

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

June 2000



for Jedediah Island  
Marine Park



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA

Ministry of Environment,  
Lands and Parks  
BC Parks Division

Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

BC Parks  
Strathcona District



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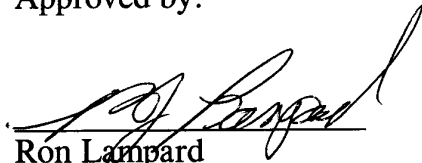
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Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

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February 2000

Approved by:



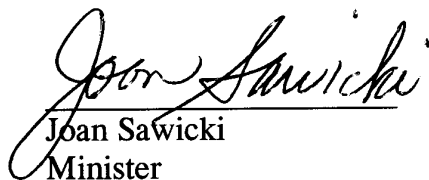
Ron Lampard  
District Manager

Date: April 18/2000



Denis O'Gorman  
Assistant Deputy Minister

Date: May 15/2000



Joan Sawicki  
Minister

Date: July 5, 2000

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# Acknowledgments

This management plan has been prepared by BC Parks staff with assistance from the public of British Columbia, including but not limited to, Al and Mary Palmer, the Friends of Jedediah, Dan Culver’s family and friends, and marine park and protected areas enthusiasts.

The planning process has been coordinated by Kris Kennett, Planner, and assisted by Dennis Fraser, Area Supervisor. Dave Kaegi and Roger Beardmore of Wildland Consulting/Future Legacy provided professional assistance in workshop facilitation and draft development.

Staff of the Strathcona District, Parks and Ecological Reserves Management Branch, and Planning Services provided useful comments.

BC Parks would like to thank those who took the time to attend workshops and make written submissions to assist in the development of this plan.

BC Parks would also like to acknowledge and thank all those who worked so hard and assisted in the protection of Jedediah Island. It is an outstanding achievement and legacy.



**Plate 1: Aerial view of Jedediah Island Marine Park**

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# Executive Summary

Jedediah Island Marine Park was established by legislation in 1996, after a high profile fund-raising campaign aimed at protecting the island. This 243 ha park is located 80 km west of Vancouver between Texada and Lasqueti islands in the Strait of Georgia.

The park is provincially significant for its natural, recreation and cultural heritage values. Jedediah Island Provincial Park:

- protects a sample of the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic variant and thus protects an ecosystem with some of the rarest vegetation in British Columbia
- preserves an example of the Strait of Georgia Ecosection
- protects rare and endangered plant communities
- offers remote recreational boating and kayaking destination
- presents history of the BC coast.

Key issues addressed in the planning process include:

- protection of cultural heritage values
- preservation of natural values
- maintenance of high quality recreation experience.

Although this property has been in private hands for over a hundred years, a number of First Nations were known to use the area. BC Parks contacted First Nations by letter and phone to arrange for consultation of the draft management plan. Staff met with two First Nations to discuss their concerns with the plan. Those comments have been incorporated into the final plan.

The public involvement process for Jedediah Island Marine Park involved the public at two stages. Two sets of workshops were held to formulate the draft and to review the draft. These occurred in February and September 1998 respectively. Between the workshops, BC Parks broadly distributed the draft plan and options paper for comment. The workshops were well attended with appropriately 40 participants at each set. A dozen written submissions were received on the draft management plan and options paper.

Major plan recommendations include:

- 95 % of the park is zoned Natural Environment to protect the natural values and provide for low level recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment. The remaining 5% is zoned Special Feature Zone to protect cultural heritage values of the old farmstead.
- developing a recreation use monitoring program to ensure that visitors are not impacting the natural environment, that commercial operators and public visitors are coexisting and that moorage sites are not being monopolized.
- maintaining the low level recreation use, but facilitating access on the island through the construction of a dinghy dock
- maintaining the character of the old homestead and providing interpretation on the lifestyle of early settlers, and use by First Nations.
- adding a marine component to the park and the surrounding Crown islands and islets.

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# Introduction

Jedediah Island is located in the Sabine Channel of the Strait of Georgia, 80 kilometres west of Vancouver between Texada and Lasqueti islands (Figures 1 and 2). At 243 hectares (640 acres), Jedediah is the largest and most diverse island of a chain of over thirty islands and rocky islets located north and west of Lasqueti Island. Paul, Bull and Jervis islands are among the larger of the surrounding islands. The interior of Jedediah is comprised of forest ecosystems intermingled with rocky outcrops. In several areas, evidence of previous human use is evident. While the park includes only the upland, Jedediah Island is encircled by a rich marine environment. The peaceful marine setting, along with the many smaller surrounding islands, gives Jedediah a remote and natural character despite its proximity to major settlements.

Jedediah Island has long been the destination of recreational boaters despite its private ownership status for over a century. It became a Provincial Park in 1995 and has been bequeathed to the people of British Columbia through the extraordinary kindness, goodwill and hard work of the former owners, far-sighted individuals, support groups, private contributors, and federal and provincial governments.

## Purpose of the Plan

This management plan for Jedediah Island Marine Park defines the role of the park and establishes objectives and desired strategies to guide the management and development over the next decade. It also provides direction on a number of key issues such as management of feral animals; vegetation; visitors and commercial recreation; and heritage values.

The plan also describes the public's expectations for the park, based on an extensive public consultation exercise. Public workshops were held on Lasqueti Island and in Nanaimo. Based on input and BC Parks policies, this plan directs BC Parks staff to provide recreation opportunities while protecting the park's natural, visual and cultural resources.

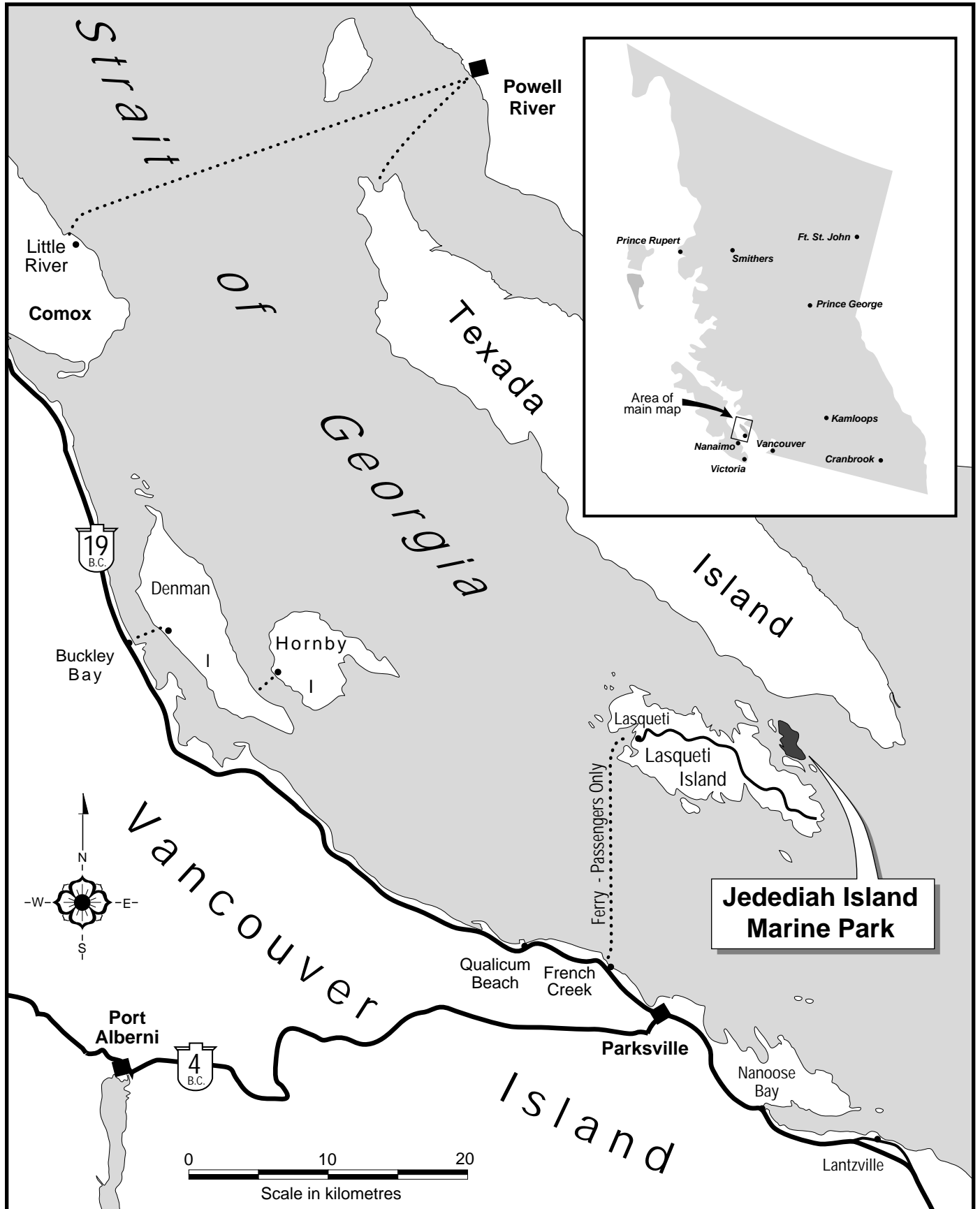
## The Planning Process

The planning process for Jedediah Island Marine Park involved a number of steps. The first step was the production of a Background Report that provides information resource base for the park. It was mailed out to over 250 individuals and groups and was posted on the BC Parks website.

