

Protected Areas of Denman Island



Denman Conservancy
July 24, 2023

Jāji7em and Kw ulh Marine Park
(a.k.a. Sandy Island Marine Park)

Danes Creek Conservation Covenant Areas
No Public Access
Total Combined Size: 17.6 hectares (43.62 acres)
Private landowners (red crosshatch) and Denman Conservancy Association (green crosshatch); Conservation Covenants held by DCA since 2010 & 2022. These Covenant Areas protect part of the Danes Creek headwater wetlands which include sections of Rhododendron wetland, rare on Denman Island. These wetlands, drained by numerous waterways via abundant estuary ecosystems at Henry Bay to the north and Fillongley Park to the southeast, are home to active beavers, amphibians, migratory waterfowl and myriad other flora and fauna species.



Winter Wren Wood
Size: 2.5 hectares (6.2 acres)
Acquired by DCA in November, 2000; Conservation Covenant held by Islands Trust Conservancy since 2002.
A key stand of Coastal Douglas-fir forest and small wetlands, WWW is at the nexus of other protected lands, adjoining Denman Island Provincial Park just south of Chickadee Lake, and is connected by trails to DCA's Settlement Lands. WWW, though small, is representative of high biodiversity due to its marsh-aquatic-forest ecotone.



Komas Bluffs Conservation Covenant
No Public Access
Size: 41 hectares (101 acres)
Private landowners; Conservation Covenant held by DCA since 2006. This Covenant Area protects highly significant features including the 100m high Quadra Sands Komas Bluff; mature and Old-growth stands of Coastal Douglas-fir forest; habitat for a diversity of mammals, migratory and resident birds and waterfowl; abundant inter-tidal and sub-tidal ecosystems; and, 18,000-year-old fossilized remnants.



Railway Grade Marsh Conservation Covenant Area
Size: 31.5 hectares (77.6 acres)
Owned by BC Parks since 2010; Conservation Covenant held by DCA since 2006. This Covenant Area encompasses two extensive marsh wetland ecosystems connected by an overland stream, as well as the only sphagnum bog on Denman Island. Rare Dun Skipper and Taylor's checkerspot butterflies are found in the area, and the Covenant Area supports a large diversity of breeding and migratory birds.



Inner Island Nature Reserve
Size: 9.4 hectares (23.2 acres)
Purchased by Denman Conservancy Association and donated to Islands Trust Conservancy in 1992. Conservation Covenant held by Nature Conservancy Canada since 1995.
Two separate parcels located in the northern interior of the island, just south of Chickadee Lake. The parcels are separated by a relatively long and narrow wetland created by beaver activity, and characterized by mature second growth Coastal Douglas-fir forest with scattered veteran old growth trees and snags. The property adjoins the Settlement Lands and Pickles Road "Raven Lands" Conservation Areas held by DCA.



Settlement Lands
Size: 63.3 hectares (156.3 acres)
Acquired by Denman Conservancy Association through a legal settlement in 2006; Conservation Covenant held by Islands Trust Fund since 2017. Bordering on the Inner Island Nature Reserve and Pickles Road "Raven Lands" Conservation Area to the south, the Settlement Lands encompass the two northern arms of one of the island's principal fresh water catchment areas; rich wetlands with varied water depths, sedge marshes surrounded by a recovering Douglas-fir forest with some veteran trees, it provides valuable habitat for a diversity of wildlife.



Pickles Road "Raven Lands" Conservation Area
Size: 32.02 hectares (79.12 acres)
Purchased by Denman Conservancy Association in 2021 with support from many island donors, and grants from the Federal and BC Governments.
These two parcels of second- and third-growth Douglas-fir forest contain a long, narrow wetland and creek that feed into Pickles Marsh, headwaters of the Chickadee-Beadnell Creek Watershed, one of just two salmon-bearing watersheds on Denman Island. The lands are characterized by a gentle, terraced east-facing slope with diverse moss and lichen species found in its rocky outcrops.



Central Park
Size: 59 hectares (147 acres)
Acquired by DCA in 2006.
The property was logged in 2000 but is regenerating. Central Park hosts two long wetlands where buffers of trees were retained despite the logging. The park is a central link in the DCA's proposed Protected Areas Network, and provides excellent opportunities for walking and nature viewing for many islanders.



Lindsay Dickson Nature Reserve
Size: 60.3 hectares (148.8 acres)
Acquired by Islands Trust Conservancy in July 2001, through purchase and transfer by BC Government with a significant contribution from DCA; Conservation Covenant held by DCA since 2008.
This is a complex property of mature and Old Coastal Douglas-fir forest remnants, sedge wetlands, and contains diverse flora, fauna and fungi across a wide array of ecological communities. A major creek runs through the property and drains into Lambert Channel along the Reserve's 0.5km section of shoreline. The property also allows access, via trails in its western portion, to Graham Lake.



Denman Island Chocolate Covenant Area
No Public Access
Size: 1.7 hectares (4.2 acres)
Private landowner; Conservation Covenant held by DCA since 2007.
The Covenant Area includes the crest of a bluff with rocky outcrops and many lovely spring flowers such as chocolate lilies and fairy slipper orchids, and is characterised by the rare and endangered (red-listed) Douglas-fir-artubus ecological community and the blue-listed Coastal Wood Fern (*Dryopteris arguta*).

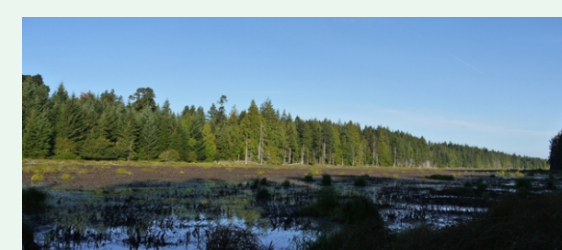


Denman Island Natural Burial Cemetery Conservation Covenant Area
Size: 1.08 hectares (2.6 acres)
Donated to Denman Island Memorial Society by DCA in 2013 with a Conservation Covenant held by DCA registered on property title the same year.
Now home to Canada's first standalone Natural Burial Cemetery, the property, once part of DCA's Central Park, is characterized by regenerating forest after logging. Despite its small size, it boasts a variety of unique features including a stand of mature western red cedar and many massive heritage stumps that still remain from early old-growth logging.



Valens' Brook Nature Reserve
No Public Access
Size: 6.26 hectares (15.46 acres)
Two parcels, donated to Islands Trust Conservancy in 2012 and 2019, that now make up this beautiful Nature Reserve. The property contains a stretch of mature riparian forest and part of Valens' Brook, one of just two known salmon-spawning streams on Denman Island.

Morrison Marsh Nature Reserve
Size: 51.73 hectares (127.77 acres)
Donated to Islands Trust Conservancy in 2005; Conservation Covenant Held by DCA since 2007. Characterized by third growth Douglas-fir forest and the headwaters of Denman Island's largest freshwater marsh, home to breeding and migratory birds and waterfowl including majestic Trumpeter swans, and a population of Western Painted Turtles.



- WaterCourses DI
- Lakes
- Wetlands
- WaterBodies DI
- Organization Layers
- BC Conservation Lands
- Comox Valley Regional District Parks
- Islands Trust Conservancy
- BC Parks
- DCA Covenant (private owners)
- Denman Conservancy Association (DCA) owned
- Denman Island Memorial Society
- DERoads



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