# PRINCESS LOUISA MARINE PROVINCIAL PARK

## PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

## March 2003

Approved by:

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Environmental Stewardship Division

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Date:

### Princess Louisa Provincial Park Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

#### **Primary Role**

The **primary role** of Princess Louisa Park is to protect an outstanding recreational opportunity for boaters to enjoy one of the most scenic fiords on British Columbia's southern coast. This roadless, undeveloped inlet is a premiere destination for boaters throughout British Columbia and the Pacific Northwest. Although small in size, the park provides safe anchorage, a dock system, and picnic and camping facilities at the head of the inlet. A walking trail from the wharf provides easily accessible viewing opportunities of scenic Chatterbox Falls.

The land was donated to the Province through the Princess Louisa International Society with an agreement to protect the area for future generations. The Society continues its efforts to acquire additional lands within the inlet.

#### **Secondary Role**

The **secondary role** is to protect the visual, spiritual and natural values of the inlet. Due to the park's small size, it inadequately protects these values, but its high profile has resulted in awareness and appreciation of them throughout the inlet.

Known Management Issues	Response
The park protects only a small portion of	The Princess Louisa International Society
this scenic fiord. The high values of the	is working to acquire additional land.
park and the inlet are vulnerable to the	
impacts of forest harvesting and other	
development.	
There is a lack of knowledge regarding the	Monitor water quality and initiate
potential impacts due to the park's	management actions as required. Provide
popularity as a boating destination. Marine	boaters with information on appropriate
pollution in this long, narrow inlet may be	actions regarding marine pollution.
an issue.	

#### **Zoning**

<u>Natural Environment</u> - All of the park is zoned Natural Environment. This zone will protect natural and cultural values, will allow upland recreation opportunities, and will allow only facility development oriented to the needs of recreational boaters. The focus of this zone will be to create a balance between resource protection, moderate to high levels of use, and moderate facility development focused on docking facilities, on shore campsites, and viewing or hiking trails.

#### Conservation Representation - ecosection Minor contribution to the well represented Southern Pacific Ranges (SPR). Princess Louisa Marine Park contributes only 0.36% to the representation of the Strait of Georgia *Marine* Ecosection (SOG) which is poorly protected at only 0.94%. Ranks 21st out of 25 in terms of contribution. - biogeoclimatic subzone/variant Minor contribution to the underrepresented CWHdm subzone. X Special Feature Outstanding example of fiordland and scenic Chatterbox Falls Rare/Endangered Values None identified at this time. Scientific/Research Opportunities Recreation Representation backcountry $\overline{\boxtimes}$ destination Internationally known marine destination. travel corridor local recreation Special Opportunities Education/Interpretation Opportunities **Cultural Heritage** Representation $\times$ The area has spiritual significance for the Sechelt First Nation. The 80-year boating history has created Special Feature a wide-spread cultural appreciation for the area. **Other Management Considerations** Other Designations Relationship to other PAs Co-operative Management Arrangements $\boxtimes$ The Princess Louisa International Partnerships Society donated the park to the province with an agreement that the province would protect the area as a provincial

			park for perpetuity. Donation was conditional on marine users having free access to park.
Vulnerability		$\boxtimes$	Adjacent land uses could significantly impact park values.
Relationship to other Strategies			
Area:	65 ha (38 hectares of upland and 27 hectares of foreshore)		
Date of establishment:	June 24, 1965		

