

Gambier Island Local Trust Committee Regular Meeting Addendum

Date: May 19, 2016
Time: 10:45 am
Location: Gambier Island Community Centre
Andy's Bay Road, Gambier Island, BC

		Pages
7.	BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES	12:00 PM - 1:00 PM
7.6	<i>Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Partnership - Funding Application to Real Estate Foundation of BC</i>	
7.6.1	<i>Email dated May 12, 2016 from Kate Emmings, Ecosystems Protection Specialist, Islands Trust Fund</i>	2 - 25
7.6.2	<i>Draft Letter of Support for Review</i>	26 - 26
12.	LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE PROJECTS	1:30 PM - 2:15 PM
12.2	<i>Riparian Areas Regulation for Keats, Anvil, Bowyer and Thormanby Islands - verbal update</i>	
12.2.1	<i>Letter dated May 18, 2016 from Tom Watson</i>	27 - 30
13.	REPORTS	2:15 PM - 2:30 PM
13.9	<i>Trust Fund Board Report - May, 2016</i>	31 - 32
14.	NEW BUSINESS	2:30 PM - 3:00 PM
14.2	<i>Request for Decision - 2015/16 Annual Report</i>	33 - 34

From: Kate Emmings

Sent: Thursday, May 12, 2016 11:05 AM

To: Kate-Louise Stamford; Susan Morrison; Dan Rogers

Cc: Aleksandra Brzozowski; Jennifer Eliason; 'McConkey, Darryn J FLNR:EX'

Subject: Request from the CDFCP re matching funds for Gambier for the Real Estate Foundation Grant Application

Hello Kate-Louise, Susan and Dan,

In follow up to Kate-Louise's request to revisit the request from the CDFCP for matching funds for its Real Estate Foundation of BC grant application, I am providing some additional information below. I thought I would keep it in point form to keep it readable. Note that, as a part of my work with the Islands Trust Fund, I am a member of the CDFCP Steering Committee. I am working with the CDFCP to help liaise between them and the Gambier Island LTC, but I have also copied Darryn McConkey who is the CDFCP Steering Committee Chair and he should be the official contact on any correspondence. I have also attached the CDFCP Conservation Strategy, finalized in 2015, which includes working with local governments as part of its strategy to conserve Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems. Note that although Gambier doesn't fall within the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone, it has been included in the CDFCP area of interest as having associated ecosystems, particularly because of its Coastal Western Hemlock (xm1) subzone ecosystems.

- At its January meeting, the Gambier Island LTC (GILTC) passed the following resolution:
GM-2015-066
It was MOVED and SECONDED, that the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee write to the Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Strategy Partnership volunteering the Gambier Island Official Community Plan review process to be part of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Strategy Partnership test case. **CARRIED**
- In February, the CDFCP applied to the Real Estate Foundation to fund a project to work with local governments to incorporate care for CDFCP area ecosystems into planning documents. As the CDFCP is not an official society, but rather a partnership, the Trust Fund Board submitted the Real Estate Foundation application on its behalf. Because of the resolution from the GILTC, in consultation with the Island Planner, the CDFCP included working with the GILTC as one of the objectives of its proposal. One of the 4 activities proposed for the funding was to work with the GILTC to develop its Official Community Plan (OCP) to enhance CDF values. The CDFCP would like to use its work with the GILTC as a model to share with other local governments. Proposed activities outlined in the REFBC application included:
 - Develop a framework for working with the GILTC that can also be used with other local governments in the future
 - Work with the GILTC & its constituents to incorporate CDFCP Conservation Strategy goals into their OCP – this would include developing mapping products (see point below) in collaboration with the LTC and acting as a resource for terrestrial ecological information
 - Develop a case study including 'lessons learned' & cost assessment that can be shared with other local governments

Note that nothing in the Real Estate Foundation application binds the GILTC to adopt mapping or recommendations from the CDFCP, but this is the hoped for outcome.

- In 2015, the CDFCP worked with UBC to create a decision support tool using Marxan software (a widely used software for land and marine planning). This tool assists planners to prioritize lands based on ecological values. As part of the 2016-2017 Real Estate Foundation project, the CDFCP intends to refine the tool further and hopes to work with the GILTC to apply it to the Gambier landscape for potential use in the Gambier OCP. The tool can be used to generate maps and related data.
- The Real Estate Foundation grant requires that the CDFCP find matching sources of funding for its work. It has some matching funds through the Province of BC and is looking for additional matching funds from other agencies like the GILTC. Any funds provided by the GILTC would be matched by the CDFCP and would be allocated to work with the GILTC for its OCP. While the CDFCP still needs to consult the GILTC regarding a mechanism for working together on the project and use of funds, it anticipates that funds would go towards mapping, project coordination and delivery of a short report and mapping product to the GILTC for potential inclusion in its' OCP or public consultation process.

The information above is summarized from the Real Estate Foundation of BC funding application and the attached letter from Darryn McConkey, CDFCP Chair (also cc'ed). It is formatted to help clarify the request and if you have any questions, Darryn or I (as appropriate) would be happy to answer.

Best regards,
Kate

Kate Emmings
Ecosystem Protection Specialist
Islands Trust Fund
200-1627 Fort Street, Victoria, BC V8R 1H8

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Toll free via Enquiry BC: in Vancouver (604) 660-2421, Elsewhere in BC 1-800-663-7867



www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca

A Conservancy for Canada's Islands in the Salish Sea



Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership

info@cdfcp.ca www.cdfcp.ca

March 7, 2016

Gambier Island Local Trust Committee
c/o Islands Trust Northern Office
700 North Road
Gabriola Island, BC V0R 1X3

Sent by email to: abrzowski@islandstrust.bc.ca

Dear Gambier Island Local Trust Committee,

Re: CDFCP and the Gambier Island Official Community Plan Process

Thank you for your invitation to work with the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee (GMLTC) and the Gambier Community to be a test case for incorporating the objectives of the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) Conservation Strategy into the GMLTC Official Community Plan (OCP). We appreciate the opportunity to work with you at this important time of planning in your community. We anticipate that this partnership will help us to meet our objective of working with local governments to develop plans, policies, bylaws and incentives that enhance Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems values and we hope that it will also assist you with the planning work required for your area.

At present, the CDFCP is working to secure a second round of funding through the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia (REFBC) to assist with creation of mapping information and to work with the GMLTC to provide input into its OCP. Following up on a successful project in 2015, we have applied for a \$5,000 grant¹ and plan to dedicate approximately half of these funds towards a joint project with the GMLTC. As part of the REFBC grant, we are required to source matching funds and would like to respectfully request that the GMLTC consider dedicating up to \$2,000 towards the project.

¹ The CDFCP is not a registered Society or Charity, but rather a partnership agency directed by a Steering Committee. The REFBC Grant Proposal was written by our Steering Committee members and submitted by the Islands Trust Fund on our behalf. The Islands Trust Fund, with input and direction from the Steering Committee, will manage the grant funds and issue contracts.

As part of the partnership between the CDFCP and the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee, the CDFCP anticipates the following deliverables:

- Develop a project framework
- Work with the GMLTC to develop mapping for use in its OCP review
- Work with the GMLTC & its constituents to develop goals and language for consideration during the OCP review process
- Develop a case study, based on the Gambier Island example for circulation to other local governments

We anticipate that mapping and project coordination will be done by CDFCP contractors and would invite the GMLTC and its Island Planner to have input into establishing, reviewing and evaluating the contract deliverables. We look forward to working with you to generate useful products for your community and to creating a model for use in other communities. We welcome your feedback as we begin to work with you and your staff.

Sincerely,

Darryn McConkey, R.P.Bio.
Chair, CDFCP
(250) 751-3104
info@cdfcp.ca



COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR
& ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

CONSERVATION
STRATEGY
2015

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Conservation Strategy was developed by the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership, under the guidance of the Steering Committee: Tim Ennis, Darryn McConkey, Kate Emmings, Dave Haley, Peter Arcese, Todd Golumbia, Adam Taylor, Kim Richardson, and Erik Piikkila.

Members of the Partnership met in February 2015 to review the Strategy and provide input into the objectives and actions.

The funding support for the planning process from the Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia is gratefully acknowledged. We also appreciate the contributions from the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations, Cowichan Valley Regional District and Islands Trust Fund. Funding for the Marxan project was provided by the Real Estate Foundation of BC, North Pacific Landscape Conservation Cooperative, Forest Renewal BC, and University of British Columbia.

