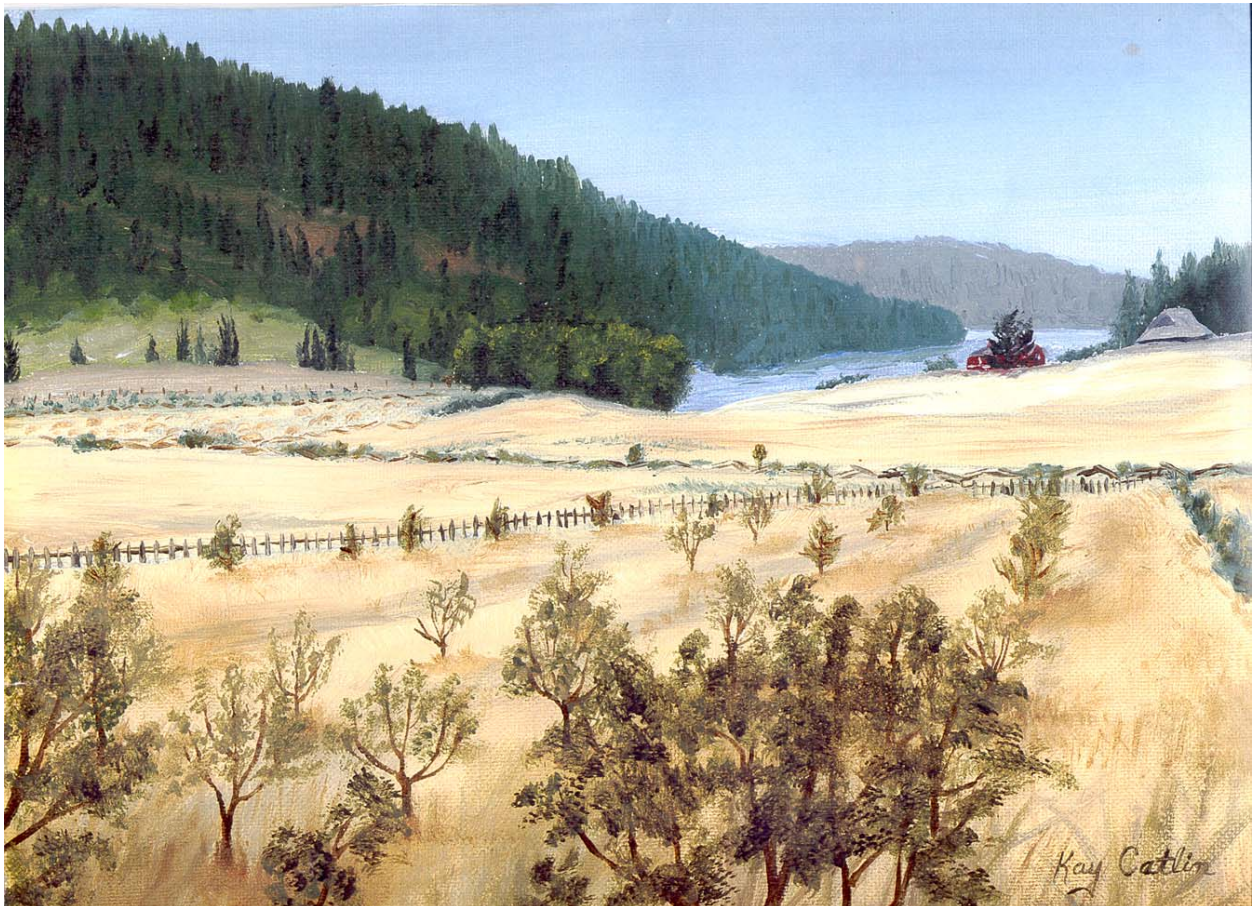


# Background Report for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area on Salt Spring Island



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**Cover illustration**

Burgoyne Bay from the Maxwell home; a painting by Fulford Harbour resident Kay Catlin from a historic photo taken c. 1920 - 1940. Courtesy of Barbara Lyngard.

## Report Preparation and Acknowledgements

This Background Report was prepared under contract to the Environmental Stewardship Division (ESD) of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (MWLAP) by the Friends of Saltspring Island Parks (FOSP), a non-profit organization established "to support the integrity and appreciation of the natural environment and cultural heritage of the parks and ecological reserves of Salt Spring Island, initially focussing on the Burgoyne Bay area." The contract was managed by Jim Morris, Senior Planner, Vancouver Island Region ESD.

Nora Layard, Chair of FOSP, managed the contract and oversaw report production on behalf of the society. The background report preparation team comprised:

- Chris Arnett: cultural and historical values
- Jacqueline Booth: natural values (wildlife and birds, anadromous fish, marine environment); preparation of maps and figures
- Phillip Grange: climate; hydrology
- Sally John: natural values (vegetation and soils); report editing
- Colin Rankin: project coordination and management issues; report compilation
- Sam Sydneysmith: recreation values and visitor use information
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Linda Adams provided the report preparation team with information on tenures, leases and interests.

Many of the directors of FOSP provided additional information and participated in preparations for the open house held to collect and review information for the background report. The background report team would also like to thank the many people, both on and off Salt Spring Island, who lent their time and expertise to the project. Specific acknowledgements regarding the cultural and historical information collected for the report are included in the final section of Appendix I.

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**List of Acronyms and Abbreviations**

ALR	Agricultural Land Reserve
BC	British Columbia
BEC	Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification
CDF	Coastal Douglas-fir (BEC zone)
cm	centimetres
CRD	Capital Regional District
CWH	Coastal Western Hemlock (BEC zone)
ER	Ecological Reserve
ESD	Environmental Stewardship Division
FISS	Fisheries Information Summary System
FLR	Forest Land Reserve
FOSP	Friends of Saltspring Parks
GCCF	Growing Circle Community Farm
GICEL	Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning
HTG	Hul'qumi'num Treaty Group
ft	feet
ha	hectares
hp	horsepower
kn	knots
km	kilometres
m	metres
mm	millimetres
MOF	Ministry of Forests
MWLAP	Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Mt	Mount
NMCA	National Marine Conservation Area
NSR	Not Satisfactorily Restocked
NSSWD	North Salt Spring Water District
OCP	Official Community Plan
PA	Protected area
PMHL	Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy
PP	Provincial Park
SSDGA	Salt Spring Disc Golf Association
SSHA	Salt Spring Harbour Authority
TEM	Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping

# 1. Introduction

## ***Purpose and Preparation of the Report***

This background report can be used as an information reference base for management planning for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, and in particular as a foundation in development of a Management Plan for the area. The report:

- provides an overview of existing information regarding the natural, human heritage and recreational values of Burgoyne Bay and the surrounding area;
- notes significant natural and cultural features; and
- identifies key management issues that will need to be addressed in subsequent park management planning processes.

The information contained in this report was collected by a team of Salt Spring Island residents familiar with park management planning and with access to considerable local knowledge and professional expertise. As well, an open house presenting information on cultural, natural and recreational values of Burgoyne Bay provided an opportunity for over a hundred attendees to view and comment on values and issues. Supplementary information to this background report includes: detailed reports on cultural and historical values, geology and hydrology; supplementary maps and photos; and associated references. This information has been compiled in separate appendices and digital files (for maps and photos) to enable distribution to the Salt Spring Island library and archives as well as to provincial government agencies and others who may be interested in the information.

## ***Location and Regional Setting***

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is located in the Southern Gulf Islands ecosection in the southwest of Salt Spring Island, just to the west of the Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve (establishment announced in February 2003). In addition to the prominent peak and cliffs of Mt Maxwell, nearby landmarks and communities include the Swartz Bay ferry terminal (serving southern Vancouver Island), Fulford Harbour and Ganges on Salt Spring Island, and Maple Bay and Duncan on Vancouver Island to the west (see **Figure 1**).

The protected area falls within the Islands Trust (regional) jurisdiction. Salt Spring Island, with a population of about ten thousand people<sup>1</sup> and an area of 18,535 ha, is the largest and most populous of the Gulf Islands. The island economy includes tourism and agriculture, as well as services for residents. Residents include many retirees, artists and crafts people. The population of Salt Spring swells with tourists and seasonal residents in the summer months; the weekly craft and farmers market draws as many as 3,000 visitors on Saturdays through July and August. Land use adjacent to the protected area is primarily light agricultural (hay fields) and rural residential in the Fulford valley

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<sup>1</sup> Statistics Canada, 2001 Census. As of 2001 there were 9,381 permanent residents on Salt Spring Island.



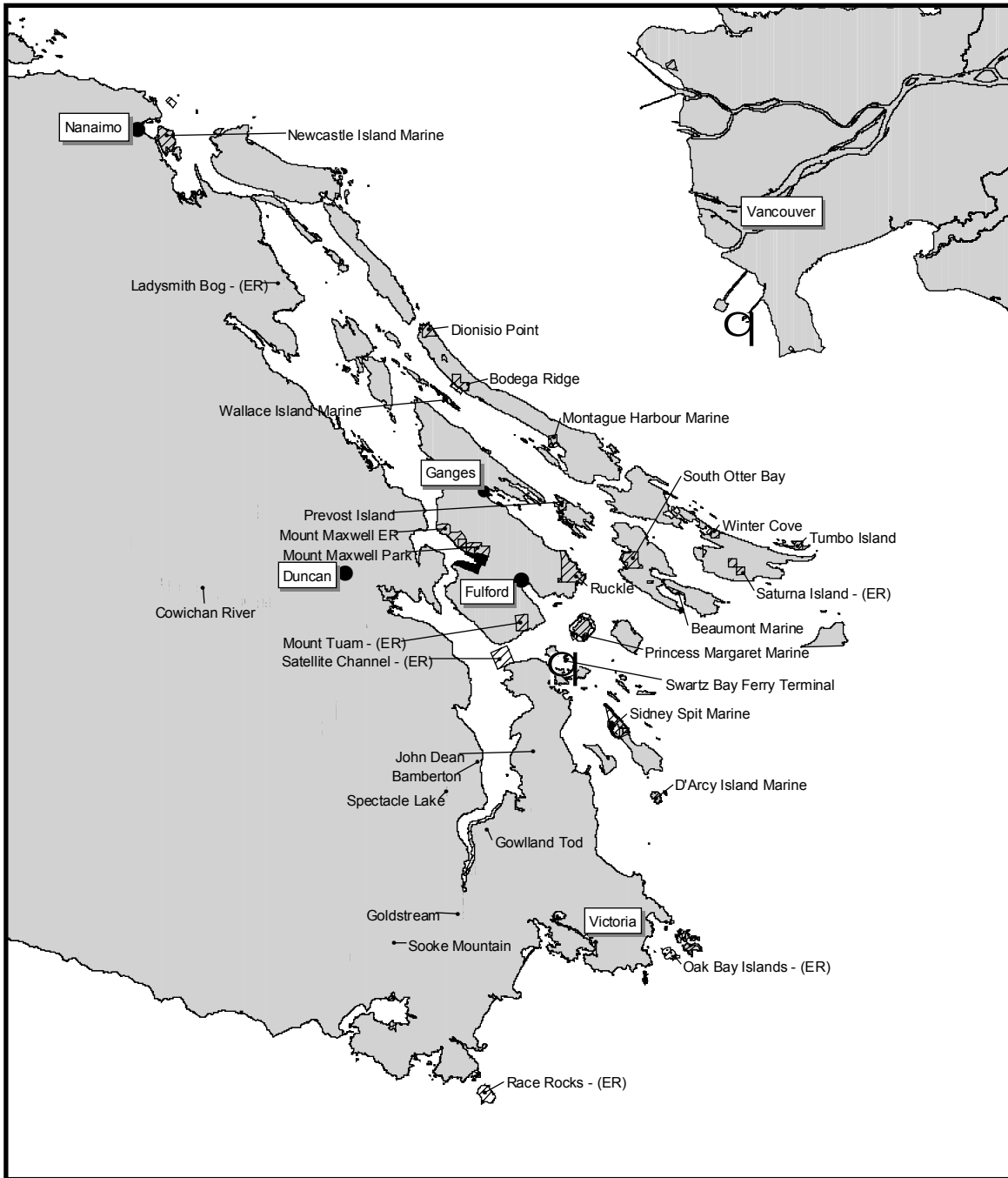
to the east, and protected areas on the slopes of Mt. Maxwell to the north and Mt. Sullivan to the south. Water use in Burgoyne Bay includes an oyster lease, boat moorage and occasional recreational boating. There has been little development, other than some recent logging, near the protected area. A public road bisects the area, and provides access to a public dock managed by the Salt Spring Harbour Authority.

### **Area Highlights**

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area includes 475 ha (about 1175 acres) of lands surrounding Burgoyne Bay. Together with newly-protected ecological reserve and community watershed lands, it includes forested mountains and hillsides, salmon creeks, farm valleys, marine shoreline, the largest Garry oak woodlands in Canada, and the Maxwell Lake community watershed. Surrounded by existing protected lands on Mt. Maxwell, Mt. Sullivan and Mt. Tuam, Burgoyne Bay is at the heart of the largest remaining undeveloped area in the Gulf Islands (see Figure 1). The lands have environmental significance and a high public profile, having been acquired from Texada Land Corporation in 2001 after extensive community involvement and fund raising involving many organizations including Capital Regional District (CRD) Parks, Islands Trust, Nature Trust of BC, The Land Conservancy of BC and the Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative.

The protected area contains open grasslands, wooded Douglas-fir forests, rocky shorelines, culturally significant sites, and historic farm buildings. First Nations people have used Burgoyne Valley for thousands of years to access its wealth of fish, plants and wildlife. In the Hul'qumi'num language, Burgoyne Bay is known as "Hwaaqwum" – sawbill duck place. The area was one of British Columbia's first inter-racial settler communities, with white settlers marrying into resident First Nations families. Burgoyne Bay and Mt. Maxwell also contain many sites of spiritual and cultural significance and are connected to the creation story of the Hul'qumi'num people.

From a boater's perspective, Burgoyne Bay is strategically located to provide easy access to the good fishing and interesting paddling waters of Sansum Narrows, and also opens onto the protected waters of Maple Bay on Vancouver Island. Hikers and mountain bikers appreciate the peaceful rural ambience of the valley, and views of the Garry oak meadows sloping down to the bay. Currently, a road to the head of the bay and a public dock operated by the Salt Spring Harbour Authority provide opportunities for boat mooring and kayak launching.



**Figure 1. Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, regional context.**

For many, Burgoyne Bay has long been an “island gem” – a haven of tranquility to be shared with special friends. Although the bay has a long history of industrial use, including one of the island’s last log dumps and a currently active shellfish farm, it remains, even in Salt Spring terms, off the beaten track. The fundraising efforts of the community, and the commitment of federal and provincial money to purchase the lands from Texada Land Corporation, are affirmations that Burgoyne Bay is of significant

local and even international value. Together with Mt. Maxwell and Ruckle Provincial Parks, Burgoyne Bay is intended: “to protect important natural and cultural values found on Salt Spring Island and provide a variety of recreational opportunities that complement the other protected areas found in the Southern Gulf Islands.”

### ***Protected Area Establishment and Legislation***

In 1996 the South and West Salt Spring Conservation Partnership, involving local, regional, provincial and national conservation agencies, was formed to investigate protection opportunities for the area surrounding Burgoyne Bay. However, in November 1999, Texada Land Corporation bought two thousand hectares (about one-tenth of the island’s area) in the southwest part of the island, including the land around Burgoyne Bay and the surrounding hillsides and mountain tops. Within a week of purchase, the company began clear-cut logging. The local community immediately began protesting the timber cutting, and raising funds to purchase the lands. Some of this history is documented in the National Film Board production *Ah the Money, the Money, the Money*, which aired on CBC television, and on the community website [www.savesaltspring.com](http://www.savesaltspring.com).

The Nature Trust of British Columbia, with financial assistance from Forest Renewal BC, purchased 280 hectares on the north shore of Burgoyne Bay from Texada Land Corporation. Together with the previously existing Ecological Reserve (65 ha) and Mt. Maxwell Provincial Park (199 ha), this area contains the largest Garry oak woodland in Canada. The Nature Trust has leased the area to the provincial government under long-term arrangements, with the understanding that the area will be designated as an ecological reserve. In 2002, the Environmental Stewardship Division prepared a draft Management Direction Statement for Mt. Maxwell Ecological Reserve, encompassing the Nature Trust lands. Legislated status for the ecological reserve, together with boundary adjustments rationalizing the adjacent and adjoining protected areas (Mt. Maxwell and Burgoyne Bay) will be proposed in a package with Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park designation.

The North Salt Spring Water District purchased 130 ha of land within the Maxwell Lake community watershed from Texada Land Corporation in 2001. The primary use of this area is provision of community water supplies, and public access is restricted.

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area (475 ha) was part of a purchase of 664 hectares of land (and associated water leases and licenses) led by the provincial government in partnership with the Capital Regional District Parks Department, The Land Conservancy of BC (acting on behalf of the local “Salt Spring Appeal” fund raising group) and the federal government (through the Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative). The Capital Regional District Parks Department has jurisdiction over the “non-provincial” portion of the lands, and intends to establish a regional park involving the former Texada lands and nearby parcels owned by the CRD (Mill Farm and Mt.

Sullivan Park Reserves) with a management planning process initiated over the upcoming five years.

