



## Notice of Meeting and Meeting Agenda Regional Parks Committee

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Wednesday, January 28, 2026

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

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J. Brownoff (Chair), L. Szpak (Vice Chair), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson,  
G. Holman, M. Tait, S. Tobias, K. Williams, R. Windsor, C. McNeil-Smith (Board Chair, ex officio)

The Capital Regional District strives to be a place where inclusion is paramount and all people are treated with dignity. We pledge to make our meetings a place where all feel welcome and respected.

### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

### 2. Approval of Agenda

### 3. Adoption of Minutes

#### 3.1. [26-0110](#) Minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of November 26, 2025

**Recommendation:** That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of the November 26, 2025 be adopted as circulated.

**Attachments:** [Minutes: November 26, 2025](#)

### 4. Chair's Remarks

### 5. Presentations/Delegations

*The public are welcome to attend CRD meetings in-person.*

*Delegations will have the option to participate electronically. Please complete the online application at [www.crd.ca/address](http://www.crd.ca/address) no later than 4:30 pm two days before the meeting and staff will respond with details.*

*Alternatively, you may email your comments on an agenda item to the CRD Board at [crdboard@crd.bc.ca](mailto:crdboard@crd.bc.ca).*

### 6. Committee Business

- 6.1.**      [26-0105](#)      2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference
- Recommendation:**    There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.
- Attachments:**        [Staff Report: 2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference](#)  
[Appendix A: 2026 Regional Parks Committee ToR Approved](#)  
[Appendix B: 2026 Regional Parks Committee ToR Redlined](#)
- 6.2.**      [26-0043](#)      Bylaw No. 4688: Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025
- Recommendation:**    The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
1. That Bylaw No. 4688, "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025", be read a first, second, and third time; and  
2. That Bylaw No. 4688 be adopted.
- Attachments:**        [Staff Report: Bylaw No. 4688](#)  
[Appendix A: Bylaw No. 4688](#)  
[Appendix B: Bylaw No. 4225 \(Redlined\)](#)
- 6.3.**      [26-0026](#)      Large Carnivore Monitoring Project - East Sooke, Matheson Lake and Roche Cove Regional Parks
- Recommendation:**    There are no recommendations. This report is for information only.
- Attachments:**        [Staff Report: Large Carnivore Monitoring Project](#)  
[Presentation: Regional Parks Large Carnivore Pilot Project](#)
- 6.4.**      [26-0078](#)      Foodlands Access Service - Bear Hill Farm Pilot Project
- Recommendation:**    The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That formal approval be granted for use of the eastern portion of the Bear Hill site (5920 Patricia Bay Highway) by the CRD Foodlands Access Service for a five-year pilot project to explore the activation of under-utilized regional and municipal properties as productive farmland.
- Attachments:**        [Staff Report: Foodlands Access Svc-Bear Hill Farm Pilot Project](#)  
[Appendix A: Foodlands Farm Pilot - Maps and Aerial Imagery](#)

## 7. Notice(s) of Motion

- 7.1.**      [26-0104](#)      Motion with Notice: Collaboration on Protection of Sensitive Ecosystems and Species at Risk (Director Holman)
- Recommendation:**    [At the November 26, 2025 Regional Parks Committee meeting, the following notice of motion was read into the record by Director Holman to be discussed at a following meeting:]  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:  
That CRD staff report on the feasibility and merits of collaborating with First Nations and with other conservation agencies and organizations on a GIS analysis of the extent of protection of sensitive ecosystems and species at risk in the CRD.

## 8. New Business

## 9. Adjournment

The next meeting is February 25, 2026.

To ensure quorum, please advise Jessica Dorman ([jdorman@crd.bc.ca](mailto:jdorman@crd.bc.ca)) if you or your alternate cannot attend.

## Meeting Minutes

### Regional Parks Committee

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Wednesday, November 26, 2025

9:30 AM

6th Floor Boardroom  
625 Fisgard St.  
Victoria, BC V8W 1R7

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#### PRESENT

Directors: J. Brownoff (Chair), L. Szpak (Vice Chair), C. Coleman, S. Goodmanson (EP) (10:09 am), G. Holman, S. Tobias (EP), K. Williams, C. McNeil-Smith (Board Chair, ex officio)

STAFF: T. Robbins, Chief Administrative Officer; S. Henderson, General Manager, Electoral Area Services; L. Jones, General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services; M. MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks; N. Cann, Manager, Visitor Experience and Stewardship; N. Elliott, Manager, Parks Planning and Development; J. Robinson, Senior Conservation Biologist; R. Ince, Outdoor Recreation Specialist; M. Lagoa, Deputy Corporate Officer; Megan MacDonald, Legislative Services Coordinator (Recorder)

EP - Electronic Participation

Regrets: M. Tait, R. Windsor (EP)

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 am.

#### 1. Territorial Acknowledgement

Director Coleman provided a Territorial Acknowledgement.

#### 2. Approval of Agenda

**MOVED** by Director Szpak, **SECONDED** by Director Coleman,  
That the agenda for the Regional Parks Committee meeting of November 26,  
2025 be approved.  
**CARRIED**

#### 3. Adoption of Minutes

3.1. [25-1282](#) Minutes of the Regional Parks Committee Meeting of October 22, 2025

**MOVED** by Director Szpak, **SECONDED** by Director Coleman,  
That the minutes of the Regional Parks Committee meeting of October 22, 2025  
be adopted as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

#### 4. Chair's Remarks

Chair Brownoff expressed appreciation for staff and parks volunteers.

#### 5. Presentations/Delegations

- 5.1. [25-1283](#) Delegation - Robin Jenkinson; Representing Island Pathways: Re: Agenda Item 6.1. Salt Spring Island Regional Trail Feasibility Study Findings and Next Steps

R. Jenkinson spoke to Item 6.1.

#### 6. Committee Business

- 6.1. [25-1253](#) Salt Spring Island Regional Trail Feasibility Study Findings and Next Steps

N. Elliott presented Item 6.1.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- prioritization of connectivity to Ganges Village
- potential impact to the provisional budget and service plans if approved
- potential funding strategy to promote the trail system through tourism
- timeline adjustment due to identified trail as an active transportation pathway

Director Tobias left the meeting at 10:02 am.

Director Goodmanson joined the meeting electronically at 10:09 am.

**MOVED** by Director Szpak, **SECONDED** by Director Holman,  
The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That the planning, implementation, and operation of all regional trails on the Gulf Islands-such as those identified in the Gulf Islands Regional Trails Plan-be referred to the CRD Transportation Committee for consideration;
2. That this report, including the Gulf Islands Regional Trails Plan, be referred to the Salt Spring Island Electoral Area Administration for information, in recognition of the local interest in establishing additional community trails in village sites on Salt Spring Island; and
3. That staff report back with a list of all CRD Regional Parks plans, policies, and bylaws requiring amendment or repeal as a result of establishing the Regional Transportation Service, and outline the process and timeline for completing these changes.

**CARRIED**

**6.2.**     [25-1171](#)     Regional Parks and Trails - State of Natural Features Report

N. Cann presented Item 6.2. for information.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- importance of sensitive ecosystem mapping and species at risk evaluation
- collaboration and alignment with regional partners
- First Nations reconciliation through stewardship and conservation partnerships
- identifying park areas vulnerable to fire

**6.3.**     [25-1252](#)     Regional Parks and Trails - State of Outdoor Recreation Report

N. Cann presented Item 6.3. for information.

Discussion ensued regarding:

- importance of accessible washroom facilities in parks
- regional trails in regional parks to manage departmental collaboration
- division of roles and responsibilities between transportation and parks

**7. Notice(s) of Motion**

**7.1.**     [26-0057](#)     Notice of Motion: Collaboration on Protection of Sensitive Ecosystems and Species at Risk (Director Holman)

Director Holman proposed the following Notice of Motion for consideration at the next Regional Parks Committee meeting:

"That CRD staff report on the feasibility and merits of collaborating with First Nations and with other conservation agencies and organizations on a GIS analysis of the extent of protection of sensitive ecosystems and species at risk in the CRD."

**8. New Business**

There was no new business.

**9. Adjournment**

**MOVED by Director Coleman, SECONDED by Director Szpak,  
That the Regional Parks Committee meeting of November 26, 2025 be adjourned  
at 10:49 am.  
CARRIED**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recorder



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**REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE  
MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026**

**SUBJECT**    2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference

**ISSUE SUMMARY**

To provide the 2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference for information.

**BACKGROUND**

Under the *Local Government Act* and the CRD Board Procedures Bylaw, the CRD Board Chair has the authority to establish standing committees and appoint members to provide advice and recommendations to the Board.

On January 14, 2026 the CRD Board approved the 2026 Terms of Reference for standing committees. Terms of Reference (TOR) serve to clarify the mandate, responsibilities and procedures of standing committees and provide a point of reference and guidance for the committees and members.

For 2026, all standing committees TOR were revised under section 3.0 Composition to include additional details on First Nation members voting rights on standing committees.

The approved 2026 Regional Parks Committee TOR is attached as Appendix A, and a redlined copy is attached as Appendix B.

The TOR are being provided for information to the Committee. Any proposed revisions to the TOR will require ratification by the Board.

**CONCLUSION**

Terms of Reference serve to clarify the mandate, responsibilities and procedures of committees and provide a point of reference and guidance for the committees and their members. Any future revisions to the TOR will require ratification by the Board.

**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Marlene Lagoa, MPA, Manager, Legislative Services & Deputy Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, General Manager, Recreation, Parks & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., General Manager, Corporate Services & Corporate Officer
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT(S)**

Appendix A: 2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference - Approved  
Appendix B: 2026 Regional Parks Committee Terms of Reference - Redlined

# Terms of Reference



## REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE

### PREAMBLE

The Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks Committee is a standing committee established by the CRD Board and will oversee and make recommendations to the Board regarding regional parks.

The Committee's official name is to be:

Regional Parks Committee

### 1.0 PURPOSE

- a) The mandate of the Committee includes overseeing and making recommendations to the Board regarding the following functions:
  - i. Regional parks, including land acquisition, management, operations and programs
  - ii. Regional Parks Strategic Plan, Land Acquisition Strategy

### 2.0 ESTABLISHMENT AND AUTHORITY

- a) The Committee will make recommendations to the Board for consideration; and
- b) The Board Chair will appoint the Committee Chair, Vice Chair and Committee members annually.

