

Mount Geoffrey Recreational Trails

Mount Geoffrey Regional Nature Park on Hornby Island was established to preserve the natural environment and diverse landscape found in the centre of Hornby Island. The 333 hectare (823 acre) park is adjacent to a large area of Crown land, designated as environmental protection and groundwater recharge area by the Islands Trust, and Mt. Geoffrey Escarpment Provincial Park. Mount Geoffrey has been logged in the past, but now supports a healthy second growth ecosystem and several stands of old growth Douglas-fir. An extensive trail system exists across the nature park, the Crown land and the provincial park.

The Comox Valley Regional District and the Hornby Island Residents and Ratepayers Association invite you to explore and enjoy Mount Geoffrey.

For more information, or to report any concerns, please contact:

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For more information on the Provincial Park please visit www.env.gov.bc.ca/bcparks

Rules and Safety Precautions

Park Rules Bylaw 103

- Fires, smoking, camping, hunting and motorized vehicles prohibited.
- Leave no trace (both you and your pets).
- Dogs must be kept under control to prevent harassment of wildlife and other visitors.
- Do not damage or remove natural materials.
- Take nothing but photographs and memories.



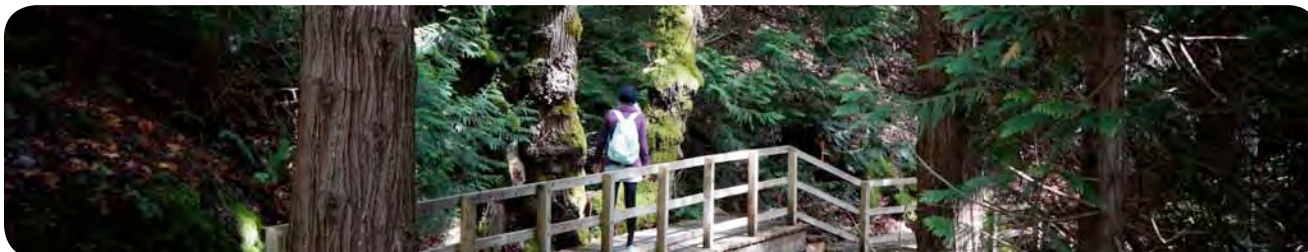
Park Safety

- The park may not be safe during high winds due to tree blow down, during rains when the trails are slippery or where there is loose surfacing – please use caution and wear appropriate footwear.
- There are areas where the trail runs along the edge of cliffs – for your own safety, please stay back from the edge.

Thank you for your cooperation!



Guide to Mount Geoffrey Nature Park and Crown lands



Features

Mount Geoffrey is home to many unique creatures, plant communities and viewscapes. Rising in a series of benchlands, there is a vertical difference of 250 metres within the park. These benchlands offer spectacular views. The western escarpment provides panoramic views of Denman Island, Tree Island, the Comox Peninsula, Mt. Arrowsmith, Fanny Bay and the Beaufort Range.

The area consists of a variety of ecosystems including the very dry Arbutus escarpment face, wetlands and a rainforest-like Sitka spruce forest found at the base of the escarpment along the Rainforest Loop. Much of the park is second growth, but large specimens of first growth Douglas-fir grow in patches throughout the park.

The wetlands and seasonal streams recharge groundwater for the island. These lands are therefore a valuable environmental resource for Hornby. Treat the land and the Island's water supply with care.

Mount Geoffrey is habitat for blacktail deer, small mammals and a variety of birds, reptiles and amphibians. Bald eagles and turkey vultures are frequently seen soaring along the escarpment. At least two nesting pairs of Peregrine falcons inhabit the steep bluffs.



Recreational Trails

Mount Geoffrey contains a vast network of trails. Some have a long history of cross-island use while, in many cases, cyclists built the newer trails. It is important for pedestrians, cyclists and equestrians to respect the trail use designations. These were established to protect the park and prevent user conflicts. Please allow others to pass by stepping aside.

The map on the reverse shows the trail system and the designated use of the trails. Most trail intersections have signs. User created trails are not maintained and not signed.

Equestrians

Horses are permitted on the designated equestrian trails only. These are the only trails capable of handling the impact of horses. Unfortunately, the majority of the smaller single-track trails are soft and could be damaged by horses.

One beautiful 2.8 km route for horses starts at the Slade Road entrance, follows Beulah Creek Trail north and Coltsfoot Trail south and the Slade Connector back to Slade Road.

Helipads 1 and 2 provide a meadow to tether horses so riders may explore the Cliff Trail on foot and experience the scenic views. From the end of Northwind Trail Road, ride up Northwind and Cold Deck, leave the horses at helipad 1 and walk to the cliff edge.

