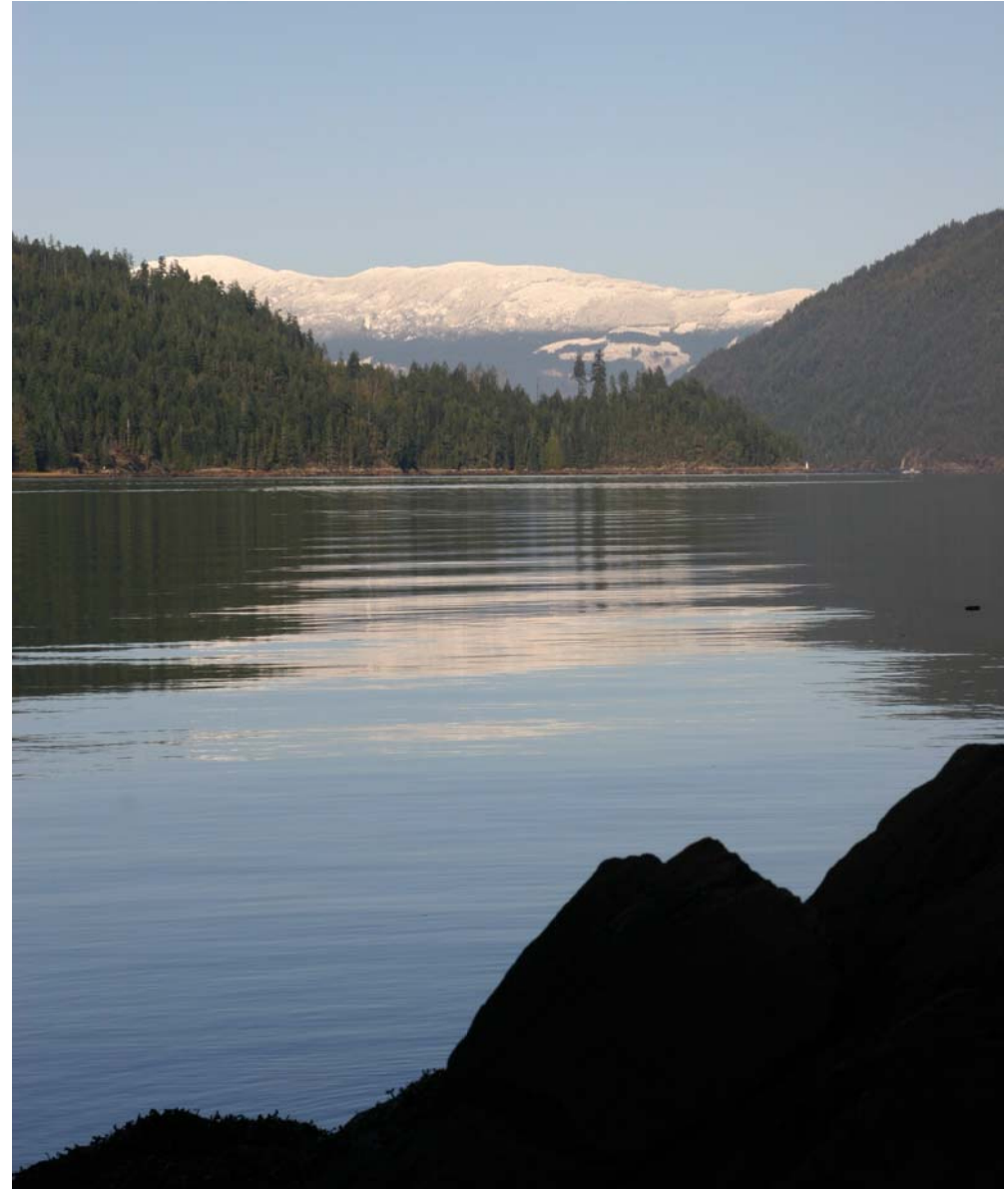
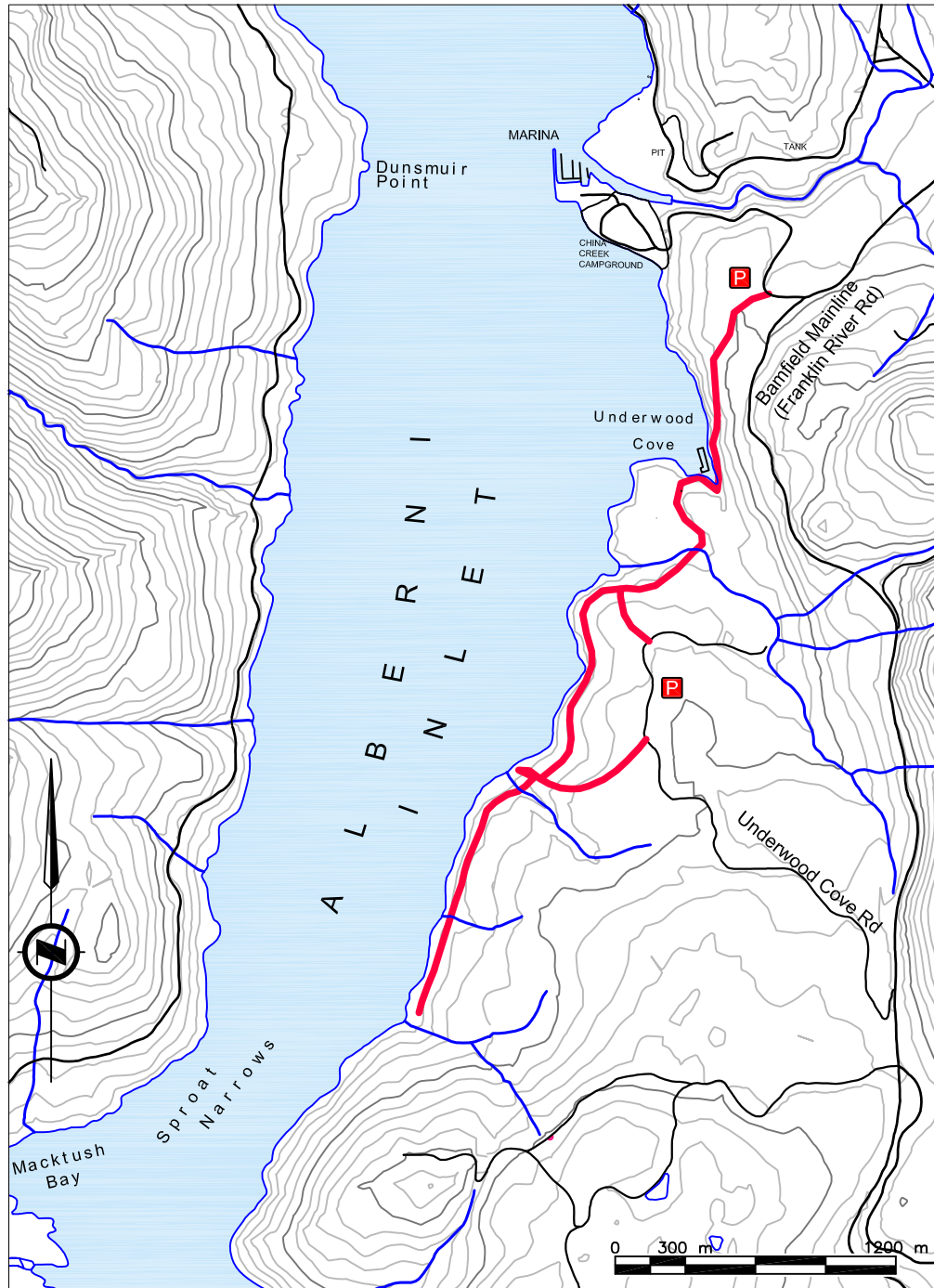


