

# JUAN DE FUCA PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:



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Dick Heath  
Regional Manager  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: March 25/03



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Nancy Wilkin  
Assistant Deputy Minister  
Environmental Stewardship Division

Date: Mar. 31/03

## **JUAN DE FUCA PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan**

### **Primary Role**

The **primary** role of Juan de Fuca Provincial Park is to protect a highly scenic and unique shoreline area between Sooke and Port Renfrew along the Strait of Juan de Fuca. The park encompasses a wide spectrum of natural values from forests to wildlife that must be protected and managed to reflect the purpose for which it was created. Juan de Fuca Provincial Park provides a protected habitat and natural corridor for many larger species of west coast mammals such as cougar, deer, black bear, wolf, otter, seal and sea lions.

### **Secondary Role**

The **secondary** role is to provide a wide range of recreational opportunities and facilities including a 47 km trail, various other small trails and a number of day-use areas with picnic tables, pit toilets, information shelters, signage and parking lots. Several camping areas dot the length of the Juan de Fuca Trail providing opportunities for both wilderness beach camping and upland camping. The most recent development in the park is located 2 kilometres north of Jordan River, where a 87 unit vehicle campground was constructed at China Beach in 2000.

People are drawn to the area to enjoy the park's outstanding vistas, rocky headlands, coastal Douglas-fir forests and spectacular displays of marine life in tidal pools and along the rugged shoreline. Hikers, campers and day users can experience old growth rainforests, seal grottos, marine life, wide pebble/gravel beaches and roaring surf headlands as they walk on the popular Juan de Fuca Trail. The most significant of these areas is at Botanical Beach at the western end of the park. This park also supplies a variety of coastal and nature appreciation activities in a significant part of the rugged Pacific coast of Vancouver Island.

### **Tertiary Role**

The **tertiary** role is to protect significant cultural values associated with Juan de Fuca Park. Located within part of the Dididaht/Pacheedaht and T'Souke First Nations territory, the park protects shell middens, village sites, shark-fishing camps and traditional marine harvesting areas.

The Juan de Fuca Trail is part of a legacy from the historic lifesaving trail that was first established along the rugged west coast to provide mariners, fishermen and adventurers with a safety route in an area known for violent storms and shipwrecks.

### **Quaternary Role**

The **quaternary** role is to provide research opportunities at Botanical Beach's internationally significant intertidal pools. The diversity and abundance of wildlife ranges from specialist species such as the gooseneck barnacle and sea palm to the more common urchins and anemones. Botanical Beach has been a research site for marine studies for over a century due to its exceptional marine and wildlife viewing and study opportunities.

<b>Known Management Issues</b>	<b>Response</b>
Protection of intertidal life at Botanical Beach. There are issues around the loss or perceived loss of organisms within tide pools and the shoreline in general.	More scientific data needs to be collected to make rational scientific decisions based on fact rather than notions. Continued support is needed for photomonitoring of tidepools and species. More information is needed on human impacts including trampling, removal and poaching.
Recreational and commercial harvesting restrictions may be needed to restore depleted shellfish stocks.	Pursue harvesting restrictions and/or closures with DFO. Botanical Beach already has a "no take zone".
Protection of red and blue-listed species	Undertake inventories to identify all site locations.
Vegetation poaching in various areas of the park (e.g. salal, cedar, mushrooms, bonsai trees).	Clearly marked boundaries and increased management presence required.
Invasive species, such as Scotch broom and ivy, need to be better managed.	Develop a Vegetation Management Plan to address strategy for the removal of invasive plant species.
Parkinson Creek seal grotto. A decision needs to be made on type of access to be allowed.	More knowledge/research needed on marine mammal/human interaction to determine appropriate type of access and suitable location for wildlife viewing.
Potential for oil spills from passing marine traffic.	Ensure oil spill plan is in place.
Lack of protected foreshore.	Pursue acquisition of additional foreshore areas for inclusion in the park to improve/complete protection of marine component.
Enforcement issues at Sombrio Beach.	Formally add the recently acquired lands to the park to facilitate enforcement efforts.
Access roads to Sombrio and Parkinson Creek parking lots are not in park.	Need formalized agreement or acquire.
First Nations' current and traditional values such as various middens in park and village site at Sombrio are threatened.	Ensure middens and cultural values are protected.
Unauthorized access across private land and non-compliance for camping fees.	Increased management presence required.
Lack of current management direction for entire park.	Complete the draft management plan for this park in 2004/05.
Lack of knowledge of commercial uses occurring in park.	More monitoring needed and ensure that such activities are under park use permit.
Vandalism at some locations.	Increased enforcement, community support and signage needed.

