



the SAN JUAN PRESERVATION TRUST

Land & Legacy

PRESERVATION TRUST ADDS MARINE SHORELINE TO MORAN STATE PARK

FALL 2010
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The San Juan Preservation Trust has conveyed a 26-acre property on the northeast shore of Orcas Island to Washington State Parks, providing Moran State Park with its very first accessible saltwater beach.

Washington State Parks approached the San Juan Preservation Trust in 2007 to explore ways to acquire the property. Recognizing a unique opportunity to add accessible saltwater beach to this popular park, the Preservation Trust's board of trustees moved swiftly to purchase the property. Subsequent grant funds received from the Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP) allowed State Parks to then acquire the property from the Trust and fold it into the adjacent park.

"Connie Collingsworth and Allen Wilcox, the original landowners, deserve credit for bringing this all together," said Tim Seifert, executive director of the Preservation Trust. "They were resolved to make their land part of the adjacent park, so they sold the property to us at a price significantly below its market value."

While this property is currently undeveloped, it will eventually give park visitors access to new trails, an historic lime kiln, stunning views of Mount Baker and more than 1,200 feet of saltwater shoreline along Orcas Island's remote northeast coast.

"It's exciting to be adding another dimension to one of our most popular parks," said Rex Derr, Washington State Parks Director. "Moran State Park has so many beautiful and special features, and this addition of saltwater shoreline will be a real benefit to the public."



ANNA SAMPLE

SJPT'S KATHLEEN FOLEY NAMED "DISNEY CONSERVATION HERO"

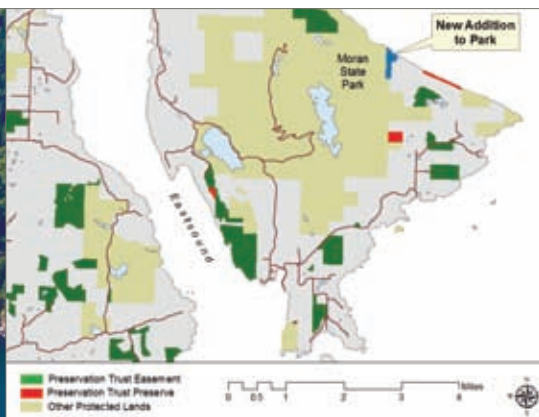
The Disney Worldwide Conservation Fund has selected Kathleen Foley, the Preservation Trust's director of education and outreach, to be one of six international 2010 Disney Conservation Heroes. Kathleen was chosen for her leadership of the San Juan Islands Western Bluebird Reintroduction Project. She is the only American to receive the award.

The Disney Conservation Hero award recognizes citizens around the world for their tireless efforts at the local level to save wildlife, protect habitat, and educate the communities around them. Just completing its fourth year, the bluebird reintroduction project has recorded annual increases in returning bluebirds, nesting populations and number of birds fledged.

Kathleen has dedicated her \$1,000 cash award to the bluebird reintroduction program.



AN AERIAL VIEW OF MORAN STATE PARK'S NEW SHORELINE PARCEL





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LAND TRUST ACCREDITATION PROCESS UNDERWAY

SJPT Prepares to Apply in Early 2011



SJPT's accreditation team. From left, front: Josie Byington, Laurie Naylor, Debra Clausen, Carol Avent. Back: Katie Hover, Alice Hurd, Harvey Himelfarb

KATHLEEN FOLEY

THE LAND TRUST ALLIANCE, a national organization that educates and represents more than 1,600 conservation land trusts across America (including the San Juan Preservation Trust), recently established an independent Land Trust Accreditation Commission to award accreditation to land trusts that meet national quality standards. Governed by a volunteer board of land conservation and nonprofit management experts from across the country, this accreditation process functions much like that of hospitals and museums. By providing constituents with the assurance of quality and permanence, land trust accreditation publicly recognizes an organization's ability to protect important natural places in perpetuity.

Preparing for accreditation has required a significant time commitment from SJPT's board and staff. Old policies are being updated and new policies are being adopted; records are being reorganized and procedures are being reviewed. With over 30 years of history (SJPT is the oldest land trust in Washington State) and over 300 properties under our protection (we're the 13th largest program in the country), the Preservation Trust's preparations have been particularly demanding as we remain on target for an early 2011 application. Despite these challenges, we are already seeing how this process will allow us to streamline our operations and improve the effectiveness of our conservation work.



