

AGENDA
San Juan County Land Bank Commission
Members of the public may participate in the ZOOM meeting.
<https://zoom.us/j/96947083633>
Meeting ID: 969 4708 3633
June 18, 2021
REMOTE MEETING

- | | |
|---------|---|
| 8:30 am | Convene |
| 8:30 | General Public Comments |
| 8:40 | Approve May 21, 2021 Meeting Minutes |
| 8:45 | Chair and Commissioners Reports |
| 9:00 | Council Update – Christine Minney |
| 9:05 | Financial Update |
| | ○ REET report |
| | ○ 2022-2023 Biennium Budget Timeline |
| 9:15 | Director’s Report, Acquisitions update |
| | ○ Lopez |
| | ▪ Top of the World |
| 9:35 | Break |
| 9:45 | Stewardship Report |
| | ○ JEDI Preserve Naming Policy |
| 10:05 | Outreach and Volunteer Report |
| 10:15 | Coffelt Farm Management update |
| | ○ Reserve Study Timeline – Public meeting to follow |
| | ○ Interview with current lessee |
| 10:30 | Executive Session to Discuss Acquisition of Real Estate |
| 11:10 | Future Agenda Items |
| 11:15 | Adjourn |

The Land Bank Commission May Add or Delete Agenda Items and Projects for Discussion. The Agenda Order is Subject to Change. You are invited to call the Land Bank office at 360-378-4402 for more details prior to the meeting. SJC Code 2.116.070 “All meetings and actions of advisory bodies and their subcommittees shall be open to the public, even where such meetings are not within the purview of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 42.30 RCW, except where the meeting is properly closed for executive session, as provided in RCW 42.30.110”



MEETING MINUTES

Land Bank Commission Meeting

May 21, 2021

Virtual ZOOM Meeting

Commission Members in Attendance:

Jim Skoog, District 1, position 1

Sandi Friel, District 2, position 2

Brian Wiese, at large, position 4

Miles Becker, District 3, position 3

Doug Strandberg, at large, position 5

David Meiland, at large, position 6

Christa Campbell, at large, position 7

Commission Members Absent: None

Land Bank Staff in Attendance: Shauna Barrows, Charlie Behnke, Lincoln Bormann, Judy Cumming, Peter Guillozet, Erin Halcomb, Doug McCutchen, Aaron Rock, Kayla Seaforth, Jacob Wagner, Amanda Wedow

Land Bank Staff Absent: Tanja Williamson

County Council Liaison: Christine Minney

County Manager: Absent

Public in Attendance: 17 individuals over the course of the meeting.

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements
Call to Order 8:32 am	Sandi Friel, chair, called the meeting to order.
Public Comment 8:32 am	<p>Peggy Bill thanked the Land Bank for the quick response to getting involved in the potential acquisition on Lopez of the Higgins property at Watmough Bay and for working with the community on the Top of the World project.</p> <p>Steve Horn spoke in support of the Top of the World, focusing on the view as being the best on the island to see surrounding islands, as well as the trail system. Megan Crandell appreciated Land Bank's interest in the Top of the World property and acknowledged further discussion later in the Agenda.</p>

Topic	Key Discussion Points & Agreements
Adoption of Minutes 8:39 am	The draft April 16, 2021 minutes were reviewed. There were corrections. Minutes were approved with corrections.
Chair and Commissioner's Report 8:43 am	<p>Lincoln informed the Commission that Christine Minney would be late and provide the Council update later in the meeting.</p> <p>Jim Skoog joined SJI commissioners along with Doug McCutchen, Lincoln, and Michael Noonan to shoot scenes at Zylstra Lake Preserve. David Meiland asked if other commissioners had been approached about the filming.</p> <p>Sandi was approached by Kaj Litch, a Spring Street School student, wanting to do a project on public perception of the Land Bank based on using "POLIS," an AI driven open source survey software. The POLIS structure allows respondents to actively participate in creating statements to share with the community and helps identify points of agreement and divergence. Brian Wiese asked for a presentation on the software from the Developer or Kaj, but Sandi did not think this was possible with the project's time constraints. Crista Campbell asked about the timeline. Sandi mentioned the project needed to be completed by the beginning of August and that the outreach committee could discuss this as well. Jim commented that we should support our students any time we get the opportunity.</p> <p><u>ACTION:</u> The commission came to consensus to move forward with the POLIS survey.</p>
Finance 9:00 am	<p>Aaron Rock reported that the 2nd Amendment to the 2021 budget was approved by the County Council on 5/6/2021 and the updates will be reflected in the 2nd quarter financial statements. The highlights to the amendment were the inclusion of the conservation easement (CE) sale on the Beaverton Marsh Preserve to the San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT), the Barker donation, and the purchase of an addition to Cady Mountain Preserve.</p> <p>April Real Estate Excise Tax (REET) was \$672K, May to date is at \$381K and projected to end near \$600K. Jim questioned Sandi when she thinks the bubble will burst. Her response was that she wasn't sure since more inventory is beginning to come onto the market. Aaron mentioned that even if the market slows at some point this year we continue to be on a great trajectory and outlook for the year. Jim would like to keep this in focus as months go by.</p>
<p>Director's Report 9:05 am San Juan Island</p> <p>Lopez</p> <p>Director's Report continued Lopez</p>	<p>Cady Mountain Development LLC Property (aka Buck): The Land Bank has closed on the purchase of this 142-acre property. Lincoln presented maps showing the overall context and new configuration of the Preserve, now encompassing roughly 430 acres.</p> <p>New project: The Higgins property is the last unprotected parcel on Watmough Bay. This 11.5-acre tract has over 2,000 feet of shoreline on the Bay and Rosario Strait, and is a high priority salmon recovery area. The upland area features the oldest house on Lopez dating back to the 1870s and a remnant homestead. This is also likely a significant cultural heritage site for the Coast Salish.</p> <p>The property is close to going on the market, and Lincoln has been speaking with the family's representative. The asking price is likely to be \$2.5 million.</p>

	<p>Lincoln noted it would be important to get the property under contract prior to listing if possible, and that the Commission will need to look at cash flow projections. He also stated that there is a strong potential for salmon recovery funding, but these funds wouldn't be received until mid-2022.</p> <p>Jim asked if a structured deal is possible, but Lincoln didn't think so as the family is looking to settle the estate. He also raised the possibility of using stewardship funds for the purchase with repayment with interest. Brian asked if there was public access potential. Lincoln confirmed this but noted that there may be culturally sensitive areas. Christa asked about the possibility of a CE. Lincoln explained that some members of the family prefer this approach, but it seems unlikely they could purchase the shared interest from their other family members. In response to a question from Doug S., Lincoln confirmed this as high priority property. Doug noted that it would be tragic if we couldn't protect this property. Sandi agreed and mentioned that a lot of sales are happening before they go on market making time of the essence. She and Christa also asked about a possible caretaker residence, but Lincoln questioned the condition of the house. Brian asserted that he thought public access would be essential. Lincoln would like to get it under contract and seek approval at the June LBC meeting. Doug M. brought up possibility of a management partnership with the Samish to share in the attention the property would require.</p>
Council Liaison 9:32 am	<p>Christine Minney commented that Doug M. had given her a two-hour tour of Zylstra Preserve, and that it was an amazing learning opportunity. She mentioned the Eagle's nest in particular. She also congratulated the Land Bank on the Cady Mountain closing.</p> <p>Christine said she was attending the Salish Sea mural dedication at the Orcas Going ferry landing after the Commission meeting.</p> <p>She also noted that the County vaccination rate stands at 70% which is number one in the state.</p>
Director's Report Continued 9:37 am Lopez Island	<p>Top of the World. This six-parcel plat is just south of Lopez Village and features views across the archipelago, with driving access to the top. Its acquisition would also create the potential for trail connections in multiple directions.</p> <p>This property has been marketed for some time and seen multiple offers come and go, but currently three parcels are under contract. A group of community members, in an effort to preserve most of the plat and create public access, has taken pledges, and is working with the seller's agent and potential buyers. Sandi and Brian had questions about the plat and the individual lots. Lincoln noted that it was unlikely anyone other than the Land Bank would be in a position to accept the property should the community effort prevail. He continued to say that the situation was fluid and he would keep the Commission updated.</p>
Director's Report Continued Orcas Island	<p>Glenwood Inn. This 58-acre property has 1/3 of a mile of beachfront on the north shore of Orcas. A rudimentary road connects the upland to the beach with a high bluff/cliff running along much of the shoreline. Patos and Sucia Islands are prominently featured from the beach. There is also a public tidelands connection to Point Doughty, a 50-acre Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Natural Area Preserve, that currently has no land access. As a former inn, there are multiple</p>

