

ECOLOGICA  
1015  
VICTORIA

Oak Bay Islands

Ref. No.:

264

ECOLOGICAL RESERVES COLLECTION  
GOVERNMENT OF BRITISH COLUMBIA  
VICTORIA, B. C.  
VBV 1X4

Ecological Reserves, and Some Other Locations,  
in Southern Vancouver Island  
as Sites for Marine Research

Brent W. Bisgrove

79-3294

prepared for

Dr. D.V. Ellis

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Oak Bay Islets

Ecological Reserve No. 94

Alpha, Jemmy Jones, Great Chain Island and the Chain Islets are located east of Oak Bay, Victoria District. Alpha is located between Chatham and Discovery Island, Jemmy Jones is located south of Ten Mile Point, and the Chain Islets and Great Chain Island are located directly east of Oak Bay (Fig. 8).

The islands are composed of bedrock. Coastal features include steep faces, rocky outcrops, gravel beaches, and boulder areas.

The reserve occupies about 170 hectares, 7 hectares of which are land, the remainder being the surrounding subtidal land. The reserve was established to protect maritime meadows rich in spring flowers, a sea bird nest site (Great Chain Island), and representative marine life.

The islands are accessible by boat from the Oak Bay area although small craft should be advised of strong current in this area. Great Chain Island is a sea bird nesting area and is closed to the public from May to September.

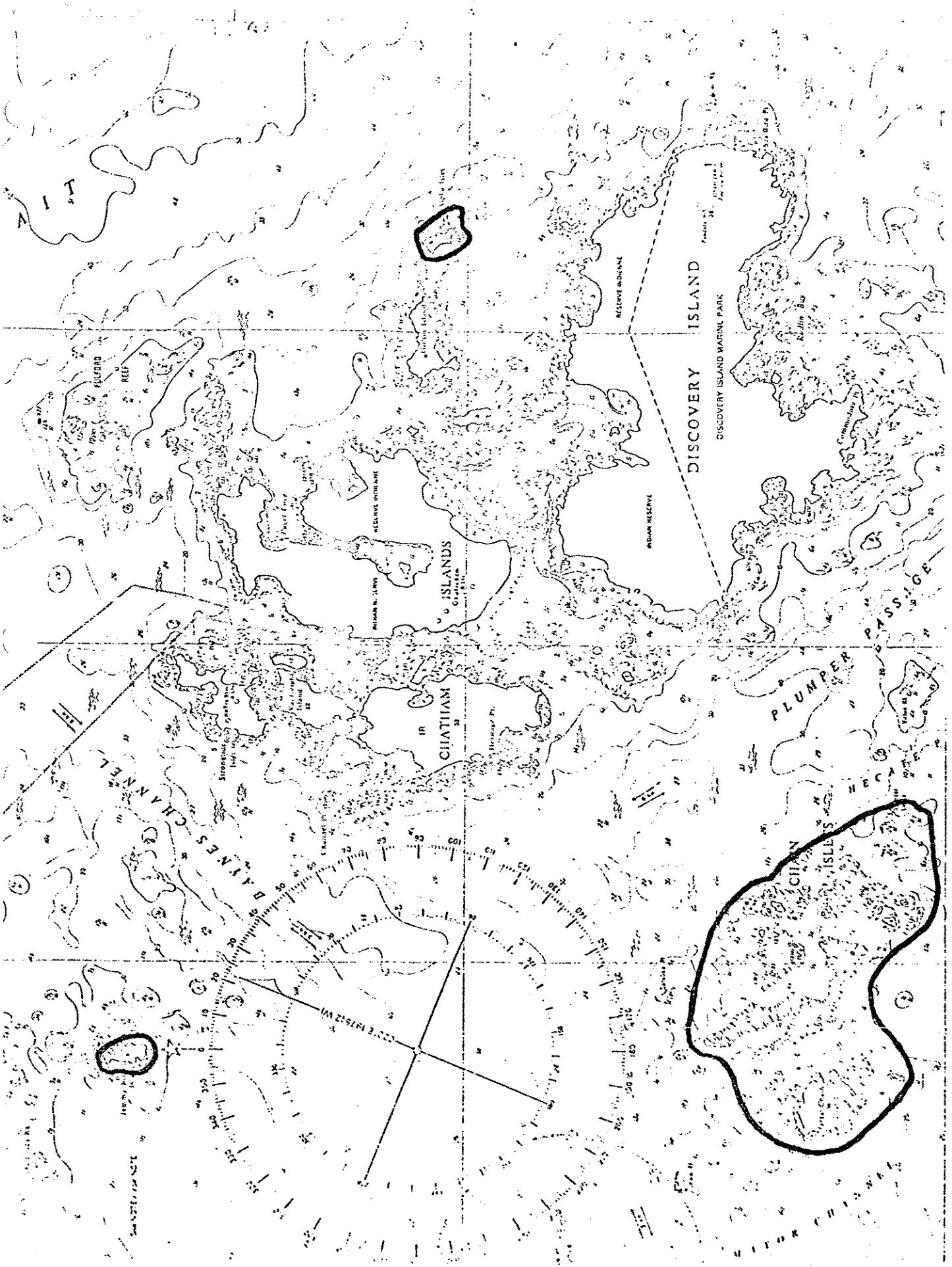


Figure 8. Ecological Reserve No. 94: Oak Bay Islets.

TABLE 9 (con't)

	<u>Ecological Reserves</u>					<u>Proposed Reserves</u>		
	Ten Mile Point	Satellite Channel	Race Rocks	Oak Bay Islets	Baeria Rocks	Mount Tuam	Ogden Point	Gordon Head
Phylum: Arthropoda								
Class: Crustacea								
Subclass: Malacostraca								
<i>Hemigrapsis nudus</i> (purple shore crab)	X				X	X	X	X
<i>Hemigrapsis oregonensis</i> (yellow shore crab)	X				X	X	X	X
<i>Pugettia producta</i> (shield-back kelp crab)					X		X	
<i>Pugettia gracilis</i> (graceful kelp crab)	X				X	X		
<i>Cancer productus</i> (red crab)	X				X	X	X	
<i>Petrolisthes eriomerius</i> (porcelain crab)	X				X	X		
<i>Lophopanopeus bellus</i> (black-clawed crab)					X	X		
<i>Telmessus cheiraganus</i> (helmet crab)							X	
<i>Haplogaster mertensii</i> (fuzzy crab)						X		
<i>Seyra acutifrons</i> (sharp-nosed crab)						X		
<i>Pagurus hirsutiusculus</i> (hairy hermit crab)					X		X	
<i>Pagurus samuelis</i> (blue-handed hermit crab)							X	
<i>Pagurus granosimanus</i>					X			
<i>Pagurus beringanus</i>					X			
<i>Pagurus caurinus</i>	X							X
<i>Spirontocarius prionota</i> (broken back shrimp)							X	
<i>Heptocarpis</i> sp.					X			
<i>Ligia pallasii</i> (sea roach)						X	X	
<i>Idotea wosnesenski</i>	X				X			X
<i>Gnorimosphaeroma oregonensis</i>								X

## Notes:

*Petrolisthes eriomerius* - abundant at Mount Tuam.