



# Restoring Socioecological Integrity in Kwil'akm/Mannion Bay

## Community, Collaboration and Connection

October 22, 2021

Howe Sound Forum

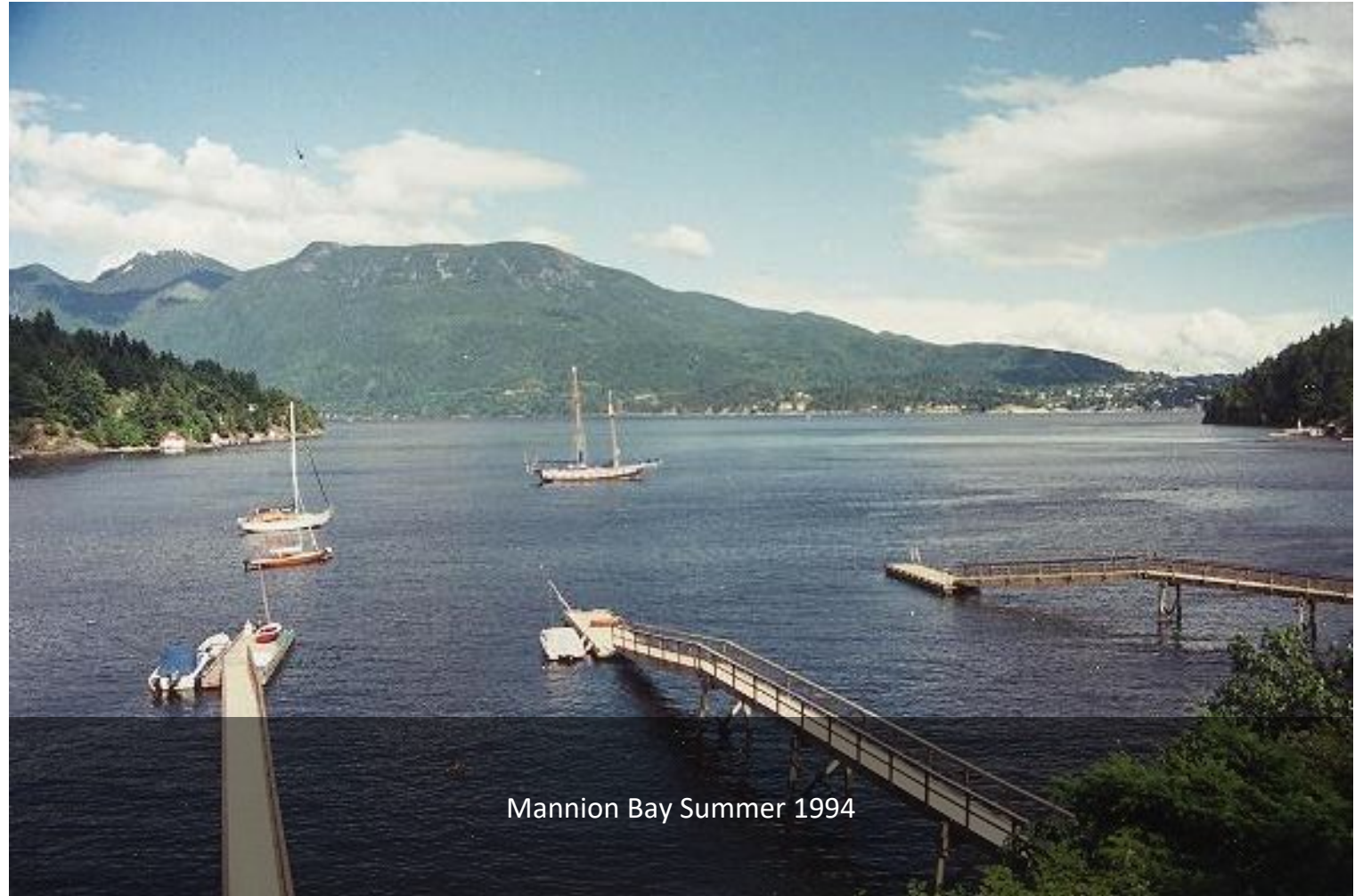
