

Unlocking a Time Capsule



2013

THE CAMPAIGN TO SAVE
VENDOVİ ISLAND

Why Do We Care About Vendovi Island?



Remote and undeveloped, Vendovi Island is like a time capsule. It's a rare window into the past, a chance for us to enjoy and study the natural world as it existed hundreds of years ago. With very limited evidence of humankind, Vendovi boasts healthy and diverse habitats including breathtaking wildflower meadows, an abundance of wildlife, and native plants that were long ago eradicated from neighboring islands.

Today we are presented with an opportunity to protect a virtually untouched island for all who make it home and for those who will have the honor of visiting it in the future.

COVER PHOTO: Ferdi Businger

The State of the Campaign: Today and the Future

BRIDGE LOAN : **\$3.3M**



PURCHASE PRICE : **\$6.4M**

VENDOVI ISLAND IS:

An island purchased by SJPT for \$6.4 million

A calculated risk for SJPT that includes a \$3.3 million loan

A vital part of SJPT's long-term vision for the San Juan Islands

AT A GLANCE

In late 2010, the 217-acre Vendovi Island was put up for sale at auction. Long considered among its highest priorities, the San Juan Preservation Trust (SJPT) acted swiftly to secure it.

With the financial backing of one visionary individual, SJPT purchased the island for \$6.4 million, approximately half of its appraised value. But this acquisition required a calculated risk: SJPT had to borrow \$3.3 million, the very first loan in the organization's 32+ year history.

Vendovi is now owned by SJPT, but this will only be a temporary arrangement if our efforts to pay back this loan do not succeed. We are fundraising and have already received \$1.2 million, but we're not finished. With your support, 2013 will be the year that we can say - with confidence - that Vendovi will remain forever undeveloped and accessible to you and to future generations.



AN UNDEVELOPED GEM

With a focus on protecting undeveloped islands, SJPT and its supporters hold a special place in their hearts for Vendovi. Adjacent to SJPT's Jack Island Preserve, Vendovi is the third largest island under single ownership in the entire San Juan archipelago, and its relatively pristine habitat makes it particularly important to SJPT's preservation efforts.

PHOTO: Will Fisher



ENCHANTING WILDLIFE

Native wildlife is particularly abundant on Vendovi, including more than ninety bird species that have been documented in the past two years. Wide cobble and sandy beaches support pupping areas for harbor seals; rocky shorelines and quiet bays provide habitat for seabirds, otters, forage fish and octopus; and inland forests host Douglas squirrels, bats, and a wide variety of resident and migratory songbirds.

PHOTO: Ferdi Businger



UNSURPASSED PLANT HABITAT

Thanks to its isolation from both humans and deer, Vendovi is home to several native plants that have long been eradicated from neighboring islands. Springtime brings wildflower displays to the island that University of Washington botanists tell us rival anything they've seen in western Washington. A diverse forest (including a grove of old growth) blankets most of the island, giving visitors a sense of walking back through time.

