



August 5, 2016

Island County Parks and Recreation  
PO Box 5000  
Coupeville, WA 98239

RE: Support for the Barnum Point Project

Dear Island County Parks,

Washington Water Trails Association wishes to express its support for the Barnum Point acquisition project, being proposed by Island County in partnership with the Whidbey Camano Land Trust. We understand that the County and the Land Trust are working to protect the property for permanent public beach access, trails, and wildlife habitat, and that grant funding is necessary to complete the project, and we hereby offer our full and enthusiastic support for this pursuit.

WWTA is pleased to see the County working to protect the Barnum Point property, which is very much in alignment with our goal to increase and protect public access to human powered watercraft on the Cascadia Marine Trail. The CMT was designated a National Recreation Trail in 1994 and one of our goals is to have 'safe harbor' for watercraft every 5-8 miles.

With more than a mile of beach, 48 acres of tidelands, and trails through mature upland forest, the property would provide tremendous public benefit, offering a variety of low-impact public recreational opportunities, while protecting important fish and wildlife habitat. We are confident that, if funded, Barnum Point would be a landmark acquisition for Island County and a treasured place for the community for many generations to come. We STRONGLY support this partnership and project.

Please do not hesitate to reach out to me directly if you would like more information on WWTA or the Cascadia Marine Trail. Thank you for all you do in conservation and recreation.

Best Regards,

Rob Sendak  
Executive Director  
Washington Water Trails Association  
[rob@wwta.org](mailto:rob@wwta.org)  
206-545-9161

4649 Sunnyside Avenue N.  
Ste. #307  
Seattle, WA 98103  
206-545-9161

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