**BOWEN ISLAND**  
🌲 Municipality 🌲

# History



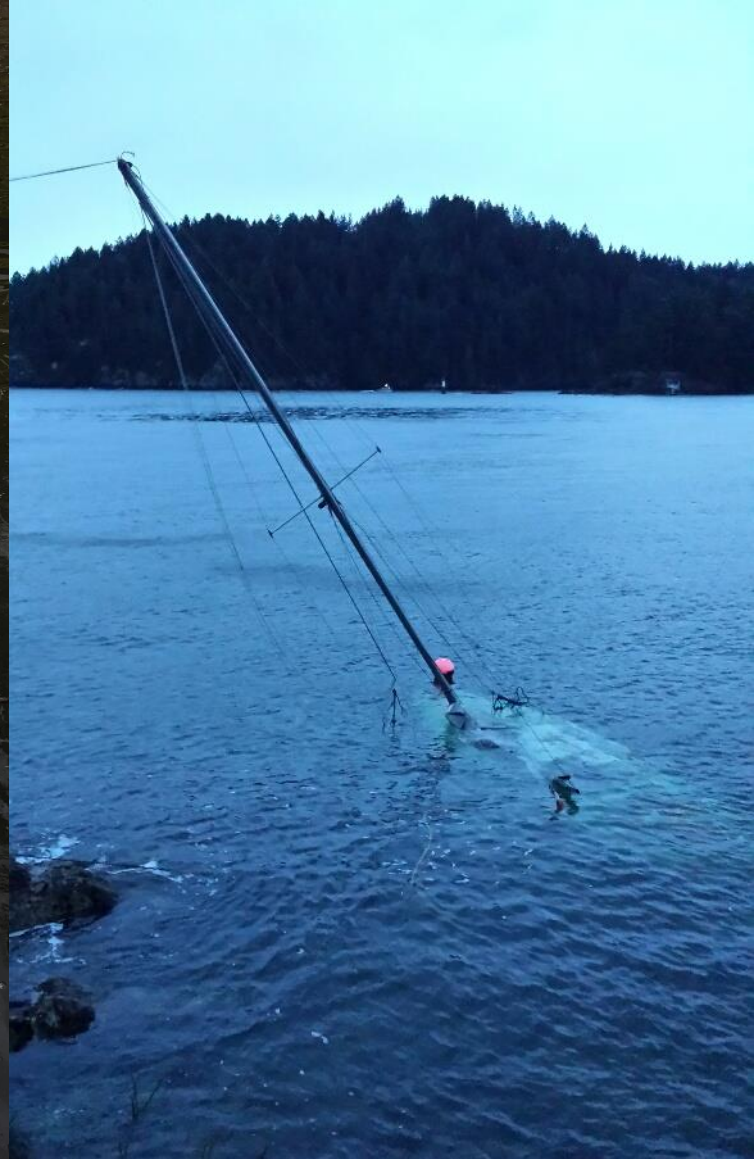
- First Nations historical use
- Thriving recreational area

