

September 30
2019

To The Islands Trust

Re: Policy Statement Review

The Policy Statement acts as a covenant or overarching document in the Islands Trust governance.

The Mandate of The Islands Trust is a powerful tool with case law - "the mandate is no mere piety". Do not change or alter the mandate, it is the foundation of The Islands Trust.

The Islands Trust must continue its good work for the benefit of the residents and the Province generally. The people of the Province are fast losing their 'back to nature' recreational experiences - a place to renew and to unwind. The Islands in The Islands Trust are preserving and protecting the quieter, reflective, rural life.

Much of the preservation comes of necessity on watershort islands. The aquifers on Galiano Island are all listed as stressed. Development must be carefully considered. Groundwater is a precious resource.

Forests must be preserved as the vital connection between the watershed and the aquifers.

The Coastal Douglas Fir ecosystem and geographical area must be preserved.

In areas considering density bonuses on a Trust Island there is no benefit more precious or worthy than preserving and protecting this rare-endangered forest.

Residential development must be clustered and not fracture our forested watersheds.

Water metering must be introduced when considering commercial visitor accommodation including commercial vacation rentals.

Strategies to replenish the lost Herring stocks need to be implemented to restore our marine ecosystems. The resident Orca population are dancing on a clock. Do something before they become only a legend.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment
Debbie Holmes - Galiano Island