



PYATT LAKE: THE BILL CARLS NATURE PRESERVE

Proposed Trail and Access Improvements: Phase III

April, 2024

Love the land. Pass it on. 

Recognized for its incredible botanical diversity, Pyatt Lake: The Bill Carls Nature Preserve was protected as the Conservancy's first nature preserve in 1992. With the support of many generous donors and landowners, numerous land additions have expanded the preserve over the last three decades, allowing ongoing improvements to the trail system while safeguarding its sensitive ecological features.

In 2021, the first-ever universally accessible (UA) trail on Old Mission Peninsula was created at Pyatt Lake, inviting people of all ages and abilities to experience the unique wonders of this special place. GTRLC built on this success in 2023 with a new parking area and trailhead off Peninsula Drive, along with a UA trail through the northern section of the preserve.

The Conservancy now aims to further enrich experiences for all who visit the preserve by connecting both trailheads with a UA trail. Currently, visitors have to cross a section of Pyatt Road to traverse the entire trail system from one trailhead to the other. To offer a complete UA connection and a longer trail experience for visitors with mobility challenges, a proposed trail extension will be built using a blend of aggregate trail and boardwalk, linking the parking area on Pyatt Road with the Peninsula Drive trailhead.

As trail usage is expected to increase after these improvements, the Conservancy plans to upgrade the Peninsula Drive parking area with UA parking pads similar to those offered at the Pyatt Road trailhead.

This enhancement will include the removal of the existing orchard, making room for the growth of native trees, including some larger stock trees to establish a more natural-looking trailhead.

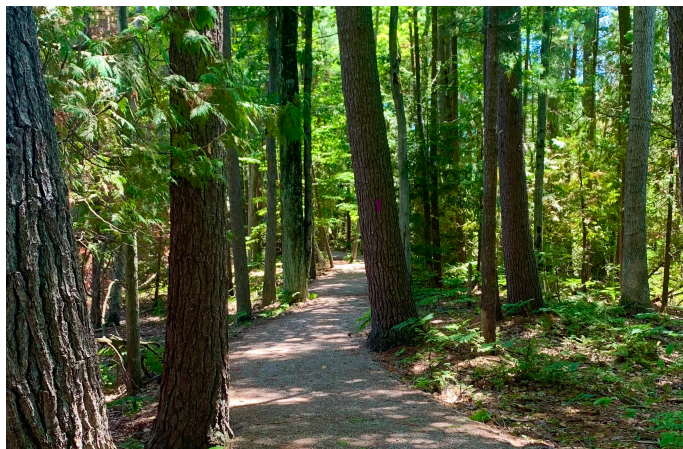
Furthermore, recent and pending land additions present an opportunity to formalize a social trail from the southernmost observation platform to Peninsula Drive. This enhancement, primarily consisting of a hand-built trail and some non-UA boardwalk, will provide safe, walk-in access to this area while protecting the preserve's sensitive wetland habitats.

Your gift will:

- **Connect the Peninsula Drive and Pyatt Road trailheads with a UA trail, establishing a longer, more inclusive, and unfragmented trail system for visitors of all ages and abilities**
- **Upgrade the Peninsula Drive parking area with UA parking pads, enhancing convenience and accessibility for all**
- **Formalize a social trail on the south side of the preserve, protecting sensitive wetlands and providing safe, walk-in access from Peninsula Drive.**

The total cost of this project is **\$514,251***.

Thanks to The Carls Foundation Matching Gift Challenge, support for this project will be matched dollar-for-dollar.











SUPPORT THIS PROJECT

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**In the event that fundraising support for a project exceeds the original project fundraising goal, the Conservancy will allocate the overage to purposes that the Conservancy determines further its mission, such as organizational costs, to protect additional land, or to care for the long-term stewardship of protected land.*

LEGEND

-  Pyatt Lake Nature Preserve
-  Potential Land Donation
-  Existing Non-UA Trail
-  Proposed Non-UA Trail
-  Existing UA Trail
-  Proposed UA Trail
-  Viewing Platform
-  Parking Area

