



RECREATION & PARKS Service Overview

February 7, 2023 ■ RDN Board / Regional Parks and Trails Committee





REGIONAL
DISTRICT
OF NANAIMO

Recreation

SERVICE OVERVIEW



What We Do RECREATION SERVICE DELIVERY

Community
Engagement and
Public Relations for
Active Living and
Recreation Facility
Operations

Operations and
Maintenance of RDN
Recreation Facilities

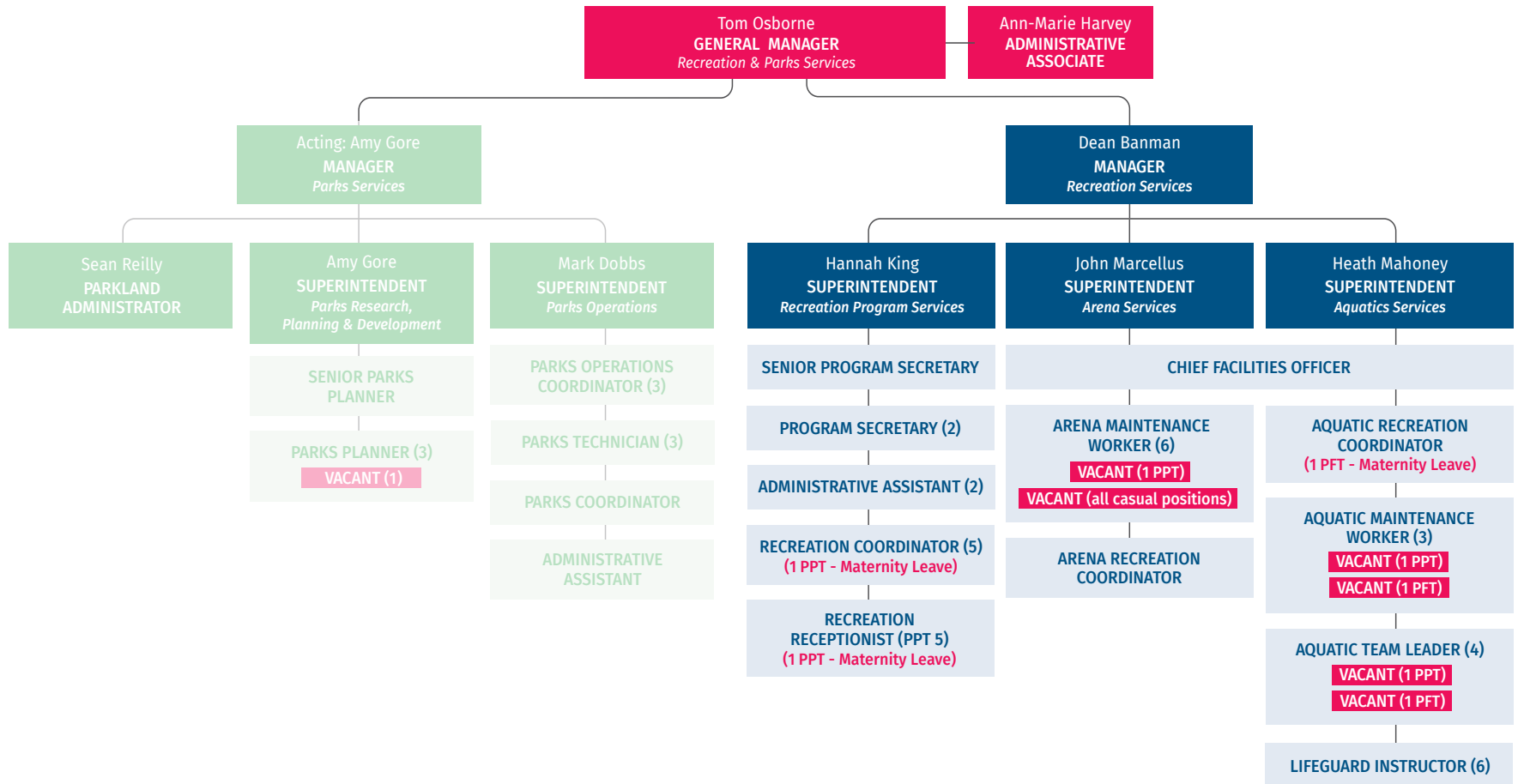
Community Partnerships

Recreation Programming

Budgeting, Financing,
Asset Management,
Implementation of RDN
Board Strategic Plan

All Stages of
Planning and Design
of Recreation Facilities
(remediation and
new builds)

Who We Are



INTRODUCTION TO *Recreation Services*

Staffing - Who We Are

- 60 full-time, part time and casuals
- Work evenings, weekends, 365 days a year, 24 hours a day
- Are retiring
- Are in high school and in our first “real” job
- An increasing number of us have elder care responsibilities
- Have grandkids, kids in university, kids in K-12 school, grown kids, preschool kids and kids just a few weeks old, no kids
- Hold certifications and training that are mandatory in order for our pool and arena to open
- Good at what we do

Service Area Overview

- Oceanside Place
- Ravensong Aquatic Centre
- Northern (Oceanside) Recreation Program Services and satellite facilities
- Southern Recreation Program Services and satellite facilities



Common Themes

- Connection between recreation and healthy communities. ‘Upstream impact’ that recreation and parks services have on the health of the community.
- DO have influence in terms of health/social planning.
- RDN Board has influence/control/responsibility in terms of how and what Recreation Services does and provides.

Oceanside Place



Oceanside Place, owned (both land and building) and operated by the RDN

Located in City of Parksville, opened in 2003, borrowing debt to build, retired in 2023

- 2 NHL (Howie Meeker and Victor Kraatz) regular size ice sheets
- Total capacity 1367 with seating for 950 (Meeker) and 250 (Kraatz)
- Multipurpose rooms (2)
- Large usable lobby space available for event use
- Ice and dry floor rentals
- Meeting room
- Skate sharpening and rental shop
- Elevator and accessible seating
- Concession
- Main office and administration for Recreation Services
- Accessible by RDN Transit



Oceanside Place ARENA PROGRAMS



Skating

Learn to Skate, Private Skate Lessons

Hockey

Hockey Rascals, My Hockey League,
Parent & Child Hockey, Oceanside
Women's Hockey League

Dry Floor

Lacrosse, Pickleball



Oceanside Place PICKLEBALL TOURNAMENT

Pickleball Tournament

Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles



Oceanside Place Arena

Men's & Women's
Thu, May 23

Mixed
Fri, May 24

10329 Men
10230 Women
10298 Mixed

\$55 per team

Guaranteed 8 games. Round Robin play with a double knock out playoff format

Arrive at 7:30am



REGIONAL DISTRICT OF NANAIMO

Register at rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Ravensong Aquatic Centre
737 James St, Qualicum Beach
250-752-5014

Oceanside Place Arena
883 W Island Hwy, Parksville
250-248-3252



Find us on

Oceanside Place TRY IT EVENT

55+ TRY IT - ICE HOCKEY

Have every thought of trying out the sport of ice hockey? Or thought about competing the BC Senior games? Come try out the great game of ice hockey

Oceanside Place Arena

FREE - Come try it out

On Ice: 2:00-3:30

Post Ice Social event: 3:30-4:30

Friday November 22nd 2019

This event is brought to you in partnership with the BC Senior Games, Zone 2 Area 2, the RDN and the BCRPA

We gratefully acknowledge the financial support of the Province of British Columbia and the Government of Canada



Register at rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Ravensong Aquatic Centre
737 Jones St, Qualicum Beach
250-752-5014

Oceanside Place Arena
830 W Island Hwy, Parksville
250-248-3252

Find us on



Oceanside Place SPECIAL EVENTS



Family Day Free Skate, Parksville Lion's and Save-On-Foods Free Family Skate, Glow Skate, Winter Wonderland Skate, New Year's Eve Family Celebration



STAFFING

Although staffing has been challenging, our current team is dedicated and supporting the operation in its needs.

Oceanside Place TEEN SKATE

WINTER WONDERLAND

Teen Skate

Oceanside Place
Tuesday December 17
7:00pm-8:30pm
Free Admission and
Skate Rentals



Register at rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Ravensong Aquatic Centre
737 Jones St, Quaticum Beach
250-752-5014

Oceanside Place Arena
830 W Island Hwy, Parksville
250-248-3252

Find us on



Oceanside Place GARAGE SALE

THE GREAT GARAGE SALE

Oceanside Place Arena

Saturday, May 4

9:00am-1:00pm

Register for your space today.

Spaces cost \$16-\$44



REGIONAL
DISTRICT
OF NANAIMO

Register at rdn.bc.ca/recreation

Ravensong Aquatic Centre
737 Jones St, Qualicum Beach
250-752-5014

Oceanside Place Arena
830 W Island Hwy, Parksville
250-248-3252

Find us on



Oceanside Place TRADESHOWS & CONFERENCES



*Hosting auto shows,
garage sales, quilt
shows, taekwondo
tournaments & more...*



Oceanside Place USER GROUPS

Rentals available year round

Oceanside Place Arena is a perfect place to host a tournament, skating or hockey school, conference or trade show. The facility includes two arenas, meeting room, multipurpose room, dressing rooms and lobby.



