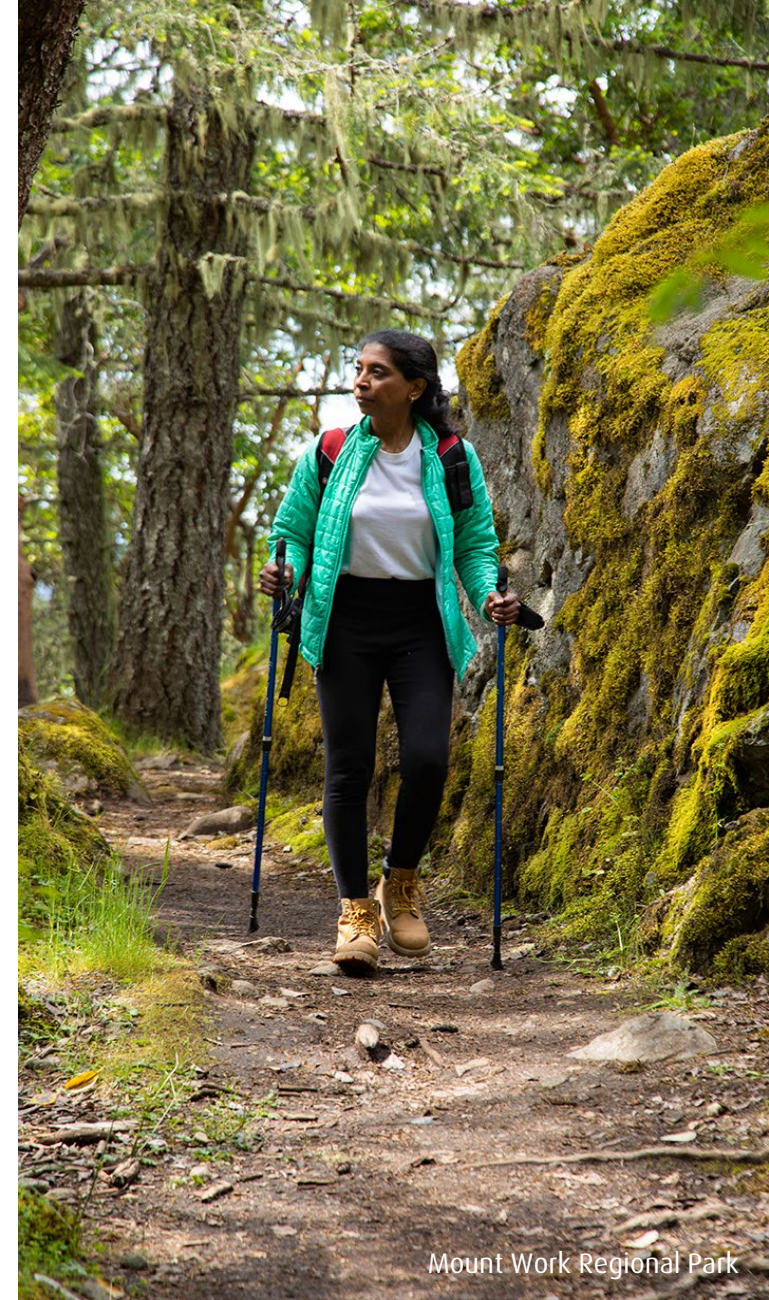


Regional Parks State of Outdoor Recreation Report

Regional Parks Committee
November 26, 2025

Presentation Content

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



Background

The State of Outdoor Recreation Report was completed in alignment with the State of Natural Features Report

This 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

A photograph of a person running away from the camera on a dirt trail. The trail is surrounded by dense green foliage and trees. The person is wearing a dark long-sleeved shirt, black shorts, and a white cap. The background is a lush forest with many trees and bushes.

