

# Dog Management Policy Framework

Capital Regional District – Regional Parks | November 27, 2019

Capital Regional District | Regional Parks  
490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8  
T: 250.478.3344 | [www.crd.bc.ca/parks](http://www.crd.bc.ca/parks)



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# Dog Management Policy Framework

## 1. Purpose

The purpose of the Dog Management Policy Framework (policy framework) is to provide guidelines and a systematic, consistent decision-making process for use in determining dog management policy in regional parks and trails.

## 2. Context

Visitation to Capital Regional District (CRD) Regional Parks is increasing yearly and many people visiting regional parks and trails bring dogs with them. This is an enjoyable activity for many park visitors, but growing visitation can also result in potential increased conflicts between people with and without dogs, between individual dogs, and between dogs and wildlife, and it can result in unsustainable impacts to sensitive natural and cultural values within the regional park system.

This framework has been developed to provide a clear process for determining dog management policy for individual parks and trails and takes into account the following information as it relates to dog management and the provision of the regional parks service.

### 2.1 Regulation

Dogs are regulated within the regional park system by *Capital Regional District Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018 (Parks Regulation Bylaw)* (Appendix 1). The *Parks Regulation Bylaw* requires dogs to be under control at all times, which offers the opportunity for a dog to be on-leash or off-leash but always being in clear line of sight of the owner and returning when called. The *Parks Regulation Bylaw* also seasonally prohibits dogs in some parks with designated beach areas from June 1 to September 15 each year (Appendix 1, Schedule A), and requires dogs to be on-leash in some designated parks and while on the Galloping Goose, Lochside and E&N regional trails (Appendix 1, Schedule C).

### 2.2 Regional Park Reserves

A Regional Park Reserve is land that has been acquired for regional park purposes, but which has not been opened as a regional park because it lacks a management plan, park facilities, or park services. A Regional Park Reserve may or may not have a park classification identified through the land acquisition process.

### 2.3 Regional Park Classifications

All regional parks are classified as one of four distinct park types based on their predominant characteristics and purpose. Refer to Appendix 2 for full descriptions of these classifications. The park classification system provides the foundation for application of this framework.

### 2.4 Regional Trail Classifications

The Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2012-2021 identifies and describes three classifications for regional trails, setting out the general intent for each (Appendix 3). Regional Trails connect municipalities and electoral areas by providing non-motorized recreation and active transportation opportunities.

## 2.5 Park Management Zones

Regional park management zones provide more precise land management for particular areas within a park, taking into account specific environmental values, recreational uses, and unique features (Appendix 4). The management zones are established through the management planning process and outline which activities and visitor experiences are considered compatible and could be accommodated.

## 2.6 Special Use Areas

Special use areas within the regional park system support specific recreational activities (Appendix 5). These areas may include specially developed facilities and services and may have additional rules or guidelines in place to manage the recreational activity.

# 3. Scope and Application

The scope of the policy framework is the CRD Regional Park system. It will primarily be applied during park and trail management planning processes.

# 4. Principles

The following principles guide the application of the policy framework:

- The CRD acknowledges that opportunities for recreating with dogs will be provided within the regional park system. These opportunities will be balanced against the need to protect and conserve important environmental values and to provide enjoyable and safe outdoor experiences for all visitors.
- To the extent possible, the public should be engaged in helping to determine dog management approaches for individual regional parks and trails. This engagement can be through park management planning or other types of planning processes. It is recognized that given the likelihood of varying opinions, not all public comments or interests may be able to be accommodated.
- Determining dog management policy for regional parks and trails will be made in an equitable, transparent and accountable manner.
- As per the CRD's commitments to First Nations' reconciliation within the regional park system, dog management decisions will honour First Nation relationships with the land and water and help ensure protection of important cultural values.
- Education, outreach, and public engagement opportunities will be implemented to promote awareness and understanding of the policy framework and as an aid in its successful implementation.

