

August 8, 2016

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

RE: Support for the Barnum Point Project

Dear Island County Parks,

On behalf of the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) I would like to express our 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.

WDFW is pleased to see the County working to protect the Barnum Point property which is very much in alignment with our mission to preserve and protect fish and wildlife habitat and provide public recreational opportunities. 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 know from past experience working with Island County and the Land Trust that the project is highly likely to succeed. 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.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Ruth Milner".

Ruth Milner
District 13 Wildlife Biologist
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife