



Trust Programs Committee Agenda

Date: Thursday, July 23, 2026
Time: 10:00 am - 1:00 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	
5. CORRESPONDENCE	
5.1 2026-07-13 Friends of the Gulf Islands Society Letter to Regional Planning Committee re: Islands Trust Data Gaps	3 - 3
6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION	
6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings	
For review and approval	
6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee Draft Minutes of May 7, 2026	4 - 10
6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting	
Not applicable	
6.3 Follow up Action List	11 - 12
For review	
7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS	
7.1 Ecosystem Health Indicators/Measures - Briefing	13 - 30
8. BUSINESS - OTHER	
9. BUSINESS - NEW	

10. WORK PROGRAM

31 - 34

For review, amendment as needed, and referral to Trust Council for approval before each quarterly TC meeting.

The Work Program consists of the Active Projects List and the Future Projects List.

11. NEXT MEETING

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.



Info@friendsofthegulfislands.ca

<https://www.friendsofthegulfislands.ca>

July 13, 2026

**Friends of the Gulf Islands Society
Proposed Delegation for the Regional Planning Committee July 24, 2026**

We wish to convey our concern regarding gaps identified by the biologist Patricia Woodruff in her presentation on February 6, 2026 before this committee. She pointed out serious deficiencies in data, policies and trust regulatory documents. It does not seem possible for the Islands Trust to conform with its mandate to protect the natural environment unless these gaps are filled. Here are some significant points as they appeared in her slide show.

Data Gaps

- Used provincial data to assess populations on each island
 - 16 different species at risk populations declining/disappearing
 - 11 populations more persistent, many species with unknown trends, no recent data
- (It is not possible to protect at risk species if we don't know where they are)**

Other Gaps

- Current Riparian Area DPAs not updated to 2019 regulation change
 - Acquire new mapping layers, better match with sensitive ecosystems
 - Critical habitat not protected
 - Format of professional reports not consistent
- (It is not possible to protect at risk species if the staff doesn't know where they are and professional reports do not indicate where they are.)**

New Policy Guidelines Needed

- Status of population related to amount of protection available.
- At least 4 cases where development was direct impact
- To address challenges:
 - Improve professional report requirements
 - Update DPAs and include species at risk protections
 - Information available for planners

(This reinforces findings above.)

Trustees tell us they can protect the environment while managing continued growth. If that is true, we urge you to take action on all of these items.



Trust Programs Committee Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date: May 7, 2026
Location: Electronic Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Tim Peterson, Lasqueti Island LTA (EC Representative and Vice Chair)
Sue Ellen Fast, Bowen Island Municipality
Lisa Gauvreau, Galiano Island LTA
David Graham, Denman Island LTA
Susan Yates, Gabriola Island LTA
Laura Patrick, Salt Spring Island LTA/Islands Trust Council Chair (Ex Officio)

Regrets: Kristina Evans, South Pender Island Local Trust Area (LTA) (Chair)

Staff Present: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services
Chloe Straw, Program Coordinator
Joe Elliott, Senior Indigenous Relations Advisor
Jason Youmans, Senior Policy Advisor
Jill Marrack, Senior Policy Advisor
Corlynn Strachan, Executive Administrative Assistant/Recorder

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Peterson called the meeting to order at 10:01 a.m. and acknowledged that attendees of the meeting were in locations across the territories of the Coast Salish peoples.

2. AGENDA

2.1 Review of the Agenda

The following reordering of items was presented for consideration:

- Move Agenda Item 7.5 to after the in-camera session in case the committee identifies other changes they want to make to the Community Stewardship Awards Policy

2.2 Approval of Agenda

By general consent the agenda was approved as amended.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD

No members of the public were in attendance.

4. DELEGATIONS

None.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

None.

6. ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATION

6.1 Draft Minutes of Previous Meetings

6.1.1 Trust Programs Committee Draft Minutes of February 11, 2026

By general consent the minutes were approved as presented.

6.2 Resolutions Without Meeting - None

None.

6.3 Follow up Action List

Received for information.

7. BUSINESS - WORK PROGRAM ITEMS

7.1 2025/26 Annual Report - Approval of Trust Programs Committee Section - Request for Decision

Director Frater introduced the Request for Decision, noting discrepancies in committee membership records, and advised that temporary members who contributed to Policy Statement Amendment Project during the fiscal year would be included in the report prior to final submission.

Committee discussion included:

- Support for the report.
- Value of the five stewardship education webinars, their importance to the committee's work, and encouraging continued support for stewardship education by future trustees.

TPC-2026-009

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee approve the attached text for inclusion in the 2025/26 Annual Report for approval by Islands Trust Council and submission to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs.

CARRIED

7.2 Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards 2026 - Briefing

Program Coordinator Straw presented the briefing.

Committee discussion included:

- Future consideration of recognizing all award nominees with a letter of acknowledgement, rather than focusing solely on award recipients, to recognize contributions made within their communities.

Director Frater commented that all nominees are publicly recognized through nominee profiles and local trust committee/Bowen Island Municipality events, and advised that potential policy changes could be considered during the later policy review discussion.

7.3 Policy Statement Amendment Policy 1.2.1 - Request for Decision

Senior Policy Advisor Youmans introduced the Request for Decision and highlighted a proposed change in Attachment 2 to remove Trust Council committees and local trust committees from the bylaw referral process, noting concerns about potential conflicts in decision-making roles.

Staff recommended forwarding Attachment 2 to Trust Council for consideration and approval.

Committee discussion included:

- Support for Attachment 2 as the preferred version of the revised policy, due to its clearer process and removal of referrals back to local trust committees.
- Support for beginning Policy Statement review work in the first year of a Council term, and timing should allow new trustees an opportunity to become familiar with the process and policy framework.
- Importance of early engagement, clarity regarding the purpose and scope of the Policy Statement, and the role of local trust committees in supporting community input and public engagement throughout the amendment process.

TPC-2026-010

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee recommend that Trust Council replace the current Policy 1.2.1 [Policy Statement Amendment] with the draft updated Policy 1.2.1 shown in Attachment 2 to the Request for Decision dated April 28, 2026.

CARRIED

7.4 Crown Land Agreement Project Update - Briefing

Senior Policy Advisor Marrack presented the briefing and provided updates on the project.

Committee discussion included:

- Support for the review and renewal of older Crown land agreements and expressed appreciation for the update.
- Positive progress on staff-to-staff collaboration with Bowen Island Municipality and the Province, and welcomed the initiation of the agreement review process.

7.5 Amendments to Islands Trust Community Stewardship Awards Program - Request for Decision

Program Coordinator Straw introduced the Request for Decision.

Committee discussion included:

- Potentially revising the formatting of the nomination form.
- Support for the proposed amendments
- Support for continuing the current four-year frequency of the awards program.
- Support for applying CPI-based inflation adjustments to the local trust committee ceremony budget, and increasing the base amount in line with the award cost adjustment.

TPC-2026-011

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to amend Policy 2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program such that section 6.2 reads as follows: Local trust committees may use up to \$150 from their local trust committee budgets to cover the cost of a public presentation ceremony. This amount will be adjusted at each award period to reflect the cumulative Victoria, British Columbia CPI change since the previous adjustment.

CARRIED

TPC-2026-012

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee recommend that the Islands Trust Council replace Policy 2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program dated December 2, 2021 with the revised Policy 2.1.11

Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program dated April 14, 2026, as amended.

CARRIED

8. BUSINESS - OTHER

8.1 Reschedule November 26, 2026 Meeting - Request for Decision

Director Frater advised there was a scheduling issue and a need to reschedule the meeting.

TPC-2026-013

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee cancel the November 26, 2026 regular business meeting, and schedule a special meeting for January 7, 2027.

CARRIED

9. BUSINESS – NEW

None.

10. WORK PROGRAM

10.1 Trust Programs Committee Work Program Updates - Request for Decision

Director Frater presented the Request for Decision and provided an overview of the State of the Islands Report.

Discussion ensued on:

- Chair Patrick advised that Trust Council did not proceed with a resiliency assessment proposed by Regional Planning Committee and Trust Programs Committee in 2026/27.
- Staff have been working on updates to Crown land agreements for 25 years, needs to be at top of list to progress with new Trust Council.
- Support for updating the state of the islands reports for each local trust area as they were helpful.
- What are the new tools? Having conversations with other partners on co-development of a strategic data updating/acquisition plan.

- Staff commented that the Islands Profiles were based on the Regional Conservation Plan, which involved a large amount of research.
- A lot of information Islands Trust has to support decision-making is GIS based.

TPC-2026-014

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee amends its active projects list to include:

1. Recommend updates to Crown Land Agreements
2. Implement Community Stewardship Awards Program

CARRIED

TPC-2026-015

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft a business case to address indicators of ecosystem health and integrity in collaboration with others.

CARRIED

TPC-2026-016

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft business cases regarding measurement and reporting on ecosystem health and integrity.

CARRIED

11. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, July 23, 2026 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

12. CLOSED MEETING

TPC-2026-017

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that the meeting be closed to the public in accordance with the Community Charter, Part 4, Division 3, s.90, (b) personal information about an identifiable individual who is being considered for a municipal award or honour, or who has offered to provide a gift to the municipality on condition of anonymity; and that the recorder and staff attend the meeting.

CARRIED

The Committee resumed in open meeting at 11:44 a.m.

13. RISE AND REPORT

Vice-Chair Peterson reported on the following:

- That the Trust Programs Committee in-camera minutes of Feb 14, 2024 had been adopted.

14. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 1:47 p.m.

Tim Peterson, Chair

Certified Correct

Corlynn Strachan, Executive Administrative Assistant/Recorder

Minutes are not official until adopted at a subsequent meeting.

