

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA
PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Evening Public Workshops held:

Monday, September 21, 2009 at Kopachuck Middle School

Recreational Program and Facilities

Connect boating waterways to develop an established "trail"
Shoreline access enhancement
Provide better access through use of stairs, ..., access ramps, etc.
Develop, enlarge amphitheatre fire ring
Fly fishing/shellfishing
Camping/kayaking
Moorage
"Gunkholing"
Shoreline exploration
Large shelter to encourage group events, i.e. Art Days, family reunions, weddings, scout events
Create a better group area for group activities
Develop day camps
Encourage group participation
Increase moorage
Construct dock for kayaks
Provide electricity in camping area and charge more for camping

Allow dog owners access to the water for their animals to swim with appropriate controls and restrictions
Improve weather protection shelters, i.e. larger, more numerous
Maintain existing campground
Construction of a kitchen shelter

Connect parks, roads and private farms to provide horse trails. This encourages people with farms to keep them as open space because they can use the trail system.
Upgrade comfort station
Wheel chair access all the way down to the beach
Better hiking trails
Add a playground, upgrade existing ones

Need for better access for people with disabilities – access to water access to bathroom facilities
Better individual picnic areas
Maintain camping experience
Create boat/kayak access; docks, buoys
Enhance access to beach for haymakers/small boats
Vehicle drop off closer to beach than current parking lot

Handicap access and egress - I broke my ankle up at Lime Kiln State Park this summer. There was no way to transport me except getting carried up by a fire crew – seems like most parks could have access wide enough to get a small vehicle near to the beach or central park....
Develop a better (more enhanced) facility within the park to allow for weddings, community events, souts, camps, wild life courses, etc. A larger covered, enclosed facility is needed. It could be a revenue generator.

Look at possibility of concessions in the park – fees need to be shared as a revenue stream for the park.
Safe moorage at marine parks that limits damage to marine resources (e.g. mooring buoys instead of anchoring)
Facilities that promote clean parks, i.e. restrooms and waste receptacles

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Would love to see trails further developed – expansion last year was a real plus. Seems one of the less expensive ways to further develop the park. Could also further develop the kayak rental program (maybe even row boats or something more stable for those of us who are less agile). Cutts Island is part of the park but very few can get there. We are hoping on day to get there.
Joemma – Modern comfort station; utility campsites needed; repair floats

Programs: Day camps, fitness, senior, art fairs, public markets, marine regattas, e.g. Thunderbird races
Pier or boat launch, better shoreline access

Transport to Cutt's Island, guided nature tours, canoe and/or kayak rental

We volunteer regularly at Kopachuck with HawkWild Watch – daytime environment programs that run mid-day, mid-week at low tides. Our observation is that less than half the people on the beach during these times are local. The majority are often ethnic. They come to clam and to sunbathe – often they spend several days camping and this is their vacation. This is DEFINITELY well beyond a local park although locals use it too.

Encourage year round use

Can park be added to public transport lines, bus lines?

Reach out to local city government for support

Where is Gig Harbor city government?

Where are the local community organizations?

Create active community volunteer organizations to support the education programs

The need for rangers and security

Ensure security is maintained at the parks through the use of rangers. Rangers provide preventative security.

Harstine Island, McMicken Island – State beaches for recreation vs. private beaches and commercial business owned. Protection to those established outside the borders of parks – includes protection to regional heritage and safe guards to Private and Commercial lands. Some private and commercial beaches and lands have natural resources that need preserving. Who enforces boundaries?

Fox Island navy laboratory?

Joemma signage not clear as to what is private and what is public-beaches

Anderson Island limited water trails – need to register. Could Parks do something similar? Like at Haley or McMicken or Eagle Islands.

McNeil Island

Tolmie – maybe need it – underwater park, buoys

Consider an access point at Steilacoom

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Encourage year round use
Liaison with Tacoma Schools, field trips, etc.
Can park be added to public transport lines, bus lines?
Reach out to local city government for support
Where is Gig Harbor city government?
Where are the local community organizations?
Create active community volunteer organizations to support the education programs
The need for rangers and security
Ensure security is maintained at the parks through the use of rangers. Rangers provide preventative security.
Coordinate with local parks to prevent redundant services.
Enhance/upgrade more sites
Improve/enlarge group site at Penrose Point.

