

Unit 41. Blackfish Sound [click here for a detailed map](#)

Marine Area	2240 ha	Shoreline	46.5 km
Substrate	hard	Slope	flat
Exposure	low	Depth	photic
Current	high	Benthic Summer Temp	warm
Roughness	moderate		

Management Emphasis - Recreation

Description

Blackfish Sound is recognized as an area of important whale habitat. The unit has high value for recreation and tourism and is a major marine transportation corridor.

Unit Attributes

This unit is significant for migratory birds (marbled murrelets, bald eagles, Mew Gulls, Rhinoceros Auklets, Common Murres, Phalaropes, gulls Sooty Shearwaters), it is a CWS area of interest.

Important orca habitat: Resident and West Coast transient populations are listed as threatened nationally (T), and imperiled provincially (S2). They are provincially red-listed.

Holding area for adult salmon, salmon migration route

High rockfish values

High invertebrate values

Shellfish capability not confirmed

Kelp beds (2 identified – 15 ha)

Non-native cultural feature (1)

Finfish aquaculture potential: OA 1

Traditional territory of Mamalilikula and Namgis First Nations

Hanson Island upland recently established as OIC protection area under CCLRMP process until June 30, 2003

Private land at Double Bay(Hanson) and Freshwater Bay(Swanson Island)

Current Uses & Activities

First Nations: No information provided

Marine based wildlife viewing

Kayak route and destination area

Remote campsites

Boat Anchorages at: Double Bay and Spout Islet Cove (Hanson Island), Parson Bay (Harbledown Island)

Marina at Double Bay

Year round commercial tenure (3)

Log handling and storage (1); heli-sites

Sport salmon fishery, halibut and rock fishery

Commercial salmon troll, gillnet, seine fisheries; prawn fishery; hook & line ground fishery

Principle north-south navigation route through unit (CCG)

Acceptable Uses & Activities

Tenured Uses

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

Aquaculture:

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

Commercial Recreation:

- X 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 recreation and tourism opportunities and uses, while recognizing marine transportation requirements.

New tenures should be compatible with any future protection area planning or designation of adjacent upland on Hanson Island.

Tenure approvals should be deferred adjacent to Hanson Island until June 30, 2003 or sooner to accommodate completion of collaborative management discussions.

MSRM & LWBC should work with affected groups, the regional district and the Mamalilikula and Namgis First Nations to develop a strategy for management and allocation of campsites in this unit for both recreational and tourism uses.

New tenures should not impede safe anchorage in Spout Islet Cove, Double Bay, Parson Bay.

Foreshore tenures should avoid seine fishery shore tie-ups.

New tenures should not alienate recorded commercial dive fishery sites.

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.

Conditional shellfish and marine plant aquaculture 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.