



FRIENDS OF  
MILLER BAY

**Suquamish Citizens  
Advisory Council**

October 2, 2025, 6:30 pm - 8:00 pm  
Suquamish United Church of Christ,  
Suquamish, WA

## Our Mission

To improve quality of life by  
preserving natural habitats in the  
Miller Bay watershed

## Our Goals

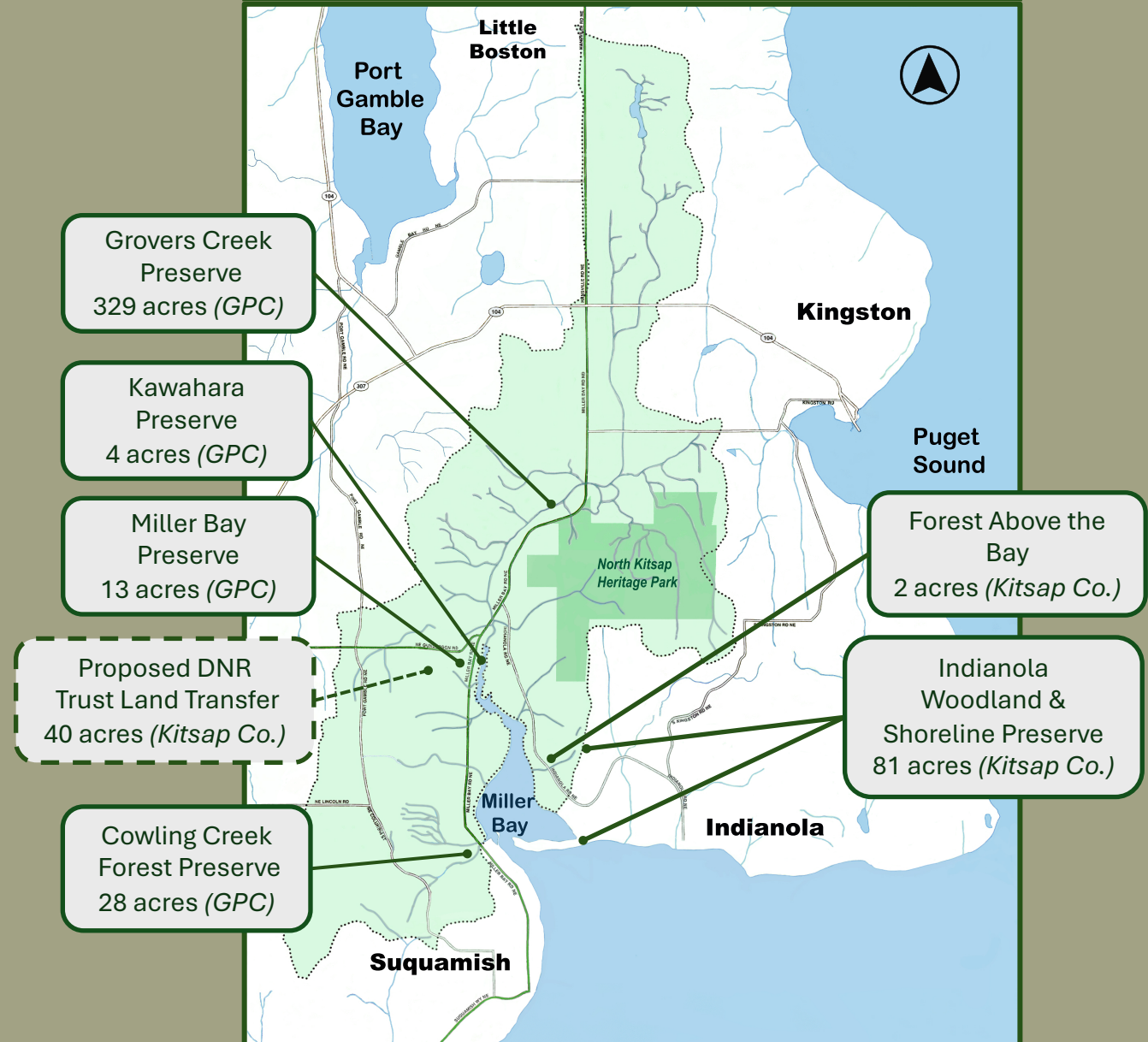
**Stewardship:** promote “active”  
environmental stewardship within  
our community.