Oceanside Place USER GROUPS

Oceanside Minor Hockey

Oceanside Minor Lacrosse

**Parksville Golden Oldies
Association (PGOSA)**

Parksville Panthers

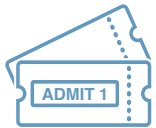
Oceanside Generals

Qualicum School District 69

**Oceanside Recreation
Hockey Leagues (ORHL)**

Parksville Bald Eagles

Oceanside Place METRICS



Admissions

2019 Admissions

18,412

2020 Admissions

6,085

2022 Admissions

11,702

2023 Admissions

TBD



Hours of Use

2019 Hours of Use

8,365

2020 Hours of Use

4,780

2022 Hours of Use

8,268

2023 Hours of Use

TBD

Ravensong Aquatic Centre



Facility is owned and operated by the RDN - (long term land leased from Town of Qualicum Beach - lease expires in 2034)

Opened in 1995, borrowing debt to build, retired in 2015



- 25m 6 lane pool
- Leisure pool
- Steam
- Infrared Sauna
- Whirl pool
- Universal (4) change rooms

Ravensong Aquatic Centre PROGRAMS



*Swim lessons, aquafit,
aquatic leadership,
drop-in lane, leisure,
family, everyone
welcome, and teen swim*



AquaFit Program

Highly attended with average of

**65 PER PROGRAM
SESSION**

*We will be reviewing program and
how it is offered to ensure meeting
community need.*

Ravensong Aquatic Centre

SPECIAL
EVENTS

Polar Bear Swim

Very successful with
highest turnout to date

300+
REGISTERED
PARTICIPANTS



Ocean Mile Swim

Very successful with

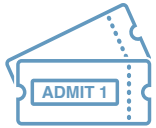
50+ SWIMMERS



Ravensong Aquatic Centre RENTALS



Ravensong Aquatic Centre METRICS



Admissions

2019 Admissions

100,073

2022 Admissions

71,297

2023 Admissions

TBD



Hours of Use

2022 Hours of Use

4,266

2023 Hours of Use

TBD



Registration

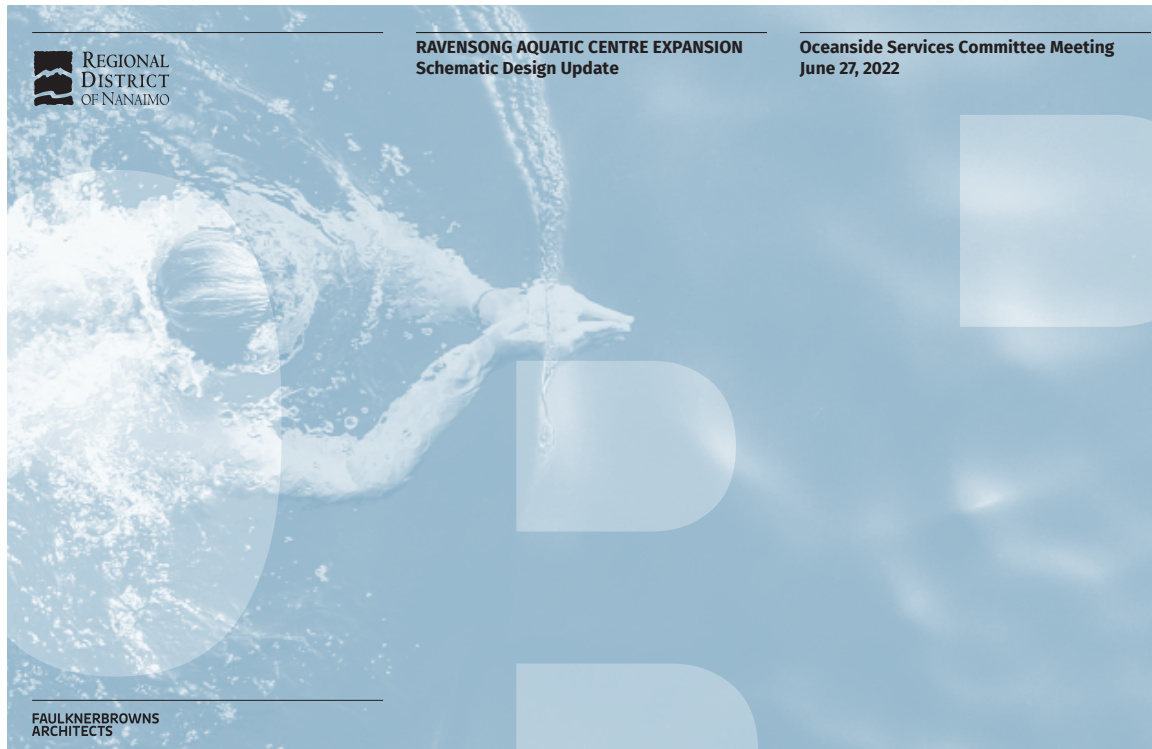
2019
Registration Spots

3,666

2022
Registration Spots

5,380

Ravensong Aquatic Centre PROJECTS



**Ravensong Aquatic
Centre Bylaw
#899 Community
Engagement**



**Ravensong Aquatic
Centre Expansion
Planning**



**Staff Recruitment
& Retention**

Northern Recreation (Oceanside) PROGRAMS



Examples of programs offered in the Northern Recreation area include a variety of sports, fitness classes, outdoor recreation, children's camps and more...



Northern Recreation (Oceanside) PROGRAM SERVICES



Below are a few of the locations you will find RDN Parks and Recreation programs offered in the Northern Recreation Service (Oceanside) area:

- Qualicum Commons
- Qualicum Beach Civic Centre
- Qualicum Beach Community Hall
- Little Qualicum Hall
- Craig Street Commons
- St. Edmund's Anglican Church
- Munchkinland at Family Place
- BGC Child and Family Centre
- Moorecroft Regional Park
- Nanoose Place

Northern Recreation (Oceanside) SPECIAL EVENTS



GoByBikeBC 

GoByBike Week May 30–June 5

Hosting GoByBike Week events for the Oceanside Community. Register today at gobybikebc.ca/oceanside to receive local event information and be entered to win prizes.



Youth Week Event • May 6

This week we are celebrating youth and all they bring to our community. Oceanside Place will host skating, laser tag, and games in the games room. Chances to win prizes throughout the evening.

Northern Recreation (Oceanside) KEY PARTNERSHIPS

Town of Qualicum

SOS (Society of Organized Services) - FAP (Financial Assistance Program)

Island Health

Part of a roundtable chaired by Medical Health Officer
Dr. Allison - moving collectively towards a focus on Social Prescription, Rx for Health

- Division of Family Practice

Lighthouse Community Centre

City of Parksville

Arrowsmith Community Recreation Association (ACRA)

Northern Recreation (Oceanside) REMOVING BARRIERS

Removing barriers to recreation, services and facilities by providing...



Programs for all ages



Financial Access Program (FAP)

Offered in partnership with the SOS available to Oceanside Area residents



Inclusion support

Available upon request and considered in program development, a focus as a part of our front-line program staff training



Affordability

Free for 3 and under, free for 80 over, special discounted events such as teen night, Lions Community Skates, discounted and free pass options such as the family passes, Grade 5/6 Active Pass

Southern Recreation PROGRAMS



Examples of programs offered in the Southern Recreation area include After School Gym, Qwam Qwum Active Play, Pickleball and Basketball



Southern Recreation Program Services



Below are a few of the locations you will find RDN Parks and Recreation programs offered in Electoral A (Cedar, South Wellington, Cassidy) and Extension areas:

- Cedar Heritage Centre
- Cedar Community Hall
- Nanaimo Ladysmith Public Schools



Spooky StoryWalk®

October 15 - November 2

Read our spooky tale that brings out the imagination and spirit of the season while visiting Morden Colliery Regional Trail. Families can follow the path and read the story page by page as they go.

Morden Colliery Regional Trail,
1830 Morden Road, Nanaimo

rdn.bc.ca/find-a-park



by Ken Geist illustrated by Guy Francis



South Wellington Afterschool Gym

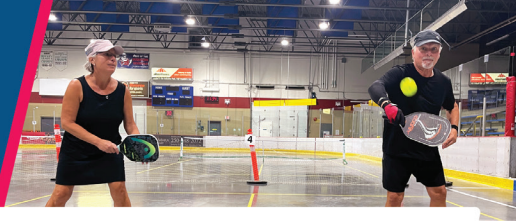
5-12 yrs

Wednesdays 3:00 - 4:45 pm
Cranberry Community Firehall

Oct 26	FREE	17042
Nov 2 - Dec 14	\$5/day	16946

Registration
Opens 8 am
October 6

To register, visit rdn.bc.ca/area-a-parks-recreation-and-cultural-services



Active Living Guide

RDN Recreation and Parks • Spring 2023







Try something new this season

Family Gym League • p. 13
Explorations with Clay 18yrs+ • p. 20
Backcountry Skills • p. 17

Registration starts
Tuesday, February 14, 2023
8 a.m.

rdn.bc.ca/recreation

-  rdn.bc.ca/recreation
-  facebook.com/RegionalDistrictofNanaimo
-  twitter.com/RDNanaimo
-  REC Connect - getinvolved.rdn.ca/rec-connect

RELATIONSHIP WITH

Oceanside Services Committee (OSC) & Electoral Area A Parks, Recreation, & Culture (PRC) Commission



Facility/Amenity Agreements

- SD68 & SD69 - lease space
- D68 Sports Field and Recreation Services Agreement
- D69 Sports Field Service Agreement
- D69 Sport Fields and Courts Booking Agency Agreement



Recreation Service Delivery Agreements

- Lighthouse Community Centre
- Extension and District Recreation Commission
- Gabriola Museum and Archive Society
- Gabriola Arts Society
- Gabriola Recreation Society
- Cedar School and Enhancement Society (CSCES)
- South Wellington and Area Community Association (SWACA)

2023–2024 Projects



Key 2023–2024 Projects Tied to Board Directives/Initiatives

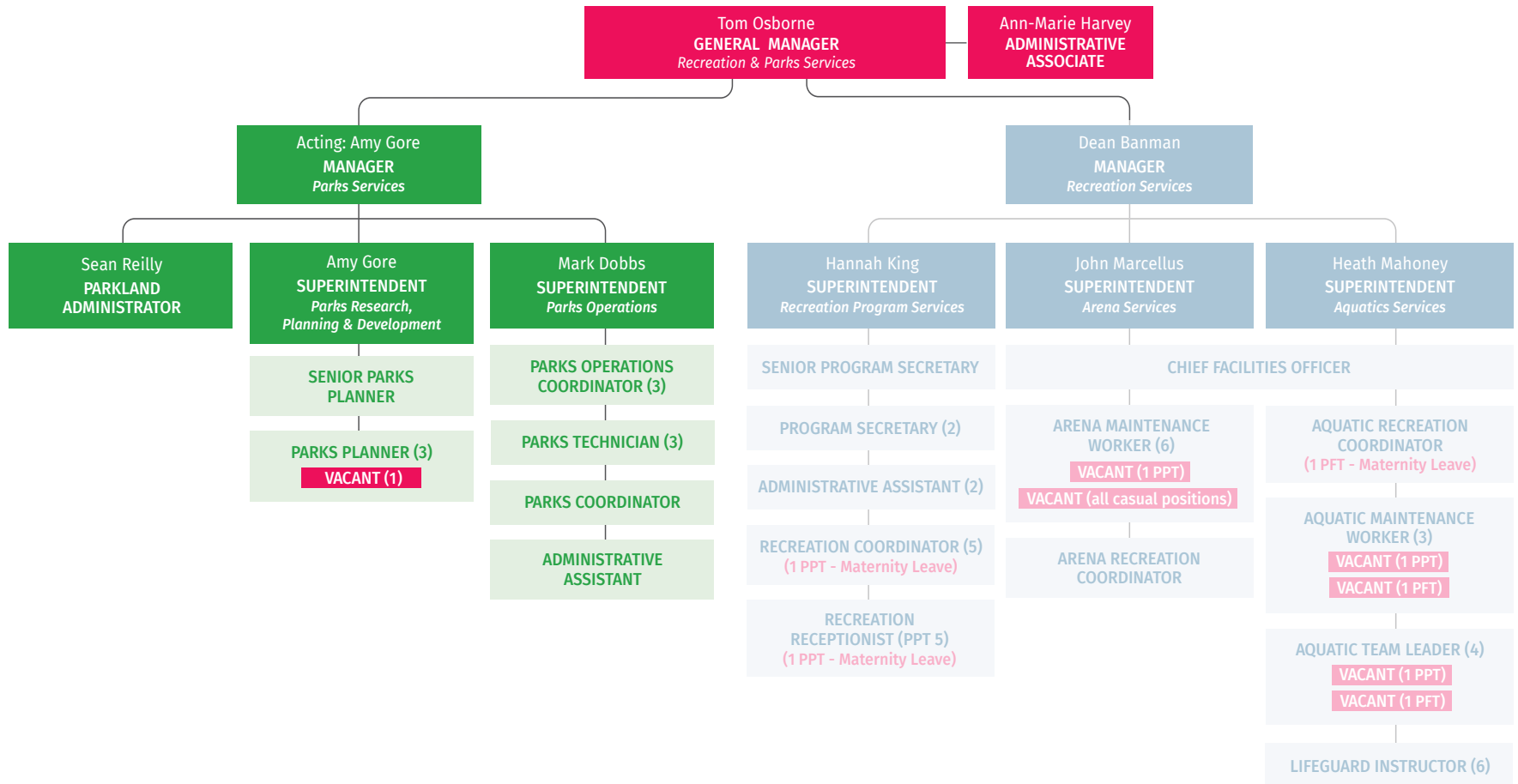
- Fees and Charges
- Gabriola Island Recreation and EA B Parks Master Plan
- Conversion of South Wellington School to South Wellington Community Centre
- Meadowood Community Hall operating agreement
- Expanding field/court booking management responsibilities i.e., Dunsmuir sport courts, Jack Bagley sport courts
- 2023 Usage Survey District 68 and 69
- 2019–2029 Oceanside Recreation Services Master Plan
- RDN Wide Plans - Business Continuity, Asset Management, Carbon Neutrality