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Add utility sites to all parks.

Programs are great – need more, keep them going (2 comments for)

Local park district receiving more pressure to develop camp sites

Coordinate use of water properties (local parks and state parks)

Partnership with Mountaineers or some group to develop more water trail sites around Key Peninsula – more water access (2 comments for)

Haley – parking area and trails would be great to develop

Would like to see Haley property used

Haley - Overflow camping

Haley - Equestrian area to rent out for revenue generation

Better signage/special events, etc. to attract people instead of just passing through to Hood Canal.

Cabins in parks – there aren't many non-camping accommodations on Peninsula

Working with local parks, public/partnership with Kayak and Mountaineers clubs

Destination Area – campgrounds fill up, indoor, more outdoor education

KP Parks – protect lands, not much for natural education

Like to see more science outdoor education

Keep access to water

Haley – trails more camping overflow for Joemma and Penrose

Equestrian on Haley, no covered arena, rent out equestrian/marine

Signage for Peninsula bring in from North Olympia attracting Kayakers and biking to this area.

Bring existing walking/hiking paths to “safe” status – repairs much needed on missing steps, hand rails and stairs

Place single trash cans at pack it in sites. I'm forever bringing home trash from others

McMicken Island water trail site, mooring buoys

Increase moorage at heavily used areas

Important to keep as much shoreline as possible open to public

As long time boater, I headed to Canada because I could walk on the beaches.

Semi-primitive camping (no hook-ups, attractive to tents) is becoming difficult to find. Keep campgrounds attractive – not catering to massive RV's.

Finish paths started that go no where

McMicken Island – restore campsite on island as part of Cascadia Marine Trail

Harstine Island Park – expand trail network; consider primitive marine trail campsite on beach

Hope Island – keep as is – floats could be expanded, but no dock for boats – that would drastically alter the way people experience this park

Jarrell Cove – Improve the Marine trail campsite – add fire ring, kayak rack

Maintain free access to shoreline

Natural Resource Issues

Protect natural state of parks – not highly developed - “rustic”-designed improvements

Maintain all natural resources

Do not sell or transfer “low intensity” zones

Cultivate areas where native harvestable foods can thrive and are protected

Protect shoreline

Don't we need to preserve areas for natural flora and fauna?

Destination vision has nothing to do with it, other than officials wanting to create another “Yellowstone”
Vision – even Eastern WA tax payers like the opportunity to experience inland saltwater – be it fishing, beach combing, etc. In turn, some of us on the Westside like what is offered in eastern WA. Take it away and we'll lose these parks and space forever.

Habitat connectivity

Coordinate with local gov't re: open space corridors, biodiversity management areas, TDR – etc.

Develop/improve the marine trail system between the South Sound parks

Shoreline access exclusive to Kopachuck; only access in local area

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Preserve old growth forest
Protect natural flora and fauna, such as trillium, get the ivy out
Regulatory – permits/need to know local gov't permit requirements

Regional Heritage

Puget Sound as a whole has very little public access to the water. Kopachuck State Park is a prime area which provides public access to the water. To close the park would close even more public access to the water

Create active community volunteer organizations to support the education programs
Locals bring guests from other areas (states) to experience the unique Puget Sound parks only available here. Otherwise **our** parks will be a destination if promoted in State tourism literature.

Family histories, children's education, and life experiences

Where families can share life experiences which creates bonds that keep families and relationships together with memories

Create active community volunteer organizations to assist in infrastructure maintenance

My childhood experiences at Fay Bainbridge stayed in my head for 50 years. My family moved to NJ from Bainbridge when I was 7. When we finally returned to Bainbridge Island 50 years later, my first stop was Fay Bainbridge and my 2nd stop was Fort Ward State Park – just up the beach from where I used to live. E now have a new grandchild – our great dream for her is that we can instill similar memories and appreciation of the sound environment ...

Fond memories of annual trip to Jarrell Cove by boat for a family escape from city life.

