

**From:** Ron Hawkins [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, November 14, 2025 4:01 PM  
**To:** SSInfo  
**Cc:** news  
**Subject:** OCP Land Use Bylaw Review

In terms of human population what is the Carrying Capacity of this island?  
Islands Trust defines the answer as 5000 more residents, bringing us to 17,000 from a current est. population of 12,000.  
I would appreciate Islands Trust explanation of how this number was determined, please.

The most critical limiter to population growth is water.  
Without specific groundwater testing of all such building sites this cannot be known.  
Is it sustainable, a reliable supply into the indefinite future of global warming climate?  
The duration and degree of continuing climate warming is not known.  
When is does peak it is likely to slower in decline than during the temperature rising period.

Well failure already is a common occurrence. already.  
Salt Spring's climate is well defined by its long, dry summers.

The most essential thing Salt Spring Islands Trust can do  
is to eliminate the 5000 future growth provision,  
and to err on the side of caution rather than crisis.

Ron Hawkins