



Trust Programs Committee Agenda

Date: Monday, May 15, 2023
Time: 10:00 am - 3:00 pm
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

Pages

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. AGENDA

2.1 Review of the Agenda

Late items, new items and re-ordering of the agenda

2.2 Approval of Agenda

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

4. DELEGATIONS

None

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee Minutes of April 3, 2023

4 - 8

For review and approval

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

None

6.3 Follow up Action List

9 - 11

For review

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Stewardship Education Program - RFD 12 - 19

That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.

That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

8. BUSINESS - OTHER

8.1 Annual Report - Trust Programs Committee section - RFD 20 - 22

That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

8.2 TPC 2024/25 Business Cases - RFD 23 - 26

That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2024/25 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$12,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

8.3 Coastal Douglas-fir mentions in US National Park Service website – Briefing 27 - 40

8.4 Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone language and potential education session – Briefing 41 - 46

8.5 Advice to Trust Council on Montreal Charter on Biodiversity - Briefing 47 - 56

8.6 Venue Options for the November 6, 2023 in-person meeting - Discussion

1. Oceanfront Suites, Cowichan Bay
2. Courtyard Marriott, Nanaimo
3. Best Western Dorchester, Nanaimo

9. BUSINESS - NEW

10. WORK PROGRAM 57 - 58

For review and referral to Trust Council before each quarterly TC meeting

11. NEXT MEETING

Electronic (Zoom) meeting on Monday, August 28, 2023, 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

12. CLOSED MEETING

If desired:

That the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, s.90, (quote the pertinent section here, for example, (1)(a) personal information about...) and that the recorder and staff [attend/not attend] the meeting.

13. RISE AND REPORT

If requested

14. ADJOURNMENT

*Approximate time is provided for the convenience of the public only and is subject to change without notice.



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: April 3, 2023
Location: Electronic Meeting

Members Present: Kristina Evans, Chair/South Pender Island Trustee
Alex Allen, Vice-Chair/Hornby Island Trustee
Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipal Trustee
Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island Trustee (EC Representative)
Peter Luckham, Islands Trust Council Chair (Ex Officio)

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Gillian Nicol, Program Coordinator
Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Others Present: Three members of the public were present

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Evans called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and acknowledged that participants of the meeting were on the traditional and treaty territories of many Coast Salish First Nations.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Review of Agenda

No late item nor changes to the agenda were presented for consideration.

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No member of the public were present during this time.

4. DELEGATIONS

By general consent the order of delegations was altered as the representative of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum was not present.

4.2 Rural Islands Economic Partnership - Francine Carlin, President and Board Chair

Francine Carlin spoke and answered questions.

4.1 Southern Gulf Islands Forum - Adam Olsen, MLA

Adam Olsen, MLA, spoke and answered questions.

4.3 Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Conservation Partnership (CDFCP) - Lyndsey Smith, Program Coordinator

Lyndsey Smith spoke and answered questions.

Trustee Harris joined the meeting at 10:25 a.m.

4.4 Bayne Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum – Carl Butterworth

Carl Butterworth made a presentation and answered questions.

4.5 Howe Sound Community Forum - Dan Rogers

Dan Rogers spoke and answered questions.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meeting

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee (TPC) Minutes of February 6, 2023

By general consent the minutes were approved.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting

None.

6.3 Follow Up Action List

Director Frater spoke to the FUAL items that were in progress.

By general consent the Committee requested staff to provide venue options for an in-person meeting at the November 6, 2023 meeting.

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 Secretariat Services to Coordination Groups in the Trust Area – Request for Decision (RFD)

Director Frater presented the RFD that provides background information in regards to the Secretariat Services program and the requests for secretariat support from coordination groups in the Islands Trust Area. Committee discussion included:

- both Trust Council and the Islands Trust Conservancy (ITC) Board are members of the CDFCP and, as requested by the ITC Board, the Ecosystems Protection Specialist is a member of the steering committee who provides approximately thirty to forty hours per year in that role
- whether there are arguable statements regarding the Coastal Douglas-fir Ecosystem in Islands Trust and CDFCP materials
- the value and impact of the Secretariat Services program
- Lyndsey Smith of CDFCP clarified that there are First Nations engaged with the CDFCP.

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee allocate for fiscal year 2023/24:

- \$1,000 to support the coordination of the Rural Island Economic Partnership,
- \$2,500 to support the coordination of the Baynes Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum,
- \$2,500 to support the coordination of the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership,
- \$3,500 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum, and
- \$2,500 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum

TPC-2023-014

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee amend the [above] motion by changing the three \$2500 amounts to \$2600 and the \$3500 amount to \$3200.

Trustee Harris requested to be on the record as “not being in support of giving any funding to the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership”.

The question on the amending motion was then called.

CARRIED

TPC-2023-015

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee amend the [above] motion as follows:

- \$1,120 to support the coordination of the Rural Island Economic Partnership,

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- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Baynes Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum,
- \$4,000 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum, and
- \$3,000 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum.

DEFEATED

The Chair called the question on the main motion as amended.

DEFEATED

Trustee Allen left the meeting at 12:25 p.m.

TPC-2023-017

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee allocate for fiscal year 2023/24:

- \$1,000 to support the coordination of the Rural Island Economic Partnership,
- \$2,600 to support the coordination of the Baynes Sound Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum,
- \$3,200 to support the coordination of the Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound Community Forum,
- \$2,600 to support the coordination of the Southern Gulf Islands Forum

and that the application from the Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership be reconsidered at a later date.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS – NEW

None.

9. WORK PROGRAM

Director Frater presented the current Work Program (Active Projects and Futures Projects) for information.

10. NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is Monday, May 15, from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

11. CLOSED MEETING

The Committee did not close the meeting.

12. RISE AND REPORT

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As the Committee did not close the meeting, there was no need for the Committee to discuss this option.

13. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 12:35 p.m.

Kristina Evans, Chair

Certified Correct:

Robert Barlow, Legislative Services Clerk/Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

29-Feb-2016

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter V2, circulate past RFD to TPC members, keep charter on future agendas until project is complete, and consider inventory of current referrals if it helps demonstrate the need for updating the letter of understanding.	Clare Frater	Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress

05-Nov-2020

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to refine the Amending the Policy Statement Amendment Policy 1.2.1. RFD, and bring it back to Trust Programs Committee. ON HOLD pending staff capacity	Clare Frater Dilani Hippola	Target: 31-Aug-2026	In Progress

14-May-2021

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to review current criteria, and to provide feedback or suggestions for criteria for future Secretariat Services applications.	Clare Frater	Target: 28-Aug-2023	In Progress

13-May-2022

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
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Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

13-May-2022

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 13, 2022 and that staff need to consider how to evaluate the effectiveness of the program.	Clare Frater	Target: 15-May-2023	Completed

06-Feb-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 that Trust Programs Committee request staff to provide all information from the US National Parks Service website regarding the range and extent of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone and Coastal Douglas-fir forests.	Clare Frater Kate Emmings	Target: 15-May-2023	Completed
2 that Trust Programs Committee encourage Executive Committee to support all efforts to pursue additional funding from the Province.	Clare Frater	Target: 15-May-2023	Completed

07-Mar-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 Trust Council direct the Regional Planning Committee and the Trust Programs Committee to consider how the Montreal Charter on Biodiversity impacts the work of the Islands Trust and share their thinking back with Trust Council in this calendar year.	Clare Frater Stefan Cermak	Target: 15-Nov-2023	In Progress
2 Trust Council refer the educational opportunity around CDF and forest discussion to Trust Programs Committee .	Clare Frater	Target: 15-May-2023	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

03-Apr-2023

Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
1 the Committee requested staff to provide venue options for an in-person meeting at the November 6, 2023 meeting.	Clare Frater Robert Barlow	Target: 15-May-2023	In Progress



REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee

For the Meeting of: May 15, 2023

From: Trust Area Services

Date Prepared: May 3, 2023

SUBJECT Stewardship Education Program

RECOMMENDATION:

- That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.
- That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

TRUST AREA SERVICES DIRECTOR COMMENTS: The recommendations provided would further efforts to advance education in the Trust Area about responsible stewardship in the Islands Trust Area.

PURPOSE: To seek endorsement and direction for the Stewardship Education Program.

BACKGROUND: Trust Programs Committee (TPC) has a history of offering public workshops and forums. In 2017, Trust Programs Committee offered, co-organized and delivered 11 on-island well owner education workshops with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and local organizations. About 300 people participated. Almost all participants (90%+) said that they would be making some change to their well set-up or groundwater use as a result of the workshop, including: water testing; well maintenance; and getting registered or obtaining a license. Almost 100% of participants said that they would like Islands Trust to offer additional educational workshops and suggested the following topics: sewer/septic systems; advanced well maintenance such as abandoned well transitioning; greywater and rainwater harvesting; fire prevention; stewardship; and general information about the Islands Trust.

From December 2018-March 2019, Trust Programs Committee partnered with Living Oceans Society to offer six on-island sea level rise workshops. About 140 people participated.

In the 2018-2022 term, Trust Council adopted a Strategic Plan that included Strategy 4.3: Develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and stakeholders in the Trust Area and assigned the responsibility to Trust Programs Committee. Trust Programs Committee decided the program would be focused on educating community members on ways to contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change in the Trust Area. Originally, there were plans for in-person events but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff recommended the program be via webinars.

From September – November 2020, Trust Programs Committee offered three webinars: Eelgrass: A Climate Hero; Ecosystem-based Adaptation; and Rainwater Harvesting. The webinars drew over 400 viewers and have been watched many times since. They have also been referenced by other organizations offering related educational opportunities.

In November 2020, TPC requested staff create a project charter for a Living in the Trust mailing package (also known as the “newcomers” package). The project was funded for 2021/22 and 2022/23 along with a part-time community communications specialist position to support the project (which was originally proposed by Financial Planning Committee as a bylaw enforcement prevention project).

The discussed intent was to raise awareness of the Islands Trust among residential property purchasers within the Islands Trust Area, prevent bylaw infractions and misunderstandings, and provide information on different government services in each local trust area/Bowen Island. It was noted that numerous land transactions in the Trust Area were resulting in many new landowners who may not be aware of Islands Trust.

The following materials were produced and reviewed by Trust Programs Committee:

1. Cover Letter (new)
2. Islands Trust brochure (new)
3. Islands Trust Conservancy rack card (update)
4. Land-use planning information and contact sheet (new)
5. Trust Area Stewardship tips guide (new)
6. Government and other services’ contact sheets for 12 LTAs (new)
7. Groundwater conservation brochure (update)
8. Magnet design: ‘You have to be more careful with an island’ (new) (Will not be repeating)

During the first year of the program, the packages were sent out as follows using a list generated from BC Assessment data and Islands Trust Information Services staff.