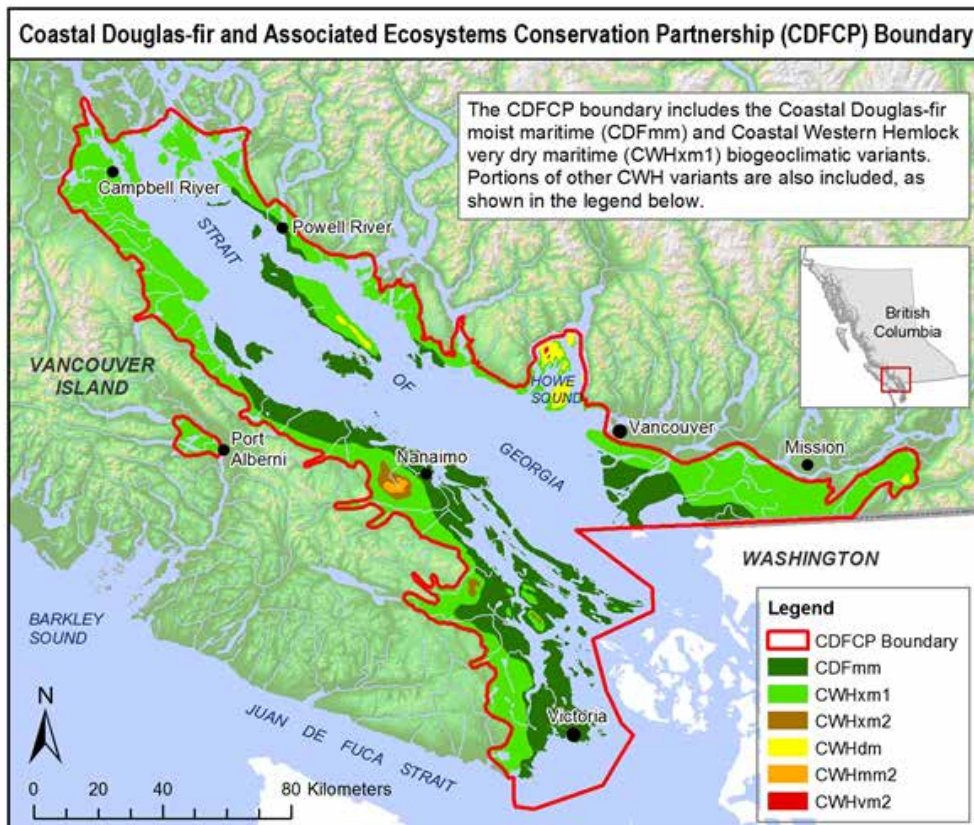


Writing and facilitation for this project was provided by Judith Cullington, Judith Cullington & Associates

INTRODUCTION

Purpose of the Conservation Strategy

This Conservation Strategy sets a 30-year vision and goals for the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership (CDFCP); with objectives and actions identified for the next five years (2015–2020). The intent is to review and update this strategy at least every five years.



Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems

The Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone (CDF zone) is the smallest and most at-risk zone in British Columbia (B.C.). As home to the highest number of species and ecosystems at risk in B.C., many of which are ranked globally as imperiled or critically imperiled, it is of great conservation concern. The global range of the CDF lies almost entirely within B.C., underscoring both its global uniqueness and B.C.'s responsibility for its conservation. Of all the zones in the province, the CDF has been most altered by human activities. Less than 1% of the CDF remains in old growth forests and 49% of the land base has been permanently converted by human activities. The trend of deforestation and urbanization continues and has resulted in a natural area that is highly fragmented with continuing threats to remaining natural systems. Approximately 9% of the CDF zone is currently protected in conservation areas. The extent of disturbance, combined with the low level of protection, places the ecological integrity of the CDF zone at high risk.

As shown on the map, the area of concern to the CDFCP includes some parts of the Coastal Western Hemlock very dry maritime zone (CWHxm1 and CWHxm2), as these ecosystems share similar attributes and threats.

Threats to the integrity of the Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems (CDFAE) include:

- **Land conversion.** The CDF zone is 80% privately owned, in part due to the historic Esquimalt and Nanaimo (E & N) railway land grant. About 10% is provincially owned and the remaining 10% is owned by other levels of government. Much of the private land has been converted to urban and rural development, transportation and utility corridors, and agricultural use. Forty-nine percent (49%) of the land base in the CDF has been converted to human uses.
- **Ecosystem degradation.** Less than 1% of the CDF zone currently remains as old growth forest (over 250 years in age), and forests over 100 years in age now occupy only 4% of their former extent. Deforestation in a land base that was once predominantly forested has consequences for the small patch ecosystems, specialized habitats and at-risk species that were previously buffered and supported by the ecological processes of the surrounding forests. Remaining forests are predominantly younger, less diverse and bisected by roads. These changes affect hydrological patterns and the ability to filter and store water; destabilizes forest soils and reduces capacity to regenerate soils; alters the resistance to the invasion of alien species; alters prey-predator relationships; alters carbon and nutrient cycles, including the release of carbon to the atmosphere; and removes specialized habitat features for wildlife foraging, shelter and breeding.
- **Loss of natural processes.** Wildfires and deliberate burning by First Nations played an important role in shaping CDF ecosystems. Fires create openings in the canopy, kill off other less fire-resistant species, and help to establish and maintain the large, thick-barked Douglas-fir, Maple and Garry Oaks as the dominant trees in the area. Today and for the past 100 years, forest fires have been suppressed.
- **Species disturbance.** Human influence has artificially changed the balance of species, with resulting impacts on ecosystems. An example is the reduction in cougar and wolf populations, which has led to the hyper-abundance of deer populations and in turn reduction of native plants on which deer like to feed.
- **Invasive species** have increasingly intruded into all ecosystem types, displacing native plants and animals, altering ecosystem function and dynamics, and removing food sources for wildlife.
- **Climate change.** Changing climates are increasingly placing stress on native ecosystems and species through changes in seasonal temperatures, reduced snowpacks, winter rains instead of snowfalls, rain on snow events, and water availability, as well as introducing new pests and diseases.
- **Environmental Contaminants.** Environmental contaminants, including fertilizers, pesticides, household and industrial chemicals, sediment from human land disturbance, and human and animal wastes affects the function of ecosystems in the CDFAE. Some of these contaminants are from point sources, such as industry, but many come from non-point sources such as road infrastructure, housing developments, agriculture, and forestry.



A MOSAIC OF PROTECTION AND STEWARDSHIP

Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems (CDFAE) are found across the landscape. Large areas are set aside for ecosystem protection, forestry and agriculture, while small patches of natural habitat exist in community parks and backyards. The mosaic of protection and stewardship recognizes that this place is home to a diversity of native plants and animals, as well as home to many people. Some areas will be protected and set aside with a primary purpose of supporting ecological integrity; the primary use of other areas may be for economic, recreational or other uses. Stewardship of the CDFAE lands must balance these sometimes competing, sometimes complementary, roles.

This mosaic includes lands under government and private ownership and management, ranging in size from small to large parcels. Examples include:

- Protected areas (e.g., federal, provincial, regional and municipal parks, wildlife management areas, and non-government organization (NGO) owned nature reserves)
- Private lands managed for ecosystem values, including lands with conservation covenants
- Working landscapes (including forestry and agriculture)
- Connectivity corridors, including riparian areas
- Drinking water watersheds
- Community parks and recreation areas
- First Nations lands
- Private woodlots
- Urban forests
- Private backyards



THE COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP AND ITS MISSION

The Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) is a collaboration of agencies, organizations and land managers who are interested in promoting and protecting healthy CDFAE into the future. Land trusts, governments (federal, provincial, regional, municipal, and First Nations), environmental stewardship groups, resource industry professionals, private landowners and academic institutions are encouraged to become CDFCP Participants or Supporters.

As set out in its terms of reference, the CDFCP is led by a Steering Committee and supported by a series of Working Groups focused on different aspects of the CDFCP goals. The CDFCP provides a forum for collaboration, communication and action to effectively protect and steward Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems. Its mission is:

To promote the conservation and stewardship of the Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems in south-western British Columbia through sound science, shared information, supportive policies, and community education.

VISION FOR COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR AND ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS

By 2045:

Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems have ecological integrity and resilience to change. A system of core protected areas are actively managed to provide habitat for native species and places to learn about the importance of healthy ecosystems. Working landscapes are actively managed to enhance their ecosystem values, while also supporting jobs and economic development opportunities. The public and land managers understand that Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems are special places that merit support and investment.