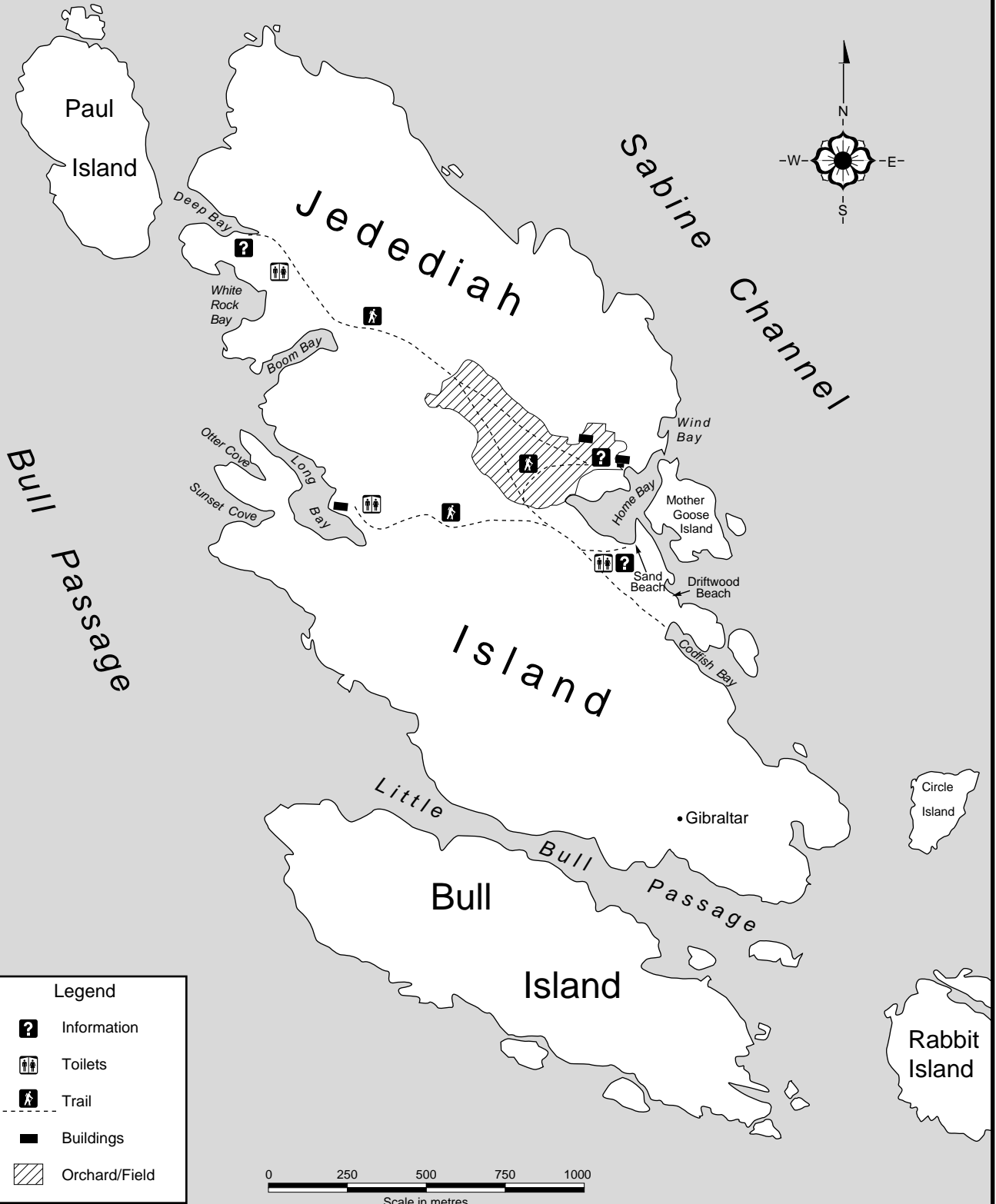
Two workshops were held in late February 1998 to solicit public input on the vision and planning issues for Jedediah. The results of these workshops were incorporated into a draft management plan that set out management options for public consideration. It was widely distributed through mail outs and posting on the website. Another set of workshops was held in September 1998 to review the plan and discuss the various options. This plan includes those discussions. For more information on the public involvement process, see Appendix C.

First Nations were contacted and their issues and concerns were incorporated into the plan.

# Location of Jedediah Island Marine Park



# Features of Jedediah Island Marine Park



## **Relationship to Other Land Use Plans**

The Gulf Islands, including Jedediah Island, were not included in the Vancouver Island Land Use Plan and have not been a part of any detailed land use planning. However, Jedediah Island was analyzed as part of the Protected Areas Strategy. A team of government experts, known as the Vancouver Island Regional Protected Areas Team, evaluated it and other islands around Lasqueti as potential protected areas, according to the Protected Areas Strategy criteria. Jedediah scored highly in all three categories of conservation, recreation, and cultural heritage, and was identified as a high priority study area.

Jedediah Island is part of the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy program, a joint initiative by the federal and provincial governments aimed at creating an expanded and integrated network of coastal and marine parks along the Pacific Coast of Canada. Although the acquisition of Jedediah was partially funded by the Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy, this program is focused on the southern Gulf Islands in the Georgia Basin.

Integrated coastal planning will have implications for Jedediah Island. Under the *Oceans Act*, Department of Fisheries and Oceans will be leading comprehensive planning for nearshore and offshore areas. This includes another joint federal/provincial program, the Marine Protected Areas Strategy (MPAS). The goals of the MPAS are to: protect marine biodiversity, representative ecosystems and special natural features; protect and conserve fishery resources and their habitats; protect and present cultural heritage; provide for recreation and tourism opportunities; provide opportunities for scientific research; and provide opportunities for education and increasing marine environmental awareness. The Strait of Georgia, in which Jedediah lies, has been named as a high priority for integrated coastal planning and application of the Marine Protected Areas Strategy.

## **Planning Issues**

The management plan for Jedediah Island Marine Park will address a number of planning issues. These are outlined below.

## **Vegetation Management**

The main issue associated with vegetation management is the affect of settlement and agriculture on the rare Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem. Some of the native vegetation has been cleared for settlement and agricultural purposes and natural forest succession has been altered by farming activities such as clearing and haying, and by the browsing and grazing of feral animals. In the absence of these activities, these areas would gradually return to a natural state, which may affect their current recreational or cultural heritage values.

## **Management of Feral Animals**

As a result of settlement, feral animals and domestic livestock have lived on Jedediah for many years. The remaining horse poses a possible safety problem; it is popular with visitors but has displayed signs of aggression towards those who refuse to feed him. Both feral sheep and goats graze extensively on Jedediah. In comparison with similar ecosystems, grazing by these animals is affecting the natural succession of plant communities. The lack of husbandry of domesticated animals also raises ethical questions regarding standards of care.

## **Management of Cultural Heritage Values**

For the most part, First Nation historic use of the island has not been documented. Oral history and several archaeological sites indicate that the island was historically important for food gathering.

Of more recent times, a number of buildings and pieces of farm machinery remain on Jedediah as evidence of the island's settlement and farming history. Maintenance of the structures has significant costs; however, if left alone, they will decay over time and pose a safety risk to visitors.

## **Visitor Management**

Currently, recreation use in the park is informal and dispersed, and facility development is minimal. Visitors participate in low-impact activities such as boating, primitive camping, day hiking and picnicking. In order for the park to retain its remote character and protect its natural beauty, dispersed visitor activities and low-key facilities will be required to continue to reduce impact to the environment.

## **Commercial Recreation**

As Jedediah Park becomes a more popular destination, there is a potential for conflicts between private and commercial users. Concerns have been expressed about size of commercial groups and the subsequent affect on other visitors' experiences and opportunities to camp. The management plan will set out principles for the management of commercial recreation to preserve the natural and recreational values of the island for all users.

## **Marine Protected Area**

The natural, recreation and cultural heritage values of Jedediah could be enhanced with both the additions of the marine foreshore and through designation of a marine protected area in the Sabine Channel.

## **Role of Education**

Jedediah Island's proximity to urban areas and its insular and remote qualities provide a safe experience for school groups. The natural and cultural features provide an excellent opportunity for environmental education programs.

# Background Summary

Prior to being a provincial park, Jedediah Island was privately owned by Albert and Mary Palmer, who farmed on the island for over twenty years. In 1994, the Palmers made a decision to sell the island. They offered it to the Province at a price well below market value in the hope that the BC Government would purchase the property and designate the island a provincial park.

BC Parks was interested in establishing a protected area in the Sabine Channel. Under the Protected Areas Strategy, Jedediah Island and a number of sites around Lasqueti Island, were ranked as a high priority for protection given their high values for conservation, recreation, and cultural heritage

The Provincial Government received monetary and moral support from the people of British Columbia to purchase the island. The Friends of Jedediah, an organization of citizens from Lasqueti Island, was also committed to seeing Jedediah Island protected as a provincial park. During the summer of 1994, they began a tireless campaign to solicit private and corporate donations to purchase the island. Their efforts to raise the profile of Jedediah proved successful with contributions from many groups and individuals. Key in the campaign was a generous private donation from the estate of Dan Culver. Dan, who died tragically while climbing K2 in the Himalayas, bequeathed a portion of his estate to set aside an ecologically valuable coastal property in a protected and undeveloped state for the people of British Columbia. Together with large donations from the Marine Parks Forever Society, Mountain Equipment Co-op and Nature Trust, these contributions assisted the government in securing the purchase. Upon designation, the island became the responsibility of the Strathcona District of BC Parks. The park and its boundaries are legislated as a Class A park under the Park Act (1996).

See Appendices A and B for further information on Al and Mary Palmer and Dan Culver.



**Plate 2: Al and Mary Palmer at Home Bay**

# Role of the Park

## Regional and Provincial Significance

The natural, cultural and recreational values of Jedediah Island complement those of other marine-accessed parks in the region, including Simson, Buccaneer Bay, Newcastle Island, Ruckle, and Princess Margaret parks. Simson and Buccaneer Bay parks off the Sechart Peninsula possess similar natural characteristics to Jedediah including forested uplands and undeveloped beaches. However, they also support similar recreational activities, such as kayaking, fishing and informal camping. They do not offer secure anchorage or opportunities for historical interpretation as Jedediah. On the other hand, nearby Newcastle Island Park, just off Nanaimo, is considerably more developed than Jedediah as a result of previous land use and occupancy. Recreational opportunities there reflect the level of development and include ferry access, extensive moorage, hiking trails, designated camping, beaches, playing fields, and a historic resort. Ruckle Park on Saltspring Island is also more developed than Jedediah and presents the pioneer and farming theme closer to a major urban population. It supports primitive camping, picnicking, hiking, swimming, and history appreciation. Further south, Princess Margaret Park also offers a variety of recreation and tourism opportunities including primitive camping, picnic areas, trails and a fair-weather anchorage.

In summary, Jedediah Island offers similar opportunities to Ruckle, Newcastle and Princess Margaret parks, but in a remote setting with primitive facilities. Jedediah broadens the spectrum of marine accessible recreation opportunities and contributes significant natural and cultural heritage values to the regional and provincial system of protected areas.

## Conservation Role

BC Parks has two conservation goals: ecosystem representation and special features conservation. The Management Plan for this park reflects both these goals.

Jedediah Island Marine Park contributes towards the representation of the Coastal Douglas-fir (CDFmm) biogeoclimatic zone in the Strait of Georgia Ecoregion. This zone is highly under-represented in the protected areas system despite having some of the rarest vegetation in British Columbia; as of April 7, 1999, 2.6 % or 6,778 ha of this zone has been protected in the province.

The park encompasses a whole island with seven kilometres of coastline. It protects stands of old-growth Douglas-fir and arbutus and juniper forests, and seabird nest sites.

In terms of special features, Jedediah presents an example of early homesteading and settlement history on the Gulf Islands. The park also protects First Nations archeological sites and traditional use sites.

