

STAYING AFLOAT

An exploration of livestock production and transportation on Galiano Island

THE ISSUE

Transportation challenges inhibit island farmers' access to resources.



OUR PARTNER

We partnered with the Galiano Community Food Program, which exists to strengthen island food security through knowledge sharing, equal food access, & sustainable food production.

OUR OBJECTIVE

to shed light on how transportation challenges affect food security and livelihoods in island communities and propose improvements to the system



14

The number of sales-oriented farmers on Galiano Island

70

Hectares being farmed on Galiano Island

\$279

Round trip cost of transporting a truckload of livestock from Galiano Island to the mainland

Our research included:

- A trip to Galiano Island
- Conversations with:
3 Galiano Island livestock farmers,
2 Community Food Program coordinators, &
1 animal welfare professional
- An extensive literature review
- Email & phone communication with BC Ferries

What we found:



Most island farmers have to take their livestock off-island to be slaughtered.



Transporting livestock by ferry is difficult, inconvenient, and expensive, and creates animal welfare issues.



Currently, there is no other option.

WHY IT MATTERS



Increased costs and losses for farmers.



Decreased island food system resiliency.



Animal welfare and meat quality concerns.



A map of Galiano Island, the site of our field research. (Galiano Island Realty, 2017)

MOVING FORWARD



Explore the option of having a mobile abattoir serving all of the Southern Gulf Islands.



Change current slaughter and meat inspection regulations.



Urge the provincial government to subsidize island livestock production.

Want to learn more about our research and experiences? Check out our blog:



<https://blogs.ubc.ca/fourlegsonferries/>