



Executive Committee Acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands) Regular Meeting Agenda

Date: April 21, 2021
Time: 11:00 am
Location: Electronic Meeting

			Pages
1.	APPROVAL OF AGENDA	11:00 AM - 11:05 AM	
2.	TOWN HALL	11:05 AM - 11:15 AM	
3.	MINUTES	11:15 AM - 11:20 AM	
3.1.	Local Trust Committee Minutes - none		
3.2.	Section 26 Resolutions-Without-Meeting - no report attached		
4.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	11:20 AM - 11:30 AM	
4.1.	Follow-up Action List dated April 12, 2021		3 - 5
5.	APPLICATIONS AND REFERRALS - none		
6.	LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PROJECTS - none		
7.	DELEGATIONS - none		
8.	CORRESPONDENCE - none		
	<i>(Correspondence received concerning current applications or projects is posted to the LTC webpage)</i>		
9.	NEW BUSINESS	11:30 AM - 11:50 AM	
9.1.	Forest Conservation Outreach Briefing - for information		6 - 13
9.2.	Change November 10, 2021 Meeting Date - for discussion		
10.	REPORTS	11:50 AM - 12:00 PM	
10.1.	Trustee Reports		
10.2.	Chairs Report		

10.3.	Trust Conservancy Report - January 26, 2021	14 - 16
10.4.	Regional District of Nanaimo Electoral Area E Director Update	
10.5.	Snaw-naw-as (Nanoose) First Nation Representative Report (verbal report)	
10.6.	Applications Report - none	
10.7.	Trustee and Local Expense Report - none	
10.8.	Adopted Policies and Standing Resolutions	17 - 17
10.9.	Local Trust Committee Webpage	
11.	WORK PROGRAM	12:00 PM - 12:15 PM
11.1.	Top Priorities Report dated April 12, 2021	18 - 18
11.2.	Projects List Report dated April 12, 2021	19 - 19
12.	CLOSED MEETING	
13.	UPCOMING MEETINGS	12:15 AM - 12:20 PM
13.1.	Next Regular Meeting Scheduled for - To be determined	
14.	ADJOURNMENT	12:20 PM - 12:20 PM

Follow Up Action Report

Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands

12-Dec-2018

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Send Nanoose FN and RDN Electoral Area director a link to the BW LTC meeting agenda packages one week prior to each meeting and remind them of the opportunity to provide verbal or written or phone in updates to the LTC. <i>ONGOING</i>	Sonja Zupanec Wil Cottingham		In Progress

06-Mar-2019

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Staff to update the website with the slide presentation on the Ecological Significance of the Islands and Islets of the Ballenas-Winchelsea Archipelago.	Sonja Zupanec Wil Cottingham		Completed
2 Staff to update the website to include the Coastal Douglas-fir toolkit on the resource page.	Sonja Zupanec Wil Cottingham		Completed
3 Staff to update the Top Priority List to include 'Coordinate a boat tour' under the Advocacy priority and to remove the same from the Projects List; remove 'develop a presentation to MABR' from activities; add "Develop Educational Outreach" to the Projects List.	Sonja Zupanec		Completed



Follow Up Action Report

Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands

06-Mar-2019

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
<p>4 Staff to request funding from the Special Project Fun of up to \$1,500 for a Ballenas-Winchelsea boat tour and recommend the logistics and suggested invitees.</p> <p><i>October 17 boat tour cancelled due to mechanical issues. Per March 4/20 LTC mtg, aim to reschedule to May or June 2020 depending on Snaw-naw-as interest. Delayed until further notice due to Covid 19.</i></p>	<p>Sonja Zupanec</p> <p>Wil Cottingham</p>		In Progress

04-Mar-2020

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
<p>1 Staff to pursue the invitation to Snaw-naw-as First Nation for a May or June event for the Ballenas-Winchelsea boat tour</p>	<p>Heather Kauer</p> <p>Lisa Wilcox</p>		In Progress
<p>2 Staff to add "Identify significant un-fragmented forest and non-forest ecosystems and ensure these are noted on mapping for environmental and carbon sequestration value" to the Projects List</p>	<p>Heather Kauer</p>		Completed
<p>3 Staff communicate to Trust Council its lack of interest in filming and streaming its public meetings.</p>	<p>Heather Kauer</p>		Completed
<p>4 Staff bring the template for the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee standing resolution engagement as shown on page 38 of the February 24, 2020 agenda package to the October 7, 2020 business meeting of the Ballenas-Winchelsea Local Trust Committee, for consideration.</p>			Completed



Follow Up Action Report



BRIEFING

To: Local Trust Committees and Bowen Island Municipality **For the Meeting of:** April 21, 2021

From: Islands Trust Conservancy **Date Prepared:** November 12, 2020

SUBJECT: 2020 Forest Conservation Outreach Campaign Completion

PURPOSE: To inform the Local Trust Committees and Bowen Island Municipality of the completion of Islands Trust Conservancy's 2020 forest conservation outreach campaign.