Parks

SERVICE OVERVIEW



Who We Are



What We Do

PARKS SERVICE DELIVERY

Operations and Maintenance	Planning and Design	Land Acquisition and Tenures	Community Engagement and Public Relations
Budgeting, Funding and Asset Management	Special Use Permits	Development and Capital Projects	Promotion and Mapping
Campground Operations	Recreation Programming (within parks)	Volunteer Support and Community Partnerships	Land Conservation and Management

Parks Planning & Operations



Parks Planning

- Research & Development
- Capital project delivery
- Engagement



Parks Operations

- Coordinate and deliver all park and trail maintenance work
- Park inspections
- Routine maintenance
- Tree risk assessments



Existing Parks & Trails

REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS



9 REGIONAL
NATURAL AREAS

2,034 hectares



10 REGIONAL
TRAILS

85 km of developed trail



2 REGIONAL
RECREATION AREAS

Descanso Bay Regional Park &
Horne Lake Regional Park



1 REGIONAL
CONSERVATION AREA

Little Qualicum River Estuary
Regional Conservation Area

COMMUNITY PARKS AND TRAILS



38 COMMUNITY
TRAILS

11 km of developed trail



175 COMMUNITY
PARKS

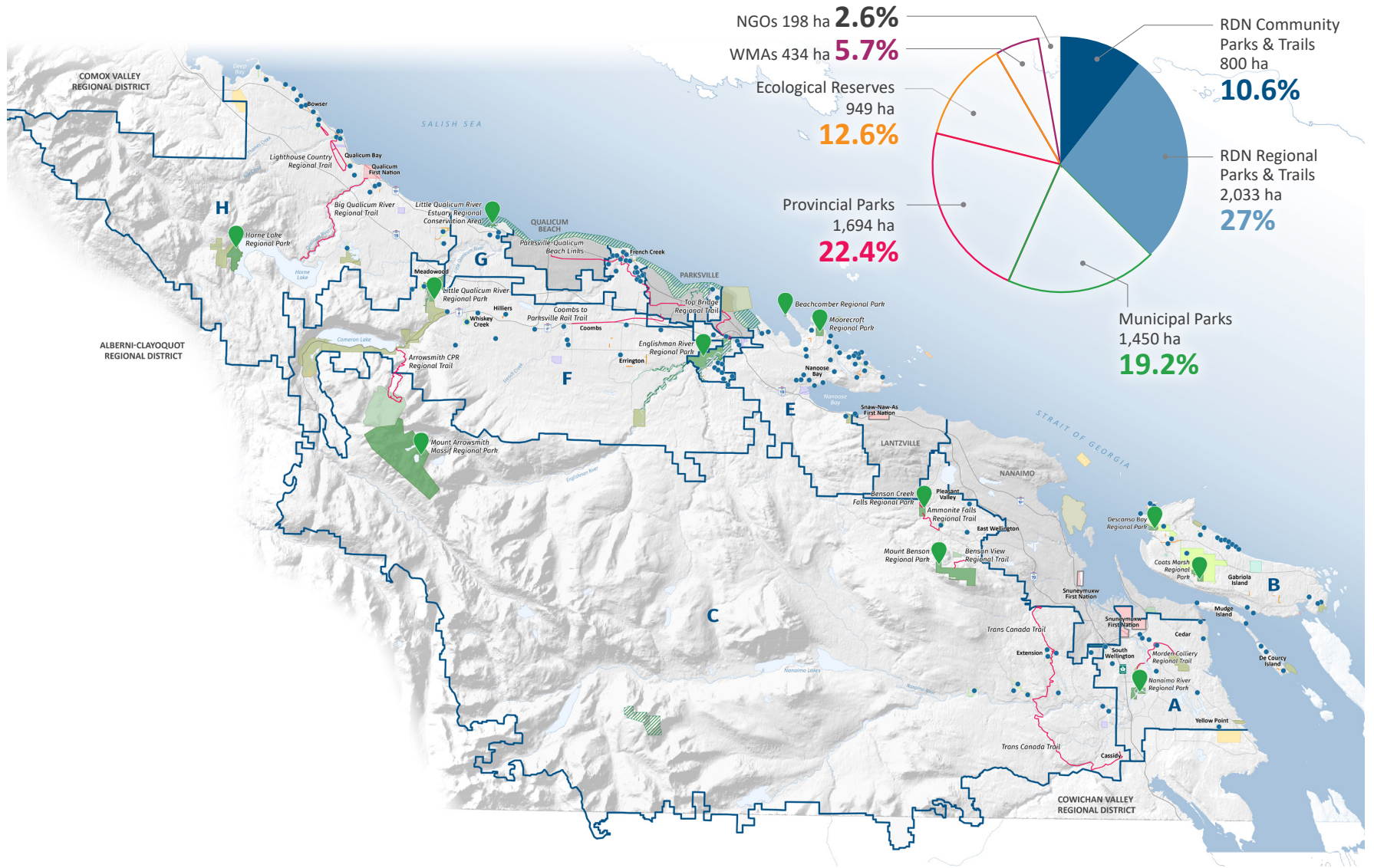
(763 hectares), of which 91
are developed parks



4 RDN PARKS REQUIRE
DOGS TO BE ON-LEASH

Moorecroft Regional Park, Descanso Bay Regional Park,
Horne Lake Regional Park & Coats Marsh Regional Park

In most RDN parks dogs can be off-leash if they are under control.

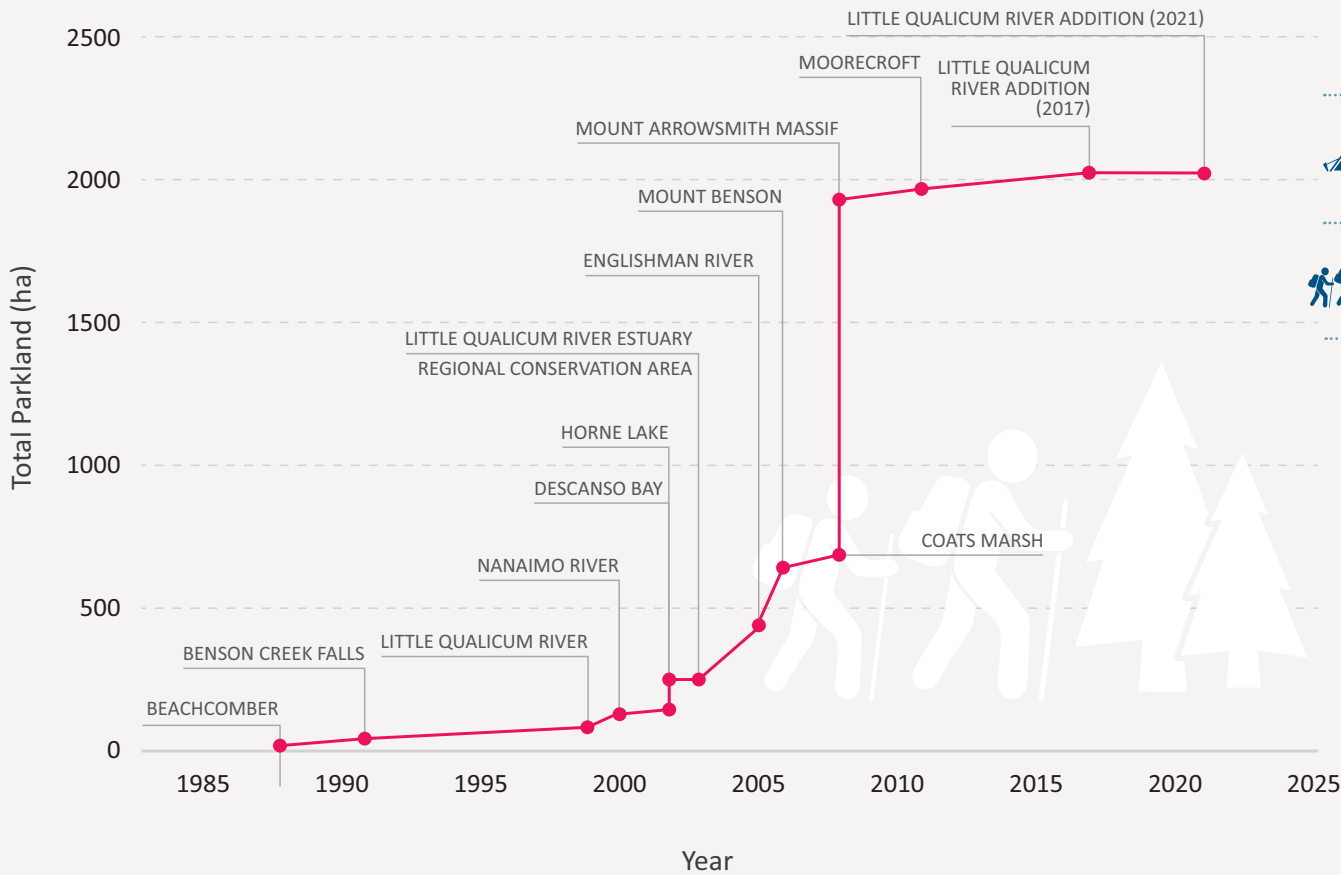


Regional vs. Community




	Regional	Community
Key Mandate: Parks	Environmental protection and nature-based recreation	Provision of park amenities for local neighbourhoods
Key Mandate: Trails	Linking parks and communities	Neighbourhood connections
Target Population	All RDN residents and visitors	Local electoral area residents
Tax Base	All of RDN	Local electoral area residents
Typical Park Acquisition	Purchase or lease	Dedication through subdivision or rezoning
Typical Trail Acquisition	SRW*, permit, lease, licence of occupation, rezoning	Dedication or SRW* through subdivision or rezoning; MoTI* permit/licence of occupation
Park Size	Large land areas	Smaller land areas
Trail Length	2-15 km in length	Less than 1 km in length