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

07-May-2026

Progress	Activity	Responsibility	Dates	Status
100%	1 Staff to include the approved Trust Programs Committee Section of the 2025/26 Annual Report text for submission to the Minister of Housing and Municipal Affairs.	Clare Frater	Target: 05-Jun-2026	Completed
100%	2 Staff to advise Trust Council that Trust Programs Committee recommend that Trust Council replace the current Policy 1.2.1 [Policy Statement Amendment] with the draft updated Policy 1.2.1 shown in Attachment 2 to the Request for Decision, dated April 28, 2026.	Clare Frater Jason Youmans	Target: 05-Jun-2026	Completed
100%	3 Staff to amend Policy 2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program such that section 6.2 reads as follows: Local trust committees may use up to \$150 from their local trust committee budgets to cover the cost of a public presentation ceremony. This amount will be adjusted at each award period to reflect the cumulative Victoria, British Columbia CPI change since the previous adjustment.	Chloe Straw Clare Frater	Target: 05-Jun-2026	Completed
100%	4 Staff to advise Trust Council that Trust Programs Committee recommend that the Islands Trust Council replace Policy 2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program dated December 2, 2021 with the revised Policy 2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program dated April 14, 2026, as amended.	Chloe Straw Clare Frater	Target: 05-Jun-2026	Completed
100%	5 Staff to proceed with cancelling the November 26, 2026 Trust Programs Committee regular business meeting, and schedule a special meeting for January 7, 2027.	Clare Frater Corlynn Strachan	Target: 19-Jun-2026	Completed

Follow Up Action Report

Trust Programs Committee

07-May-2026

Progress	Activity		Responsibility	Dates	Status
100%	6	Staff to update the Trust Programs Committee active projects list to include: 1.Recommend updates to Crown Land Agreements 2.Implement Community Stewardship Awards Program	Clare Frater	Target: 05-Jun-2026	Completed
15%	7	Staff to draft a business case to address indicators of ecosystem health and integrity in collaboration with others.	Clare Frater	Target: 01-Sep-2026	In Progress
15%	8	Staff to draft business cases regarding measurement and reporting on ecosystem health and integrity.	Clare Frater	Target: 01-Sep-2026	In Progress



BRIEFING

To: Trust Programs Committee **For the Meeting of:** July 23, 2026
From: Trust Area Services **Date Prepared:** July 16, 2026
SUBJECT: Ecosystem Health Indicators/Measures

PURPOSE: To advise Trust Programs Committee of progress towards requested business cases for development of ecosystem indicators and ecosystem health reporting.

BACKGROUND:

Trust Council's 2025-2028 Strategic Plan includes a focus on:

- acquiring and updating mapping layers,
- development of ecosystem health and other indicators,
- development of a growth management framework based on data,
- trend monitoring and reporting, and sharing of data and
- sharing of related information with partners and the public.

While these activities will be crucial to informed decision-making and to understanding effective implementation of the preserve and protect mandate, Trust Council has not selected any of these topics as a top priority for this term of Trust Council.

The following is noted as a priority (but not topic priority) - 3.2.4 Monitor progress of protection of ecosystem health in all land use planning decisions, and is being addressed by Regional Planning Committee.

The following related to ecological indicators/trend monitoring is noted for initiation in 2026/27:

- 3.2.1 Identify indicators of ecosystem health and integrity
- 3.2.2 Update the State of the Islands Report
- 3.3.1 Map eelgrass and kelp forests
- 4.1.2 Partner with agencies and others to share climate data
- 4.2.1 Design and implement a climate action education plan

On May 7, 2026, Trust Programs Committee received a briefing recommending that the Committee request staff to draft business cases to address the following Trust Council key initiatives:

- a. Identify indicators of ecosystem health and integrity
- b. Update the State of the Islands Report
- c. Design and implementation of climate action education plan.

Following discussion, Trust Programs Committee passed the following motions:

TPC-2026-015

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft a business case to address indicators of ecosystem health and integrity in collaboration with others.

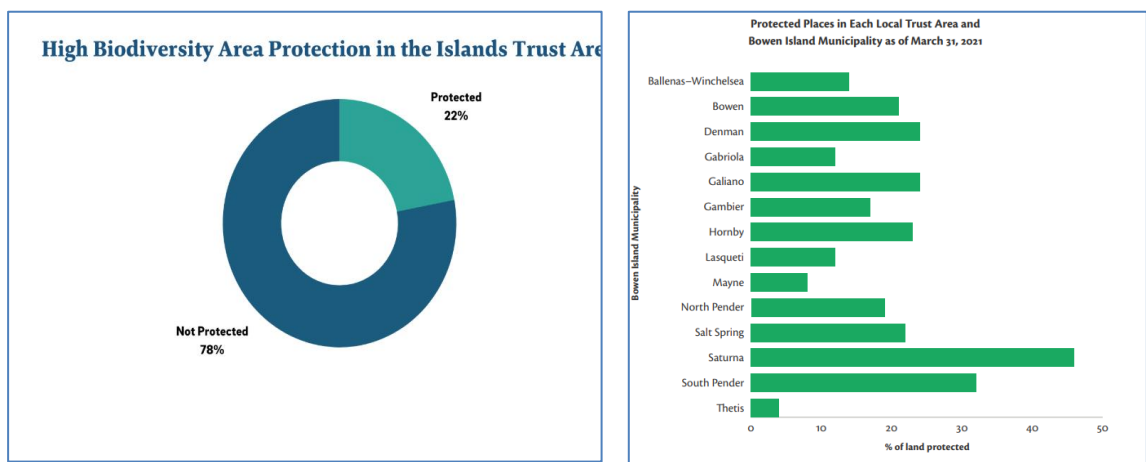
TPC-2026-016

It was MOVED and SECONDED,

that Trust Programs Committee request staff to draft business cases regarding measurement and reporting on ecosystem health and integrity.

Trust Area Services staff have not had sufficient time available to research and prepare business cases, or to collaborate with GIS, Planning Services or Conservancy staff on these topics. To inform future work on this topic staff are issuing a Request for Information on BC Bid to ask contractors for general information and considerations to keep in mind when developing a high-level budget estimate for the 2027/28 fiscal year for development of indicators of ecosystem health and integrity, in collaboration with others, including First Nations, for the Islands Trust Area; and development of an on-going program for measurement and reporting on ecosystem health and integrity. A response is expected in mid-August.

Some previous examples of indicator measures within Islands Trust include:



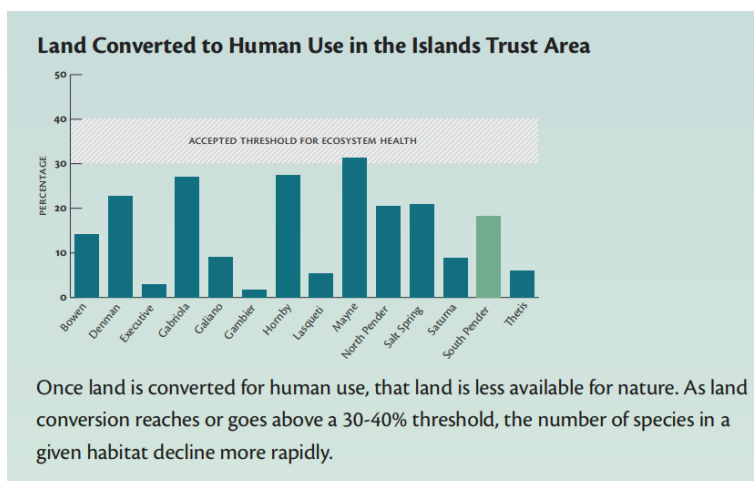


Table 2. Number of provincially and federally listed species at risk. (Numbers are determined by search criteria that isolate species by biogeoclimatic zone and regional district.) (B.C. C.D.C., 2017)

Provincially Listed Species		Federally Listed Species (COSEWIC/SARA)*		
Red List	Blue List	Endangered	Threatened	Special Concern
149	162	61/58	23/12	30/22

*COSEWIC: Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, SARA: Species at Risk Act (Canada)

Table 4. Mapped converted land uses in the Islands Trust Area.

Note: reductions in converted land may be due to refinement of Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping polygons which occurred in 2017 to better define sensitive ecosystems and agricultural areas and may not be indicative of an actual reduction in that land use.
Source: Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping and Islands Trust roads data.

Land Use	Area (ha)		Portion of Islands Trust Area (%)	
	2010	2017	2010	2017
Agriculture	3,719.2	3,712.3	4.7	4.7
Roads	2053.4	2053.4*	2.6	2.6*
Rural & Urban Development**	6,314.5	6,584.9	7.9	8.3
Other	105.4	101.2	0.1	0.1
TOTAL	12,192.5	12,451.8	15.3	15.7

* From 2010 Islands Trust road analysis used in the 2011-2017 Regional Conservation Plan. This analysis was not replicated in 2017 due to limited resources.

** Building Footprints account for 445.4 ha of rural and urban development. The remainder of the area is gardens, yards and general use areas around homes and other buildings. Source: Islands Trust building footprint mapping.

- 43% of known eelgrass meadows in the Islands Trust Area have some measure of protection through a marine or terrestrial protected area.

