

Welcome to the Open House About the Te'mexw Treaty Association Negotiations!

We encourage you to review all the display boards,
ask lots of questions and contribute to the final board:
Reconciliation in Action!

TODAY IS ABOUT

- Sharing information
- Answering questions
- Exchanging ideas
- Building relationships

CODE OF CONDUCT

Please help us maintain a safe and inclusive environment. Treat each other with respect and dignity. We can all contribute by listening as well as sharing and keeping an open mind to other ideas. Discriminatory conduct has no place here.



FIND OUT MORE

Don't forget to sign up for treaty updates on the webpage!
engage.gov.bc.ca/govtogetherbc/engagement/temexw-treaty-negotiations

Event organizer:
Ministry of Indigenous Relations & Reconciliation
temexw.treaty@gov.bc.ca | 250-880-2269



Truth & Reconciliation

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES IN B.C.

As of July 2024, in B.C., an estimated 327,000 individuals self-identified as Indigenous — First Nations, Metis and Inuit. There are over 200 First Nations in B.C. (600 in Canada). These First Nations are culturally and linguistically diverse, with approximately 36 distinct languages belonging to seven distinct language families and encompassing at least 96 different dialects. They have sophisticated cultures, relationships and systems of laws.

RECONCILIATION IN B.C. & CANADA

The governments of Canada and B.C. are committed to reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Why?

Colonial laws, policies, and programs—*Indian Act*, Indian Residential Schools, and the Sixties Scoop—created lasting impacts on Indigenous ways of life:

- Language, culture, and social structures
- Exercise of rights
- Access to lands, resources, services, and economic opportunities
- Mental health and overall wellness (including intergenerational trauma and death)

Ultimately, it's about partnering to build a stronger B.C. and Canada for all of us.

ABORIGINAL RIGHTS

Section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982 explicitly recognizes and affirms the existing Aboriginal and treaty rights of the Aboriginal Peoples of Canada. Reconciliation is a fundamental purpose of section 35 of the Constitution Act, 1982.

UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (UNDRIP)

UNDRIP was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2007. It is a comprehensive human rights instrument that recognizes Indigenous Peoples' right to self-determination.

RECONCILIATION ACTIONS

Reconciliation is an ongoing, dynamic journey that must be flexible, responsive and context-specific (no one-size-fits-all). Modern Treaties are a pathway to reconciliation. It involves:

- Negotiating long-term living agreements to:
 - o Recognize and implement self-determination
Treaty Nations have governments that have the authority to make laws and decisions on behalf of their people and lands
 - o Create more certainty with respect to the relationship between B.C., Canada and Modern Treaty Nation
 - o Decision-making for BC, Canada and Modern Treaty Nations
Treaties provide for a clear relationship between decision-making in the Treaty area, the responsibilities and obligations of Canada and B.C., and the rights of the Modern Treaty Nation
 - o Implement a recognition of rights approach
Modern Treaty Nations enter into a treaty on the basis that their inherent rights are recognized, and those rights are not modified or extinguished by signing the Treaty
- Partnering on shared initiatives, such as stewardship and resource management



Modern Treaties in British Columbia

MODERN TREATIES

Modern Treaties in B.C. are among the highest forms of reconciliation between First Nations, the Government of British Columbia (the Province) and the Government of Canada (Canada). Treaties are constitutionally protected agreements, capable of evolving over time (commonly referred to as “living agreements”) that are negotiated between the three parties. They are grounded in the recognition of First Nations’ rights and provide a process for the reconciliation of Crown title and the inherent titles of First Nations, and the reconciliation of pre-existing Indigenous sovereignty with Crown sovereignty.

Treaties include:

- Recognition and reconciliation of rights
- Self-government
- Lands
- Jurisdiction over natural resources, land-use, culture and social topics, including health and education on Treaty Lands and over Treaty Members
- A process to discuss shared decision-making
- Fiscal relations

Modern Treaties are living agreements that can evolve over time. Treaties create the foundation for renewed relationships to build a stronger future.

MODERN TREATY NATIONS IN B.C.

Modern Treaties refer to the four Treaties (with eight First Nations) in B.C. that came into effect in the 21st century.

The Modern Treaties are as follows:

Nisga’a Final Agreement

Effective May 11, 2000

Tsawwassen First Nation Final Agreement

Effective April 3, 2009

Maa-nulth First Nations Final Agreement

Effective April 1, 2011

Includes five independent First Nation governments: Huu-ay-aht First Nations, Toquaht Nation, Uchucklesaht Tribe Government, Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Che:k'tles7et'h' First Nations and Yuułu?ił?ath Government (Ucluelet First Nation), all from the west coast of Vancouver Island

Tla’amin Treaty – ʔaʔjɪnxʷegəs

(“A good relationship with someone”)

Effective April 5, 2016

As Modern Treaty Nations, these Nations are no longer governed by the federal Indian Act.

In 2025, three Modern Treaties were ratified by community vote:

- K’ómoks First Nation
- Kitselas First Nation
- Kitsumkalum First Nation



Self-Governance

Treaties recognize the inherent right of First Nations to self-govern and set out the authority to establish laws over matters integral to the Modern Treaty Nation's governance, such as certain programs, services and lands and resources. First Nations will have the right to create self-government laws when they are prepared to exercise that authority; otherwise relevant federal and provincial laws apply.

INTERGOVERNMENTAL RELATIONS

Treaty empowers First Nation governments to fully participate in regional government bodies as voting members. They can enter into servicing agreements with local governments and work collaboratively with local governments on land-use planning.

NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Malahat, Beecher Bay (SC'IA'NEW), Songhees, Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose), T'Sou-ke and their people have served as stewards of the land and resources in their territories for thousands of years. These Modern Treaties will protect their right to access natural resources and to continue responsible stewardship.

Each Nation will make decisions over resources on their respective Treaty Lands including forests, wildlife, water, etc. in accordance with their respective Treaty. The Treaties also provide opportunities to negotiate with B.C. and Canada on the collaborative management of resources.

Each Treaty defines where and how First Nation law-making authorities apply. Most law-making authorities in Treaty apply only on Treaty Lands or to Treaty members. Some law-making authorities, including those over children and families or regarding the exercise of Treaty rights, apply to Treaty members regardless of location.

LAW-MAKING AUTHORITIES INCLUDE:

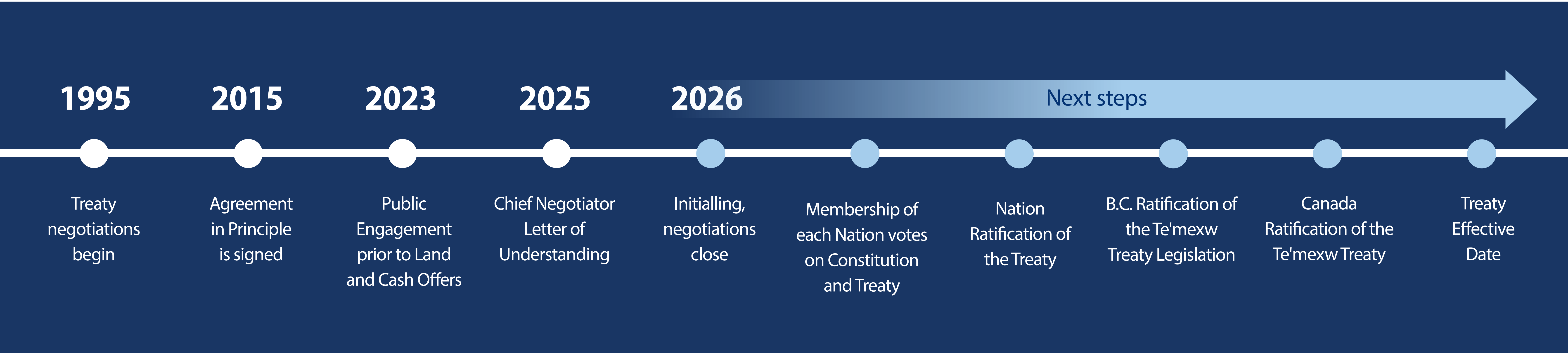
- Lands and Resources
- The exercise of Treaty rights
- Adoption
- Child and family services
- Aboriginal healers
- Health services
- Family and social services
- Marriage
- Childcare
- Language
- Kindergarten to Grade 12 education
- Post-secondary education
- Culture and Heritage



TTA Negotiations Timeline

The Te'mexw Treaty Association, Canada and B.C. have been in treaty negotiations since 1995.