# 5. Dog Management Categories

In order to effectively manage dogs within the regional park system, a set of three dog management categories has been developed: (1) dogs —leash optional under control; (2) dogs on-leash; and (3) dogs not permitted (see below for descriptions). Where permitted, whether on-leash or off-leash, dogs are still always required to be under control as defined by the *Parks Regulation Bylaw* (Appendix 1).

The appropriate dog management category is determined by working through the Decision Matrix as presented in Section 6. This approach provides a systematic way to determine the type of dog use that is appropriate and compatible within an individual park or trail. Considerations such as environmental conservation, cultural heritage values, visitor safety, and visitor experience are factored into decision-making.

### **5.1 1. Dogs—Leash Optional under Control**

Parks that allow dogs as leash optional under control are typically characterized by natural environments that can withstand a higher level of impact caused by visitors with dogs. Park visitors are typically aware of and more tolerant of leash optional dogs under control. An entire park, a portion of a park, or an internal park trail may receive this dog management categorization, depending on the park classification, park zoning, special use area designation, and/or applicable decision considerations.

### **5.2 2. Dogs On-Leash**

Parks, or areas/trails within parks, that require dogs to be on-leash are typically characterized by sensitive natural environments or wildlife species (including large carnivores), or cultural values that are vulnerable to disturbance from dogs. In some circumstances, such as regional trails, dogs are required to be on-leash to address visitor safety concerns or incompatible visitor use, involving dogs.

### **5.3 3. Dogs not Permitted**

Parks, or areas/trails within parks, where dogs are not permitted are typically characterized by a need to safeguard species or habitat protected under provincial or federal regulations, or to respond to the interests of First Nations to protect important cultural values. In some circumstances, dogs may not be permitted for visitor experience and/or health and safety concerns.

In some instances, dogs may be required to be on-leash or not permitted only during seasonal visitor use peaks to address visitor experience and/or health and safety concerns, or to protect sensitive flora/fauna during critical life stages.

## **6. Decision Matrix**

A Decision Matrix (matrix) has been developed to help identify the appropriate dog management approach under diverse scenarios (Table 1). Through the policy framework, every type of park or trail has a baseline dog management category assigned to it. In certain situations, a change may be considered beyond the baseline category.

As noted, in some cases dogs may be allowed to be off-leash under control in a spatially defined park area or internal park trail where the baseline dog management category normally requires dogs to be on-leash. Likewise, under certain conditions, a restriction may be considered that requires dogs to be on-leash, or dogs not permitted.

This is a rational means to guide decision-making and promote consistent and accountable dog management approaches within the regional park system. It should be utilized during a park or trail management planning process, but can be applied to other types of planning processes as well.

The matrix summarizes existing and potential future dog management policy direction for the regional park system. The list is not exhaustive and in the future other types of park classifications, internal park zoning, or special use areas may be added to this list.

## Table 1. Decision Matrix

	Dog Management Category		
	1. Dogs Leash Optional Under Control	2. Dogs On-Leash	3. Dogs not Permitted
<b>CLASSIFIED REGIONAL PARK* WITHOUT PARK ZONING</b>			
Conservation Area	B <sup>1</sup>	M <sup>2</sup>	M
Natural Area	B	M	M
Recreation Area	B	M	M
Wilderness Area	M	B	M
<b>CLASSIFIED REGIONAL PARK WITH PARK ZONING</b>			
<b>Conservation Area, Natural Area, Recreation Area</b>			
Environmental Protection Zone	M	B	M
Cultural Heritage Zone	M	B	M
Park Service Zone	M	B	M
Natural Environment Zone	B	M	M
Outdoor Recreation Zone	B	M	M
<b>Wilderness Area</b>			
All Park Zones	M	B	M
<b>SPECIAL USE AREAS</b>			
Campground	N <sup>3</sup>	B	M
Mountain Bike Area	N	B	M
Other Areas – To Be Determined	M	B	M
<b>REGIONAL TRAILS**</b>			
Regional Trail	N	B	M
Bike & Pedestrian Trail	N	B	M
Hiking & Walking Pathway	M	B	M

B<sup>1</sup> = *Baseline* dog management category which is identified for each park classification, park zone, and special use designation and should be retained in setting dog management policy except in cases where an enhancement or restriction *may* be an appropriate alternative.

