Regional District of Nanaimo

# PARKS AND TRAILS CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM UPDATE

## DRAFT - March 2026

**Issuance**

May 2025 - Preliminary Draft

March 2026 - Final Draft

April 14, 2026 - Revised Final Draft





# TABLE OF CONTENTS


**1. Introduction . . . . . 1**

**2. Classifications . . . . . 3**

2.1 Regional Classification System . . . . . 7

2.2 Community (Electoral Area) Classification System . . . . . 19

**3. Implementation and Application of the Updated Parks, Trails and Conservation Areas Classification System. . 31**

**4. Appendices. . . . . 33**

Appendix A: Classification of the Existing Regional System . . . . . 34

Appendix B: Classification of the Existing Community System . . . . . 35

Appendix C: Parks and Trails Guidelines (2014) . . . . . .57

# 1. INTRODUCTION



The Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) manages an integrated Parks, Trails and Conservation Areas system that delivers ecological protection, recreation, and connectivity across the region. These lands support outdoor and nature-based active living, enhance regional identity and livability, and play a key role in natural asset management through the protection of wetlands, forests, waterways, and other ecosystems that contribute to clean water, carbon storage, climate resilience, and wildlife habitat.

The RDN Parks and Trails Strategy (2022) establishes the long-term vision, goals, and actions for both the Regional and Community Parks and Trails system, including a high-level classification framework. Building on this foundation, the RDN identified the need for a more detailed and robust classification structure to guide planning and management decisions across the full range of lands it manages.

This project fulfills Action 3.2 of the 2022 Parks and Trails Strategy and advances RDN Board goals for sustainability, conservation, and consistent service delivery. Updating the classification system ensures that future decisions about investment, infrastructure, access, conservation, and operations are grounded in a clear and consistent policy framework.

A modernized classification system provides guidance and clarity in areas such as:

- Levels of access and service appropriate to each land type
- Intended uses, experiences, and recreation functions
- Protection of ecological and cultural values, including sensitive habitats and places of cultural importance
- Amenity and infrastructure development scaled to site purpose and context
- Connections with ecological networks and community infrastructure (e.g., active transportation, access sites, and regional access functions)

## THE VISION FOR REGIONAL AND COMMUNITY PARKS (from the RDN's Parks and Trails Strategy)

Regional and community parks and trails in the RDN provide welcoming and diverse opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to recreate and connect with nature and each other.

Through strong local partnerships and collaboration with First Nations, natural areas are recognized for their cultural importance and preserved for ecosystem conservation and climate change mitigation. Regional and community parks and trails in the RDN support the health and wellbeing of all residents in the region.

The classification system presented in this document is built on three primary foundations:

- Values and direction from the RDN's Parks and Trails Strategy, including its vision and goals.
- Best practice guidance from leading organizations, including principles from the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), Trans Canada Trail's national guidelines for multi-use trail classification, and other planning and stewardship resources.
- A comprehensive review of the RDN's current land inventory and system context, including ecological characteristics, recreational functions, operational considerations, and community needs.

The classification framework was developed collaboratively with RDN parks staff across management, planning, and operational roles. The resulting Regional and Community classifications reflect this cross-departmental expertise and shared understanding.

# 2. CLASSIFICATIONS



The RDN manages two distinct yet complementary Parks, Trails, and Conservation Areas systems: the Regional system, which serves region-wide recreation, connectivity, and conservation objectives, and the Community system, which serves local and electoral-area-scale needs

| Category | Purpose | Funding |
|---|---|---|
| Regional Parks, Trails and Conservation Areas System | Serve region-wide needs by protecting natural or cultural features, supporting ecological connectivity, and providing destination-level recreation opportunities | Funded by all RDN ratepayers through a region-wide property tax and managed at the regional level. |
| Community Parks, Trails and Conservation Areas System | Serve community- and electoral-area-scale needs by providing recreation, gathering areas, nature access, and community-scale conservation benefits. | Funded by residents of each electoral area through area-specific property taxes and managed at the electoral-area level. |

Within each system, lands are classified based on primary purpose, physical form, and long-term management intent. Classifications are used to guide planning, service levels, amenity development, access expectations, and stewardship over time.

Although the two systems are managed and funded separately, some overlap in features and patterns of use is expected. In practice, this means that Community Parks, Trails, and Conservation Areas may support regional-level use, while Regional lands may also support more localized roles

Within each system, parks, trails, and conservation areas are assigned to classification types that describe their primary purpose, intended experience, management requirements, and level of service. Together, these classifications guide future acquisition, access, amenities, planning expectations, and operational approaches across the Regional and Community systems. This clarity supports consistent decision-making over time as the Regional and Community systems evolve to meet changing community and conservation needs.

## BALANCING RECREATION AND PROTECTION

Across the RDN's Regional and Community systems, many areas vary in ecological sensitivity, cultural value, or suitability for recreation. To manage these differences, the RDN applies internal management zoning through park or trail management plans (or management statements).

Zoning identifies where low-impact, nature-based recreation is appropriate, where it should be limited, and where no public access is required to protect sensitive ecosystems or cultural resources.

This approach is applied across various Regional and Community classifications where additional protection or access management is needed. Through this framework, recreation is supported where compatible with site conditions, while sensitive areas receive the protection they require.

# Overview of the Updated Classification System

Within each system, lands are classified based on primary purpose, physical form, and long-term management intent. Classifications guide planning, service levels, amenity development, access expectations, and stewardship over time.

While parks and trails are classified within either the Regional or Community (Electoral Area) system based on primary purpose and management intent, some Community Parks and Trails may also serve a regional role, such as supporting continuity within a regional recreation or trail network. Identifying a regional role does not change classification; rather, it informs coordination, design, wayfinding, and funding decisions.

Some classifications include subclasses that provide detail on variations in function, scale, or experience. Subclasses clarify differences in or user experience within a broader class but do not replace the class itself.

## HOW TRAILS ARE DEFINED IN THIS SYSTEM

Within this classification system, Trails are physically separated linear corridors designed and managed independently of the travelled roadway. Facilities located within the active roadway — such as signed routes, widened or shared-use shoulders, or other roadway-based accommodations — are not classified as Trails, even where they support walking or cycling or form part of a longer route.

The tables that follow present the updated classification framework for the Regional and Community systems. Full class and subclass descriptions, including purpose, characteristics, and management direction, are provided in Sections 2.1 (Regional) and 2.2 (Community).

| REGIONAL SYSTEM<br>Classification (and subclass) | Primary Purpose |
|---|---|
| Conservation Area | Protect sensitive natural and cultural features and preserve ecological integrity at the regional scale; public access is controlled or limited where appropriate. |
| Parks<br>- Recreation Park<br>- Nature Park<br>- Wilderness Area | Provide region serving nature based recreation while protecting ecological and scenic values across a range of park settings. |
| Parkland Holding | Hold land for future regional park, trail, or conservation use; interim activity is minimal and stewardship focused until planning is complete. |
| Recreation Access Site | Provide managed public access to outdoor recreation destinations located beyond the Regional Parks System (e.g., trailheads, shoreline access points). These sites serve regional scale demand and function as access points rather than destinations |
| Trails<br>- Multiway<br>- Recreational Trail<br>- Connector Trail<br>- Special Designation Trail | Provide regionally significant trail connectivity between communities and regional destinations; trail type, surfacing, and level of service vary by sub class. |

| COMMUNITY (ELECTORAL AREA) SYSTEM | |
|---|---|
| **Classification (and subclass)** | **Primary Purpose** |
| Conservation Area | Protect ecologically or culturally significant landscapes at the community scale; stewardship is prioritized and public access may be restricted or limited. |
| Natural Area | Maintain natural or naturalized greenspace that supports habitat, landscape continuity, and environmental benefits, with only low impact or incidental public use. |
| Parks<br>- Community Park<br>- Nature Park<br>- Neighbourhood Park | Provide recreation and social connection spaces for the electoral area, with amenities scaled to catchment and context. |
| Parkland Holding | Hold land for future community park, trail, or conservation use; interim activity is minimal and stewardship focused until planning is complete. |
| Recreation Access Site | Provide managed public access to outdoor recreation destinations located beyond the Community Parks System; these sites serve community or electoral area scale demand and function as access points rather than destinations. |
| Trails<br>- Multiway<br>- Recreational Trail<br>- Connector Path<br>- Special Designation Trail | Provide connectivity within neighbourhoods and across electoral areas, supporting walking, cycling, and other non motorized recreation; trail type, surfacing, and service levels vary by sub class. |

# 2.1 REGIONAL SYSTEM CLASSIFICATIONS



The Regional System provides region-wide Conservation Areas, diverse Park settings, managed Recreation Access Areas, and physically separated trail facilities that support regional connectivity.

This section introduces each Regional class and subclass and describes their purpose, characteristics, intended roles and management direction. While these profiles define system-level intent, site-specific access, uses, and facilities are determined through management plans and site-level zoning.

This section builds on the overall system context, shared principles, and classification framework established in Sections 1 and 2.

# Conservation Area

Conservation Areas are lands designated to protect ecologically sensitive and regionally significant ecosystems, habitats, and large natural landscapes. These areas play a critical role in supporting biodiversity, species at risk, and ecological connectivity across the region. Ecological protection is the primary purpose, and public access is managed, restricted, or prohibited depending on site sensitivity.

Where visitation is appropriate, use is passive and low-impact, focused on nature appreciation, education, or stewardship, and only in locations where ecological assessments confirm that habitat values will not be compromised.

Infrastructure is minimal and conservation-focused, with any parking or access features located outside sensitive areas and designed to avoid or mitigate ecological disturbance.

These lands require durable long-term protection tools, such as conservation covenants or management agreements, and are guided by management plans or statements informed by ecological inventories and habitat assessments. Ongoing monitoring and stewardship help maintain ecological integrity and address emerging stressors.

**Conservation Area – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Protect ecologically sensitive and regionally significant natural systems, prioritizing ecological integrity and habitat connectivity over public access. |
| **Management Intent** | Maintain and restore ecosystem function through durable protection tools (e.g., covenants/agreements), targeted restoration, invasive-species control, and controlled or restricted public access where warranted. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Medium-to-large sites with very high ecological value (e.g., estuaries, riparian corridors, wetlands, old growth, species-at-risk habitat, landscape-scale natural areas). |
| **Recreational Use** | Passive, low-impact use only where ecological assessments confirm negligible impact; some sites may have no public access. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Access is managed, controlled, or restricted. Infrastructure remains minimal and conservation-focused (e.g., limited trails, discreet wayfinding/monitoring installations); any parking or access features are sited outside sensitive areas and designed to avoid/mitigate disturbance. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | Very high sensitivity; only actions that support protection, restoration, monitoring, or safety are appropriate. |
| **Planning Needs** | Management plan guided by ecological inventories and habitat assessments, supported by durable, long-term protection tools (e.g., covenants/agreements). Internal zoning identifies where recreation is appropriate and where access may be limited or prohibited. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Ongoing monitoring and adaptive stewardship to maintain ecological integrity and respond to emerging stressors (e.g., climate change, invasive species, visitor impacts). |
| **Examples within the current system** | Coats Marsh RP, Nanaimo River RP, Englishman River RPCA, Hamilton Marsh RPCA |

# Parks

Regional Parks provide region-wide, nature-based recreation opportunities in settings that also conserve important ecological and scenic values. These parks vary widely in size and character, from rugged backcountry areas to scenic waterfront destinations, and contribute to regional ecological health, climate resilience, and the overall quality of life for residents and visitors.

Management focuses on balancing public enjoyment with the protection of natural and cultural values, ensuring that recreation occurs in ways that respect and protect the natural systems that define each site.

In addition to supporting diverse recreation experiences, Regional Parks help maintain connected natural landscapes and contribute to biodiversity conservation, while accommodating region-wide visitation. Infrastructure and planning are scaled to landscape context, ecological sensitivity, intended experience, and long-term management needs.

Management approaches and investment levels differ by subclass, with infrastructure and planning scaled to landscape context, ecological values, intended visitor experience, and long-term stewardship goals.

## Subclasses:

- **Recreation Park:** Provide high-use, nature-based recreation in regionally significant settings. These parks support a wide range of activities with developed amenities and infrastructure, while maintaining scenic and ecological values. Management focuses on accommodating regional-level visitation through thoughtful facility placement, visitor management, and environmental protection.
- **Nature Park:** Offer low-impact recreation in predominantly natural settings that emphasize ecological protection. These parks provide opportunities for walking, nature appreciation, and scenic viewing, supported by modest, carefully sited amenities. Management prioritizes conservation and stewardship while providing region-wide access to natural environments.
- **Wilderness Area:** Encompass large, undeveloped natural landscapes that protect remote character, ecological connectivity, and high scenic value. Recreation is self-reliant and low-impact, supported by minimal infrastructure and controlled access. Management emphasizes preserving wilderness conditions and ecological integrity while providing regionally significant backcountry experiences.

