

From: Heather Butler [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, February 2, 2026 3:51 PM
To: Islands2050
Cc: HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca; rob.botterell.mla@leg.bc.ca
Subject: TPS Survey

Please be advised that the survey on the topic of the draft Trust Policy Statement does not adequately address the most pressing issue for the conservation of Salt Spring Island and other gulf islands.

First and foremost the mandate should be focused on environmental concerns. Whereas people can and do migrate over the course of their lifetimes, between communities, provinces and countries, unfortunately the vegetative community that blankets these special islands is unique and cannot migrate elsewhere in any significant way. Once it is destroyed by encroaching human development, it is gone. Salt Spring and other Gulf Islands have become magnets for many people due to their pleasant climate, natural vegetation, and juxtaposition to major centres as well as aggressive marketing for tourism. Anything that supports higher densities of humans on these islands erodes the habitat that the original Trust mandate was designed to protect. This current proposal for a Trust Policy Statement lacks substantive legal protection for the environment, and does not prioritize environmental concerns as the main reason for its mandate. The use of "guidelines" and "considerations" for future growth is not sufficient to prevent negative environmental outcomes. Please put some legal teeth into this document, that can result in effectively protecting Salt Spring and the other islands from the unsustainable human development.

Thankyou
Heather Butler
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Salt Spring Island.