BACKGROUND: In January 2020 Islands Trust Conservancy staff initiated an outreach campaign to encourage voluntary forest conservation and stewardship on private lands in the Islands Trust Area. This campaign was a response to part of Trust Council Resolution 2019-24, which directed staff to:

- create a strong communications program that will support Islands Trust Conservancy conservation initiatives for Coastal Douglas-fir protection as well as support the land use planning process, with a special focus on communicating the role of Development Permit Areas as a tool for Coastal Douglas-fir protection that permits development; and
- bring recommendations for how the Natural Areas Property Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP) can be tailored to highlight and prioritize contiguous tracks of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone in the outreach, communications, and approval of NAPTEP covenants by the Islands Trust Conservancy.

The campaign also helps to address objective 1.5 of the Islands Trust Conservancy Regional Conservation Plan, which is to seek opportunities to provide information to landholders to support voluntary conservation initiatives.

Forest conservation outreach packages were developed by ITC staff in consultation with Islands Trust Directors of Trust Area Services and Local Planning Services, and included the following:

1. Personalized cover letter from the Covenant Management & Outreach Specialist
2. Customized forest ecosystem information sheets: Coastal Douglas-fir forest information and mapping for Gulf Islands LTAs, and Coastal Western Hemlock forest information and mapping for Gambier LTA and Bowen Island Municipality
3. Forest Conservation Checklist
4. NAPTEP rack card

The 2020 forest conservation outreach campaign focused on landholders with over five hectares of old-growth or mature forest on their property. Mapping identified 348 properties as meeting this criteria, with over 400 associated landholders (households). The following is a breakdown of packages mailed, by local trust area/municipality:

Local Trust Area/ Municipality	Outreach Package Recipients
Ballenas-Winchelsea	0
Bowen	29
Denman	23

Gabriola	19
Galiano	11
Gambier	49
Hornby	5
Lasqueti	171
Mayne	11
North Pender	10
Salt Spring	44
Saturna	14
South Pender	4
Thetis	13
Total	403

Outreach packages were mailed to these landholders on August 13th and 18th. Copies of the forest ecosystem information sheets are also available for download by staff, trustees, and the general public through the Islands Trust website at www.islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/island-ecosystems/.

The immediate response from outreach package recipients has been positive, and to date has included two NAPTEP covenant inquiries and two forest stewardship discussions.

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Cover letter template
2. Sample Coastal Douglas-fir Forests information sheet
3. Sample Coastal Western Hemlock Forests information sheet
4. Forest Conservation Checklist

FOLLOW-UP: A small number of paper copies of the forest ecosystem information sheets will be distributed to each island in late November, either to the Islands Trust Office/Municipal Office, LTC office, where available, or to the local conservancy, as appropriate.

The Covenant Management & Outreach Specialist will track responses to the forest conservation outreach letter in Islands Trust Conservancy's contact management database, connect respondents with other ITC specialists as needed, and assess the overall response to the campaign to inform future outreach activities.

Prepared By: Jemma Green, Covenant Management & Outreach Specialist

Reviewed By/Date: Kate Emmings, A/Manager / November 23, 2020

August 12, 2020

[first name] [last name]

[address]

[address]

Dear [first name],

I invite you to take action to care for rare and endangered forests on your land.

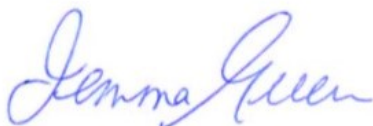
Did you know that the forest that characterizes our region, the same forest that grows in **your backyard**, is a globally rare and endangered Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem? In Canada, Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems are found only on the southwest coast of BC, where mature and old-growth forests are most at risk. Despite the global significance and community benefits of Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems, **only 10% are protected**. Most of what remains is found on private land, including yours.