	<p>structures including 5 cabins, and a main house and addition. Most of the structures are in poor condition.</p> <p>The property is in an estate situation, with the representative required to sell at top dollar for the 30 or so non-profit beneficiaries. A number of Land Bank staff and the Orcas Commissioners, as well as SJPT and Orcas Parks and Rec staff, visited the site with the representative.</p> <p>While there cannot be a bargain sale there are strong possibilities for partnerships and/or state grants through the Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program and salmon recovery funding opportunities.</p> <p>Lincoln noted that while the estate may take time to deal with this property (as there are many other properties they need to sell as well), we probably should work toward securing partners and making an offer in the next 2-3 months. Jim asked if Lincoln needed a consensus. Lincoln said we need to look at the cashflow projections and the potential to borrow from stewardship funds. Brian asked about bonding potential as well. David asked if the neighboring property had a shared driveway. Lincoln affirmed this, but noted their easement crossed the Glenwood property.</p> <p>Lincoln said he would continue efforts to look for funding and partners and report back to the Commission at the next meeting.</p>
Break 10:00 am – 10:08 am	
Stewardship Report 10:08 am	<p>Doug S. commented on how impressed he is with all the work that gets done in such a short amount of time.</p> <p>Doug M. reported that the Beaverton Marsh neighborhood meeting was lightly attended but the responses and engagement were good, with several people offering to assist with stewardship. Doug M. also complemented Field Assistants Jacob Wagner and Shauna Barrows for their hard work. Miles Becker mentioned there will be a Northwest Natural Resources Group (NNRG) free workshop at Beaverton Marsh Preserve the second week of June. Several neighbors have signed up for the workshop.</p>
Outreach/Volunteer Report 10:14 am	<p>Erin Halcomb mentioned that Tanja Williamson was not in attendance, but outreach materials are in written form in the Stewardship Report.</p> <p>Sandi asked about follow-up on questions from the Community Conversations. Lincoln noted that there is a list of questions they are being addressed in multiple ways. He also said a main focus currently is to finish the Annual Report.</p>
CART-Coffelt Discussion 10:16 am Coffelt Farm Discussion cont.	<p>It was noted that the Commission had submitted a list of questions to the Conservation Agriculture Resource Team – Coffelt Farm (CART) and received feedback on all of them. Brian commented that the answers were thorough and to the point, and that the report was helpful. He thanked the CART members. Sandi and Doug S. joined in thanking them. Christa also complimented CART members, but had had three additional questions, particularly for the current lessees, Eric and Amy Lum. Other questions concerned the potential for equipment sharing and additional farmworker housing. CART member and SJPT staff member Rob Roy McGregor said he would look at the wording of the SJPT conservation easement with regards to housing and equipment storage.</p>

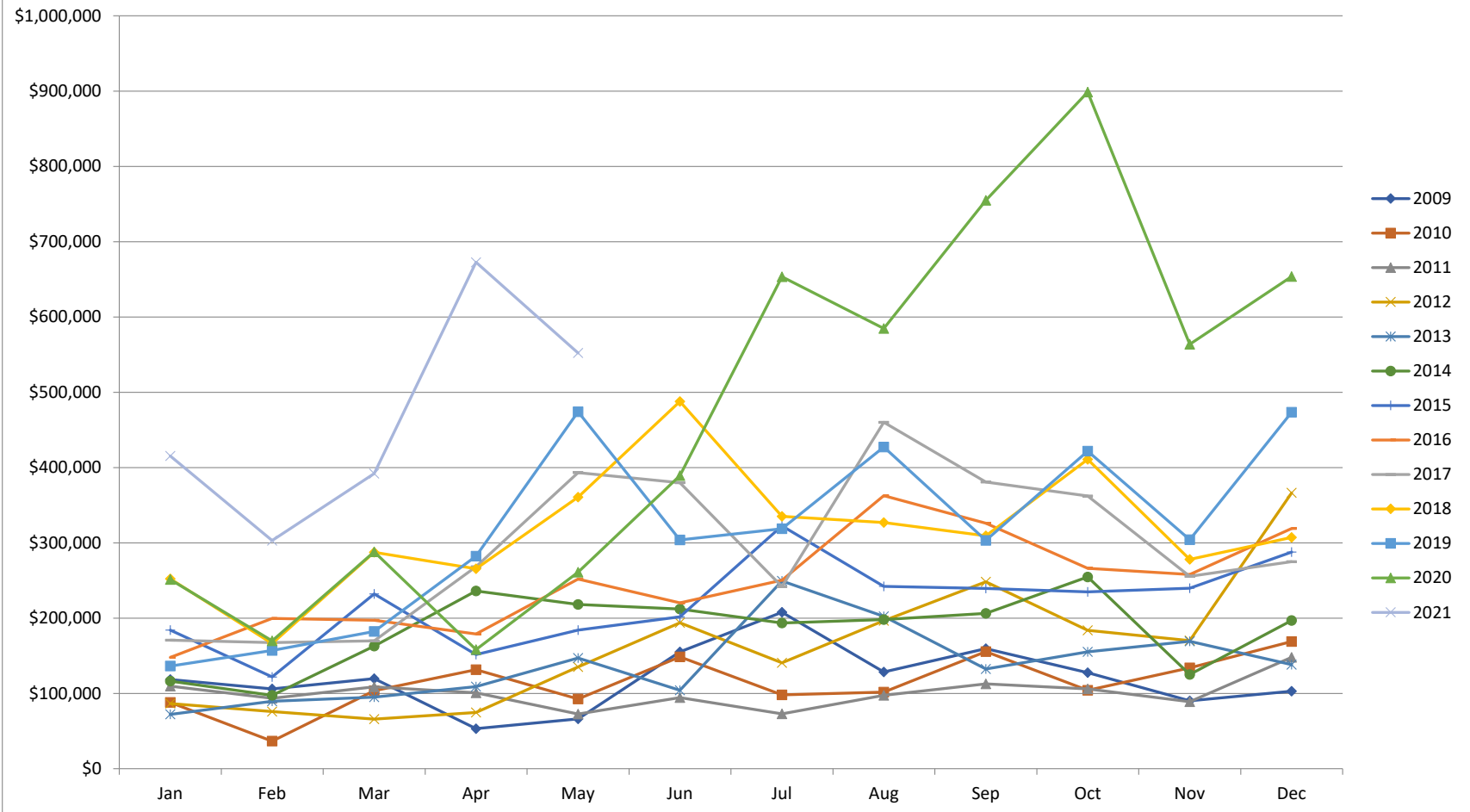
<p>Short Term Lease Discussion</p>	<p>Miles asked the Lum's about their perception of the current situation. The Lums gave a quite positive assessment of housing, animal condition and rotational grazing, and food production.</p> <p>CART member Kathy Morris raised a question about community benefit vs. individual benefit. Sandi posed the question about whether Coffelt Farm could run successfully without Land Bank support. Doug S. questioned what capital improvements might be necessary for "as is" operation vs. potentially expanded operations. CART Chair Brook Brower said it depends on the farm plan chosen for long term lease. Jim Skoog questioned the time spent on Coffelt, and the commission debated.</p> <p>The commissioners felt that any final decisions would need to be held off till there is a financial reserve study that is done. This was confirmed to be in the works by Peter Guillozet.</p> <p>Kathy Morris suggested a longer meeting to provide time to come to a resolution on some of the questions.</p> <p>Sandi felt a short-term lease extension of one year is required before the Commission might be ready to finalize a long-term lease structure.</p> <p><u>ACTION:</u> Sandi asked for a vote on extending the short-term lease to the Lum's for an additional year. The item was approved by the Commission, and staff was directed to work out the details</p>
<p>Future Agenda Items 11:42 am</p>	<p>Sandi skipped adding future agenda items noting there are plenty from previous meetings still to be considered.</p>
<p>ADJOURN</p>	<p>Sandi Friel adjourned the meeting at 11:43 am</p>
<p>NEXT MEETING</p>	<p>The next LBC meeting is scheduled to take place June 18, 2021.</p>