## Recreation Role

BC Parks has four recreational goals: tourism travel routes; outdoor recreation holiday destination; backcountry; and local recreation. The Management Plan for the park reflects the destination as a primary goal and local/regional recreation and travel route as secondary goals.

Jedediah Island fulfills an important niche in the provincial recreation spectrum. It offers a remote water-based experience within reach of major population centres and along the Inside Passage. Relatively easy access combined with a sense of remoteness and a natural setting provides a popular destination for international and regional visitor. Low-key day-use and overnight camping support opportunities for hiking,

wildlife viewing or nature study. Currently the basic facilities are in keeping with the rustic atmosphere and serenity of the surroundings.

## Vision

The vision statement looks forward to describe the character of Jedediah Island Marine Park into the future. A clear long-term vision helps to guide short-term management strategies and assist in reacting to changing demands in recreation and incorporating new approaches to conservation management. Through this ‘bigger picture’, the vision provides a context in which to guide park management in both the short-term and the long-term.

## Vision Statement

*Jedediah Island Marine Park is a shining pearl in the string of protected island and marine areas in the Gulf of Georgia. It is widely recognized as ‘The People’s Park’ for its creation through the goodwill and contributions of its former owners, major benefactors, support groups, and donations of hundreds of private citizens. Government agencies, interest groups, and the public are working co-operatively to protect the surrounding marine ecosystem as well as the land-based features of the island.*

*Jedediah is a quiet, peaceful place where solitude prevails. The natural setting is key in the provision of recreational opportunities, and recreational values are balanced with natural and cultural heritage values. Safe practical access is available for the public, so that a wide array of visitors may enjoy low-impact recreation - either through day-use or overnight camping experiences. Communication, interpretation, and education opportunities are provided to enhance park stewardship and ensure adequate public safety.*

*The forest ecosystems here provide a sample of the rare forest type of Coastal Douglas-fir. The island's natural evolving ecosystems have been re-established except in the Home Bay area. Here, the character of the cultural landscape and certain features are presented to communicate First Nations and homestead settlement histories on the island. There is sufficient management presence and interpretative information to ensure Jedediah is protected as a legacy for present and future generations to enjoy.*

# Park Zoning

Zoning is a key tool in planning for the future management of a park. It divides a park into logical units to apply uniform and consistent management objectives. The zoning defines levels of and criteria for management of natural values and visitors, through identification of natural, cultural, and recreational values, and analysis of existing and projected patterns of access and recreation use.

Definitions of each zone type are general for the province. See Appendix D for in-depth description of BC Parks Zoning. Policy decisions specific to Jedediah Island Marine Park are indicated in the appropriate sections of this management plan which describe the objectives and strategies in more detail. An activity may be permissible in a provincial zone description, but not necessarily in Jedediah.

## Zoning Plan

As indicated in Figure 3, Jedediah Island Marine Park is divided into two zones, Natural Environment and Special Feature. Given the vision for Jedediah Island Marine Park, the Natural Environment Zone is maximized to maintain the wild state of the island. The small size of the island and its past land use do not permit the island to be zoned Wilderness Conservation or Wilderness Recreation. However, the park will be managed to maintain the remote primitive qualities and to restore the remnant Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem.

### Natural Environment Zone

Provincially the objective of this zone is to protect scenic values and to provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a natural environment. The main management concern is encouraging backcountry recreation use while keeping impacts below levels that will impair park values or significantly reduce user satisfaction.

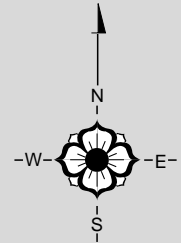
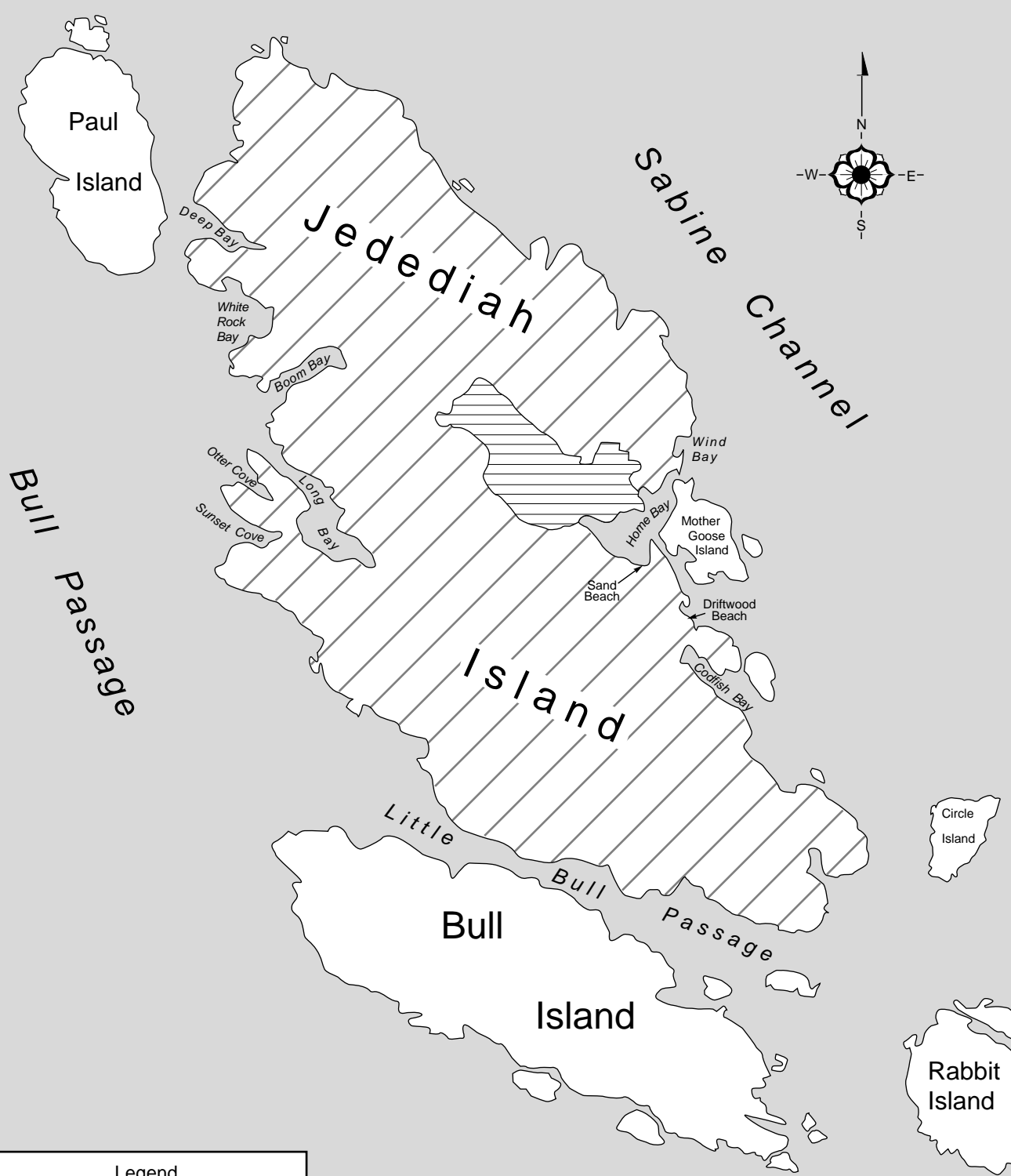
This zone applies over the entire area of Jedediah except the small Special Feature Zone. In this case, the objective is to maintain or regain the naturally evolving ecosystem while providing for complementary outdoor recreation opportunities.



### Special Feature Zone

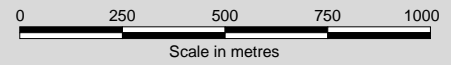
The provincial objective of this zone is to preserve and present significant natural or cultural features or processes because of their special character, fragility or heritage value. Management is oriented towards maintaining resources and, where appropriate, a high quality recreation and interpretive experience. Ongoing monitoring is key and access may be restricted to preserve the values and limit impacts.

This zone applies to the cultural landscape around Home Bay, which has significant historical values. It covers approximately 13 hectares surrounding the homestead, the meadow area and old orchard. In this case, the objective is to provide interpretation on the cultural landscape while undertaking minimal management strategies to stabilize the features in the short term.

# Zoning for Jedediah Island Marine Park



Legend	
	Special Feature Zone
	Natural Environment Zone



# Natural and Cultural Values Management

Jedediah Island has been heavily influenced by the presence of humans and domestic animals over the years. Now that the island is a provincial park, natural processes will be given precedence and the native vegetation and wildlife will be given the opportunity to re-establish itself over most of the island. The character of the homestead at Home Bay will be maintained as a cultural landscape to display the settlement history and to communicate First Nations use of the island. The objective here is not to preserve the buildings and landscape as a working farm, but to slow the decay and provide information and interpretation to allow people to catch glimpses into the past.

## Freshwater

Jedediah Island has several seasonal streams. Flows vary depending on the weather in any given year. Typically, these streams run from November through the spring (March or April) and rise considerably during heavy rains. A number of small springs and seeps flow year-round. Jedediah contains no other watercourses of significant size; however, a significant supply of groundwater may be available. Wetland existed on the island before clearing and draining for farm purposes.

### **Objective:**

To maintain the natural freshwater systems on the island in an unaltered state.

### **Action:**

- Protect and monitor the freshwater systems on the island. [See section on Camping for discussion on drinking water]

## Vegetation

The vegetation of Jedediah Island is varied, and reflects the influences of environmental factors including soil, topography, exposure and ecological processes such as recovery and succession. Natural disturbances, such as wind and fire, and human disturbances, such as logging, agriculture and the introduction of grazing animals have also affected the vegetation. Approximately, 90% of the island is forested, and 30% of the island's flora are introduced species.

The domestic grazing animals have had a pervasive impact on the vegetation. The island currently supports one horse, 60 to 70 feral sheep and at least 20 feral goats. Grazing has led to modification of the vegetation and ecosystem structure and has affected virtually all tree and shrub regeneration. Many plants have been reduced in abundance and some are considered to be in danger of disappearing<sup>1</sup>. Given that very little of the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem remains intact and that only a small portion of it is protected, any amount in a natural state is significant. Consequently steps must be taken to allow the ecosystem to recover.

The sheep and goats contribute to the cultural landscape by grazing the meadow area and keeping it open. They also add to the recreation values through the trails that they have created while foraging on the island.

### **Objectives:**

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<sup>1</sup> Roemer, Hans. 1999. Jedediah Island: Assessment of Vegetation based on field work May 10-12 1999.