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is currently managed by the Environmental Stewardship Division of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection (MWLAP) under a letter of authority from Land and Water BC. The intention of MWLAP is to proceed with described boundaries and legislated designation for the area as a provincial park before the end of 2004. MWLAP proposes also to establish a marine component to Burgoyne Bay Park, following further consultations with First Nations, government agencies and other stakeholders.

### ***Interim Management***

Until Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is designated as a provincial park, management actions are limited to maintaining the area's values and ensuring public safety. Interim actions currently planned or underway include: installing boundary markers; establishing agreements for public access road maintenance and upgrading in the vicinity of the government dock; and developing signage and materials for onsite public information.

### ***Management Direction***

The purpose statement prepared by the Environmental Stewardship Division for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area identifies the following roles for the area:

#### ***Primary Role:***

The primary role is to contribute to the conservation of the Garry oak and Douglas-fir ecosystems and associated natural values surrounding Burgoyne Bay on Salt Spring Island. Once official park designation of the Texada lands has occurred, Burgoyne Bay/Mount Maxwell Park will be part of a larger protected system that, along with Capital Regional District Parks, will protect and conserve over 1,400 ha on southwestern Salt Spring Island, including Canada's largest Garry oak meadow.

#### ***Secondary Role:***

The secondary role of this protected area will be to provide a variety of day use activities in a natural setting for the enjoyment of residents and visitors to Salt Spring Island. The level of recreation development, including any proposed camping opportunities, will be determined through a management planning process.

#### ***Tertiary Role:***

Burgoyne Bay/Mount Maxwell is an important place in Cowichan tribe traditions. Known as **Hwmetutsum** (bent over place) Mount Maxwell features in First Nations' origin stories about the relationship of man and the land. Archaeological sites of spiritual significance lie below, while

extensive middens marking 3,000 year-old settlements circle the bay, known as **Hwaaqwum** (sawbill duck place). Pioneers, such as the Maxwell family, cleared the lowlands and remnants of their settlements remain in the protected area.

## 2. Natural Values

### ***Climate***

Salt Spring Island lies in the rain shadow of the Vancouver Island and Olympic Mountains. The climate is characterized by warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters. Mean annual precipitation varies between 85 and 106 cm with very little falling as snowfall. The mean daily temperature range is 0-5° in January and 16-18° in July (Cannings and Cannings, 1996).

### ***Geology and Physiography***

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is located on the western coast of Salt Spring Island, which lies in the Insular Belt of the Canadian Cordillera. Salt Spring lies on the exhumed western edge of the Cretaceous Georgia Basin, and the mountains of south and central Salt Spring are a southeast extension of the Nanaimo Lakes Highland physiographic region of Vancouver Island.

Cretaceous marine sediments of the Nanaimo Series, which cover most of Salt Spring Island north of the protected area, were laid down over an eroded basement of generally late Paleozoic Sicker metamorphic assemblages that form part of the Wrangellia terrane, which docked on North America about 100 million years ago. Wrangellia includes most of Vancouver Island and the Queen Charlotte Islands, and large parts of Alaska.

The protected area may be divided geologically into three parts by two faults that run across it from northwest to southeast. The Fulford Fault is a major reverse thrust fault that dips steeply northeast under Mount Maxwell, and extends across Salt Spring Island and much of Vancouver Island. The second fault is inferred to form the southern limit of the Fulford Valley Graben.

The three parts of the protected area are described below and shown (as “I, II and III”) on the geological sketch map in the Colour Atlas accompanying this report (Figure 2) and cross-section (Figure 3) included in this report.

Figure 2. Burgoyne Valley geological cross-section.

Figure 3. Burgoyne Valley geological planimetric view.

### ***Section I***

The northern part of the protected area is underlain by the upthrust Tye Intrusion, a mass of light gray coarse-grained intrusive igneous rock, mapped variously as granodiorite to tonalite to quartz monzonite, forming the flanks of spectacular Mount Maxwell. The mountain is capped by Cretaceous conglomerate of the Comox formation, and large boulders of this pebbly rock – some as large as cars or houses – have fallen onto the lower slopes, reaching as far as Burgoyne Bay.

### ***Section II***

The central part of the protected area lies over the down-faulted Fulford Valley Graben, underlain by soft Cretaceous Haslam shale. Part of the valley is flooded by Burgoyne Bay, while much of the floor of the valley is covered by glacial deposits and silty marine clay soils.

### ***Section III***

The part of the protected area south of the Fulford Valley Graben lies on the northern flank of Mount Sullivan, formed mostly of cherty meta-sediments intruded with scattered sills of diabase or gabbro. These are deeply weathered in the vicinity of the protected area. Above the south shore of Burgoyne Bay is a ridge of light gray “Tyee” quartz feldspar porphyry, quite similar in appearance to the igneous rocks which make up the lower slopes of Mount Maxwell across the valley.

### ***Soils***

Soils in the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area are extremely variable, and range from deep acidic soils over glacial and marine deposits to well-drained upland soils and rocky outcrops surrounded by pockets of thin organic soil.

The majority of the Mt. Maxwell slopes are Rumsley soil, a well-drained gravelly sandy loam less than 1.0 m deep. The slopes also have some Qualicum soils (a well-drained granular soil). The south sides of the valley include Mexicana, Trincolmali and Musgrave soils – described variously as gravelly sandy loam, glacial drift or morainal materials, less than 1.0 m over till or bedrock. These soils also have well or moderately well drained characteristics. The westerly valley floor includes primarily Cowichan-Fairbridge soils, which are silty clay loam marine deposits over 1.0 metre deep, with poor drainage characteristics. The easterly valley floor includes areas of Galiano soil, a moderately well-drained shaley (and silty) loam less than 1.0 m deep over shale bedrock, and some Qualicum soils.

Table 1 shows soil classifications and descriptions within the protected area by area, average slope and characteristics. For a soil map of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, see the Colour Atlas accompanying this report.

Figure 4. Soils mapped by parent soil material for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.

**Table 1. Soils in the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

Parent Soil	Area (ha)	Av. Slope	Characteristics in Protected Area
<b>Cowichan-Fairbridge (CO-FB)</b>	54.5	8.1	Poorly drained Well developed soils on silty clay marine deposits Rock-free Rapidly fluctuating water table at or near surface through winter Flat to gently sloping Rooting depth 30 – 60 cm. Strongly acid (ph 5.1-5.5) Cleared for agriculture (mostly hay) Soil classifications(s): Humic Luvisol:Gleyed Dystric Brunisol
<b>Galiano (GA)</b>	3.8	16.9	Fairly well-drained On broken rock over variably deep bedrock Water table usually > 100 cm Subsoil saturation and flow may occur during wet periods Rooting depth 20-80 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>Mexicana (ME)</b>	48.7	40.5	Moderately well drained On sand/gravel/loam morainal deposits over unweathered till Sloping Wet in winter, droughty in summer Seepage common Rooting depth 80 – 100 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>Mexicana-Trincomali (ME-TR)</b>	19.3	24.5	As above with inclusions of areas with sand/gravel/loam marine, fluvial or glacio-fluvial deposits Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>Musgrave – Mexicana (MG-ME)</b>	47.4	44.7	Well drained sloping upland soils On sand/gravel/loam colluvial and glacial drift deposits Over metamorphosed sedimentary bedrock Mexicana inclusions Moist in winter; droughty in summer Rooting depth 20 – 100 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>Parksville (PA)</b>	2.2	6.5	Poorly drained soils On sand/loam Over deep stone-free silt/clay marine deposits High water table Subsurface may remain moist in droughty periods from seepage Strongly acid at surface Rooting depth 70 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Humic Gleysol
<b>Qualicum (QU)</b>	29.0	26.3	Rapidly to well-drained soils On deep gravel/sand/loam glaciofluvial, fluvial or marine deposits Water table below 100 cm throughout year Moist in winter to very dry in summer Rooting depth 35 – 120 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>rock - Musgrave (RO-MG)</b>	25.0	35.5	Rock, with inclusions of: Well drained sloping upland soils On sand/gravel/loam colluvial and glacial drift deposits Over metamorphosed sedimentary bedrock Moist in winter; droughty in summer Rooting depth 20 – 100 cm Soil classifications(s): non-soil:Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>rock-Rumsley (RO-RY)</b>	2.4	15.4	Rock, with inclusions of: Well drained soils On shallow deposits of gravel/sand/loam colluvium or glacial drift Over coarse metamorphosed intrusive bedrock Moist in winter; droughty in summer Rooting depth 25 – 90 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol



Parent Soil	Area (ha)	Av. Slope	Characteristics in Protected Area
<b>Rumsley (RY)</b>	78.1	38.6	Well drained soils On shallow deposits of gravel/sand/loam colluvium of glacial drift Over coarse metamorphosed intrusive bedrock Moist in winter; droughty in summer Rooting depth 25 – 90 cm Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol
<b>St. Mary (SM)</b>	21.4	37.2	Imperfectly drained soils On 30 – 70 cm of sand/loam marine or fluvial deposit Over sand/clay/silt marine deposit over compact unweathered till Wet in winter; moist in summer Rooting depth 30 – 70 cm Soil classifications(s): Gleyed Dystric Brunisol
<b>tidal flat (TF)</b>	8.1	32.5	Soil classifications(s): non-soil
<b>Trincomali (TR)</b>	2.4	39.1	Moderately well drained soils On shallow gravel/sand/loam marine, fluvial or glaciofluvial material Over compact unweathered till (within 100 cm) Rooting depth 60 cm Sometimes wet in winter; droughty in summer Soil classifications(s): Orthic Dystric Brunisol

## **Hydrology**

### **Rainfall**

There are no known rainfall records taken in the Burgoyne valley; however there are long periods recorded at Vesuvius, St. Mary Lake, Ganges and Cusheon Lake. These records suggest the following statistics, which may be assumed to be similar in this area:

- 50% of rain falls in the period November to January.
- 85% of rain falls in the period October to April.
- 15% (on average) of rain falls in April to October, but this can be a very dry period with little precipitation.

The annual average total precipitation varies slightly across the record sites from 85 cm at Cusheon to 106 cm at Ganges, with 90 cm at Vesuvius. The average in the Burgoyne valley is expected to be similar to Vesuvius station, i.e. about 90 cm per annum.

### **Runoff**

There are no known surface runoff data for the creeks in the Burgoyne valley; however some data for nearby Fulford creek are available.

Surface water runoff will be very rapid during rain periods due to the steep side slopes rising to the ridges to the north and south of the Burgoyne Valley. Flow rates will be modified mainly by tree and vegetation cover, which holds a proportion of rain that is later transmitted by evapo-transpiration, released more slowly into creek channels or into the ground water regime. Net precipitation runoff into St Mary Lake (in the northern part of the island) is thought to be about 40% of rainfall (Hamilton 1998), though it may be more in a steep-sided watershed such as Burgoyne. Areas where vegetation has been removed will allow rainfall to more quickly run to the sea, until vegetation regenerates. The types and depths of soils overlying the bedrock in the

region also affect runoff. The thin mantle of well-drained soils in the upper valley sides will retain moisture to a degree and release it into the bedrock fracture regime, as well as down toward the valley floor.

The valley floor has some large open fields that are underlain by an impervious soil layer; there are numerous wetland and boggy areas.

Fulford Creek is the only creek on the Island with consistent summer flows, probably due to the ground-water sources along the sides of the valley (Hodge 1995). Similar geology would suggest the same effects may be anticipated in the Burgoyne Bay area, and there may be occurrences of year-round flows in some of the small creeks.

### **Watersheds**

The ground confirmation of watersheds and creek alignments to the Burgoyne valley is still in process, and some data has been shown in the illustrative plans. Alignments derived from aerial photo data often have errors in detail, and some of these have been found in both the upper part of Maxwell Mt. and in the valley floor.

The watersheds extend between the two peaks and ridges of Mt. Maxwell (Baynes Peak) at 630 metres and Mt. Bruce Peak at 704 metres, the latter being the highest point on the island. Estimated watershed areas are as follows:

- easterly watershed to most of the valley floor: 400 ha;
- north shore watershed: about 250 ha;
- south shore watershed: about 110 ha.

The total watershed area surrounding Burgoyne Bay is about 760 ha, or about 4% of the total land area of Salt Spring Island. The average annual volume of rain falling on the eastern part of the Burgoyne Bay watershed is about 3.6 million cubic metres. Watersheds and rivers are shown in Figure 5 in the Colour Atlas accompanying this report.

### **Figure 5. Hydrology of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

### **Vegetation**

Virtually all of the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area lies within the Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) biogeoclimatic (BEC) zone. A small higher elevation portion, reaching up to 360 m with a north-northeast aspect, is in the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) BEC zone; this is in the southern corner of the protected area.

The CDF zone, characterized by low summer rainfall and a Mediterranean climate, is confined to a small area of southwestern BC, largely on the east coast of Vancouver Island and in the Gulf Islands. This zone is subject to the highest development pressure in the province, and contains by far the lowest remaining proportion of old-growth forests of the various BEC zones.

Tree species that characterize this zone include Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*), Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), grand fir (*Abies grandis*), red alder (*Alnus rubra*), arbutus (*Arbutus menziesii*) and Garry oak (*Quercus garryana*).

Many exotic species are found in the protected area. Broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), English hawthorn (*Crataegus monogyna*), English rose (*Rosa* spp.) and rose campion (*Lychnis coronaria*) have successfully naturalized over much of the area, and in some places result in competitive exclusion of native species.

Vegetation over virtually all of the protected area has been modified by human activities. The lowlands in the valley were logged long ago, and have been under cultivation for several decades. Most of the upland area has also been logged, although removal patterns vary from highly selective (individual tree removal) to patch openings and larger clearcuts. A small (7 ha) stand of 150-year-old Douglas-fir lies within the protected area boundary; even it, however, may have been substantially modified through controlled burning by First Nations people. Second growth stands in the area range from newly planted areas following logging by Texada Land Corporation, to naturally regenerated stands of around 100 years of age that were “high graded” around the turn of the century. Considerable areas of immature (30 – 80 year old) timber also exist, along with areas of non-commercial forest, rocky outcrops, and NSR (not satisfactorily restocked) areas that have been logged during the past several decades.

Noteworthy in the protected area is the high concentration of western yew (*Taxus brevifolia*) in the area surrounding the head of the bay.

The following red- or blue-listed plant communities have been reported within the borders of the protected area, although Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) has not been completed for this area.

- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Pinus contorta* / *Cladina*
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Quercus garryana* / *Melica subulata*
- *Quercus garryana* / *Arbutus menziesii*
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Mahonia nervosa*
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* – *Pinus contorta* / *Arbutus menziesii*
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Arbutus menziesii*
- *Pseudotsuga menziesii* / *Pinus contorta* / *Rhacomitrium*

A map of vegetation cover in the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is presented in Figure 6 in the Colour Atlas accompanying this report.

**Figure 6. Vegetation cover of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

**Wildlife and Birds**

There have not been any systematic inventories of the wildlife in the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. Personal observations and knowledge of the fauna in the protected area and surrounding region has provided the following background information. Table 2 below lists the amphibian, reptile, bird and mammal species that might be expected in the protected area and surrounding waters. This list has been compiled based on a combination of personal observations and the Ministry of Forests database of species associated with the CDF biogeoclimatic zone (Stevens 1995).

The most common large mammal seen in and around Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is the Columbian black-tailed deer. In the Bay itself river otter and harbour seals are common, and sea lions and transient orcas are sometimes sighted. There are no records in the Bay for Dall’s or Harbour porpoise; however these cryptic cetaceans have been sighted in Fulford Harbour and probably occur also in Burgoyne Bay.