### 3.0 COMPOSITION

- a) Committee members will be appointed CRD Board Members;
- b) All Board members are permitted to participate in standing committee meetings, but not vote, in accordance with the CRD Board Procedures Bylaw; and
- c) First Nation members are permitted to participate in standing committee meetings at their pleasure, where the Nation has an interest in matters being considered by the committee, in accordance with the CRD Procedures Bylaw section 33:
  - i. First Nation Members are permitted to abstain from voting on an item, provided that they declare their abstention prior to the vote being called on the item.
  - ii. When an abstention from voting on an item is declared by a First Nation Member, it

shall be noted in the meeting minutes and the total number of votes on the item shall not include those First Nation Members who have abstained from voting.

#### **4.0 PROCEDURES**

- a) The Committee shall meet on a monthly basis and have special meetings, as required;
- b) The agenda will be finalized in consultation between staff and the Committee Chair and any Committee member may make a request to the Chair to place a matter on the agenda through the Notice of Motion process;
- c) With the approval of the Committee Chair and the Board Chair, Committee matters of an urgent or time sensitive nature may be forwarded directly to the Board for consideration; and
- d) A quorum is a majority of the Committee membership and is required to conduct Committee business.

#### **5.0 RESOURCES AND SUPPORT**

- a) The General Manager of Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services will act as liaison to the committee; and
- b) Minutes and agendas are prepared and distributed by the Corporate Services Department.

*Approved by CRD Board January 14, 2026*

# Terms of Reference



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*Approved by CRD Board* \_\_\_\_\_



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## REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

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**SUBJECT** Bylaw No. 4688, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025”

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

The Regional Parks service has transferred the authority for park use permitting and related decision-making for certain regional trails to the Regional Transportation Service. As a result, Bylaw No. 4225, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018” must be updated to reflect the change in general manager responsible for issuing park use permits specific to regional trails.

### **BACKGROUND**

On June 11, 2025, the Capital Regional District (CRD) Board adopted Bylaw No. 4630, “Regional Transportation Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2024,” establishing a regional transportation service. This new service is responsible for administration and operation of certain regional transportation assets, including certain regional trails—the Lochside Regional Trail, the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, and the E&N Rail Corridor—Humpback Connector.

As part of the transition, future park use permits for regional trails will be issued by the Regional Planning Division staff who support the transportation service. To facilitate this change, Bylaw No. 4225 must be amended to designate the General Manager, Housing, Planning and Protective Services as the general manager responsible for approving park use permit applications specific to the regional trails and exercising discretion under the bylaw.

In the future, it is anticipated that a separate bylaw relating to the management of regional trails used for active transportation purposes will be developed for the Board’s consideration.

### **ALTERNATIVES**

#### *Alternative 1*

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4688, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025”, be read a first, second, and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No. 4688 be adopted.

#### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information.

### **IMPLICATIONS**

#### *Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities*

This amendment is in line with the transfer of responsibility of administration of regional trails from the Regional Parks Division to the new Regional Transportation Service (Regional Planning

Division).

*Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies*

Regional Parks and Regional Planning staff continue to work on a division of responsibilities. Transferring decision-making authority for certain types of park use permits in certain locations will continue to assist with this work.

*Intergovernmental Implications*

Within the CRD, certain permits will continue to be issued by the general manager responsible for regional parks (e.g., commercial use permits), which may interact with use of regional trails. At this time, staff do not see a concern with this and will refer concerns about permits to their counterparts in Regional Parks or Regional Planning as appropriate.

*Service Delivery Implications*

Permit applicants may experience confusion when directed to two separate locations: one for regional parks and trails within parks, and another for activities along regional trails. Staff will address this through internal and external communications.

**CONCLUSION**

The proposed amendment to Bylaw No. 4225 is required to align permitting authority with the newly established Regional Transportation Service and to support an effective transition in the management of regional trail assets.

**RECOMMENDATION**

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board:

1. That Bylaw No. 4688, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025”, be read a first, second, and third time; and
2. That Bylaw No. 4688 be adopted.

Submitted by:	Steven N. Carey, BSc, JD, Senior Manager, Legal Services and Risk Management
Concurrence:	Kristen Morley, J.D., Corporate Officer & General Manager, Corporate Services
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Housing, Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence:	Melanie Alsdorf, Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENTS**

- Appendix A: Bylaw No. 4688, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025”
- Appendix B: Bylaw No. 4225, “Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1”, Unofficial Redlined Consolidation

CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 4688

\*\*\*\*\*

**A BYLAW TO AMEND THE PARKS REGULATION BYLAW (BYLAW NO. 4225)**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHEREAS:**

- A. Under Bylaw No. 4225, "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018", the Regional Board regulates the use of regional parks and trails;
- B. Under Bylaw No. 4630, "Regional Transportation Service Establishment Bylaw No. 1, 2024", the Regional Board established a service for the purpose of addressing transportation needs within the Capital Regional District;
- C. The Board of the Capital Regional District wishes to amend Bylaw No. 4225 to transfer permitting powers for certain regional trails – the E&N Rail Trail - Humpback Connector, the Galloping Goose Regional Trail, and the Lochside Regional Trail – from the General Manager responsible for the Regional Parks Service to the General Manager Regional Transportation Service, or delegate;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Capital Regional District Board in open meeting assembled hereby enacts as follows:

1. Bylaw No. 4225, "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018", is hereby amended as follows:

(a) In section 1, by replacing the definition of "General Manager" with the following definition:

**"General Manager"** means the Capital Regional District's Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services' General Manager, or such other person as may be appointed to act in the place of the General Manager from time to time; and includes, for Regional Trail decisions on park use permits, and other incidental and necessary approvals related to Regional Trails, the General Manager, Housing, Planning & Protective Services, or such other person as may be appointed to act in their place from time to time;

(b) In section 1, by including the definition of "Regional Trail" in alphabetical list order, as follows:

"Regional Trail" where capitalized, means the E&N Rail Trail - Humpback Connector, Galloping Goose Regional Trail, and the Lochside Regional Trail;

(c) In section 4, by amending subsection (6) as follows:

(6) A person must not enter into or remain in a regional park during curfew hours, with the exception of a Regional Trail;

(d) In section 12, by amending subsection (2) as follows:

- (2) The applicable General Manager may issue a park use permit for a special use that requires a park use permit under this Bylaw;

(e) In section 12, by amending subsection (4) as follows:

- (4) The applicable General Manager may amend, suspend, or revoke any park use permit:
  - (a) for any violation of the terms and conditions of the park use permit;
  - (b) where the applicant for the permit made a material misrepresentation regarding the special use;
  - (c) where the park use permit holder or a person participating in the special use contravenes a provision of this Bylaw, as determined by the General Manager, acting reasonably; or
  - (d) where the activity authorized by the park use permit may no longer be accommodated by CRD, for any reason, in the sole discretion of the General Manager.

(f) In section 12, by amending subsection (5) as follows:

- (5) A General Manager is not obligated to issue any park use permit and, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing, may refuse to issue a park use permit to any person who has, in the opinion of General Manager, acting reasonably, contravened any previous park use permit or contravened this Bylaw or any other enactment related to the use of a regional park;

2. This bylaw may be cited for all purposes as "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018, Amendment Bylaw No. 2, 2025".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	day of	20__
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	day of	20__
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	day of	20__
ADOPTED THIS	day of	20__

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER



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**BYLAW NO. 4225**

**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT PARKS REGULATION BYLAW NO. 1,  
2018**

**Consolidated for Public Convenience  
(This bylaw is for reference purposes only)**

ORIGINALLY ADOPTED MARCH 14, 2018  
(Consolidated with Amending Bylaws 4431, and ~~XXXX~~4688)

For reference to original bylaws or further details, please contact the Capital Regional District,  
Legislative Services Department, 625 Fisgard St., PO Box 1000, Victoria BC V8W 2S6  
T: (250) 360-3127, F: (250) 360-3130, Email: [legserv@crd.bc.ca](mailto:legserv@crd.bc.ca), Web: [www.crd.bc.ca](http://www.crd.bc.ca)

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**CAPITAL REGIONAL DISTRICT  
BYLAW NO. 4225**

\*\*\*\*\*

**A BYLAW TO REGULATE THE USE OF REGIONAL PARKS AND TRAILS**

\*\*\*\*\*

**WHEREAS** the Capital Regional District wishes to adopt a Bylaw to regulate the use of regional parks and regional trails;

**NOW THEREFORE**, the Board of the Capital Regional District in open meeting assembled, enacts as follows:

**1. DEFINITIONS**

In this Bylaw, unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

“**aircraft**” means a device that is designated to carry one or more persons or objects through the air by electric or fuel power or by powerless flight, or to move through the air remotely and without passengers, and includes Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs), drones;

*(Bylaw 4431)*

“**animal**” means a mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or insect;

“**attractant**” means any of the following:

(a) food or food waste, barbeques, stoves, or other cooking devices, compost, or other waste or garbage that could attract an animal;

(b) a carcass or part of a carcass of an animal, or other meat;

*(Bylaw 4431)*

“**beach**” means the areas designated as beaches on Schedule “A” to this Bylaw;

“**Board**” means the Board of Directors of the Capital Regional District;

“**business**” means any trade, industry, employment, occupation, activity or special event carried on in a park for profit, gain, fundraising or commercial promotion, and includes an undertaking carried on in a park by a charitable organization, or by an organization or individual on a non-profit basis;

“**camp**” means to occupy a campsite, to set up a tent or other shelter or to remain overnight;

*(Bylaw 4431)*

“**camping party**” means a group of no more than (7) persons with a maximum of (4) adults, that have purchased a valid park use permit for camping in a Regional Park.

“**campsite**” means a site in a regional park designated by the CRD for overnight camping;

“**Caretaker**” means a person having a contract with the CRD to provide on-site services in respect of one or more regional parks;

**“commercial dog walker”** means a person who operates a business or commercial enterprise in which the primary service provided is the walking of one or more dogs;

**“contaminants”** means any explosives, radioactive materials, asbestos materials, ureaformaldehyde, chlorobiphenyls, hydrocarbon contaminants, underground tanks, pollutants, contaminants, hazards, corrosive or toxic substances, special waste or waste of any kind or any other substance the storage, manufacture, disposal, treatment, generation, use, transport, remediation or release into the environment of which is prohibited, controlled regulated or licensed under environmental laws;

**“CRD”** means the Capital Regional District;

**“curfew hours”** means the time between sunset and sunrise for all regional parks with the exceptions of the Lochside Regional Trail, the E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, and the Galloping Goose Regional Trail;

**“cycle”** means a device having any number of wheels that is propelled by human power and on which a person may ride and includes a motor assisted cycle, but does not include a skateboard, roller skates or in-line roller skates;

**“dangerous dog”** means any dog that:

- (a) has killed or seriously injured a person; or,
- (b) has killed or seriously injured a domestic animal, while in a public place or while on private property, other than property owned or occupied by the person responsible for the dog; or,
- (c) a park officer reasonably believes is likely to kill or seriously injure a person.
- (d) has been designated or is otherwise considered as dangerous under or in accordance with any municipal, regional, or provincial enactment.

but does not include dog performing law enforcement work.

