

From: Gabriola Gafa <gafasociety@gmail.com>
Sent: Sunday, November 7, 2021 12:13 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: GAFA feedback on draft policy statement
Attachments: Islands Trust 2050 Policy Statement Endorsement.pdf

Good morning,

Please find Gabriolans Against Freighter Anchorages (GAFA) feedback on your draft policy statement.

Best wishes,

D. Cook
GAFA Director

GABRIOLANS AGAINST FREIGHTER ANCHORAGES

November 7, 2021

Dear Trustees,

I am writing on behalf of Gabriolans Against Freighter Anchorages (GAFA) to commend you for the inclusion of sections 4.6.7 and 4.6.18 in the Islands Trust Draft New Policy Statement which state:

- freighter anchorage sites in the Trust Area should be eliminated; and (new) oil tankers should not be permitted to transit through Trust Area waters. (new)
- eliminate and prohibit the use of commercial freighter anchorage sites in the Trust Area, acknowledging the multiple adverse impacts this practice incurs on the sensitive coastal and marine ecosystems, environmental integrity, and carbon capture and storage potential in the Trust Area;
- and (new) prohibit oil tankers from transiting through the coastal and marine waters of the Trust Area.

GAFA has been working since 2015 to ensure no new anchorages are established off the northeast coast of Gabriola. Our developing understanding of the negative consequences of allowing freighters to anchor in the Southern Gulf Islands (SGI) broadened our commitment in 2018 to eliminating all existing anchorages within the SGI. We applaud the Islands Trust for the work you have done to corroborate our findings that there are no benefits in allowing freighters to anchor within the Trust area. GAFA looks forward to working with Islands Trust to turn these two sections of your Policy statement into a reality.

On the topic of oil tankers, could we please ask that you include a specific definition of what constitutes an oil tanker to ensure clarity among all readers of the scope of the proposed prohibition.

With every best wish,

Oliver Bussler
Spokesperson
Gabriolans Against Freighter Anchorages