Inadequate sani facilities along the Juan de Fuca Trail.	Install additional pit toilets.
Mice, rats and bears may damage visitors' equipment and eat human food.	Install rodent traps and provide food caches at appropriate wilderness campsites.
Need to upgrade and provide additional facilities to minimize environmental damage and enhance visitors' experiences.	Facilities are failing. Replacement and additional facilities such as boardwalk are required.

**Zoning**

Botanical Beach area, marine foreshore and significant natural and cultural features (such as old growth forests, sandstone formations, rocky headlands, seal grotto, middens, First Nations village site at Sombrio Beach) are zoned Special Features (approximately 32% of the park). The Intensive Recreation Zone comprises the trailheads, vehicle and wilderness campgrounds and day use areas (approximately 8% of the park). The remainder of the park (approximately 60% of the park) is zoned Natural Environment.

**Conservation**

Representation - ecosection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Situated in the well represented Windward Island Mountains Ecosection (17.42%); Juan de Fuca Park contributes only 0.66% of overall protected area representation of this ecosection. The park contributes 9.8% to the protection of the Juan de Fuca <i>Marine</i> Ecosection of which 1.36% is protected provincially. It is ranked 3rd out of 3 in the protection of this marine ecosection.
biogeoclimatic subzone/variant	<input type="checkbox"/>	Contributes to representation of two subzone/variants; CWHvh1 is well represented (19.34%) in the protected areas system; Juan de Fuca contributes only 0.68% to the protection of this variant. CWHvm1 variant is moderately represented in the protected areas system (7.01%); Juan de Fuca Park contributes only 0.55% of the overall representation of this ecosystem.
Special Feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Botanical Beach is of international significance for marine diversity and protection of tidal pools. There is also a seal grotto at Parkinson Creek. Remnant old growth Douglas-fir and cedar forests are found throughout the park.
Rare/Endangered Values	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Cutthroat trout, Nodding semaphore grass and Smith's fairybells – blue listed; Northern abalone, marine algae (non vascular plants) in lower intertidal zone: <i>Herposiphonia verticillata</i> , <i>Chiharaea bodegensis</i> , <i>Hollenbergia nigricans</i> – red listed.
Scientific/Research Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marine intertidal research since early 1900s.

**Recreation**

Representation backcountry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	A popular linear marine trail system with wilderness campsites.
destination	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Campground/day use at China Beach; Botanical Beach tidal pools, Juan de Fuca trail and wilderness campsites; Sombrio Beach popular with surfers.

travel corridor	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Access along popular West Coast Road from Sooke to Port Renfrew and is major tourist attraction.
local recreation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Regional day use and destination use.
Special Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	47 km of wilderness hiking along coastal trail, camping; nature appreciation, photography and marine life viewing.
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Botanical Beach renowned for marine life interpretation.

### Cultural Heritage

Representation	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Special Feature	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Middens and First Nations village site at Sombrio; West Coast Trail part of old Life Saving emergency route (for mariners).