Park – Classification Criteria

| Category | Recreation Park | Nature Park | Wilderness Area |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Provide diverse, nature-based recreational experiences supported by developed amenities and active visitor management, while mitigating ecological and cultural impacts. | Provide low-impact, nature-based recreation and nature-appreciation opportunities in settings that maintain with modest amenities that reinforce conservation goals. | Preserve remote character and ecological connectivity while supporting self-reliant, low-impact recreation. |
| **Management Intent** | Accommodate higher levels of use with well-developed infrastructure, visitor capacity management, and mitigation measures that protect ecological and scenic values. | Support low-impact access with modest, carefully sited amenities; conservation and compatibility of use are primary drivers of design and operations. | Preserve wilderness conditions and ecological integrity; maintain controlled access and minimal facilities, with management focused on remoteness, safety, and environmental protection. |

**Park – Classification Criteria continued.**

| Category | Recreation Park | Nature Park | Wilderness Area |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Site Characteristics** | Natural settings with strong recreation potential (e.g., lakes, beaches, waterfronts); variable size and a mix of natural and developed areas. | Natural landscapes (e.g., forests, riparian areas, meadows) offering nature-appreciation and low-impact trail experiences.. | Expansive natural landscapes with ecological continuity, remote setting, solitude, and minimal infrastructure or built features. |
| **Recreational Use** | Multi-activity, nature-based recreation (e.g., hiking, cycling, swimming, paddling, picnicking, group use); camping where appropriate. | Low-impact, nature-based recreation (e.g. hiking, birdwatching, scenic viewing); cycling/equestrian use where design and conditions allow. | Self-reliant activities (e.g. hiking, backcountry-style trail running, occasional climbing or scrambling); minimal facility-dependent use. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | High: multi use trails, picnic areas/ shelters, designated swim/beach facilities, shoreline access/boat launches, group use/event spaces, campgrounds, extensive wayfinding. | Moderate: parking, toilets, trails/ bridges, viewpoints, signage/ wayfinding. | Controlled access; minimal infrastructure limited to essential trailheads, primitive trails, and limited signage to protect wilderness conditions and safety. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | Moderate – High: design/siting mitigate ecological and cultural impacts; visitor capacity actively managed. | Moderate: development only where aligned with conservation goals; careful siting; infrastructure supports low-impact use. | Very high sensitivity to disturbance; development restricted to essential access or ecological/safety protection; wilderness values prioritized. |
| **Planning Needs** | Management plan addressing infrastructure siting, visitor capacity management, ecological protection, and monitoring; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. | Management plan or design guidance to maintain natural character while accommodating low-impact access; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. | Wilderness-focused plan defining access limits, minimal facilities, safety protocols, and monitoring to preserve wilderness character; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Ongoing assessment of infrastructure, ecological health, and visitor capacity to sustain the recreation-conservation balance. | Regular monitoring of ecological conditions, trails, and visitor impacts, with adaptive management to maintain natural qualities. | Monitoring focused on wilderness character, ecological integrity, and visitor use to ensure remoteness and protection goals are maintained. |
| **Examples within the current system** | Horne Lake RP;<br>Descanso Bay RP | Beachcomber RP<br>Benson Creek Falls RP<br>Little Qualicum River RP<br>Moorecroft RP<br>Mt. Benson RP | Mt. Arrowsmith Massif RP |

# Parkland Holding

Parkland Holdings are lands acquired by the Regional District and reserved for potential future inclusion in the Regional Parks and Trails System. These sites remain in an interim state until long-term planning, ecological assessment, funding considerations, and system priorities determine whether and how they will be part of the Regional System.

Unlike designated Regional Parks or Regional Trails, Parkland Holdings do not have an established park or trail function yet. Their purpose is strategic: to secure land that may support future regional-scale recreation, ecological protection, connectivity, or backcountry access, depending on system needs and acquisition priorities.

During the holding period, these lands are managed primarily for site protection. Public access may be limited, informal, or intentionally restricted depending on ecological sensitivity, safety, and stewardship capacity. Development and recreation infrastructure are not introduced until formal planning commences.

**Parkland Holding – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Hold land in reserve to support future park or trail development and long term ecological, recreational, or connectivity objectives. |
| **Management Intent** | Interim management protects site integrity and prevents incompatible uses; stewardship may include basic ecological monitoring , hazard mitigation, or informal access management; planning/development deferred until regional priorities and resources are in place. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Varies in size and form. |
| **Recreational Use** | Typically low or incidental informal use only if compatible with site protection; access may be limited or restricted. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Informal, limited, or no access; infrastructure minimal or absent (e.g. fencing, signage, basic stewardship features); amenities deferred until planning is complete.. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | Minimal intervention during the holding period; future development to align with the intended use and be supported by planning. |
| **Planning Needs** | Interim Management Statement outlines stewardship and permitted uses; formal planning (e.g. park management plan or trail management statement) begins when funding, and resources are secured. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Monitor site conditions to ensure interim uses remain compatible with future objectives; track readiness for planning through system updates and public engagement. |
| **Examples within the current system** | Arboretum property |

# Recreation Access Site

Regional Recreation Access Sites provide managed public access to outdoor recreation destinations of regional significance that lie outside the Regional Parks and Trails System. These destinations may include Crown lands, provincial parks, long-distance or multi-use trail networks, backcountry areas, and major lake, river, or ocean access points. Their role is to accommodate region-wide visitation by functioning as safe, efficient access nodes—not recreation destinations themselves.

Infrastructure is scaled to regional demand and designed to support functional access while responding to environmental and cultural sensitivity and the type of recreation occurring beyond the site. Because these locations often serve region-scale recreation landscapes, planning and operations frequently involve multi-jurisdictional coordination, shared tenure arrangements, and partner or user-group agreements, rather than RDN parkland acquisition.

**Recreation Access Site – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Provide managed public access to outdoor recreation destinations of regional significance that lie outside the Regional Parks and Trails System (e.g., provincial parks, Crown lands, regional trailheads, major water access). Sites function as access nodes, not destinations. |
| **Management Intent** | Maintain safe, efficient access for region-wide users while minimizing environmental, cultural, and neighbourhood impacts; coordinate multi-jurisdictional approvals, tenure, and partner/user-group roles as needed. Investment focuses on functional access scaled to anticipated regional demand. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Access-focused nodes at the periphery of recreation destinations (e.g. shorelines - lake, river, ocean, swimming areas, launch/put-in sites, trailheads, scenic viewpoints); may be RDN owned or secured via agreements; settings vary (e.g., riparian/foreshore conditions). |
| **Recreational Use** | Supports activities occurring beyond the site (e.g., paddling, boating, fishing, hiking, biking, equestrian use, beach use); on site activity is transient and staging oriented. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Provide access-supporting features only, scaled for regional volumes: wayfinding/regulatory signage, short path links, shoreline/launch elements, bike racks, waste receptacles, parking areas/pull-ins sized for regional turnover, and toilets where warranted; design avoids/mitigates riparian/foreshore and cultural impacts. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | High sensitivity: improvements limited to access needs and must avoid or mitigate riparian, foreshore, cultural, and neighbourhood impacts. |
| **Planning Needs** | Brief management statement (access, safety, stewardship, approvals, and roles/agreements); additional planning as needed for shoreline works, shared jurisdictions, or higher use sites. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Periodic inspection of access features and targeted maintenance for safety, wear, environmental protection; coordinate with partners where applicable. |
| **Examples within the current system** | N/A |

# Trails

Regional Trails provide regionally significant connections between communities and regional destinations, supporting recreation and regional mobility across the trail network. Trail type, surfacing, and level of service vary by subclass.

The Regional Trail System includes physically separated trail corridors that link communities, parks, natural areas, and outdoor recreation landscapes. These Trails support a range of non-motorized users, including walkers, hikers, cyclists, equestrians, and mobility device users, according to trail design, setting, and permitted use signage.

Some Regional Trails may also support everyday walking and cycling for transportation purposes, but the Regional Active Transportation Network is planned and managed separately. Certain active transportation routes, such as on-road or shoulder-based cycling routes, are currently managed and funded through the Regional Parks and Trails service. These facilities are identified as Active Transportation Facilities rather than Regional Trails. Where a separated, off-road facility meets trail standards, it is classified under the appropriate Regional Trail subclass (typically a Multiway).

Trail character ranges from hard-surface multi-use corridors to natural surface routes in more rugged or remote settings. Planning, design, and management are scaled to environmental sensitivity, user needs, and the regional significance of the corridor. Some Regional Trails require coordination with provincial agencies, private land managers, or user groups due to shared responsibilities within multi-use recreation landscapes.

## Subclasses:

- **Multiway:** Hard-surface, accessible, multi-use routes that support both regional recreation and regional active transportation.
- **Recreational Trail:** Natural surface or gravel trails that provide regional recreation and longer-distance trail connections. Designed for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians where compatible with trail conditions.
- **Connector Path:** Short, physically separated trail facilities that provide critical connections, enabling continuous regional movement where direct connections would otherwise be limited. Connector Paths play a strategic role in closing gaps, providing crossings, or linking trail segments or destinations within the regional system.
- **Special Designation Trail:** Trails constructed and managed for specific recreational use (e.g., mountain biking, equestrian). They include user-specific features, surfacing, and signage, and require dedicated planning, design, and maintenance standards.

**Trail – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Multiway | Recreational Trail | Connector Path | Special Designation Trail |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Hard surface, accessible, multi use routes providing regional scale connections between communities, parks, and major recreation destinations; support both recreation and regional mobility. | Natural surface or gravel routes supporting regional recreation and longer-distance trail connections. | Short, physically separated trail facilities that provide critical connections, enabling continuous regional movement where direct connections would otherwise be limited. | Purpose built trails designed for a specific recreational use (e.g. mountain biking or equestrian). |
| **Users** | Pedestrians, cyclists, mobility device users, and micromobility where appropriate. | Pedestrians, cycling and equestrian use where conditions allow (as indicated by signage). | Pedestrians and cyclists; other users where compatible with facility design. | Defined by the designation (e.g., mountain bike riders, equestrians); other users typically not permitted. |
| **Characteristics & Setting** | Hard surfacing, accessible grades, clear sightlines; located in regional corridors, through parks, utility corridors, or transportation rights of way. | Natural surface or gravel trails with variable width and terrain, located in natural or semi natural corridors that provide regional recreational connectivity. | Short length. May include bridges, boardwalks, or short off-road segments. | Tread, width, and surface tailored to the intended use; may include technical features, specialized surfacing, or grade adjustments. |
| **Wayfinding & Amenities** | Strong wayfinding and directional signage at decision-point crossings and safety features where needed, minor amenities where appropriate. | Basic orientation and regulatory signage; minimal amenities. | Clear wayfinding supporting continuity of the route; safety features appropriate to facility type. | Use specific signage, trail markers, and features as required. |
| **Trail Type *** | Type 1 | Type 2 or 3 | Type 1 or 2 | Varies by designation |

| Category | Multiway | Recreational Trail | Connector Path | Special Designation Trail |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Planning & Management** | Regional-scale; higher service and maintenance levels; often coordinated with active transportation planning. | Regional or sub regional planning; coordination/access arrangements with other land managers; moderate maintenance; supports regional recreation and long distance connectivity. | Regional-scale, network-focused planning; managed as part of the Regional Trails system. | Use-specific planning and design standards; higher management needs; often developed/ maintained in partnership with user groups or agency partners. |
| **Examples within the current system** | Morden Colliery Regional Trail<br>Parksville-Coombs Rail Trail | Ammonite Falls Regional Trail<br>Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail<br>Benson View Regional Trail<br>Big Qualicum River Regional Trail<br>Lighthouse Country Regional Trail<br>Trans Canada Trail sections | Barclay Cresent Bridge<br>*(part of the Parksville-Qualicum Beach Links Active Transportation route)* | N/A |

**Trail Type references align with the RDN Parks & Trails Guidelines (2014), as illustrated in the Trail Design Guidelines Matrix excerpt in Appendix C.*

# Levels of Service

The Levels of Service table below outlines the relative degree of investment, infrastructure, and planning effort appropriate for each class within the Regional Parks and Trails System. It is intended to guide decision-making at a system level by indicating whether a class generally requires high, moderate, or minimal service. These levels are not technical maintenance standards; detailed operational practices remain defined through internal procedures.

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| Class / Subclass | Level of Service | Intended Catchment | Infrastructure Expectation | Planning Requirement |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Conservation Area** | Medium - Low | Region wide | Minimal | High<br>management plan + long term protection tools |
| **Park / Recreation Park** | High | Region wide | High | High<br>management plan |
| **Park / Nature Park** | Medium | Region wide | Low | Moderate - High<br>management plan |
| **Park / Wilderness Area** | Low | Region wide | Minimal | Low-Moderate<br>management plan |
| **Parkland Holding** | Very Low | Future role; interim use only | Minimal or none | Low<br>interim management statement |
| **Recreation Access Site** | Medium - Low | Region wide | Moderate – Low | Moderate;<br>management statement + external approvals and agreements |
| **Trail / Multiway** | High | Region wide | High | High<br>coordinated planning |
| **Trail / Recreational Trail** | Medium | Region wide | Moderate | Moderate |
| **Trail / Connector Path** | Medium - Low | Local | Moderate - Low | Low |
| **Trail / Special Designation** | Variable | Region wide/ User Group | Moderate | High<br>use specific standards |



# 2.2 COMMUNITY (ELECTORAL AREA) SYSTEM CLASSIFICATIONS



The Community (Electoral Area) System focuses on supporting electoral-area-scale Conservation Areas, Natural Areas, Parks, Recreation Access Sites, and physically separated trail facilities that serve neighbourhoods and electoral areas.

This section outlines each Community class and subclass and describes their purpose, key characteristics, intended roles and management direction. While these profiles provide system-level guidance, site-specific access, uses, and facilities are determined through management plans and site-level zoning or management statements.

This section builds on the overall system context, shared principles, and classification framework established in Sections 1 and 2.

# Conservation Area

Conservation Areas are public lands designated to protect ecologically sensitive landscapes at the community scale. These areas play a critical role in biodiversity conservation by supporting species at risk, maintaining ecological integrity, and contributing to regional ecological networks. Habitat protection and long-term stewardship are the primary purposes of these sites. Conservation Areas may function as sites of special ecological interest for visitors, with access managed to ensure ecological protection.

Public access is secondary to ecological protection and may be restricted or prohibited based on site sensitivity and management direction. Recreational use, where permitted, is passive and focused on nature appreciation, education, and stewardship, and only in locations where ecological assessments confirm it will not compromise habitat values.

Infrastructure is minimal, conservation-focused, and installed only where necessary for ecological protection, restoration, monitoring, or controlled access. Where appropriate, parking may be provided to support controlled, low-impact visitation to sites of special ecological interest and must be sited to avoid sensitive habitats.

To ensure long-term ecological integrity, these lands should be supported by legal or policy protection tools such as conservation covenants, management agreements, or other binding mechanisms. A management plan or statement provides operational guidance but does not replace the need for durable protection. Planning and management decisions must be informed by ecological inventories, habitat assessments, and restoration priorities.

**Conservation Area – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Conserve ecologically sensitive landscapes and habitats at the community scale; protection prioritized over public access. |
| **Management Intent** | Maintain and restore ecological integrity via protection, restoration, and stewardship, supported by long term legal or policy mechanisms; public use varies according to ecological sensitivity. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Small-to-medium sites with high ecological value (e.g., estuaries, riparian zones, wetlands, meadows, old growth forests, species-at-risk habitat). |
| **Recreational Use** | Passive, low impact activities may be permitted in areas where assessments confirm negligible impact; activities are focused on nature-appreciation, education, and stewardship; some sites may function as areas of special ecological interest with managed access. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Managed or restricted access; minimal, conservation-focused infrastructure (e.g., trails, signage); parking may support controlled, low-impact visitation. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | High Sensitivity: development is minimal and site-dependent, aligned with ecological goals. |
| **Planning Needs** | Management statement or plan, supported by protection tools (e.g., conservation covenants, management agreements); ecological assessments guide access, use and restoration; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Ongoing monitoring of habitat health and visitor impacts; stewardship and adaptive management as needed. |

# Natural Area

Natural Areas are public lands maintained in a natural or naturalized state to provide greenspace, habitat, and landscape continuity.

