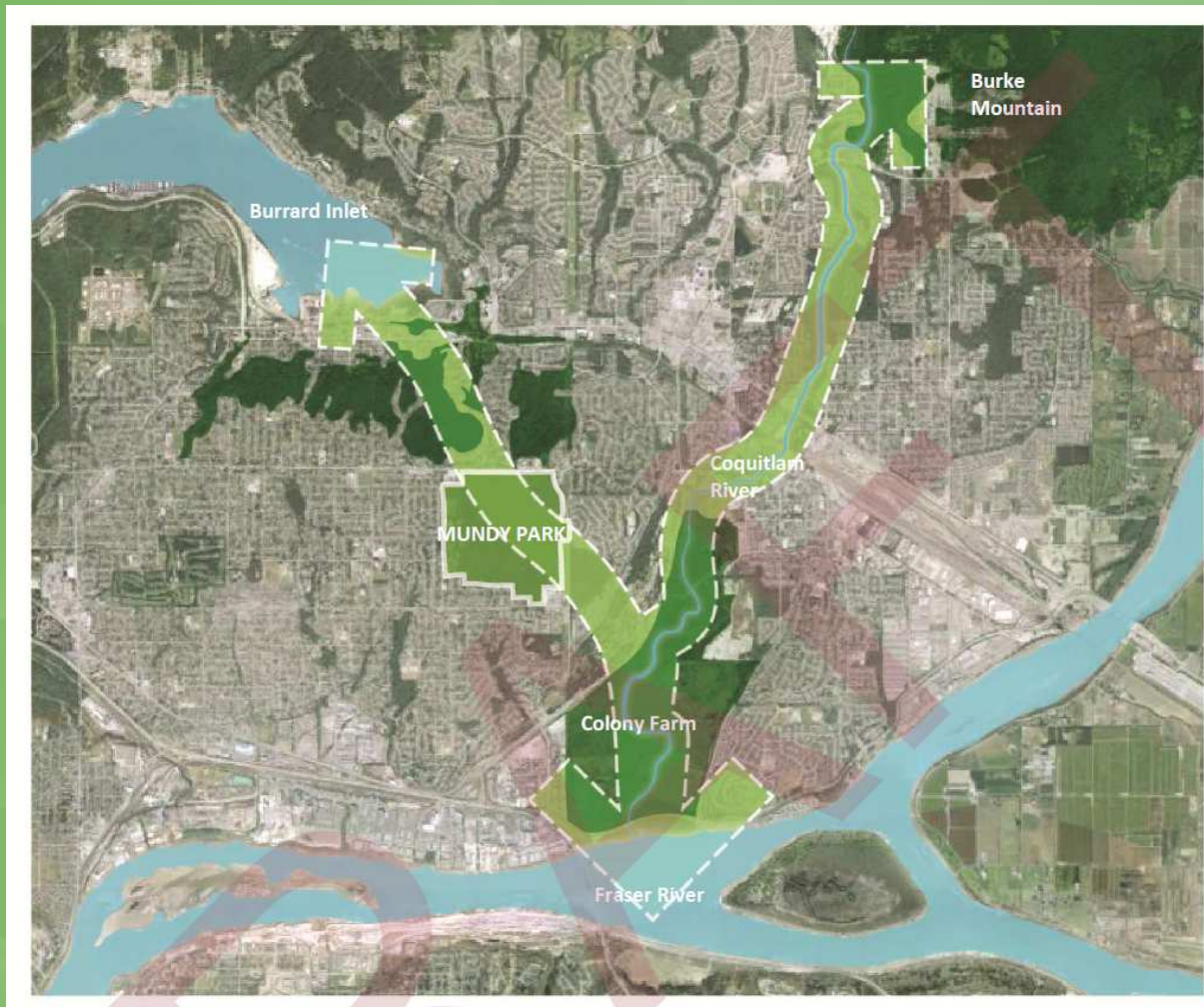


Forest Management Planning in Urban Parks

The Mundy Park Story

Context



Context



Coquitlam

Context



Context



Chapter 1 – History of Mundy Park

- 440 acres of land purchased by George Munday in 1895 for \$150 as an investment in anticipation of linking Coquitlam with the CPR
- Land was later given to the City of Coquitlam
- Enjoyed and well-used by the community for 100 years
- BC Hydro transmission line installed along eastern edge
- Soccer fields and ball diamonds installed on the western edge