The BC Treaty Commission is an independent tripartite body that facilitates the negotiation of modern treaties between Canada, British Columbia, and participating First Nations to advance the recognition of Indigenous rights and title. It supports and oversees the process but does not negotiate itself, as that responsibility belongs to the three Parties at each table.



STAGE 1
Statement of Intent to Negotiate

STAGE 2
Readiness to Negotiate

STAGE 3
Negotiation of Framework Agreement

STAGE 4
Negotiation of Agreement in Principle



STAGE 5
Negotiation to Finalize Treaty

STAGE 6
Implementation of Treaty

Te'mexw Treaty Association

TE'MEXW)) Tah-MUK

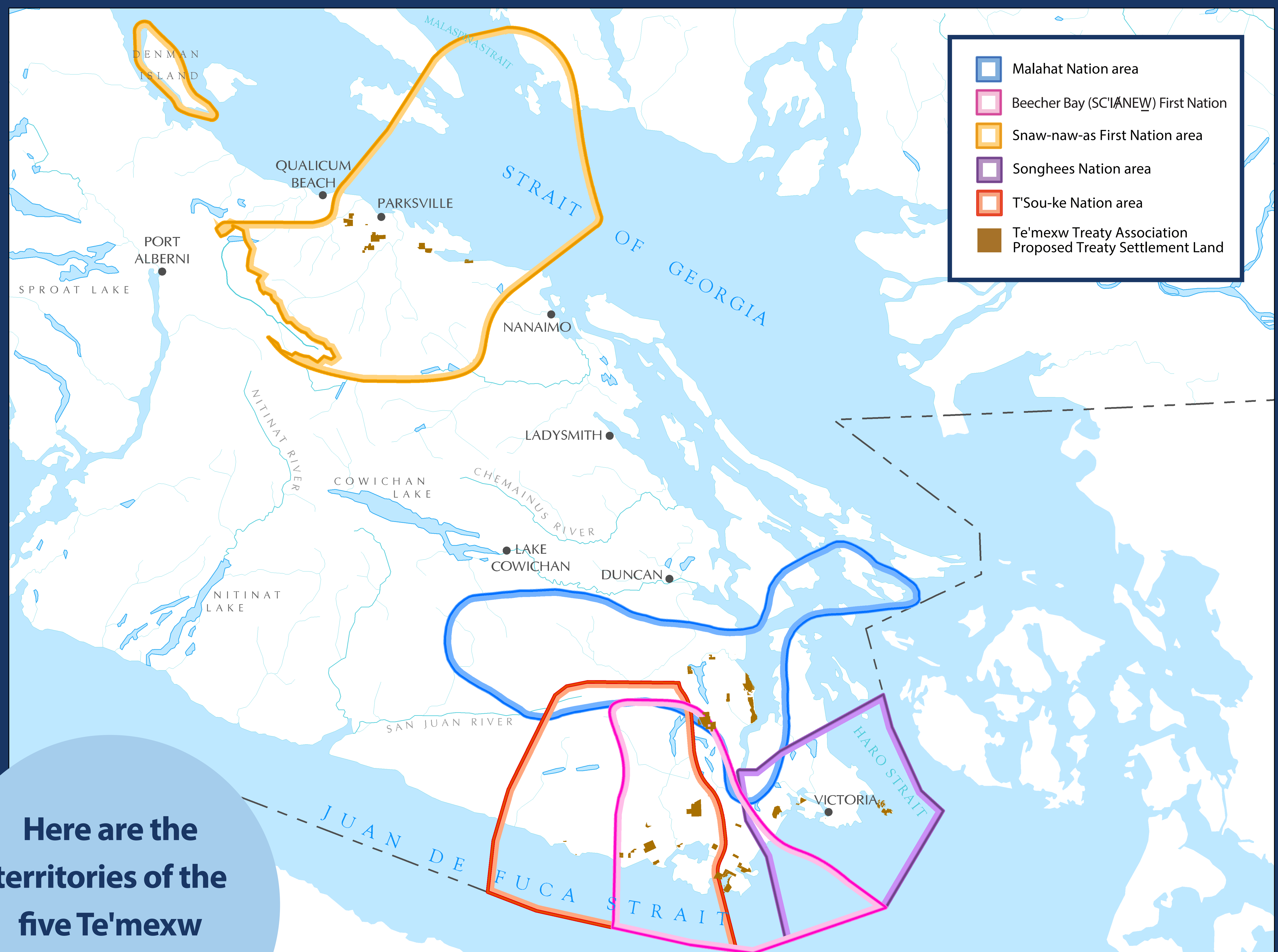
Te'mexw Treaty Association (TTA) is a non-profit society formed of five Coast Salish Nations: **Beecher Bay (SC'IA'NEW), Malahat, Snaw-naw-as, Songhees and T'Sou-ke.**

The five Te'mexw Member Nations joined to support one another and to work under one organization to negotiate five Nation-specific Modern Treaties with the federal and provincial governments in the BC Treaty Process.

WE ARE THE TE'MEXW
TREATY ASSOCIATION



TE'MEXW
TREATY ASSOCIATION



Here are the
territories of the
five Te'mexw
Member Nations



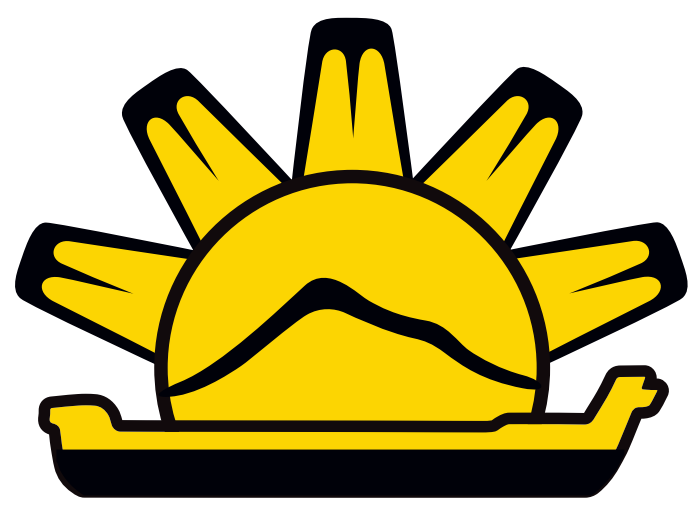
Beecher Bay (SC'IA~~N~~EW) First Nation

Beecher Bay (SC'IA~~N~~EW) First Nation's main community is on Beecher Bay in East Sooke, 30 kilometres southwest of Victoria. For thousands of years, Beecher Bay (SC'IA~~N~~EW) First Nation peoples have used and occupied the lands and waters of the south coast of Vancouver Island. They can trace their ancestry to people who spoke four different dialects. The community recognizes all four languages although they are not all currently spoken.

As with other First Nation names in the region, the place name "SC'IA~~N~~EW" identifies what the inhabitants needed to know about the locale. The word "SC'IA~~N~~EW" (pronounced CHEA-nuh) translates from the Klallam language as "the place of the big fish," indicating the richness of the sea life in the region that sustains the Nation and the neighbouring First Nation communities with food, shelter, medicine and clothing. With their strong relationship to the waters of the Salish Sea, they are known as the "Salmon People."

Today, the Beecher Bay (SC'IA~~N~~EW) community continues to apply their long knowledge of environmental management in sharing their land and marine resources.





Malahat

Malahat Nation

The Malahat Nation is located south of Mill Bay, along the western shores of Saanich Inlet, approximately 40 kilometres northwest of Victoria. The traditional languages spoken were SENĆOŦEN, Hul'q'umi'num' and Samish. Nation members have family ties with the WSÁNEĆ Peoples of the Saanich Peninsula and with members of the modern Hul'q'umi'num Treaty Group.

