



VALDES ISLAND CONSERVANCY NEWSLETTER

First Annual Valdes Island Bioblitz

Marja de Jong Westman



Bioblitz team 2014

Over 30 souls gathered together on Lyackson/Valdes Island in May and for two days searched out, counted and identified as many plants and animals as was possible...they traipsed through forests, gum-booted through wetlands, listened to bird calls and crawled along the seashores of Blackberry Point and Starvation Bay...topping off days of outdoor adventures with picnic lunches and a potluck dinner.



Fresh-water ecologist, Thibault Doix
WHY?

The drive behind this initiative was for the community to become more aware of the biological wealth of Lyackson/Valdes Island and for the Valdes Island Conservancy to begin to build a species list of the Island. Over time such a record will be of use when tracking invasive species, effects of human land use and to note the presence of species which have already

been identified in BC and Canada as being of concern because of their low numbers, restricted distribution or sensitivity to lost habitat.

British Columbia is the most biologically diverse province in Canada. It also has the highest number of native species of global conservation concern when compared to other provinces and territories.

Southern BC, and in particular, patches of the mainland coast and southern end of Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands are important biological hot spots. High concentrations of species of concern occur on Vancouver Island and neighbouring islands...such as Valdes Island. Fortunately and unfortunately, these same areas tend to host the greatest density of humans.

Valdes Island sits within one of the 16 biogeoclimatic zones in BC, the Coastal Douglas fir zone (CDF). It is a zone which is already limited in its distribution due to our province's geological and biological history.



Trumpet Honeysuckle – *Lonicera ciliosa*

Inside This Issue...

BioBlitz	1-3
President's Notes	4
Zoning, Logging & Treaty Issues	5-6
Fundraising	6
RCA Update	7
Trail Report	7-8
Membership Application	9
Constitution	10

Mission Statement

To preserve, protect and restore the lands and waters of Valdes Island, and the smaller islands in its surrounding waters, for the plants, animals and natural communities that represent diversity of life and Gulf Island ecosystems, and for the beneficial use and management of the scientific, historical, cultural, scenic and compatible outdoor values of these areas.

Executive Board Members:

President	Alexandra de Jong Westman
Vice President	Warren Warttig
Secretary	Pat McAlister
Treasurer	Annette Hurd

Members at Large:

- Marja de Jong Westman
- Doug Campbell
- Bruce Livingston
- Janos Mate
- Julian Noel
- Bill Pearce
- Tim Shaddock
- Dan White

Continued from page 1...

BC has 70-80% of the global range of the Coastal Douglas fir zone. Today this zone makes up less than 1% of the province's land area (1310 km²). Its total land area before ecosystem conversion was 2561 km². This translates as 49% of the CDF area being converted to human uses over the time frame of human occupation of the coast. Given these data, it should not be surprising the Coastal Douglas fir zone is of greatest conservation concern in the province. Despite its biological significance and rarity, very little of the CDF zone is actually protected in BC.

With all this in mind, a group of biologists and supportive islanders launched into a two day field adventure which saw the shorelines of Starvation Bay and Detwiller Point along with the rocky outcrops of Blackberry Point photographed and "listed" extensively. While the marine group busied themselves onshore with biologists Marja and Alexandra de Jong Westman, environmental consultant Rachel Saraga, Jeff Marliave, Senior Biologist at the Vancouver Aquarium and forest ecologist Warren Warttig, Annette and John Hurd along with Capilano University Biologist Janet Canning, formed another happy pack and under the guidance of fresh-water ecologist Thibault Doix, chased dragonflies, captured aquatic insects and found amphibians of all sorts in two of the major wetland waterways on the island. And for those of you who might rise at dawn, you could have joined an expert pair of birders, Rob Butler and Michael Dunn as they counted and called in birds from one end of the island...almost to the other!

Bruce Livingston ferried most of the biologists over from Steveston, while the Hurds, Pat McAlister and Elizabeth Kozak, and Westmans opened up their homes and hearts to the visitors. Long-term islander and naturalist, Pete Reveley

seaweed species than we actually knew what to do with. Much excitement was also provided by findings of ground-nesting native bees, a golden eagle and red-tailed hawks, ant lions (look these up!), cicadas, sooty grouse, mink families, sea asparagus, fried-egg jelly fish, and a population of sand dollars in the upper intertidal along with grainy-hand



Cardinal Meadowlark-*Sympetrum illotum*

hermit crabs, massive-footed moon snails, cockscomb pricklebacks, a snailfish, northern clingfish and a grunting male midshipman (a fish!) with its egg mass. On land we were fueled by views of satyr angle wings and pale swallowtail butterflies, but weighed down by the coverage of invasive species such as Himalayan blackberry, Canadian thistle, hairy cats-ear, tansy ragwort, English ivy, English holly, black slugs, and at sea, the purple mahogany-clam. For the marine group the number of native sea stars *Pisaster ochraceus* with wasting disease was of real concern. For every healthy seastar there were several more which were just masses of white rotting flesh. This species acts as a keystone species/predator and its preferential feeding habits keeps mussels in check such that other species can survive in the intertidal.

