



# Damaxyaa Management Plan

July 2011



Council of the  
**Haida Nation**



BRITISH  
COLUMBIA



BC Parks

Cover Photo: Brandin Schultz

# Foreward

*"Yah'guudang - to bring the land and resource use into balance to ensure the continuity of Haida culture and ultimately the health of all human society. Unique forms of life have evolved - birds, mammals, fish, plants and insects - in plenty. "*

Haida Land Use Vision

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# 1.0 Introduction

The Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia have a dispute of title over all of Haida Gwaii, but through planning and negotiations the Haida Nation and the province have taken steps towards reconciliation of interests.

Damaxyaa is now formally protected by both the Haida Nation as a Haida Heritage Site and the Province of British Columbia as a conservancy. For the purpose of this management plan, the area will be referred to as Damaxyaa. Other areas established as both Haida Heritage Sites and conservancies will be referenced as protected areas in this document. The Haida Nation and the province through their respective authorities are now working together in managing this area.

This management plan does not have a complete or comprehensive listing of all cultural features or cultural inventory in the area. There are far more cultural features, many that are not inventoried, and other cultural values which are held in secret by the Haida Nation. Preparation of this management plan for Damaxyaa<sup>1</sup> has been jointly undertaken by the Council of the Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia's Ministry of Environment (hereafter referred to as the "Parties").

## 1.1 Management Plan Purpose

The purpose of this management plan is to:

- establish the vision, long-term strategic direction, guidance and acceptable uses for Damaxyaa;
- ensure that any activities are respectful of the natural values and not in conflict with Haida social, ceremonial and cultural uses;
- ensure protection for lands and seas in its natural state;
- describe the background and legal context of Damaxyaa; and,
- manage visitor use.

## 1.2 Planning Area

Damaxyaa has been used by Haida people and given them life since time immemorial. The presence of cultural forests makes Damaxyaa a particularly sensitive area.

Damaxyaa is located near the northern end of North Moresby Island, immediately south and west of the community of Sandspit (Figure 1). It is part of an archipelago-wide system of protected areas<sup>2</sup>. In total, half of the land base of Haida Gwaii is now in protected status. The terrestrial component of Damaxyaa covers 824 hectares. The elevation range is from sea level to 289 metres.

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<sup>1</sup> Phonetic pronunciation is "Daamaachia"

<sup>2</sup> That includes Gwaii Haanas, several provincial parks and ecological reserves and ten other protected areas.

A marine component/foreshore area has also been delineated by a joint Haida Nation and Province of British Columbia process that covers an area of 7 hectares<sup>3</sup>. Boundaries for the marine portion of the protected area are brought forward first by Orders in Council, then by legislation to ensure equal protection across the terrestrial and marine components. This management plan will provide direction to this marine area as well.

There are two other protected areas in the vicinity of Damaxyaa. The northern edge of Kunx̄alas is less than 10 kilometres to the south along Hecate Strait, or 20 kilometres by road via Copper Bay, and K'uuna Gwaay is located approximately 25 kilometres to the south across Cumshewa Inlet.

The north and east side of Damaxyaa borders on fee simple property within the community of Sandspit. Tree Farm Licence (TFL) 58 lies to the west and south of Damaxyaa.

Damaxyaa contains most sections of the popular Louise Dover Trail that winds its way through old-growth cedar and hemlock forests (Figure 2). The trailhead access point for walking into Damaxyaa on the Louise Dover Trail is reached primarily by paved road 5 kilometres east of the Sandspit Airport or just across the road from the Sandspit Marina. Alternatively, access to the east side of Damaxyaa is possible via the Copper Bay Main gravel road which bisects Damaxyaa just 2 kilometres south of Sandspit.

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<sup>3</sup> All navigation and activities related to navigation (including within any marine protected areas established by provincial legislation) are managed by Transport Canada mainly through the *Canada Shipping Act*, other federal statutes and international treaties.