Much stands to be lost if remaining mature and old-growth forests disappear. These forests support high biodiversity, including the **highest number of species-at-risk** in BC. Trees like Douglas-fir, cedar and arbutus dominate the canopy, sheltering unique shrubs, ferns, mosses and other plants that provide habitat for wildlife—such as owls, songbirds, reptiles, and amphibians—and act as a protective buffer for streams that support fish. Coastal Douglas-fir forests also provide a number of services that our communities depend on: water purification, removal of greenhouse gasses from the air, slope stabilization, and flood prevention.

In 2019, the Islands Trust and the Islands Trust Conservancy committed to protecting the health of Coastal Douglas-fir forests. I am writing to you and more than 350 other island landowners with significant Coastal Douglas-fir forests to let you know the importance of the forests on your land, and to offer support to help you protect Coastal Douglas-fir forests where you live. You can start by taking **simple measures to care for your land**, such as leaving standing dead trees for wildlife, removing invasive species, or gardening with native plants. The enclosed checklist can help you take meaningful actions to protect your forest.

Forest protection has never been more important. By caring for your forest, you can provide vital habitat to species under stress and support ecosystem services, some of which could **ease the impacts of a changing climate** on your community. For 30 years, the Islands Trust Conservancy has helped islanders protect their land and has been a trusted source of information about caring for nature. If you are interested in learning about how you can care for and protect your forests, or about land conservation in general, contact me at jgreen@islandstrust.bc.ca or by phone at 250-405-5182. If you would like to receive e-mail notices from the Islands Trust Conservancy you can subscribe at www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/subscription.

Sincerely,



Jemma Green
Covenant Management & Outreach Specialist

Encl.

Coastal Douglas-fir Forests

What are Coastal Douglas-fir Ecosystems?

The Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) zone describes a unique set of ecosystems found only on southeast Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and the southwest coast of BC. CDF ecosystems are rare and highly endangered. These ecosystems include Douglas-fir forests, as well as Garry oak woodlands, wetlands, estuaries, and other unique communities of plant, animal, and fungi found nowhere else in the world.

Why are CDF Ecosystems Important?

CDF ecosystems have:

- The highest diversity of plant species in BC
- The highest diversity of overwintering bird species in Canada
- The highest density of species at risk in BC, including 24 globally imperiled species

Yet 98% of the 45 ecological communities in the CDF zone are at risk of being lost.

In addition to supporting biodiversity, CDF forests benefit our communities by:

- Mitigating climate change by capturing and storing carbon from the atmosphere
- Supporting cultural and spiritual values of First Nations that have lived in the region since time immemorial
- Reducing pollution by removing dust, pollen, and smoke from the air
- Controlling and filtering stormwater runoff into lakes and streams, which protects drinking water and reduces flood risk
- Supporting resilient food systems by providing habitat for native pollinators
- Increasing property values
- Providing recreational opportunities and spaces for relaxation

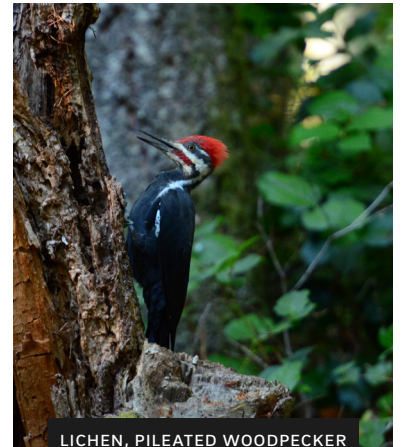
This resource was developed by:



COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR
& ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP



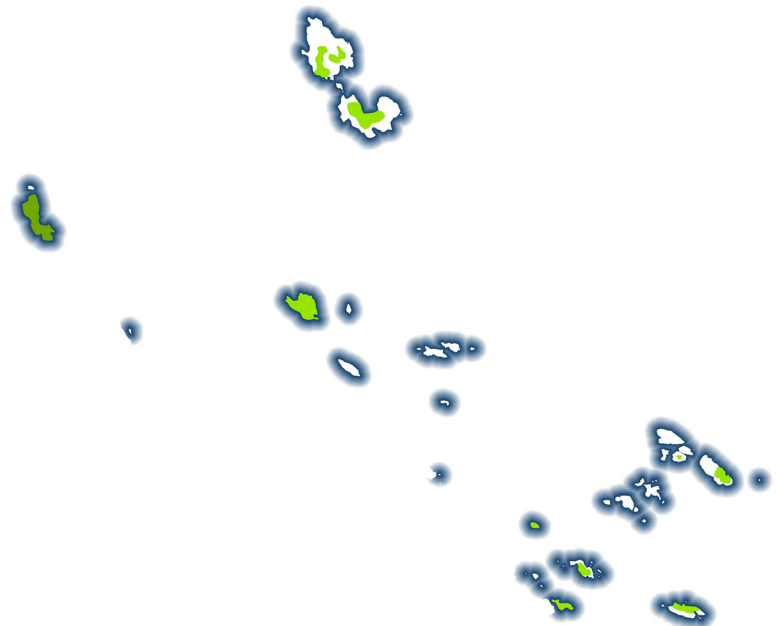
Photos by Kristine Mayes except lichen photo by Ken Lertzman, header and footer photos by Alex Harris for Raincoast. Map produced by Islands Trust.