The name "Malahat" comes from the SENĆOŦEN word "MÁLEXEŁ" and Hul'q'umi'num' word "Ma'le-'h'xe'l," both of which are derived from the words for "caterpillars," a reference to a historic infestation in the area.

Prior to European contact, the WSÁNEĆ ancestors of the modern Malahat, Pauquachin, Tsartlip, Tseycum and Tsawout Nations owned and occupied several village sites and resource areas within a large territory that included the Saanich Peninsula, the western shores of the Saanich Inlet from Goldstream to Hatch Point, the Gulf Islands, the San Juan Islands and surrounding areas.





Snaw-naw-as First Nation

Snaw-naw-as First Nation is located on the east coast of Vancouver Island, adjacent to the city of Lantzville, situated between Parksville and Nanaimo, in Nanoose Bay. The Snaw-naw-as name derives from the Halkomelem word "Naus," meaning "inside looking out" reflecting the shape of Nanoose Bay. The traditional language is Hul'q'umi'num', which is one of three branches of the Halkomelum dialect spoken from Nanoose to Oregon. The Snaw-naw-as First Nation territory included villages that dotted the areas in the mid-Island region of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands.

The Snaw-naw-as community, often known as Nanoose First Nation, along with 18 other First Nations in the Salish Sea, are Coast Salish people and one of the northern Coast Salish Nations on the east side of Vancouver Island.





Songhees

Songhees Nation

Songhees Nation of the Ləkʷəŋən Peoples is located beside Esquimalt and View Royal on Vancouver Island, five kilometres from Victoria. They are the descendants of the Ləkʷəŋən Peoples, original inhabitants of the greater Victoria region. The Ləkʷəŋən Peoples have hunted, fished and gathered here for thousands of years. This area, with its temperate climate, natural harbours and rich resources, was a trading centre for a diversity of First Peoples. When Captain James Douglas anchored off of Clover Point in 1842, he saw the result of the Ləkʷəŋən Peoples' careful land management, such as controlled burning and food cultivation. These practices were part of the land and part of Ləkʷəŋən culture.

Songhees is a Coast Salish Nation and the main language spoken historically was Ləkʷəŋən. Currently, Songhees Nation is also working on the Ləkʷəŋən Language Revitalization Program.





T'Sou-ke Nation

T'Sou-ke Nation

The T'Sou-ke Nation is located 36 kilometres west of Victoria, near the town of Sooke. In the Nation's dialect, "T'Sou-ke" is the name of the Stickleback fish that lives in the estuary of the river. Contact with Europeans through the Hudson's Bay Company saw the name changed first to "Soke" and then to "Sooke". The anglicized version is now common and is used for many things, including the name of the neighbouring town, the river and basin, and the main road.

The T'Sou-ke First Nation's territory includes Spring Salmon Place—the river (Sooke River), Face Mountain and Sacred Mountain—which are regarded as spiritual and sacred places for the T'Sou-ke people.



Treaty Lands

Treaty Lands will be located within each Nation's territory. The government of each Nation will be able to make decisions and laws over topics including the operation of its government, land use, natural resources, culture and social topics, such as health and education. Treaty Lands are not subject to local government zoning. Each Nation will manage, zone and develop its Treaty Lands as it sees fit. Each Nation will undertake land use planning for Treaty Lands to determine how best to use the lands.

TREATY LANDS ARE DIFFERENT FROM RESERVE LANDS

RESERVE LANDS

The federal government holds legal title to reserve lands for the exclusive use and benefit of a First Nation community. Under the Indian Act, First Nations have specific law-making powers over reserve lands and resources, but these are subject to certain restrictions, including limitations on land disposition. All Te'mexw Member Nations currently operate under the First Nations Land Management regime, which provides greater authority over the governance and management of reserve lands.

TREATY LANDS

Treaty Lands are specific lands within a First Nation's territory that have been negotiated through the treaty process, and that will be owned by the Treaty Nation on Treaty Effective Date, except for certain categories of lands such as Private Lands. Treaty Nations exercise greater jurisdiction over Treaty Lands than under the Indian Act, alongside concurrent federal and provincial jurisdiction. On Treaty Effective Date, any existing Indian Reserve lands that had been set aside for the use and benefit of the Te'mexw Member Nations, except the Goldstream Reserve, would become Treaty Lands.

TTA has also identified pre-approved addition lands that all Parties have agreed can become Treaty Lands if the Nation acquires them in the future.

PARK LANDS

Two B.C. Parks are being offered as Treaty Lands in two of the Te'mexw Treaties:

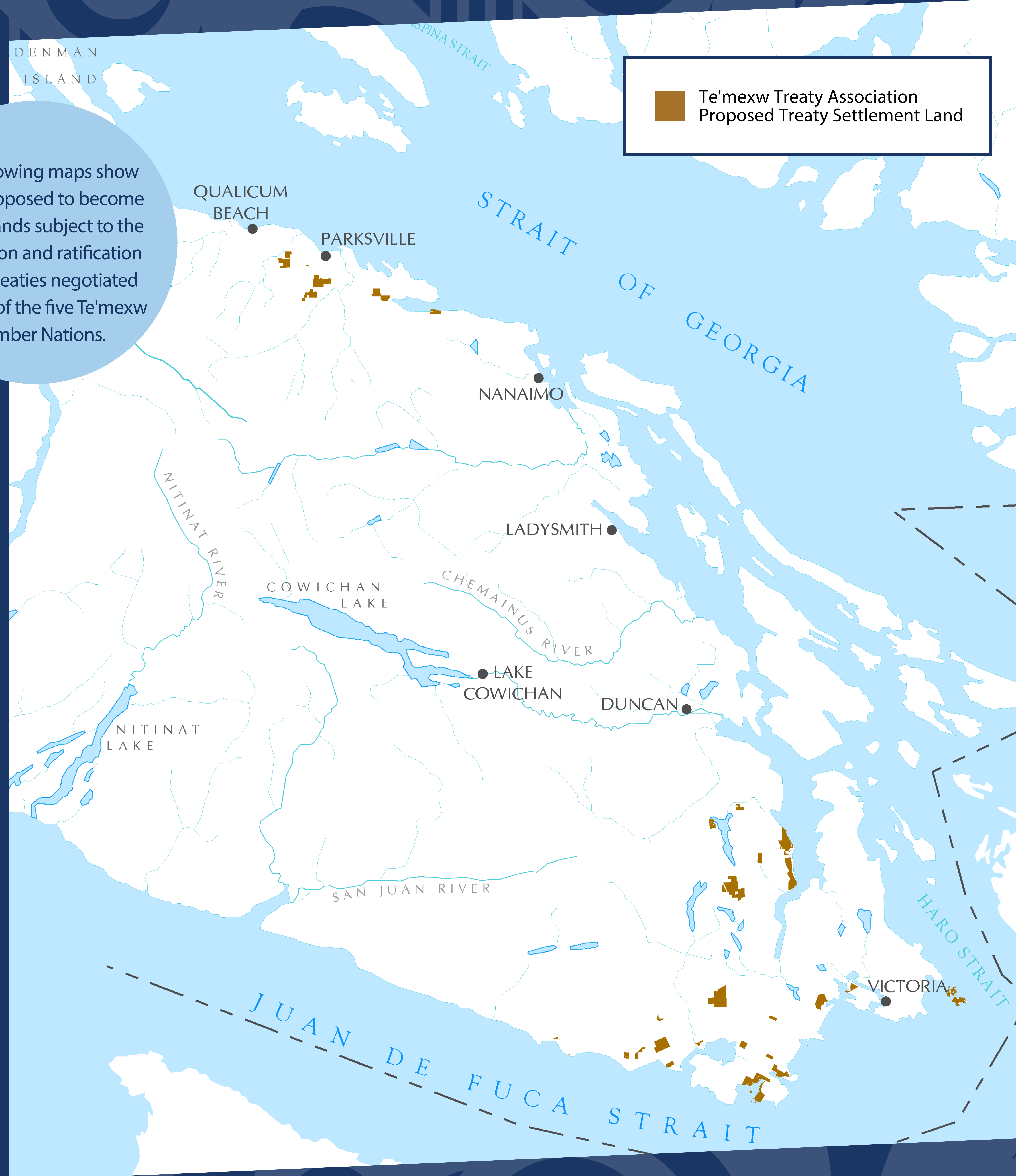
- Discovery Island Marine Provincial Park for Songhees Nation
- Sooke Mountain Provincial Park for T'Sou-ke Nation

As part of the agreement, public access and recreational opportunities would continue and conservation values would be maintained.

