

Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022 – 2032

June 22, 2022
Regional Parks Committee

Presentation Outline



1 Strategic Plan Update Process

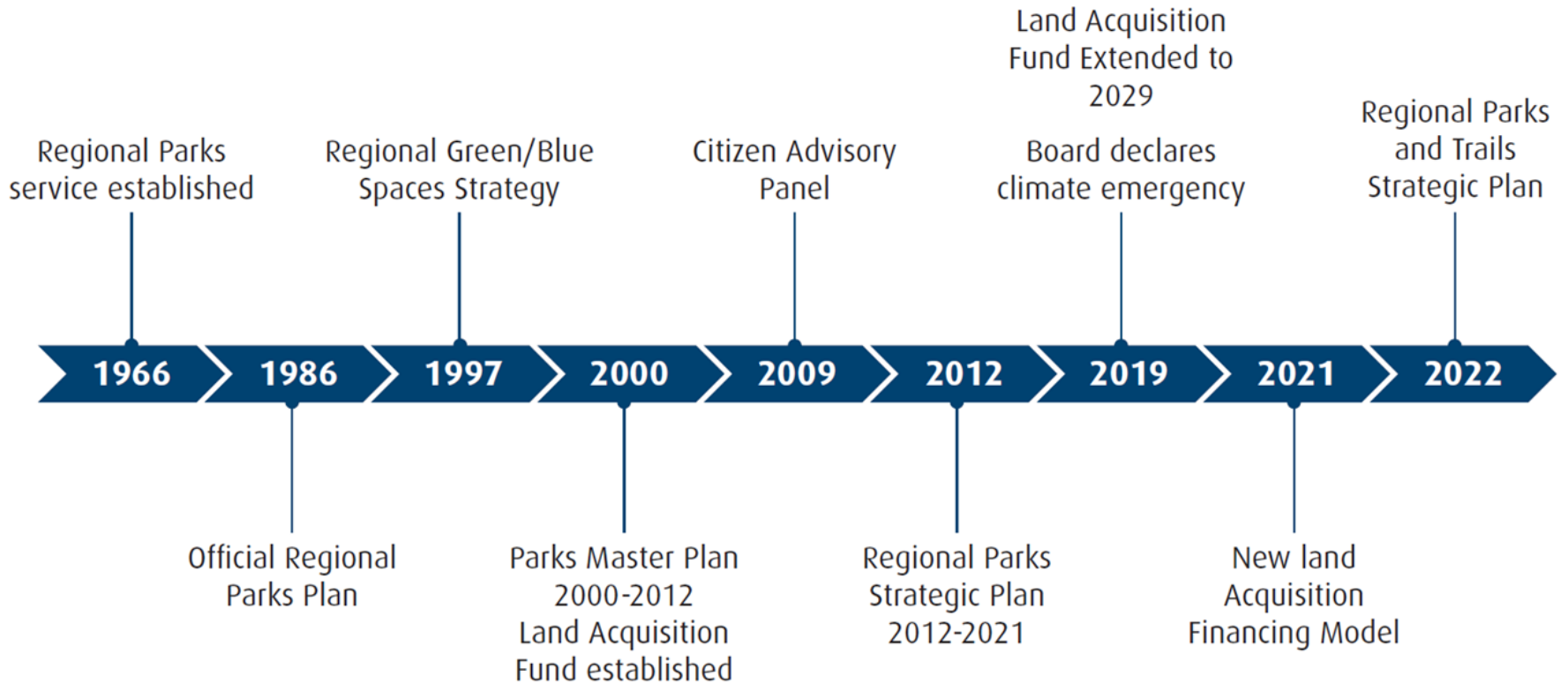
2 Engagement

3 Vision, Mission, Values

4 Regional Park & Trail Classifications

5 Priority Areas

Update Process





Update Process

CRD

December 8, 2021

CRD Board extends current Strategic Plan and initiates Strategic Plan update and engagement

February 9, 2022

CRD Board provides direction for Strategic Plan update

March 8 - April 4, 2022
Public survey

July 2022

Updated Strategic Plan submitted to the CRD Board for decision

January 26, 2022

Regional Parks Committee workshop for Strategic Plan update

February 2022

5 Stakeholder focus groups
1 Park Agency focus group

March and April 2022

3 Public information sessions

June 2022

Updated Strategic Plan submitted to Regional Parks Committee and Transportation Committee for input

Engagement with First Nations on the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan is ongoing.