Other examples of measures can be found in the [Metro Vancouver Ecological Health Framework](#) (2018). They use a set of Regional Ecological Health Indicators (page 43) to help measure and track aspects of the region's ecological health. These indicators will form the basis for a regional state of the environment assessment every 6 years, to align with timelines for updates of key datasets including Sensitive Ecosystem Inventory and Land Cover Classification. Examples include:

- % tree canopy cover
- % impervious surfaces
- Hectares of land inventoried as a sensitive or modified ecosystem

- % inventoried sensitive and modified ecosystems rated high quality
- Hectares of protected lands and waters
- Hectares of unprotected sensitive or modified ecosystems
- Green space connectivity index
- Watershed and stream health index
- Water quality index
- Number of new invasive non-native species recorded and/or considered established

[Metro Vancouver Climate 2050 Roadmap: Nature and Ecosystems](#) (2023) also includes a set of indicators (page 57). Some examples are below:

- Hectares of unprotected sensitive or modified ecosystems
- Hectares of protected lands and waters
- Hectares of sensitive or modified ecosystems
- % of inventoried sensitive or modified ecosystems rated high quality
- Number of new invasive non-native species recorded and/or considered established
- Watershed and stream health index
- Ecosystem connectivity index
- % impervious surfaces (eg paved roads, buildings)
- Carbon stored in vegetation and soils
- % tree canopy cover
- Extent of coastal ecosystems
- Ecosystem vulnerability indicators (to be determined)

At this time, staff can advise the following:

- Regional Planning Committee will be receiving a briefing for its July 24, 2026 meeting regarding the state of species at risk in the Islands Trust Area.
- The Conservancy Board will be requesting that Trust Council provide funding in 2027/28 to undertake an ecological data gap analysis to inform development of the next Regional Conservancy Plan to be published in 2030.
- Staff have identified the importance of having updated land cover mapping and disturbance analyses to quantify recent development and the loss of sensitive ecosystems, among other metrics, and assess what ecosystem changes have occurred since Islands Trust last procured terrestrial/sensitive ecosystem mapping. Islands Trust last received a [disturbance mapping](#) report in 2017 that was based on a comparison of 2004-2014 data. In 2017, using a combination of aerial imagery and terrestrial ecosystem mapping, the change in the natural landscape was identified over a ten year period from 2004-2014. In analyses using that data, it was estimated that approximately 1,070 ha of land were disturbed or lost through deforestation, vegetation clearing, creation of rural developments and roads, wetland loss, and disturbance to soils. It is critical to informed decision making, for both land-use planning and the Conservancy, to have updated land cover data, and an updated analysis of landscape change since 2014 for each local trust area/Bowen Island. Updated land cover mapping and disturbance analyses would be foundational to identifying ecological health indicators.

Table 4. Mapped converted land uses in the Islands Trust Area.

Note: reductions in converted land may be due to refinement of Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping polygons which occurred in 2017 to better define sensitive ecosystems and agricultural areas and may not be indicative of an actual reduction in that land use.

Source: Terrestrial Ecosystem Mapping and Islands Trust roads data.

Land Use	Area (ha)		Portion of Islands Trust Area (%)	
	2010	2017	2010	2017
Agriculture	3,719.2	3,712.3	4.7	4.7
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Other	105.4	101.2	0.1	0.1
TOTAL	12,192.5	12,451.8	15.3	15.7

* From 2010 Islands Trust road analysis used in the 2011-2017 Regional Conservation Plan. This analysis was not replicated in 2017 due to limited resources.

** Building Footprints account for 445.4 ha of rural and urban development. The remainder of the area is gardens, yards and general use areas around homes and other buildings. Source: Islands Trust building footprint mapping.

- Staff are working on an agreement with the Martin Conservation Lab at the University of British Columbia (UBC) regarding collaboration on the generation of conservation data and mapping to complement the Conservancy's Regional Conservation Plan and existing Islands Trust data, and support better decisions regarding conservation and land use within the Islands Trust Area and to provide meaningful applied projects for UBC students.
- The Coastal Douglas-fir Conservation Partnership partnered with the UBC Botanical Garden to create the recently-launched Action for Adaptation [Biodiversity Atlas](https://www.actionforadaptation.ca/atlas/). This on-line mapping platform is designed to provide local governments and First Nations with up-to-date ecological data and analyses to help identify areas of high biodiversity and conservation priority (<https://www.actionforadaptation.ca/atlas/>). This project worked over several years to develop updated ecological information and mapping layers for southwest BC based on may existing data sets. Islands Trust's Conservancy and GIS staff have not yet had the capacity to thoroughly investigate which of these data sets may support Islands Trust's work.
- Staff recognize that it would be beneficial to update the Island Profiles (see attached examples) (and/or create a digital dashboard) which were developed in 2020 using data from 2017 and earlier, however, updated ecological data sets are required in order to analyze/interpret.
- The Planning Services Biologist conducted background research to inform development of ecological health indicators for the Islands Trust Area.
- Information from the 2026 Census will be available in 2027. Staff are considering plans for communicating trends for Islands Trust communities.

At this time, staff do not have a cost estimate for business cases and it is not clear which staff position would be positioned to define the indicator selection/measuring/reporting project, and manage the procurement process and the resulting contract.

ATTACHMENT(S): Staff have provided examples of **now-outdated** Island Profiles and the State of the Islands report to highlight how some previous ecological indicator information was communicated.

1. Gabriola Island Local Trust Area Island Profile
2. Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area Island Profile
3. Mayne Island Local Trust Area Island Profile

Additional resources on the Islands Trust website:

- State of the Islands report (2016): <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/state-of-the-islands-report-final-2023/>
 - a. Some ecological health indicator information is available in the 2016 State of the Islands report: (i.e eelgrass meadows protection, docks, land conversion, agricultural land reserve area, protected areas, % protected of high, med, low biodiversity areas)
- 4. Conservancy 2018-2029 Regional Conservation Plan: <https://islandstrust.bc.ca/document/regional-conservation-plan-2018-2027/>

FOLLOW-UP: Trust Programs Committee could follow-up in the following ways:

1. No action
2. Request that Financial Planning Committee budget \$X for ecosystem indicators and ecosystem health reporting and that staff provide business cases later in 2027/28 the budget development cycle.
3. Recommend to the Executive Committee that it discuss the organization's capacity and skill set for undertaking initiatives related to biological indicator development and reporting on ecological health trends.

Prepared By: Clare Frater, Director, Trust Area Services

Reviewed By/Date: Stefan Cermak, Director, Planning Services/July 16, 2026

Conservation status of Gabriola Island Local Trust Area

The Gabriola Island Local Trust Area is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area. The Gabriola Island Local Trust Area, located six kilometers east of Nanaimo, includes 20 other islands such as Mudge, DeCourcy, Entrance and the Flat Top Islands. It is within the traditional territories of numerous First Nations who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial.

Gabriola's beautiful and vibrant islands are home to some of British Columbia's rarest ecosystems, which are facing continued impacts from habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, and climate change.

The Islands Trust Conservancy does “nature check-ups” to measure the state of island ecosystems to see how well we are meeting the Islands Trust’s mandate to “preserve and protect”. Guided by a science-based Regional Conservation Plan, our work is important because, like the species and habitats that support us, the quality of human life depends on ecosystem health. We all have a part to play in protecting these fragile islands in the Salish Sea for future generations.

Species at risk



Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*)

Blue listed (Provincially),
sensitive to human activities

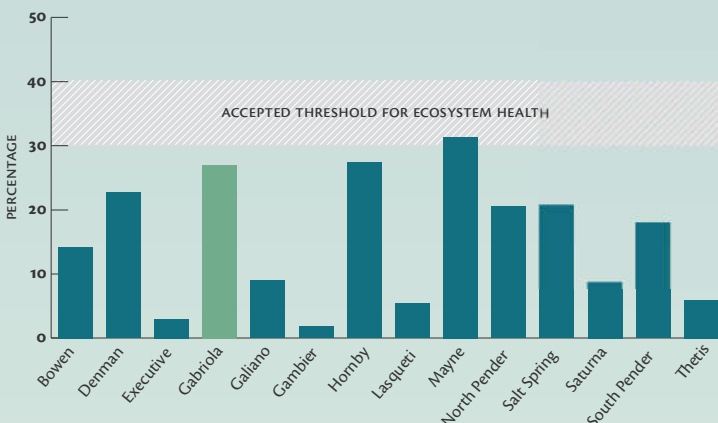


Marbled Murrelet (*Brachyramphus marmoratus*)

Species of concern (Federally), red listed
(Provincially)

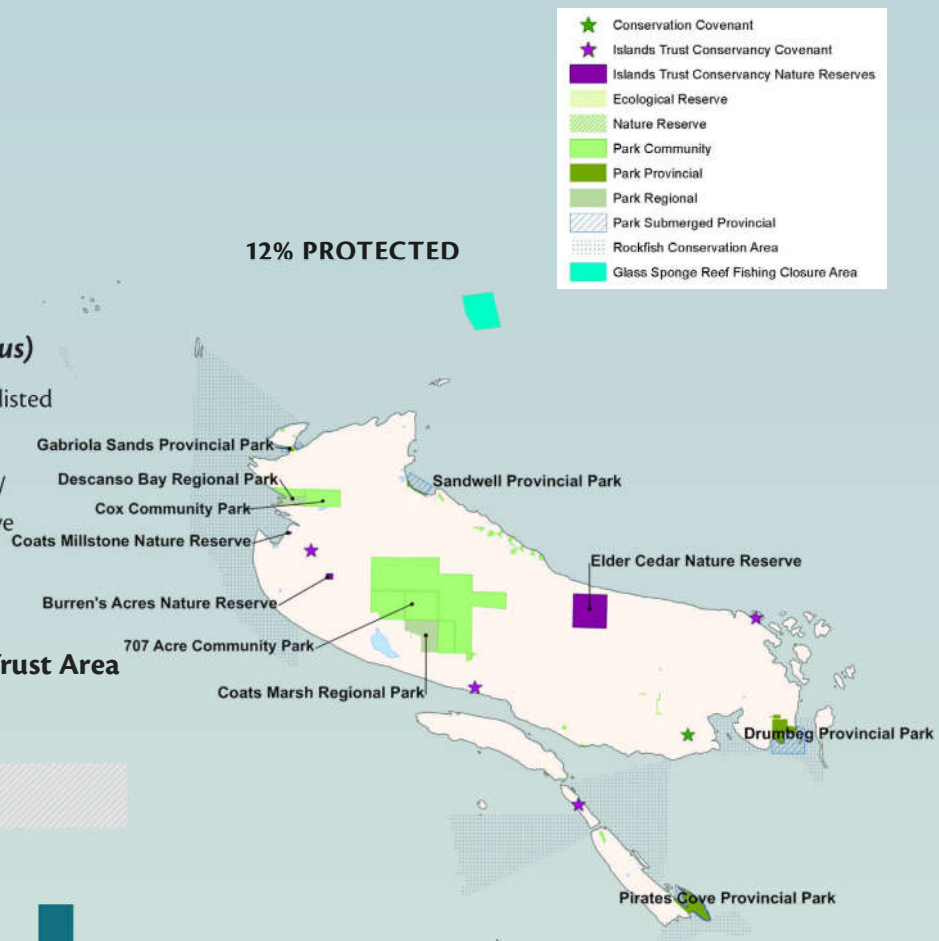
Critical habitat mapped on federal/
private lands and ITC nature reserve

Land Converted to Human Use in the Islands Trust Area



Once land is converted for human use, that land is less available for nature. As land conversion reaches or goes above a 30-40% threshold, the number of species in a given habitat decline more rapidly.