Wilderness conservation – Stewardship of resources

Reach out to local city government for support

Where is Gig Harbor city government?

Where are the local community organizations?

Weddings, family reunions, creating traditions, inner-city kids link with Tacoma, community outreach
All state parks are a catalyst in the melting pot of state pride, community involvement and pride and travelers from other states that return frequently because of the pride and memories they have in our parks.

Liaison with Tacoma Schools, field trips, etc.

Can park be added to public transport lines, bus lines?

Interpretive and Environmental Potential

Promote use of day use amphitheatre for local organizations such as YMCA, Boy Scouts, etc.

Learning opportunities for marine and land conservation

Interpretive trails (pointing out local plant life)

Shoreline education; local schools; day camps, Boy/Girl Scouts

Increase integration of nearby schools

Docent group; trail guides; "edible plant" hikes, how to prepare foods, Boy/Girl Scout leadership training, trail rating system, upgrade day use area and include amphitheatre

Develop a working relationship with the school district to have students volunteer in the park

Kopachuck is accessible to hundreds of students that are literally across the road. There could be a model educational project between State Parks and the school district for ecology, marine biology, forestry, geology.

Develop stronger relationships with school district for building educational opportunities.

Educated young people will help preserve the environmental quality and heritage of the park.

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA
PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Other

The need for rangers and security

What happens to McNeil Island if the prison is closed?

Ensure security is maintained at the parks through the use of rangers. Rangers provide preventative security.

It isn't fair to turn parks over to locals to be taxed and to maintain. So others out of area can use for free. Even little Cutts Island is special.

I believe turning over to other entities is passing the buck out of state treasury. It's still the same people.

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Evening Public Workshops held:

Tuesday, September 22, 2009 at Key Peninsula Middle School

Recreational Program and Facilities

Coordinate with local parks to prevent redundant services.

Enhance/upgrade more sites

Improve/enlarge group site at Penrose Point.

Add utility sites to all parks.

RFK – Heritage – fishing or crabbing at Joemma, dock is cool.

Local park district receiving more pressure to develop camp sites

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Regional Heritage - RFK – used to go fishing, dock, crabbing

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Interpretive and Environmental Potential

Programs are great – need more, keep them going (2 comments for)

Like to see more science outdoor education

Other

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Evening Public Workshops held:

Thursday, September 24, 2009 at Harstine Community Hall

Recreational Program and Facilities

Bring existing walking/hiking paths to "safe" status – repairs much needed on missing steps, hand rails and stairs

Place single trash cans at pack it in sites. I'm forever bringing home trash from others

McMicken Island water trail site, mooring buoys

Increase moorage at heavily used areas

Important to keep as much shoreline as possible open to public

As long time boater, I headed to Canada because I could walk on the beaches.

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Hope Island – keep as is – floats could be expanded, but no dock for boats – that would drastically alter the way people experience this park

Jarrell Cove – Improve the Marine trail campsite – add fire ring, kayak rack

Keep the buoys for year round use

Keep the docks in the water year round

Devise a system for winter (rainy, dark, etc.) boaters to e-mail with permit # and dates used at – a buoy park, e.g. McMicken for an actual headcount

Full RV hookups at Jarrell Cove

Less boats moored at McMicken park

Enforcement of park boundaries at McMicken

Enforcement of clamming rules

Incorporate McMicken into canoe accessible camping

Harstine Island – learning center ideas, group camp

Jarrell Cove – is one of the few completely safe areas for small children to boat (rowing, kayaking) and for anyone to swim

Harstine Island – more trails, environmental learning area, water trail site

"Boat In" parks, whether human powered or motorized are very special

If more help is needed – Friends Groups can help, as WWTA does...

Maintain tide lands for public use, avoid aquaculture

Expand moorage at McMicken to accommodate large number of boats

2 trails to beach on Harstine Is. Park has/have real need for maintenance or improvements.

Private property owner rights

Natural Resource Issues

Post "private property" signs where necessary. They are located at the north end of Harstine Island park but not south.

Avoid use of non-native plant species

Maintain natural habitats such as snags and down logs

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Will they continue to be replenished as they are used in the usual way. Does parks have a plan to replace these resources, i.e. shellfish, shellstock sealife, forestry – wildlife. Who oversees their protections?

