

Sustaining the Islands – Community Stewardship Awards Program



Islands Trust

2013 Nominee Profile

Lasqueti Island Forage Fish Team

Category: Group

Project: Monitoring beaches for forage fish habitat

Nominator(s): Charlotte Taylor

Letters of Support: N/A

Project Description:

The Lasqueti Island Forage Fish Team is a group of 20 to 30 volunteers, ranging in age from early 20s to 60s, who monitor local beaches for the possibility of forage fish habitat. For the last one and half years, volunteers have collected samples of beach sediment using a scientific methodology, then send the samples for analysis to detect the presence of forage fish eggs.

The team has been responsible for the acquisition of spill kits at the docks, and also for making available fuel-absorbent pads to community members. The team and this project has generated community awareness of the importance of protecting beaches because forage fish spawning habitats are crucial to the health of the marine food chain. The local marimba band also held a fundraising concert for the team which helped fund the group and enhanced community engagement.