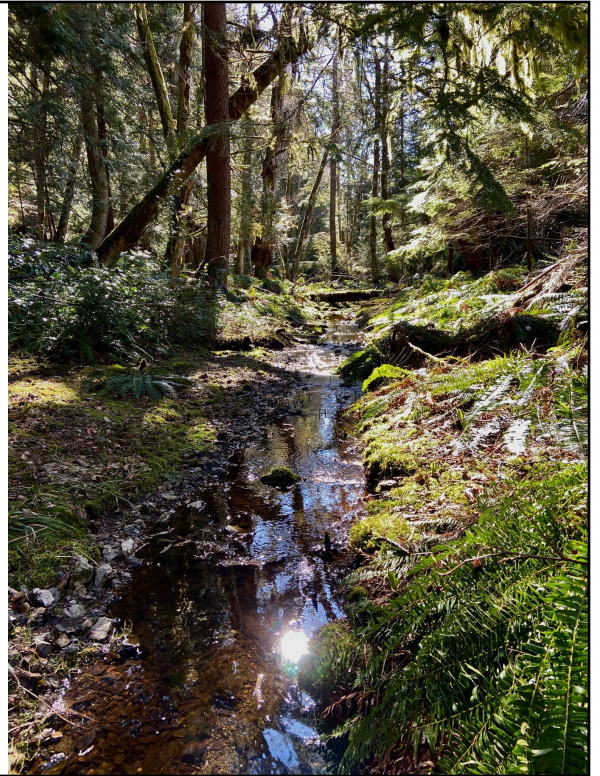




Bowen Island
Conservancy

MOU between BIM and BIC: 2024 Annual update

09 September 2024



First, thank you!

- We are **very grateful** for the grant of \$3,500!
- Funds are for our publication about Deep Bay/Mannion Bay/Kwilákm (a follow-on from our Marine Atlas)
- Publication will be this Fall
- Order yours in September!



Bowen Island
Conservancy

Background on the MOU

- Signed in September 2024 for an initial 5 year period
- Establishes “*a framework for cooperation and collaboration, related to conservation of the natural environment of Bowen Island and surrounding waters*”
- An annual update from the Conservancy is required



What does the MOU say?

1. Collaboration around
 - Conservation covenants
 - Developing and managing conservation lands
 - Stewardship of Municipal Park lands and island trail networks
 - Subdivision and rezoning applications
2. Property tax exemptions
3. Support for a strategic conservation assessment of Bowen Island



What's been going on (1)?

- Covenants:
 - We received an Ecological Gift in Spring 2024 and placed a covenant on the lands in favour of the Municipality*
- Developing and managing conservation lands
 - No requests have been made
 - A bike rack at the WCNR is upcoming
- Stewardship of Municipal Park lands and island trail networks
 - No activities related to this item
- Subdivision and rezoning applications
 - Provided comment on CPSA for parking and MUP at Grafton Lake

*Thanks to Daniel Martin, Manager of Planning & Development



What's been going on (2)?

- Property tax exemptions:
 - We are grateful for the relief on the WCNR lands
 - We have applied for relief for the Ecological Gift lands
- Support for strategic conservation assessment of Bowen Island
 - Multi-year (2024-2026) initiative named Caring for Nature (C4N)
 - Funding from Sitka Foundation and Knick Knack Nook
 - Liaison with BIM staff to compile environmental map data (Jan - Mar 2024), and on environmental covenant mapping (Jun - Dec 2024)
 - Liaison with Council: Councillors Gedye and Fast on C4N steering committee (ongoing)



Outlook for next year

- Further work on Ecological Gifts
 - Covenants and property tax relief
- Consultation on WCNR amenities
- Strategic conservation assessment
 - Anticipated engagement with BIM staff through C4N project design / input workshops (2025)
 - Other discussion/data sharing