OFFICIAL COMMUNITY PLAN
BYLAW No. 50
SCHEDULE 'C'
NATURAL & HERITAGE
RESOURCES



LEGEND

NATURAL RESOURCES

W WETLANDS - SHALLOW WATER, FEN, MARSH, BOG

SHORELINE FEATURES

SAND & GRAVEL BEACH, SAND BEACH, TIDAL POOL, SAND FLAT, SAND & GRAVEL FLAT, MUD FLAT

ROCK WITH GRAVEL BEACH; ROCK, SAND & GRAVEL BEACH; ROCK WITH SAND BEACH; GRAVEL BEACH

ANCHORAGES

WW WATER RESOURCES / WILDERNESS

WE WILDLIFE / ESCARPMENT

HERITAGE RESOURCES

HERITAGE FEATURES

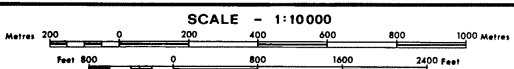
NOTEWORTHY FOR SETTLEMENT VALUES

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SITES

CONCENTRATED ALONG SHORELINE AREAS; 26 RECORDED SITES, ALSO POTENTIAL FOR ADDITIONAL SITES NOT YET RECORDED.

THETIS ISLAND
 Official Community Plan Bylaw, 1995
 Schedule C

James A. Dineen *Gordon McIntosh*
 Chairperson Secretary



THETIS ISLAND

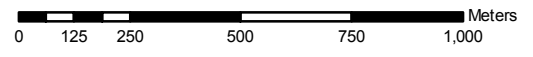
THETIS ISLAND
TRUST COMMITTEE






SCHEDULE C

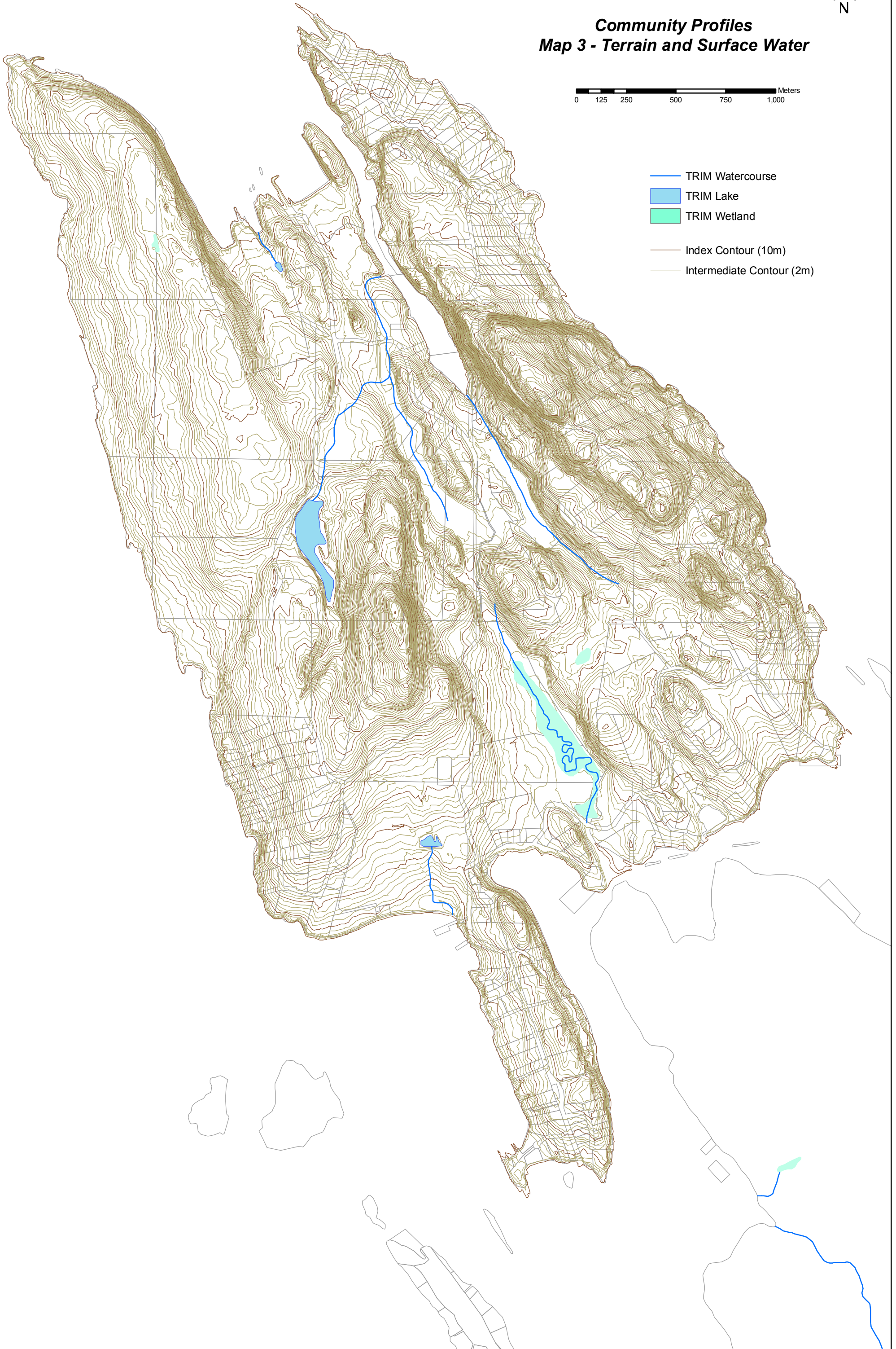
THETIS ISLAND



Community Profiles Map 3 - Terrain and Surface Water



-  TRIM Watercourse
-  TRIM Lake
-  TRIM Wetland
-  Index Contour (10m)
-  Intermediate Contour (2m)



