

**NOTICE OF MOTION TO THE CRD PARKS AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2019**

SUBJECT: **Protection of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park**

BACKGROUND:

The Provincial government has announced plans to explore construction of an alternate highway route to the Trans-Canada Highway within or in the vicinity of the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

In light of regional parks values – including biological diversity, protection and restoration of natural ecosystems, habitat connectivity and opportunities for outdoor recreation and wellness – it is recommended that the Parks and Environment Committee and the Board go on record opposing highway infrastructure development in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park, and advise the Government of British Columbia of this position.

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Parks and Environment Committee recommends that the Board:

1. Places itself on record opposing highway infrastructure development in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.
2. Requests that the Chair write, on behalf of the Board, to the Premier of British Columbia, copying the Ministers responsible for Environment and Transportation as well as Members of the Legislative Assembly representing constituencies on Vancouver Island, advising the Provincial government that the Board has no interest in pursuing highway infrastructure development in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

Submitted by:	Director Ben Isitt, Victoria
Concurrence:	Director Mike Hicks, Juan de Fuca Electoral Area
Concurrence:	Alternate Director Nathalie Chambers, Saanich
Concurrence:	Director Lisa Helps, Victoria
Concurrence:	Director Jeremy Loveday, Victoria
Concurrence:	Alternate Director Laurel Collins, Victoria

Attachments:

1. Map of Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park
2. Wilderness Committee Submission on the Protection of Non-Catchment lands (1996)