Pedestrians

There are several trail routes to the scenic bluffs and to the top of Mt. Geoffrey. Of special interest are:

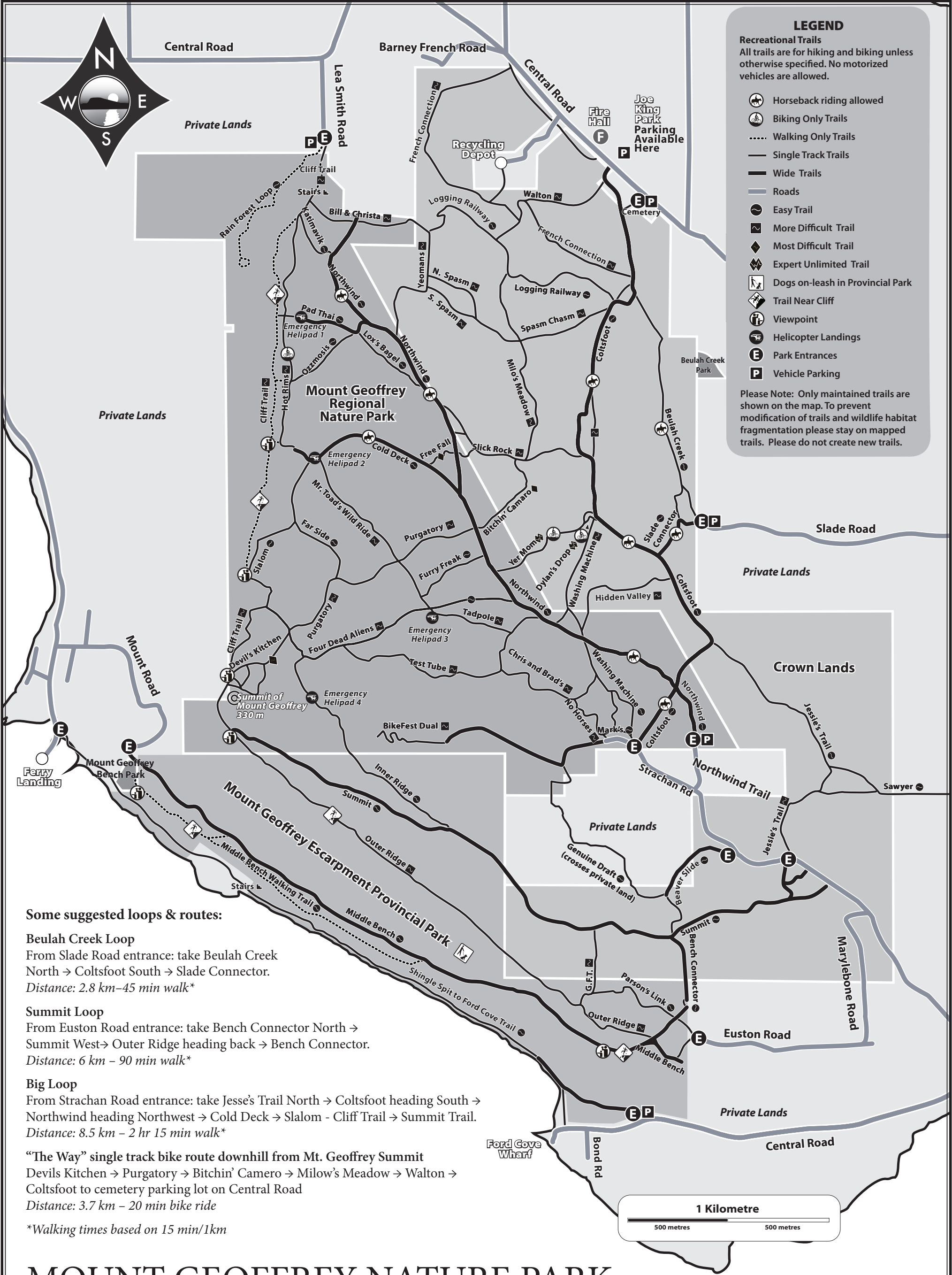
- **Cliff Trail** is a hike-only trail that runs along the escarpment brow with scenic lookouts to the west. Hikers, especially those with children, are advised to take caution along the exposed cliff edge.
- **Rainforest Loop Trail** offers a tranquil walk under the escarpment through the older trees in the park. The trail begins at, and loops back to, the Lea Smith Road park entrance. This trail is for walkers only.

Cyclists

The regional park and adjacent lands contain a first-rate single-track trail system in addition to old logging roads. The regional district and the community appreciates your help in minimizing wear and tear on the trails. Please avoid digging up the trail base while climbing and use no-skid braking techniques.

Coltsfoot, Beulah Creek, Northwind and Cold Deck trails are open to equestrians. Expect others on these trails and, to avoid collisions, please obey a 20 km/hr speed limit.

The Way is a downhill single track route from Mt. Geoffrey summit. From the summit, follow Devil's Kitchen, Purgatory, Bitchin' Camero, Milo's Meadows, Walton and Coltsfoot to end up at the cemetery parking lot off Central Road. Please alert pedestrians of your approach.



MOUNT GEOFFREY NATURE PARK AND ADJACENT RECREATIONAL TRAILS

All trails are for hiking and biking unless otherwise specified. Trails open to horses are Northwind, Cold Deck, Beulah Creek and Coltsfoot trails.

ATVs or motorcycles are not permitted.

Where trails cross private land, please respect the owners’ privacy and property.

This map is a composite of different data sets. The CVRD is not responsible for any damages resulting from omissions or errors.

Please note: Some user created trails are not mapped and are not maintained. To prevent the proliferation of trails, trampling of the understorey and fragmentation of wildlife habitat, please stay on mapped trails. Please do not create new trails.

Enjoy Mount Geoffrey!