



ISLANDS TRUST FUND

# NEWS RELEASE

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2016-02-ITF

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Clam Bay Farms Conservation Covenant Protects Mature Forest Ecosystems

**North Pender Island, British Columbia, February 1, 2016** — The owners of Clam Bay Farms have signed a conservation covenant with the Islands Trust Fund protecting more than eight hectares of endangered forest ecosystems adjacent to Clam Bay Road on North Pender Island.

The Clam Bay Conservation Covenant permanently protects mature mixed stands of Douglas-fir, Western redcedar, grand fir and bigleaf maple, including two exceptional veteran Douglas-fir trees estimated to be 500 and 800 years old. The covenant protects important habitat for a wide diversity of native species, such as fairy slipper and coralroot orchids and Western Tanager, a forest songbird.

“We find peace and serenity in spending time in the forest,” said Dan and Tara Hodgins, the on-site managers of Clam Bay Farms. “Knowing that the lush forest, mosses and veteran trees of the property will be permanently protected is a source of great pride for the owners and the Clam Bay Farms team.”

The Clam Bay Conservation Covenant extends the network of protected places on North Pender Island. Connected protected areas allow forest species to move freely and safely through a variety of habitats. To the west is the Found Road Ocean Access managed by the Pender Islands Parks and Recreation Commission and a 30 hectare covenant held by the North Pender Island Local Trust Committee restricting tree-cutting. To the east, a one-hectare conservation covenant held by the Islands Trust Fund follows the southern side of Clam Bay Road.

The Clam Bay Conservation Covenant was a requirement of a re-zoning application submitted to the Islands Trust. The landowner chose the Islands Trust Fund to hold the covenant and contributed to the Islands Trust Fund’s Covenant Management and Defence Fund. Clam Bay Farms provides an example of a property where multiple values and uses – ecological, agricultural and residential – are integrated and legally formalized through both zoning and a conservation covenant.

The Islands Trust Fund is a regional conservancy, preserving landscapes of Canada's islands in the Salish Sea. To learn more about how the Islands Trust Fund works with landowners to protect land, please call 250-405-5186, or visit <http://www.islandstrustfund.bc.ca/initiatives/privateconservation>

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