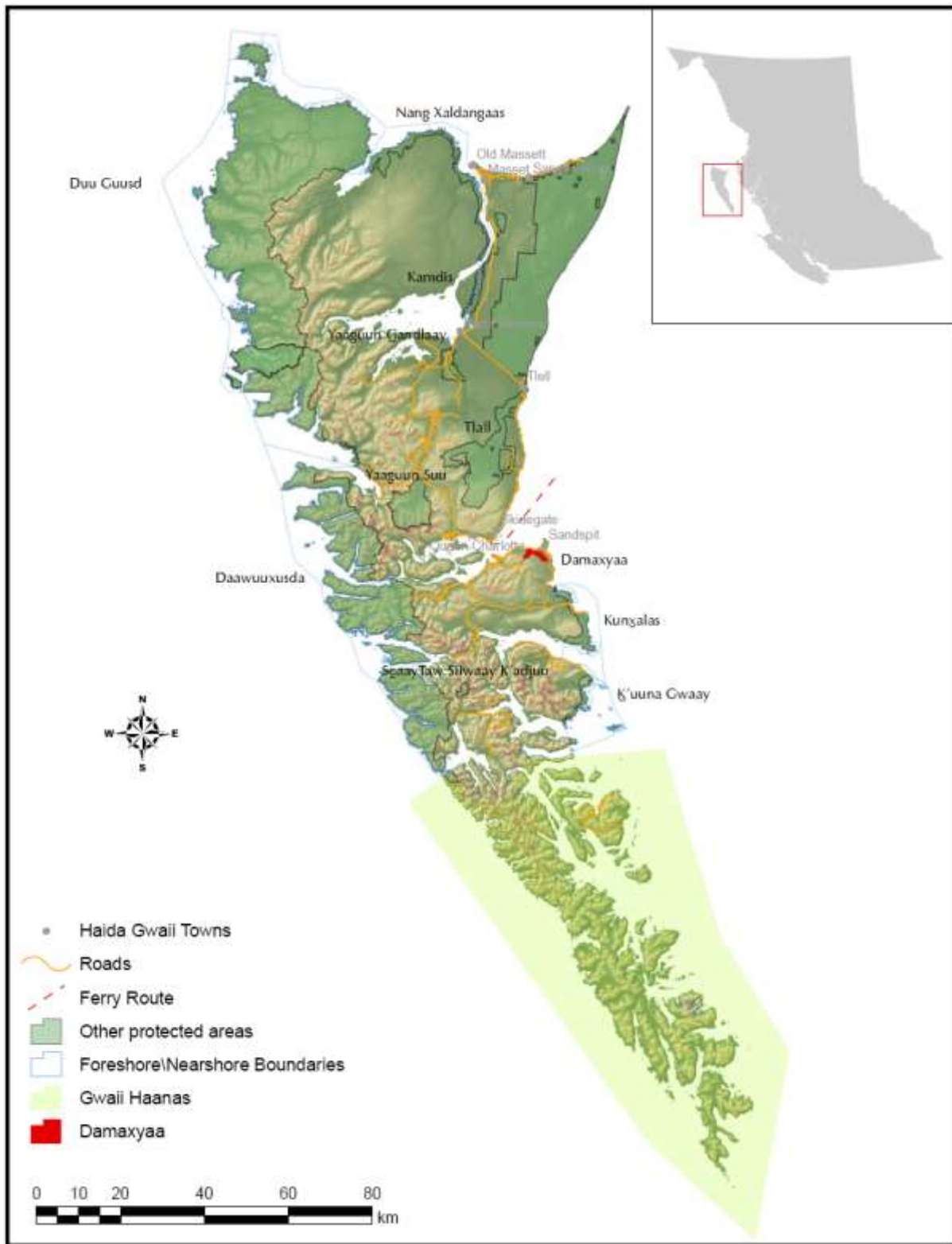


Figure 1: Regional Context Map

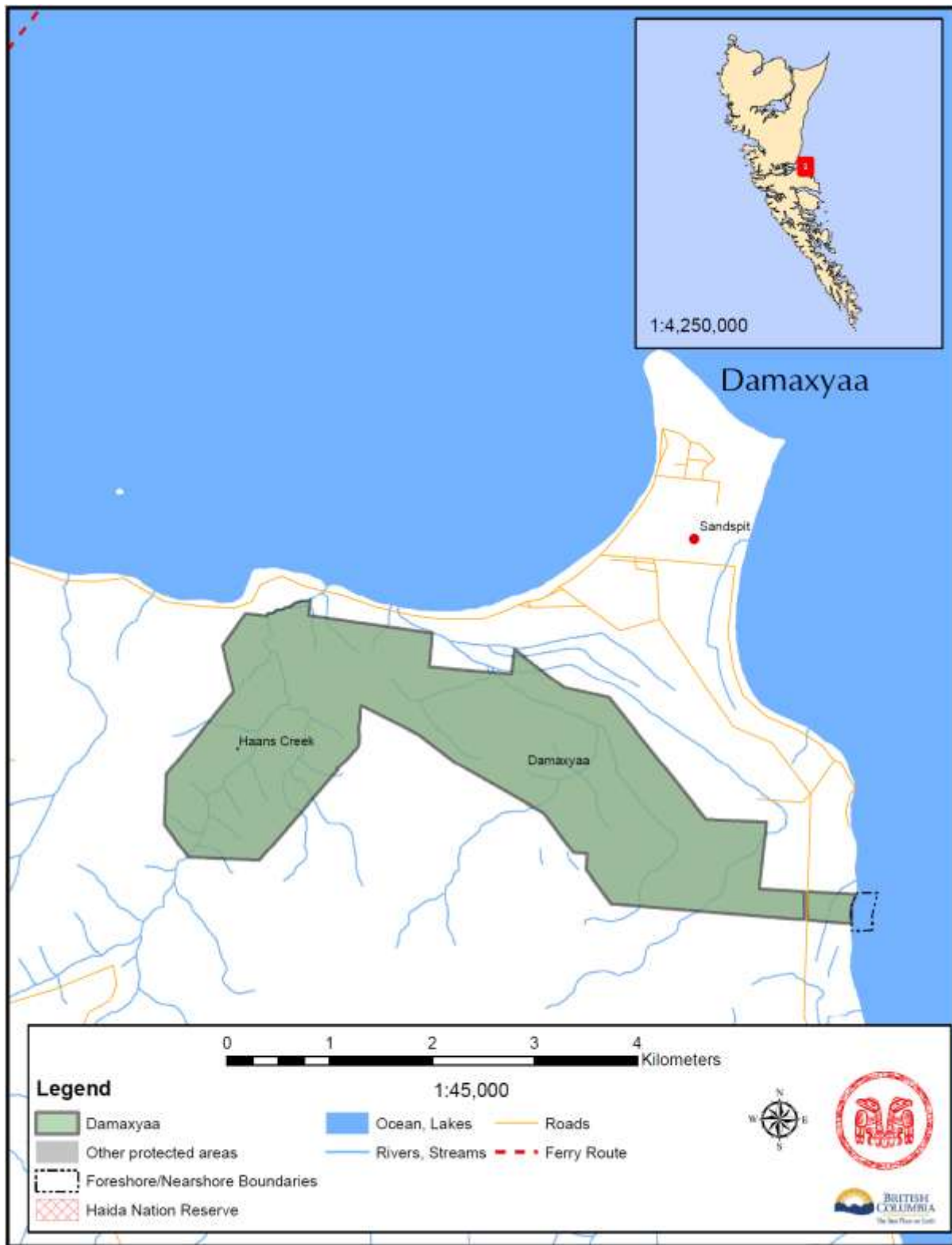


Figure 2. Damaxyaa Map



## 1.3 Planning and Policy Context

The Parties acknowledge each other's respective authorities and are cooperating in the management of Damaxyaa. The Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia have agreements on land use and reconciliation and use their respective lawmaking authorities to enact this management plan. For example, permits are jointly reviewed and adjudicated as per processes such as the Solutions Table that are consistent with existing agreements between the Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia. Additionally, an appropriate government to government forum will be utilized to address collaborative management of the protected areas.

