

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

**AMENDING WHATCOM COUNTY CODE 9.32, UNLAWFUL DISCHARGE  
OF FIREARMS, TO ESTABLISH A NO SHOOTING ZONE IN THE  
DRAYTON HARBOR AREA OF WHATCOM COUNTY**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Whatcom County Code 9.32.050 the County Council may, upon its own initiative, pass a resolution declaring its intent to form a no shooting zone; and

**WHEREAS**, on July 23, 2019, the Council approved Resolution 2019-035, declaring its intent to conduct a public hearing to consider creating a no shooting zone in the Drayton Harbor area of Whatcom County, as requested by the City of Blaine; and

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

**WHEREAS**, a “no shooting zone” is an area designated by the County Council in which the discharge of firearms is prohibited; 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**, according to the request submitted by the City of Blaine (see City of Blaine Resolution No. 1765-19, attached as Exhibit A to this resolution):

- It is difficult for members of the public to distinguish between incorporated and unincorporated areas, particularly on open water, which causes numerous hunters to inadvertently move into areas where hunting and discharge of firearms is illegal;
- Citizens have expressed concerns about gunfire near homes and property and repeatedly call for police response to such incidents;
- Unincorporated portions of Drayton Harbor aquatic area, tidelands, and shoreline are within and adjacent to urban growth areas;
- Population is expanding and housing density is increasing within the areas surrounding Drayton Harbor both within the City and in areas of unincorporated Whatcom County; and

**WHEREAS**, twenty-three other no shooting zones have been established throughout Whatcom County as a means to protect the public.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED** by the Whatcom County Council that a new section of Whatcom County Code 9.32 shall be added to create a no-shooting zone in the Drayton Harbor area as outlined in Exhibit B to this ordinance.

**BE IT FINALLY ORDAINED** that Tribal members exercising treaty rights to hunt on traditional hunting grounds that are open and unclaimed are not subject to this ordinance.

**ADOPTED** this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2019.

**ATTEST:**

**WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rud Browne, Council Chair

**APPROVED AS TO FORM:**

Approved  Denied

\_\_\_\_\_  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jack Louws, Executive

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Exhibit A**  
**(Drayton Harbor No Shooting Zone – City of Blaine Resolution)**

**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 8<sup>th</sup> 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

**Exhibit B**  
**(Drayton Harbor No Shooting Zone)**

**9.32.350 No shooting zone number 24 established.**

A. No shooting zone number 24 is also known as the Drayton Harbor area.

B. The boundaries are described as follows:

That portion of Sections 7 and 18, Township 40 North, Range 1 East and Sections 1, 2, 11, 12 and 13, Township 40 North, Range 1 West, W.M., Whatcom County, Washington described as follows: Beginning along Drayton Harbor Road (Co. Rd. No. 37) at the intersection of the ordinary high water mark of Drayton Harbor with the limits of the city of Blaine, Whatcom County, Washington; thence easterly along said ordinary high water mark to the intersection with the northerly face of an existing bridge over California Creek; thence easterly along said northerly bridge face to the intersection with said ordinary high water mark; thence northerly along said ordinary high water mark to the intersection with said city limits; thence along said city limits westerly, northerly and southerly to the point of beginning.