

Unit 35. Watson West [click here for a detailed map](#)

Marine Area	1419 ha	Shoreline	55.5 km
Substrate	mud	Slope	flat
Exposure	low	Depth	photic
Current	low	Benthic Summer Temp	warm
Roughness	low		

Management Emphasis - Recreation

Description

This unit is popular for recreational boating. It offers several popular anchorages.

Unit Attributes

The area north of Watson Island is significant for migratory birds (Scoters, Goldeneyes, gulls, grebes, Common Mergansers), and is a CWS area of interest

Kelp beds (12 identified – 76 ha)

Eelgrass throughout unit, especially Clayden and Carriden Bays, Embley Lagoon (local knowledge)

Intertidal Clams (6 beaches – 71 ha)

Salmon migration route, adult salmon holding areas; Coho and Pink salmon spawning at Embley Lagoon (local knowledge); Embley Pink salmon run through unit

Salmonid Streams: 7 observed, 6 assumed

Herring spawning (47 spawns recorded)

Moderate to high prawn values

Good to moderate off bottom scallop and oyster capability throughout

Good beach clam and oyster capability in Claydon Bay

Gwawaenuk traditional territory

Adjacent Indian Reserves – Kunstamis, Lawanth, Magwekstala, Tlo Quxso

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: Culturally sensitive sites around Embley Lagoon, Claydon Bay, Burlington Island.

Extensive fishing and shellfish harvest areas throughout. Concerned about impact of recreation uses and fish farms in adjacent Wells Passage on Embley lagoon Pink salmon runs, herring spawn.

UREP/Recreation reserve at Turnbull Cove

Remote campsite

Boat haven at Claydon Bay (under Land Act notation of interest).

Safe anchorage at Carriden Bay and Turnbull Cove

Log handling and storage (4); barge ramp, logging camp

Kayaking route

Sport crab and clam fisheries

Commercial crab, prawn and clam fisheries

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

- | | |
|---|--|
| ✓ Community & Public Institutional | ✓ Conservation |
| X Light Industrial | ✓ Log Handling, Storage & Infrastructure |
| X Marine Telecommunications & Utilities | X Private Moorage |
| X Rural Development | X General Commercial |

Aquaculture:

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

Commercial Recreation:

- ✓ Lodges and Base Camps
- ✓ Guiding Operations

Ongoing Non Tenured Activities

- | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------|
| ✓ Commercial Fisheries | ✓ First Nations |
| ✓ Marine Transportation | ✓ 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 for commercial and public recreation, and compatible uses.

Maintain *Land Act* notation of interest over Claydon Bay boat haven.

New tenures should not impede safe anchorage in Turnbull Cove and Carriden Bay.

Tenure applicants are encouraged to develop working relationships with Gwawaenuk First Nation, especially commercial recreation.

Opportunities should be maintained for beach use for commercial and public recreation.

Shellfish deepwater aquaculture tenures should not infringe on existing recreational, commercial and First Nations fisheries.

The regional district should address local recreational interests in its review of tenure referrals.

New tenures should be located and designed to minimize visual and aural effect on identified campsites.

Commercial and industrial use applications in the unit north of Watson Island should be referred to CWS.