

At the regular business meeting of the Local Trust Committee on April 25th the Trust Committee had a presentation on the Riparian Area Regulations by Andrew Appleton. The Provincial Government implemented the regulations in 2006 and required all local governments within southern BC to put the regulations in place. On Mayne Island four different biologist reports have been completed and have identified the three primary water drainage courses on Mayne Island. These run through the main valleys to Village Bay, Horton Bay and Campbell Bay.

In 2011 the Ministry of the Environment sent an email to the Landowners Coalition stating that if you can prove the absence of salmonoids in these water courses we will exempt Mayne Island from the regulations. Subsequent to this a report was done at the expense of the Landowners and showed an absence of fish. The current position of the Ministry is that the regulations are about potential for fish and that the water courses do come under the Riparian Area Regulations.

Andrew clarified a number of questions from attendees and Trustees and suggested a final, fifth report was needed to complete the process for the regulations. If the final report shows natural barriers to fish for access to these water courses due to steep slope and water quality from the peat soil, the Ministry may be able to exempt some of the areas from the Regulations. If the regulations have to be implemented the areas would become Development Permit areas with set backs from the water courses. Currently we have a setback area of 7 meters.

The Trust Committee has asked Gary Richardson our Planner to come back with a process for completing the requirements of the Provincial Government as required by the Province.

Other business was a request for a Temporary Use Permit for a B&B to operate in an accessory building, B&B's are required to operate within a residence. The Planner has recommended the Trust Committee not issue this permit as accessory buildings are not permitted to be resided in. This application has been referred to the Advisory Planning Commission.

An application from the Mayne Island Resort was received. They are requesting expansion of the retail store from 20 meters square to 40 meters square and permission to allow some of the units at the Resort be used for residential use. Gary Richardson has been requested to prepare draft bylaws for this proposal.

We meet May 30th at 1 pm at the Agricultural Hall. All information on these applications can be found on the Islands Trust Web site.

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