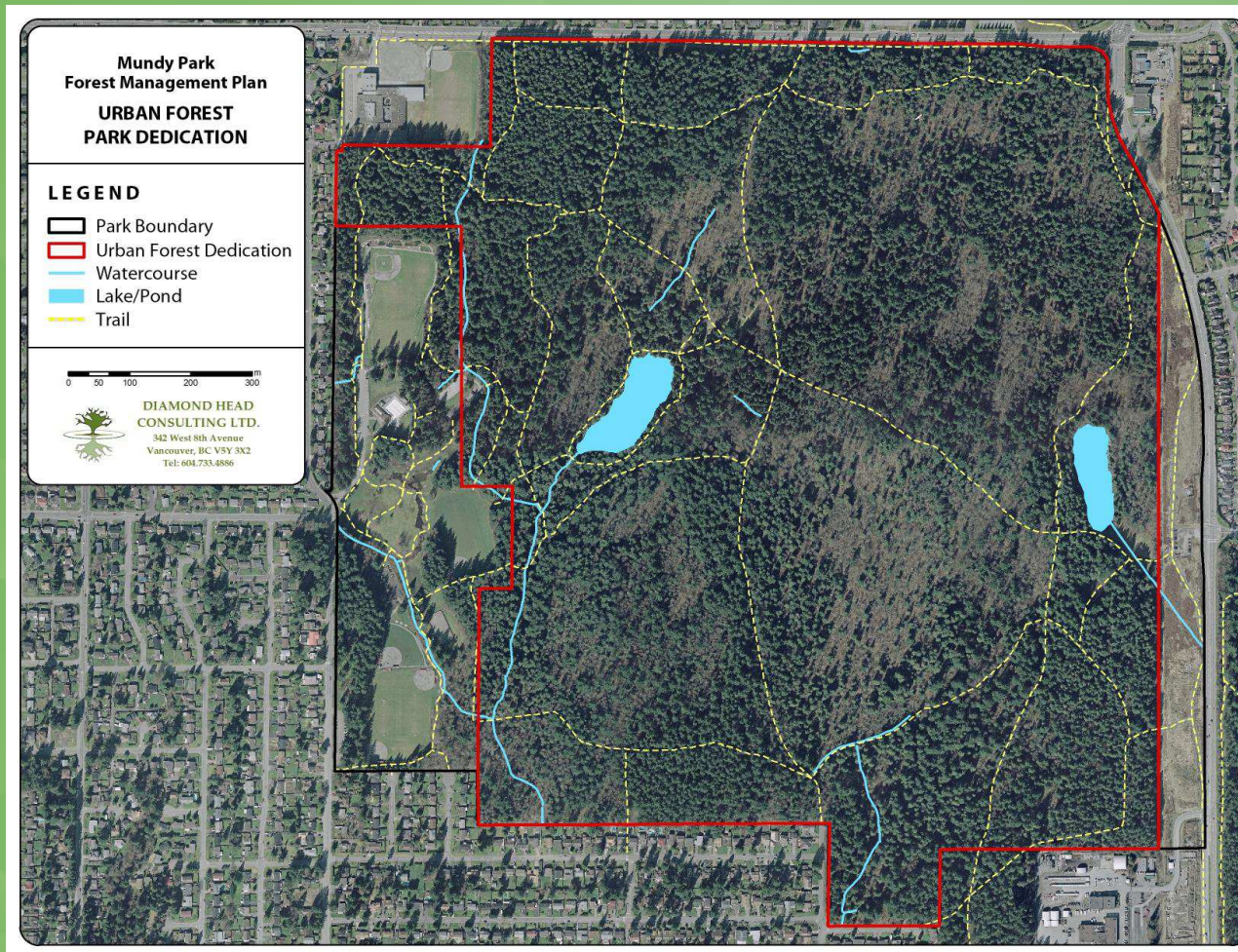
George Munday. Photo rights: Coquitlam Library Archives

Chapter 2 – From Golf Course to Urban Forest

- Early 90's some in the community felt that it would be a good site for a municipal golf course
- Majority strongly opposed
- Urban Forest Dedication bylaw passed easily through community-wide referendum in 1993

“A large tract of wooded land located within a populous community, dedicated for the public's use and enjoyment and to the management, conservation and enhancement of the native flora and fauna.”

Chapter 2 – From Golf Course to Urban Forest



Chapter 3 – Urban Forest or Amusement Park?