LICHEN, PILEATED WOODPECKER

CDF Forest Ecosystems

- Young Forest (40 - 80 yrs)
- Mature Forest (80 - 250 yrs)
- Other Land Cover (incl. younger forests)



Why are CDF Forests at Risk?

Since European settlement, almost half of the historically forested land in the CDF zone has been lost due to land uses such as forestry and development. Most old-growth forests have been replaced by second-growth forests that are not as biodiverse or resilient. Remaining CDF forests are in a hotspot of urban and rural development, and under increasing pressure from a growing population.

Climate change will have significant impacts on CDF forests as intensifying summer droughts stress trees. Islander observations indicate that climate change has already impacted western redcedar and other species. It is likely that drought is the primary cause of increased stress, but work needs to be done to understand these changes and adapt conservation of CDF habitats.

CDF forests and associated ecosystems are among the most endangered in Canada, yet only 11% of land in this zone is protected. Eighty percent of the land in the CDF zone is privately owned, highlighting the importance of voluntary conservation actions by individuals to protect what's left.



Only 11% of land in the CDF zone is under some form of protection

What You Can Do

Become a land steward:

- ☐ Protect living trees
- ☐ Leave large patches of natural forest intact
- ☐ Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen trees to decay in place to provide shelter and food for wildlife
- ☐ Restrict vehicle and livestock access into forests
- ☐ Control invasive species, like ivy, holly, daphne, and broom
- ☐ Keep cats indoors as much as possible
- ☐ Garden with native species
- ☐ Keep forest health in mind while managing fire risk. Focus on fire-proofing your home and planting a buffer of fire-resistant native plants like salal and Oregon-grape. Help protect your community by protecting older forests: their high moisture-holding capacity makes them a natural fire break.
- ☐ Become a citizen scientist — add your observations to a growing global database using the iNaturalist app, or keep a nature journal

Consider how your community can protect forests through Environmental Development Permit Areas and conservation guidelines in your Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw.

Permanently protect your land with conservation covenant.

A covenant is a voluntary, legal agreement between you and a conservancy that protects your land from development — not just while you own and live on the land, but even after your property is sold or transferred to new owners. Covenants registered through the Islands Trust's **Natural Areas Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP)** are eligible for a 65% reduction in property taxes on the portion of land protected.

Create a nature reserve through a donation of land to a conservancy or parks agency. If you donate land with significant ecological value, you may be eligible for additional tax benefits through the federal [Ecological Gifts Program](#).

Opportunity Fund grants can help cover costs associated with protecting land. Contact Islands Trust Conservancy to learn more at 250-405-5186 or itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca

Resources

For information on conservation covenants, land donations, and stewardship programs, contact:

Islands Trust Conservancy: visit islandstrustconservancy.ca, email itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca, or phone 250-405-5186

For information on CDF ecosystems at risk, contact:

Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership: visit cdfcp.ca or email info@cdfcp.ca

For information about Raincoast Conservation Foundation's Gulf Islands Forest Project, visit: raincoast.org/gulf-islands

Coastal Western Hemlock Forests

What are Coastal Western Hemlock Ecosystems?

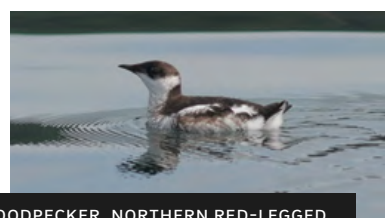
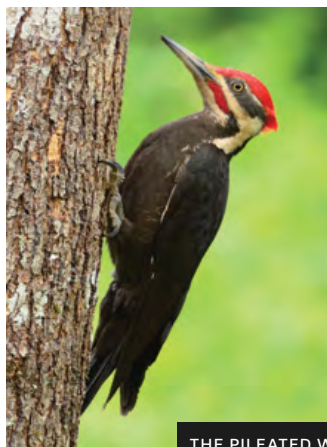
The Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) zone describes a unique set of ecosystems that stretch along the north Pacific coast of North America, encompassing most of coastal BC. The wet, temperate rainforests that characterize the CWH zone are still widespread in BC; however, a number of rare CWH ecosystems adapted to the dry, Mediterranean conditions found in and around the Salish Sea are under threat and under-protected.

