

On the Water, Along the Shore



Public Access and Awareness in Shoreline Master Programs

Maren Van Nostrand, April, 2008



Want to go for a paddle?

“I can’t or don’t wish to go because”

- “It is not necessary.
- It is too much fun.
- It is time consuming and complicated.
- I don’t have the equipment.
- I wouldn’t know where to launch a boat.
- It costs me/the company too much money.
- I don’t have enough experience.
- It is not in my scope of work.”

There is a limit to the knowledge we gain from our desks,
and no replacement for the knowledge gained from
getting out onto the water.

By experiencing that which we aim to protect,
we are motivated and connected with our work,
and our efforts are more effective.

Throughout history people have gained both a physical as well as
spiritual connection to the waters by being on them.

By protecting access to the water, we are protecting treasured cultural
landmarks and the living tradition of hand-powered boating.

~ Maren Van Nostrand, April, 2008



Maren Van Nostrand, April, 2008



“Sure, I’ll go! Because...

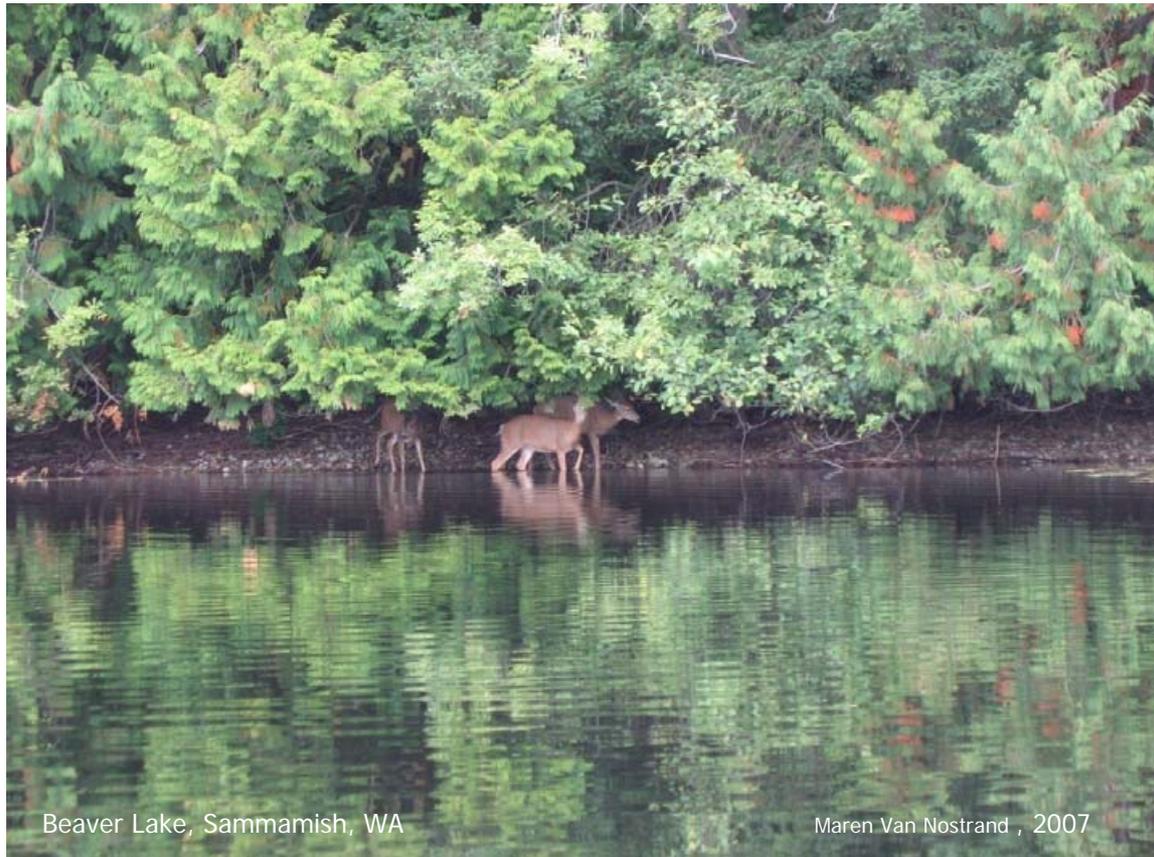
- “I enjoy being on the water, as many people do.
- I am tired of sitting at my desk.
- I have rarely if ever seen our shorelines from the water.
- I lack a sense of purpose in my work.
- I am losing motivation in my work.
- I am disconnected from the community and need to understand it better.
- I have a public meeting coming up with property owners yet I have no real conception of the fabric of the shoreline and its issues.
- Dr. Smith would appreciate it if I witnessed firsthand his communities’ issue of deteriorating bulkheads.”