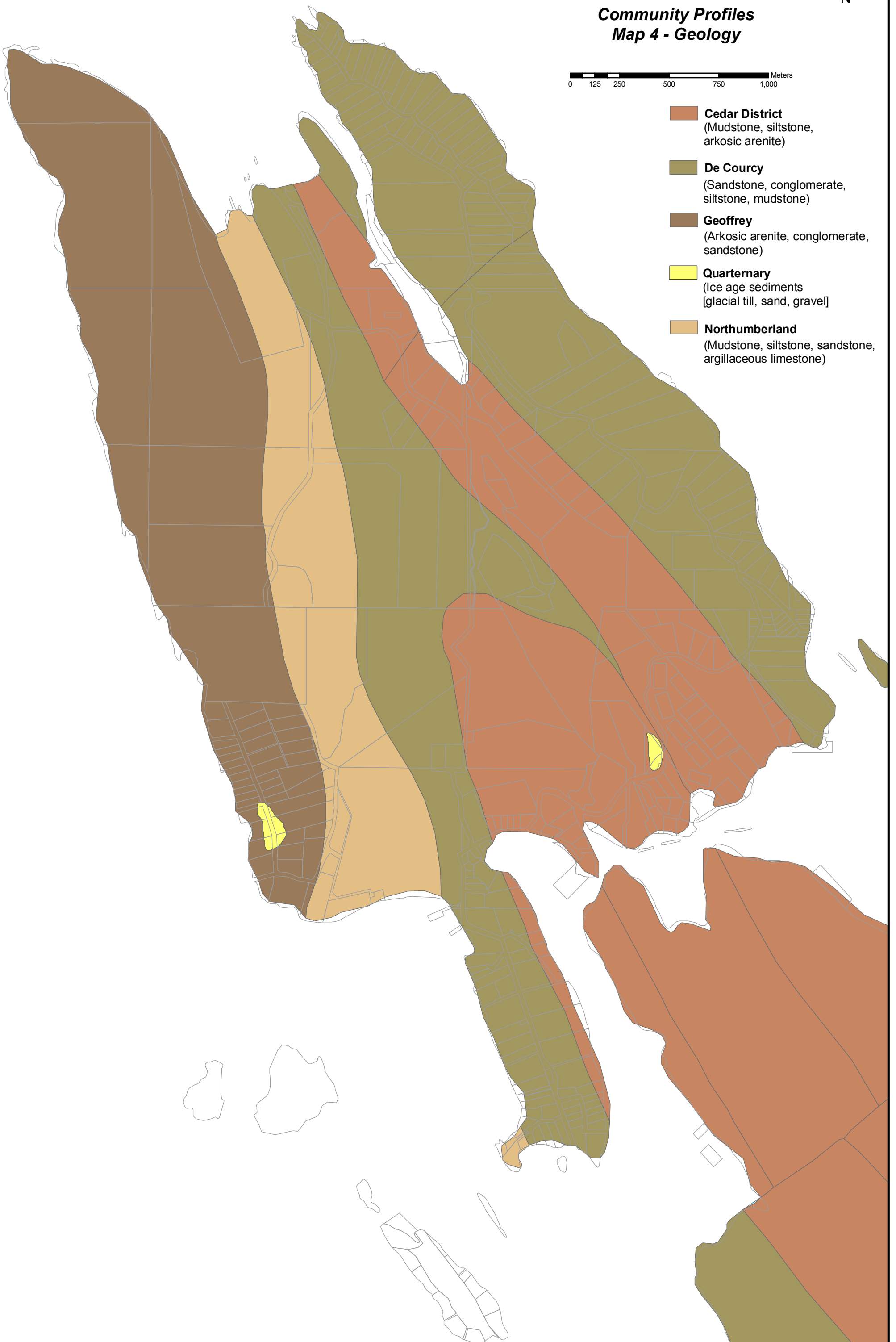
THETIS ISLAND

Community Profiles Map 4 - Geology



0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Meters

-  **Cedar District**
(Mudstone, siltstone, arkosic arenite)
-  **De Courcy**
(Sandstone, conglomerate, siltstone, mudstone)
-  **Geoffrey**
(Arkosic arenite, conglomerate, sandstone)
-  **Quaternary**
(Ice age sediments [glacial till, sand, gravel])
-  **Northumberland**
(Mudstone, siltstone, sandstone, argillaceous limestone)

