

BUCCANEER BAY PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:



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Date: Mar. 23/03

Buccaneer Bay Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary role** of Buccaneer Bay Provincial Park is to provide a day-use and camping opportunity for boaters and kayakers in a popular regional boating area. Although the park's small size limits its scope, the unique setting and the exceptional beach make it a high-value recreational experience.

Secondary Role

The **secondary role** is to present a unique feature of coastal sand dunes and cliffs and its associated ecosystem. North Thormanby Island is one of a small chain of islands that are sand-based rather than bedrock. The park is too small to provide adequate protection, but the park provides an opportunity to present this feature to the public for appreciation and understanding. None of the other islands have protected status, giving additional importance to this small piece of land at Buccaneer Bay.

Known Management Issues	Response
Due to its small size, and the relatively heavy use and impacts, this park is not able to fulfill a viable conservation role for this unique site.	Manage the site to retain its natural characteristics as much as possible.
Invasion of non-native plant species, particularly scotch broom, is difficult to control	A broom removal program was initiated in 2000, but lapsed in 2002. There is a need to continue this program if the broom is to be kept in check.
Due to its small size, the park's capacity may be exceeded at peak times, affecting the quality of the visitor experience.	Ensure facility development and active promotion remains limited to help control numbers of users.

Zoning

The entire park is zoned Natural Environment – This zone provides for limited visitor facilities, such as camping and toilets, while maintaining the area in its natural state.

Conservation

- Representation
- ecosection Negligible contribution to the under-represented Strait of Georgia Ecosection, of which 5.35% is protected in the province.
 - biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Negligible contribution to the very poorly represented CDFmm of which only 2.43% is protected.
- Special Feature Coastal sand features.
- Rare/Endangered Values None known, however the uniqueness of this site may reveal rare values.
- Scientific/Research Opportunities Site is too small.

Recreation

- Representation
- backcountry
 - destination
 - travel corridor An important day-use stop for coastal boaters.
 - local recreation Popular local day-use destination.
- Special Opportunities
- Education/Interpretation Opportunities Opportunity to explain the uniqueness of the coastal sand dune ecology.

Cultural Heritage

- Representation Historical shellfish harvesting activities.
- Special Feature

Other Management Considerations

- Other Designations
- Relationship to other PAs Part of a marine circuit.
- Co-operative Management Arrangements
- Partnerships
- Vulnerability
- Relationship to other Strategies

Area: 1 hectare

Date of Establishment: August 10, 1989