A brief chronological history is summarized below.

According to archaeological evidence, Damaxyaa has been occupied for at least 10,000 years by the Haida people although Haida oral history indicates much longer.

In 2004, the Haida Land Use Vision based on the principles of Yah'guudang (respect) was put forward by the Council of the Haida Nation to guide deliberations towards a sustainable land use plan for Haida Gwaii. In 2007, the Haida Gwaii Strategic Land Use Agreement (SLUA) supported the Haida Land Use Vision which included the protection of Damaxyaa.

The SLUA stated that the new protected areas were to be set aside for cultural, spiritual, ecological, and recreation purposes and the areas were to be maintained for the benefit, education and enjoyment of present and future generations. The agreement was formally signed off by the Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia on December 12, 2007.

On December 17, 2008, Order in Council No. 977/2008 established the terrestrial component of Damaxyaa. On October 29, 2009, Damaxyaa was named and described in legislation by passing and providing Royal Assent to Bill 10-2009 (*Protected Areas of British Columbia Amendment Act, 2009*).

The Kunst'aa guu – Kunst'aayah Reconciliation Protocol was signed by the Haida Nation and the Province of British Columbia on December 11, 2009. On June 3, 2010, Bill 18 – 2010, entitled the *Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act*, received Royal Assent. This bill contains amendments that have implications to protected area planning and management on Haida Gwaii. This management plan is consistent with the intent of the *Haida Gwaii Reconciliation Act*.

In October 2010, the Haida Nation, at the Annual House of Assembly, adopted the KaayGuu Ga ga Kyah ts'as – Gin 'inaas 'laas waadluwaan gud tl'a gud giidaa (Haida Stewardship Law). The purpose of the Haida Stewardship Law is to ensure the well being of Haida Gwaii and create an economy that is respectful of the land, culture and people through establishing structures to manage the forests and the land, which include the manner in which humans interact with the natural world. This management plan is consistent with the intent of the Haida Stewardship Law.

## 1.4 Planning Process

The Parties initiated management planning for Damaxyaa in the fall of 2009 as part of a broader effort to prepare management plans for all eleven new protected areas on Haida Gwaii.

Area descriptions were developed from available information for each protected area to identify important cultural and natural values, as well as recreational and economic interests. Individual management plans incorporated information from the area descriptions.

Public informational sessions were jointly held by the Parties in the communities of Old Massett, Masset, Port Clements, Skidegate, Queen Charlotte, and Sandspit in January 2010 as part of a series of public consultation sessions being held to implement ecosystem-based management measures on Haida Gwaii. Protected area maps with proposed marine boundaries were shared with the public and information was provided regarding the management planning process, and what opportunities would exist for future public review and input.

In February, March and April 2010, draft management plans were developed for public review and presented at open houses held in Old Massett, Tlell, Skidegate and Sandspit. The public review drafts were also posted on the Haida Nation website and the BC Parks' website for broader comment and circulation.

## 2.0 Values of Damaxyaa

### 2.1 Significance and Role in the Protected Areas System

Damaxyaa:

- is an area rich with cultural values and extensive cultural features within the forests;
- is part of an archipelago-wide system of protected areas that now protects half of the land base of Haida Gwaii; and,
- protects a hiking trail that passes through old-growth stands.

### 2.2 Cultural Heritage

The people of the Haida Nation have occupied and collected food and materials from Damaxyaa since time immemorial.

This management plan does not have a complete or comprehensive listing of all cultural features or cultural inventory in the area. There are far more cultural features, many that are not inventoried, and other cultural values which are held in secret by the Haida Nation.

Damaxyaa includes one registered archaeological site and many culturally modified trees (CMTs). Further work will undoubtedly reveal even more of these treasures.

The management plan provides for the continuance of Haida culture through traditional use of the area. Some examples of traditional use within Damaxyaa include monumental cedar and cedar bark harvesting, and medicinal plant harvesting.

### 2.3 Natural Heritage

Damaxyaa is located within the Queen Charlotte Lowlands terrestrial ecosection (which is well represented by protected areas on Haida Gwaii), and the marine component that is within the Hecate Strait marine ecosection. Damaxyaa is classed as Coastal Western Hemlock, Sub-montane wet hypermaritime (CWHwh1) according to the province's Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) system.

The eastern-most portion of Damaxyaa is made up of clastic sedimentary rocks and the western-most area is predominately marine sedimentary and volcanic rocks. Near the centre of Damaxyaa is a rare outcrop of relatively young intrusive rocks. Mesozoic rock and fossils preserved on Haida Gwaii record a nearly complete and uninterrupted span of geological time from the Late Triassic through Late Cretaceous. The fossil records provide a rare opportunity to glimpse into the distant past and gain knowledge of primal life on earth.

The centre of Damaxyaa is densely forested and dominated by late seral Western redcedar and Western hemlock forests along a north-facing bluff. The western section of Damaxyaa is drained by Haans Creek, a salmonid stream with highly productive riparian old-growth. Raised linear

beach ridges can be found in the easternmost areas of Damaxyaa. These relic marine shoreline deposits are now dominated by nutrient-poor Lodgepole pine/Yellow cedar-Sphagnum ecosystem associations and swamp wetlands.