**Preservation:** target properties for  
preservation and restoration. Assist  
in acquisitions.

**Outreach:** inspire a conservation ethic  
through information, education and  
opportunities for engagement.

**Collaboration:** foster a network of  
community organizations supporting  
conservation efforts.

## Miller Bay Watershed





## Our History

**1989** Miller Bay Citizens Action Group founded, and successfully protects “Rural Residential” zoning.

**1994 – 97** MBCAG supports Indianola Land Trust, 81 acres of forest & wetlands protected.

**2001** MBCAG changes its name to **Friends of Miller Bay (FOMB).**

**2002 – 07** FOMB raises \$273,000 to buy 18 acres creating the Cowling Creek Forest Preserve.

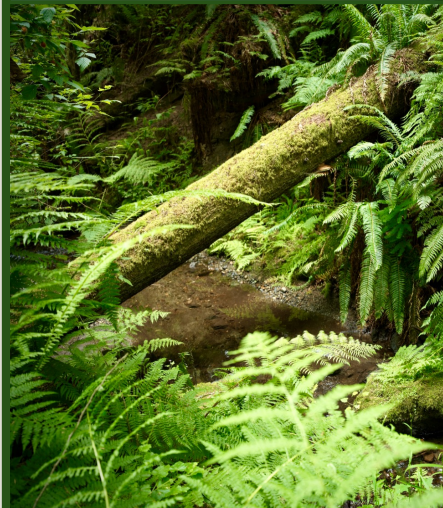
**2019** FOMB partners with Great Peninsula Conservancy to raise \$150,000 to buy 13 acres creating Miller Bay Preserve.

**2023** FOMB partners with GPC raising \$160,000 to protect Forest Above the Bay.

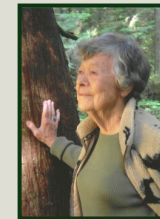
**2024 FOMB becomes a 501(c)(3) public charity.**

**2021 – 25** FOMB raises \$22,700 and works with Puget Sound Restoration Fund to restore native Olympia Oysters to Miller Bay.

**2025 FOMB spearheads a DNR Trust Land Transfer proposal to protect 40 acres of forest.**



## Our Partners



**Virginia Cowling**  
(1916-2008)

Her commitment to the environment continues to inspire us today!

## Learn More

[www.friendsofmillerbay.org](http://www.friendsofmillerbay.org)

[info@friendsofmillerbay.org](mailto:info@friendsofmillerbay.org)







**Friends of Miller  
Bay's  
Proposal to  
Transfer 40  
acres of DNR  
Property to  
Kitsap County**

FOMB Program  
Director  
Connie Reckord



## Trust Land Transfer

Is a program designed to transfer lands that provide important ecological values or public benefits but don't produce enough revenue to support schools and critical local services. DNR transfers these lands to public agencies for conservation or recreation purposes.

### Criteria:

- Community support
- Ecological value
- Economic value
- Public benefit
- Tribal support

### Critical dates:

**Sept 22, 2025 – Community Letters of Support to FOMB**  
**Sept 30, 2025 – Application**  
**April 1, 2026 – Final Letters**  
Summer 2026 – DNR Review  
Spring 2027 – Prioritization  
Winter 2027 – Transfer

### Why now?

- **Scheduled for timber sale in 2029**
- Protect from future development
- Expand Miller Bay Preserve to 56+ acres

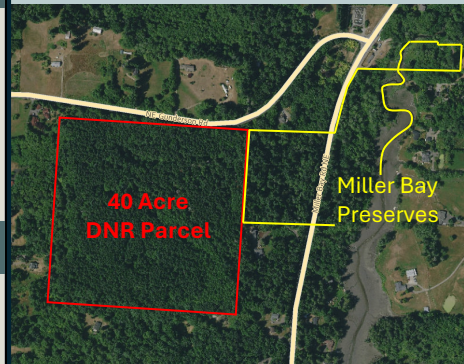


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## Help Preserve 40 Acres!

### Department of Natural Resources Trust Land Transfer Proposal

Located near the corner of Miller Bay and Gunderson Roads, this parcel borders the 13-acre Miller Bay Preserve and 3.5-acre Kawahara Preserve, both owned and managed by GPC. This upland forest (approx. 50 years old) has two creeks that drain into Miller Bay, and is an important wildlife corridor for deer, black bear, coyote, and river otter making their way to 1,575 feet of protected shoreline on Miller Bay.



### Preservation Benefits:

- Connects diverse habitats
- Protects wildlife corridor
- Saves a year-round fish bearing creek
- Protects creek channels untouched by past logging
- Provides critical habitat for chinook and steelhead

How do we make this happen? We work together!



Clearcut 1976

Let's prevent this  
from happening again!



Regrowth 2021

### How you can help :

- Write a letter of support
- Volunteer as a steward
- Join FOMB
- Donate to Stewardship Fund
- Tell a friend/neighbor

Learn more about  
Friends of Miller Bay :  
[www.friendsofmillerbay.org](http://www.friendsofmillerbay.org)  
**Send letters of support to :**  
[info@friendsofmillerbay.org](mailto:info@friendsofmillerbay.org)







# Questions, Comments



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