

## ISLANDS TRUST PROPOSED BYLAW STATEMENT

Jeanine Dodds,

June 20, 2021

Mayne Island, Islands Trust

Jeanine, I am writing on behalf of The Association of Mayne Island Boaters to express concern over the Islands Trust proposed Bylaw Policy Statement and its potential impact on recreational boating, (4.6.7 page 24 and 4.6.14 page 25). Recreational boating is a major component of Island life, many of our residents are drawn to the Islands due to their interest in boating. This is evident by the size of our local boating club, AMIB was founded over 20 years ago to advocate for marine facilities and the promotion of safe boating, our association has in excess of 200 members. Docks play an important role in allowing members of our community to gain access to their boats regardless of tide levels. For many Islanders a tidal range in excess of 12 feet can pose a safety risk in reaching a moored boat from the shore via dinghy. Each of our Gulf Islands has its own unique challenges regarding marine facilities. Mayne Island has  $\frac{1}{4}$  the public or commercial dock facilities per capita as does Pender Island. Private docks on Mayne are in large part due to the lack of alternative facilities. If private docks are seen as a challenge, then it is critical that the Islands Trust Bylaws take an active role in promoting the development of public and commercial marine facilities within the Gulf Islands.

Docks serve as more than recreational water access; they can play a critical role in inter Island travel and commerce as well as emergency evacuation. Local marine facilities act as a safeguard should BC Ferries service be interrupted. A major fire could easily isolate residents from the Islands BC Ferry terminal, leaving our dock network as our only point of egress.

The actions of this proposed bylaw policy statement are in clear conflict with the Islands Trust mandate to preserve and protect the Islands Trust area for the **benefit** of residents of the trust area. It's important that we don't lose sight of the fact we live on an Island. The water activities that docks provide are a major benefit to Island life for many of our residents.

Regards,

Carl Bunnin

Association of Mayne Island Boaters