1021.00.318 - Revenues												
Acct_Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2009	\$118,372	\$105,880	\$119,718	\$53,207	\$66,214	\$155,142	\$207,754	\$128,348	\$159,492	\$127,423	\$90,056	\$103,071
2010	\$88,143	\$36,539	\$103,506	\$131,590	\$92,665	\$148,524	\$97,972	\$101,730	\$155,569	\$104,191	\$134,046	\$168,904
2011	\$109,729	\$93,636	\$108,558	\$100,689	\$72,611	\$94,346	\$72,907	\$97,424	\$112,529	\$105,975	\$88,901	\$147,914
2012	\$86,547	\$75,746	\$65,834	\$74,531	\$135,260	\$193,882	\$140,610	\$196,444	\$248,152	\$183,896	\$170,092	\$366,337
2013	\$72,106	\$89,629	\$94,943	\$109,020	\$146,974	\$104,286	\$249,312	\$202,351	\$132,516	\$155,258	\$169,306	\$138,279
2014	\$116,307	\$97,403	\$162,759	\$236,076	\$218,046	\$211,937	\$193,491	\$197,924	\$206,334	\$254,695	\$125,044	\$196,812
2015	\$184,186	\$121,920	\$232,019	\$151,641	\$184,037	\$201,867	\$322,494	\$242,119	\$239,881	\$234,885	\$239,857	\$287,602
2016	\$147,780	\$199,709	\$197,208	\$178,799	\$251,916	\$220,177	\$250,453	\$362,646	\$326,094	\$266,216	\$258,039	\$319,005
2017	\$170,789	\$167,494	\$169,775	\$268,280	\$393,220	\$379,832	\$241,755	\$460,110	\$380,894	\$362,103	\$255,636	\$274,865
2018	\$252,155	\$166,287	\$287,448	\$265,414	\$360,538	\$487,738	\$335,172	\$326,847	\$309,460	\$410,876	\$277,932	\$307,045
2019	\$136,263	\$156,907	\$182,195	\$282,295	\$474,060	\$303,744	\$318,828	\$427,381	\$303,198	\$421,696	\$304,131	\$473,533
2020	\$251,391	\$169,933	\$288,018	\$158,176	\$260,943	\$389,402	\$653,337	\$584,765	\$755,057	\$898,677	\$563,691	\$653,695
2021	\$415,281	\$303,073	\$391,898	\$672,670	\$552,318							\$2,335,239
Budget 2021	\$2,970,000											
2009	8.25%	7.38%	8.34%	3.71%	4.62%	10.81%	14.48%	8.95%	11.12%	8.88%	6.28%	7.18%
2010	6.47%	2.68%	7.59%	9.65%	6.80%	10.89%	7.19%	7.46%	11.41%	7.64%	9.83%	12.39%
2011	9.10%	7.77%	9.01%	8.35%	6.02%	7.83%	6.05%	8.08%	9.34%	8.79%	7.38%	12.27%
2012	4.47%	3.91%	3.40%	3.85%	6.98%	10.01%	7.26%	10.14%	12.81%	9.49%	8.78%	18.91%
2013	4.33%	5.39%	5.71%	6.55%	8.83%	6.27%	14.98%	12.16%	7.96%	9.33%	10.17%	8.31%
2014	5.25%	4.39%	7.34%	10.65%	9.84%	9.56%	8.73%	8.93%	9.31%	11.49%	5.64%	8.88%
2015	6.97%	4.61%	8.78%	5.74%	6.97%	7.64%	12.21%	9.16%	9.06%	8.89%	9.08%	10.89%
2016	4.96%	6.71%	6.62%	6.00%	8.46%	7.39%	8.41%	12.18%	10.95%	8.94%	8.66%	10.71%
2017	4.85%	4.75%	4.82%	7.61%	11.16%	10.78%	6.86%	13.05%	10.81%	10.27%	7.25%	7.80%
2018	6.66%	4.39%	7.59%	7.01%	9.52%	12.88%	8.85%	8.63%	8.17%	10.85%	7.34%	8.11%
2019	3.60%	4.15%	4.81%	7.46%	12.53%	8.03%	8.43%	11.29%	8.01%	11.14%	8.04%	12.51%
2020	4.47%	3.02%	5.12%	2.81%	4.64%	6.92%	11.61%	10.39%	13.42%	15.97%	10.02%	11.62%
2021	13.98%	10.20%	13.20%	22.65%	18.60%							
Cumulative	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2009	\$118,372	\$224,252	\$343,970	\$397,177	\$463,391	\$618,534	\$826,288	\$954,636	\$1,114,128	\$1,241,550	\$1,331,607	\$1,434,678
2010	\$88,143	\$124,682	\$228,188	\$359,778	\$452,443	\$600,967	\$698,939	\$800,669	\$956,238	\$1,060,429	\$1,194,476	\$1,363,380
2011	\$109,729	\$203,365	\$311,923	\$412,613	\$485,224	\$579,570	\$652,476	\$749,900	\$862,429	\$968,404	\$1,057,304	\$1,205,218
2012	\$86,547	\$162,293	\$228,127	\$302,659	\$437,919	\$631,801	\$772,411	\$968,855	\$1,217,008	\$1,400,904	\$1,570,995	\$1,937,333
2013	\$72,106	\$161,734	\$256,678	\$365,698	\$512,672	\$616,957	\$866,269	\$1,068,620	\$1,201,136	\$1,356,394	\$1,525,700	\$1,663,979
2014	\$116,307	\$213,711	\$376,470	\$612,546	\$830,592	\$1,042,530	\$1,236,020	\$1,433,945	\$1,640,278	\$1,894,973	\$2,020,017	\$2,216,829
2015	\$184,186	\$306,105	\$538,125	\$689,766	\$873,803	\$1,075,669	\$1,398,164	\$1,640,283	\$1,879,664	\$2,114,549	\$2,354,406	\$2,647,008
2016	\$147,780	\$347,489	\$544,696	\$723,496	\$975,412	\$1,195,589	\$1,446,043	\$1,808,689	\$2,134,784	\$2,401,000	\$2,659,039	\$2,978,044
2017	\$170,789	\$338,283	\$508,057	\$776,338	\$1,169,558	\$1,549,390	\$1,791,144	\$2,251,254	\$2,632,147	\$2,994,251	\$3,249,887	\$3,524,752
2018	\$252,155	\$418,441	\$705,890	\$971,304	\$1,331,842	\$1,819,580	\$2,154,751	\$2,481,598	\$2,791,057	\$3,201,933	\$3,479,865	\$3,786,910
2019	\$136,263	\$293,170	\$475,365	\$757,660	\$1,231,720	\$1,535,464	\$1,854,293	\$2,281,674	\$2,584,872	\$3,006,568	\$3,310,699	\$3,784,232
2020	\$251,391	\$421,324	\$709,342	\$867,518	\$1,128,461	\$1,517,863	\$2,171,200	\$2,755,964	\$3,511,021	\$4,409,698	\$4,973,389	\$5,627,084
2021	\$415,281	\$718,353	\$1,110,251	\$1,782,921	\$2,335,239							
Cumulative %												
2009	8.25%	15.63%	23.98%	27.68%	32.30%	43.11%	57.59%	66.54%	77.66%	86.54%	92.82%	100.00%
2010	6.47%	9.15%	16.74%	26.39%	33.19%	44.08%	51.27%	58.73%	70.14%	77.78%	87.61%	100.00%
2011	9.10%	16.87%	25.88%	34.24%	40.26%	48.09%	54.14%	62.22%	71.56%	80.35%	87.73%	100.00%
2012	4.47%	8.38%	11.78%	15.62%	22.60%	32.61%	39.87%	50.01%	62.82%	72.31%	81.09%	100.00%
2013	4.33%	9.72%	15.43%	21.98%	30.81%	37.08%	52.06%	64.22%	72.18%	81.52%	91.69%	100.00%
2014	5.25%	9.64%	16.98%	27.63%	37.47%	47.03%	55.76%	64.68%	73.99%	85.48%	91.12%	100.00%
2015	6.97%	11.59%	20.37%	26.11%	33.07%	40.71%	52.92%	62.08%	71.15%	80.04%	89.11%	100.00%
2016	4.96%	11.67%	18.29%	24.29%	32.75%	40.15%	48.56%	60.73%	71.68%	80.62%	89.29%	100.00%
2017	4.85%	9.60%	14.41%	22.03%	33.18%	43.96%	50.82%	63.87%	74.68%	84.95%	92.20%	100.00%
2018	6.66%	11.05%	18.64%	25.65%	35.17%	48.05%	56.90%	65.53%	73.70%	84.55%	91.89%	100.00%
2019	3.60%	7.75%	12.56%	20.02%	32.55%	40.58%	49.00%	60.29%	68.31%	79.45%	87.49%	100.00%
2020	4.47%	7.49%	12.61%	15.42%	20.05%	26.97%	38.58%	48.98%	62.40%	78.37%	88.38%	100.00%
2021	13.98%	24.19%	37.38%	60.03%	78.63%							
Avg % Recvd	5.78%	10.71%	17.30%	23.92%	31.95%	41.03%	50.62%	60.66%	70.85%	81.00%	89.20%	100.00%
Projections												
Min	\$4,561,270	\$4,257,234	\$4,289,818	\$5,207,811	\$5,800,357							
Max	\$11,532,989	\$9,594,115	\$9,428,613	\$11,564,765	\$11,644,693							
Average	\$7,183,374	\$6,707,159	\$6,415,875	\$7,453,313	\$7,308,901							
Budget Amt	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	\$2,970,000	
YE Budget Proj(%)	241.86%	225.83%	216.02%	250.95%	246.09%							

