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Sent: Wednesday, January 7, 2026 1:53 PM
To: Islands2050
Subject: Changes to the TPS

- We are concerned that the language of the draft for the new TPS is considerably weaker than the current TPS and must be strengthened.
- **“Environment” should be defined as referring to the natural environment.** Although used throughout the document, this word is not defined in the glossary. A previous definition, which was removed after objections, included man-made structures.
- The current TPS draft identifies only a limited number of ecosystems to protect. Wetlands, riparian areas, **all types of marine ecosystems and forests and all natural ecosystems** should be protected against further degradation and adverse impacts of development.
- Directives outlined in the draft TPS are policies that are supposed to be mandatory. However, the introduction to the draft TPS states that Executive Committee can approve exceptions if “adequate justification” is given. Unless Directives are mandatory, the document is little more than advice that islands can disregard.
- A Directive is needed to assure that rezoning for more density for affordable housing will always include **binding agreements** to assure affordability.
- The TPS draft refers to “managing development”. This language is weak and inadequate. Protecting the islands from over-development requires **limiting growth and development**. Formally recognizing and respecting growth limits is essential to protecting the environment and rural character of the islands trust area.