Engagement

CRD



2,400

Visits to project webpage



44

Stakeholder groups attended
5 focus groups



1,228

Completed surveys



26

Attended 3 public information
sessions



19,000

Reached on Social Media



15

First Nations invited to engage
long-term

Summary of First Nations Input

- Define reconciliation and put into action
- Importance of developing meaningful relationships, building trust and improving understanding of roles and responsibilities
- Need for increased awareness of Indigenous rights and cultural use practices
- Interest in land acquisition, conservation, stewardship, planning, partnerships and economic prosperity
- Limitations to participation relate to capacity, priorities and timeline

Summary of Stakeholder and Public Input

- Vision could emphasize connectivity, regional trails and stewardship
- Mission could be simplified and reflect regional trails function
- Values of most importance are conservation, recreation and resiliency
- Values to add are accountability, connectivity, education, partnership and stewardship
- Priorities of most importance are: land acquisition, biodiversity protection, buffering urban development
- Emphasize role of conservation and outdoor recreation in developing stewardship
- Put First Nations first and determine priorities through direct engagement

We have an expanded and connected system of regional parks and regional trails that are rich in biodiversity, respect Indigenous cultural heritage and use, inspire stewardship, are resilient to change, and provide enjoyable outdoor recreation experiences.



Mission



- Operate and manage a connected system of regional parks for public enjoyment.
- Foster stewardship by learning from and working with long-term land stewards and by connecting people to nature.
- Operate and manage a regional trail network for active transportation and recreation.
- Be fiscally responsible and accountable in decision making.

- Access
- Accountability
- Connectivity
- Conservation
- Education
- Equity
- Outdoor Recreation
- Partnership
- Reconciliation
- Resiliency
- Stewardship

Regional Park Classifications

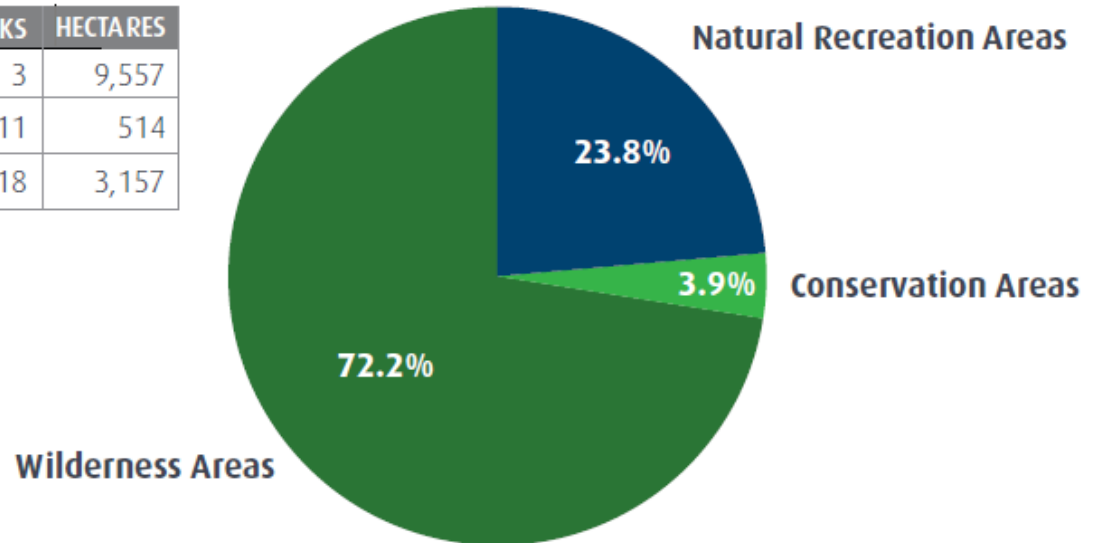


Park Classification	Purpose
Conservation Area	To protect species or ecological communities at risk and to offer visitor experiences that are primarily focused on interpretation of natural and cultural features.
Wilderness Area	To protect large, connected tracts of natural areas and to offer visitor experiences that are primarily focused on remote and secluded outdoor recreation activities.
Conservancy Area	To protect natural assets and areas primarily for their intrinsic cultural use value where there is a traditional use agreement in place and to offer visitor experiences that enhance understanding and appreciation for Indigenous cultural use.
Natural Recreation Area	To protect a connected system of natural areas and to offer visitor experiences that are primarily focused on outdoor recreation activities.

Regional Park Classifications

Regional Parks Land Base by Classification

PARK CLASSIFICATION	NUMBER OF PARKS	HECTARES
Regional Wilderness Areas	3	9,557
Regional Conservation Areas	11	514
Regional Natural Recreation Areas	18	3,157



Regional Trail Classifications

Urban Bike & Pedestrian



Regional Trail Classifications

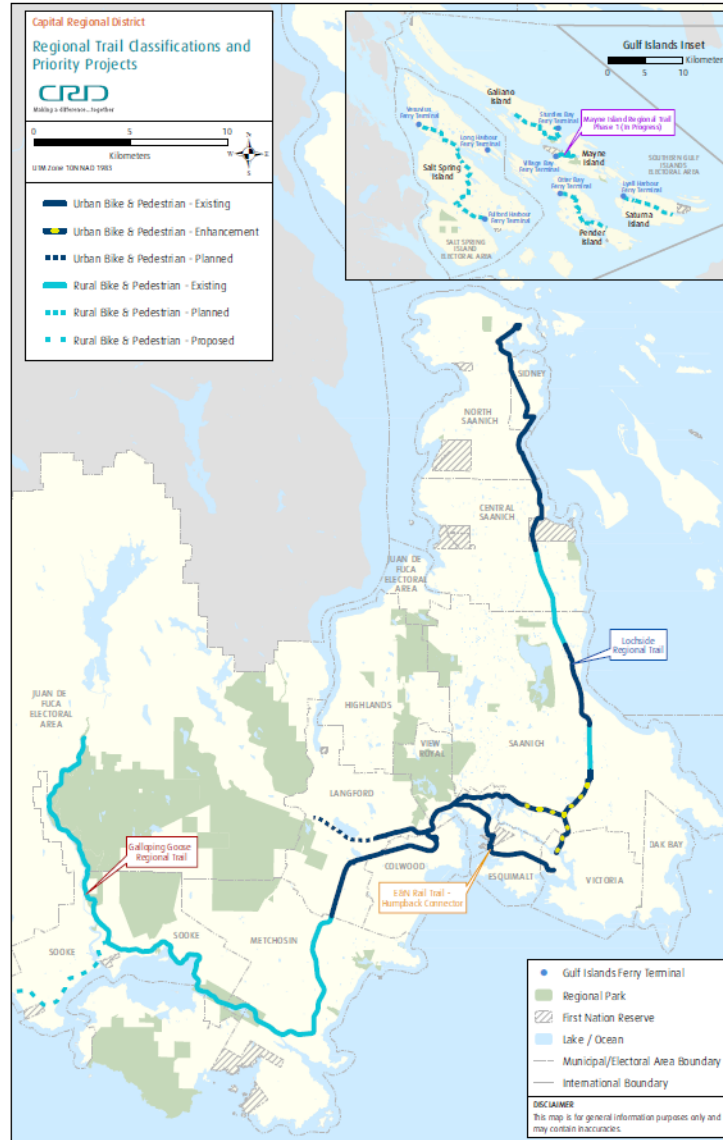
Rural Bike & Pedestrian



To provide an off-street trail corridor in urban areas that is primarily for high volumes of active transportation at peak travel times and accommodates regular recreational use. Trail separation and lighting design standards will be applied to areas with high user volumes and greater trail user differential.

To provide an off-street trail corridor in rural areas that is primarily for active transportation and recreation with higher volumes during the summer season and on weekends. Trail design will be dual-direction, shared use with gravel surface, except in areas of higher user volumes or on-street separated facilities, a paved surface may be considered.

Regional Trail Classifications



Reconciliation

Goal: Strong, collaborative and mutually beneficial relationships with First Nations through working in partnership.

1-1 Incorporate First Nations world views and knowledge in the ongoing operation of regional parks and regional trails.

1-2 Work with First Nations Governments in service delivery initiatives.



Conservation

Goal: Regional parks protect the region's natural assets and cultural heritage for future generations.

2-1 Take action to increase protection of biodiversity, ecological integrity, and natural assets in the region through improved knowledge, proactive stewardship and land acquisition.

2-2 Respect and protect cultural heritage and traditional cultural use practices.

2-3 Work with partners in taking care of the region's species, habitats and natural areas.



Visitor Experience

Goal: Visitors to regional parks are involved in stewardship and have enjoyable outdoor recreation experiences

3-1 Offer compatible outdoor recreation experiences that are enjoyable, healthy, safe and immersed in nature.

3-2 Foster stewardship through program delivery, knowledge sharing and collaboration.



Climate Action & Resiliency

Goal: Regional parks and regional trails are resilient and take action on climate change

4-1 Advance regional active transportation opportunities that contribute to greenhouse gas reduction.

4-2 Support the development of complete and connected communities by improving access to regional parks by transit, electric vehicles, micro mobility, walking or cycling.

4-3 Align service delivery and infrastructure improvements with climate action.

4-4 Ensure the long-term and consistent management of regional parks and protected natural areas.

4-5 Strategically acquire and manage natural areas to address climate mitigation, urban containment and access to green space for a growing population.

Access & Equity

Goal: Regional parks and regional trails are inclusive and accessible

5-1 Enhance health and well-being by providing equitable access to regional parks and regional trails.



Monitoring and Reporting

- Provision for considering major or minor amendments
- Annual reporting cycle
- Performance indicators to track progress