M<sup>2</sup> = *May* be an appropriate dog management category. Some level or extent of this use *may* be appropriate for the classification, zone, or special use area indicated. The appropriate dog management category may include specific restrictions or enhancements (e.g., capacity, designated areas, time of year, etc.).

N<sup>3</sup> = *Not* an appropriate dog management category, **and** is *not* appropriate for the indicated park or trail classification, park or trail zone, or special use area.

\*See Appendix 2.

\*\*See Appendix 3.

## 7. Decision Considerations

The decision considerations below should be used in conjunction with the decision matrix. Decisions to deviate from the baseline dog management category should be based on an impact assessment completed by a professional and take into account any legal or regulatory requirements, risk and liability concerns, and public input received.

### 7.1 Visitor Experience Considerations

A leash optional under control designation *may* be considered for temporally or spatially defined park areas or internal park trails where the visitor experience may be safely enhanced by permitting dogs to be off-leash under control. This generally applies to park classifications or park zones where the baseline condition requires dogs to be on-leash and the framework decision matrix permits consideration of such a designation. It may have seasonal restrictions depending on site-specific circumstances. Such a designation should be limited in scope and application, and be founded on a strong rationale.

A restriction may be applied to areas of parks or trails where the visitor experience is undermined or impacted from the presence of unleashed dogs. Depending on the nature of the visitor experience issue, dogs may be required to be leashed or they may not be permitted in a designated area. This restriction generally applies where the baseline condition is dogs-leash optional under control. The restriction should address recreational use conflicts and/or incompatible visitor use activities. Seasonal or capacity restrictions may be appropriate.

### 7.2 Species at Risk, Critical Habitat, Sensitive Species and Ecosystems Considerations

A restriction may be applied to areas where provincially or federally listed Species at Risk are present, areas that are identified as Critical Habitat for provincially or federally listed Species at Risk, or to areas within parks or trails with sensitive species or ecosystems as classified by the provincial or federal government or other expert sources. The CRD has an obligation to protect these species, habitats, and ecosystems within regional parks and trails. Protection measures can require dogs to be leashed or prohibited from the identified area, either year-around or seasonally.

### 7.3 Cultural Heritage Values Considerations

A restriction may be applied to areas of parks or trails that have identified cultural heritage values that need enhanced protection. Cultural values can include both tangible and intangible values. Tangible values include prehistoric and historic artefacts that are protected by federal or provincial legislation, while intangible values are primarily those that hold meaning to First Nations. Depending on the nature of the cultural value to be protected in a regional park or trail, dogs may be required to be leashed or they may be prohibited. A decision on the type or extent of protection should take into account First Nation interests or requests.

### 7.4 Visitor Safety Considerations

A restriction may be applied to areas of parks or trails where visitor safety cannot be addressed through temporary measures. Depending on the nature of the visitor safety issue, dogs may be required to be either leashed or not permitted in an identified area, either seasonally or year-around.



## 8. Implementation

The policy framework provides overall direction and support for making decisions on dog management within regional parks and trails. It does not replace the *Parks Regulation Bylaw*. The *Parks Regulation Bylaw* may need to be amended from time to time to reflect new direction as an outcome of the implementation of this policy framework.

Implementation of the policy framework is forward-looking. It does not automatically retroactively apply to any park with or without an approved park management plan at the time of adoption of this policy framework. Through time, the policy framework should be used to bring about consistency and structure to decisions regarding dog management within the regional park system.

Future park management planning processes should use this policy framework to guide recommendations for dog management that align with the park classification and park zoning. If the management planning process determines that an existing dog management designation is no longer appropriate, the management plan should include strategies for transitioning to the new designation.

To remain consistent with this policy framework, the baseline dog management categories identified in the decision matrix should be adhered to as much as possible in setting direction for dog management within the regional park system.

Where an immediate public safety or other risk/liability concern exists that requires dogs to be on-leash or prohibited from a certain area, this situation can be quickly addressed through park signage, communications, outreach, and/or bylaw enforcement until the issue is resolved.

In cases where no park management plan exists, where the management plan is out of date (and doesn't adequately address dog management), where the park has no internal zoning, or it is a park reserve, policy direction may be required to address current dog management issues before a full park management plan is developed. In these cases, a simplified planning exercise may be utilized to address the specific dog management issue. The policy framework should be used to guide decision-making in these cases. Public feedback should be incorporated into such processes as appropriate.

## 9. Roles, Responsibilities, and Accountabilities

The roles, responsibilities and accountabilities for the policy framework are described below.

### 9.1 CRD Board

The CRD is governed by a Board of Directors. The CRD Board establishes the vision, priorities and direction for the region. The CRD Board approves policy documents, including park management plans, strategic plans, and policy frameworks.

### 9.2 Parks & Environment Committee (PEC)

The PEC provides advice and recommendations to the CRD Board in relation to Regional Parks business, including endorsement of policy documents such as the Dog Management Policy Framework and park management plans.

### 9.3 Regional Parks Management Team

CRD Regional Parks is led by a Management Team consisting of service area managers (e.g., Park Operations Services; Visitor Services & Community Development; and Planning, Resource Management, & Development) and the Senior Manager. The

Management Team provides overall guidance and direction and approves policy documents for review by the CRD Executive and PEC.

#### **9.4 Regional Parks Staff**

Regional Parks staff are responsible for the efficient delivery of division programs, projects, and initiatives, including visitor compliance and enforcement. Staff are responsible for development and implementation of policy documents, including park management plans, strategic plans, and policy frameworks.

### **10. Relationship to Other Documents**

This policy framework is influenced by legal and strategic documents which guide its development.

#### **10.1 Local Government Act and Community Charter**

Legislation that empowers, guides, limits and affects local government in B.C. The *Local Government Act* and the *Community Charter* define the core authority of local governments and guide decision-making.

#### **10.2 CRD Corporate Plan**

The CRD Corporate Plan identifies services and strategies to deliver on the CRD's vision. The Corporate Plan captures the CRD's service mandates, Board priorities, approved plans and Corporate priorities.

#### **10.3 CRD Regional Parks Strategic Plan**

The CRD [Regional Parks Strategic Plan 2012-2021](#) sets out the vision and strategic direction of Regional Parks. It guides the development of policy documents to align them with the purpose of Regional Parks. It states that the purpose of regional parks is to protect the natural environment and provide a range of compatible outdoor visitor opportunities and experiences that connect people with nature.

#### **10.4 CRD Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018**

*Regional Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018* regulates the use of regional parks and regional trails. Schedule 18 to the *Capital Regional District Bylaw No. 1857* provides the ticketing authority for the *Parks Regulation Bylaw*.

### **11. Monitoring, Reporting, and Performance Assessment**

Specific performance indicators, monitoring, and reporting requirements should be described in the individual park management plans or other planning documents that support this framework. CRD Regional Parks will use information gathered through policy monitoring and reporting, and other assessment activities to evaluate the performance of the policy framework and its implementation through park management plans or other planning processes.

If changes are required to this policy framework, a review and evaluation process will begin the policy development process. Revisions to the policy framework may be requested or informed by staff or elected officials to reflect new information, regulations, expectations, or standards; to maintain alignment or adherence to legislation; or to clarify content or add further detail as needed. This policy framework will be maintained, protected and preserved throughout the life cycle of the document.

## Appendix 1: CRD Parks Regulation Bylaw No. 1, 2018

### A bylaw to regulate the use of regional parks and trails

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The following information relates to the regulation of dogs within the regional park system

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#### Section 1. Key Definitions (p. 3)

In this Bylaw, unless the context requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

**“animal”** means a mammal, reptile, amphibian, bird, fish or insect;

**“beach”** means the areas designated as beaches on Schedule “A” to this Bylaw;

**“commercial dog walker”** means a person who operates a business or commercial enterprise in which the primary service provided is the walking of one or more dogs;

**“dangerous dog”** means any dog that:

- a) has killed or seriously injured a person; or,
- b) has killed or seriously injured a domestic animal, while in a public place or while on private property, other than property owned or occupied by the person responsible for the dog; or,
- c) a park officer reasonably believes is likely to kill or seriously injure a person;
- d) has been designated or is otherwise considered as dangerous under or in accordance with any municipal, regional, or provincial enactment.

[but does not include dog performing law enforcement work.]

**“domestic animal”** means any animal kept as livestock or pet;

**“leash”** means a rope, chain, cord, leather strip, or other physical tether which is used to restrain an animal and:

- a) does not exceed 2.4 m in length; or
- b) is a retractable lead not exceeding 8 m in length when fully extended.

**“natural boundary”** means the visible high water mark of any lake, river, stream or other body of water where the presence and action of the water are so common and usual, and so long continued in all ordinary years, as to mark on the soil on the bed of the body of water a character distinct from that of its banks, in vegetation, as well as in the nature of the soil itself;

**“natural park feature”** means a tree, shrub, herb, flower, grass, turf, or other plant or fungus and all soil, sand, silt, gravel, rock, mineral, wood, fallen timber, or other park resource in a regional park;

**“picnic area”** means any area designated by the CRD as such by sign or posted notice;

**“posted notice”** means a written notice affixed to a notice board or sign post by the CRD in a regional park or set out in a brochure, map or CRD website relating to one or more regional parks;

**“under control”** means a person in possession of a dog or domestic animal in a regional park has a clear line of sight to the dog or domestic animal at all times and the dog or domestic animal immediately returns to the owner when called or signaled;

**“wildlife”** means raptors, threatened species, endangered species, game or other species of vertebrates prescribed as wildlife under the *Wildlife Act*.

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## Section 8. Animals in Regional Parks (p. 12)

- 1) A person with care and control of a dog in a regional park must:
  - a) have the dog under control at all times;
  - b) have the dog on a leash, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person, in regional parks listed in Schedule C;
  - c) not allow the dog to be on a designated beach or picnic area between June 1 and September 15, except for the purpose of passing directly through the beach or picnic area without stopping, at which time it must be on a leash, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person;
  - d) immediately remove any faeces deposited by that dog;
  - e) not allow the dog to damage park property or vegetation;
  - f) Not allow the dog to injure, disturb, or molest any person, domestic animal or wildlife;
  - g) not allow the dog to enter any area where prohibited by sign or posted notice;
  - h) carry at least one leash and one collar for each dog at all times;
  - i) immediately leash the dog, whereby one end is secured to the dog and the other end is held by a person, when approaching horses.
- 2) Subsection (1) (d) does not apply to a person who is legally visually impaired.
- 3) A person with care and control of a dangerous dog must not permit the dangerous dog to enter a regional park.
- 4) A person with care and control of a domestic animal in a regional park must ensure it is under control at all times and not allow it to:
  - a) damage any park property or vegetation;
  - b) enter any area where that animal is prohibited, as indicated by a sign or posted notice;
  - c) injure, disturb, or molest any person, domestic animal, or wildlife;
  - d) be left or abandoned; or
  - e) graze.

- 5) A park officer or peace officer may require the person with care and control of a domestic animal in a regional park to remove it from that regional park if in the opinion of a park officer or peace officer the domestic animal is:
  - a) potentially dangerous;
  - b) disruptive to other park users; or
  - c) by its actions, demeanour or lack of control by the owner, causing alarm or concern to other park users, including without limitation, children under the age of twelve, elderly or disable persons.
- 6) A park officer or peace officer may restrain and detain any lost animal and bring that animal to a shelter, pound or other appropriate facility.
- 7) A person must not ride, walk, or drive a horse on any part of a regional park except on trails or areas designated by signs or posted notice.

**Regional Parks Designated Beach Areas**  
**SCHEDULE "A"**

Elk/Beaver Lake Regional Park: Beaver Lake Beach, Hamsterly Beach, Eagle Beach and Water Ski Beach

Island View Beach Regional Park: All Beach Areas above the natural boundary of the sea

Matheson Lake Regional Park: Main Beach Area

Mount Work Regional Park: Durrance Lake Main Beach, Killarney Lake Foreshore, and Pease Lake Foreshore

Thetis Lake Regional Park: Prior Lake Beach and Dock Area, Thetis Lake Main Beach

Witty's Lagoon Regional Park: Beach Areas above the natural boundary of the sea, with exception of Tower Point

**List of Regional Parks that Require Dogs to be On-Leash**  
**SCHEDULE "C"**

Ayum Creek Regional Park

Brooks Point Regional Park – in the area designated as the Environmental Protection Zone

E&N Rail Trail – Humpback Connector

Francis/King Regional Park – Elsie King Trail

Galloping Goose Regional Trail

Island View Beach Regional Park – Campground

Jordan River Regional Park – Campground

Lochside Regional Trail

Sea to Sea Regional Park

Sooke Hills Wilderness Regional Park

Sooke Potholes Regional Park

## Appendix 2: Regional Parks Classification Description

WILDERNESS AREA	CONSERVATION AREA	NATURAL AREA	RECREATION AREA
<p>A Regional Wilderness Area is characterized by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A large land base, generally more than 1,000 hectares;</li> <li>• The conservation of ecosystems, with minimal human interference;</li> <li>• Opportunities for visitors to experience, firsthand, the park’s ecosystems;</li> <li>• Opportunities for backcountry recreation and camping;</li> <li>• The provision of few, if any, rudimentary services and facilities;</li> <li>• The experience of remoteness, solitude and harmony with nature.</li> </ul> <p>Maintaining wilderness areas in the region is an important part of the regional parks function. Wilderness is critical to sustain wildlife and plants that rely on sizable natural areas for their survival and to provide wilderness outdoor experiences and activities. They are places where residents can experience wilderness close to their home.</p>	<p>A Regional Conservation Area protects regionally significant natural environments that contain sensitive and threatened ecosystems (e.g., they will have significant Garry oak, old-growth forest, salt marsh, or estuary ecosystems).</p> <p>They contain rare or endangered plant and wildlife species and their supporting ecosystems. The size of a Regional Conservation Area should be sufficient to ensure that natural features can be protected and remain viable over the long-term.</p> <p>Outdoor activities will be permitted in a Regional Conservation Area, provided they have minimal impact on the natural environment. In most cases, the main activity will be hiking. These areas will generally have basic facilities, such as trails, parking areas, toilets and signage.</p>	<p>A Regional Natural Area protects the natural environment and provides opportunities for a range of appropriate outdoor experiences and activities. These natural areas are not as ecologically sensitive or diverse as those found in a Regional Conservation Area, although they may contain some sensitive and threatened ecosystems.</p> <p>These ecosystems will be identified in the park management plan and conservation will be the priority in those areas. Regional Natural Areas also protect key greenspaces that are important to the natural character of the region.</p> <p>These areas will try to accommodate a range of appropriate outdoor experiences and activities. The exact uses will be outlined in the park management plan.</p>	<p>A Regional Recreation Area provides opportunities for many outdoor experiences, activities and events, and will be managed to accommodate a relatively high number of visitors. Facilities will be developed to support this level of use. The area must lend itself to development for a variety of uses that meet recreational needs, and it must be able to withstand intensive public use.</p> <p>This classification is distinct from other parks classifications in a number of ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The emphasis is on outdoor experiences and activities, although protecting the natural environment will be addressed in all decisions about visitor use &amp; facilities.</li> <li>• The range of acceptable recreational activities is the widest within the regional parks &amp; trails system.</li> <li>• Recreation activities may include competitive sports.</li> <li>• Recreation facilities operated by non-profit groups may be permitted.</li> <li>• Opportunities and facilities may be provided for celebrations (festivals and group functions like picnics).</li> </ul>

WILDERNESS AREA	CONSERVATION AREA	NATURAL AREA	RECREATION AREA
PARK NAME	PARK NAME	PARK NAME	PARK NAME
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Sooke</li> <li>• Sea to Sea</li> <li>• Sooke Hills Wilderness</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Albert Head Lagoon</li> <li>• Ayum Creek</li> <li>• Brooks Point</li> <li>• Devonian</li> <li>• Francis/King</li> <li>• Island View Beach</li> <li>• Lone Tree Hill</li> <li>• Mill Hill</li> <li>• Mount Wells</li> <li>• Witty's Lagoon</li> <li>• St. John Point</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bear Hill</li> <li>• Coles Bay</li> <li>• East Point</li> <li>• Gonzales Hill</li> <li>• Horth Hill</li> <li>• Kapoor</li> <li>• Matheson Lake</li> <li>• Matthews Point</li> <li>• Mill Farm</li> <li>• Mount Parke</li> <li>• Mount Work</li> <li>• Roche Cove</li> <li>• Sooke Potholes</li> <li>• Thetis Lake</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elk/Beaver Lake</li> </ul>

## Appendix 3: Regional Trails

Regional trails are identified in the 2012-2021 Regional Parks Strategic Plan. The categories of regional trails described in the Strategic Plan include bike & pedestrian trails, multi-use trails, and hiking & walking pathways. The table below provides information on the purpose of each type of regional trail.

BIKE AND PEDESTRIAN TRAILS	MULTI-USE TRAILS	HIKING & WALKING PATHWAYS <sup>1</sup>
These regional trails are designated primarily to accommodate a high volume of users for recreational and commuting cycling and for walking and running. Non-motorized vehicle transportation corridors, they are the arterial cycling trails in the region. These trails have major infrastructure and a paved surface.	These regional trails are designed for biking, hiking and horseback riding. The surface of these trails will be improved with gravel and designed to prevent degradation of the natural surface area through erosion and runoff.	These are regional trails that link regional and other parks into one continuous pathway system in the capital region. They are corridors used for walking, running, hiking, and where possible, horseback riding. These regional pathways are modelled on the pathway system found in Great Britain. These may be managed by the CRD or other agencies (Parks Canada, BC Parks, Municipalities, or other organizations).

In October 2016, the CRD Board approved the [Regional Trails Management Plan](#) which provides overall strategic direction for managing current and future regional trails. The management plan also provides specific management direction for the three current regional trails: Galloping Goose Regional Trail, Lochside Regional Trail, and the E&N Rail Trail—Humpback Connector.

The three current regional trails are classified as follows:

- Bike & Pedestrian Trail: Galloping Goose Regional Trail – Victoria to Langford; Lochside Regional Trail; E&N Rail Trail—Humpback Connector
- Multi-Use Trail: Galloping Goose Regional Trail – Luxton to Kapoor Regional Park

Section 2.4 of the Regional Trails Management Plan (p. 10) includes a policy for managing dogs on regional trails:

“For the safety of trail users, their pets, and wildlife, all pets must be on-leash at all times while on regional trails. Pet owners or guardians should ensure that their pets remain both on the trail and on the proper side of the trail.”

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<sup>1</sup> Currently no areas exist with this category.