**“domestic animal”** means any animal kept as livestock or pet;

**“domestic waste”** means garbage, trash, refuse, cans, bottles, papers, ashes, cuttings, or other waste of any kind that is not generated by an individual in connection with reasonable park use;

**“environmental laws”** means any and all enactments of any federal, provincial, municipal or other governmental authority, now or hereafter in force with respect to contamination or pollution of the environment, or goods or substances that, if discharged into the environment, could cause material harm to the natural environment or its ecosystems;

**“firearm”** means any device that propels a projectile by means of explosion, spring, air, gas, string, wire or elastic material or any combination of those things;

*(Bylaw 4431)*

**“General Manager”** means the Capital Regional District’s Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services’ General Manager, or such other person as may be appointed to act in the place of the General Manager from time to time; and includes, for Regional Trail decisions on park use permits, and other incidental and necessary approvals related to Regional Trails, the General Manager, Housing, Planning & Protective Services, or such other person as may be appointed to act in their place from time to time;

(Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)

**“hunt”** means shooting at, attracting, searching for, chasing, pursuing, following after or on the trail of, stalking or lying in wait for wildlife, or attempting to do any of those things, whether or not the wildlife is then or subsequently wounded, killed, or captured,

- (a) with intention to capture the wildlife or,
- (b) while in possession of a firearm or other weapon;

(Bylaw 4431)

**“leash”** means a rope, chain, cord, leather strip, or other physical tether which is used to restrain an animal and:

- (a) does not exceeding 2.4 m in length; or
- (b) is a retractable lead not exceeding 8 m in length when fully extended.

**“liquor”** means:

- (a) fermented, spirituous and malt liquors; or
- (b) combinations of liquors; or
- (c) drinks and drinkable liquids that are intoxicating,

and includes beer, or a substance that, by being dissolved or diluted is capable of being made a drinkable liquid that is intoxicating and that is declared to be liquor under the *Liquor Licensing and Control Act* (British Columbia);

**“motor assisted cycle”** means a motor assisted cycle that meets the requirements of the Motor Assisted Cycle Regulation, B.C. Reg. 151/2002 made pursuant to the *Motor Vehicle Act* (British Columbia);

**“motor vehicle”** means a vehicle, not run on rails, that is designed to be self-propelled and includes an off-road vehicle, but does not include a motor-assisted cycle;

(Bylaw 4431)

**“natural boundary”** means the visible high water mark of any lake, river, stream or other body of water where the presence and action of the water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark on the soil on the bed of the body of water a character distinct from that of its banks, in vegetation, as well as in the nature of the soil itself;

**“off-road vehicle”** means a vehicle considered an off-road vehicle pursuant to the *Off-Road*

Vehicle Act, SBC 2014, c 5, as amended;

(Bylaw 4431)

“open fire” means any outdoor fire started, maintained, or gathered around or near by a person or persons for warmth, enjoyment, or cooking;

(Bylaw 4431)

“natural park feature” means a tree, shrub, herb, flower, grass, turf, or other plant or fungus and all soil, sand, silt, gravel, rock, mineral, wood, fallen timber, or other park resource in a regional park;

“park officer” means a person appointed or employed by the CRD as a park officer, watershed security officer, or bylaw enforcement officer;

“Parks Committee” means the standing committee appointed by the Board for regional park function purposes;

“park use permit” means a park use permit issued under this Bylaw;

“peace officer” means a peace officer defined from time to time in the Criminal Code of Canada;

“permit fee” means the applicable special use fee and the refundable security deposit required to carry out a special use event or activity, as permitted by a park use permit and prescribed in Bylaw No. 3675;

“picnic area” means any area designated by the CRD as such by sign or posted notice;

“posted notice” means a written notice affixed to a notice board or sign post by the CRD in a regional park or set out in a brochure, map or CRD website relating to one or more regional parks;

“regional park” means the parks and regional trails listed in Schedule “B” and any other lands owned by the CRD in fee simple or held by the CRD by way of a statutory right of way, easement, lease, license or agreement and managed as a regional park or regional trail;

“Regional Trail” where capitalized, means the E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector, Galloping Goose Regional Trail, and the Lochside Regional Trail;

(Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)

“smoke” or “smoking” means burning a cigarette or cigar containing tobacco or another substance, or burning or heating tobacco or another substance using a pipe, hookah pipe, lighted smoking device or vaporizing device as per the CRD Clean Air Bylaw No. 3962, as amended;

(Bylaw 4431)

“special use” means any event or activity in a regional park defined as a Special Use Activity in Bylaw No. 3675;

“traffic control device” means a sign, signal, line, meter, marking, space, barrier or device, not inconsistent with the *Motor Vehicle Act*, placed or erected by authority of the Board or the

General Manager;

“**under control**” means a person in possession of a dog or domestic animal in a regional park has a clear line of sight to the dog or domestic animal at all times and the dog or domestic animal immediately returns to the owner when called or signalled;

“**wildlife**” means raptors, threatened species, endangered species, game or other species of vertebrates prescribed as wildlife under the *Wildlife Act*.

## 2. **ADMINISTRATION OF BYLAW AND ENFORCEMENT POWERS**

- (1) The General Manager is delegated authority to appoint park officers.
- (2) Peace officers and park officers are exempt from the provisions of this Bylaw when performing their duties.
- (3) When a park officer or peace officer finds, on reasonable grounds, that a person in a regional park is contravening this Bylaw, a park use permit, or any other licence or authorization from the CRD respecting use of the park he or she may require that person to do one or more of the following:
  - (a) provide, immediately upon request, that person’s correct name, address, and information about their destination, and proposed or actual activities in the regional park;
  - (b) provide within a reasonable time identification verifying that person’s correct name and address;
  - (c) provide evidence, where applicable, that the person possesses a current valid license, authorization, or park use permit for the activity;
  - (d) stop contravening the Bylaw, the park use permit, licence or authorization immediately;
  - (e) leave the regional park immediately; or
  - (f) not re-enter the regional park for a period up to 72 hours.
- (4) A person who fails to comply with a requirement of a park officer or peace officer under this Bylaw also commits an offence under the *Offence Act*.
- (5) At all reasonable times, a park officer or peace officer may enter any area, including a campsite, or other facility in a regional park to determine whether a person is in contravention of this Bylaw or a park use permit.
- (6) Except where a park use permit, licence, or other valid written authorization from the CRD allows such storage, a park officer or peace officer may remove or order the removal of all equipment or material from a regional park and the cost of such removal may be charged to either the owner or person who placed the equipment or material within the regional park.

### **PENALTIES**

- (1) A person who contravenes any provision of this Bylaw commits an offence and is liable upon conviction to the penalties prescribed by the *Offence Act*, provided that the minimum penalty is not less than FIFTY (\$50.00) DOLLARS for the first offence and for each subsequent offence to a minimum penalty of not less than ONE HUNDRED (\$100.00) DOLLARS.
- (2) The penalties imposed under subsection (3) hereof shall be in addition to and not in substitution for any other penalty or remedy imposed by the Bylaw.
- (3) A separate offence shall be deemed to be committed upon each day during and on which a contravention of this Bylaw occurs or continues.
- (4) A park officer or peace officer may, if he/she has reason to believe that an offence has been committed against this Bylaw, complete and leave with the alleged offender, or at the address of the alleged offender with someone who appears to be 16 years of age or greater, a ticket information pursuant to Bylaw No. 1857, Capital Regional District Ticket Information Authorization Bylaw, 1990 as may be amended or repealed and replaced from time to time indicating a penalty equal to the amount stipulated for such an offence.

### **PUBLIC CONDUCT**

- (1) A person must not obstruct a park officer or peace officer who is performing his or her duties.
- (2) A person must not do any act or suffer or permit any act or thing to be done in contravention of this Bylaw.
- (3) A person in a regional park must obey all signs and posted notices in a regional park.
- (4) A person must not possess or consume liquor in a regional park without legally required permits, including a valid park use permit allowing that activity.
- (5) A person must not defecate or urinate in a regional park, except in designated facilities.
- (6) A person must not enter into or remain in a regional park during curfew hours with the exception of a Regional Trail.

(Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)

- (7) Subsection (6) does not apply to the following:
  - (a) a person who has a license or lease granted by the CRD for a park purpose;
  - (b) a private house guest of or tradesperson providing a service to an onsite Caretaker;
  - (c) a person who has a valid park use permit that allows entrance to the park;
  - (d) authorized CRD and emergency personnel; and
  - (e) persons or their house guests or contractors who have to pass through the regional park to reach their residence.

- (8) A person must not make or cause any noise or sound, including the playing of portable music devices including, but not limited to: musical instruments, radios, tape players, compact disc players, MP3 players, i-Pods or similar devices in a regional park that, in the opinion of a park officer or peace officer:
- (a) disturbs, or is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment, or comfort of persons in the vicinity; or
  - (b) disturbs or disrupts or is likely to disturb or disrupt wildlife.
- (9) A person must not operate equipment, motor vehicles, cycles, or machinery in a regional park that, in the opinion of a Park Officer or Peace Officer:
- (a) disturbs, or is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment, or comfort of persons in the vicinity; or
  - (b) disturbs or disrupts or is likely to disturb or disrupt wildlife; or
  - (c) is dangerous, or is likely to create a dangerous situation within the park.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*
- (10) A person must not interfere with the passage of any person or motor vehicle lawfully using a road or trail in a regional park unless a valid park use permit allows that interference.
- (11) A person must not act in a way that in the opinion of a park officer or peace officer disturbs or is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment or comfort of persons in the vicinity.
- (12) A person who has been evicted from a park must not:
- (a) return to the park until the specified eviction time period has elapsed; and
  - (b) that person, if they have paid in part or in full for a service in the park, is not entitled to a refund.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*
- (13) A person must not take off or land an aircraft within a regional park unless in compliance with all applicable regulations in addition to obtaining a park use permit.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*

## **5. RESPONSIBILITY FOR ACTION OF MINORS**

- (1) A parent, guardian, or person in charge of a person 16 years of age or less must not permit them to do anything that this Bylaw or other applicable enactments prohibit.
- (2) If an offence is being committed by a person 16 years of age or less, the parent, guardian or person in charge of the person 16 years of age or less must take any control measures the park officer, acting reasonably, considers necessary to prevent or stop the contravention of this Bylaw.

