

Walking Trails

Sandy Hook Community Association:

is pleased to provide this simple guide to the “walking” forests near our special little community.

The trails are maintained by a hardy band of community volunteers so we hope you will enjoy them and do what you can to keep the area pristine.

Sechelt Heritage Forest—is a joint effort of several lumber concerns to provide an ‘easy-access’ interpretive forest. There are many winding trails but most are fairly easy; a few trails have steep grades but only for short bits. Some of the trails are a bit primitive so please exercise care.

To walk directly from one side to the other of the main area on the left of the highway is only about a 20 minute walk but you can spend an hour or two taking the various loop trails.

On the right side (power line side) the trail is some shorter but takes you into the power line right-of-way; from there you can climb to a high-look out over the next inlet or go down to Shannon Creek and the Porpoise Bay Provincial Park.

Part way along the marked gravel road is a sign denoting a connector trail to the Hidden Grove. While not rough the trail just keeps going up for a long time and can be a healthy exercise.

Hidden Grove—is not officially anything but Crown forest land at present. Several parties including the local District of Sechelt council are working to have this area turned over to the District for a nature park. It lies within the boundaries of the District. The Sandy Hook Community Association has a special committee which has developed an elaborate plan for this area, including wheel chair accessible trails.

Hidden Grove, true to its name, seems to have somehow been hidden over the eons from the forest fires and the lumberman's axe. There are beautiful specimens of ‘candelabra’ cedar, ancient Douglas fir and pine. There is a true wetland—the source of Davis Brook which empties into Sechelt Inlet some 3 kilometers away. A steep trail to a look-out can provide views all the way to Vancouver Island on a clear day.

The main trail in from the parking area is very easy and only about a 7 minute walk. Once in the grove the choices are obvious so you can pick a route that suits your physical skills.

Getting to the Trails – Just head for Porpoise Bay Provincial Park but carry on past it for about 3 kilometers. First indication is a ‘Pedestrian Crossing’ sign that marks the Sechelt Heritage Forest road crossing. There you will see a **SIGN** on each side of the road as noted on the detail map(over). These mark the first entrances to the Sechelt Heritage Forest.

A **SIGN** about 100 metres on is another entrance to the east side of the Forest with a connector trail to the Hidden Grove. Another 50 metres up the winding road is the main sign for Hidden Grove and its parking. The last marker is the turnoff into the Sandy Hook community and with that you know you missed the Grove and Forest.



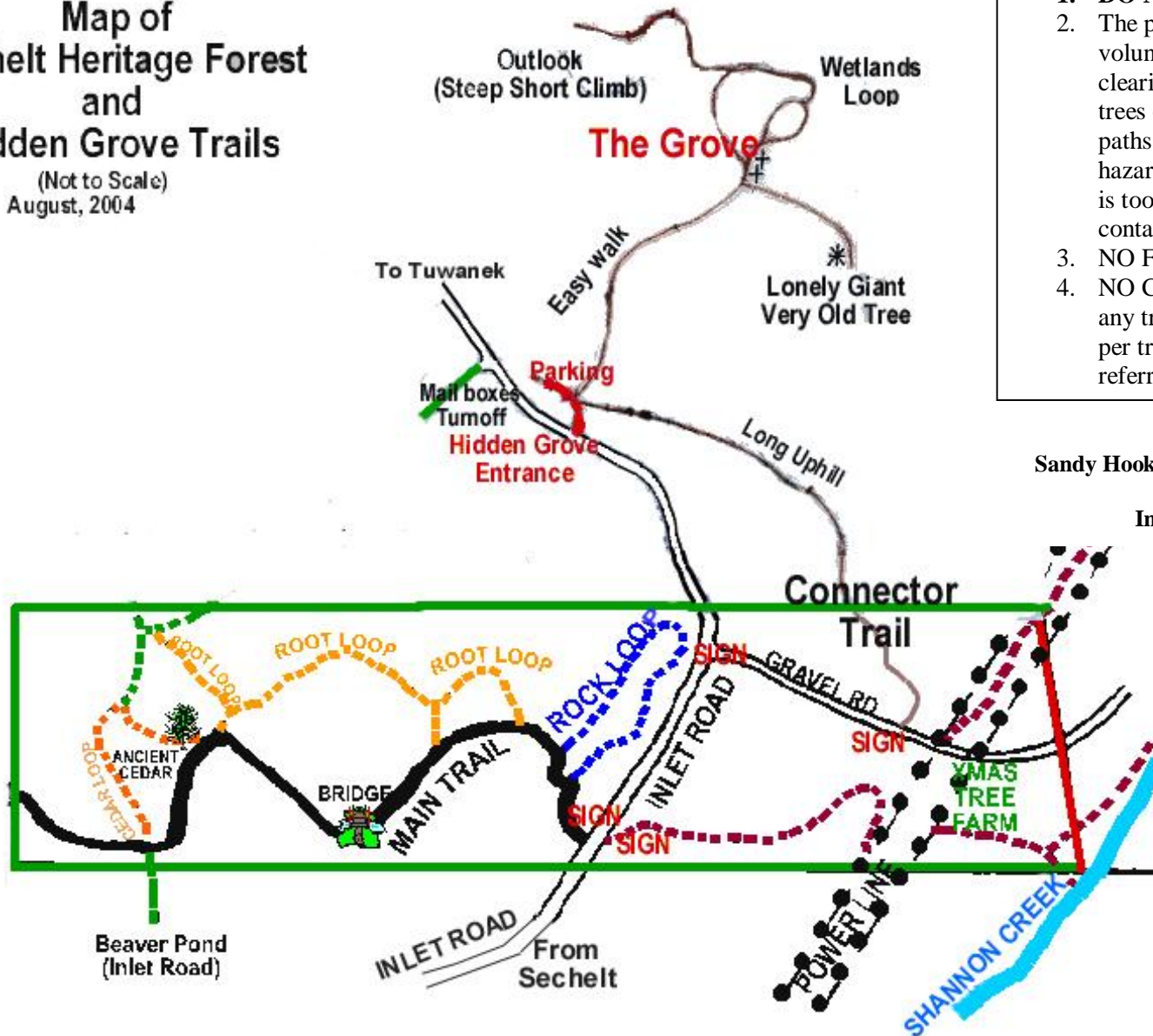
Support your local community association wherever you may live

Contact: inlet@sechelt.net

Map of Sechelt Heritage Forest and Hidden Grove Trails

(Not to Scale)
August, 2004

Upper Sandy Hook



- While enjoying the forest please note:
1. **DO NOT LITTER.**
 2. The paths are maintained by volunteers. You can assist by clearing any smaller fallen trees or branches from the paths and removing any hazards you notice. If a hazard is too difficult for you please contact us to take action.
 3. **NO FIRES** or **CAMPING.**
 4. **NO CUTTING** of firewood or any trees (Potential fine \$1000 per tree) except for the hazards referred to above.

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