

# STAMP RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

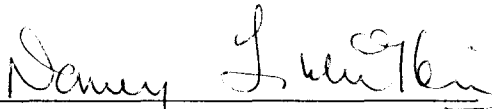
February 2003

Approved by:



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Dick Heath  
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Date: Feb. 8/03



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Nancy Wilkin  
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Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Feb. 24/03

## STAMP RIVER PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

### Primary Role

The **primary** role of Stamp River Park is to support a provincially significant fishing opportunity in the Port Alberni Valley. Set in the popular destination area of the mid-island of Vancouver Island, it provides opportunities for fishing, camping, swimming, walking, picnicking, salmon viewing, and nature appreciation. Facilities include 23 campsites, two picnic sites, and three kilometres of walking trails which provide views of waterfalls, river rapids and the lush forest.

### Secondary Role

The **secondary** role is to protect fish habitat. The park has spawning, holding and rearing areas for summer run steelhead, which is one of only 36 existing populations on Vancouver Island. It is a major holding and spawning area for chinook salmon and coho salmon and supports populations of rainbow trout, winter steelhead, cutthroat trout and sockeye salmon.

### Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role is to protect the natural environment. Given the level of modification of the natural environment in this part of Vancouver Island, even smaller parks like Stamp River Park can contribute to the protection of the natural environment. Stamp River Park protects the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) xm2 biogeoclimatic variant, which is under-represented in the provincial protected areas system at 4.1%. This variant is primarily located on the east side of Vancouver Island and has been highly modified. As not much of this variant remains intact on Vancouver Island, any protected area that contributes to its protection may be considered important. The park also protects a significant riverine environment on Vancouver Island.

### Management Issues

Known Management Issue	Response
Access to Money's Pool is across private land, which may be developed in a few years	➤ Develop trail access to Money's Pool to avoid trespassing on Lot 10.
Lack of knowledge of natural and cultural values	➤ Undertake natural values and cultural inventory of park. Consult with First Nations on the cultural inventory.
Quality of fishing experience and the protection of fish stocks	➤ Liaise with DFO on the status of fish populations. ➤ Monitor visitors' satisfaction with fishing experience.

## **Zoning**

Intensive Recreation Zone - covers the campsite and day use facilities. The objective of this zone is to provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.

Special Feature Zone - covers the river area given the fish values. The objective of this zone is to protect and present significant natural or cultural features, resources, or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values.

Natural Environment Zone – covers the rest of the park in recognition of the natural and recreational features. 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"/>	Contributes minimally to the representation of the Leeward Island Mountains Ecosection which is well-represented in the protected areas system at 16%. Stamp River Park contributes only 0.17% to the overall representation of this ecosection.
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Contributes to the representation of CWHxm2 which is under-represented in the protected areas system (4.1%). Stamp River Park contributes 1.32% to the overall representation of CWHxm2.
Special Feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Old growth Douglas fir; high diversity of fish species; winter range habitat for Columbia black-tailed deer.
Rare/Endangered Values	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Highest numbers of summer steelhead on Vancouver Island, scarce summer steelhead spawning and holding areas; critical fish habitat for chinook salmon; coho spawning. Provincially significant blue-listed vascular plant Howell's violet.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fish biology

### Recreation

Representation backcountry destination	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	It is one of the most heavily fished steelhead rivers on Vancouver Island
travel corridor	<input type="checkbox"/>	Not Applicable
local recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional day use and destination use
Special Opportunities	<input type="checkbox"/>	None known at this time
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fish viewing

### Cultural Heritage

Representation	<input type="checkbox"/>	Values unknown
Special Feature	<input type="checkbox"/>	None known at this time

### 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 protected areas in a popular destination area (includes Rath Trevor Beach, Little Qualicum Falls, Horne Lake Caves) |
| Co-operative Management Arrangements | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Not Applicable  |
| Partnerships                         | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Possible partnership with DFO   |
| Vulnerability                        | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | Fish populations may be vulnerable to fishing pressures and water quality issues. Small size limits ability to protect CWHxm2.          |
| Relationship to other Strategies     | <input type="checkbox"/>            | Not Applicable  |

**Area:** 327 hectares

**Date of establishment:** December 20, 1940