2010 the City considered introducing a Forest Adventure Park into the dedicated forest

Resulted in the largest number of written responses to a park project in the City's history (95% against)

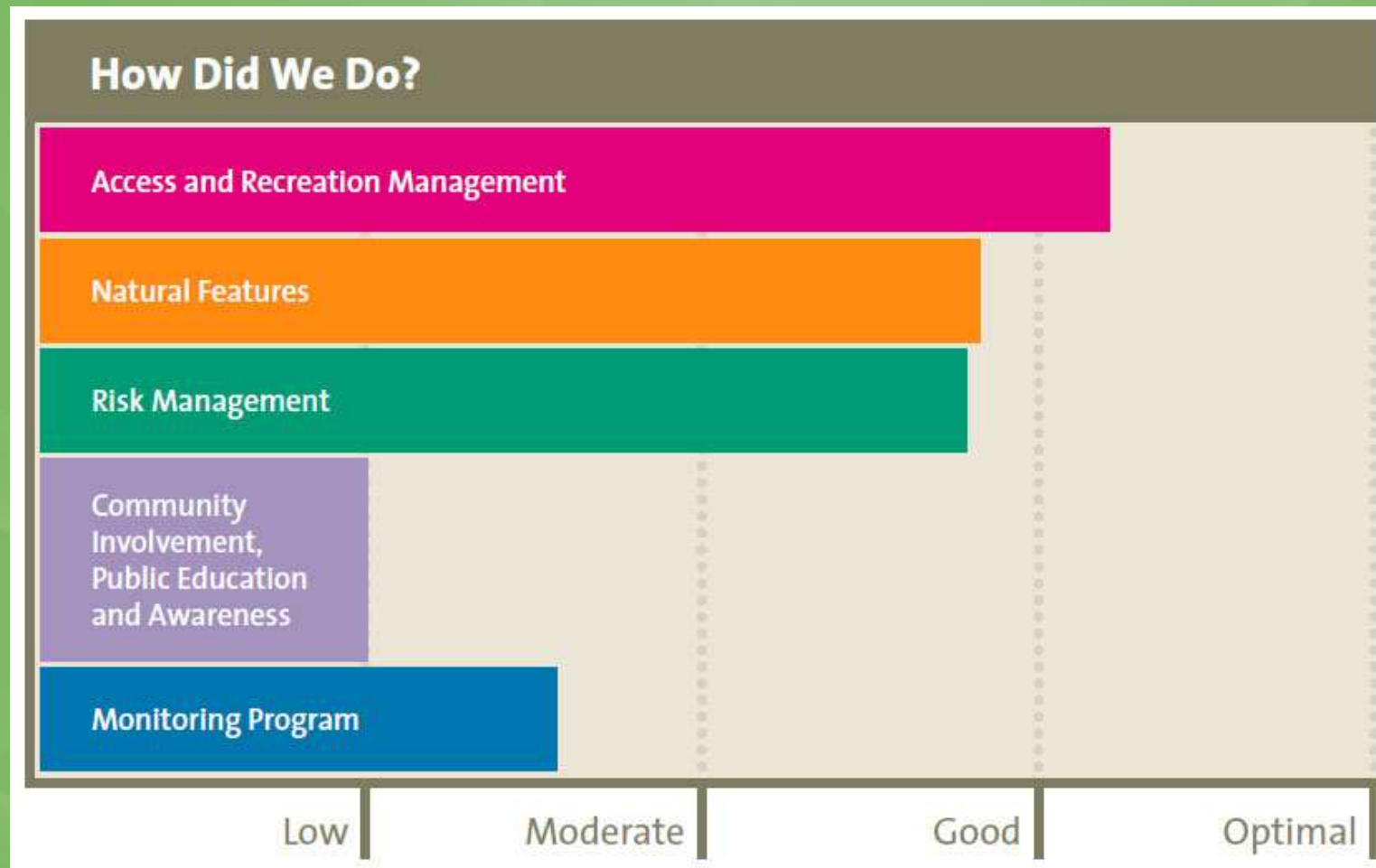
2013 Staff propose Forest Management Plan and Council approved the proposal

Chapter 4 – Don't Know What You've Got 'till It's Gone

Consultant hired to assess the forest to understand current baseline conditions:

- Ecosystem mapping
- Forest health assessment
- Trail inventory
- Watercourse assessments
- Wildfire fuel assessment
- Recreation user satisfaction

Chapter 5 – Results of the Checkup



Chapter 6 – Working Together

- Community Focus Group (CFG) created
- Park user groups and representatives from the community at large
- CFG developed Vision and Principles
- CFG reviewed draft documents
- CFG helped develop community engagement program

Chapter 6 – Working Together

Vision

Mundy Park is a regionally significant nature refuge for people and wildlife and a defining landmark in Coquitlam. This sanctuary offers residents and visitors opportunities for recreation, nature appreciation and education. The City of Coquitlam sustains the park for future generations by protecting its wildlife habitat, recreational values and natural heritage through environmental stewardship.