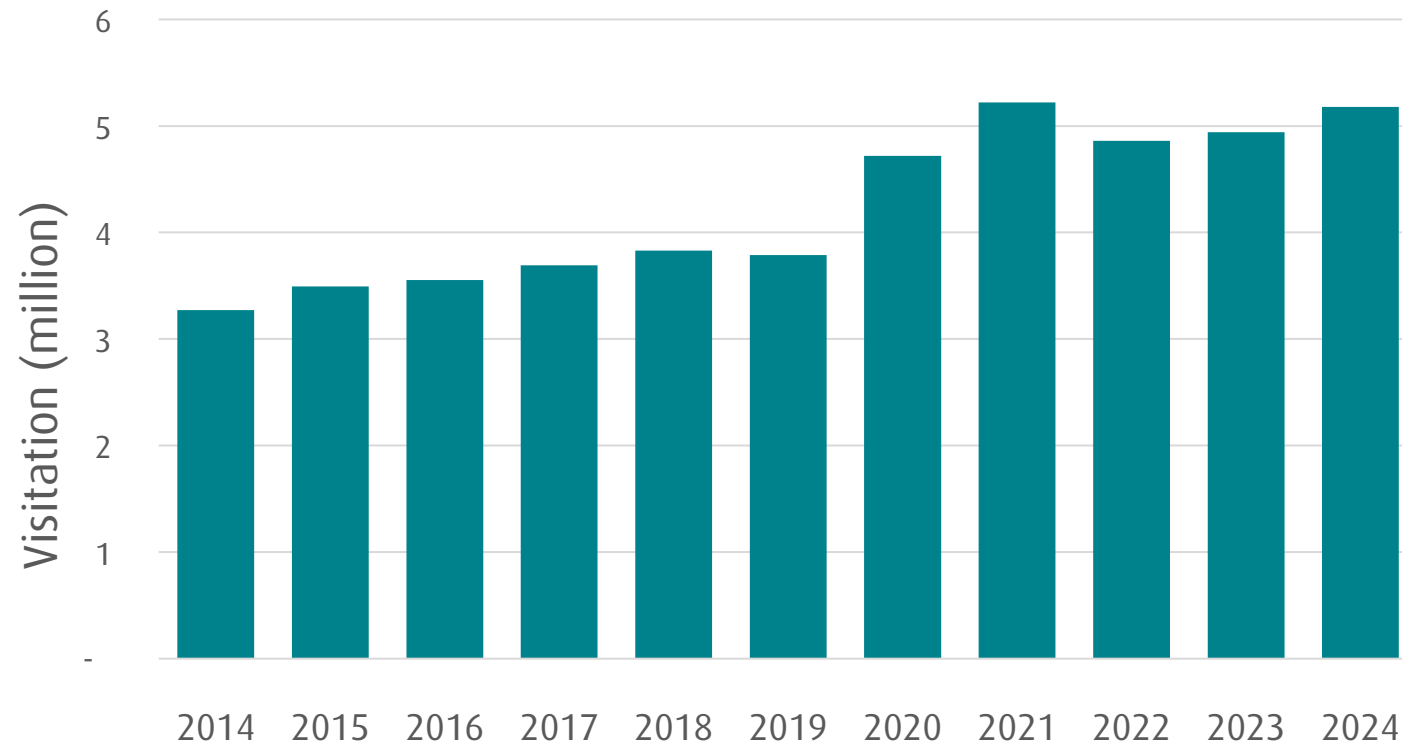
Scope of Report

- Summarize demographic and socio-economic characteristics of CRD.
- Summarize outdoor recreation trends.
- Provide an overview of regional parks and trail visitation trends.
- Summarize and quantify outdoor recreation opportunities, amenities and infrastructure.
- Identify the most significant physical or environmental barriers to accessing regional parks and trails.
- Identify outdoor recreation related data gaps.

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park

Key Findings

Regional Park Visitation

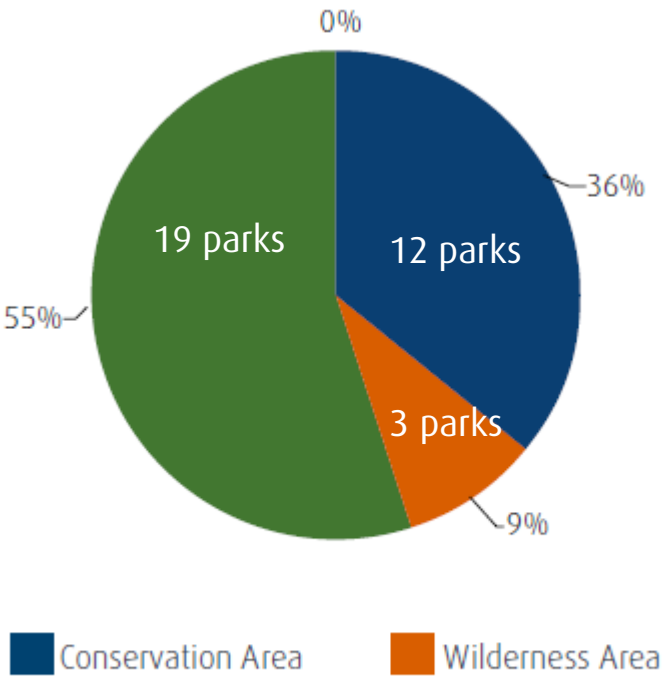


Regional Park visitation has increased 58% between 2014 and 2024.