- 1000 packages (January 2021 (estimate) - March 2022) were sent out in March 2022
- 100 packages (March 1st – July 15th, 2022) were sent out in August 2022

In 2022, Staff became aware that some of the mailing addresses were not new purchasers, and some packages were returned. Staff reviewed the process for developing the mailing list internally and concluded an accurate list could only be developed by a specialized contractor. This investigation and subsequent procurement process created a major delay in the program. If TPC continues with the program, staff estimates that there will be approximately 1000 packages to mail in 2023/24 fiscal, which includes purchases since July 16th, 2022.

Staff have an arrangement with BC Mail (BC government mail service) to stuff and mail the packages, a cost effective approach. Packages can also be provided to Trustees and local organizations to distribute.

Staff recommend continuing with the ‘Living in the Trust’ mailing program, and have prepared a project charter for the committee to consider for approval (attached).

Staff also recommend that TPC consider additional stewardship education activities such as webinars. Previous webinar suggestions from members of the committee include:

- Groundwater conservation
- Designing a rain garden
- Gardening with Native Plants
- Invasive species removal
- Best practices when using a well
- Best practices for shoreline protection
- Using the Islands Trust mapping system (new platform to be launched in summer 2023)
- How to determine if you need a development permit
- Wildfire prevention

- Saltwater intrusion
- Wood stove prevention
- Sea level rise

Webinars can also target specific audiences:

- realtors
- waterfront owners
- trades people
- new property owners
- well owners, etc.

IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION:

ORGANIZATIONAL: The program will be implemented by the Program Coordinator, with support as needed from the Communications Specialist. The Stewardship Education Program is not expected to negatively impact other ongoing work.

Living in the Trust mailing package: Coordination of updates and the mailing of materials three times a year is expected to take three weeks of the Program Coordinator's staff time. Researching organizations that could reach renters and arranging to get materials to them is expected to take one to two days. Generally, the mailing itself does not have an impact on staff time as the budget includes costs for BC Mail to take on this service.

Webinars: The number and the topic of webinars/workshops requested by TPC will determine the amount of staff time needed. Generally, a webinar/workshop can require two to four days of Program Coordinator time and one to two days of the Communications Specialist time, but this varies depending on the topic, number of speakers, and whether follow-up is required (e.g. participant evaluation, published Q and A document, additional educational materials) .

FINANCIAL: Trust Council approved \$15,000 for a stewardship education program in 2023/24. Staff have proposed that TPC allocated \$10,000 to the Living in the Trust Area mailing which would leave \$5,000 remaining for other programming such as webinars.

POLICY: None.

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Staff will implement TPC's decisions as directed and will provide a project charter for any non-urgent project requests.

Staff will also develop a communications plan to support requested programming. Communication materials in support of past programming included: news releases, website content, e-mails to subscribers, emails to community groups and past participants, social media posts, and weekly and monthly newspaper advertisements. Staff also provide content to trustees so they could promote programming through their own channels.

Staff are considering methods to evaluate the effectiveness of the Living in the Trust mailing packages program.

OTHER: None.

RELEVANT POLICY: [Communications Policy 6.10.2](#)

ATTACHMENT:

Living in the Trust Area Regular Mailing, Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023

Stewardship Education Program, Project Overview for Trust Programs Committee, dated Feb 6, 2023

RESPONSE OPTIONS**Recommendation:**

That Trust Programs Committee endorse the Living in the Trust Area Mailing Program Project Charter, dated May 15, 2023.

That Trust Programs Committee direct staff to develop a project charter(s) for XXX webinars.

Alternatives:

1. Endorse the project charter with amendments
 2. Request a project charter for a different activity
 3. Request that staff provide additional reporting at a future meeting
 4. Do not endorse the project charter
-

Prepared By: Gillian Nicol, Program Coordinator, May 3, 2023

Reviewed By/Date: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services/ May 5, 2023

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Stewardship Education Program - "Living in the Trust Area" Mailing Project Charter

Trust Programs Committee

Date: May X, 2023

Purpose To guide the implementation of the mail-out, which includes informational materials for community members living in the Trust Area, specifically purchasers and renters of land.

Background: In 2021/22, TPC developed a series of new materials. In March and August 2022, packages were sent to 1500 new property owners. The materials created and updated included: Cover Letter (new); Islands Trust Brochure (new); Islands Trust Conservancy Rack Card (update); Land-use Planning Information and Contact Sheet (new); Trust Area Stewardship Tips Guide (new); 'Government and Other Services' contact sheets for 12 local trust areas (new); Groundwater Conservation Brochure (update); and magnet: 'You have to be more careful with an island.'

Due to data procurement issues and staff availability, mailings have not been sent since August 2022. Staff estimates that there will be approximately 1000 packages to mail in 2023/24, which includes purchases since July 16, 2023. In addition, staff propose distribution to organizations and community locations that will provide additional packages to new renters. Budget estimates assume that no new publications are added to the packages and that the Trust Area Services Communications budget pays for any graphic design changes.

Objectives

- To improve awareness of the Islands Trust/Conservancy and the history and values of the region
- To provide new purchasers with information about preserving and protecting in Trust Area
- To promote awareness and compliance with bylaws

In Scope

- Updates and printing costs for publication materials
- Postage and packaging costs
- Distribution to organizations and community locations that will provide the packages to new renters

Out of Scope

- Mailing to landowners who purchased prior to July 15, 2022
- Mailings to new purchasers in apartment buildings/building stratas
- Development of new materials

Work plan Overview

Deliverable/Milestone	Date
Send mailings three times per year at regular intervals (May, September and March).	May 2023 — March 2024

Project Team	
Director, Trust Area Services	Project Manager
Program Coordinator	Project Lead
Information Services Manager	Adviser
Communications Specialist	Adviser

Approved by:

Clare Frater

Date: May 5, 2023

Endorsement:

TPC resolution #:

Date:

Budget

Budget Source: Stewardship Education Program

Fiscal	Item	Cost
2023/2024	Address list development via contract	\$3,000
2023/2024	Printing, envelopes, packaging and postage	\$6,500
2023/2024	Shipping print materials to BC Mail	\$150
2023/2024	Mailing costs of print materials to organizations that reach renters	\$350
	Total	\$10,000

Stewardship Education Program

Project Overview for Trust Programs Committee (Feb 6, 2023 Meeting)

Program Purpose:

To advance the 2018-2022 Strategic Plan objective to “improve community engagement and participation in Islands Trust work” through Strategy 4.3: “Develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and stakeholders in the Trust Area”.

Program History:

Trust Programs Committee (TPC) has a history of offering public workshop and forums.

In 2017, Trust Programs Committee offered, co-organized and delivered 11 on-island well owner education workshops with the Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations and local organizations. About 300 people participated. Almost all participants (90%+) said that they would be making some change to their well set-up or groundwater use as a result of the workshop, including: water testing; well maintenance; and getting registered or a license. Almost 100% of participants said that they would like Islands Trust to offer additional educational workshops and suggested the following topics: sewer/septic systems; advanced well maintenance such as abandoned well transitioning; greywater and rainwater harvesting; fire prevention; stewardship; and general information about the Islands Trust.

From December 2018-March 2019, Trust Programs Committee partnered with Living Oceans Society to offer six on-island sea level rise workshops. About 140 people participated.

In the 2018-2020 term, Trust Programs Committee decided the program would be focussed on educating community members on ways to contribute to mitigating and adapting to climate change in the Trust Area. Originally, there were plans for in-person events but due to the COVID-19 pandemic, staff recommended the program be via webinars.

From September –November 2020, Trust Programs Committee offered three webinars: Eelgrass: A Climate Hero; Ecosystem-based Adaptation; and Rainwater Harvesting. The webinars drew over 400 viewers and have been watched many times since. They have also been referenced by other organizations offering related educational opportunities.

In November 2020, TPC requested staff create a project charter for a Living in the Trust mailing package (also known as the “newcomers” package). The project was funded for 2021/22 along with a part-time community communications specialist position to support the project which was originally proposed by Financial Planning Committee as a bylaw enforcement prevention position.

The discussed intent was to raise awareness amongst residential property purchasers within the Islands Trust Area, prevent bylaw infractions and misunderstandings, and provide information on different government services in each local trust area/Bowen Island. It was noted that numerous land transactions in the Trust Area were resulting in many new landowners who may not be aware of Islands Trust.

Stewardship Education Program

Project Overview for Trust Programs Committee (Feb 6, 2023 Meeting)

The following materials were produced and reviewed by Trust Programs Committee:

1. Cover Letter (new)
2. Islands Trust brochure (new)
3. Islands Trust Conservancy rack card (update)
4. Land-use planning information and contact sheet (new)
5. Trust Area Stewardship tips guide (new)
6. Government and other services' contact sheets for 12 LTAs (new)
7. Groundwater conservation brochure (update)
8. Magnet design: 'You have to be more careful with an island' (new)

The packages were sent out as follows using a list generated from BC Assessment data and our Information Services staff:

- 1000 packages (January 2021 (estimate) - March 2022) were sent out in March 2022
- 100 packages (March 1st – July 15th, 2022) were sent out in August 2022

Staff have an arrangement with BC Mail (BC government mail service) to stuff and mail the packages, a cost effective approach. In the past, packages have also been provided to Trustees and local organizations to distribute.

In August 2022, Trust Programs Committee forwarded a business case to Financial Planning Committee for \$20,000 with the projected result/deliverable as "The provision of educational programming and materials on stewardship topics to be determined by Trust Program Committee in FY 2023/24."

Program Budget:

Fiscal year	Initiative	Approximate costs
2017-2018	Well owner education workshops and materials	\$7,000
2018-2019	Sea level rise education workshops	\$4,250
2020-21	Webinars	\$3,000
2021-22	Living in the Trust Area mailing	\$13,000 budgeted, including a dedicated part-time staff position who also provided some assistance to general communications (\$35,000).
2022-23	Living in the Trust Area mailing	Costs for the Living in the Trust Area mailing are forecasted to be approx. \$6,000.
2023-24	To be determined by Trust Programs Committee	Staff can provide cost estimates for additional activities once they are proposed by Trust Programs Committee.

Stewardship Education Program

Project Overview for Trust Programs Committee (Feb 6, 2023 Meeting)

Program Communications:

Information and related materials for the 2020 webinar series and the Living in the Trust Area project are on the [Stewardship Education](#) webpage. Stewardship education events are typically promoted via new releases, website content, e-mails to subscribers, emails to community groups and past participants, social media posts, weekly and monthly newspaper advertisements. Staff also provide content to Trustees so they can promote programming through their own channels.