Rob Butler (biologist, author and director of Pacific Wildlife Foundation) and Michael Dunn (Mayne Island Conservancy) prepared the island's first comprehensive bird list. They concentrated their efforts to the forested portions of Valdes between Porlier Pass and the Lyackson Indian Reserve. They recorded 62 species of birds with 11 of those being confirmed to nest here: rough-winged swallow, black oystercatcher, Canada goose, bald eagle, American robin, hairy woodpecker, barn swallow, tree swallow, European starling, white-crowned sparrow, common raven and hooded merganser. Many of the other 62 species likely nest on the island too. Overall, the extensive mixed deciduous forest was found to have a rich assemblage of songbirds typical of many of the forested Gulf Islands. Past research has shown (Peter Arcese and his students at UBC) that the presence of songbirds on the Gulf Islands is related to the healthy understory shrub layer (Biological Conservation vol. 144, 2011). Where deer browsing of the understory is intense, the songbird diversity and abundance declines. Valdes has a well-developed understory reflected by an abundant and diverse population of songbirds.



Pisaster ochraceus on rock in Starvation Bay

was invaluable providing guidance both on walks and a bank of historical data. A special thanks also goes to Dan White for rescuing a tired lot of beach walkers on day one and to Linda Russell for her fabulous collection of photographs which allowed many species to be properly identified.

We gathered at night to compare notes and at the end of the two days we were all filled with stories...sightings of new nudibranchs, records of the inroads made by an invasive eelgrass species, sightings of species of special concern such as red-legged frogs and northern alligator lizards... The plants and other photosynthesizers were not forgotten with findings of western coral root, coastal paintbrush and more

Of special interest were the findings of species that are considered at risk. It was encouraging to hear the olive-sided flycatcher in many open patches on Valdes since it is designated as a Threatened Species by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) and a Schedule 1 species under the Species At Risk Act (SARA). The great blue heron (coastal subspecies *fannini* sub sp.), band-tailed pigeon and peregrine falcon (*pealei* sub sp.) are of Special Concern (COSEWIC) and Schedule 1 (SARA). The barn swallow nesting on buildings at Porlier



Great Blue Heron – *Ardea herodias*

Pass is designated a Threatened Species by COSEWIC. The island's wetlands appeared fairly healthy and functional. Freshwater ecosystems are highly variable and dynamic. Those on Valdes fit into this framework. More than 30% of species of conservation concern depend on wetlands. Freshwater lakes, rivers and wetlands occupy only 3% of the area of the province yet support a large proportion of BC's plants and animals. BC holds 25% of Canada's freshwater supply and 5% of the world's



Leopard Dorid
– *Dialula sandiegensis*

supply. In order to keep these wetland areas healthy we need to make sure that the hydrology of the area is maintained and that the waters are not polluted. The wetland areas of Valdes could act as important reservoirs for many species as significant areas of wetland in BC have been converted or degraded. And in the salty seas... the finding of the invasive non-native Japanese eel-grass *Zostera japonica* among patches of our native eel grass in all marine areas we studied was so very concerning. Apparently it is spreading and has greatly increased in abundance through the Nanaimo harbor, around Newcastle Island and Protection Island as well as making its way down Trincomali Channel and to both the west and east sides of Valdes Island. The Japanese eelgrass tolerates life in the higher regions of the intertidal compared to our native species. My finding of an egg mass of a native nudibranch stopped my heart from beating too

fast though, because if the nonnative eelgrass will support native eelgrass-dependent species then perhaps it doesn't matter if our shores boast both eelgrass species. An interesting research project awaits us here.

