



the SAN JUAN
PRESERVATION
TRUST



KATHLEEN FOLEY

SUMMER 2010

WWW.SJPT.ORG

SJPT MEMBERSHIP PARTICIPATES IN STRATEGIC REVIEW

SUCCESS HAS ELEVATED THE SAN JUAN PRESERVATION TRUST into unfamiliar territory. With over 31 years of conservation to our credit, landowners seeking conservation solutions, ambitious community groups and government agencies are now approaching the Preservation Trust in search of partnership and/or leadership in a number of important community issues. The publicity – and credibility – generated by our recent capital campaigns have opened the door to unprecedented opportunity. Be it sustainable agriculture, public trails, local schools, our marine environment, or land use planning and policy (to name a few), the Preservation Trust is now perceived as an influential stakeholder in a number of arenas tangential to our mission.

Our opportunities may be rapidly expanding, but our resources are not. To confirm our direction, the Preservation Trust's board of trustees convened a strategic meeting in mid-April. Preparation included input from over 450 of our supporters, including 373 responses to an online survey (summarized at www.sjpt.org). The feedback was diverse, but as we discussed these responses, one clear message kept rising to the top. It turns out that your expectations for the San Juan Preservation Trust are really quite simple: We should focus on (a) protecting land; (b) taking care of land; and (c) gathering the resources required to do (a) and (b).

These conclusions, gained from the collective wisdom of our membership, may seem obvious. But with limited resources on hand and countless interests pulling from multiple directions, you have helped us to articulate a new guiding principle for establishing priorities and analyzing future opportunities.

Note: If you would like to participate in future online strategy surveys, please submit your email address to us at www.sjpt.org.



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WHO'S DRIVING THAT JEEP?

If you live on San Juan Island, it is quite likely you've seen a white Jeep with the distinctive Bluebird Project logo bustling about. We'd like to introduce you to who is behind the wheel: Anna Sample, our 2010 Fred Ellis Sr. Conservation Intern. In this role, Anna is serving as the Bluebird Project's summer field technician. Her duties range from following up on sighting reports and installing nest boxes to banding nestlings and feeding translocated birds. We all agree Anna has a pretty great job, and she thinks so too, remarking, "I love experiencing these birds in their native habitat and observing behaviors that are not seen by many people." Thanks to the work of Anna and the Preservation Trust, our partners, and numerous volunteers, we hope that the Western bluebird behaviors that Anna loves to observe will continue to be enjoyed by generations of future islanders.



JANE K FOX