

July 25, 2017

The Honourable Doug Donaldson,  
Minister of Forest, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development  
Victoria, B.C. [FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca](mailto:FLNR.Minister@gov.bc.ca)

Dear Minister Donaldson,

**RE: PLEASE NO LOGGING CROWN LAND ON BOWEN ISLAND**

Congratulations on your appointment as Minister of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development.

As a Bowen Island resident and business owner, I am writing you as one of many, many voices imploring your ministry to have Bowen Island removed from draft Forest Stewardship Plan 643. There are so many reasons that Bowen Island should not be subject to industrial logging, and I am in the difficult position of attempting to determine which of these would be the most persuasive to you and your ministry, for the sake of brevity and focus.

**Tourism** is Bowen Island's primary economic driver and in recent years has seen a significant surge in activity and interest from BC residents and beyond. Many, many of your constituents visit Bowen Island as a nature retreat from the stresses of life on the mainland (approximately 78 % of Tourism Bowen Island website traffic originates in BC). The island is an oasis of calm and regeneration only a 20 minute ferry ride from Vancouver. Tourism Bowen Island's website traffic analysis shows that the Trails page is consistently in the top 3 pages visited on the website, illustrating tourist preference for nature activities in Bowen's forests.

Following this letter is a list of just some of the articles that have been published over the last year or two singing the praises of this tourism gem, including from publications such as the National Post, the Vancouver Sun, the Province and Huffington Post as well as Expedia, Lonely Planet, BC Living and popular blogs.

**Any amount of logging on Bowen Island will greatly diminish its appeal as a sanctuary for Rest & Recreation, taking this substantial benefit away from the people of BC and especially the Lower Mainland.**

For the community of Bowen Island, the economic impact would deal a destructive blow to many island businesses who depend on tourism to see them through the year. The subsequent loss of businesses to Bowen would impact residents who would need to travel to the mainland for supplies and services.

**Transportation** - Pile on top of this the reduced ferry space for vehicles due to logging trucks and related industry vehicles, which would displace not only islanders needing supplies but also employees who commute to the mainland for their jobs. Bowen Island is one of a very few still somewhat affordable communities for employees who keep the BC economy going. Their commute already amounts to a 12-hour day without further delays and inconveniences which would render their workday unsustainable.

**Watersheds** – Finally, existing BC communities have a right to protect their water sources and the Provincial Government has a responsibility to all of its constituents with respect to maintaining existing water sources. The cut areas identified for Bowen impact most of Bowen's community watersheds. As an island we aren't able to access sources farther afield.

Bowen Island is a poor fit for industrial logging activity on so many levels. Please support Bowen Island and BC tourists by acknowledging this conclusion and removing Bowen from the draft FSP 643.

Sincerely,



Denise Lawson

[REDACTED]  
Bowen Island, BC  
V0N 1G2

CC:

- Premier John Horgan - [premier@gov.bc.ca](mailto:premier@gov.bc.ca)
- Andrew Weaver, Green Party leader, [andrew.weaver.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:andrew.weaver.mla@leg.bc.ca)
- Jason Fisher, Associate Deputy Minister – Forest Sector, Ministry of Forests, Lands, & Natural Resource Operations: [Jason.Fisher@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Jason.Fisher@gov.bc.ca)
- Tom Johnson, Woodlands Manager for Bowen Island - [Tom.Johnson@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Tom.Johnson@gov.bc.ca)
- Chris Stagg, Assistant Deputy Minister of the Timber Operations, Pricing and First Nations Division of the Ministry of Forests, Lands, Natural Resource Operations and Rural Development - [Chris.Stagg@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Chris.Stagg@gov.bc.ca)
- Asha Bhat, Executive Director of the Tourism Policy Branch, Ministry of Tourism, Arts and Culture - [Asha.Bhat@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Asha.Bhat@gov.bc.ca)
- Marsha Walden, President and CEO, Destination British Columbia - [Marsha.Walden@DestinationBC.ca](mailto:Marsha.Walden@DestinationBC.ca)
- Jordan Sturdy, MLA: [jordan.sturdy.mla@leg.bc.ca](mailto:jordan.sturdy.mla@leg.bc.ca)
- Mayor and Council, Bowen Island Municipality: [mayorandcouncil@bimbc.ca](mailto:mayorandcouncil@bimbc.ca)
- Peter Luckham, Chair of Islands Trust: [pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca](mailto:pluckham@islandstrust.bc.ca)
- Neil Carley, General Manager, Parks, Planning and Environment, Metro Vancouver: [neil.carley@metrovancouver.org](mailto:neil.carley@metrovancouver.org)
- Enrique Sanchez, BC Timber Sales: [Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Enrique.Sanchez@gov.bc.ca)
- Mike Falkiner, Executive Director, BC Timber Sales [Mike.Falkiner@gov.bc.ca](mailto:Mike.Falkiner@gov.bc.ca)
- Defend Island Forests: [info@defendislandforests.ca](mailto:info@defendislandforests.ca)

