

DIRA GUARDIANS OF DENMAN SHORES



QUESTIONS:

ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF PROHIBITING INDUSTRIAL VEHICLES AND HEAVY EQUIPMENT ON OUR BEACHES?

103 YES 8 NO

ARE YOU IN FAVOUR OF LIMITING VEHICULAR ACCESS TO OUR BEACHES?

102 YES 8 NO

*NOTE (Emergency vehicles would always be provided access)

COMMENTS:

Other than emergency vehicles - access should be limited using lock posts, etc.
Any other vehicles should get authority (in writing) from DFO, e.g. aquaculture.

While exceptions might be made for good reasons, I see very little need for anyone to be driving motorized vehicles on the beaches. Industrial or commercial activity especially should be strictly prohibited. The foreshore is a critical part of the marine ecology and needs to be protected from any destructive use. I also think residents have a right to privacy and protection from noise and other intrusions.

Beaches are no place for vehicles. Thank you for taking up this cause on our behalf.

I don't think that we should give people who are the source of a lot of the garbage on the beaches an excuse for not cleaning up.

Maximum protection of foreshore. Minimize pollution. Protect natural and scenic values.

Vehicle "No Posts" and "Signs" would help. DFO authorized vehicles need to have I.D.

With the exception of emergency vehicles or possibly some other exceptional circumstance, I do not support vehicles on the beach (i.e. I do not support the routine use of vehicles on the beach).

I need to access my beach from a distant vehicle access point.

I am not sure how much, if any, vehicular access to beaches is needed for beach farmers (oysters), but I support the least traffic possible, and geoduck farming should be prohibited if possible!

I feel very strongly that vehicles - especially heavy equipment and industrial vehicles - should be prohibited from accessing beaches under all circumstances! Not only do vehicles destroy the delicate balance and structure of the beach systems, but allowing access means more threat from oil and fuel leaks.

Why should Denman beaches be exempted from all the above regulations?

COMMENTS (Continued):

I have long supported efforts to protect beaches on Denman and have been very frustrated by the jurisdictional limitations that prevented the LTC from legislating and prohibition. Thank you for this endeavour and my best wishes to you all for success.

It has been reported that trucks were driving on beaches and as far as they could go at low tides - supported with photos - and nothing was ever done. Good luck to all involved in trying to stop this destructive habit.

My concern is that if shellfish farmers can't reach the beaches by vehicle we'll have even more development (floats, etc.) on the water. There is already too many floating farms. It's horrible to look at and they leave too much debris (plastic).

Build official barriers - well marked - leaving only room for walkers. Key for emergency vehicles?

I have watcher friends take forage fish samples for years and I know how important forage fish are to our marine environment. For this reason industrial and other motor vehicle traffic should be limited. Also foraging for seaweed and sand from beaches is a world wide problem and we must act now for our oceans for all species.

This "survey" is a farce. Please at least get professional help before you try to "sample" the mood of the Island. What a biased piece of propaganda.

This prohibition should also include all motorized vehicles! ATVs, dirt bikes, etc.

Thanks for doing this.

Our shorelines are sanctuary for all of us.

I hope this would include oyster farm trucks and ATVs. What does the word "limit" mean? I am in favour of No Vehicles (motorized) at all, but doubt that most people would be.

Should be "prohibiting" vehicular access to our beaches, not "limiting" vehicular access.

Only emergency vehicles should be allowed on the beaches. Oyster and clam claims should find some other way to get their product.

A sign posted on Hinton Road (off Lacon) advises no vehicles allowed on the beach and yet there are recent car tracks and an obvious series of wear as the result of regular usage of vehicles driving on the beach. Most of this traffic is associated with the oyster/shell fish industry.

COMMENTS (Continued):

We don't need to keep making more rules and regulations as we have too many unnecessary ones and outdated ones already. Do active work instead of making rules! No to both questions unless you define what these vehicles are and when these are ever on the beaches. Seaweed - an asset to provide our gardens with this and food. If all people stop eating sushi (seaweed), fish, clams, oysters, crabs, prawns, fish, and taking food from the waters. I support you then! Reminds me of the people who don't want to cut trees down, yet use wood for fuel in wood stoves, building houses, etc.

There is frequent truck traffic for shell fish workers on the beach (plus garbage left behind). They gain access via Hillard Road off Lacon. Trucks (occasionally) driven by Denman residents come to power-saw logs that drift to beach from passing log booms. They are presumably used for firewood.

The beach in front of my property is a well run oyster lease run in a very responsible manner. I am NOT in favour of limiting the ATV that is used in the operation of this lease.

Some people launch their boats which means driving across the beach to reach the water! But overall, we are against vehicles on the beach.

We support limiting access re: geoduck industry. Need to be able to allow cars/small trucks to put boats in water.

I think it is fine if oyster and clam farmers use a single road track. They need a limited road track. It would be helpful if they carried a mop-up hazardous waste kit in case of spills of gas/oil/other vehicle fluids. I haven't noticed any degradation of the beach in front of Hinton Road. There have been 3 cases of cars getting stuck on the beach over 25 years. But boats are also capable of sinking and creating hazardous waste. Maybe Denman could use a hazardous waste response plan for these mishaps.

Ocean acidification is #1 concern for health of Baynes Sound (attachment - "Marine outboards and personal watercraft - Comparative assessment of the environmental performance of small engines (PDF - 1.12 MB)

Some shellfish growers require access to upper portions of beach for their livelihood. This questionnaire oversimplifies a complex issue!

