

ANIMALS

<i>Map key</i>	<i>Place name</i>	<i>Linguistic information</i>	<i>Location</i>
1.	qwunus	whale • rock looks like a whale with its mouth open	rock west of Indian Point, located past tl'eel't-hw (False Narrows) channel by Gabriola.
	<i>Additional note:</i> At one time there were many whales, especially humpbacks, in the Strait of Georgia. Commercial whaling in the strait started in the 1860s. In 1907, a whaling station was established at Page's Lagoon, Nanaimo, and a few months later, after killing 97 whales, they were all gone. Humpbacks were not seen again in the strait until 1976. Snuneymuxw people off the outer coast of Gabriola Island may have hunted whales, though the more usual large mammal gathered was the sea lion.		
2.	sqwiqwmi'	little dog • diminutive form of the noun sqwumey' "dog"	The beach at Cameron Island
3.	stl'i'tl'uluqum' stleluqum=wild beast, fierce thing	little monster • diminutive form of stl'eluqum "wild beast, fierce creature"	100 yards south of <i>p'tth'un'utsus</i> , near the mouth of the Nanaimo River
4.	sxuyum	goldeneye duck	The Millstone river
5.	hw'ulhuquy'um	snake place • 'ulhqi' 'snake' and the affixes hw=... =um adds the meaning 'a place replete with ...'	Snake Island
	<i>Additional note:</i> This site is linked to a legend about a young girl from Departure Bay who disobeys and important food taboo and eats too many ferns. She becomes pregnant and is put on the island where she gives birth to snakes. Her parents then rescue her leaving the snakes behind. These snakes, Elders say, are still there but you may not see them until you step on the beach when they will suddenly appear underneath your feet. The Snuneymuxw have a strong aversion to snakes and were told to never eat fish caught too close to this island for fear that they had been feeding on the snakes.		

6.	hwkw'eets'um	dog fish place • kw'eets' 'dog fish, shark' hw= =um add the meaning 'a place replete with ...'	A lily pond after kw'ula'hw on the Nanaimo River
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PLANTS

7	hwqethulhp	ironwood place • qethulhp "ocean spray, aka ironwood plant" hw= adds the meaning 'a place associated with ...'	Located at I.R. #5 Indian Point (Gabriola).
<i>Additional note:</i> Ironwood or ocean spray is a very hard wood that was used to make a variety of tools including digging sticks for harvesting roots.			
8	hwsa'luxwul	grassy place • saxwul 'grass' with =l= infix meaning plural. hw='a place of...'	North end of I.R. #1, near a little river (grassy land). Port Place Mall, Centre Douglas Treaty Village.
<i>Additional note:</i> This location where Port Place Mall now stands was a central village referenced in the Douglas Treaty.			

NATURAL FEATURES

Map key	Place name	Linguistic information	Location
9.	spe'ulhxun	meadows • spulhxun "field, clearing"	An open field near Harmac, a gathering place, also a hunting ground.
10.	snuwulnuts	sheltered bay • lexical suffix =nuts "bottom" is used for bays	Fishing ground near Dodd Narrows
<i>Additional note:</i> This site was an important fishing campsite that was used during the summer months. An important resource here aside from fish was horse clams. Elders maintain that there are special volcanic rocks found on the beach that do not crack when used in the fire pits steaming clams.			
11.	sq'uyup	waterfall	The falls, a natural pot for salmon
12.	thithma'	icy	Bay facing out just before Indian Point (Gabriola).

		• thima' "ice" is modified to sthithuma' "icy"	
	<i>Additional note:</i> Elders say this bay is the last place ice melts on the island in the spring.		
13.	hwta'luw'nuts hw=determiner staluw=river	place where river branches • sta'luw' 'river' and the affixes hw= 'place of' lexical suffix =nuts "bottom" is used for bays	At Hammond Bay "a small branch of a river".
14.	tth'itth'xutqsun	gravelly point • diminutive of tth'xut=gravel = the lexical suffix =qsun "nose" is used for points of land	Indian Point, I.R. #5, physical description of the beach at Indian Point.
15.	tl'uts'u	rock	Big rock on south side of Gabriola Island.
	<i>Additional note:</i> This is the word for rock in the Snuneymuxw dialect. Other Hul'q'umi'num' speakers use the word <i>smeent</i> for rock.		
16.	'iliyuthun	mouth of a river	Mouth of Nanaimo River
17.	shqa'qul	puddles	Entrance below a small island at the mouth of the Polkinghorne Creek River.