To restore and maintain native plant communities and species, with special attention to plants that have become scarce or extirpated as a result of grazing and browsing.

To control invasive non-native species and discourage the establishment of additional non-native species in the Natural Environment Zone.

To encourage environmentally sensitive scientific studies to improve understanding of vegetation dynamics and to guide future management strategies.

To maintain the character of the cultural landscape of the Special Feature Zone.

### **Strategies:**

- Maintain the naturally evolving ecosystem by preparing vegetation management strategy focused on the restoration of natural systems including the role of disturbance.
- Promote low-impact camping and preservation of the environment. [See section on Camping for discussion on campfires]
- By the year 2004, relocate the feral animals (goats and sheep) from the island through removal to suitable farm, research or commercial. Ensure academic institutions and other parties interested in the possible lineage of the goats are contacted prior to removal.
- Monitor the horse's health and threat to the visiting public. If no problems arise, it will remain on the island until it passes.



**Plate 3: The orchard at Home Bay**

## Wildlife

The main mammal species occurring on Jedediah Island include black-tailed deer, raccoons, mink, river otter, mice, shrew, and voles. As discussed previously, domestic and feral animals have been introduced to the island through human settlement and include one horse, 60 to 70 feral sheep, and at least 20 feral goats.

Jedediah Island and the surrounding waters contain a great diversity of bird habitats that support numerous species of resident and migratory birds. Many species of marine birds can be found nesting or feeding on Jedediah.

### Objectives:

To maintain and protect natural wildlife species and populations with special attention to sensitive, rare, threatened or endangered species.

To protect critical habitats where compatible with other park management objectives.

To inform the public about non-consumptive appreciation of wildlife.

To encourage scientific wildlife research in the park, particularly where there are direct management benefits.

### Strategies:

- Maintain habitat values for native species on Jedediah Island. [See section on Vegetation for discussion on feral animal management]
- Ensure recreational activities and facilities do not negatively affect wildlife or wildlife habitat.
- Keep the park closed to hunting and trapping.
- Cooperate and establish common objectives with government agencies, interest groups and the public to manage wildlife and marine species that move into and out of the park.

## Cultural Values Management

### First Nations

Jedediah Island is within the traditional territory of the Sliammon and the Nanoose First Nations. They are both part of the Salishan linguistic group. Other First Nations with traditional territories in this vicinity that may overlap on Jedediah Island include the Qualicum, Nanaimo and Comox.

Like other islands in the Georgia Strait, Jedediah Island was likely used as a seasonal food gathering site. Traditional use by First Nations continued to take place after the arrival of the first European settlers.

## **Objectives:**

To preserve the cultural values that document the strong relationship First Nations have with Jedediah.

To provide information and education on First Nations history to the visiting public.

## **Strategies:**

- Establish working relationship with the local First Nations people to determine the significance of Jedediah Island in their culture.
- Conduct further research and assess First Nations archaeological resources for educational, scientific, and protective purposes.
- Develop appropriate management, information and education strategies in consultation with aboriginal peoples.

## **Post-Contact History**

In 1860, Captain Richards of the surveying vessel H.M. Plumper named this island after Jedediah Stevens Tucker. Jedediah was the eldest son of Benjamin Tucker, secretary to Admiral Earl St. Vincent with whom Captain Richards served in the Royal Navy for many years.

The island has been privately owned for over a hundred years. In early years, recreation was the primary motive for visiting the island. A Crown Grant was issued to private owners around 1885, and in 1890 a family from Vancouver purchased the island. The island changed ownership only twice over the succeeding years until the most recent owners, Al and Mary Palmer, sold it to the Province of British Columbia in the early 1990s.

## **Objectives:**

To present the character of the cultural landscape associated with the settlement of the island by homesteaders.

To present information and education on the settlement history of the island to the visiting public.

## **Strategies:**

- Develop interpretive information regarding the buildings, farm machinery and the farming history.
- Maintain the character of the meadow area in the Special Feature Zone by brushing and maintaining the drainage ditches. If encroachment is proceeding quickly, re-evaluate in conjunction with advisory committee.
- Maintain the character of the orchard area in the Special Feature Zone by brushing and mowing the vegetation surrounding the trees.
- Encourage heritage society or group to practice orchard husbandry.
- Display the safer farm machinery in natural setting for the discovery and enjoyment of visitors. Modification may be needed to remove potentially hazardous attachments.
- Store the remainder of the farm machinery in the old barn and secure to protect the public.
- Encourage the establishment of a society to maintain the house; if such a society has not been formed to restore and maintain the building by the 2004, secure the buildings and allow to decay.
- Remove newer structure at Long Bay.



**Plate 4: The house at Home Bay**

## **Inholdings and Other Tenures**

There are no inholdings, tenures or resource interests such as mineral claims or forest interests within Jedediah Island Marine Park. Outside of the park, two adjoining bays along the foreshore of Jedediah are currently being used for oyster and clam culture. The license, issued by BC Lands, covers areas located at Boom Bay and Long Bay. Previously issued for oyster culture only, the license was amended in 1997 to include clams. As a stipulation to this tenure, the holder will only be permitted to continue clam culture until May 31, 2003. After this time, approval by BC Parks must be given if the license is to be renewed. The oyster tenure is not affected by these same conditions.

A tow boat reserve along the eastern shore of Paul Island has been designated by BC Lands for use by boats transporting log booms. The reserve provides temporary shelter and storage for the booms during poor weather conditions. Both mariculture and log booming may limit park visitors in accessing and using these areas for recreational purposes.

### **Objective:**

To work with other agencies in management of tenures to meet the conservation and recreation roles of the park.

### **Strategies:**

- Monitor the impact of the towboat reserve and mariculture licenses on the natural and recreation values of the park.
- Investigate opportunities to eliminate these tenures if they are having a negative impact on the recreation and conservation roles of the park.

## **Coastal and Marine Values**

Jedediah Island is located in the Sabine Channel, which is among the least modified and least developed areas in the Strait of Georgia. Natural features that contribute to the Jedediah experience include a diverse and intricate shoreline, sand beaches and quiet coves. If the surrounding marine area and nearby rocky islets were added to the park, several complete small island ecosystems and associated marine flora and fauna would be protected.

The implementation of the Marine Protected Areas Strategy as part of integrated coastal planning initiative will address the addition of a marine component to Jedediah Island Marine Park. This strategy is a federal-provincial government initiative to protect representative marine ecosections in the same manner as the terrestrial Protected Area Strategy has done.

### **Objectives:**

To protect the marine resources and coastal environment surrounding Jedediah Island as a marine protected area.

To ensure that the visitor's experience utilizing the waters surrounding Jedediah Island is consistent with the experience on the island.

## **Strategies:**

- Obtain marine protected area status for the marine and coastal area surrounding Jedediah Island.
- Complete the transfer of surrounding Crown islets and rocks (including Mother Goose, Paul, Finnerty and Fegan islands) into park status.

## **Visual Values**

The visual resources around Jedediah Island are fundamental to the visitor's appreciation and experience of the park. The visual features of Jedediah provide one of its most valued qualities. Human development and occupancy have not significantly altered the natural and scenic qualities of Jedediah. This is in direct contrast to other islands in the Strait of Georgia which have experienced greater settlement and resource use. From Jedediah, views of other islands in the archipelago add to the diversity of scenery and encourage boaters, particularly those in smaller crafts, to explore other areas of the Sabine Channel.

An important aspect in the experiential element of Jedediah is how clearly a visitor may view the night skies. The location of island shields it from light sources and thus the view of the stars above are not obstructed.

## **Objective:**

To maintain views in and around Jedediah Island Marine Park so that the visual qualities and wilderness-like atmosphere of the park are maintained.

## **Strategies:**

- Work with other agencies, landowners and the public to protect the visual viewscape surrounding Jedediah Island.
- Design, construct and maintain all facilities in a manner that is in harmony with the surround landscape and environment.

# Recreation and Tourism Opportunities Management

## Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Values

While no major recreation, tourism and education facilities exist on Jedediah, the island does offer many opportunities for both passive and active recreation. The proximity of Jedediah to population centres such as Vancouver, Nanaimo, Powell River, and Texada and Lasqueti islands makes it an attractive and accessible location for day trips or overnight visits. The insular setting of the park is an advantage in providing outdoor and environmental education programs.

## Boating and Kayaking

Jedediah and the other islands in the Sabine Channel archipelago provide excellent opportunities for all types of boating. This is due to the secluded atmosphere and intricate shoreline attractive to boaters. The warm, drier climate in this region contributes to its suitability for boating, although severe weather patterns and high winds can often hinder travel. Several anchorages offer access and safe moorage for day-users, with one all-weather anchorage, Deep Bay, for overnight use by sail and powerboats. Although Deep Bay is the most popular access point, most of the island's coast is accessible for day expeditions by all boaters.

### Objective:

To provide opportunities for recreational boaters to safely moor and visit Jedediah Island.

### Strategies:

- Provide a small dock in Deep Bay to facilitate debarkation of less physically able visitors from vessels to the island.
- Provide shore bolts in Deep Bay to facilitate the safe moorage of boats.
- Monitor use of mooring sites. If crowding becomes an issue, consider implementing a reduced length of stay during the peak summer months from June to September.
- Work with Coast Guard to discourage the use of Personal Water Craft (i.e., seadoos, jetskis) in the bays, inlets and waterways surrounding Jedediah Island to preserve the quiet and peaceful experience.

## Hiking and Day-Use

The park offers informal day-use and picnicking areas and many hiking and walking trails suitable for users of all skill levels. The main trails run diagonally east-west from Bull Passage to the Sabine Channel across the narrower length of the island and connect Long Bay, Codfish Bay, Deep Bay, Boom Bay and Home Bay (Figure 2). Less formal trails can be found throughout the island including to Gibraltar, the island's highest peak.

### Objective:

To maintain opportunities for recreational day-use and hiking on Jedediah Island that are in keeping with the vision statement.

## **Strategies:**

- Ensure all recreational activities are in keeping with the vision statement.
- Designate specific trails that will be maintained, and let other revert back to a natural state.
- Provide information on designated trails through signs at trailheads to illustrate trail length, estimated hiking time and points of interest on route.
- Implement a trail-monitoring program to ensure the environmental impacts of use are mitigated.
- Given the small size of the park and the fragility of some of the ecosystems, prohibit mountain bikes from the island.

## **Camping**

Dispersed camping has been occurring on the island for quite some time, even when the island was privately held. Popular camping areas are the meadow area, Sunset Cove and Sand Beach. Some of the beaches are small and have a limited capacity for camping. Groups as large as 12 or 15 have been known to camp on Jedediah. These groups are usually associated with commercially-guided trips that tend to travel in larger groups than most private park users.