Public use, where it occurs, is passive and low impact and typically limited to informal paths. Minimal features may be added only to protect site conditions or support safe, low impact access. These areas are not intended as primary recreation sites.

**Natural Area – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Provide natural or naturalized greenspace that maintains landscape continuity and may provide habitat and other environmental benefits. |
| **Management Intent** | Minimal intervention to preserve natural character, prevent degradation, and maintain site stability; limited maintenance for informal paths or invasive-species control. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Natural vegetation (e.g. forests, wetlands, or riparian zones) or naturalized open fields; often serve as wildlife corridors, buffers, or greenspace within the broader landscape. |
| **Recreational Use** | Public use may be absent; where present, it is passive and low-impact (e.g. walking, birdwatching, nature appreciation) on informal paths. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Generally absent; where needed to accommodate incidental use or protect site conditions, minimal features (e.g. informal paths, simple wayfinding) may be provided. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | High sensitivity: additional development would compromise natural character and intended purpose. |
| **Planning Needs** | Basic management statement addressing informal/low-impact use and any ecological values; additional planning only if sensitive habitat is present or use is expected to increase. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Periodic inspections of informal routes and known use areas (e.g. tread, drainage, hazards) and checks for erosion and invasive species; apply small, targeted improvements only. |

# Parks

Parks are public spaces that provide opportunities for recreation and social connection across the electoral area. They range in size and character, from small neighbourhood sites to larger destination spaces, and all contribute to the health, accessibility, and overall livability of the community.

While many parks also support environmental functions such as habitat protection, stormwater management, and climate resilience, others are primarily designed for recreation and community use. Management and investment levels differ by subclass, with infrastructure and planning scaled to site context, community needs, and long-term stewardship goals.

## Subclasses

- **Community Park:** Sites that serve the broader electoral area and support extended visits and a wide range of recreational activities. They may include amenities such as sports fields, playgrounds, picnic shelters, event spaces, trails, or waterfront access, along with supporting features like parking, waste facilities, and toilets. Infrastructure is scaled for higher levels of use, and active transportation connections are provided where possible. These parks often require site or master planning informed by electoral area wide engagement
- **Nature Park:** Sites that serve the broader electoral area that provide low-intensity, nature-based recreation in settings that maintain a primarily natural character. They offer opportunities for walking, nature appreciation, scenic viewing, and quiet outdoor activity. Amenities are modest, typically trails, viewpoints, benches, small picnic areas, or interpretive features, with limited parking where appropriate. Infrastructure is carefully sited to preserve natural qualities, and community input may guide trail design or amenity placement.
- **Neighbourhood Park:** Sites that serve nearby residents and support short, informal visits. They function as local community spaces offering everyday outdoor activity and social interaction. Typical features may include small playgrounds, sport courts, seating areas, lawn areas, and picnic tables, with limited roadside parking and basic waste facilities. Engagement is typically localized to reflect neighbourhood needs.

**Park – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Community Park | Nature Park | Neighbourhood Park |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Provide recreational opportunities for the broader community/ electoral area, supporting a wide range of activities. | Provide low intensity, nature based recreation for the broader electoral area in settings that maintain a primarily natural character. | Offer public space for nearby residents, supporting informal outdoor activity and neighbourhood connection. |
| **Management Intent** | Maintain safe, inclusive spaces with amenities that support diverse public use; investment sustains recreational value and community benefit. | Preserve the park's natural qualities while supporting planned, community wide access through modest, carefully sited amenities and low impact infrastructure. | Maintain functional spaces that support informal, everyday use; investment focuses on essential infrastructure and upkeep. |

**Park – Classification Criteria continued.**

| Category | Community Park | Nature Park | Neighbourhood Park |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Site Characteristics** | Often larger sites with a mix of natural and developed areas; open areas, vegetation, and topography support recreation and provide ecological value. | Natural landscapes (e.g., forests, riparian areas, meadows, or rugged terrain) with trail networks; maintain natural character and scenic value. | Typically smaller sites with simple landscape features supporting informal neighbourhood use; landscapes may be naturalized or developed. |
| **Recreational Use** | Broad recreation (e.g., sports, play, gatherings, nature appreciation, trail use). | Quiet, low intensity, nature based recreation (e.g., walking, nature appreciation, picnicking, scenic viewing); cycling/ equestrian use where design and conditions allow. | Informal, everyday outdoor activities (e.g., walking, children's play, picnicking, casual sports, or social interaction). |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Vehicle access and active transportation connections; access points and infrastructure scaled to community-level use and site context. | Defined trail networks, viewpoints, benches, small picnic areas, interpretive features; limited parking where appropriate; infrastructure supports community wide use while protecting natural character. | Primarily pedestrian access.; modest features (e.g. benches, small play features, short paths, seating, signage) scaled to the local catchment. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | Moderate sensitivity; Development can be accommodated when guided by planning and scaled to site context, visitor demand, and ecological and cultural values. | Moderate–high sensitivity; development must be minimal and carefully sited to protect natural character, sensitive habitats, and long term ecological stewardship goals. | Low–moderate sensitivity; development should remain modest and fit neighbourhood scale and character, while respecting local site conditions. |
| **Planning Needs** | Site or master planning may be required to guide amenity placement, access, and protection of ecological or cultural features; planning informed by community wide input; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. | Site level planning/ design guidance as needed for trail design and modest amenity placement while maintaining natural character; internal zoning defines where recreation may occur and where access is restricted. | Planning reflects neighbourhood context; formal plans generally not required, though sensitive or more developed sites may benefit from a simple site plan and local input; . |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Regular review of infrastructure, visitor use, and ecological impacts to guide improvements and ensure alignment with community and environmental values. | Regular assessment of trail conditions, visitor impacts, and site character to maintain natural qualities and ensure that low intensity use remains compatible with stewardship goals. | Basic monitoring of facility condition, user feedback, and neighbourhood needs to support small-scale improvements. |

# Parkland Holding

Parkland Holdings are lands acquired by the Regional District and held in reserve for future inclusion in the Community Parks and Trails system.

These sites remain in an interim state until planning, funding, and community input guide their formal designation and development. Parkland Holdings support long-term objectives such as future park development, trail connectivity, or ecological protection.

During the holding period, Parkland Holdings typically resemble Natural Areas (minimal features, informal or no public access) but are distinguished by their intended future role. This designation signals that the site may evolve as planning progresses. Stewardship focuses on site protection, with limited public use where appropriate, and access and infrastructure remain minimal or absent until a park or trail plan is in place.

**Parkland Holding – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Hold land in reserve to support future park or trail development; may support interim stewardship or passive use. |
| **Management Intent** | Interim management protects site integrity and prevents incompatible uses; stewardship may include basic ecological monitoring , hazard mitigation, or informal access management; planning/development are deferred until community priorities and resources are in place. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Varies in size and form (e.g., undeveloped lots, greenways, riparian corridors, or strategic parcels with ecological or recreational value). |
| **Recreational Use** | Typically low or incidental; may support informal use where compatible with site conditions and sensitivity. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Informal, limited, or no access; infrastructure minimal or absent (e.g., fencing, signage, or basic stewardship features); amenities deferred until planning is complete. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | High sensitivity: Minimal intervention during the holding period; future development must align with the intended use and be supported by planning. |
| **Planning Needs** | Interim Management Statement outlines stewardship priorities and permitted uses; formal planning (e.g. park plan or trail statement) once land, funding, and resources are secured. |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Monitor site conditions for compatibility; track readiness for planning through system updates and engagement. |

# Recreation Access Site

Community Recreation Access Sites provide managed public access to outdoor recreation destinations of community or electoral-area significance that lie outside the Community Parks and Trails System. These destinations may include local shoreline access points, small lakes or rivers, nearby trail networks, or other outdoor recreation areas used primarily by residents of the surrounding neighbourhoods or electoral areas. Their role is to function as safe, convenient local access points—not recreation destinations themselves.

Infrastructure is scaled to local demand and designed to support functional access while responding to environmental and cultural sensitivity and the type of recreation occurring beyond the site. Planning and operations typically involve approvals or agreements with land managers or user groups, and do not generally require RDN parkland acquisition.

**Recreation Area Access Site – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Description |
|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Provide managed public access to community/electoral-area outdoor recreation destinations located outside the Community Parks and Trails System; sites are local access points, not recreation destinations. |
| **Management Intent** | Maintain safe, convenient access for local users while minimizing environmental, cultural, and neighbourhood interface impacts (parking spillover, hours, noise). Coordinate local approvals/agreements with land managers or user groups where applicable. Investment focuses on fit-to-context local access. |
| **Site Characteristics** | Access-focused nodes at the edge of local destinations (e.g., small shoreline access, community trailheads, scenic viewpoints); settings vary and may rely on simple agreements or easements rather than formal tenure. |
| **Recreational Use** | Supports activities beyond the site (local paddling/boating, fishing, hiking, cycling, equestrian, beach use); on-site use is transient/staging-oriented. |
| **Access & Infrastructure** | Access-supporting features only, scaled to local demand: basic wayfinding/regulatory signage, short path links, small shoreline/launch elements, waste receptacles, small parking areas/pull-ins; toilets only where clearly justified; design avoids/mitigates riparian/foreshore and cultural impacts. |
| **Sensitivity to Development** | High sensitivity; improvements limited to access needs; must avoid/mitigate riparian, foreshore, cultural, and neighbourhood impacts. |
| **Planning Needs** | Brief management statement addressing access, safety, stewardship and any approvals/agreements; additional planning only when shoreline works, or higher local demand triggers it. . |
| **Monitoring Needs** | Periodic inspection of access features and targeted maintenance; adjust operations/infrastructure to address local safety, wear, or neighbourhood concerns; coordinate with user groups as needed. |

# Trails

Community Trails form a network of public routes that support recreation, connect neighbourhoods, and link people to parks, natural areas, and community destinations across the electoral area. In some locations, they also connect with the Regional Trail System to support broader connectivity. Community Trails vary in setting and character, from hard-surface multi-use corridors to natural-surface recreational paths, but all contribute to the health, accessibility, and livability of the region.

Community Trails accommodate a range of non-motorized users, including walkers, hikers, cyclists, equestrians, and mobility device users, according to trail design and permitted-use signage.

Some Community Trails may also support active transportation, but the Active Transportation Network is planned and managed separately. Certain active transportation routes, such as on-road or shoulder-based cycling routes, are currently managed and funded through the Community Parks and Trails service. These facilities are identified as Active Transportation Facilities rather than Community Trails. Where a separated, off-road facility meets trail standards, it is classified under the appropriate Community Trail subclass (typically a Multiway or Connector Path).

Planning and investment levels vary by subclass and site context, with infrastructure and management scaled to expected users, environmental sensitivity, and long-term stewardship goals.

## Subclasses:

- **Multiway:** Hard-surface, accessible, multi-use trails that provide local-scale connections between neighbourhoods, parks, and community destinations. Designed for pedestrians, cyclists, and mobility device users.
- **Recreational Trail:** Natural surface or gravel trails that support low-impact, non-motorized recreation and local connectivity. Designed for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians where compatible with trail conditions.
- **Connector Path:** Short links that provide direct connections between roads, parks, trails, or community destinations. Designed for pedestrians, cyclists, and equestrians where compatible with trail conditions.
- **Special Designation Trail:** Trails constructed and managed for specific recreational use (e.g., mountain biking, equestrian). They include user-specific features, surfacing, and signage, and require dedicated planning, design, and maintenance standards.

**Trail – Classification Criteria**

| Category | Multiway | Recreational Trail | Connector Path | Special Designation Trail |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Primary Purpose** | Hard surface, accessible, multi-use routes providing local-scale connections between neighbourhoods, parks, and community destinations; may support active transportation. | Natural surface or gravel routes designed for low impact, non motorized recreation and local connectivity. | Short links that provide direct local connections between roads, parks, trails, or community destinations; may support active transportation. | Purpose built or designated trails supporting a specific recreational use (e.g. mountain biking or equestrian). |
| **Users** | Pedestrians, cyclists, and mobility device users, and micromobility where appropriate. | Pedestrians, cyclists and equestrian use where conditions allow and as signed. | Pedestrians, cyclists and mobility devices where design supports and as signed. | Defined by the designation (e.g., MTB riders, equestrians); other users typically not permitted. |
| **Characteristics & Setting** | Hard surfacing, accessible grades, clear sightlines; located within parks, neighbourhood corridors, or utility corridors. | Natural surface or gravel; variable width and condition; may follow roadsides, parkland corridors, or undeveloped rights of way. | Hard, gravel, or natural surfaces; typically located in undeveloped road rights of way or between local destinations. | Tread, width, and surface tailored to the intended use; may include technical features, specialized surfacing, or grade adjustments. |
| **Wayfinding & Amenities** | Strong wayfinding and directional signage at decision-points; safety features where needed; minor amenities where appropriate. | Basic orientation/regulatory signage; minimal amenities. | Minimal wayfinding at junctions; limited amenities. | Use specific signage, trail markers, and features as required. |
| **Trail Type *** | Type 1 | Type 2 or 3 | Type 1 or 2 | Varies by designation |
| **Planning & Management** | Electoral area-scale; higher service and maintenance levels; often coordinated with active transportation planning. | Electoral area- or neighbourhood-scale planning; access agreements with other land managers (e.g., licenses, MOUs, SRWs); moderate maintenance. | Local-scale planning; moderate maintenance; often coordinated with active transportation planning. | Use-specific planning and design standards; higher management needs; often developed/ maintained with user groups or agency partners. |

**Trail Type references align with the RDN Parks & Trails Guidelines (2014), as illustrated in the Trail Design Guidelines Matrix excerpt in Appendix C.*

# Levels of Service

The Levels of Service table below outlines the relative degree of investment, infrastructure, and planning effort appropriate for each class within the Community (Electoral Area) Parks, Trails, and Conservation Areas system. It is intended to guide decision-making at a system level by indicating whether a class/subclass generally requires high, moderate, or minimal service. These levels are not technical maintenance standards; detailed operational practices remain defined through internal procedures.

