

* I have not received any responses to my email, so thought I would mail it in as a back-up. I look forward to a response - Sincerely, Andrew *

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From: andrew@blueturtlespa.com
Sent: Wednesday, October 9, 2019 12:37 PM
To: 'council@co.whatcom.wa.us'
Subject: reference the 7pm council meeting oct 8 2019

Councilors,

At the public meeting on the proposed ordinance amendment to ban all shooting on Drayton harbor, I did not hear of a proposed date by which you will make your decision on the proposal put forward by the city of Blaine. Do you have a decision date?

I was unable to get a sense last night that the council was concerned about the growing population around Drayton harbor and therefore the magnified potential for life and property harm by maintaining an old rural tradition of hunting in a populated and growing residential area of the county. With so many areas of the county as truly rural, it is hard to believe that a ban on shooting in Drayton harbor would impose any hardships on hunters.

Their 'sport' runs from this weekend thru mid/end Jan. All other sport/recreational activities on Drayton harbor are therefore impacted and are thus secondary to their sport. The rest of us will have to stop kayaking, canoeing, walking, fishing, bird watching etc while a minority of people have their way - when they could be in rural areas and not impact the majority of us as we use Drayton harbor.

Question for you based on the meeting last night: is hunting allowed in Bellingham bay? are people in Bellingham, south hill, Fairhaven etc impacted by hunting? do the Lummi people hunt around the Lummi nation, Lummi island, Portage island, anywhere in Bellingham bay? there are definitely people hunting on the bay side of Semiahmoo spit so the notion put forward by 1 tribal representative that we will be 'throwing' them into a dangerous area is not valid as it certainly is not a concern for hunters according to the evidence that they choose to go hunting there. If any of you lived out here or visited out here at the crack of dawn and all day Saturday and Sunday you would be able to see for yourselves.

The fish and game guy (i think his last name is valentine?) said he spends maybe 100 hrs at Drayton harbor to ensure regulations are met. He is only 1 of 2 officers - so by inference of the number of hours he spends here, he works all the time?. Does he work weekends? If he were called, how long would it take him to get to Drayton harbor? Where would he be coming from? What is the extent of his territory that he has to cover during the next 3 months? Surely as a government official he would log his time doing the rounds in his territory? There must be some way that he explains his time to taxpayers - and a way that he can better answer the amount of time he spends at Drayton harbor than 'a guesstimate' of maybe 100 hours? Maybe the council can investigate this more and get some answers for your constituents, and others who support your efforts to have a shooting ban in the whole of Drayton Harbor?

Sincerely
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