

# CLAYOQUOT ARM PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

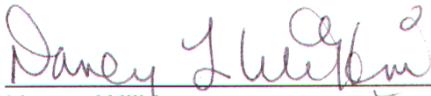
August 2003

Approved by:



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Dick Heath  
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Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: August 8/03



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Nancy Wilkin  
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Date: Jan. 21/04

## CLAYOQUOT ARM PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

### Primary Role

The **primary** role of Clayoquot Arm Park is to protect the natural values associated with the temperate rainforest on the west coast of Vancouver Island. The park encompasses part of the upper Clayoquot River, Clayoquot Lake, the lower Clayoquot River, numerous tributaries, part of the Clayoquot Arm portion of Kennedy Lake, forested slopes and lake foreshore. The park features old growth Sitka spruce and western redcedar forests, secluded sandy beaches, scenic waterfalls, uninhabited islets, excellent riparian habitat, and an entire river valley including the lake. These diverse landscapes support high biodiversity values and provide excellent habitat for a variety of fish, wildlife, bird, reptile, and amphibian species.

The salmon habitat and production values in the park are considered among the highest found anywhere in Clayoquot Sound. The park provides excellent sockeye salmon spawning, holding and rearing conditions in the Clayoquot River and along the shores of Clayoquot Arm. In fact, the sockeye that spawn on shore at Hatchery Beach, located at the upper end of Clayoquot Arm, account for the majority of sockeye spawning in the Kennedy Lake watershed. An unusual phenomenon occurs in Clayoquot Arm where sockeye salmon spawn 20 meters below the surface. Other fish species that utilize the park for spawning and/or rearing habitat include chinook, chum, coho, cutthroat trout, steelhead, Dolly Varden char, peamouth chub, prickly sculpin, river lamprey, and threespine stickleback.

Some wildlife and bird species of note that have been recorded in the park are gray wolf, cougar, river otter, marten, mule deer, bald eagle, great blue heron, western screech owl, northern pygmy owl, osprey, Barrow's goldeneye, harlequin duck, trumpeter swan, and marbled murrelet. Another unusual phenomenon in the park is the occurrence of harbour seals in Clayoquot Lake. The lower Kennedy River experiences a marine tidal influence which allows harbour seals and sea lions to enter Kennedy Lake and Clayoquot Lake, which are both brackish and offer salmon feeding opportunities.

### Secondary Role

The **secondary** role is to provide recreation opportunities in a pristine wilderness setting. Water-based activities include fishing, canoeing, kayaking, swimming, boating, and windsurfing. Shore-based activities include hiking, hunting, and nature appreciation. The park offers outstanding opportunities to observe wildlife in its natural habitat. Wilderness camping is popular along the scenic shoreline but no facilities are provided. Access to the park is by forest road or by water from boat launches at Clayoquot Arm bridge or the Kennedy River bridge.

### Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role is to protect cultural features. Clayoquot Sound has a vibrant First Nations heritage, both past and present. The area has been inhabited for thousands of years by the Nuu-chah-nulth First Nation peoples, and the park features several archaeological sites that show this connection to the land. In the 1900s, settlers came to the area and fishing and logging became viable industries. During the 1920s and 30s a fish cannery and hatchery located on the Clayoquot Arm was operated by the Canadian Department of Marine and Fisheries. These pre and post-contact heritage provide a cultural heritage appreciation opportunity for visitors.

## Quaternary Role

The **quaternary** role is to provide opportunities for biological research. Unique opportunities exist to study functioning ecosystems, old growth forests, and human disturbance on natural ecosystems. Research ranges from climatology to archaeology and ecology.

## Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Lack of knowledge of natural and cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Undertake inventories to improve information on natural values.</li> <li>➤ Conduct a cultural inventory and traditional use study in conjunction with First Nations.</li> </ul>
Impact of adjacent logging (harvesting upstream) and aircraft landing on lake on spawning salmon and other natural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with Ministry of Forests and forest companies to ensure the protection of park values and visual resources.</li> <li>➤ Work with charter companies to ensure that aircraft landings do not impact other park users, create shore erosion, and lead to unsafe situations.</li> </ul>
Access to park via logging roads	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with MOF and forest companies to ensure that roads are maintained for park access.</li> </ul>
Lack of knowledge of recreational use and its impact on the park (e.g. fire, overuse, large group use)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Implement Backcountry Recreation Impact Monitoring (BRIM) to understand level of use and potential impacts.</li> <li>➤ Develop recreation plan (for all Clayoquot Sound PAs) to develop a strategy for visitor facilities and public information on appropriate behaviours. Work with First Nations where appropriate.</li> </ul>
Research cabins in permit area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Continue to work with Clayoquot Biosphere Trust for support research in the park.</li> </ul>
Relationships with First Nations and pending treaty settlements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Develop good working relationships with First Nations to develop an understanding and appreciation of protected area status and park values.</li> <li>➤ Liaise with Central Region Board (CRB) to inform them of management issues in the park.</li> </ul>
Participation in Biosphere Reserve	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ Work with the Biosphere Foundation and CRB to ensure the Environmental Stewardship Division's perspective is taken into account in Biosphere activities and projects.</li> </ul>

## Zoning

**Wilderness Recreation Zone** – covers the entire park (3,490.6 hectares) to reflect the wilderness character of the park while providing for recreation opportunities. The objective of this zone is to protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide backcountry recreation opportunities depending on a pristine environment where air access may be permitted to designated sites. This zone is characterized by very low use with minimal facility development for user safety and convenience and the protection of the environment. Approved facilities include trails, primitive campsites and shelters. Hunting is allowed in this zone.

## Conservation

Representation - ecosection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clayoquot Arm Park makes a small contribution of 1.7% to the overall representation of the Windward Island Mountains Ecosection (WIM), which is a well-represented ecosection in the protected areas system at 17.4%.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Clayoquot Arm Park makes a small contribution of 1.4% to the representation of CWHvm1, which is under protected provincially at 7%.  Contributes minimally (0.46%) to the representation of CWHvm2, which is also under protected at 8.7%.  Contributes minimally (0.17%) to CWHvh1, which is well represented in the protected areas system at 19.3%.
Special Features	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Spawning salmon, lakeshore, estuary-like features, brackish lake, undisturbed forests. Year-round home for black bears including dens. Protects part of the largest lake system on Vancouver Island (Kennedy Lake and Clayoquot Arm).
Rare/Endangered Values	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Red-listed</i> marbled murrelet. <i>Blue-listed</i> great blue heron, trumpeter swan, Dolly Varden and cutthroat trout. <i>Yellowlisted species of conservation concern (S3-S4)</i> : chinook, coho, and sockeye salmon; river lamprey; osprey; bald eagle, river otter; Barrow's goldeneye; northern pygmy owl; western screech owl; and mule deer.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The Clayoquot Biosphere Trust (CBT) owns and operates a research cabin at Clayoquot Lake. Opportunities include but are not limited to ecosystem-level and species-level studies of undisturbed temperate rainforests and the impacts of logging on watersheds.

## Recreation

Representation backcountry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Wilderness water based recreation, wildlife viewing
destination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Water based recreation and wildlife viewing
travel corridor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
local recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Water based recreation
Special Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A number of commercial ecotourism companies in Tofino and Ucluelet offer bear watching tours to the park

Education/Interpretation Opportunities  High potential for education in association with the Clayoquot Biosphere

### Cultural Heritage

Representation  Long history of First Nation use – cultural, spiritual, and collection of forest and fishery resources

Special Feature  First Nations sites: culturally modified trees; canoe carving areas; fish weir; traditional campsites, hunting, gathering and salmon processing areas.  
Site of historic cannery and hatchery, and old miner prospecting trail.

### Other Management Considerations

Other Designations  Part of the Clayoquot Sound Biosphere Reserve

Relationship to other PAs  Part of a system of protected areas in Clayoquot Sound

Co-operative Management Arrangements  Part of the Interim Management Agreement Extension with the Central Region Board

Partnerships  Not Applicable

Vulnerability  Adjacent logging, inappropriate recreational use, wildfire, lack of knowledge of values, lack of awareness

Relationship to other Strategies  Interim Measures Extension Agreement. Identified for protection in the 1993 Clayoquot Sound Land Use Decision.

**Area:** 3,490.6 hectares

**Date of establishment:** July 12, 1995

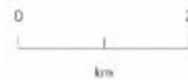
# Zoning Map - Clayoquot Arm Provincial Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



 Wilderness Recreation  
 Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Apr 2003 for  
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Support Services

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