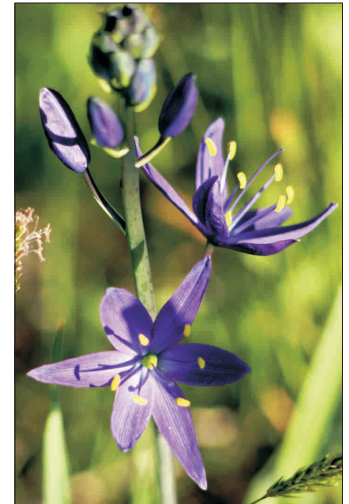
Certainly the message driven home to all who participated in the Bioblitz was, given the profound diminishment of active healthy CDF throughout the rest of BC, Valdes Island's somewhat undisturbed habitats are both locally and globally significant.

Some ideas proposed include the building of nest boxes for the western bluebird, tree swallow, violet-green swallow, wood duck and hooded merganser ...as well as bat boxes. Studies have shown that nest boxes can give vulnerable species a real "hands up" and can significantly boost a species' reproductive success.

Other general comments arising from the gathering of minds were: ensure that you are not harbouring any invasive plant species on your property (scots broom, English ivy, holly) and if you bring bedding plants to the island make certain that the non-native black slugs don't come along with them. Non-native species negatively affect native species through competition and predation, displacement, and even habitat degradation. The grand overall take home message...this year's Bioblitz provided a good start to the generating of baseline data on Valdes' animals and plants. This data bank should help us plan and support any conservation plans and land use projects in the years ahead.

On a personal note, I've been sharing my stories of joy about Valdes island with my biology buddies since the day I landed on its shores...finding a rare species of anemone in the tide pool in Starvation bay on my first visit to the island was an exhilarating thrill! And every day I walk the island and its shores I see something new--- parasitic broom-rape in the stonecrop, a crop of chocolate lilies at Detwiller Point, parsley ferns in "River's" meadow, prince's pine on the Blue Trail, Pacific chorus frogs and red-tailed frogs at my feet nearly every step.

We would be wise to consider and value the biological significance of our "cabin's backyards".



Common Camas
– *Camassia quamash*



Chocolate Lily
– *Fritillaria lanceolata*

Join us next year, won't you?

mdjw@telus.net



Message From Outgoing President Patrick McAlister

4

Two years ago, it was decided to meld our collective abilities and aspirations into the Valdes Island Conservancy. By all accounts, this unified voice is now thriving; membership is strong, projects and action plans have been defined, finances are in good shape and above all, our friendships and community spirit are as strong as ever.

Our recent AGM was lively and energetic; bringing a new face to the board and inspiring job rotation amongst others. I look forward to new leadership and a fresh perspective from Alexandra de Jong Westman and am pleased to continue on as Board Secretary.

With a majority of Islanders now part of the VIC we have achieved full stake holder rights in representing your ideas and concerns to Governments, First Nations and sister organizations. I would encourage all members to become active in the various committees - for new faces and new ideas are the lifeblood of a successful organization.

We are all lucky to share this unique Island and let us stay focused on the goals of the VIC which states (in part) "To promote and encourage the protection, preservation, restoration and beneficial use of the plants, animals and natural communities."



Message From The New President Alexandra de Jong Westman



It is with great honour that I try and fill the shoes left from Pat McAlister in the President position with the Valdes Island Conservancy. For those of you who I haven't had the pleasure of speaking with, allow me to introduce myself. After growing up on the ocean, I've migrated north into the Canadian boreal wilderness of the Yukon. As a wildlife biologist, ecologist and many other -ists, I operate my own environmental consulting company where I act on behalf of many of the First Nations addressing land use and land management conflicts throughout the Territory. I also have the privilege of teaching in the Renewable Resource Management department at the Yukon College. Having been a visitor and then a resident of the island for 25 years, I am thrilled to be a part of the maturation of vision of the VIC. Already accomplished in my short term as President, the VIC has submitted a funding application for federal support on our Rockfish Conservation Areas, partnering with the Galiano Conservancy Association ... and we have identified a number of new initiatives and completed initiatives... many of which we will be asking YOU to get involved in, in the coming months. I especially enjoyed the BioBlitz in May of last year....keep it on your radar for May 2015.

Don't forget to find us on Facebook (Valdes Island Conservancy) and on our website, <http://www.valdes-island-conservancy.org> to be kept abreast of the latest and greatest goings-on. Thank you all for your support in the VIC. Please don't hesitate to contact me directly at adejongw@gmail.com with any questions, concerns or comments.



