

Approved Minutes 06/14/24
Northwest Nanoose Residents Association
Director's Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2024

Chairman's Call To Order: 10:07 a.m. 🧘

Roll Call For Quorum: All 8 Directors Present 😊

Review/Approve April 23, 2024 Meeting Minutes: Moved by Diane Springford, Seconded by Bill Marsh & Approved Unanimously.

Treasurers Report: Bill Marsh reported \$3,540.36 + \$31.26=\$3,571.62 on hand. Diane Springford requested \$11.60 re-imbursement of postage expenses of notices to only certain Adjacent to Beach Access Property Owners. Bill Marsh then reported website deposits to NNRA accounts still not "user friendly". A brief discussion ensued of this procedure & its mechanics. Any & all difficulties now need to be directed through Rudi Widdershoven. Neil Watson moved, seconded by Rud Widdershoven & unanimously approved that the Treasurer's Report & the reimbursement request be approved as read & requested.

Membership Report: (Rudi/Gerry)

Subsequent to meeting Gerry Theberge reported 69 members in total. Gerry also advised increased efforts to reach full time residents of Pacific Shores Resort. Neil Watson submitted at the meeting one new & one renewal application accompanied by 2x3yrs payments for a total \$50.00.

Priority Committee Reports

#1) Property Taxes: (Wayne/Rick) A summary report of the May 7th RDN meeting is to be provided by Wayne Stark. In short, Wayne's conclusions are the RDN's Financial Planning processes are outrageously inept and not even close at applying the simplest modern day acceptable "best practices". Interest in NNRA's advice, guidance & recommendations is still growing. This tender alliance is most noted in the Rural Area directors. A meeting of those most interested is to be arranged. Close monitoring of RDN & Sub-Committee meetings is now deemed essential in order to ensure NNRA's presence continues to make influencer progress.

#2) Water: (Rudi/Neil/Gina)

Previously circulated NNRA Q & A report headed "Continued Discussions of Water" approved for posting on website and use at June 17th Mid Term Membership Meeting, as per below in "New Business".

#3) Beach Accesses: (Neil/Diane)

Neil Watson & Diane Springford have requested "Delegation Status" to meet with RDN's Parks & Open Space Advisory Committee "POSAC" on June 12th. This is to understand this Committee's intended actions from a staff report titled Nanoose Bay Water Access Study dated March 14, 2024. Post meeting follow-up report to be expected and this summary will also be recommended for. See attached "Nanoose Bay Water Access Study" dated March 14, 2024.

#4) Pools in Oceanside: (Wayne/Rudi)

Rudi Widdershoven briefly commented that NNRA's initial goals were completed prior to last AGM thus this subject is now considered "old news". No further action or reporting expected unless subsequent actions by the RDN require a NNRA response.

#5) Sign Boards: (Gina/Neil)

Nil Report- prototype for Board consideration not yet built.

New Business: Mid Term General Membership Meeting now booked for June 17th at Nanoose Place Multi-Use Room. Anyone requiring Power Point presentation equipment to check with Mulu at Nanoose Place; (250) 468-5339. Neil Watson to arrange for a microphone/amplified speaker.

Next Meeting: June 6th, 10:00 @ Rudi Widdershoven's. Meeting focus: Dress rehearsal of June 17th Mid Term Membership Meeting at 6:30 at Nanoose Place Multi-Use Room. Neil Watson to provide a draft agenda.

Motion To Adjourn: 11:38 a.m. Moved by Neil Watson, seconded by Gerry Theberge & Unanimously approved.

NANOOSE BAY WATER ACCESS STUDY

RECOMMENDATION

That the Nanoose Bay Water Access Study report be received for information.

BACKGROUND

In 2017, the Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee for Electoral Area E (POSAC-E) and Regional District of Nanaimo (RDN) Parks Staff initiated a project which evaluated Ministry of Transportation and Infrastructure (MOTI)-owned water accesses. The goal of this project was to identify and determine which accesses would be most suitable for RDN to take over and improve. A priority list was developed but no further action was taken.

In 2023, the POSAC-E requested to re-visit the water access study and update the previous parameters and ratings. Through a series of workshops and site visits, the POSAC members and RDN staff developed and refined a new set of criteria to rate the beach accesses. The objective of the refined criteria was to offer a less subjective rating system that would provide defensible parameters as to why one access is prioritized over another.

Criteria Definitions and Rating

The following criteria were used to rate the accesses:

Quality

This criteria rates the quality of space at both the street side and the water side. A high quality of space would have the following attributes:

- A large amount of usable exposed land during high tide;
- A shoreline that allows for the launching of small watercraft;
- Access from the road to the water is relatively safe or could be easily made safe;
- Space to accommodate parking.

