

# Tourism and Recreation – Commercial Recreation Tenures

## description

The management of Crown land and coastal and marine resources plays a pivotal role in expanding and diversifying the economy, sustaining the environment, and fostering the health and well being of residents and communities in British Columbia. Crown land is typically, and most commonly, referenced in regards to the province’s terrestrial land base, and constitutes 94% of that land base, but it also applies to submerged lands (i.e., those lands covered by water) including tidal lands (i.e., the shoreline). Provincial Crown land includes the seabed floor of inland waters whereas the Federal Crown land extends over the seabed floor in offshore areas, as well as in designated ports and federal protected areas. The Province of BC and some First Nations have confirmed government to government arrangements through which they can work collaboratively on shared decision making respecting lands and natural resources.

The tenure map series depicts provincial tenures only. Provincial agencies issue tenures for a variety of uses that may include everything from marine-based renewable energy development to commercial tenures for guide outfitters.

This atlas page depicts Crown land allocations for commercial recreation that overlap with marine areas of BC as of April 2010. Commercial recreation, often called eco or adventure tourism, is defined as an outdoor recreational activity that is provided on a fee for service basis with a focus on experiences associated with the natural environment. Since 1998, when Crown land is required to support commercial recreation, a tenure is required. Forms of land allocation vary in the rights they grant and length of time they are typically issued for (see Crown Land allocation policy reference below). Generally two kinds of access to Crown land are provided under the Commercial Recreation Program: general permission to operation on extensive areas for a specific purpose and authority to build improvements on a specific site to support an operation. Tenures come with specified rights as well as responsibilities, including the responsibility to pay annual rent. Commercial recreation tenures do not provide exclusive rights to extensive areas of land, although exclusive rights may be granted for the use of improvements including structures built on tenures. The public can use the land specified in tenures for non-commercial purposes. Tenures issued for commercial recreation can overlap with each other. The types and number of land allocations issued for, or accepted applications for, commercial recreation are detailed in Table 1.

TABLE 1: CROWN LAND ALLOCATION RELATED TO COMMERCIAL RECREATION

Purpose	Land Allocation Type	Number
Community Outdoor Recreation	lease	10
	licence of occupation	4
Ecotourist Lodge / Resort	lease	4
	licence of occupation	4
Fish Camps	lease	1
	licence of occupation	2
Guided Nature Viewing	lease	1
	licence of occupation	56
	Investigative permit	1
Guided Saltwater Recreation	licence of occupation	6
Miscellaneous	licence of occupation	11
	designated use area	21
Multiple Use	licence of occupation	28
Private Camps	lease	1
	licence of occupation	2
Tidal Sports Fishing Camps	lease	2
	licence of occupation	9

Tourism is one of the province’s leading economic drivers, generating \$13.8 billion in spending, \$6.6 billion in gross domestic product (GDP), 131,000 person-years of employment and \$4.7 billion in wages and salaries in 2008 (Tourism BC, 2009). The money spent by visitors and residents on ocean tourism and recreation activities in BC supports thousands of businesses and employees in coastal communities. Most marine tourism and recreation activities are seasonally dependant and use is concentrated in months with the most favourable weather conditions. However, timing varies according to the activity and some activities are pursued year-round.



PHOTO: JOHN BROUWER

## data sources

- Province of British Columbia, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, GeoBC

## data resolution

- 1:20,000

## date compiled

- April 2010

## reviewers

- Not reviewed.

## reviewer comments

- None provided.

## caveats of use

- Tenures and other Crown land allocations are issued and expire over time; the latest release of these data from the BC Land and Resource Data Warehouse should be gathered before use.
- Crown land allocations have been enlarged on the accompanying map to increase visibility at this scale.
- Recommended date of expiry for use of these data in a marine planning context: None provided.

## map, feature data and metadata access

- Visit [www.bcmca.ca/data](http://www.bcmca.ca/data) for more information.

## references

- Crown Land Allocation policy can be found at: [www.al.gov.bc.ca/clad/leg\\_policies/policies/crown\\_land\\_allocation.pdf](http://www.al.gov.bc.ca/clad/leg_policies/policies/crown_land_allocation.pdf)
- Information on provincial tenures issued for commercial recreation purposes can be found at: [http://archive.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/adventure\\_tourism/docs/pdf/complete.pdf](http://archive.ilmb.gov.bc.ca/adventure_tourism/docs/pdf/complete.pdf)
- Tourism BC. *The Value of Tourism in British Columbia Trends from 1998 to 2008*. 2009. [www.tti.gov.bc.ca/research/IndustryPerformance/pdfs/tourism\\_indicators/Value\\_of\\_Tourism\\_in\\_British\\_Columbia.pdf](http://www.tti.gov.bc.ca/research/IndustryPerformance/pdfs/tourism_indicators/Value_of_Tourism_in_British_Columbia.pdf)

**BCMCA Atlas**  
**Tourism & Recreation**  
**Commercial Recreation Tenures**

**Legend**

**2010 Tenures**

- Community Outdoor Recreation
- Ecotourist Lodge/Resort
- Fish Camps
- Guided Nature Viewing
- Guided Saltwater Recreation
- Miscellaneous
- Multiple Use
- Private Camps
- Tidal Sports Fishing Camps

Notes:  
- Tenures change over time. These tenures are current as of April 2010.  
- Size of the tenures has been exaggerated slightly to increase visibility at this scale.

**Data Sources:**

Province of British Columbia

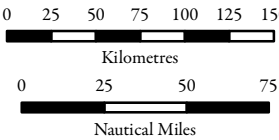
**Base Data:**

ESRI Base Data, GeoBase, GeoBC, NOAA, Natural Resources Canada, USGS, Washington State Government

**Thematic Data:**

For more information on data sources and methods please refer to the facing page to this map

**Projection:** BC Albers NAD83



1:4,250,000 \*

\* Written scales are approximate and are based on a 11 x 17 inch paper size.

Prepared for:



Map template by Caslys Consulting Ltd.  
April 26, 2011

