

Chris Ferris
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April 25, 2021

Lasqueti Island Local Trust Committee (by email)

Re: Proposed Wording for OCP Advocacy Policies about Agriculture

Dear Trustees

I respectfully propose the following wording for advocacy policies to include in the Lasqueti Island OCP under Section 3.5 Land Use:

- The Lasqueti Local Trust Committee encourages the Agricultural Land Commission and Ministry of Agriculture to revise existing Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR) boundaries to reflect actual agricultural capability, considering factors such as slope, aspect, drainage, and soil texture and depth.
- The Lasqueti Local Trust Committee encourages the Agricultural Land Commission and Ministry of Agriculture to recognize conservation of ecosystems as an important and valid use of Agricultural Land Reserve lands on Lasqueti Island and to support the establishment of nature reserves and the registration of conservation covenants on ALR lands with high conservation value.
- The Lasqueti Local Trust Committee encourages the Agricultural Land Commission and Ministry of Agriculture to recognise that large-scale commercial agriculture is not necessarily the most productive use of ALR land on Lasqueti Island, and that successful food-production on Lasqueti Island is labour-intensive and often involves areas of 0.5 to 5 ha under cultivation. Restrictions on parcel sizes and residential density within ALR land on Lasqueti Island should be based on consideration of the benefits of small-scale farming and homesteading.

I hope these policies may be incorporated into the revised OCP. Please feel free to contact me if any further information is needed.

Sincerely,
Chris Ferris
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