

Unit 56. Queen Charlotte Sound [click here for a detailed map](#)

Marine Area	39120 ha	Shoreline	2.5 km
Substrate	sand	Slope	flat (0-5% slope)
Exposure	high	Depth	mid-depth (50-200m)
Current	low (<3 Kn)	Benthic Summer Temp	cool (<9C)
Roughness	moderate – low		

Management Emphasis - General Marine**Description**

This unit constitutes an exposed open water marine environment with limited shoreline.

Unit Attributes

Two large offshore areas at the Sound's entrance are significant for migratory birds including the blue-listed Cassin's and the Rhinoceros Auklets. This unit supports the majority of the region's seabird populations, and is a CWS areas of interest (shearwaters, gulls, phalaropes, Common Murres).

Kelp Beds (14 identified – 86 ha)

High rockfish values

No shellfish aquaculture capability information available

Proposed off-shore exploration area – PetroCanada

Gwa'sala'Nakwaxda'xw traditional territory

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: Fishing areas towards Hope Island

Sport salmon, ground fisheries

Commercial salmon gillnet, seine fisheries; hook & line, longline ground fisheries

Marine-based wildlife viewing

Scuba diving sites

Principal, secondary and local transport and navigation routes through unit (CCG)

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Community & Public Institutional | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Conservation |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Light Industrial | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Log Handling, Storage & Infrastructure |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marine Telecommunications & Utilities | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Moorage |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rural Development | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> General Commercial |

Aquaculture:

- ☒ Finfish
- ☐ Marine Plant
- ☐ Shellfish Beach
- ☐ Shellfish Deep Water Aquaculture

Commercial Recreation:

- ☒ Lodges and Base Camps
- ☒ Guiding Operations

Ongoing Non Tenured Activities

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Commercial Fisheries | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> First Nations |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marine Transportation | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Public Recreation |

Code	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The use or activity is considered acceptable and appropriate. Applications for tenure of this use should be accepted for processing and evaluation.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The use is considered conditionally acceptable. Applications for tenure for use require more specific information on capability and potential to accompany a tenure application before it is accepted for processing.
<input type="checkbox"/>	The use is acceptable at existing levels of tenure, subject to limited modifications as required by government. Applications for new tenures should not be accepted. Abandoned or unutilized sites should not subsequently be made available for the same use.
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	The use is considered inappropriate. Applications for tenure of this use should not be accepted for processing and evaluation.

Management Provisions

This unit should be managed to maintain important biological and ecological values.

Commercial and industrial use applications within the unit should be referred to CWS.

Conditional shellfish and marine plant aquaculture uses require submission of supporting biophysical information with license or lease application.