OVERVIEW OF ALL PROPOSED TREATY LANDS PROPOSED FOR TE'MEXW MEMBER NATIONS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands are subject to the conclusion and ratification of the five Treaties negotiated by the Te'mexw Treaty Association for its member Nations.

The following maps show lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the Treaties negotiated for each of the five Te'mexw Member Nations.

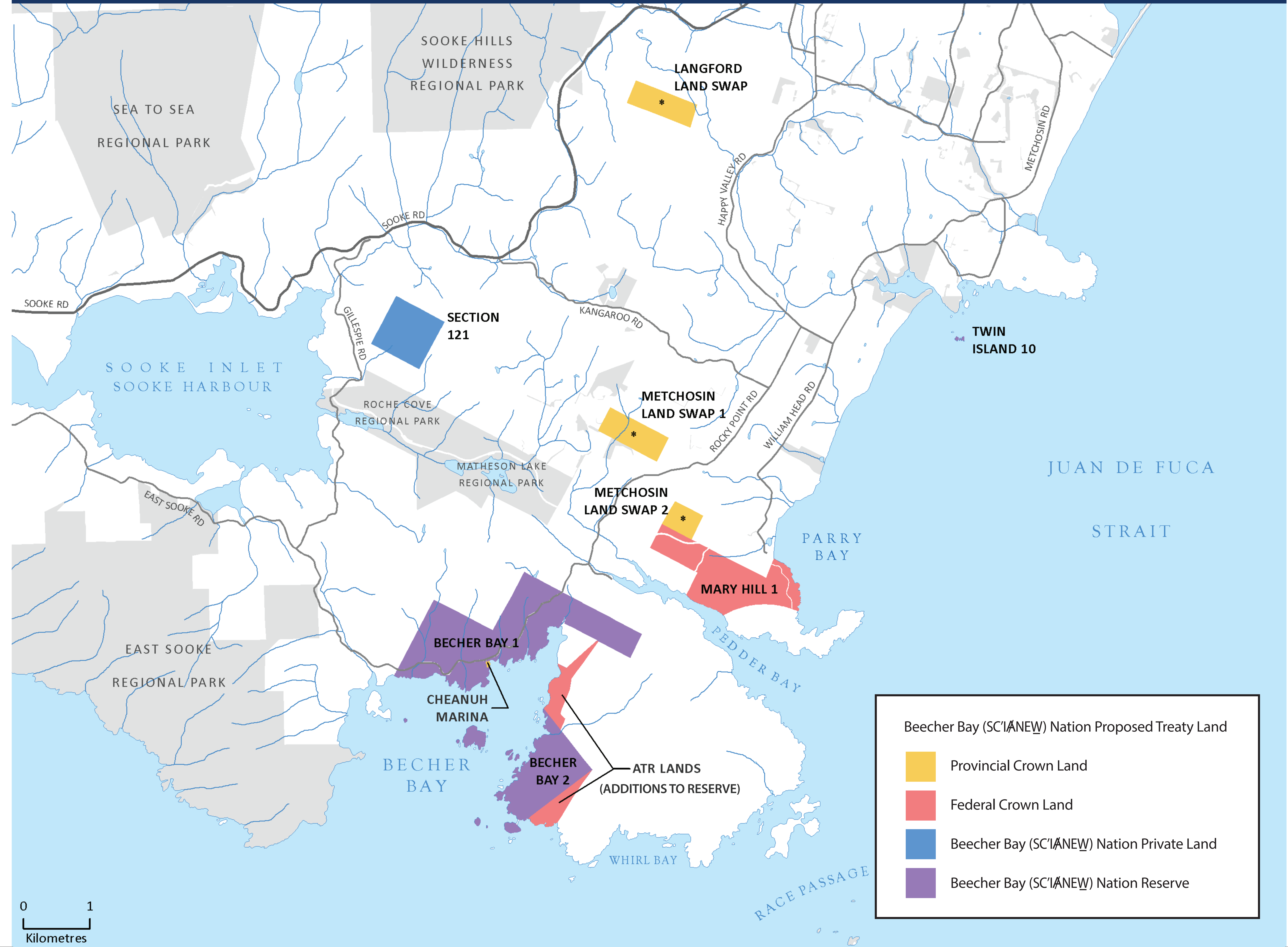




Beecher Bay (SC'IA'NEW) First Nation

PROPOSED TREATY LANDS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the Beecher Bay (SC'IA'NEW) First Nation.





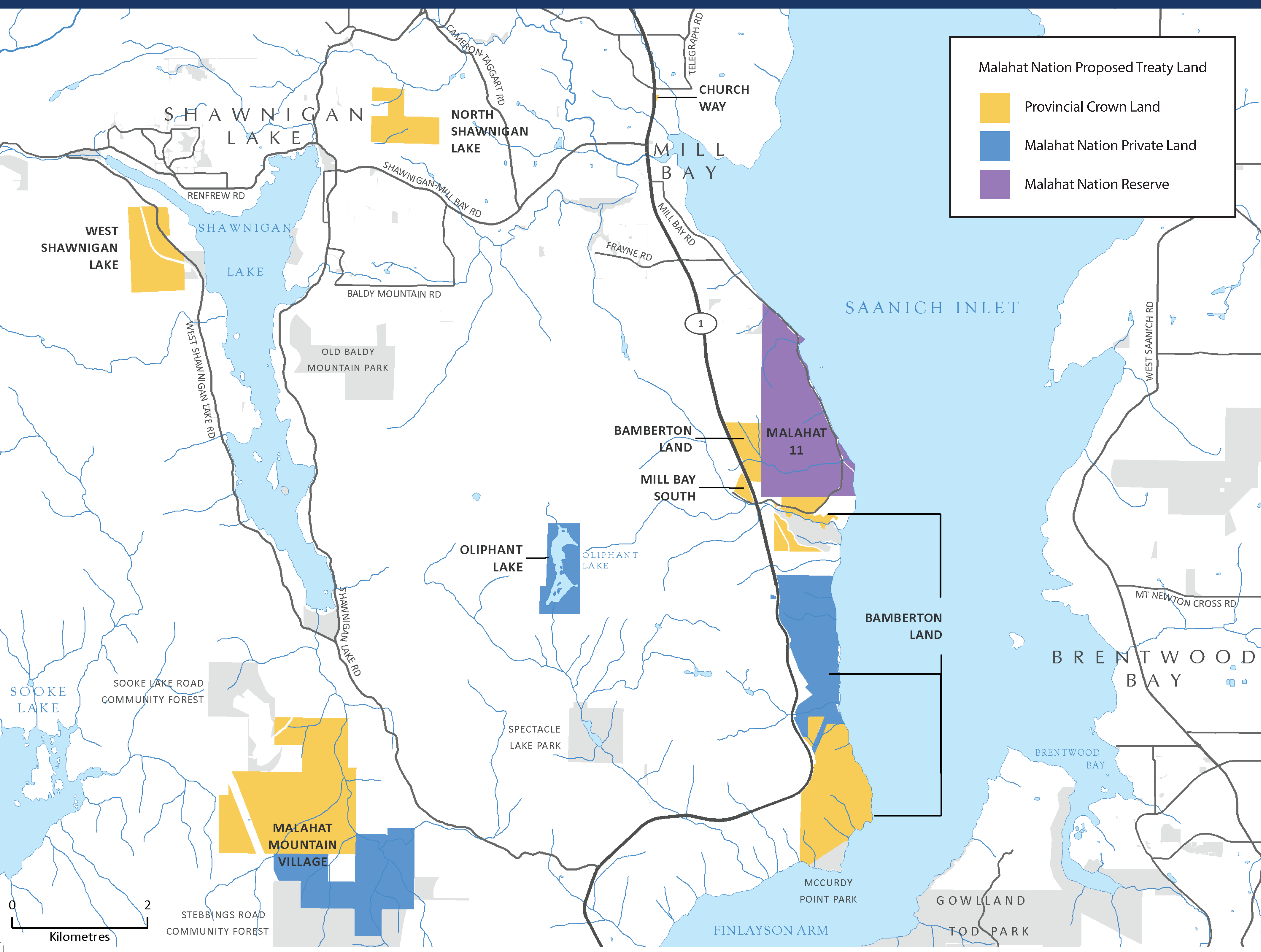
Malahat Nation

PROPOSED TREATY LANDS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the Malahat Nation Treaty.

