



Gulf Islands National Park Reserve Management Plan Newsletter #6

January 2013

This newsletter provides a brief update on recent changes to the management planning process, where we are now, and what to expect next as we work towards completing the first management plan for the Gulf Islands National Park Reserve.

The management planning process:

The management plan is the key strategy document that guides protection, visitor experience and education at Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. The plan is developed with the involvement of stakeholders, First Nations and the public.

As part of the Government of Canada's implementation of the 2012 federal budget, amendments were made to Parks Canada's legislation that affect the management planning process. Management plans will now be reviewed and updated every ten years, instead of every five, and will focus on strategic direction that leads to tangible and attainable outcomes over the ten-year period. Shorter-term actions will be identified through the park reserve's annual work planning process and will clearly support management plan direction.

Throughout the ten-year life cycle of the plan, Parks Canada will report annually to stakeholders, First Nations and the public on the actions we take and our overall progress on implementing the plan.

Where we are now...

Earlier this year, staff from the park reserve held a series of workshops where we met and consulted with many of you. At the workshops, we heard strong support for the vision and objectives of the plan, and received positive feedback regarding the overall direction of the planning process.



Steller sea lions sunning themselves at the Belle Chain Islets.

Over the past two years, Parks Canada has worked closely with First Nations, stakeholders and the Park Advisory Board and significant progress has been made towards the development of the park's first management plan. This valuable work will provide the foundation for the preparation of a draft management plan.

What's next?

We expect to have a draft plan available for public review and comment in the spring of 2013. We will be asking for your feedback and will notify you of upcoming opportunities to continue to participate in the development of the management plan.





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