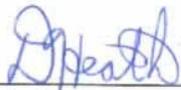


RUGGED POINT MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:



Dick Heath
Regional Manager
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 25/03



Nancy Wilkin
Assistant Deputy Minister
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Mar. 31/03

RUGGED POINT MARINE PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Rugged Point Marine Park is to provide a remote marine recreation experience in the Kyuquot Sound area off the west coast of Vancouver Island. This remote wilderness area offers magnificent scenery, a challenging hiking trail and preserves one of the most beautiful stretches of shoreline on the entire west coast. Kayaking, wilderness camping, picnicking, swimming and fishing are added attractions of the park and the surrounding area. Facilities include a pit toilet, boardwalk, picnic shelter, food cache, and information shelter. The park has three conditional anchorages on the north side, and if weather conditions are not ideal boaters can anchor in nearby Dixie Cove Marine Park, and visit Rugged Point as a day trip. It serves as a stopping point for those people who are exploring the west side of Vancouver Island by boat.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role is to protect the natural values associated with the temperate rainforest on the west coast of Vancouver Island. Much of this type of forest has been developed through forestry and is no longer in its natural state. By protecting the coastal fringe, the park protects an intact old growth forest of Sitka spruce and Douglas-fir, and coastal habitat for wildlife such as black bears, deer, cougars, sea otters, marbled murrelets, migrant gray whales, diving ducks, shorebirds, and bald eagles.

Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Impacts of adjacent logging, user developed camping sites, bear/human conflict, off-road vehicle access, commercial harvesting on the scenic and natural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Implement BRIM to assess recreation use impacts. ➤ Develop a bear/human conflict plan. ➤ Implement recommendations from danger tree assessment (i.e. relocate camping sites). ➤ Work with DFO to ensure harvesting does not interfere with protection of marine species, especially sea otters. ➤ Review forest development plans to assess their impact on park values. ➤ Supply public information at logging camps and local communities on the impact of off-road vehicles on park values, and discourage trail formation. ➤ Maintain presence of park staff.
Lack of detailed knowledge of natural and cultural values	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Inventory ecological values to confirm wildlife species in the park. ➤ Undertake a cultural inventory and traditional use study in conjunction with First Nations.
First Nation relations	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Develop good working relationships with First Nations to gain an understanding and appreciation of protected area status and park values.

Zoning

Natural Environment Zone – covers the entire park (349 hectares) in recognition of the natural and recreational values. The objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.

Conservation

Representation - ecosection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rugged Point Marine Park contributes very minimally (0.07%) to the representation of the Windward Island Mountains Ecosection (WIM), which is well represented in the protected areas system at 17.4%
		It makes a minimal contribution (0.17%) to the representation of the Vancouver Island Shelf <i>Marine</i> Ecosection (VIS), which is under represented at 5.4%
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Minimal contribution (0.17%) to the representation of CWHvh1, which is well represented at 19.3%
Special Features	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Old growth Sitka spruce, gray whale and sea otter habitat
Rare/Endangered Values	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<i>Red-listed</i> marbled murrelet and sea otter. <i>Blue-listed</i> gray whale. COSEWIC-listed threatened northern abalone.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Rare species, coastal old growth fringe habitats

Recreation

Representation backcountry destination	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Conditional anchorages; beach camping; fishing; kayaking
travel corridor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kayaking/ boating route; popular mooring for outside waters
local recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Sports fishing
Special Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	None known at this time
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Natural values

Cultural Heritage

Representation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Values Unknown
Special Feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Burial site

Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
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Relationship to other PAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part of a system of marine protected areas on the outside coast of Vancouver Island
Co-operative Management Arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
Partnerships	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
Vulnerability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Risks include oil spills, adjacent logging, commercial harvesting, blowdown, bear/human conflicts, user developed camping sites, and off road vehicle access.
Relationship to other Strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marine Protected Areas Strategy

Area: 349 hectares (162 ha upland, 187 ha foreshore)

Date of establishment: August 10, 1989

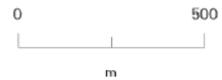
Zoning Map - Rugged Point Marine Park



Projection: Albers Equal Areas
Datum: NAD83



 Natural Environment
 Protected Area Boundary



Produced in Mar 2003 for
Ministry of Water, Land and Air
Protection by MSRM, Decision
Support Services

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