



SKAGIT COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

RON WESEN, First District
KENNETH A. DAHLSTEDT, Second District
SHARON D. DILLON, Third District

July 22, 2011

The Honorable Rick Larsen
108 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington DC 20515

Dear Representative:

We write in support of your legislation to create a National Conservation Area in the San Juan Islands. National Conservation Areas are designated by Congress and administered by the Bureau of Land Management ("BLM") to conserve, protect, enhance, and manage public lands for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations, and feature exceptional scientific, cultural, ecological, historical, and recreational values.

We understand that your proposal would include just one area within Skagit County, namely the Reservation Bay Rocks. According to a 1980 BLM inventory, these two groups of rocks, less than one acre total, are within 100 yards of Deception Pass State Park in the northwest corner of Reservation Bay and mostly under water at high tide. They provide no opportunities for recreation.

Skagit County is supportive of voluntary conservation efforts in general and specifically supportive of including these areas in the proposed San Juan Conservation Area.

Sincerely,

Ron Wesen
Chair

Kenneth A. Dahlstedt
Commissioner

Sharon D. Dillon
Commissioner