**Levels of Service Table**

| Class / Subclass | Level of Service | Intended Catchment | Infrastructure Expectation | Planning Requirement |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Conservation Area** | Medium - Low | Electoral Area / community wide | Minimal | High management plan + long term protection tools |
| **Park / Community Park** | High | Electoral Area / community wide | High | High site or master plan |
| **Park / Nature Park** | Medium Low | Electoral Area / community wide | Low | Moderate - Low management plan / statement |
| **Park / Neighbourhood Park** | Medium | Local | Moderate | Low-Moderate local scale planning |
| **Natural Area** | Low | Local | Minimal | Low management statement |
| **Parkland Holding** | Very Low | Future role / interim use only | Minimal or none | Low management statement |
| **Recreation Access Site** | Medium - Low | Function-based / depends on recreation destination | Moderate – Low | Moderate; management statement + approvals / agreements |
| **Trail / Multiway** | High | Electoral Area / community wide | High | High coordinated planning |
| **Trail / Recreational Trail** | Medium | Electoral Area / community wide | Moderate | Moderate |
| **Trail / Connector Path** | Medium - Low | Local | Moderate - Low | Low |
| **Trail / Special Designation** | Variable | Community wide/ User Group | Varies; specialized features | High |



# 3. IMPLEMENTATION AND APPLICATION OF THE UPDATED PARKS AND TRAILS CLASSIFICATION



Implementation of the updated classification system will require coordination across Regional services and Electoral Area–based Community Parks services, recognizing differences in funding structure, service scope, and planning context.

A classification system for parks and trails requires long-term application in order to become a reliable structure for organizing a cohesive parks and trails asset base and guiding investment decisions. The following next steps are recommended to ensure that the updated classification system is effectively implemented.

1. **Develop a Parks and Trails Classification Policy:** Following completion of the updated Parks and Trails Classification System, the next step is to develop a new RDN Parks and Trails Classification Policy. This policy will formalize the classification system and apply it to all regional and community parks, trails, and other lands managed by the RDN. It will also establish a framework for updating classifications as new properties are acquired or as existing sites evolve. Amendments to the policy should be made as needed to ensure it remains current and reflective of the RDN's parks and trails network.
2. **Standardize Zoning Within Management Plans:** Many Conservation Areas and Parks include areas with varying ecological sensitivity, cultural values, and suitability for recreation. Internal management zones applied through management plans, or statements identify where low-impact, nature-based recreation is appropriate, where recreation should be limited, and where no public access is necessary to protect sensitive ecosystems or cultural resources. While zoning already exists in some plans, implementing a consistent zoning framework across all new and updated management plans will improve clarity and ensure balanced, defensible guidance. Zoning guidelines should reflect best practices, such as the IUCN Protected Area Management Categories, while remaining flexible to site-specific conditions and landowner or donor expectations.
3. **Update and apply policy and planning tools to align with the updated classification system:** Practical implementation of the updated classification system is likely to require updates to planning and policy, including:
    - **Acquisition planning:** The updated classification system can support parkland acquisition in several ways. It provides clarity on the intended primary purpose of potential parkland (e.g., active use or conservation), helps guide amenity development and associated costing, and informs resourcing decisions such as whether a park or trail asset is best suited to the community or regional system.
    - **Design and amenity service levels:** The RDN's *2014 Parks and Trails Guidelines* remain a relevant point of reference for trail design and amenity development and align reasonably well with the updated classification system in the short term. Future updates to the guidelines may be best undertaken once the updated classification system is well integrated into planning and operations.
    - **Park and trail naming adjustment:** The classification update does not change existing park or trail names. If the RDN wishes to explore opportunities to align names with their assigned classification designations, this work can be undertaken through Policy C1-03 (Parks Naming Policy) as a separate future process. For example, if a site named "XYZ Community Park" is classified as a Natural Area, a future naming review could consider whether renaming it "XYZ Natural Area" would better reflect its designation.

As implementation progresses, the RDN should also review and update relevant policies and procedures to ensure full alignment with the updated classification system.

# 4. APPENDICES



# Appendix A: Classification of the Existing Regional System

## Regional System

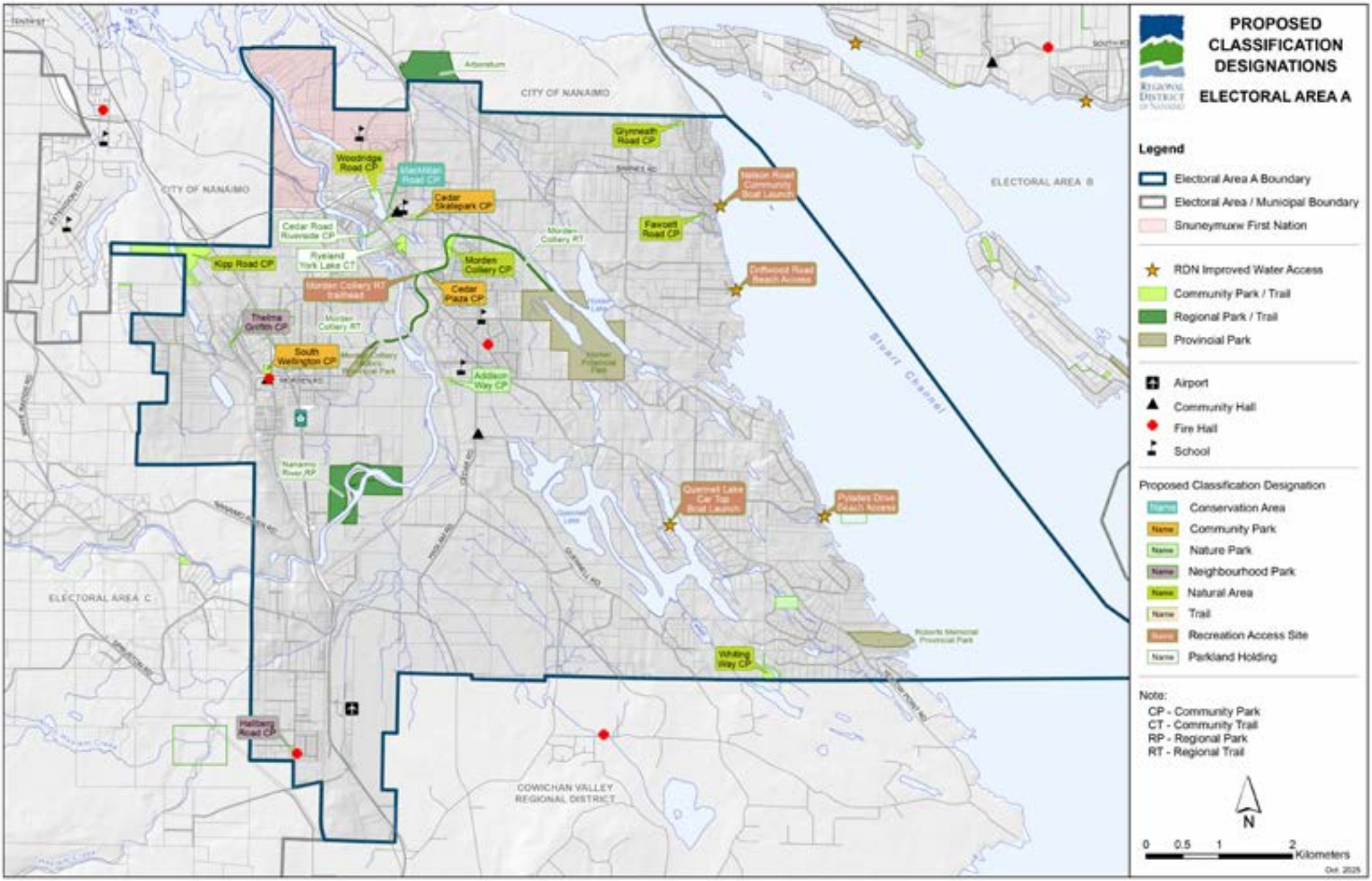
| Property | Classification | Sub-Class |
|---|---|---|
| Coats Marsh Regional Park | Conservation Area | |
| Englishman River Regional Park | Conservation Area | |
| Little Qualicum River Estuary Conservation Area | Conservation Area | |
| Nanaimo River Regional Park | Conservation Area | |
| Hamilton Marsh Regional Park and Conservation Area | Conservation Area | |
| Descanso Bay Regional Park | Park | Recreation Park |
| Horne Lake Regional Park | Park | Recreation Park |
| Beachcomber Regional Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Benson Creek Falls Regional Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Little Qualicum River Regional Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Moorecroft Regional Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Mount Benson Regional Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Mount Arrowsmith Massif Regional Park | Park | Wilderness Area |
| Arboretum property | Parkland Holding | |
| Morden Colliery Regional Trail | Trail | Multiway |
| Parksville-Coombs Rail Trail | Trail | Multiway |
| Ammonite Falls Regional Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Benson View Regional Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Big Qualicum River Regional Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Lighthouse Country Regional Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Trans Canada Trail segments (Haslam Trail, White Pine Trail, Daryl's Way, Pipeline Trail, Extension Ridge Trail) | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Barclay Crescent Bridge | Trail | Connector Path |

# Appendix B: Classification of the Existing Community System

Input on the classification of existing parks and trails was sought from the Electoral Area A Parks, Recreation and Culture Committee and the Electoral Area B, C-East Wellington-Pleasant Valley, E, F, G and H Parks and Open Space Advisory Committees.

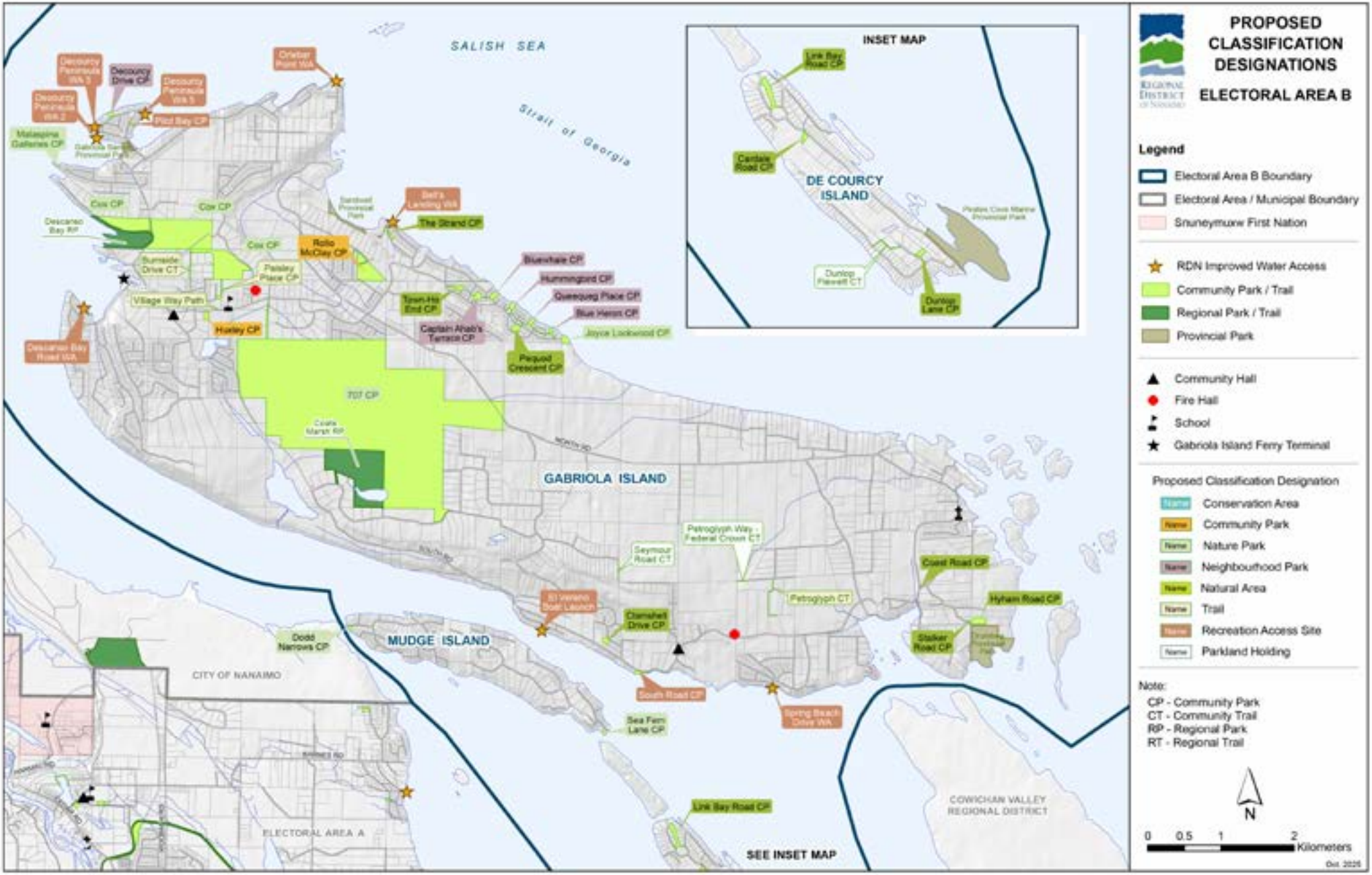
## Community System

| ELECTORAL AREA A | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| MacMillan Road Community Park | Conservation Area | |
| Cedar Plaza Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Cedar Skatepark | Park | Community Park |
| South Wellington Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Addison Way Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Hallberg Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Thelma Griffith Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Fawcett Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Glynneath Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Kipp Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Morden Colliery Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Whiting Way Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Woodridge Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Driftwood Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Nelson Road Community Boat Launch | Recreation Access Site | |
| Pylades Drive Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Quennell Lake Cartop Boat Launch | Recreation Access Site | |
| Cedar Road Riverside Community Park | Parkland Holding | |
| Ryeland York Lake Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |

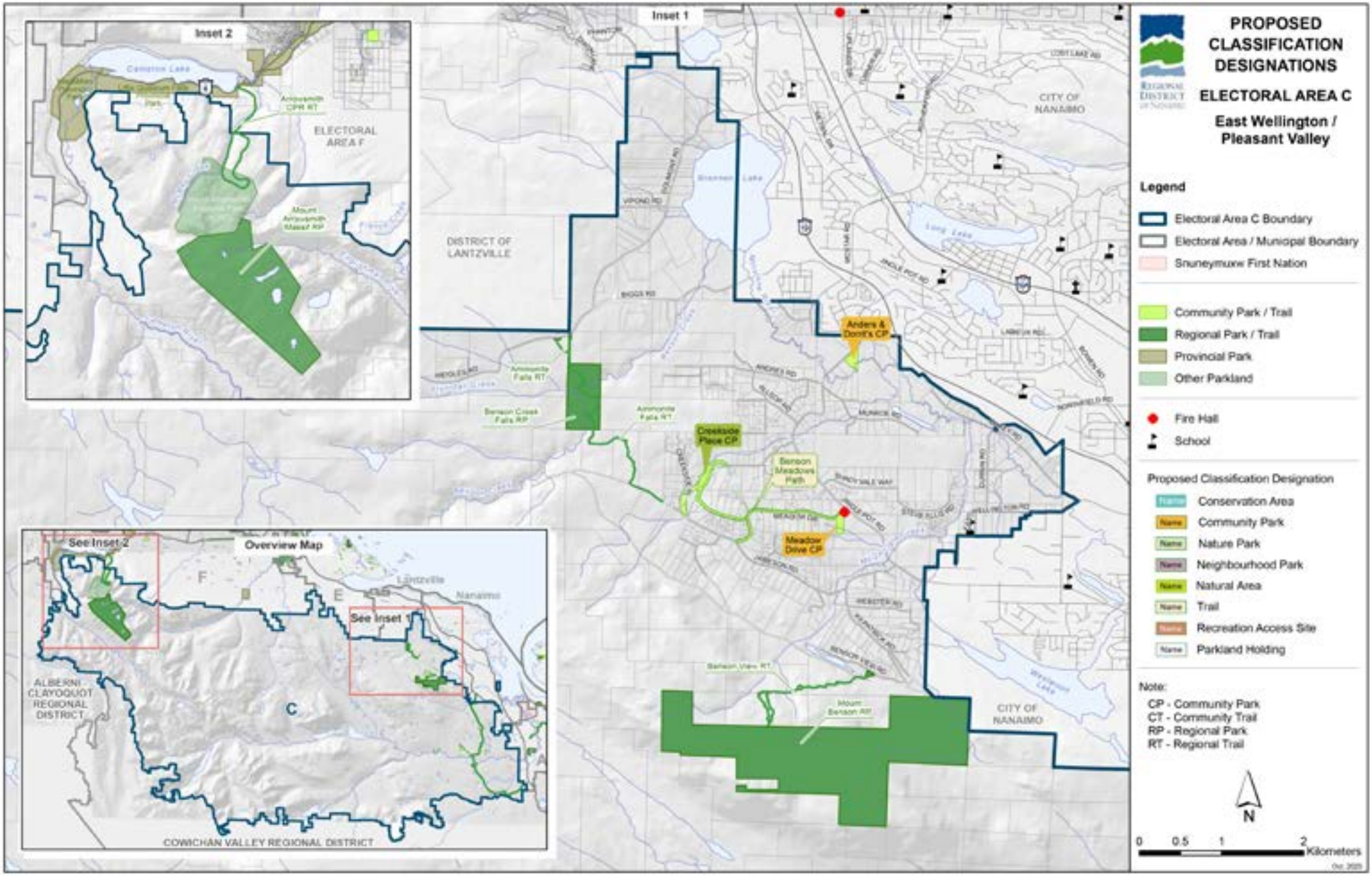

PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA A
Legend
Electoral Area A Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Snuneymuxw First Nation
RDN Improved Water Access
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Airport
Community Hall
Fire Hall
School
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
CITY OF NANAIMO
ELECTORAL AREA B
ELECTORAL AREA C
COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
Stuart Channel
Arboretum
Woodridge Road CP
MacMillan Road CP
Cedar Skatepark CP
Cedar Road Riverside CP
Kipp Road CP
Rivieland York Lake CT
Morden Colliery RT Trailhead
Morden Colliery CP
Cedar Plaza CP
Thelma Griffith CP
South Wellington CP
Addison Way CP
Nanaimo River RP
Halliberg Road CP
Glynneath Road CP
Nelson Road Community Boat Launch
Fawcett Road CP
Driftwood Road Beach Access
Quennell Lake Car Top Boat Launch
Pylades Drive Beach Access
Whiting Way CP
Roberts Memorial Provincial Park
Morden Colliery RT
Quennell Lake
Oct. 2025

| ELECTORAL AREA B | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| **Gabriola Island** | | |
| Huxley Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Rollo McClay Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| 707 Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Cox Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Joyce Lockwood Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Malaspina Galleries Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Blue Heron Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Bluewhale Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Captain Ahab's Terrace Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Decourcy Drive Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Hummingbird Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Queequeg Place Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Clamshell Drive Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Coast Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Hyham Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Pequod Crescent Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Stalker Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| The Strand Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Town-Ho End Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Bell's Landing Water Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Decourcy Peninsula Water Access 2 | Recreation Access Site | |
| Decourcy Peninsula Water Access 3 | Recreation Access Site | |
| Decourcy Peninsula Water Access 5 | Recreation Access Site | |
| Descanso Bay Road Water Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| El Verano Boat Launch | Recreation Access Site | |

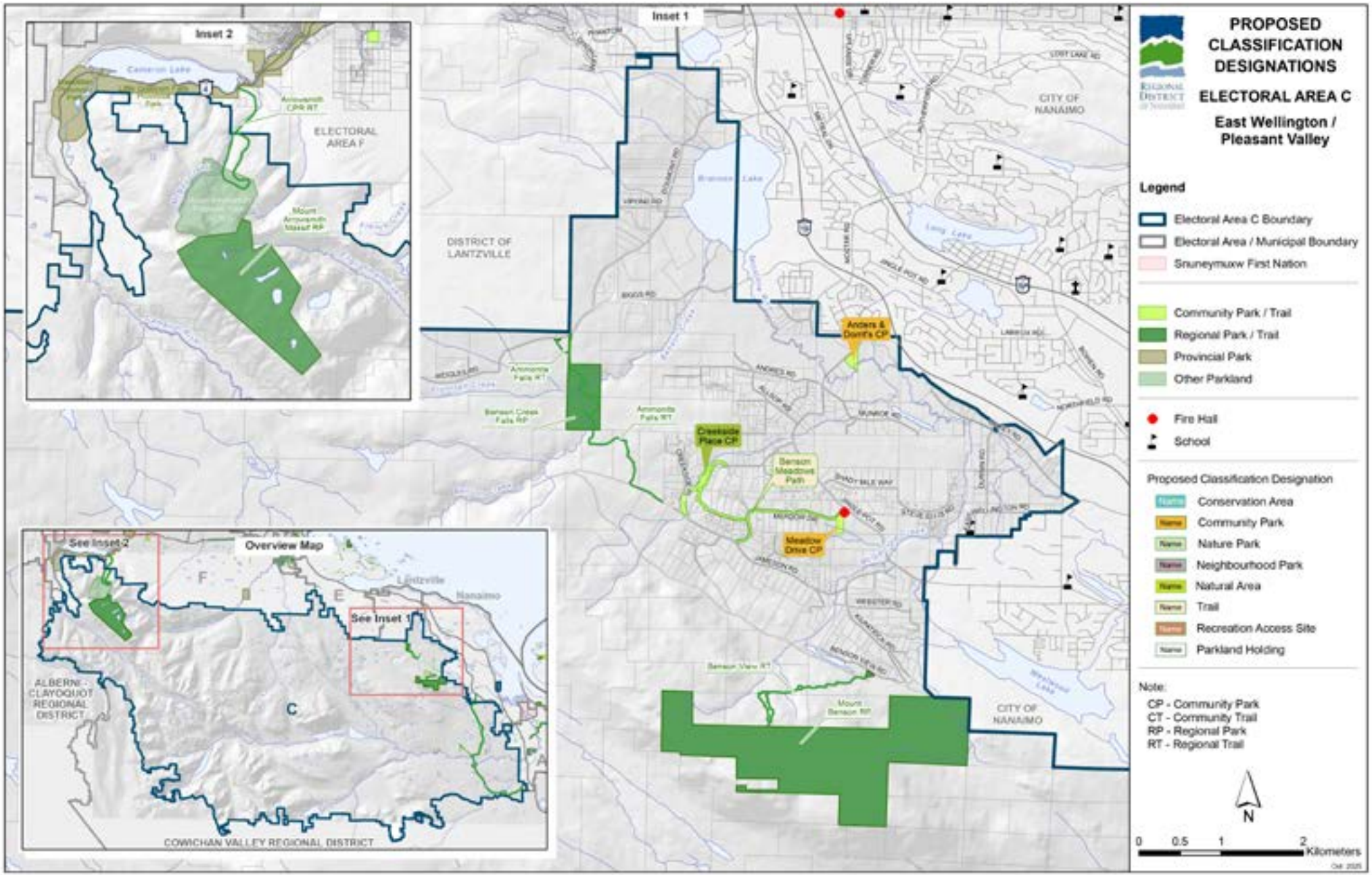
| ELECTORAL AREA B | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Orlebar Point Water Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Pilot Bay Community Park | Recreation Access Site | |
| South Road Community Park | Recreation Access Site | |
| Spring Beach Drive Water Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Petroglyph Way-Federal Crown Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Seymour Road Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Village Way Path | Trail | Multiway |
| Petroglyph Community Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Burnside Drive Community Trail (N & S) | Trail | Connector Path |
| Paisley Place Community Park | Trail | Connector Path |
| **Mudge Island** | | |
| Sea Fern Lane Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Dodd Narrows Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| **DeCourcy Island** | | |
| Cardale Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Dunlop Lane Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Link Bay Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Dunlop Flewett Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |


SALISH SEA
Strait of Georgia
INSET MAP
Link Bay Road CP
Cardale Road CP
DE COURCY ISLAND
Dunlop Pleasant CT
Dunlop Lane CP
GABRIOLA ISLAND
MUDGE ISLAND
CITY OF NANAIMO
ELECTORAL AREA A
COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
SEE INSET MAP
Descanso Bay Road WA
Village Way Path
Huxley CP
707 CP
Rollo McClay CP
Paisley Place CP
Burnside Drive CT
The Strand CP
Bluewhale CP
Hummingbird CP
Quesquag Place CP
Blue Heron CP
Joyce Lockwood CP
Pequod Crescent CP
Captain Ahab's Terrace CP
Petroglyph Way - Federal Crown CT
Seymour Road CT
Petroglyph CT
Coast Road CP
Hyham Road CP
Stalker Road CP
Clamshell Drive CP
South Road CP
Spring Beach Drive WA
Sea Fern Lane CP
Dodd Narrows CP
PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA B
Legend
Electoral Area B Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Snuneymuxw First Nation
RDN Improved Water Access
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Community Hall
Fire Hall
School
Gabriola Island Ferry Terminal
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers

| ELECTORAL AREA C - Extension | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Nanaimo River Canyon Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Extension Miners Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Extension School | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Riverbend Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Riverbend Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| South Forks Community Park | Natural Area | |
| South Forks Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Twilight Way Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Virostko Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Heather Way Community Park | Parkland Holding | |
| Plecas Road Community Park | Parkland Holding | |
| Virostko West Community Park | Parkland Holding | |

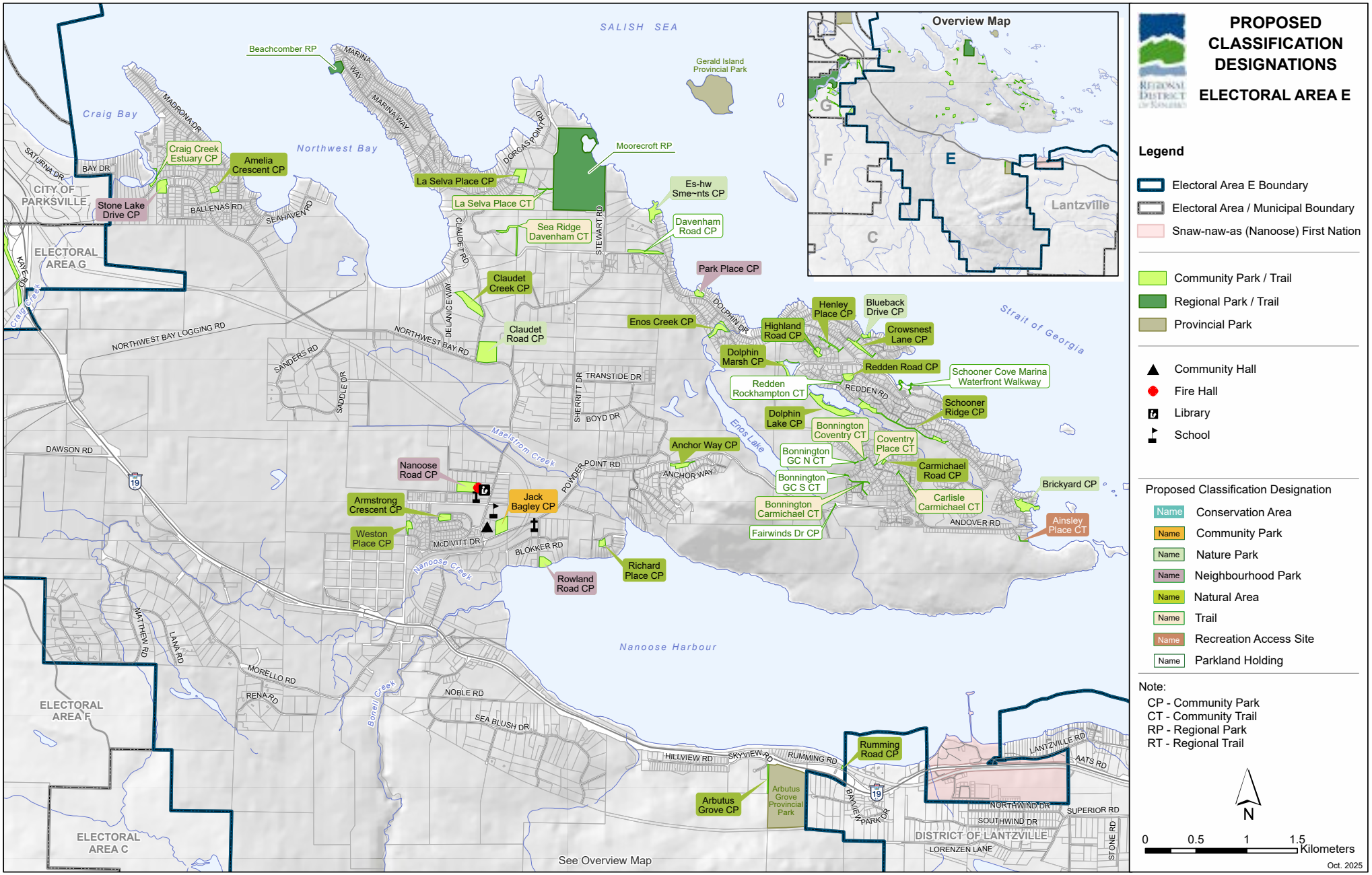

Inset 1
Inset 2
Overview Map
See Inset 1
See Inset 2
PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA C
East Wellington / Pleasant Valley
Legend
Electoral Area C Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Snuneymuxw First Nation
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Other Parkland
Fire Hall
School
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE
CITY OF NANAIMO
ELECTORAL AREA F
ALBERNI CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT
COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
Anders & Dorrit's CP
Creekside Place CP
Benson Meadows Path
Meadow Drive CP
Mount Benson RP

| ELECTORAL AREA C – East Wellington / Pleasant Valley | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Anders & Dorrit's Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Meadow Drive Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Creekside Place Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Benson Meadows Path | Trail | Recreational Trail |

