



2003 AWARD WINNER PROFILE

**WINNER: BOWEN ISLAND FOREST AND WATER
MANAGEMENT SOCIETY
BOWEN ISLAND**

CATEGORY: GROUP AWARD

PROJECT: BOWEN ISLAND GEOLIBRARY

NOMINATOR: JULIAN DUNSTER, BOWEN ISLAND

Project Description:

The Bowen Island Geolibrary project compiles a vast amount of community information on one CD ROM. It enables community members to see maps, plans and other documents about their community in the comfort of their own home, without having to spend hours finding the information from individual sources. They can browse or print copies of the material, and make up their own maps of any part of the community. As a result of the project, Bowen Islanders are more informed about their community and can participate in community planning decisions.

The project demonstrates how knowledge can be made available in a cost effective way to help all members in a community preserve and protect their natural and cultural heritage.

This project is consistent with Islands Trust policies that support citizen participation in local community planning.



2003 AWARD WINNER PROFILE

**WINNER: ISLANDS IN THE SALISH SEA
MAPPING PROJECT
(ALL ISLANDS)**

CATEGORY: GROUP AWARD

PROJECT: ISLANDS IN THE SALISH SEA MAPS

NOMINATOR: NORA LAYARD, SALT SPRING ISLAND

Project Description:

The primary goal of this project was to gather existing knowledge from local communities about the 'state of the islands' and communicate that knowledge through artistic community maps. Over the past three years, thirty art maps were created by islanders on seventeen islands in the southern Gulf Islands. Each community researched its natural, economic and cultural heritage and talented artists transformed that information into a stunning visual display.

The project was made possible by many partners and sponsors. Over 1000 people participated in the project directly, including cartographers, historians, archivists, birders, farmers, youth, the elderly and business people. Sponsors included a range of government and non-government agencies, private organizations and individuals.

More recently, the project held exhibitions of the maps on fourteen islands and in Vancouver, Sidney and Victoria. Viewers were particularly impressed with the importance of the maps for expressing community connections to the land, for future community planning use and as an important development in community collaboration.

This project is consistent with Islands Trust policies that support the availability of community information and citizen participation in local community planning.



2003 AWARD WINNER PROFILE

**WINNER: JENNY BALKE
DENMAN ISLAND**

CATEGORY: INDIVIDUAL AWARD

PROJECT: VALENS BROOK RESTORATION

NOMINATOR: LOUISE BELL, DENMAN ISLAND

Project Description:

The objective of this project was to replace the culvert under McFarlane Road on Denman Island with a fish-friendly structure that allows the passage of salmon to the upper reaches of Valens Brook. Construction of the new culvert in August 2002 represented the culmination of four years of meetings and planning in a process that was led by Jenny Balke on a volunteer basis. The success of the project hinged on her ability to achieve funding, enroll the necessary partners and maintain their cooperation and assistance through the process required to plan and complete the culvert replacement.

Valens Brook is one of only two streams on Denman Island that bear Coho salmon. Until its replacement, the culvert at McFarlane Road completely blocked the upper 5 km of potential salmonid habitat. Successful access to the habitat above McFarlane Road included establishing dams either side of the road, removing old culvert, installing new culvert, backfilling, placing rocks and stabilizing banks. Jenny maintained the interest and support of other partners and the public with frequent progress reports.

In addition to its benefits to fish and other riparian species, the Valens Brook restoration project has heightened awareness on Denman Island about the importance of protecting environmentally sensitive habitat.

As a professional biologist, Jenny Balke served as both project coordinator and environmental monitor for the project. She chose to contribute these services as an in-kind donation to the Denman Conservancy Association.

This project is consistent with Islands Trust policies that support the protection and restoration of riparian habitats and fish-bearing streams in the Trust Area.



2003 AWARD WINNER PROFILE

**WINNER: TONY QUIN
HORNBY ISLAND**

CATEGORY: INDIVIDUAL AWARD

PROJECT: LINK-PARSONS LAND ACQUISITION

**NOMINATOR: PENNY GRIGGS, HORNBY ISLAND
SHEILA McDONNELL, HORNBY ISLAND**

Project Description:

The purpose of this project was to preserve the Link-Parsons property – a stunning 170 hectare parcel that occupies the entire western coast of Hornby Island. The wooded portions are dominated by old growth Douglas fir and large second growth trees. A coastal bluff supports peregrine falcon, bald eagle, pileated woodpecker, great blue heron and turkey vulture. The two and a half kilometers of undisturbed shoreline allow for populations of shorebirds, intertidal life and mammals such as mink and otter. For those who travel to Hornby Island, the Link-Parsons parcel represents the natural beauty and the recognizable profile of the island itself.

As coordinator of Conservancy Hornby Island, Tony Quin spearheaded negotiations with the landowner and partners in the land acquisition. Along with other members of the Conservancy, he also undertook a very successful campaign to raise land acquisition funds locally. Activities included a variety of auctions and raffles that raised over \$300,000.00.

As a result of Tony Quin's persistent efforts, the Link-Parson' property will be held as a public park, protected in perpetuity.

This project is consistent with Islands Trust policies that encourage the preservation of intact forests and landscapes and the protection of rare and endangered wildlife species in the Trust Area.