ROBERTS MEMORIAL PROVINCIAL PARK

PURPOSE STATEMENT AND ZONING PLAN

March 2003

Approved by:	
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ROBERTS MEMORIAL PROVINCIAL PARK Purpose Statement and Zoning Plan

Primary Role

The **primary** role of Roberts Memorial Provincial Park is to protect important sandstone ledges that serve as a haul out for northern and California sea lions during the summer months. Donated by May Vaughan Roberts in memory of her husband and daughter, the park contains a forested upland which serves as a scenic backdrop to the sandstone beach.

Secondary Role

The **secondary** role of the park is to provide day use recreational opportunities associated with the natural values and features of the park. The park is a popular day use area for local and area residents, offering hiking, picnicking, photography and wildlife viewing opportunities. A short trail through Douglas-fir stands brings visitors to a scenic shoreline and rich intertidal area that provides habitat to a variety of sea birds and marine life.

Tertiary Role

The **tertiary** role is to protect any cultural resources associated with this park. A shell midden located on the beach signifies First Nations' traditional use of this area for the harvesting of rich intertidal marine life.

Known Management Issues	Response
Auto theft and vandalism of vehicles in parking lot.	Implement "Park Watch" program in conjunction with area residents, local RCMP detachment.
Provide protection to the intertidal and marine	Pursue acquisition of the foreshore for
natural values.	inclusion in the park.
Investigate potential transfer to Nanaimo	Undertake consultations with Regional District,
Regional District.	Nanaimo First Nations and stakeholders.

Zoning

The entire park (14 hectares) is zoned Natural Environment.

Conservation					
Representation - ecosection		Contributes minimally to the representation of the Nanaimo Lowland Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented: only 1.4% protected in PA system. Roberts Memorial contributes only 0.27% of overall representation of the ecosection.			
- biogeoclimatic subzone/variant		CDFmm variant - only 2.43% protected; Roberts Memorial contributes only 0.2% of the overall protected area representation of this variant.			
Special Feature		Sandstone ledges provide excellent haul out site for northern and California sea lions.			
Rare/Endangered Values		None identified			
Scientific/Research Opportunities					
Recreation					
Representation backcountry					
destination					
travel corridor					
local recreation		Popular local day use area for picnicking, wildlife viewing and nature appreciation.			
Special Opportunities		Nature appreciation and wildlife viewing (e.g. eagles, herons, seabirds etc. and sea lions during summer months).			
Education/Interpretation Opportunities	\boxtimes	Wildlife viewing			
Cultural Heritage					
Representation					
Special Feature		Archaeological site (shell midden).			
Other Management Considerations					
Other Designations	\boxtimes	Investigate possible transfer to Nanaimo Regional District.			

Relationship to other PAs		
Co-operative Management Arrangements		Potential for Nanaimo First Nations or Nanaimo Regional District to manage park.
Partnerships		Stewardship arrangement with local interest group, "Park Watch" etc.
Vulnerability		Vandalism (liaise with local RCMP detachment to reduce auto theft and vandalism).
Relationship to other Strateg	ies	
Area: 14 hectares		
Date of establishment:	May 22, 1980	