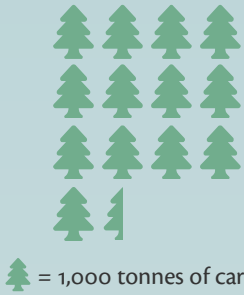
Parks & protected areas



How do forests help us?

CARBON EMISSIONS ABSORBED BY GABRIOLA FORESTS ANNUALLY

EQUIVALENT CARBON EMISSIONS EMITTED BY PASSENGER VEHICLES ANNUALLY

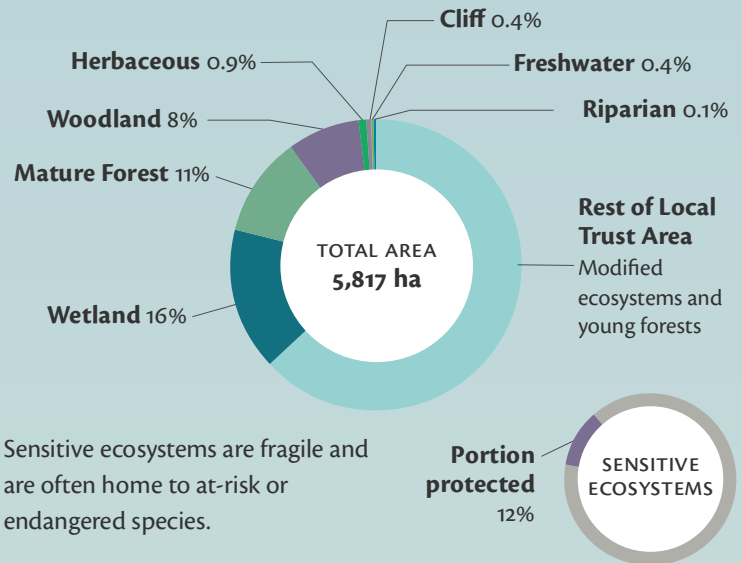


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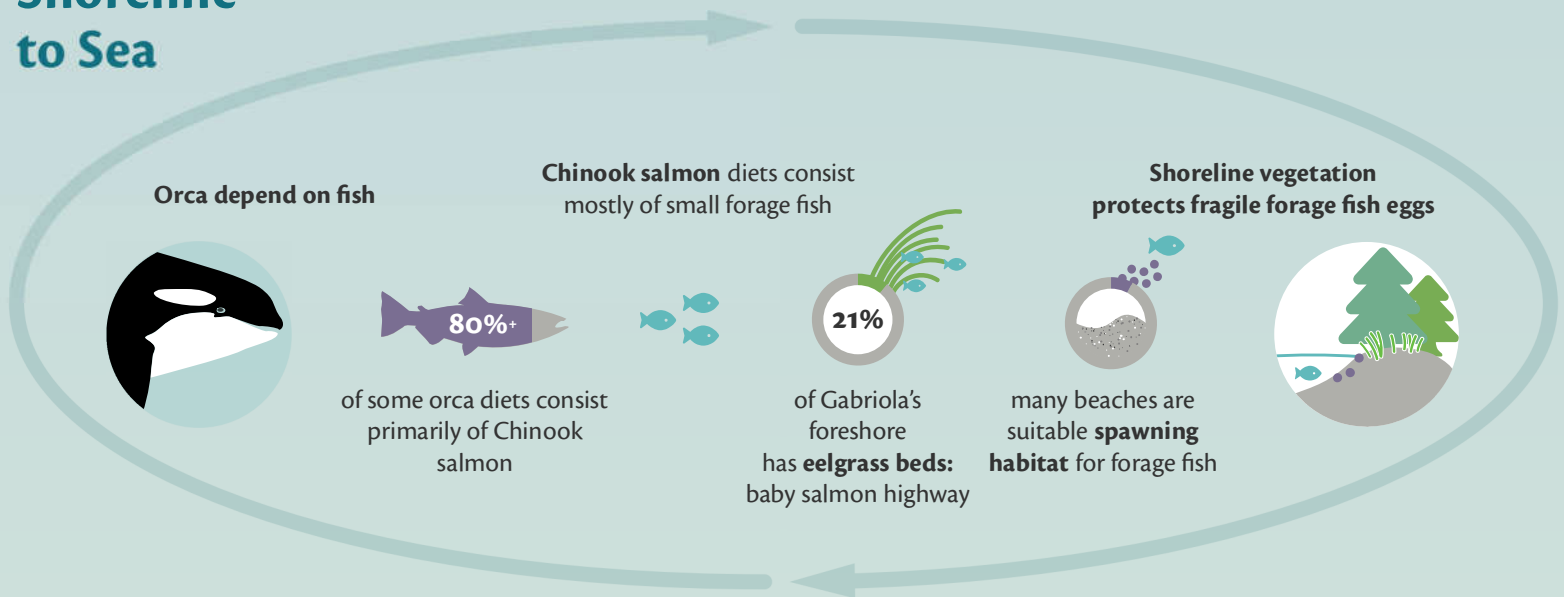
The forests on Gabriola Island sequester 13,417 tonnes of carbon/year which equates to removing the emissions of 2,834 passenger vehicles per year. That's the equivalent of more than 1/2 the residents of Gabriola giving up their vehicles!

Sensitive ecosystems



Sensitive ecosystems are fragile and are often home to at-risk or endangered species.

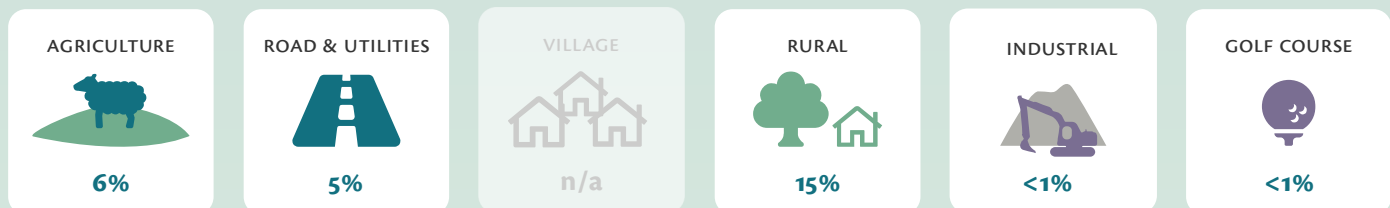
Shoreline to Sea



Marine health starts at the shoreline. Your actions can make a difference!

Modified Ecosystems as of 2017

More than 65% of the Islands Trust Area is in private land ownership. Pressures to develop and change the natural landscape are tremendous. The Islands Trust Conservancy works with landowners to protect private land with conservation covenants, land donations, fundraising for nature, and stewardship.

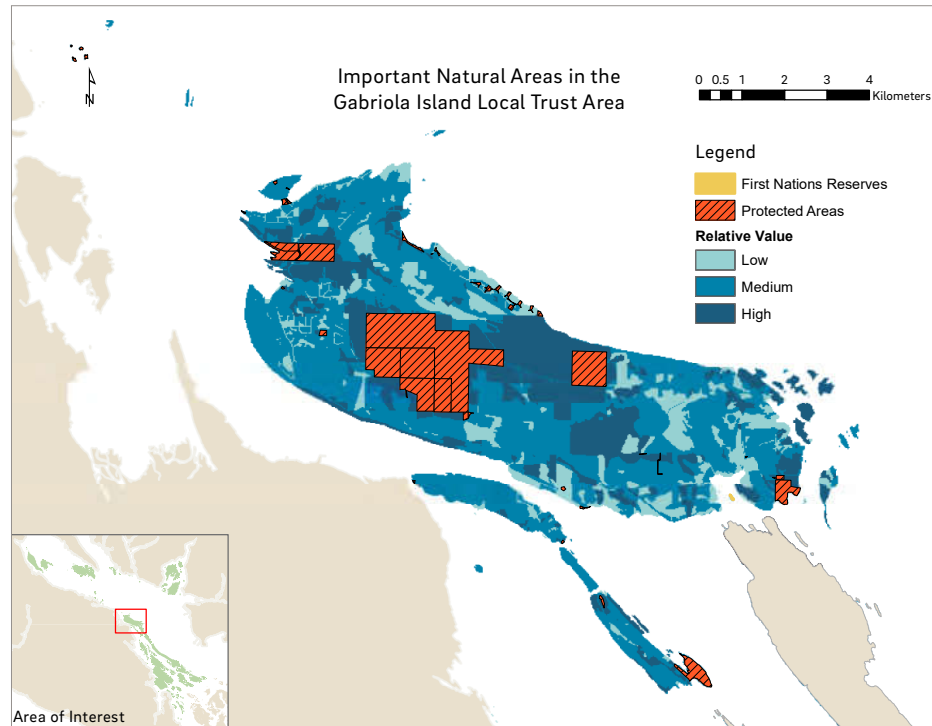


Local Context — Gabriola LTA

The Gabriola Local Trust Area (LTA) is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area of British Columbia. The Gabriola LTA is located within the treaty and traditional territory of Coast Salish Peoples who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial. The Gabriola LTA is home to some of the rarest ecosystems in the world that are under threat from development, climate change, and habitat degradation.

The Trust has categorized island ecosystems into low, medium and high biodiversity areas. The Islands Trust has responsibility for conservation through place protection planning and land use regulation. The Islands Trust can also encourage voluntary and cooperative actions that nurture the long-term integrity of the environment and amenities of the Trust Area.

Island population growth is influenced by land use decisions about zoning, dwelling sizes, and permitted land uses, along with owners' decisions about whether to live in/rent their homes full-time.