**Table 2. Wildlife species seen or predicted to occur in and around Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Prov. Status
Reptiles	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>	Painted turtle	Blue
	<i>Contia tenuis</i>	Sharp-tailed snake	Red
	<i>Pituophis melanoleucus catenifer</i>	Gopher snake subsp. catenifer	Red
Amphibians	<i>Aneides ferreus</i>	Clouded salamander	
	<i>Rana catesbeiana</i>	American bullfrog	
	<i>Hyla regilla</i>	Pacific treefrog	
	<i>Rana pipiens</i>	Leopard frog	Red
Birds	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>	Ruffed grouse	
	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>	American bittern	Blue
	<i>Callipepla californica</i>	California quail	
	<i>Chaetura vauxi</i>	Vaux's swift	
	<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Lark sparrow	Blue
	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	Northern flicker	
	<i>Columba fasciata</i>	Band-tailed pigeon	
	<i>Dendragapus obscurus</i>	Blue grouse	
	<i>Dendroica palmarum</i>	Palm warbler	Blue
	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Yellow warbler	
	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	Bobolink	Blue
	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>	Pileated woodpecker	
	<i>Icteria virens</i>	Yellow-breasted chat	Red
	<i>Lanius excubitor</i>	Northern shrike	
	<i>Limosa haemastica</i>	Hudsonian godwit	Blue
	<i>Melanerpes lewis</i>	Lewis' woodpecker	Blue
	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>	Wild turkey	
<i>Oporornis tolmiei</i>	MacGillivray's warbler		

Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Prov. Status
	<i>Oreortyx pictus</i>	Mountain quail	
	<i>Phalaenoptilus nuttalli</i>	Common poorwill	
	<i>Phasianus colchicus</i>	Ring-necked pheasant	
	<i>Picoides tridactylus</i>	Three-toed woodpecker	
	<i>Poecetes gramineus affinis</i>	Vesper sparrow subsp. affinis	Red
	<i>Progne subis</i>	Purple martin	Red
	<i>Sialia mexicana</i>	Western bluebird	
	<i>Vireo huttoni</i>	Hutton's vireo	Blue
	<i>Wilsonia pusilla</i>	Wilson's warbler	
	<i>Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus</i>	Yellow-headed blackbird	
	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Mourning dove	
Raptors/Owls	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	
	<i>Accipiter gentilis</i>	Northern goshawk subsp.	
	<i>Accipiter gentilis laingi</i>	Nothern Goshawk subsp. laingi	Red
	<i>Aegolius acadicus</i>	Northern saw-whet owl subsp.	
	<i>Asio flammeus</i>	Short-eared owl	Blue
	<i>Athene cunicularia</i>	Burrowing owl	Red
	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>	Great horned owl	
	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>	Red-tailed hawk	
	<i>Buteo lagopus</i>	Rough-legged hawk	
	<i>Buteo swainsoni</i>	Swainson's hawk	Blue
	<i>Cathartes aura</i>	Turkey vulture	Blue
	<i>Falco columbarius</i>	Merlin	
	<i>Falco mexicanus</i>	Prairie falcon	Red
	<i>Falco peregrinus pealei</i>	Peregrine falcon subsp. pealei	Blue
	<i>Falco rusticolus</i>	Gyrfalcon	Blue
	<i>Falco sparverius</i>	American kestrel	
	<i>Glaucidium gnoma swarthi</i>	Northern pygmy owl subsp. swarthi	Blue
	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>	Bald eagle	Blue
	<i>Otus kennicottii kennicottii</i>	Western screech owl subsp. kennicottii	Blue
	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>	Osprey	
<i>Strix varia</i>	Barred owl		
<i>Surnia ulula</i>	Northern hawk owl		
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn owl	Blue	
Seabirds	<i>Larus californicus</i>	California gull	Blue
	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>	Double-crested cormorant	Blue
	<i>Phalacrocorax penicillatus</i>	Brandt's cormorant	Red
Shore Birds	<i>Ardea herodias</i>	Great blue heron	Blue
	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>	Upland sandpiper	Red
	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>	Least sandpiper	
	<i>Haematopus bachmani</i>	Black oystercatcher	
	<i>Heteroscelus incanus</i>	Wandering tattler	Blue
	<i>Limnodromus griseus</i>	Short-billed dowitcher	Blue
	<i>Numenius americanus</i>	Long-billed curlew	Blue

Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Prov. Status
	<i>Phalaropus lobatus</i>	Red-necked phalarope	Blue
	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>	Lesser golden-plover	Blue
Waterfowl	<i>Aechmophorus occidentalis</i>	Western grebe	Red
	<i>Aix sponsa</i>	Wood duck	
	<i>Anas acuta</i>	Northern pintail	
	<i>Anas americana</i>	American wigeon	
	<i>Anas clypeata</i>	Northern shoveler	
	<i>Anas crecca</i>	Green-winged teal	
	<i>Anas cyanoptera</i>	Cinnamon teal	
	<i>Anas discors</i>	Blue-winged teal	
	<i>Anas penelope</i>	Eurasian wigeon	
	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>	Mallard	
	<i>Anas strepera</i>	Gadwall	
	<i>Aythya affinis</i>	Lesser scaup	
	<i>Aythya americana</i>	Redhead	
	<i>Aythya collaris</i>	Ring-necked duck	
	<i>Aythya marila</i>	Greater scaup	
	<i>Aythya valisineria</i>	Canvasback	
	<i>Branta canadensis</i>	Canada goose	
	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>	Bufflehead	
	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>	Common goldeneye	
	<i>Bucephala islandica</i>	Barrow's goldeneye	
	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>	Oldsquaw	Blue
	<i>Gavia pacifica</i>	Pacific loon	
	<i>Histrionicus histrionicus</i>	Harlequin duck	
	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>	Hooded merganser	
	<i>Melanitta fusca</i>	White-winged scoter	
	<i>Melanitta nigra</i>	Black scoter	
	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>	Surf scoter	Blue
<i>Mergus merganser</i>	Common merganser		
<i>Mergus serrator</i>	Red-breasted merganser		
<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>	Ruddy duck		
<i>Podiceps nigricollis</i>	Eared grebe		
Large Mammals	<i>Felis concolor</i>	Cougar	
	<i>Odocoileus h. columbianus</i>	coast deer or Columbian Blacktail	
	<i>Ursus americanus</i>	Black bear subspp.	
Marine Mammals	<i>Dall's porpoise</i>	Phocoenoides dalli	
	<i>Harbor porpoise</i>	Phocoena phocoena	
	<i>Killer whale</i>	Orcinus orca	
	<i>Steller Sealion</i>	Eumetopias jubatus	
	<i>California sealion</i>	Zalophus californianus	
	<i>Harbour seal</i>	Phoca Vitulina	
Small Mammals	<i>Castor canadensis</i>	Beaver	
	<i>Lontra canadensis</i>	River otter	

Group	Scientific Name	Common Name	Prov. Status
	<i>Martes americana</i>	Marten	
	<i>Mustela vison</i>	Mink	
	<i>Myotis evotis</i>	Western long-eared myotis	
	<i>Myotis keenii</i>	Keen's long-eared myotis	Red
	<i>Ondatra zibethica</i>	Muskrat	
	<i>Plecotus townsendii</i>	Townsend's big-eared bat	Blue
	<i>Procyon lotor</i>	Raccoon	
	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>	Gray squirrel	
	<i>Sorex palustrus brooksi</i>	Water shrew subsp. brooksi	Red
	<i>Spilogale putorius</i>	Spotted skunk	
	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>	Red squirrel	

**Anadromous Fish**

There are five streams and four creeks flowing into Burgoyne Bay from lands within the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area boundaries. None of the streams or creeks are registered in the Fisheries Information Summary System (FISS), however the two streams at the head of the bay are thought to have very small coho salmon runs (P. Grange, SSI Salmon Enhancement, Soc. pers. comm.).

**Marine Environment**

**Marine Ecosystems**

Burgoyne Bay falls within the following marine ecological classification:

Eco-Zone	Pacific
Eco-Province	Pacific Shelf
Eco-Region	Georgia Strait/Puget Sound
Eco-District	Southern Georgia Strait

The Province of British Columbia has classified the marine ecosystems of British Columbia into pelagic and benthic ecosystems units at a scale of 1:250,000.<sup>2</sup> At this scale Burgoyne Bay and Sansum Narrows are classified as a single benthic ecounit with the following characteristics:

Depth	Mid-depth, 50-200m
Temperature (summer at seabed bottom)	Warm, 9-15°C
Slope	Sloping, 5-20%
Current	High, > 3knots
Substrate	Mud
Exposure	Low

<sup>2</sup> Developed by Axy Environmental for Decision Support Services, October 2001, dr\_benthic: Decision Support Services, 810 Blanshard Street (\gis0\luco\dsk1\projects\marineco\_2001\ecounits\dr\_benthic)

Roughness	Low
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Burgoyne Bay is joined with Stuart Channel, Sansum Narrows and Satellite Channel into a single pelagic ecounit which is classified as polyhaline (18-28ppt) and stratified. It should be noted that both the benthic and pelagic classification were based on data sets that were available province-wide, and are not accurate at a local scale; they are intended merely to put the region into a provincial perspective. For example, almost the entire Strait of Georgia is classified as stratified although many areas of intense tidal mixing are known to exist (e.g., Active Pass, Dodds Narrows, Sansum Narrows).

**Currents and Tides**

Salt Spring Island is located within the sheltered confines of the southern Gulf Island archipelago. The region is classified as a sheltered environment with low-wave energy levels at the shoreline (Howes *et al.* 1994). During the stormy winter season, east or SE winds occur more than 60% of the time, west or NW winds about 10% of the time (anon. 1990). From the east or southeast the maximum fetch is less than 5 km (*ibid.*); the maximum fetch in the bay is about 7.2 km when winds are from the northwest. In summer the winds are from the west or NW about 20% of the time and east or SE 50% of the time. Burgoyne Bay faces onto Sansum Narrows, which leads from Satellite Channel to the south end of Stuart Channel. The wind tends to funnel along the axis of the narrows and down the valleys leading into it; for this reason the wind is inclined to be directionally erratic.

The tides in Burgoyne Bay are referenced out of Fulford Harbour. Tidal processes consist of two high tides (low-high and high-high) and two low tides (high-low and low-low) per day. The head of Burgoyne Bay includes about 8 ha of tidal flats<sup>3</sup>, much of which is exposed during low summer tides. Sansum Narrows has swift tidal currents flooding north and ebbing south. In the narrower part of the narrows the tidal stream can reach speeds of 3 kn, although in most areas speeds of 1-2 kn can be expected. Whirlpools and tiderips occur around Burial Islet and between Sansum and Bold Bluff Points. Under certain combinations of wind and tide these areas can be hazardous to small craft. Tidal currents are based on a secondary current station in Sansum Narrows referenced on Active Pass.

**Coastal Geomorphology**

The province of British Columbia has classified the entire British Columbia coastline into 34 physical coastline classes (Howes *et al.* 1994). The coastline of Burgoyne Bay has been broken down into five physical shorezone units (Figure 7 in Colour Atlas):

Unit #	Physical Shoreline Type	Exposure	Length (m)
547	Rock with Gravel Beach	Protected	5060
548	Sand and Gravel Flat	Protected	1020
549	Sand and Gravel Flat	Protected	1020
550	Rock, Sand and Gravel Beach	Protected	940
551	Rock Cliff	Semi-Protected	680

<sup>3</sup> Based on area analysis of soils polygon mapped by Agriculture Canada



Figure 7. Physical shorezone units for Burgoyne Bay.

For each unit the province has assigned an “oil spill sensitivity” rating and appropriate countermeasures in the event of a spill (Howes *et al.* 1993). These are shown in Figure 8 in the Colour Atlas. The potential effectiveness of cleanup is high for all areas of the bay.

Figure 8. Oil spill countermeasures for physical shorezone units in Burgoyne Bay.

### **Intertidal and shallow subtidal biology**

The most outstanding marine feature of Burgoyne Bay is the extensive eelgrass bed at the head of the bay. The eelgrass bed extends over most of the tidal mud flats at the head of the bay (Shorezone Units 548 and 549) extending to a depth of about 10 m. Most of the eelgrass is *Zostera marina*; however small pockets of *Z. japonica* are present in the upper intertidal near where the streams enter the bay. A community field survey in 2002 found numerous fish and invertebrate species including large numbers of moon snails (*Polinices lewisii*), bubble shells (*Haminoea* spp.), ghost shrimp (*Callinessa californiensis*), mud shrimp (*Upogebia* spp.) and juvenile crabs (all five species of *Cancer*, as well as kelp and decorator crabs) associated with the eelgrass. Large patches with high densities of the tubes of burrowing polychaete may be seen at low tides along with the shells of manila, little-neck and butter clams. It is expected that the eelgrass bed is also the home to many species of juvenile fish, including the young coho salmon that are spawned in the creeks at the head of bay.

An intertidal survey done for BC Parks in December 2002, completed a transect across three shoreline types in the bay (Kristoff and Tayless 2002). Table 3 summarizes the species present within each of three shoreline types; Rock Cliff - Cobble, Gravel Beach (Shorezone Units 547 or 551), Cobble, Gravel, Sand Mixed Beach (shorezone units 549), Cobble, Gravel Beach to Mudflat (Shorezone Unit 548). Transects were not completed within the eelgrass beds. These results are considered to be preliminary.

Table 3. Species recorded from intertidal transects in Burgoyne Bay.

Group & Species	Common Name	Rock Cliff - Cobble, Gravel Beach	Cobble, Gravel, Sand Mixed Beach	Cobble, Gravel Beach to Mudflat
<b>Algae</b>				
<i>Ulva</i> spp.	sea lettuce	X	X	X
<i>Fucus gardneri</i>	rock weed	X		X
<i>Sargassum</i> spp.	Japanese weed	X		X
<i>Ceramium</i> spp.	staghorn felt	X	X	
<i>Endocladia muricata</i>	sea moss	X		X
<i>Mastocarpus</i> spp.	Turkish washcloth	X	X	X
<i>Microcladia coulteri</i>	sea lace	X		
<b>Anemones</b>				
<i>Metridium giganteum</i>	giant plumose anemone	X	X	
<b>Isopods</b>				
<i>Traskorchestia traskiana</i>	beach hopper	X		
<b>Barnacles</b>				
<i>Balanus glandula</i>	acorn barnacle	X		X
<i>Semibalanus cariosus</i>	thatched barnacle		X	X
<b>Chitons</b>				
<i>Tonicella</i> spp..	line chiton			
<b>Snails &amp; Limpets</b>				
<i>Batillaria cumingi</i>	mudflat snail	X		X
<i>Littorina scutulata</i>	checkered periwinkle		X	X
<i>Tectura persona</i>	mask limpet		X	X
<i>Tectura scutum</i>	plate limpet		X	X
<b>Bivalves</b>				
<i>Crassostrea gigas</i>	giant Pacific oyster			X
<i>Macoma</i> spp.	macoma			X
<i>Protothaca staminea</i>	Pacific littleneck			X
<b>Sea Stars</b>				
<i>Dermasterias imbricata</i>	leather star	X		
<i>Evasterias troschelii</i>	mottled star	X		X
<i>Pisaster brevispinus</i>	spiny pink star	X	X	X
<i>Pisaster ochraceus</i>	ochre star	X	X	X
<i>Pycnopodia helianthoides</i>	sunflower star	X	X	X
<b>Shrimp</b>				
<i>Heptacarpus brevispinus</i>	stout coastal shrimp	X		X
<i>Heptacarpus kincaidi</i>	broken-back shrimp	X		
<i>Pandalus danae</i>	coon-striped shrimp	X		
<b>Crabs</b>				
<i>Cancer productus</i>	red rock crab	X	X	X
<i>Hemigrapsus nudus</i>	purple shore crab	X	X	X
<i>Hemigrapsus oregonensis</i>	hairy shore crab	X	X	X
<i>Oregonia gracilis</i>	slender decorator crab			X
<i>Pagurus hirsutiisculus</i>	hairy hermit crab	X		X
<i>Pugettia producta</i>	northern kelp crab	X	X	X
<i>Telmessus cheiragonus</i>	helmet crab			X
<b>Fish</b>				
<i>Oligocottus maculosus</i>	tidepool sculpin	X		

(Table adapted from Kristoff and Tayless, 2002)

### 3. Cultural and Historic Values

Note: this section includes excerpts from a review undertaken by Chris Arnett for the Background Report. The complete review is included as Appendix I. Additional photographs and archive materials are included in separate accompanying digital files.

#### ***First Nations History***

The land within and around the protected area harbours cultural and historical values accruing from thousands of years of human activity. Although there have been significant human impacts on the landscape, particularly within the last 140 years following the arrival of European settlers, much of the area has undergone little modern development. The Burgoyne valley and bay retains an atmosphere embracing the cultural and spiritual values of local First Nations and the heritage of one of BC's first inter-racial settler communities.

Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay is located within the traditional territory of the Cowichan, a collective term to describe the First Nations people inhabiting villages found on the delta and lower reaches of the Cowichan River on Vancouver Island. The overall importance of the Burgoyne Bay as a traditional food-gathering area is reflected in its **Hul'qumi'num'** name **Hwaaqwum**, which translates as "sawbill duck place". In pre-contact times the ducks were hunted with the use of nets set high up between two poles at dusk or dawn when visibility was poor and thousands of ducks lay on the water. Cowichan people continued to access the area into the early years of the twentieth century to hunt ducks and avail themselves of other seasonal and permanent resources including clam beds, camas beds, wild clover beds, a red ochre rock for paint, a chum and coho salmon stream, salal and other berries, herring and sea mammals. Eight locations within the protected area have archaeological deposits associated with these and other activities. Although no archaeological excavations have been done, the typology of artefacts found over the years suggest that First Nations people have been using the area for at least three millennia.

One family that owned and accessed resources at Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay was a branch of an extended family from Clemclemuluts, an ancient Cowichan village at the mouth of the Cowichan River. Descendants of this family include the George family of Duncan, and the Akerman and Maxwell families of Salt Spring Island. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a branch of this family, headed by a man named Tusilum, moved to Burgoyne Bay where, according to descendant Bob Akerman, they lived year round. Their village was established between the mouths of the two creeks that flow into the head of Burgoyne Bay. Although the shoreline has changed considerably over the last century, evidence of this site (DeRv 5) is still visible in the form of a shell midden at the mouths of both creeks. The location of middens and the village site are shown in Figure 9 (see the Colour Atlas accompanying this report).

**Figure 9. Archaeological sites - Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

The purple-flowered camas bulb (**spaanexw**) was an important food item for people from Cowichan Bay, and the dry Garry oak meadows along the south side of Mount Maxwell provided one of the closest sources of this much desired delicacy. A degree of management, including selective harvesting, controlled burning and weeding, was necessary to keep a camas bed productive.

