

From: nick doe [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, September 29, 2019 3:14 PM
To: Kees Langereis
Cc: tom osborne; wendy marshall; McCulloch, elaine; Tom Reid; galtt; Ian Cox
Subject: Coats Marsh and P4

Hi Kees

I was disappointed to read the RDN (Tom Osborne)'s response to the notion of zoning at least part of the Coats Marsh Regional Park and adjacent 707 CP as a P4 zone in last week's Gabriola Sounder (Sept. 25, p.5).

As I have written before, the current Management Plan for the RP badly underestimates the ecological value of the marsh. I encourage you to keep on pressing for P4 for at least the lake and its riparian area and for that part of the lake and its catchment area that is in the adjoining 707 CP.

Recent signage in Coats Marsh RP suggests to users that trails in the RP have an identical status as those in the 707 CP, which is a downgrade ecologically speaking to what is even in the current RP Management Plan.

Allowing bikes along a narrow mossy trail that is one of the best spots on the island to see calypso orchids in the spring is to me not a good idea.

If I can help in anyway and provide information about the ecology of the RP, please feel free to ask for any assistance I can provide. And thank you for your efforts to afford protection to the area so far. If the Islands Trust cannot afford conservation status to areas like this one, one wonders about the usefulness of its mandate.

Sincerely

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