At present, BC Parks has provided three firepits below the high tide mark and does not allow campfires on the upland. BC Parks also requires that visitors supply their own fresh water and pack-out all garbage.

## **Objective:**

To provide low-key, rustic camping opportunities for individuals and groups in a manner that ensures the island's ecological and cultural values are protected.

## **Strategies:**

- Allow informal camping. Continue to monitor camping areas for environmental and social impacts. Once impacts are detected, consider designating camping areas.
- Develop signs to redirect campers at Sand Beach away from the swimming area during periods of high use (i.e. June, July and August).
- Allocate a specific area for group camping activities.
- Restrict groups wishing to camp on the island to 15 persons. Larger groups would be subject to approval by BC Parks and to evaluation of site and the effect on other users.
- Continue to restrict all campfires to designated areas below the high tide mark.
- Develop public information to encourage the use of campstoves and discourage people from burning dead and down trees from the forest.
- Maintain existing surface water source for visitors; provide information to indicate that water should be boiled before use. If health and safety become issues, investigate opportunities to develop a shallow well with pump to provide water to visitors. Inform park visitors to bring their own fresh water for drinking when they visit.

## **Commercial Recreational Use**

Since park establishment, BC Parks has received applications from commercial companies wishing to provide recreational access and services to Jedediah Island. These applications, where appropriate, have been given short-term approval pending the outcome of the management planning process. The types of commercial

services currently offered include guided kayak trips (day trips or overnight) and charter services for small boaters, hikers and campers.

### **Objective:**

To keep the licensing of companies providing commercial recreation services to within the social carrying capacity of the island and the vision statement of the park.

### **Strategies:**

- Issue park use permits to commercial operators for activities that are consistent with the vision statement. This would include a commercial passenger service to enable individuals who do not have a boat to gain access to the island.
- Implement a monitoring program to ensure that the quality of the recreational experience and park's environment is not being negatively impact by the numbers or type of commercial operators.
- Consider limiting the number and type of commercial operators in the future if monitoring indicates impact to the experience and/or environment by guided and non-guided visitors.
- Designate a group campsite where all commercial overnight recreational trips must camp. The number of commercial operators overnighiting on the island at any given time will not exceed the capacity of the group campsite.



**Plate 5: Boats anchored in Deep Bay**

## Management Services

The Strathcona District in Parksville administers this park. Staff ensure the various management responsibilities are carried out according to the *Park Act* and its Regulations and the established policy and procedures of the Ministry. This includes, but is not limited to: a) collecting data on natural and cultural values; b) managing natural and cultural values; c) regulating public use to ensure safe and proper use of the park and its facilities; d) maintaining trails and other facilities; e) managing permits covering all commercial uses within the park; and, f) assessing and monitoring impacts of recreational users.

### Objective:

To ensure the various management responsibilities are carried out according to the guidelines of this Management Plan and the established policies and procedures of the Ministry.

### Strategies:

- Establish a Jedediah Island public advisory committee to provide a venue for ongoing public consultation, constructive critique, advice, encouragement and assistance.
- Minimize the use of motorized vehicles for park maintenance.
- Maintain the “Pack-In, Pack-Out” garbage policy.
- Prepare fire response strategy to determine reaction to fire and to reduce risk of fire.
- Maintain adequate information of visitor services, public safety and interpretive information, and necessary park regulations.
- Establish a volunteer hosting opportunity during the peak summer months. This could be a marine park host program.
- Investigate opportunities for an island caretaker to provide a management presence on the island.



**Plate 6: Oyster catcher and gulls near Jedediah Island**

# Communications

## Information Strategy

Jedediah Island Marine Park provides BC Parks with an opportunity to deliver a number of key messages. These include: the natural and cultural history of the island; the role of BC Parks in conserving and protecting special places; and the importance of public involvement in the establishment of protected areas. The information strategy will rely primarily on non-personal information mediums to relay these messages.

### Objective:

To provide park visitors with information that clearly articulates the role and history of Jedediah Island Marine Park and that enhances visitor use and enjoyment of the park.

### Strategies:

- Work with South Vancouver Island District of BC Parks to complement public education and interpretation displays and programs in Ruckle and Newcastle Island parks.
- Develop interpretive information on the island's cultural history, including First Nations, homesteaders and more recent farmers and residents.
- Develop interpretive information to inform visitors of the island's natural history.
- Continue to provide visitors with important park information, such as regulations, public safety notices and emergency contacts. Ensure that the public is aware of campfire restrictions, availability of drinking water and low impact camping.

## Marketing and Promotion

The relatively natural environment of Jedediah has the potential to attract visitors despite limited access and lack of facilities. The island has long been a stopping point for many boaters traveling up and down the Strait of Georgia. Jedediah Island also attracts visitors looking for a single or multi-day trip that offers a nature experience within a coastal environment. A wide range of marine travelers, ranging from motor and sail boaters to kayakers and canoeists, already consider Jedediah a destination in itself. Some of these visits are classified as day-trips; however, most destination travelers remain for several days. Guided trips to Jedediah are also available for tourists or local residents who wish to visit the island but do not have their own watercraft. Given Jedediah Park's profile and popularity, excessive marketing and promotion may not be beneficial to the park or park visitors.

### Objective:

Ensure any marketing and promotion is consistent and appropriate to maintain the experience of solitude and peacefulness.

### Strategies:

- Work co-operatively with the local and regional tourism agencies to provide adequate and appropriate information on Jedediah Island Marine Park.

## **Natural and Cultural Heritage Education**

The island provides opportunities for natural and cultural heritage education given the natural condition of the environment, agricultural past, and traditional use by First Nations. Jedediah Island's relative proximity to large population centres on Vancouver Island and the Lower Mainland assists in fulfilling an educational role. Jedediah is an example of an evolving island ecosystem that reflects the interaction of human activity and the environment over time.

### **Objective:**

Provide opportunities for visitors and students to understand the evolving natural and cultural heritage of Jedediah Island.

### **Strategies:**

- Develop interpretive material on the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem, its values and role in the BC Parks system. Provide information on impact of human activities on an island ecosystem.
- Initiate and support research to increase the knowledge and understanding of First Nations peoples' relationship with Jedediah Island.
- Encourage school groups, colleges and universities to undertake research and educational programs that increase the knowledge, and understanding of Jedediah Island's natural and cultural history and environment.
- Leave as is, that is allow groups to experience nature as it is. Rely on third-party programming and signs to provide educational and interpretative information.

# Plan Implementation Strategy

A management plan provides the direction for the management, planning and operation of Jedediah Island Marine Park. As new information becomes available or conditions and trends change, amendments to the plan may be required. In the event that BC Parks feels the overall direction for the management and planning of the park needs to change substantially from the approved management plan, a formal review of the plan with full public consultation will ensue.

This management plan is intended to guide management of Jedediah Island Marine Park over the next decade. However, the park lies within the traditional territories asserted by the Sliammon and Nanoose First Nations. Both these nations are in treaty negotiations with the governments of Canada and British Columbia. Upon finalization, treaties may contain provisions that require the management plan to be adapted in part or in whole.

Once approved, the implementation of the management plan is the responsibility of the Strathcona District Manager. Fiscal, staff, and operational constraints facing BC Parks dictate that the proposed strategies are phased in over a number of years.

The management strategies listed in the document are divided into three categories. First listed is High Priority Strategies which highlights the strategies that require attention in the immediate or near future. The second category is the Task or Project Oriented Strategies. These are the strategies that are a specific or discrete task or project. Park managers will review this list for upcoming budget and annual work plans for staff. Finally, the third list is the Ongoing Monitoring Strategies that describe the strategies that require ongoing or monitoring types of tasks or projects. This list will be reviewed regularly by park managers to ensure that the vision of this management plan is being followed.

## High Priority Strategies

### Vegetation Management

- By the year 2004, relocate the feral animals (goat and sheep) from the island through removal to suitable farm, research or commercial situations. Ensure academic institutions and other parties interested in the possible lineage of the goats are contacted prior to removal.

### Cultural

- Establish working relationship with the local First Nations people to determine the significance of Jedediah Island in their culture.
- Encourage the establishment of a society to maintain the house; if such a society has not been formed to restore and maintain the building by 2004, secure the buildings and allow to decay.

### Coastal and Marine Values

- Obtain marine protected area status for the marine and coastal area surrounding Jedediah Island.
- Complete the transfer of surrounding Crown islets and rocks (including Mother Goose, Paul, Finnerty and Fegan islands) into park status.

### Boating and Kayaking

- Provide a small dock in Deep Bay to facilitate debarkation of less physically able visitors from vessels to the island.
- Provide shore bolts in Deep Bay to facilitate the safe moorage of boats.

### Hiking and Day-Use

- Designate specific trails that will be maintained, and let other revert back to a natural state.

### **Camping**

- Develop signs to redirect campers at Sand Beach away from the swimming area during periods of high use (i.e. June, July, and August).
- Allocate a specific area for group camping activities.

### **Commercial Recreation**

- Issue park use permits to commercial operators for activities that are consistent with the vision statement. This would include a commercial passenger service to enable individuals who do not have a boat to gain access to the island.
- Designate a group campsite where all commercial overnight recreational trips must camp. The number of commercial operators overnighing on the island at any given time will not exceed the capacity of the group campsite.

### **Management Services**

- Establish a Jedediah Island public advisory committee to provide a venue for ongoing public consultation, constructive critique, advice, encouragement and assistance.

## **Task or Project Strategies**

### **Vegetation Management**

- Maintain the naturally evolving ecosystem by preparing vegetation management strategy focused on the restoration of natural systems including the role of disturbance.

### **Cultural Values**

- Conduct further research and assess First Nations archaeological resources for educational, scientific, and protective purposes.
- Develop appropriate management, information and education strategies in consultation with aboriginal peoples.
- Develop interpretative information regarding the buildings, farm machinery and the farming history.
- Display the safer farm machinery in natural setting for the discovery and enjoyment of visitors. Modification may be needed to remove potentially hazardous attachments. Remove the remainder from the island.
- Remove newer structure at Long Bay.

### **Hiking and Day-Use**

- Provide information on designated trails through signs at trailheads to illustrate trail length, estimated hiking time and points of interest on route.

### **Camping**

- Develop public information to encourage the use of campstoves and discourage people from burning dead and down trees from the forest.

### **Management Services**

- Prepare fire response strategy to determine reaction to fire and to reduce risk of fire.
- Establish a volunteer hosting opportunity during the peak summer months. This could be a marine park host program.
- Investigate opportunities for an island caretaker to provide a management presence on the island.