Program Next Steps:

Staff will complete the third Living in the Trust Area mailing in February 2023 as per the attached project charter. Staff will also consider how to evaluate the effectiveness of the program as requested by Trust Programs Committee in April 2023 after the first year of the program has concluded. This is not yet achieved due to vacancy in the Communications Specialist position. Staff will develop project charters for stewardship education projects requested by the Committee for 2023/24.

Key Links to Additional Resources:

For further information about the program: <https://islandtrust.bc.ca/programs/stewardship-education/>

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 15, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 9, 2023
SUBJECT: 2022/23 ANNUAL REPORT – APPROVAL OF TRUST PROGRAMS COMMITTEE SECTION

RECOMMENDATION: That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

- 1 PURPOSE:** Committees are provided with their draft sections of the Annual Report for review and approval so that Trust Council is able to easily approve its annual report in June 2023 without further editing from staff or trustees at the Trust Council meeting.

BACKGROUND: 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 6.10.1](#). The Executive Committee approved the format and outline of the 2022/23 Annual Report at its meeting on February 22, 2023.

2 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: Under Trust Council's Policy, all LTCs and Council committees are expected to review and approve their sections at regular meetings in order to have the report approved by Trust Council at its June 27- 29, 2023 meeting.

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 6.10.1. Once each committee has approved its section, staff will create a draft Annual Report for review by the Executive Committee on June 14, 2023 and consideration of Trust Council in June. Upon approval by Trust Council, staff will send the Annual Report to the Minister of Municipal Affairs and circulate it as indicated in Trust Council's policy.

FIRST NATIONS: Information about First Nations relations may be included within committee reports.

OTHER: None.

- 3 RELEVANT POLICY:** Trust Council's Annual Report policy 6.10.1

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation: That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Alternative: That Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text as amended for inclusion in the 2022/23 Annual Report for approval by Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Municipal Affairs.

Prepared By: **Morgana van Niekerk, Communications Specialist**

Reviewed By/Date: **Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services, May 3, 2023**

Trust Programs Committee

The Trust Programs Committee provides policy advice to Islands Trust Council on Trust-wide issues related to the committee's areas of responsibility including resource management, land conservation, water management, marine environment, sustainable communities, conservation strategy, and public awareness and education, and to propose amendments to the Islands Trust Policy Statement.

Members serving for the 2023–2026 term:

Kristina Evans, South Pender Island Trustee, Chair
Alex Allen, Hornby Island Trustee, Vice-Chair
Sam Borthwick, Denman Island Trustee
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Trustee
Jamie Harris, Salt Spring Island Trustee
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island (Executive Committee Representative)
Peter Luckham, Thetis Island, (Ex Officio Member)

Members serving during the 2018–2022 term were:

Deb Morrison, North Pender Island, Chair
Scott Colbourne, Gabriola Island (resigned as Vice-Chair December 4, 2020)
Alex Allen, Hornby Island (resigned October 10, 2019)
Paul Brent, Saturna Island (joined October 23, 2019)
David Critchley, Denman Island
Doug Fenton, Thetis Island
Michael Kaile, Bowen Island (joined October 15, 2019)
Kees Langereis, Gabriola Island (joined October 15, 2019)
Peter Luckham, Thetis Island, (Ex Officio Member)
Ben McConchie, North Pender Island
Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island (joined October 15, 2019) (elected Vice-Chair February 5, 2021)
Dan Rogers, Gambier Island (Executive Committee Representative)

2022/23 Highlights

Trust Programs Committee (TPC) met six times in 2022/23. The Committee's primary focus this year was to develop recommendations for amendments to the Islands Trust Policy Statement for Trust Council's consideration, and recommendations for next steps on the Policy Statement Amendment Project.

Once again, as part of its Secretariat Services Program, the committee approved Islands Trust staff time to support the Rural Islands Economic Partnership and contracted secretariat services to the following coordination groups:

- Southern Gulf Islands Forum (\$5,000)
- Baynes Sound / Lambert Channel Ecosystem Forum (\$3,000)
- Howe Sound At'l'ka7tsem Community Forum (\$4,000)
- Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership (\$3,000)

The Committee also supported development of a "Living in the Trust Area" information package, which was mailed to 100 new property owners across the Trust Area. The package included a letter from Chair Peter Luckham, Islands Trust brochures, stewardship tips booklets, groundwater conservation brochures, as well as localized government service contact lists. (see electronic versions at <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/stewardship-education/>).

Following the election, Trust Programs Committee also received an orientation to the Committee's terms of reference and work program.

REQUEST FOR DECISION

To: Trust Programs Committee

For the Meeting of: May 15, 2023

From: Trust Area Services

Date Prepared: May 10, 2023

SUBJECT: TPC 2024/25 Business Cases

RECOMMENDATIONS: That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2024/25 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$12,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

DIRECTOR COMMENTS: These recommendations have been drafted before the Trust Programs Committee (TPC) has identified its priorities and without an updated Trust Council Strategic Plan for the new 2022-2026 term. The recommendations advance current Islands Trust Council Strategic Plan Objectives and continue to build on the existing Trust Programs Committee Work Program.

- 1 **PURPOSE:** To request staff to draft business cases for Trust Programs Committee (TPC) consideration at the next regular TPC meeting and to consider allocating resources to advance the current work program.
- 2 **BACKGROUND:** The next scheduled regular TPC meeting is August 26, 2023. One purpose of the August meeting will be to advance business cases to the Financial Planning Committee and Trust Council for their consideration to include in fiscal year 2024/25 budget. Staff seek TPC guidance as to what business cases it would like to develop.

Proposed Business Cases

Based on the TPC Work Program, business cases could be drafted for the following items (grouped under [Islands Trust Council Strategic Plan 2018-2022 Objectives](#)):

1. Stewardship Education Business Case for \$15,000 to request funds to support stewardship education activities (e.g. educational webinars, workshops), including the Living in the Trust Area mailing to new residents.

Strategic Plan linkage:

Goal: Community and Communication

Objective: Improve community engagement and participation in Islands Trust work

Strategy 4.3: Develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and stakeholders in the Trust Area

Financial history of the program since 2020/21:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Unspent Budget	Deliverable
2020/21	\$5,816	\$15,000	(\$9,184)	TPC successfully delivered Phase 1 of the program - a series of three climate action stewardship education webinars on the topics of rainwater harvesting, ecosystem-based adaptation, and eelgrass/blue carbon. The budget was underspent as the education was delivered virtually instead of in-person.
2021/22	\$14,910	\$24,000	(\$9,090)	TPC supported development of a “ Living in the Trust Area ” package which was mailed to 1000 new property owners across the Trust Area in March 2022. The package included newly designed Islands Trust brochures, stewardship tips booklets, groundwater conservation brochures, as well as localized government service contact lists. The budget was underspent as the committee was not able to offer webinars or other education programs due to staff resources being allocated to the Islands 2050 Policy Statement Phase 3 engagement.
2022/23	\$10,398	\$13,000	(\$2,602)	TPC adopted a project charter allocating the budget to three mailings of the Living in the Trust Area package and distribution of the materials to renters via community groups. The full budget was underspent as the project experienced delays due to staff vacancies and challenges developing the mailing list.

2. Secretariat Services Business Case for \$12,000 to support the secretariat services program.

Strategic Plan linkage: **Goal:** Governance

Objective: To improve and modernize the ability of the Islands Trust to regulate land use activity and work with others

Strategy: 5.2 Provide a secretariat role to forums within the Trust Area.

Financial history of the program since 2020/21:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Unspent Budget	Deliverable
2020/21	\$9,396	\$12,000	(\$2,604)	Contract and staff support provided to requested coordination groups
2021/22	\$12,186	\$12,000	\$186.00	Contract and staff support provided to requested coordination groups

2022/23	\$12,513	\$15,000	(\$2,487)	Contract support provided to requested coordination groups
2023/24	\$9,400 allocated to date	\$12,000	(\$2,600)	Contract support being provided to requested coordination groups

Other business cases advanced by TPC in the 2022-2026 term:

Climate Change Indicators Project:

Fiscal year	Actual Expenditures	Budget	Unspent Budget	Deliverable
2020/21 (Phase 1):	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	Deliverable: Completion of the Islands Trust Climate Indicators Scoping Exercise to Identify Climate Change Indicators for the Islands Trust Area
2021/22 (Phase 2):	\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000 (funds redirected by Trust Council to the Policy Statement Amendment Project)	Deliverable: None - funded for 2021/22 but funds not spent on this project as project partners did not secure grant funding. At the outset of Phase 2, staff received an invitation to collaborate with My Sea to Sky Society, BCIT, and a group of partner agencies including Climate Caucus, the University of Victoria, and the Climate Action Secretariat, to develop a Climate Action Report Card Tool for Trust Area communities as a pilot project for a broader national project. However, these organizations have yet to secure the multimillion dollar funding required for this work.

3 IMPLICATIONS OF RECOMMENDATION

ORGANIZATIONAL: The Islands Trust Council has not begun a new strategic planning process for the new 2022-2026 term. As such, the current Strategic Plan is being applied to support recommendations to Trust Council for next fiscal business cases.

FINANCIAL: Requested amounts will be provided to Financial Planning Committee for inclusion in the draft 2024/25 budget.

POLICY: N/A

IMPLEMENTATION/COMMUNICATIONS: Development of business cases will be as requested by the TPC and provided to the committee for review and approval in August 2023.

FIRST NATIONS: Any projects undertaken will use respectful language and include Indigenous Peoples and First Nations governments as appropriate.

OTHER: None

4 RELEVANT POLICIES: [Council Committee System Policy 2.3.1; Policy 6.2.1 Priority Setting/Review Guidelines; Policy 6.7.1 Work Program, Follow-Up Action List and Priorities Report](#)

5 ATTACHMENT(S): None.

RESPONSE OPTIONS

Recommendation: That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following fiscal year 2024/25 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:

- Secretariat Services (\$12,000)
- Stewardship Education (\$15,000)

Alternative:

Amend the recommendations after discussion of TPC priorities:

1. That Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft the following FY 2024/25 business cases for consideration at the next regular business meeting:
 - List items...

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date: May 10, 2023

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 15, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 5, 2023
SUBJECT: Coastal Douglas-fir mentions in US National Park Service website

PURPOSE: To provide Trust Programs Committee with requested information from the US National Parks Service website regarding the range and extent of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone and plant communities within the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime zone.

