Erika Shook

From: Jan Alderton <janetmalderton@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, August 15, 2018 1:04 PM
To: Lynda Guernsey; DL - Council
Subject: Help Southern Resident Killer Whales by Protecting San Juan County shorelines
Attachments: FSJ_SMP_Comments_to_SJCC_and_PC_08-13-2018_w_attachments.pdf

Dear Lynda,

Please share my comments, below, with the Planning Commission members.

Thank-you so much,

Janet Alderton
510-520-1073
PO Box 352
Deer Harbor, WA 98243

August 15, 2018

Dear Planning Commission Members & County Councilors,

Our San Juan Islands shorelines are an essential part of the Salish Sea ecosystem on which orca whales depend. Each shoreline development project seems to have little impact. But, over time, the cumulative burden of shoreline modifications is sending the orca whales that we treasure closer to extinction. If we continue business as usual, the Southern Resident Killer Whales will go extinct.

If we wish to save the wild orcas, we must preserve our wild shorelines and restore degraded shorelines. Without understanding the connection between shoreline alterations and loss of habitat for young salmon and the food they need, people have built too close to the water, cut down native trees and shrubs, built rock walls on top of beaches where the little fishes lay their eggs, built docks over eel grass meadows and kelp, and allowed polluted runoff to poison the near-shore habitats.

Our shoreline regulations need to be clear and precisely address the changes ordered by the Growth Management Hearings Board and the intent of the Growth Management Act. I support the wording changes suggested in the Friends of the San Juans' comment letter "Proposed Amendments to San Juan County Code Chapter 18.50 Shoreline Regulations" dated August 13, 2018.

Thank-you for taking extra time to help save the orca whales.

Janet Alderton

Deer Harbor, WA 98243

510-520-1073