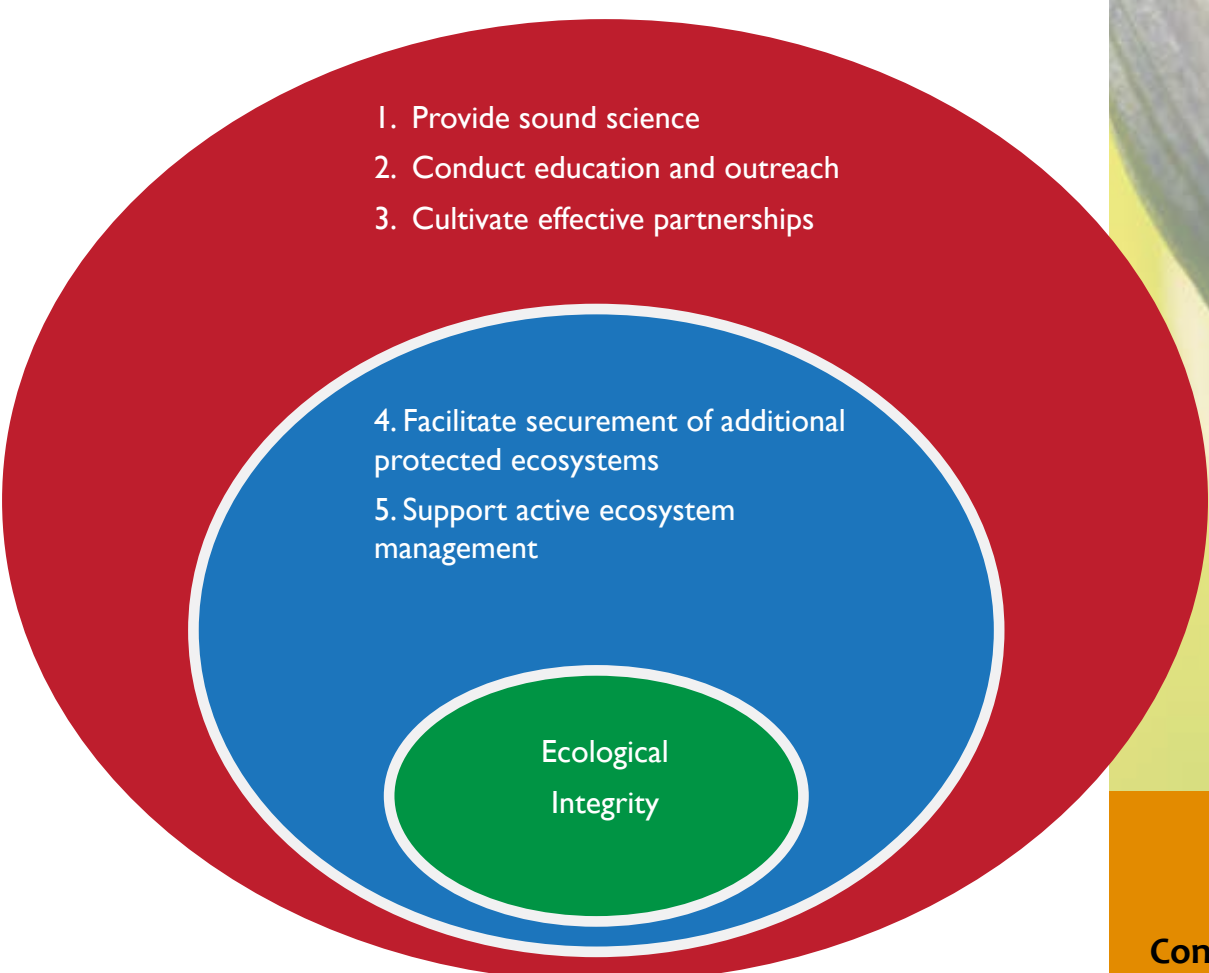


GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE CDFCP

Goals

The five goals express the ways in which CDFCP is working towards the vision of ecological integrity for Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems. The first three are core business of the CDFCP, the other two are activities supported by the Partnership.

- 1. Provide sound science***
- 2. Conduct education and outreach***
- 3. Cultivate effective partnerships***
- 4. Facilitate securement of additional protected ecosystems***
- 5. Support active ecosystem management***

- 
1. Provide sound science
 2. Conduct education and outreach
 3. Cultivate effective partnerships

4. Facilitate securement of additional protected ecosystems
5. Support active ecosystem management

Ecological
Integrity

SHORT-TERM OBJECTIVES AND ACTIONS

The goals reflect long-term aims. The objectives are specific outcomes for the next five years (2015-2020); supporting actions to achieve those objectives are also indicated. Objectives and actions are dependent on the availability of resources; the list below reflects the desired list of actions for the coming years, should resources (staff and funds) become available. For a list of objectives and actions which are “core” activities that are part of the ongoing CDFCP effort, please see Appendix A.

Summary of objectives and actions for 2015–2020:

1. Provide sound science to support land securement and stewardship

- 1.1. Provide tools for prioritization of areas for securement and stewardship within the CDF Zone
- 1.2. Assist local governments, conservation groups and First Nations to identify priority areas for securement and stewardship in their jurisdiction
- 1.3. Provide information on emerging CDFAE threats
- 1.4. Report annually on conservation outcomes

2. Conduct education and outreach

- 2.1. Develop and implement a communications and outreach strategy
- 2.2. Share success stories

3. Cultivate effective partnerships

- 3.1. Create and fund a coordinator position
- 3.2. Create and Support Working Groups
- 3.3. Encourage First Nations representation in the Partnership
- 3.4. Support the work of CDFCP Signatories
- 3.5. Collaborate with other groups working on ecosystem conservation

4. Facilitate securement of protected ecosystems

- 4.1. Provide advice on land securement
- 4.2. Identify options and contacts for funding land securement and stewardship
- 4.3. Promote and support land securement partnerships

5. Support active ecosystem management

- 5.1. Work with local governments to develop plans, policies and bylaws and incentives that enhance CDF values
- 5.2. Identify and promote opportunities for CDFAE stewardship
- 5.3. Identify pilot (case study) lands and land managers where focused management activities would benefit CDFAE on working landscapes
- 5.4. Work with the resource, developers and real estate sectors to enhance CDF stewardship



1. PROVIDE SOUND SCIENCE TO SUPPORT LAND SECUREMENT AND STEWARDSHIP

Effective and reliable science, combined with local knowledge, supports decisions that are made using the best available information.

1.1. Provide tools for prioritization of areas for securement and stewardship within the CDF Zone

Actions:

- Working with UBC and other information providers, use the Marxan tool and analysis to develop landscape-level maps that identify potential conservation priorities.
- Refine the landscape-level mapping by improving data collection quality and input tools.
- Use the Marxan tool and other information to identify high-value conservation areas for discussion with partners.
- Use the Marxan tool and other analysis to identify CDFAE values within existing protected areas and determine the amount and spatial distribution of 'additional' protected areas required to create a resilient system.
- Create realistic scenarios for 'core' protection, taking into account spatial distribution and connectivity.
- Use the Marxan tool and other analysis to identify working landscapes and other lands with high CDF values.
- Develop and keep current a list of priority parcels for securement, and develop information on those parcels to support acquisition.
- Develop a methodology for ranking and ground truthing an individual conservation opportunity.

1.2. Assist local governments, conservation groups and First Nations to identify priority areas for securement and stewardship in their jurisdiction

Actions:

- Working with UBC and other groups, use the Marxan tool and other analysis to develop jurisdictional maps throughout the CDF area that identify areas with high conservation values, taking local priorities into account.
- Share existing data and knowledge through information forums and data sharing sites such as iMap, while respecting data privacy as required.
- Develop ways and means to facilitate timely and efficient access to a collective database.
- Engage local groups in the prioritization process so that they understand and support the selection process.
- Encourage jurisdictions to incorporate the results of regional mapping into their plans and policies.



- Provide training on the use and interpretation of the outcomes of this mapping and prioritization.

1.3. Provide information on emerging CDFAE threats

Actions:

- Gather information on the anticipated impacts from climate change, land conversion, invasive species and other emerging threats.
- Provide information on emerging threats to CDFCP partners and others through webinars, presentations and existing online resources.

1.4. Report annually on conservation outcomes

Actions:

- Establish parameters to be tracked (indicators).
- Monitor, evaluate and report annually on progress for these conservation indicators.

2. CONDUCT EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

Increasing public understanding of the importance of healthy Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems to humans and other species is necessary to create the political and financial support for programs that promote ecological integrity.

2.1. Develop and implement a communications and outreach strategy

Actions:

Through the Outreach and Education Working Group (OEWG):

- Develop a communications and outreach strategy.
 - Identify target audiences (e.g., senior and local governments, First Nations, the resource sector, and private landowners), and learn about their interests, perspectives and information needs.
 - Identify the most effective communications media for each of these audiences (e.g., e-newsletters, in-person meetings, social and regular media).
 - Develop key messages to be conveyed.
 - Identify existing materials (e.g., GOERT manuals, land trust strategies), and identify gaps in readily available information.
 - Identify organizations (partners and others) who can help to raise awareness of CDFAE.
 - Identify regions where there are no local groups to assist; consider options for filling this outreach gap.
- Provide informative educational materials in a variety of formats.
 - Provide links to existing online materials from the CDFCP website (and maintain links to ensure they remain current).
 - Where appropriate information does not already exist, create materials aimed at meeting the needs of specific groups.
 - Create engaging and clear information on CDFAE values for the general public.