BACKGROUND:

On February 6, 2023, Trust Programs Committee passed the following motion:

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to provide all information from the US National Parks Service website regarding the range and extent of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone and Coastal Douglas-fir forests.

Staff has reviewed the US National Parks Service website and found no references to the range and extent of the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone but found references to forests/plant communities with Coast Douglas-fir trees, and to Coast Douglas-fir trees (see attachments).

Note: The presence of Coast Douglas-fir trees does not indicate the presence of the Coastal Douglas-fir Biogeoclimatic zone or the presence of plant communities characteristic of the Coastal Douglas-fir Biogeoclimatic zone. The Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) system is used only in BC, and divides each zone into smaller and smaller units (Subzone, Variant, and Site Series). Due to differences in the ecosystem/vegetation classification systems in the United States, the extent of the CDFmm subzone is not certain. The CDF zone may extend into northern California, but the CDFmm subzone is limited to southeastern Vancouver Island, south mainland and the islands of the Salish Sea, in BC, and part of the San Juan Islands and adjacent mainland Washington State.

While the extent of the CDFmm into northern Washington State has been described in publications since the 1990s, review of the extent of the CDF zone into the United States is based on model outputs (using vegetation data and climate models), but the map has yet to be verified by on the ground field work by BC ecologists.

The CDF zone contains more than just forest ecosystems – it also contains other types of ecosystems with plant species and communities found nowhere else in Canada. The majority of the ecosystems in the CDFmm subzone are unique to that BEC unit, are globally rare, and at-risk. This is reflected in their provincial and global status rankings.

To support clear conversations the following definitions are provided:

- **Biogeoclimatic Zone:**

- A large area with a relatively uniform climate, and with a mix of vegetation and soils that reflect that climate.
- **Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone (CDF zone):**
 - The smallest and most at-risk of BC's 16 Biogeoclimatic zones, which, in Canada, covers a band of low elevations along southeast Vancouver Island from Bowser to Victoria, the Gulf Islands south of Cortes Island, and a narrow strip along the Sunshine Coast near Halfmoon Bay.ⁱ
- **Coastal Douglas-fir Moist Maritime Biogeoclimatic Subzone (CDFmm):**
 - The only subzone or smaller unit recognized in the CDF zone in British Columbia. As the CDFmm subzone is the only subzone of the CDF zone, in most instances the terms CDFmm Subzone and CDF Zone have been used interchangeably when referencing the zones in Canada.

ATTACHMENTS:

1. Coast Douglas-fir webpage, U.S. National Park Service
2. Douglas-fir Mixed Evergreen Forest Plant Community webpage, U.S. National Park Service
3. Fire Ecology-Douglas-Fir Mixed Evergreen Forests webpage ,U.S. National Park Service
4. Page 60 of the Redwood National Park Fire Management Plan Environmental Assessment, 2010, posted to U.S. National Park Service website
5. Page 286 of the Appendices of the Draft San Gabriel Watershed and Mountains Special Resource Study & Environmental Assessment, posted to the U.S. National Park Service website
6. Page 13 of People of the North Cascades, 1986, posted to the U.S. National Park Service website

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will convey any Trust Programs Committee recommendations regarding an education session to Executive Committee.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date: May 5, 2023

ⁱ https://www.for.gov.bc.ca/hre/becweb/downloads/downloads_subzonereports/CDFmm.pdf



ARTICLE

Coast Douglas-fir

[Crater Lake National Park](#), [Lassen Volcanic National Park](#), [Oregon Caves National Monument & Preserve](#), [Redwood National and State Parks](#), [Whiskeytown National Recreation Area](#)

General



A very large Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii menziesii*) at Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve
NPS

Description

Douglas-fir trees, sometimes called red firs, Oregon pines, and Douglas spruce, are neither true fir trees nor pines nor spruces! The genus name *Pseudotsuga* means “false hemlock,” referencing another kind of tree they resemble. The common name (honoring Scottish botanist David Douglas) is hyphenated to indicate it is not a true fir. **Two varieties of Douglas-fir exist**—coast (Pacific Northwest and California) and Rocky Mountain (interior west). **Coast Douglas-fir** (*Pseudotsuga menziesii menziesii*) commonly reach 250 feet tall and 5 to 7 feet wide, though maximum heights can reach well over 300 feet and diameters can reach 15 to 18 feet. **Douglas-fir** ranks as the second tallest tree species in the world behind coastal redwood. Its spreading branches are covered in 1-inch needles slightly pointed at the tip. Female cones have a long, three-pointed bract (a modified leaf or scale associated with a reproductive structure) protruding above each scale. The bract resembles the back half of a mouse—its two feet and

tail sticking out as if it is diving into the cone. [Indigenous legend tells of mice seeking escape from a fire](#) in the tree's cones.

Habitat and Range

Douglas-fir trees are widespread in western North America. **Coast Douglas-fir** extend from central British Columbia south along the Pacific Coast Ranges into central California, over 1,367 miles. Temperature limits the species' distribution in the north, while moisture is limiting in the south. This coast variety grows in the maritime climate of coastal areas characterized by mild, wet winters and dry summers, as well as the montane habitats of the Cascades and Sierra Nevada, with colder winters, shorter frost-free periods, and a broad range of seasonal temperatures.

Reproduction

Each **Douglas-fir** has both male and female cones. In March the male cone buds begin to develop pollen. In April they flower and pollinate female seed cones. In May and June, fertilization takes place and the seed cones grow rapidly through late summer and early fall. By late September, mature cones shed their wind-dispersed seeds, which may travel up to ¼ mile.

Ecology

Coast Douglas-fir in the Pacific Northwest often occur with other conifers such as western hemlock; silver, noble, and grand firs; and western cedar. In the Sierra Nevada, Douglas-fir are common in the mixed-conifer forest as far south as Yosemite. Old-growth **Douglas-fir** forests host a variety of shade-tolerant hardwoods, shrubs, and herbs under their spreading and drooping canopies. While not dependent on fire, large **Douglas-fir** are protected from fire by thick, corky bark, and they readily regenerate on burned sites with their lightweight, winged seeds.

Douglas-fir seeds feed small mammals, including chipmunks, mice, shrews, and red squirrels. Many songbirds eat the seeds right out of the cone, and raptors, like northern spotted owls, find cover in old-growth Douglas-fir forests. The tiny red tree vole relies almost exclusively on these trees, eating their needles and nesting in their crowns.

Conservation

Over 82% of the original old-growth forests of Oregon and Washington had disappeared by the early 1980s, primarily from extensive logging. **Douglas-fir**, prized for its lumber, made up a large portion of these old-growth forests. Today, national parks and wilderness areas play an



The female cones of **Douglas-fir**.

"Douglas-fir Cones" (c) 2011 Tom Brandt and made available under a CC BY 2.0 license.

important role in protecting what remains. Warming climate and shifting precipitation patterns, however, may restrict the range of **Douglas-fir**, a genetic specialist with its growth and mortality rates strongly dependent on its environment.

Where to See

In the Klamath Network, **Douglas-fir** occur in Crater Lake National Park, Lassen Volcanic National Park, Oregon Caves National Monument and Preserve, Redwood National and State Parks, and Whiskeytown National Recreation Area.

More Information

<http://online.sfsu.edu/bholzman/courses/Fall00Projects/Douglas-fir.html>

Download a [pdf](#) of this article.

Prepared by Linda Mutch

[NPS Klamath Inventory & Monitoring Network](#)

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Featured Creature Edition: September 2017



Point Reyes

National Seashore
California

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Douglas-fir/Mixed Evergreen Forest



A piece of the Pacific Northwest grows on the east side of Inverness Ridge. Here enough rain falls in the winter to quench the thirst of this fast-growing tree and the trees, shrubs and herbs that sprout underneath. They are buoyed in the summer by fog moisture. The plants thrive in soil derived from marine sediments.

If you walk through the fir forest along Sky Trail or Bear Valley on a foggy day, on a day when it's too damp and cold for turkey vultures to fly, you'll notice how moist the ground is and you'll feel the fog drip from the boughs of the trees overhead. **Douglas fir** trees are very adept at capturing moisture out of the air and, even when it's not raining, it may feel like rain within the forest. Scientists have found that the precipitation beneath fir trees is twice the annual rainfall. At Point Reyes, where the annual rainfall averages about 40 inches a year, the total precipitation in the fir forest may be more than 80 inches! (How tall are you? Compare your height with the annual rainfall and the total precipitation in a fir forest.)

This ability to capture moisture in the air ensures that the ground will be recharged (or rehydrated) by the trees and ultimately provides the foundation for a diverse forest. Looking up, you will see the **Douglas fir trees** soaring straight up to form a canopy. Lowering your gaze, you will see California bays, tanoaks, and coast live oaks bending upwards, and right at your eye level you can see coffeeberry, California hazel, red elderberry, ceanothus, poison oak, huckleberry, thimbleberry, honeysuckles, bouquets of ferns and small woodland herbs. This vegetation type describes over 30,000 acres of the Seashore. **Sudden Oak Death** is a relatively recent phenomenon to this community; expect to see dead and dying tanoaks and true oaks in the forest canopy as Sudden Oak Death continues to spread throughout this community.

The **Douglas fir** is a grand tree; some individuals within the national seashore rival redwoods in girth and height. Like **Bishop pine** forests, **Douglas fir forests** thrive following a fire. The seeds germinate readily, but only those seedlings survive that receive direct sunlight and whose roots come in contact with mineral soil. Therefore, before a new forest can become established, some event must clear the mother forest, provide a bed of mineral soil, and reduce competition from other trees. Fire is the only natural event that provides these conditions.

The mixed woodland forests surrounding the **Douglas firs** contain coast live oaks and tan oaks that provide habitat and food for many species including the acorn woodpecker. The black-tailed deer is commonly seen in these forests.

[Learn more about the Fire Ecology of Douglas-fir/Mixed Evergreen Forests.](#)

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Last updated: May 4, 2020

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CONTACT INFO



Point Reyes

National Seashore
California

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/ [Fire Ecology - Vegetation Types: Douglas-Fir/Mixed Evergreen Forests](#)

Fire Ecology - Vegetation Types: Douglas-Fir/Mixed Evergreen Forests

Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*)/mixed evergreen forests at Point Reyes National Seashore are found primarily along the southern section of Inverness Ridge (see [Vegetation Map](#)). They are found on marine derived sedimentary soils and also experience the coastal influence in the form of summer fog. This forest type is found from southern Oregon to southern California and is typified across its **range** by the dominance of broad-leaved sclerophyllous species with little to significant coniferous presence. At Point Reyes, the coniferous influence is significant and most mixed evergreen forests in the Seashore are dominated by **Douglas-fir**. This vegetation type comprises over 30,000 acres of the Seashore.

