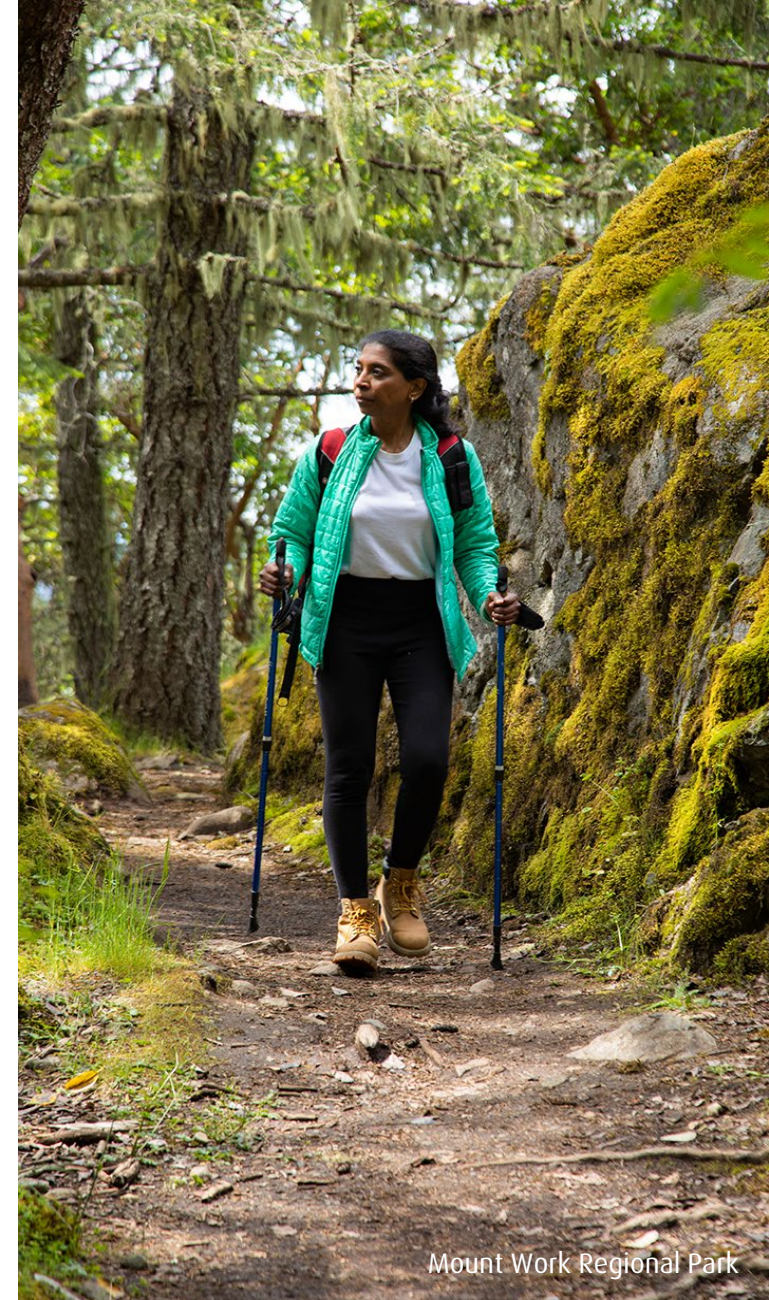


Regional Parks State of Natural Features

Regional Parks Committee
November 26, 2025

Presentation Content

- Background
- Scope of Report
- Key Findings
- Implications
- Conclusion



Background

The State of Natural Features Report fulfills priority action 2-1a of the CRD Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022–2032.

The report:

- Enhances understanding of CRD regional parks and trails
- Informs the development of key actions identified in the Strategic Plan: the Stewardship Plan and the update to the Land Acquisition Strategy
- Guides the development of Management Plans





East Sooke Regional Park

Regional Park Overview

- 34 regional parks
- Four regional trails
- More than 13,350 hectares
- Represent 6% of the regional land base
- Represent 27% of all parks and protected areas in the region



Island View Beach Regional Park

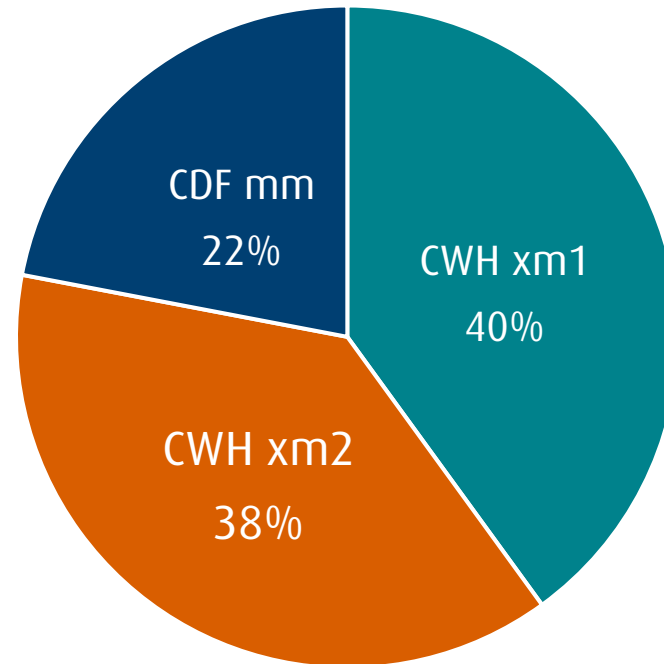
Scope of Report

- Provides an overview of the ecological features present within regional parks and trails
- Summarizes ecological threats
- Identifies ways to protect features from ecological threats
- Summarizes active ecological restoration activities and research within parks and trails
- Provides recommendations for future monitoring, management and ecological health assessment

Key Findings

Biogeoclimatic Zones

High biodiversity and rich forest compositions, featuring Douglas-fir and Western Hemlock.



- Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF mm; moist maritime) present in 23 parks
- Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH xm1; eastern drier) present in 11 parks
- Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH xm2; western less dry) present in 9 parks

Key Findings

Sensitive Ecosystems

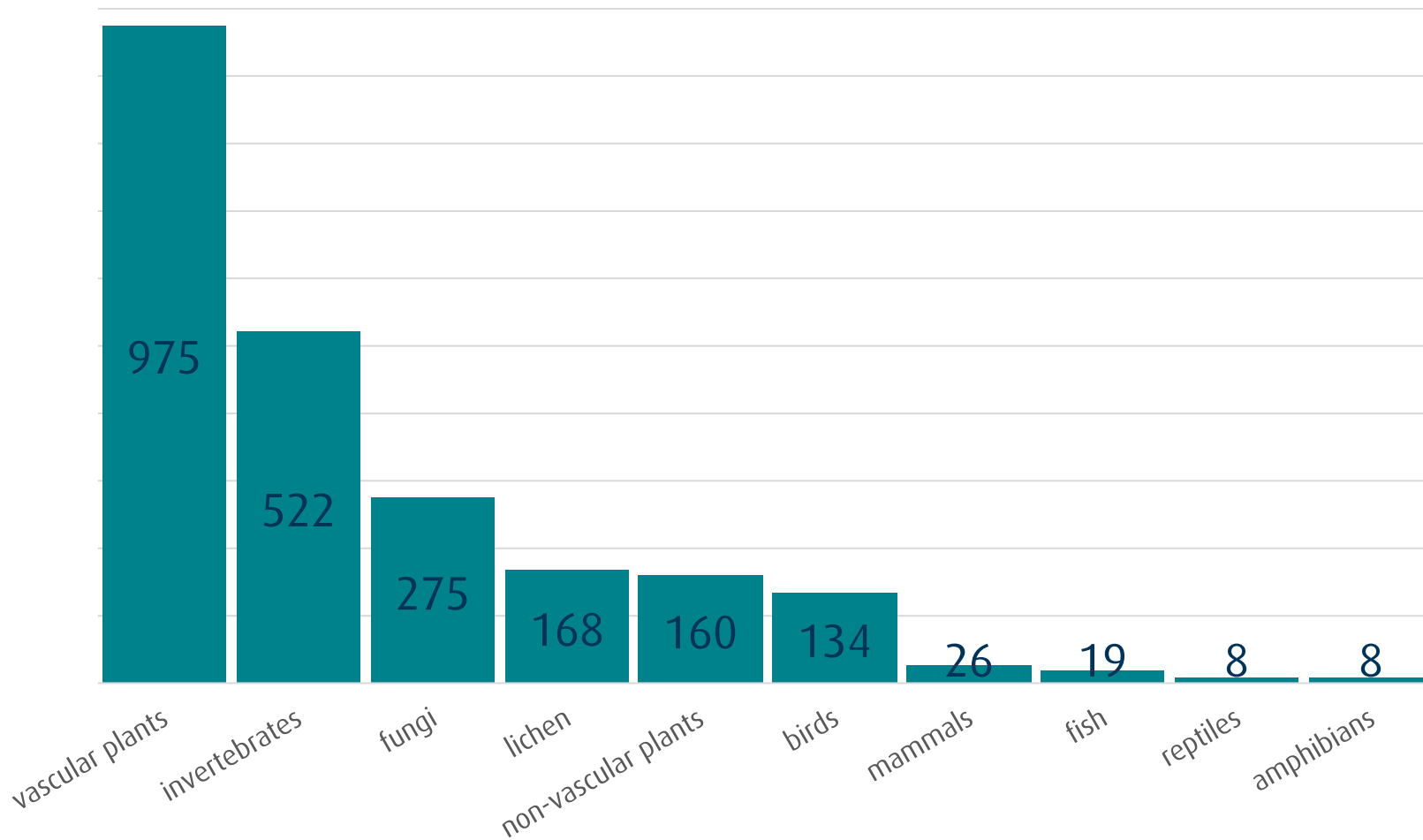
- Sensitive Ecosystems Inventory provides valuable information about at-risk and vulnerable ecosystems.
- 19% of regional parks and trails are identified as sensitive, e.g., old forests (over 250 years old) and sparsely vegetated (coastal sand dunes)
- 28% of regional parks and trails identified as important, e.g., mature forests. (80-100 years old)
- The data underscores the importance of preserving these diverse ecosystems to support regional biodiversity and ecological health.