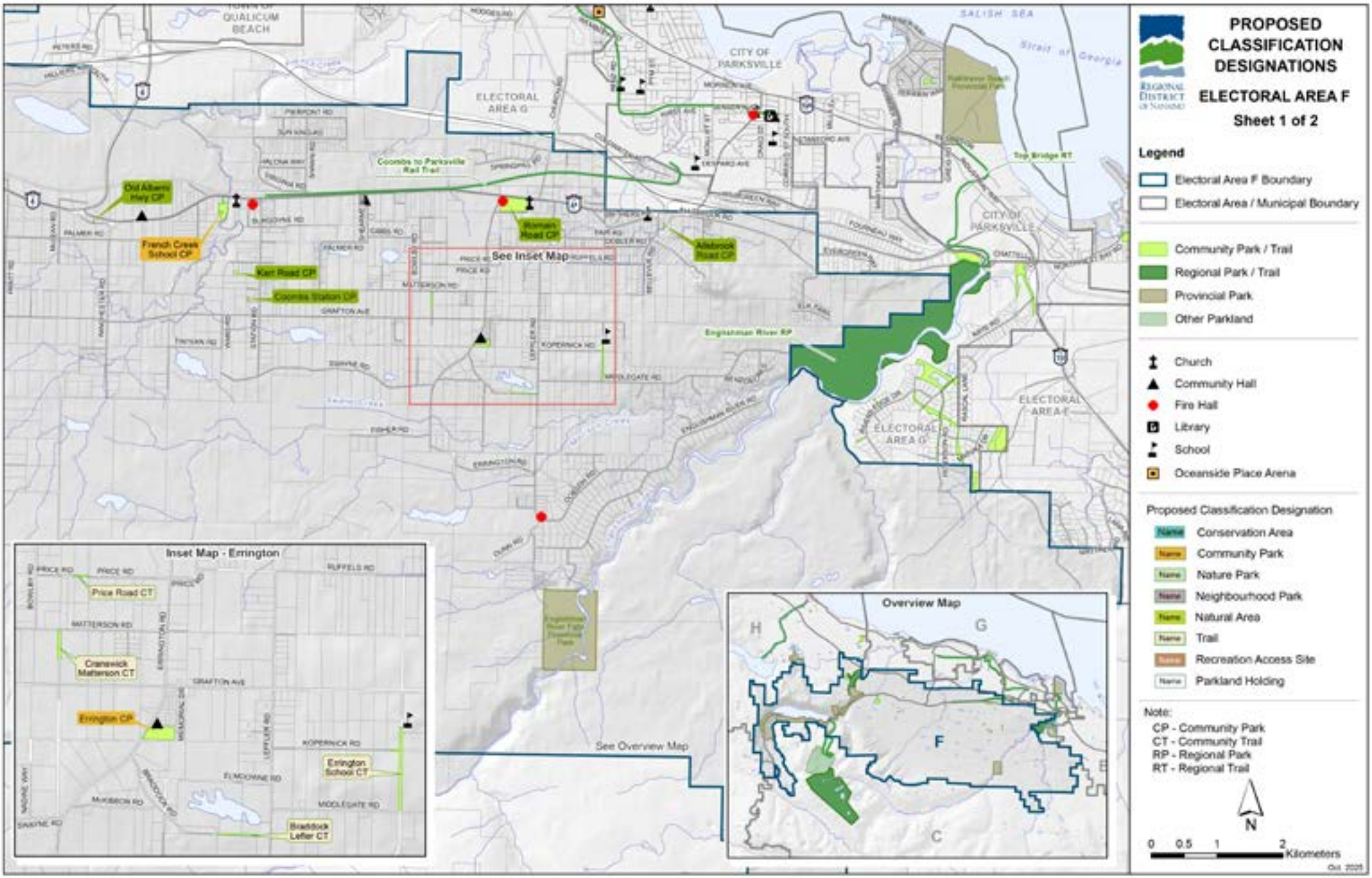

Inset 1
Inset 2
Overview Map
See Inset 1
See Inset 2
PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA C
East Wellington / Pleasant Valley
Legend
Electoral Area C Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Snuneymuxw First Nation
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Other Parkland
Fire Hall
School
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
CITY OF NANAIMO
DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE
ELECTORAL AREA F
ALBERNI - CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT
COWICHAN VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
Anders & Dorrit's CP
Creekside Place CP
Benson Meadows Path
Meadow Drive CP
Ammonite Falls RT
Mount Benson RP

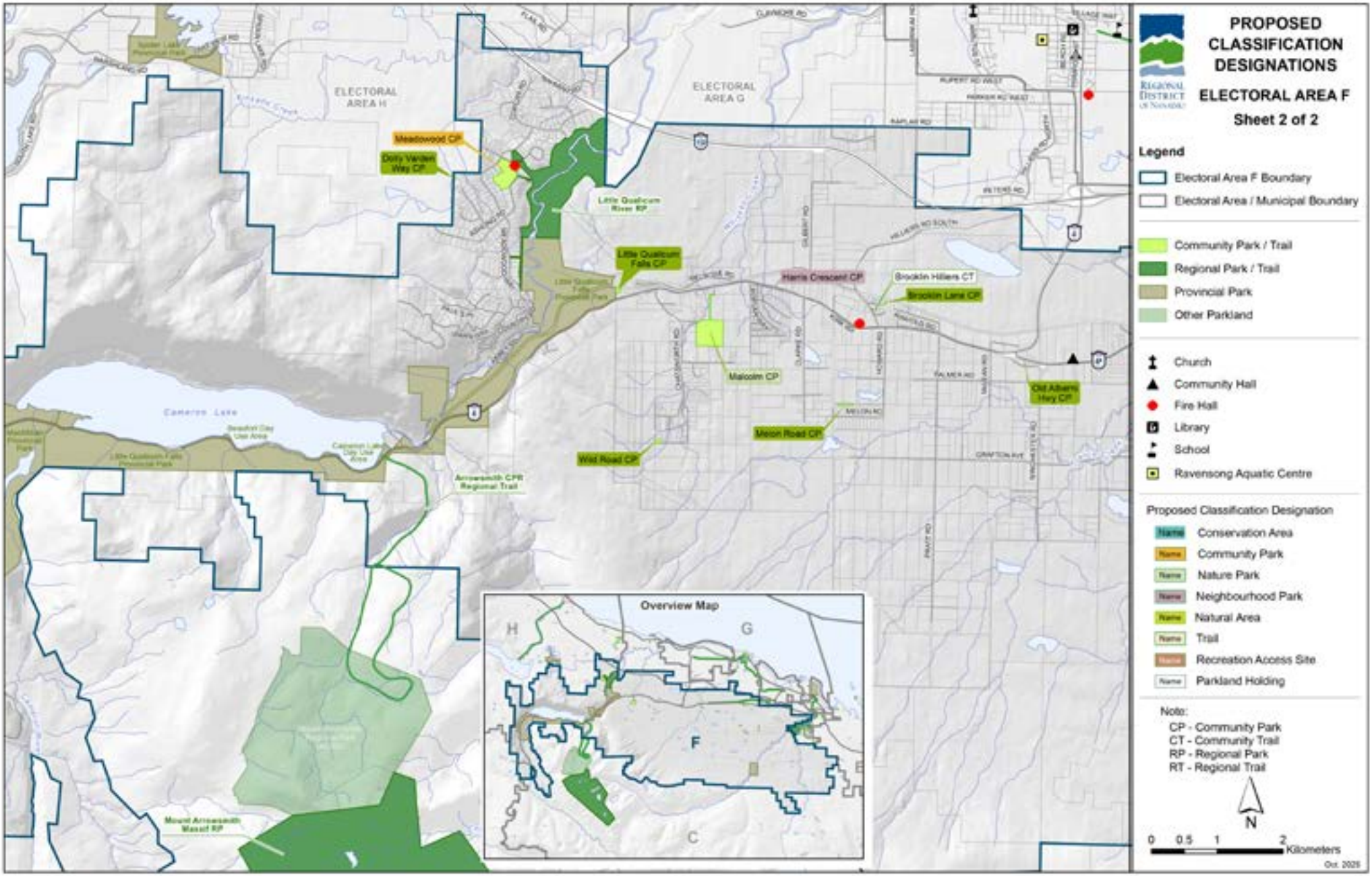
| ELECTORAL AREA E | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Jack Bagley Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Blueback Drive Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Brickyard Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Claudet Road Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Es-hw Sme~nts Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Nanoose Road Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Park Place Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Rowland Road Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Stone Lake Drive Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Amelia Crescent Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Anchor Way Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Arbutus Grove Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Armstrong Crescent Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Carmichael Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Claudet Creek Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Crowsnest Lane Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Dolphin Lake Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Dolphin Marsh Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Enos Creek Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Henley Place Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Highland Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| La Selva Place Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Redden Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Richard Place Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Rumming Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Schooner Ridge Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Weston Place Community Park | Natural Area | |

| ELECTORAL AREA E | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Ainsley Place Community Trail | Recreation Access Site | |
| Bonnington GC N Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Bonnington GC S Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Davenham Road Community Park | Parkland Holding | |
| Fairwinds Drive Community Park | Parkland Holding | |
| Redden Rockhampton Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Schooner Cove Marina Waterfront Walkway | Parkland Holding | |
| Bonnington Carmichael Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Bonnington Coventry Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Carlisle Carmichael Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Coventry Place Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Craig Creek Estuary Community Park | Trail | Connector Path |
| La Selva Place Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Sea Ridge Davenham Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |


PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA E
Overview Map
Legend
Electoral Area E Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose) First Nation
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Proposed Classification Designation
Name Conservation Area
Name Community Park
Name Nature Park
Name Neighbourhood Park
Name Natural Area
Name Trail
Name Recreation Access Site
Name Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 1.5 Kilometers
Oct. 2025
SALISH SEA
Craig Bay
Northwest Bay
Strait of Georgia
Nanoose Harbour
Gerald Island Provincial Park
CITY OF PARKSVILLE
ELECTORAL AREA G
ELECTORAL AREA F
ELECTORAL AREA C
DISTRICT OF LANTZVILLE
Lantzville
Beachcomber RP
Craig Creek Estuary CP
Amelia Crescent CP
Stone Lake Drive CP
La Selva Place CP
La Selva Place CT
Moorecroft RP
Es-hw Sme~nts CP
Sea Ridge Davenham CT
Davenham Road CP
Park Place CP
Claudet Creek CP
Claudet Road CP
Enos Creek CP
Henley Place CP
Blueback Drive CP
Highland Road CP
Crowsnest Lane CP
Dolphin Marsh CP
Redden Road CP
Redden Rockhampton CT
Schooner Cove Marina Waterfront Walkway
Schooner Ridge CP
Dolphin Lake CP
Bonnington Coventry CT
Coventry Place CT
Bonnington GC N CT
Carmichael Road CP
Bonnington GC S CT
Carlisle Carmichael CT
Bonnington Carmichael CT
Fairwinds Dr CP
Brickyard CP
Ainsley Place CT
Anchor Way CP
Nanoose Road CP
Armstrong Crescent CP
Jack Bagley CP
Weston Place CP
Richard Place CP
Rowland Road CP
Rumming Road CP
Arbutus Grove CP
Arbutus Grove Provincial Park
See Overview Map

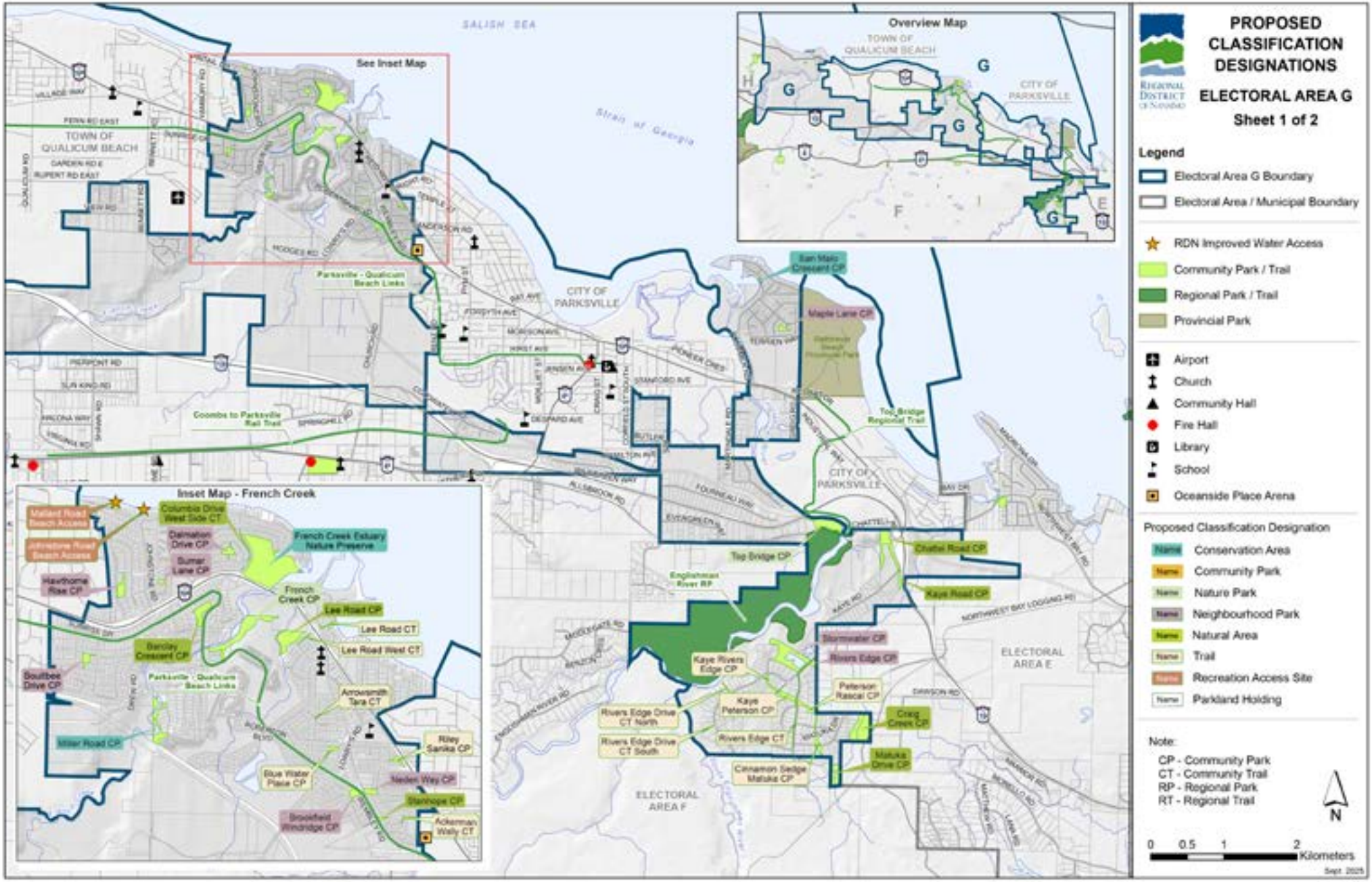
| ELECTORAL AREA F | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Errington Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| French Creek School Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Meadowood Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Malcolm Road Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Harris Crescent Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Allsbrook Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Brooklin Lane Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Coombs Station Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Dolly Varden Way Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Kerr Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Little Qualicum Falls Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Melon Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Old Alberni Hwy Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Romain Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Wild Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Brooklin Hilliers Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Braddock Leffler Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Cranswick Matterson Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Errington School Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Price Road Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |

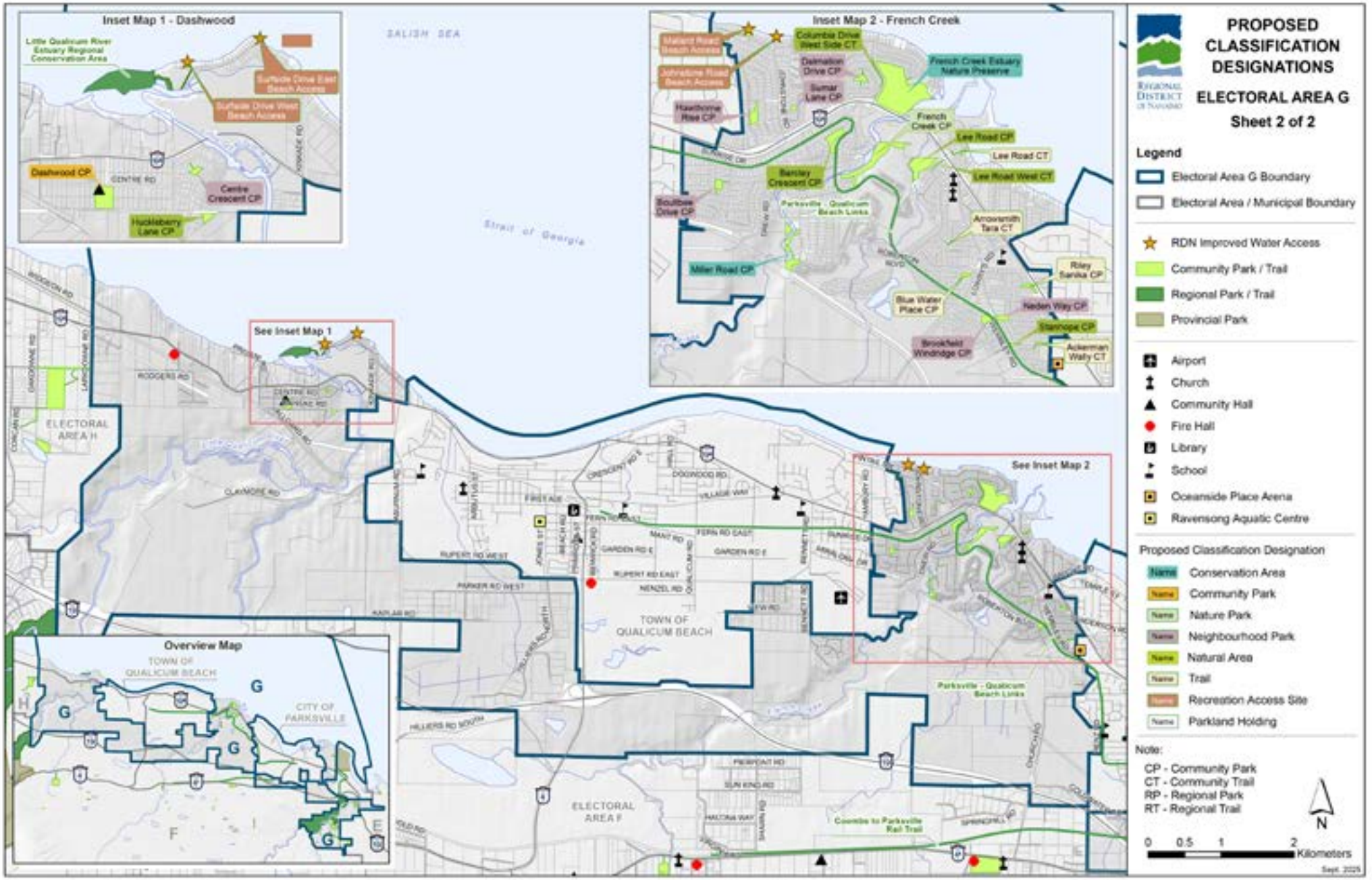

PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA F
Sheet 1 of 2
Legend
Electoral Area F Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Other Parkland
Church
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Oceanside Place Arena
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
Oct. 2025
See Inset Map
See Overview Map
Inset Map - Errington
Overview Map
Old Alberni Hwy CP
French Creek School CP
Kerr Road CP
Coombs Station CP
Coombs to Parksville Rail Trail
Woman Road CP
Allsbrook Road CP
Englishman River RP
Top Bridge RT
Price Road CT
Cranswick Matterson CT
Errington CP
Errington School CT
Braddock Leffler CT
ELECTORAL AREA G
ELECTORAL AREA F
CITY OF PARKSVILLE
QUALICUM BEACH
SALISH SEA
Strait of Georgia


PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA F
Sheet 2 of 2
Legend
Electoral Area F Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Other Parkland
Church
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Ravensong Aquatic Centre
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
Oct. 2025
Overview Map
ELECTORAL AREA H
ELECTORAL AREA G
Meadowood CP
Dolly Varden Way CP
Little Qualicum River RP
Little Qualicum Falls CP
Harris Crescent CP
Brooklin Hillers CT
Brooklin Lane CP
Malcolm CP
Old Alberni Hwy CP
Melon Road CP
Wild Road CP
Arrowsmith CPR Regional Trail
Mount Arrowsmith Massif RP
Cameron Lake

| ELECTORAL AREA G | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| French Creek Estuary Nature Preserve | Conservation Area | |
| Miller Road Community Park | Conservation Area | |
| San Malo Crescent Community Park | Conservation Area | |
| Dashwood Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| French Creek Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Top Bridge Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Boultbee Drive Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Brookfield Windridge Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Centre Crescent Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Dalmation Drive Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Hawthorne Rise Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Maple Lane Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Neden Way Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Rivers Edge Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Stormwater Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Sumar Lane Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Barclay Crescent Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Chattel Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Columbia Drive West Side Community Trail | Natural Area | |
| Craig Creek Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Huckleberry Lane Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Kaye Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Lee Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Matuka Drive Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Stanhope Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Johnstone Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Mallard Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |

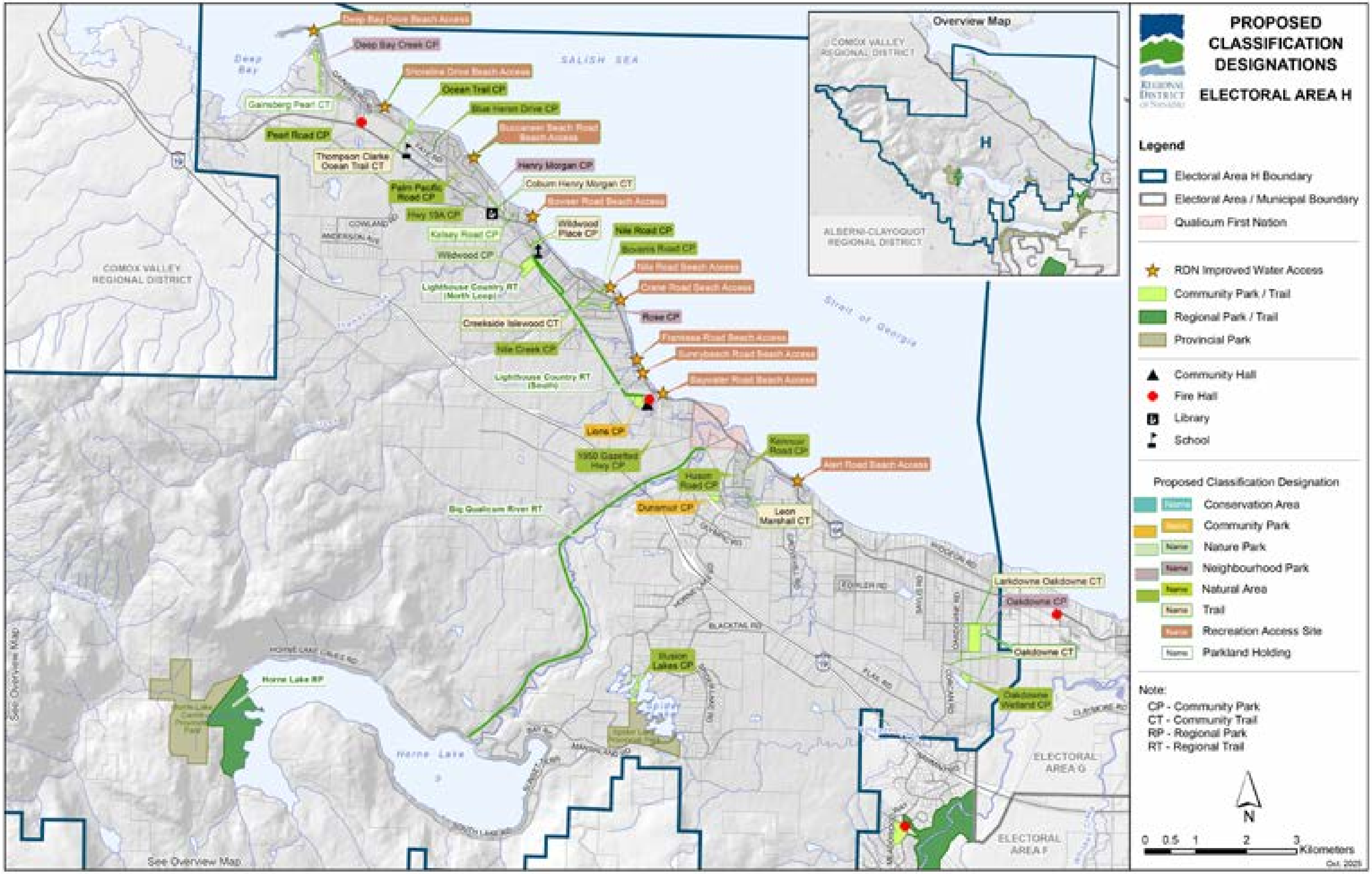
| ELECTORAL AREA G | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Surfside Drive East Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Surfside Drive West Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Cinnamon Sedge Matuka Community Park | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Kaye Peterson Community Park | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Kaye Rivers Edge Community Park | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Peterson Rascal Community Park | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Rivers Edge Community Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Rivers Edge Community Dr. Community Trail (N & S) | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Ackerman Wally Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Arrowsmith Tara Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Blue Water Place Community Park | Trail | Connector Path |
| Lee Road Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Riley Sanika Community Park | Trail | Connector Path |


PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA G
Sheet 1 of 2
Overview Map
See Inset Map
Inset Map - French Creek
SALISH SEA
Strait of Georgia
TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH
CITY OF PARKSVILLE
ELECTORAL AREA E
ELECTORAL AREA F
Legend
Electoral Area G Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
RDN Improved Water Access
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Airport
Church
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Oceanside Place Arena
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2 Kilometers
Sept. 2025


Inset Map 1 - Dashwood
Little Qualicum River Estuary Regional Conservation Area
Surfside Drive East Beach Access
Surfside Drive West Beach Access
Dashwood CP
Centre Crescent CP
Huckleberry Lane CP
Inset Map 2 - French Creek
Columbia Drive West Side CT
Dalmation Drive CP
Sumar Lane CP
French Creek Estuary Nature Preserve
French Creek CP
Lee Road CP
Lee Road CT
Lee Road West CT
Barsley Crescent CP
Boultbee Drive CP
Miller Road CP
Brookfield Windridge CP
Stannope CP
Ackerman Wally CT
Riley Sarsiva CP
Neden Way CP
Blue Water Place CP
Arrowsmith Tara CT
SALISH SEA
Strait of Georgia
See Inset Map 1
See Inset Map 2
ELECTORAL AREA H
ELECTORAL AREA F
TOWN OF QUALICUM BEACH
Overview Map
CITY OF PARKSVILLE
Parksville - Qualicum Beach Links
Coombs to Parksville Rail Trail
PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA G
Sheet 2 of 2
Legend
Electoral Area G Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
RDN Improved Water Access
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Airport
Church
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Oceanside Place Arena
Ravensong Aquatic Centre
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
N
0 0.5 1 2
Kilometers
Sept. 2025

| ELECTORAL AREA H | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Dunsmuir Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Lions Community Park | Park | Community Park |
| Wildwood Community Park | Park | Nature Park |
| Deep Bay Creek Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Henry Morgan Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Oakdowne Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| Rose Community Park | Park | Neighbourhood Park |
| 1950 Gazetted Hwy Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Blue Heron Drive Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Bovanis Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Huson Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Hwy 19A Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Illusion Lakes Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Kelsey Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Kenmuir Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Nile Creek Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Nile Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Oakdowne Wetland Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Ocean Trail Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Palm Pacific Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Pearl Road Community Park | Natural Area | |
| Alert Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Baywater Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Bowser Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Buccaneer Beach Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Crane Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Deep Bay Drive Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |

| ELECTORAL AREA H | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Property** | **Classification** | **Sub-Class** |
| Franksea Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Nile Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Shoreline Drive Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Sunnybeach Road Beach Access | Recreation Access Site | |
| Gainsberg Pearl Community Trail | Parkland Holding | |
| Larkdowne Oakdowne Community Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Oakdowne Community Trail | Trail | Recreational Trail |
| Coburn Henry Morgan Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Creekside Islewood Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Leon Marshall Community Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Thompson Clarke Ocean Trail | Trail | Connector Path |
| Wildwood Place Community Park | Trail | Connector Path |