WHAT THE SMP GAINS WHEN WE GO AFLOAT

- *Awareness and Appreciation*
- *Environmental Education and Stewardship*
- *Cost-efficient Data Gathering*
- *Solutions to Public Access Problems*
- *Public Involvement and Support*

By experiencing that which we aim to protect, we are motivated and connected with our work.



Beaver Lake, Sammamish, WA

Maren Van Nostrand , 2007

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A Living Tradition

Coastal, lake and river people are boat people.



One out of every five persons in Washington engage in hand-powered boating.
Source: The State's RCO office (former IAC)

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ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION AND STEWARDSHIP



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Experiencing the water and the shorelines
expands our minds through the
witnessing of the bigger picture.

- Creative thinking
- Problem solving
- Human culture
- Community character



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Discovery Leads to Awareness and Meaning

- Discovery leads to confirmation of cultural relevance (meaning),
- Potential Landmark Designations



Beaver Lake, WA

Maren Van Nostrand, 2007

Different ways of getting out, and the immediate applications

- Non-motorized: Going to the water yourself and/or with a group.
- Organizing motorized tours: Getting others out on the water (City Council, Planning Commission, Staff, citizen volunteers) is highly appreciate.
- Taking photos or videos for:
 - linking to GIS
 - showing at meetings, enhancing your web page
 - creating tour booklets and educational pamphlets
 - writing grants and having on hand for future
 - documenting change over time, historic “recordation”

Perspective from out on the water will show you change over time in one glance.

Old Beaver Lake



New Beaver Lake



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COST-EFFICIENT DATA-GATHERING FOR INVENTORY PHASE



A picture is worth a thousand words.....

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Observing uses and use conflicts (wildlife and human) and meeting the locals



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Guemes Channel Maren Van Nostrand, 2008

You can observe features not visible from above (Bird habitat).

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Refinery in Anacortes, WA

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Counting shoreline bulkheads, docks and piers

Efficient, and No Permission Required





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Surveying bank stability/steep slopes

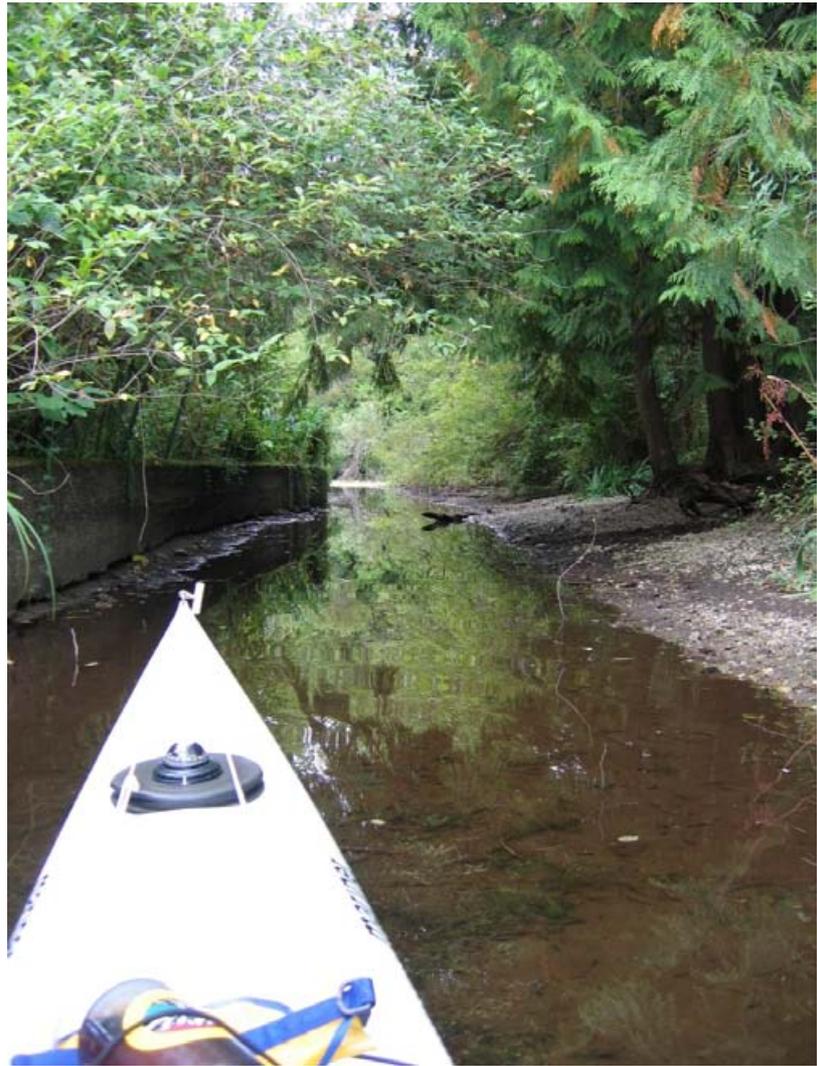


Camano Island, WA

Maren Van Nostrand, 2008

Maren Van Nostrand, April, 2008

Making preliminary
observations on the
hydrological
connectivity to
lakes and wetlands



Beaver Lake

Maren Van Nostrand, 2007

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Observing the impact of fluctuating seasons and flooding on developments and habitats



Lake Sammamish



Maren Van Nostrand, 2007

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Visualizing aesthetics, design concepts, and the results of regulatory or policy decisions.
Catching violations.



