



ISLANDS TRUST CONSERVANCY BOARD POLICY

Policy number: 2.6

Title: Heritage Forest Land Acquisition and Protection

Approved By: Islands Trust Conservancy Board

Date: March 15, 2001 Resolution #: TFB 01/391

PURPOSE

To clarify the Board's intentions regarding accepting Heritage Forest lands on Galiano Island and the subsequent management of any such lands acquired.

SCOPE

The *Islands Trust Act* establishes the Islands Trust Conservancy to acquire, hold and manage lands and received donations for the purpose of carrying out the object of the Islands Trust.

BACKGROUND

The *Islands Trust Act* establishes the Islands Trust Conservancy to acquire, hold and manage lands and received donations for the purpose of carrying out the object of the Islands Trust.

The 1995 Galiano Official Community Plan designates certain lands on the island as "Forest 1". If a landowner of "Forest 1" lands wishes to rezone to permit residential development they must donate a certain portion of the land (rezoned to Heritage Forest) to a Galiano Island organization that has as one of its objectives stewardship of forest land. Certain landowners have requested making the donation to Islands Trust Conservancy rather than to a Galiano Island organization.

At its January 2001 meeting the Board indicated that it was interested in considering Heritage Forest land donations if the Official Community Plan is amended to allow for organizations outside of Galiano Island to receive such donations.

It is a management policy of the Islands Trust Conservancy that lands acquired and held by the Board will be left in a natural state and natural processes will be allowed to happen with minimal interference from humans.

Policy

1. The Board shall, in its consideration of possible Heritage Forest donations, use its standard criteria for evaluating conservation proposals to determine if the property is of interest to the Board.
2. The Board will notify the Galiano Island Local Trust Committee of its decision respecting acceptance of Heritage Forest donation proposals following the meeting at which the proposal is discussed.
3. Heritage Forest land will be referred to as a “Heritage Forest” rather than as Nature Reserve or Nature Sanctuary.
4. Naming of Islands Trust Conservancy Heritage Forests will be done in a similar manner to naming Islands Trust Conservancy Nature Reserves or Nature Sanctuaries, namely, solicit suggestions from the donor, develop names related to the property or surrounding area, develop names based on special features on-site, or use the donor’s name and the Board will adopt a name for the site by resolution.
5. Islands Trust Conservancy will prepare management plans and establish management groups for Heritage Forests in the same manner as it does for its other properties.
6. The general objectives for Heritage Forests will be to “preserve the forest land base; to protect the aesthetic value of forest land; to protect riparian zones, sensitive ecosystems, watersheds and biodiversity” within the property. These objectives are in keeping with the Galiano Official Community Plan.
7. The Islands Trust Conservancy will not permit logging on Heritage Forest lands it holds. It will consider, through management planning, other appropriate and inappropriate uses based on the features and values being protected.
8. Any programs to be carried out in an ITC Heritage Forest must be included in a management plan for the Heritage Forest or must be approved in advance by the Islands Trust Conservancy Board. The management group would coordinate any programs.

References

Memorandum of Agreement between the Galiano Local Trust Committee and the Islands Trust Conservancy Board (June 1996)