### **Information Strategy**

- Develop interpretive information to tell the stories of habitation and use by First Nations peoples, homesteaders and more recent farmers and residents.
- Develop interpretive information to inform visitors of the island's natural history.

### **Natural and Cultural Heritage Education**

- Develop interpretive material on the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem, its values and role in the BC Parks system. Provide information on impact of human activities on an island ecosystem.
- Initiate and support research to increase the knowledge and understanding of First Nations peoples' relationship with Jedediah Island.

## **Ongoing or Monitoring Strategies**

### **Fresh Water**

- Protect and monitor the freshwater systems on the island.

### **Vegetation**

- Promote low-impact camping and preservation of the environment.
- Monitor the horse's health and threat to the visiting public. If no problems arise, it will remain on the island until it passes.

### **Wildlife Management**

- Maintain habitat values for native species on Jedediah Island.
- Ensure recreational activities and facilities do not negatively affect wildlife or wildlife habitat.
- Keep the park closed to hunting and trapping.
- Cooperate and establish common objectives with government agencies, interest groups and the public to manage wildlife and marine species that move into and out of the park.

### **Cultural Values**

- Maintain the character of the meadow area in the Special Feature Zone by brushing and maintaining the drainage ditches.
- Maintain the character of the orchard area in the Special Feature Zone by brushing and mowing the vegetation surrounding the trees.
- Encourage heritage society or group to practise orchard husbandry.

### **Inholdings and Other Tenures**

- Monitor the impact of the towboat reserve and mariculture licenses on the natural and recreation values of the park.
- Investigate opportunities to eliminate tenures if they are having a negative impact on the recreation and conservation roles of the park.

### **Visual Values**

- Work with other agencies, landowners and the public to protect the visual viewscape surrounding Jedediah Island.
- Design, construct and maintain all facilities in a manner that is in harmony with the surround landscape and environment.

### **Boating and Kayaking**

- Monitor use of moorage sites. If crowding becomes an issue, consider implementing a reduced length of stay during the peak summer months from June to September.
- Work with Coast Guard to discourage the use of Personal watercraft (i.e., seedoos, jetskis) in the bays, inlets and waterways surrounding Jedediah Island to preserve the quiet and peaceful experience.

### **Hiking and Day-Use**

- Ensure all recreational activities are in keeping with the vision statement.
- Implement a trail-monitoring program to ensure the environmental impacts of use are mitigated.
- Given the small size of the park and the fragility of some of the ecosystems, prohibit mountain bikes from the island.

### **Camping**

- Allow informal camping. Continue to monitor camping areas for environmental and social impacts. Once impacts are detected, consider formalizing camping areas.
- Restrict groups wishing to camp on the island to 15 persons. Larger groups would be subject to approval by BC Parks and to evaluation of site and effect on other users.
- Continue to restrict all campfires to designated areas below the high tide mark.
- Maintain existing surface water source for visitors; provide information to indicate that water should be boiled before use. If health and safety become issues, investigate opportunities to develop a shallow well with pump to provide water to visitors. Inform park visitors to bring their own fresh water for drinking when they visit.

### **Commercial Recreation**

- Implement a monitoring program to ensure that the quality of the recreational experience and park's environment is not being negatively impact by the numbers or type of commercial operators.
- Consider limiting the number and type of commercial operators in the future if monitoring indicates impacts to the experience and environment by guided and non-guided visitors.

### **Management Services**

- Minimize the use of motorized vehicles for park maintenance.
- Maintain the "Pack-In, Pack-Out" garbage policy.
- Maintain adequate information of visitor services, public safety and interpretive information, and necessary park regulations.

### **Information Strategy**

- Work with South Vancouver Island District of BC Parks to complement public education and interpretation displays and programs in Ruckle and Newcastle Island parks.
- Continue to provide visitors with important park information, such as regulations, public safety notices and emergency contacts. Ensure that the public is aware of campfire restrictions, availability of drinking water and low impact camping.

### **Marketing and Promotion**

- Work co-operatively with the local and regional tourism agencies to provide adequate and appropriate information on Jedediah Island Marine Park.
- Focus marketing activities to maximize economic benefits to the local tourism economies of the surrounding islands and communities.

## **Natural and Cultural Heritage Education**

- Encourage school groups, colleges and universities to undertake research and educational programs that increase the knowledge, and understanding of Jedediah Island's natural and cultural history and environment.
- Leave as is, that is allow groups to experience nature as it is. Rely on third-party programming and signs to provide educational and interpretative information.



**Plate 7: The Culver Family with the cairn dedicated to the memory of Dan Culver**

Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

Appendix A  
Al and Mary Palmer



## **Excerpt from Mary Palmer's book, *Jedediah Days - One Woman's Island Paradise***

"For Al and me, the seasons passed too rapidly. At the end of twenty years, we were finding our spirits were willing, but the energy was winding down. We had retired to Jedediah when we were fifty years old, now we were both looking at seventy years of age.

We agonized with the knowledge that we would have to leave Jedediah in the near future. Operating a productive farm, keeping a ten-cord woodpile going, tending orchards and gardens plus maintaining a large seaworthy boat- it was beginning to be beyond us. Many times we had hired help, but most found the isolation foreboding after a short time. Without the farm status, the land taxes on Jedediah would rise astronomically. It was time to make the change. We would have to leave Jedediah....

The following week was an extremely difficult time for us. Leaving Jedediah was like parting with our souls. Now it was necessary for us to be in closer contact with people who would negotiate ways of leaving Jedediah in trust. Al and I wanted to explore ways in which we could preserve Jedediah in its pristine condition in perpetuity, without sacrificing its land, native plants, timber, beaches and other unique features....

It wasn't long before Al and I began making trips to Vancouver to talk to federal government people about the possibility of their purchasing Jedediah for a park. They were willing to listen and assured us they were interested in the proposal. But the endless rules, regulations, policies and guidelines made the project seem hopeless.

In despair, we offered the island for sale through a real estate agent, with the stipulation it would remain a park forever. A Toronto group of investors offered us \$7.9 million, and another offer from Dallas, Texas was well over the mark. Then the Nature Conservancy of Canada, a Toronto-based charitable organization, began to negotiate with us. Bill Merilees, a local naturalist and co-author of *Trees, Shrubs, and Flowers to Know in British Columbia and Washington*, worked for a year or two with us and the Nature Conservancy to formulate an agreement. Bill was tireless in his efforts to facilitate the purchase. He gave tremendous support to saving Jedediah for a park.

At one point, when negotiations came to standstill, our friend Rosalind Hildred from Bull Island wrote many letters to different news media and government agencies urging them to purchase Jedediah for a park. Pete McMartin of the *Vancouver Sun* wrote a great story describing the plight of Jedediah. It was published along with a map and pictures.

This timely article began a chain reaction. The evening the article appeared, we received a phone call from Bruce Culver, brother of Dan Culver, one of the most accomplished wilderness adventurers of the world. He was a dedicated environmentalist who had put great effort into saving the Tatshenshini River, the Klutzyemateen Valley, Clayoquot Sound and Robson Bight, in BC. He and Jim Haberl were the first Canadians to reach summit K2, the world's highest peak, in 1993. On July 7, 1993, Dan fell to his death while climbing down the summit of K2. Bruce Culver told us that Dan had specified in his will that part of his estate be used to preserve a wilderness area on the BC coast. This gave us new hope, and the incentive to contact the provincial government about the purchase. News of the Culver family's generous donation inspired an outpouring of enthusiasm and generosity from many individuals and organizations.

In December 1994, Environment, Lands and Parks Minister Moe Sihota announced that the province was in the process of purchasing Jedediah Island for \$4.2 million, - a price that was substantially below the market value.

The province had agreed to pay \$2.6 million, the Culver estate donated \$1.1 and further commitments were made by the Friends of Jedediah, the Marine Parks Forever Society, The Nature Trust of BC, Mountain Equipment Co-op, Marine Trades Association and Canada Trust.

Other organizations and corporations were approached, the media were asked to do stories on Jedediah to raise awareness, booths were set up at the Vancouver and Victoria boat shows, and a benefit concert featuring Shari Ulrich was held in Victoria. Many individuals sent donations, and community and corporate gifts made up the short fall.

The government of BC announced the completion of the purchase of Jedediah Island on March 6, 1995. Jedediah is now a Class A provincial park, the highest level of provincial land protection in the Park Act.

For Al and me, being part of Jedediah's designaton as a park was a bittersweet experience. We were sad to leave Jedediah, our literal and spiritual home for many years and way of life for us. But we are happy in the knowledge that generations of people will benefit and find idyllic refuge in Jedediah forever.”

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Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

# MANAGEMENT PLAN

Appendix B  
Dan Culver



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## **Presentation by Suki Hammren given at the International Mountain Film Festival March 1998 for the Best Film award named in honour of her brother, Dan Culver**

“Daniel George Culver was always a visionary. And his vision for his own future began early. At age 14 when a census taker visited his North Vancouver home, Dan categorized each of his eight siblings as ‘students’, and himself as ‘adventurer’.

Dan more than fulfilled his dream of being an adventurer, and his love of nature and commitment to the environment were present in everything he did, from creating one of the first and largest adventure travel companies in Western Canada, to his equally successful sailing charter company, his involvement in river safety and clean-up, and his constant efforts to protect the environment. But being a successful entrepreneur in the field that he loved wasn’t enough for Dan, he needed bigger challenges, and he soon found them.

In 1990, Dan became the fifth Canadian to summit Mt. Everest, dedicating that ascent to the Khutzeymateen and Tsitika Valleys and bringing international attention to those endangered areas. He was also a Director of Tatshenshini Wild, and dedicated his 1993 K2 climb to the campaign to save the Tatshenshini wilderness. On July 7th, Daniel and his partner Jim Haberl summited K2, making Dan the first Canadian to summit the world’s two highest mountains. He didn’t live to celebrate that victory, or to rejoice in knowing that the Tatshenshini had been saved and that one of the mountains in the park would be named after him, or to stand with Jim to accept the Governor General’s Meritorious Service Medal for bringing honour to their country. K2 has long been known as one of the world’s most dangerous mountains, with a reputation for killing one in three climbers who attempt the summit. July 7th, 1993, Dan Culver became one more visionary whose desire for the ultimate challenge cost him everything.

Dan inspired and touched many people in his life, and he continues to be an inspiration today. After realizing his own dream of climbing Mt. Everest, Dan very typically focused the spotlight away from himself, and instead used his conquest as an example for others to follow. Through his slide shows, team building seminars, leadership training and motivational public speaking he dedicated much of his time to empowering others to live life to the fullest, and make their dreams come true. He was also concerned about the youth of today, Dan was involved in a mentoring program, and lectured at many schools to motivate young people to realize their potential, whatever it might be. After he died, the “Dan Culver Follow Your Dream Foundation” was formed to continue his work on behalf of youth and the environment. Even when it came to his own demise, Dan dreamed big, in his will, Dan left the majority of his estate, 1.2 million dollars, to purchase an ecologically sensitive property to be preserved for the public good, and with this directive, his brother Bruce helped launch the campaign to purchase Jedediah Island, now a beautiful marine park forever preserved for the people of British Columbia. Through these venues, and in our memories, his vision, and his message, live on.”

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Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

MANAGEMENT  
PLAN

Appendix C  
Public Involvement



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# Public Process

The planning process for Jedediah Island Marine Park had a high degree of public involvement. The public was involved at two stages - formulating the draft, and then reviewing the draft. Workshops were the primary vehicle for involvement, as well as mail outs and use of the Internet. Two sets of workshops were held in two locations, Lasqueti Island and Nanaimo.

To assist in the planning process, a background document was prepared. This document, which summarizes all the pertinent information, was broadly distributed to a mailing list of over 250 people and to every household on Lasqueti Island. Along with the background document, invitations to workshops were extended. The background document was later posted on the BC Parks website.

This first set of workshops, held in February 1998, was focused on the development of a vision statement. Once participants had drafted their collective vision, the issues were discussed and possible resolutions were proposed. Wildland Consulting provided professional assistance. Approximately 40 people attended this first set of workshops.

From the information generated in the first set of workshops, a draft management plan and options paper was developed. This proposed objectives and strategies and provided some options for the resolution of the more controversial issues such as feral animals.

The draft plan and options paper was distributed to the mailing list of 240 people in September 1998 and was posted on the BC Parks website in November. Another set of workshops was held in November to review the plan and discuss the various options available to BC Parks. Approximately 30 people attend this set of workshops. Twelve written submissions were received from groups and private individuals.

Below is a synopsis of the written and verbal comments taken from the workshops and letters.

## Feral Animals

**Situation:** There are one horse, 60 to 70 feral sheep, and at least 20 feral goats on Jedediah Island. The horse can be aggressive. Both the sheep and goats have modified the vegetation and ecosystem structure on the island. Although the feral and domestic animals could be considered part of the cultural history of the land, they present a problem in realizing the vision to re-establish a naturally evolving ecosystem.

**Public comment:** There were a variety of opinions on the management of the feral animals. Most agreed that the sheep should be removed. People enjoyed seeing the goats which gave them a connection to the cultural history. Others were concerned about the impact to the natural vegetation and the fact that very little of this type of ecosystem has been protected. Some thought that the goats might be descendants of a breed of goats that no longer exist elsewhere and as such, present an interesting and potentially valuable opportunity for genetic research. Many suggestions were proposed on how to keep the goats and sheep on the island while protecting the natural environment. Participants recommended that BC Parks assess the risk that the horse presents and the strategies that should be taken.

**Analysis:** Experience in other jurisdictions points to the fact the goats and sheep have a significant impact on ecosystems and their evolution. With this in mind, further studies would only serve to delay the removal of animals, and the money to undertake these studies could be utilized elsewhere. The elimination of exotic species is consistent with park policy and is consistent with the desire to restore natural ecosystem and providing

wilderness-like experience for visitors. Genetic analysis of the ancestry of the goats does not require the goats to remain on the island but could be undertaken off site. Removal of feral animals will require that BC Parks take action to maintain the open meadow area, an attractive recreational and cultural feature. Although the horse may pose a hazard, he is old and is not expected to survive long. BC Parks should determine the level of hazard and take appropriate steps.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Relocate the goats and sheep.
- Monitor the horse's health and threat to the visiting public. If no problems arise, it will remain on the island until it passes.

## Historical Machinery

**Situation:** A number of farm implements are onsite as a testimony to the farming past. Most have been temporarily stored in the old barn.

**Public Comment:** Many participants would prefer that the machinery be protected, presented and interpreted in a museum or working farm situation. Given the limited budgets, this is not likely to happen, so people have indicated that the less hazardous machinery should be situated in the meadow area. This would provide visitors with an opportunity to experience the farming past. Others suggested that the more valuable pieces should be moved to museums or other parks that have good interpretation programs (i.e. Ruckle and Newcastle parks).

**Analysis:** Having remnants of the farming history on the island complements the visitor's experience and add a tangible link to the past. Displaying machinery in the meadow area would allow visitors to discover this link. However, the machinery must be assessed for their safety. Interpretation would add to the visitor's understanding and experience.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Display the safer machinery in natural setting for the discovery and enjoyment of visitors. Modification may be needed to remove potentially hazardous attachments.
- Provide interpretation through signs to provide information and historical context of the machinery, and make people aware of hazards.
- Store the rest of the machinery in the old barn and secure to protect the public.

## Cultural Landscapes

**Situation:** The meadow area and the orchard are parts of the cultural landscape associated with the historic farming period. The meadow area is a drained wetland and is a unique landscape feature in the northern Gulf Islands.

**Public Comment:** Many people supported maintaining the meadow but indicated that it does not need to be as large as it is. Some suggested that the moister back part of the meadow could be reclaimed thus re-introducing a moist ecosystem to the island. Others expressed concerns of the affect on the hydrology and resulting erosion as well as the condition of the trail. Only a few supported allowing the whole meadow to revert back to a natural condition.

Some recommended that the local residents be permitted to maintain and utilize the orchard. Most would like to see the orchard stay and suggested that only minimal work be done to keep the blackberries and other vegetation from encroaching.

**Analysis:** Both areas are part of the cultural landscape. The meadow area provides opportunities for recreation experiences and activities that require open areas, which is unusual on the Gulf Islands. The character of these features could be maintained with minimal work. Orchard husbandry is labour intensive; BC Parks would not be able undertake this but support local groups who might.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Maintain the meadow by brushing and maintaining the drainage ditches.
- Maintain the orchard area on the island by brushing and mowing the vegetation surrounding the trees.
- Encourage heritage society or group to practise orchard husbandry.

## Existing Buildings

**Situation:** Two houses, a barn and a number of outbuildings remain on the island. Left alone, they can become hazardous to the public. One house has been recently built and has no historical value.

**Public comment: People** were keen to protect the old buildings and put them to use for education and interpretation purposes. However, they recognized that significant resources would be needed to maintain these buildings. Some would like to see an interactive interpretive program and the homestead being operated as a working farm. Others recognized that BC Parks could not afford to undertake this but a volunteer group or society could. Consequently, the public recommended that the buildings be secured, some basic maintenance done (like replacing the broken windows) to maintain the option of restoring the buildings, but only doing this for a limited time period.

In terms of the newer structure at Long Bay, the public did not see much value in maintaining the building. They recommended that the house be removed and that picnic site be established.

**Analysis:** The house at Home Bay is a visual reminder of the history of the Gulf Island. Volunteers could undertake some work to stabilize the buildings until a certain date. If no society steps into maintaining the buildings, BC Parks would fence off the area and allow the buildings to deteriorate. Interpretative materials would be developed to explain the history.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Encourage the establishment of a society; if such a society has not been formed to restore and maintain the building by 2004, the buildings will be secured and allowed to decay.
- Develop interpretative information on the buildings and the farming history.
- Remove newer structure at Long Bay.

## Access

**Situation:** Presently there are no facilities to assist visitors in accessing the island. The only secure all-weather anchorage is small and limited in capacity.

**Public comment:** Most people supported a small dinghy dock to assist the less physically able to access the island. Some would like a larger structure for docking, concerns were expressed about people staying too long

or commercial operators monopolizing it. Others did not want anything at all; they wanted Jedediah to stay as it is and not increase visitation by facilitating access. Other locations other than Deep Bay were suggested for a dingy dock.

Installation of mooring buoys would not increase the anchoring opportunities, but the addition of bolts and buoys would. In addition, mooring buoys might introduce a hazard given the size of the bay. Most people supported installation of bolts. Bolt installation was suggested to others bays.

The public did not support the use of helicopters as an appropriate means of access.

**Analysis:** The current situation may contribute to the wilderness-like qualities but limits visitation by less physically able people. A small dingy dock would assist others and make landing safer, but would not be a mooring facility.

The addition of shore bolts would increase the safety of Deep Bay as an all-weather anchorage and allow more than three boats to anchor.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Provide a small dock in Deep Bay to facilitate debarkation of visitors from vessels to the island.
- Provide shore bolts in Deep Bay to facilitate the safe moorage of boats.

## Hiking Trails

**Situation:** A large number of trails currently exist, primarily as a result of the grazing animals as they move around the island.

**Public Comment:** Many people enjoyed the element of discovery as they followed the animal trails, particularly up Mt. Gibraltar. They recognized that if the feral animals were removed, the trails would start to grow in. To avoid environmental impacts of dispersed use, some trails will need to be maintained. There was disagreement about which trails and marking of those trails, particularly those than lead to sensitive environments.

**Analysis:** The removal of feral animals will necessitate some trail maintenance. It is not possible, nor appropriate, to maintain all the trails. Although it is not a wise practice to build trails in sensitive environments, informal trails and routes can lead to severe impacts. Designating the trails will assist visitors, and although it may take away from the sense of discovery, visitors will know if they are on a trail to a destination rather than a dead-end animal track.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Designate specific trails that will be maintained, and let other revert back to a natural state.
- Provide information on designated trails.

## Mountain Bikes

**Situation:** As yet mountain bikes are not common on Jedediah, but some boaters carry bikes on their boats.

**Public Comment:** Overwhelmingly people did not support mountain biking on the island, given the size of the island and the potential environmental impacts. Some expressed support to allow young children to ride their bikes on the main trails.

**Analysis:** The island is small enough that bikes are not required as a transportation source, nor is the terrain suitable for that activity. Prohibiting bikes will lessen the potential for environmental impacts and remove possible conflict with hikers.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Prohibit mountain bikes from the island.

## Camping

**Situation:** Presently, campers have the freedom to camp randomly throughout the island. As yet, this is not a problem and an ongoing monitoring program is being implemented to check for environmental degradation.

**Public Comment:** People preferred the opportunity to camp informally and randomly but recognized that use is concentrated in spots that are pleasant for camping. Concerns were expressed about camping on the swimming beach during high season, which would effectively exclude people from the swimming beach.

**Analysis:** Informal camping requires monitoring program with clearly established indicators to detect over use. Generally, camping occurs in four areas. Designation and formalization (i.e. tent pads) of campsites are not needed until monitoring results indicate an impact. During high season months, camping at Sand Beach will need to be directed away from the foreshore to allow access to the swimming beach.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Allow informal camping. Continue to monitor camping areas for environmental and social impacts. Once impacts are detected, consider formalizing camping areas.
- Develop signs to redirect campers at Sand Beach away from the swimming area during season of high use.

