

Unit 36. **Watson East** [click here for a detailed map](#)

Marine Area	650 ha	Shoreline	36.0 km
Substrate	sand	Slope	flat
Exposure	low	Depth	photic
Current	low	Benthic Summer Temp	warm
Roughness	low		

Management Emphasis – General Marine

Description

Kenneth Passage and Hopetown Passage are narrow channels which have strong currents on spring tides.

Unit Attributes

This unit is significant for migratory birds (Scoters, Goldeneyes, gulls, grebes, Common Mergansers), and is a CWS area of interest.

High herring spawn values

Major sea lion haulout in Kenneth Pass (local knowledge): The Northern Sea lion is a red listed species

Adult salmon migration route for MacKenzie and Kenneth River runs (local knowledge)

Clam beds

Orca and Porpoise sightings in unit (local knowledge)

Moderate invertebrate values

Moderate prawn fishery values

Kelp beds (12 identified – 76 ha)

Good to moderate off bottom shellfish scallop and oyster capability (throughout)

Moderate beach shellfish clam aquaculture capability (1 site in Kenneth Passage)

Potential log dump sites north shore of Kenneth Passage and west shore of Hopetown Passage

Gwawaenuk traditional territory

Indian Reserves at Hopetown (Heg'ams) and Burly Bay; Hopetown is head village for Gwawaenuk traditional territory

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: Extensive shellfish areas throughout. Important fishing areas in Kenneth & Hopetown Passages. Culturally significant areas through Hopetown Passage. Concerned about contamination of shellfish beds by previous fish farms and existing farms in Wells Passage.

Log handling and storage (2); heli-log site, heli-spots, camp tie-up

Remote campsite

Sport crab and clam fisheries

Commercial crab and clam fisheries

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

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

Aquaculture:

- X Finfish
- ✓ Marine Plant
- ✓ 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 to maintain existing commercial uses and accommodate shellfish aquaculture.

Tenure applicants are encouraged to develop working relationships with Gwawaenuk First Nation.

New tenures should be located and managed to minimize impact on migratory bird habitat.

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

Conditional marine telecommunications/ utilities uses require submission of supporting biophysical information with license or lease application.

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