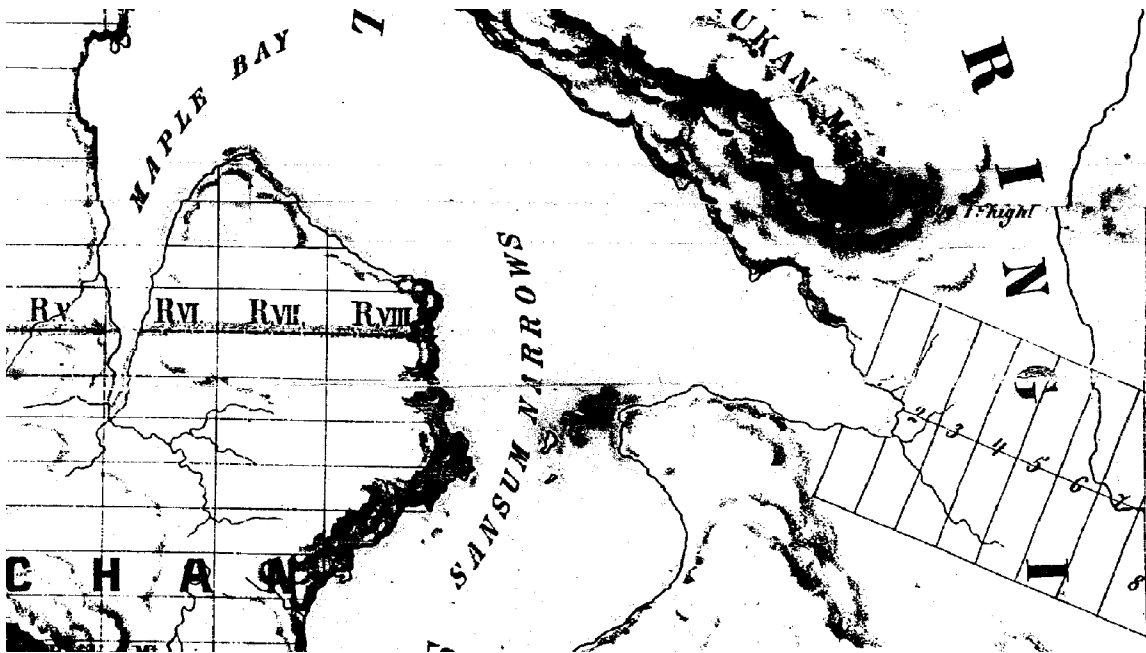
Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay is spiritually significant to the Cowichan people for the magnificent promontory of Mount Maxwell that dominates the Burgoyne Valley. In Hul'qumi'num' the mountain is **Hwmetutsum** (Bent Over Place) and it played a pivotal role in a Cowichan creation story regarding a victory over a monster called **Sheshequm** that lived at Octopus Point on Vancouver island opposite Burgoyne Bay. Because of its connection to the creation story, **Hwmut'etsum** was significant as a site where young people, or adults wishing to refresh themselves, went to train for supernatural power.

Some information regarding spiritual sites cannot be revealed as it represents the property of individuals and families. Spiritual sites include rock overhangs, boulders and outcrops that blend with the overall landscape and are not recognizable to the general public. At least one of the rock shelters on the south-facing slope of Mount Maxwell is associated with archaeological deposits. Through careful planning and management to ensure minimal disturbance of the landscape, the spiritual integrity of these important sites can, hopefully, be maintained.

### ***Colonial Settlement***

A significant feature of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, from the perspective of more recent history, is an early inter-racial community established in the early 1860s when European settlers began to occupy and modify the land. Existing buildings and at least two archaeological sites within the protected area have direct connections to this community while other, more recent, farm buildings preserve some of the legacy. The most striking visible reminders of the time period are the large open grass fields created initially with the intention of raising cattle.

There is no known record of the first official survey of Burgoyne Bay, but a close approximation of the current plan was published in 1860. A crew surveyed parts of the Cowichan Valley and eventually parts of the Chemainus Valley and Burgoyne Bay into 100-acre lots. Many of the lots in the Cowichan Valley were sold, but the buyers were not allowed to occupy their claims due to opposition by local First Nations.



**Figure 10. Detail from survey map, 1860.**

By late 1859, succumbing to pressure from landless Americans and Europeans, the administration of the Colony of Vancouver Island allowed individuals to pre-empt land in the Chemainus Valley and on Salt Spring Island without official agreements with the First Nations families who owned the resources and habitation sites. When a census of the Colony of Vancouver's Island was conducted in June of 1860, five "white residents... near Burgoyne Bay" were recorded.

John Maxwell registered a claim in 1861 which included most of the land on the north side of Burgoyne Bay. Before long, through the pre-emption system, Maxwell and his partner James Lunney had acquired some 360 acres of land with the idea of establishing a cattle ranch, setting a land use pattern for the Burgoyne Valley for the next 100 years. In 1862 they imported 150 head of Texas longhorn cattle from Oregon. A rudimentary dock was established (possibly as early as 1869) on the site of the present-day government wharf to receive steamer traffic and to ship produce to wholesalers in Victoria and elsewhere (See Figure 11).



**Figure 11. Burgoyne Bay dock, circa 1900**

John Maxwell continued his land clearing activity to expand his cattle ranch and, by 1883, had purchased a steam-powered tractor with steam-driven saws for felling trees and a winch for pulling stumps, one of the earliest pieces of industrial land-clearing machinery used in British Columbia. In addition to raising cattle, farming and orcharding, the Maxwells pre-empted old growth Douglas-fir forest for the purpose of logging.

After Dick Maxwell's death in 1947, Mary Maxwell sold the extensive holdings of the Maxwell family to the Larsen family for \$15,000. The Larsens continued the tradition of mixed farming with an emphasis on cattle. They cleared the old Maxwell orchard east of the original homestead to create more pasture. The old Maxwell house and barns were taken down, and new buildings, a cattle barn and poultry shed were built closer to Burgoyne Bay Road. The Larsens also built a new house further east on the north side of the road. These buildings remain today.

In 1969, the Larsen family sold their extensive holdings to the German Prince Thurn und Taxis of Bavaria. Texada Logging, one of the Prince's assets, set up operations in Burgoyne Bay and established the current office building on the north side of the bay, two log dumps on the north and south sides of the bay, and an inland log sort and quarry to service their island logging operations. Logging access roads were built. Existing farm buildings were retained as rental accommodation and further rental housing was built around Burgoyne Bay, in some instances directly on top of old Cowichan midden areas.

## 4. Recreation Features, Facilities and Opportunities

### ***Outdoor Recreation Features***

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area encompasses a variety of recreation features for both water and land-based activities.

From a boating standpoint, Burgoyne Bay is strategically located on the west side of Salt Spring Island, offering easy access to good fishing and interesting paddling waters in Sansum Narrows as well as the protected waters of Maple Bay on Vancouver Island. The Burgoyne anchorage has good holding ground in calm water but is vulnerable at times to strong southeasterly winds. Towards the head of the bay there is a public dock with float and, adjacent to this, the former works yard and log dump of Texada Logging, also with a ramp and float. At the head of the bay are tidal flats, clam beds (presently under a shellfish lease) and a rocky beach backed by a low embankment.

The area's upland features include both forest and agricultural land suitable for a variety of outdoor recreation activities. The valley has a peaceful rural ambience with scenic views of Mt. Maxwell and the mountains of Vancouver Island. The northern slopes of Burgoyne Bay include ecologically important and protected meadows of Garry oak, and rise steeply to the treed parkland and cliffs of Mt. Maxwell. On the south side, the land is covered with second growth forest and offers good hiking and riding on established trails on the slopes of Mt. Sullivan. Up the valley to the east, the land is open and flat, with tree-cover remaining along the foreshore and around the lower reaches of two streams that thread through the former agricultural fields. The land is variably well drained with several good sites for camping and picnicking.

### ***Existing Facilities and Services***

#### **Public Roads**

A public gravel road leads in from the main Fulford-Ganges Road, along the north side of the valley bottom, to the waterfront at the head of Burgoyne Bay. There is also a network of former logging roads and farm tracks (See Figure 12 in the accompanying Colour Atlas).

**Figure 12. Burgoyne Bay Protected Area roads, trails and routes.**

#### **Former Government Dock**

The entrance road terminates at a dock operated by Salt Spring Harbour Authority. At the end of the dock, which extends 45 m into the bay, a 12 m steel ramp leads down to a floating dock, approximately 25 m long by 4 m wide, suitable for small boats and dinghies. The inside length of this floating dock is reserved for use by residents of Sansum Narrows; an annual fee is paid to the harbour authority. Other boats may use the outside of the floating dock, with no charge for day use and a charge of



approximately \$1.40 per foot for overnight use (payable through an honour box system).

### **Texada Landing**

To the north of and adjacent to the government dock, is the former Texada equipment and works yard – a large, level, waterfront landing area with compacted gravel surface and a substantial rock retaining wall. The area has its own entrance driveway from the gravel public road. The landing is approximately by 25 m wide by 90 m long (along the shoreline). At its south end, a 13 m aluminium ramp leads to a floating dock approximately 55 m long. This dock is in two sections. The section nearest to shore is 8 m wide, and is very stable with a paved surface and heavy wooden bulwarks, while the outer section is 3m wide, and of standard wood construction. Water and electricity service is available on the near float. Condition of the wharf would have to be assessed for utility and structural integrity prior to determination of appropriate use.

### **Parking**

At the head of the government dock there is limited, unorganized parking within the Ministry of Transportation and Highways right-of-way with sufficient room for about 10 to 12 cars and a three-point turnaround at the terminus of the road. Residents of Sansum Narrows use part of this area to park their cars year-round in conjunction with their use of the government dock. The remaining space can be congested with day-use vehicles during weekends, in the summer or when used by crews ferrying to water-accessed construction sites.

There is a more developed public parking area with ten stalls and stall-guards adjacent to the former Texada log-dump site. Uphill from there, behind the former Texada office building and landing is an unorganized parking area for about another ten vehicles.

The former Texada dry-land log sorting area, located on the north side of the main entrance road and about 300 meters before reaching the waterfront landing area, has been cleared, levelled and prepared for replanting. It is approximately 70m by 90m in size and located on higher ground above the main road, with a gated entrance.

### **Buildings**

The protected area includes four buildings, in various states of repair and use.

- (1) The former Texada office building adjacent to Burgoyne Bay. A two-story wooden structure, 10 m by 12 m, in good condition with power, water and septic. Close by, on the north side, is a 5 m by 4 m utility storage building.
- (2) Unoccupied barn and dairy shed. Built by the Larsen family ~ 1950s.
- (3) House at 350 Burgoyne Bay Road. Former Larsen home, built ~ 1950s and presently occupied as a rental residence.

- (4) House on Burgoyne Bay Road at eastern edge of protected area. Built by Richard (Dick) Maxwell in the late 1890s or around 1900, and presently occupied as a rental residence.

### **Power and Water**

B.C. Hydro supplies power to the residences and office building on the main service road. There is also a powerline right-of-way through the fields and southern lands of the park leading to residences on Sansum Narrows.

## ***Outdoor Recreation Opportunities***

### **Boating**

Burgoyne Bay offers opportunities for both land and water accessed boating. With growing awareness of the southern Gulf Islands and associated protected areas among resident and visiting outdoor enthusiasts, it can be expected that increasing numbers of boaters will be attracted to the area.

#### 1. Water-based boats

The anchorage at the head of Burgoyne Bay is quite large, with space for up to fifteen boats lying safely at anchor, and good holding ground in 13m (40ft.) of water at low tide. If permanent mooring buoys were installed, more than double this number of boats could be accommodated in the same area. The existing government dock and former Texada landing float both provide landing places for shore-bound dinghies.

#### 2. Land-based (trailer or trucked) boats

Burgoyne Bay is used year round by kayaks and canoes, and is popular for its easy access to Sansum Narrows and the sheltered waters between Salt Spring and Vancouver Island. One commercial operator regularly uses the site to access guide training sessions in the waters in Sansum Narrows. Local paddling clubs and individuals regularly use the area for day trips. However, launching is considered difficult as boats must be carried either down the former government dock to the float, or across the beach and tidal zone to water's edge.

Trailer boats rarely use Burgoyne Bay as a launch site. A crude unsurfaced ramp has been cleared across the rocky foreshore at the south end of the Texada landing but this is not considered safe for letting trailers down into the water. It is used, on occasion, for manually handling boats off trailers or vehicles and carrying them to the water's edge.

The former Texada landing presents a good opportunity for launching both car-top and trailer boats. There is space for a designated unloading/loading area and vehicles could be parked safely and easily to one side of the landing.

The floats attached at the south end of the landing could be utilized as launching site for kayaks and canoes. This could reduce impacts on the inter-tidal zone and alleviate congestion at the head of the government dock.

Use of the landing by trailered boats would require upgrading and development of the ramp. Such upgrading would involve a cement surface to below water at the low-water mark, with an adjacent floating dock for securing boats while loading equipment and passengers. In response to numerous requests over the years, Salt Spring Harbour Authority approached the provincial government to discuss ways to jointly improve the launching ramp at Burgoyne Bay (for complete text of the letter, see “Community Interests” section of this report). The Salt Spring Harbour Authority writes that: “...a renewed launching facility will provide an environmentally low impact solution for recreational use in the area. It will provide water access to a wide range of users, all of which will be ‘short term’ or ‘fair weather’ users. We also feel that this will be a good compromise for those who have suggested public dock expansion and those who are opposed to all development.”

### **Fishing**

Burgoyne Bay itself is not perceived as a good fishing spot – however, the bay provides access to the waters between Salt Spring and Vancouver Island offering good year round fishing opportunities

Clam digging on the tidal flats at the head of Burgoyne Bay is presently constrained by a shellfish lease (due to expire in 2004). Several charter-fishing guides offer both fishing and sightseeing eco-tours of the west side of Salt Spring Island. Eco-tours out of Ganges and Fulford often include Maple Bay and Sansum Narrows on their route. Burgoyne Bay could serve as a half-day or day-trip destination from several marinas (such as Maple Bay on Vancouver Island) or as a “put-in” spot for island-based charter operators.

### **Hiking and Walking**

The Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is a popular location for hiking and walking, with several well-established trails extending along both sides of the valley and through the valley bottom (see Figure 12). Many of these connect with existing trails on adjacent and nearby lands held by the Capital Regional District, Salt Spring Conservancy and/or the Province of BC. In the future, Burgoyne Bay could become an important node in a network of protected areas and trails running from Mt. Erskine in the north to Mt. Tuam at the southwest end of Salt Spring Island. Within Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, there are several opportunities to develop shorter closed-loop trails utilizing existing roads and routes and/or new trails.

### **Mountain Biking**

Mountain biking is a popular activity on Salt Spring Island. Bikers regularly utilize old logging roads and trails through the Mt. Maxwell, Burgoyne Bay and Mt. Sullivan

areas. Given the wide choice of mountain trails on the island, and the opportunity to establish a well-designed trail system prior to heavy use, potential conflicts between mountain bikers and other trail users could be managed and minimized.

### **Horseback Riding**

The former farm tracks and log hauling roads in the valley are used for horseback riding. The terrain is varied and attractive and the countryside has a peaceful ambience conducive to safe and enjoyable riding. There are a number of sites where horses could be corralled and horse trailers parked on a day use basis.

### **Rock Climbing**

Beyond Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, the spectacular cliffs of Mt. Maxwell overlooking Burgoyne valley are a well-known climbing site. There are several multi-pitch climbing routes on the face of Mt. Maxwell, but these are climbed only occasionally because of variable rock quality and lack of published information concerning the routes. At the foot of the cliffs is a significant boulder field, much sought after by “bouldering” enthusiasts, a distinct sub-group of climbers. Future use of the Mt. Maxwell cliffs and boulders for climbing will have to be assessed in relation to First Nations interests and values, as well as the ecological sensitivity of the site.

### **Disc Golf**

Disc golf is a sport that has grown dramatically in recent years. It can be played year round, requires little in the way of equipment cost and upkeep, and is largely compatible with other recreation activities on the same piece of land. There is one disc golf course presently on Salt Spring Island, at Mouat Park on the outskirts of Ganges. The course is popular with locals and visitors alike (see Appendix 3 for the full text of a Letter of Interest provided by the Salt Spring Disc Golf Association).

Current Environmental Stewardship Division practice does not encourage disc golf courses within provincial parks due to potential impacts on vegetation and understory natural communities, with the rationale that other opportunities for disc golf are available outside of provincial parks.

### **Open Field Recreation**

The former playing fields of Camp Narnia<sup>4</sup> and some of the level agriculture fields in Burgoyne Bay Protected Area offer opportunities for open field recreation such as kite flying, informal games or Frisbee. Such open space recreation areas are much in demand on the island.

### **Camping**

Siting and design of any day-use and/or camping areas should be determined during the park planning process, taking into account their compatibility with park objectives and other recreation activities. From attendance statistics supplied by B.C. Parks it is clear

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<sup>4</sup> children’s summer camp previously located here

that there is a strong on-going demand for public campsites in the southern Gulf Islands, particularly in the summer months, even when camping is restricted to bike or walk-in, or tent-only minimally serviced, sites (see Table 11). Visitor use pressure will be felt by the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, especially since the area is accessible by both land and water.

