

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE**

MEETING

Wednesday, September 4, 2024

9:00 am

28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia

Webstream available at <https://www.metrovancouver.org>

A G E N D A¹

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. September 4, 2024 Meeting Agenda

That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for September 4, 2024 as circulated.

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. July 17, 2024 Meeting Minutes

That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held July 17, 2024 as circulated.

pg. 3

C. DELEGATIONS

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. Mark van der Zalm, President, and Mark Mahl, Executive Director, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation

Subject: Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation

2. Feidhlim Ó Seasnáin, Manager, Substance Use and Mental Health – Fraser Region, and Sonya Johnston, Team Lead, Prevention and Health Promotion Program, Pacific Community Resources Society

Subject: Pacific Community Resources Society – Camp Capilano

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan Update

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 30, 2024, titled “Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan Update.”

pg. 8

¹ Note: Recommendation is shown under each item, where applicable.

2. **Regional Greenway Network Status Update** pg. 13
That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 23, 2024, titled “Regional Greenway Network Status Update.”
3. **Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks – Project Update** pg. 21
That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 23, 2024, titled “Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks – Project Update.”
4. **Manager’s Report – Regional Parks** pg. 38
That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated August 23, 2024, titled “Manager’s Report – Regional Parks.”

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. **Regional Parks Upcoming Events – September 2024** pg. 45

G. OTHER BUSINESS

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

Note: The Committee must state by resolution the basis under section 90 of the Community Charter on which the meeting is being closed. If a member wishes to add an item, the basis must be included below.

That the Regional Parks Committee close its meeting scheduled for September 4, 2024 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

- 90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:
- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

I. ADJOURNMENT

That the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its meeting of September 4, 2024.

Membership:

McEwen, John (C) – Anmore
Bligh, Rebecca (VC) – Vancouver
Au, Chak – Richmond
Calendino, Pietro – Burnaby
Elke, Tracy – Pitt Meadows
Hodge, Craig – Coquitlam

Kruger, Dylan – Delta
Lahti, Meghan – Port Moody
Leonard, Andrew – Bowen Island
Muri, Lisa – North Vancouver District
Penner, Darrell – Port Coquitlam
Ross, Jamie – Belcarra

Stutt, Rob – Surrey
Tan, Jenny – Maple Ridge
Thompson, Sharon – West Vancouver
Woodward, Eric – Langley Township

**METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL DISTRICT
REGIONAL PARKS COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Metro Vancouver Regional District (MVRD) Regional Parks Committee held at 1:02 pm on Wednesday, July 17, 2024 in the 28th Floor Committee Room, 4515 Central Boulevard, Burnaby, British Columbia.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Chair, Director John McEwen, Anmore
 Vice Chair, Director Rebecca Bligh, Vancouver
 Director Pietro Calendino, Burnaby
 Director Chak Au, Richmond*
 Councillor Tracy Elke, Pitt Meadows
 Director Craig Hodge, Coquitlam*
 Director Dylan Kruger, Delta
 Director Meghan Lahti, Port Moody
 Director Andrew Leonard, Bowen Island
 Director Lisa Muri, North Vancouver District
 Councillor Darrell Penner, Port Coquitlam
 Director Jamie Ross, Belcarra (arrived at 1:08 pm)
 Director Rob Stutt, Surrey
 Councillor Jenny Tan, Maple Ridge
 Councillor Sharon Thompson, West Vancouver
 Director Eric Woodward, Langley Township (arrived at 1:05 pm)

*denotes electronic meeting participation as authorized by the *Procedure Bylaw*

STAFF PRESENT:

Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks
 Catherine Grosson, Legislative Services Coordinator, Board and Information Services
 Jeffrey Fitzpatrick, Division Manager, Design and Development, Regional Parks
 Markus Merkens, Natural Resource Management Specialist, Regional Parks

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ross Davies, Education Coordinator, Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society
 Mike Jerowsky, Treasurer, Pacific Spirit Park Society
 Joyce Leung, President, Pacific Spirit Park Society

A. ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

1. July 17, 2024 Meeting Agenda

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the agenda for its meeting scheduled for July 17, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

B. ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

1. May 8, 2024 Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee adopt the minutes of its meeting held May 8, 2024 as circulated.

CARRIED

C. DELEGATIONS

No items presented.

D. INVITED PRESENTATIONS

1. Joyce Leung, President, and Mike Jerowsky, Treasurer, Pacific Spirit Park Society
Subject: Contribution Agreement – Pacific Spirit Park Society

1:05 pm Director Woodward arrived at the meeting.

1:08 pm Director Ross arrived at the meeting.

Joyce Leung, President, and Mike Jerowsky, Treasurer, Pacific Spirit Park Society, provided members with a presentation titled “Pacific Spirit Park Society 2022 – 2024” which outlined:

- projects and programs that were made possible with the help of Metro Vancouver monetary contributions in past years; and
- plans for how the society plans to use future funding from Metro Vancouver if the proposed Contribution Agreement is approved by the MVRD Board.

2. Ross Davies, Education Coordinator, Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society

Subject: Contribution Agreement – Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society

Ross Davies, Education Coordinator, Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society, provided members with a presentation titled “K.E.E.P.S. Regional Parks Committee 2024” which outlined:

- projects and programs that were made possible with the help of Metro Vancouver monetary contributions in past years; and
- plans for how the society plans to use future funding from Metro Vancouver if the proposed Contribution Agreement is approved by the MVRD Board.

E. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEE OR CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

1. Contribution Agreement Request – Pacific Spirit Park Society

Report dated June 24, 2024 from David Leavers, Division Manager, Visitor and Operations Services, Regional Parks, seeking MVRD Board approval to enter into a new three-year contribution agreement with the Pacific Spirit Park Society.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board approve, substantially in the form attached, the contribution agreement between the Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Pacific Spirit Park Society for a three-year term in the aggregate amount of \$45,000 (\$15,000 in 2025, \$15,000 in 2026 and \$15,000 in 2027) commencing January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2027.

CARRIED

2. Contribution Agreement Request – Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society

Report dated June 24, 2024 from David Leavers, Division Manager, Visitor and Operations Services, Regional Parks, seeking MVRD Board approval to enter into a new three-year contribution agreement with the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board approve, substantially in the form attached, the contribution agreement between the Metro Vancouver Regional District and the Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society for a three-year term in the aggregate amount of \$45,000 (\$15,000 in 2025, \$15,000 in 2026 and \$15,000 in 2027) commencing January 1, 2025 and ending December 31, 2027.

CARRIED

3. Draft 2025 – 2029 Capital Plan Overview

Report dated July 10, 2024 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, and Jeffrey Fitzpatrick, Division Manager, Design and Development, Regional Parks, presenting the Regional Parks Committee with the draft Regional Parks 2025 – 2029 Capital Plan for Comments.

Mike Redpath and Jeffrey Fitzpatrick provided members with a presentation titled “Regional Parks: 2025 – 2029 Draft Capital Plan”, which outlined projects in development.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated July 10, 2024, titled “Draft 2025 – 2029 Regional Parks Capital Plan.”

CARRIED

4. Natural Resource Management Restoration Program Update

Report dated May 31, 2024 from Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks, sharing information on the Regional Parks Natural Resource Management Restoration Program.

Markus Merkens, Natural Resource Management Specialist, Regional Parks, provided members with a presentation titled “Ecological Restoration Projects in Regional Parks”, which outlined restoration projects in development within the Metro Vancouver parks system.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated May 31, 2024, titled “Natural Resource Management Restoration Program Update.”
CARRIED

5. Manager’s Report – Regional Parks

Report dated July 9, 2024 from Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks, providing an overview of projects underway in Metro Vancouver’s regional parks.

Mike Redpath provided members with an update on the status of the West Road recreation site, which is currently leased to the Village of Belcarra and noted that Metro Vancouver is currently working with the Village of Belcarra staff to determine the future use of this site.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 9, 2024, titled “Manager’s Report – Regional Parks.”
CARRIED

F. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. Metro Vancouver’s 2024 Financial Performance Report No. 1

Report dated June 12, 2024 from Harji Varn, General Manager, Financial Services, Chief Financial Officer, presenting the Finance Committee and MVRD Board with the Metro Vancouver 2024 Financial Performance Report No. 1.

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee receive for information the report dated June 12, 2024 titled “Metro Vancouver’s 2024 Financial Performance Report No. 1”.
CARRIED

2. Regional Parks Upcoming Events – July 2024

3. Regional Parks Upcoming Events – August 2024

G. OTHER BUSINESS

No items presented.

H. RESOLUTION TO CLOSE MEETING

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee close its meeting scheduled for July 17, 2024 pursuant to section 226 (1) (a) of the *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* provisions as follows:

90 (1) A part of a council meeting may be closed to the public if the subject matter being considered relates to or is one or more of the following:

- (e) the acquisition, disposition or expropriation of land or improvements, if the council considers that disclosure could reasonably be expected to harm the interests of the municipality.

CARRIED

I. ADJOURNMENT

It was MOVED and SECONDED

That the Regional Parks Committee adjourn its meeting of July 17, 2024.