Cost

The cost to formalize or develop an access was another important criteria. If improvements are expensive such as stairs or retaining walls, the access would likely be given a low score in the cost category.

Connectivity

If the development of the water access leads to the connection of parks, beaches, trails or significant public open space, the access would be considered to have high connectivity and would receive a high rating. A low rating indicates that the access does not connect additional parks or access points together.

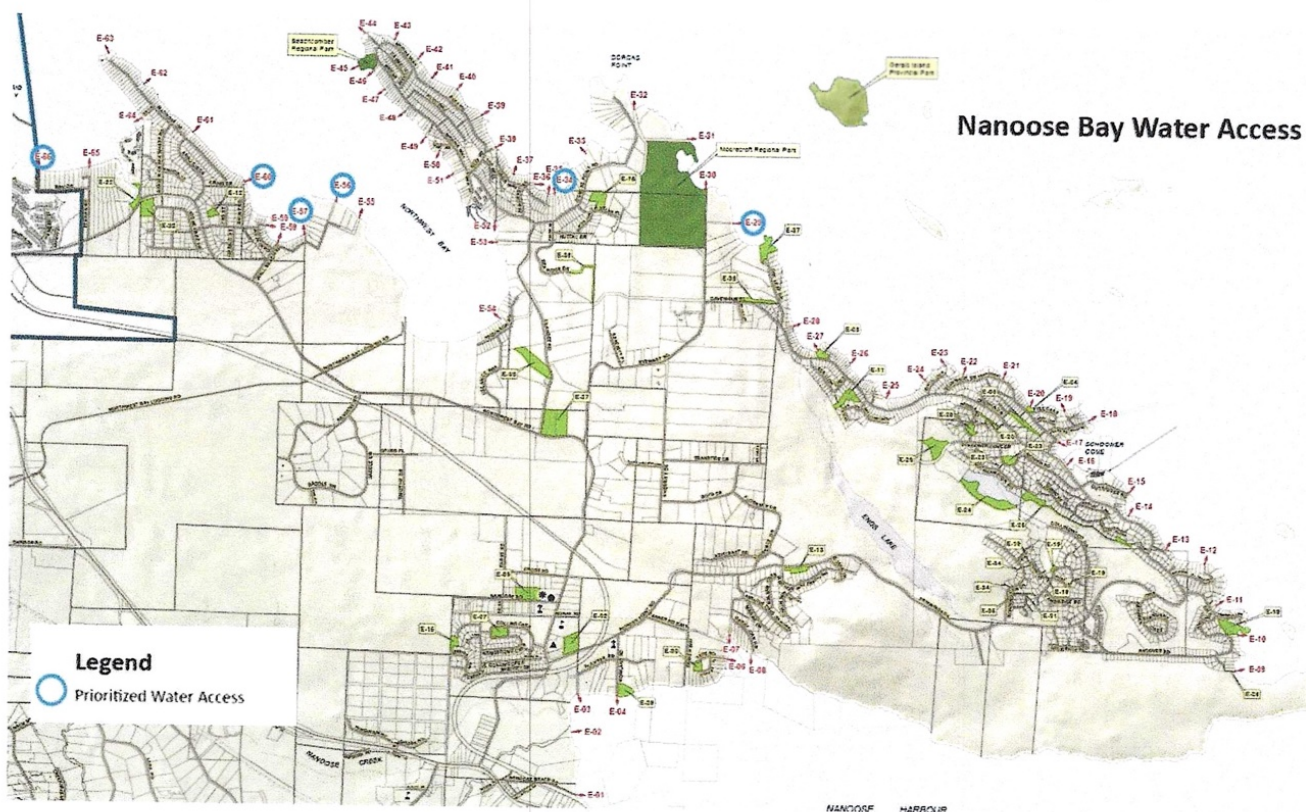
Distribution

To achieve equitable access to the water throughout the Electoral Area, distribution of the access sites needs to be considered and improvements should focus on areas that are currently lacking formalized accesses. A high score in this category would indicate that there are not any or many other easily accessible water accesses in the immediate vicinity already.

A 4 point rating system was developed to rank and prioritize the beach accesses. A high score indicates that the access would be a valuable access to improve.