Regional Parks & Trails Growth



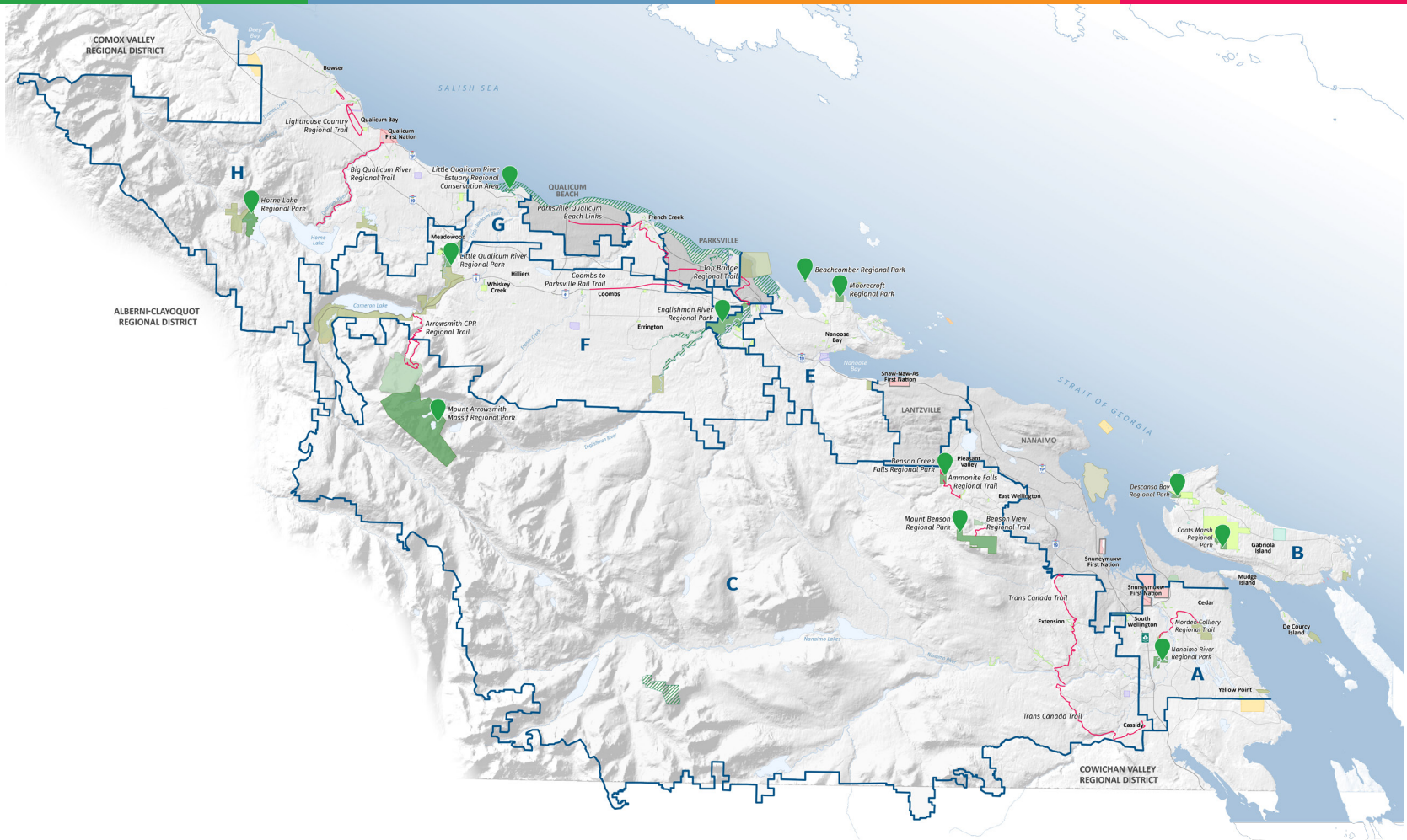
 **9** REGIONAL NATURAL AREAS
2,034 hectares

 **2** REGIONAL RECREATION AREAS
Descanso Bay Regional Park & Horne Lake Regional Park

 **10** REGIONAL TRAILS
85 km of developed trail

 **1** REGIONAL CONSERVATION AREA
Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area

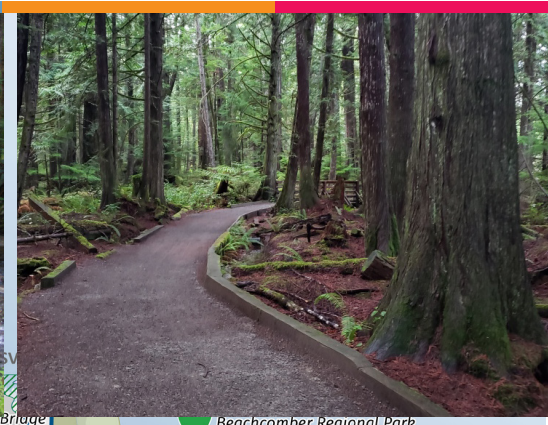
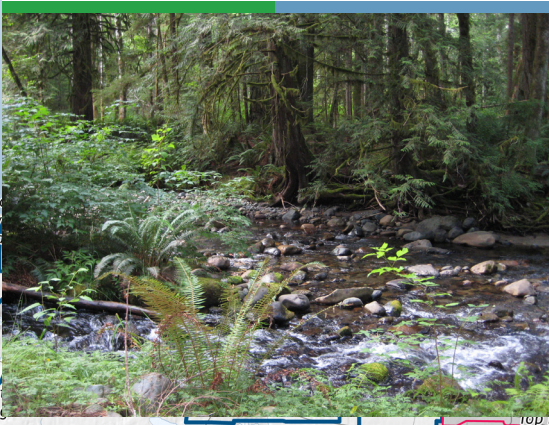
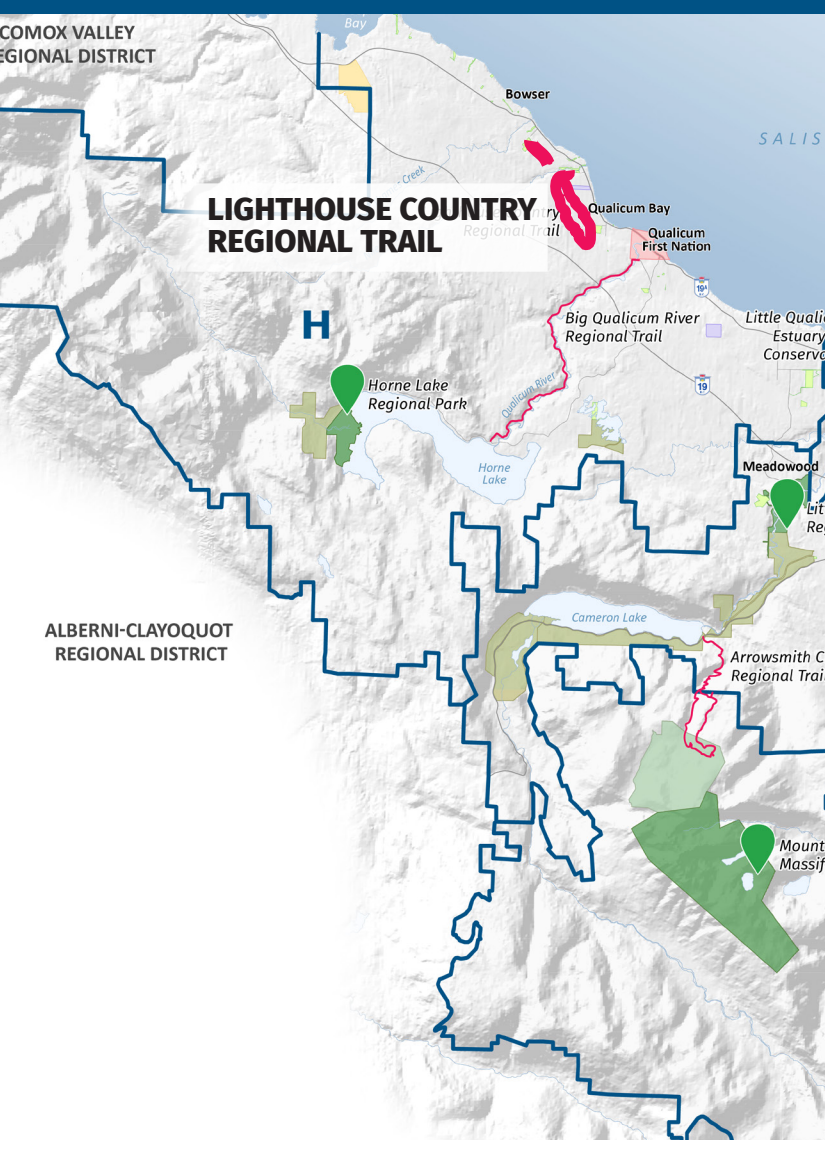
Tour of Regional Parks and Trails