The area contains important ecological associations:

- the Western redcedar-Sitka spruce/Foamflower community (blue listed)<sup>4</sup>;
- the Western redcedar-Sitka spruce/Skunk cabbage community (blue listed);
- the Western redcedar-Sitka spruce/Sword fern community (blue listed);
- the Sitka spruce/Tall trisetum community (red listed); and,
- the Western hemlock-Sitka spruce/Lanky moss community (blue listed).

Damaxyaa contains fish-bearing streams (Haans Creek and Agnes Creek) that are known to host Coho Salmon, Chum Salmon, Pink Salmon, Steelhead, Dolly Varden and Cutthroat Trout.

The area also contains both Marbled Murrelet (red listed) nesting habitat and Northern Goshawk (laingi subspecies – red listed) foraging and nesting habitat. The nearshore marine area is a small 7.6 hectare portion of overwintering habitat for Brant Geese where they feed primarily on eel grass. This is part of a larger habitat area centred around Sandspit and Shingle Bay and one of the three known spring concentrations of the world populations of Brant Geese. The Shingle Bay area, including the marine component of Damaxyaa, represents the single most important staging area in northern British Columbia for northward migrating birds.

Of recent concern is the presence of introduced mammals such as Black-tailed Deer and Raccoons which pose a threat to local ecosystems and species.

## 2.4 Recreation

The Louise Dover Memorial Trail system is well marked and can be accessed west of the bridge by Haans Creek. The four kilometres long Haans Creek Loop follows the riparian area and passes through old-growth stands within Damaxyaa. The six kilometre long Skyline segment traverses Damaxyaa but currently crosses private property at the eastern terminus. Use of this trail system is enhanced by its close proximity to the community of Sandspit.

Damaxyaa offers some recreational opportunities that will be monitored to protect these values.

## 2.5 Respectful Use of Natural Resources

The Haida trap throughout Damaxyaa.

The province has issued one trap line license.

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<sup>4</sup> Blue list = list of ecological communities, and indigenous species and subspecies of special concern in B.C. Red list = list of ecological communities, and indigenous species and subspecies that are extirpated, endangered or threatened in B.C. (<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/atrisk/faq3.html#1>).

Additionally, a right-of-way exists for a power transmission line.

## 3.0 Management Direction

### 3.1 Vision

Haida culture is the interrelationship of the people to the land. Damaxyaa will remain as the ancestors have known it.

Damaxyaa and the other protected areas continue to provide the sustenance and spiritual values to this and future generations.

Damaxyaa contributes to the protection of a Haida archaeological forest, and representative Haida Gwaii fauna including several endemic<sup>5</sup> taxa, and rare terrestrial ecosystems and biophysical features. Nearby roads provide ready access to a system of trails appropriate for those who want to experience the grandeur of old-growth forests and salmon bearing streams in a natural setting. Local communities derive benefits from visitors drawn to the unique natural attractions of Damaxyaa.

### 3.2 Management Issues, Strategies and Performance Measures

Management strategies and objectives for Damaxyaa have been identified through a thorough analysis of key issues that may affect the balance between protection and use. The management plan will always consider the well being of the lands and marine areas first.

Knowledge, education and on-site monitoring will be primary tools of management.

The next stage of planning will be to develop site level management plans for select high use and sensitive areas.

#### Cultural Heritage

Key issues which may affect achievement of stated Haida cultural values in Damaxyaa are described. These issues relate primarily to the need for detailed inventories of key values. Filling information gaps in the early stages will help prevent current and potential impacts from recreational use and other activities. Identified strategies focus on resolving or managing these issues (Table 1).

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<sup>5</sup> native to, or confined exclusively to a particular region

**Table 1. Goals, Objectives, Issues, Strategies and Performance Measures for Cultural Heritage**

<b>Overall Management Goal: Preserve and maintain Haida social, ceremonial and cultural uses.</b>			
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
<b>Identify, protect and maintain Haida cultural heritage features, archaeological sites and traditional use locations.</b>	Many cultural heritage features, archaeological sites and traditional use locations are well documented, but information for some areas may be incomplete. Where there is limited information it is difficult to ensure that the values are protected.	Continue historical and ethnographic research, cultural heritage field mapping and inventory programs where knowledge gaps exist.	Completed historical and ethnographic research and cultural heritage field inventories.
	Certain uses can cause unintended disturbance to cultural heritage and traditional use sites and features.	Identify and report where cultural heritage features, archaeological sites and/or traditional use resources or sites exist within areas that have periodic human use.	Prior to any site specific development or within areas that receive recreational use, ensure cultural heritage sites have been identified.
		Identify and evaluate extent of threats and implement site specific protective measures for sensitive or special feature sites, such as those in Appendix 2, which may include: - marking areas as off-limits; - focusing use away from sites; - restricting aircraft access; - developing site level management plans for select high-use and culturally sensitive areas; - developing best management practices for aircraft, and pleasure craft activities in anchorages; and/or, - public information/interpretation initiatives.	Appropriate measures established at sensitive sites.
		Consider opportunities for monitoring activity at most vulnerable sites.	Monitoring of activities achieved.
<b>Ensure that new uses are compatible with Haida traditional activities.</b>	Many traditional and sustenance harvesting sites and activities are well documented, but information for some areas may be incomplete or withheld for traditional reasons and customs. Where there is limited information it is difficult to ensure that the values are protected.	Support efforts to identify and monitor traditional and sustenance harvesting sites and activities where knowledge gaps exist.	Completed inventories of traditional use and sustenance harvesting areas.
		Visitors respect traditional reasons and customs for privacy through dialogue and understanding with either Party.	Visitors are respectful people on the land.
	There are traditional cultural use activities that can benefit from monitoring or facilitation using existing Haida Nation programs.	Identify uses (such as cultural cedar harvesting) that benefit from continued facilitation from the Haida Nation to ensure sustainable and ongoing access to traditional resources, recognizing that many activities are preferable to occur in non-protected areas.	Traditional users are engaged in specific uses and programs.  Linkages are made with on-going Haida Nation and provincial administrative processes (such as Haida Gwaii cultural wood permit process).