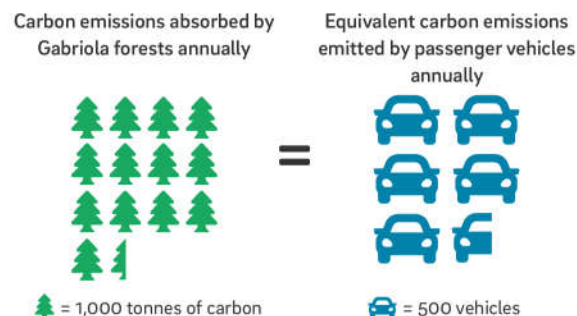
Local Context — Gabriola LTA

The Islands Trust is responsible to the present and future residents of both the Trust Area and the Province of British Columbia. Their needs can only be met and sustained within the limitations of the natural environment and the island communities of the Trust Area.

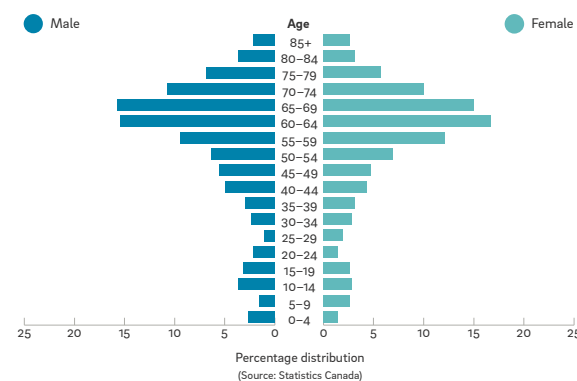
By 2050, many properties on the islands will have been sold or bequeathed. This presents both opportunities and challenges for place protection planning and land conservation.

Gabriola Parcel Sizes (September, 2017):

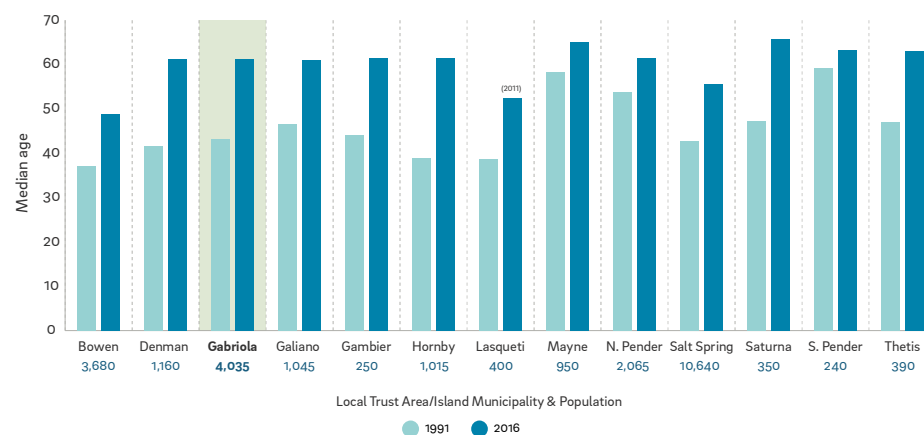
Parcel Size (hectares)	# of Parcels	Percent of Landbase
Less than 0.5	2,901	11.0
0.5–2	342	6.4
2–10	645	33.5
10–20	42	10.1
20–50	36	20.0
More than 50	12	12.8



Population and gender pyramid of Gabriola LTA



Median age trend



Conservation status of Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area

The Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area. The Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area, located 20km north of French Creek, includes 20 associated islands. It is within the traditional territories of numerous First Nations who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial.

The Lasqueti Island Local Trust Area is home to some British Columbia's rarest ecosystems, which are facing continued impacts from habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, and climate change.

The Islands Trust Conservancy does "nature check-ups" to measure the state of island ecosystems to see how well we are meeting the Islands Trust's mandate to "preserve and protect". Guided by a science-based Regional Conservation Plan, our work is important because, like the species and habitats that support us, the quality of human life depends on ecosystem health. We all have a part to play in protecting these fragile islands in the Salish Sea for future generations.

Species at risk



Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*)

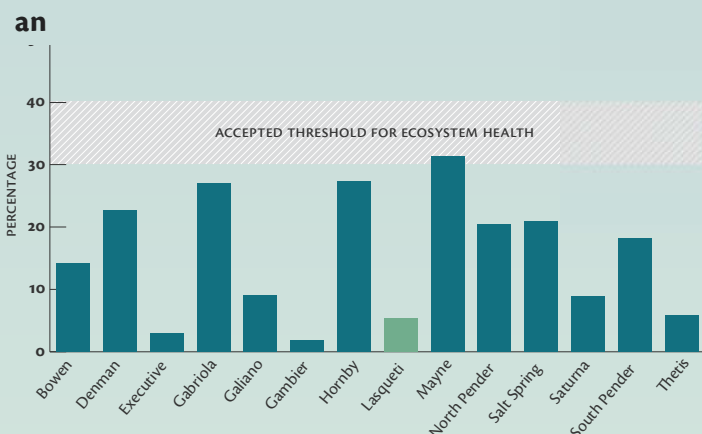
Northern Pacific southern resident population
Endangered (Federally), red listed (Provincially)



Marbled Murrelet, (*Falco peregrinus anatum*)

Threatened (Federally), blue listed (Provincially)

Critical habitat for Marbled Murrelet on provincial and private lands

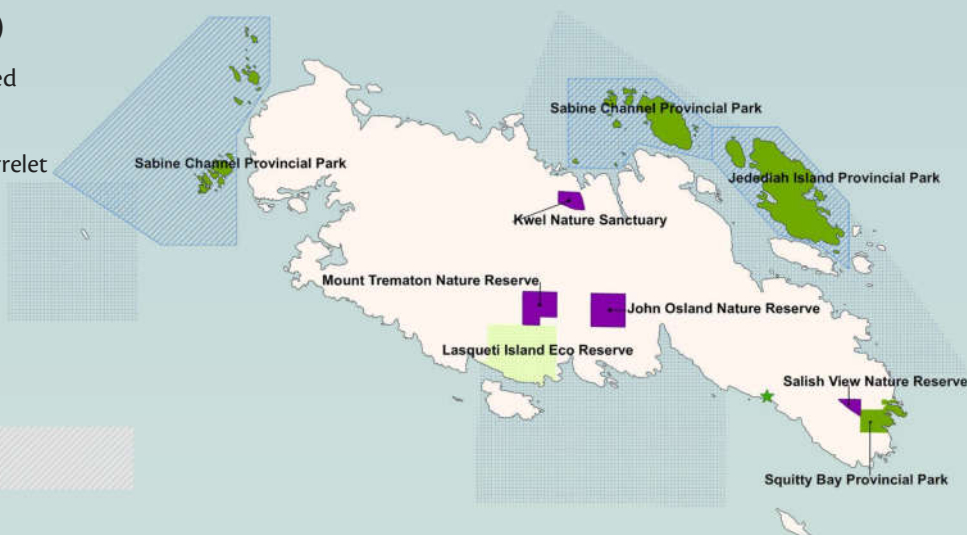


Once land is converted for human use, that land is less available for nature. As land conversion reaches or goes above a 30-40% threshold, the number of species in a given habitat decline more rapidly.

Parks & protected areas



12% PROTECTED

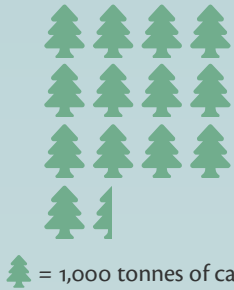


Learn more at islandstrustconservancy.ca

How do forests help us?

