



HORNBY ISLAND Groundwater Protection Forum Terms of Reference

BACKGROUND

The Hornby Island Groundwater Protection Project was initiated in 1998 with Island Trust Council support for a joint project with the Ministry of Environment. Phase I inventoried the extensive community work on groundwater protection and a report was completed in 2000. Phase II of the project hired a local Groundwater Co-ordinator and established a local Advisory Groundwater Protection Committee.

A Groundwater Protection Strategy Action Plan was completed in August 2001 by the Committee that outlines specific recommendations for the next steps in the groundwater protection work. A Phase II Groundwater Protection Report, dated May 2002, outlines the Committee goals and activities as well as other initiatives. The Phase II report recommends hiring a Co-ordinator for Phase III of the project.

PURPOSE

To protect the groundwater resources of Hornby Island and to over see the implementation of the Groundwater Protection Pilot Project Phase II Strategy Action Plan, August 2001.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. To give direction on the terms of reference and hiring process for a Hornby Island Phase III Groundwater Co-ordinator.
2. To over see implementation of the Groundwater Protection Strategy Action Plan, August 2001, in co-operation with community members, stakeholders and other levels of government.
3. To advise Islands Trust on further studies and technical information required to protect groundwater resources on Hornby Island.
4. To advise Islands Trust and other agencies on groundwater related issues.
5. To provide a forum for sharing information on groundwater related issues.

PARTICIPANTS

Groundwater Protection Forum members including representation from the following organizations: Hornby Island Residents and Ratepayers Association, Comox Valley CARE, GHOSTS, Water Stewardship, Whaling Station Bay Improvement District, Galleon Beach Watershed Protection Association, Conservancy Hornby Island, Hornby Island Forest Society, Aquaprotec and other interested community members, the Regional District of Comox Strathcona and the Islands Trust .



STAFF RESOURCES

Islands Trust staff will assist the co-ordinator as required in facilitating the Groundwater Forum.

PROCESS and SCHEDULE

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Draft terms of reference for Forum and Co-ordinator	Forum/trustee/Gillian	July, 2002
Confirm participation in Forum	Members/organizations	July – August 2002
Establish contract terms for co-ordinator	Forum /Trustees/Gillian	Augsut 2002
Hiring process Co-ordinator – advertise in local papers	Forum / trustees/Gillian	September – October 2002
Ongoing work to be determined by the Forum and Co-ordinator	Forum	October 2002
Regular updates to Islands Trust and RDCS	Co-ordinator	Nov. 2002 and Feb., May and Aug.2003

BUDGET

Existing budget allocations of \$5,000.00 from Islands Trust and \$5,000 from the Regional District of Comox-Strathcona. Funding for the Coordinator position will be taken out of the Trust Area Services - Hornby Island Groundwater Protection Project budget to a maximum of \$8,000. The remaining budget of \$2,000 to be allocated for ongoing expenses and activities of the Forum.