

RESOLUTION NO. _____

**ESTABLISHING THE INTENT OF THE WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL TO CONDUCT A
HEARING ON A PROPOSAL TO CREATE A NO SHOOTING ZONE IN DRAYTON HARBOR,
AS REQUESTED BY THE CITY OF BLAINE**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Whatcom County Code Chapter 9.32.010, a no shooting zone is an area designated by the County Council in which the discharge of firearms is prohibited; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council is elected to represent the concerns of the citizens of Whatcom County and is charged with the broad responsibility of protecting the health, safety, and general welfare of the public; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Whatcom County Code Chapter 9.32.020 and RCW 36.32.120, the County Council has the authority and power to establish no shooting zones; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Whatcom County Code Chapter 9.32.050, the creation of a no shooting zone could result in the imposition of civil penalties; and

WHEREAS, RCW 9.41.300 (2) specifically states that counties may enact laws and ordinances restricting the discharge of firearms in any portion of their respective jurisdiction where there is a reasonable likelihood that humans, domestic animals, or property will be jeopardized; and

WHEREAS, on July 12, 2019, the Council received a resolution from the City of Blaine (Resolution No. 1765-19, see attached Exhibit A) requesting the Council form a no shooting zone for all aquatic areas and tidelands within Drayton Harbor; and

WHEREAS, twenty-two other no shooting zones have been established throughout Whatcom County as a means to protect public safety and welfare; and

WHEREAS, the Council cannot form a no shooting zone without first requesting review and comment from specific County departments and holding a public hearing on the proposal.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council will prepare a proposed ordinance to establish the requested no shooting zone and assign a number to the proposed zone.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council will seek review of the proposed ordinance by the Prosecutor's Office, Sheriff's Office, County Executive, Planning and Development Services Department, Public Works Department, and the Washington State Department of Wildlife.

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BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Clerk of the Council will schedule the proposed ordinance for introduction and public hearing by the Council, with notice of such hearing to be published in accordance with state and county law in the newspaper of general circulation within the county and the newspaper of general circulation within the proposed boundaries of the no shooting zone.

APPROVED this ____ day of August, 2019.

ATTEST: WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Rud Browne, Council Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Civil Deputy Prosecutor

EXHIBIT A

RESOLUTION NO. 1765-19

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON, TO SEEK DESIGNATION OF ALL UNINCORPORATED PORTIONS OF DRAYTON HARBOR AQUATIC AREA, TIDELANDS AND SHORELINE AS A NO SHOOTING ZONE PURSUANT TO WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 9.32 .

Whereas, portions of the Drayton Harbor aquatic area, tidelands and shoreline are within the city limits, and

Whereas, portions of Drayton Harbor aquatic area, tidelands and shoreline are within Whatcom County jurisdiction, and

Whereas, hunting and the discharge of firearms is prohibited in the city limits, and

Whereas, it is difficult for members of the public to distinguish between incorporated and unincorporated areas particularly on the open water, which causes numerous hunters to inadvertently move into areas where hunting and discharge of firearms is illegal, and

Whereas, our citizens have expressed concerns about gunfire near homes and property and repeatedly call for police response to such incidents, and

Whereas, unincorporated portion of Drayton Harbor aquatic area, tidelands and shoreline are within and adjacent to urban growth areas, and

Whereas, population is expanding and housing density is increasing within the areas surrounding Drayton Harbor both within the City and an areas or unincorporated Whatcom County,

Whereas, the Revised Code of Washington (RCW 36.32.120) provides Whatcom County authority to designate no shooting zones, and

Whereas, Whatcom County Code Section 9.32 "Unlawful Discharge of Firearms" designates twenty-two no shooting zones, most lying within and adjacent to cities, urban growth areas and other locations of higher density development,

Now therefore, the City Council of the City of Blaine hereby resolves to seek designation of all the aquatic areas and tidelands within Drayton Harbor located within Whatcom County as a no shooting zone pursuant to Whatcom County Code Section 9.32.

PASSED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON, on the 8th day of July, 2019, and approved by the Mayor on the same day.

CITY OF BLAINE, WASHINGTON



Bonnie Onyon, Mayor

ATTEST/AUTHENTICATE:



Samuel Crawford, City Clerk

CITY OF BLAINE-PROPOSED NO SHOOTING ZONE
(UNOFFICIAL MAP PREPARED BY PUBLIC WORKS, AT THE REQUEST OF THE CLERK OF THE COUNCIL)