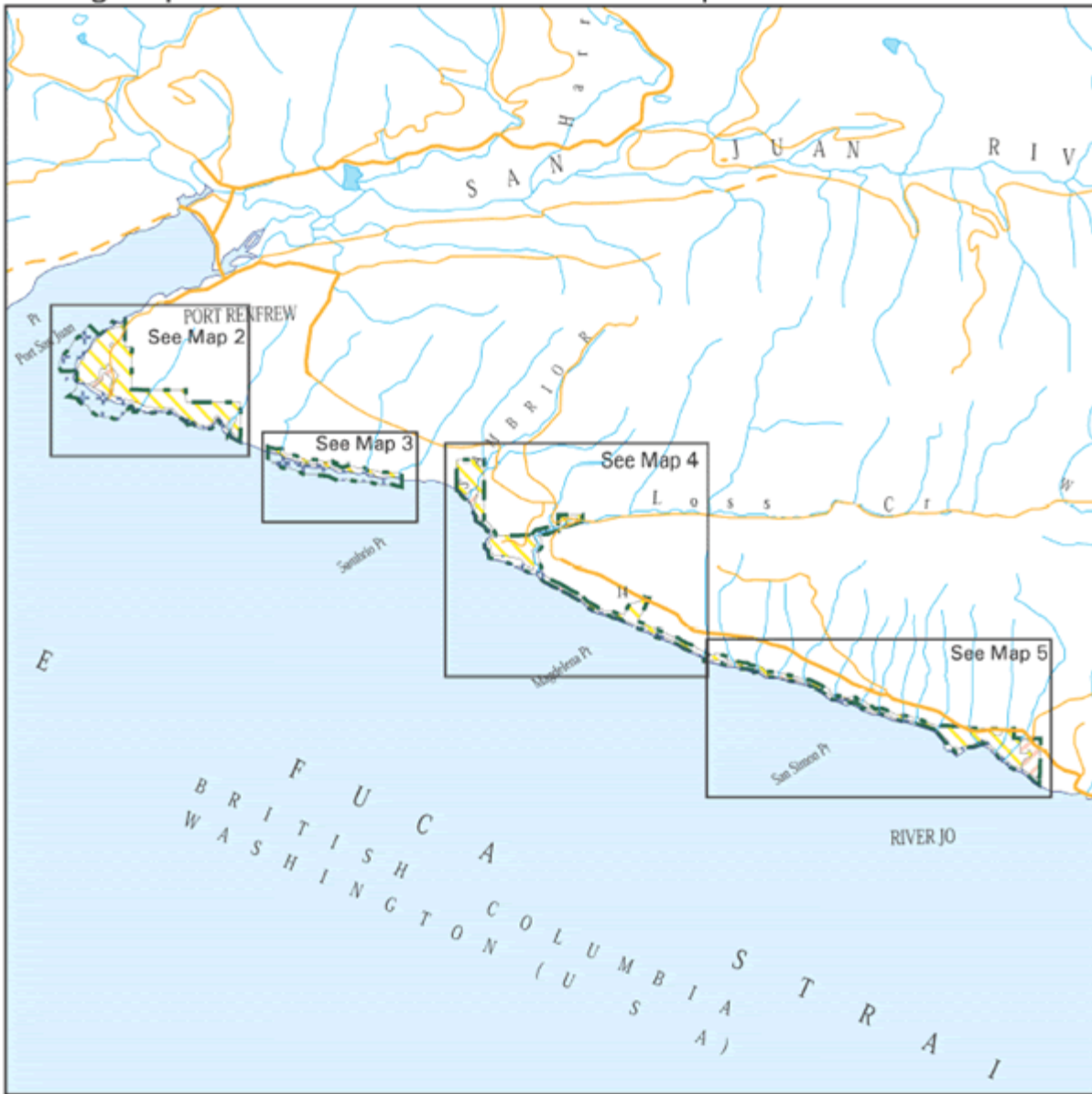
### Other Management Considerations

Other Designations	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Relationship to other PAs	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Part of West Coast wilderness experience; adjacent to Pacific Rim National Park.
Co-operative Management Arrangements	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Partnerships	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Local RCMP detachment; "Park Watch" program; volunteer Emergency Services.
Vulnerability	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fire and vandalism; loss of marine values from unauthorized recreational and commercial activities.
Relationship to other Strategies	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Marine Protected Areas Strategy

