

**WHATCOM COUNTY PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES
5280 NORTHWEST DR
BELLINGHAM WA 98226**

June 6, 2017

SUBJECT: SANDY POINT HARBOR ENTRANCE DREDGING

We are current residents of Sandy Point and have lived here since late 2015. We are both retired law enforcement professionals. Steve served for 40 years in the United States Marine Corps and is a survivor of the 911 attack the Pentagon. Sharon has enjoyed a lengthy public safety career in WA retiring in 2009 as a Chief of Police. Sandy Point, Ferndale is now our community and home.

Our home is directly on the canal and we enjoy fishing, crabbing, clamming and exploring the area with neighbors and friends. We rely on a safe access and egress, for many of our activities, through the Sandy Point Harbor entrance.

As you review the dredge permit application for the Sandy Point Harbor, we urge you to consider the following:

- **The harbor entrance, in its present condition, is becoming increasingly unsafe for navigation.**
- **Our neighbors, friends, and many recreational visitors, believe in the importance of maintaining access to the only safe harbor located between Birch Bay and Bellingham.**
- **The harbor is used by tribal and non-tribal fishers for recreational and commercial fisheries.**
- **Emergency oil spill response is based in the harbor.**
- **Property values will be adversely affected as the harbor entrance becomes more difficult to navigate.**
- **The harbor provides recreational opportunities for boaters, kayakers and canoers from all over the region who use the boat launch facility/marina.**
- **The marina provides the only sewage pump-out facility in the area.**

We urge you to consider and approve the dredge permit application.

Respectfully,

**Sharon M. Reese
Stephen K. Reese, Lt. Col. USMC, Ret.
4104 Sucia Drive
Ferndale WA 98248**

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