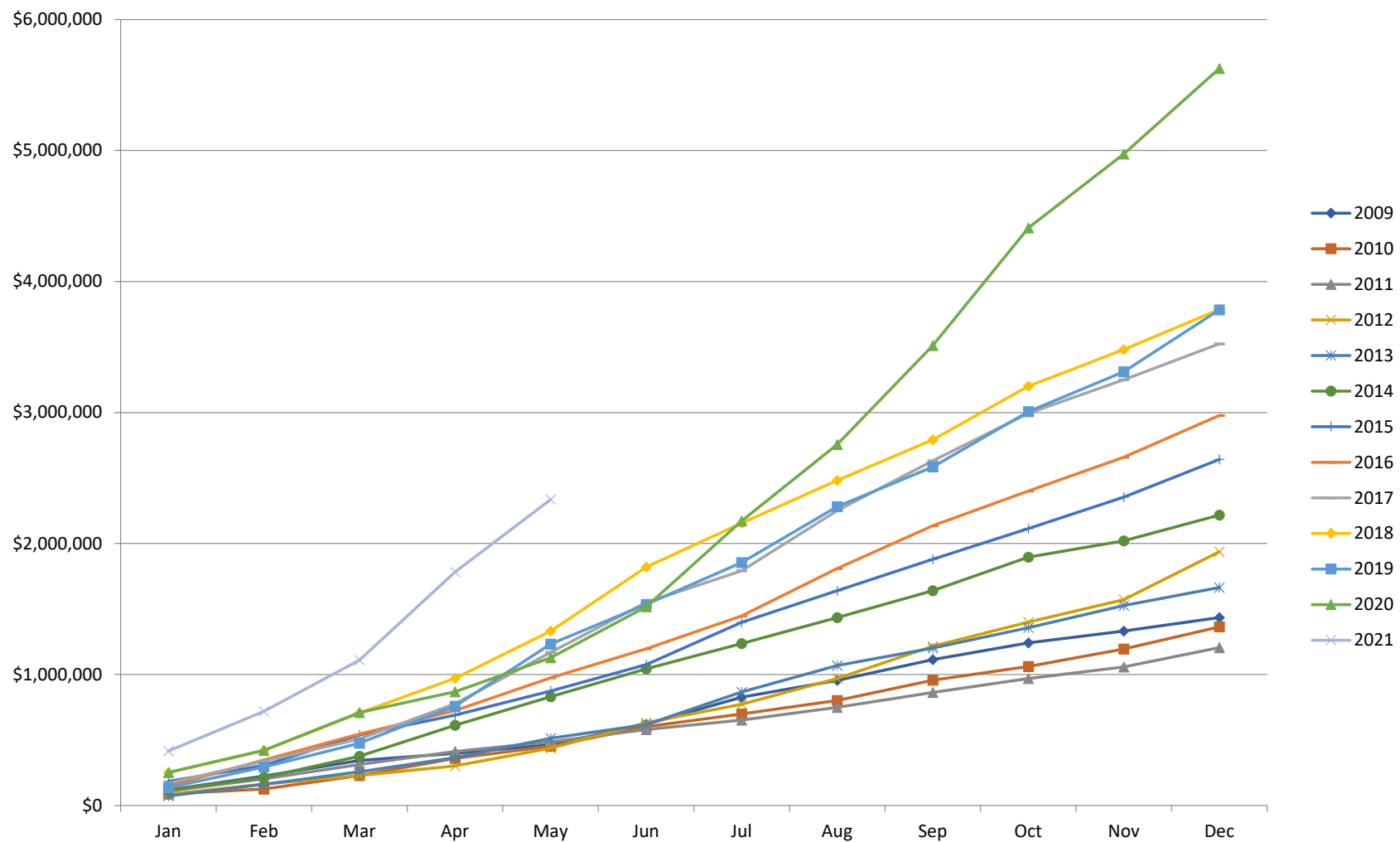
The chart displays the cumulative revenue percentages for each month from January to December for the years 2009 through 2018. The y-axis represents the cumulative revenue in dollars, ranging from \$0 to \$6,000,000. The x-axis represents the months of the year. Each line corresponds to a specific year, showing the progression of revenue throughout the year. The lines generally show an upward trend, with 2018 reaching the highest cumulative revenue by December.

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
2009	8.25%	15.63%	23.98%	27.68%	32.30%	43.11%	57.59%	66.54%	77.66%	86.54%	92.82%	100.00%
2010	6.47%	9.15%	16.74%	26.39%	33.19%	44.08%	51.27%	58.73%	70.14%	77.78%	87.61%	100.00%
2011	9.10%	16.87%	25.88%	34.24%	40.26%	48.09%	54.14%	62.22%	71.56%	80.35%	87.73%	100.00%
2012	4.47%	8.38%	11.78%	15.62%	22.60%	32.61%	39.87%	50.01%	62.82%	72.31%	81.09%	100.00%
2013	4.33%	9.72%	15.43%	21.98%	30.81%	37.08%	52.06%	64.22%	72.18%	81.52%	91.69%	100.00%
2014	5.25%	9.64%	16.98%	27.63%	37.47%	47.03%	55.76%	64.68%	73.99%	85.48%	91.12%	100.00%
2015	6.97%	11.59%	20.37%	26.11%	33.07%	40.71%	52.92%	62.08%	71.15%	80.04%	89.11%	100.00%
2016	4.96%	11.67%	18.29%	24.29%	32.75%	40.15%	48.56%	60.73%	71.68%	80.62%	89.29%	100.00%
2017	4.85%	9.60%	14.41%	22.03%	33.18%	43.96%	50.82%	63.87%	74.68%	84.95%	92.20%	100.00%
2018	6.66%	11.05%	18.64%	25.65%	35.17%	48.05%	56.90%	65.53%	73.70%	84.55%	91.89%	100.00%
2019	3.60%	7.75%	12.56%	20.02%	32.55%	40.58%	49.00%	60.29%	68.31%	79.45%	87.49%	100.00%
2020	4.47%	7.49%	12.61%	15.42%	20.05%	26.97%	38.58%	48.98%	62.40%	78.37%	88.38%	100.00%
2021	13.98%	24.19%	37.38%	60.03%	78.63%							