Malahat Nation Proposed Treaty Land

- Provincial Crown Land
- Malahat Nation Private Land
- Malahat Nation Reserve

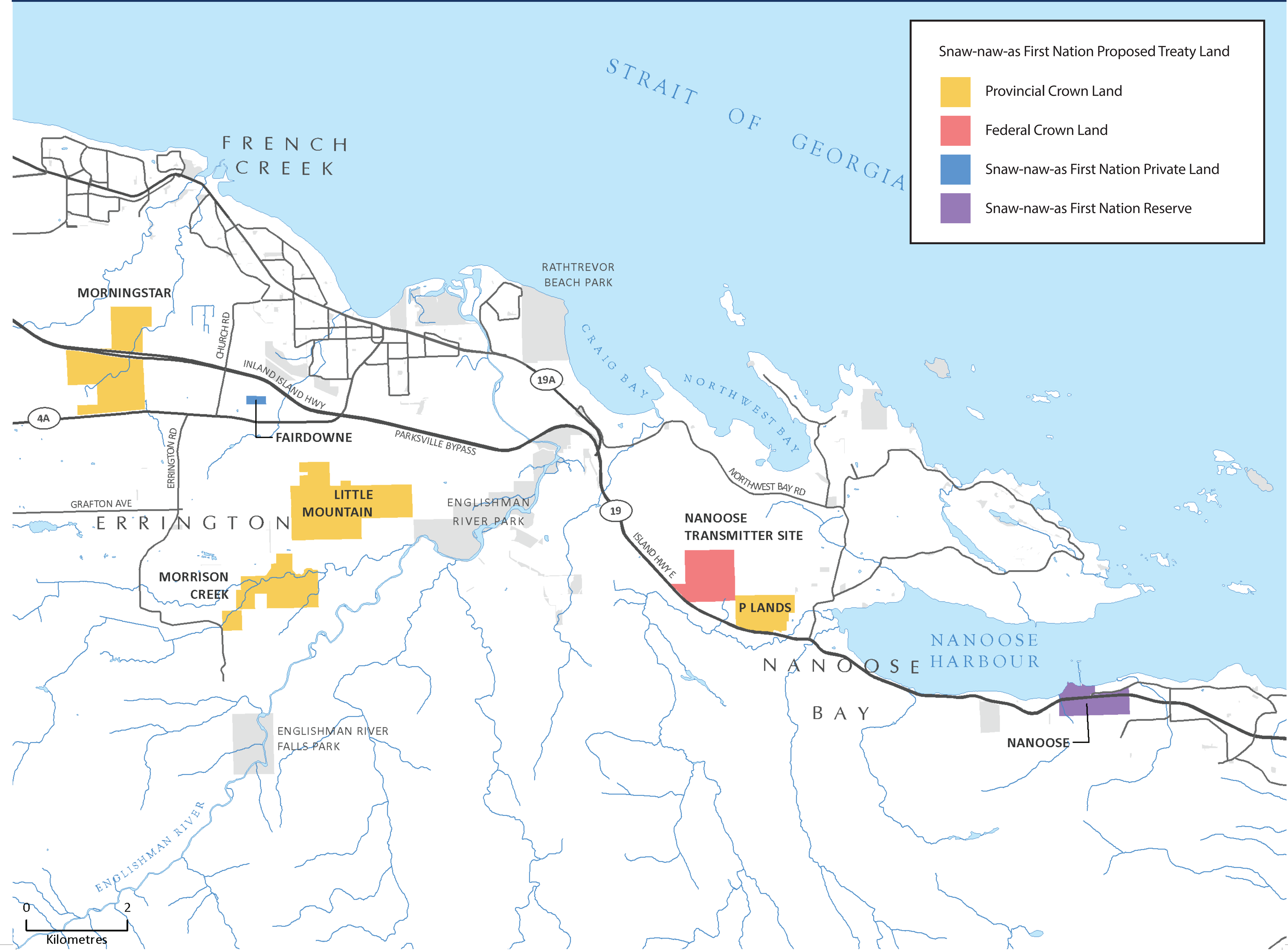




Snaw-naw-as First Nation

PROPOSED TREATY LANDS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the Snaw-naw-as First Nation Treaty.





Songhees Nation

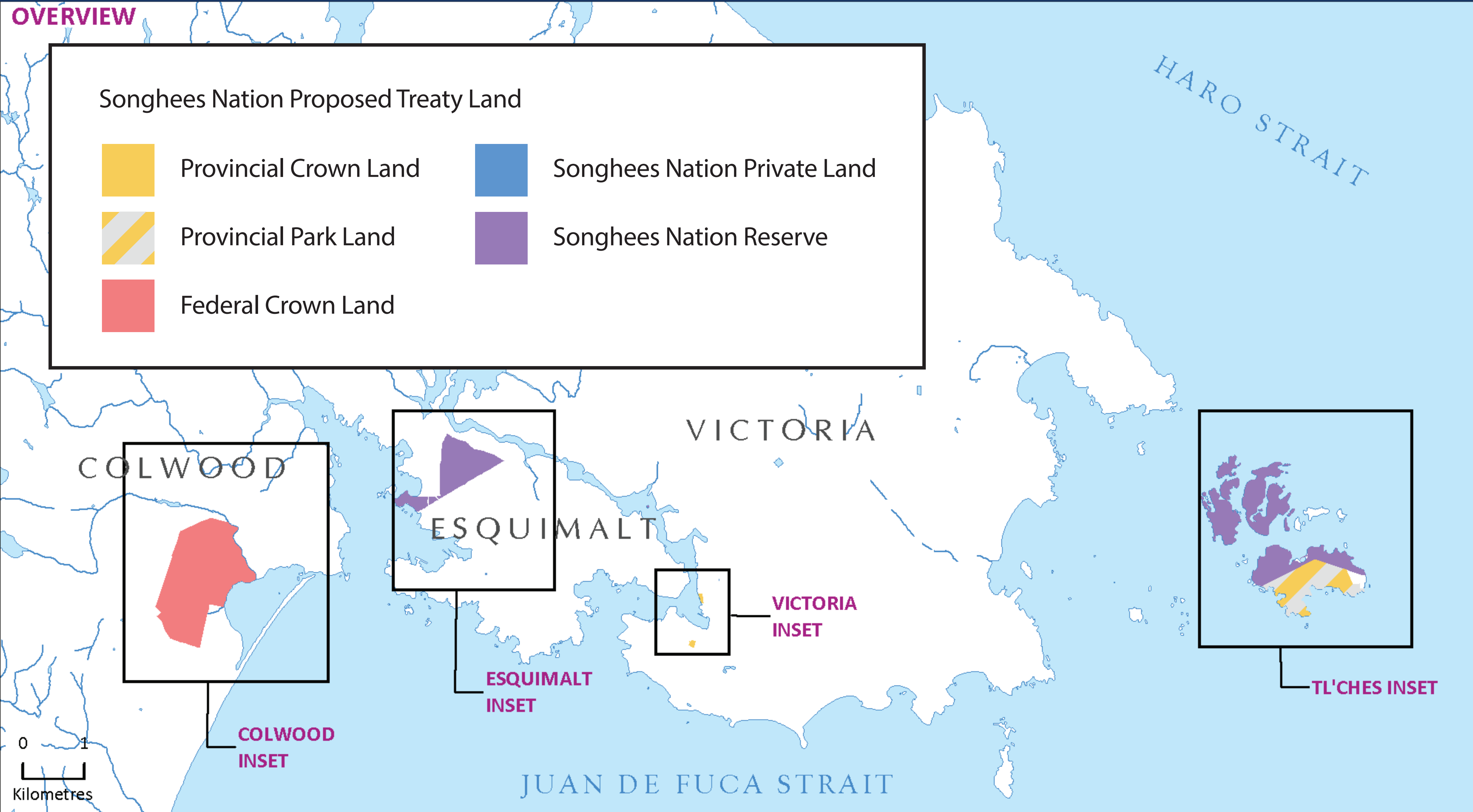
PROPOSED TREATY LANDS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the Songhees Nation Treaty.

