



## FRIENDS OF CAMANO ISLAND PARKS

July 4, 2016

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

RE: Support for the Barnum Point Project

Dear Island County Parks,

Friends of Camano Island Parks (FOCIP) 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.

FOCIP is an all-volunteer 501©3 organization with 240 members that includes 80 active volunteers. We build and maintain trails, kiosks, board walks, and viewing platforms on 16 public properties that consist of 1500 acres. We hold work parties on the first 3 Tuesday of most months with an average attendance of 20 volunteers. We assign task for the day and send groups of volunteers to State and County park projects. This acquisition fits our mission; to be stewards of, and protect, and acquire the natural areas of Camano Island.

FOCIP would support the Barnum Point Project with a minimum of 4 work parties a year doing noxious weed control, construction of the infrastructure and any other tasks that will be needed for the opening and maintaining the Barnum Point Property. FOCIP will also donate a minimum of \$10,000 toward the acquisition of the Barnum Point property. The exact dollar amount that we donate will be determined at our next Board Meeting on July 18, 2016.

Barnum Point defines the east side of the Kristoferson Creek estuary (Triangle Cove) which supports the only known run of salmon on Camano Island, and the west side of Livingston Bay. These estuaries provide critical habitat for shorebirds, eagles, and fishes such as the White Sturgeon and King Salmon.

Sincerely,

Tom Eisenberg

President of Friends of Camano Island Parks