## **6. CAMPING**

- (1) A person staying in a campsite in a regional park must not:
  - (a) leave or enter the campsite during the hours the regional park is closed, except in an emergency; or
  - (b) make any noise or sound between the hours of 10:00 p.m. and 7:00 a.m. that, in the opinion of a park officer or peace officer disturbs or is likely to disturb the peace, enjoyment, or comfort of persons or wildlife in the vicinity.
  - (c) Camp or register for more than 14 days in a campground within a calendar year.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*
- (2) A camping party with a valid park use permit allowing camping in a regional park may remain in the campsite and use its facilities according to the terms and conditions of the park use permit. After the park use permit expires, the camping party must leave the campsite without delay.
- (3) A camping party may have on site no more than one vehicle and trailer, and one but not both may be a recreational vehicle (RV).
- (4) A person may camp in a regional park only in a designated campsite and only in accordance with a park use permit for that activity.
- (5) All persons entering a regional park campground for the purpose of utilizing the campground facilities must register upon arrival.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*
- (6) The registered site holder is responsible for:
  - (a) ensuring the proper payment of fees; and
  - (b) the actions and conduct of each person in the party or group and each guest and visitor of that party or group while camping in the regional park.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*

## **7. PRESERVATION OF NATURAL FEATURES, WILDLIFE, AND PARK FEATURES**

- (1) A person must not do any of the following in a regional park unless the person has obtained the CRD's written authorization or a valid park use permit allowing the activity:
  - (a) cut, trim, dig up, excavate, deface, remove, damage, or in any way injure any natural park feature
  - (b) build or otherwise create or alter any trails;
  - (c) remove, damage, or deface any building, structure, fence, bench, sign, posted notice, road, trail, facility, equipment, material, or thing that belongs to the CRD;

- (d) build, lace or install any permanent or temporary structures or facilities;
  - (e) bring in and leave any dead or living plant material, any dead or living animal or release any animal;
  - (f) hunt, molest, disturb, frighten, injure, kill, catch, or trap any wildlife, except for fishing and crab-catching done in accordance with all enactments;  
(Bylaw 4431)
  - (g) feed any wildlife or deposit any substance that wildlife may eat; feed any wildlife or deposit any substance that wildlife may eat, or leave unattended an attractant of any kind;  
(Bylaw 4431)
  - (h) introduce any contaminant into any part of a regional park including, without limitation, any body of water, water system, or watercourse.
- (2) Subsection (1)(e) does not apply to a domestic animal brought into a regional park where the person complies with section 8:
- (a) the person retains effective control of the domestic animal at all times in accordance with this Bylaw; and
  - (b) removes the domestic animal from the park when that person leaves the park.
- (3) A person must not deposit any refuse, litter, or other discarded material or thing anywhere in a regional park except in waste receptacles provided by the CRD.
- (4) A person must not:
- (a) dispose of any domestic, commercial, or industrial waste in a regional park;
  - (b) deposit any material into waste receptacles provided by the CRD for onsite refuse other than waste reasonably generated by that person during his or her time in the regional park.
- (5) A person must not light or keep lit, or use any open fire, stove barbeque or other flame producing cooking device in a regional park except:
- (a) in facilities or designated areas that the CRD provides for fires or flame-producing cooking devices, or
  - (b) if permitted by a valid park use permit.  
(Bylaw 4431)
- (6) A person must not leave unattended a fire, stove, barbecue or other flame producing cooking device of any kind while it is lit or turned on.
- (7) A person must not deposit on the ground in a regional park any lighted match, cigar, cigarette, or other burning substance except as permitted in section 7(5).

- (8) A person must not smoke in regional park areas, facilities or trails contrary to a sign or posted notice that prohibits smoking.
- (9) A person must not cut down, prune or remove any tree or any part of a tree in a regional park without the written authorization of the CRD and then only in strict accordance with that authorization.
- (10) A person must not ride a cycle in a regional park except in the following places:
  - (a) a public highway or parking lot where not otherwise prohibited by law or a posted notice; and
  - (b) on a trail designated for such use by a sign or a posted notice.
- (11) A person must not travel within a regional park except on a trail marked by CRD signage or shown on a CRD Park map or brochure or in areas specifically designated by a sign or a posted notice.
- (12) A person must not enter or travel within the area designated as the Drinking Water Protection Zone in the Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park.

## **8. ANIMALS IN REGIONAL PARKS**

- (1) A person with care and control of a dog in a regional park must:
  - (a) have the dog under control at all times;
  - (b) have the dog on a leash, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person, in regional parks listed in Schedule C;
  - (c) not allow the dog to be on a designated beach or picnic area between June 1 and September 15, except for the purpose of passing directly through the beach or picnic area without stopping, at which time it must be on a leash, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person;
  - (d) immediately remove any faeces deposited by that dog;
  - (e) not allow the dog to damage park property or vegetation;
  - (f) not allow the dog to injure, disturb, or molest any person, domestic animal or wildlife;
  - (g) not allow the dog to enter any area where prohibited by sign or posted notice;
  - (h) carry at least one leash and one collar for each dog at all times;
  - (i) immediately leash the dog, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person, when approaching horses.

- (2) Subsection (1)(d) does not apply to a person who is legally visually impaired.
- (3) A person with care and control of a dangerous dog must not permit the dangerous dog to enter a regional park.
- (4) A person with care and control of a domestic animal in a regional park must ensure it is under control at all times and not allow it to:
  - (a) damage any park property or vegetation;
  - (b) enter any area where that animal is prohibited, as indicated by a sign or posted notice;
  - (c) injure, disturb, or molest any person, domestic animal, or wildlife;
  - (d) be left or abandoned; or
  - (e) graze.
- (5) A park officer or peace officer may require the person with care and control of a domestic animal in a regional park to remove it from that regional park if in the opinion of a park officer or peace officer the domestic animal is:
  - (a) potentially dangerous;
  - (b) disruptive to other park users; or
  - (c) by its actions, demeanour or lack of control by the owner, causing alarm or concern to other park users, including without limitation, children under the age of twelve, elderly or disabled persons.
- (6) A park officer or peace officer may restrain and detain any lost animal and bring that animal to a shelter, pound or other appropriate facility.
- (7) A person must not ride, walk, or drive a horse on any part of a regional park, except on trails or areas designated by signs or posted notice.

## **9. FIREARMS AND HUNTING**

- (1) A person must not possess or discharge any of the following in a regional park unless authorized to do so by a park use permit:
  - (a) a firearm;
  - (b) fireworks or explosives of any kind.

*(Bylaw 4431)*

## **10. MOTOR VEHICLES**

- (1) A person must not operate, or permit to be operated, a motor vehicle in a regional park except on public roadways or parking lots.
- (2) A person must not operate a motor vehicle in a regional park unless that person and the motor vehicle are validly licensed and registered and conform to all applicable enactments.
- (3) A person must not park a motor vehicle in a regional park except in designated parking lots and along public roadways not marked as “No Parking” areas.
- (4) A motor vehicle:
  - (a) parked in areas prohibited by a sign or posted notice; or
  - (b) left unattended after the closing hours of the regional park, may be towed away at the expense of the owner.
- (5) A person must not park a motor vehicle in an area, lot, or stall in a regional park designated as pay parking, disabled parking, or service or emergency vehicle parking, except in accordance with a valid park use permit or a valid parking permit for persons with disabilities, or unless the vehicle being parked is a regional park service vehicle or an emergency vehicle.
- (6) Without limiting the generality of any other provision of this Bylaw, a park officer or peace officer may ticket or order the towing away of any motor vehicles in violation of this Bylaw. Without limiting the generality of any other provision of this Bylaw, a Park Officer or Peace Officer may ticket or order the towing away of any motor vehicles in violation of this bylaw and a Park Officer or Peace Officer may also order the vehicle and/or trailer to be towed at the owner/operator’s expense, if the owner/operator has been evicted from the park and is unable to remove the vehicle or trailer immediately.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*
- (7) For public safety or convenience or to accommodate a special use, the CRD may close any park road, trail, or other area in a regional park to public use.
- (8) The CRD may by sign or posted notice limit the speed, weight, size, type, or number of motor vehicles operated in a regional park.
- (9) A person must not operate or use an off-road vehicle in a regional park without a valid park use permit.  
*(Bylaw 4431)*

## **11. COMMERCIAL SERVICES ACTIVITIES OR DEMONSTRATIONS**

- (1) Unless a person has the written authorization of the General Manager or a valid park use permit allowing the activity, they must not:
  - (a) sell, barter, or display for sale any goods, services, or materials, including food and refreshments in a regional park;

- (b) conduct any business or commercial activity, whether paid for in advance of, during, or after the activity;
  - (c) encourage any person to use a regional park for any activity related to a business or commercial enterprise, whether or not the business or commercial aspect of the activity is carried out within the regional park;
  - (d) install, post, deliver, paint, publish, or distribute any notice, advertisement, sign, placard, or handbill of any kind in a regional park; or
  - (e) operate or station in a regional park any commercial vehicle or any motor vehicle displaying advertising or equipped with a public address system for the purpose of advertising, promoting, demonstrating, or attracting attention.
- (2) Subsection 11(1)(d) does not apply to:
- (c) reasonable expressions of opinions on political, social or other matters provided that the notices, signs, placards or handbills:
    - i. do not exceed 1 square metre in size and are removed prior to sunset;
    - ii. are not displayed in the park on more than one day in each month; and
    - iii. are not repetitions of the content of opinions expressed by the same person within the previous month.
- (3) Subsection 11(1)(e) does not apply to:
- (a) a motor vehicle on which corporate advertisement is displayed where the motor vehicle is used for the transportation of persons to a regional park for park purposes and not for the purpose of advertising.

## 12. **PARK USE PERMITS**

- (1) A person must not carry out, hold or participate in a special use or do anything that requires a park use permit under this Bylaw unless:
- (a) a park use permit has been issued for the special use; and
  - (b) the permit holder carries the park use permit during the event for which the permit has been issued and produces the permit for inspection upon request by a park or peace officer.
- (2) The applicable General Manager may issue a park use permit for a special use that requires a park use permit under this Bylaw. (Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)
- (3) The person obtaining the park use permit must pay a fee established under Bylaw No. 3675 or section 13 of this Bylaw.