## Natural Heritage

Key issues which may affect achievement of stated biological diversity objectives in Damaxyaa have been identified. These issues relate primarily to the desire to maintain important habitats, minimize potential impacts from introduced species, and create more complete inventories as a way to prevent negative impacts from recreational or commercial use within Damaxyaa. Identified strategies focus on resolving or managing these issues (Table 2).

**Table 2. Goals, Objectives, Issues, Strategies and Performance Measures for Natural Heritage**

<b>Overall Management Goal: Protect and maintain the diversity of terrestrial, intertidal and marine ecosystems.</b>			
<b>Objective</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Strategy</b>	<b>Performance Measure</b>
<b>Identify and protect regionally important, and rare and at risk ecosystems, ecological communities and species.<sup>6</sup></b>	Lack of inventory of the values results in unintended impacts on the protected area's rare and at risk ecosystems, ecological communities and species.	Identify research and inventory needs. Support programs designed to fill information gaps with emphasis on rare and at risk ecosystems, ecological communities and species.	Number of initiatives underway that enhance information.
		Identify and support restoration initiatives for rare and at risk ecosystems and species (e.g., nesting seabirds and their habitat, eelgrass habitats, estuaries, rare plant assemblages, understory vegetation, and Western redcedar regeneration).	Comprehensive knowledge base achieved.  Rare and at risk ecosystems and species restored/maintained.
	There is evidence that current use is causing site-level disturbance and declines in the abundance and distribution of rare and at risk ecosystems, ecological communities and species.	Where necessary, limit access to protect rare and at risk ecosystems, ecological communities and species.	Access restrictions in place where appropriate.
	Introduced species are displacing and harming native flora and fauna.	Evaluate presence, distribution and threat of introduced species.	Presence, distribution and threat of introduced species are documented.
		Undertake prevention initiatives and introduced species control programs on a co-ordinated and priority basis. Mechanical and biological methods are preferred. Monitor and report on efficacy of efforts.	Control programs in place. Target species controlled or removed. Disturbance and predation levels reduced. Monitoring reports completed.
		Support efforts in on-going introduced species research, education and public information programs.	Programs supported.

<sup>6</sup> To recognize the likely occurrence of distinctiveness on Haida Gwaii, rare is applied to Conservation Data Centre (CDC)-listed species and ecological communities as well as identified locally rare or at risk species and ecological communities.



**Overall Management Goal: Protect and maintain the diversity of terrestrial, intertidal and marine ecosystems.**

Objective	Issue	Strategy	Performance Measure
	Without knowing the effects of global climate change and sea level rise on ecosystems, ecological communities and species, it is difficult to know how to mitigate negative impacts to these values.	Support programs designed to monitor environmental change and impacts.	Monitoring programs supported.
		Initiate adaptive management practices and processes if required.	Adaptive management initiated.
	Silviculture activities and road deactivation within Damaxyaa (from forest harvesting prior to establishment) have an impact on the stated values.	Work with Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and the licensee to ensure outstanding obligations and any silviculture activities and road deactivation plans are consistent with the Damaxyaa management plan.	Ensure silviculture obligations are met in a timely manner consistent with the Damaxyaa management plan.

**Recreation**

Key issues which may support provision for recreational opportunities in Damaxyaa are described. These issues relate primarily to maintenance of the current range of opportunities and potential impacts on stated ecological or cultural values from recreational use. Identified strategies focus on resolving or managing these issues (Table 3).

**Table 3. Goals, Objectives, Issues, Strategies and Performance Measures for Recreation**

**Overall Management Goal: Provide for limited commercial and public recreational use in a largely undisturbed natural environment.**

Objective	Issue	Strategy	Performance Measure
<b>Identify opportunities for appropriate wilderness recreation and identify any necessary associated facilities.</b>	There is a need to determine appropriate and respectful approaches to recreational visits in Damaxyaa. Where there is limited information it is difficult to ensure that the values are protected.	Develop a baseline inventory of structures and current and potential recreational uses, with emphasis on use or sites near cultural or natural features of interest.	Completed baseline inventory of recreational opportunities, structures and use.
		Implement a Backcountry Recreational Impact Monitoring (BRIM) assessment on any current recreation sites.	Annual site inspections in Damaxyaa to be completed with BRIM reports every three years.
	Recreational use can impact other heritage and natural values.	Develop criteria to ensure recreational use is compatible with the cultural and natural heritage features or values.	Criteria are developed to determine acceptable limits and avoidance of impacts, and BRIM reports are used to inform adaptive management on a site specific basis.
<b>Provide visitors with a range of opportunities and experiences.</b>	Trail system established but requires regular upkeep.	Maintain walking and hiking access (not suitable for horses or bicycles) along Louise Dover Trail (4 kilometre Haans Creek Loop) and manage for higher levels of visitor use as a day-use destination area.	Trail accessible and well maintained as warranted by level of use.

**Overall Management Goal: Provide for limited commercial and public recreational use in a largely undisturbed natural environment.**

Objective	Issue	Strategy	Performance Measure
	The current level of public awareness of available recreation opportunities affects the ability to meet economic objectives.	Identify recreation opportunities and facilities in promotional and marketing materials in consideration of existing cultural activities.	Development and distribution of promotional information and materials.
		Support development of on-site public interpretation media.	On-site public interpretation facilities developed.

### Respectful Use of Natural Values

Key issues which may affect achievement of stated objectives related to the respectful use of Damaxyaa are related primarily to the potential conflict between the use of and potential impacts on the cultural and natural values that have been identified. Identified strategies focus on resolving or managing these issues (Table 4).