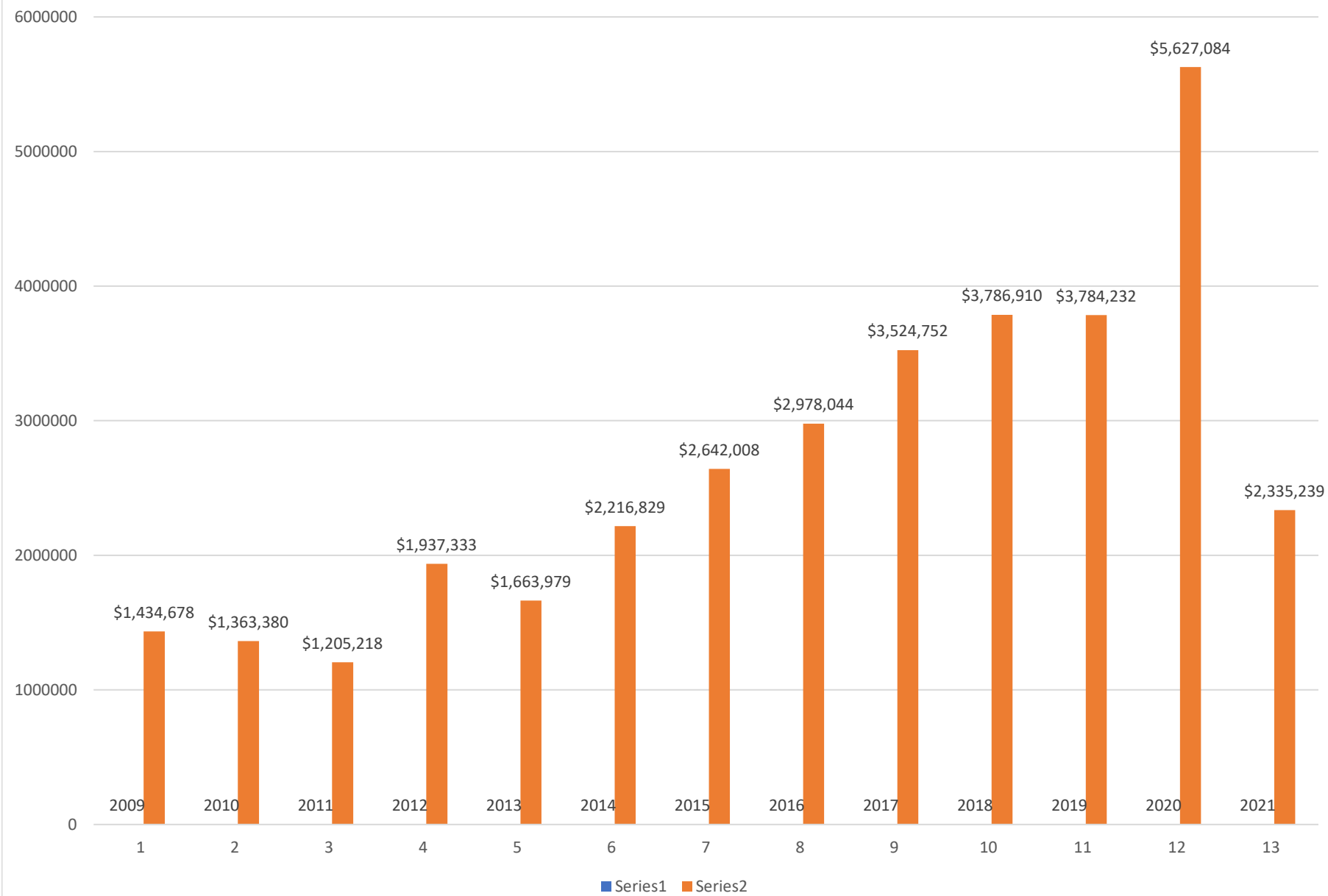
REET by Month



REET by Year



REET by Year Column



2022-2023 Budget Calendar

July	July 12 July 20	Budget worksheets & budget call memo to departments LBC meeting
August	Aug ? Aug 6 Aug 9-20 Aug 15 Aug 20	Lincoln, Aaron and Doug meet to review budget sheets worksheets due to Auditor's Office by noon Budget Team meets with departments to review department request. Budget Book messages/ photo's due LBC meeting for preliminary 2022-2023 budget discussion
September	Auditor staff assembles department requests Budget Book compilation Budget Team agrees on recommended budget Sept 17	LBC meeting and Public Hearing on 2022-2023 Expenditure and Acquisition Plan
October	Budget Message (Auditor/Budget Analyst) Budget Book completion Oct 18 Oct 18-19 Oct 25-26	Budget Book to Council LBC Meeting Department Presentations to Council Department Presentations to Council
November	Nov 1-2 Nov 15-19 Nov 19 Nov 23 Nov 30	Council budget discussions County Leaders Conference LBC meeting Council budget discussion Public Hearing on budget
December	Dec 7 Dec 14	Public Hearing and adoption of budget ordinance Backup adoption day

STEWARDSHIP & OUTREACH REPORT

JUNE 2021

OVERVIEW

Make hay while the sun shines! Farmers have been busy haying in between the rains, moving animals through the pastures, irrigating crops and keeping farm equipment operational (Photo 1). Maintenance of many of the Preserve's restoration plantings has kept present staff, and even past staff, busy. Former Orcas field assistant, Eric Nelson is now a contractor and he's been hired by Environmental Resources to manage vegetation within False Bay Creek Preserve's riparian restoration corridors (Photo 2). State Wildlife officials confirmed island deer have adenovirus (ADH). They've shared a [press release](#) with the public, and have asked people to report occurrences [here](#). Amanda met with WDFW to learn more about ADH as well as this year's changes in the hunting program, which is unrelated. She's also been working with Judy and Aaron to prepare the organization for a switch to Landscape software.

Eliza has continued to support the Landowner Restoration Group, a collaborative of private landowners that wish to restore native habitats. A website for San Juan Islands residents will launch soon, and include a forum for discussion, a library of references and resources, and opportunities for plant and seed exchange. Erin has been out on private lands monitoring conservation easements and continuing to enjoy seeing wild places and their seasonal abundance of wildflowers (Photo 3-5).

This month, the JEDI committee celebrated a one-year anniversary. This month's activities included: reading [articles](#) about and [recommendations](#) for land acknowledgements, and performing an annual review of all listed action items and having discussion around re-prioritizing. The Preserve Naming Policy has also been revised and will be again shared with the Commission in hopes of receiving final approval and formal adoption.

OUTREACH

Staff: Tanja Williamson

Let's kick-it off with an email that Lincoln received:

"I just wanted to let you know what a big help Tanja has been in trying to help me alleviate my terrible Spurge Laurel infestation....Tanja is the only one who was ever even polite enough to respond. After I sent a plea to the SJI Trails Committee, she took the responsibility upon herself and sent me the contact info for Nelson's Noxious Weed control in Mt Vernon. I am following up with them. Thank you for your time and please thank Tanja for me."

Good Job Tanja! Tanja is working with the SJI Trails Committee on their Adopt-a-Trail idea. She has also coordinated two student community projects, recruited an intern and organized two volunteer work parties in celebration of National Trails Day. Shauna and Jacob led an invasive weed pull party at San Juan's Westside Preserve, and Amanda hosted a work party at Lopez Hill (Photo 6-7). Outreach materials that were produced this month focused on the [brush fire](#) at Turtleback Mountain Preserve as well as a [volunteer highlight](#) of father/son duo, Josh and Finn Levasheff. Third Lagoon's monthly community science survey for invasive green crabs bore more excitement: a minke whale was spotted off shore and a curious, colorful stickleback fish was captured (Photo 8). It had blue eyes and an orange belly, and the group subsequently learned that the orange belly is a sign of a breeding male! This year's new volunteer, Nan Simpson, addressed two different walkers about their dogs being off leash with graceful confidence. The nesting shorebirds are thanking her!

SALISH SEEDS PROJECT

Staff: Eliza Habegger, Margo Thorp

The Salish Seeds Project has a new logo and look. (Photo 9). The design duo, Partners in Design, created the logo, typeface and other design elements; and the overall decision-making process was guided by both Land Bank and San Juan Preservation Trust staff. We're excited to have these materials and expect that they will reinforce the project's identity. This will aid both organizations with communication and consistency. Fundraising for the nursery infrastructure project is being headed by the SJPT and it's expected to start soon. The project will include a work and tool shed, a greenhouse, and small open-air storage shed. SJPT board member, Pete Kilpatrick, is a master builder and donating his time for construction labor. Site grading is already underway. And, seed harvest has also begun. Staff has mostly kept up with weeding,

watering, and other seasonal tasks (Photos 10-11). Shade cloth was erected to protect young container plants now that sunny days are here. Jacob and Shauna spent a busy day relocating fencing and whacking back vegetation. Shawn Beach, a Civilian Conservation Corps member from Orcas, will be joining the nursery team as an intern for two days a week. His position will be paid for by the CCC and extend from mid-June through the end of the year. Land Bank will provide training in all aspects of running a conservation nursery, while at the same time gaining valuable help and maybe even catching up on a few long-deferred projects.

DISTRICT 1

Staff: Doug McCutchen, Charlie Behnke, Jacob Wagner, Shauna Barrows

Beaverton Marsh: A zoom meeting was held with the Halvorsen Road neighborhood to discuss near and long-term plans for the Preserve, including public access. The meeting was lightly attended but pleasant; several neighbors volunteered to help with maintenance and monitoring. Doug and Dona (contracted as Project Manager) have been submitting permits, developing a variety of contract documents, and working to formalize the relationship with Island Rec for use of Linde Park. Volunteer Craig Green assisted with opening an overgrown driveway that leads to a debris-laden building site, which will require significant cleanup prior to being developed for public access. On the boundary along Roche Harbor Road, the Shephard's have been preparing the pastures for sheep grazing; they top-mowed much of the fields as this promotes (as does a little rain!) a longer grass growing period. WSU has been out managing and collecting data from their pasture trials.

Cady Mountain: A volunteer crew formalized an existing trail that traverses the Preserve's newest addition (Photo 12). As the first project in over a year, volunteers were ecstatic to be back working together, especially on a new project. Cady Mountain is not open to the public and will not be promoted as a destination. The goal of this effort, which parallels trail work soon to occur at Beaverton Marsh, is to structure existing use, legitimize access along a sustainable route, close undesirable trails, and direct visitors away from neighboring private property. Jacob has been working to decommission the dug wells and septic in the cabin area.

False Bay Creek: John Wilson's cattle are grazing the western pasture, which is dominated by reed canary grass. Charlie, Jacob and Shauna removed and recycled a car-sized heap of old fencing from last year's fence replacement.

Frazer Homestead: Thor Black brought in a dozen cattle and intends to continue with infrastructure improvements on the property. Island marble butterfly eggs have been observed in the SJPT butterfly plot, and they are being actively monitored by SJPT. Trails are being maintained.

King Sisters: Trails here are also being maintained, even with the help of a mystery mower... (Is that you, Jim?)

Mount Grant: Carson Sprenger from Rainshadow Consulting will be working with Doug on site prescription and strategies for the LSR grant project site.

Westside: An individual was seen “fire twirling” in a grassy area of the preserve, and it was relayed that the Sheriff’s department replied that they didn’t have jurisdiction over Land Bank property. Doug followed-up with the Sheriff and will provide laminated copies of a map of SJI preserves, with applicable county codes, for the patrol cars. The sheriff has pledged to increase awareness and improve communication.