- Post new materials on the CDFAE website in “print-ready” format and make them available through CDFCP partners.
- Distribute information widely.
 - Maintain an informative online presence, ensuring that content is updated regularly.
 - Ensure the coordinator role includes regular communications through email, social media and other methods.
 - Encourage CDFCP partners to share CDFCP news via their own websites, social media and other outreach.
- Host webinars, workshops and/or other information exchanges among existing and potential CDFCP partners
 - Identify target audiences and key topics for specific events.
 - Host at least one webinar (or in-person meetings) per year on different aspects of CDFAE protection and stewardship; encourage partners to co-host other events.
 - Consider events, contests and other activities that reach other audiences, such as youth.

2.2. *Share success stories*

Actions:

- Use proactive communications methods (not just website listings) to share success stories, such as:
 - Successful land securement deals, especially those using new and innovative approaches, Target audiences for these include developers/builders, agricultural land owners/managers.
 - Best practices to enhance CDFAE values (and reduce negative impacts), including restoration techniques.

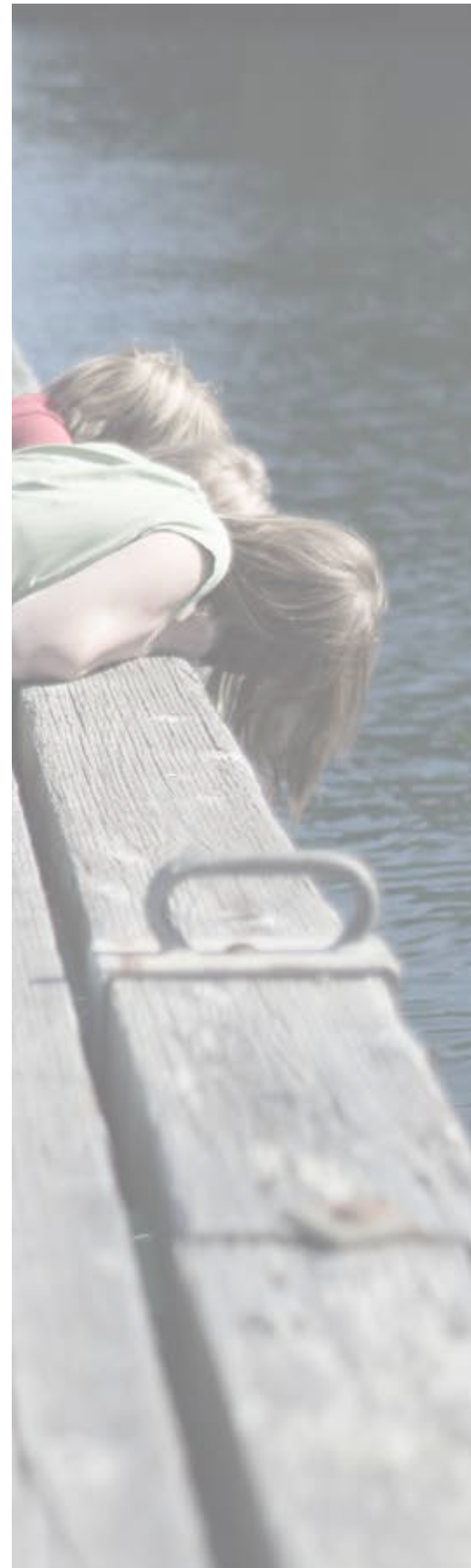
3. CULTIVATE EFFECTIVE PARTNERSHIPS

Create an effective and growing partnership in support of Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems.

3.1. *Create and fund a coordinator position*

Actions:

- Hire the coordinator. Refine the existing job description, gather funding to support this position for at least the first two years, and advertise for/hire the coordinator.
 - Seek funding for ongoing support for this position.
 - Annually, prepare a budget and workplan that identifies appropriate CDFCP banker(s) and core funding and project funding.
 - Identify potential funders for proposed projects; write grant proposals.
 - Prepare a simple annual update that provides information on achievements, funds expended, in-kind contributions from partners and others, identification of ways members can help, etc.



3.2. Create and Support Working Groups

Actions:

- Confirm Working Group membership, create a Terms of Reference for each group and identify official communications channels
- Where the working group role is filled by a parallel partnership (e.g., the Local Government Species At Risk Local Government Working Group), consider how this will meet the needs of the CDFCP and how best to achieve shared goals.
- Task each Working Group to provide a list of their priorities annually.
- Ensure the membership and efforts of the Working Groups are shared among all partners and supporters.

3.3. Encourage First Nations representation in the Partnership

Actions:

- Invite First Nations to CDFCP webinars and meetings to provide them with an opportunity to learn about the partnership.
- Meet in person with First Nations to:
 - Seek to understand the value of the CDFCP to First Nations
 - Share ideas on benefits of CDFAE conservation and overlap with traditional ecological knowledge, perhaps through joint mapping
 - Invite the inclusion of First Nations knowledge in the post-processing analysis.
- Invite First Nations representation on the Steering Committee.

3.4. Support the work of CDFCP Signatories

Actions:

- Develop an internal communications strategy for regular communications amongst partners.
- Identify the ‘point person(s)’ for information flow (internally and externally).
- Identify specific needs of the partners; help partners to further their CDFAE goals.
- Share the information (spreadsheet) identifying programs and gaps in ecosystem protection.
- Facilitate a peer-to-peer format for exchange of information, capacity building and access to funding.

3.5. Collaborate with other groups working on ecosystem conservation

- Identify potential new partners and encourage their participation in the CDFCP.
- Identify gaps in partner membership (e.g., in geographical regions as well as areas of expertise)
- Share information with similar organizations and partnerships (e.g., South Coast Conservation Partnership) on an ongoing basis.
- Coordinate with region-wide groups (e.g., GOERT) regarding shared interests
- Promote members of CDFCP as mentors for smaller organizations and community groups.
- Contact community organizations working on complementary objectives (e.g., Shawnigan Watershed study and Cedar Watershed Study) and identify opportunities for collaboration.



4. FACILITATE SECUREMENT OF PROTECTED ECOSYSTEMS

Establishing and expanding a system of core protected areas that are specifically managed to protect ecosystem integrity will support the long-term resilience of CDFAE. These protected areas will include publicly-owned lands (e.g., parks and watershed lands), lands owned by conservation organizations, and private lands under conservation covenant or similar legal status.

4.1. Provide advice on land securement

Actions:

Through the Securement Working Group:

- Gather information on the options for land securement including conservation covenants, land donations, eco-gifts, land acquisition, Crown Land securement, leveraging land acquisition, land trades, and other voluntary conservation options.
- Provide advice as needed to support the efforts of government agencies and land trusts to plan for securement and to secure specific CDFAE lands for conservation.
- Provide letters of support for securement efforts that support the ecological integrity of CDFAE.

4.2. Identify options and contacts for funding land securement and stewardship

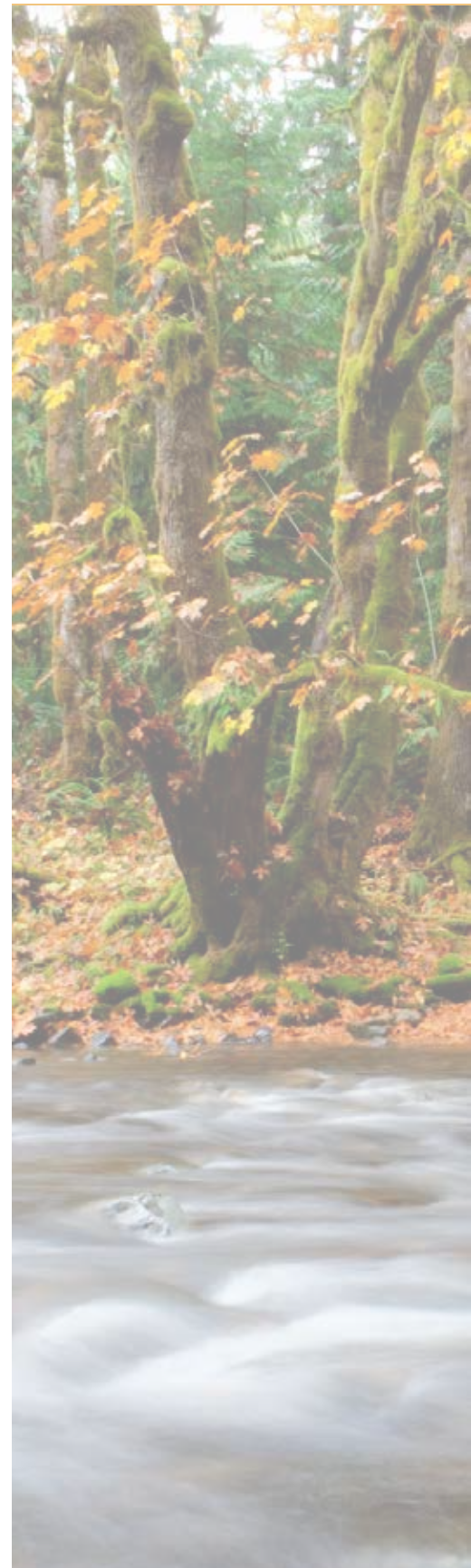
Actions:

- Identify and provide information on financial and other incentives for CDFAE securement and stewardship, e.g., potential carbon offset benefits.
- Provide examples of creative approaches to land securement, such as leveraging, land trades, or acquiring lands for trade.
- Identify contacts for fundraising (funders, fundraising expertise).
- Work with Provincial and regional organizations (e.g., the Land Trust Alliance of BC) to strategically promote funding for land conservation with government, funding agencies, financial advisors, and estate planners.
- Help to develop and advocate for new innovative funding opportunities, as well as encouraging increased funding levels for existing programs.

4.3. Promote and support land securement partnerships

Actions:

- Create venues for conversation about land securement options.
- Clarify roles various partners can play.
- Provide skills mapping for securement partners.
- Look at multi-purpose acquisitions that broaden the scope of conservation constituents, such as farming-conservation, mining-conservation and/or development-conservation.



5. SUPPORT ACTIVE ECOSYSTEM MANAGEMENT

Without active management (stewardship), even protected areas may lose ecosystem integrity. By 2045, it is hoped that protection and stewardship of CDFAE will be an integral component of the plans, policies and management activities of all governmental, private and non-governmental land managers.

5.1. Work with local governments to develop plans, policies and bylaws and incentives that enhance CDF values

Actions:

Through the Local Government Working Group:

- Find examples of practices (e.g., policies, incentives) from B.C. and elsewhere that could be used to enhance CDFAE values; share these with local governments.
- Develop and promote model policies and bylaws.

5.2. Identify and promote opportunities for CDFAE stewardship

Actions:

- Identify incentives (financial and other) for CDFAE stewardship on working landscapes.
- Meet with representatives from the forestry, agriculture and mining sectors to discuss benefits and barriers to CDFAE stewardship.
- Facilitate a peer-to-peer format for exchange of information and capacity building.
- Create a recognition strategy to appreciate good stewardship.

5.3. Identify pilot (case study) lands and land managers where focused management activities would benefit CDFAE on working landscapes

Actions:

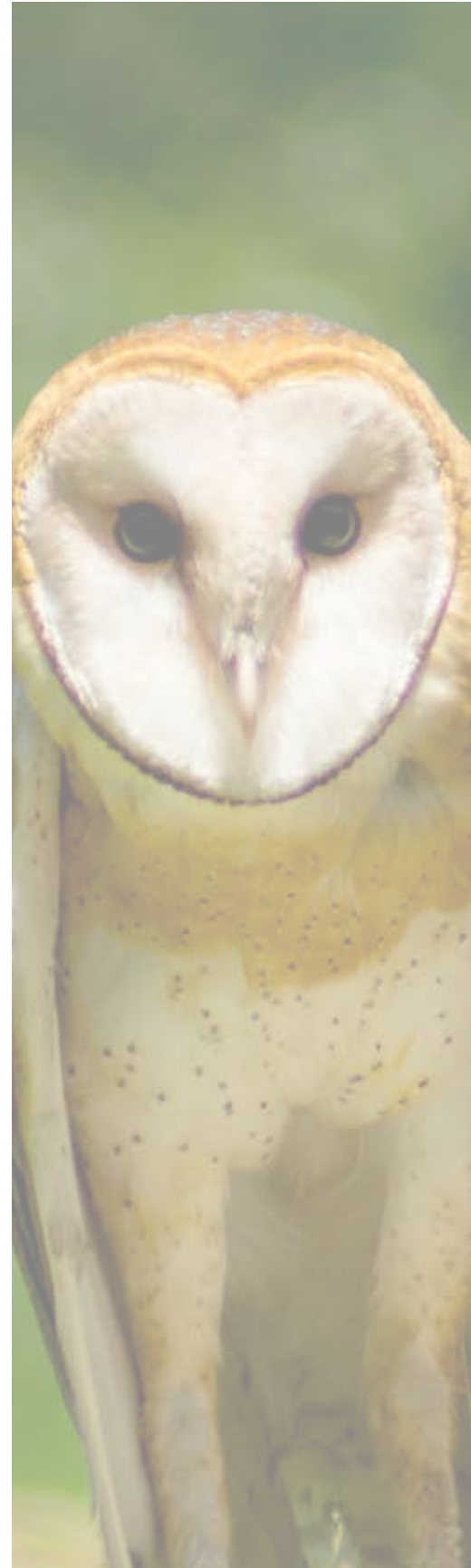
- Collaborate with land managers to identify priority lands for active management. – e.g., agriculture, forestry, real estate.
- Initiate pilot projects for stewardship projects that benefit land managers and enhance CDFAE values on working lands.
- Share the lessons from these pilot projects with the CDFCP and others.

5.4. Work with the resource, developers and real estate sectors to enhance CDF stewardship

Actions:

Through the Resource Sector Working Group, work with the resource sector (including forestry companies, woodlot owners, farmers and mining operators, and real estate sector) to:

- Identify aspects of CDFAE stewardship that enhance operations on working landscapes, and aspects that may create challenges.
- Increase awareness of the impacts of resource extraction activities on CDFAE.
- Explore and promote economic opportunities that are consistent with the CDFAE conservation objectives.
- Seek ways to increase the compatibility of resource activity outcomes with CDFAE conservation objectives.
- Work with the resource sector to integrate CDF values into strategic and operational plans.



APPENDIX A: CORE PRIORITIES

These activities form part of the CDFCP core work, and can be completed through the Steering Committee members and other partners.

1. Provide sound science to support land securement and stewardship

Effective and reliable science, combined with local knowledge, supports decisions that are made using the best available information.

1.1. Provide tools for prioritization of areas for securement and stewardship within the CDF Zone

- Working with UBC and other information providers, use the Marxan tool and analysis to develop landscape-level maps that identify potential conservation priorities.
- Use the Marxan tool and other information to identify high-value conservation areas for discussion with partners.
- Use the Marxan tool and other analysis to identify working landscapes and other lands with high CDF values.
- Develop a methodology for ranking an individual conservation opportunity.

1.2. Assist local governments, conservation groups and First Nations to identify priority areas for securement and stewardship in their jurisdiction

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

1.3. Provide information on emerging CDFAE threats

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

1.4. Report annually on conservation outcomes

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

2. Conduct education and outreach

Increasing public understanding of the importance of healthy Coastal Douglas-fir and associated ecosystems to humans and other species is necessary to create the political and financial support for programs that promote ecological integrity.

2.1. Develop and implement a communications and outreach strategy

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

2.2. Share success stories

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

3. Cultivate effective partnerships

3.1. Create and fund a coordinator position

- Hire the coordinator. Refine the existing job description, gather funding to support this position for at least the first two years, and advertise for/hire the coordinator.
- Seek funding for ongoing support for this position.
- Prepare a simple annual update that provides information on achievements, funds expended, in-kind contributions from partners and others, identification of ways members can help, etc.



- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

3.2. Create and Support Working Groups

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

3.3. Encourage First Nations representation in the Partnership

- Invite First Nations representation on the Steering Committee.
- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

3.4. Support the work of CDFCP Signatories

- Identify the ‘point person(s)’ for information flow (internally and externally).
- Share the information (spreadsheet) identifying programs and gaps in ecosystem protection.
- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

3.5. Collaborate with other groups working on ecosystem conservation

- Identify potential new partners and encourage their participation in the CDFCP.
- Identify gaps in partner membership (e.g., in geographical regions as well as areas of expertise)
- Share information with similar organizations and partnerships (e.g., South Coast Conservation Partnership) on an ongoing basis.
- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

4. Facilitate securement of protected ecosystems

Establishing and expanding a system of core protected areas that are specifically managed to protect ecosystem integrity will support the long-term resilience of CDFAE. These protected areas will include publicly-owned lands (e.g., parks and watershed lands), lands owned by conservation organizations, and private lands under conservation covenant or similar legal status.