(4) The applicable General Manager may amend, suspend, or revoke any park use permit:

(a) for any violation of the terms and conditions of the park use permit;

(b) where the applicant for the permit made a material misrepresentation regarding the special use; or

(c) where the park use permit holder or a person participating in the special use contravenes a provision of this Bylaw, as determined by the General Manager, acting reasonably; or

~~(e)~~(d) where the activity authorized by the park use permit may no longer be accommodated by CRD, for any reason, in the sole opinion of the General Manager.

(Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)

(5) A General Manager is not obligated to issue any park use permit and, without in any way limiting the generality of the foregoing, may refuse to issue a park use permit to any person who has, in the opinion of the General Manager, acting reasonably, contravened any previous park use permit or contravened this Bylaw or any other enactment related to the use of a regional park.

(Bylaw ~~XXXX~~4688)

(6) The holder of a park use permit is solely responsible for the conduct of the special use event, activity, or thing the park use permit authorizes.

(7) Neither the CRD nor any of its elected or appointed officers, employees, servants, agents, contractors, licensees or representatives accepts or assumes any responsibility or liability for any claims, demands, proceedings, actions, suits, costs, expenses, fines, losses or damages in respect to death, injury, loss or damage to persons or property, however caused, arising out of or in connection with the issuance of a park use permit or a special use event, activity or thing for which a park use permit has been issued.

(8) In the issuance of a park use permit, the General Manager may impose one or more of the following conditions:

(a) a requirement that the permit holder provide security in an amount and form acceptable to the General Manager to cover estimated cleanup costs following the event, activity or thing;

(b) public liability insurance in an amount and form acceptable to the General Manager;

(c) that the event, activity or thing is limited to one or more specified regional parks;

(d) that the event, activity or thing is limited to one or more specified areas, locations or facilities within a regional park;

(e) limiting the duration of the permit;

- (f) limiting the number of participants (including staff and volunteers);
  - (g) requiring that the holder of the permit provide traffic control for the event, activity or thing;
  - (h) requiring that the permit holder remove all waste;
  - (i) requiring the permit holder to provide specific facilities as services, including, without limitation, portable toilets, additional garbage cans and recycling bins or receptacles;
  - (j) limiting the type or nature of merchandise, items or services that may be made available for sale or consumption during the event, activity or thing;
  - (k) providing a copy of a research report prepared by the permit holder;
  - (l) requiring specific signage; and
  - (m) requiring that the permit holder comply with Vancouver Island Health Authority guidelines regarding food concessions;
  - (n) restrict the area where a commercial dog-walker may walk dogs, limit the number of dogs allowed per commercial dog-walker to a maximum of eight, and may require the dogs to be on a leash held by the commercial dog-walker while in the regional park or in a designated area of the regional park.
- (9) A person must not breach a condition of a park use permit.

**13. FEES**

- (1) The Board may from time to time establish fees to be charged for issuing a park use permit.

**14. SEVERABILITY**

- (1) If a section, subsection, clause or phrase of this Bylaw is for any reason held to be invalid by the decision of a Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the Bylaw.

**15. REPEAL**

- (1) Bylaw No. 3682, "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2010", as amended, is repealed.

**16. CITATION**

This Bylaw may be cited as "Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018".

READ A FIRST TIME THIS	14 <sup>th</sup>	day of	March	2018
READ A SECOND TIME THIS	14 <sup>th</sup>	day of	March	2018
READ A THIRD TIME THIS	14 <sup>th</sup>	day of	March	2018
ADOPTED THIS	14 <sup>th</sup>	day of	March	2018

\_\_\_\_\_  
CHAIR

\_\_\_\_\_  
CORPORATE OFFICER

**Capital Regional District  
Regional parks Designated Beach Areas**

**SCHEDULE "A"**

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park: Beaver Lake Beach, Hamsterly Beach, Eagle Beach and Water Ski Beach

Island View Beach Regional Park: All Beach Areas above the natural boundary of the sea

Matheson Lake Regional Park: Main Beach Area

Mount Work Regional Park: Durrance Lake Main Beach, Killarney Lake Foreshore, and Pease Lake Foreshore

Thetis Lake Regional Park: Prior Lake Beach and Dock Area, Thetis Lake Main Beach

Witty's Lagoon Regional Park: Beach Areas above the natural boundary of the sea, with exception of Tower Point

**Capital Regional District  
List of Regional Parks, Park Reserves, and Trails**

**SCHEDULE “B”**

Albert Head Lagoon Regional Park  
Ayum Creek Regional Park Reserve  
Bear Hill Regional Park  
Coles Bay Regional Park  
Devonian Regional Park  
East Point Regional Park  
East Sook Regional Park  
Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park  
E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector  
Francis/King Regional Park  
Gallopig Goose Regional Trail  
Gonzales Hill Regional Park  
Horth Hill Regional Park  
Island View Beach Regional Park  
Jordan River Regional Park  
Kapoor Regional Park  
Lochside Regional Trail  
Lone Tree Hill Regional Park  
Matheson Lake Regional Park  
Matthews Point Regional Park Reserve  
Mill Farm Regional Park Reserve  
Mill Hill Regional Park

Mount Parke Regional Park

Mount Wells Regional Park

Mount Work Regional Park

Roche Cove Regional Park

Saint John Point Regional Park Reserve

Sea to Sea Regional Park

Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park as shown in Appendix 1

Sooke Potholes Regional Park

Sooke River Regional Park Reserve

Thetis Lake Regional Park

Witty's Lagoon Regional Park

**Capital Regional District  
List of Regional Parks that Require Dogs to be on Leash**

**SCHEDULE “C”**

*(Bylaw 4431)*

Ayum Creek Regional Park Reserve

Brooks Point Regional Park – in the area designated as the Environmental Protection Zone

E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector

Francis/King Regional Park – Elsie King Trail

Galloping Goose Regional Trail

Island View Beach Regional Park – Campground

Jordan River Regional Park – Campground

Lochside Regional Trail

Saint John Point Regional Park

Sea to Sea Regional Park

Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

Sooke Potholes Regional Park

**Capital Regional District Parks  
Appendix No. 1**

Appendix A is in PDF separate to Bylaw



Making a difference...together

## REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

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**SUBJECT**    **Large Carnivore Monitoring Project — East Sooke, Matheson Lake and Roche Cove Regional Parks**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

To introduce the Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks Large Carnivore Monitoring Pilot Project in East Sooke, Matheson Lake and Roche Cove regional parks, focusing on black bears, cougars and grey wolves.

### **BACKGROUND**

Information on the distribution and behavior of black bears (*Ursus americanus*), cougars (*Puma concolor*) and grey wolves (*Canis lupus*) in regional parks has been historically limited due to resource constraints and the challenges of tracking such elusive, wide-ranging species. The 2025 State of Natural Features Report identified key data gaps, including the inventory of wildlife habitat features such as black bear dens, which are essential for informed park planning and management.

Large carnivores are keystone species that play a critical role in ecosystem health by regulating prey populations and maintaining biodiversity. Their presence in regional parks underscores the ecological value of these areas and highlights opportunities to address visitor experience and human-wildlife coexistence.

In 2025, staff conducted track and sign surveys to inform the placement of 23 remote wildlife cameras in high-suitability habitats within three regional parks in off-trail locations. The objectives were to:

- Establish baseline data on carnivore presence and activity
- Identify seasonal habitat use and key wildlife features
- Inform park planning, management and conservation priorities

The project builds on CRD's collaboration with the University of Victoria and the Coexisting with Carnivores Alliance, which began in 2021 to monitor large wildlife in Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park. This collaborative project expands monitoring capacity and complements staff efforts to better understand wildlife presence, habitat features and interactions with recreation. This report summarizes data collected from January 3 to October 31, 2025. Staff continue to monitor carnivore activity at the existing camera sites across all three parks.

### **Preliminary Findings by Regional Park:**

- East Sooke Regional Park—five cameras detected 30 observations (24 bears, two cougars, four wolves)
- Matheson Lake Regional Park—three cameras detected 29 observations (six bears, 14 cougars, nine wolves)
- Roche Cove Regional Park—15 cameras detected 100 observations (73 bears, 20 cougars, seven wolves)

Preliminary Findings by Species:

- Black Bears—103 observations; active year-round, including daytime; frequent observations near popular trails
- Cougars—36 observations; less frequent observations but consistently present; travel corridors intersect with trails
- Grey Wolves—20 observations; least frequent observations but consistently present, use undisturbed park areas

The data confirms the presence of all three species in each park and highlights key habitat features critical for large carnivores. However, due to biases in camera placement, duration, and distribution across the parks, the results do not provide reliable insights into species abundance or spatial distribution.

Moving forward, staff will deploy 55 additional wildlife cameras in regional parks to support meaningful comparisons between parks and to draw stronger conclusions about carnivore habitat use and their response to recreational activity. Staff continue to pursue partnerships with First Nations, local governments, community groups, and academic institutions to strengthen long-term ecological monitoring. Insights from this study will directly inform management of the three parks, including education, signage and trail management. The study will also improve understanding of habitat suitability for large carnivores across the regional park system, guiding future park planning and strategies to protect habitat and mitigate human-wildlife conflict.

**IMPLICATIONS**

*Alignment with Existing Plans & Strategies*

This project addresses gaps identified within the State of Natural Features Report and responds to priority action 2-1c of the Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 to protect, restore, enhance and mitigate impacts to important habitat and sensitive ecosystems in regional parks by developing decision-making tools that are informed by research.

*Financial and Service Delivery Implications*

There are no immediate financial or service delivery impacts. Monitoring uses non-invasive, cost-effective measures supported by core funding and grants. Future partnerships may leverage additional resources.

*Climate Implications*

Climate change alters carnivore habitats and food availability, increasing the potential for human-wildlife conflict. Identifying and protecting key habitats supports the resilience of regional parks and mitigates potential impacts to visitor experience.

*Environmental Implications*

Monitoring confirms the ecological importance of regional parks, identifies areas that need enhanced conservation and guides future park planning and management.

*First Nations Implications*

Traditional ecological knowledge has not yet been incorporated. Staff continue to seek respectful and equitable opportunities for knowledge sharing.

*Social Implications*

Findings reveal overlap between carnivore habitat use and recreational trails, emphasizing the value of coexistence. Further research is essential to understand how these species respond to human presence and what levels of disturbance they tolerate. Staff currently mitigate potential human-wildlife conflict through park signage, public communications, interpretive programming, and ranger patrols to ensure park visitors secure food attractants, stay on trail and keep dogs on leash in designated areas. Insights from this study will inform future actions to ensure compatibility with conservation goals.