Zylstra Lake: Flow in False Bay Creek ceased the first week of June, and in response to a downstream rancher’s request, the siphons were opened to convey water for irrigation on private property. The existing siphon requires daily maintenance, and installation of a new siphon has been slightly delayed. It is anticipated that it will be functional by mid-July. Leadership from the County’s [Clean Water Advisory Committee](#) has expressed interest in the details of a water management strategy, wants to promote riparian restoration on the site and intends to provide recommendations for the highest and best use of the freshwater reserves because False Bay is one of their priority watersheds. A resident bald eagle dove in close proximity to a visitor and the behavior was presumed to be a protective measure of the eaglets; they are close to fledging. Following consultation with wildlife authorities, the trail has been temporarily closed. Doug responded to and resolved complaints about a neighbor’s repeated off-leash dog, which tangled with a visitor and caused a minor injury. Lessee Adam Greene and his team completed their harvest for the season and have been hard at work making early season hay and haylage (Photo 13). Adam noted that in addition to his own farm’s needs, approximately six other farms also put up hay for the year, many of which participated in the harvest. The remainder of uncut fields will be mulch-cut in late summer and fall to return organics to the soil, and to prepare for the harvest rotation next season.

DISTRICT 2

Staff: Peter Guillozet, Kayla Seaforth

Coffelt Farm: Current activities on the farm include haying, milking goats and cheesemaking. Lambing and kidding season is over for the year, and now calving has begun. Charlie and Peter drafted a press release to update the public on the long-term farm lease planning process. Peter solicited quotes for a reserve study and a lease rate analysis, and he is now finalizing the scope of work. Staff are reviewing a request from [Kaleidoscope Forest School](#) to use a portion of the Preserve, the forest behind the Land Bank field office, for class activities. Staff have also been busy maintaining the trees and shrubs that were planted to enhance and restore riparian areas on the Preserve, which require quite a bit of effort this time of year.

Coho: Staff continues to search for creative solutions to the over-allocation of flows in Cascade Creek. Peter met with RCO grants manager Kathryn Moore to review progress on the flow restoration grant and joined a call organized by Representative Debra Lekanoff to explore short- and long-term strategies to protect the fragile Coho salmon run in the creek. Peter also met with the flow monitoring equipment vendor to troubleshoot the wireless modem (Photo 14). The system is cycling due to weak cell signals in the area. An antenna extension might help to resolve the issue, but if that proves unsuccessful, we will likely need to switch to a satellite receiver.

Crescent Beach: Rainshadow Consulting topped a hazardous aspen tree that was hanging over the middle parking lot (Photo 15). Staff collected cuttings from that tree, as well as other aspens in the grove, and are now rooting them with the help of a volunteer, retired forester. The plan is to use these saplings in the future for restoration plantings at Judd Cove Preserve and elsewhere! The CCC dismantled the ever-resprouting driftwood ‘forts’ on the beach, in an effort to maintain safe conditions for beachgoers, and pulled [Vinca](#) along the roadside. This once popular (and still sold locally!) landscaping plant native to the Mediterranean is an aggressive invader of PNW plant communities.

Eastsound Waterfront Park: The CCC ended their first field season cutting and pulling English ivy, Himalayan blackberry and other weeds at the park. Manual removal of well-established ivy patches can be a Herculean task and take many years. The CCC’s work was

representative of the first, small step in what may become a long-term, volunteer-led effort at the park and on neighboring private properties.

Deer Harbor: In addition to regular mowing by Kayla, the Preserve also received some attention from the CCC this month. Their efforts were focused on removing Himalayan blackberry and the Eastern locust trees that were spreading throughout the small patch of woods. Staff will replant these areas in the winter with native trees and shrubs.

Turtleback Mountain: Peter is part of a collaborative team associated with the Landscape Scale Restoration grant and helping to coordinate and procure native plant materials for the numerous restoration sites associated with the DNR grant. The native prairie project on Turtleback is still in bloom (Photo 16). Pile burning on a neighboring property resulted in a small ground fire in the southeast corner of the Preserve. It was extinguished quickly by Orcas Fire & Rescue. After the event, Peter met with neighboring property owners and proposed a small restoration project to take advantage of the burn. This will involve additional vegetation management and removal, followed by seeding of native prairie species in the area. In the absence of such efforts, the ground will likely be overtaken quickly by weeds. Kayla developed a web-based spreadsheet for use by both staff and volunteers to plan and track stewardship tasks. She also assisted with the procurement of an ADA porta potty for Turtleback South (and another for Coffelt Farm Preserve).

DISTRICT 3

Staff: Amanda Wedow

General: Amanda was interviewed by the Lopez Community Trail Network for a video about their trail efforts and their collaboration with the Land Bank, and she engaged with Michael Noonan – the volunteer filmmaker – so that he could catch a few scenes of her in action.

Spencer Spit: Staff hiked to the Preserve's shoreline from Spencer Spit State Park, observed the feeder bluffs and took photos to compliment the annual report. Amanda also met with an arborist to initiate the removal of a roadside hazard tree, and she with a neighbor to review and discuss installing a gate at the start of Nickel Lane, which is the long, access driveway that serves the Land Bank's parcels and a single residence.

Hummel Lake: Tent caterpillars are abundant and defoliating the alders. Fishing from the dock has been popular lately. Shauna and Jacob came joined in noxious weed removal, and trail maintenance was performed.

FB Spit: Amanda completed plant maintenance within the shoreline restoration project zone, and this was the site where Michael Noonan documented various field activities.

Channel: Monitoring was bolstered by staff and volunteer stewards for Memorial Day weekend, and it was observed to be a quiet weekend. Staff installed a revised sign.

Lopez Hill: An Environmental Science class from Lopez High School has been conducting a forest health assessment. The class hiked out to the hill during their morning class, and measured stand diversity, measured diameter sizes, and noted both damaged and/or diseased trees, and lichen abundance. The Hill was also the site for a work party to Celebrate National Trails Day. A crew of five helped improve to improve the Rainbow Trail by re-routing one segment, clearing a culvert, cutting branches and pulling scotch broom.

Richardson Marsh: Staff reviewed site options for a trail and overlook. After discussions with SJPT staff about a memorial plaque, which was agreed upon during their fundraising process but didn't take into account Land Bank practices, it was determined that Red Mill Farm would be better site to establish a memorial. A fine resolution!

Weeks Wetland: Travis Arnott will be haying the 7-acre field this year. The hayfield boundaries have been staked out, and a 50-100' swath was left for native vegetation and to buffer the osprey platform, which continues to be primarily an eagle perch.

Photos



Photo 1. Adam Greene and Brien Sesby strategizing hay and haylage, at Zylstra



Photo 2. Eric Nelson gives a False Bay Creek's ongoing restoration project some attention.



Photo 3. A healthy patch of twin flower.



Photo 4. The stigma, center part, of the cactus flower looked bioluminescent?!



Photo 5. A little patch of silt, that at first glance was thought to be milt, in a quiet bay on Lopez



Photo 6. Shauna sign in volunteers at the Westside work party.



Photo 7. Lopez Hill trail work party.



Photo 8. The orange belly is an indicator of a male stickleback ready to breed.

salish seeds project

Photo 9. The new logo!



Photo 10. CCC members collect seeds off tarps with a broom and vacuum cleaner.



Photo 11. Seed production beds: Menzies' delphinium (*Delphinium menziesii*) in the foreground, and sea blush (*Plectritis congesta*) in the midground.

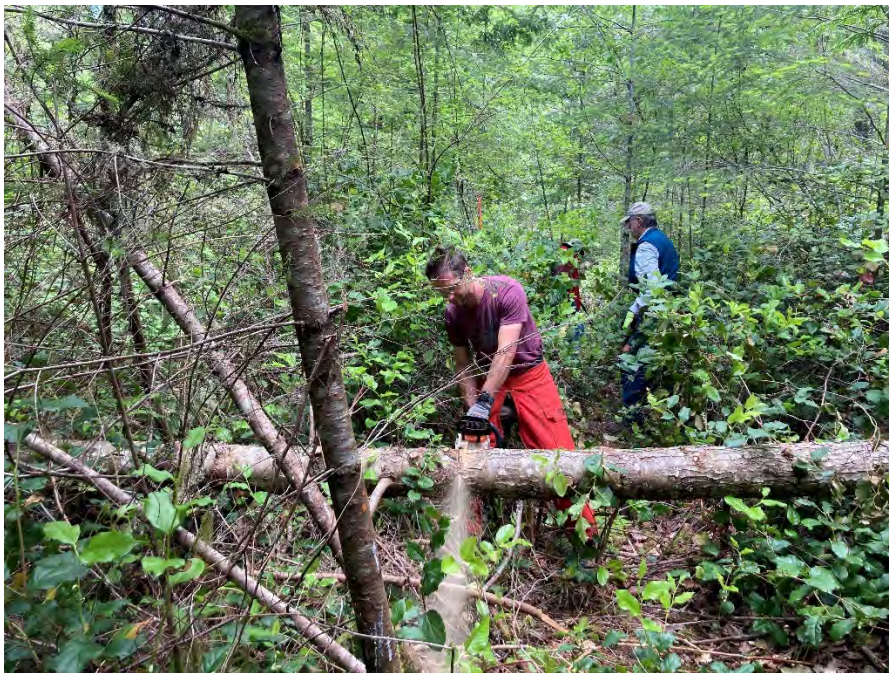


Photo 12. Jacob and volunteers brushing trail on Cady Mtn Preserve



Photo 13. Haying at Zylstra.