4.1. Provide advice on land securement

Through the Securement Working Group:

- Provide advice as needed to support the efforts of government agencies and land trusts to plan for securement and to secure specific CDFAE lands for conservation.
- Provide letters of support for securement efforts that support the ecological integrity of CDFAE.



4.2. Identify options and contacts for funding land securement and stewardship

- Work with Provincial and regional organizations (e.g., the Land Trust Alliance of BC) to strategically promote funding for land conservation with government, funding agencies, financial advisors, and estate planners.
- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

5. *Support active ecosystem management*

Without active management (stewardship), even protected areas may lose ecosystem integrity. By 2045, it is hoped that protection and stewardship of CDFAE will be an integral component of the plans, policies and management activities of all governmental, private and non-governmental land managers.

5.1. Work with local governments to develop plans, policies and bylaws and incentives that enhance CDF values

Through the Local Government Working Group:

- Find examples of practices (e.g., policies, incentives) from B.C. and elsewhere that could be used to enhance CDFAE values; share these with local governments.
- Other actions require additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

5.2. Identify and promote opportunities for CDFAE stewardship

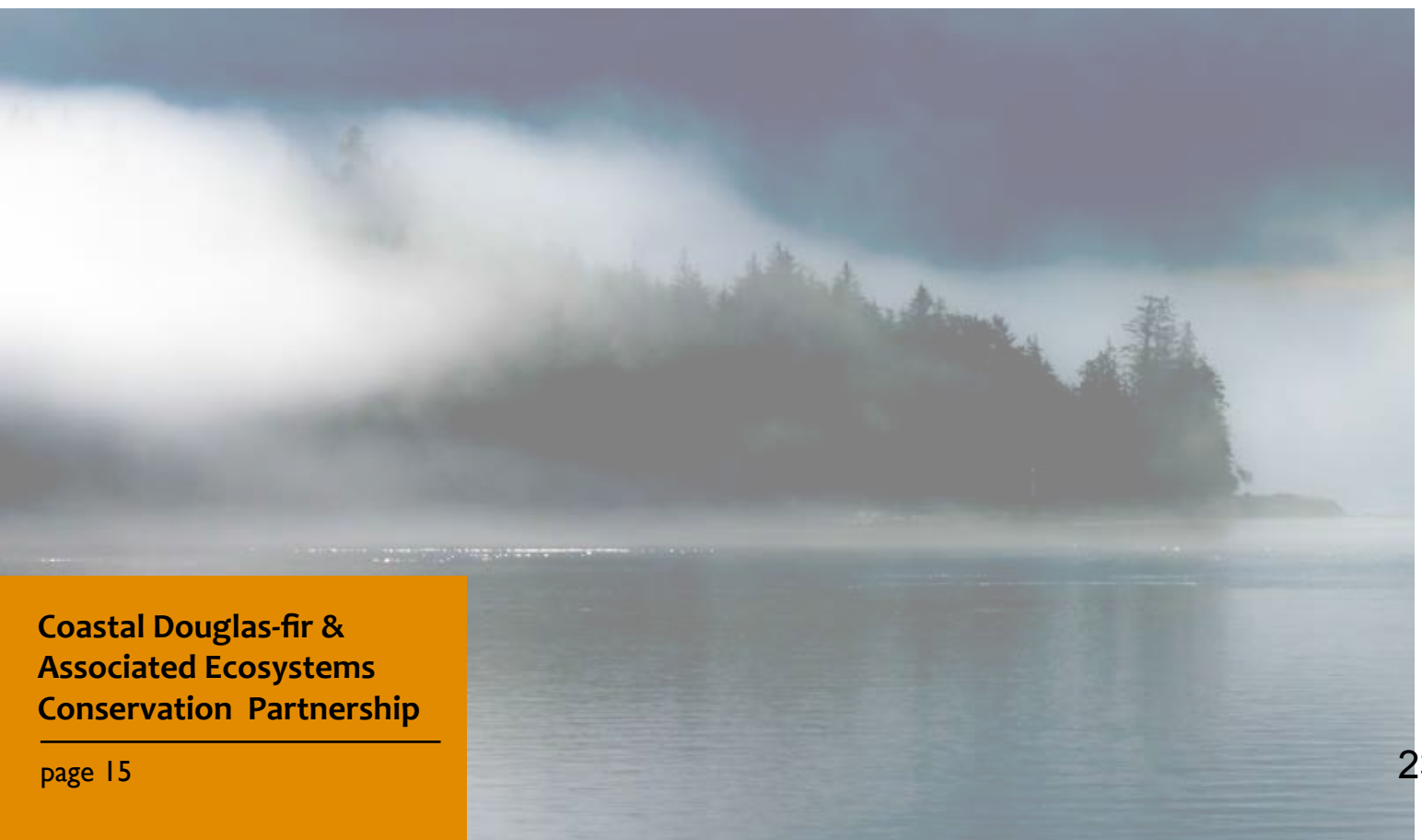
- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

5.3. Identify pilot (case study) lands and land managers where focused management activities would benefit CDFAE on working landscapes

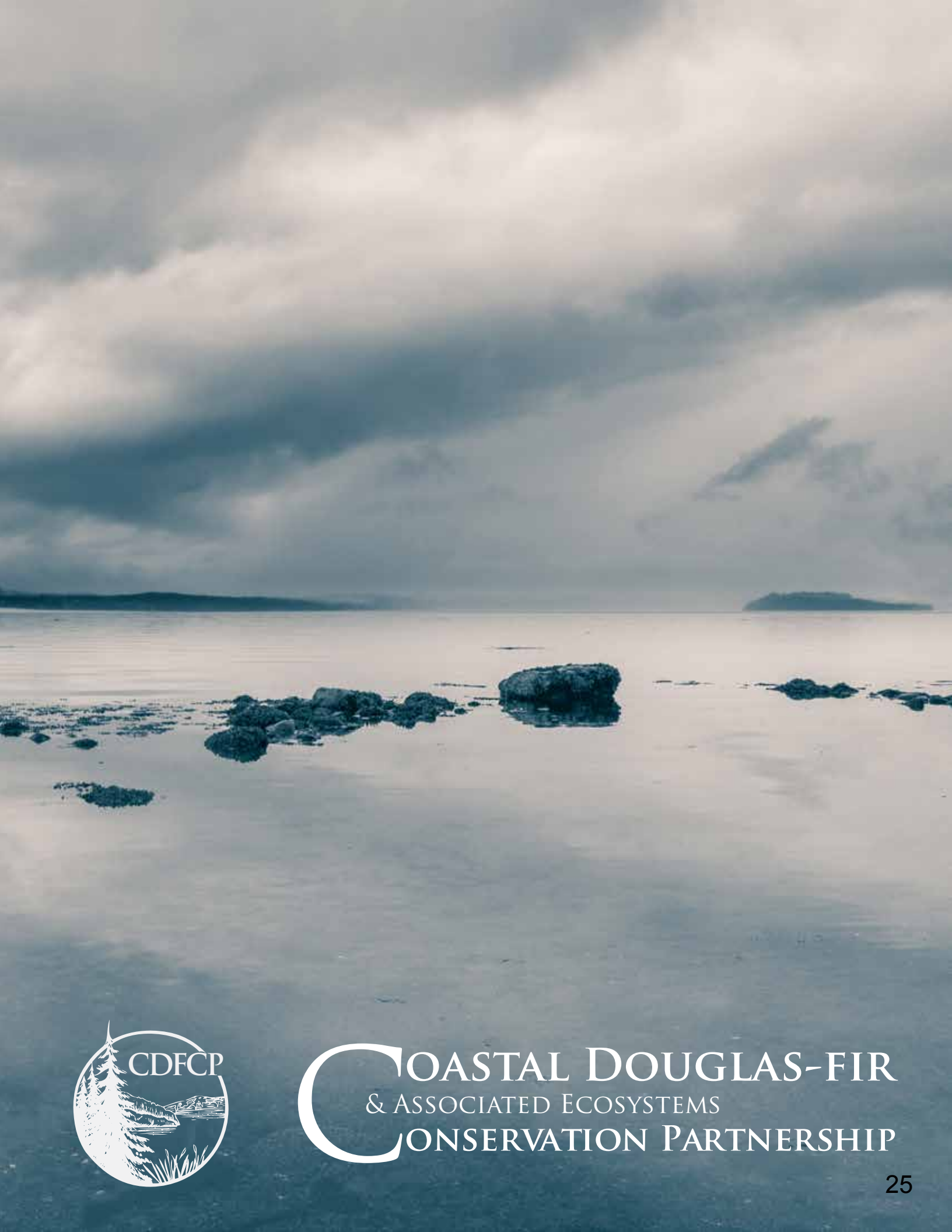
- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.

5.4. Work with the resource, developers and real estate sectors to enhance CDF stewardship

- Requires additional resources to complete, and is dependent on funding availability.