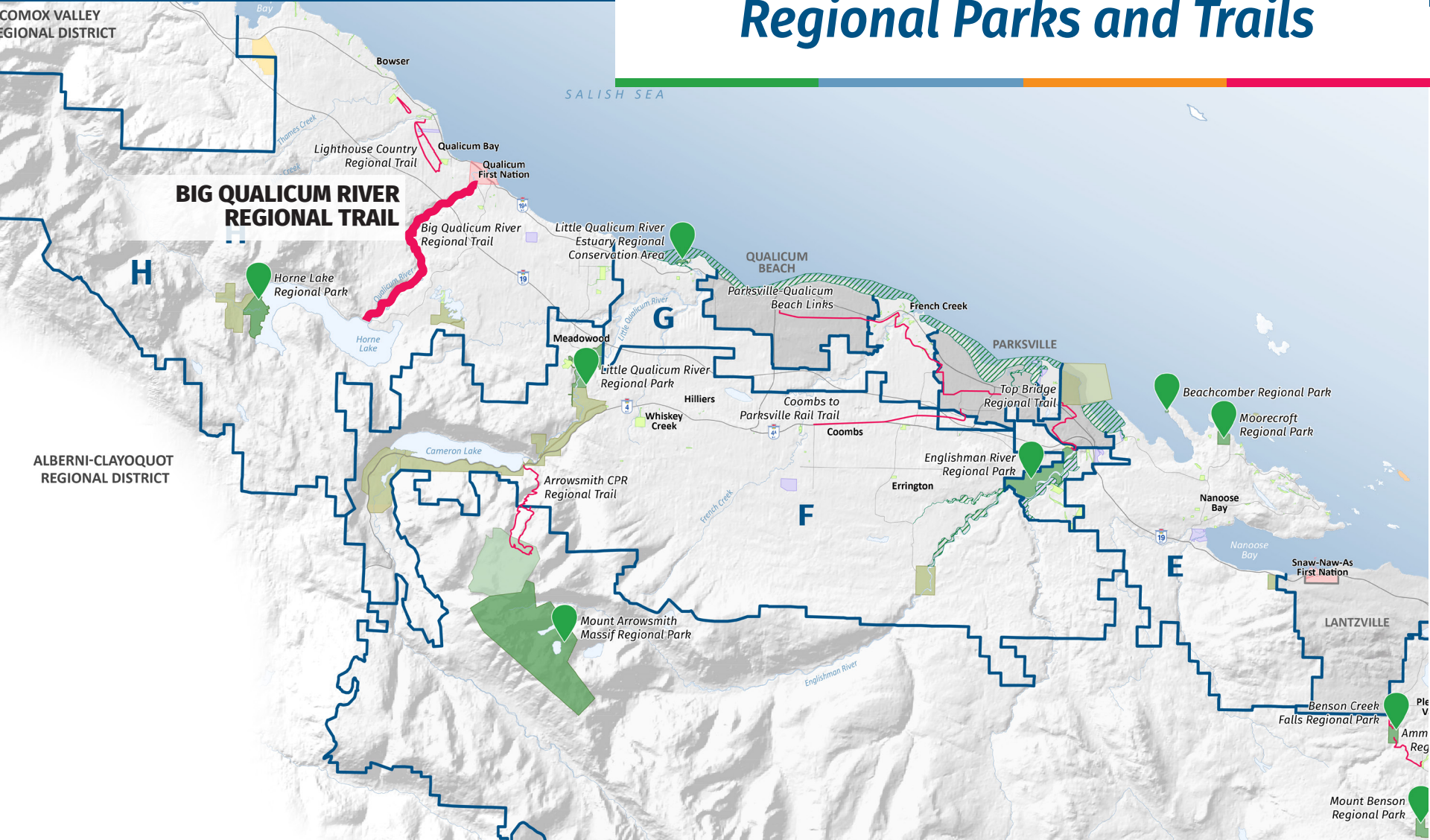
Regional Parks and Trails



Regional Parks and Trails

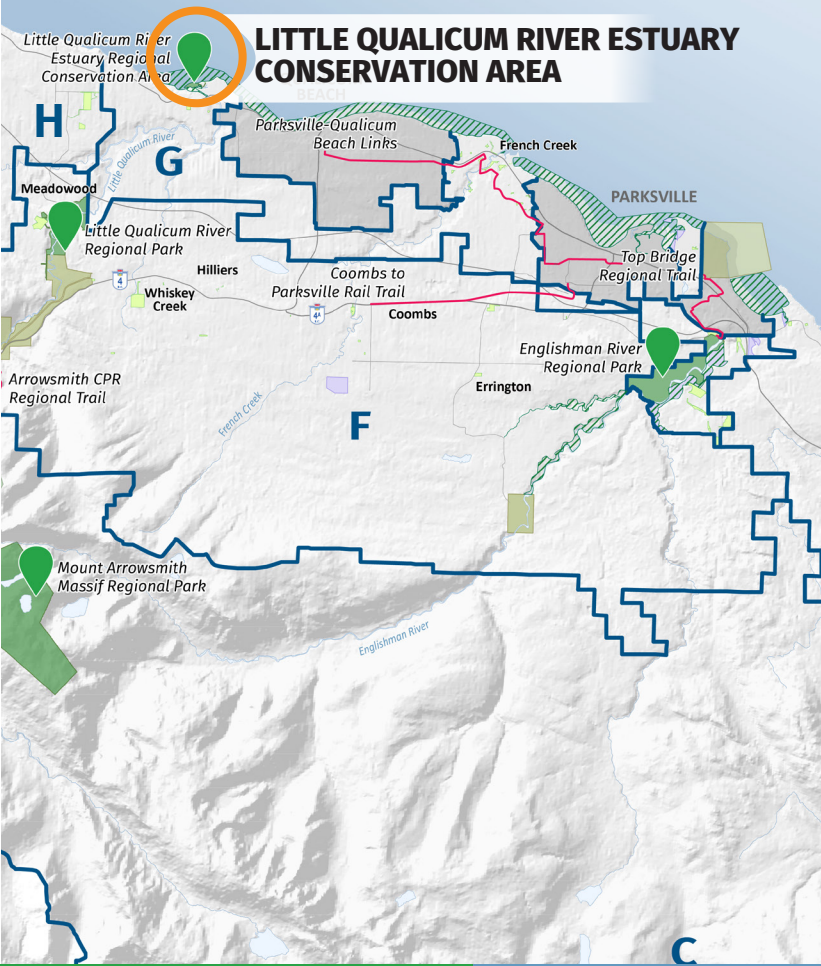


Regional Parks and Trails

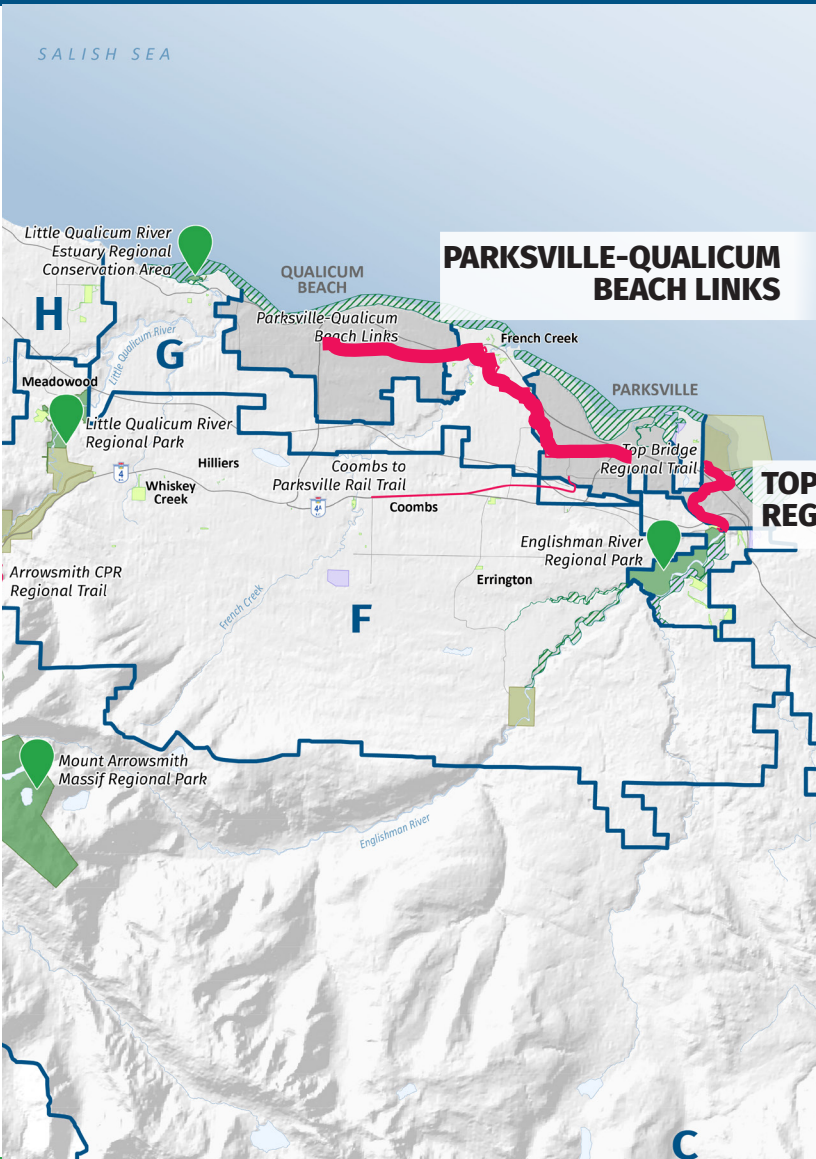


Regional Parks and Trails

