

Theresa Rice

From: Diane Berry on behalf of PCD
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 12:48 PM
To: Kathy Cook; Libby Hudson; Ryan Ericson; Theresa Rice
Subject: FW: SMP redraft

From: Jan Morgan [<mailto:mimorg@w-link.net>]
Sent: Wednesday, September 07, 2011 12:37 PM
To: PCD
Subject: Fwd: SMP redraft

Hi,

We sent the following letter on August 13 to the City Clerk to forward to the City Council and the Planning Commission. We are forwarding it to PCD since our comments do not show up on the list of Citizen comments or the Comment Matrix. We don't need to see our comments on those lists but are concerned that our letter may not have been sent to the Planning Commission and the City Council members.

Thanks for checking on this for us,
The Morgans

Begin forwarded message:

From: Jan Morgan <mimorg@w-link.net>
Date: August 13, 2011 9:12:40 AM PDT
To: cityclerk@bainbridgewa.gov
Subject: SMP redraft

To the Planning Commission and the City Council, Bainbridge Island:

We are writing regarding a major concern in the proposed redraft of the SMP:

Based on existing use of Fletcher Bay, the Aquatic Conservancy designation should not be expanded to cover all of the Bay. The purpose of Aquatic Conservancy is stated in the SMP 3.2.2.1: "to protect, preserve, restore and manage aquatic areas of sensitive and unique ecological value that include those portions of the marine waters of the City that exist in a relatively natural state, are free of human influence, or which contain resources, biological diversity, or other features that are particularly sensitive to human activity or which contain unique, historical, archeological, cultural, or educational features that merit special protection."

Fletcher Bay is surrounded by single family homes. It is not in a relatively natural state, nor is it free from human influence. It is a lovely Bay and provides water access and year round moorage to more than 55 single family residences. Current owners appear to be good stewards of the Bay with

shellfish gardening on owners' titled tidelands and generally good practices to preserve and improve the ecology of the Bay. Federal and state requirements and owners' own best interests are adequate to ensure harmful practices are not employed.

The Bay is not rich in biological diversity (a situation that does need to be addressed from the perspective of the entire watershed which drains into the Bay). Designating all of the Bay as Aquatic Conservancy and thus restricting what homeowners on the Bay are allowed to do will not improve the ecological situation in the Bay. On the contrary, the existing creosote pilings and some hazardous dock conditions that should be removed will remain, if property owners are not allowed to improve and maintain their water access.

The inner part of Fletcher Bay previously designated as Aquatic Conservancy goes dry at low tide. This is consistent with other areas so designated on the Island. The outer portion of Fletcher Bay is a navigable waterway and should not be designated Aquatic Conservancy. The photo below is a clear illustration of the existing use of the outer portion of Fletcher Bay.



Thank you for taking the extra time to work on this challenging subject,

Jan & Mike Morgan