COASTAL DOUGLAS-FIR
& ASSOCIATED ECOSYSTEMS
CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP

May 19, 2016

Real Estate Foundation of British Columbia
660-355 Burrard Street
Vancouver, BC V6C 2G8

To the Board of Governors,

The Gambier Island Local Trust Committee (GM LTC) would like to express its support for the Coastal Douglas-fir & Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) and the “Towards Rare Ecosystem Conservation in a Private Landscape” Project. At its January 21, 2016 meeting the GM LTC passed the following motion:

It was MOVED and SECONDED, that the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee write to the Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Strategy Partnership volunteering the Gambier Island Official Community Plan review process to be part of the Coastal Douglas Fir Conservation Strategy Partnership test case.

We are supportive of the intent of the CDFCP to work with local governments to consider how their conservation plan may be incorporated into planning documents, such as Official Community Plans, Parks Master Plans and Regional Growth Strategies.

As a signatory to the CDFCP Statement of Cooperation, the GM LTC has agreed to assist in the efforts of the CDFCP and we look forward to informing and reviewing the project deliverables and helping the CDFCP in their goal to inform and improve land use practices on the ground. In support of the work with the GM LTC, we have also committed \$x,xxx to the project to assist with work done for consideration during the Gambier Official Community Plan review.

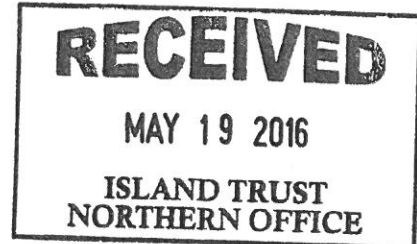
Sincerely,

Susan Morrison
Chair, Gambier Island Local Trust Committee

Comment [KE1]: Remove or keep as decided at LTC meeting. Chair could also add further information about Gambier process if desired.

May 18, 2016

Gambier Island Local Trust Committee
Gambier Island Community Centre
Andy's Bay Road
Gambier Island, BC



Attention: Gambier Island Trust Committee

Re: Letter and Presentation for Consideration at the May 19, 2016 Regular Meeting:
Riparian Ares Regulation (RAR)

Dear Chair:

Please accept this letter and its contents for discussion at the May 19, 2016 meeting of the Gambier Island Trust Committee (GITC). The purpose of the letter is to provide information and perspectives to the GITC as it relates to implementation of the RAR (Province of BC, 2004) on Keats Island and other areas as it might be applied. I have been retained by two property owners on Keats Island and I have visited and assessed two streams which were previously assessed by Madrone (2015) on behalf of the Islands Trust.

For background, I am a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) in British Columbia and am a Registered Professional Biologist in BC and Alberta (R.P.Bio., P.Biol.) respectively. I hold a Ph.D. in Fisheries Biology and toxicology from the University of Guelph in Ontario and I have been practicing biology in BC for 38 years. I have also conducted RAR assessments in four different municipalities and have assessed dozens of streams, watercourses and other bodies of water over my career.

The purpose in writing this letter is to provide some practical perspectives on the RAR as it might be implemented in the Islands Trust. The purpose of the regulation is to protect the features, functions and conditions that contribute to the maintenance of stream health and productivity. Furthermore, "*Stream*" has been defined as any of the following that provides fish habitat:

- (a) a watercourse, whether it usually contains water or not;
- (b) a pond, lake, river, creek or brook;
- (c) a ditch, spring or wetland that
is connected by surface flow to something
referred to in paragraph (a) or (b)

It is the responsibility of the QEP conducting a RAR to correctly identify and justify why the selected watercourse is subject to or not applicable to the RAR. The stream definition broadly encompasses bodies of water that may not have the typical characteristics of a confined stream and the key to the definition is the provision of fish habitat. This in itself creates some uncertainty because most streams under the definition would provide some form of fish habitat even if fish are not present. Consequently, the first task is to examine the stream and collect available information on its features and the status of fish presence. The RAR provides a description of assessment methods in a schedule available from the Province's web site:

(http://www2.gov.bc.ca/assets/gov/environment/plants-animals-and-ecosystems/fish-fish-habitat/riparian-areas-regulations/rar_assessment_methods.pdf)

As a QEP I have found it is not always evident as to a stream's importance as fish habitat and the critical role of the QEP is to determine and certify the Stream Enhancement and Protection Areas (SPEA) as per the RAR (FLNRO, 2015). Local governments do not have the ability to reject or modify a QEP's report and they rely upon the opinions of the QEP and the Ministry (FLNRO) for direction and interpretation from the Ministry. All RAR assessment reports are reviewed by the Ministry for completeness reflective of the RAR and its assessment methods.

As an example of the difficulties encountered by QEPs I had the opportunity to review the Madrone (2015) report on its findings for Keats Island. I largely shared Madrone's opinion on the two streams I assessed but I found it curious that some streams meeting the RAR definition for "*stream*" were considered not applicable to RAR. Many streams in the absence of fish still provide food and nutrient value to downstream habitat where fish reside and it is a challenging position to take that streams would be assessed as not applicable to RAR. This underscores the role of the QEP and the need for consistency among QEPs as well as the local governments implementing the regulation. The writer and Mr. Curt Shepard visited RAR Ministry officials in Victoria where we explored with them some of the particulars of the RAR. In that meeting the officials acknowledged that most "streams" will be applicable under the RAR and the bar is set very high in this regard meaning it would be difficult to exclude a stream from the RAR.

The review of local government implementation of the RAR (FLNRO, 2015) found that a number of local governments are unclear as to their responsibilities under RAR with respect to the responsibilities of the QEP, the Ministry and other agencies such as the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO). This has resulted in an inconsistent use of the RAR Notification System (RANS). Under RAR local governments have the ability to provide a level of protection that is "*comparable to or exceeds*" the RAR and if they choose this option they must demonstrate how their process meets the standard. Some municipalities indicated they did not have adequate resources or RAR processes in place to interpret and apply the RAR (FLNRO, 2015). That review also found that most municipalities have opted to integrate the RAR standards into the Development Permit Areas (DPA) process rather than create stand-alone bylaws.

In the case of the GITC process it too is using the DPA process as its tool to comply with RAR. In reading the agenda material it is clear the DPA process goes beyond the RAR and includes other "layered" conditions on top of the RAR. For example, a designated riparian area is a 30 m strip on both sides of the stream measured from the top of bank or 30 m beyond the top of bank

in the case of a ravine. For a stream located within a ravine that is 60 m wide or greater the designated area is 10 m beyond the top of the ravine bank. A lake or other wetland would have a 30 m set back from the high water mark.

These designated areas are more conservative than the RAR because the RAR methods may well show that a small stream (<2 m) wide may only require a 10 m setback. This raises the question why do the designated areas under the DPA require broader setbacks than those required under the RAR? It is the writer's view that adoption of the RAR by a simplified statement in the local governments' DPA process or bylaws would provide adequate direction and assurance that the RAR is being complied with. Furthermore, if implementation of the RAR achieves compliance what is the rationale for going further with respect to setback widths? In this regard, the Ministry officials we spoke with also indicated that some municipalities have implemented RAR in its entirety through a simple statement and this has been adequate for compliance purposes.

Under RAR a stream may be assessed by the "Simple" or "Detailed" methods. The simple method establishes default setbacks whereas the detailed methods include a more in-depth assessment of a stream's features to determine the extent of a required SPEA. In the case of a stream <2 m wide without the fish the RAR SPEA would be 10 m not the 30 m proposed under the DPA process. This has significance to the property owner who may have a large proportion of his/her property excluded from development or use. In the case of the two streams assessed on Keats I found the RAR setback would be 10 m based on the width and other features of the streams as assessed under the detailed methodology.

Notwithstanding the uncertainties surrounding RAR and its implementation adopting it in its entirety has a number of advantages including:

- Provides certainty and direction for the assessment methods that may be used (simple or detailed);
- Landowners would have the opportunity to retain QEPs to conduct either a simple or detailed assessment at their cost;
- The RAR assessment would be verified and reviewed by the Ministry for compliance reducing a local government's need for internal resources to manage the assessment;
- The results of the RAR could be written into any Development Permit or process a local government may choose to implement; and,
- Compliance would be achieved as required under RAR.

Closure

As a practitioner and consultant I have encountered uncertainty by landowners and local governments in the implementation of the RAR. I have found, however, that if the RAR is implemented as written it provides clear direction to all parties and the need for going beyond the RAR is questionable. The regulatory provisions of the RAR are clear and I believe landowners should be able to follow the RAR as its written leaving them the choice of how many streams on their property would be assessed. I also understand local governments' requirement to ensure compliance with RAR and this can be achieved as described above by adopting the RAR in its

entirety. In some ways it also reduces the need by local government to survey the "designated areas" under its proposed bylaw because the streams would have been assessed by a QEP and reviewed by the Ministry for compliance.