CARBON EMISSIONS ABSORBED BY LASQUETI FORESTS ANNUALLY

EQUIVALENT CARBON EMISSIONS EMITTED BY PASSENGER VEHICLES ANNUALLY

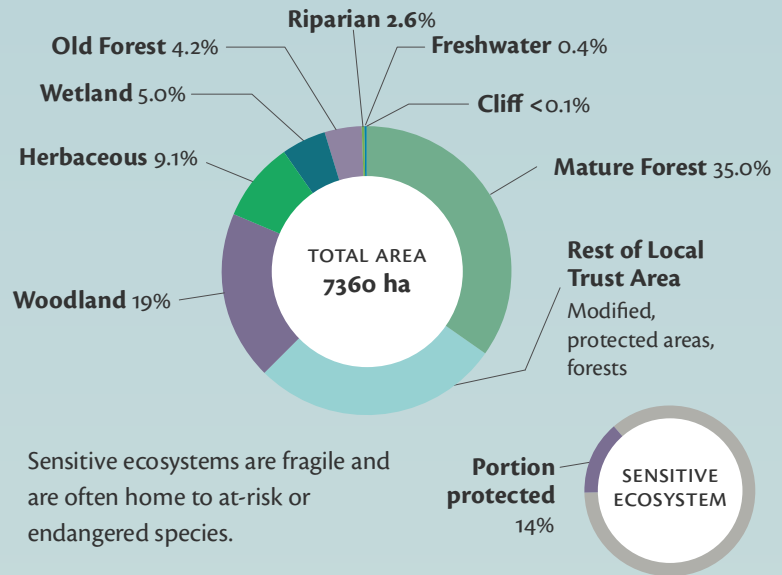


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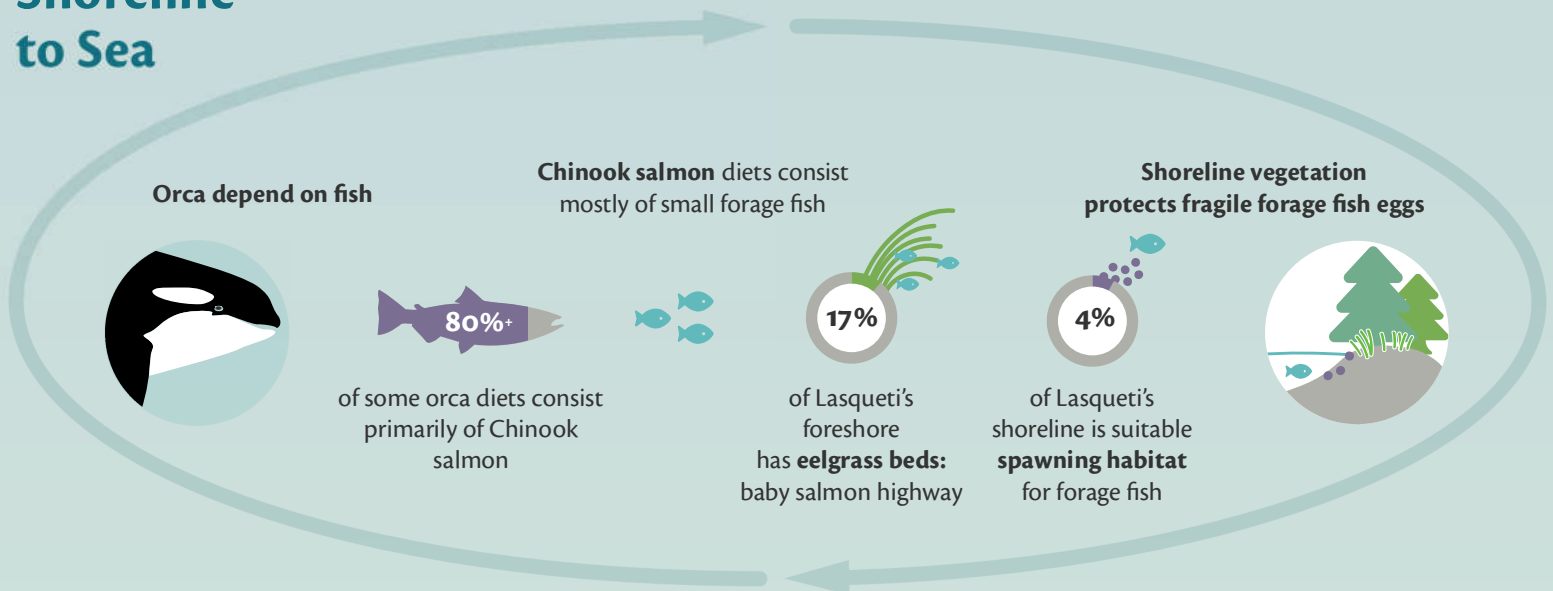


The forests on Lasqueti Island sequester 13,222 tonnes of carbon/year which equates to removing the emissions of 2,793 passenger vehicles per year. That's the equivalent of every Lasqueti resident driving 7 cars/year!

Sensitive ecosystems



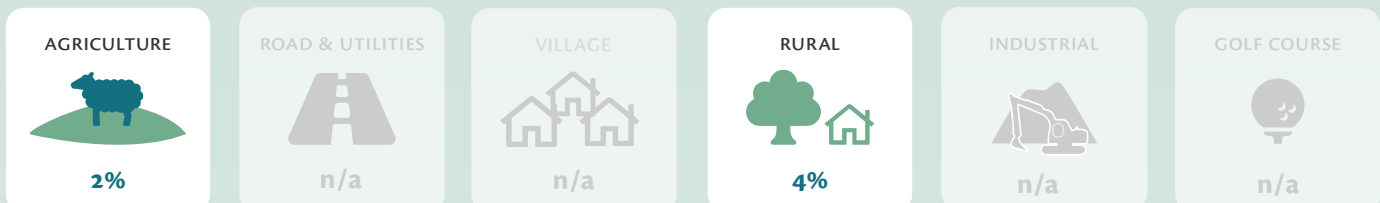
Shoreline to Sea



Marine health starts at the shoreline. Your actions can make a difference!

Modified Ecosystems as of 2017

More than 65% of the Islands Trust Area is in private land ownership. Pressures to develop and change the natural landscape are tremendous. The Islands Trust Conservancy works with landowners to protect private land with conservation covenants, land donations, fundraising for nature, and stewardship.

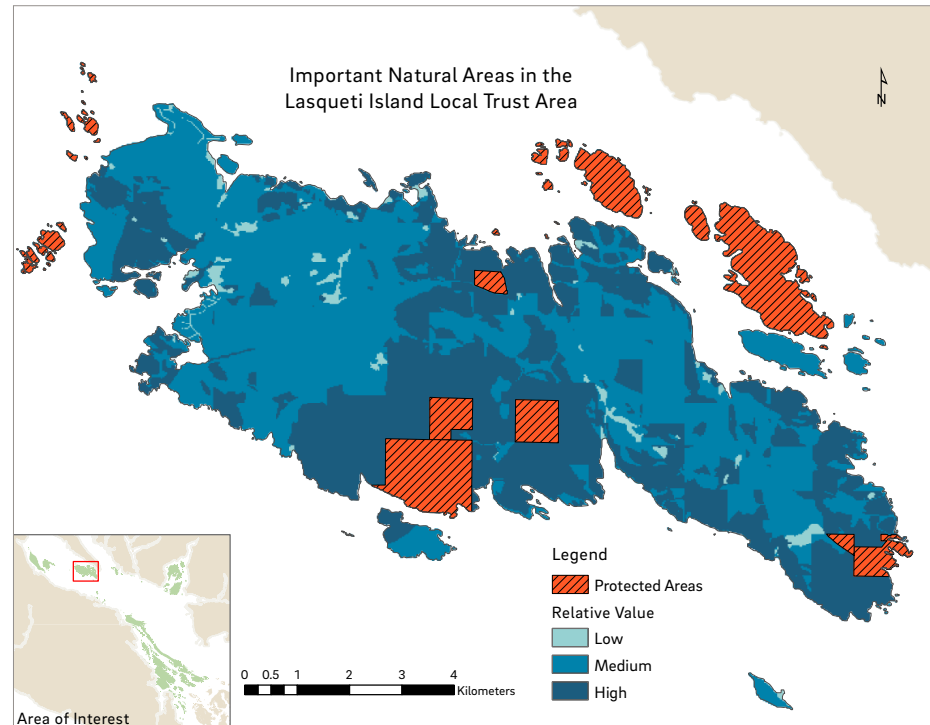


Local Context — Lasqueti LTA

The Lasqueti Local Trust Area (LTA) is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area of British Columbia. The Lasqueti LTA is located within the treaty and traditional territory of Coast Salish Peoples who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial. The Lasqueti LTA is home to some of the rarest ecosystems in the world that are under threat from development, climate change, and habitat degradation.

The Trust has categorized island ecosystems into low, medium and high biodiversity areas. The Islands Trust has responsibility for conservation through place protection planning and land use regulation. The Islands Trust can also encourage voluntary and cooperative actions that nurture the long-term integrity of the environment and amenities of the Trust Area.

Island population growth is influenced by land use decisions about zoning, dwelling sizes, and permitted land uses, along with owners' decisions about whether to live in/rent their homes full-time.



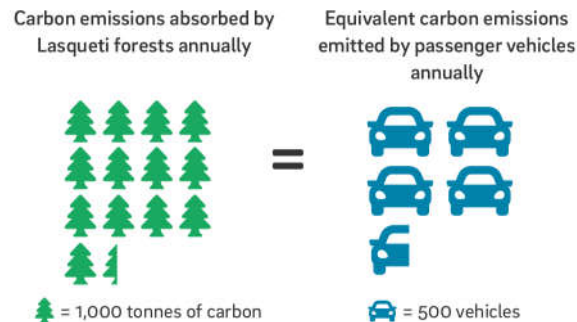
Local Context — Lasqueti LTA

The Islands Trust is responsible to the present and future residents of both the Trust Area and the Province of British Columbia. Their needs can only be met and sustained within the limitations of the natural environment and the island communities of the Trust Area.

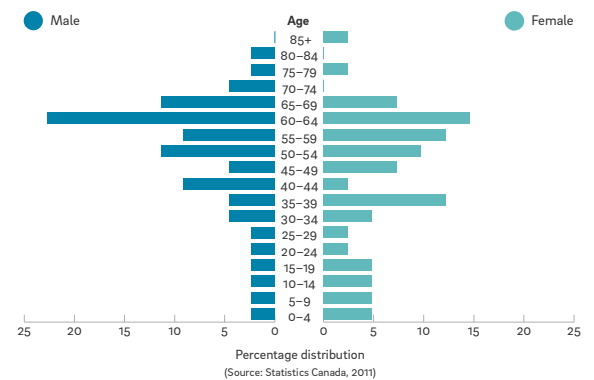
By 2050, many properties on the islands will have been sold or bequeathed. This presents both opportunities and challenges for place protection planning and land conservation.

Lasqueti Parcel Sizes (September, 2017):

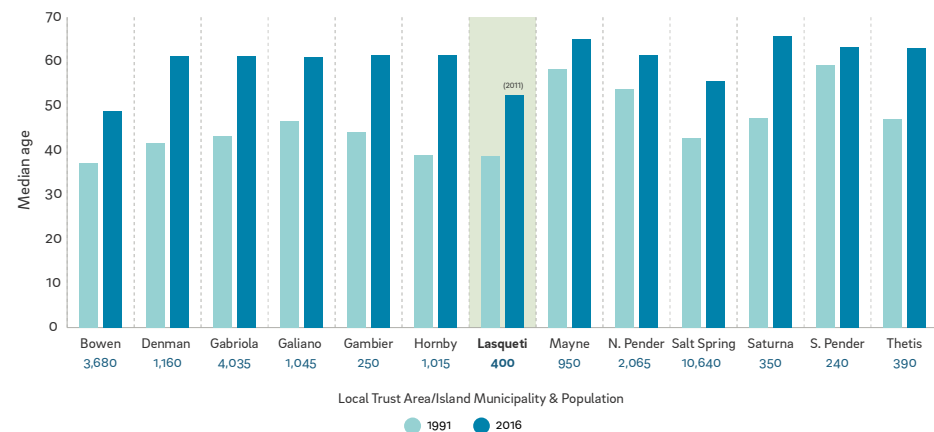
Parcel Size (hectares)	# of Parcels	Percent of Landbase
Less than 0.5	170	0.5
0.5–2	103	1.4
2–10	168	12.5
10–20	53	10.5
20–50	56	23.4
More than 50	48	50.3



Population and gender pyramid of Lasqueti LTA



Median age trend



Conservation status of Mayne Island Local Trust Area

The Mayne Island Local Trust Area is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area. The Mayne Island Local Trust Area is located 20 km northeast of the Swartz Bay ferry terminal and is within the traditional territories of numerous First Nations who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial.