Why are CWH Forests Important?

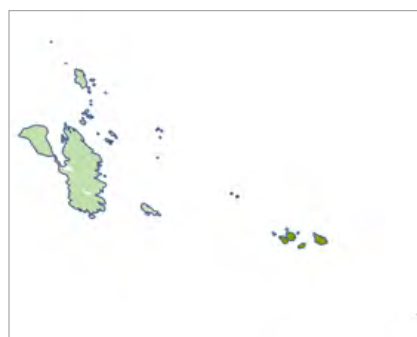
Extending from sea level to 1000 metres, the CWH zone may support the greatest diversity and abundance of wildlife habitat in BC. Large, old-growth trees provide critical habitat for species-at-risk like the Marbled Murrelet and Northern Goshawk. Snags provide nesting and foraging habitat for birds and small mammals. Fallen trees support amphibians, fungi and mosses, and act as nurse logs for seedlings. Root systems control and filter rainwater runoff into streams, protecting salmon habitat.

In addition to supporting biodiversity, CWH forests benefit our communities by:

- Providing cultural and spiritual places for First Nations that have lived in the region since time immemorial
- Mitigating climate change by capturing and storing carbon from the atmosphere
- Capturing rainwater and controlling and filtering runoff into lakes and streams, protecting drinking water and mitigating risk of flooding and drought
- Reducing pollution by removing dust, pollen, and smoke from the air
- Increasing property values
- Providing recreational opportunities and spaces for relaxation



THE PILEATED WOODPECKER, NORTHERN RED-LEGGED FROG, AND MARBLED MURRELET ARE AMONG THE MANY SPECIES THAT DEPEND ON CWH FORESTS



Western islands



Eastern islands

CWH Forest Ecosystems

- Young forest (40–80 yrs)
- Mature forest (80–250 yrs)
- Old forest (over 250 yrs)
- Other land cover
- Coastal Douglas-fir forests

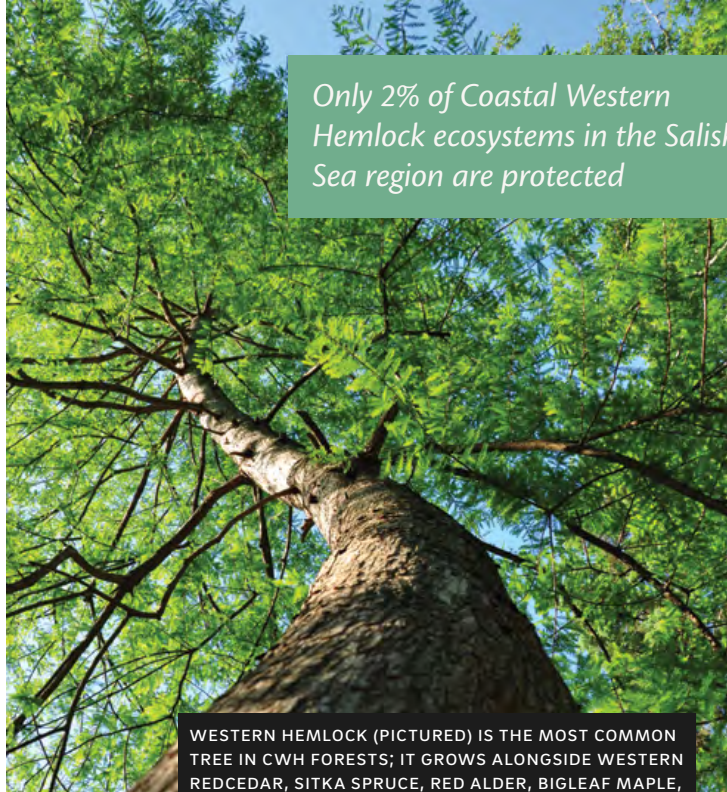


Why are CWH Forests at Risk?

As a result of past logging and development, 13 unique CWH ecosystems are at risk. While unsustainable logging remains one of the greatest threats to forests, the rarest CWH ecosystems occur in the Lower Mainland, Sunshine Coast, Howe Sound islands, and eastern Vancouver Island, where they also face widespread urban and rural development and other pressures from a growing human population. Climate change is expected to add to impacts on CWH forests. Intensifying summer drought will stress trees (as already seen in western redcedar die-offs), which will have cascading effects throughout the forest ecosystem.