**Area:** 1,277 hectares

**Date of establishment:** April 4, 1996

# Zoning Map - Juan De Fuca Provincial Park Map 1



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



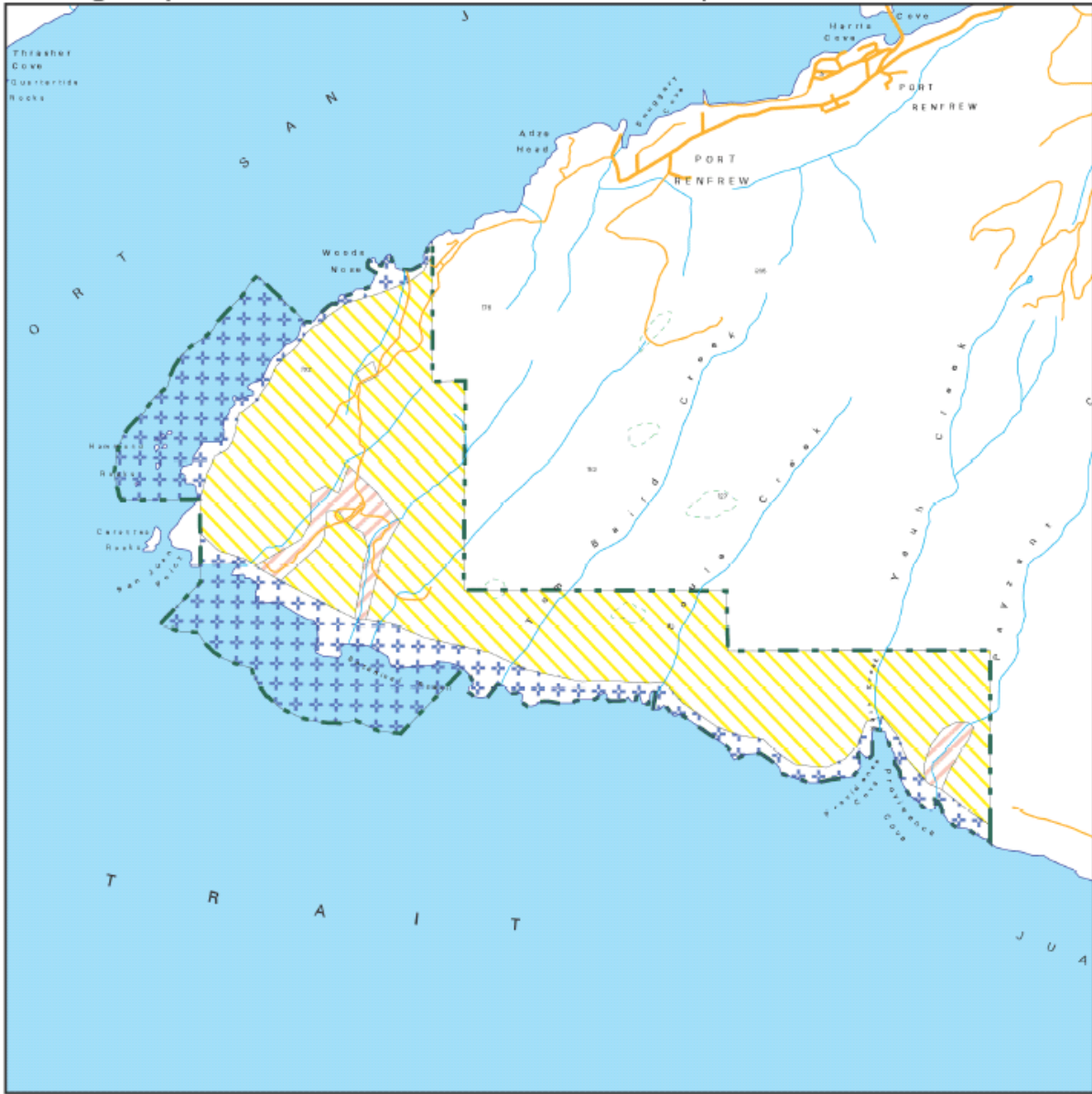
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Support Services

-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary



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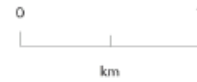
# Zoning Map - Juan De Fuca Provincial Park Map 2