Historic CNPR Trail



Historic CNPR Trail



MAP REFERENCES:

NTS Map #92 F/2 - ALberni Inlet
Backroad Mapbook: Vancouver Island, Map # 24

Trail description

Vehicle access: 2WD

Difficulty: Easy / Moderate

Driving time: 30 min

Elevation gain: 60 m

Trail length: 3.8 km

Time: 4:00 hours

Access to Trailhead:

From the Visitors Information Centre take Highway 4A (Port Alberni Highway) 3.8 km to 10th Avenue. Turn left on 10th and continue 1.1 km to Argyle Street. Turn left onto Argyle (follow the signs to Bamfield) and then right onto Anderson Street. Follow Anderson for 2.1 km to where it joins Ship Creek Road. Turn left onto Ship Creek Road and continue 4.8 km to the junction with the Bamfield Road. Turn right and continue 6.3 km to the turnoff for China Creek Marina. Turn right to the marina and the trail is 0.2 km on the left.

There is a second access point 3.4 km further down the Bamfield Mainline. Turn right on the Underwood Cove road and follow it until it is blocked by rubble. Park and walk down the left hand road. This access is better for people who want to avoid the steep ascent of the China Creek Marina access.

Trail Features:

From its northern access on the China Creek Marina road, the trail passes through a recent clearcut and then descends steeply through mature timber and evergreen huckleberry to Underwood Cove. On the way, it passes some rocky clearings which give views of the inlet below. The trail continues past Underwood Cove to a cast-in place concrete culvert, completed in 1913 - the date is embossed on the downstream end. Across the creek, at the top of the bank is the end of the Canadian Northern Pacific Railway grade, although the trains never went past Cowichan Lake. The rail bed was constructed without motorized machinery and impressive rock cuts and filled areas can be seen along the way. The trail continues south along the rail grade, past the two access trails from Underwood Main. It parallels the inlet, which can be seen through gaps in the rainforest. Two side trails along the route give access to small beaches beside streams. Work on the trail is continuing and it will soon extend to Franklin River.