The CWH ecosystems of the Salish Sea are among the rarest and most threatened in BC. Two thirds of historic forests in this region have been logged in the last 120 years while another 25% have been permanently converted to other land uses. Only 2% of CWH ecosystems in the Salish Sea region are protected, highlighting the urgent need to conserve remaining mature and old-growth forests.

Only 2% of Coastal Western Hemlock ecosystems in the Salish Sea region are protected



WESTERN HEMLOCK (PICTURED) IS THE MOST COMMON TREE IN CWH FORESTS; IT GROWS ALONGSIDE WESTERN REDCEDAR, SITKA SPRUCE, RED ALDER, BIGLEAF MAPLE, GRAND FIR, SHORE PINE, DOUGLAS-FIR, AND ARBUTUS

What You Can Do

Become a forest steward:

- ☐ Protect living trees and large patches of natural forest
- ☐ Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen trees to decay in place to provide shelter and food for wildlife
- ☐ Restrict vehicle and livestock access into forests
- ☐ Control invasive species, like ivy, holly, daphne, and broom
- ☐ Keep cats indoors as much as possible
- ☐ Garden with native species
- ☐ Keep forest health in mind while managing fire risk. Focus on fire-proofing your home and planting a buffer of fire-resistant native plants like salal and Oregon grape. Help protect your community by protecting older forests: their high moisture-holding capacity makes them a natural fire break.
- ☐ Become a citizen scientist—add your observations to a growing global database using the iNaturalist app, or keep a nature journal

Consider how your community can protect forests through Environmental Development Permit Areas and conservation guidelines in your Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw.

Permanently protect land with conservation covenant.

A covenant is a voluntary, legal agreement between you and a conservancy that protects land from development—not just while you live on the land, but also for future caretakers of the land. Covenants registered through the Islands Trust's **Natural Areas Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP)** are eligible for a 65% reduction in property taxes on the portion of land protected.

Create a nature reserve through a donation of land to a conservancy or parks agency. If you donate land with significant ecological value, you may be eligible for additional tax benefits through the federal Ecological Gifts Program.

Opportunity Fund grants can help cover costs associated with protecting land. Contact Islands Trust Conservancy to learn more at 250-405-5186 or itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca.

For information on conservation covenants, land donations, and stewardship programs, contact:

Islands Trust Conservancy


islandstrustconservancy.ca
itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca
250-405-5186

Gambier Island Conservancy

gambierc.ca (New website coming soon: gambierislandconservancy.ca)
gambierconservancy@gmail.com

This resource is adapted from material developed by Islands Trust Conservancy in collaboration with the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership and Raincoast Conservation Foundation.

Forest Conservation Checklist

Level of commitment	Impact	Action
<p>Low</p>  <p>High</p>	Moderate to high, immediate	<p>Become a land steward:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Protect living trees <input type="checkbox"/> Leave standing dead trees (snags) and fallen trees to decay in place to provide shelter and food for wildlife <input type="checkbox"/> Become a citizen scientist—add your observations to a growing global database using the iNaturalist app, or keep a nature journal <input type="checkbox"/> Garden with native species <input type="checkbox"/> Keep cats indoors as much as possible <input type="checkbox"/> Control invasive species, like ivy, holly, daphne and broom <input type="checkbox"/> Restrict vehicle and livestock access into forests <input type="checkbox"/> Remember that fire is a natural and important part of forest ecosystems. Protect your home from fire through FireSmart home maintenance and by creating a 10-metre protective buffer of fire-resistant native plants. Help protect your community from fire by protecting old-growth forests: their high moisture-holding capacity makes them a natural fire break. <input type="checkbox"/> Leave large patches of natural forests intact
Moderate	Potentially high, medium-term	Consider how your community can protect forests through inclusion of Environmental Development Permit Areas and conservation guidelines in your Official Community Plan.
High	High, long-term	Permanently protect your land with conservation covenant. A covenant is a voluntary, legal agreement between you and a Conservancy that protects your land from development not just while you own and live on the land, but even after your property is sold or transferred to new owners. Covenants registered through the Natural Area Protection Tax Exemption Program (NAPTEP) are eligible for a 65% reduction in property taxes on the portion of land protected.
High	High, long-term	Donate land to the Islands Trust Conservancy or another conservation agency. The land will be permanently cared for and protected to achieve your conservation vision. If you donate land with significant ecological value, you may be eligible for additional capital gains tax exemptions through the federal Ecological Gifts Program.