**CONCLUSION**

The large carnivore monitoring pilot project provides valuable data confirming the consistent presence of black bears, cougars, and grey wolves in East Sooke, Matheson Lake, and Roche Cove regional parks. These findings reinforce the need to integrate wildlife considerations into park planning and visitor management. Continued monitoring and collaboration will strengthen conservation efforts, support visitor experience, and enhance the resilience of regional parks in the face of climate change.

**RECOMMENDATION**

There is no recommendation. This report is for information only.

Submitted by:	Mike MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Melanie Alsdorf, Acting General Manager, Parks, Recreation and Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT**

Presentation: Regional Parks Large Carnivore Pilot Project

# Regional Parks Large Carnivore Pilot Project

Regional Parks Committee  
January 28 , 2026

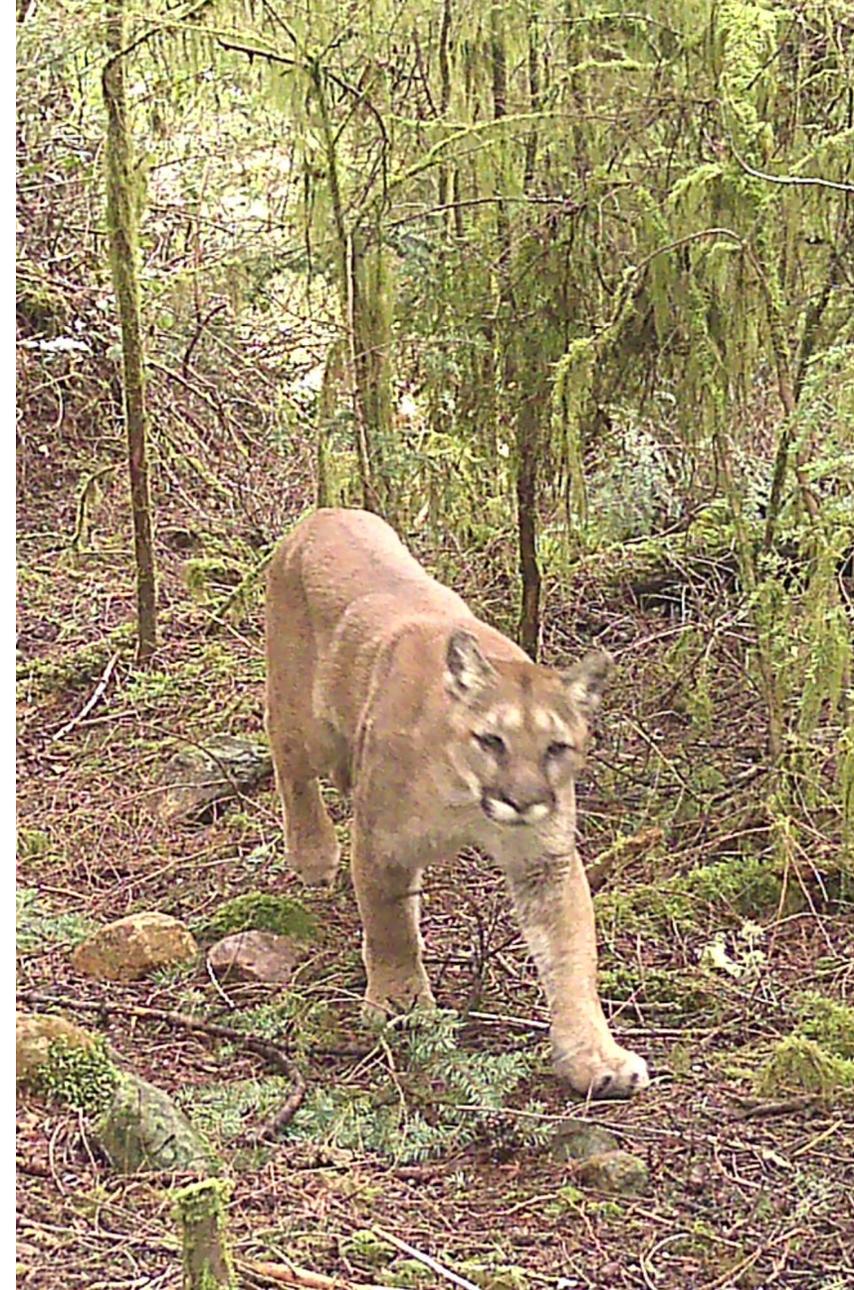
# Presentation Content

1. Background
2. Key Findings
3. Implications
4. Conclusion



# Background

- Large carnivores play a critical role in ecosystem health.
- The State of Natural Features Report identified a need to inventory wildlife habitat features in regional parks.
- The Regional Parks and Trails Strategic Plan 2022-2032 identifies Priority Action 2-1c: Protect, restore, enhance and mitigate impacts to important habitat and sensitive ecosystems in regional parks.
- Data on the presence of large carnivores (bears, cougars and wolves) and their habitat use is limited.



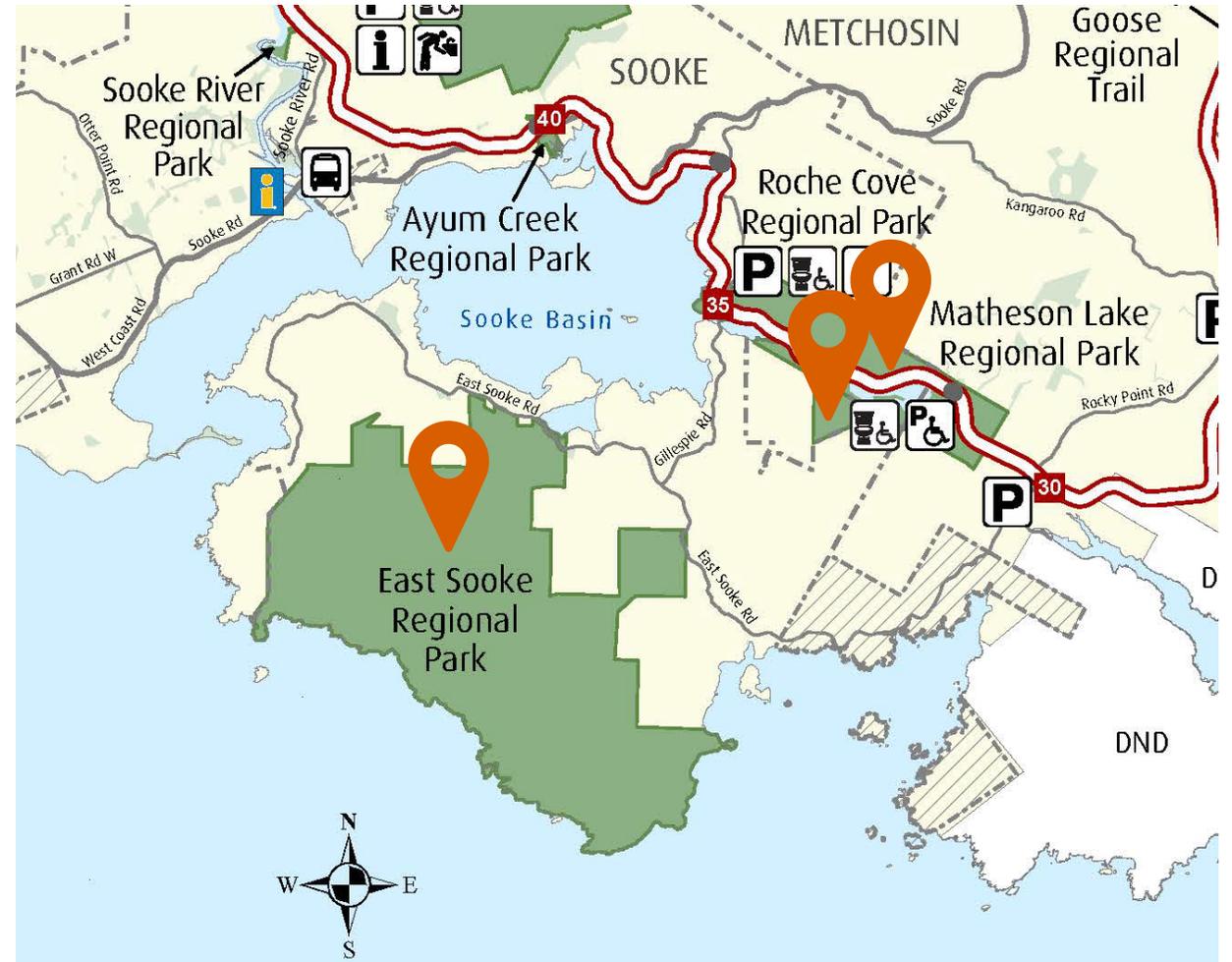


# Scope of Project

- Establish baseline data for large carnivore presence in three regional parks.
- Identify key wildlife habitat features and seasonal use.
- Inform park planning, management and future conservation priorities.

# Methodology

- Regional Parks selected:
  - East Sooke
  - Matheson Lake
  - Roche Cove
- Non-invasive survey methods:
  - Track and sign surveys
  - Community and staff observations
  - Wildlife cameras
- Intuitive, opportunistic sampling locations.