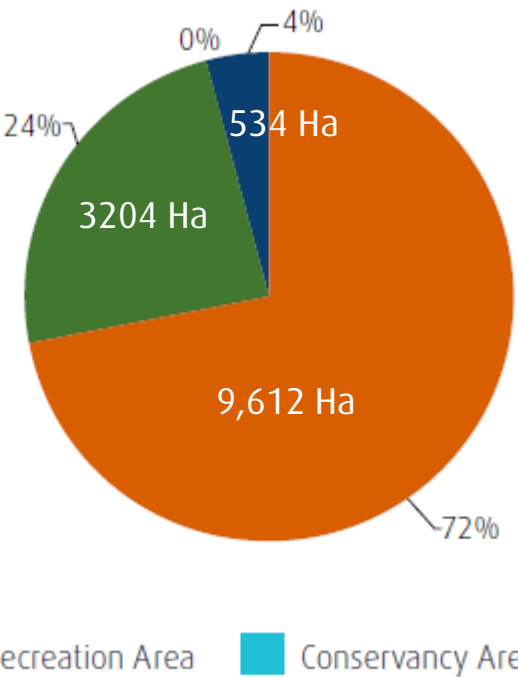
Key Findings

Park Classifications

Regional Parks by Classification



Regional Park Land Base by Classification



Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park

Key Findings

Recreational Landscapes

Regional parks and trails provide a range of recreational landscapes that represent regionally significant landscapes.

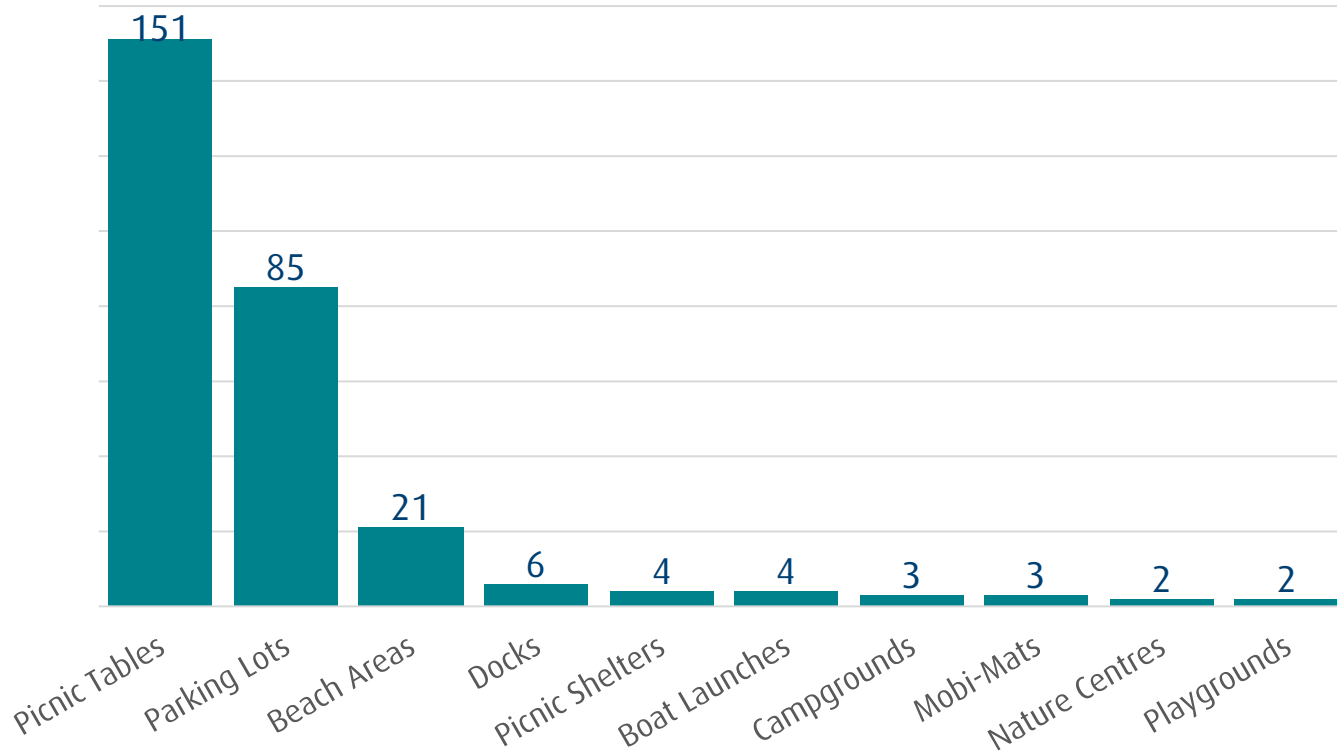
- Water access (lake or ocean) is provided in 52% of regional parks.
- Forest landscapes are present in 73% of regional parks.
- Hilltops provide summit opportunities and viewpoints in 33% of regional parks.



East Sooke Regional Park

Key Findings

Recreational Infrastructure



Plus, regional parks provide 354 km of maintained trails.



