

# Denman Conservancy Association

Denman Island, British Columbia.

## The Island Legacy Project

**Background:** In mid-1995, the Hancock Timber Resource Group (HTRG) of Boston acquired approximately 1,750 ha, one-third of Denman Island's land base, for forestry purposes. Just two years later, HTRG sold the land to 4064 Investments Ltd. of British Columbia. Since that time the lands have been aggressively logged, with only vestigial stands left intact.

In response to this unprecedented alteration of the island's environment, the Denman Conservancy Association acted quickly to establish the Island Legacy Fund. The Fund's original mission was to acquire nine of the most critical sites (eight on 4064 lands) that when joined with privately stewarded and Crown Lands would comprise a Protected Areas Network linking significant wetland and forest ecosystems. The Conservancy's initial acquisition priority is the 80-acre Chickadee Lake parcel.

By mid 2001, five of the original nine sites had been logged and the logging of the sixth was completed except for an inaccessible 10 Ha. patch. ([see Table below](#)).

**Partnerships:** In the project's initial phase, the Conservancy established formal partnerships with Islands Trust Fund, The Nature Conservancy of Canada, and The Land Conservancy of British Columbia. As well, the project has had close contact with the Pacific Estuary Conservation Program, Canadian Wildlife Service, Forest Renewal British Columbia, and the Habitat Conservation Trust Fund. The project has received formal endorsements from the Georgia Basin Ecosystem Initiative, Ducks Unlimited and the Georgia Strait Alliance. The Conservancy is a registered charity in Canada, and has also established an Advised Fund at the Seattle Foundation to receive U.S. donations.

**2002 Status:** Although the current owner concurs with the Conservancy's assessment of the conservation values of Chickadee, no guarantee has been given that the land will not be logged nor developed without notice and thus, fundraising efforts have taken on great urgency. In May 2002, a new pledge drive was initiated to bolster the many generous donations received thus far for this project. A report on the status of the fundraising drive is expected in Summer 2002.

## Island Legacy Targeted Properties

SITE	AREA	FEATURES	2002 STATUS	2017 STATUS
<a href="#">Chickadee Lake -priority parcel</a>	80 acres	lake, perennial stream, old growth forest, headwaters of salmon-bearing Beadnell Creek system	intact	Provincial Park
The Madigan	580 acres	lake, salmon-bearing stream, wetlands rock ridges with caves	extensively logged	Drained and farmed
Railway Grade Marshes	902 acres	marshes, historic corduroy road	extensively logged	Provincial Park; DCA Covenant
Inner Island Nature reserve -addition	160 acres	wetland, forest	extensively logged	DCA owned
Morrison Marsh South	150 acres	lake, open water marsh, old growth forest	covenants being prepared for new owner	Island Trust Fund Nature Reserve
Frog and Hidden Marshes	25 acres	marshes, eagle roost trees	extensively logged	Private land
Fillongly Park -addition	102 acres	waterfront, old growth forest	extensively logged	Private land
Komas Bluffs	1400 acres	sand bluffs (100 meters high) fronting Georgia Strait, old growth vets.	intact	DCA Conservation Covenant
Beadnell Island	300 acres	salmon-bearing stream, old growth forest	partially logged; further logging Spring 2001	Provincial Park