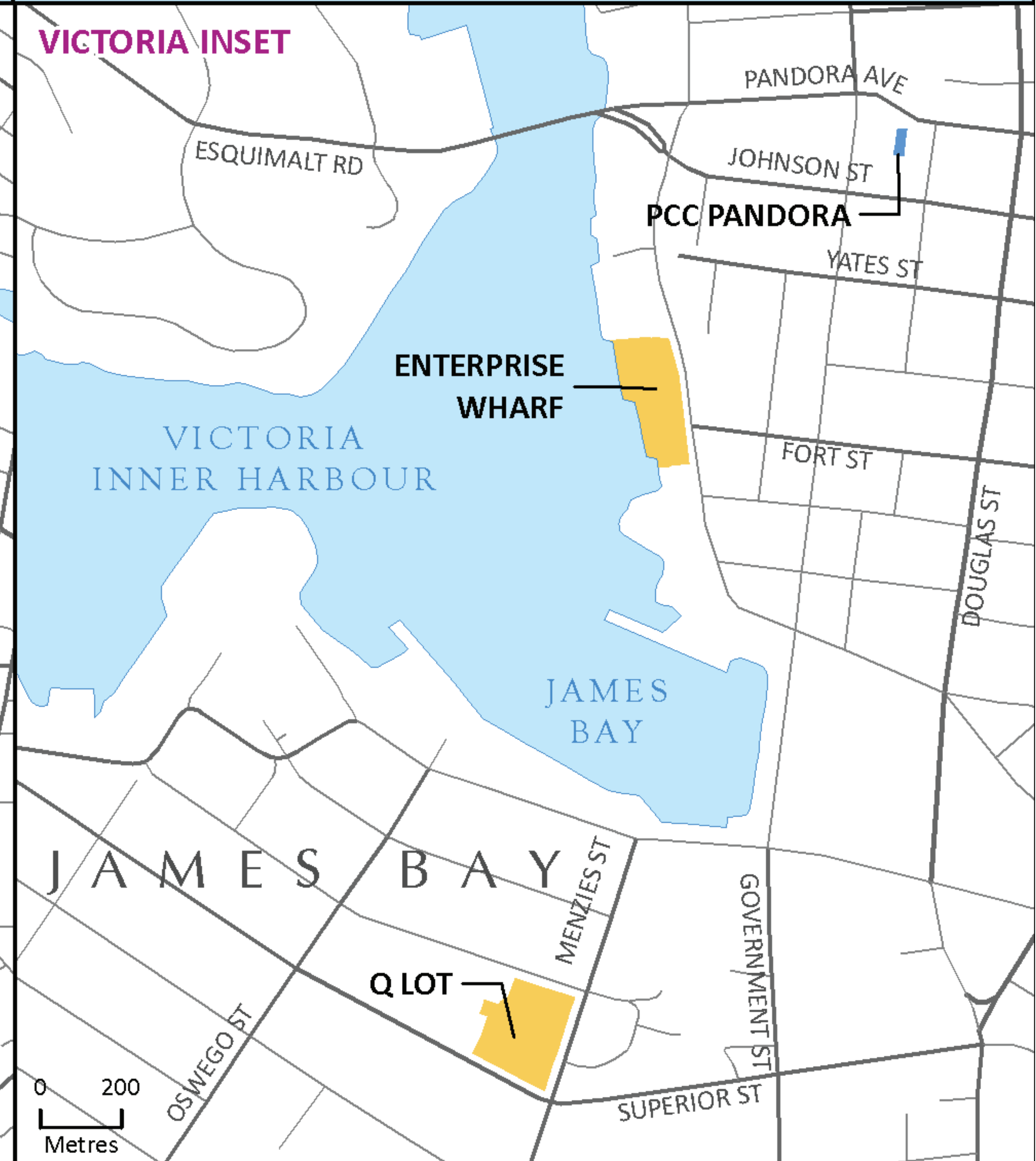
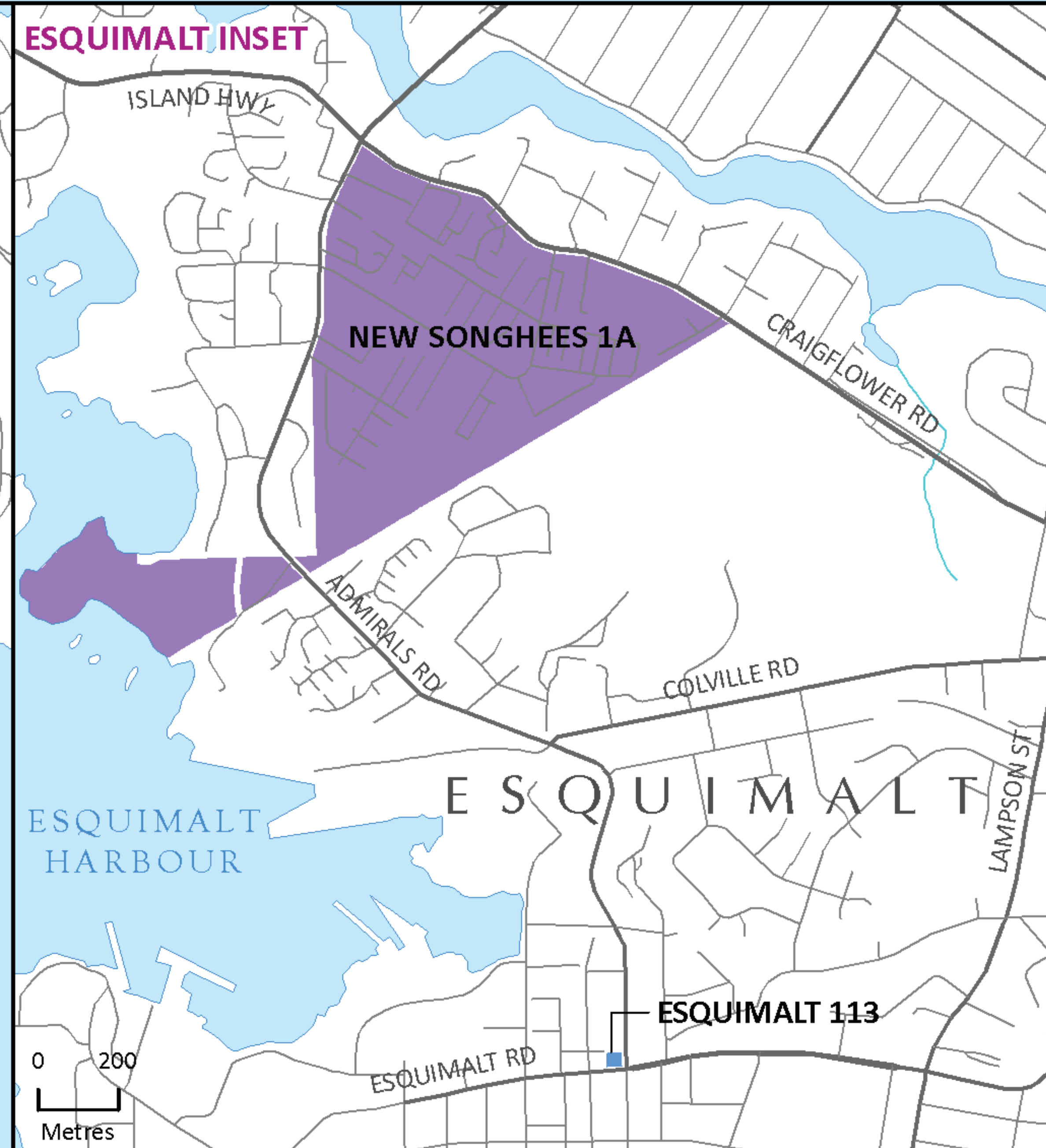
