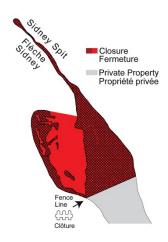
## **Seasonal Public Closure of Sidney Spit**

Attention boaters and kayakers:

As per previous years, all Parks Canada lands on Sidney Island will be closed to visitors to facilitate hunting by Coast Salish First Nations during the fall and winter months. The closure dates for this year are October 12, 2023 to February 29, 2024. Visitors will not be able to access beaches, day use areas, or washrooms on Sidney Island during this closure period. Boaters may continue to use the mooring buoys and anchorage area at their own risk, unless otherwise indicated.



## **Recognizing Indigenous Rights**

Local First Nations have historical relationships to lands throughout Gulf Islands National Park Reserve and continue to exercise their rights to harvest within the park reserve. Parks Canada lands on Sidney Island are a suitable place to focus this activity as they can be effectively closed to visitors and there are high number of invasive fallow deer that threaten the ecological health of the island.

There are no other seasonal closures planned in Gulf Islands National Park Reserve. We encourage marine users to make use of the many coves, beaches, picnic sites, and backcountry camping areas that continue to be available year-round.

Thank you for respecting this closure. For more information on what's open and closed, <u>visit our website</u>.