Douglas-fir-dominated forest is characterized by a significant component of hardwood trees, usually California bay (*Umbellularia californica*), but tanoak (*Lithocarpus densiflorus*) or individual coast live oaks (*Quercus agrifolia*) may be present. The shrub understory is highly variable, but is usually moderate to very dense. Coffeberry (*Rhamnus californica*), huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), California hazel (*Corylus cornuta*), poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*)



Douglas-fir forest with mixed understory.

and coyote brush (*Baccharis pilularis*). Swordfern (*Polystichum munitum*) often dominates the herbaceous layer.

Coast Douglas-fir is a large, coniferous, evergreen tree. Trees 5 to 6 feet in diameter and 250 feet or more in height are common in old-growth stands. Trees often live more than 500 years. Douglas-fir is considered moderately shade tolerant and regenerates best in pasture edges, open areas, and post-disturbance. Further north in its **range**, **Douglas-fir stands** will give way to shade-tolerant associates such as western hemlock, western red cedar, and Pacific silver fir, but at Point Reyes, it is considered the climax species for the mixed evergreen species assemblage.

Coast Douglas-fir can survive moderately intense fires. Thick, corky bark on the lower bole and roots protects the cambium from heat damage. In addition, tall trees have their foliage concentrated on the upper bole, which makes it difficult for fire to reach the crown; however, it should be noted that trees are typically not free of lower branches up to a height of 33 feet until they are more than 100 years old. Fire regimes vary greatly over the **range** of **Douglas-fir**. In Washington and Oregon, **Douglas-fir** often burns in infrequent (>100 years), stand-replacing fires. However, further south in its **range**, **Douglas-fir** often exhibits a mixed or moderate-low severity fire regime. One study in the Klamath Mountains of Northern California found mean fire return intervals of 12 to 19 years.

Researchers looked at the fire history of the **Douglas-fir forest** at Point Reyes. This study was able to obtain cross-dated fire history for two stands dating back to mid-1700s. However, there were relatively few fire occurrences prior to the mid-1800's, which the authors ascribed to missing fire dates. For the period from 1820 to 1905 at one site the median fire return interval was 7.7 years and for the period from 1825 to 1918 at a second site the median fire return interval was 8.5 years. No fires were recorded in this study after 1945. Most fires were recorded on one or a few trees, but were not recorded on all trees in a stand. The authors of this study conclude that, since natural ignition sources are infrequent, these fires were caused by Native Americans or by early settlers. The latter seems more likely given one researcher's conclusion that the Coast Miwok had been extirpated from the peninsula by the beginning of the 1800s.

Due to the lack of fires over the last century, there is concern over the encroachment of **douglas-fir** into meadows and coastal scrub. This has been observed in many areas of the Seashore and other parts of the North Coast **Range** region.

Some **Douglas-fir stands** at Point Reyes have substantial ladder fuel accumulations, which could result in crown fire. In particular, the southern section of Inverness Ridge, which was heavily logged during the mid-to-late 1800s, has high fuel loading. **Sudden Oak Death** (SOD) was first discovered at the Seashore in 2004 and is likely to have a major effect on fuel loadings in this vegetation type. SOD most significantly affects tanoak and tanoaks have been seeing dying along Bolinas and Inverness Ridges in 2005 and 2006. This tanoak dieback is creating significant fuel buildups.

[More information on the Douglas-Fir/Mixed Evergreen Forests Plant Community.](#)

Text adapted from the Point Reyes National Seashore's **[Draft Wildland Fire Resource Advisor Guide](#)** (2,436 KB PDF).

Adobe® Acrobat Reader® may be needed to view PDF documents.

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Wildland Fire in Douglas Fire

Showing results 1-1 of 1

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Wildland Fire in Douglas Fir: Western United States

Sites: Wildland Fire Program, Bandelier National Monument, Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area, Black Canyon Of The Gunnison National Park, Bryce Canyon National Park, **more »**



Douglas fir is widely distributed throughout the western United States, as well as southern British Columbia and northern Mexico. Douglas fir is able to survive without fire, its abundantly-produced seeds are lightweight and winged, allowing the wind to carry them to new locations where seedlings can be established.

Tags:

douglas fir

wildland fire

Last updated: May 5, 2020

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Page 60 of the Redwood National Park Fire Management Plan Environmental Assessment, 2010 which is posted to the US National Park Services website. This is the only page of a 148 page document that includes the words 'coastal Douglas-fir' so staff has have provided this page only.

Hardwood species are generally overtopped by conifers in redwood forests but occasionally dominate a stand. Major hardwoods are tanoak (*Lithocarpus densiflora*), Pacific madrone (*Arbutus menziesii*), bigleaf maple (*Acer macrophyllum*), California bay laurel (*Umbellularia californica*), and red alder (*Alnus rubra*). All these hardwoods occur in both riparian and upland areas. Giant chinquapin (*Chrysolepis chryophylla*) and western redcedar (*Thuja plicata*) are encountered throughout park forests.

The dominant understory species of the redwood forest are oxalis (*Oxalis oregana*) and sword fern (*Polystichum munitum*). Other common understory plants are Pacific rhododendron (*Rhododendron macrophyllum*), evergreen huckleberry (*Vaccinium ovatum*), salal (*Gaultheria shallon*), and several types of berry (native *Rubus spp.* and *Ribes spp.*). Middle and upper slope positions are characterized by evergreen shrubs (salal, rhododendron, and huckleberry).

Second growth forests in the park are dominated by Douglas-fir which re-established more quickly than redwoods after logging. Residual old-growth trees of various species are common throughout some of logged stands. The understory is generally sparse to non-existent, with pockets of dense understory near streams, roads, or forest gaps where sunlight penetrated.

Although the old-growth and second growth forests are often too shady for most nonnative plant species, dense infestations of English ivy occur some forest areas. Common exotic species found along the roads and in open areas like the Bald Hills include Scotch broom (*Cytisus scoparius*), hairy cat's ear (*Hypochaeris radicata*), bull thistle (*Cisium vulgare*), Canada thistle (*Cisium arvense*), pampas grass (*Cortaderia jubata*), Himalaya blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), poison-hemlock (*Conium maculatum*), and foxglove (*Digitalis purpuraria*).

In the Redwood Creek basin, dry forest types occur along ridges from Slide Creek to Coyote Creek. The mixed evergreen forest found inland from the redwood forest is dominated by Douglas-fir, tanoak, and madrone. California bay, bigleaf maple, chinquapin, canyon live oak (*Quercus chrysolepis*), and poison oak (*Toxicodendron diversilobum*) are also common in this forest type.

Fire Ecology in Coastal Redwood Coniferous Forests—Fire has had an ecological role in the redwood forest type with mean fire interval estimated to be from 17 to more than 350 years depending on stand location. Mature redwoods are considered very resilient to fire. The thick bark, great height, and ability to sprout from the root crown or from dormant buds under the bark of the bole and branches are adaptations that allow redwoods to survive cool to hot fires.

Coastal Douglas-fir is more fire resistant than many of its associates and can survive moderately intense fires. Thick, corky bark on the lower bole and roots protects the cambium from heat damage. In addition, the tall trees have their foliage concentrated on the upper bole, which makes it difficult for fire to reach the crown; however, it should be noted that trees are typically not free of lower branches up to a height of 33 feet until they are more than 100 years old.

mi Page 13 of People of the North Cascades, 1986, which is posted to the US National Park Services website. This is the only page of a 200-page document that includes the words 'coastal Douglas-fir' so we staff has have provided this page only. Prominent tree types include coastal Douglas fir, coastal western hemlock, Pacific silver fir, Alaska yellow-cedar, and mountain hemlock. East of the Cascade crest, forests in the Park are a mixture of coastal and Rocky Mountain tree types, which include ponderosa pine, interior Douglas fir, Englemann spruce, subalpine fir, alpine larch, and mountain hemlock. Western red cedar, aspen, cottonwood, big-leaf maple, and lodgepole pine are found on both slopes. East of the Park Complex, along the lower end of Lake Chelan and in the Methow River valley, is found the dry bunchgrass zone so characteristic of the semiarid regions of the interior that form in the rainshadow of these mountains (Price 1981). In Figure 2-4, a generalized east-west section through the North Cascades, Olympics, and Rocky Mountains is shown the changes in elevation of the near timberline zone (see Chapter 5). The eastward rise in elevation of both the lower and upper treelines is due to the drier inland climate. The lower forest boundary is marked by drought resistant trees, such as ponderosa pine; the upper forest boundary occurs where winter snowpack so shortens the growing season that seedlings cannot survive (Arno and Hammerly 1984). It is because of this influence of late-melting snowpacks on seedling growth that upper treelines are lower on the snowier west slope.

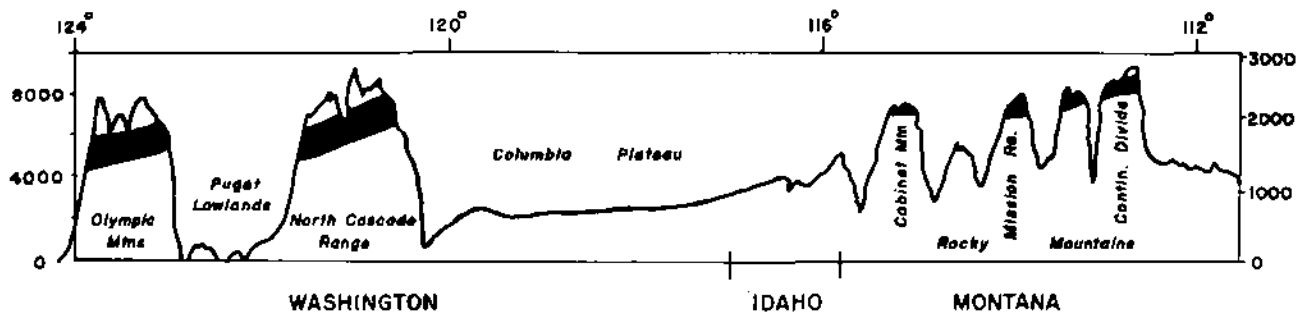


Figure 2-4. Generalized east-west cross-section of the northern Northwestern states, showing the approximate elevations and distributions of the near timberline zone (in black). (Adapted from Arno and Hammerly 1984).