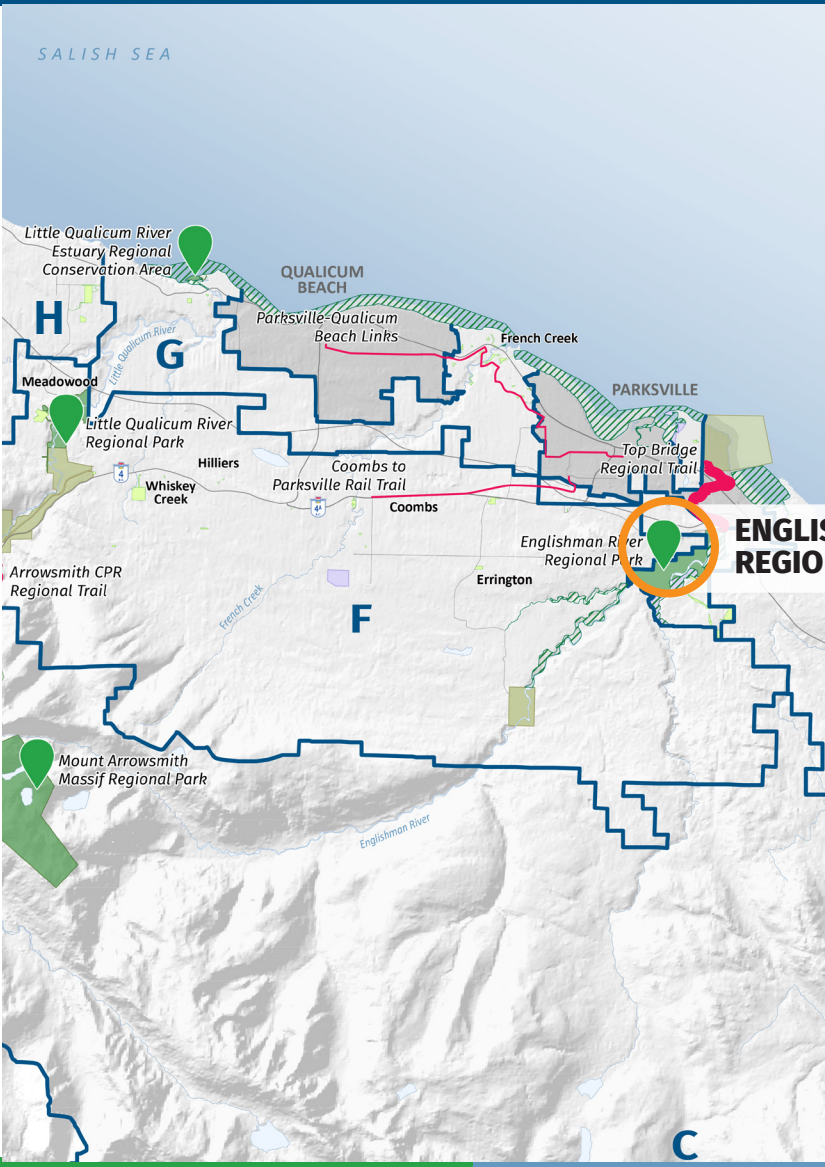
SALISH SEA



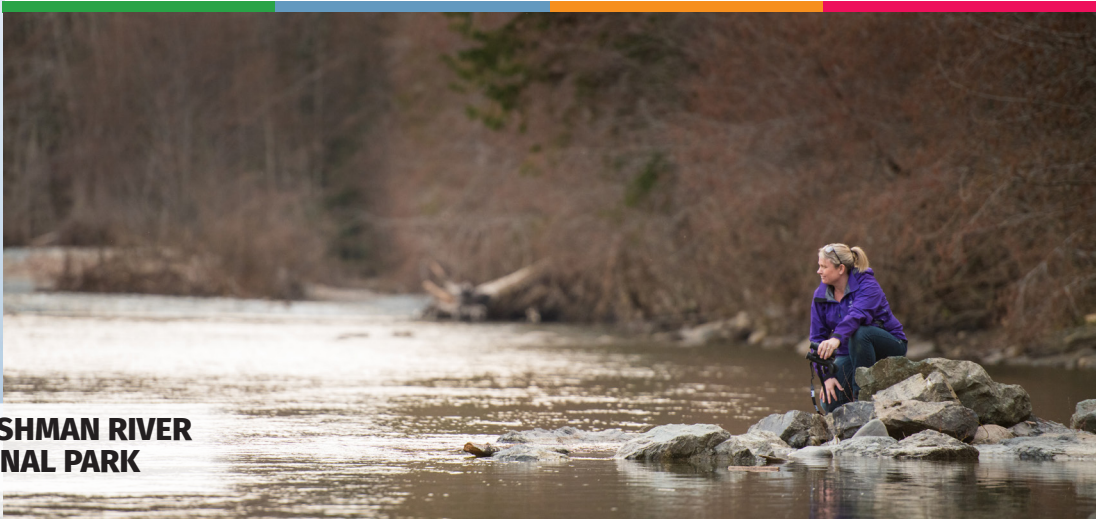
Regional Parks and Trails



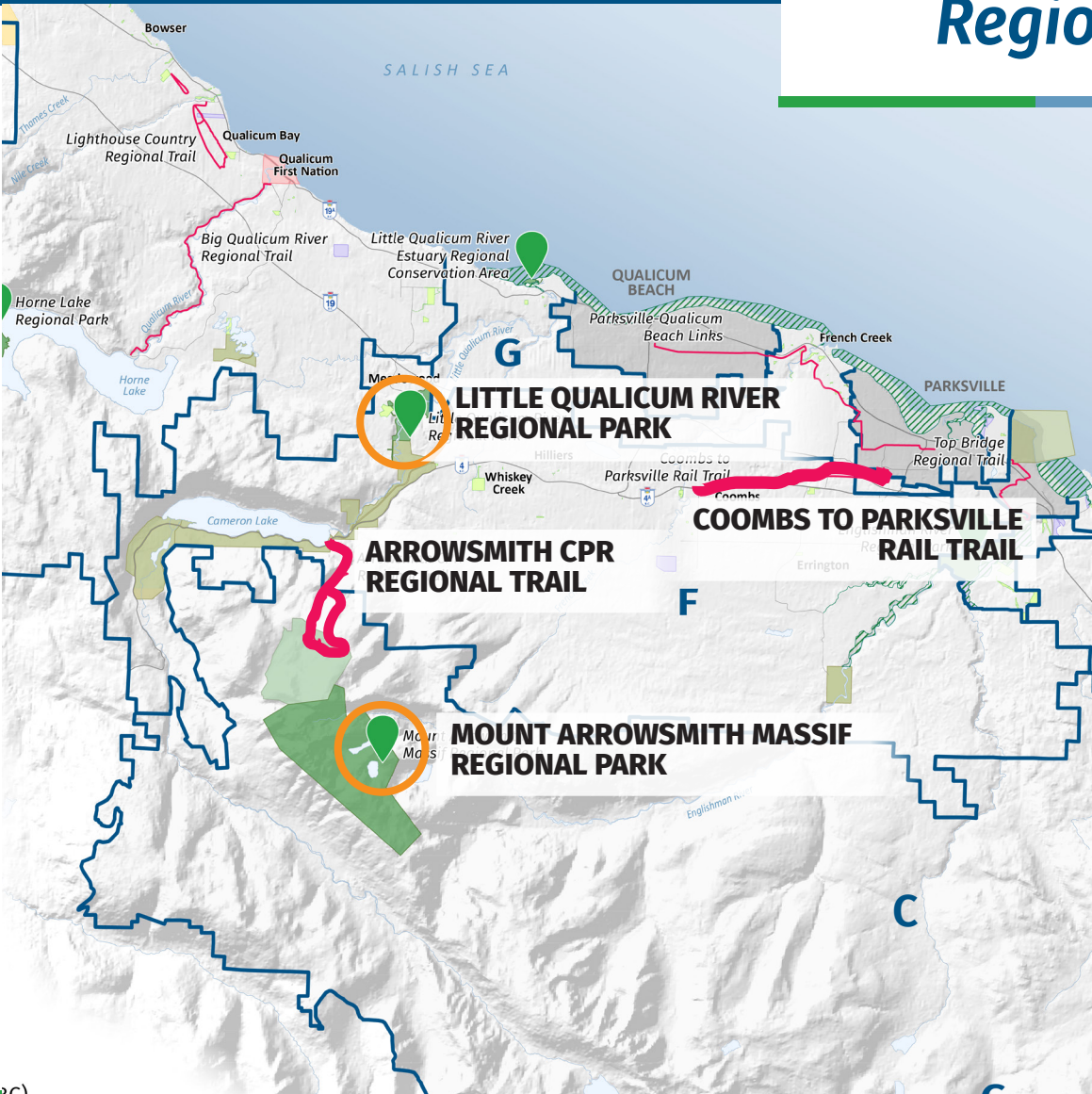
Regional Parks and Trails



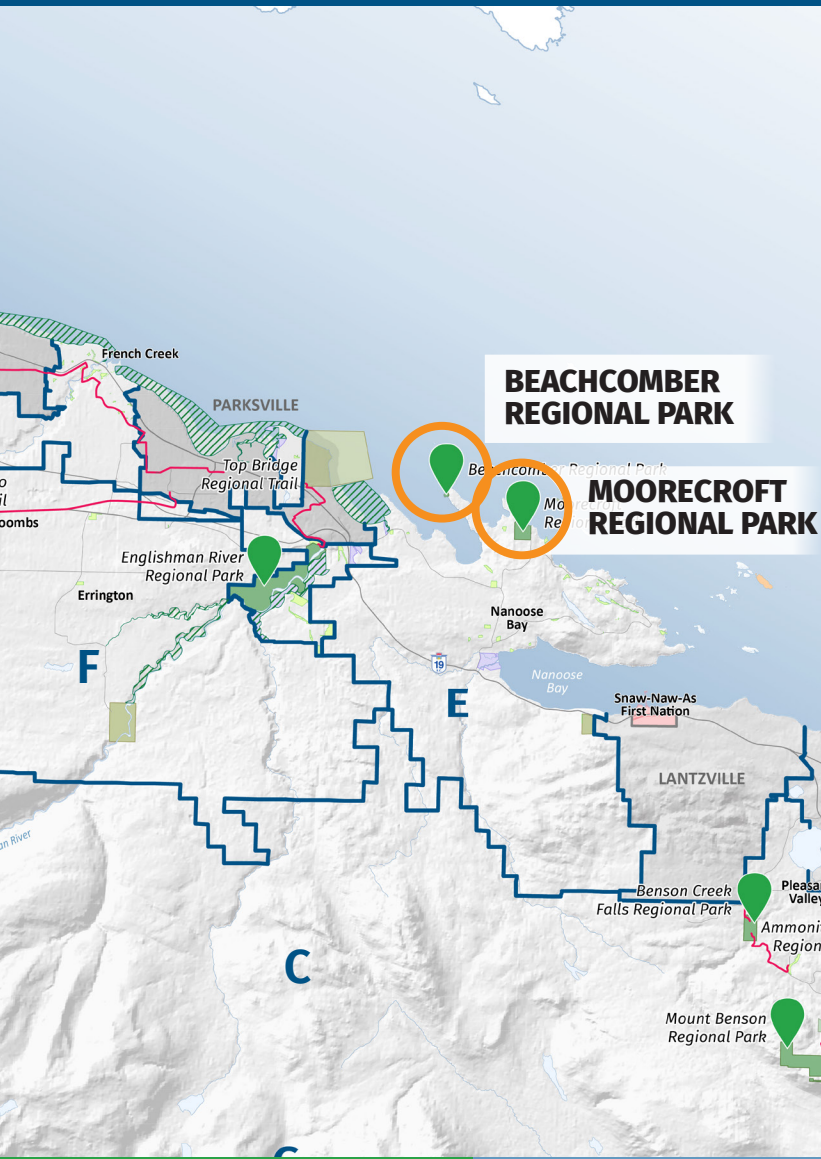