Island View Beach Regional Park

Key Findings

Species Diversity



Species at Risk

- 144 are listed by the province (red or blue)
- 61 are listed federally (schedule 1 of Species At Risk Act)

Implications

First Nations and Environmental



- Compiles western scientific ways of knowing
- Underscores the ecological importance of regional parks
- Does not include traditional ecological knowledge
- Understanding both bodies of knowledge and how they can be integrated is an important next step.

Implications

Service Delivery and Staff Priorities



Traditional ecological knowledge



Species and wildlife features inventories



Terrestrial ecosystem mapping



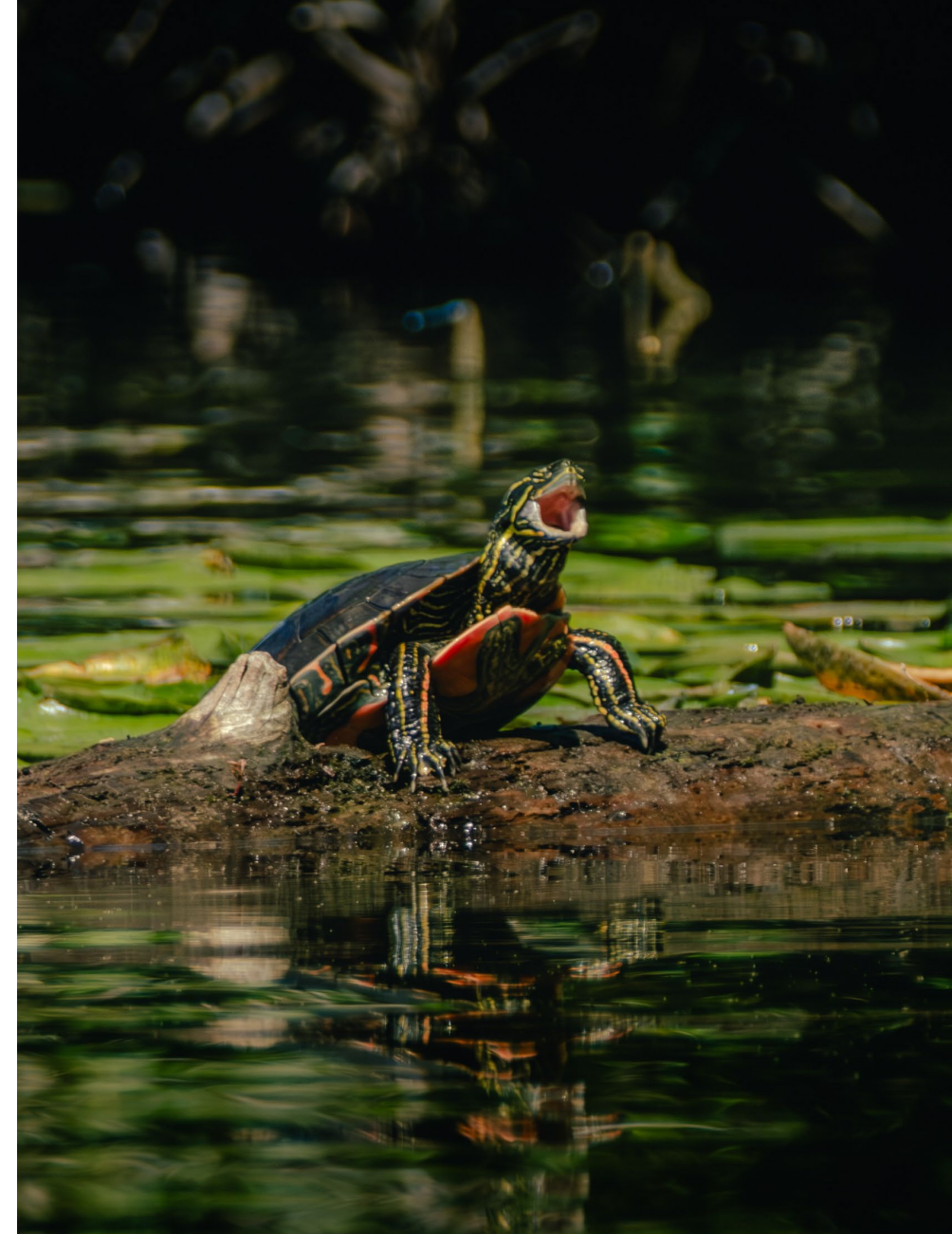
Invasive plant surveys



Monitoring and research



Restoration, habitat enhancement and impact assessment



Conclusion

- Collaboration and knowledge sharing
- Aids on-the-ground operations and land management
- Informs Management Plans and Interim Management Guidelines
- Aids in creating policies, guidelines and strategic plans





Mill Hill Regional Park

Questions?



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria



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