### ***Visitor Activity Areas***

At present, there are no visitor activity areas in Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. However, the former Texada office building and two existing residences have the potential to be converted into park offices or visitor activity areas since they are already serviced with power, water and septic. Also, the old barn and farm buildings could be restored as a heritage display, with links to the historic farm buildings and activities at Ruckle Provincial Park.

## 5. Resource Analysis

### **Protected Areas Strategy Goals**

#### **Conservation**

##### *Representation:*

- **Ecosection:** Southern Gulf Islands Ecosection. This ecosection is under-represented with only 5.6% protected. The establishment of Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve will provide greater representation.
- **Biogeoclimatic subzone/variant (BEC):** CDFmm, CWH xm1 (within Southern Gulf Islands ecosection 8% protected).

##### *Special Features:*

- Requires detailed inventories and Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping (TEM) to identify natural values and special features such as Garry oak stands, grasslands, marine estuary streams and riparian habitats.

##### *Rare/Endangered Values:*

- Detailed inventories have not been undertaken, however the adjacent Mt Maxwell Provincial Park and Mt Maxwell Ecological Reserve have a number of red-listed species, including scalepod, Gray's desert parsley and California hedge parsley. Elfin moss is a blue-listed species. Adjacent rock cliffs provide habitat for species at risk including turkey vultures, peregrine falcons and several species of bats.

##### *Scientific/Research Opportunities:*

- The protected area is adjacent to Mt Maxwell Ecological Reserve and shares some sensitive plant communities. More information is required on the area's natural and cultural values to determine potential scientific and research opportunities.

#### **Recreation**

##### *Representation:*

- **Destination:** unknown until a Management Plan is developed. Burgoyne Bay will be a component of a larger park system on Salt Spring Island.
- **Local recreation:** popular island location for day-use activities (e.g., hiking, nature viewing and appreciation, picnicking and boating).
- **Education/interpretation opportunities:** Natural viewscape (bay and hillsides), potential for wildlife viewing (notably, occasional Orca visits) and adjacent Garry oak ecosystems provide scenic photography and nature appreciation opportunities. Potential to access and/or learn about adjacent protected areas.

### **Cultural Heritage**

- **Special features:** Mt. Maxwell associated with creation story, adjacent spiritual sites (caves), sleeping platforms, village site, middens and grave site (See Figure 9. Archaeological sites - Burgoyne Bay Protected Area in the Colour Atlas).

### **Other Management Considerations**

- **Relationship to other protected areas:** Will become a major component of a larger protected area system, involving Mt Maxwell Provincial Park and Ecological Reserve, CRD Parklands (e.g. Mt Sullivan, Mill Farm) and other lands held by various conservation and stewardship agencies and organizations (e.g., Ford Lake – Ducks Unlimited, Mt Erskine – Salt Spring Conservancy).
- **Partnerships:** Cooperation with CRD Parks, Islands Trust, Parks Canada (Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve), and local conservation, recreation and stewardship groups.
- **Vulnerability:** Fire, invasive species (particularly terrestrial plants), vandalism.
- **Relationship to other strategies:** Pacific Marine Heritage Legacy (PMHL) and establishment of Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.

## 6. Tenures, Rights, Jurisdictions and Interests

### **Tenures, Leases and Permits**

The land tenures associated with Burgoyne Bay Protected Area are described in Table 4 below.

**Table 4. Tenures and occupancy rights.**

Jurisdiction	Position Relative to Burgoyne Bay Protected Area		Notes
	Within	Adjacent	
Forest Land Reserve	See section on Land Commission Zoning below		
Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR)	Some valley bottom in protected area is designated as ALR	Adjacent land to east is also ALR.	Figure 13 shows ALR land zoned as A1
Mineral tenures	None		
Rights of way: roads and highways	A Section 4 road bisects the area, ending at the government dock.		Section 4.1 of the Highway Act notes that roads that are not gazetted but that have had public money spent on them are considered to be a public highway.
Rights of way: Hydro lines	BC Hydro service runs along the road, and through the protected area to private property at Bold Bluff.		
Private land inholdings	A triangular block of waterfront private land is situated north west of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, within Mt Maxwell Ecological Reserve.		There is water and trail access, but no road access to this property.
Water tenures	Water lot 313 (oyster lease) expires in 2004. Water lot 384 is the former Government dock managed by the Salt Spring Island Harbour Authority.		Other water leases have either expired or were purchased by the provincial government from Texada Land Corporation in 2001.
Indian reserves	None	None	
Traplines	None	None	
Guide outfitters	(Hunting) None	None	

### **Environmental Stewardship Division Jurisdiction**

The Environmental Stewardship Division of the Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection currently manages Burgoyne Bay Protected Area under letter of authority from Land and Water BC. It is anticipated that the area will be designated as a Provincial Park, following boundary delineation and legislative approval. This is expected by 2004.



### **Land Commission Zoning**

As noted in Table 4, valley bottomlands are designated as Agricultural Reserve Land and are also zoned A1, Agriculture 1 in the Salt Spring Island Official Community Plan and Bylaws. In addition, the upland areas north and south of Burgoyne Bay, are designated as Forest Land Reserve and are zoned as F1, Forestry 1.

Effective November 1, 2002, the land use and subdivision provisions of the Forest Land Reserve Act were repealed, and on April 3, 2003, the remainder of the Act will be repealed.

Land Commission zoning is shown in Figure 13 of the Colour Atlas.

### **Figure 13. Islands Trust land designation in and around Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

### **Islands Trust Interests and Current Plans**

Salt Spring Island is part of the Islands Trust area, whose object is:

*“To preserve and protect the trust area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the trust area and of the Province generally, in cooperation with municipalities, regional districts, improvement districts, other persons and organizations and the government of British Columbia.” (Official Community Plan, page 9)*

The Official Community Plan for Salt Spring Island, adopted June 10, 1998 and Land Use Bylaw No. 355, adopted June 28, 2001, provide zoning for the study area that may be changed to reflect the change of land tenure to park status. The plan shows the existing zoning. Permitted uses in zones are described in the Official Community Plan. Densities under the current zoning allow subdivision potential on many lots. The potential to transfer these densities for some form of consideration exists, and such transfers may occur in the future.

Development Permit Areas are found on the north side of the study area due to slope instability (Figure 14 of Colour Atlas).

### **Figure 14. Islands Trust Development Permit Areas in and around Burgoyne Bay Protected Area.**

### **Capital Regional District Interests**

As a result of the 2001 purchases from Texada Land Corporation, CRD Parks currently owns and manages south of land adjacent to Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. This land is considered as park reserve. It is anticipated that the park management planning process will begin in 2004.

CRD Engineering Department operates the septage disposal transfer station on Lot 20, adjacent to Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. They are interested in acquiring Lot 20 to provide a permanent base of operations for the facility.

***First Nations Interests***

Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is located within the traditional territory of the Cowichan Tribes of the Hul’qumi’num First Nations. Although little in the way of archaeological work has been done in the area, traditional history, ten identified archaeological sites and diagnostic artefacts found to date suggest that the area has been in use for several thousand years. Traditional resources harvested by these people include clams, ducks, sea mammals, herring, chum and coho salmon, salal berries, camas, and red ochre. In the early nineteenth century, one family from Clemclemaluts on the Cowichan River delta established permanent residence at the head of the bay.

Mount Maxwell, which overlooks Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, is spiritually and cultural significant through its relationship to creation stories and its use by young people as a place to seek guardian spirit power.

The Hul’qumi’num Treaty Group (HTG), including the Cowichan tribes, is currently in treaty negotiations with the federal and provincial governments. Both the Hul’qumi’num Treaty Group and the office of the Cowichan tribes have been informed of the purchase of the Burgoyne Bay lands and the establishment of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. Local First Nations have expressed a continuing interest in the lands and waters of Burgoyne Bay and a desire to participate in any future management planning for the area.

***Other Interests***

In addition to the government and First Nations’ interests noted in this section, the following table notes expressions of interest received by the study team. See Appendix III for these letters of interest.

While it is anticipated that other expressions of interest will emerge in the course of the development of the management plan, the following have been received to date:

**Table 5: Expressions of Interest in Burgoyne Bay Lands as of March 31, 2003.**

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Area of Interest</b>	<b>Description</b>
Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning (GICEL)	Lot 20	GICEL is seeking to establish a learning centre for Gulf Islands students on a site adjacent to the protected area. They are an active partner in the acquisition of Lot 20, in order to meet their need for 8 – 10 acres for a classroom, cooking/eating area and sleeping quarters.
The Growing Circle	ALR land within	GCCF is seeking land for a demonstration

<b>Organization</b>	<b>Area of Interest</b>	<b>Description</b>
Community Farm (GCCF)	protected area and/or adjacent lands	garden and a productive organic market garden to serve the Island's existing Food Coop. It also seeks to establish an educational centre and outreach activities.
Salt Spring Harbour Authority (SSHA)	Shoreline, existing launching ramp.	SSHA seeks improvement to the existing launching ramp at Burgoyne Bay.
Salt Spring Disc Golf Association	Forested area and fields by existing barn	SSDGA would like a disc golf course.

## 7. Current Levels and Trends in Visitor Use

### Visitor Use Trends

The Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce operates an Information Center and tabulates data on the number of visitors to the center, their origin and the type of information requested. This database, although incomplete in many respects, provides an indication of tourists' needs and interests while on Salt Spring Island.

For example, in 2002 roughly three-quarters of Salt Spring's tourists who visited the InfoCenter were from Canada, and two-thirds of these, or 50 percent of the total, were from B.C. About 16 percent of the visitors were from the USA (Table 6).

Origin	Year 2002		Year 2001	
	#	%	#	%
<b>B.C.</b>	3,977	50.5	4,515	48.3
<b>Alberta</b>	784	10.0	984	10.5
<b>Other Canada</b>	1,119	14.2	1,194	12.8
<b>Canada</b>	<b>5,880</b>	<b>74.7</b>	<b>6,693</b>	<b>71.6</b>
<b>USA/Mexico</b>	1,241	15.8	1,713	18.3
<b>Europe</b>	502	6.4	626	6.7
<b>Asia/Australia</b>	218	2.8	281	3.0
<b>Other</b>	35	0.4	32	0.3
<b>Outside Canada</b>	<b>1,996</b>	<b>25.3</b>	<b>2,652</b>	<b>28.4</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>7,876</b>	<b>100.0</b>	<b>9,345</b>	<b>100.0</b>

Source: Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, InfoCenter, Visitor InfoNetwork Statistics Program

The most frequent requests for information in 2002 concerned accommodation (23%), followed by recreation (21%), and attractions (15%) (Table 6). The same basic ranking occurred in 2001.

<b>Request</b>	<b>Number of Requests</b>			
	<b>Year #</b>	<b>2002 %</b>	<b>Year #</b>	<b>2001 %</b>
<b>Accommodation</b>	4,329	23.4	3,385	24.1
<b>Parks &amp; Recreation</b>	3,815	20.6	3,363	24.0
<b>Attractions</b>	2,862	15.4	2,432	17.3
<b>Transportation</b>	2,554	13.8	1,136	8.1
<b>Food &amp; Beverage</b>	1,957	10.6	2,016	14.4
<b>Shopping</b>	1,606	8.7	928	6.6
<b>Events/Conferences</b>	897	4.8	420	3.0
<b>Community Services</b>	511	2.8	361	2.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>18,531</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>14,041</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Salt Spring Chamber of Commerce, InfoCenter, Visitor InfoNetwork Statistics Program

There are no statistics on visitor use for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. Statistics on day-use of Mt. Maxwell Park, which overlooks the Bay, and for other nearby provincial parks (Montague Harbour on Galiano Island, Ruckle Park on Salt Spring Island and Sidney Spit near Sidney on Vancouver Island) give some indication of visitor use of provincial parks in the area over the past five years. Visitor use of Sidney Spit (with water access only) was considerably lower than use of the other three parks. Note also that data for Mt Maxwell Provincial Park is particularly limited with only estimates of visitor numbers available for recent years (See Table 8).

Boating activity for selected BC Marine Parks in the Gulf Islands (Montague Harbour of Galiano Island, Beaumont off Pender Island, Sidney Spit off the town of Sidney and Wallace Island off the north end of Salt Spring Island) is provided in Table 9. Overnight dock usage is summarised in Table 9.

Year	Number of Visitors			
	Montague Harbour #	Ruckle Park #	Mt. Maxwell #	Sidney Spit #
2001	24,516	20,881	15,000 <sup>5</sup>	1,610
2000	21,559	22,877	15,000 <sup>6</sup>	1,861
1999	23,450	23,748	15,152	1,942
1998	31,929	28,055	17,282	2,232
1997	23,993	21,229	21,229	1,564
<b>Access:</b>	land & water	land	land	water

Source: BC Parks, Attendance System Statistics

Year	----- on mooring buoys -----				- at anchor or dock - Wallace Island MP			
	Montague MP		Beaumont MP		Sidney Spit MP		Wallace Island MP	
	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$	#	\$
2001	3,820	21,421	1,257	5,629	3,004	15,915	3942	8,069
2000	3,858	21,634	255	1,430	3,109	17,283	3521	7,745
1999	3,818	21,409	2,200	6,211	3,652	14,848	3401	7,411
1998	3,831	21,426	3,379	7,431	8,828	18,969	4017	6,991
1997	3,742	20,782	1,256	5,798	8,493	17,216	2936	5,851
<b>Buoys</b>	35		15		35			

Note: Wallace Island numbers of boats includes boats “at anchor” and “at dock” but revenue is from boats “at dock” only.

Source: BC Parks, Attendance System Statistics

<sup>5</sup> Estimated

<sup>6</sup> Estimated

From interviews with members of various user groups it is possible to gain some insights and reasonable estimates of visitor use trends for certain recreation activities.

### **Kayaking**

There are many residents with kayaks on Salt Spring Island, and there is an active paddling club with a membership of around 50. The club estimates that its members made about 80 trips from island launch sites in 2002, with an average party size of approximately 5 persons (for a total estimated 400 person-days). However, fewer than 10 percent of these were out of Burgoyne Bay, probably due to its difficult launch site. The potential for future use, assuming improved launching facilities from the Texada landing, is high, and club organizers estimate that the use rate by club members would at least double, to about 15 trips per year, out of Burgoyne Bay.

There are three commercial kayak operators on the island who rent kayaks for guided or individual local trips (two other operators cater mainly to off-island excursions). Collectively, they have approximately 100 “seats” – in singles and doubles – and provided an estimated 8,000 person-days of kayaking from local launch sites in 2002. Two of the commercial operators said they would increase their use of Burgoyne Bay if they could launch from the Texada landing.

In addition to club and commercial sources there is an indeterminate number of private, or independent trips made each year by both residents and tourists using local public launch sites. A larger percentage of these trips would likely go out of Burgoyne Bay in the future, if the launch site there were improved.

### **Saltwater Fishing and Eco-Tours**

Past and present use of Burgoyne Bay for access to saltwater fishing and eco-tours has been minimal. Future use would be much higher if the launch ramp at Texada landing were improved.

Some indication of future potential use can be derived from the level of fishing activity for the island as a whole; this was investigated through interviews with local saltwater fishing guides.

Of seven saltwater fishing guides on Salt Spring, five have trailerable boats, ranging in size from 6-8 meters. At present, most of these are kept in the water, at higher cost, rather than on their trailers, due to the limited availability of suitable safe public launch ramps. One boat uses a private launch ramp.

Collectively, these five charter operations provided approximately 260 day-trips for fishing and/or sightseeing in 2002, to destinations ranging from Victoria to Pender Harbour. At an estimated average party size of three guests per trip, this represents approximately 780 person-days of activity. Although none of these trips departed from Burgoyne Bay, all of the guides interviewed said that they would use Burgoyne Bay if

the ramp there were suitable and safe. They estimated that the proportion of trips that might be run out of Burgoyne Bay in the future, rather than from elsewhere, varied from 5% to 30% (the weighted average was close to 20%, or roughly 156 launchings  $(.20 \times 780/3)$ ). They were also confident that the total volume of business would increase, if Burgoyne Bay became a viable launching site.

In addition to the charter fishing boats there are a large number of private recreational boats kept on trailers. Estimates of the number of active boats (including both resident and visitor boats) in this category vary from 100 to 150. Salt Spring Harbour Authority keeps a record of revenue earned from public use of its launch ramp in Centennial Park, and estimated that there were 400 day trips launched in 2001 – by 40 season pass holders and 100 day ticket holders.

**Table 10. Estimated number of boat-nights at Salt Spring Harbour Authority docks, 2002**

<b>SHA dock</b>	<b>Boat-nights</b>
Ganges:	
Centennial	200
Breakwater	750
Kanaka	1,100
Ganges sub-tot.	2,050
Fulford Harbour	30
Vesuvius	120
Burgoyne Bay	30
Musgrave Landing	375
<b>Total SSHA docks</b>	<b>2,605</b>

Source: Salt Spring Harbour Authority Statistics

**Camping**

Presently, Ruckle Provincial Park is the only park on Salt Spring Island where overnight camping is permitted. Ruckle has approximately 70 walk-in campsites and a group campsite. There has been no public camping in Burgoyne Bay Protected Area since the lands have been acquired by ESD, and public access to the area was restricted while the lands were in private ownership. Attendance at public (provincial park) campsites in the Gulf Islands is shown in Table 11.