Even though the patterns of precipitation distribution, vegetation zonation, glacier elevations, and stream discharges are known for the North Cascades generally, how these environmental factors actually affect specific localities within the Park Complex is not. Each river valley or segment of a valley, each cirque lake, and each ridge line has its own unique combination of solar exposure, topographic features, bedrock types, wind direction and other characteristics. This results in a patchy distribution of valley forests, subalpine meadows, brushy avalanche chutes, rocky talus slopes, and alpine tundra. Dense and impenetrable forests carpet the U-shaped valley bottoms where whitewater tumbles across bouldery channels or through narrow-walled rock gorges. In upper valleys, cirque walls and rock buttresses rise steeply to the lower ends of gravelly moraines deposited during the Little Ice Age, the recent glacial advance that occurred between the fifteenth and nineteenth centuries (Denton and Porter 1967; Leonard

BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 15, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 5, 2023
SUBJECT: Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone language and potential education session

PURPOSE: To provide Trust Programs Committee with information about staff review of language about the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone and associated ecosystems and to support a discussion about a training session for Trust Council.

BACKGROUND:

In March 2023, Trust Council passed the following motion:

That Trust Council request staff to review language on the website and in publications regarding the Coastal Douglas-fir zone and associated ecosystems and amend as appropriate, with advice from qualified provincial forest ecologists, including Will MacKenzie provincial custodian of the Biogeoclimatic Ecosystem Classification (BEC) system.

Staff has reviewed language about the Coastal Douglas-fir bioclimatic zone and associated ecosystems on the website and in publications and identified corrections and clarifications which are being implemented (see attached). Staff was unsuccessful in reaching Will MacKenzie, Provincial Research Ecologist, but Heather Klassen, Research Ecologist, Coast Area Research Section, Ministry of Forests, reviewed staff-proposed edits.

In March 2023, Trust Council also passed the following motion:

That Trust Council request the Executive Committee to arrange a presentation for trustees by qualified provincial forest ecologists to provide background on forest classifications, forest health, and the significance of forests in the Islands Trust Area as soon as conveniently possible.

In mid-April Staff wrote to Heather Klassen, Research Ecologist, Coast Area Research Section, to request that she and other relevant provincial staff such as BC Conservation Data Centre staff and Ministry of Forests staff, consider providing an educational session to Trust Council. Staff have followed-up but have not yet received confirmation that provincial staff will be able to provide such a session.

In March 2023, Trust Council also passed the following motion:

That Trust Council refer the educational opportunity around the Coastal Douglas-fir zone and forest discussions to Trust Programs Committee for further consideration as an educational opportunity.

Following consideration of this briefing by Trust Programs Committee, Staff will prepare a briefing to Executive Committee with options for their May 24 meeting, regarding a presentation for trustees by qualified provincial forest ecologists about background on forest classifications, forest health, and the significance of forests in the Islands Trust Area. In this briefing staff will convey any Trust Programs Committee requests resulting from discussion about the Trust Council referral noted in the resolution above. Trust Programs Committee may wish to discuss:

- recommended timing of a potential educational session (on a weekday daytime, weekday evening, or weekend)
- structure of the educational session
- specific information sought regarding forest classifications, forest health, and the significance of forests, or additional topics
- whether staff should contract private individuals to conduct the educational session should provincial staff not be available.

ATTACHMENT:

1. Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone and associated ecosystems language review

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will convey any Trust Programs Committee recommendations regarding an education session to Executive Committee.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date: May 5, 2023

Islands Trust references to the extent and range of “Coastal Douglas-fir” and the biological importance of Coastal Douglas-fir

Staff has reviewed the website and Islands Trust publications for references to the extent and range of “Coastal Douglas-fir” and “Coastal Douglas fir” and the biological importance of Coastal Douglas-fir. All phrases/sentences/mentions are provided below with suggested changes for accuracy or clarity. Staff have highlighted text in red where staff believe the text to be inaccurate or unclear.

Website mentions:

- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/protect-nature/care-for-your-land/>
 - The Coastal Douglas-fir and Coastal Western Hemlock ecosystems that characterize our region are of high conservation value, harbouring a rich diversity of species and ecosystems. Sadly, because of logging, development, climate change, and other pressures many of these ecosystems are now endangered—some covering only a small percentage of their historic range.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/protect-nature/care-for-your-land/garden-with-native-species/>
 - Garry Oak meadows and older Coastal Douglas-fir forests have disappeared from much of their former range.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/conservancy/protect-nature/>
 - Towering Douglas-fir forests, fern-laced streams
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/mapping-resources/interesting-facts/>
 - The Douglas-fir ecosystems of the Islands Trust Area are globally rare, with the highest density of species of concern in any of the biogeoclimatic zones in British Columbia.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/programs/forest-protection/>
 - The majority of the Trust Area falls within the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone, an ecologically significant and threatened temperate forest.

Document mentions:

- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Salt-Spring-Island-LTA-Profile-1.pdf>
 - The Salt Spring Island Local Trust Area’s beautiful and vibrant islands, home to some of the rarest ecosystems in the world, are under threat from development, climate change and habitat degradation.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/Galiano-Island-LTA-Profile-1.pdf>
 - The Galiano Island Local Trust Area is home to some of the rarest ecosystems in the world that are under threat from development, climate change and habitat degradation.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/itc-regional-conservation-plan-2018-2027-2/> and
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/itc-regional-conservation-plan-2018-2027/>
 - Most of the Islands Trust region is within the Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) zone, one of the rarest of British Columbia’s 16 biogeoclimatic zones. The Douglas-fir ecosystems of this zone are globally rare—in the entire world many of the plant associations of the region occur only on the east coast of southern Vancouver Island, the islands of the Georgia Basin, and a small area of the B.C. mainland and Washington State.

Commented [CF1]: For clarity change to “Ecosystems within the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone are globally rare. The Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime biogeoclimatic subzone has the highest density of species of concern.” However, for plain language, staff will replace with “Some ecosystems found in the Islands Trust Area are globally rare and have a high density of species of concern.”

Commented [CF2]: Delete ‘an’ and add “which contains”

Commented [CF3]: Replace with ‘rarest’ with ‘smallest’

Commented [CF4]: For clarity replace with “Ecosystems within the Coastal Douglas-fir moist maritime subzone...”

- <https://islandtrust.bc.ca/document/protecting-the-coastal-douglas-fir-zone-associated-ecosystems-toolkit/> and <https://islandtrust.bc.ca/document/protecting-the-coastal-douglas-fir-zone/>

- The CDF Zone encompasses the entire Islands Trust Area. Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems are biologically, culturally, and physically important. These forested landscapes maintain local climates, the sustainability of freshwater systems, and the biodiversity of the islands. They are home to many endangered plant communities and are ranked as a high priority for preservation, globally and provincially. With the majority (68%) of CDF land across the Trust Area privately held, it is the residents and landowners who have the most responsibility and ability to carefully steward the CDF zone.
- The Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) Biogeoclimatic Zone is found nowhere else in Canada. It includes a unique set of ecosystems that occur along the edge of south-east Vancouver Island, across the Gulf Islands, and the along the southwest coast of Vancouver Island. The Islands Trust Area is entirely within the CDF zone. There are 16 biogeoclimatic zones in British Columbia—of these, the CDF is the smallest and most at risk. The CDF zone has many rare ecosystems and includes more than just Douglas-fir forests. Associated ecosystems include Garry Oak ecosystems, rocky outcrops, wetlands, and shorelines. The Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) zone is considered an important associated ecosystem that exists within the area of interest of the CDF zone.
- The CDF zone needs active stewardship by land owners: 80% of land in the whole CDF is privately owned but only 11% is protected in some way, making it the least-protected biogeoclimatic zone in BC.2
- There is significant concern for the conservation of the CDF zone. The Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership has emphasized the importance of the CDF zone as being biologically rich and containing globally imperiled and provincially identified species at risk, as well as containing ecosystems at risk. CDF ecosystems clean our air and water, absorb carbon from the atmosphere, provide climate change mitigation and adaptation, and contribute to food resilience by providing habitat for pollinators and insectivores. CDF forests are important for people's mental health and wellbeing, and provide recreational and educational opportunities for people to learn about the significance, ecology, and cultural importance of these special coastal rainforests. The CDF zone can also add to property values. Individual properties that are in the vicinity of natural areas and parkland can increase property values by 3–6% (or more).
- The Islands Trust Area's forests are unique and globally important.
- This is the smallest and rarest biogeoclimatic zone in British Columbia and it has the highest density of species that are of both provincial and global conservation concern of any B.C. biogeoclimatic zone. These ecosystems provide key services that sustain human health and wellbeing, including timber and nontimber resources, clean air and water, nutrient cycling, carbon dioxide absorption and carbon storage. The forested landscape is integral to Galiano's character. Maintaining and restoring Galiano's forest ecosystem is critical for ecosystem-based sustainable forest management (Galiano Island Official Community Plan (P.2)
- With the majority of CDF land across the Trust Area privately held (68%), it is the residents and land owners who have the most responsibility and ability to carefully steward the CDF zone.

Commented [CF5]: Change to: "Islands Trust Area forests are primarily in the Coastal Douglas-fir zone which constitutes only 0.25% of British Columbia and includes globally rare ecosystems."

Commented [CF6]: Add

Commented [CF7]: Delete

Commented [CF8]: Delete

Commented [CF9]: Replace with 'includes some of the most at risk ecosystems in Canada'.

Commented [CF10]: For clarity replace with "The dry forests of the Coastal Western Hemlock (CWH) zone resemble those of the Coastal Douglas-fir zone."

Commented [CF11]: For clarity replace with "Protecting natural areas can increase nearby property values".

Commented [CF12]: Delete

Commented [CF13]: Delete

- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/building-sustainably-a-guide-for-howe-sound-the-northern-gulf-islands/>
 - Most of the Northern Gulf Islands are in the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem, one of the most endangered ecosystems in the world.
 - The dominant coastal Douglas-fir ecosystems are rare in the rest of the province. These trees have both heritage and ecological value.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/how-to-read-a-sensitive-ecosystem-map-2/>
 - CDFmm indicates Coastal Douglas-fir (moist maritime). Virtually all of the Islands Trust Area is within this biogeoclimatic subzone. A biogeoclimatic zone is a geographic area having similar patterns of energy flow, vegetation and soils based on a relatively homogenous macro-climate.

Commented [CF14]: Change to “are primarily in the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone which constitutes only 0.25% of British Columbia and includes globally rare ecosystems.”