PROPOSED CLASSIFICATION DESIGNATIONS
ELECTORAL AREA H
Legend
Electoral Area H Boundary
Electoral Area / Municipal Boundary
Qualicum First Nation
RDN Improved Water Access
Community Park / Trail
Regional Park / Trail
Provincial Park
Community Hall
Fire Hall
Library
School
Proposed Classification Designation
Conservation Area
Community Park
Nature Park
Neighbourhood Park
Natural Area
Trail
Recreation Access Site
Parkland Holding
Note:
CP - Community Park
CT - Community Trail
RP - Regional Park
RT - Regional Trail
Kilometers
Overview Map
SALISH SEA
Strait of Georgia
COMOX VALLEY REGIONAL DISTRICT
ALBERNI-CLAYOQUOT REGIONAL DISTRICT
ELECTORAL AREA G
ELECTORAL AREA F
Deep Bay Drive Beach Access
Deep Bay Creek CP
Shoreline Drive Beach Access
Ocean Trail CP
Gainsberg Pearl CT
Blue Heron Drive CP
Pearl Road CP
Buccaneer Beach Road Beach Access
Thompson Clarke Ocean Trail CT
Henry Morgan CP
Coburn Henry Morgan CT
Palm Pacific Road CP
Bowser Road Beach Access
Hwy 19A CP
Wildwood Place CP
Kelsey Road CP
Nile Road CP
Wildwood CP
Bouvens Road CP
Nile Road Beach Access
Lighthouse Country RT (North Loop)
Crane Road Beach Access
Rose CP
Creekside Islewood CT
Franlassa Road Beach Access
Nile Creek CP
Sunnybeach Road Beach Access
Lighthouse Country RT (South)
Bayview Road Beach Access
Lions CP
1950 Gazetted Hwy CP
Kenmuir Road CP
Alert Road Beach Access
Huson Road CP
Big Qualicum River RT
Dunsmuir CP
Leon Marshall CT
Larkdowne Oakdowne CT
Oakdowne CP
Oakdowne CT
Illusion Lakes CP
Oakdowne Wetland CP
Horne Lake RP
Horne Lake
See Overview Map

# Appendix C: Parks and Trails Guidelines (2014)

Table 4 RDN Trail Design Guidelines Matrix

## Trail Type 1

| TYPE 1 - HARD /COMPACTED SURFACE TRAIL (HIGHEST LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | EXAMPLES | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| » Urban or Rural<br>» Active transportation corridor<br>» Accessed by local residents and visitors<br>» Recreational Use<br>» Several amenities | Lighthouse Country Regional Trail | High | High |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Paved / Compacted Gravel | Gentle (0 - 5%) Max. 10% | 2–4 | 1 | 3 | 1 - 2% | 10 - 20 |

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| | ● | ● | | ● | ● |

| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

## Trail Type 2

| TYPE 2 - SOFT SURFACE TRAIL (MEDIUM DEVELOPMENT) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | EXAMPLES | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| » Accessed primarily by local residents<br>» Recreational Use<br>» Fewer amenities | Englishman River Regional Park | Moderate | Medium |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Crushed Gravel or Natural Surface | Up to 30% | 1–1.5 | 1 | 3 | 1–2% | Provide safe sight lines |

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | |

| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

## Trail Type 3

| TYPE 3 - NATURAL SURFACE (MINIMUM DEVELOPMENT) | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | EXAMPLES | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| » Rural or backcountry<br>» Recreational Use<br>» Few or no amenities | Mount Benson Regional Park | Low | Low |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Natural Surface/ gravel added where needed | Up to 30% | 0.5–1 | 0.5 | 2.5 | 2–4% | Provide safe sight lines |

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| ● | | ● | ● | | |

| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

■ TYPICALLY PROVIDED

□ OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

Table 5 Trail Type 1

| TRAIL TYPE 1 - HARD/COMPACTED SURFACE | | |
|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| Well-developed, supporting high number of users. Surfaced with asphalt or compacted gravel, wide enough for two-way travel. Universally accessible where possible. Provides many amenities. Typically provides front-country recreation experience. Designed for a variety of trail activities and users.<br><br>Examples: Lighthouse Country Regional Trail, Meadow Drive Community Park. | High | High |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Paved / Compacted Gravel | Gentle (0–5%) Max. 10% | 2–4 | 1 | 3 | 1–2% | 10–20 |

## Sample Image



Lighthouse Country Regional Trail

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| | | | | | |

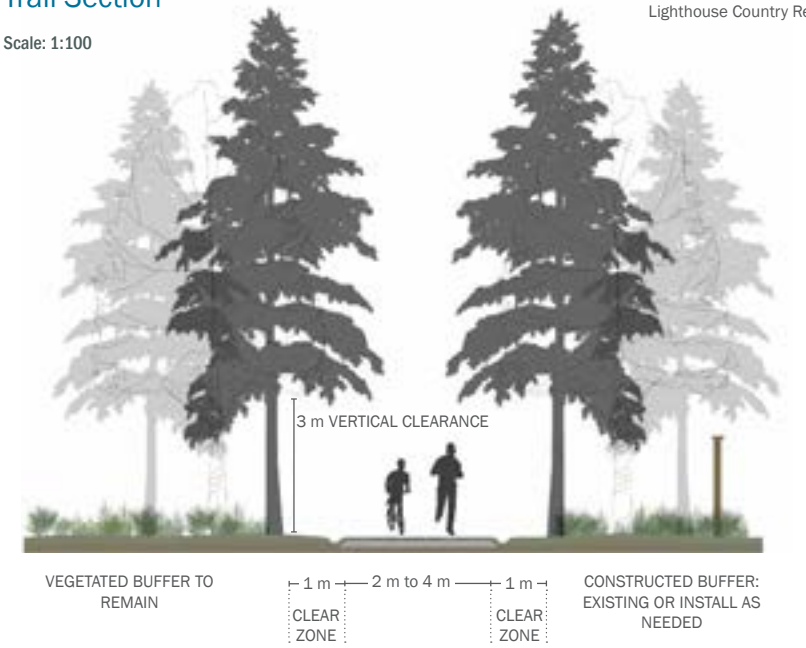
| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| | | | | | | |

TYPICALLY PROVIDED

OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

## Trail Section

**Scale: 1:100**




## Concept Detail

**Scale: 1:50**

OPTION: SURFACE TO BE 50 mm ASPHALT OR 75 mm DEPTH OF 9 mm (3/8") MINUS AGGREGATE COMPACTED TO 95% PROCTOR DENSITY WHEN SPECIFIED.

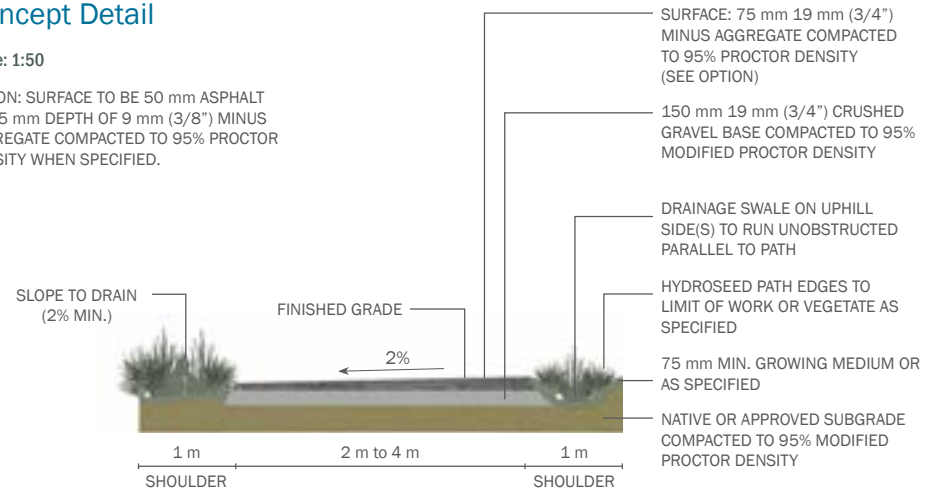


Table 6 Trail Type 2

| TRAIL TYPE 2 - SOFT SURFACE | | |
|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| Typically provides a mid-country and neighbourhood level recreational experience, fewer amenities. Soft surface, over more varied terrain. Not typically accessible to mobility impaired. Supports most other user groups.<br><br>Example: 707 Community Park, Englishman River Regional Park | Moderate | Medium |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Crushed Gravel or Natural Surface | Up to 30% | 1–1.5 | 1 | 3 | 1–2% | Provide safe sight lines |

## Sample Image



Englishman River Regional Park

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| | | | | | |

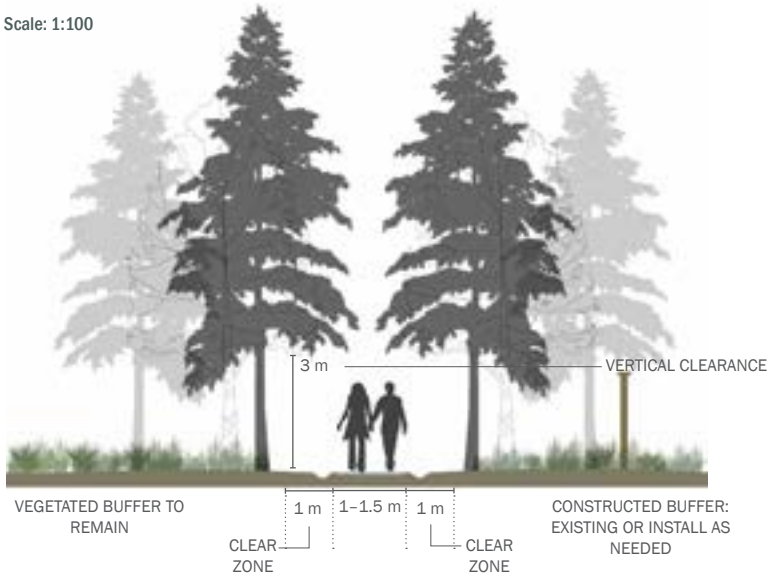
| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| | | | | | | |

TYPICALLY PROVIDED

OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

## Trail Section

**Scale: 1:100**




## Concept Detail

**Scale: 1:50**

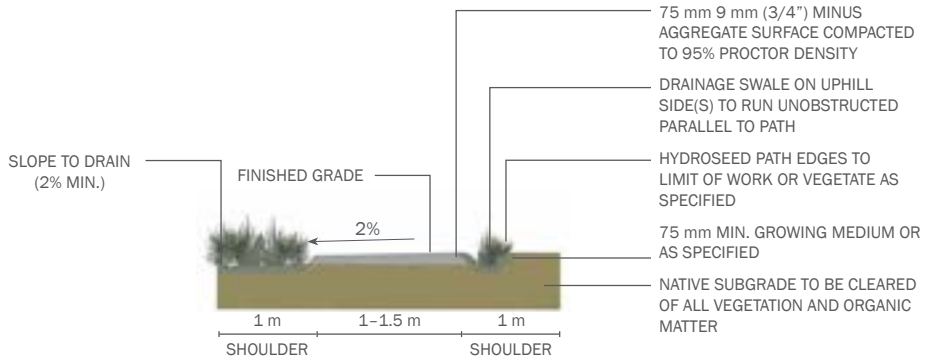


Table 7 Trail Type 3

| TRAIL TYPE 3 - NATURAL SURFACE | | |
|---|---|---|
| DESCRIPTION | RELATIVE LEVEL OF USE | MAINTENANCE |
| Single-track trail, typically not universally accessible due surfacing and terrain. Provides a back-country recreation experience and very few amenities. The narrow natural surface trail has fewer environmental impacts, protects sensitive ecosystems, and enhances user experience.<br><br>Trail examples: Arrowsmith CPR Trail, Mount Benson Regional Park | Low | Low |

| DESIGN ELEMENTS | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| SURFACING | SLOPE | TRAIL WIDTH (M) | CLEARING WIDTH ON EACH SIDE OF TRAIL (M) | CLEARING HEIGHT (M) | CROSS SLOPE | SIGHT LINES (M) |
| Natural Surface/ gravel added where needed | Up to 30% | 0.5–1 | 0.5 | 2.5 | 2–4% | Provide safe sight lines |

## Sample Image



Benson Creek Falls Regional Park

| TYPICAL USERS | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| HIKING | WALKING | EQUESTRIAN | MOUNTAIN BIKING | CYCLING | UNIVERSAL ACCESS |
| ● | | ● | | ● | |

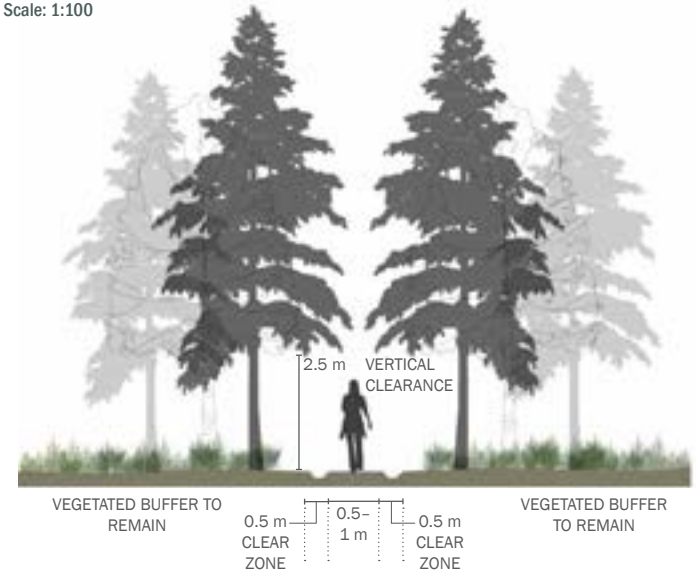
| AMENITIES | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| FURNISHINGS | GARBAGE RECEPTACLES | KIOSK | REST AREAS | TOILETS | BICYCLE PARKING | VEHICLE PARKING |
| ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● | ● |

● TYPICALLY PROVIDED

○ OCCASIONALLY PROVIDED

## Trail Section

Scale: 1:100




## Concept Detail

Scale: 1:50