There have been a number of questions about the new Woodlot License awarded to the Lyackson First Nations on Valdes. Like where is the Woodlot License, what is a woodlot license, why was the Woodlot License awarded, what kind of standards does a woodlot have, how does it compare to other forestry licenses and why should we care? I would like to address these questions, but first I would like to provide some background information about Valdes Island that will help in the understanding of how and why the Woodlot License was awarded, and how it might affect us.

The largest portion of Valdes Island is covered by Indian Reserves (IR) for the Lyackson First Nations. There are two reserves; IR#3 and IR#5. IR#3 dominates the north half of the Island and IR#5 includes Shingle Point and a small point of land near the centre of Porlier Pass. Reserves are managed federally; any development activities require a Canadian Environment Assessment (through the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act or CEAA). An environmental assessment was required prior to timber harvesting activities on IR#3.

The second largest portion of Valdes is occupied by Private Forest Land and is often zoned provincially as "Forest Wild" (FW). Zoning of private forest land was originally through the BC Agricultural Land Act, and protected as a type of agricultural land reserve (ALR) similar to farms and other forms of agriculture. You will notice in the attached map that the private forest land is divided into a series of squares; each full square is a "section" of land which was the British colony method for zoning farm land (or area planned to be cleared and converted to farm land) across Britain, Canada and other colonies. Private Forest Land is regulated under the BC Private Forest Land Act and Regulations, and the standards managed through the Private Forest Land Commission. Forest management is usually the most aggressive on private forest land (vs crown land tenures) with the intent being largely to maximize yields and profits.

More recently (~2004), there were changes made to Private Forest Land Act to allow the property owners to decide whether to keep the property as "managed forestry land", or annex portions from the private forest land to subdivide parcels for rural zoning (hence the subdivision of properties north of Starvation Bay). These new rural properties then fall under the jurisdiction of the Cowichan Valley Regional District.

Provincial crown land is the third largest component of Valdes Island and includes an area behind the strip of recreational properties on the southeast portion of Valdes (see map –Parcel B), Parcel A on the north end of the island (immediately north of IR#3), and Wakes Cove Provincial Park on the north end of the island. Until recently, parcels A

(144ha) and B (171ha) were zoned though the Islands Trust under the Valdes Island Rural Land Use Bylaw No. 42 as "recreational reserve" (RR) and considered to have high value for conservation and ecosystem biodiversity. In a 2007 Islands Trust report, it was stated that there was no interest in any of the crown land parcels for forestry use, and BC Parks had expressed interest in adding these areas to Wakes Cove Provincial Park.

Until very recently there was no provincial crown land on Valdes Island designated for forestry use. The most common type of forestry use licenses (or tenure) is called a Forest License (FL). This type of license is used for large companies that can have an allowable cut well over 500,000m³ annually over large designated areas of crown land. A lesser common tenure for large companies is called a Tree Farm License (TFL). These tenures are managed under the Forest Range and Practices Act (FRPA) and Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR) (similar to the Forest Practices Code implemented in 1995). These tenures can also be managed under "higher level plans" that are developed through a "Land and Resource Management Plan" (LRMP). The LRMP involves using detailed input from governments, First Nations, stakeholders and general public. The two most well-known examples of higher level plans are Clayoquot Sound and the area known as the Great Bear Rainforest which required forest management practices at a much higher standard than the Forest Planning and Practices Regulation (FPPR). Another less stringent form of forestry planning is called "Land Use Planning" (LUP) where critical ecosystem areas and wildlife habitat are set aside based on detailed inventory more-so than public opinion (this exercise was completed for the Sunshine Coast Forest District). No LRMP or LUP has been implemented for the Gulf Islands (nor are there any plans).

