



Help create an

Eagle Sanctuary

At French Creek Estuary



French Creek Estuary



The east coast of Vancouver Island has more biodiversity than anywhere else in BC. Sitting between Qualicum Beach and Parksville, the French Creek Estuary is a haven for wildlife and an important place for eagles. It's not hard to see why.

It features mature, towering trees for nesting and perching. Eagles rely on the height of such trees to keep them far above human interference and as an excellent vantage point for watching for prey. The estuary is also exceedingly productive, bringing with it rich and diverse food sources.

There are six bald eagle nests within a 2km radius of the estuary itself, which acts as a central hub for eagle activity.



Melanie Leeson

Protecting French Creek Estuary

To preserve the estuary and create an eagle sanctuary, we have secured an exclusive agreement to purchase 18 acres of land in the heart of French Creek Estuary. An independent appraisal established its value at \$5,180,000.



23 ACRE EAGLE PRESERVE

Area to be Protected



Wayne Duke

French Creek House, Ltd., the owners, have generously offered to donate \$3,280,000 as part of their commitment to seeing the sanctuary become a reality.

The local Save Estuary Land Society and Friends of French Creek Conservation Society raised \$200,000 in community donations.

We secured a landmark gift of \$1,000,000 in matching funds if the remainder can be raised.

The Regional District of Nanaimo has committed \$400,000 towards purchasing the estuary lands.

In the last few weeks we have raised over \$70,000. That leaves only \$230,000 to go.

You can help the eagles fly across the finish line into Vancouver Island's first eagle sanctuary!





French Creek is home to western red cedars and firs, some over 150 years old. The trees are vital to eagles, who need mature older trees buffered from human activity.

French Creek Estuary is also home to species at risk such as peregrine falcons, great blue herons, marbled murrelets, northern red-legged frogs, western toads and townsend big-eared bats. Other wildlife also rely on the area, such as beavers, otters, owls, deer, bears, cougars and migratory birds.



Melanie Leeson



Wayne Duke

Estuaries make up only 2.3% of BC's coastline. But they are highly productive and diverse, supporting thousands of species of wildlife that use it for food, shelter and to raise young.

The French Creek Estuary feeds the spectacular Salish Sea. Each year, in the area in front of the estuary, high winds and surging waves dislodge thousands of Gaper clams, tossing them on shore as a feast for thousands of Bald eagles and other wildlife. Eagles also gather here to feed on herring and hake.



Melanie Leeson

Your legacy

Close your eyes and picture the magnificence of a bald eagle soaring through the sky. They have long been a symbol of courage, power, vision, and freedom.

Their survival relies heavily on having suitable habitat with mature trees and access to a diverse array of food sources. As development continues and the abundance of mature trees declines, there are fewer and fewer places like this where eagles can live, gather, and feed.

Now you can make a difference for the eagles and this special gathering place. Join your neighbours in this exciting crowdfunding campaign to create a Sanctuary for the Bald Eagles and other life in the Estuary.

The deadline is April 10th to secure remaining funding. Please consider making a gift for the eagles today. It's a great feeling and legacy to be part of soaring across the finish line.



bcparksfoundation.ca/french-creek-estuary



gifts@bcparksfoundation.ca



Phone Casey Walker, 604-343-3975 ext. 1



Thank You.



 [@bcparksfdn](https://www.instagram.com/bcparksfdn)

 [@bcparksfoundation](https://www.facebook.com/bcparksfoundation)