**Table 4. Goals, Objectives, Issues, Strategies and Performance Measures for Respectful Use of Natural Values<sup>7</sup>**

**Overall Management Goal: Provide for compatible opportunities where appropriate.**

Objective	Issue	Strategy	Performance Measure
Identify appropriate uses and support the delivery of local economic benefits.	Small-scale <sup>8</sup> tree removal is an acceptable management option when required for human health and safety, or to facilitate approved development, or for ecological restoration or forest health management projects.	Identify appropriate opportunities for small-scale tree removal.	All projects compliant with management plan direction.
	Current and future commercial uses by the Haida Nation including infrastructure development may be needed to enhance the visitor experience.	Proposals will be subject to meeting the goals, objectives and protection of values outlined in this management plan.	Visitor experience is enhanced by cultural infrastructure.

<sup>7</sup> Natural resource uses and developments must be consistent with the cultural, natural and recreational purposes of Damaxyaa.

<sup>8</sup> A few trees, or less than 1 hectare in area.

**Overall Management Goal: Provide for compatible opportunities where appropriate.**

Objective	Issue	Strategy	Performance Measure
	Harvest of forest botanicals <sup>9</sup> by Haida medicinal practitioners will continue in Damaxyaa. Any harvesting of forest botanicals by others can be permitted if the harvest is sustainable, and will not impact identified values or conflict with other management objectives.	Authorizations will not be issued to any individual that may compromise the natural values.	Monitor harvest levels for different botanicals.
		Specific proposals for access will be considered in the context of maintaining cultural and natural values.	All proposals are compliant with management plan direction.
		To guide conditions for commercial permit approvals, consider method and scale of harvest (quantity over area), location (to gauge degree of compatibility with traditional or recreational users), and level of benefit to local economy.	Commercial use is consistent with balancing traditional/sustenance use, ecosystem integrity and local economic benefit.
	The nature of economic benefits for the Haida Nation in Damaxyaa has not yet been defined.	Utilize an appropriate government to government forum to access economic opportunities for the Haida Nation.	Develop and maintain an economic plan for protected areas on Haida Gwaii that assists Haida individuals and businesses to take advantage of economic and employment opportunities.

### 3.3 Zoning

Zoning assists in the planning and management of protected areas. In general terms, zoning divides an area into logical units to apply consistent management objectives. The management unit identified in Damaxyaa is in accordance with Haida Gwaii Yah’guudang - respect for all living things - and reflects the intended land use, the acceptable level of development and use, and the level of management required (Figure 3).

The following management unit has been identified within Damaxyaa and uses that have been deemed as appropriate for this unit are identified in Appendix 1.

#### Management Unit Type 5

The purpose of Management Unit Type 5<sup>10</sup> is to protect Haida cultural features and access for social and ceremonial uses, and maintain natural biodiversity and ecological processes. This unit also allows for the enjoyment of the natural environment where compatible with the cultural and natural values. Low impact activities, such as no trace hiking, are appropriate.

<sup>9</sup> Forest botanicals are non-timber-based products gathered from forest and range land with seven recognized categories: wild edible mushrooms, floral greenery, medicinal products, fruits and berries, herbs and vegetables, landscaping products, and craft products.

<sup>10</sup> This unit corresponds to the BC Parks Nature Recreation Zone.

Management activities in the unit will focus on efforts to maintain and sustain cultural use, natural biodiversity and ecological processes, and protect habitat for species. Additionally, a secondary objective will be to manage for some development or use of natural resources while maintaining opportunities for commercial and public recreation.