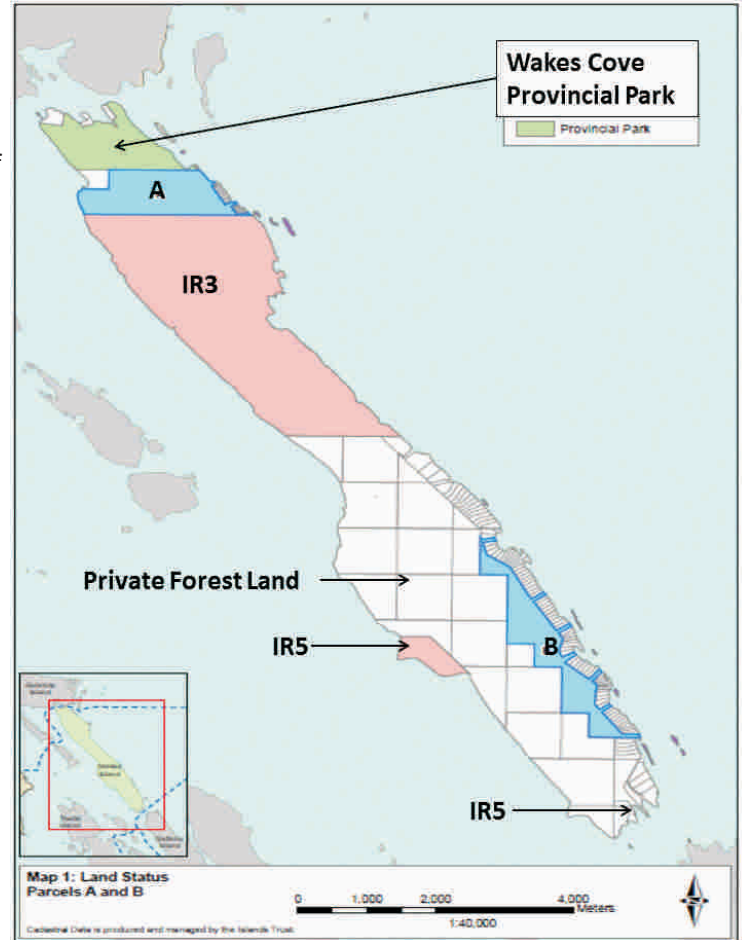
There are two types of tenures that are commonly awarded to small companies: Community Forest Licenses and Woodlot Licenses. Woodlot Licenses are regulated under the *Forest Range and Practices Act* and Woodlot License Planning and Practices Regulation. Community Forest Licenses are generally awarded to communities and are associated with larger levels of annual cut than Woodlot Licenses (~20,000 to 60,000m³). Woodlot Licenses are generally awarded to small-time operators which are generally families or individuals. These licenses are designed to be less constraining (lower requirements for wildlife and ecosystem representation) and relatively less bureaucratic. Despite having lower legal standards than FRPA and FPPR, some of these licenses are managed to a high standard with many communities or small operators opting to manage the areas for higher levels of employment, wildlife values, non-forest products (e.g. berries, salal, mushrooms etc.), specialty products, etc.

As part of treaty negotiations with Lyackson First Nations, the provincial government opted to award a 315ha (equivalent to 630 football fields) Woodlot License to the Lyackson that encompasses Parcels A and B. We have been told that this was done as an interim step for treaty instead of a direct award of land. For the provincial government, awarding crown land for a woodlot instead of purchasing areas of private forest land for a Woodlot License to give to the Lyackson was likely a fiscal choice. Another reason a direct award of land was not given to the Lyackson may be that there are overlapping land claims from other First Nations and it may not be possible for a direct award until the other claims have been resolved.

At the assessed allowable annual an average area of roughly 3ha (6 football fields) could be harvested annually (roughly 1% of the gross area annually). If no harvesting occurs in one year, it can be saved and added to the allowable harvest in the next year. It isn't hard to see how these cumulative areas may have direct effects on some of our recreational properties and activities, and local wildlife and local ecosystems.

At this point we have been trying to work with the Lyackson to:

- 1) incorporate our public values (a requirement under the Woodlot License Regulations) like the "blue trail", protection for the back of our properties (from windthrow due to adjacent cut-blocks), visuals, ecosystems, wildlife, etc.;
- 2) ensure their background information is correct (e.g. allowable annual cut levels, accurate stream and wetland locations, nest locations, invasive plant locations); and
- 3) find an alternate use of the land (e.g. carbon credits, ecosystem representation, recreation).



I hope this helps clear up any confusion relating to the questions about recent changes on Valdes Island. If there are further questions, or there is an issue you would like your Valdes Conservancy to address, please feel free to contact us.

<http://www.valdes-island-conservancy.org/>



Fundraising

Annette Hurd

Again this year, to help raise funds, the VIC held a silent auction at Valdes Days. What a success it was!

Our first thank you goes to fellow islanders who stepped up to the plate and donated many wonderful items and/or experiences. For those who missed it... we had a guitar, dinners, a 3 - hour boat cruise, down riggers, lovely hand made wood pieces, kayaks, blankets, jewelry, electrical services, handy lady services, family portraits and so much more.

Our second thank you goes to everyone who eagerly participated and purchased items. Bidding was fun and competitive, especially as the closing time drew near.

