

## **17-1063 – WRIA 6 Nearshore Prioritization: Outreach Component Documentation**

### **Whidbey Camano Land Trust**

For the landowner outreach component of the WRIA 6 Nearshore Prioritization Strategy SRFB grant, the Whidbey Camano Land Trust committed to contacting at least 10 landowners of priorities identified by the Nearshore Prioritization model.

The model assigned a score to each of the 6,859 shoreline parcels in Island County (Whidbey and Camano Island). Due to limitations in available data tidelands only parcels were not scored, but GIS work is being done to allow for their inclusion in future model runs.

Out of the top 50 scoring parcels there were four (4) properties which the Land Trust would consider acquisition priorities, and with landowners whom the Land Trust does not have an existing relationship. In these four cases sending a letter was deemed the appropriate first step. Signed copies of the sent letters are attached below.

After removing a few anomalies including properties the Land Trust has already protected and a few parcels with odd agency owner names that are essentially protected, letters were sent to priorities #1 (Casne), #2 (Green), #6 (Shallow), and #8 (Toulouse) from the list. See attached letters below.

Moreover, the Land Trust has existing relationships with the owners of six (6) additional priority parcels from the list as follows:

#10 (Strand – Camano/Elger Bay): The LT checks in occasionally with Mr. Strand after making initial contact when we were acquiring the neighboring Elger Bay Estuary Preserve. The family is getting closer to being ready to conserve the property.

#31 (Leque – Camano/Livingston Bay): We worked with the Leque Family in 2010 when we were involved in protecting numerous farmland holdings at Livingston Bay. That project failed due to one landowner. Currently we are reassessing the prospects for working in the area reaching out to the family. A letter would not be appropriate at this time and direct contact from the LT is needed.

#75 (Swanson – Whidbey/Glendale): The LT checks in occasionally with Stan and Steve Swanson after they initially contacted us when we were acquiring the neighboring Glendale Beach. The family is not ready to conserve the property.

Priorities in top 300 out of 6,859 shoreline parcels:

(Legacy Family Tree, LLC – Whidbey/Double Bluff): The LT is in active discussions with the LLC with hopes of conserving the property within the next two years.

(Frei – Whidbey/South Whidbey Forest Complex): The LT has reached out to Mr. Frei about conserving his large acreage of working forest land, including his shoreline parcels and for family health reasons he has not been able to meet as of yet, but he is open to meeting in 2020.

(Lea/Beach Farm – Whidbey/Admiralty Inlet): The LT is in active discussions with the Lea family with hopes of conserving the property within the next two years.

It is also worth noting that the Land Trust has ongoing relationships with owners of several critical tideland parcels. These include Ronald Wells who owns Triangle Cove at the mouth of Kristoferson

Creek on Camano Island (next to Barnum Point), and tideland owners at Dugualla Bay. As noted above, tidelands only parcels were not able to be included in the prioritization in this first effort, but GIS work is being done to allow for their inclusion in future model runs.

Finally, while the model is fundamentally sound, it will still need minor adjustments in the scoring to produce results in line with the WRIA 6 Salmon Technical Committee understanding of the science of salmon habitat and restoration. For instance, due to their large average the last three properties listed above (as well as the tidelands only parcels named) should fall within the top 50 - 100 salmon recovery priorities in the County, and the Lead Entity continues to test and work with Confluence Environmental to make the necessary tweaks.

Nonetheless, based on the grant agreement, the above actions meet the sponsor's landowner outreach requirements for SRFB grant 17-1063. Apart from final reporting, this completes all requirements of this grant.

Thank you,

Ryan Elting  
Whidbey Camano Land Trust  
Conservation Director  
260-222-3310

December 30, 2019

Robert J & Janet M Casne  
437 Tillicum Way  
Camano Island, WA 98282

Dear Robert and Janet,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, a non-profit community-based conservation organization that works with willing landowners across Island County to protect our treasured lands and waters. I'm reaching out to see if you would be interested in discussing conservation options for your property on Skagit Bay which appears to have a significant habitat value for marine and nearshore ecosystems, and species including salmon and orca whales.