Currently, the only park in the area with both land and water access is Montague Harbour on Galiano Island. Ruckle Park on Salt Spring is restricted to land access only, while Wallace, Princess Margaret and Sidney Spit are water access only Marine Parks.



These attendance figures reflect a strong demand for camping in the Southern Gulf Islands. It should be noted that this is for campsites where only tenting is permitted, or possible.

<b>Table 11. Camping activity in Gulf Island provincial parks, 1997-2001.</b>					
<b>Year</b>	<b>Number of camper-days</b>				
	<b>Montague Harbour #</b>	<b>Ruckle Park #</b>	<b>Princess Margaret #</b>	<b>Wallace Island #</b>	<b>Sidney Spit #</b>
<b>2001</b>	13,824	19,187	576	1,929	2,025
<b>2000</b>	13,449	20,867	663	1,737	2,547
<b>1999</b>	13,584	20,733	234	4,143	2,613
<b>1998</b>	15,534	20,150	159	1,980	2,748
<b>1997</b>	13,902	18,211	2,430	1,242	2,355
Access:	land & water	land	water	water	water
Average party size:	3.2	3.2	3.0	3.0	3.0

Source: BC Parks, Attendance System Statistics

## 8. Park Information and Promotion

Until this newly established protected area is designated officially as a provincial park, there will be minimal promotion of the area. Information and signage will be targeted for public safety, maintenance of protected area values and provision of on-site information.

## 9. Management Issues

Management issues to be addressed in future management planning effort include:

1. *Balancing the need for interim management actions with the potential for interim actions to influence or preclude long-term management objectives and direction.*

Interim management actions (e.g., controlling unsupervised visitor use, removal of invasive species such as Scotch broom, redirecting recreational trail use, maintaining heritage buildings) may be called for to protect natural and/or cultural values of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area. Lack of action could foreclose opportunities or degrade park values. However, actions such as road and parking improvement, revegetation of disturbed areas, modification or removal of buildings, or modifications to dock facilities can implicitly or explicitly set management direction for the park.<sup>7</sup>

2. *Confirming the role of Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park and ensuring compatibility with adjacent and nearby recreation, conservation and protection objectives and land and water uses.*

Burgoyne Bay is part of a larger complex of protected lands and waters on and around Salt Spring Island. These areas include NSSWD watershed lands, Mt Maxwell Provincial Park and Ecological Reserve, CRD park lands, provincial crown lands, other parks and ecological reserves on Salt Spring, and the Southern Gulf Islands National Park Reserve and Southern Strait of Georgia National Marine Conservation Area (NMCA), as well as additional parcels held by government agencies and/or stewardship groups (such as the Salt Spring Conservancy, Ducks Unlimited and the Islands Trust Fund).

3. *Potentially conflicting visions for Burgoyne Bay and associated extent of facility development.*

Some interests and current visitors to the area believe that Burgoyne Bay should be managed to maintain “a tranquil and undisturbed atmosphere” and “above all” to protect natural values. Others point to the potential for the area to provide recreation opportunities that are in short supply and high current or potential demand on Salt Spring Island, such as a boat launching ramp and trailer parking, moorage, campgrounds, disc golf and/or open field recreation.

4. *Extent of modified and disturbed area in the park and objectives for restoration and/or development.*

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<sup>7</sup> In fiscal year 2003-04, ESD operational plans for Burgoyne Bay protected area include providing information and regulatory signage and undertaking site stabilization (e.g., fencing to protect heritage buildings and ensure public safety) for high use and/or visibility sites.

Much of the foreshore and upland area in the protected area has been modified by human influence (including First Nations use, agriculture and forestry activities). Restoration actions and/or facility improvement or development will have to consider both conservation and recreation objectives for the park.

5. *Management of the foreshore and marine aspects of Burgoyne Bay.*

Interim management direction for the waters of Burgoyne Bay is not an explicit responsibility of Environmental Stewardship Division prior to establishment of a marine park. Marine use, however, has considerable potential to impact both natural and cultural values of both the upland and foreshore of the protected area.

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## Appendix I – Cultural and Historic Values of Hwaqum – Burgoyne Bay, Salt Spring Island, BC

Chris Arnett

### **Introduction**

The land within and around the protected area harbours cultural and historical values pertinent to thousands of years of human activity. Although there have been significant human impacts on the landscape, particularly within the last 140 years with the arrival of European settlers, much of the area has undergone little modern development. The Burgoyne valley and bay retains an atmosphere embracing the cultural and spiritual values of local First Nations and the heritage of one of BC's first inter-racial settler communities.

### **First Nations Heritage in Hwaqum/Burgoyne Bay**

Hwaqum/Burgoyne Bay is located within the traditional territory of the Cowichan, a collective term to describe the First Nations people inhabiting villages found on the delta and lower reaches of the Cowichan River on Vancouver Island. These people speak a dialect of the Hul'qumi'num' language, used from Malahat the east coast of Vancouver Island north to Nanoose Bay. The Hul'qumi'num' language is closely related to speech used by First Nations on the British Columbia mainland from the mouth of the Fraser River upstream as far as Yale. Although some consider the Vancouver Island and Mainland languages to be separate – though closely related – languages, linguists consider them to be dialects of one language with three main groups: Island (Hul'qumi'num); Lower Fraser (Musqueam); and Upriver (Halkomelem). The languages are mutually intelligible, once accommodation is made for differences in pronunciation.

Before the influence of colonization and the imposition of the *Indian Act*, local First Nations' land tenure and governance was based on the autonomy of the individual extended family or **hw'nuchalewum** (of one blood). Families claimed descent from various ancestors who, in ancient times, fell from the sky onto different promontories on Vancouver Island such as Comiaken Hill on Cowichan Bay and Mount Prevost and Mount Sicker north of the present-day city of Duncan. Over the centuries, through customary use validated by the cultural institution of the potlatch, individual families claimed ownership to permanent house sites in villages and to other lands and resources, spread out over a large area.

Land was not a commodity to be bought and sold, but was valued for the resources it provided to feed, house, clothe and equip an extended family. Exclusive access and management of productive clam beds, seal rocks, fishing sites, cedar groves, camas beds, wild clover patches and many other resources formed the basis of a family's wealth. Specific places became associated with specific families who took on the



responsibilities of management and stewardship. Exchange of surplus resources with other families and nations was the foundation of the pre-contact economy.

The exploitation of resources was based on an intimate knowledge of the interrelationship of all things (spirituality) and expressed through the sustainable management of the natural resources. People accessed food and other resource gathering sites according to availability and the season. As one elder explained: “Some things are ready at a certain time of year and that’s when you go and get them.” Recognition of ownership was important but access to family-owned resources was not denied to those who followed protocol. When permission was asked of the owners it was rarely refused.

The overall importance of the Burgoyne Bay as a traditional food-gathering area is reflected in its **Hul’qumi’num’** name **Hwaaqwum** which translates as “sawbill duck place.” In pre-contact times, the ducks were hunted with nets set high up between two poles at dusk or dawn when visibility was poor and thousands of ducks lay on the water. The hunters would shout and the frightened ducks flew into the nets where they were retrieved and killed. The ducks were cleaned, flattened and smoked or dried in a windy place. Cowichan people continued to access the area into the early years of the twentieth century to hunt ducks and access other seasonal and permanent resources including clam beds, camas beds, wild clover beds, a red ochre rock for paint, a chum and coho salmon stream, salal and other berries, herring, and sea mammals. Eight locations within the protected area have archaeological deposits associated with these and other activities. Although no archaeological excavations have been done, the typology of artefacts found over the years suggest that First Nations people have been using the area for at least three millennia.

One family that owned and accessed resources at Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay was a branch of an extended family from Clemclemuluts, an ancient Cowichan village at the mouth of the Cowichan River. Descendants of this family include the George family of Duncan, and the Akerman and Maxwell families of Salt Spring Island. During the 19<sup>th</sup> century, a branch of this family, headed by a man named Tusilum, moved to Burgoyne Bay where, according to a descendant Bob Akerman, they lived year round. The “village” was between the mouths of the two creeks that flow into the head of Burgoyne Bay. Although the shoreline has changed considerably over the last century, evidence of this site (DeRv 5) is still visible in the form of shell midden at the mouths of both creeks.

Bob Akerman, who lives on Salt Spring Island and is a descendant of Tusilem, has provided some details of the family’s connection to Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay through the teachings of his grandmother Tuwa’h’wiye’ (Mary Gyves). Tuwa’h’wiye’ was born at Burgoyne Bay around 1845. Bob spent a good deal of time with his grandmother as a child and used to understand Hul’qumi’num’. His account reveals the importance of the Burgoyne Bay area in terms of its seasonal resource use and other values:

“That was her dad’s camp. They owned the property and they used to stay there. The Indians didn’t just use the land occasionally – they owned it. People like to say that the Indians didn’t own the land but they did. If someone wanted to use my grandmother’s father’s place at Burgoyne to dig clams or whatever, they had to get permission ... same with the Saanich – there’s a boundary in the middle of the valley – if my grandmother’s people wanted to use Fulford Harbour, they had to get permission.”

Tusilem’s camp was located next to the creek at the head of the bay that sported a run of coho and chum. “The creek was narrow and they were easy to catch. They’d just use a gaff. You could easily see the fish. They used to dry them.”

Rich clambeds provided another important resource that was processed on site. “They used to come into Burgoyne to dry clams. They used to make a fire on the rocks, heat them up and dump a basket of clams on them, put seaweed on top and more clams and seaweed on top of that and the steam would open them up. Then they’d take them out of the shell and they’d thread them on strips of cedar bark, they used the inside cedar bark, the white inner bark. Then they’d string the threaded clams between racks over a smoking fire. If it was September, they wouldn’t even need a fire when the sun is really hot. The clams would be dried to a golden brown and they’d hang the threaded clams up in the attic.”

The purple-flowered Camas bulb (**spaanexw**) was an important food item and for people from Cowichan Bay the dry Garry oak meadows along the south side of Mount Maxwell provided an accessible source, indeed one of the closest sources of this much desired delicacy. The season was short – three weeks or less. Harvesting of camas was a co-operative effort – large quantities had to be dug and processed over a number of days. Once cooked, the camas became “sweet-tasting” and could be further processed by drying. A degree of management, including selective harvesting, controlled burning and weeding was necessary to keep a camas bed productive.

Long-term human interaction with Garry Oak meadows for the purpose of harvesting camas has led to the argument that these meadows are anthropogenic, that is, modified by humans (although natural fires may also be a factor maintaining the meadowland). All of the archaeological sites along the shoreline at the base of Mount Maxwell (DeRv 34, 35,36,37,38,39,40,41 and three others, Derv a,b, and c, discovered recently) and the Tusilem camp (DeRv 5) may have been used by Camas harvesters from Cowichan Bay and possibly elsewhere. At least two of the sites (DeRv 39 and DeRv a) have associated depressions that may be the remains of camas ovens. Up until it was moved from its original location near the main camp at the head of the bay, a large granite boulder with a bowl carved belonged to Tusilum’s family and was used by his daughter Tuwa’h’wiye’ to process dried camus in late spring.

Bob Akerman recalls stories his Grandmother told him about camas gathering at Burgoyne Bay:

“They used to burn off that area above Burgoyne under Maxwell Peak. They’d burn all that – several acres. After, the ashes cooled, it made a good seed bed for the lacamas and they’d put seed in. They used to practically grow it. They used to cultivate it; not like us with cultivation and rows but they’d burn an area off and this particular lacamas would grow and they would go in the spring and dig it up. After it was dried my grandmother would grind it into flour in a stone bowl. Her family owned a stone bowl at Burgoyne. She showed it to me. She told me: ‘I own that bowl.’ She used to say: ‘I grind lots of lacamas in that.’ ”

It belonged to her people. They used it in the fall of the year when there was a lot of sugar in the salal berries. They’d mash them in the stone bowl and then they’d dry them in the sun into cookies. They used all kinds of berries – anything that had a lot of sugar, which would preserve them. “Mostly salal, **taatka** , also salmonberries.”

The deliberate, controlled burning of the forest to facilitate the growth of camas and berries had other benefits: “The burning was good for attracting deer. When you kept big open spaces like that all the salal, Oregon grape and the deer would come in. Where it was heavy timbered country, the deer wouldn’t come in.”

Bob described one more resource known to his Clemclemaluts family – an isolated red ochre rock located behind the bay that provided paint (**tumul**) an important substance in First Nations cultures for ceremonial and ritual reasons.

“It was up the Furness Road area. It was a big boulder but it disappeared. I think the farmers must have broken it up, got rid of it. I’ve got a piece of it in my museum that I found at one of their camps. They’d scrape the rock and it would come off as a fine sand. Then they’d put it into a stone paint dish and rub it into a very fine powder, really fine powder. Then they’d mix fish or seal oil in and they’d have a paint. If they wanted different colours, they’d boil bark, like cherry bark for black, or moss for green, and mix it in.”

### ***Spiritual Sites***

Ancient creation stories, or **shwi’em’**, related to striking features of the landscape preserve important cultural teachings of First Nations oral histories. Many of these oral histories are not well known to the general public and some, particularly those owned by certain families, are inaccessible. Creation stories, on the other hand, were a shared heritage known to all containing important, fundamental cultural teachings. Because many of the events were related to dominant or striking features of the landscape the stories formed a powerful bond between people and the physical landscape. This “cultural landscape” can span great distances and appear, at one level, to be cognitive maps of physical landscapes used to access resources. Mount Maxwell on Salt Spring

Island figures prominently in a creation story that includes physical features in Maple Bay, Mount Maxwell, Active Pass and Point Roberts – encompassing resources historically owned and accessed by Cowichan families.

Hwaaqwum/Burgoyne Bay is spiritually significant to the Cowichan people for the magnificent promontory of Mount Maxwell that dominates the Burgoyne Valley. In Hul'qumi'num' the mountain is **Hwmetutsum** (Bent Over Place) and it played a pivotal role in a Cowichan Creation Story regarding a victory over a monster called **Sheshequm** that lived at Octopus Point on Vancouver island opposite Burgoyne Bay. One of the important teachings of this story is the necessity of being spiritually powerful in order to overcome seemingly insurmountable obstacles. Unlike many creation stories, three known versions of this particular story, two from the Cowichan River and one from Kuper Island have been published. The details differ in each account but the general outline of the story is as follows:

A monster lived in a cave beneath the water off Octopus Point on Vancouver Island. Its name was **Sheshuqum'** (Wide Open Mouth) in reference to his abilities to devour canoes and their occupants as they passed by. One account states that Shashequm "would open his mouth and suck in a huge gulp of water, the canoe, traveller, and all." Another version states that **Sheshequm'** was a giant head that "couldn't move but he was alive like a man. He could open his mouth and shoot out a great long tongue that reached right across to Salt Spring Island." **Sheshequm'** wrapped his tongue around the canoe throwing it and the occupants into his gaping mouth. On Salt Spring Island, the tall mountain overlooking Burgoyne Bay saw everything but was powerless to help.

On Vancouver Island, the elders and heads of various Cowichan families gathered in Maple Bay to discuss the problem. After much discussion, one of the leaders declared, "that only a person of supernatural strength and wisdom could find a way to rid us of this demon." He urged the young men to search in all directions for such a person. One youth knew exactly where to go and set out for Point Roberts to seek the help of **Smuqwuts** who had "the strength of a thousand men." The young man left Maple Bay for Salt Spring Island careful to avoid **Sheshuqum'**. He beached his canoe in Burgoyne Bay and made his way up and over Mount Maxwell towards what is now Ganges harbour where "a friend who lived there lent him a canoe." The youth then paddled through Active Pass and across Georgia Strait where he was able to locate **Smuqwuts** at his home on Point Roberts. **Smukwuts** agreed to help and took up his great sling to to hurl a giant boulder at **Sheshuqum'**. The boulder shot high in the air landing near Ladysmith. **Smuqwuts** tried again and the second stone fell short falling in Active Pass where it may be seen today on the shoreline. He took a third great boulder and hurled it towards **Sheshequm'**. This shot landed a short distance north of the beast. **Smuqwuts** exclaimed that the mountain on Salt Spring Island was too high and interfered with his aim. "Wait a while and I shall ask him to crouch down." And he called to the mountain's spirit, asking him to hunch down and so give him a clear shot at Shashequm. The spirit of the mountain was only too happy to do as he was asked, for

he had seen so many good men sucked to their death by **Shashequm'**. The mountain "lay down on its belly, its shoulders humped up and its head drawn in," to allow **Smukwuts** a clear shot.

The fourth and final boulder hurled by **Smukwuts** struck **Sheshequm'** in the face, knocking off his lower jaw before rolling into the water off Octopus Point. However, **Sheshequm'** was not completely destroyed and "a part of him still lurks in those deep waters." Although he can no longer draw canoes and people to their destruction he makes his presence felt in the great whirlpools that sometimes plague these waters of Sansum Narrows. Even today people give the area a wide berth when passing by Octopus Point. The mountain remained as it was and its characteristic shape gave rise to its name **Hwmut'etsum** (Bent Over Place).

Because of its connection to the Creation Story, **Hwmut'etsum** was significant as a site where young people, or adults wishing to refresh themselves, went to train for supernatural power.