Islands Trust Conservancy Report to Local Trust Committees and Bowen Island Municipality January 26, 2021

Islands Trust Conservancy Board News

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) Board continues to hold meetings electronically due to Ministerial Orders under the Emergency Program Act and requirements or recommendations under the Public Health Act. Meetings are live-streamed and recorded, and the public can participate by connecting to the link or the phone number provided in the meeting notice. Electronic meetings have resulted in cost savings to ITC as well as reductions in travel time and greenhouse gas emissions for Board members.

Staff have posted the ITC Board meeting schedule for 2021 here:

www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/about-us/meetings/.

The ITC Board directed staff to add “Public Comments and Delegations”, a town hall opportunity, to the standing agenda, allocating 15 minutes to this new section.

An election was held for Board Chair and Vice Chair positions as required by the ITC Meeting Bylaw. Trustee Kate-Louise Stamford was elected ITC Board Chair and Trustee Sue-Ellen Fast as Vice Chair. Both positions were election by acclamation.

An update regarding ITC staffing was provided, including notes as follows:

1. ITC Manager – Kate Emmings confirmed as permanent Manager Jan 11
2. Ecosystem Protection Specialist – posted internally, confirmed Kathryn Martell in the role Feb 16
3. Communications and Fundraising Specialist – position temporarily divided into two part-time roles: Communications Specialist (Erin Coulson) and a Fundraising Specialist (Carla Funk)
4. Species at Risk Program Coordinator role (see below) – hiring expected before end of March
5. Summer Co-op Student – Field work technician, job description in development

Regional Conservation Plan Updates

The science-based and community-informed Regional Conservation Plan guides the work of Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC). ITC continues to work towards four long-term goals and 25 objectives that further conservation in the entire Islands Trust Area. For more information, visit

www.islandstrustconservancy.ca/media/84821/itc_2018-11_rcp-2018-2027-web_final.pdf.

Goal 1 – Science-based Conservation Planning

The project charter for the Species at Risk (SAR) program was reviewed and approved as interim, pending a few adjustments as discussed by the Board. The project coordinator who will ultimately complete the planning and oversee the implementation of SAR at a detailed level is still being recruited.

Goal 2 – Strong relationships with First Nations

Staff continue to work to deepen relationships with First Nation communities and governments, notably through upcoming management planning for several nature reserves and participation in the Sidney

Island Ecological Restoration Project. Staff also participated in a January training session regarding residential schools.

Goal 3 – Protection of core conservation areas

Property Management

Currently, four management plans are in development and set to complete before the end of March, including two on Gabriola Island, one on Salt Spring Island, and one on Thetis Island. See reference to open house events below regarding these four for the current year.

Land Acquisition and Covenants

The Sandy Beach Nature Reserve on Lhek'tines/Keats Island became ITC's 30th in 30 years in December 2020 and the ITC Board received a donation of land on North Pender in February 2021 (see below). Management planning will begin in the next fiscal year to create the first management plan for these new nature reserves.

Staff continue negotiations on 144 ha of land: eight covenants (S. Pender, Salt Spring [3], Keats, Bowen, Thetis, and Lasqueti) and two land acquisitions.

Goal 4 – A strong voice for nature conservation

The ITC Fund Development Action Plan was reviewed and approved as drafted, with staff directed to implement the plan.

*Please feel free to contact Islands Trust Conservancy for more details.
Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair kstamford@islandstrust.bc.ca
Islands Trust Conservancy itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca*

Activities by Local Trust Area/Island Municipality

Bowen – \$5,000 Opportunity Fund Grant paid out to Bowen Island Conservancy.

Gabriola – A management planning open house for the S’ul-hween X’pey/Elder Cedar Nature Reserve and the Coats Millstone Nature Reserve will be held on February 22, 2021. Two public surveys continue to March 15 – one for [Elder Cedar](#) and one for [Coats Millstone](#).

Galiano – ITC Manager Kate Emmings advised the Board of a declared conflict of interest regarding the Crystal Mountain conservation proposal on Galiano, and noted the file will be managed by Trust Area Services Director Clare Frater and Ecosystem Protection Specialist Kathryn Martell.