One live auction item – a catered dinner for 8 brought in \$600.00. Thanks to auctioneer Bruce Livingston, who cajoled the audience's participation. Bravo!

Final total for the auction - \$2927.00 Fantastic!!!

We hope to repeat this performance at Valdes Days 2015. Bruce Livingston has taken the baton as Fundraiser and he welcomes any ideas and assistance.

Please contact Bruce at stevestonecotours@gmail.com with your ideas and offers of support.



Update On Rockfish Conservation Area (RCA)

7

Janos Maté

The Valdes Island Conservancy continues to inform the public and our community of the existence of the rockfish closure areas near Valdes Island. We have erected two land-based signs, in the shape of large, white wooden triangles, that designate the south and north demarcation points of the closed area. The southern demarcation sign is at Shaw Point and the northern is past, north of Starvation Bay, before the little cove affectionately referred to as Hippie Bay.

During the summer several VIC members went out on the waters to inform fishers, fishing within the rockfish conservation area, of the closure. For the most part fishers thanked us for the information and moved on. Our engagement has been polite and informative. We inform the fishers of the southern and northern boundaries, and that the closure applies to one mile off shore.

The VIC recently submitted on a joint proposal with the Galiano Conservation Association for funds from the federal Habitat Stewardship Program through the Department of Fisheries and Oceans. If successful, the funds from this proposal will provide the VIC with the means to increase the

on-island notices of the Rockfish Conservation Areas, enable us to host informative workshops and much-needed marine ecology surveys to strengthen the scientific information to further protect these areas. It will also enable us to develop informative brochures to provide to the marinas on the surrounding islands and fishers such that people become better informed of the sensitivity of the conservation areas, the reasons for their protection and applicable regulations. Stay tuned as we wait with baited breath on our funding proposal.



Valdes Island Trails Report

Julian Noel

After the recent round of elections, Julian Noel has stepped up to take the helm (or walking stick) for the VIC newly formed Trails and Lands Committee of the Valdes Island Conservancy (VIC).

Trails and the lands of Valdes are of great interest to all of us and this Committee would love to hear any constructive views on this topic, or other trail related topics, from all VIC members and landholders on Valdes.

Feel free to email Julian at: jnoel64@gmail.com

As many of you heard at our AGM this summer, the VIC Valdes Trails Initiative has been under discussion since 2012. This initiative hopes to establish a recognized trail system, (as currently used), along the coastal properties and further inland. The primary purpose of this recognition is some form of protection of our trails from the influences of potential future logging activities on the island.

For those not familiar with the history of this initiative, here is a brief chronology of the history.