Beautiful Mayne Island is home to some of British Columbia's rarest ecosystems, which are facing continued impacts from habitat loss and fragmentation, invasive species, and climate change.

The Islands Trust Conservancy does “nature check-ups” to measure the state of island ecosystems to see how well we are meeting the Islands Trust’s mandate to “preserve and protect”. Guided by a science-based Regional Conservation Plan, our work is important because, like the species and habitats that support us, the quality of human life depends on ecosystem health. We all have a part to play in protecting these fragile islands in the Salish Sea for future generations.

Species at risk



Killer Whale (*Orcinus orca*)

Northern Pacific southern resident population
Endangered (Federally), red listed (Provincially)
Critical habitat includes entire Mayne LTA shoreline



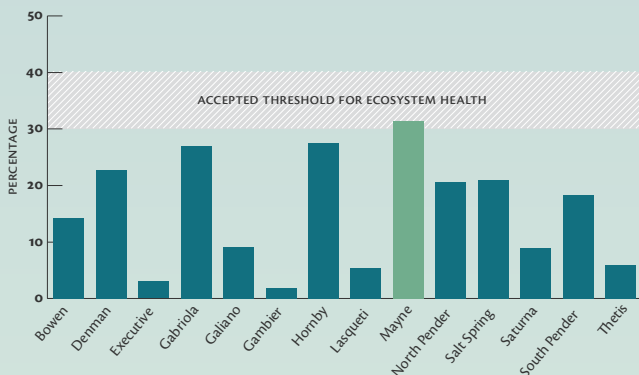
Purple martin (*Pyrolyta aphylla*)

Blue listed (Provincially)

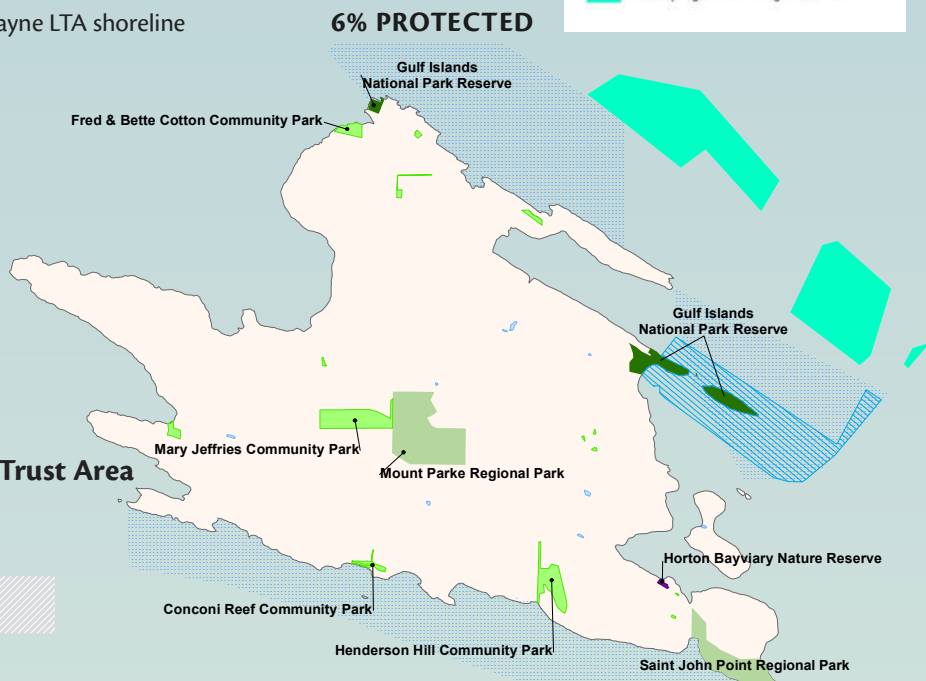
Parks & protected areas



Land Converted to Human Use in the Islands Trust Area



Once land is converted for human use, that land is less available for nature. As land conversion reaches or goes above a 30-40% threshold, the number of species in a given habitat decline more rapidly.



How do forests help us?

CARBON EMISSIONS ABSORBED BY
MAYNE FORESTS ANNUALLY

EQUIVALENT CARBON EMISSIONS
EMITTED BY PASSENGER VEHICLES
ANNUALLY



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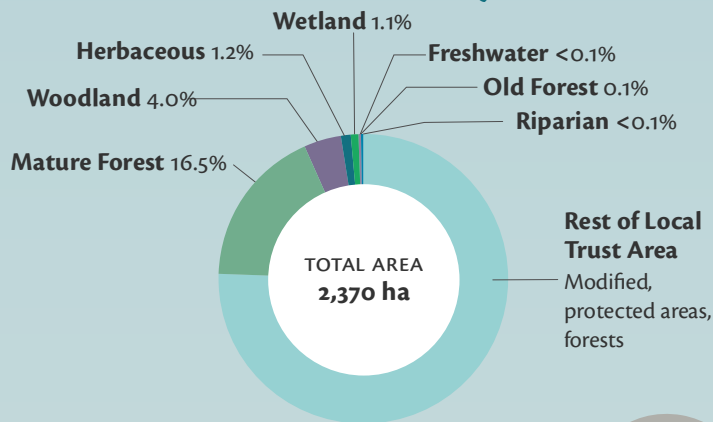


 = 1,000 tonnes of carbon

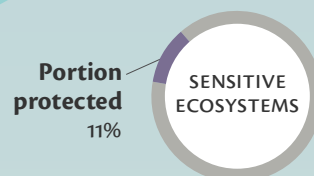
 = 500 vehicles

The forests on Mayne Island sequester 5,119 tonnes of carbon/year which equates to removing the emissions of 1,081 passenger vehicles per year. That's the equivalent of every Mayne resident giving up their vehicle!

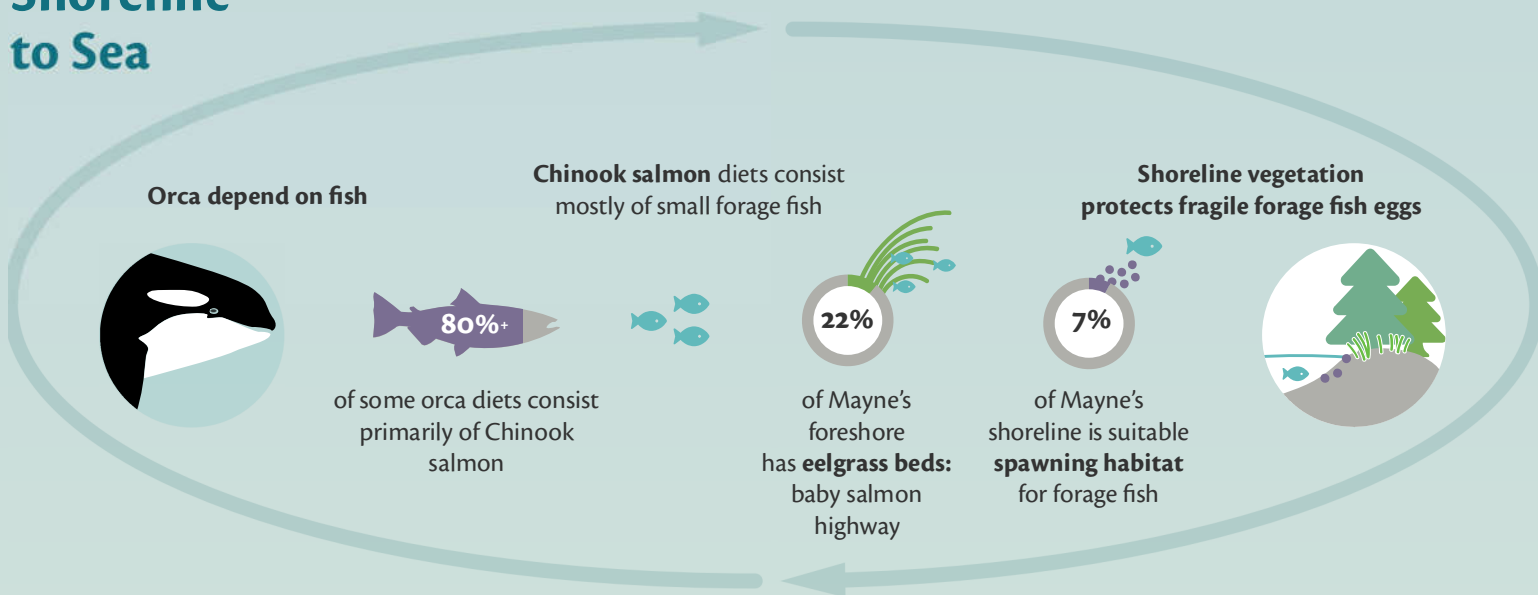
Sensitive ecosystems



Sensitive ecosystems are fragile and are often home to at-risk or endangered species.



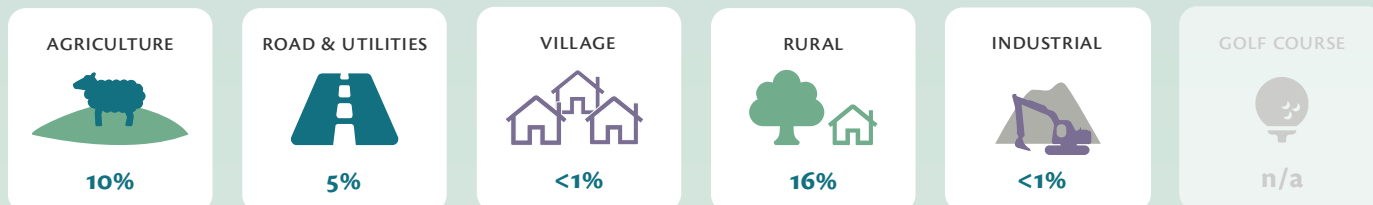
Shoreline to Sea



Marine health starts at the shoreline. Your actions can make a difference!