Commented [CF15]: Change to “ecosystems dominated by Coastal Douglas-fir”

Fact sheets

- 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.
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/ballenas-winchelsea-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/north-pender-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/salt-spring-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/lasqueti-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/saturna-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/south-pender/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/mayne-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/gabriola-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/hornby-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/denman-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/galiano-coastal-douglas-fir-fact-sheet/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/thetis-lta-coastal-douglas-fir-forests/>
 - <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/thetis-island-coastal-douglas-fir-forests-fact-sheet/>

Commented [CF16]: After consultation with partners, for clarity, propose replacing the paragraph in the 13 fact sheets with:

The most northern extent of Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) forests are found on southeast Vancouver Island, the Gulf Islands, and the southwest coast of BC. CDF forests and their associated ecosystems, including Garry oak woodlands and wetlands, have diverse communities of plant, animal, and fungi, some of which are found nowhere else in the world.

SSI Project

- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/protection-of-the-coastal-douglas-fir-zone-on-salt-spring-island/>
 - CDF forests are GLOBALLY RARE, found primarily on BC's south coast...
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/itc-covenant-landowners-newsletter/>
 - Those of you looking for guidance on protecting and maintaining the rare and highly endangered Coastal Douglas-fir (CDF) forests on your land can look out for a Coastal Douglas-fir Forest Information sheet for your Local Trust Area, which will be published on our website and available for download later this spring
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/contiguous-forest-mapping-in-the-islands-trust-area-report-2020/>
 - The goal of the mapping exercise was to identify contiguous forest patches within the Islands Trust Area in order to provide the Islands Trust with information to underpin

policy, regulatory and legal conservation tools that protect Coastal Douglas-fir forests and their associated ecosystems. This mapping was identified as an essential step in the Islands Trust's report titled "Protecting the Coastal Douglas-fir Zone & Associated Ecosystems: An Islands Trust Toolkit."

- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/carip-report-for-2018/>
 - Deleting it
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/itc-five-year-plan-2018-2022/>
 - The area is among the most biologically diverse regions in the Province of British Columbia and is globally significant with respect to the at-risk Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone. The Islands Trust Area holds 25% of British Columbia's Coastal Douglas-fir zone, the largest percentage of any local government jurisdiction in the province.
 - The Islands Trust Area (blue) holds 25% of British Columbia's Coastal Douglas-fir zone (green), the smallest and most rare biogeoclimatic zone in the province
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/letter-ministry-forests-re-coastal-douglas-fir/>
 - Thank you for the November 3, 2017 letter addressed to Robert Kojima, Regional Planning Manager advising that the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development is proposing to establish protected areas for the conservation of the CDF bioclimatic zone (CDFmm) through the protection of 1,125 ha of designated areas under a Land Use Order. We fully support and congratulate you on the proposal.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/itc-land-securement-strategy-2017-2027/>
 - Most of the region is within the Coastal Douglas-fir zone, **one of the rarest** of British Columbia's 16 biogeoclimatic zones; the remainder of the Islands Trust Area falls within the Coastal Western Hemlock biogeoclimatic zone, which also includes many rare ecological communities. **The** Douglas-fir ecosystems of the area, **including Garry oak and associated ecosystems**, are globally rare – **in the entire world** they occur only on the east coast of southern Vancouver Island, the islands of the Georgia Basin, and a small area of the **mainland**.
- <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/building-information-guide-southern-gulf-islands/>
 - The Southern Gulf Islands are **in the Coastal Douglas-fir ecosystem, one of the most endangered ecosystems in Canada**.

Commented [CF17]: Replace with "which is the smallest"

Commented [CF18]: Replace with ""Some of the"

Commented [CF19]: Delete

Commented [CF20]: Delete

Commented [CF21]: Replace with "BC mainland and Washington State."

Commented [CF22]: Replace with "are primarily in the Coastal Douglas-fir biogeoclimatic zone which constitutes only 0.25% of British Columbia and includes globally rare ecosystems."

BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** May 15, 2023
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** May 5, 2023
SUBJECT: Advice to Trust Council - Montreal Charter on Biodiversity

PURPOSE: To inform a request from Trust Council for advice about how the [Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework](#) impacts the work of the Islands Trust.

BACKGROUND:

In December 2022, Canada joined 195 countries in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which aims to halt and reverse global biodiversity loss by 2030.

On March 7, 2023, Trust Council passed the following motion:

Trust Council direct the Regional Planning Committee and the Trust Programs Committee to consider how the Montreal Charter on Biodiversity impacts the work of the Islands Trust and share their thinking back with Trust Council in this calendar year.

A December 20, 2022 Government of Canada [news release](#) states "Among Canada's main goals were protecting 30% of lands and waters by 2030, respecting the rights and roles of Indigenous peoples, and addressing the key drivers of biodiversity loss, such as pollution and overexploitation of nature. These elements were agreed upon in the final Framework."

The vision of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework is a world of living in harmony with nature where "by 2050, biodiversity is valued, conserved, restored and wisely used, maintaining ecosystem services, sustaining a healthy planet and delivering benefits essential for all people."

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework has four long-term goals for 2050 related to the 2050 Vision for biodiversity and 23 action-oriented global targets for urgent action to 2030 (see list attached). Staff has not assessed the applicability of the Framework goals and targets to Islands Trust, and has not found analysis online showing how local governments/authorities can contribute to Canada's contributions towards the goals and targets by 2050 and 2030.

To date, staff are aware of only one instance of the Montreal Charter on Biodiversity impacting/influencing the work of the Islands Trust. It is referenced in the 2023 Islands Trust resolution to UBCM Convention advocating for new legislation for protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health and species at risk (attached).

ATTACHMENT(S):

1. Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework long-term goals (4) and targets for urgent action to 2030 (23)
2. 2023 Islands Trust resolution to UBCM Convention advocating for new legislation for protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health and species at risk

FOLLOW-UP: Staff will follow-up as directed to develop another briefing for Trust Programs Committee and Regional Planning Committee for August and/or November 2023 to inform their advice to Trust Council in this calendar year.

Trust Programs Committee may wish to strike a working group to review the goals and targets and provide a report back to Trust Programs Committee for consideration at their next meeting. The working group could consider how certain goals and/or targets could be incorporated into guiding documents such as the Strategic Plan or Policy Statement.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date: May 5, 2023

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework has four long-term goals for 2050 related to the 2050 Vision for biodiversity:

Goal	Text of Goal	Applicable/ relevant to Islands Trust?
A	The integrity, connectivity and resilience of all ecosystems are maintained, enhanced, or restored, substantially increasing the area of natural ecosystems by 2050; Human induced extinction of known threatened species is halted, and, by 2050, the extinction rate and risk of all species are reduced tenfold and the abundance of native wild species is increased to healthy and resilient levels; The genetic diversity within populations of wild and domesticated species, is maintained, safeguarding their adaptive potential.	
B	Biodiversity is sustainably used and managed and nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, are valued, maintained and enhanced, with those currently in decline being restored, supporting the achievement of sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations by 2050.	
C	The monetary and non-monetary benefits from the utilization of genetic resources and digital sequence information on genetic resources, and of traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, as applicable, are shared fairly and equitably, including, as appropriate with indigenous peoples and local communities, and substantially increased by 2050, while ensuring traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources is appropriately protected, thereby contributing to the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, in accordance with internationally agreed access and benefit-sharing instruments.	
D	Adequate means of implementation, including financial resources, capacity-building, technical and scientific cooperation, and access to and transfer of technology to fully implement the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework are secured and equitably accessible to all Parties, especially developing country Parties, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, progressively closing the biodiversity finance gap of \$700 billion per year, and aligning financial flows with the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework and the 2050 Vision for biodiversity.	

The Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework also has 23 action-oriented global targets for urgent action to 2030

Target	Text of Target	Applicable/ relevant to Islands Trust?
Theme: Reducing threats to biodiversity		
1	Ensure that all areas are under participatory, integrated and biodiversity inclusive spatial planning and/or effective management processes addressing land- and sea-use change, to bring the loss of areas of high biodiversity importance, including ecosystems of high ecological integrity, close to zero by 2030, while respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities.	
2	Ensure that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of areas of degraded terrestrial, inland water, and marine and coastal ecosystems are under effective restoration, in order to enhance biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, ecological integrity and connectivity.	
3	Ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial and inland water areas, and of marine and coastal areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities, including over their traditional territories.	
4	Ensure urgent management actions to halt human induced extinction of known threatened species and for the recovery and conservation of species, in particular threatened species, to significantly reduce extinction risk, as well as to maintain and restore the genetic diversity within and between populations of native, wild and domesticated species to maintain their adaptive potential, including through in situ and ex situ conservation and sustainable management practices, and effectively manage human-wildlife interactions to minimize human-wildlife conflict for coexistence.	
5	Ensure that the use, harvesting and trade of wild species is sustainable, safe and legal, preventing overexploitation, minimizing impacts on non-target species and ecosystems, and reducing the risk of pathogen spillover, applying the ecosystem approach, while respecting and protecting customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.	

6	Eliminate, minimize, reduce and or mitigate the impacts of invasive alien species on biodiversity and ecosystem services by identifying and managing pathways of the introduction of alien species, preventing the introduction and establishment of priority invasive alien species, reducing the rates of introduction and establishment of other known or potential invasive alien species by at least 50 per cent by 2030, and eradicating or controlling invasive alien species, especially in priority sites, such as islands.	
7	Reduce pollution risks and the negative impact of pollution from all sources by 2030, to levels that are not harmful to biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, considering cumulative effects, including: (a) by reducing excess nutrients lost to the environment by at least half, including through more efficient nutrient cycling and use; (b) by reducing the overall risk from pesticides and highly hazardous chemicals by at least half, including through integrated pest management, based on science, taking into account food security and livelihoods; and (c) by preventing, reducing, and working towards eliminating plastic pollution.	
8	Minimize the impact of climate change and ocean acidification on biodiversity and increase its resilience through mitigation, adaptation, and disaster risk reduction actions, including through nature-based solution and/or ecosystem-based approaches, while minimizing negative and fostering positive impacts of climate action on biodiversity.	
Theme: Meeting people's needs through sustainable use and benefit-sharing		
9	Ensure that the management and use of wild species are sustainable, thereby providing social, economic and environmental benefits for people, especially those in vulnerable situations and those most dependent on biodiversity, including through sustainable biodiversity-based activities, products and services that enhance biodiversity, and protecting and encouraging customary sustainable use by indigenous peoples and local communities.	
10	Ensure that areas under agriculture, aquaculture, fisheries and forestry are managed sustainably, in particular through the sustainable use of biodiversity, including through a substantial increase of the application of biodiversity friendly practices, such as sustainable intensification, agroecological and other innovative approaches, contributing to the resilience and long-term efficiency and productivity of these production systems, and to food security, conserving and restoring biodiversity and maintaining nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services.	
11	Restore, maintain and enhance nature's contributions to people, including ecosystem functions and services, such as the regulation of air, water and climate, soil health, pollination and reduction of disease risk, as well as protection from natural hazards and disasters, through nature-based solutions and/or ecosystem-based approaches for the benefit of all people and nature.	

