Unit 19. Thompson <u>click here for a detailed map</u>

Marine Area	1626 ha	Shoreline	30.0 km
Substrate	mud	Slope	sloping
Exposure	low	Depth	mid-depth
Current	low	Benthic Summer Temp	warm
Roughness	low		

Management Emphasis - General Marine

Description

The unit is a long steep-sided inlet with few beaches, most of which are occupied by log handling. The area has high value salmon habitat located at the estuary at the head of the inlet. The freshwater influence of the Kakweiken River limits finfish aquaculture opportunities.

Unit Attributes

The head and southeastern portion of Thompson Sound is significant for migratory waterfowl (diving ducks, swans, dabbling ducks, Canada Geese, gulls) and is a CWS area of interest.

Kelp beds (4 identified – 60 ha); eelgrass throughout head of river estuary

Salmon Streams: 12 observed, 17 assumed

Juvenile salmon rearing area; adult holding area; major migration route for Kakweiken salmon (local knowledge)

High value prawn, moderate invertebrate values

Herring spawning (22 spawns recorded)

Orca summer resting, winter feeding area: Resident and West Coast transient populations are listed as threatened nationally (T), and imperiled provincially (S2). They are provincially red-listed.

Minke whale summer feeding area

The Ahta/Ahnuhati Candidate Protection Area includes the Ahta Estuary located north of Sackville Island

Forest industry has identified potential log dump sites throughout unit

Finfish aquaculture potential: very limited area of OA 1

Kwicksutaineuk/Ah'K'waha' traditional territory

Adjacent Indian Reserve at Kakweiken

Private upland on western shore opposite McAllister Creek

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: No information provided

Commercial prawn, shrimp, crab fisheries; salmon troll, gillnet, seine fisheries

Sport salmon fishery

Safe anchorage at Sackville Island

 $Log\ handling\ and\ storage\ (12)\ ;\ Sewage\ lagoon\ for\ upland\ logging\ camp,\ heli-log\ sites,\ heli-spots$

Light industrial tenure (1)-storage tanks

Private moorage

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

- X Community & Public Institutional
- ✓ Light Industrial
- X Marine Telecommunications & Utilities
- X Rural Development

Aquaculture:

- X Finfish
- X Marine Plant
- X Shellfish Beach
- X Shellfish Deep Water Aquaculture

Ongoing Non Tenured Activities

- ✓ Commercial Fisheries
- ✓ Marine Transportation

- ✓ Conservation
- ✓ Log Handling, Storage & Infrastructure
- ✓ Private Moorage
- X General Commercial

Commercial Recreation:

- ✓ Lodges and Base Camps
- ✓ Guiding Operations

✓ First Nations

✓ Public Recreation

Code

- ✓ The use or activity is considered acceptable and appropriate. Applications for tenure of this use should be accepted for processing and evaluation.
- o 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.
- 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.
- **X** 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 opportunities for log handling activities.

New tenures should not impede safe anchorage at Sackville Island.

New tenures should not alienate recorded commercial dive fishery sites.

Commercial and industrial use applications should be referred to CWS for comment.