Modified Ecosystems as of 2017

More than 65% of the Islands Trust Area is in private land ownership. Pressures to develop and change the natural landscape are tremendous. The Islands Trust Conservancy works with landowners to protect private land with conservation covenants, land donations, fundraising for nature, and stewardship.

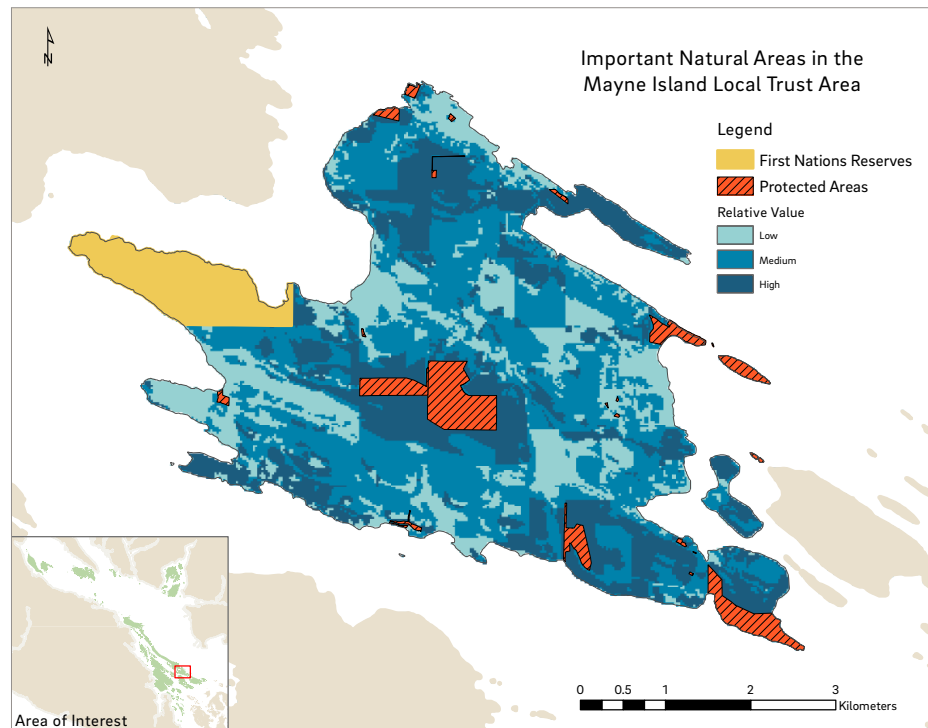


Local Context — Mayne LTA

The Mayne Local Trust Area (LTA) is one of 13 local trust areas and island municipalities that make up the Islands Trust Area of British Columbia. The Mayne LTA is located within the treaty and traditional territory of Coast Salish Peoples who have cared for these lands and waters since time immemorial. The Mayne LTA is home to some of the rarest ecosystems in the world that are under threat from development, climate change, and habitat degradation.

The Trust has categorized island ecosystems into low, medium and high biodiversity areas. The Islands Trust has responsibility for conservation through place protection planning and land use regulation. The Islands Trust can also encourage voluntary and cooperative actions that nurture the long-term integrity of the environment and amenities of the Trust Area.

Island population growth is influenced by land use decisions about zoning, dwelling sizes, and permitted land uses, along with owners' decisions about whether to live in/rent their homes full-time.



Local Context — Mayne LTA

The Islands Trust is responsible to the present and future residents of both the Trust Area and the Province of British Columbia. Their needs can only be met and sustained within the limitations of the natural environment and the island communities of the Trust Area.

By 2050, many properties on the islands will have been sold or bequeathed. This presents both opportunities and challenges for place protection planning and land conservation.

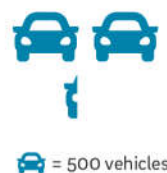
Mayne Parcel Sizes (September, 2017):

Parcel Size (hectares)	# of Parcels	Percent of Landbase
Less than 0.5	1,264	10.2
0.5–2	222	8.5
2–10	170	29.6
10–20	22	13.4
20–50	18	22.6
More than 50	3	10.7

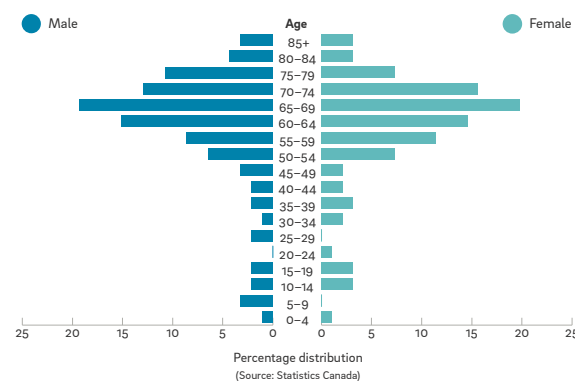
Carbon emissions absorbed by Mayne forests annually



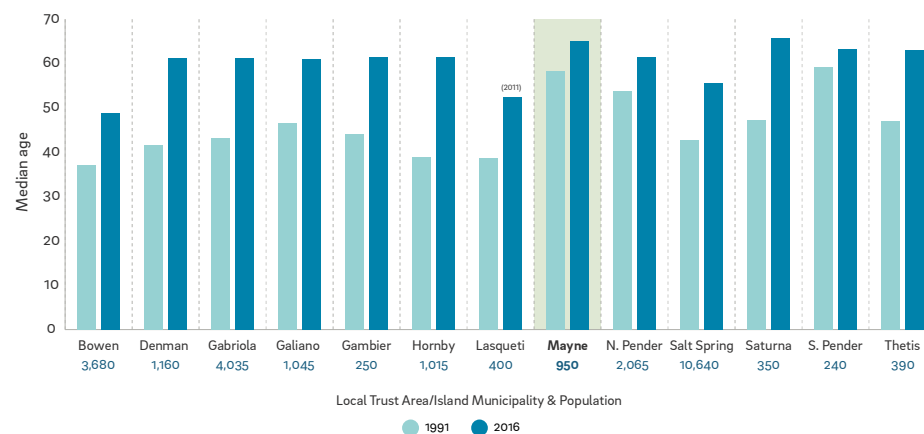
Equivalent carbon emissions emitted by passenger vehicles annually



Population and gender pyramid of Mayne LTA



Median age trend



Active Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Recommend updates to Crown land agreements*

Activity:

Implement Crown Land Protocol project charter V2 and engage Bowen Island Municipality and the Province of B.C. in updating and consolidating existing agreements about Crown land into one agreement.

Strategic Plan Initiative 1.2.6: Review all Trust Council and local trust committee agreements and where appropriate, amend, combine or rescind is assigned to EC. On April 23, 2025, Executive Committee requested staff forward April 23, 2025 and February 26th, 2025 briefings on Crown tenure application referrals to Trust Programs Committee for consideration for updating protocols and letters of understanding with the Crown. April 2026: Work initiated by staff.

Responsible

Clare Frater
Jill Marrack

Dates

Rec'd: 07-May-2026
Target: 26-Aug-2026

2. *Implement Community Stewardship Awards Program*

Activity:

Administration of Community Stewardship Awards Program per policy

Responsible

Chloe Straw
Clare Frater

Dates

Rec'd: 11-Feb-2026
Target: 16-Jun-2026

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

1. *Consider Community Benefit Land Trust concept for Islands Trust (Strategic Plan initiative 2.3.1)*

Initiation timeline: To be determined. (Should include further consideration of the Community Benefit Land Trust Concept briefing presented to TPC on February 5, 2021.)

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

2. *Implement Community Stewardship Awards Program*

Staff will initiate in last year of each term.

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

02-Dec-2021

2.1.11 Administration of Community Stewardship Awards Program Policy 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.

3. *Review all Trust Council policies, and where appropriate, amend, combine or rescind (Strategic Plan initiative 1.2.5)*

TPC related policies to be reviewed this term of office (by October 2026):

1.2.1 Policy Statement Amendment Policy

2.1.11 Administration of the Community Stewardship Awards Program Policy

2.1.15 Secretariat Services Policy

Initiation timeline: TPC has already requested amendments to policy 1.2.1. and staff have initiated limited changes to 2.1.1 and 2.1.15

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

4. *Work with other agencies to facilitate data gathering / share in the development of environmental indicators (Strategic Plan initiative 2.1.1)*

Initiation timeline: To be determined.

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

5. *Identify indicators of ecosystem health and integrity (Strategic Plan initiative 3.2.1)*

Business case for funding due by September 2026. Project plan required for implementation in 2027/28.

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

6. *Update the State of the Islands Report (Strategic Plan initiative 3.2.2)*

Business case for funding due by September 2026. Project plan required for implementation in 2027/28.

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

7. *Develop a shared inter-agency ecosystem health indicator toolkit for citizen groups, conservancies, and other agencies (Strategic Plan initiative 3.2.3)*

Initiation timeline: To be determined

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

8. *Develop a climate action strategy, set baseline data and targets (Strategic Plan initiative 4.1.1)*

Initiation timeline: To be determined

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

9. *Partner with agencies and others to share climate data (Strategic Plan initiative 4.1.2)*

Project plan required for implementation in 2027/28. No anticipated funding request.

Responsible

Clare Frater

Date Received

12-Mar-2025

Future Projects Report

Trust Programs Committee

10. <i>Design and implement a climate action education plan (Strategic Plan initiative 4.2.1)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
Business case for funding due by September 2026. Project plan required for implementation in 2027/28.	Clare Frater	12-Mar-2025
11. <i>Implement activities assigned by the future Reconciliation Action Plan (2025-2028) implementation plan (To be assigned by TC) (Strategic Plan Initiative 5.1.5)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
To be determined. Staff is drafting new Reconciliation Action Plan and associated implementation plan for Trust Council approval.	Clare Frater	
12. <i>Implement activities assigned by the Freshwater Sustainability Strategy (2022-2032) implementation plan (To be assigned by TC) (Strategic Plan Initiative 2.1.3)</i>	Responsible	Date Received
To be determined. Regional Planning Committee is developing a Freshwater Sustainability Strategy Implementation Plan for Trust Council approval.	Clare Frater	