

**From:** Mary Reher [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 2, 2026 9:53 AM  
**To:** Islands2050; Deb Morrison; Aaron Campbell  
**Cc:** Rob.Botterell.MLA@leg.bc.ca; HMA.Minister@gov.bc.ca  
**Subject:** Islands Trust policy statement draft.  
**Attachments:** Trust Policy Statement2026.doc

Please see attached letter.

Thank you.

Islands Trust policy statement draft.

02 February 2026

Dear Trust Council,

I'd like to make a few comments regarding the proposed Trust Policy Statement.

Whereas I am glad you have deleted the definition of "environment" from previous drafts, I still would like to see a definition included in the Trust Policy Statement, one that clearly and irrevocably states that we are referring to the natural environment.

It is hard now to pretend climate change doesn't exist and as such I would like to see stronger policies and enforcement tools regarding watersheds, forests and wetlands. DPA's are great, but only if they are enforceable.

Prior to first moving here in 1981, my partner and I informed ourselves about the Islands Trust, and this was actually what drew us to live in this area. There was a clear focus on the importance of the environment, biodiversity and rural character. Now more than ever we need to strengthen policies around these issues, not water them down and cloak them in nebulous language.

From my perspective, there is a crucial factor in achieving a good outcome - limiting growth. It has nothing to do with pulling up the drawbridge, but recognizing that finite places like our islands have finite capacities for sustaining human populations.

Sincerely,

Mary Reher

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