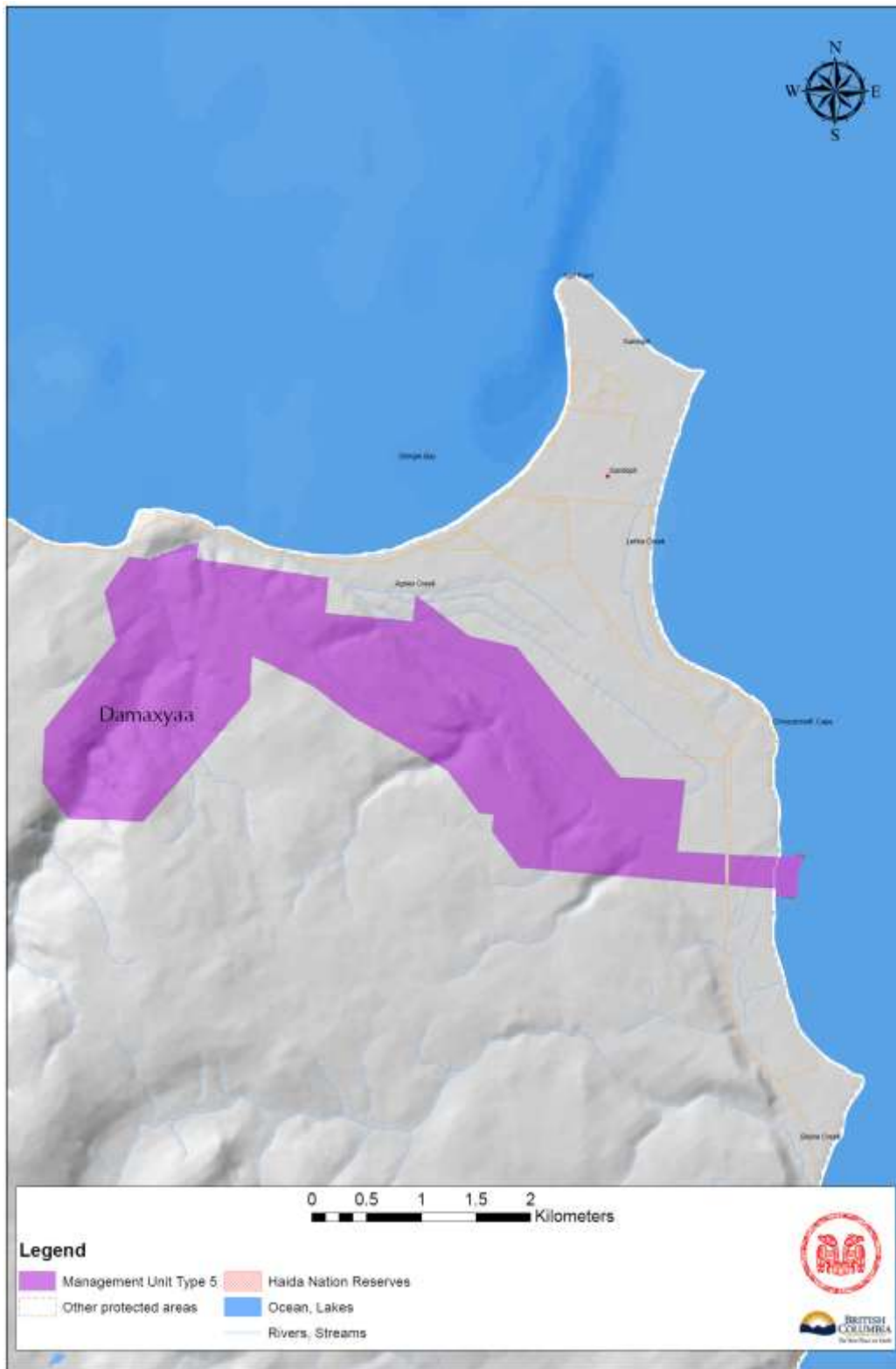


Figure 3. Damaxyya Management Zones Map

## 4.0 Plan Implementation

Implementation of the Damaxyaa Management Plan will involve identifying strategies and achieving stated performance measures, while focusing on implementing high priority strategies. Strategies and performance measures will be prioritized in terms of cost, feasibility and overall benefit to management.

### 4.1 Implementation Resources

The Parties will develop and maintain a collaborative workplan for the protected areas. Items to be included in the workplan will include a description of the resources available during a given time period including staff and any additional operating or project funds that may support identified initiatives. The Haida Nation will dedicate staff and resources as funding allocations permit. The Ministry of Environment will seek project-specific funding to implement priority strategies and monitor key performance measures, subject to provincial funding availability. Specific projects will be evaluated for priority in relation to the overall protected areas system. Many of the initiatives contemplated are not funded as part of core ministry activities so jointly seeking funds from available funding sources either provincially or externally will be considered.

Permit holders will be required to collect and provide information related to performance measures and the overall state of Damaxyaa. Such requirements will be defined in approved permits and in any protocols between the Haida Nation and the permittee.

### 4.2 Priority Implementation

As part of developing on-going workplans, priorities will be developed for the implementation of strategies and performance measures. A key priority is to implement management strategies which support cultural use and cultural inventory information. These priorities will be developed based on Haida Nation and provincial interests taking into account the requirements of other protected areas on Haida Gwaii such as developing baseline data to support management strategies.

### 4.3 Reporting

The Parties will prepare a summary bi-annual report describing progress on implementation of the protected area management plans.

### 4.4 Management Plan Review

In order to ensure the management of Damaxyaa remains relevant and effective, an adaptive management approach will be used. Adaptive management involves a five-step process of planning, action, monitoring, evaluation and revision of the management plan to reflect lessons learned, changing circumstances and/or objectives achieved.

The management plan will be reviewed as required by the Parties and may be affirmed, revised, or amended by written agreement. A review of the management plan should generally be triggered by the complexities of the management issues in the protected area and/or a significant change in circumstances (e.g., a natural disaster, major environmental change or discovery of a major new archaeological site), and not by a specific time period.

A management plan review looks for any necessary updates to the management plan that are required to keep management direction current and relevant, correct the intent of a policy statement or address some error or omission. Any updates or changes to the content of the management plan will be addressed through a formal management plan amendment process. The amendment process will include an opportunity for public input.





## Appendix 1 – Appropriate Uses Chart

The following table lists existing and potential future uses or activities in Damaxyaa. However, it is not an exhaustive list of all uses that may be considered in this protected area. The table also indicates the uses which the management planning process has confirmed are not appropriate in Damaxyaa. Additionally, a permit cannot be issued for commercial logging, mining, or hydroelectric power generation, other than local run-of-the-river projects that supply power to approved uses in Damaxyaa or nearby communities that do not otherwise have access to hydro-electric power.

The table must be reviewed in conjunction with the other sections of the management plan, including the descriptions, vision, objectives and strategies. Uses are subject to existing policies and any relevant impact assessment processes.

Activity/Facility	Management Unit Type 5 <sup>11</sup>
<b>Cultural Heritage</b>	
Cultural, Ceremonial, Food Gathering and Social Uses	Y
<b>Natural Heritage</b>	
Fire Management <sup>12</sup>	Y
Forest Insect/Disease Control	Y
Noxious Weed Control	Y
Scientific Research	Y
<b>Recreation</b>	
Administrative Buildings and Compounds	N
Aircraft Access	Y
Anchorage	N <sup>13</sup>
Backcountry Huts and Shelters	N
Boat Launches	N
Boating (Motorized)	Y
Boating (Non-motorized)	Y
Camping – backcountry or boat accessible	Y
Campsites and Picnic Areas – road accessible	N
Commercial Recreation (facility-based)	N
Commercial Recreation (no facilities)	Y
Fishing	Y
Heli-hiking	N
Hiking/Backpacking/Walking	Y

<sup>11</sup> This unit covers 824 hectares of land and 7 hectares of marine foreshore in Damaxyaa.

<sup>12</sup> As per fire management plan.

<sup>13</sup> No suitable locations.