Washington Parks must be treasured and protected for current and future generations. Land and islands are vanishing as populations encroach. Under State Management rather than local management these areas stand a better chance of surviving.

Regional Heritage

If State Parks turns Parks over to other agencies, i.e. county, city, etc. We the people of Wash. State lose ownership and control over future use of these lands. What are we leaving for future generations?

Preserve as undeveloped but maintain trails at Harstine Island Park, (as it is most pristine of local parks)

Better/more accessible information on how to enjoy the marine parks.

We are new to the area, but keep hearing how – (Jarrell Cove, McMicken Island, Hope Island, Eagle Island) are the best.

A treasure to keep “unique” to the area

Interpretive and Environmental Potential

Junior Rangers – helping children realize potentials for themselves by learning about nature

Higher education potential WITH HELP on access

Use private sources to assist with experience of the public?.....

Interpretive board for tide pools at McMicken Island

Historical signage that looks modern is always helpful

Education opportunities need to be really explored and determine cooperative endeavors with both public and private school systems

Note: Biology teacher at Shelton HS desperately wants to have opportunity for his students to study from these various islands.

Early island life

Jarrell Cove – Wingert Farm Interpretation, Squaxin people and use of islands.

Other

Harstine Island, McMicken Island – State beaches for recreation vs. private beaches and commercial business owned. Protection to those established outside the borders of parks – includes protection to regional heritage and safe guards to Private and Commercial lands. Some private and commercial beaches and lands have natural resources that need preserving. Who enforces boundaries?...

What's up with Scott Property acquisition? This effect private and commercial owners – property owners vested 100 years in this area.

Environment protection – helping protect our ecosystems, including beaches trees, etc.

Concern that decisions might be revenue driven, i.e. build more RV sites to encourage collection of higher fees.

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Evening Public Workshops held:

Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at Olympia Center

Recreational Program and Facilities

Signage to parks needs improvement

Make these parks more available to non-boaters

Need a story that combines/looks at the system from all different directions

Consider links to off-site overnight opportunities

- Underwater park
- Interpretation
- Marine Trails
- Larger boat opportunities
- Water links to upland opportunities (camping, picnicking, etc.)
- Local flavor

Allowing rafting- sailor's code?

Water trails website – add other opportunities

Pamphlet for marine opportunities

Showers at Penrose Point

Restroom at Joemma Beach

Safe Kayaking opportunity in South Sound

Need variety of opportunities

Advertise South Sound as a destination

Ladders on docks – safety

Need to keep links in Cascadia Marine Trail

Not many places where families can do multiple activities – swimming, clamming, boating, camping, etc.

Consider buoys at Haley

Consider cabins, Adirondack shelters – Hope Island, other places

Need fishing/crabbing piers

Don't have to do everything everywhere

Consider seasonal variations – which parks offer opportunities for winter activities

Include hotels and other accommodations info.

More buoys at Eagle and Hope Islands

Do we need volunteer coordinators to help clean?

Need long term parking opportunities. To park and then spend several days on the water – consider annual pass like DNR

Need better signing for parking, e.g. Kopachuck

Prefer not to have electricity on docks.

Natural Resource Issues

Consider dispersing wag bags

Try to retain lower intensity in South Sound Parks

Need more pumpout stations with better reliability

Registration system? Common to all parks in system

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Establish in sites where over-use is a potential
Consider pack it in – Pack it out
Boating and WWTA groups willing to volunteer with Stewardship weed pulls, etc.
Work with local counties on shoreline permitting
Keep places primitive – nothing wrong with that
Limit development – let resource protection be a principal drive of development

Regional Heritage

I got married on McMicken Island
Memories of Taking kids to these places
Explore programming partnerships with tribes (e.g. Squaxin Island)
Work with Squaxin Island Tribe to consider partnership to re-look at Squaxin Island

Interpretive and Environmental Potential

Showcase good shoreline management
Maritime museum on Stretch Island
Marine education center in South Sound

