

JAMES ISLAND STATUTORY RIGHT-OF-WAY RE: ACCESS FOR EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH PURPOSES

APPLICATION INFORMATION

This page provides information for educational institutions, researchers or educators seeking access to James Island covenant areas on how to apply for access for educational and research purposes.

BACKGROUND

James Island is a privately owned island with a unique history, including a significant First Nations village site, several other areas of cultural or archaeological significance, a former industrial munitions plant, and a townsite for plant workers. The island lies within the North Pender Island Local Trust Area of the Islands Trust, the local authority responsible for land use planning in the area. Public access to the island is currently restricted above the natural boundary of the sea. In 2005, the owner of James Island applied to the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee (LTC) for a rezoning to amend the density and uses on the island. As a condition of the Local Trust Committee's approval of the rezoning, the owner granted a conservation covenant to the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) and the LTC, protecting several significant natural areas on the island. Also as an outcome of the rezoning process, the Owner granted to the NCC and LTC a statutory right-of-way providing NCC or the LTC with the sole discretion to approve reasonable access to the island, upon application, by researchers and primary, secondary, post-secondary and other students for education and research relating to wildlife and habitat, primarily within the covenant areas. NCC and the Islands Trust have established an understanding that requests for access involving research or work directly related to NCC's management of the Conservation Covenants will be considered by NCC, and that requests for access under the terms of the Statutory Right-of-way for access for educational and research purposes will be considered by Islands Trust.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To apply for access under the provisions of the Statutory Right-of-way for access for educational and research purposes please email Islands Trust at northpenderplanner@islandstrust.bc.ca, providing the following information, not less than three weeks before the requested date of access:

1. Name of the responsible person making the application
2. Name and address of the educational or research institution
3. Contact information for the person and institution, including phone numbers and email
4. Dates, time and duration of access is being requested.
5. Whether the applicant or applicant's educational or research institution has previously visited the island.
6. Number of students or researchers proposing to access the areas
7. Grade(s) or year(s) of program of students (if applicable)
8. Proposed means by which parties propose to obtain access to the conservation area(s). Please use a map with markings showing points of access and planned areas to be visited once on the island.

9. Describe the proposed research or education in some detail (attach as a separate document if warranted). The description should include:
 - a. Flora, fauna, or the habitat to be studied.
 - b. How the research would support the conservation objectives of the covenant (if applicable).
 - c. How the visit would support the research objectives, goals, or the mandate of the educational institution or program.
 - d. Any follow up reports, documentation, or studies to be prepared and how those would be shared with NCC, Islands Trust, and the owner.

Due to the sensitive ecosystems and rare habitat in the conservation areas, access may be conditional on arranging NCC staff accompaniment.

For access for research or work related to the Nature Conservancy of Canada's management and restoration within the Conservation Covenant areas please contact NCC at bcoffice@natureconservancy.ca

Because of the sensitive and rare habitat and ecosystems and the residential use of the island, the number of access requests may be limited.

Please ensure you have read and understand the Statutory Right of Way and Conservation Covenant and respect the fact that James Island includes sensitive ecosystems and habitat, as well as residential and private recreational areas.