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary

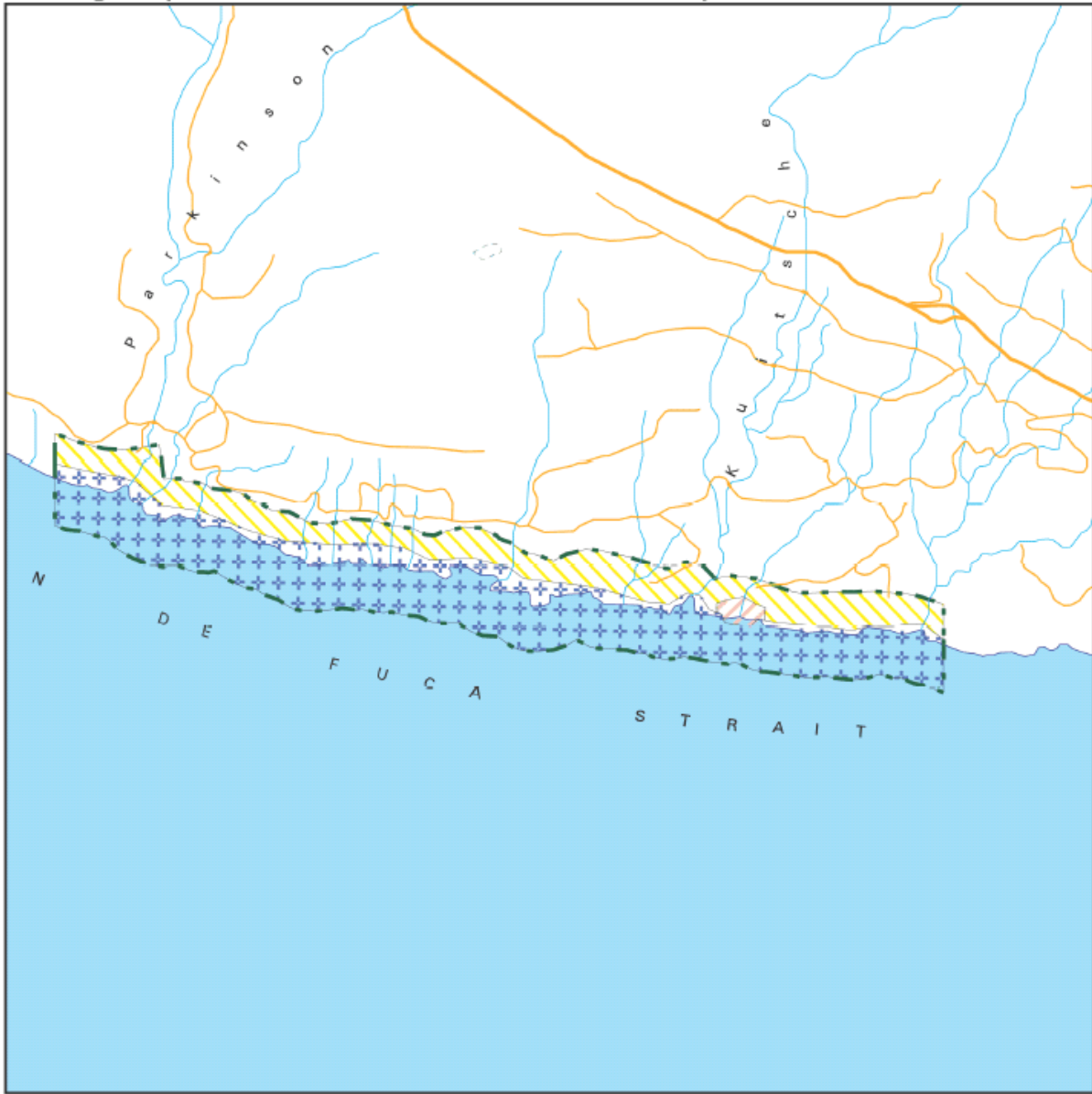


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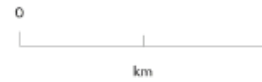
# Zoning Map - Juan De Fuca Provincial Park Map 3



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary



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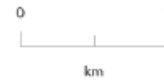
# Zoning Map - Juan De Fuca Provincial Park Map 4



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary



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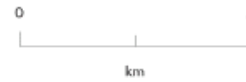
# Zoning Map - Juan De Fuca Provincial Park Map 5



Projection: Albers Equal Areas  
Datum: NAD83



-  Intensive Recreation
-  Natural Environment
-  Special Feature
-  Protected Area Boundary



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