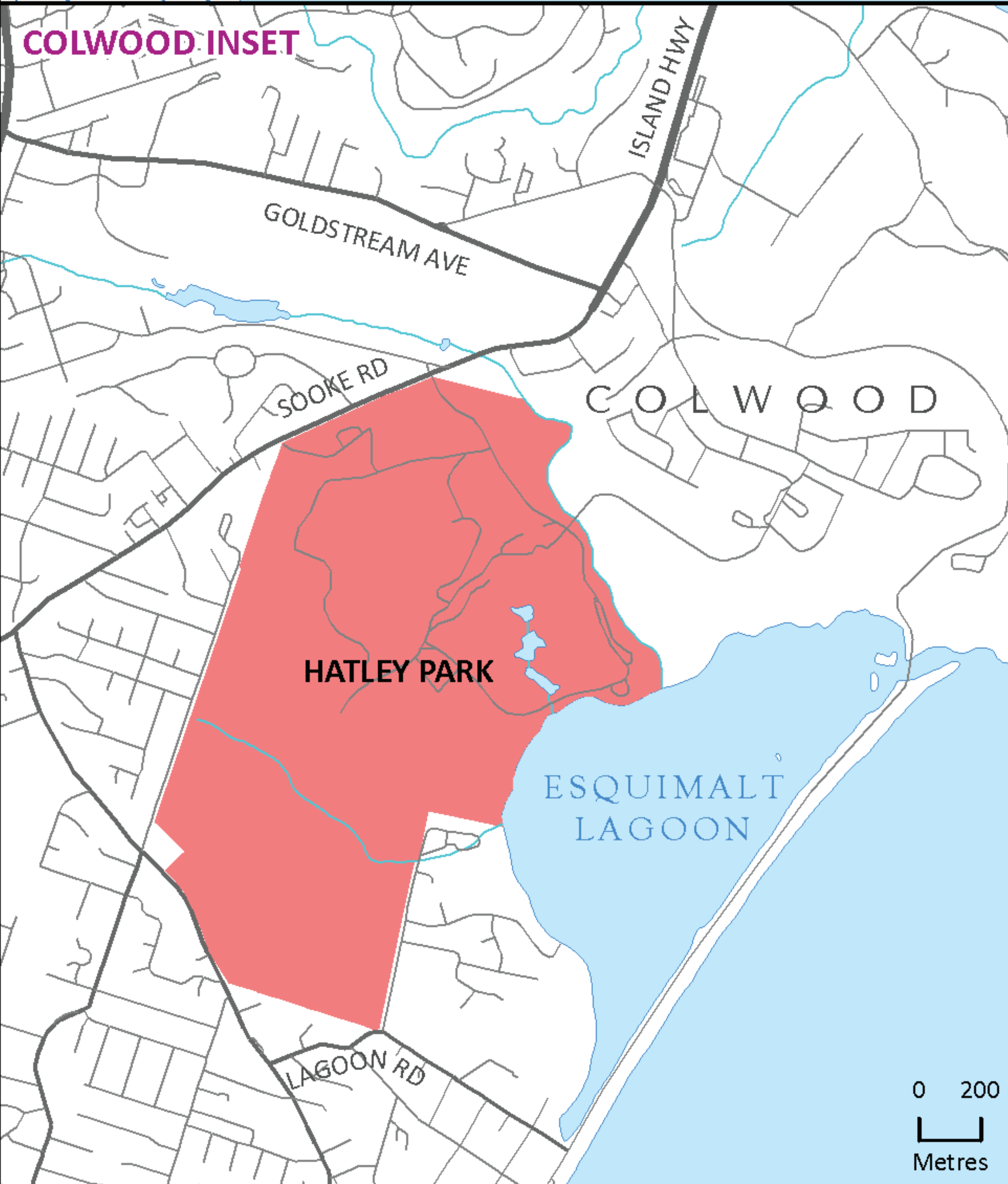
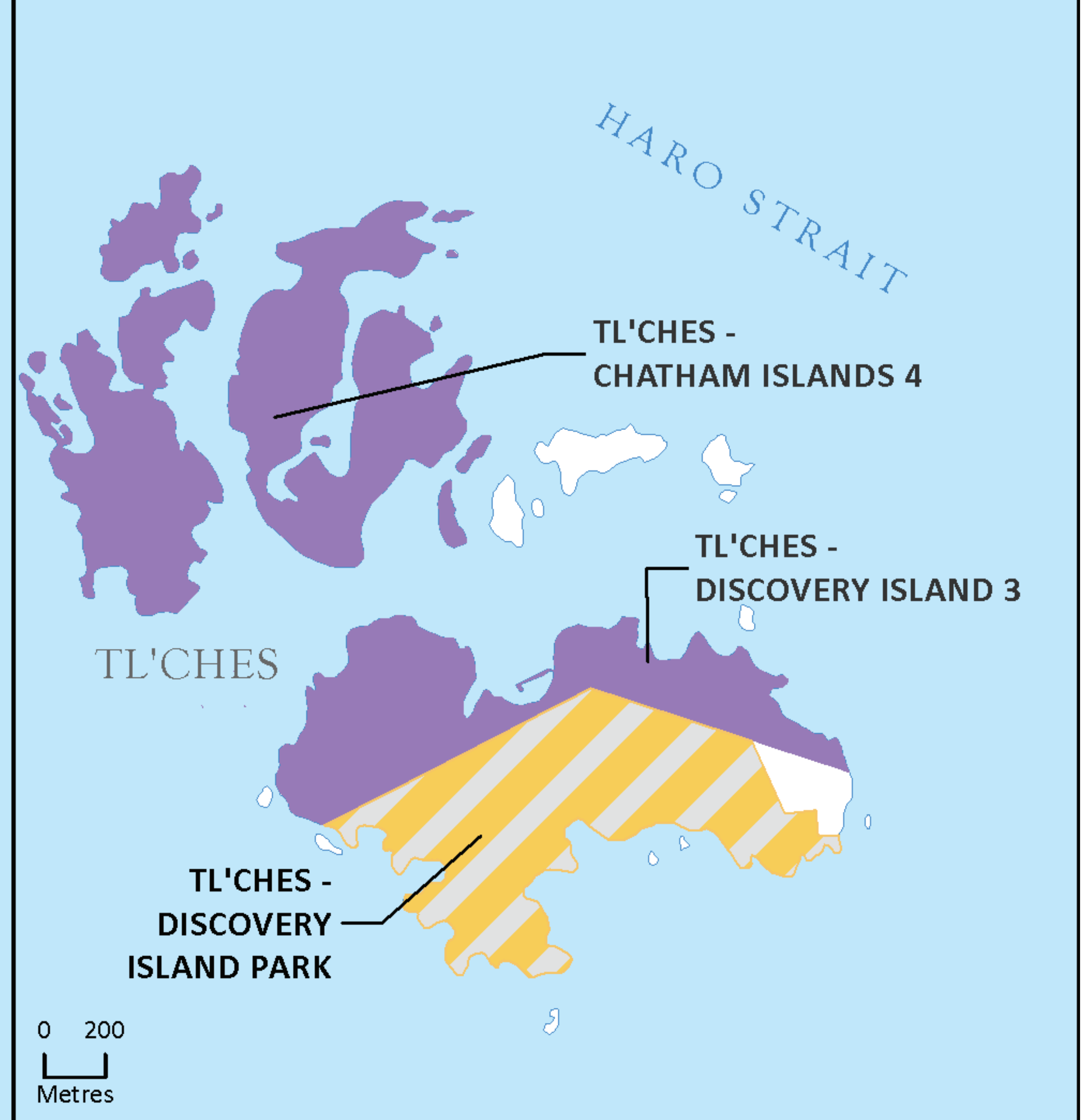
OVERVIEW