CARRIED

(Time: 2:18 pm)

Catherine Grosson,
Legislative Services Coordinator

John McEwen,
Chair

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To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Karin England, Landscape Architect, Design and Development, Regional Parks

Date: July 30, 2024

Meeting Date: September 4, 2024

Subject: **Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 30, 2024, titled “Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan Update.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In 2022, Water Services received funding through the Sustainability Innovation Fund (SIF) program to create a Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan (SEAP). SEAP will create a prioritized list of salmon enhancement projects that integrate and coordinate Metro Vancouver’s salmon enhancement activities on the land, facilities, and infrastructure that Metro Vancouver owns or manages.

Through engagement with First Nations, internal staff, member jurisdictions, external organizations, and experts involved in salmon enhancement, Metro Vancouver is gathering information about work already underway, mapping existing projects and activities, identifying opportunities for future collaboration, and building relationships. Early feedback from First Nations has been that the project is an example of positive collaboration between the Nations and Metro Vancouver.

Drafting of the Action Plan is now underway, with reviews taking place over the next six months. It will be brought to the MVRD Board for endorsement in spring of 2025.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a summary of the engagement results for the Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan (SEAP) and describe next steps in this corporate initiative.

BACKGROUND

The Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan is a SIF funded project which aims to provide corporate coordination on existing and future Metro Vancouver work on salmon enhancement activities.

ENGAGEMENT FEEDBACK

The SEAP project is led by a cross-department team including representatives from External Relations, Indigenous Relations, Liquid Waste, Regional Parks, Regional Planning, and Water Services. The project is supported by Kerr Wood Leidal consultants. Work to date has been focused on engagement and workshops to collect information and generate ideas about potential actions.

First Nations Early Conversations

Meetings were held with Nations in 2023 to learn how the project scope could incorporate their interests, and how they would like to be engaged. Metro Vancouver staff had conversations with staff from kʷikʷə́łəm (Kwkwetlem First Nation), scə́wəθən məsteyəxʷ (Tsawwassen First Nation), qʷa:ńł'əń (Kwantlen First Nation), Sk̓wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw (Squamish Nation), and se'mya'me (Semiahmoo First Nation). SEAP also received written comments from Sk̓wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw.

Key messages were that:

- The Nations appreciated being involved early in the planning for the project.
- The Action Plan should continue longer than ten years.
- It is important to include həńqəmińəń language in the Action Plan.
- There is need for a First Nations workshop to precede workshops with others.

First Nations Workshop

As recommended by Nations in early conversations, a First Nations workshop was held on April 5, 2024. The purpose of the workshop was to bring together First Nations to build connections, to share First Nations' priorities and current initiatives, and to identify potential actions and opportunities for collaboration. An elder from scə́wəθən məsteyəxʷ provided both opening and closing comments. They highlighted the importance of sharing this project as a positive example of the collaborative work being done between the Nations and Metro Vancouver.

Highlights from what we heard are:

- First Nations, Metro Vancouver, and others can be a collective voice on water quality – “we are all in this together.”
- There is a lack of general public understanding of impacts to salmon, climate change, the goals of restoration work, and the need for restoration work.
- Ecological conservation areas need to include restoring relationships between land and people and ensuring access to food and medicines.

Staff Workshops

Two workshops were held on February 29 and April 15, 2024 with Metro Vancouver staff from External Relations, Indigenous Relations, Liquid Waste, Project Delivery, Regional Parks, Regional Planning, and Water Services. The purpose of the first workshop was to collect examples of projects underway that support salmon success, and brainstorm actions that could be taken to improve salmon outcomes. The second workshop focused on the development of criteria that could be used to evaluate potential actions to decide which would be included and how they would be prioritized.

Collaborative Workshop

On May 24, 2024, a collaborative workshop was held with 73 workshop participants from First Nations, member jurisdictions, Federal and Provincial governments (Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Ministry of Water, Lands and Resource Stewardship), environmental non-governmental organizations, academics, and consultants. Participating First Nations included qʷa:ńł'əń, kʷikʷə́łəm, xʷməθkʷəy̓əm (Musqueam Indian Band), se'mya'me, Sk̓wxwú7mesh Úxwumixw, scə́wəθən məsteyəxʷ, and sə́lilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh Nation).

The workshop began with an opening prayer and welcome provided by a member of q'w'a:ńł'əń and was closed by an elder of scəwáθən məsteyəxʷ.

The purpose of the workshop was to identify specific priorities and interests relating to salmon, identify potential focal sites and projects, build relationships between organizations, identify opportunities for collaboration or build on existing collaborations, and understand criteria for evaluating potential actions.

An Indigenous Graphic Recorder attended the workshop and produced a graphic illustration to summarize some of the key themes that emerged (Attachment 1).

Opportunities for actions identified in the workshop centered on the themes of salmon habitat, water quality and quantity, and removal of fish barriers. The evaluation criteria which received the strongest support were achieving measurable salmon outcomes, contributing to First Nations priorities and initiatives, resilience to climate change, and providing multi-species co-benefits, cost relative to impact, and cost to maintain.

Next Steps

Drafting of the Action plan is now underway. Those who were invited to the SEAP workshops will have an opportunity to review and provide comments on the plan at 50% and 90% completion. This review will take place over the next six months with the goal to bring the plan to the MVRD Board in the spring of 2025.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This project is funded through the Sustainability Innovation Fund grant at \$180,000 and is on budget. There are no additional financial implications.

CONCLUSION

In 2022, Water Services received Sustainability Innovation Fund program funding to create a Metro Vancouver 10-Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan (SEAP). SEAP will create a prioritized list of salmon enhancement projects that integrate and coordinate Metro Vancouver's salmon enhancement activities on the land, facilities, and infrastructure that Metro Vancouver owns or manages.

In spring 2023, Metro Vancouver staff hosted early conversations with local First Nations to establish interest and gather input on the scope of SEAP. In 2024, this was followed by a workshop with First Nations, two workshops with Metro Vancouver staff, and a collaborative workshop bringing together Metro Vancouver staff, First Nations, member jurisdictions and organizations involved in salmon related initiatives. The information gathered is now being used to draft the Action Plan with reviews scheduled over the next six months. The plan will be brought to the MVRD Board for endorsement in spring 2025.

ATTACHMENTS

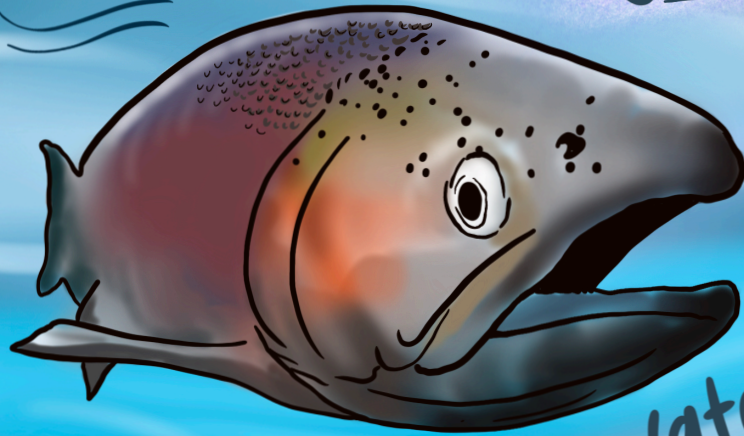
1. Collaborative Workshop Graphic Notes

68624129

10-YEAR SALMON ENHANCEMENT ACTION PLAN

Welcoming by
Kwantlen Nation

Metro Vancouver
manages infrastructure
that IMPACTS SALMON



Objectives

- Prioritized List of Projects
- Integrate & Coordinate MV's salmon enhancement activities
- Collaboration with First Nations

highlight
**INDIGENOUS
KNOWLEDGE**
& prioritize it!!



WATER
quality

water
quantity

CELEBRATED:

FISH HATCHERIES
support Financially
& operationally

SEWER
projects to
mitigate storm
water

GUARDIANS
program

GREEN INFRASTRUCTURE
project

SALMON
HABITAT

FISH
PASSAGE

WATER PROTECTION
from COLLABORATIVE
perspective

EDUCATION

PLANNING & POLICY-RELATIONSHIPS

LAND
Stewards



YOUTH & MENTORING

EVALUATION
CRITERIA

PRIORITIZE:
Impact, efficiency, Cost,
complexity/Risk, Collab.
Co-benefits, Other

OPPORTUNITIES

UTILIZE Research
& DATA & SHARE

GOVERNANCE
connect
jurisdictions

DAM
Maintenance
- Keep or REVERT

OPEN
ESTUARIES
for SALMON

OTHER ENTITIES
- Federal (DFO)
- BC Hydro

FOCUS ON
WATER Quality
- restoration needs
good water

SHARE INFO
& DATA across
JURISDICTIONS

ADVOCATE
for Policy
change

Agriculture
Policy &
Practices

Protect
Riparian
Areas

FLOOD
Protection
infrastructure

CHANGE
OUR
THINKING
around
ENVIRONMENT
&
OUR ACTIONS

SALMON NEED HELP



Release
SALMON
into
Lakes / Rivers

Monitor
Watersheds

To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks

Date: July 23, 2024

Meeting Date: September 4, 2024

Subject: **Regional Greenway Network Status Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 23, 2024, titled “Regional Greenway Network Status Update.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report summarizes Metro Vancouver’s work to measure the progress made by regional partners to collaboratively implement the Regional Greenway Network (RGN) since 2020. This project recorded a 13-kilometre increase in total RGN length, the reclassification of 22 km of greenways from operational to planned or identified gap classes, and the addition of approximately 39 km (13 km/year) of new operational regional greenway. If, collectively, the region can maintain this pace, it will be close to achieving its vision for a connected network of recreational greenways by 2050.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to share the results of Metro Vancouver’s work to measure the implementation of the Regional Greenway Network by regional partners. This update reflects the progress made in expanding the RGN across the region between 2020 and 2023.