ENGLISHMAN RIVER REGIONAL PARK



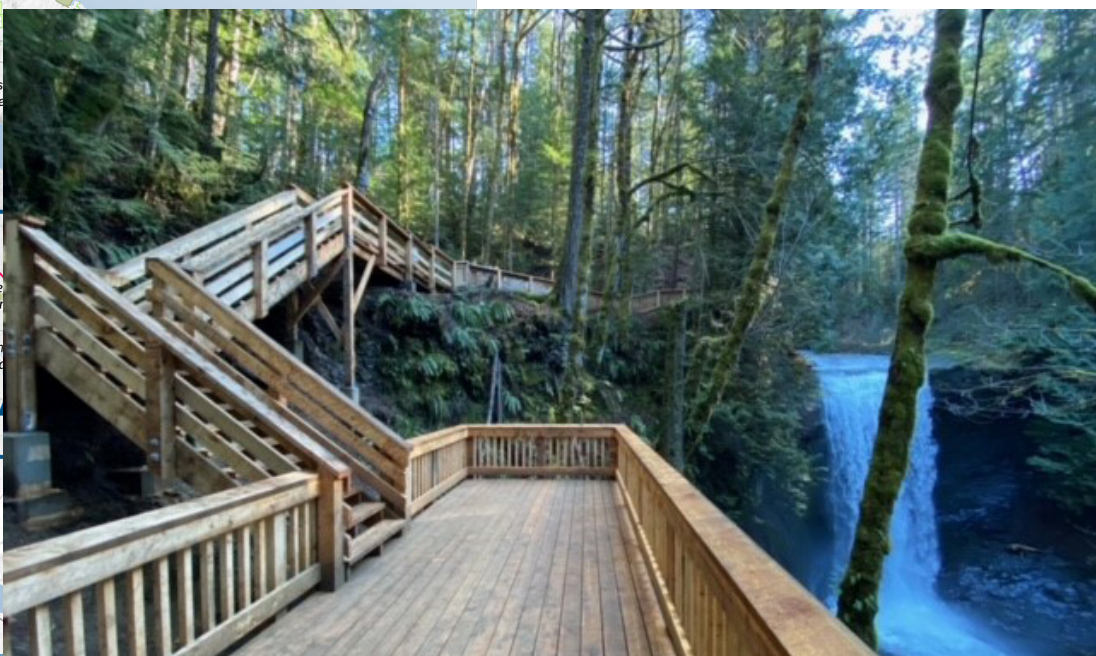
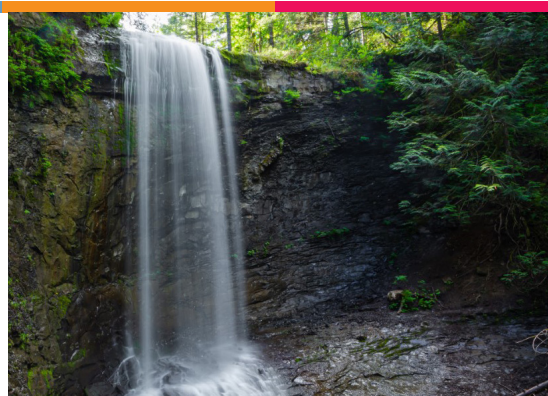
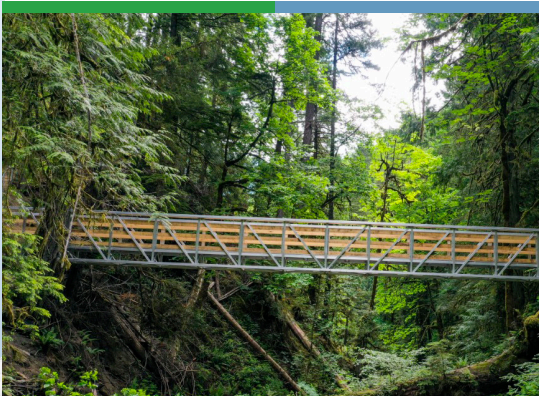
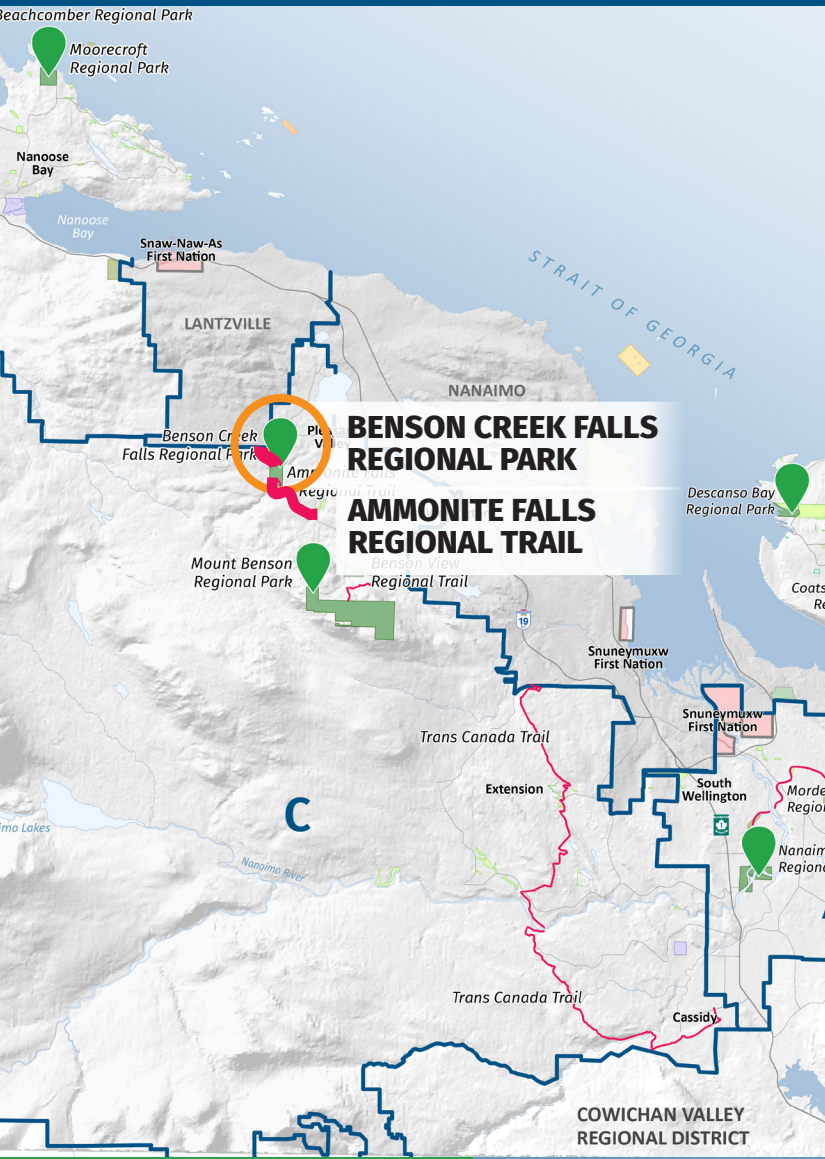
Regional Parks and Trails