East Sooke Regional Park

Key Findings

Access and Equity



- 91% of households in the CRD are within a 15-minute drive of at least one regional park.
- 30% of regional parks are accessible by public transport.
- Only 4% of total length of trails in regional parks are classified as accessible or user-friendly.

Key Findings

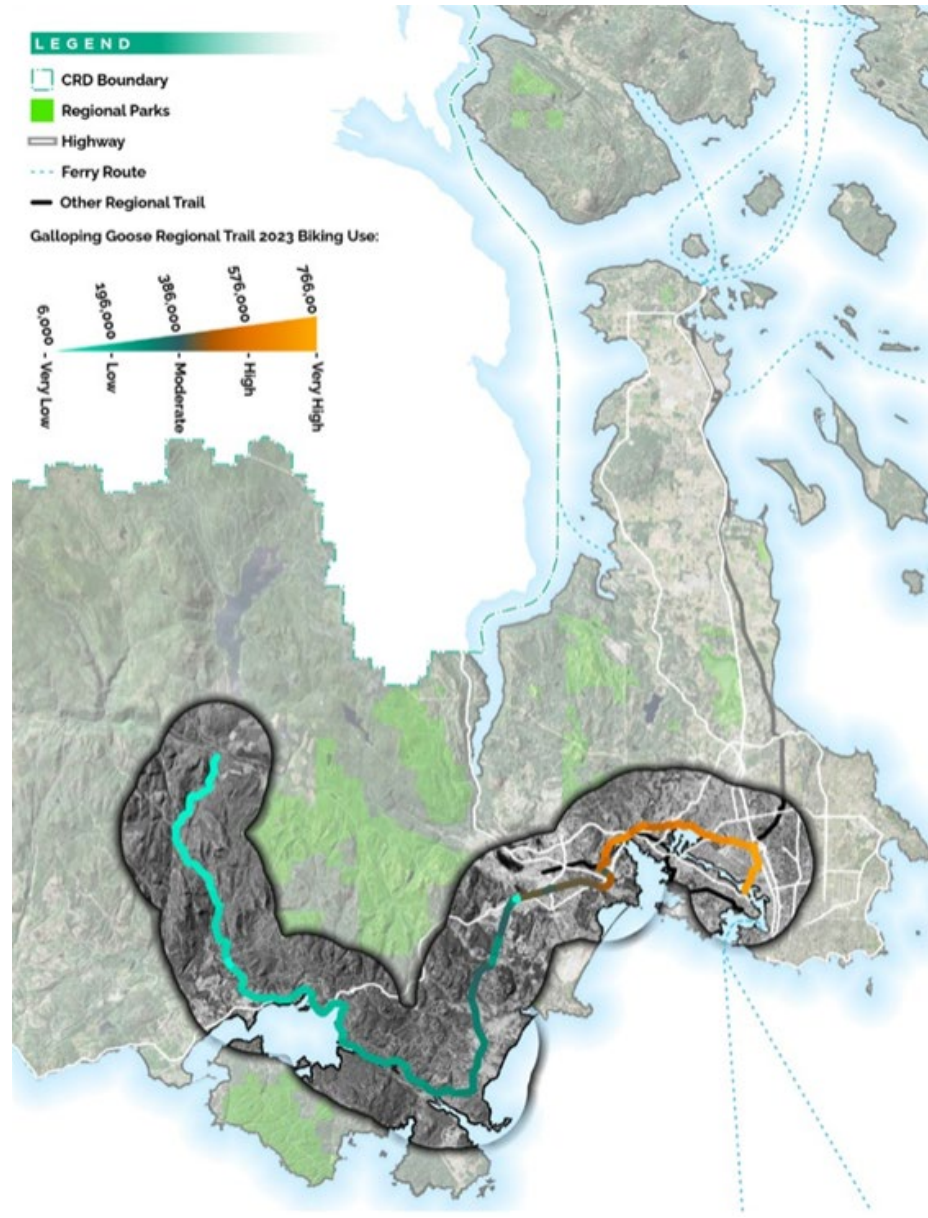
Regional Trails

E&N Rail Trail Humpback Connector
13.5 km

Galloping Goose Regional Trail
55.85 km

Lochside Regional Trail
29.5 km

Mayne Island Regional Trail
4 km



Regional Trail Visitation

- 35% increase from 2014 to 2024
- Estimated visitation of over 4 million in 2024
- Trail usage is highest in urban areas.
- Rural areas have a more seasonal use pattern.

Implications

Areas for Further Development

-  Regional outdoor recreation demands
-  Inventory of regional recreational settings
-  Classification of trails in regional parks
-  Visitor use surveys
-  Visitor use impacts



Mount Work Regional Park

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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