

From: Janice Carruthers [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, July 17, 2026 9:17 AM
To: northinfo <northinfo@islandstrust.bc.ca>
Subject: Draft OCP

Hello,

I watched the council meeting yesterday online and would like to comment on the suggestion that desalination might be an option for Silva Bay Resort. I have done some preliminary research on the process (scientific/university studies, not AI).

When the sea water is extracted from the ocean, millions of microorganisms are killed & they are the first rung of the food chain for marine life.

The normal process for large scale operations is to heat the salt water to create steam, which then separates the fresh water from the salt and minerals. This uses huge amounts of power.

For every litre of fresh water there is one to two litres of brine water. Which is concentrated salt & minerals. Where it is dumped back into the ocean it creates a dead zone, as nothing can survive in it.

I am surprised to hear that desalination is not banned in the Gulf Islands. I strongly urge that it should be. Between the freighters dropping their anchors on the seafloor, all the marine traffic & climate change, the last thing our marine mammals & marine life need is a reduction in the food chain and swimming through dead zones.

Sincerely,

Janice Carruthers
Gabriola