# History



Mannion Bay Summer 1994

# History



# History

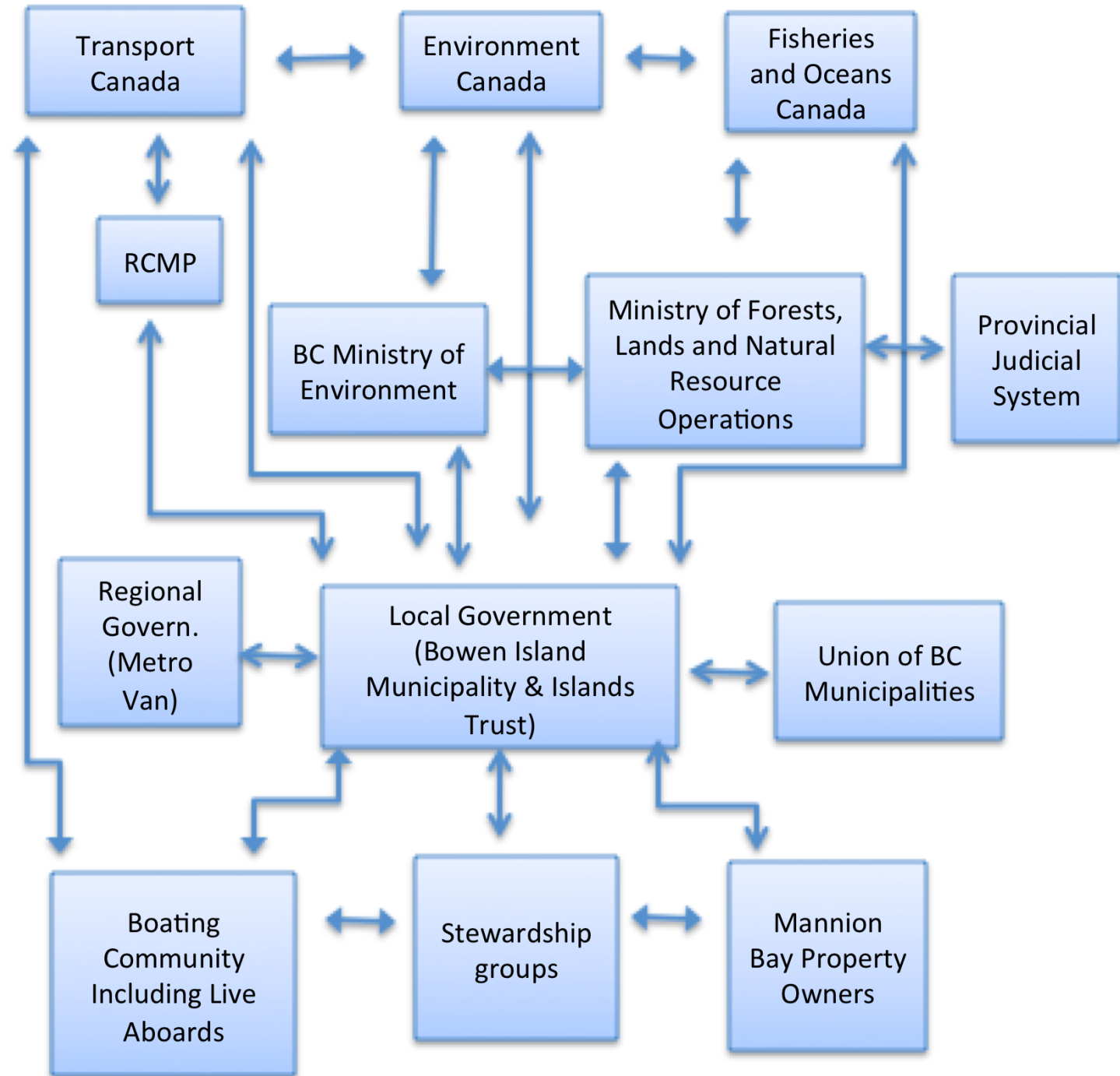


A Familiar Cycle

History



# Sea of Complexity



# Action and Improvements



## EELGRASS A Vital Marine Nursery



### Take care of the nursery

- 🍽️ Keep anchors out of the eelgrass
- 🗑️ Keep pollutants out of the water
- 🍽️ Anchor docks away from eelgrass





# Action

## Provincial Tenure – 2016

- Mooring buoys in Mannion Bay are subject to a nominal annual fee (\$240/year) – Bylaw passed 2017
- Owners of unoccupied and recreational vessels mooring in the Bay for greater than 48 hours in a 30 day period are required to provide BIM with proof of insurance, name, phone number, address and email address

## Use of Public Beaches and Water Area Bylaw 418 - 2016



Eelgrass



# Voluntary No Anchor Zone

- SeaChange Marine Conservation Society
- First of its kind in the Canadian side of the Salish Sea
- Builds upon successful model implemented in the State of Washington
- Marker buoys outline zone and ask boaters to anchor outside of eelgrass habitat