<b>Activity/Facility</b>	<b>Management Unit Type 5<sup>11</sup></b>
Hunting <sup>14</sup>	Y
Interpretation and Information Buildings / Signs	Y
Mechanized Off-road Access (non-motorized – i.e., mountain biking)	N
Motorized Off-road Access (i.e., 4x4, motorcycles)	N
Pack Animal Use	N
Trails (hiking)	Y
Wharves/docks	N
Wildlife/Nature Viewing	Y
<b>Respectful Use of Natural Values</b>	
Angling Guiding	Y
Commercial Botanical Forest Products	Y
Commercial Filming	Y
Communication Sites	N
Firewood Cutting (personal use)	Y
Grazing (domestic livestock)	N
Guide Outfitting <sup>15</sup>	Y
Independent Hydro Electric Power Projects & Infrastructure	N
Trapping	Y
Utility Corridors (power/transmission lines and other rights-of-way) <sup>16</sup>	N2

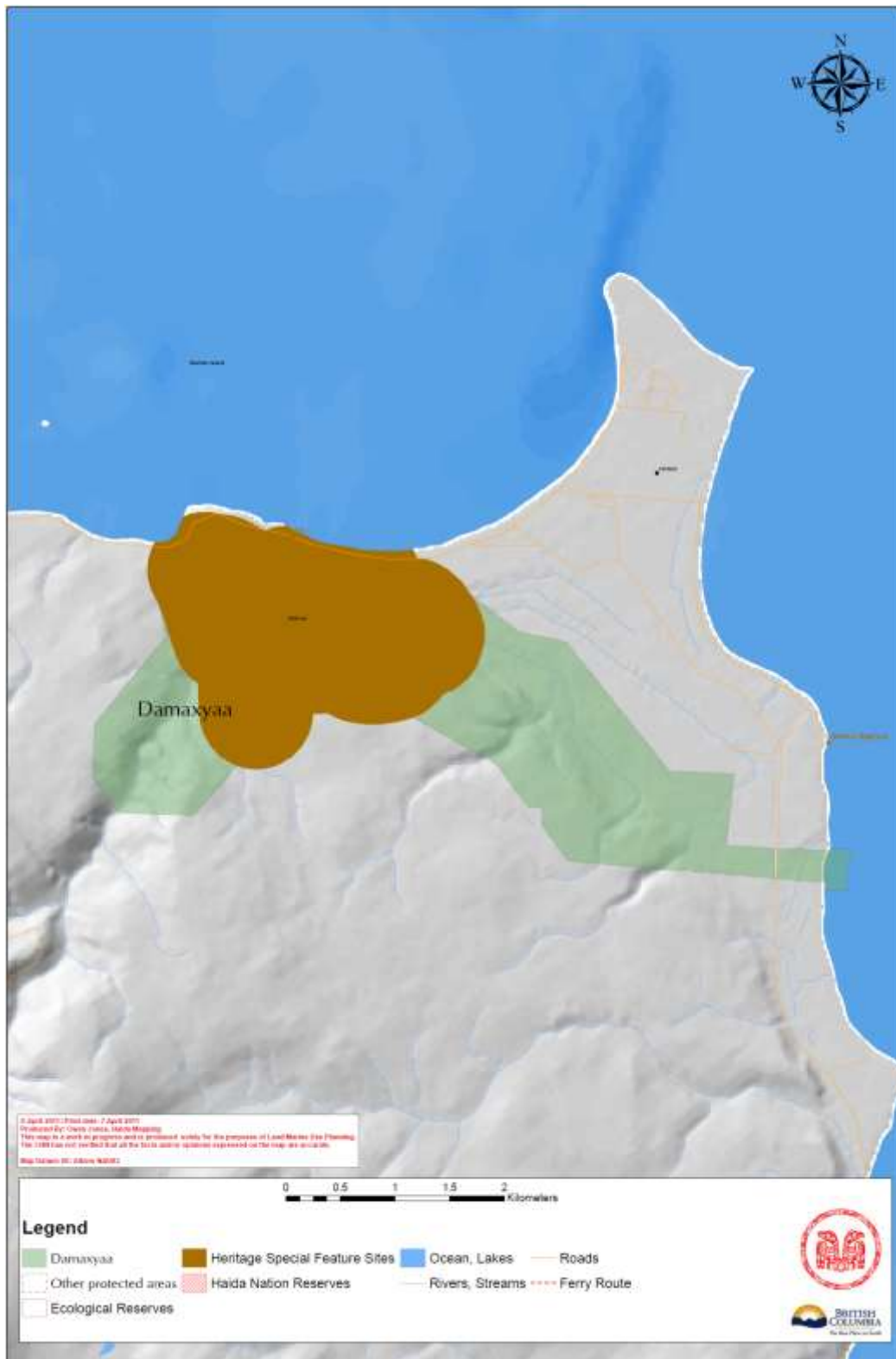
- Y Appropriate
- N Not appropriate
- N1 Not appropriate except for expressed management purposes as identified in the Management Plan
- N2 Not appropriate, but if the specific activity or facility existed at the time of establishment of the protected area, it is normally appropriate for it to continue
- N/A Not applicable

<sup>14</sup> The management of black bear hunting will be consistent with outcomes of negotiations between the Council of the Haida Nation and Province of British Columbia. If required, changes will be reflected in amendments to this management plan.

<sup>15</sup> The guide outfitting certificate is owned by the Council of the Haida Nation. There will be no commercial black bear hunting.

<sup>16</sup> Pre-existing only.

# Appendix 2 – Heritage Special Feature Sites



# Damaxyaa Management Plan

**Approved by:**



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April Churchill  
Vice President of the Haida Nation

July 29, 2011

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Date



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Brian Bawtinheimer  
Director, Parks Planning & Management Branch  
BC Parks

August 2, 2011

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Date

Back Cover Photo: Brandin Schultz