PHOTO: Ferdi Businger

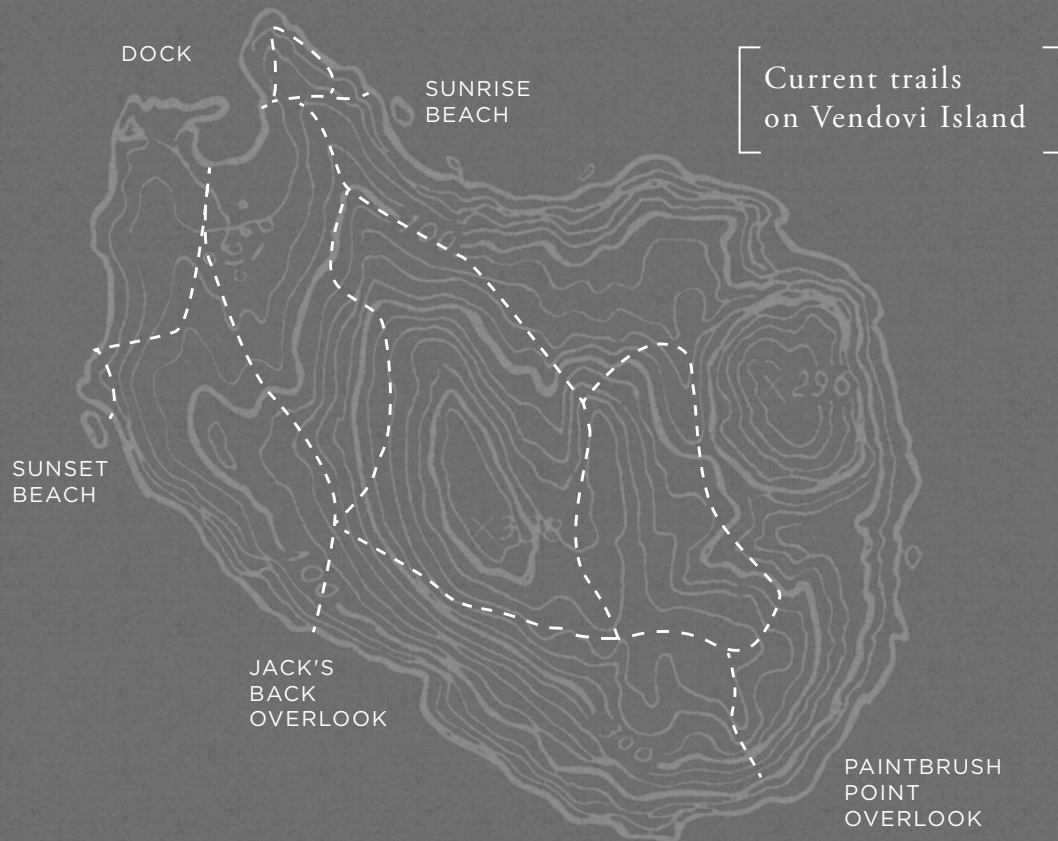
A VIBRANT HUMAN HISTORY

Named after a Fijian chief whom the Wilkes Expedition captured and imprisoned for the length of its voyage, Vendovi Island has served as a fishing camp for Native Americans, a place for homesteaders to raise foxes, hogs and sheep, and even as the site of a vibrant religious cult. For the past several decades, Vendovi has been under private ownership and inaccessible to visitors.

PHOTO: Ferdi Businger



A Plan for Vendovi Island



SJPT is seeking a balanced stewardship approach that protects Vendovi's unique and sensitive natural values while making the island available for education, scientific research and low-impact public recreation. A trail system is now in place that transports visitors to the island's most scenic locales.

Once the \$1.0 million challenge grant is satisfied by October 2013 (see details, right), SJPT's goal to permanently own and protect Vendovi Island will be secure. We will then be in a position to develop a management plan that identifies appropriate stewardship strategies, public access uses and facilities, and sustainable funding sources needed for the long-term care of the island.

How You Can Help Now

The San Juan Preservation Trust must raise \$400,000 by October 1, 2013 to meet a \$1 million challenge



\$250,000 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2011
ACHIEVED AND MATCHED!



\$350,000 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2012
ACHIEVED AND MATCHED!



\$400,000 BEFORE OCTOBER 1, 2013
YOUR GIFT WILL HELP MEET THIS GOAL!

NOW, your gift to the Campaign to Save Vendovi will help us complete our \$1 million challenge. Without you, Vendovi Island's future will not be secure. Its permanent preservation comes at a price, but it's one that we believe – on behalf of countless generations of residents and visitors (human and otherwise) – is well worth paying.

With your help, 80% of the acquisition funds will have been raised and our goal to permanently own and protect Vendovi will be secure.

Please feel free to contact Barbara Courtney, SJPT Director of Philanthropy, at (360) 376-2431 or barbara@sjpt.org for more information or to contribute to the campaign. We warmly welcome your input and deeply appreciate your generosity.

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ABOUT THE SAN JUAN PRESERVATION TRUST

Founded in 1979, the San Juan Preservation Trust (www.sjpt.org) is a nationally accredited private, non-profit and membership-based land trust dedicated to helping people and communities conserve land in the San Juan Islands of Washington State. The Preservation Trust has permanently protected more than 270 properties, 38 miles of shoreline and 15,000 acres on 20 islands, including land now managed as public parks, nature preserves, wildlife habitat, and working farms and forests.

Campaign Donors Through February 15, 2013

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BOX 327 LOPEZ ISLAND, WA 98261 • WWW.SJPT.ORG
(360) 468-3202 • INFO@SJPT.ORG