

# Ecological Protection Zone - Charter v 5.0

Gabriola Island Local Trust Committee

Date: **Amended** August 30, 2022

**Purpose** To develop a new ecological protection zone for the Gabriola Island Land Use Bylaw No. 177, which consists of the rezoning of Elder Cedar Nature Reserve to a park or conservation/protection type zone.

**Background** This project is the result of the Gabriola Island LTC resolution dated July 13, 2017 to amend its Top Priorities List to include the development of a new ecological protection zone for the Land Use Bylaw, including the rezoning of Coats Marsh Regional Park and Burren's Acres Nature Reserve. The Charter was amended twice, with a third on November 28, 2019 to include Elder Cedar Nature Reserve in the project scope.

## Objectives

- Develop an ecological protection or similar park or conservation type zone for the Gabriola Island Land Use Bylaw to be used in the rezoning of Elder Cedar nature Reserve
- Strengthen relations with Snuneymuxw and other local First Nations with asserted interest on Gabriola Island.
- Incorporate First Nation perspectives into policy/regulatory options.
- Ensure proposed policy/regulatory changes are consistent with the Object of the Islands Trust and Islands Trust Policy Statement, the protection of the Coastal Douglas-fir and Associated Ecosystems Toolkit and with focus on ecological protection, conservation, and enhancement.

## In Scope

### First Nations Relations and Perspectives

- Establish opportunities to incorporate First Nations perspectives on shared conservation interests in land-use and inter-governmental collaboration for effective regulatory decision making.

### Regional Conservation Plan (RCP)

- Further the Goals and Objectives of the protection and enhancement of biodiversity and opportunities for conservation in the Islands Trust Area.

### Rezone Elder Cedar Nature Reserve

- Develop a regulatory scheme for permitted/prohibited uses and structures, minimum and minimum average lot sizes for subdivision, etc., commensurate with the Goals and Objectives of the RCP and of the intent of the Environment Canada Ecological Gifts Program.

## Out of Scope

- OCP review and amendments
- Review of OCP Parks land use designation.
- The rezoning of other parcels save Elder Cedar Nature Reserve.
- Review of LUB definitions
- Review of Development Permit Areas.
- Development of restrictive covenants or similar tools for the protection of the subject properties in alternate capacity.

## Workplan Overview

Deliverable/Milestone	Date
LTC endorses/approves project charter and directs staff to develop a work plan based on the In Scope objectives of this charter.	Summer 2022 (September)
Draft bylaw(s) presented to LTC for review.	Summer 2022 (September)
Early referral of draft bylaws to First Nations.	Summer 2022 (September)
Further consultation and referral of draft bylaw(s) to other agencies.	Summer/Fall 2022
Legal review of draft bylaws.	?
Legislative process for draft bylaw(s).	?
Adoption of draft bylaw(s) and communications materials.	?

Project Team		Budget		
Island Planner	Project Manager/ Planner	Budget Source: Gabriola LTC Ecological Protection Zone Project		
Regional Planning Manager	Project Sponsor	Fiscal	Item	Cost
Legislative Clerk	Legislative Process/ Bylaw Review	2022		
Planner 1	Communications / Planning Support			
RPM Approval:		LTC Endorsement:		
Date:		Resolution #		
		Total		