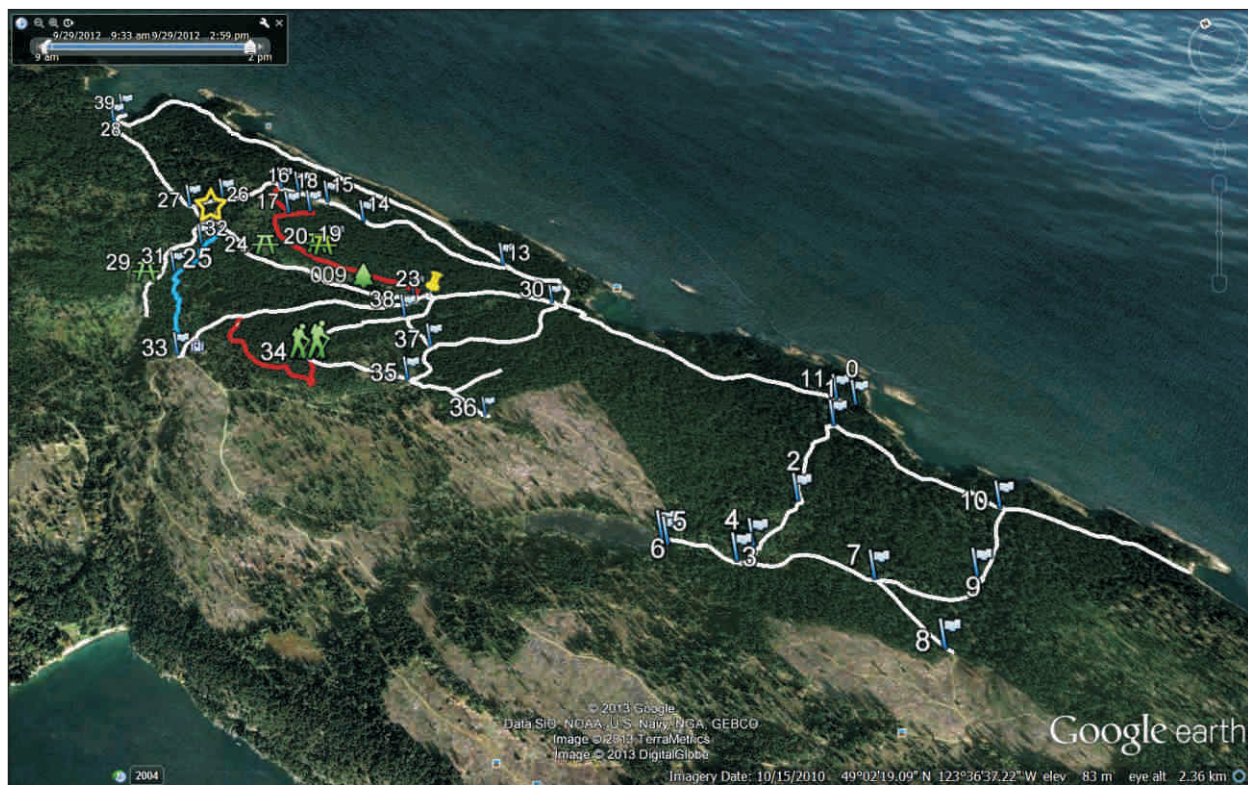
- Feb 2013 - Bill Pearce prepared a submission to the Ministry of Forests Lands and Natural Resource Operations (MFLNRO), the responsible branch of the BC Government with the hopes of establishing a formal trail system.
- Summer 2013 - The trails were GPS'd, mapped and placed on the VIC website. (<http://www.valdes-island-conservancy.org/island-trails.html>)
- Nov 19, 2013 – Representatives of the VIC Board of Directors met with Kathleen and Joseph Johnnie, representatives of the Lyackson Indian Band. Kathleen said she would not recommend to Chief and Council that any encumbrances be placed on lands that are coming their way “through Treaty or sooner”. We explained that the current procedures for designating a trail system are applicable to Crown Lands (i.e. would not apply to Indian Reserves on the island).
- Nov 24, 2013 – VIC Board of Directors meeting where an update was shared of the discussion with the Lyackson specifically regarding the Lyackson's position. The VIC Board of Directors voted to continue with the initiative.
- Mar 04, 2014 - The VIC Board of Directors submitted a formal application to the BC Government for the formal designation of recreational trail status.
- July 07, 2014 - The BC Government sent a letter to the Lyackson First Nations asking for their input into our application.
- Aug 15, 2014 - The VIC Board of Directors made an inquiry to MFLNRO asking for an update on the status of the application.

Sept. 17, 2014 - An update from the Recreation Officer of MFLNRO (Nanaimo) was received, with the following information:

- Recognition of the receipt of the VIC request was sent by the MFLNRO to the LFN mid-July 2014
- The LFN have responded to the MOF with three issues:
 - 1) *The LFN is in discussion with the Federal Government to have their reserve land on Valdes expanded – as the original allocation was in error. It is expected by the LFN that the Crown Lands will be awarded as reserve expansion.*
 - 2) *The trail network outlined by the VIC is primarily on old logging roads that will be needed to remove wood under the terms of the Wood Lot Licence*
 - 3) *In March 2013, an agreement was signed between the LFN and MOF pertaining to Forest and Range Consultation and Revenue Sharing Agreement (FCRSA). On page 23 of the agreement, it is stated that the establishment of Recreation Sites and Trails require a Level 6*consultation with the LFN. Pursuant to this Level 6 consultation, Chief Thomas has requested a meeting with the Honourable Steve Thompson – MOF.*
- VIC Board of Directors contact responded that most of the trails were not on existing roadways but expanded deer trails and a map with the Island trails was submitted.
- MOF representative requested the data points from our GPS mapping (VIC to supply).
- Typical requests of this nature are handled at a Level 3* consultation but given the terms of the FCRSA, Jessica will not be pursuing this request.

With all that said, the VIC Board of Directors is now awaiting the outcome of the Level 6 meeting between the LFN and the MFLNRO.

For those of you who are not entirely familiar with the plethora of trails available to islanders, and not just the logging roads, check out the trail map at: <http://www.valdes-island-conservancy.org/island-trails.html> ...when in doubt, follow the flagging tape!



*Level 6 consultation is also referred to as “Deep Consultation” defines a process where meaningful discussion of suitable options occurs, without a specific timeframe.