The Land Trust is eligible to receive grant funds, primarily through the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, for the purchase of land or conservation easements to ensure your property remains intact and largely undeveloped into the future. Over the past 12 years we have completed 15 projects using \$4.2 million of Salmon Recovery Funding that has protected more than 3,400 acres (including Barnum Point, Livingston Bay, Dugualla Bay, and Possession Sound shoreline), and restored important habitats.

As I mentioned, the Land Trust only works with willing landowners, so if talking with us about conserving your property is not of interest to you, we won't bother you further and we will use the funds to protect and restore other important Puget Sound habitats. Of course, we would very much appreciate hearing from you either way, to know you received this letter.

If you are interested in discussing how conservation options might fit into your long-term plans for your property, I would be delighted to talk, and please call me at 360-222-3310.

My very best regards,



Ryan Elting  
Conservation Director

December 30, 2019

Richard M & Julie A Shallow  
148 Russell Road  
Camano Island, WA 98282

Dear Richard and Julie,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, a non-profit community-based conservation organization that works with willing landowners across Island County to protect our treasured lands and waters. I'm reaching out to see if you would be interested in discussing conservation options for your property on Triangle Cove which appears to have a significant habitat value for marine and nearshore ecosystems, and species including salmon and orca whales.

The Land Trust is eligible to receive grant funds, primarily through the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, for the purchase of land or conservation easements to ensure your property remains intact and largely undeveloped into the future. Over the past 12 years we have completed 15 projects using \$4.2 million of Salmon Recovery Funding that has protected more than 3,400 acres (including Barnum Point, Livingston Bay, Dugualla Bay, and Possession Sound shoreline), and restored important habitats.

As I mentioned, the Land Trust only works with willing landowners, so if talking with us about conserving your property is not of interest to you, we won't bother you further and we will use the funds to protect and restore other important Puget Sound habitats. Of course, we would very much appreciate hearing from you either way, to know you received this letter.

If you are interested in discussing how conservation options might fit into your long-term plans for your property, I would be delighted to talk, and please call me at 360-222-3310.

My very best regards,



Ryan Elting  
Conservation Director



December 30, 2019

Joshua Green Corporation and Joshua Green Foundation  
P.O. Box 21829  
Seattle, WA 98111-3829

Dear Joshua Green III,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, a non-profit community-based conservation organization that works with willing landowners across Island County to protect our treasured lands and waters. I'm reaching out to see if you would be interested in discussing conservation options for your property on Cultus Bay which appears to have a significant habitat value for marine and nearshore ecosystems, and species including salmon and orca whales.

The Land Trust is eligible to receive grant funds, primarily through the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, for the purchase of land or conservation easements to ensure your property remains intact and largely undeveloped into the future. Over the past 12 years we have completed 15 projects using \$4.2 million of Salmon Recovery Funding that has protected more than 3,400 acres (including Barnum Point, Livingston Bay, Dugualla Bay, and Possession Sound shoreline), and restored important habitats.

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If you are interested in discussing how conservation options might fit into your long-term plans for your property, I would be delighted to talk, and please call me at 360-222-3310.

My very best regards,



Ryan Elting  
Conservation Director

December 30, 2019

George Toulouse Jr.  
1926 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98101

Dear George,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Whidbey Camano Land Trust, a non-profit community-based conservation organization that works with willing landowners across Island County to protect our treasured lands and waters. I'm reaching out to see if you would be interested in discussing conservation options for your property on Penn Cove which appears to have a significant habitat value for marine and nearshore ecosystems, and species including salmon and orca whales.

The Land Trust is eligible to receive grant funds, primarily through the Washington Salmon Recovery Funding Board, for the purchase of land or conservation easements to ensure your property remains intact and largely undeveloped into the future. Over the past 12 years we have completed 15 projects using \$4.2 million of Salmon Recovery Funding that has protected more than 3,400 acres (including Barnum Point, Livingston Bay, Dugualla Bay, and Possession Sound shoreline), and restored important habitats.

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If you are interested in discussing how conservation options might fit into your long-term plans for your property, I would be delighted to talk, and please call me at 360-222-3310.

My very best regards,



Ryan Elting  
Conservation Director