## Campfires

**Situation:** Presently, campfires are allowed in designated areas below the high tide.

**Public Comment:** Some people would like the opportunity to use campfires for cooking and for heat during inclement weather, particularly for school groups. Others were concerned about the potential for a forest fire in the dry summer months. Few supported no fires and that campstoves only be used, but others supported campfires below high tide.

**Analysis:** The park protects a rare ecosystem which forest fires can destroy. Given the dry ecosystems on Jedediah, escaped campfires could cause significant damage. Below high tide, campers could still have campfires as part of their experience.

**Plan Recommendation:**

- Continue to restrict all campfires to designated areas below the high tide mark. Redirect use of dead and down trees in forest to use of driftwood.
- Develop public information to encourage the use of campstoves and discourage people from using dead and down trees in the forest.

## Shelters

**Situation:** No shelters are currently available on the island; the existing buildings have been closed due to safety concerns.

**Public Comment:** Some wanted a shelter to protect visitors, such as school groups, from rain. Most participants wanted Jedediah to be a place where people could experience nature on its own, like Dan Culver would have wanted. The house at Home Bay could provide shelter if it was improved.

**Analysis:** The provision of shelters was not in keeping with the vision for the park. It is unlikely that BC Parks could undertake improvements to the farmstead.

### **Plan Recommendation:**

- Maintain status quo, i.e. no shelters.

## Drinking Water

**Situation:** No safe water for drinking is available. Although surface water is available, it is exposed to potential contamination.

**Public Comment:** Some saw this as an issue for kayakers, not for other boaters as they could carry the water they needed. Some favoured drilling of a well to serve kayakers. Others thought that the current source could be used for washing and information should be utilized to ensure that visitors bring their own drinking water.

**Analysis:** Drilling a deep well is costly. Surface water may only be suitable for washing. Information dispersal must be effective to ensure that visitors bring their water.

### **Plan Recommendation:**

- Maintain existing surface water source for visitors; provide information to indicate that water should be boiled before use. If health and safety become issues, investigate opportunities to develop a shallow well with pump to provide water to visitors. Inform park visitors to bring their own fresh water for drinking when they visit.

## Commercial Use

**Situation:** Commercial operators can offer a safe means to enjoy a provincial park. Only a small number of commercial operators presently use Jedediah.

**Public Comment:** Some people did not support commercial operations at all. Others saw it as a good business opportunity. Most acknowledged that commercial operators can assist visitors and provide a safe and educational recreation experience that is in keeping with the vision statement. Care must be taken not to overwhelm the non-guided visitor.

**Analysis:** Commercial activities are keeping within the vision statement. Establishing a carrying capacity takes time and through close monitoring BC Parks can adaptively management as required to avoid environmental and social impacts.

### **Plan Recommendation:**

- Issue park use permits to commercial operators. This would include a commercial passenger service to enable individuals who do not have a boat to gain access to the island.
- Implement a monitoring program to ensure that the quality of the recreational experience and park's environment is not being negatively impact by the numbers or type of commercial operators.
- Consider limiting the number and type of commercial operators in the future if a monitoring program indicates that guided and non-guided visitors are impacting the experience and environment.

## **Education Centre**

**Situation:** Jedediah offers an opportunity for groups to learn about the natural environment and island history of the BC Coast.

**Public Comment:** Although Jedediah offers educational experiences in a relatively remote and safe setting, a facility is expensive to develop, maintain and operate. Dan Culver would have wanted children to experience nature as it comes. There are better places to provide this service.

**Analysis:** Developing new facilities may not be in keeping with the vision. Jedediah Island offers a good opportunity for visitors to experience a Gulf Island in a remote setting, and on its own terms.

### **Plan Recommendation:**

- Leave as is, that is, allow groups to experience nature as it is.
- Rely on third-party programming and signs to provide educational and interpretative information.

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Jedediah Island  
Marine Park

MANAGEMENT  
PLAN

Appendix D

Generalized BC Parks  
Zoning Table



	<b>Intensive Recreation</b>	<b>Natural Environment</b>
OBJECTIVE	To provide for a variety of readily accessible, facility-oriented outdoor recreation opportunities.	To protect scenic values and to provide for backcountry recreation opportunities in a largely undisturbed natural environment.
USE LEVEL	Relatively high density and long duration types of use.	Relatively low use but higher levels in association with nodes of activity or access.
MEANS OF ACCESS	All-weather public roads or other types of access where use levels are high (see "Impacts" below).	Mechanized (power-boats, snowmobiles, all-terrain vehicles), non-mechanized (foot, horse, canoe, bicycle). Aircraft and motorboat access to drop-off and pickup points will be permitted.
LOCATION	Contiguous with all-weather roads and covering immediate areas, modified landscapes or other high-use areas.	Removed from all-weather roads but easily accessible on a day-use basis. Accessible by mechanized means such as boat or plane.
SIZE OF ZONE	Small; usually less than 2,000 ha.	Can range from small to large.
BOUNDARY DEFINITION	Includes areas of high facility development in concentrated areas.	Boundaries should consider limits of activity/facility areas relative to ecosystem characteristics and features.
RECREATION OPPORTUNITIES	Vehicle camping, picnicking, beach activities, power-boating, canoeing, kayaking, strolling, historic and nature appreciation, fishing, snow play, downhill and cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, specialized activities.	Walk-in/boat-in camping, power-boating, hunting, canoeing, kayaking, backpacking, historic and nature appreciation, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowmobiling, river rafting, horseback riding, heli-skiing, heli-hiking, and specialized activities.

Special Feature	Wilderness Recreation	Wilderness Conservation
To protect and present significant natural or cultural resources, features or processes because of their special character, fragility and heritage values.	To protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide backcountry recreation opportunities dependent on a pristine environment where air access may be permitted to designated sites.	To protect a remote, undisturbed natural landscape and to provide unassisted backcountry recreation opportunities dependent on a pristine environment where no motorized activities will be allowed.
Generally low.	Very low use, to provide solitary experiences and a wilderness atmosphere. Use may be controlled to protect the environment.	Very low use, to provide solitary experiences and a wilderness atmosphere. Use may be controlled to protect the environment.
Various; may require special access permit.	Non-mechanized; except may permit low frequency air access to designated sites; foot, canoe (horses may be permitted).	Non-mechanized (no air access); foot, canoe (horses may be permitted).
Determined by location of special resources; may be surrounded by or next to any of the other zones.	Remote; generally not visited on a day-use basis.	Remote; not easily visited on a day-use basis.
Small; usually less than 2000 hectares.	Large; greater than 5,000 ha.	Large; greater than 5,000 ha.
Area defined by biophysical characteristics or the nature and extent of cultural resources (adequate to afford protection).	Defined by ecosystem limits and geographic features. Boundaries will encompass areas of visitor interest for specific activities supported by air access. Will be designated under the <i>Park Act</i> .	Defined by ecosystem limits and geographic features. Will be designated under the <i>Park Act</i> .
Sight-seeing, historic and nature appreciation. May be subject to temporary closures or permanently restricted access.	Backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, river rafting, nature and historic appreciation, hunting, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, specialized activities (e.g. caving, climbing).	Backpacking, canoeing, kayaking, river rafting, nature and historic appreciation, fishing, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, horseback riding, specialized activities (e.g. caving, climbing).

	<b>Intensive Recreation</b>	<b>Natural Environment</b>
<b>FACILITIES</b>	<p>May be intensely developed for user convenience.</p> <p>Campgrounds, landscaped picnic/play areas, trail, accommodation or interpretive buildings, boat launches; administrative buildings, service campgrounds, gravel pits, disposal sites, wood lots, parking lots, etc.</p>	<p>Moderately developed for user convenience. Trails, walk-in/boat-in campsites, shelters; accommodation buildings may be permitted; facilities for motorized access, e.g. docks, landing strips, fuel storage, etc.</p>
<b>IMPACTS ON NATURAL ENVIRONMENT</b>	<p>Includes natural resource features and phenomena in a primarily natural state but where human presence may be readily visible both through the existence of recreation facilities and of people using the zone. Includes areas of high facility development with significant impact on concentrated areas.</p>	<p>Area where human presence on the land is not normally visible, facility development limited to relatively small areas. Facilities are visually compatible with natural setting.</p>
<b>MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES</b>	<p>Oriented toward maintaining a high quality recreation experience. Intensive management of resource and/or control of visitor activities. Operational facilities designed for efficient operation while remaining unobtrusive to the park visitor.</p>	<p>Oriented to maintaining a natural environment and to providing a high quality recreation experience. Visitor access may be restricted to preserve the recreation experience or to limit impacts. Separation of less compatible recreational activities and transportation modes. Designation of transportation may be necessary to avoid potential conflicts (e.g. horse trails, cycle paths, hiking trails).</p>
<b>EXAMPLES OF ZONING</b>	<p>Campground in Rath Trevor Beach Park; Gibson Pass ski areas in E.C. Manning Park.</p>	<p>Core area in Cathedral Park; North beach in Naikoon Park.</p>

Special Feature	Wilderness Recreation	Wilderness Conservation
Interpretive facilities only, resources are to be protected.	Minimal facility development. Limited development for user convenience and safety, and protection of the environment, e.g. trails, primitive campsites, etc. Some basic facilities at access nodes, e.g. dock, primitive shelter, etc.	None.
None; resources to be maintained unimpaired.	Natural area generally free of evidence of modern human beings. Evidence of human presence is confined to specific facility sites. Facilities are visually compatible with natural setting.	Natural area generally free of evidence of modern human beings.
High level of management protection with ongoing monitoring. Oriented to maintaining resources and, where appropriate, a high quality recreational and interpretive experience. Active or passive management depending on size, location, and nature of the resource. Visitor access may be restricted to preserve the recreation experience and to limit impacts.	Oriented to protecting a pristine environment. Management actions are minimal and not evident. Managed to ensure low visitor use levels. Visitor access may be restricted to protect the natural environment and visitor experience.	Oriented to protecting a pristine environment. Management actions are minimal and not evident. Managed to ensure low visitor use levels. Visitor access may be restricted to protect the natural environment and visitor experience.
Tidepools in Botanical Beach Park; Sunshine Meadows in Mount Assiniboine Park.	Quanchus Mountains Wilderness in Tweedsmuir Park; Wilderness Zone in Spatsizi Park.	Central Valhallas Wilderness in Valhalla Park; Garibaldi Park Nature Conservancy area.