Chapter 6 – Working Together

Principles

Balanced Values

Diverse Recreation and Education Opportunities

Environmental Protection

Education

Collaboration

Adaptive Management

Chapter 7 – Good to Great

Ongoing	1-2 years	1-5 years	5-10 years
Construct and maintain trails as per Master Trail Plan standards.	Survey Park users to determine their satisfaction.	Educate residents living in the interface area of the risk and prevention of wildfires.	Decommission all small unsanctioned access trails around Mundy Lake.
Close all unauthorized trails.	Examine further opportunities for recreation.	Eradicate all invasive plants from Mundy Park.	Update the Forest Management Plan every 10 years.
Protect the integrity of natural habitat for species at risk.	Rehabilitate areas where there is evidence of past bonfires.	Deactivate unsanctioned trails within 30m of streams and restore native plant communities.	Reduce fire risk via strategic pruning of lower branches at residential interface.
Work with the Painted Turtle Recovery Team to implement a program to manage invasive turtles.	Restore degraded areas by planting native plants.	Implement a tree planting program to ensure forest regeneration.	
Conduct bird nesting surveys.	Create a reservoir of endangered and threatened plants.	Create protected floating islands on both lakes.	
Enhance bat habitat.	Address the problem of yard waste dumping.		
Establish a wildlife conflict education program.	Develop educational programs and volunteer initiatives.		
Monitor forest health for sudden changes to plant communities and health.			

Legend

Access and Recreation Management

Natural Features

Risk Management

Community Involvement, Public Education and Awareness

Monitoring Program

Implementation Plan

Chapter 7 – Good to Great

Adaptive Management - Target Objectives and Indicators

Indicator Species	Survey Method
Mammals	
Black-tailed deer	Pellet groups
Douglas squirrel	Visual sighting
Mouse/vole/shrew	Runway activity under cover boards
Birds	
Dark-eyed Junco	Wintering numbers
Downy Woodpecker	Wintering numbers
Northern Flicker	Wintering numbers
Pacific-slope Flycatcher	Singing birds
Red-tailed Hawk	Active Nests
Song Sparrow	Wintering numbers &/or singing birds
Spotted Towhee	Wintering numbers &/or singing birds
Swainson's Thrush	Singing birds
Warbling Vireo	Singing birds
Willow Flycatcher	Singing birds
Yellow Warbler	Singing birds
Reptiles/Amphibians	
Painted turtle	Visual sighting
Long-toed salamander	Cover boards
Northern Pacific treefrog	Singing/calling
Northern red-legged frog	Egg masses
Northwestern salamander	Egg masses
Invertebrates	
Dragonflies	Visual survey for adults

Understand and minimize the impacts of invasive species	Inventory of invasive plants	No inventory of invasive plants	Incomplete spatial inventory of invasive plants	Complete spatial inventory of invasive plants. Ad hoc mitigation.	Complete spatial inventory of invasive plants; mitigation work conducted annually as part of a Urban Forest specific strategy.
	Presence of invasive plants	Invasive plants present in >2% of Urban Forest natural area.	Invasive plants present in 1-2% of Urban Forest natural area	Invasive plants present in 0.05-1% of Urban Forest natural area	Invasive plants present in <0.05% of Urban Forest natural area

Chapter 8 – Lessons Learned

- Threats to urban forests galvanize the community
- Engage the community proactively to understand their values and to enhance stewardship
- Every forest is unique and every FMP will be unique
- Once everyone agrees on vision and principles you're on your way
- Important to engage appropriate professionals
- Critical to incorporate impacts of climate change, but easier said than done
- Adaptive Management approach requires resources for monitoring, but without it a Plan becomes dated
- Difficult to strike the right balance between human use and conservation; human values and science

Mundy Park Forest Management Plan

coquitlam.ca/mundy

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Coquitlam