Committee members visited each identified water access site and evaluated the sites based on the above criteria. Based on their evaluation, the following water accesses ranked the highest:

- E 29 Between 1610 -1574 Stewart Rd
- E 34 Between 1613 – 1605 Dorcas Point Road
- E 56 Between 2023 Seahaven Road and 2051 Hathaway Road
- E 57 Between 1985 – 1995 Seahaven Road
- E 60 Between 1861 - 1873 Craig Drive
- E 66 Beside 1469 Coast Place (Just the section from the end of Coast Pl to the ocean)



Next Steps

The highest ranked beach accesses will be further studied to determine which sites should move forward with proposed development first. Once determined, RDN staff will engage with the neighbouring community to ensure the proposed improvements are acceptable and prepare project and maintenance cost estimates.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no direct financial implications. There is currently \$65,000 in the 2025 Electoral Area E Community Parks budget for water access improvements funded from reserves. After next steps are completed, staff will create a plan for the budgeted amount based on the ranking above.

STRATEGIC PLAN ALIGNMENT

Planning and Managing for Growth - Complete our Asset Management program to ensure physical and natural assets across the region are optimally managed.
















REVIEWED BY:

- R. Daykin, Manager, Parks Services
- T. Osborne, General Manager, Recreation and Parks
- D. Holmes, Chief Administrative Officer

ATTACHMENTS

1. Water Access Rating

Access	Type	Quality	Cost	Connectivity	Distribution	G	Total	Notes
	1 = very suitable	high = 5	Low=5	High = 5	Low =5			
	2 = suitable	Med = 3	Med = 3	Medium=3				
	3 = much work required	Low = 1	Low = 1	Low = 1	High =1			
	4 = not suitable	Note=0	Note=0	Note=0				
	5 = already developed							
E- 4	Rowland CP	5	5	3	5	5	18	Rowland CP
E- 57		5	5	5	3	3	18	Wall Beach (right of 1985 Seahaven Rd.) - Contiguous E-56 to E-58. What about E-58? Easy existing trail to Wall Beach
E- 65		5	5	5	3	3	18	lots of parking; connection to E66 and TNT land (good loop walk potential); very nice beach; property boundary may need marking/fencing; easy boat access; not much improvement needed; services Stone Lake development. Easy trail access to Craig Bay beach with connectivity to E66
E- 34		5	5	4	3.7	3.7	17.7	nice pebble beach, well used by locals; ROW access width is good, as is trail (no improvements needed); parking is good; can walk to Moorecroft RP and Sea Ridge CP through streets; serves higher density neighbourhood without beach access
E- 66		4.7	5.0	5.0	3.0	3.0	17.7	good trail through forest, longer than E65 so not as suitable for boat launching; very nice beach (same as 65); parking ok; only signage needed; connection to E65 and Craig Bay development; also see comments for 65
E- 60		5	4	5	3	3	17	Cmn of Craig Dr. & Brunt Rd. Well used trail. Locals maintain minor switchbacks for access. See 2017 comments. Good connectivity along east side of Madrona from E60 to E63
E- 63		4.7	5.0	3.7	3.7	3.7	17.0	well developed trail through large ROW to sandstone foreshore area; not good for boating, but popular dive spot; parking ok (signed for no overnight parking) Limited parking otherwise would be a candidate for community park
E- 56		4.7	5.0	4.3	2.3	2.3	16.3	good, short access to nice sandstone foreshore, not good for boating; connection with E55; properties in area all waterfront, so low need for beach access; impressive beach with easy vehicle access, good parking and connectivity to adjacent water accesses. Nice viewpoint, some parking and good access to the sandstone shelf and other accesses.
E- 62		5	4	3.7	3.7	3.7	16.3	lovely small pebble beach between sandstone foreshore area (only one in this area?); existing trail is ok, but may need some improvement; long, so not good for boat access; parking ok (paved area in front of ROW); ROW is quite large, so won't need to intrude on neighbouring property) Limited parking; Madrona Dr. (south of 1390). Well developed. See 2017 comment
E- 9		5	5	3	3	3	16	Ainsley Place Community Trail (CT-28). Access to beach.
E- 61	group	4.3	4.7	3.7	3.0	3.0	15.7	not a great "beach", well developed trail, but steep at end near foreshore, not good for boating; parking good (paved area at mailboxes - angle parking potential); large ROW, and neighbouring properties are well defined Easy trail, good connectivity
E- 25		5	3	4	3	3	15	Cormorant Cres/Dolphin Dr. Enos Ck. Should be relooked at. Access to northern end of great beach.
E- 54		5	5	0	5	5	15	Easy access to a nice north-facing beach in Northwest Bay. Parking for about 5 vehicles. Appears to be well-used. Someone has installed a garbage bin on the trail.
E- 23		5	3	1	5	5	14	Bonito Cres. (right of 1873 Benito) Access issues but flat. Nice beach. Limited Connectivity. E-24/25 perhaps better options.
E- 29	g+3	3.7	3.0	5.0	2.3	2.3	14.0	beach is quite rocky (as viewed from across the bay); very long access, part of it on driveway, rest requires considerable clearing; neighbour has blocked access beside fence at driveway; good connection potential. Cormorant Cres/Dolphin Dr. Enos Ck. Should be relooked at. Access to northern end of great beach.
E- 36		3	5	3	3	3	14	short and fairly wide ROW with easy access to smaller rocky/large pebble beach, more suitable for boating than 34 or 35; connection to 34/35 over small rocky headland; parking OK; not much beach in front of actual ROW (rock area on one side)
E- 35		4	3	3	3	3	13	access to same nice pebble beach as 34 for a different neighbourhood (but this neighbourhood can also access 36); very narrow access, fenced on both sides; stairs to get down to beach (not good for boats); parking OK
E- 24		1	3	3	5	5	12	Bonito Cres. (left of 1907 Benito) High tide might limit access to great beach to the north (E-25). E-25 might provide better option.
E- 44		4	3	3	2	2	12	wide trail to a bench above foreshore, steep concrete "steps" down to sandstone "beach" (would need improvements for safety); not good for boating, but nice viewpoint (Q=5; Cost =3 for view); near Beachcomber RP, so area well served for access Limited parking, hazardous connectivity to Beachcomber Park
E- 49	view	5	3	1	3	3	12	no ocean access (cliff), but lovely viewpoint (Q=5 for view); bench and potted plants make it look a bit like private area, but fences on both sides marking private land
E- 50		4	4.5	0.5	3	3	12	rocky beach, with pebbles in low tide area; skinny, good trail, a bit steep at end; very little/no parking due to neighbours blocking boulevards "The Jib"
E- 53		3	3	1	5	5	12	Long access to large land area. Lengthy driveway in MOTT ROW reduces trail requirement.