## Published Articles About Bowen Island

Culinary tour highlights Bowen Island offerings – North Shore News -

<http://www.nsnews.com/lifestyle/taste/culinary-tour-highlights-bowen-island-offerings-1.21222427>

What to Do on Bowen Island – Montecristo Magazine - <http://montecristomagazine.com/travel/what-to-do-on-bowen-island>

6 carefree trips from Vancouver that you can easily take this summer – Daily Hive -

<http://dailyhive.com/vancouver/carefree-summer-trips-travel-vancouver>

Eau Canada – Top Ten Things to do on the Water on Vancouver’s North Shore – Vancouver’s North Shore - <http://vancouvernorthshore.com/things-to-do-north-vancouver/eau-canada-top-ten-things-to-do-on-the-water-on-vancouver-north-shore/>

Top Small Towns to Visit for Canada Day – Expedia - <https://travelblog.expedia.ca/top-small-towns-visit-canada-day-getaway/>

Bliss on Bowen – The Pampered Baby - <http://thepamperedbabyblog.blogspot.ca/2016/09/bliss-on-bowen.html>

Wild about Bowen Island – The Province - <http://theprovince.com/travel/wild-about-bowen-island>

Two Perfect Day Trips from Vancouver – Experience Transat -

<http://www.airtransat.com/experiencetransat/two-perfect-day-trips-from-vancouver/>

Getting lost on a Sunday – She Who Wanders -

<http://shewhowanders.wixsite.com/wanderwithme/single-post/2016/08/05/Getting-lost-on-a-Sunday>

An hour from Vancouver, Bowen Island takes visitors deep into B.C. wilderness – National Post -

<http://nationalpost.com/g00/travel/an-hour-from-vancouver-bowen-island-takes-visitors-deep-into-b-c-wilderness/>

Don’t go to Bowen Island, they say it’s awful (it’s not, it’s amazing) – Lonely Planet -

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/news/2016/07/26/bowen-island-tourism/>

35 Most Beautiful Destinations in Canada – Expedia - <https://www.expedia.ca/travelblog/35-beautiful-destinations-canada/>

Bowen Island Getaway Guide – BC Living - <https://www.bcliving.ca/bowen-island-getaway-guide>

Escape to Bowen Island – Vancouver is Awesome -

<http://www.vancouverisawesome.com/2016/07/10/escape-to-bowen-island/>

Our Bowen Island Foodie Tour – Huffington Post - [http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/vitamin-daily/bowen-island-travel\\_b\\_10635710.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.ca/vitamin-daily/bowen-island-travel_b_10635710.html)

A Food Lover’s Tour of Bowen Island – Vancity Buzz - <http://dailyhive.com/vancouver/bowen-island-bc-food-tour>

Dropping Everything to Ferry to Bowen – Scout Magazine - <http://scoutmagazine.ca/2016/06/03/field-trip-624-on-dropping-everything-to-ferry-your-way-to-bowen-island-this-weekend/>

A Slice of France on Bowen Island – Cottage Life - <http://magazine.cottagelife.com/magazine/cottage-life-west/clw-spring-2016/>

5 Things to Do on Bowen Island – Vancity Buzz - <http://www.vancitybuzz.com/2016/04/things-to-do-bowen-island/>

Delta Naturalists Outing to Bowen Island – Delta Optimist - <http://www.delta-optimist.com/opinion/blogs/blog-dncb-outing-no-2016-15-to-bowen-island-1.2232753>

Tourism Vancouver Reviews Bowen Island -

<https://www.tourismvancouver.com/vancouver/municipalities/bowen-island/>

Bowen “The Happy Isle” – Pacific Yachting Summer Cruising Guide 2015 - <https://pacificyachting.com>

Field Trip to Bowen Island – Vancouver Foodster - <http://vancouverfoodster.com/2015/07/02/field-trip-to-bowen-island/>

Best Places to Live in the World – The Sunday Times - <https://www.thetimes.co.uk/article/11-20-jzw0xrplr7g>