Photo 14. Trouble-shooting Cascade Cree flow monitoring equipment



Photo 13. A broken aspen tree becomes a snag for wildlife and will produce clones for future restoration projects.



Photo 14. And, speaking of restoration projects, Turtleback's prairie features native clarkia

DRAFT Land Bank Preserve Naming Policy

Introduction

The act of naming can be significant and meaningful. It can conjure powerful images or emotions and help to recall history. The name of a San Juan County Land Bank preserve is intended to be permanent and should be informed by the land's location, physical features, historical significance as well as its anticipated future function and services. The purpose of this policy is to establish procedures for naming Land Bank Preserves. An ad hoc committee, comprised of two staff and one Commissioner, will be appointed by the Chair of the Land Bank Commission. This three-person committee will review and rank proposals for preserve names, consider public comment and provide recommendations for final Commission approval.

Naming and Renaming Considerations

Preserves will not be named after property owners or sellers.

Interim Names

After acquiring a new property, the Land Bank will assign an interim name. For consistency, an interim name could consist of the street address of the parcel(s), the Land Bank District number and tax parcel (e.g., District 3-2000) or some other identifying feature.

Permanent Names

The intent of naming is for permanent recognition. Generally, when parcels contiguous with an existing preserve are acquired, they are considered an addition and they will take on the name of that preserve. For consistency, a permanent name will be determined as soon as possible.

Renaming

The process of naming and renaming preserves often requires significant resources in terms of signs, maps and literature. In addition, name changing can be the source of confusion to the public. Therefore, renaming of preserves will be reserved for exceptional cases, and subject to a critical examination that includes the original justification for the name and honors the value of prior contributors.

Naming Criteria

It is the policy of the Land Bank to consider the following criteria when naming or renaming preserves:

Geographic, Ecological or other Common Usage identification

The Land Bank will give preference to names that reflect prominent or significant geographic features. This includes names of easily recognized ecological features or functions on the Preserve, as well as geological features or prominent local landmarks.

Historical, Cultural or Social Significance

When a preserve is associated strongly with events or places with historic, cultural or social significance, the Land Bank will consider naming a preserve that commemorates events or places. However, context must be demonstrated adequately through research findings or other documentation, and preference will be given to names that promote inclusiveness, particularly of Indigenous communities or historically overburdened members of society.

Major Gifts

The Land Bank sometimes benefits from the significant generosity of individuals, or partners with other

organizations in order to acquire property. Donors or contributing organizations that seek naming rights for major gifts will be asked to follow the naming criteria principles described above. The Land Bank will consider exceptions on their own merits and, as an alternative to naming, may elect to acknowledge a significant donation or fundraising effort through signage or other media.

Naming Procedures

Any individual, group or organization may submit a naming proposal for a preserve.

When reviewing proposals, the Land Bank will especially consider the relationships of Native Americans to San Juan County lands and waters. The ad hoc committee will (1) attempt to ascertain whether any proposed names might be considered offensive or conflict with any names that Native Americans have already applied to the feature and (2) demonstrate effort to acquire input or feedback on names. Demonstrated efforts include direct communications with local tribal governments, their designees or others who may have pertinent specialized knowledge or expertise¹, and research of the relevant literature. The Land Bank acknowledges that information from Tribes may be privileged (i.e., names may refer to protected gathering grounds or ceremonial sites, etc.) and, therefore, shared with others only as necessary and appropriate. Proposed names, especially those referencing events or places of historic, cultural or social significance should be thoroughly researched. Some resources include:

- Historic Plat Maps and Sanborn Maps
- Washington State Archives
- Library or internet search for documents or references
- Washington State Historical Society
- Area tribes and native community groups
- Washington Department of Archaeology and Historic Preservation
- Washington Committee on Geographic Names US Census Archives
- National Archives: <http://www.archives.gov/index.html>

Naming proposals must contain the following information:

- Name of applicant
- Proposed preserve name
- Background and support for the proposed name
- Demonstrated community support for the proposed name

Upon receipt of a naming proposal, the Land Bank ad hoc committee will:

- Review and score the proposal using the scoring worksheet (Exhibit A)
- Ensure that supporting information has been authenticated
- Take into consideration the comments of stakeholders, elected officials and community members

Upon completion of the naming review, the ad hoc committee will present recommendations to the Commission in writing. The public, including all who submitted names, will be notified of the final decision via email and the information will be posted online.

¹ This may change as the County works to improve communication with Coast Salish Tribes.

Exhibit A

Preserve Name Review Worksheet	Score	Notes (optional)
1. Name Origin or Source (3 Points Possible)		
Describe the origin or source of the proposed name and why you believe it is appropriate for the Preserve. Names describing physical, ecological, historical or cultural features will be given greater weight than names of people.		
2. Compatibility with Preserve Naming Policy criteria and Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion goals (3 Points Possible)		
Describe how the proposed name meets the criteria outlined in the Land Bank's Preserve Naming Policy. Describe how the name promotes inclusiveness, particularly of Indigenous communities, other people of color or historically overburdened members of society.		
3. Community Support (3 Points Possible)		
Describe the avenues through which you have sought and received community support for the proposed name. Specifically, describe how have you engaged the public, how community members or organizations have expressed support (e.g., verbal, written), and the extent of that support (e.g., number of people or organizations).		
4. Proposal Quality (1 Point Possible)		
Include an adequate level of detail (1-3 pages) to enable the Ad Hoc Review Committee to make an informed decision. If available, reference research, background documents or other information supporting the proposed name.		
		10 Points Total

Coffelt Request for Proposal (RFP) Timeline 2021 (DRAFT)

May 2021

Task	Begin	Complete
Conservation Ag Resource Team (CART) submits Report and Recommendations to Land Bank		April 2021
Land Bank Review and initial discussion with CART at April LBC meeting - April		April 2021 @ LBC meeting
Land Bank Commission follow up with written questions for CART		May 2021
CART provide written responses prior to LBC meeting		May 2021
Continued LBC and CART Report discussion. Further discussion topics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next steps - Development of Agricultural Land goals and policy; - LB Coffelt financial investment capacity; - Lum lease extension to December 2022 		May 2021 @ LBC meeting
Contract for Reserve Study and Market Rental Value	June 2021	August 2021
LB Staff Draft Agricultural Land Goals and Policy for discussion		August 2021 @ LBC meeting
Public review and comment on draft Agricultural Lands Goals and Policy	August	September 2021
Consider adoption of LB Agricultural Lands Goals and Policy		October 2021 @ LBC meeting
Reserve study – financial investment discussion/decision to inform RFP		September 2021 @ LBC meeting
LBC decision on direction of Request for Proposals (RFP)		September 2021 @ LBC meeting
Draft RFP and Lease for LBC review and discussion		October 2021 @ LBC meeting
Release RFP Letter of Interest	Release November 2021	Due January 2022
Request Full Lease Proposals	Request March 2022	Due June 2022
Form review/selection committee and select proposal(s)	June 2022	July 2022
Recommend selected proposal(s) to LBC		July 2022 @ LBC meeting
Negotiate Lease details	July 2022	September 2022
New Lease(s) begin	January 2023	TBD

Coffelt Farm

Revenue and Expenditure Summary

	<u>Amount To Date</u>	
Assets		
Coffelt Farm Acquisition	1,321,699	2008 purchase including closing cost paid off in 2012
Coffelt Farm CE	235,121	1995 CE purchase
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>1,556,820</u></u>	
Revenue		
Utility Reimbursement	7,155	Lum's and Coffelt's
Lease Income Coffelt Farm	35,292	
TOTAL REVENUE	<u><u>42,447</u></u>	
Expenditures		
Property Management & Maint	298,263	
Site Enhancement	99,793	
Stewardship Management	26,539	Farm Equipment
Total Small Tools & Minor Equipment	23,685	Tiny House
Payroll expenses	129,705	25% Orcas Land Steward
Total Expenditures minus Acquisitions	<u>577,984</u>	
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	<u><u>2,134,804</u></u>	includes purchase of CE and property

CCC appreciates OICF's support | Letter

- [*Wed May 19th, 2021 1:30am islandssounder.com*](#)
- [**NEWS**](#)

The Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), a program of the San Juan Islands Conservation District (SJICD) that provides work/study opportunities to young adults in the field of natural resource management, was honored to receive generous funding from the Orcas Island Community Foundation and private donors this month. The funding will allow the CCC program to expand its local reach and impact in a second year of operations. The CCC sprang to life in 2020 from a first round of OICF Covid Relief funding, with the promise of providing young adults with education and career opportunities that could also provide an environmental benefit to local public lands.