Other

Multi-county system – not manageable by local park districts
Fox Island navy laboratory?
Joemma signage not clear as to what is private and what is public-beaches
Anderson Island limited water trails – need to register. Could Parks do something similar? Like at Haley or McMicken or Eagle Islands.
Include hotels and other accommodations info.
McNeil Island
Tolmie – maybe need it – underwater park, buoys
Consider an access point at Steilacoom

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA

PUBLIC WORKSHOP COMMENTS

Evening Public Workshops held:

South Sound Sailing Society CAMP Presentation
Tuesday, November 10, 2009 at Olympia Yacht Club

Recreational Program and Facilities

Educate the public. Leave the campground cleaner than you found it. Many of us do not need facilities. There should be an expectation that the public will be responsible for stewardship. I've observed the "trashing" at Penrose - something is seriously wrong when people who use a resource have so little sense of ownership and stewardship. Please identify public beaches so they can be identified from the water - even the undeveloped (or especially the undeveloped) parks. Keep Squaxin! They didn't make more waterfront property. We can wait for access. I've already walked the beaches at McMicken and Eagle Islands because of the poison oak. It would be wise to have trails like on Hope Island which also has poison oak - wide enough to keep people safe. It would be fun to organize a cruise/work party to help clear trails/clean the beach. Our annual V** Bay Cruise includes a beach cleaning component.

We should not give up ownership of Squaxin Island. We need to preserve our right to ownership. Once we give up owner rights we cannot reverse the process. What is the annual cost to Parks to own Squaxin Island? Very little. Retain ownership until access can be negotiated in the future. This is a jewel of a park, don't deny future generations the opportunity to experience it!

Would love to have online info both for marine facilities and cultural/interpretive.

Trails/on-shore activities.

Shelters/firerings for group gatherings.

Maybe "A Foot and a Float" book series by region for Sound.

Partner with cell phone company to put up towers in main parks -> then send guests on text-guided tours that begin when you enter park boundaries.

Offer option for people to purchase park gifts for holidays like WWF, i.e. Charitable Gifts to loved ones instead of presents to pay for trees, repairs, etc.

GPS coordinates on internet of all public lands.

State Parks is doing well. Buoys and docks sturdy, secure. Restrooms - good design, always TP, clean. Signs - fees, wildlife warnings, (poison oak). Campsites - nice tables, clear of hazard branches, wildlife proof boxes (Blake). Annual permits are convenient!

Add two buoys to Eagle Island. Add power to Jarrell and Penrose on the docks. Use internet to mobilize volunteers for specific projects - give lots of notice, sign up via internet.

DNR tidelands should be identified by GPS coordinates in a web database - no installation or maintenance costs, no environmental impacts. More dock space in marine parks. No-mar buoys. More trails connected to marine parks.

Protect and keep Squaxin Island site. Existing facilities and properties should be maintained but not overdeveloped. Area for pets and encourage owners to clean up droppings. More buoys in anchorage. Make boaters more aware of their noise pollution.

Post signs at both ends of beach at Harstine State Park. Don't give up Squaxin Island park. I want it back as a park. I don't care what the beach costs. It's worth what ever it costs to get it back.

More buoys - more buoys. Power boats monopolize the buoys. Can you allocate a % of the buoys for sailboats only. Wifi - interpretive and historical programs.

Your mooring buoys are not boat friendly. They have a lot of sharp metal parts that bang and gouge my boat all night long. Softer buoys would be nice. Keep Jarrell Cove!

Breakwater at Joemma. Mark the beach boundary as you look at it from the water. McMicken - put some tables/benches in. Buoys at Jarrell Cove area too close. Don't give up Squaxin.

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McMicken Island - clear brush back between park bulletin board and out toward restrooms. Provide a few tables and benches (and at least one covered area eventually). And 1 fire pit and barbeque. Hope Island - more buoys and access to landings on South end of Hope Island. Buoys on West side have strong current at times and people can't row from their boats very easily.

Use poles for moorage like Blake Island uses.

30 amp electrical service at Jarrell Cove.. Yacht clubs can help you maintain your or our parks. Just ask. We can all pull together in hard times.