Access	SS	Type	Quality	Cost	Connectivity	Distribution	Total	Notes
E- 3		View	5	3	0	3	11	small trail through ROW to a point on a cliff, nice viewpoint (if ranking for view Q=5); may need fencing at cliff, good parking on street, most property in area are waterfront, so need for access is low
E- 6		access	3	2	3	3	11	large ROW and nice trail to a view of beach through forest; no water access (cliff); parking good; if rating for viewpoint, Q=4
E- 2		group	5	1	2.5	2	10.5	rocky beach, reasonable size; end of access trail would need some improvement; lots of boats at end of access blocking ROW; parking OK, but not great
E- 3			3	3	1	3	10	large ROW and nice trail to a view of beach through forest; no water access (cliff); parking good; if rating for viewpoint, Q=4
E- 6		view	3	3	1	3	10	nice long trail through woods, no improvement needed; large cobble beach in small cove, lots of logs above high water area, not good for boating; parking OK; properties in area are all waterfront, so low need for access
E- 3			3	5	0	1	9	trail through meadow to nice viewpoint (Q=5 for view), no beach (cliff); existing split rail fence at top of cliff, but no delineation from property to south
E- 4		view	5	3	0	1	9	near Beachcomber RP
E- 1			3	3	1	1	8	Grise Rd. Access to Nankivell Pt. Good view. ROW facilitates large Fairwinds outflow pipe. looks like a private drive, with no visible way to access ocean, so didn't walk down access to look at it; why ranked as very suitable?
E- 3			3	3	1	1	8	no ocean access (cliff), but lovely viewpoint (Q=5 for view), bench and potted plants make it look a bit like private area, but fences on both sides
		Access	1	3	1	3	8	marking private land
		Access	1	3	0	3	7	small trail through ROW to a point on a cliff, nice viewpoint (if ranking for view Q=5); may need fencing at cliff, good parking on street, most property in area are waterfront, so need for access is low
								Immediately adjacent to Beachcomber RP, so no need to develop access. Not a worthy access; leads to a hazardous cliff adjacent to Beachcomber RP
E- 16			3	1	0	1	5	trail through meadow to nice viewpoint (Q=5 for view), no beach (cliff); existing split rail fence at top of cliff, but no delineation from property to south
E- 17		access	1	3	0	1	5	near Beachcomber RP
E- 31		Moorecroft RP	1	1	1	1	4	Immediately adjacent to Moorecroft RP, so no need to develop access; sensitive ecosystems, and rocky foreshore (no beach); access from road is very long