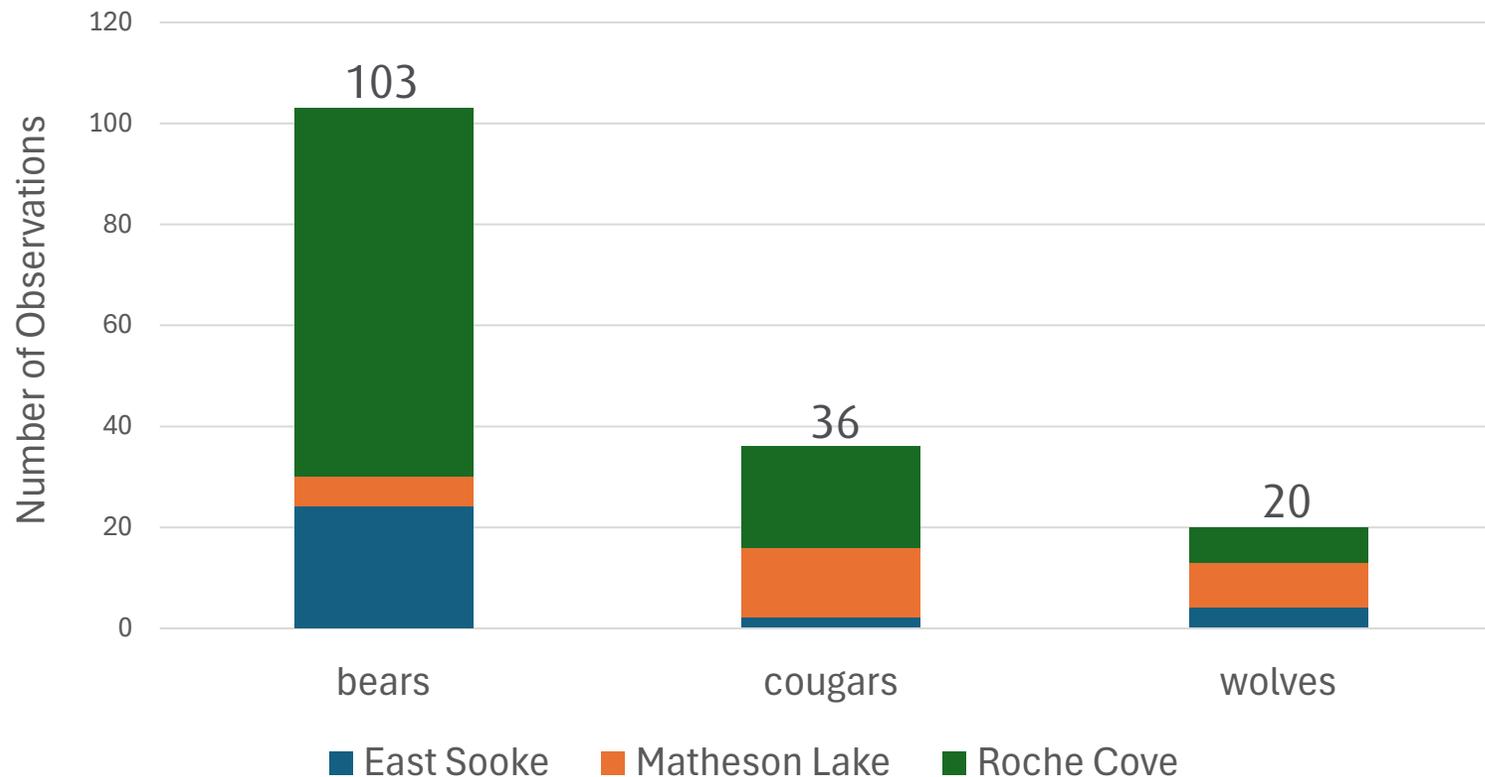
# Video – black bear



East Sooke  
Regional Park

# Key Findings

## Number of observations by species



These results are biased by:

- Number of cameras in each park.
- Duration of camera placement.
- Selection of camera location by staff.

# Key Findings

## Observations by species

	Black Bears	Cougars	Grey Wolves
Habitat Use	Relatively active year-round in forests and riparian habitat		
Overlap with recreation	High overlap with trails	Occasional overlap with trails	Little overlap with trails
Habitat Features Identified	5 bear dens observed	3 potential travel corridors observed	1 travel corridor observed



# Implications

## Environmental

This project:

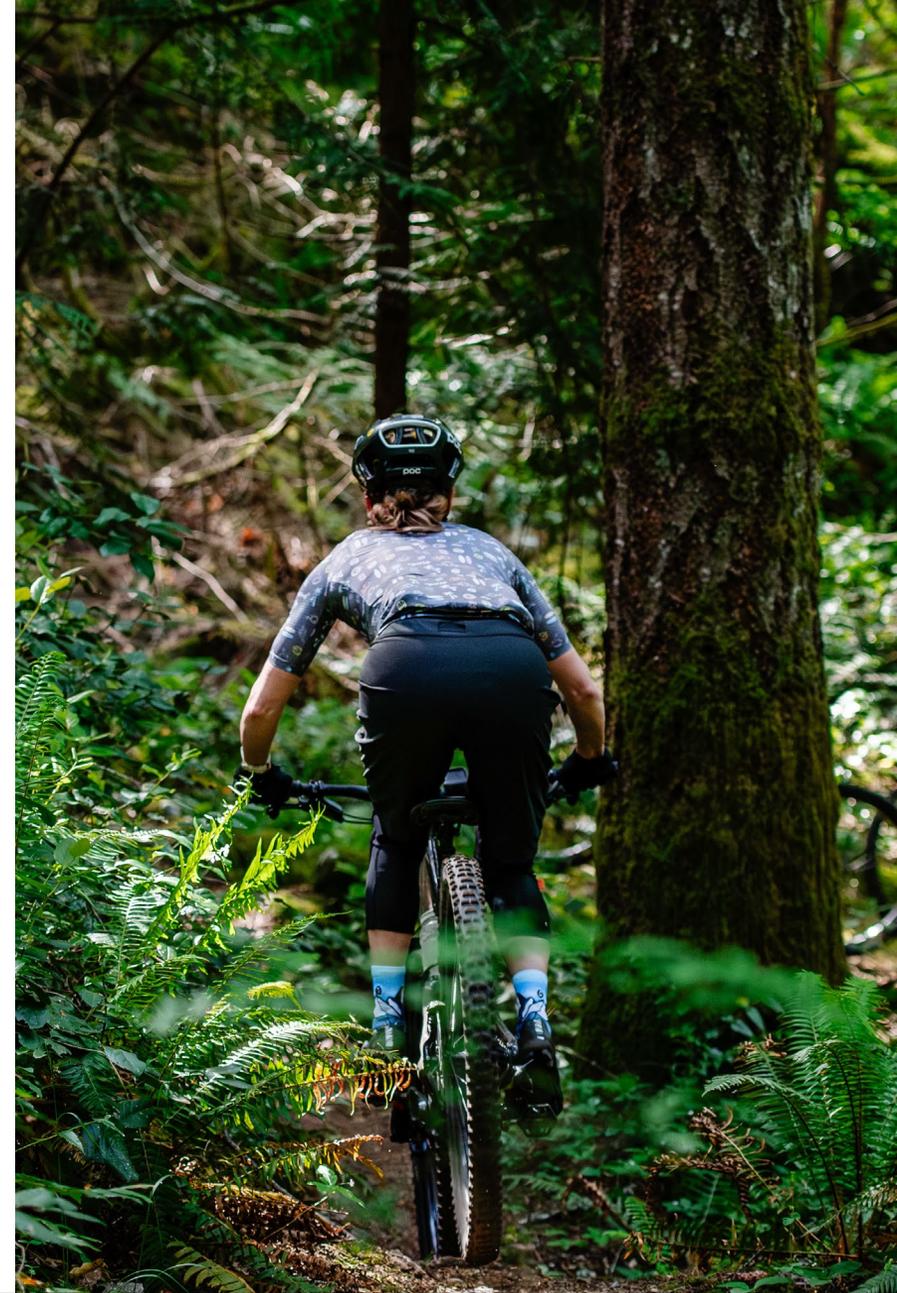
- Identifies important wildlife features within regional parks.
- Guides future regional park planning, management and conservation priorities.
- Builds on existing partnership with University of Victoria research group.
- Supports relationship building with community partners, academic affiliations, First Nations and other governmental organizations.



# Implications

## Social Considerations

- Findings reveal carnivore habitat overlap with recreational trails.
- Staff can mitigate potential human-wildlife conflict through park signage, public communications, interpretive programming and ranger patrols to ensure park visitors:
  - Secure food attractants
  - Stay on trail
  - Keep dogs on leash in designated areas



# Conclusion

- **Preliminary baseline data established:** The pilot project confirmed consistent presence of black bears, cougars, and coastal wolves in East Sooke, Matheson Lake, and Roche Cove regional parks and identified key wildlife features.
- **Planning implications:** Findings emphasize the importance of integrating wildlife considerations into park planning and visitor management, especially where habitats overlap with park trails.
- **Next steps:** Continue the monitoring program and collaboration with partners to strengthen conservation efforts, support biodiversity, and ensure compatibility with recreation use.



Mill Hill Regional Park



# Questions?



Capital Regional District



CRDVictoria



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## REPORT TO REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE MEETING OF WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2026

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**SUBJECT**     **Foodlands Access Service – Bear Hill Farm Pilot Project**

### **ISSUE SUMMARY**

To provide an update on implementation of the Capital Regional District (CRD) Foodlands Access Service (FAS) farm site pilot project at Bear Hill Regional Park and to seek final Board approval for use of the site.

### **BACKGROUND**

In July 2023, the CRD Board granted conditional approval to use a portion of Bear Hill Regional Park (Bear Hill) for a pilot farmer-incubator site under the FAS, following recommendation from the Regional Parks Committee. This conditional approval allowed staff to begin work on service establishment.

The CRD FAS was approved through Bylaw 4602 on February 12, 2025. Implementation of the new service is underway, including a farm site pilot project to explore the activation of under-utilized regional and municipal lands for food production.

The proposed pilot site is located in the eastern portion of Bear Hill Regional Park (5920 Patricia Bay Highway, see Appendix A). The site was identified for the following reasons:

- The site is designated Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and zoned as A1 Agricultural Lands by the District of Saanich.
- It has historically been used for farming, including more recently as a tree nursery under license agreement with the City of Victoria.
- The existing assets of deer fencing and water systems will save significant program costs.
- The site has limited park value due to challenging terrain and lack of trail connectivity and was acquired after completion of the Bear Hill Regional Park Management Plan.

The site has been fallow for approximately nine years, except for a small portion being used by the Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society (GOMPS) as a Garry Oak nursery. Staff are now seeking final Board approval for use of the property for the five-year farm site pilot project.

### **Implementation Update**

#### *Farm Site Operator*

Following a competitive process, staff selected a partnership between Haliburton Community Organic Farm Society and Lifecycles Project Society to operate the farm site pilot project.

Haliburton brings over 20 years of experience in farm incubation and agricultural land management, with a focus on supporting certified organic farm businesses, regenerative farming practices and biodiversity. LifeCycles has been a regional leader in food literacy and food security

since the 1990s, delivering urban agricultural programming, research, and food recovery initiatives across the capital region. Together, these partners provide complementary expertise in farm operations, farmer training, and community food systems.

### *Site Preparation*

Site preparation work has begun to prepare the land for future farmer access. This work was needed ahead of winter conditions to enable suitable conditions and access later in 2026. The focus of the work included:

- Safe removal of invasive species;
- Brush cutting and mowing;
- Tree and stump excavation and removal;
- Soil sampling and testing;
- Field remediation (subsoiling); and
- Removal and disposal of remnants from the City of Victoria tree nursery.

