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April 26, 2021

GM/6410-03

Via email: comms@artificialreefsocietybc.ca

Kiersten Enemark
Director, Communications
Artificial Reef Society of British Columbia
1905 Ogden Avenue
Vancouver, BC V6J 1A3

Re: New Marine Habitat Enhancement Proposal – Howe Sound – your letter dated March 26, 2021

Dear Kiersten,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comment on the proposal to place a new helicopter sculpture on the Annapolis.

Our position must be the same as it was before the Annapolis was placed in Halkett Bay; we are unable to support. Please refer to the letters sent by the Islands Trust in 2011 and 2012 to the BC Minister of Environment, and in 2009 to Transport Canada for details, all copied to the Artificial Reef Society of BC, attached.

Our comments specific to the sculpture addition proposal are as follows:

a. Islands Trust Council Policy Statement Bylaw No. 17

The Islands Trust Policy Statement was developed in response to the need for preservation and protection of the Trust Area, the need for leadership in achieving this objective, and to meet the Islands Trust legislated requirements under the Islands Trust Act. Policy 3.4.3 states:

Trust Council holds that artificial reefs should not be developed in the Trust Area.

Please note that the current Islands Trust Policy Statement, in which the above statement is found, is under review. For more information and to participate, please visit islandstrust.bc.ca/trust-council/projects/islands-2050/

b. Gambier Island Official Community Plan and Land Use Bylaw

No support for underwater sculpture is found within either the Official Community Plan or the Land Use Bylaw. They can be found at islandstrust.bc.ca/islands/local-trust-areas/gambier/bylaws

On behalf of the Gambier Island Local Trust Committee, thank you for your attention to this letter.

Sincerely,

Sue Ellen Fast
Chair, Gambier Island Local Trust Committee

cc Islands Trust Executive Committee
Peter Scholefield, Gambier Island Conservancy
Gambier Island Local Trust Committee

Preserving and protecting over 450 islands and surrounding waters in the Salish Sea

Bowen Denman Hornby Gabriola Galiano Gambier Lasqueti Mayne North Pender Salt Spring Saturna South Pender Thetis