Keep Squaxin Island land. Allow dogs on beach. Establish "mandatory" rafting policy. Mark all State land boundaries on the water. Eagle Island is only transient - put more buoys. Joemma needs upland trails. Sound control - no generators after 9:00 p.m.

"Adopt a Beach/Park" similar to "Adopt a Road" that organizations like South Sound Sailing Society could help with education, envision - maintenance, litter marking signage, etc. Volunteer coop with services that there is no funding for.

Thank you for the good job you do! It's easier to sit here and criticize but it's definitely a complex set of issues. Thank you for soliciting our input!

Every marine park we've been to (mostly Joemma, Jarrell Cove, Tolmie) never has a pen at the billboard. I know people haven't paid, because they didn't have a pen. I accidently left mine at the last marinea and didn't have one to lend - I had to bring my envelope home and mail a check afterwards. How many never pay? I think more than you know. Also, the marine campsites at Joemma are not marked on the bulletin board. We never knew there was such a thing until our 6th trip - just talking to someone. There has never been any mention of the marine campsites, a description/what/who they are for at the pay station. In the past we've come by boat and hauled all our crap tents, sleep bags, etc. all the way up the hill and we could have camped in a marine site over from the picnic tables but - if you come in at the boat landing there are no signs. We never knew! Only other comment is more buoys at each park! Maybe if there was a person at the pay booth, after ...in, you could really pay! p.s. don't close any parks! We love them all. Don't give away Squaxin Island rights!

Programs - No. Facilities - Yes. Help people find all public parklands - don't hide any of them. More mooring buoys. Mark good anchorages - (park charts?). Dump seldom used. Parks - provide sign-in at each so usage can be measured.

Additional mooring buoys at all marine parks.

The Growth Management Act authorizes collection of developer impact fees to maintain adopted levels of service for essential public facilities. Parks are considered an eligible use of impact fees, and are regularly employed for local parks. Has the Parks Program looked into impact fees as a funding mechanism? I can imagine a mechanism whereby fees are collected within an appropriate area of jurisdiction - county level? Proximity to water level? Radius of 'x' miles to an individual facility? - That are then used to acquire new property, improve under-developed sites, etc. Not naive that impact fees are not popular, but not so hard to get public support for fees that someone else pays! For on-going maintenance revenues for marine parks an opt-out option associated with our boat registration renewals (including mandatory for charter boat registration renewal. Thank you for coming to talk with us. You guys do a great job! Please add me to your info list. Also - hold on to Squaxin Island! Don't give it up. Consider providing boaters with GPS coordinates for beach locations, landing areas and beach boundaries - where these might be confusing. Please retain Squaxin and work toward solution of access.

Online coordinates for state parks. Keep Squaxin Island park at all costs.

Picnic tables on McMicken after all there are nice toilets there. More buoys would help preserve bottom flora and fauna. Do not transfer Squaxin Island property.

Get access to Squaxin! Is it possible to have a quiet park; no generators, sound systems, etc.

Put in a park at Squaxin Island.

Don't give up Squaxin.

KOPACHUCK/JARRELL COVE AREA
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Buoys - more buoys: Eagle Island, Hope Island, McMicken Island. Hope and McMicken would also benefit from a large picnic shelter - maybe a dingy dock - it would sure make island access better. Don't give up Squaxin Island property.

More buoys. Easier access to lands from water access - dinghy docks. More land usage.

Keep Squaxin Island: to give it to the Indian Nation is like giving in to extortion. Make it easier to purchase our annual state park fee.

Keep Squaxin property.

Plan for additional marine "pump out" stations (so sewage stays out of Puget Sound). Education and awareness campaign regarding damaging effects of plastic litter in the marine environment. Any plan to expand volunteer opportunities to maintain parks. (Can lead to an increased sense of "ownership" by the public.).

Any efforts to monitor and improve compliance with moorage/camping fees?

Boundary signs on beach at Joemma so we know how far we can walk. Visible markers for trailhead or share access on Hope Island. Save Squaxin Island property.

Natural Resource Issues

NONE

Regional Heritage

NONE

Interpretive and Environmental Potential

Would love to have online info both for marine facilities and cultural/interpretive.

Other

NONE