Some of the information regarding spiritual sites cannot be revealed as it represents the property of individuals and families. A Cowichan elder from Duncan, for example, visiting one of the sites on the slopes of Mount Maxwell, asked that it not be revealed. Spiritual sites consist of rock overhangs, boulders, outcrops, etc. that blend with the overall landscape and are not recognizable to the general public. One of the rock shelters on the south-facing slope of Mount Maxwell is associated with archaeological deposits and there may be others.

Through careful planning and management to ensure minimal disturbance of the landscape and restricting impacts, the spiritual integrity of these important sites can, hopefully, be maintained.

### ***Colonial Settlement***

A significant feature of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area, from the perspective of more recent history, is an early inter-racial community established in the early 1860's when European settlers began to occupy and modify the land. Existing buildings and at least two archaeological sites within the protected area have direct connections to this community while other, more recent, farm buildings preserve some of the legacy. The most striking visible reminders of the time period are the large open grass fields created initially with the intention of raising cattle

There is no known record of the first official survey of Burgoyne Bay but a close approximation of the current plan was published by d'Heureuse, in 1860. Mount Maxwell is given the name Whauken Mountain which indicates that non-natives were familiar with the Hul'qumi'num' name for the general area – Hwaaqum. D'Heureuse's map claimed to be "compiled from official surveys" made during the spring of 1859 – while the majority of the Cowichan people were absent, taking part in

the herring fishery. A five-man crew under Oliver Wells surveyed parts of the Cowichan Valley and, eventually, parts of the Chemainus Valley and Burgoyne Bay into 100-acre sections.

Many of the lots in the Cowichan Valley were sold but the buyers were unable to occupy their claims due to opposition by local First Nations. By late 1859, succumbing to pressure from landless Americans and Europeans, the administration of the Colony of Vancouver Island allowed individuals to pre-empt land in the Chemainus Valley and on Salt Spring Island without official agreements with the families who owned the resources and habitation sites. In the Chemainus Valley, the settlers were forced to leave by April 1860, At Burgoyne Bay, after some initial difficulty, events took a slightly different turn.

Non-natives occupied land at Burgoyne Bay by December, 1859. When Sheriff George Heaton of the Colony of Vancouver's Island conducted a census in June of 1860, he recorded five "white residents... near Burgoyne Bay." They were John Hunter, Thomas Dooley, William Shaw, Peter Burns, and Dick \_\_\_\_\_. Hunter and Dooley had been part of Oliver Wells' survey crew of 1859.

These settlers did not accommodate the needs and customs of First Nations, such as the family of Tusilum and had difficulty occupying their claims. One of them, James [William?] Shaw, arrived in December 1859, cleared some land, built a house and planted potatoes, probably on Section 1 the site of Tusilum's village. Within months, Shaw was forced to leave when he found his claim "inconvenient and unprotected from Indians" who continued to access their lands and resource despite his residence. George Mitchell apparently occupied Shaw's lapsed claim briefly before turning it over to an Irish immigrant named John Maxwell.

John Maxwell was born to a wealthy Irish Protestant family in Belfast Ireland in 1835. At the age of nineteen, John immigrated to the United States – where he walked across the Great Plains, from Pittsburgh to California. From there, he headed north to the 1858 Fraser River gold rush. He had by this time a partnership with a fellow Anglican Irishman named James Lunney (also spelled Lunnay and Lenney). According to family lore, the two men did well in the gold fields of the Cariboo. To escape the harsh winters of the British Columbia Interior, they purchased a sloop and spent the winter months exploring the Gulf Islands. Probably with the aid of d'Heureuse's map, they discovered Burgoyne Bay.

The details of negotiations between the Cowichan and Maxwell – allowing the latter to occupy the land – are not definitively known. According to oral history of the Akerman family, some arrangement was made between Tusilum and the Governor of the Colony of Vancouver Island, James Douglas. Bob Akerman's grandmother, Tuwa'h'wiye, told him "that Douglas promised her Dad compensation for the Burgoyne Valley if he'd leave it and go back to his camp at Cowichan Bay. So he left...Douglas must have

recognized that the Indians owned the land or why else would he offer to buy it?" In any event, Maxwell married a 14 year-old woman from Clemclemuluts named Mary, who was a close relation of Tusilum, either his daughter or niece. The marriage would have eased tensions regarding Maxwell's occupation of the land. According to Bob Akerman: "the Maxwells let the Indians carry on exactly the way the Indians carried on when they owned the land. He let the Indians come in and dig clams, rake herring, and shoot ducks exactly as they had done for years."

Maxwell was aware of the 1859 survey and made a sketch of it on his original pre-emption application. On June 18, 1861 he sent a letter to Victoria to register a claim which included most of the land on the north side of the Bay from Tusilum's camp at the mouth of the creek: "Please record this clame comensing at a stake ate the mouth ofe the creke ate the south side ofe the Bay and runing due este fore a quarter of a mile in a simelar Poste then running due este fore a quarter of a mile in a simelar Poste then running due north towards Whauken mountens then runing backe to the poste." The Maxwells established their home on a rise overlooking the bay with two barns to the east.

John and Mary Maxwell's first son, John Jr., was born Nov. 6, 1864. Their second child, another son – Samuel – was born on the same date the following year. They eventually raised seven children – five boys and two girls. Mary was assisted in her domestic duties by a female slave, taken in war or traded some years earlier from a northern tribe. Bob Akerman's grandmother told him that when the colonial government ordered that all slaves be set free, this woman had been treated so well "that she wouldn't go back."

Before long, through the pre-emption system, Maxwell and Lunney had acquired some 360 acres of land with the idea of establishing a cattle ranch, setting a land use pattern for the Burgoyne Valley for the next 100 years. In 1862 they imported 150 head of Texas longhorn cattle from Oregon to Victoria where they were driven over the Cowichan Trail before eventually being transported to Burgoyne Bay where, according to local tradition, they swam ashore. The cattle operation was plagued by rustlers for many years. In March 1867, a Victoria newspaper reported: "Five years ago he [John Maxwell] placed on his farm 150 head of cattle. Since then he has sold only 14 head, and today he counts only the original number that he imported – the increase having been systematically slaughtered by Indian and white cattle thieves."

In May 1867, the editor of the *British Colonist* (forerunner of the *Time Colonist*) in Victoria reported that: "Mr. John Maxwell, from Salt Spring Island, relates a doleful tale of the state of affairs there...cattle are being systematically slaughtered and stolen by Indian and white cattle thieves...the Law is a mockery on the East Coast of Salt Spring Island...the settlers are at the mercy of any marauding savage or white villain...raids have become a daily matter...John Maxwell warns that the patience of the

settlers is so sorely tried that however law abiding, they may be excused for taking matters into their own hands...”

There is a well-known account of how Maxwell and some comrades frightened the rustlers with a harmless ambush somewhere below Mount Maxwell but according to one of his sons, Dave Maxwell, born 1873, the rustlers were never apprehended. As Dave Maxwell explained in a 1961 interview: “His partner [Lunney] used to tell us some of the trouble he had with neighbours shooting their cattle. They’d just shoot them and take them to Nanaimo and sell them and that’s all there was to it. You could never catch them. I don’t think they ever caught them. I know we had some cows come home with a bullet hole in the bell where he [the rustler] shot too low.”

By 1874 John Maxwell occupied Sections One and Two, both North and South Ranges, while his partner James Lunney occupied both ranges of sections of 3 and 4. On their 400 acres, the Maxwell’s had “cleared, cultivated and fenced” some 18 acres, part of which included a large orchard, with another twenty acres “fenced and in grass” for cattle. The Maxwell family lived in a 32’ x 20’ house painted red with white trim with nearby two barns (32’ x 22’ and 40’ x 20’). Lunney seems to have made his dwelling place further up the valley in the centre of Section 4. By this time a rudimentary dock was established (possibly as early as 1869) on the site of the present-day government wharf to receive steamer traffic and to ship produce to wholesalers in Victoria and elsewhere (See Figure 11, page 23)

When the Burgoyne Valley was re-surveyed in 1874, the Government Agent was not impressed. He wrote: “The whole of Section One is useless unless it be for firewood some day. Soil gravel and steep hill almost the whole way up. A little patch however about 5 acres on the coast might be used as a potato patch and there is a fine clam bed on the premises.” As the survey of 1874 recorded: “The first half of this line passes over very fair ground occupied by Maxwell’s garden, orchard, buildings & c.”

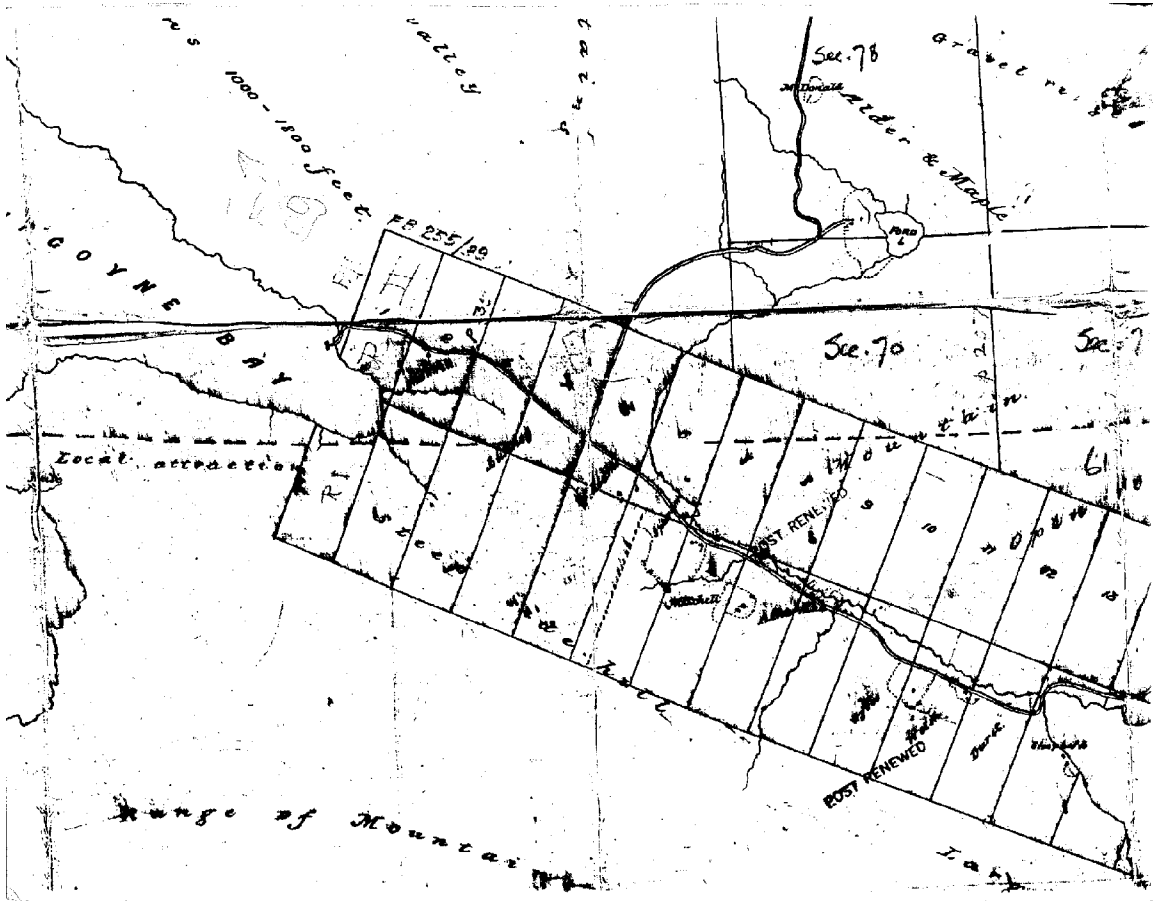
John Maxwell continued his land clearing activity to expand his cattle ranch and, by 1883, purchased a steam-powered tractor with steam-driven saws for felling trees and a winch for pulling stumps, one of the earliest pieces of industrial land-clearing machinery used in British Columbia.

In addition to raising cattle, farming and orcharding, the Maxwells pre-empted old growth Douglas fir forest for the purpose of logging. According to Joe Garner, the Maxwells: “logged masts and spars with oxen in the 1870’s. Then they bought a wood-fired steam donkey and eight big horses to swing the logs and piling down to the skid road to Burgoyne Bay.” Perhaps to extend access to the forest resource, John Maxwell purchased outright 50 acres on Section 3, Range 1 in 1884 and the following year bought another 196 acres in Sections 81 and 82 around Mount Maxwell. He pre-empted a further 160 acres in southwest Section 83 which he paid for in 1892. John’s son, Richard (Dick), also pre-empted 160 acres on the slopes of Mount Maxwell (Section



80) – with the intention of logging them (See

).



**Figure 15. 1874-75 Survey of Burgoyne and Fulford valleys.**

Sam and Dick in particular, become well known as loggers, perfecting techniques for hand-logging the large old growth firs found around Burgoyne Bay into the water. They would select a fir standing near the water's edge, and after making an undercut, place a stone or a three-inch round steel shafting in it. They would then make a backcut up to within half an inch of the undercut and hammer wedges into it. As the tree began to move forward: "it just seemed to leap forward and rocket out and over the rocks until it landed with a great splash." The Maxwells referred to these as "stumbers." Stumps from these "stumper" Douglas-fir trees can still be seen around the bay. Further up the forested slopes, Dick employed other classic techniques of a hand-logger. As Bob Akerman explains: "Dick Maxwell used to log with horses. Sometimes he'd go up the hill above the water and he would fell a big tree down hill and then he'd go down and take the top off. Then he'd take the bark off one side and use a Gilchrist jack to turn the log so that it would slide down the hill on the slippery debarked side to the flat where he'd use the horses to haul the log to the Bay (According to Bob, one of these large firs can still be seen on the slopes above the north side of the bay where the log impaled

itself into a large stump as it slid down the hill.) The loggers then simply cut the rest of the log sending it on its way leaving the impaled section where it was.

Aside from the land they clear-cut for pasture, the Maxwells logged selectively – and sustainably – on their former holdings, leaving many old growth trees that remain standing to this day

By the turn of the century, most of the logs taken out of Burgoyne Bay were sold to a mill that operated in Genoa Bay on Vancouver Island. As Bob Akerman explained: “Lots of logs in those days went to that big mill around Separation Point at Genoa Bay – there was a big sawmill there.” This mill also used to send a scow to Burgoyne Bay to collect fresh water from the creek that flows into the south end of the Bay from Mount Maxwell. “They used to get their water from Burgoyne Bay,” Bob said, “They’d bring a scow into the flats, bring out a pipe, and fill it up from the creek. They’d fill up the scow with fresh water.”

Maxwell’s long-time partner, James Lunney, left the Burgoyne Valley by 1891 for parts unknown (possibly Ireland) and the Maxwells took over his land . Sam Maxwell bought Section 3 Range 2 outright in that year. Dick Maxwell established himself on Lunney’s former holdings, where he built a house that still stands at the entrance of the protected area. Dick Maxwell’s buildings, across the road from other still-standing farm buildings, also included a stone root cellar, built in 1901, and a stable/ machine shop(?). A large barn, demolished many years ago was built south of the house. Another barn was later built on the other side of the road – outside of the present protected area boundaries. It burned down some years ago but the stone foundations remain.

The Maxwells were also involved in running the Burgoyne Bay Post Office – operated from the Maxwell house for most of its existence. This Post Office, the second on Salt Spring Island and the first in the South end of the island, was established on May 1, 1880. Frederick Foord, who homesteaded at Ford (or Foord) Lake, was the first postmaster. Foord’s duties were taken over in 1883 by John Maxwell Jr., who ran the Post Office out of the family home overlooking Burgoyne Bay. When John Jr. died in 1887, Sam Maxwell operated the Post Office until 1895, when he passed on the duties to his brother Dave. Dave Maxwell was postmaster until 1898 when Mary, the eldest Maxwell daughter, took over. The office was closed in February 29, 1900.

As Bob Akerman points out, it was the establishment of this post office that gave the Burgoyne Valley its name. People only began to refer to the valley as the Fulford Valley after another Post Office was established at Fulford Harbour. Both names are used today to refer to the valley depending on one’s preference but the Burgoyne name has precedence.

By 1895 the Maxwell family seemed to be no longer primarily interested in cattle. A promotional booklet for Salt Spring Island described John Maxwell as “owning 400 acres, of which 50 are cultivated, and [who] runs 600 sheep.”

Sometime after 1891, Mary Maxwell left her husband and returned to the Cowichan River (Clemclemaluts). In 1892, after 36 years of homesteading, John Maxwell Sr. died. Mary Maxwell apparently never returned to the property and died on Jan. 13, 1914. She is buried in the Duncan Native Cemetery, also known as the Georgetown Cemetery, in honour of the family members buried there.

When Sam Maxwell left the Burgoyne Valley for marriage in San Francisco, James Maxwell, who remained a bachelor, took over the family residence and farm. His brother Richard (Dick) lived up the road. Dick continued logging while James focused his activity on hog-farming. James “raised a lot of pigs” and grew peas. “They’d boil the peas and feed them to the pigs,” recalls Bob Akerman. Jimmy is credited with introducing wire fencing to the property to replace the rotting cedar rail fences. “He was going to fence the whole thing and he ordered a railway carload of fencing, rolls and rolls of wire. Old Jimmy used a lot of it but there was a lot left in the barn for years.” In April 1916, James left Burgoyne Bay to serve overseas in a Forester Battalion. He later wrote that it “seemed too bad to leave it as there never was a day these last fifty years that there wasn’t a Maxwell on it.” He added that he had “ a good boy running it until I get back.” Unfortunately, Jimmy Maxwell disappeared from a steamer from England to Ireland where he had planned to visit his father’s family.