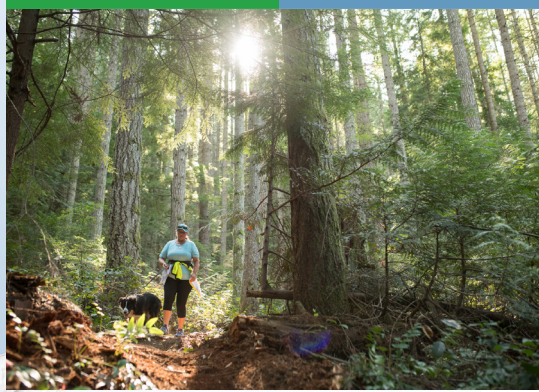
Regional Parks and Trails



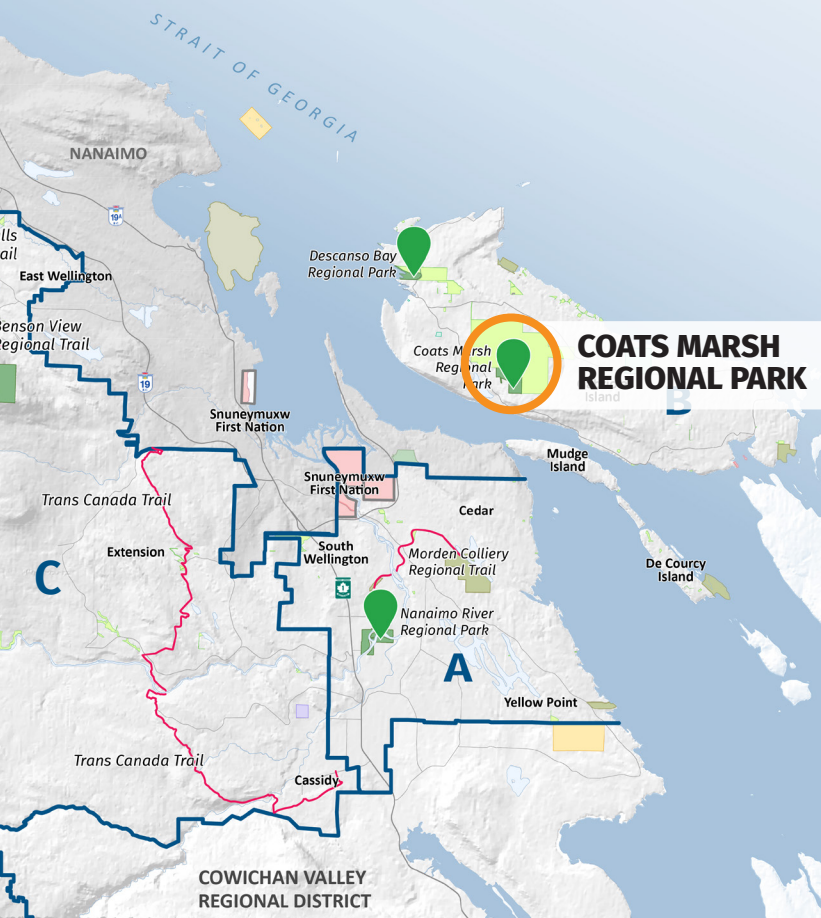
Regional Parks and Trails



Regional Parks and Trails



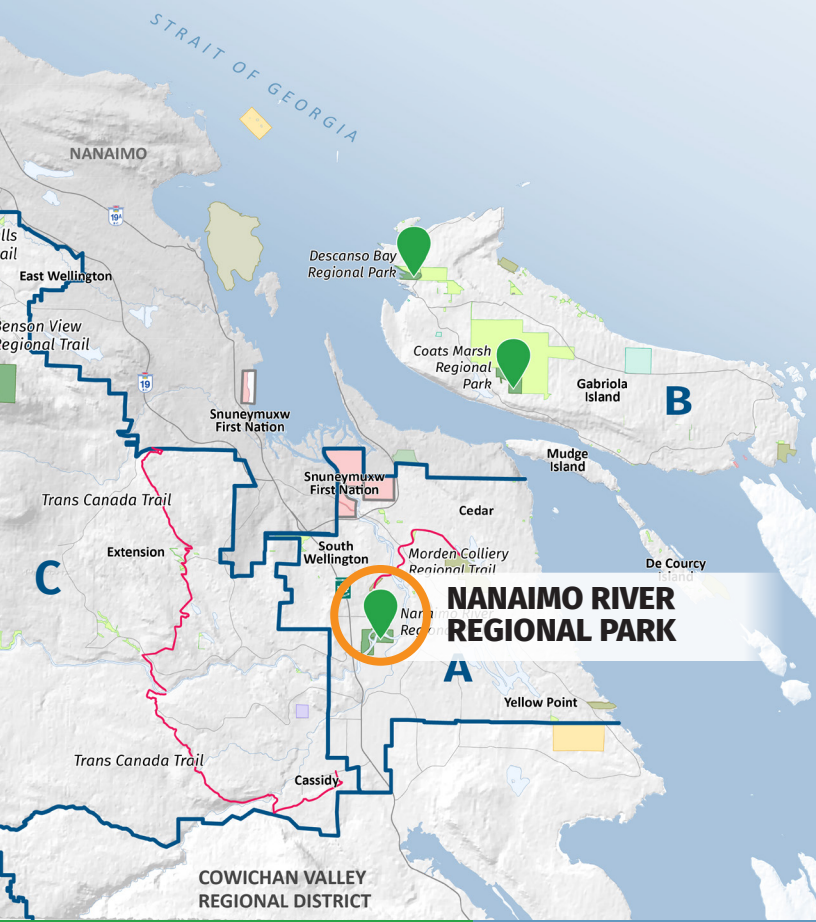
Regional Parks and Trails



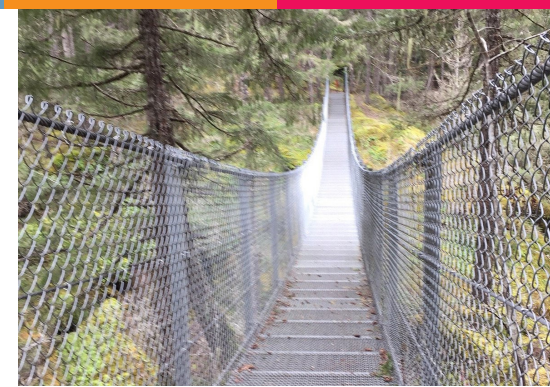
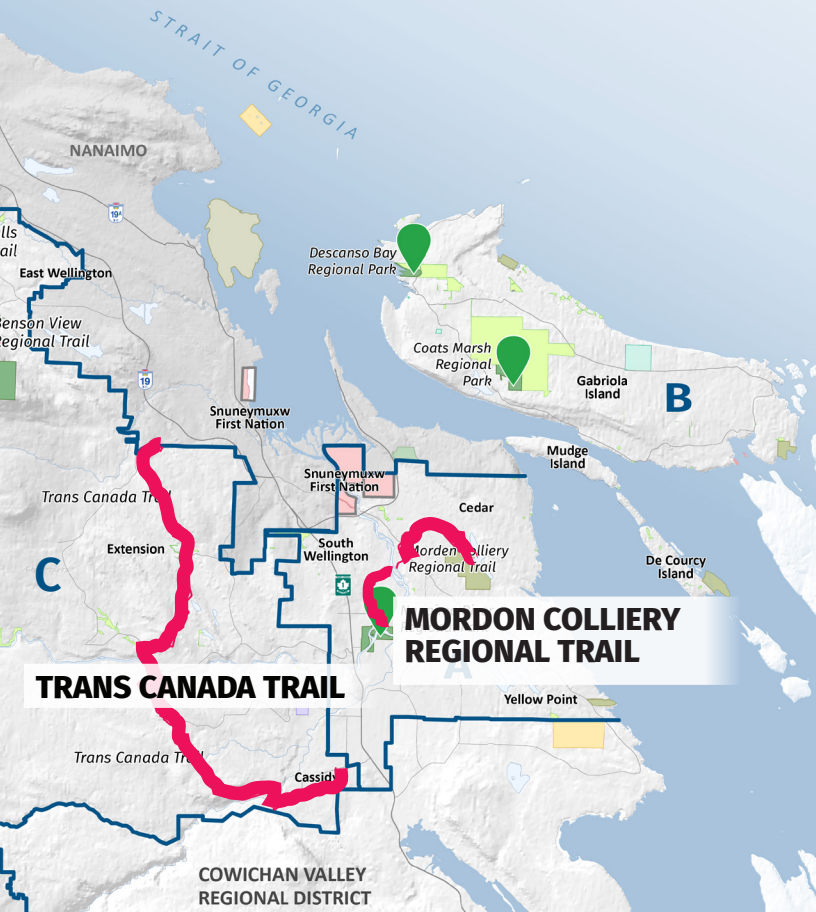
Descanso Bay Regional Park



Regional Parks and Trails



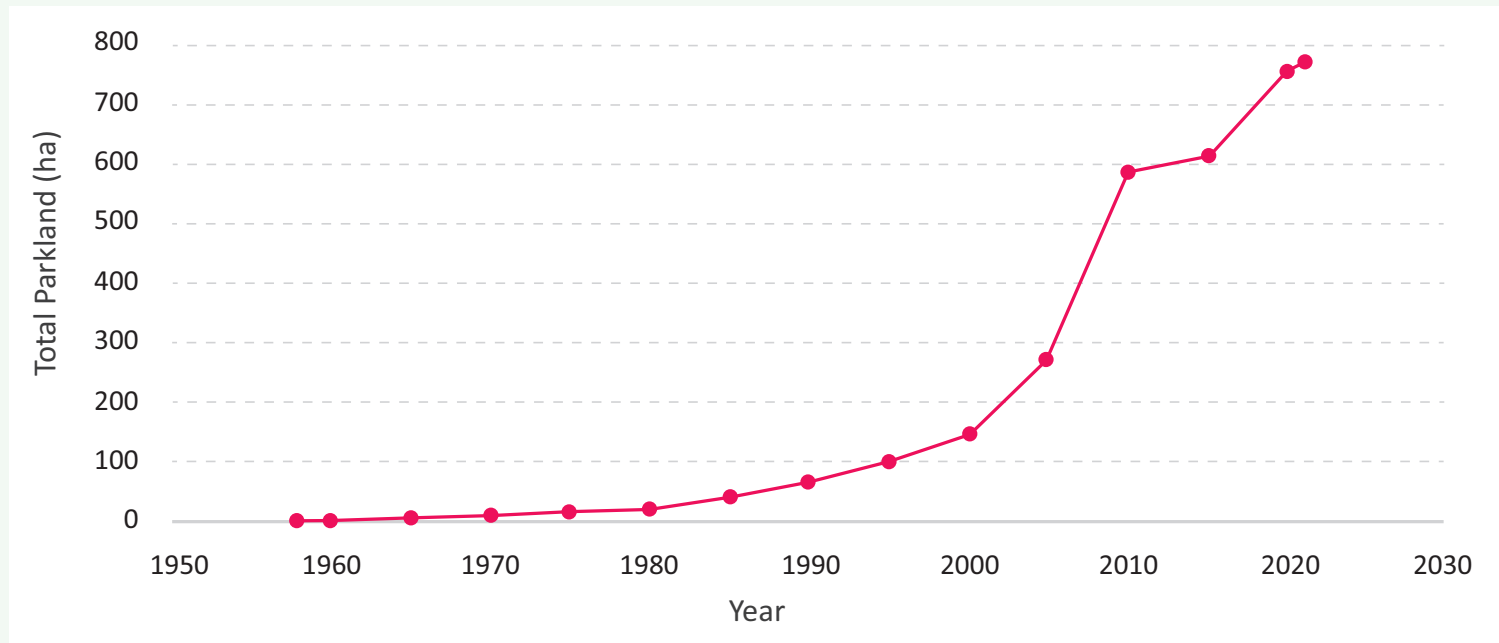
Regional Parks and Trails



Community Parks & Trails

 **38** COMMUNITY TRAILS
11 km of developed trail

 **175** COMMUNITY PARKS
(763 hectares), of which 91 are developed parks



Community Parks & Trails

Electoral Area	Community Park Count	Community Park Area (ha)	Community Trail Count	Community Trail Length (km)
A	15	32	0	0
B	35	512	8	2.2
C	14	40	1	3.1
E	30	30	10	1.2
F	15	40	5	1.5
G	34	54	7	0.6
H	32	54	7	2.9
Total	175	762	38	11.5

EA-A Quennell Lake Dock



EA-B Huxley Community Park



EA-C Anders & Dorrit's Community Park



EA-C Extension Miner's Park



EA-E Jack Bagley Park



EA-G Boulton Community Park



EA-F Errington Park



EA-H Dunsmuir Community Park



2023 Projects

- Errington Park Farmers Market Concession Building
- Lighthouse Country Regional Trail - Nile Creek Bridge
- French Creek Estuary Stewardship Plan
- Descanso Bay Administration Building
- Benson View Regional Trail Upgrades
- Regional Park Management Plan Update
- Invasive Species Strategy
- Wildwood CP Parking Lot & Bridge
- Acquisition Strategy
- Meadow Drive Playground
- Anders and Dorritt's Phase 2

Lions Park
Phase 2

Area B
Parks & Rec
Master Plan

Jack Bagley
Phase 2

New
Playgrounds
in Area A



Vision for the Future

Regional and community parks and trails in the RDN provide welcoming and diverse opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to recreate and connect with nature and each other.



Through strong local partnerships and collaboration with First Nations, natural areas are recognized for their cultural importance and preserved for ecosystem conservation and climate change mitigation.



Regional and community parks and trails in the RDN support the health and wellbeing of all residents in the region.

Goals



GOAL 1:
STRENGTHEN PARTNERSHIPS WITH FIRST NATION GOVERNMENTS, OTHER GOVERNMENTS, LANDOWNERS AND NON-PROFIT AGENCIES



GOAL 5:
PROVIDE PARKS AND TRAILS WITH WELL-MAINTAINED AND DIVERSE AMENITIES



GOAL 2:
COLLABORATE WITH FIRST NATIONS ON PARK PLANNING AND DESIGN



GOAL 6:
ENHANCE AND DEVELOP TRAIL CONNECTIONS



GOAL 3:
IDENTIFY AND PRESERVE IMPORTANT NATURAL AREAS THROUGH PARKLAND ACQUISITION



GOAL 7:
INCREASE VOLUNTEERING, LEARNING AND PROGRAMMING OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN THE PARKS AND TRAILS SYSTEM



GOAL 4:
PROTECT AND ENHANCE NATURAL PARKLAND AREAS THROUGH MANAGEMENT AND RESTORATION

2023 Staffing Recommendations

