

San Juan Island Update



Written on June 7, 2011 at 7:35 am by [Ian Byington](#)

*Saying thanks: **Doug McCutchen** is the preserve steward for the Land Bank and he's glad he got a chance to share the island last week. Here's more from Doug:*

Last week the **Land Bank** hosted a "Volunteer Vacation" crew from the American Hiking Society. This type of project enables us to get a lot of work done in a condensed period of time with great benefit to the local community. While small in number, the experienced and amiable crew helped the Land Bank and County Parks with trail construction and maintenance, restored beach access, constructed split rail fencing, performed prairie habitat restoration and enhancement, and removed noxious weeds.

We are grateful to the local farmers, businesses, and partners who donated goods and services to the effort. **San Juan County Park** hosted the campers for the week where they helped with a variety of resource protection and enhancement projects. **San Juan Farmers Market vendors** contributed meat, beautiful produce, bread and other goods.

Jason from Discovery Sea Kayak led a beautiful sunset paddle from the County Park. **Ivan and the staff of the Western Prince** donated a half day tour for the crew's mid week break which really helped solidify their sense of place.

The donations not only benefited and inspired the crew but also showed the commitment of the local community to ongoing stewardship of our lands. I think the following sentiments from one of the crew members summed up the group's experience: "I have been on other AHS trips and Sierra Club service trips, but hands down, yours was the best!! The island is so beautiful with all the different wildlife to see. And everyone we met was so friendly. The whole experience was the best of the best!"