

Galiano Conservancy Association (Keith Erickson, Conservation Coordinator)

Galiano Island is situated between the urban centres of Vancouver and Victoria. It has been intensively logged and over the past 100 years. Plantation forests, agricultural lands, roads and residential development have replaced and fragmented Galiano's old forest, leaving behind a patchwork of some of the Province's most endangered natural ecosystems.

For the past six years, our organization has addressed issues of forest habitat loss and fragmentation through our community based ecological restoration program.

The guiding philosophies and practical approaches to the project are to our knowledge unique in the Pacific Northwest and British Columbia regions. The project focuses on the restoration of a 60 hectare Douglas-fir plantation stand and integrates ecological principles at multiple scales, with historic and present cultural values of the land.

Increasing biological diversity by restoring key structural and compositional components in the formerly clearcut, now monoculture plantation is the primary goal. For example, unique hand powered treatments have been developed to thin the plantation trees, disperse large woody debris across the forest floor and erect wildlife trees. Treatments are designed to avoid further degradation of an impoverished soil ecosystem and ensure minimum impact to natural vegetation and wildlife species in the plantation.

Our unique approach to forest restoration is based on sound scientific principles and an ethic that is rooted in respect for the land and the need to make positive contributions for the benefit of future generations.

More info: see [Galiano Conservation Association pdf document](#)