The family farm was left to Mary Maxwell, who by this time was living in San Francisco and married to a Swedish man named Lindberg. Her brother Sam Maxwell’s San Francisco marriage had failed and he returned to Burgoyne Bay, living on the family farm until his death in 1928. Dick Maxwell remained on his land until his death in 1947 – the only Maxwell to live on the family farm for his entire life.

After Dick Maxwell’s death, Mary Maxwell sold the extensive holdings of the Maxwell family to the Larsen family for \$15,000.

The Larsens continued the tradition of mixed farming with an emphasis on cattle. They cleared the old Maxwell orchard east of the original homestead to create more pasture. The old Maxwell house and barns were taken down and new buildings, a cattle barn and poultry shed were built closer to Burgoyne Bay Road. The Larsens also built a new house further east on the north side of the road. These buildings remain today.

In 1969, the Larsen family sold their extensive holdings to the German Prince Thurn und Taxis of Bavaria. Texada Logging, another of the Prince’s assets, set up operations in Burgoyne Bay and established the current office building on the north side of the Bay, two log dumps on the north and south sides of the Bay, and an inland log sort and quarry to service their island logging operations. Logging access roads were built.

Existing farm buildings were retained as rental accommodation and further rental housing was built around Burgoyne Bay in some instances directly on top of old Cowichan midden areas. In 2001, after the land was acquired for park purposes from developers who had purchased the Prince's estate, most of the tenants were evicted and many of the rental accommodations demolished.

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## Appendix II – Public Comments Received Regarding Potential Recreation Opportunities for Burgoyne Bay Protected Area During February 14, 2003 Open House

*N.B. These comments are transcribed as received, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of FOSP.*

### **BOATING**

#### 1. Water-based Boats

##### **Comments:**

- Mooring large (20ft.) boats could represent an environmental hazard (sewage, disturbing wildlife). Kayaking/canoeing by educated and responsible boaters is OK.
- Re above comment: mooring of boats 20ft+ does not imply "irresponsibility" -- those boats are now and will be in future equipped with sewage systems. Where do kayakers go?
- How would sewage be dealt with? Kayaking would be a good use -- where could there be a camping area for them?
- Public floats with time limits?

#### 2. Land-based Boats

##### **Comments:**

- A boat ramp by itself is tempting to endorse but would it be compatible with the rest of the user-mix that ultimately is settled upon? This is probably the most difficult question to deal with and I have no easy answer or preference.
- Kayaks and canoes should have access; no ramp development for speed boats.
- There is no boat launch on the west side of the island. You could save a lot of boat gas by having one.
- The Burgoyne Beach is a sensitive ecological habitat. Don't overdo bringing in lots and lots of boats/tourists/pedestrian use. Ban motorboats from beachhead.
- If people could be required to park their boat trailers away from the landing (perhaps in the Texada gravel pit site across from the farm) this might work but that would require some enforcement. Boaters of land-based boats have a habit of cluttering up the adjacent areas of a slip with their trailers and if there is no expanded parking this creates problems. Trailers could be towed away if this happens.
- The most important aspect of the Burgoyne Bay Protected Area is the preservation of a natural jewel for all time. Trails and gentle use of the lands to provide solace and tranquil spaces for people to see nature, are all that should be allowed. Places



for wildlife to be free and wild are top priority -- this requires large contiguous undeveloped, undisturbed forests. Basically -- leave it be! A little camping with minimum road building or parking lots, well away from the water would be good. Baseball, disc golf, and any sport that encourages lots of cars and people and noise are better located elsewhere. The beach needs protection for the wildlife that lives in it and the birds, seals etc. that feed there. Reefs or log booms could be provided if appropriate to foster wildlife habitat. Historical markers where buildings, native settlements, etc. were would be appropriate.

- A boat launch at Burgoyne Bay -- important, as there is not any on the west side of Salt Spring Island.
- If a boat ramp goes in there should be a motor size (hp) limit (e.g., 9.9 hp) on the boats that can be launched.
- Launching areas desperately needed on Salt Spring. Should have 5 acre sites -- about 4 of them around the Island -- for safety, emergencies, oil spill launching equipment, pleasure boats, barges, commercial and emergency commercial if ferries are out, fuel supplies, etc.
- Having canoed in Burgoyne for many years what I enjoy most is the presence of wildlife -- sea birds, seals, etc. Now that the logs have disappeared the seals are having to nurse and sunbathe on the shoreline. With increased human traffic the seals no longer have a secure place to nurse. They are being startled from the rocks. Perhaps the return of a few logs or similar floating ocean site could provide the necessary protection. I really love being close to these animals out on the water without disturbing them and would hate to think that they would go to quieter waters. The trail system along the shore should be limited to certain areas -- a short walk to the first rock outcropping for those who can't walk far and then, of course, by the point where the house was burnt down. The logs did bring a lot of birds. There is no other bay on the island that is as wild or as quiet -- great for non-motorized craft.

## **FISHING**

### **Comments:**

- Close one side of the bay to all fishing -- out to mid bay -- (would provide sanctuary for replenishing stocks in entire area.

## **HIKING AND WALKING**

### **Comments:**

- Contact me (Bob Ball 537-5623) if you need maps (of local trails).
- Birding is an important activity. Encourage responsible hiking, especially for youth. The best protection of land is from education of the public. A good example is the National Trust in the UK.

- The hiking in Burgoyne Bay was very enjoyable, with instruction from several teachers of both sexes.
- New trails would be very welcome, especially loop trails.
- Many old trails in the Nature Trust lands are presently being used. Why not? Most of the trails are in the Douglas-fir and not the Oak.
- A wonderful place. Please try to keep it for hiking and wildlife.
- Wonderful. Encourage low impact hiking; no hiking in Garry Oak meadows.
- What about dog walking?
- Where it is ecologically defensible hiking and walking possibilities should be developed provided the trails don't get too close to sensitive areas that could be trespassed upon.
- (Develop) a connecting trails system. Burgoyne Bay to Mt. Tuam. Also to Mt. Erskine and on to Southey Point. Also to Arnell Park and on to Ruckle Park.

### ***MOUNTAIN BIKING***

#### **Comments:**

- No mountain biking please in parkland. (too destructive).
- Mountain biking on prescribed trails could work, as can walking, hiking and horseback riding.
- No mountain biking please. Contributes to soil erosion, trail widening, etc.
- I think there are better places (for mountain biking). It could also lead to conflict between incompatible users of trails i.e. horses and bikes, which could result in accidents. Mountain bikers can go where horses can't and should be kept there, like the Mt. Eisenhower area for example.

### ***HORSEBACK RIDING***

#### **Comments:**

- The Salt Spring Trail Riders are going to meet in March to discuss trails used already. There are well over 100 horses on Salt Spring and large barns and Pony Club. Would love connecting trails with Maxwell trails and Jones Road.
- Some parts of the area would make sense for riding provided the riders stay on the trails and don't try to go cross-country.
- I would love to see a community equestrian centre which could offer stabling, trail as well as ring riding. We have a therapeutic riding society which needs places to ride, offer ride-a-thons, etc.
- Trails and parking for trailers for day use -- excellent.

## **ROCK CLIMBING**

### **Comments:**

- Sounds OK if geologically safe and not over-developed.

## **DISC GOLF**

### **Comments:**

- Disc golf is a very low environmental impact sport. There are +/-100 new courses in North America per annum.
- I think that one course is sufficient for the island. This activity severely tramples the undergrowth.
- Better kept to a field park, not forest areas. Burgoyne should be a nature park. (Gordon Keel?)
- No disc golf!
- This needs to be carefully thought out and an inspection of Mouat Park is in order if this sport is considered. The understory tends to get destroyed and tree roots and bark sorely abused from the traffic. I've watched the transformation of Mouat Park since disc golf came in. Frankly one course is enough.

## **FIELD SPORTS**

### **Comments:**

- Please do not develop playing fields in the parkland with huge amounts of infrastructure (i.e., lights, stands) and there may be a demand for lots of parking. The emphasis should be on minimal infrastructure and discourage overuse of the park. Wilderness recreation values should be the emphasis -- high use for playing fields would detract from this experience.
- Playing fields would be more suitably sited as far from the bay as possible, preferably not in the parklands but more towards Fulford Harbour. The former Cudmore property would be more suitable for this purpose. It would have parking, a firehall nearby and a runway for the traffic. The field sports community should approach the owners but the Burgoyne Bay area is too sensitive for this purpose and the access road would not handle all the traffic. The ambience would get destroyed and the and the noise level would be insane. When field sports happen in Ganges you can hear it all over town. It would be the same in the south end.
- Bad idea -- this is a national nature treasure, not a "rec" park -- too much traffic and litter and road-making -- let's have a park, not parking lots.

## **CAMPING**

### **Comments:**

- Hike-in only campsites.

- Fire hazard and littering are potential problems. Encourage responsible use of the land. People who have learned to use land carefully are more likely to want to see the land and parks preserved.
- Walk-in camping attracts a different crowd, generally more responsible, from drive-in. Maximize walk-in sites -- minimize drive-in sites, as at Ruckle.
- Another campsite is very much needed since the loss of Mouat Park as a campground. Some allowance has to be made for camping needs on the island. The former Camp Narnia area might work and should be considered.

## Appendix III – Expressions of Interest from Community Groups

*N.B. These comments are included as received, and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of FOSSP.*

To date, a number of community groups have communicated “Expressions of Interest” of relevance to Burgoyne Bay Protected Area to ESD or the team preparing this background report. These are presented below.

Note that some of the expressions relate to areas outside of Burgoyne Bay Protected Area boundaries and that the desired activities and/or uses may not be compatible with Provincial Park designation. Appropriate and compatible future use and management of the protected area will not be determined until a Management Plan for Burgoyne Bay Provincial Park is developed.

### **Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning**

February 26, 2003 e-mail from Michael Dunn, GICEL planning committee member:

The Gulf Islands Centre for Ecological Learning (GICEL), in conjunction with the Gulf Islands School District # 64 and the Gulf Islands Educational Trust Fund, is an active partner in the acquisition of a portion of Lot 20, east of the current protected area boundary, and the future vision for the use of these newly acquired properties. In this regard, GICEL and the SD #64 are committed to raising funds towards the acquisition of Lots 19 and 20 and in turn, are looking at having a secure tenure on about 8-10 acres of Lot 20.

The vision for this property is to develop the Salt Spring Island Learning Pavilion, as one of the component facilities of GICEL. There will be other such pavilions on each of the five Gulf Islands, as opportunities arise. The Learning Pavilion will be of the smallest possible ecological footprint through incorporation of green building design and operation. It will house in the order of 30 students plus 12 teachers and support people. The template for the pavilions is to provide sleeping accommodation, a food preparation and eating area, a gathering area and an equipment storage facility.

GICEL's programs will be experiential and nature-based where students will explore the seventeen ecosystem services that support all life on the planet. These explorations will be along five dominant themes - marine, forest and freshwater ecosystems, First Nations culture, and food growing and preparation. The programs are to operated year-round and the primary audience is school children from grades 4 to 7. The facility and programs will also be available to high school students, international students, families, business, and adult learners.

The vision for the facilities and the programs is to have a world-class operation that provides meaningful and life long experiences for participants using the natural assets found within the southern Gulf Islands.

### **The Growing Circle Community Farm**

Excerpt of February 21, 2003 e-mail from Cora Platz, Island Natural Growers Board member:

The Growing Circle Food Cooperative opened its doors to the public in December 2000 and has grown to over 500 members, more than 60 of who are local growers and producers. The Cooperative's mission is to enhance the local economy, while fostering a vibrant sense of community. The Growing Circle Food Cooperative is strongly committed to cultivating responsible stewardship of Salt Spring Island, and working to sustain a healthy living landscape through the renewal of a vibrant local agricultural economy.

The Growing Circle Community Farm was conceived to further our ability to realize our educational ambitions and mission outside the walls of the food co-op and will operate as an entrepreneurial non-profit society arm of the food co-op. The Community Farm will consist of a small demonstration garden which will include educational and interactive displays on topics such as organic growing methods, seed saving, composting, edible and medicinal landscaping. The demonstration garden will serve as an inspiration and practical resource to new and seasoned home gardeners as well as market gardeners. Attached to the demonstration garden will be a productive organic market garden. The market garden will provide certified organic produce to the food co-op, thereby earning an income for the society to build an economic base for its educational mandate. The market garden will also have a limited number of allotment spaces available for lease to community members and a portion dedicated to a community supported agriculture box program.

The Growing Circle Community Farm also plans to incorporate an ecologically constructed public education centre/barn housing a resource library, a computer terminal for internet research, offices for the farm staff, a community commercial kitchen and processing and handling facilities for the market garden. Other services of the society could include: "grow a row"; links to the local food bank; allotment spaces for local schools; matching would-be market gardeners with people who have land but are unable to garden on it; joint educational workshops with the Sustainable Agriculture and Ecoforestry School; and mapping and facilitating a heritage fruit tree program on the island.

We envision The Growing Circle Community Farm ideally located on the ALR portions of Burgoyne Valley or as part of the Lee's Hill parcels in conjunction with a Sustainable Ecoforestry and Agriculture School.

### **Salt Spring Harbour Authority**

Letter from Salt Spring Harbour Authority to Dick Heath, Regional Manager, Environmental Stewardship Division, Vancouver Island Region, dated 10/21/2002:

The Salt Spring Harbour Authority would like to explore working in partnership on an improvement to the existing launching ramp at Burgoyne Bay, Salt Spring Island. The Salt Spring Harbour Authority manages the public dock at Burgoyne Bay and over the years we have had numerous requests for an improved, safer launching facility. Requests have come from the membership of the Harbour Authority, from residents of the Burgoyne area and recreational users such as kayakers, paddling clubs, and sport fishers. The Harbour Authority does not have any upland area and unfortunately these requests have always been turned down and redirected to other organizations or to private landowners.

The Salt Spring Harbour Authority feels that a renewed launching facility will provide an environmentally low impact solution for recreational use in the area. It will provide water access to a wide range of users, all of which will be “short term” or “fair weather” users. We also feel that this will be a good compromise for those who have suggested public dock expansion and those who are opposed to all development.

The Salt Spring Harbour Authority manages a launching facility at Ganges, Salt Spring Island. This facility was built with volunteer labour, equipment and donated materials from the business community. Here we have implemented a user fee of \$5.00 per launch or a \$25.00 annual fee. We have a system of a drop box or customers can pay in person at our office. Trailer stickers are also issued for annual customers for easy identification. We have found that with this system we have been able to maintain and provide improvements to the launching ramp solely with user fees. With this model of community involvement and support, we feel that an improved ramp at Burgoyne Bay can be maintained at no cost to the Park system.

### **Salt Spring Disc Golf Association**

Excerpt from “Letter of Interest” submitted to Background Report preparation team by the Treasurer of the Salt Spring Disc Golf Association:

There are about 100-150 disc golf players on Salt Spring. Some disc golf players play way more than others but, at any given time you will probably find 4 to 6 people playing throughout the day.

We run a local tournament the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of every month and generally have 30 to 40 golfers out. We also host two major tournaments during the year. The first is the Duck Golf Tournament, which is always held on Boxing Day, 26<sup>th</sup> December. This is a major tournament with disc golfers coming from as far away as Calgary. A lot come from Vancouver and Victoria for that day. This tournament is one of a series, which are

played in Vancouver, on Pender Island, in Nanaimo and on Cortes Island. The second major tournament is held in May and generally attracts about 40 to 50 players.

Disc golf is played with the same rules as golf except that the player uses discs instead of clubs. There are many different types of discs and they all can do different things when thrown. The object of the game is to hit the tonal pin that is hanging from a tree by a bracket. The par for the course is 54, there are 18 tonal pins in Mouat Park and each hole or pin is a par three. A lot of the holes/pins in Mouat Park are short. Few are long (i.e. over 90 yards).

The Salt Spring Island Middle School often brings whole classes of students over to use the facility. Discs cost anywhere from \$18 to \$35 each. All a player needs is one disc but players who are really serious have many discs. There are “drivers”, “mid-range drivers”, and “putters”.

The Burgoyne Bay Park by the old farm barn and in the woods would be a perfect place to put a new longer disc golf course as there are lots of trees, which makes the game more interesting and harder, and there are also meadow areas right beside this where longer holes could be designed.

We in the Salt Spring Disc Golf Association, of which I am the Treasurer, would very much like to have a new park in Burgoyne Bay with “baskets” instead of “tonal pins”. Most courses use baskets instead of tonals. One must throw the disc at these and get the disc into the basket. These baskets cost about \$400 each. They are made from galvanized metal and are mounted about four feet off the ground. Currently on Salt Spring there is only one disc golf course. Burgoyne Bay would be a welcome addition, especially to the south end folks.

Disc golf can be and is a sport that can be played all year round and it does not cost the player to play like in real golf, so people from all backgrounds can enjoy the sport.