BACKGROUND

In 2020, the MVRD Board adopted the *Regional Greenways 2050* plan, the region’s vision for a network of connected recreational paths for cycling and walking. In 2023, Metro Vancouver initiated a project to track progress of RGN implementation.

The Regional Greenways 2050 plan contains a map of the network, with greenway segments color-coded to reflect their operational status. The three operational classes are:

- Green – Operational: Routes that are considered complete, interim, or currently under construction.
- Orange – Planned: Proposed future routes identified in the existing plans of greenway and active transportation service providers.
- Red – Identified Gap: New routes that were proposed through the *Regional Greenways 2050* development process to fill gaps in the network.

2023 REGIONAL GREENWAY NETWORK UPDATE

The RGN update project included the following actions:

- Improving the 2020 data set accuracy

- Gathering 2023 greenway status information from local governments and regional agencies (TransLink, MOTI, and the Vancouver Fraser Port Authority)
- Reviewing operational class attributes
- Creating an updated 2023 inventory and classification statistics

2020 Operational Status Reclassification

During the review, 22 km of greenway segments previously classified as operational in 2020 were reclassified as planned or identified gap in 2023. The impact of this work resulted in the establishment of a new baseline for the system.

2023 Operational Status Update

The review also included updating the route alignment where partner organizations greenway plans had evolved over the last three years. This resulted in an increase in total RGN length by 13 km (from 851 km to 864 km). Additionally, approximately 39 km (13 km/year) of regional greenway segments were completed and are now operational.

2023 Operational Status Sub-classification

Following the update of the alignment and operational class, it was noted that there was variation in the physical characteristics of operationally classified (green) greenway segments in some places. While the *Regional Greenways 2050* plan does not include a specific greenway design standard due to the complex topography, settlement patterns, and evolution of local planning and engineering approaches, regional greenways are generally defined as multi-use paths separated from vehicles. To better understand the proportion of the operationally classified segments that are consistent with the Plan's definition, an operational status validation (i.e., ground-truthing) step was added to the project.

Through this sub-classification process, operational class segments that were consistent with the regional greenway definition were identified as Operational Class 1 (minimum 3 meter-wide multi-use path separated from traffic) and the ones that were not consistent were identified as Operational Class 2 (considered operational by host municipality but are less than 3 m wide and/or not separated from traffic). Where quantifiable data on trail width was not available, the project team used professional judgement to categorize greenway segments as Class 1 or Class 2 based on a desktop review.

The validation process found that over 100 km of operationally classed greenway segments do not meet the spirit of the regional greenway definition contained in the Plan. These segments have now been classified as Operational Class 2.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This is an information report. The project described above was completed within the MVRD Board's approved annual budget for the respective years and cost \$43,000.

CONCLUSION

This report summarizes the results of Metro Vancouver's work to measure the collaborative implementation of the Regional Greenway Network by regional partners. The project found that 39 km (13 km/year) of regional greenways were implemented across the region between 2020 and 2023. If the region can maintain this pace, it will be close to achieving its vision for a connected network of recreational greenways by 2050.

Staff will share the results of this work with regional partners as part of Metro Vancouver's ongoing support of the realization of the region's shared vision of a connected network of regional recreational trails.

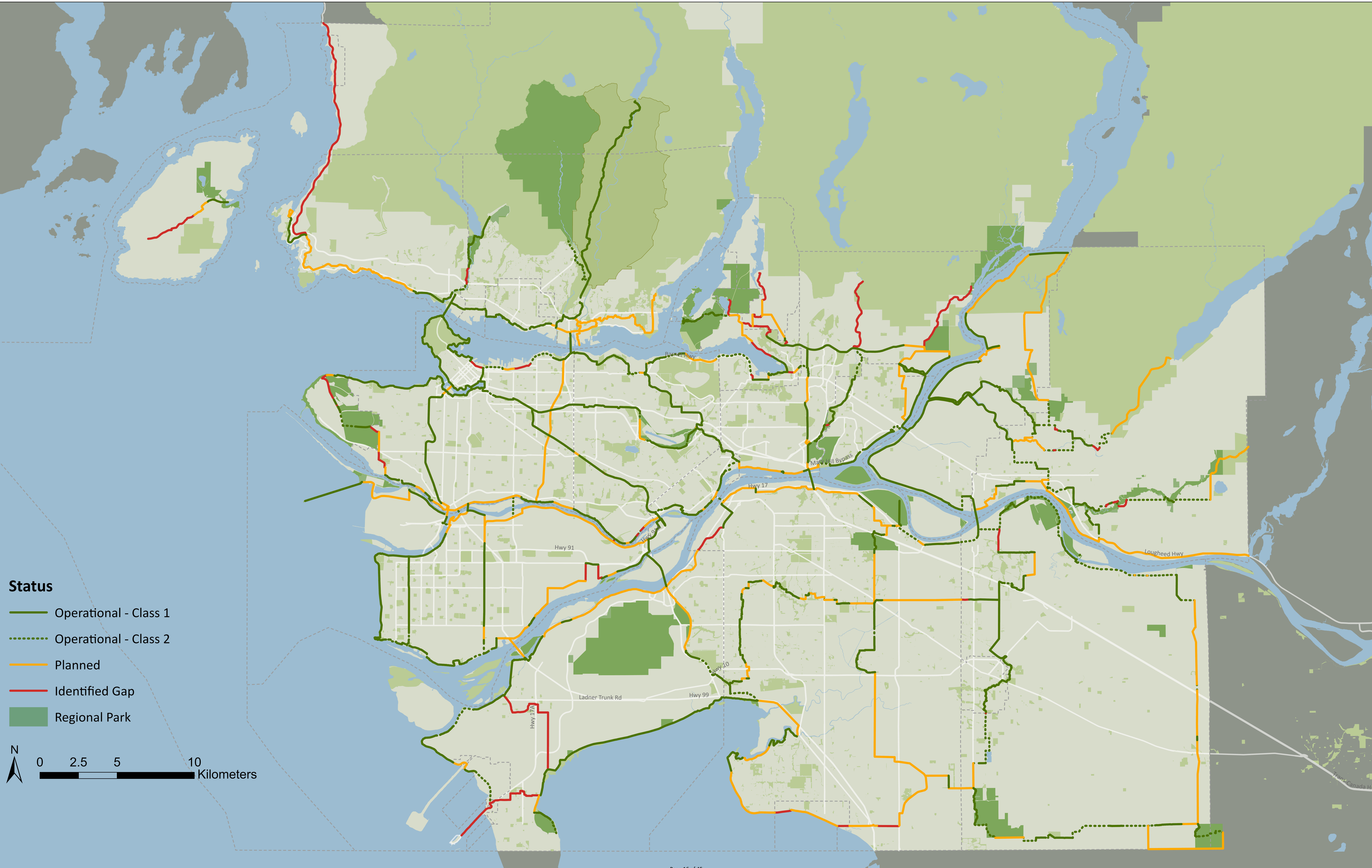
ATTACHMENTS

1. Map of 2023 Regional Greenway Network – Updated Operational Status, Sub-classified
2. Presentation re: Regional Greenway Network Status Update

REFERENCES

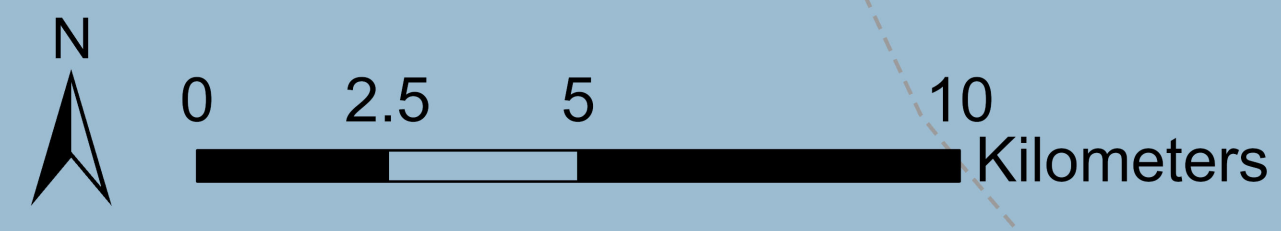
1. [Regional Greenways 2050 Plan](#)

66640483



Status

- Operational - Class 1
- Operational - Class 2
- Planned
- Identified Gap
- Regional Park



