

Photo by Peter Scholefield



Looking eastwards from the nature reserve

Protecting Mt. Artaban together

The Islands Trust Fund and Gambier Island Conservancy are partners in this project. To complete the acquisition our goal is to raise at least \$30,000 (or less than \$300 per hectare) towards the costs of the required *Land Act* survey and property management plan.

The Gambier Island Conservancy is raising funds from private donors and issuing tax receipts. The Islands Trust Fund is providing staff support, covering expenses and seeking additional funds from Trust Council's 2007-2008 budget.

Mount Artaban

The skyline of Gambier Island's first protected area network

Photo provided by Rick Gustavson

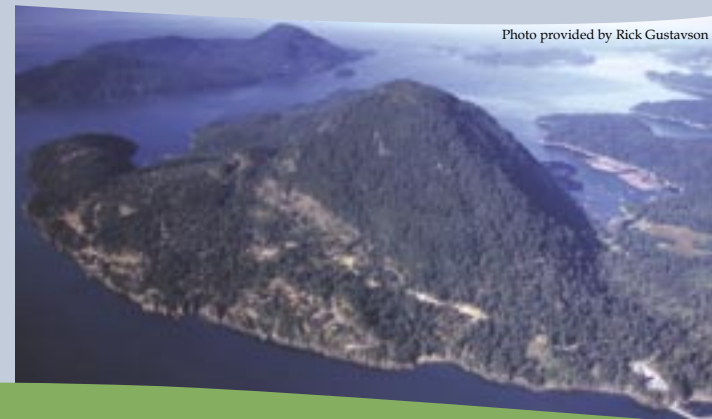


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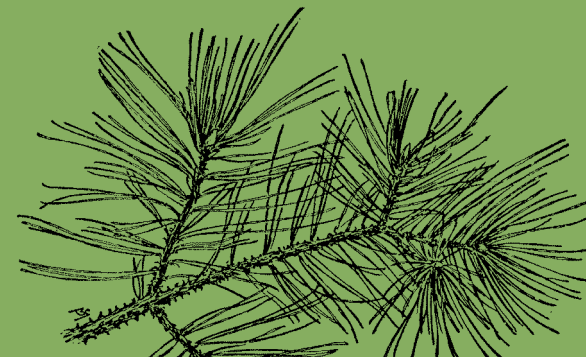


View of Mt. Artaban looking northeast up Howe Sound

Southwest view of Mount Artaban towards the Georgia Strait, showing the contrast between the protected forests on the upper slope of the mountain and the developed lands below

The Gambier Island Conservancy and Islands Trust Fund are working together to establish a 107 hectare (264 acres) nature reserve on Mount Artaban.

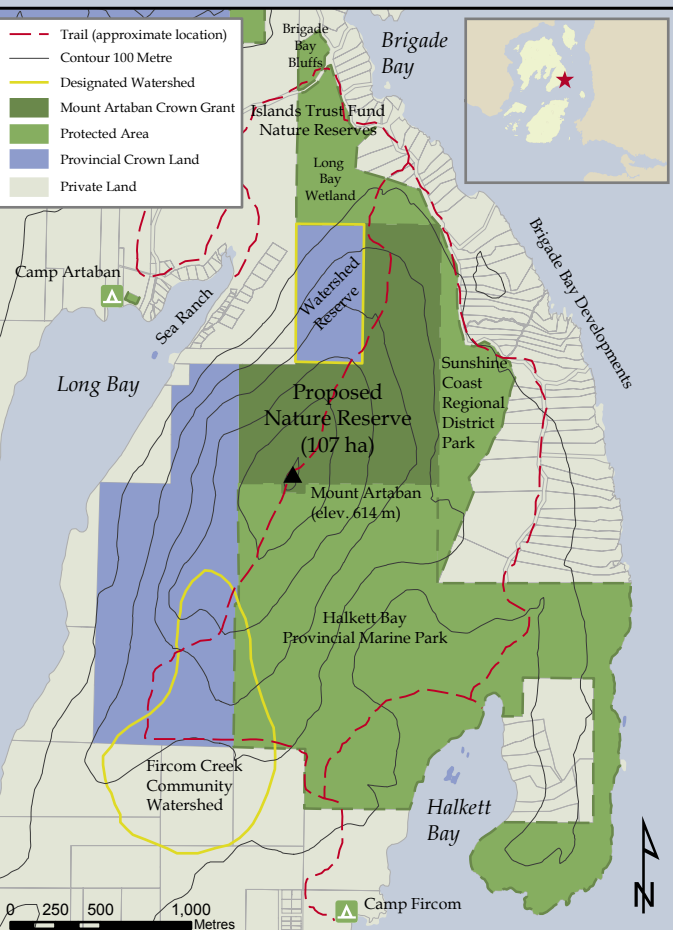
Join us in ensuring a protected future for this unique part of Gambier Island.



Shore pine grows at the summit of Mount Artaban

Mt. Artaban Nature Reserve

The 107 hectare nature reserve will complete a natural network, connecting areas protected by local, regional and provincial agencies.



Help us reach our goal

The success of all Islands Trust Fund acquisitions relies on you. To find out more, participate or contribute, please contact:

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Islands Trust Fund

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A healthy environment from shoreline to skyline

In addition to being a popular recreational destination, Mount Artaban is an important refuge for nature, a habitat for wildlife, and maintains a healthy environment for people.

The Mount Artaban Nature Reserve is about a quarter of the size of Vancouver's Stanley Park.

When combined with neighbouring parks, the protected area will be a contiguous 525 hectare area – 25% larger than Stanley Park.

A natural refuge

High elevation bluffs emerge from the unlogged forest blanketing the slopes. This landscape is a home to a variety of wildlife and at-risk plant communities. Still standing are a few majestic old-growth trees. A pond is located near the top.

Water intercepted by Mount Artaban feeds aquatic habitats below such as Long Bay Stream, the most productive salmon stream on Gambier Island. Long Bay Wetland is also buffered by Mount Artaban. This ecosystem is vital for the return of cutthroat trout, chum and coho salmon.

Wildlife and water

Black-tailed deer, red squirrels and deer mice abound on the mountain. Bald eagles, turkey vultures and great blue herons are often seen in the skies above. Steller's jays, rufous hummingbirds, blue grouse, common ravens, winter wrens, woodpeckers and sapsuckers flutter in and out of the forest canopy. Although rare, black bear, cougar and coyote have been sighted.

The forest of Mount Artaban is important for protecting clean drinking water. The Fircom Creek Community Watershed and the Sea Ranch Watershed Reserve are buffered by Mount Artaban, helping to keep the water plentiful and fresh.



Photo by the Gambier Island Conservancy

Shoreline



Photo by Neil K. Dawe

Steller's jay



Photo by Peter Scholefield

View to the north from a bluff in the nature reserve, looking to Anvil Island & Squamish



Photo by toddcarnahan.com

Sapsuckers



Photo by Peter Scholefield

Old coastal Douglas-fir



Photo by Neil K. Dawe

Red squirrel



Mount Artaban

elevation 614 m

Exhilarating Hikes

A hiking trail runs through the proposed nature reserve. From the peak, the trail extends down to Brigade Bay, where connecting trails lead to the Sea Ranch and Camp Artaban. The trail also leads south down the mountain with connections to the Halkett Bay Marine Park, Camp Fircom and nearby subdivisions.

Protecting the 107 hectare parcel on Mount Artaban completes the first protected area that extends from Gambier's shore, up to the peak and back down to a wetland.