SKAGIT LAND TRUST

The Guemes Mountain trail crew prepares for a day of hard work and fun.

A TRAIL *is* BORN

LAST FALL, following an inspirational community fundraising campaign, the San Juan Preservation Trust and the Skagit Land Trust purchased the lovely 70-acre parcel of land at the summit of Guemes Mountain on Guemes Island. Now, a year later, both groups, led by the Washington Trails Association (WTA), have begun building a one-mile trail to the top of the new Guemes Mountain Conservation Area. This foot trail will travel through mature forest before terminating on the broad mountaintop amidst a beautiful prairie bald. There will be several viewing areas at the summit for a choice of views of the San Juan Islands, Mt. Baker, the North Cascades and the Skagit flats.

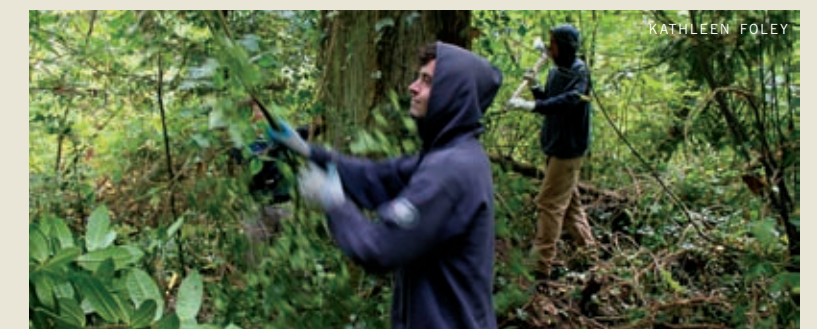
Under WTA's expert trail-building leadership, and with the help of many hard-working volunteers, four work days were held in September to launch this new trail. Six more trail building parties will be held through the fall, with the goal to open the trail to the public in spring of 2011. We hope you all get an opportunity soon to experience this newest addition to our network of nature preserves.

IVY AND LAUREL AND HOLLY, OH MY!

QUESTION: What do ivy, laurel and holly all have in common? Here are some possible answers: 1) They are all girls' names 2) They are plants that originated in England 3) They are all invasive species choking out native vegetation on Jack Island.

While all the answers above are correct, it is Answer #3 that the Preservation Trust is most concerned with. We own and care for the beautiful 18-acre Jack Island, situated just east of Guemes Island. The interior of the island is choked with these three invasive species, and for the last several years our stewardship staff - with help from many volunteers - has been working in earnest to eradicate them. All of these species, regardless of how beloved they may be in their home country, are out-competing native species on Jack Island for water, light and nutrients. By increasing biomass in the forest canopy, they are also increasing the likelihood of damage to trees in high winds.

This past summer, significant progress was made in the eradication effort when the Preservation Trust hired a crew from the Washington Conservation Corps to work on Jack Island for a full week. Their energy and skill helped us to advance our restoration work - work that will continue until the island is relieved of these tenacious invaders.



KATHLEEN FOLEY

WCC crew members tackle laurel and ivy on Jack Island.

Want to make a lasting impression on the land that we all love and don't mind getting your hands dirty in the process? Please consider joining future trail building and ecological restoration efforts with our other enthusiastic volunteers. Contact Kathleen Foley at kathleenf@sjpt.org or 378-2461 for details on how to get involved.



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KATHLEEN FOLEY

2010 ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP CAMPAIGN:

*What does it mean to be a member
of the San Juan Preservation Trust?*

Many of us have childhood memories of beloved farms, rocky and kelp-strewn beaches, forests filled with birdsong, and wetlands brimming with life and mystery. More often than not, these places reside only in our memories as they have been lost to development. It is now, while the San Juan Islands are largely unspoiled, that we need to act to protect what remains.

Every property under the San Juan Preservation Trust’s protection has been conserved in perpetuity. This is a difficult economic climate (to be sure), but we believe that the timelessness of the Preservation Trust’s mission provides our members with a unique opportunity to transcend the uncertainties of our times.

Please take a moment to participate in our 2010 annual campaign by returning the enclosed envelope or donating securely online at www.sjpt.org. Your annual membership gift is the single most effective way that you can ensure that the islands remain healthy and accessible for your family and for generations to come.