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P. O. Box 92
Waldron Island, Washington 98297

April 23, 2012

Colin Maycock
San Juan County Community Development & Planning
P. O. Box 947
Friday Harbor, Washington 98250

S.J.C. COMMUNITY
APR 27 2012
DEVELOPMENT & PLANNING

Dear Colin:

Re January 30, 2012, Draft San Juan County Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report

Now that it is a matter of record that neither the Planning Department nor the Consultants want citizen input into the Shoreline Inventory and Characterization Report (the Report), the reason is obvious: The Report is supposed to be based on experts and science, and anecdotal evidence by citizen/layperson/property owners is considered neither "expert" nor "science", no matter how accurate. It is understandable that the Report cannot consider and evaluate every single parcel in the county; the resulting document would be the equivalent of the Affordable Care Act, and expecting citizens to read and understand it would be tantamount to expecting the U. S. Supreme Court to read and understand every one of the 2,200+ pages of so-called ObamaCare!

That said, if the Report is to be read and understood by ordinary citizens, then an explanation in lay terms as to the limits of its scope and purpose would be useful. Reach Delineations, for example, are, by necessity, general, and as a result generalizations are made as to reach characteristics. Characteristics of a specific parcel within a reach may differ substantially from the Report. Why not include a simple paragraph acknowledging these generalizations and point out that specific characteristics of specific parcels can – and should – be addressed through the permit process. This means that the permit process itself must be more transparent so that land owners can ensure that their concerns are addressed.

In some cases, however, adjustments should be made in your data. Our personal knowledge tells us that Reach 86 on the east side of Waldron Island extends too far south. What is the basis for the boundary between Reach 85 and Reach 86? Simple observation, even a topographical map, would put the boundary between 85 and 86 north of that shown on Map 37B, per the attached. What would it take for this map adjustment to be made?

Under date of October 8, 2011, we submitted numerous comments on the September 7, 2011, Draft. Some of those comments were addressed by you in Responses to Public Comments, some were not. Please note the following:

1. Section 4.17.2 Shoreline Use Patterns
Existing Land and Shoreline Use

Now that the land transfer from The Nature Conservancy to the San Juan Preservation Trust has been completed and widely publicized, you should be able to verify SJPT ownership in county records, as we have. And we repeat, it is The Nature Conservancy, not the.

2. Section 4.17.2 Shoreline Use Patterns

Land Use Designations

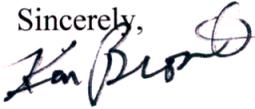
Shoreline Environment Designations

Please see comments on these sections sent in under date of October 8, 2011.

If a goal of the Report is for it to be understandable by ordinary citizens, then there needs to be an explanation of Shoreline Jurisdiction, and the relationship between Comprehensive Plan Land Use Designations which apply to areas outside (inland) of the 200-foot shoreline threshold, and Shoreline Use Environment Designations which apply to the areas within the 200-foot shoreline threshold. When does shoreline jurisdiction extend into the uplands? This is essential to understanding which regulations apply, and when, and should not be unfathomable by nonprofessionals.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

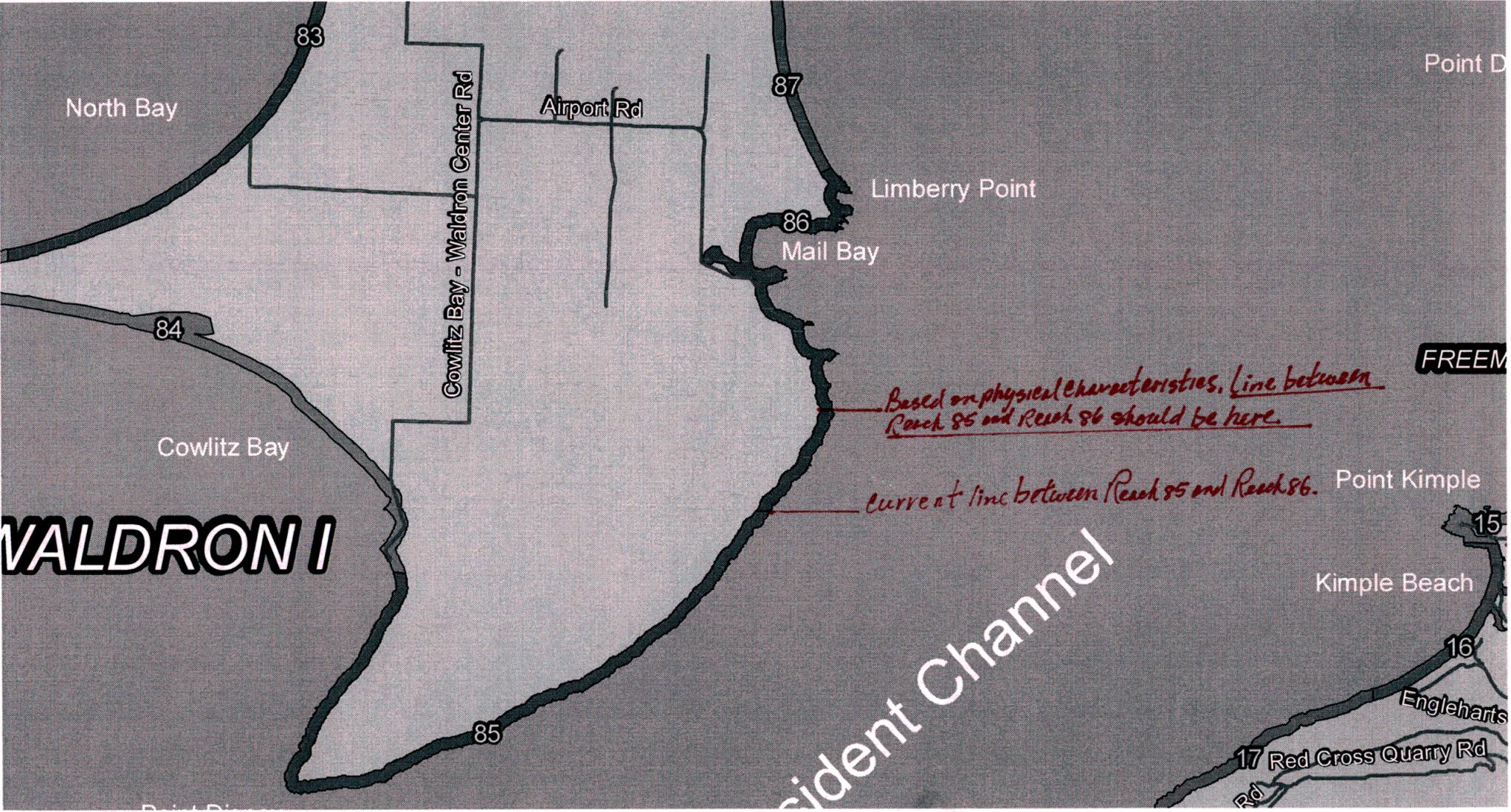


Ken and Miki Brostrom

xnw@att.net

360.317.1718

206.232.7954



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