It is hoped the information in this letter provides some perspectives on RAR implementation and that it helps landowners as well as local government in establishing compliance with the RAR. Should you require any further information I can be contacted via E-mail at twatson@soleil-consulting.ca and (604) 240 - 0990.

Sincerely

Soleil Environmental Consultants Ltd.



Tom A. Watson, Ph.D., R.P.Bio. (BC), P. Biol. (AB)
Senior Environmental Scientist
President

cc: Mr. Curt Shepard, Landowner-Keats Island

References

British Columbia. 2004. Riparian Areas Regulation. Enacted under Section 12 of the Fish Protection Act by Order in Council No. 837.

British Columbia Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO). 2015. Review of Local Government Implementation of the Riparian Areas Regulation. September 14, 2015.

Madrone Environmental Services Ltd. 2015. Riparian Area Regulation Stream Identification. Gambier, Keats, Anvil and Bowyer Islands. Prepared for Islands Trust, Northern Office, Gabriola Island.

Trust Fund Board Report to Local Trust Committees and Bowen Island Municipality

Important deadline! Fairy Slipper Forest Campaign – Thetis Island

June second is an important deadline for the campaign to purchase 40 acres of forest, creating Thetis Island's first publicly accessible nature reserve. Half the total cost of \$560,000 needs to be raised by this date. To help meet this important fundraising goal, an anonymous donor is matching funds, to a maximum of \$40,000, until the deadline. Donations can be made through the [Islands Trust Fund \(ITF\)](#) website. Media packages are available upon request from the ITF Communications and Fundraising Specialist for promotions.

Appointed Board Members – Vacancies

Three of the six members of the Trust Fund Board (TFB) are appointed by the Province. The term of former member Julie Glover has concluded (Dec. 2015) and the provincial Board Resourcing and Development Office recently concluded its advertising of this vacancy. The term of member Dereck Atha ends in June and applications for this position are now being accepted through the [Board Resourcing and Development Office](#). Please inform individuals you know who might have the knowledge, experience and interest to serve on TFB.

Land Securement Strategy

The Islands Trust Strategic Plan includes a strategy for TFB to "Protect high biodiversity areas identified in TFB's Regional Conservation Plan" by "developing a land conservation strategy to protect high biodiversity areas (e.g. Coastal Douglas-fir)". Most of our protected land has come about opportunistically as a result of landowners and organizations coming to us (albeit with prior relationship-building in many cases). Another approach, used successfully by other land conservancies, is to focus on areas with high biodiversity and approach landowners to explore voluntary conservation options that might work for them. This requires careful and sensitive planning. TFB has approved the project charter for developing a securement strategy to implement such an approach.

Conservation Tax Incentive Program

The Islands Trust Strategic Plan also identifies the Trust Fund Board will support efforts to expand a conservation tax exemption program to the rest of British Columbia. The TFB Chair has written an open letter of support outlining the success of NAPTEP in support of a province-wide program.

Long Term Funding

The Trust Fund Board has reviewed the considerable work carried out over the years to develop a Long Term Funding Initiative and discussed this in the current context. The Chair hopes to provide a brief report at the June Trust Council meeting and is happy to discuss this issue in more depth with individual trustees.

Trust Fund Board Report to Local Trust Committees and Bowen Island Municipality

Planned Giving

The Board reviewed and discussed ITF's approach to encouraging and enabling planned, or legacy, gifts. Two recent prime examples are legacies that have established the Morrison Waxler Biodiversity Protection Legacy Fund (\$20,000) and the Gambier Island Acquisition Fund (\$115,000). Crystal Oberg, ITF's new Communications and Fundraising Specialist, will attend an upcoming professional development opportunity to enhance this part of our work. Check out the "[Gift and Estate Planning](#)" page on our website.

Budget

Preliminary figures show that the Islands Trust Fund's 2015-16 expenses came in under budget. The 2016-17 budget is essentially unchanged. The budget includes provision for responding to emerging and time-sensitive conservation proposals and property management issues.

Property Management

Here is a summary of current property management activities:

Bowen -	New management contract for Fairy Fen Nature Reserve; revision of management plan for Singing Woods Nature Reserve
Denman -	Restoration and signage at Inner Island; restoration and tree planting at Lindsay Dickson Nature Reserve; trail development and maintenance at Morrison Marsh Nature Reserve
Gabriola -	Management Plan for Burren's Acres Nature Reserve; boardwalk repair; trail maintenance and root protection work at Elder Cedar Nature Reserve
Lasqueti -	Monitoring of restoration and possible trespass at Mount Trematon Nature Reserve; revision of management plan for Kwel Nature Sanctuary
N. Pender -	Interpretive panels at Medicine Beach Nature Reserve
Salt Spring -	Revision of management plan for Cyril Cunningham Nature Reserve.

Annual monitoring of properties and covenants across the Trust Area will be completed by July 15, 2016.

Trail Proposal for the Lindsay Dickson Nature Reserve –Denman Island

After onsite meetings and consultation with our property managers, the Trust Fund Board has agreed to allow an old logging road across one corner of the reserve, which already supports public use, to be part of the Denman cross-island trail. However, the board does not support the development of an unopened road access alongside the nature reserve because of the additional disturbance it could bring to the reserve.

Please feel free to contact members of the Trust Fund Board or Islands Trust Fund staff for more details.

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Gambier Island Local Trust Committee **For the Meeting of::** May 19, 2016

From: Aleksandra Brzozowski, Island Planner **Date Prepared:** May 13, 2016

SUBJECT: 2015-2016 ANNUAL REPORT – APPROVAL OF GAMBIER ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE SECTION

RECOMMENDATION: That the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee approves the attached text for inclusion in the 2015-2016 Annual Report for approval (as amended) by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL:

Preparation of the Islands Trust Annual Report is undertaken by Trust Area Services Communications staff, reporting to the Executive Committee and consistent with Trust Council's [Annual Report Policy 6.10.i](#). To comply with the schedule indicated in the policy, the Executive Committee has adopted the following schedule for preparation of individual committee reports:

Committee reports:	Reports to be approved on the following dates:
TPC	May 16
LPC	May 25
FPC	May 31
TFB	May 10
EC	May 18
Denman	April 19 / May 17
Gambier	March 17 / May 19
Gabriola	Resolution Without Meeting
Galiano	April 4 / May 2
Hornby	April 1
Lasqueti	April 18
Mayne	March 21 / April 25
North Pender	April 28
Salt Spring Island	April 7 / May 5
Saturna	April 21 / May 21
South Pender	April 5 / May 10
Thetis	March 29 / May 24
Ballenas-Winchelsea	Resolution Without Meeting

Under Trust Council's Policy, all LTCs and Council committees are expected to review and approve their sections at regular meetings listed above.

FINANCIAL: None

POLICY: No implications for existing policy

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: The process for development of the Annual Report is outlined in Trust Council's Annual Report policy 6.10.i. Once each committee has approved its section, staff will create a draft Annual Report for review by the Executive Committee and consideration of Trust Council in June. Upon approval by Trust Council, staff will send the Annual Report to the Minister of Community Sport and Cultural Development and circulate it as indicated in Trust Council's policy.

OTHER: n/a

BACKGROUND

- The Executive Committee will consider the format and outline of the 2015-2016 Annual Report at its meeting on March 22nd or April 6th.

REPORT/DOCUMENT: Gambier Island Local Trust Committee input to Annual Report (draft):

In 2015-2016, the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee held seven regular business meetings, one public hearing, and one special meeting. During the fiscal year, the LTC work program included regulatory work to implement the provincially mandated Riparian Areas Regulation in the Local Trust Area, initial work on a review of the Gambier Island Official Community Plan (OCP), and continued advocacy for the Howe Sound waters in response to large-scale industrial proposals. In March 2016, the LTC hosted a Community to Community Forum with the Squamish Nation at New Brighton on Gambier Island.

KEY ISSUE(S)/CONCEPT(S): Consistent Annual Report sections from each committee

RELEVANT POLICY: This approach complies with Section 19 of the *Islands Trust Act* and Trust Council's [Annual Report Policy 6.10.i](#).

DESIRED OUTCOME: Trust Council is able to easily approve its annual report in June 2016 without further editing from staff or trustees at the Trust Council meeting.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommended: That the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee approves the embedded text for inclusion in the 2015-2016 Annual Report for approval (as amended) by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Community, Sport and Cultural Development.

Alternative: None

Prepared By: Aleksandra Brzozowski, Island Planner

Reviewed By/Date: Director Marlor, Director LPS / May 13, 2016