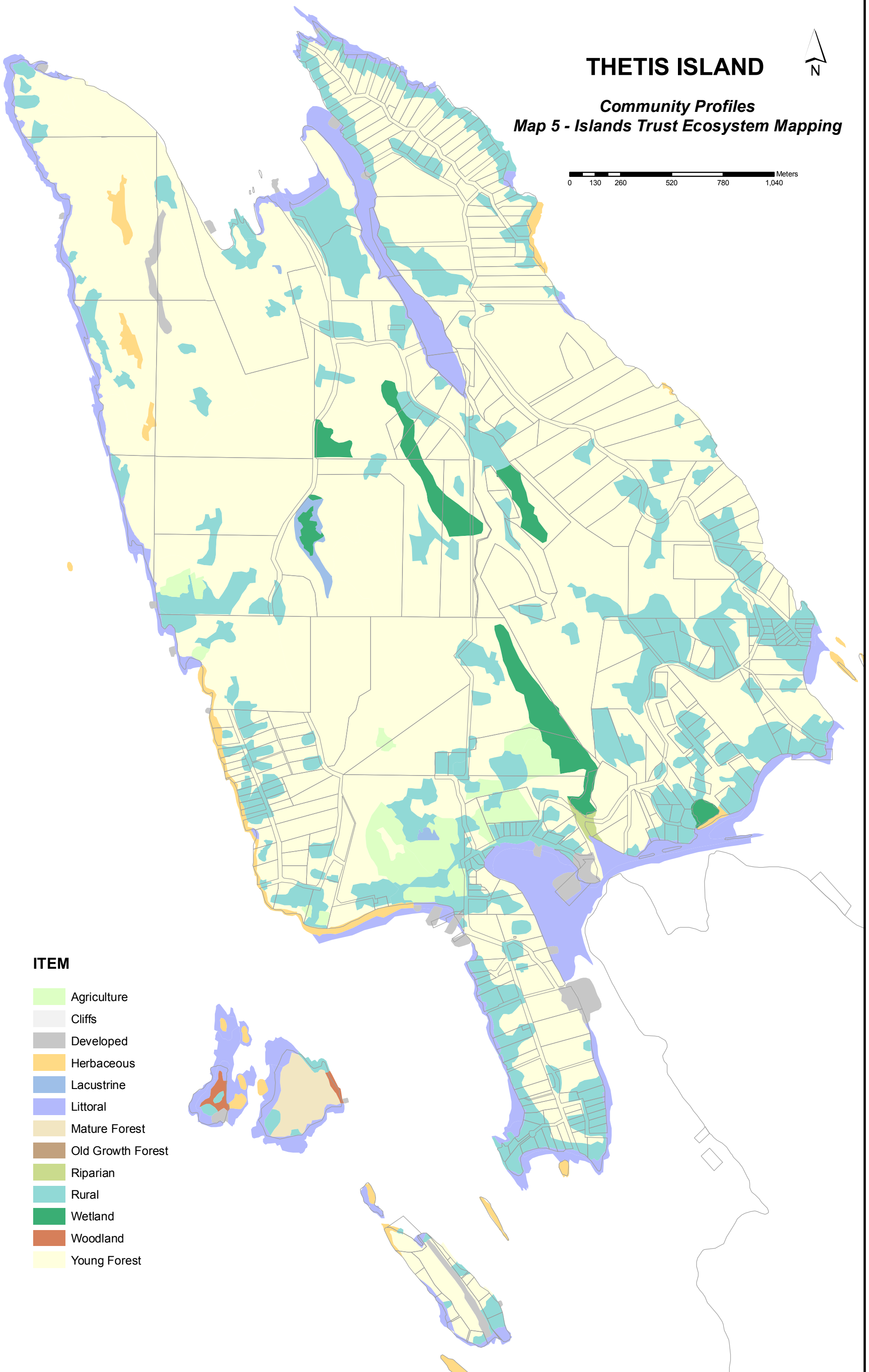


THETIS ISLAND



Community Profiles Map 5 - Islands Trust Ecosystem Mapping

0 130 260 520 780 1,040 Meters



ITEM

-  Agriculture
-  Cliffs
-  Developed
-  Herbaceous
-  Lacustrine
-  Littoral
-  Mature Forest
-  Old Growth Forest
-  Riparian
-  Rural
-  Wetland
-  Woodland
-  Young Forest

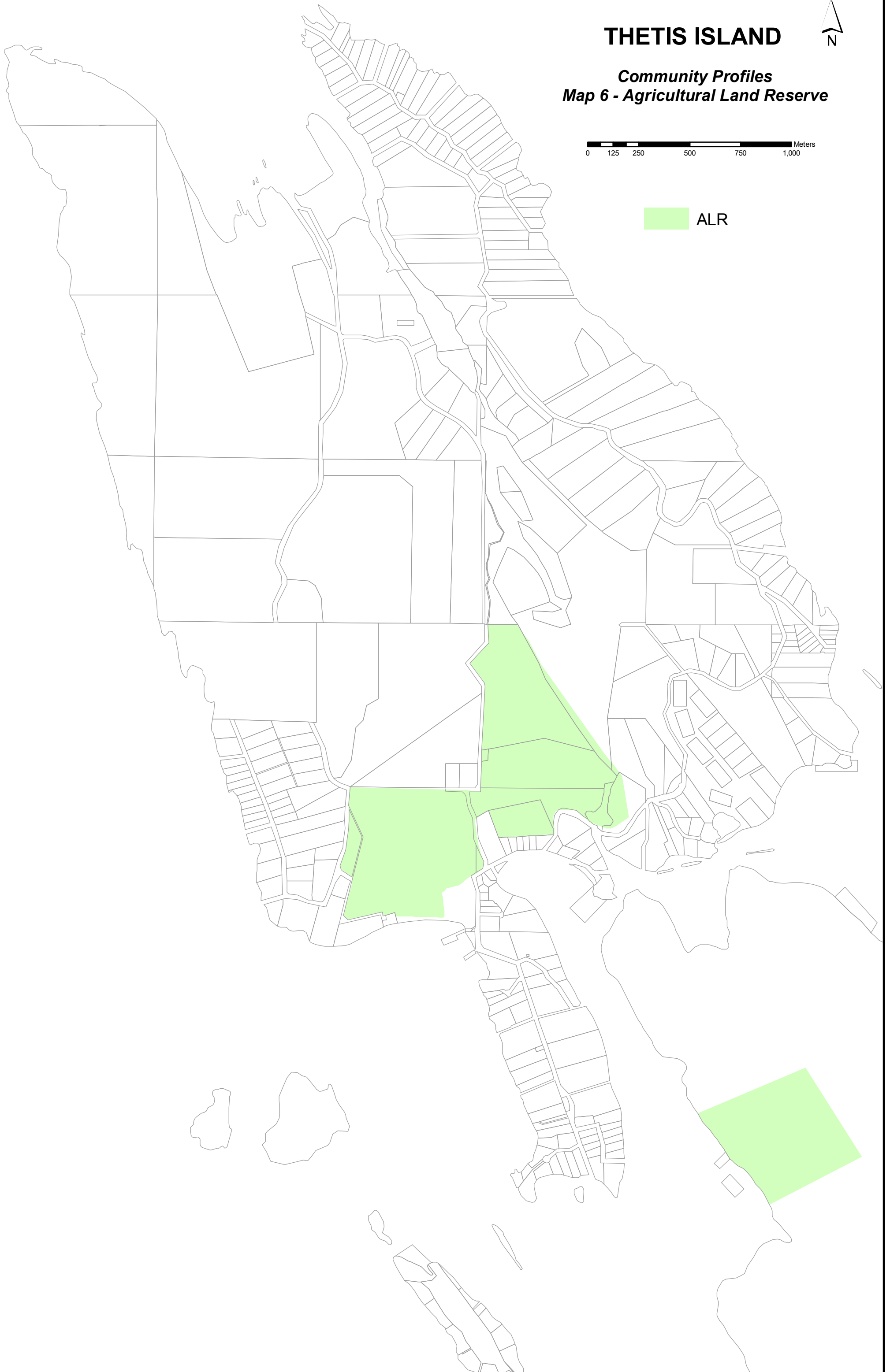
THETIS ISLAND



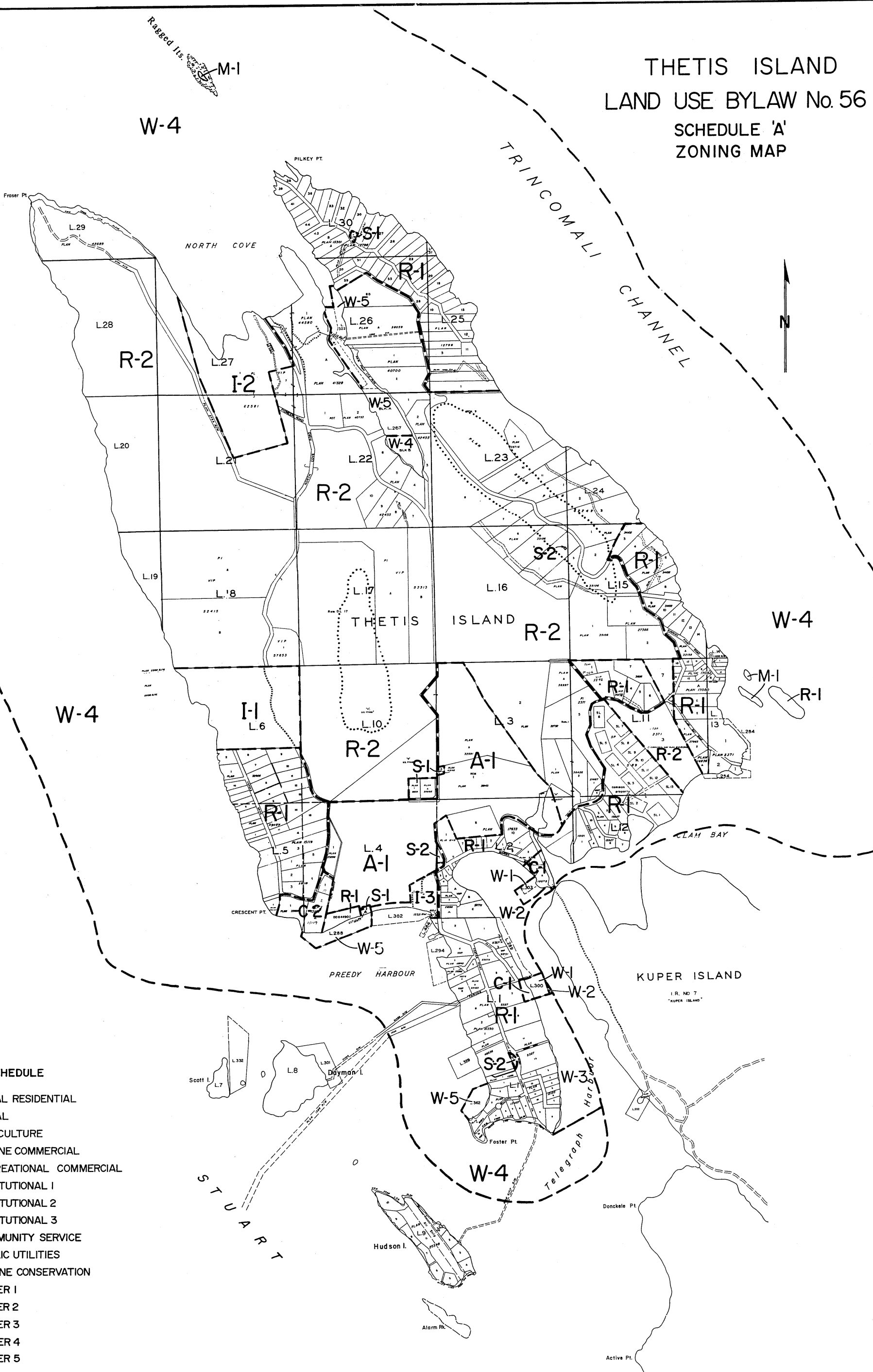
Community Profiles Map 6 - Agricultural Land Reserve

0 125 250 500 750 1,000 Meters

 ALR



THETIS ISLAND
LAND USE BYLAW No. 56
SCHEDULE 'A'
ZONING MAP



ZONE SCHEDULE

- R-1 RURAL RESIDENTIAL
- R-2 RURAL
- A-1 AGRICULTURE
- C-1 MARINE COMMERCIAL
- C-2 RECREATIONAL COMMERCIAL
- I-1 INSTITUTIONAL 1
- I-2 INSTITUTIONAL 2
- I-3 INSTITUTIONAL 3
- S-1 COMMUNITY SERVICE
- S-2 PUBLIC UTILITIES
- M-1 MARINE CONSERVATION
- W-1 WATER 1
- W-2 WATER 2
- W-3 WATER 3
- W-4 WATER 4
- W-5 WATER 5

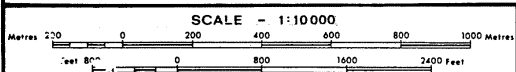
Water Resources Areas identified in Schedule 'B' of Thetis Island Official Community Plan Bylaw, 1995

Thetis Island Land Use Bylaw, 1997
Schedule A

--- Zone boundary

Dil Singh
Chairperson

S. Mitchell
Secretary



THETIS ISLAND

THETIS ISLAND
LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE

SCHEDULE A