## Appendix 4: Regional Parks Management Zone Guidelines

MANAGEMENT ZONES	OBJECTIVES	ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES	TYPICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
<b>Environmental Protection Zone</b>	To protect ecologically significant areas within regional parks through long term science-based land stewardship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas with rare or endangered species and ecosystems needing the highest degree of ecological protection</li> <li>• In some areas, visitor access may be restricted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nature study</li> <li>• Environmental interpretation</li> <li>• Visitor experience is centred on appreciation of natural features</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-impact nature trails and other infrastructure that enhance appreciation of the natural feature(s)</li> </ul>
<b>Cultural Heritage Protection Zone</b>	To protect culturally significant areas and features through a long term cultural resource management strategy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ecological features associated with culturally significant sites may be protected as part of the culturally significant features of the park or trail (e.g., heritage orchards)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cultural appreciation and interpretation</li> <li>• Historical appreciation</li> <li>• Visitor experience is one of appreciating and understanding the cultural context of the feature</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-impact nature trails and other infrastructure that enhance appreciation of the cultural feature(s)</li> </ul>
<b>Regional Wilderness Zone</b>	To keep large natural systems functioning and provide a regional wilderness experience for park visitors	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Contiguous land areas large enough to protect the natural values</li> <li>• Areas with outstanding natural features that create a memorable visitor experience</li> <li>• Ecosystems are functioning in a sustainable fashion</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities dispersed over a wide area</li> <li>• Some backcountry areas could be available for hiking, cycling, and horseback riding</li> <li>• Visitor experience is one of being in a wilderness setting</li> <li>• Backcountry camping may be permitted</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Long-distance hiking, equestrian and cycling trails</li> <li>• Trails to viewpoints</li> </ul>
<b>Natural Environment Zone</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• To provide easily-accessible natural areas within the parks</li> <li>• To provide areas within the parks that can be used for more active recreational pursuits</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Areas where outdoor activities take place in conjunction with protection of natural features</li> <li>• Less remote than wilderness</li> <li>• Can act as a buffer between wilderness and recreation zones</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities less dispersed than in wilderness zone, &amp; more accessible to visitors</li> <li>• Horseback riding, cycling, hiking, shoreline activities</li> <li>• Visitor experience is one of participating in outdoor activities in a natural setting</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hiking, walking, equestrian, cycling trails</li> <li>• Viewpoints</li> <li>• Pathways</li> <li>• Picnic areas</li> <li>• Open fields</li> </ul>
<b>Outdoor Recreation Zone</b>	To provide areas within a regional park that can accommodate concentrated recreation use	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Outstanding recreation features</li> <li>• Natural values may be compromised to allow higher level of activity</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Activities more concentrated (e.g., beach activities, swimming, boating, fishing, picnicking, multi-use trails, group picnic areas)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change rooms</li> <li>• Concessions</li> <li>• Boat launch sites</li> <li>• Beaches</li> </ul>

MANAGEMENT ZONES	OBJECTIVES	ENVIRONMENTAL VALUES	VISITOR EXPERIENCE AND ACTIVITIES	TYPICAL INFRASTRUCTURE
			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor experience includes active participation in outdoor recreation activities</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Group picnic shelters</li> <li>• Nature houses</li> </ul>
<b>Park Services Zone</b>	To provide areas within a park needed to support park services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Natural values secondary to park service needs</li> <li>• Considerable landscape modification allowed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Visitor-oriented and park operation services</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parking lots</li> <li>• Storage areas</li> <li>• Washroom buildings</li> <li>• Park operations buildings</li> </ul>

## Appendix 5: Special Use Areas

CRD Regional Parks has some geographically defined areas that may have a set of specific rules, regulations, or agreements in place. These special use areas, however, are still subject to the *CRD Regulation Bylaw*.

### Mountain Bike Area

A sanctioned Mountain Bike Area includes official mountain bike trails with trail difficulty ratings and warnings about risk and liability. The area may also include a technical training area and/or other features that support the activity of mountain biking.

### Campgrounds

The regional park system includes three vehicle accessible campgrounds. Each of these campgrounds existed at the time of park acquisition and have been continued to provide an affordable recreational activity for park visitors. The campgrounds are managed to promote visitor convenience, safety, and enjoyment.

### Other Areas to Be Determined

Regional Parks may from time to time designate other types of special use areas according to need and management focus. These areas will be identified through strategic planning or policy documents, park management planning processes, legal agreements, land acquisitions, or other means.