Photo credit: Bob Turner



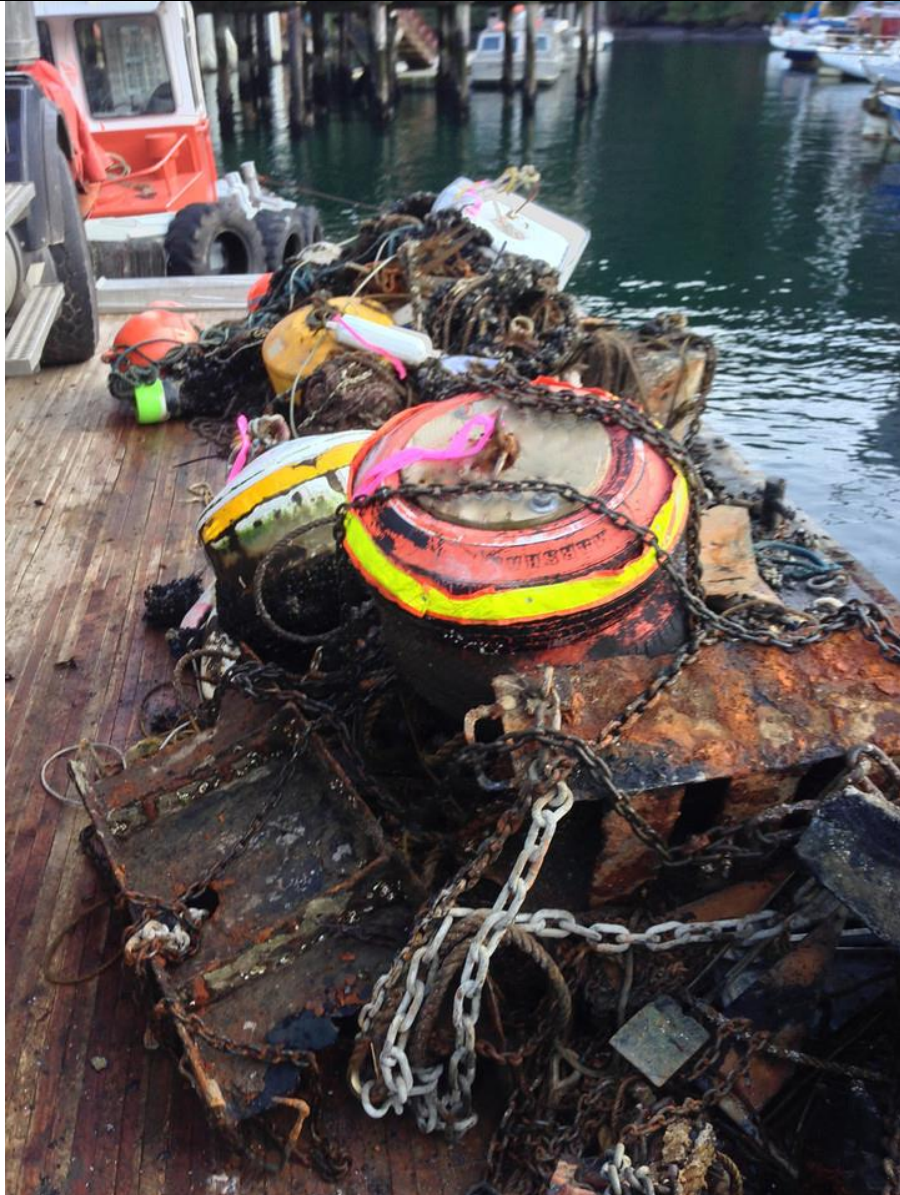
Photo credit: Coastal photography Studio, Jamie Smith



*Mannion Bay*

🌲 Municipality 🌲

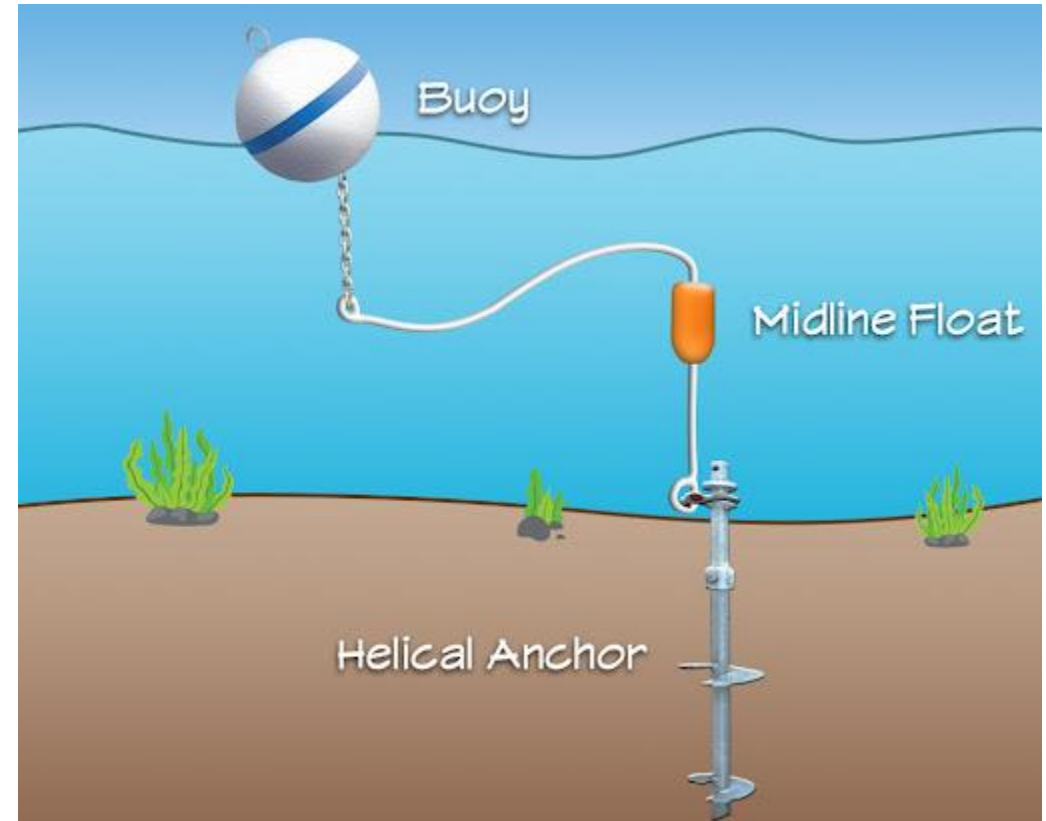
# Action and Improvements



**BOWEN ISLAND**  
Municipality

# Seagrass-Friendly Moorings

- SeaChange Marine Conservation Society and the boating community
- Mid-line float system holds lines above the sea floor
- Prevents scouring and damage to eelgrass beds



# Community Actions





# Actions

- Dive for debris
- Educational programs
- Forage fish habitat surveys
- Beach cleanups
- Beach water testing
- Staff and Council participation in Howe Sound Ocean Watch Action Group
- Support Marine Reference Guide





# Nexwlélexwem/Bowen Island Marine Stewardship Partners

## Inception

Priority Conservation Areas identified in Átl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound marine conservation map project by Ocean Wise and the David Suzuki Foundation

## Members

- Liam Edwards, Bowen Island Municipality
- Fiona Beaty, Sea Change Marine Conservation Society
- Leonard Gilday, Bowen Island Conservancy
- Will Husby, Nexwlélexm/Bowen Island Marine Atlas Team
- Bonny Brokenshire, Bowen Island Municipality
- Barry Pynn, Bowen Island Fish & Wildlife Club
- Bob Turner, Nexwlélexm/Bowen Island Marine Atlas Team
- Carla Skuce, Bowen Island Municipality
- Adam Taylor, Underwater Council of British Columbia
- Susan Munro, Nexwlélexm/Bowen Island Marine Atlas Team
- Owen Plowman, Bowen Island Conservancy
- Kilian Stehfest, David Suzuki Foundation



<https://david Suzuki.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/atlka7tsem-howe-sound-conservation-options.pdf> Click to add text

# Nexwlélexwem/Bowen Island Marine Stewardship Partners

## **Vision**

The unique marine ecology of our local priority conservation areas in Atl'ka7tsem/Howe Sound is preserved and enhanced.

## **Purpose**

The Nexwlélexwem/Bowen Island Marine Stewardship Partners collaborate on initiatives, share resources and engage the community. We aim to protect biological diversity and improve conservation efforts through greater stewardship of our local waters.

## **Goals**

- Engage and educate the community
- Engage and educate boating community
- Marine policy development
- Communication dissemination

There's more  
restorative work  
to be done  
through  
community  
collaborative  
connections.



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