



May 30, 2017

Mr. Andrew Hicks, Shoreline Program Administrator  
Whatcom County  
Planning and Development Services  
5280 Northwest Drive  
Bellingham, WA 98226

**RE: Sandy Point Harbor Entrance Dredging (SHR2017-00007, SHC2017-00003, SEP2017-00051)**

Dear Mr. Hicks,

The Lummi Nation is opposed to the proposed “maintenance dredging” of the Sandy Point Marina Entrance Channel. We have requested that the Corps deny any applicable permits for this activity for reasons including, but not limited to, the following: (1) the proposed dredging will take place on tidelands owned by the United States and held in trust for the exclusive benefit of the Lummi Nation; (2) the proposed dredging will harm the Lummi Nation’s interest in the neighboring tribal tidelands; and (3) no federal, tribal, state, or county permits were ever issued for the original excavation of the canal system and associated entrance channel. If you would like additional information with respect to our opposition to this project, please contact Randel Perry (Regulatory NW Field Office, Project Manager). Without the required federal approval, the proposed project cannot move forward.

Because the applicant does not own the subject land and the proposed action would adversely impact the subject land and adjacent tidelands held in trust for the exclusive benefit of the Lummi Nation, we respectfully request that Whatcom County deny any permits associated with the proposed dredging project. Please do not hesitate to call me (360-312-2328) or Kara Kuhlman of my staff (Deputy Water Resources Manager; 360-312-2128) if you would like additional information.

Sincerely,

Merle Jefferson, Executive Director  
Lummi Natural Resources Department

cc: Tim Ballew II, Lummi Indian Business Council Chairman  
Elden Hillaire, Lummi Fisheries and Natural Resources Commission Chairman  
Kirk Vinish, Lummi Planning Department Director  
James Stroud, Office of the Reservation Attorney  
Stan Speaks, BIA Portland Area Office Director

**Nolan Shishido, Solicitor's Office**  
**Brian Kipnis, Department of Justice**  
**Bob Everett, WDFW Regional Director**  
**Doug Allen, Ecology Bellingham Field Office Director**  
**Randel Perry, Corps Project Manager**