Thetis Lake Regional Park

Bulletin 4 | May 2017

Pistol Range Remediation & Restoration Project

The Capital Regional District has restored this former shooting range to naturalized parkland.

For over 100 years, police forces, security companies and gun clubs used this area as a firing range. The site was transferred from the City of Victoria to the CRD in 1994 as part of Thetis Lake Regional Park. Pistol range activities ceased in 1999. The site was deemed contaminated under provincial legislation and required remediation due to metals from bullets and casings.

The 0.75-hectare contaminated site was remediated in 2014. Surface soils were excavated, and soil berms dismantled. Restoration work from 2016-2017 improved surface water drainage and soil conditions. Native grasses, shrubs and more than 700 trees were planted. Invasive species spread from illegal disposal of garden waste were removed, and continue to be monitored and controlled while trees get established.

The total cost of the project was $736,000. It was funded through CRD project reserve funds and a $75,000 BC Brownfields Renewal grant.

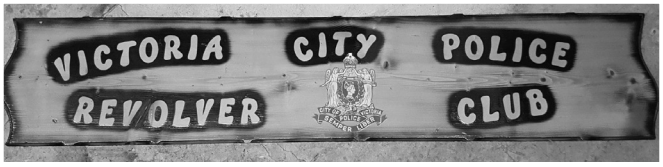
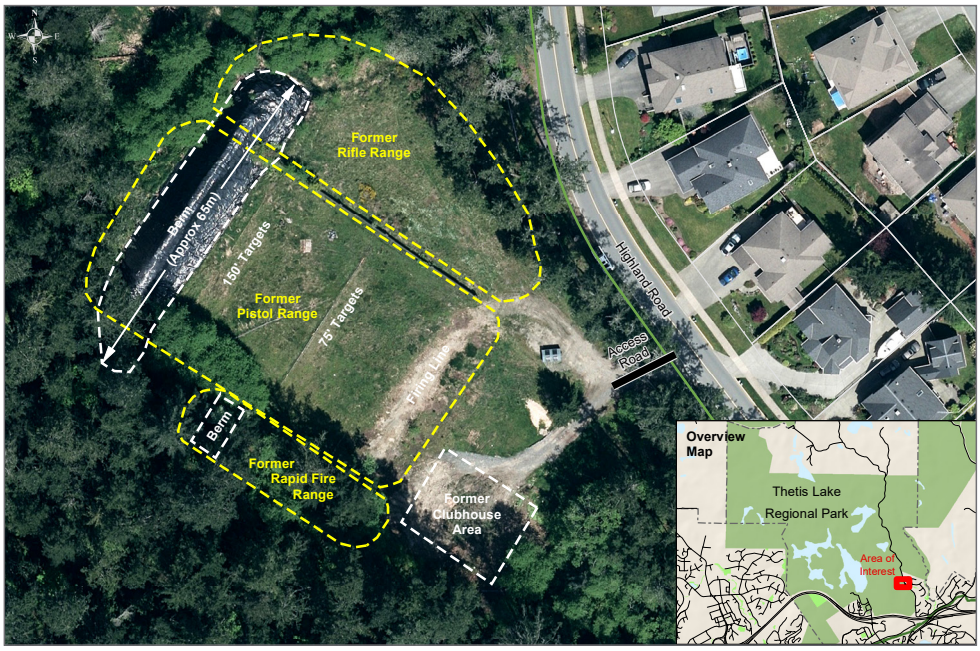


Photo Victoria Police Historical Society circa 1985

Join the Movement to be Invasive-Free Across BC!

CRD Regional Parks restoration volunteers are working with staff to keep invasive species out of this site. **To volunteer contact Colleen Long at clong@crd.bc.ca.** Please help keep he park natural: do not dispose of garden plants and soils in the park. Find out more on how to be plant-wise by selecting non-invasive and native plants, and properly disposing of invasive species at **www.bcinvasives.ca.**



Top left: Aerial photo monitoring of the site pre-remediation in 2013.

Bottom left: Aerial photo monitoring of the site post-restoration in 2017.

Bottom right: The site returned to naturalized parkland in 2018.

See more details and photos at www.crd.bc.ca/project/capital-projects/thetis-lake-remediation-project

Capital Regional District | Parks and Environmental Services
Todd Golumbia, Environmental Conservation Specialist, Regional Parks
490 Atkins Avenue, Victoria, BC V9B 2Z8
E: tgolumbia@crd.bc.ca | T: 250.360.3365

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