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SEP 30 2019

ALL COUNCIL MEMBERS
WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL

9/25/2019

Dear Members of the Whatcom County Council,

We are writing to express our opposition to resolution 2019-035, related to creating a no shooting zone in and around Drayton Harbor. Delta Waterfowl is a waterfowl hunting and conservation organization with significant membership in and around your community and across Washington.

Legal and regulated hunting has long been demonstrated to be incredibly safe and as such, we are opposed to any new regulations that compromise hunting opportunity for unspecified benefit to public safety. We are not aware of any instances where legal hunting in the community has resulted in threats to public safety and or property damage.

Furthermore, firearm noise as a result of hunting activity is protected by WAC 173-60-050(4)(j). We believe that firearm noise also pales in comparison, in both frequency and sound level, to other noises present in the area (such as car alarms, construction work, etc.). Therefore, this resolution should not be passed based on the perspective that firearm discharge noise as a result of hunting activity significantly disturbs the peace during the short waterfowl hunting season.

Passage of this resolution would end a long tradition of waterfowl hunting on Drayton Harbor that families have participated in for generations. We are eager to work with you to find a solution that appropriately protects public safety while not unnecessarily impeding hunting access and opportunity.

Sincerely,

Joel Brice

Vice President of Waterfowl and Hunter Recruitment Programs