The new funding will increase the CCC's educational partnership with Western Washington University's Huxley College of the Environment and the Northwest Indian College to offer more college-level courses or certificate programs on subjects related to natural resource management. Classes will be designed to couple online learning with local fieldwork and internships, with the goal of being available to an expanding audience of San Juan County residents.

In partnership with Huxley College, the focus of coursework development will be in the field of restoration ecology, such as ecosystem management, Geographic Information Systems (GIS), biostatistical analysis, and more. The Northwest Indian College will receive funding to offer courses in social justice and indigenous land management and work in partnership with local tribal communities. The program seeks to foster cross-cultural dialogue through the intersection of western and indigenous sciences in the management of the islands' land and seascape.

Since its inception in the summer of 2020, the CCC has grown into a year-round program for a crew of young adults improving critical ecosystems in our State Parks and other public lands. The CCC would not have succeeded thus far without the financial, housing, and general support of OICF and key partners including Washington State Parks, **San Juan County Land Bank**, San Juan Preservation Trust, and many more. Successes of the CCC establishing entirely new trails in Moran State Park, restoring native species and stream buffers in the Judd Cove and False Bay watersheds, and clearing unhealthy forest land to reduce the risk of wildfire.

Fire at Turtleback Preserve

- Fri May 28th, 2021 9:26am *islandssounder.com*
- **NEWS**



Submitted by the San Juan County Land Bank.

Late afternoon Wednesday, May 26, the Orcas Island Fire and Rescue responded to an isolated brush fire that moved from a neighbor's burn pile into the southeast corner of the Land Bank's Turtleback Mountain Preserve. The fire charred approximately one acre of grass and brush before being extinguished.

"Orcas Fire was quick to respond and prevent further spread into the Preserve," explains Orcas Preserve Steward, Peter Guillozet. "We are grateful to the firefighters and neighbors who worked to put it out. Particularly as we head into fire season, we implore people to be extremely careful. It goes without saying that the public is prohibited from having fires on Land Bank Preserves."

The Land Bank is working to reduce fire risks through thinning of unhealthy tree stands or maintaining fire breaks among other measures. We do also hope to employ carefully managed controlled burning in the future not just to mitigate large-scale fire risk but also to enhance our native savannas.

About the San Juan County Land Bank

The San Juan County Land Bank is a local land conservation program, created by voters in 1990, and funded by a 1% real estate excise tax paid by purchasers of property in San Juan County. Through conservation easements or outright purchases, the Land Bank protects special places in the Islands including coastlines, farmland, forests and wetlands. For more information, contact the Land Bank at 360-378-4402 or visit sjclandbank.org.

June 5: Volunteer Event - Westside Preserve Weed Pull on San Juan Island

sanjuanislander.com

This National Trails Day San Juan County Landbank is celebrating public lands at Westside Preserve with a weed pull. Gather your pod and join field steward, Shauna Barrows, as we kick off another summer of trail improvement. This volunteer event takes place at the Westside Preserve from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday, June 5, 2021 on San Juan Island.



Land Bank photo of Westside Preserve

Come relish the panoramic views and learn about the Preserve's prairie ecosystem while clearing invasive Himalayan blackberry along the trails.

We'll meet at the Preserve's middle pullout at 11am and work until 2 pm. Free parking is available at Lime Kiln Point State Park that day, in addition to the Preserve's. There will be ample space to spread out as we cut back as many blackberry bushes as possible.

Please dress for the weather – long pants are recommended – and bring pruners or loppers, gloves, and water. Light snack will be provided.

RSVP to Tanja Williamson at **360-370-7655** or tanjaw@sjclandbank.org.

2021-22

SPRINGTIDE

Visitors' Guide to the San Juan Islands

A photograph of two children sitting on a rocky, grassy shore, looking out at a large body of water under a cloudy sky. The child on the left is wearing a red raincoat, and the child on the right is wearing a yellow raincoat. They are both huddled together, looking out at the water. In the background, there are distant hills and a small island.

Discover the islands
of the archipelago

Moran State Park
turns 100

Learn about the
islands' delicate
ecosystems

Published by The Journal of the San Juan Islands, The Islands' Sounder and The Islands' Weekly

CONNECT WITH THE SAN JUAN 7

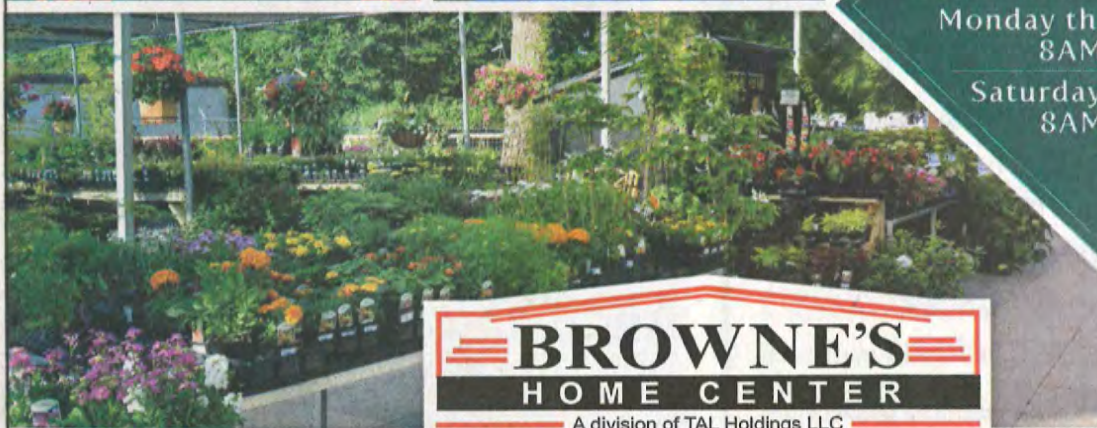
By San Juan County Land Bank

There is an abundance of natural beauty in San Juan County. It's shorelines, sunlit meadows and forested knolls prompt sighs from residents and visitors alike. The sweeping views, literally, breathtaking. But a closer examination of these surrounding environs may bring even more enjoyment. Watch swallows carve the sky below cirrus clouds, and smile at the hairy shore crabs that skedaddle across the sand, waving around their tweezer-sized claws. These are scenes found throughout the islands, and they are one of the many benefits that nature offers humanity.

Scientific studies have documented that time spent outdoors – listening to birdsong, enveloped in forest fragrance – produce feel-good alpha waves in the brain and reduce levels of stress hormones like cortisol. Yet even before there was research detailing these health benefits, local islanders created an ordinance to protect open space. They saw the area's

population growing, sought to protect special places around the archipelago, and established the San Juan County Citizens Conservation Land Bank.

Since its inception thirty years ago, the SJC Conservation Land Bank has protected 7,700 acres. (Monies from the one percent real estate excise tax on sales, combined with grants and donations enable our organization to protect what is finite in the islands: land.) Conservation easements on private lands safeguard unobstructed views of the sea, family farmlands and waterfowl-rich wetlands. Other properties with exceptional wildlife habitat and community value have been purchased outright and opened to the public for natural enjoyment. Many of these preserves are among the islands' most beloved places – Westside Preserve on San Juan, Turtleback Mountain on Orcas, and Watmough Bight on Lopez – and all of which were made possible by partnerships and tremendous community support.




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The values and benefits of nature to individuals as well as communities has become better understood from a western science standpoint. And, arguably, the demand on public lands for natural experiences has never been higher. This has prompted much discussion among land managers and conservation advocates: How do we protect the integrity of land and sea as vital habitat for plants and animals, many of which are rare or in decline, while also providing memorable and even healing experiences for ourselves?

Once again community leaders banded together and adopted a solution. In 2016, San Juan County became the first county in the nation to formally adopt the seven principles of Leave No Trace. These guiding rules strive to balance and ensure quality experiences for all ages while protecting the environ-

ment from unintended consequences caused by overcrowding, trampling, or disturbing wildlife.

Whether you're only visiting for a few days or every year for the past four decades, familiarize yourself and your family with principles of Leave No Trace. Please leash and pick up after your dogs. Be mindful of crowding at trailheads. Follow rules specific to Land Bank preserves. No campfires on properties stewarded by the Conservation Land Bank. Help us ensure that these places are preserved in perpetuity...

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Interested in learning more? Visit sjclandbank.org or contact Outreach/Volunteer Coordinator Tanja Williamson at 360-378-4402.



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6. Keep wildlife wild
7. Be considerate of others