Attachment 2



Léxatam Regional Park

Regional Greenway Network

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS UPDATE PROJECT REPORT

Jamie Vala

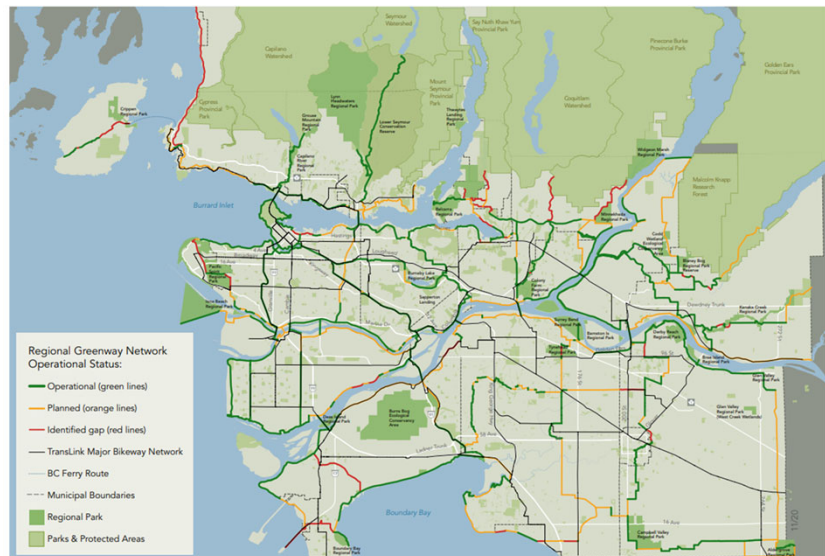
Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management

September 4th, 2024 Regional Parks Committee Meeting
67778046

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PROJECT BACKGROUND

- Greenway plan adopted in 2020
- Collaboratively developed with regional partners
- Included operational status map
- Initiated status update project in 2023



Regional Greenway Network Operational Status 2020

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2

CLASSIFICATION SYSTEM (2020)

- Three class system used
 - **Green** - Operational
 - **Orange** - Planned
 - **Red** - Identified Gap
- Data provided by partners & Metro Vancouver

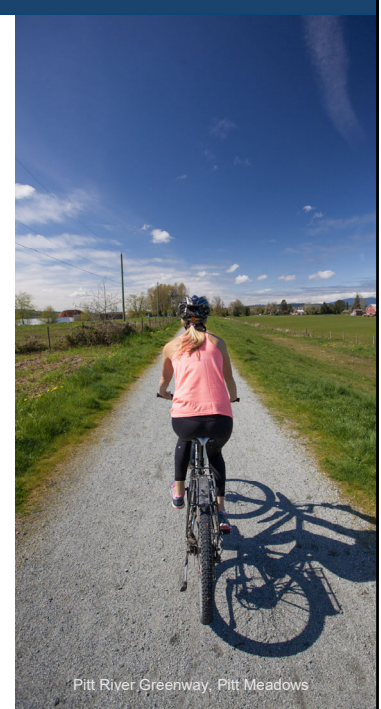


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PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Improved the accuracy of the 2020 data set
- Gathered current greenway network alignment and status information and update data set
- Reviewed operational class greenway attributes
- Created an updated 2023 data set and classification statistics

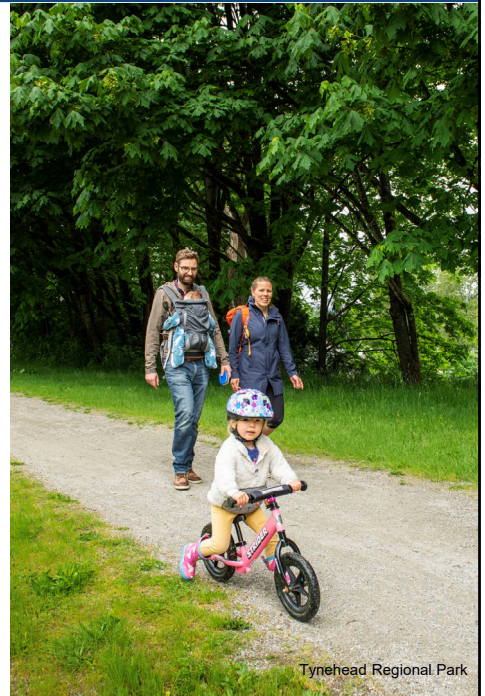


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KEY FINDINGS

- 864 km total network length
- 39 km operational class increase
- 13 km/yr increase in operational class greenways
- 58% of network is classed operational
- 46% of network is operational class 1 and 12% is operational class 2



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OPERATIONAL STATUS 2023- DRAFT



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6



Tynehead Regional Park, Surrey

Questions?

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To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Jamie Vala, Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management, Regional Parks
Josephine Clark, Natural Resource Management Planner, Regional Parks

Date: July 23, 2024

Meeting Date: September 4, 2024

Subject: **Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks - Project Update**

RECOMMENDATION

That the MVRD Board receive for information the report dated July 23, 2024, titled “Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks – Project Update.”

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This report provides an update on the Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project. Natural assets are the natural resources and ecosystems (e.g., forests, wetlands, and streams) that provide benefits to people.

An ecosystem services valuation was completed to develop a shared understanding of the services provided by natural assets within regional parks. Eight ecosystem services were measured and found to provide services to people valued at \$1.036 billion annually.

An inventory of natural assets has been created and a desktop condition assessment completed, which found 90% of regional parks’ natural assets (by area) to be in good or very good condition. A pilot study has been initiated to test a natural asset management approach.

The goal of establishing a natural asset management program is to improve long-term work planning and prioritization by accounting for management activities and costs throughout the life cycle of natural assets in regional parks.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to provide a progress update for the Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project.

BACKGROUND

In 2021, the MVRD Board approved allocation from the Regional District Sustainability Innovation Fund (SIF) for the Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project. This report provides an update on project progress to date.

The *Asset Management for Regional Parks* policy was approved by the MVRD Board in 2019 and sets an intention to incorporate natural assets within the asset management framework laid out in the Policy, as methodologies and tools for natural asset management evolve. The Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project is a key step in the development of the Regional Parks Asset Management Plan, which will be brought forward for MVRD Board consideration in 2025.

The Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project advances actions in multiple Metro Vancouver plans. The *Regional Parks Plan (2022)* includes actions to “develop and implement a coordinated natural asset management approach to maintain and enhance ecological health” and to “integrate natural assets into the asset management program.” *Metro 2050*, the regional growth strategy, and *Climate 2050*, the *Nature & Ecosystems Roadmap*, both include actions for Metro Vancouver to integrate natural assets into Metro Vancouver’s asset management systems and corporate planning, and to support member jurisdictions in advancing natural asset management.

Natural Asset Management

Natural assets are the stock of natural resources and ecosystems, including geology, soil, air, water, and all living things, that provide benefits to people. Examples of natural assets include forests, wetlands, and streams. The benefits people obtain from ecosystems are called ecosystem services and include flood control, carbon sequestration, shading, and human health and well-being. These benefits are important in mitigating climate change and supporting regional resilience.

Asset management refers to the systematic and coordinated practices used to manage assets to ensure sustainable service delivery while managing risks and lifecycle costs. Traditionally, asset management practices were only applied to managing built assets. In recent years, local governments across Canada are increasingly adopting asset management practices to manage natural assets. This is driven by the recognition that natural assets provide vital services to communities but these services often go un-noticed or are undervalued. If natural assets are destroyed or degraded, delivery of services diminishes. In some cases, the loss of these natural assets can trigger the need for costly built infrastructure to replace or maintain the service levels (e.g., flood control infrastructure). By identifying, monitoring, and managing natural assets as part of an asset management approach, local governments can make more informed decisions related to natural assets to ensure long-term ecosystem health and sustained cost-effective service delivery.

NATURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT IN REGIONAL PARKS

Natural assets are essential to the provision of Regional Parks’ services and deliver a range of important benefits to visitors and communities across Metro Vancouver. Built assets within regional parks (e.g., buildings, trails, culverts) are developed to facilitate access to natural areas while ensuring the safety of both visitors and the environment. Built assets in regional parks are closely integrated with natural assets, making it practical to manage built and natural assets collectively within an asset management framework.

The purpose of the SIF project, Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks is to make significant advances in integrating natural assets into Metro Vancouver’s asset management system. Key objectives in support of achieving this purpose are:

- Assess the current state of natural assets in regional parks
- Increase understanding of the importance of natural assets and regional parks through an assessment of ecosystem services
- Identify and assess risks to natural assets

- Develop and test the natural asset management approach at a pilot location, including prioritizing management actions and incorporating lifecycle costs
- Ensure methodologies and approaches developed can be scaled up to the regional parks system and are repeatable over time
- Progress natural asset management in the Metro Vancouver region

The long-term goal of establishing a natural asset management program for Regional Parks is to develop a technical and financial roadmap that accounts for management activities and costs throughout the life cycle of natural assets in regional parks. Management activities include restoration, habitat creation, environmental assessment and mitigation, invasive species management, and monitoring of species, ecosystems, and conditions. These are the same tasks currently undertaken in regional parks through the natural resource management program. However, using asset management approaches to establish plans with longer timeframes to prioritize necessary activities and identify associated costs will allow for improved long-term financial and work planning.

Valuing the Services Provided by Regional Parks’ Ecosystems

A common early step in developing a natural asset management program is to conduct an ecosystem services assessment and valuation. This step aims to develop a shared understanding of the services provided, identify who receives the benefits (e.g., visitors, neighbouring residents, wider communities), and determine the value of the services.

An ecosystem services valuation is a process that quantifies the value humans derive from the benefits they receive from the biophysical structure and processes of nature. It is not intended to place a value on nature itself. Ecosystem services values were generated using accepted and commonly used methods in environmental economics. A lack of data prohibited the valuation of some important services that regional parks’ ecosystems provide, including mental and physical health. Some ecosystem services cannot yet be measured or valued because they are not quantifiable or because methods do not exist, including cultural and spiritual benefits.

Summary results from the ecosystem services assessment and valuation are provided in Table 1 below, with additional detail in Attachment 1. Figure 1, below, provides a visual representation of the ecosystem services assessed. Eight ecosystem services were measured and found to provide services to people valued at \$1.036 billion annually.

Table 1 – Ecosystem services and valuation summary results

Ecosystem service	Benefit to people	Valuation (CAD/year)
Provision of recreation opportunities	Enjoyment of recreational activities	\$827 million
Carbon sequestration	Avoided atmospheric carbon concentrations	\$19 million
Air quality regulation	Avoided costs associated with health issues from air pollution	\$11 million

Regulation of extreme heat events	Avoided mortality associated with extreme heat provided by proximity to natural areas	\$22 million
Regulation of stormwater	Avoided stormwater management infrastructure costs	\$103 million
Habitat preservation	Value people place on knowing certain areas (and associated biodiversity) are protected from development	\$38 million
Contribution to science, education, and research	Improved knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of natural assets	\$5 million
Contribution of wild pollination to crop productivity	Improved crop productivity generated from wild pollination	\$11 million
TOTAL		\$1.036 billion



*Figure 1 – Visual representation of the ecosystem services assessed for regional parks
(Source: Metro 2050, Regional Growth Strategy)*

Undergoing an ecosystem services assessment and valuation deepens our understanding of how nature contributes to human well-being and facilitates recognition of natural assets as important contributors to regional services that help reduce risks related to climate change impacts and other hazards.

Creating a Natural Asset Inventory and Condition Assessment

Asset inventories are used to define and track the assets to be managed and provide the data to support asset management. In preparation for creating an inventory, ecosystem mapping for regional parks (Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping and Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory (SEI) mapping) was updated. The Regional Parks natural assets inventory was developed to align with the recently released Canadian Standards Association (CSA) standard for natural asset inventories. The inventory contains information on location, quantity, type, land tenure, and condition of assets. Figures 2 and 3 below shows built and natural asset summaries.

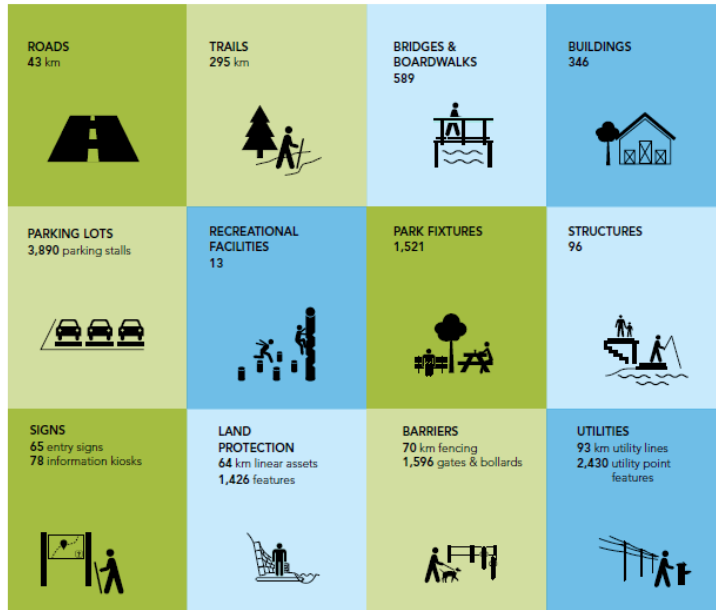


Figure 2 – Summary of regional parks' built assets

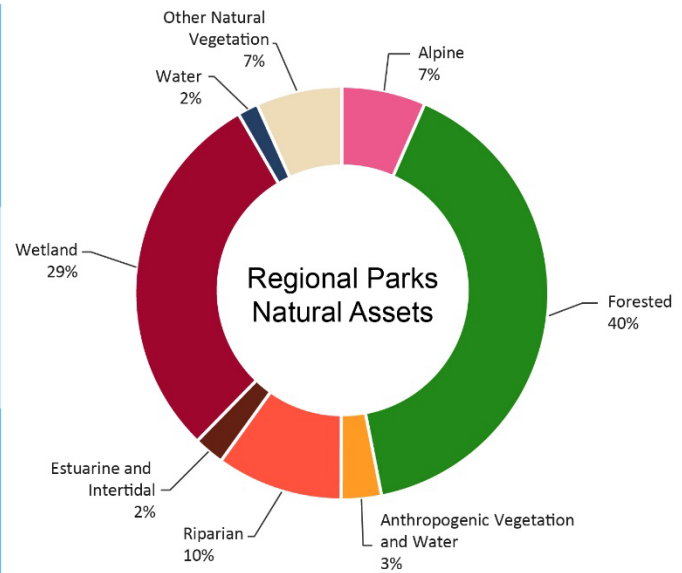


Figure 3 – Summary of regional parks' natural assets

A desktop condition assessment employed landscape ecology principles to establish a high-level understanding of each natural asset's health and ability to provide services. A similar five-point scale (very good, good, fair, poor, and very poor) used for built assets was applied to natural assets.

Results suggest that 90% of regional park ecosystems are in very good or good condition. Over time, this information will be refined with field-based inspections and used to inform and prioritize management and restoration actions.

Developing a Natural Asset Management Approach for a Pilot Regional Park

The purpose of the pilot is to develop the Regional Parks' natural asset management approach through a study focused on one regional park. Planning is underway and the pilot study will be completed in late 2024. Results will be reported to the Regional Parks Committee in early 2025.

The following scope is anticipated:

- Define levels of service for the pilot regional park
- Assess field conditions
- Explore management scenarios to understand trade-offs between costs and service levels

- Estimate costs of prioritized management actions – financial estimates will be based on the cost of undertaking management actions and are the equivalent of replacement costs used for financial estimates for built assets.

The pilot study will ascertain the process of developing a natural asset management approach for one park, along with the data requirements, resourcing needs, and timeline.

Coordinating a Natural Assets Technical Advisory Group

Metro Vancouver Regional Parks established a Natural Assets Technical Advisory Group for staff from other Metro Vancouver departments and member jurisdictions with the intent of maximizing knowledge transfer to others in the region. The purpose of the advisory group is to review project materials, provide input on the project, and share knowledge on natural asset management approaches. The advisory group will conclude once the pilot study is complete.

The advisory group has been well attended, with staff from ten member jurisdictions and four other Metro Vancouver departments.

Next Steps

After the pilot study is complete, the knowledge and information gained through the Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project will be applied to the regional parks system and to advance the Regional Parks Asset Management Plan.

ALTERNATIVES

This is an information report. No alternatives are presented.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This project has been funded by \$160,000 from SIF and \$61,760 from the Regional Parks operating budget. This work will help to inform long-term financial planning with respect to maintenance costs for natural assets to ensure cost-effective service delivery.

CONCLUSION

The Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks project seeks to make significant advances in integrating natural assets into Metro Vancouver's asset management system. An ecosystem services valuation found regional parks' natural assets provide services to people valued at \$1.036 billion annually.

A natural assets inventory has been created and a desktop condition assessment completed which found 90% of regional parks' natural assets (by area) to be in good or very good condition. A pilot study has been initiated to test a natural asset management approach. Learnings from the pilot will be used to scale up the approach to the regional parks system.

The goal of establishing a natural asset management program for Regional Parks is to improve long-term work planning and prioritization by accounting for management activities and costs throughout the life cycle of natural assets in regional parks.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Regional Parks Ecosystem Services Assessment and Valuation Summary Results
2. Presentation re: Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks – Project Update

REFERENCES

1. [CSA W218:23 Specifications for natural asset inventories](#)

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Attachment 1

Regional Parks Ecosystem Services Assessment and Valuation Summary Results

Ecosystem service	Benefit to people (focus of valuation)	Primary Beneficiaries	Physical quantities	Valuation method ¹	Valuation (CAD/ year)
Provision of recreation opportunities	Enjoyment of recreation activities	Visitors, local economies	13,560,694 3-year average total visitation ²	1	\$827M
Carbon sequestration	Avoided atmospheric carbon concentrations	British Columbia	17,862 Total tonnes of carbon sequestered per year.	2	\$19M
Air quality regulation	Avoided costs associated with health issues from air pollution	Residents living near regional parks	95.2 t NO2 950.7 t PM2.5 46.8 t O3 60.6 t SO2 removed	3	\$11M
Regulation of extreme heat events	Avoided mortality associated with extreme heat provided by proximity to natural areas	Residents living near regional parks	2.5 individuals per year	4	\$22M
Regulation of stormwater	Avoided stormwater management infrastructure costs	Residents, local governments	12 million m3 avoided runoff	5	\$103M
Habitat preservation	Value people place on knowing certain areas (and associated biodiversity) are protected from development	Residents academics, educators	13,938 hectares	6	\$38M
Contribution to science, education and research	Improved knowledge, understanding, and appreciation of natural assets	Academics, educators, students, Environment NGOs	An average of 92 research permits issued per year over the last 5 years	7	\$5M

¹ See valuation method descriptions below

² Visitation data from 2019, 2022, and 2023 were used to remove the large increases recorded during the COVID-19 pandemic

Contribution of wild pollination to crop productivity	Improved crop productivity generated from wild pollination	Farmers, residents, local economies	1,066 ha of pollinator dependent crops within 500m regional park natural areas	8	\$11M
TOTAL					\$1.036B

Valuation methods

The valuation approach primarily focuses on the annual flow of benefits to people. The specific methods employed for valuation vary depending on the type of ecosystem service being assessed. Before presenting specific methods there are two key terms that should be defined:

- The values were estimated using the **value transfer** approach, which is a common environmental economics method used to estimate the value of ecosystem services. Value transfer is the process of taking the valuation results measured from one location and transferring them to another.
- **Willingness-to-pay** is an economic concept that measures an individual's maximum willingness to pay for a good or service and is considered a measure of total preference or total benefit of that good or service.

A concerted effort has been made to utilize as much local data from Metro Vancouver as possible. This approach ensures that the valuation is as accurate and relevant as possible to the specific socio-economic and ecological context of the Metro Vancouver region and Regional Parks.

The following approaches were used to determine ecosystem service values for natural assets in regional parks:

1. Recreation opportunities

- Visitation statistics for regional parks were used to generate a 3-year average (2019, 2022, 2023) for annual visitation
- The value of recreational opportunities was estimated by applying a willingness-to-pay per visitation. The willingness-to-pay estimate was sourced from Rosenberger's (2016) recreation use database and adjusted to 2023 Canadian dollars (CAD)

2. Carbon sequestration

- The Carbon Budget Model of the Canadian Forest Service was used to determine sequestration rates for forest ecosystems. For non-forest ecosystems, empirical data from scientific literature was used to assign average carbon sequestration rates to land cover types.

- Carbon sequestration was valued using the Canadian Social Cost of Carbon (SCC) which is a monetary measure of the global impact attributable to increases in GHG emissions (Government of Canada, 2022). The Treasury Board of Canada recommends using the SCC when doing cost-benefit analysis.

3. Air Quality Regulation

- The valuation of air quality regulation was based on estimating the avoided healthcare costs due to reduced exposure to air pollutants (NO₂, O₃, PM_{2.5}, and SO₂) provided by forested assets as compared to the absence of those assets.
- A Metro Vancouver-specific value was determined drawing on the statistical relationship demonstrated by Nowak et al. (2014), which considers population density to scale the avoided healthcare costs according to the number of people influenced by the air quality surrounding each regional park. Pollution removal rates per area of tree cover were used to estimate the avoided air pollution provided by the regional parks.

4. Regulation of Extreme Heat Events

- The value of regulating extreme summertime heat events through parks was based on estimating the reduction in mortality of residents adjacent to parks, associated with the anticipated reduction in maximum daily air temperature due to park proximity.
 - Data from Kroeger et al. (2018) was used to estimate the cooling influence of parks on summer air temperatures of park-adjacent residential neighbourhoods.
 - Data from Henderson et al. (2013) was used to relate the change in air temperature to changes in mortality.
 - The population of residential areas was estimated using census data.

5. Stormwater Regulation

- Stormwater regulation was valued by estimating the volume of avoided runoff due to natural assets and then assigning a monetary value to the stormwater managed, based on the cost of built infrastructure to control that volume of runoff.
- The value of avoided runoff was taken from Sahl et al. 2016.

6. Habitat Preservation

- The approach to valuing biodiversity focused on people's willingness to pay for habitat preservation, rather than directly valuing biodiversity itself. Brander and Koetse (2011) estimated the value people place on parks, forests and other urban open spaces, considering variables such as area of open spaces and population density.

7. Contribution to Science, Education, and Research

- To value the educational and scientific contributions of Metro Vancouver's regional parks, data on volunteer hours and program participation from annual reports were analyzed. Using the average Canadian wage of \$35 per hour as a proxy for the value of time, the monetary value of program participation and volunteer hours from 2019 to 2022 was estimated.
 - The number of scientific studies in regional parks was calculated based on the number of research permits issued (5-year average) and valued based on an estimate of the value an average scientific study generates (Loomis and Richardson, 2000).
8. Contribution of wild pollination to crop productivity
- To estimate the contribution of the regional parks system to crop productivity, the area of crop types within the pollinator foraging range of each asset was established. Crops were allocated a pollination impact rating based on their dependence on insect pollination (based on Aizen et al. (2019) and Klein et al. (2007)).
 - Agriculture statistics were then used to establish average BC crop production values.

References

- Aizen, M. A., Garibaldi, L. A., Cunningham, S. A., & Klein, A. M. (2009). How much does agriculture depend on pollinators? Lessons from long-term trends in crop production. *Annals of Botany*, 103(9), 1579-1588.
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Nowak, D. J., Hirabayashi, S., Bodine, A., & Greenfield, E. (2014). Tree and forest effects on air quality and human health in the United States. *Environmental Pollution*, 193, 119-129.

Rosenberger, R.S. (2016). Recreation Use Values Database. <https://recvaluation.forestry.oregonstate.edu/database>

Sahl, J., Hamel, P., Molnar, M., Thompson, M., Zawadzki, A. and Plummer, B. (2016). Economic Valuation of the stormwater management services provided by the Whitetower Park ponds, Gibsons, BC

Attachment 2



Minnehada Regional Park

Natural Asset Management in Regional Parks

PROJECT UPDATE

Jamie Vala
Division Manager, Planning and Resource Management

Josephine Clark
Natural Resource Management Planner

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NATURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT

Asset management provides a framework for making informed decisions related to **natural assets** to ensure long-term ecological health and sustained service delivery



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NATURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT IN REGIONAL PARKS

- Asset Management for Regional Parks Policy (2019)
- Integrated management of built and natural assets
- Improved long-term work planning and prioritization

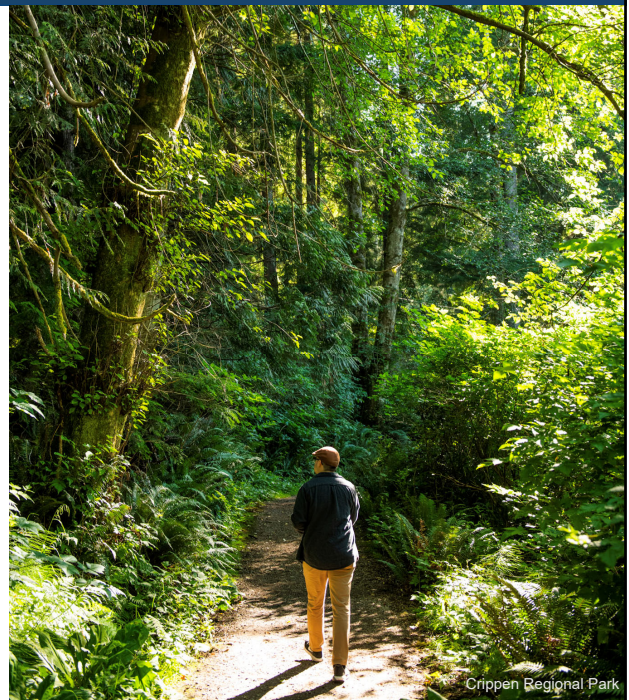


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PROJECT OBJECTIVES

- Assess current state
- Increase understanding of natural asset importance
- Assess risks
- Test an approach
- Ensure scalability of approach
- Share the knowledge



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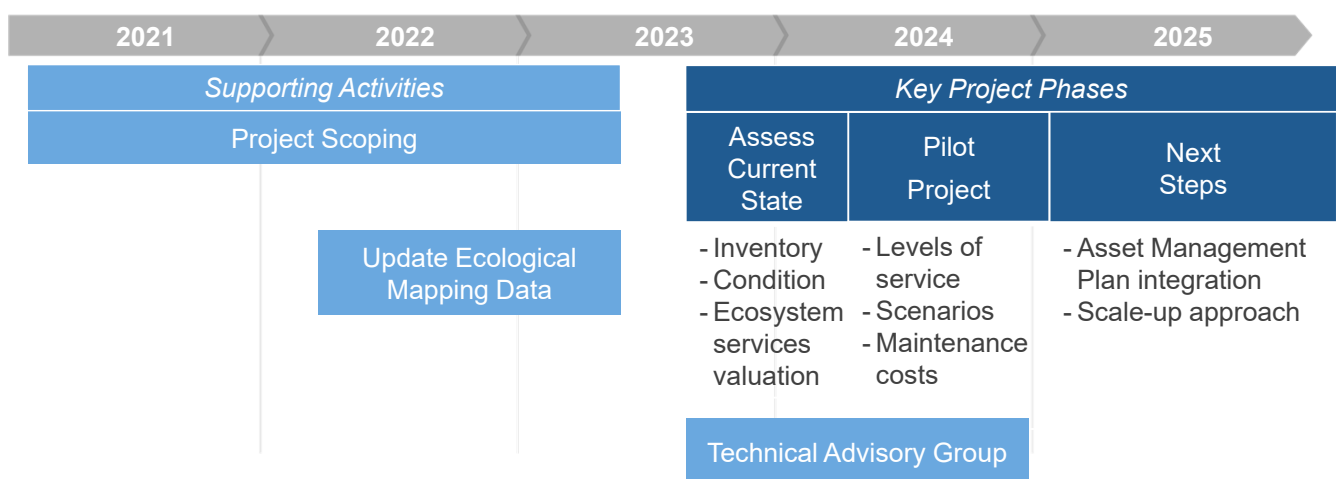
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VALUING ECOSYSTEM SERVICES

Regional Parks' natural assets provide services valued at \$1.036 billion annually

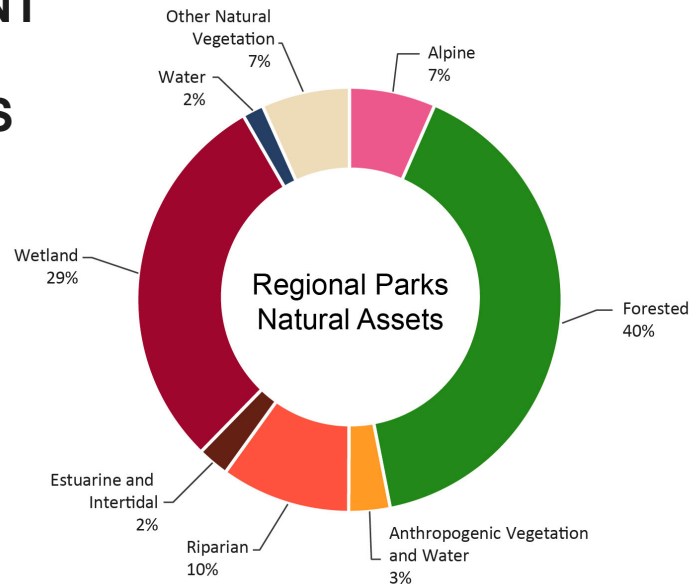


NATURAL ASSET MANAGEMENT TIMELINE



ASSESSING THE CURRENT STATE OF REGIONAL PARKS NATURAL ASSETS

- Natural assets inventory
- Desktop condition assessment
 - 90% by area of natural assets are in very good or good condition



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PILOT PROJECT

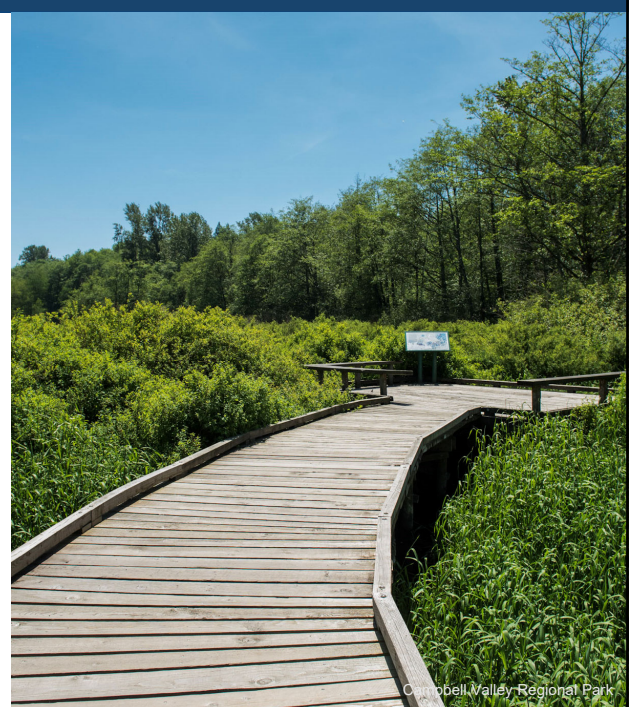
Campbell Valley Regional Park

Testing the approach:

- Define levels of service
- Field-based condition information
- Management scenarios
- Financial assessment of management actions (e.g. restoration)

Outcomes:

- A long-term, prioritized work plan for natural assets at Campbell Valley Regional Park

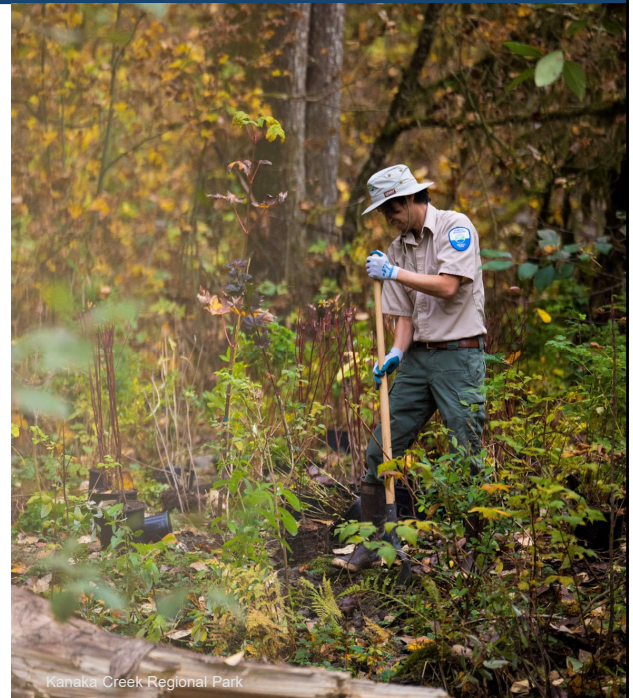


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NEXT STEPS

- Integrating natural assets into the Regional Parks Asset Management Plan
- Scaling up to the regional parks system



Kanaka Creek Regional Park

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9



Iona Beach Regional Park



Questions

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10

To: Regional Parks Committee

From: Mike Redpath, Director, Regional Parks

Date: August 26, 2024

Meeting Date: September 4, 2024

Subject: **Manager's Report – Regional Parks**

RECOMMENDATION

That the Regional Parks Committee/MVRD Board receive for information the report dated August 26, 2024, titled "Manager's Report – Regional Parks."

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Attachment 1 to this report sets out the Regional Parks Committee Work Plan for 2024. The status of work program elements is indicated as pending, in progress, or complete. The listing is updated as needed to include new issues that arrive, items requested by the Committee, and changes in the schedule.

REGIONAL PARKS STAFF RECOGNIZED WITH VITAL LINK AWARD

Three Regional Parks staff were recently awarded the Vital Link Award from the BC Emergency Health Services for their life-saving actions. The Vital Link Award is presented to citizens who are "involved in saving a life through successful cardio-pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) efforts."



Parks staff receiving the Vital Link Award

While driving in to Lynn Headwaters Regional Park, one of the park operators found an individual lying face down on the road, unresponsive and without a pulse. He began CPR and called 911, and contacted his colleagues for first aid equipment. Another park operator provided assisted breathing while one of the park workers managed the entrance road for emergency services to arrive. With their quick action and teamwork, the individual survived and is on the road to recovery. Remarkably, he turned out to be the uncle of another Metro Vancouver employee!

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL PARKS FOUNDATION – EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation has appointed a new Executive Director, Mark Mahl. Mark is a former teacher, high-performance volleyball coach, and University Athletic Director. Fifteen years ago, he transitioned into the charitable non-profit sector, working with organizations like the MS Society, the Rick Hansen Foundation, and Habitat for Humanity. Mark has founded two charities for vulnerable youth and has served as a Director for Prostate Cancer Canada and the Terry Fox Cancer Research Institute. Currently, as the Executive Director of Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation, Mark is dedicated to enhancing our iconic parks system.

CANADIAN PROTECTED AND CONSERVED AREAS DATABASE (CPCAD)

The Canadian Protected and Conserved Areas Database (CPCAD) is a federal database that contains information on protected and conserved areas across the country. Initially this database focused on capturing federal and provincial protected areas. However, as local and regional parks, along with other protected and conserved areas, play an important role in Canada's conservation network and help Canadians connect with nature, the Government of Canada is working with partners to recognize more of these important spaces. These collective efforts are supporting Canada's goal to conserve 30 percent of land and water by 2030.

In 2023, the Capital Regional District and the Regional District of Central Okanagan included their regional parks in the CPCAD database. Funding has been provided through BC Nature to help local and regional governments undertake the necessary assessment to identify which of their parks and protected areas meet the criteria for inclusion into this database. Metro Vancouver is participating in this opportunity to review and submit Metro Vancouver's regional park land inventory into this database. Inclusion in the database helps to recognize the importance of regional parks lands in the conservation network in Canada and contributes to Canada's conservation targets.

REGIONAL PARKS UPDATES

Wildfires in Regional Parks

Higher temperatures and reduced rainfall in summer increases the risk of wildfires. In the past few months, there have been three small fires in regional parks.

The first fire occurred on June 28 in Camosun Bog at Pacific Spirit Regional Park. Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services (VFRS) received reports of the smell of smoke in the area. With the assistance of Regional Parks staff, VFRS quickly located and extinguished the smouldering fire. Regional Parks staff conducted a fire watch into the evening and checked the area the next day.

Three weeks later, a fire started along the cliffs at Kanaka Creek Regional Park. Maple Ridge Fire and Rescue Services contained the fire. The Metro Vancouver emergency management team, along with Water Services and Regional Parks staff, remained on-site to ensure the fire stayed out.

One week later, the smell of smoke was reported at Grouse Mountain Regional Park. District of North Vancouver (DNV) Fire crews found a small stump smouldering near the BCMC Trailhead at the base of the mountain. DNV Fire, Regional Parks, and Metro Vancouver Protection staff worked together to suppress, contain, and put out the fire. Thankfully, the region received 15 to 20

millimetres of rain the day of the fire, which helped containment efforts. Regional Parks staff continued monitoring the area the following week to check for hot spots.

The quick action from Regional Parks staff and collaboration with other agencies and departments helped put these wildfires out quickly and prevented their spread.