DIRECTIONS/LOCATIONS

1	qulastun qul - bad asum- to face a direction	face backwards • qul - bad lexical suffix =as "face"	Mark Bay – west side of Newcastle Island (backwards). The bay turned the wrong way, South side
1	tuytuxun	upstream side • tuyt "go upstream" lexical suffix =exun "arm, side"	South part of Indian Reserve No. 1
2	wuqw'uxun	downstream side • wuqw' "go downstream"	North end of Indian Reserve No. 1

		lexical suffix =exun “arm, side”	
2	’unwinus	middle ridge ’unwulh – middle lexical suffix =inus “chest” also used for ridges of land.	Center part of Indian Reserve No. 1

DESCRIPTIVE

<i>Map key</i>	<i>Place name</i>	<i>Linguistic information</i>	<i>Location</i>
22.	lhap’qw’um’	boiling	Village/campsite near Newcastle marina
23.	sts’e’shun ts’e’ = to be on	step with foot • ts’e’ = to be on lexical suffix =shun “foot”	The shallow part of the Nanaimo River, the first “riffle” near Chester Thomas’ property.
24.	thuhwam’	bleeding	Petroglyph park
25.	hwtsumiilutsun	close together • tsimul “to get close” • utsun “back” hw= “place of”	Twin beaches
<i>Additional note:</i> two beaches close together. This site was also a fishing camp in the early spring to late August where Snuneymuxw people caught spring salmon and blueback (coho). One elder remembers a story about 7 foot giants who lived here and are buried close by			
26.	hwiiyum’	good water place • ’uy’ “good” hw= place associated with water	A spring in the creek that drains into Halam Creek, a quarter mile from its mouth “clear Water”
27.	hwthiqun	loud voice place • thi “big” lexical suffix qun “throat, voice”	High bluff near Hogg Lake

28.	p'tth'unutsus	prickly wrist • p'utth' "sew, prick" =unutsus "wrist"	Big rock at the mouth of the Nanaimo River
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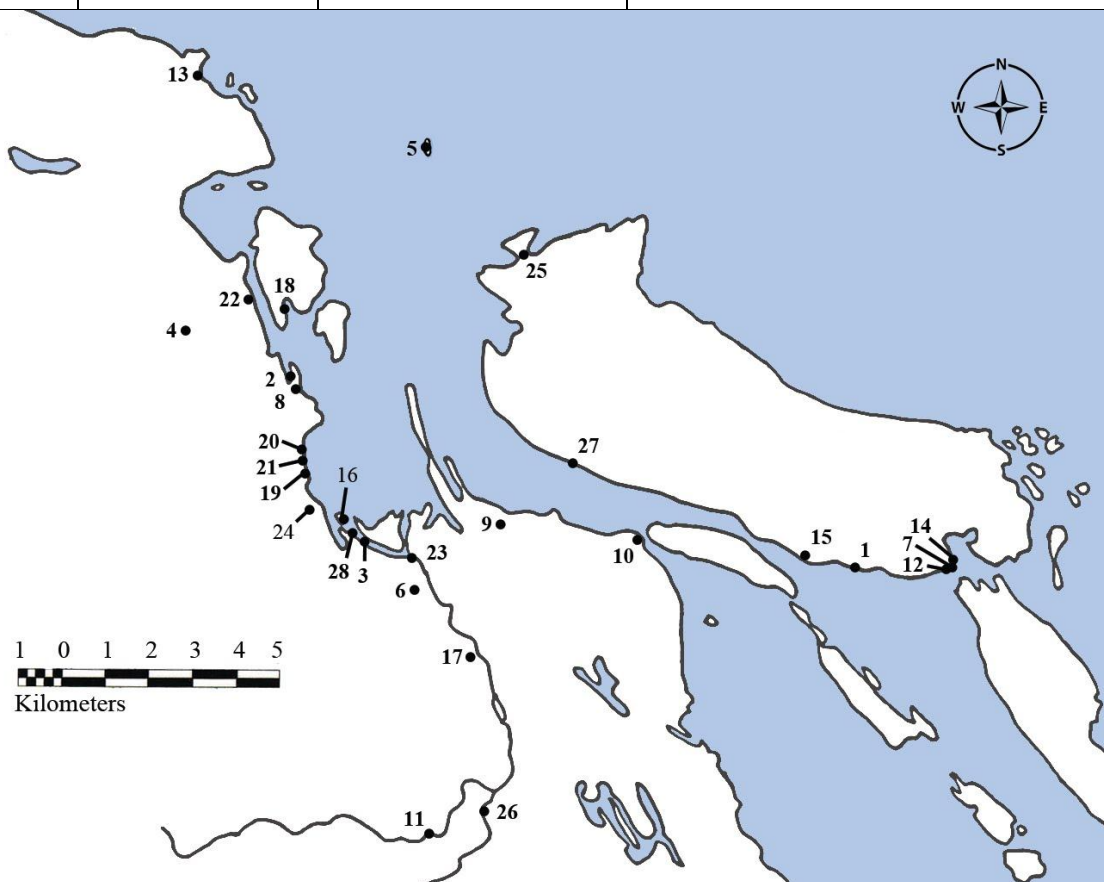


Figure 9 Snuneymuxw place names mentioned in Chapter 5

These were just a few of the place names in our territory. I used these to illustrate how the linguistic coding relates to the meaning associated with a place. We know many more place names, some of them we understand linguistically, and others we have lost the thread of where the name comes from and what it means. Many other names have been lost altogether. We are deeply grateful for the knowledge that has been handed down from generation to generation so that new generations of Hul'q'umi'num' language learners can come to understand the true meaning of places in our territory.