12	Significantly increase the area and quality, and connectivity of, access to, and benefits from green and blue spaces in urban and densely populated areas sustainably, by mainstreaming the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity, and ensure biodiversity-inclusive urban planning, enhancing native biodiversity, ecological connectivity and integrity, and improving human health and well-being and connection to nature, and contributing to inclusive and sustainable urbanization and to the provision of ecosystem functions and services.	
13	Take effective legal, policy, administrative and capacity-building measures at all levels, as appropriate, to ensure the fair and equitable sharing of benefits that arise from the utilization of genetic resources and from digital sequence information on genetic resources, as well as traditional knowledge associated with genetic resources, and facilitating appropriate access to genetic resources, and by 2030, facilitating a significant increase of the benefits shared, in accordance with applicable international access and benefit-sharing instruments.	
Theme: Tools and solutions for implementation and mainstreaming		
14	Ensure the full integration of biodiversity and its multiple values into policies, regulations, planning and development processes, poverty eradication strategies, strategic environmental assessments, environmental impact assessments and, as appropriate, national accounting, within and across all levels of government and across all sectors, in particular those with significant impacts on biodiversity, progressively aligning all relevant public and private activities, and fiscal and financial flows with the goals and targets of this framework.	
15	Take legal, administrative or policy measures to encourage and enable business, and in particular to ensure that large and transnational companies and financial institutions: (a) Regularly monitor, assess, and transparently disclose their risks, dependencies and impacts on biodiversity, including with requirements for all large as well as transnational companies and financial institutions along their operations, supply and value chains, and portfolios; (b) Provide information needed to consumers to promote sustainable consumption patterns; (c) Report on compliance with access and benefit-sharing regulations and measures, as applicable; in order to progressively reduce negative impacts on biodiversity, increase positive impacts, reduce biodiversity-related risks to business and financial institutions, and promote actions to ensure sustainable patterns of production	
15	Ensure that people are encouraged and enabled to make sustainable consumption choices, including by establishing supportive policy, legislative or regulatory frameworks, improving education and access to relevant and accurate information and alternatives, and by 2030, reduce the global footprint of consumption in an equitable manner, including through halving global food waste, significantly reducing overconsumption and substantially reducing waste generation, in order for all people to live well in harmony with Mother Earth.	

17	Establish, strengthen capacity for, and implement in all countries, biosafety measures as set out in Article 8(g) of the Convention on Biological Diversity and measures for the handling of biotechnology and distribution of its benefits as set out in Article 19 of the Convention.	
18	Identify by 2025, and eliminate, phase out or reform incentives, including subsidies, harmful for biodiversity, in a proportionate, just, fair, effective and equitable way, while substantially and progressively reducing them by at least \$500 billion per year by 2030, starting with the most harmful incentives, and scale up positive incentives for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity.	
19	Substantially and progressively increase the level of financial resources from all sources, in an effective, timely and easily accessible manner, including domestic, international, public and private resources, in accordance with Article 20 of the Convention, to implement national biodiversity strategies and action plans, mobilizing at least \$200 billion per year by 2030, including by: (a) Increasing total biodiversity related international financial resources from developed countries, including official development assistance, and from countries that voluntarily assume obligations of developed country Parties, to developing countries, in particular the least developed countries and small island developing States, as well as countries with economies in transition, to at least \$20 billion per year by 2025, and to at least \$30 billion per year by 2030; (b) Significantly increasing domestic resource mobilization, facilitated by the preparation and implementation of national biodiversity finance plans or similar instruments according to national needs, priorities and circumstances; (c) Leveraging private finance, promoting blended finance, implementing strategies for raising new and additional resources, and encouraging the private sector to invest in biodiversity, including through impact funds and other instruments; (d) Stimulating innovative schemes such as payment for ecosystem services, green bonds, biodiversity offsets and credits, and benefit-sharing mechanisms, with environmental and social safeguards; (e) Optimizing co-benefits and synergies of finance targeting the biodiversity and climate crises; (f) Enhancing the role of collective actions, including by indigenous peoples and local communities, Mother Earth centric actions ¹³ and non-market-based approaches including community based natural resource management and civil society cooperation and solidarity aimed at the conservation of biodiversity; (g) Enhancing the effectiveness, efficiency and transparency of resource provision and use;	
20	Strengthen capacity-building and development, access to and transfer of technology, and promote development of and access to innovation and technical and scientific cooperation, including through South-South, North-South and triangular cooperation, to meet the needs for effective implementation, particularly in developing countries, fostering joint technology development and joint scientific research programmes for the conservation and sustainable use of biodiversity and strengthening scientific research and monitoring capacities, commensurate with the ambition of the goals and targets of the Framework.	

21	Ensure that the best available data, information and knowledge are accessible to decision makers, practitioners and the public to guide effective and equitable governance, integrated and participatory management of biodiversity, and to strengthen communication, awareness-raising, education, monitoring, research and knowledge management and, also in this context, traditional knowledge, innovations, practices and technologies of indigenous peoples and local communities should only be accessed with their free, prior and informed consent, 14 in accordance with national legislation	
22	Ensure the full, equitable, inclusive, effective and gender-responsive representation and participation in decision-making, and access to justice and information related to biodiversity by indigenous peoples and local communities, respecting their cultures and their rights over lands, territories, resources, and traditional knowledge, as well as by women and girls, children and youth, and persons with disabilities and ensure the full protection of environmental human rights defenders.	
23	Ensure gender equality in the implementation of the Framework through a gender-responsive approach, where all women and girls have equal opportunity and capacity to contribute to the three objectives of the Convention, including by recognizing their equal rights and access to land and natural resources and their full, equitable, meaningful and informed participation and leadership at all levels of action, engagement, policy and decision-making related to biodiversity.	



2023 RESOLUTION SUBMISSION TO UBCM

NEW LEGISLATION FOR PROTECTION OF BIODIVERSITY, ECOSYSTEM HEALTH AND SPECIES AT RISK

ISLANDS TRUST

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS in 2022 UBCM endorsed resolutions calling on the Province of BC to work in cooperation with First Nations to enact species at risk legislation and to work towards new legislation to protect and restore biological diversity and ecosystem health;

AND WHEREAS in November 2022 the Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council released the Wild Species 2020: The General Status of Species in Canada Report which documents an increased risk of extinction for 700 species in British Columbia in the last five years;

AND WHEREAS in December 2022, Canada joined 195 countries in the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework which aims to halt and reverse global biodiversity loss by 2030;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that UBCM call upon the Province of British Columbia to urgently proceed with legislation, informed by new agreements and reports, co-developed with First Nations, that enables legal and financial mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health, and species at risk in British Columbia.

BACKGROUNDER:

Legislated legal and financial mechanisms for the protection of biodiversity, ecosystem health, and species at risk in British Columbia are urgently needed.

In 2022, UBCM endorsed resolutions NR 38, NR 39, NR40 and NR41 which are consistent with the proposed resolution.

According to the 2020 Wild Species Report¹, British Columbia is home to more than 24,540 species, the second most biologically diverse province in Canada. Conversely, B.C. has the highest number of species under threat of extinction. More than 3,000 species were identified in the report as being at risk in B.C. and the report documented an increased risk of extinction for 700 species in British Columbia in the last five years.

B.C. current laws do not require species recovery planning and implementation. The continued push for legislation comes as scientists around the world warn we are witnessing the sixth mass extinction event in the planet's four-billion-year history. Scientists estimate as many as half of all species may be headed toward extinction in the next 30 years, in large part due to habitat destruction.

In 2020, an Old Growth Strategic Review report commissioned by the Province of British Columbia identified several actions needed to foster a paradigm shift in the way forests are managed in B.C. One of the report's key recommendations was to declare conservation of ecosystem health and biodiversity in British Columbia as an overarching priority and enact legislation that legally established this priority for all sectors. In September 2021, the Union of B.C. Indian Chiefs-in-Assembly (UBCIC) called on the Province to explicitly and publicly commit to the enactment of new, overarching legislation for the protection of biodiversity and ecosystem health, to be developed in cooperation with Indigenous Peoples, aligning with the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and upholding Title and Rights to strengthen biodiversity conservation and management.

In the face of a climate emergency, the ecosystems that Indigenous Peoples and B.C. communities depend on for their spiritual, cultural, economic, and health needs are increasingly under threat. It is urgently important for the Province of B.C. to enact legislation to better protect ecosystem health, biodiversity and species at risk without further delay. Doing so in collaboration with First Nations and Indigenous people will be critical to the Province's reconciliation commitments and to the creation of inclusive and effective legislation. It will also be critical for the Province to involve local governments, civil society groups, Indigenous Knowledge Holders, scientists, and members of the public in the development of this legislation, to ensure that their unique vulnerabilities, perspectives, and interests are considered.

¹ https://wildlife-species.canada.ca/species-risk-registry/virtual_sara/files/reports/Wild%20Species%202020.pdf

Active Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Policy Statement Amendment Project*

Responsible

Dates

Provide recommendations to Executive Committee on the content of the revised draft Policy Statement.

Rec'd: 21-Jun-2017
Target: 01-Oct-2026

2. *Secretariat Role to Forums within the Trust Area*

Responsible

Dates

Administer Secretariat Services program. Strategic Plan item 5.2

Rec'd: 20-Jun-2018
Target: 29-Mar-2024

3. *Stewardship Education Program*

Responsible

Dates

Develop and implement a stewardship education program directed towards the public, industry and stakeholders in the Trust Area. (Strategic Plan strategy #4.3). This includes the Living in the Trust Area project guided by the project charter endorsed by TPC.

Rec'd: 13-Aug-2020
Target: 29-Mar-2024

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Update Crown Land Agreements*

Responsible

Date Received

Engage Bowen Island Municipality and the Province of B.C. in updating and consolidating existing agreements into one.

19-Jun-2014

2. *Community Benefit Land Trust Concept*

Responsible

Date Received

Further consideration of the Community Benefit Land Trust Concept briefing presented to TPC on February 5, 2021.

05-Feb-2021

3. *Community Stewardship Awards Program*

Responsible

Date Received

Trust Council Policy 2.1.11 Administration of Community Stewardship Awards Program states: Islands Trust Programs Committee of Trust Council is responsible for initiating Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program in February in the final year of each term.

02-Dec-2021