Campbell Valley Regional Park – McLean Pond ALC Application

The development and opening of the McLean Pond area of Campbell Valley Regional Park is progressing. On July 29, 2024, the Provincial Agricultural Land Commission (ALC) approved the McLean Pond Development Application. Regional Parks staff worked with ALC representatives to develop a concept that provides opportunities to connect with nature and restore ecologically sensitive areas while minimizing impacts on agricultural lands.

A new park entrance and staging area will be established along with new trails, picnic areas, group campsites, and boardwalks to facilitate interpretation and programming in McLean Pond. Interpretative signage on past and current agricultural practices will be added as requested by the ALC. New wetlands will be established along with enhanced ecological corridors throughout the site. Staff are working closely with ᑭᓄᓄᓄᓄᓄ (Kwantlen First Nation) on the project to identify opportunities for cultural recognition in that area of the park.

Detailed design of the site will commence in Fall 2024, with construction planned to begin in summer 2025 pending municipal and environmental approvals.



McLean Pond area at Campbell Valley Regional Park

Campbell Valley Regional Park – Canada Day Car Show

On July 1 by 10 am, the Little River Bowl Heritage Area in Campbell Valley Regional Park was packed full of classic cars and hot rods. The Annual Canada d'Eh Celebration and Car Show, organized by brothers Ewald and Kurt Penner from JellyBean Autocrafters, was held this year at the former Langley Speedway in Campbell Valley Regional Park.



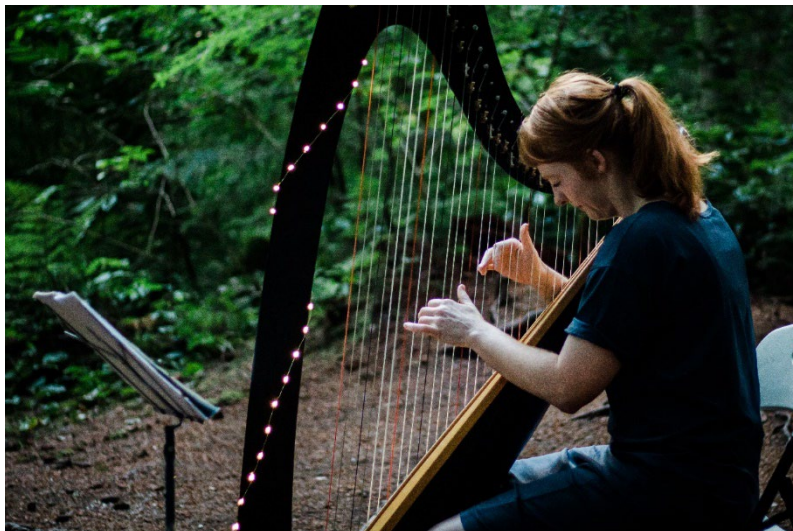
The Canada d'Eh Celebration and Car Show at Campbell Valley Regional Park

Over 800 cars were present for the car show, with over 2,500 participants. Every parking lot and roadside spot around the park was packed with cars full of people coming to listen to the live band, enjoy the various food trucks, and admire the beautiful cars on show.

Pacific Spirit Regional Park – Forest Harmonies

Over 500 people strolled through the Pacific Spirit Regional Park rainforest at dusk during the Forest Harmonies event on Saturday, July 21. Visitors were enchanted by beautiful music that resonated through the forest and interpretative displays that shared stories of connections between nature and music.

Local musicians included a harpist, fiddler, cellist and a lively choir that sang delightful forest tunes. The event also featured music lyric scrolls posted along the trail, a mindfulness walk, a picturesque



Harpist at Forest Harmonies in Pacific Spirit Regional Park

wind chime walk, and animal sound melodies emitting from the trees.

The event was delivered in partnership with the Pacific Spirit Park Society whose members helped plan the event, design stations, recruit musicians and volunteers, and engage visitors to try their own hand at a musical instrument. When asked to write “nature” and/or “music” on a whiteboard in their first language, over 20 different languages were recorded by visitors.

Grouse Mountain Regional Park – Installation of AEDs on the Grouse Grind Trail

With 800 metres of elevation gain spanning a stretch of 2.5 kilometres, the Grouse Grind Trail is a steep and challenging alpine trail located in Grouse Mountain Regional Park. Medical response and extraction is sometimes required for hikers suffering from overexertion, injuries, or cardiac emergencies. Medical response is coordinated closely with first responders and partner agencies including the District of North Vancouver Fire and Rescue Services, North Shore Rescue, BC Ambulance Service, and Grouse Mountain Resort.



One of the AEDs installed along the Grouse Grind

As a proactive measure to support emergency medical response, three publicly accessible automated external defibrillators (AEDs) have been installed on the Grouse Grind Trail at the one-quarter, one-half, and three-quarters markers. An AED is a device that can automatically analyze the heart rhythm in people who are experiencing cardiac arrest and can deliver an electrical shock to the heart to restore its normal rhythm. Research has shown that using an AED, combined with CPR, offers the best chance of saving a life in the event of cardiac arrest. The placement of AEDs on the popular Grouse Grind Trail offers the public access to potentially life-saving resources in the event of an unexpected medical emergency.

təmtəxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park – Road Recreation Site

The West Road Recreation Site at təmtəxʷtən/Belcarra Regional Park is under a long-term licence agreement with the Village of Belcarra. The site primarily consists of deteriorated tennis courts that have not been playable for a number of years. Metro Vancouver has received calls from the general public about the condition of the area. Metro Vancouver sent the Village of Belcarra a letter on January 16, 2023, expressing concerns about the condition of the site. A response was received on August 13, 2023, explaining that some vegetation and debris removal had occurred. Metro Vancouver was advised in the January 16, 2023 letter that the Village plans to refurbish the area. Metro Vancouver and Village of Belcarra staff met in January 2024 to discuss options, and Metro Vancouver followed up with a letter in June 2024. Metro Vancouver's most recent letter dated July 26, 2024 will be included the Village of Belcarra's September 9 Council agenda. Staff will report back to the Regional Parks Committee once a response from the Village of Belcarra has been received.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Regional Parks Committee 2024 Work Plan

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Regional Parks Committee 2024 Work Plan

Report Date: August 26, 2024

Priorities

1 st Quarter	Status
Regional Parks Committee Priorities and 2024 Work Plan	Completed
Regional Parks Land Dedication Bylaw	Completed
Cape Roger Curtis Engagement Process and Rezoning – Update	Completed
Pilot Program to Permit Alcohol Consumption in Regional Parks	Completed
Regional Parks Real-Time Parking Availability Program	Completed
Mobile Vending Pilot Project	Completed
Belcarra South Picnic Area Revised Plan	Completed
2 nd Quarter	
Regional Greenways Plan Implementation Updates	Completed
Pacific Spirit Regional Park - Wreck Beach Update	Completed
Regional Parks Community Involvement Update	Completed
Cultural Planning and Cooperation Agreement Update	Completed
Regional Parks Annual Report 2023	Completed
Kiosk Information Panels Review	Completed
Metro Vancouver Regional District Filming Update	Completed
Metro Vancouver Regional District Consumption of Liquor in Regional Parks Bylaw	Completed
Metro Vancouver Regional District Regional Parks Regulation Amendment Bylaw	Completed
Cape Roger Curtis Update	Completed
Regional Parks Committee Tour of Regional Parks	Completed
3 rd Quarter	
Draft 2025 - 2029 Capital Plan Overview	Completed
Natural Resource Management Program Stewardship Program Update	Completed
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Update	Pending
Natural Asset Management Update	Pending
Metro Vancouver 10 Year Salmon Enhancement Action Plan Update	Pending
Kanaka Education and Environmental Partnership Society (KEEPS) Contribution Agreement and Presentation	Completed
Pacific Spirit Park Society Contribution Agreement and Presentation	Completed
4 th Quarter	
2025 - 2029 Five Year Financial Plan and 2025 Budget and Annual Rates	Pending
MVRD Fees and Charges Amendment Bylaw	Pending
Regional Parks Asset Management Plan	Pending

Regional Parks Building Strategy	Pending
Regional Parks Nature Access Program	Pending
Repeal and Replace Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw	Pending
Centennial Beach Concession Building / Services Review	Pending
Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Foundation Update	Pending

Status = Pending, In Progress or Completed

METRO VANCOUVER REGIONAL PARKS

Upcoming Events

September 2024

DATE	UPCOMING EVENTS
08 SEP 2024	Owl Hoot-enanny CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK
10 SEP 2024	Piper Spit Bird Count BURNABY LAKE REGIONAL PARK
14 SEP 2024	Wings Over Iona IONA BEACH REGIONAL PARK
14 SEP 2024	Wings Over Iona: Bird Walk IONA BEACH REGIONAL PARK
15 SEP 2024	Wild Times with the Neighbours KANAKA CREEK REGIONAL PARK
20 SEP 2024	Rainforest by Night MINNEKHADA REGIONAL PARK
21 SEP 2024	Forest Bathing CAPILANO RIVER REGIONAL PARK
24 SEP 2024	The Secret Life of Trees PACIFIC SPIRIT REGIONAL PARK
28 SEP 2024	Winged Woodworkers PACIFIC SPIRIT REGIONAL PARK

**Note: For more information on Regional Parks Programs & Events, please visit <https://metrovancover.org/events/events-calendar>*