

PROTOCOL
between
**THE DENMAN ISLAND RATEPAYERS' AND RESIDENTS' ASSOCIATION
FOR THE LANDSCAPE ASSESSMENT PROJECT GROUP**
and
THE DENMAN ISLAND LOCAL TRUST COMMITTEE
concerning

THE PROTECTION OF FOREST AND WATER RESOURCES ON DENMAN ISLAND
THROUGH DEVELOPMENT OF AN INFORMATION BASE TO BE USED IN COMMUNITY
DECISION-MAKING

This Protocol is directed towards the landscape assessment project involving the collection and use of information relevant to the use of forest land on Denman Island.

1.0 PURPOSES OF THE PROJECT

- 1.1 To investigate and document the landscape units and ecosystems of Denman Island, with emphasis on the lands under consideration for community ownership.
- 1.2 To provide a reliable technical information base which would be used as the basis for community planning decisions.

2.0 PRINCIPLES

Both parties acknowledge the respective mandate of the other party and agree to the following:

- 2.1 The object of the Islands Trust which is set out in Section 3 of the *Islands Trust Act* establishes the need to preserve and protect the Islands Trust Area and its unique amenities and environment for the benefit of the residents of the Islands Trust Area and of the Province generally.
- 2.2 The Denman Island Local Trust Committee has the legislated responsibility to regulate the development and use of land within its local trust area in accordance with Sections 27 and 28 of the *Islands Trust Act*.

- 2.3 The Landscape Assessment Project Group is an ad hoc committee of the Denman Island Ratepayers' and Residents' Association, which is a private, not-for-profit community-based group established under the *Societies Act* of British Columbia with the following stated goals:
- I. To provide a forum for community discussion on matters of concern to the members of the Island community, and
 - ii. To monitor actions of agents, governments, individuals and companies that may impact upon the life style or health of the Island community.
- 2.4 This Protocol Agreement is restricted to inventory and ecosystem identification. Any work towards assessing the financial value of forest lands on the island is outside the scope of this protocol.
- 2.5 Throughout the project, the public will be informed of the progress of the Landscape Assessment Project.

3.0 INFORMATION BASE

- 3.1 The Landscape Assessment Project Group will develop an eco-classification system on geo-referenced maps that, when implemented, will preserve biodiversity, conserve critical habitats, and preserve the opportunity for restoration of "old growth forest areas" while providing opportunities for timber harvesting and existing settlement patterns
- 3.2 The Denman Island Local Trust Committee will consider the information provided when making land use policy and regulatory decisions.
- 3.3 Where possible, data shall be produced on systems which are compatible with the mapping and information systems being utilized by the Islands Trust.

4.0 TERMS

- 4.1 Nothing in this Protocol Agreement shall be construed so as to fetter the legislative discretion of the Denman Island Local Trust Committee within its area of jurisdiction in adopting any bylaw or resolution under the provisions of the *Islands Trust Act* and the *Municipal Act* for determining land use issues.
- 4.2 The interpretation of terms used in this Protocol Agreement shall be governed by the interpretation provisions of the *Islands Trust Act* and the *Municipal Act*.
- 4.3 This Protocol Agreement may be amended by agreement in writing between the Denman Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association and the Denman Island Local Trust Committee.
- 4.4 Either Party to this Protocol Agreement may terminate the Agreement at any time by delivering three month's written notice to the other Party.
- 4.5 The key persons responsible for the administration of this Protocol Agreement are the Chairperson of the Denman Island Trust Committee and the President of the Denman Island Ratepayers' and Residents' Association.
- 4.6 This Protocol Agreement is not limited to the above signatories and may include other agencies as agreed to by the original signatories.
- 4.7 The Denman Island Local Trust Committee agrees to make available to the public the information and maps resulting from this Protocol Agreement. Notwithstanding this clause, the Denman Island Trust Committee recognizes that some information may have been provided by private land owners in confidence and that confidentiality shall be respected.
- 4.8 Nothing in this Protocol Agreement nullifies or in any way alters the Contribution Agreement of Dec 3, 1996 between Forest Renewal BC and the Denman Island Ratepayers' and Residents' Association.

5.0 CONTRIBUTION

- 5.1 In accordance with the terms of this Protocol Agreement, the Islands Trust agrees to contribute \$5000 towards this project, one-half to be paid on April 1, 1997, and the remainder upon completion of the Landscape Assessment Project.

Approved by resolution of the Denman Island Local Trust Committee this ^{13TH} day of
FEBRUARY, 1997.


Melinda Auerbach, Chairperson, Denman Island Local Trust Committee

Approved on behalf of the Landscape Assessment Project Group this ¹⁸ day of
Feb, 1997.


Larry Damer, President, Denman Island Residents' and Ratepayers' Association.

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