*Level 3 consultation is also referred to as “Notification”, which is the sharing of base level information to be addressed in 30 days of receipt of the notification.





VALDES ISLAND CONSERVANCY

Membership Application

Valdes Island Conservancy.... Membership is growing up!

As of the August 2014 Valdes Days the Conservancy has 83 members representing 33 properties which is up from 59 members and 28 properties...

Please note: FOR ALL MEMBERS to receive the VIC newsletter we need individual emails not one email per household!

Memberships expire July 31st. Please ensure your membership is current before the VIC AGM.

There are 105 private properties on Valdes Island so our membership arms and conservation efforts could still

Our Mission is to preserve, protect and restore the lands and waters of Valdes Island, and the smaller islands in its surrounding waters, for the plants, animals and natural communities that represent diversity of life and Gulf Island ecosystems, and for the beneficial use and management of the scientific, historical, cultural, scenic and compatible outdoor values of these areas. <http://www.valdes-island-conservancy.org> I(we) support the Mission of the Valdes Island Conservancy, and agree to uphold its Constitution and comply with its Bylaws.

embrace a few more souls ...particularly the islanders at the north end.

It is simple to join...

Just complete the membership form in this newsletter and attach a cheque, money order or bank draft and mail to our new Treasurer:

Annette Hurd
3707 West 35th Ave.
Vancouver, BC V6N 2N6

Questions? Contact Annette Hurd ajhurd@telus.net OR Tim Shaddick anytime 604-910-1826 or ttotal1@shaw.ca

Name and email of each household member:

(1) _____

(2) _____

(3) _____

(4) _____

Address of permanent household:

_____ Postal Code _____

Telephones: _____

PLEASE Choose from membership options below: (New 3-year option now available)

1-year adult	\$25 X _____ = _____
1-year youth (ages 19-25, voting)	\$10 X _____ = _____
1-year family (2 voting adults, children under 19)	\$50 X _____ = _____
3-year adult (\$5 discount)	\$70 X _____ = _____
3-year youth (\$5 discount)	\$25 x _____ = _____
3-year family (\$10 discount)	\$140 x _____ = _____
DONATION: ...Thank you	_____
	TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Make cheques payable to Valdes Island Conservancy & mail to:

Annette Hurd, 3707 W 35th Ave., Vancouver, B.C. V6N 2N6

***Annual memberships must be renewed before the Valdes Island Conservancy Annual General Meeting held each summer on the island. Members in good standing have voting privileges at General and Special meetings called by the Board.**

DATE: _____ NEW MEMBER _____ OR, RENEWAL _____

1.The name of the society is “Valdes Island Conservancy” (hereinafter referred to ”the Society”).

2.The purposes of the Society are:

a.To promote and encourage the protection, preservation, restoration, beneficial use and management of primarily:

- i.plants, animals and natural communities that represent diversity of life and Gulf Island ecosystems by protecting the lands and waters they need to survive; and
- ii.areas of scientific, historical, cultural, scenic and compatible outdoor recreational value;

b.To promote such charitable activities or endeavors, including the acquisition, management and disposal of land and interests in land, as may in the opinion of the Society Board of Directors appear to contribute to the above objectives;

c.To plan, promote and develop a network of trails that provide routes for non-motorized users to connect Valdes Island neighbourhoods, parks, beach accesses and areas of historical, cultural and scenic interest;

d.To raise money, acquire funds, accept bequests and other assistance and to own, by purchase, donation or otherwise, real or personal property, and to maintain and manage such property and to sell, exchange, let, lease or develop the same for the purposes of the society;

e.To work with the Valdes Island community, First Nations, Cowichan Regional District, The Islands Trust, and other land trusts and conservation groups to meet the purposes of the Society.

3.The operations of the Society will be conducted on, or dedicated to Valdes Island and smaller islands in its surrounding waters. This paragraph is unalterable.

4.The operations of the Society shall be conducted without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions of the Society shall be used for promoting its purposes. This paragraph is unalterable.

5.In the event of dissolution of the Society, the assets remaining after the payment of all costs, charges and expenses properly incurred in the wind-up or dissolution, and after payment to employees of the Society or arrears of salaries or wages, and after payment of any debts of the Society, shall be distributed to one or more charitable institutions with purposes similar to those of the Society or, if this cannot be done, to one or more qualified donees as defined under the provisions of the Income Tax Act (Canada) from time to time defined. This paragraph is unalterable.

