

Mayne Island Community Forum

Friday January 14, 2011

1-4pm

Purpose: To open up dialog with the community, government bodies, community groups and professionals with concern to the large populations of fallow and black tail deer on Mayne Island.

Mayne Island each year feels growing frustration with the uncontrolled and unsustainable growth of both the native black tail and the invasive fallow deer populations. With no natural predators, restricted hunting, increased fencing of property and limited land mass the island has far exceeded the capability to support the deer herds.

Native vegetation is being stripped, farmers and gardeners are under constant attack, roads are dangerous and health is threatened by the seemingly 'innocent' deer. In recent years aggressive fallow deer control programs have been undertaken on James and Sidney Islands. Many of the major Gulf Islands feel the pressure of the black tail deer, Mayne has the additional issue of the introduced fallow deer that contribute significantly to the impact on the islands environment.

Many residents and professionals see this as being the most significant single negative impact on the islands sensitive ecosystems.

The forum is intended to identify the issues faced by landowners, the impact on the environment and develop a set of common goals that can be utilized to address the problem and develop solutions.

The list of players is long:

- **Capital Regional District (CRD)**
 - **Islands Trust**
 - **RCMP**
 - **Mayne Island Conservancy**
 - **Province of BC**
 - **Parks Canada**
 - **Vancouver Island Health Authority (VIHA)**
 - **Local Farmers**
 - **Local residents and landowners**
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