Gambier/Keats – The transfer of the Sandy Beach Nature Reserve, Keats Island, was completed on December 18, 2020, and marks the 30th nature reserve in 30 years of Islands Trust Conservancy history. News coverage of [the announcement](#) included local outlets, [Pacific Yachting](#), and the [Toronto Star](#). The ITC received a \$12,000 contribution as part of the land transfer and the ITC Board has allocated \$10,000 to create a property management fund.

Lasqueti – The ITC Board considered a response to the Lasqueti Official Community Plan referral. The Board resolution has been provided to planning staff for consideration by the Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee.

Funded through grant programs, increased wetlands restoration work is being planned for the Salish View and John Osland nature reserves, in partnership with Lasqueti Island Nature Conservancy.

North Pender/Sidney – Funded through grant programs, restoration work is planned at Dragonfly Pond on Sidney Island. Work will pilot removal techniques for invasive parrot’s feather and American bullfrog.

The ITC received a land donation on North Pender Island in February. A formal announcement for this donation is pending.

Salt Spring – The Board approved both the 2020 update of the Deep Ridge Nature Reserve Management Plan and the Lower Mount Erskine Nature Reserve Management Plan. These will be posted to the ITC website shortly.

A management planning open house was held on February 11, 2021, with regards to the Ruby Alton Nature Reserve management plan refresh. [Public survey](#) continues to March 15.

Thetis - A management planning open house was held on February 10, 2021, with regards to the Moore Hill Nature Reserve management plan refresh. [Public survey](#) continues to March 15.

Please feel free to contact Islands Trust Conservancy for more details.

Kate-Louise Stamford, Chair kstamford@islandstrust.bc.ca

Islands Trust Conservancy itcmail@islandstrust.bc.ca

Executive Committee Acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea) Policies & Standing Resolutions

No	Meeting Date	Resolution No.	Issue	Policy
1.	May 19, 2015	EX-LTC-2015-007	Adoption of Minutes via RWM	<p>It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Executive Committee acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea) request staff to issue an Resolution Without Meeting for adoption of the minutes on a regular basis.</p>
2.	March 12, 2020	EX-LTC-RWM-2020.1	Reconciliation engagement with local First Nations	<p>It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Executive Committee Acting as a Local Trust Committee (Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands) adopt the following standing resolution:</p> <p>Whereas the Local Trust Committee seeks to engage in Reconciliation with local First Nations, governments and the island community by honouring the Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Draft Principles that Guide the Province of British Columbia's Relationship with Indigenous Peoples, and Islands Trust First Nations Engagement Principles, the Local Trust Committee endeavours to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Annually, write a letter to First Nations, (re)introducing Trustees and Staff and provide a schedule of known Local Trust Committee meetings for the upcoming year, as well as provide an update of current projects and advocacy activities; b) For various Local Trust Committee meetings, invite elders from local First Nations to attend and provide a traditional welcome to the territory; c) Work with First Nation governments on cooperative initiatives, including and not limited to, language, place names, territorial acknowledgements, and community education on Coast Salish and local First Nations' cultural heritage and history; d) Work with First Nation governments on engagement principles for inclusive land use, marine use and climate change planning; advocacy, protection and stewardship; and knowledge and information sharing protocols; and e) Establish and maintain government to government dialogue with First Nations, now and into the future, based on respect and recognition of Aboriginal rights and title, treaty rights, and First Nations' traditional territories within the Islands Trust Area.

Top Priorities Report

Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands

1. *Advocacy for the protection and appropriate use of Crown islets.*

Responsible

Dates

To work with Nanoose First Nation, provincial agencies and other agencies to facilitate appropriate public use of the islands.

Rec'd: 19-May-2015

- Coordinate a boat tour of the BW islands and islets inviting FN representatives, MABR members and Regional District Electoral Area representative.

2. *Nanoose First Nation Relationship Building.*

Responsible

Dates

- Coordinate BW meeting rotation at Nanoose FN meeting facility

Rec'd: 26-Jul-2011

3. *Implement the Protection of Coastal Douglas fir and Associated Ecosystems toolkit and Islands Trust Conservancy Regional Conservation Plan.*

Responsible

Dates

Review the OCP and LUB.

Rec'd: 12-Dec-2018

Projects Report

Ballenas-Winchelsea Islands

1. *Develop Educational Outreach*

Responsible

Date Received

06-Mar-2019

2. *Map ecosystem environmental and carbon sequestration value*

Responsible

Date Received

Identify significant un-fragmented forest and non-forest ecosystems and ensure these are noted on mapping for environmental and carbon sequestration value.

04-Mar-2020