

**From:** Christoph Rohner [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Monday, March 1, 2021 11:44 AM  
**To:** Islands2050  
**Subject:** Islands 2050, Noise Pollution

Dear Sir/Madame,

Noise pollution has grown to a degree that is alarming. It is contrary to the mandate of 'preserve and protect', and has started harming residents.

It is a result of over-development that should be taken seriously by the Islands Trust. It is expected to degrade the very character of our islands unless addressed specifically in planning efforts.

For example:

(1) Freighter traffic/anchorages: The Islands Trust needs to do more to achieve an anchorage-free National Marine Conservation Area, in order to preserve and protect our islands and ensure that the new NMCA will follow IUCN standards (while some ferry and industrial anchorages directed here from Vancouver is not compatible with an NMCA and other future conservation efforts.

(2) Jet traffic from Victoria Airport: Overflights have increased dramatically before Covid and are likely to continue growing soon again. Anyone who has been in Richmond knows what approaching jet flights at low levels mean for living quality. Using the Southern Gulf Islands as a corridor for low level jet flights is not compatible with the mandat of preserve and protect. Restrictions on routes, heights, frequency, and use of howling or whistling engines during descent are needed. *Advocacy is required. Early action is needed with federal authorities such as Transport Canada, or the problem will become as bad as with freighters. Lack of early and effective advocacy had disastrous consequences.*

(3) Other new sources of noise pollution: Before 2050 many new sources are likely to develop. There needs to be a mechanism for early detection and planning tools available to protect from excessive noise pollution. For example heat pumps: Now advertised to be installed en masse, they are a step forward regarding air pollution, but measures need to be put in place to protect the community and the public enjoyment of the islands from excessive noise. Similar new technologies, possibly also on the water by new types of boat traffic, need a comprehensive planning framework or the quality of our islands will vanish in noise, because all levels of government will claim it is not within their jurisdiction.

Also, the Islands Trust may need to establish a more effective system for advocacy, and allocate more resources, than having this burden rest on the shoulders of the Chair alone. Past experience has shown that industry lobbyists have been more effective in reaching the federal government than the Islands Trust.

Thank you for considering this vital planning aspect of limiting noise pollution.

Sincerely,

Christoph Rohner, PhD