Songhees Nation Proposed Treaty Land

	Provincial Crown Land		Songhees Nation Private Land
	Provincial Park Land		Songhees Nation Reserve
	Federal Crown Land		



TL'CHES INSET





T'Sou-ke Nation

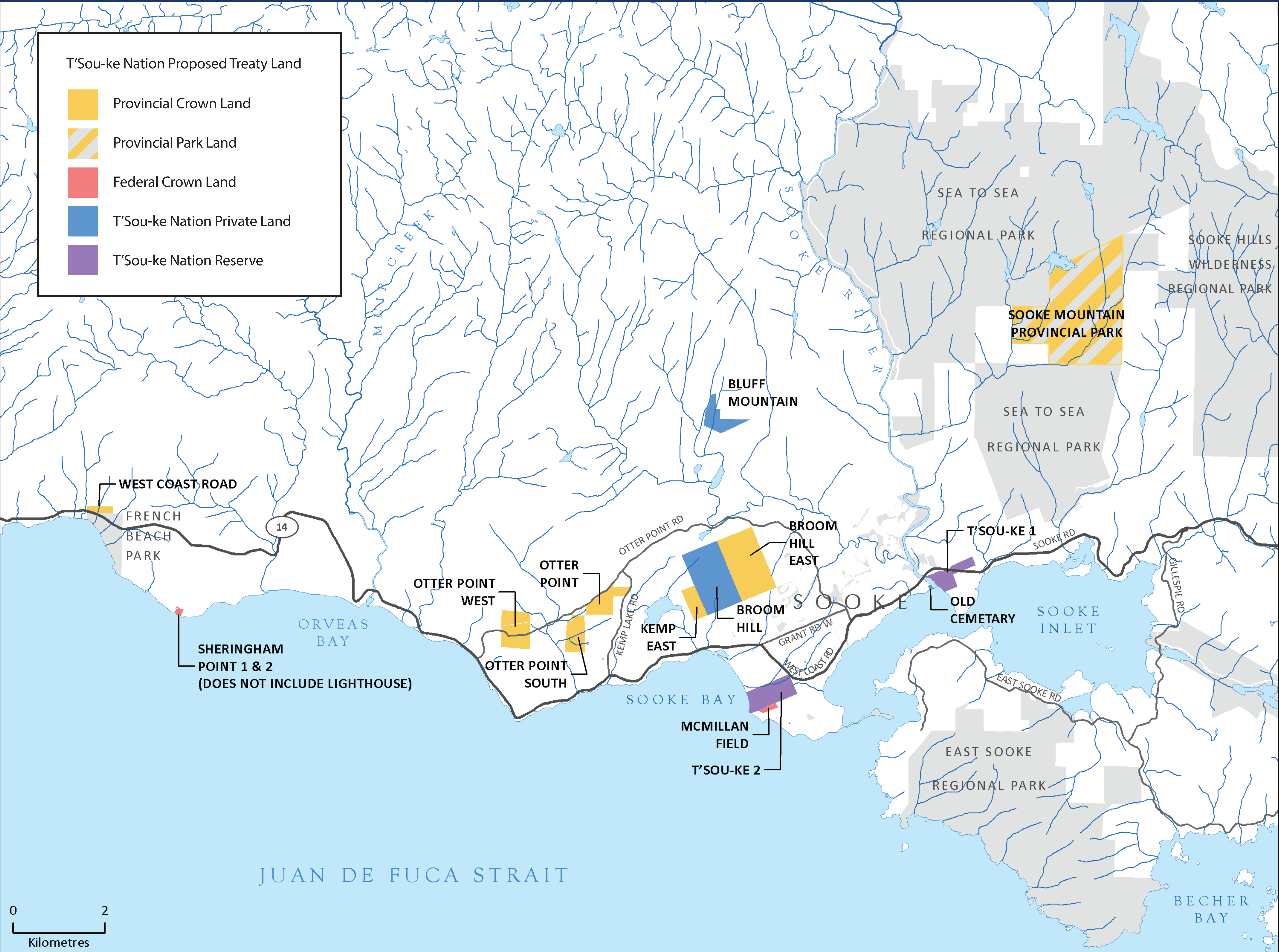
T'Sou-ke Nation

PROPOSED TREATY LANDS

Lands proposed to become Treaty Lands subject to the conclusion and ratification of the T'Sou-ke Nation Treaty.

T'Sou-ke Nation Proposed Treaty Land

-  Provincial Crown Land
-  Provincial Park Land
-  Federal Crown Land
-  T'Sou-ke Nation Private Land
-  T'Sou-ke Nation Reserve



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Kilometres

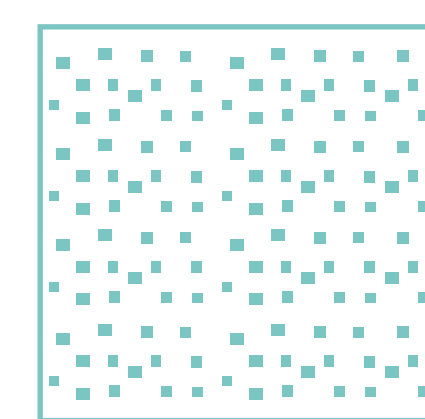
Pre-Approved Additions

Pre-approved additions are parcels of land identified by the First Nation that the First Nation is interested in the possibility of purchasing on a willing-buyer, willing-seller basis in the future.

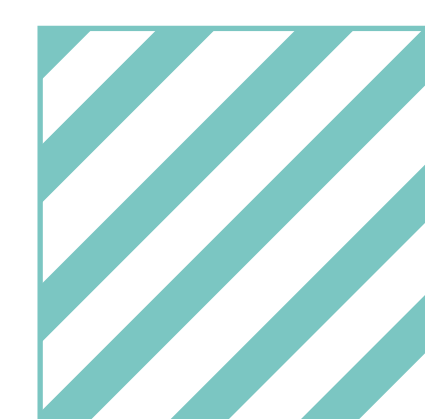
To be clear, these parcels do not become Treaty Lands when the Te'mexw Treaties come into effect. The Te'mexw Treaties will NOT have a direct impact on the owner's fee simple rights. B.C. and Canada have communicated with the private property owners of pre-approved additions.

Each individual Te'mexw Member Nation identified these parcels as pre-approved additions due to the location adjacent or near to their proposed Treaty Lands. Pre-approved additions are specific to each individual Te'mexw Member Nation, and are not shared across the five Nations. If a parcel is identified as a pre-approved addition, this means that should the owner decide to sell or divest any of the parcels in the future, and should the individual Te'mexw Member Nation acquire the lands, the lands could become Treaty Lands in the future. Pre-approved additions could include private fee simple, provincial or federal Crown lands.

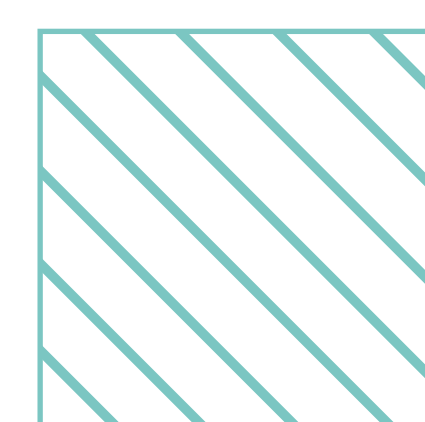
Legend



Pre-Approved Provincial Crown



Pre-Approved Private Land



Pre-Approved Federal Land

