

# CDMC

## Trip Report

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### Changes

- today
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### Newton Lake And Waiatt Bay, Quadra Island (hiking)

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Sun Sep 23, 2012

Leader: **Terry Fright**

Co-Leader:

It was lovely to meet Pam, Don, Helen & Niels coming off the ferry at Quathiaski Cove.

We drove towards the northern end of Quadra Island and started our hike at Granite Bay on a foggy morning.

The fog cleared as we hiked up to Newton Lake and the sun came out when we took an early lunch sitting on a rock outcrop over looking the beautiful lake.

We followed the switch back trail down a steep hillside towards Small Inlet. The sun filtered through the trees and accentuated the greens of the thick mosses and ferns.

From the inlet we crossed the 1 km portage to Waiatt Bay on the east side of Quadra Island. As we rested on the beach we could see the southern Octopus Islands. The sea was so calm and we dreamed of paddling through the islands and remembered a canoe trip led by Ruth many years ago in this charming area.

This area was important to First Nations. There are many clam gardens in the bay that can only be seen at very low tides. The thick midden on the beach testifies to the richness of the area.

We returned back to the vehicles at Granite Bay and drove a short distance to the Lucky Jim gold mine. This mine operated in the early 1900's. The shaft has been capped with an iron grid and a dropped stone indicated that it is now flooded 30 feet below the surface. The huge rusting flywheel now nestled in sword ferns was part of a compressor that kept the water out of the mine.

The Comox party returned to the ferry and Diana & I returned to our rented cabin overlooking Drew Harbour.

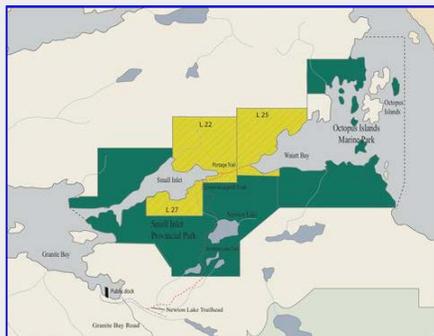
It was a delightful day spent with good friends.

The area between Small inlet and Waiatt Bay is owned by a logging company. Many years ago CDMC was part of a group petitioning the government to purchase this area and bring it into the park system. Recently, the logging company agreed to sell the land to BC Parks for about 6 million dollars, with a deadline for closing the deal of 26 September. The BC government asked recreation and environmental groups to raise \$200,000 to help pay for the land.

Quadra Island Conservancy and Stewardship Society has spearheaded these groups and has worked hard since May of this year to raise the \$200,000 towards the purchase price. So far about \$150,000 has been collected. The deadline has been extended for a couple of months, allowing more time to raise the outstanding \$50,000.

QICSS is so close to reaching its goal and if you would like to make a donation please go to the web site [www.quadraparks.ca](http://www.quadraparks.ca) and follow the link to "contact".

The area in "green", in the map below, is a provincial park; the area in "yellow" is the land to be purchased.



*trail*  
[Terry Fright photo]

*Newton Lake*  
[Don Munroe photo]



*Small Inlet*  
[Terry Fright photo]

*Waiatt Bay*  
[Don Munroe photo]



*Helen at Lucky Jim Mine*  
[Terry Fright photo]

*peering down mine shaft*  
[Terry Fright photo]



*Looking down the mine shaft. Is  
this where Terry worked?  
[Don Munroe photo]*



*view from our rented cabin over  
Drew Harbour  
[Terry Fright photo]*

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**Report contributors:** Terry F, Pam M,

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