### *Garry Oak Meadow Preservation Society*

GOMPS is the sole current tenant on the site. Work is underway with GOMPS to integrate its operations on the site within the broader site plan. GOMPS provides a valuable service to the region in their work to support native species and to preserve Garry oak meadows in the region. It has been determined that GOMPS and the farm site pilot project will be able to coexist. A renewed lease under the structure of the Foodlands pilot project is anticipated.

### **Next Steps**

#### *Continued Site Preparation*

Work on site preparation will continue through the first half of 2026 with the focus on farm infrastructure build-out, including:

- Construction of dry storage;
- A walk-in cooler for produce storage;
- A wash and pack station;
- A greenhouse tunnel for seedling propagation; and
- Repairs to existing water systems.

This work is anticipated to enable farmers to access the site in summer 2026 to prepare for fall 2026 planting and a full 2027 growing season.

#### *Program Policy Development*

The Haliburton-LifeCycles partnership will lead development of key policies that will guide the operations of the pilot project. These policies will include:

- Site remediation and land stewardship;
- Farmer application and selection processes;
- Land agreements and tenancy responsibilities; and
- An operational management plan.

This work will provide the framework for future evaluation and inform potential future expansion of the Foodlands Access Service.

### *Agreements*

#### City of Victoria

Staff are working with the City of Victoria to mutually terminate the existing License of Use Agreement for the former tree nursery and to complete removal of remaining associated infrastructure and debris.

#### CRD Regional Parks

A license agreement is being developed for the site to define allowable uses and responsibility for the broader property including site access maintenance, utility management, and general property upkeep. The FAS is specifically seeking approval to use the existing house on the property to support farm operations. The house will require investment from the FAS to make it safe to utilize for farm operations. CRD Regional Parks will be removing the dilapidated barn on the property as identified in their 5-year capital plan.

## **ALTERNATIVES**

### *Alternative 1*

The Regional Parks Committee recommends to the Capital Regional District Board: That formal approval be granted for use of the eastern portion of the Bear Hill site (5920 Patricia Bay Highway) by the CRD Foodlands Access Service for a five-year pilot project to explore the activation of under-utilized regional and municipal properties as productive farmland.

### *Alternative 2*

That this report be referred back to staff for additional information based on Regional Parks Committee direction.

## **IMPLICATIONS**

### *Alignment with Board & Corporate Priorities*

CRD Corporate Plan initiative 8b-1 prioritized the establishment of a new Foodlands Access Service. With the service now established and implementation underway, this staff report is intended to formalize the use of the Parks property for the pilot project.

The Board previously expressed support for the establishment of a Foodlands Access Service, including the pilot project to explore the activation of surplus CRD owned land for farming use. Use of this site is an essential component of program delivery to fulfill the service goals as supported by the Board.

### *Financial Implications*

Regional Parks will provide the land, site access, and the house at no cost. The FAS will be fully responsible for ongoing operations, maintenance, and capital upgrades associated with the farm site.

Formal approval of use of the site will allow the program to continue with site preparation activities and shift into the capital investment phase of site development. Approval will allow the project to remain on schedule for project delivery, thus having no project financial implications. The 2026 capital budget is \$175,000 and is a one-time cost. The 2026 operating budget is \$125,000 and is projected to increase \$2,500 each year for the remaining four years.

*Regional Growth Strategy and Land Use Implications*

The use of the property for the pilot project supports implementation of Regional Growth Strategy objective 6.1, which is focused on fostering a resilient food and agriculture system. It strives to protect the region's food and farmlands, enhances local food security, expands food system economic opportunities, and provides opportunities to new and young farmers to gain access to productive agricultural lands. The site is designated Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) and zoned as A1 Agricultural Lands by the District of Saanich which allows for the intended use of the land in the pilot program.

*Service Delivery Implications*

Approval of use of the property for the pilot project is a core requirement of service delivery for the Foodlands Access Service. A delay in approval would have significant impacts on the project timeline as numerous capital projects need to be completed prior to farmers gaining access to the land later in 2026.

**CONCLUSION**

Implementation of the Foodlands Access Service is led by the farm site pilot project, tentatively located at Bear Hill Regional Park with work progressing as planned. The site's agricultural designation, historical farming use, and existing infrastructure make it well suited for this purpose, while its limited park use function minimizes impacts to regional parks objectives. Site preparation is underway, operator considerations have been made, and program and policy development is advancing. Formal Board approval of the use of this property will enable continued implementation of the pilot, support Regional Growth Strategy objectives related to food system resilience, and advance the corporate priority to establish the Foodlands Access Service.

**RECOMMENDATION**

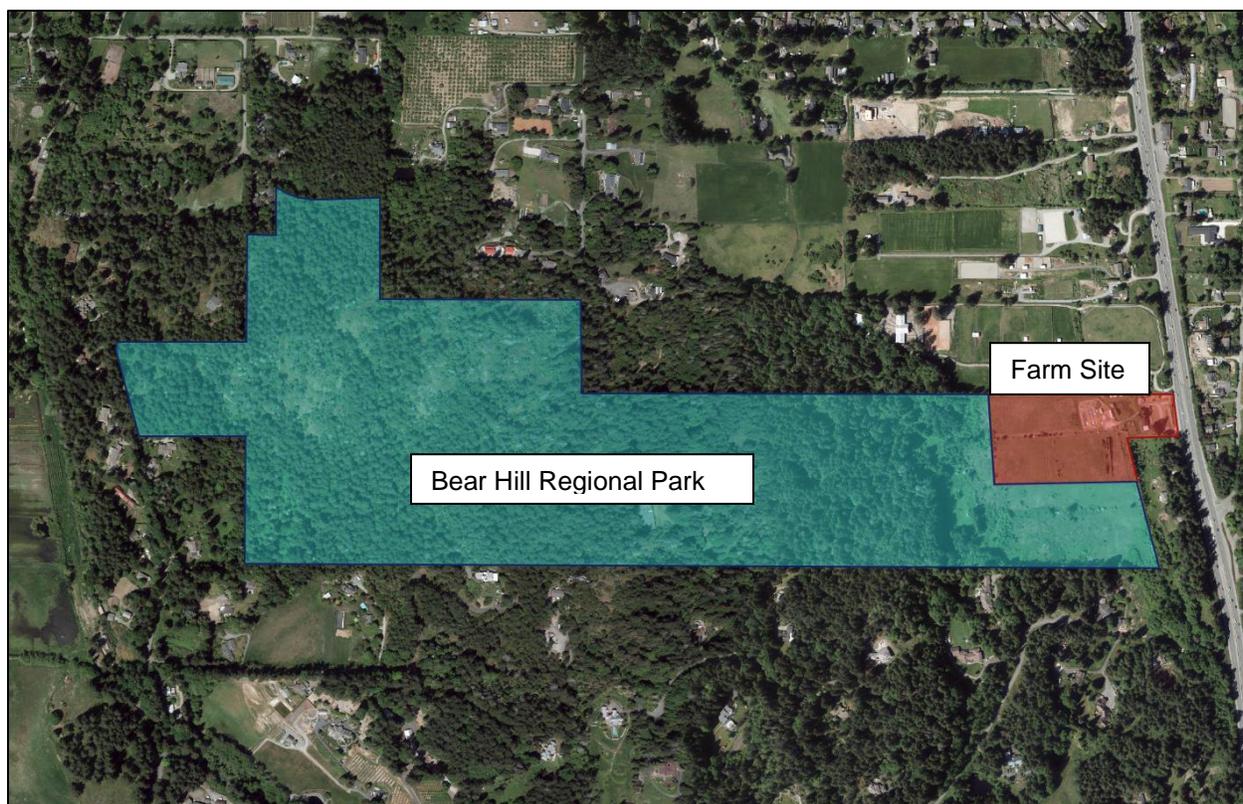
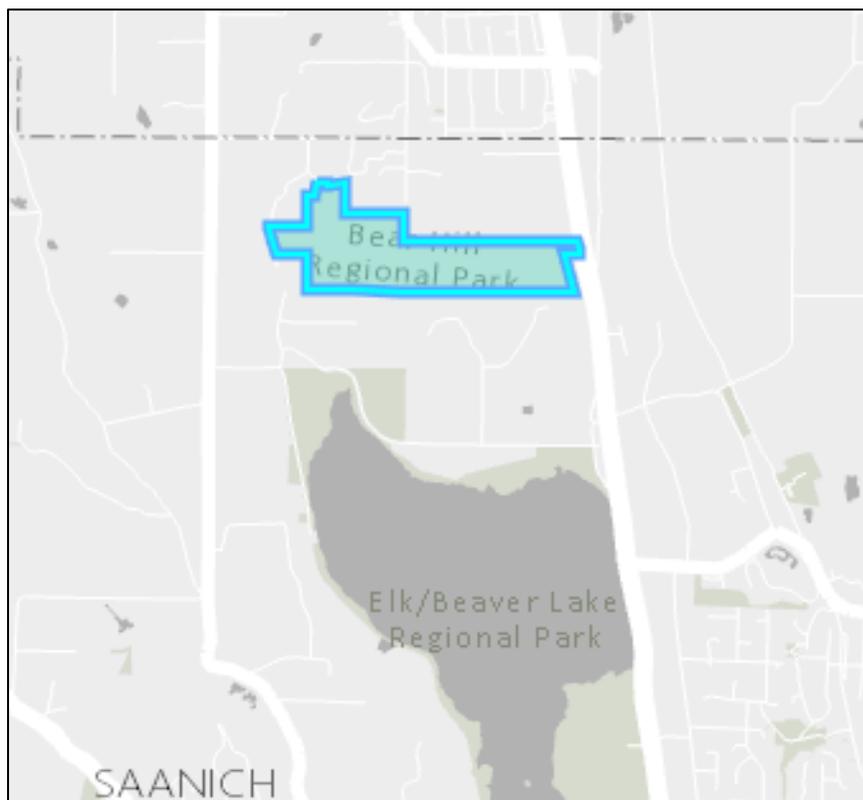
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Submitted by:	Patrick Klassen, MCIP, RPP, Senior Manager, Regional Planning & Transportation
Submitted by:	Mike MacIntyre, Senior Manager, Regional Parks
Concurrence:	Kevin Lorette, P. Eng., MBA, General Manager, Housing, Planning and Protective Services
Concurrence:	Luisa Jones, MBA, General Manager, Parks, Recreation & Environmental Services
Concurrence:	Ted Robbins, B. Sc., C. Tech., Chief Administrative Officer

**ATTACHMENT**

Appendix A: Foodlands Farm Pilot - Maps and Aerial Imagery

### Bear Hill Regional Park - Site Map



2025 Aerial Imagery of Current Site Conditions