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PUBLIC ACCESS SOLUTIONS

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Our personal experience informs public access questions

- By attempting to gain access to the water, and experiencing the water, we gain a greater sense of our public access needs, and our environmental constraints and features.



Lake Sammamish, WA, 2007 Maren Van Nostrand

Cascadian Marine Trail ...

THE ISSUE:

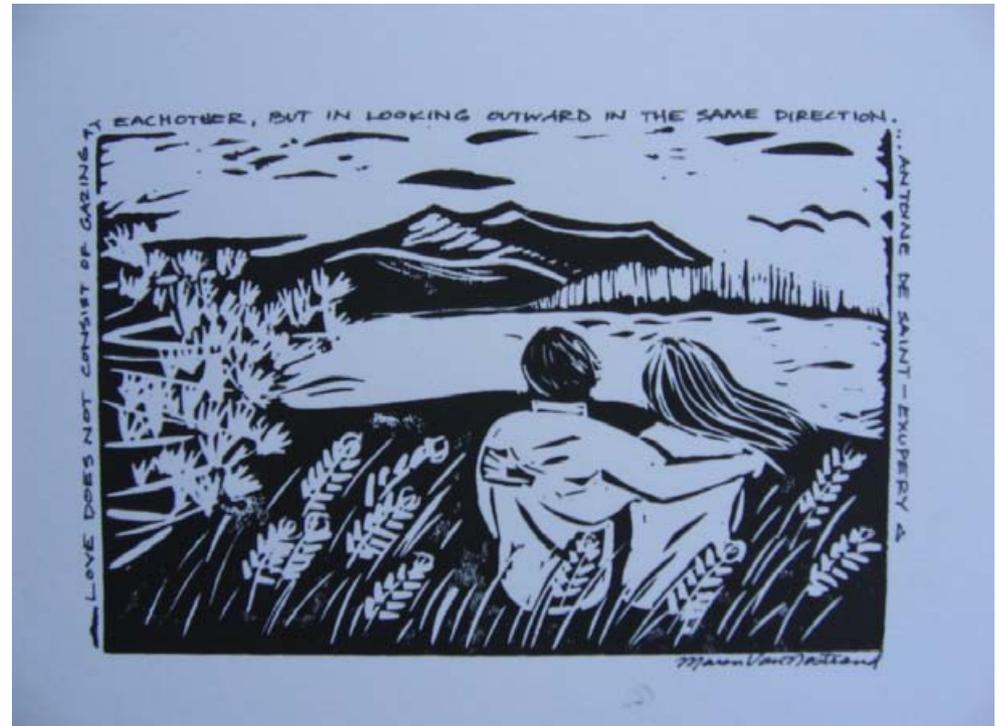
Less than 20% of our inner ocean waterways are public, and of that only 50% is useable.

THE GOAL:

The goal is to have one safe pull-out every 5 to 8 miles, (or every hour and a half of paddle time along the trail for hand-powered craft).

THE NEED:

There are currently 56 sites along the Cascadian Marine Trail, and by applying this standard, we come short of this goal by 300 to 500 sites.



Creative solutions to the Shortage of Public Access



- City of Sammamish launches, both designated and informal.
- Personal trials of attempting access leads to understanding it better, and to relating to the community through personal stories and knowledge.

Signage and Interpretation Issues

When we as planners attempt to access the water, we gain a better understanding of the access issues.



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Dual-Purpose Shoreline Planning



- *Canoe Pulls* are traditional pull-outs for hand-powered craft.
- Coves have been declared one method for shoreline restoration.
- By preserving existing coves or creating them for pull-outs, we might better serve both the public's and the environment's needs.

Opportunities for Conveying Priorities



Organizations, Associations, Agencies: Our link to the greater community



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Organizations, clubs, agencies, outfitters and resources for expanding the base of public participation in the Shoreline Master Programs of Washington State

- Trails Associations' Trails (Maps, Resources, Meetings, Info)
 - **Washington Water Trails Association**
 - **Cascadia Marine Trail**
 - **Northwest Discovery Trail**
 - **Lower Columbia River Estuary Partnership Water Trail**
- Sound Education and Action Kayaker Program (of Sound Education & Action partnering with Leave No Trace)
- Leave No Trace (now partnered with Washington State Parks)
- American Canoe Association
- Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission
- National Park Service River Projects Water Trails
- State Recreation and Conservation Office
- Paddling Clubs and Outfitters
- Publications, Writers and Editors



WASHINGTON WATER TRAILS ASSOCIATION



www.wwta.org

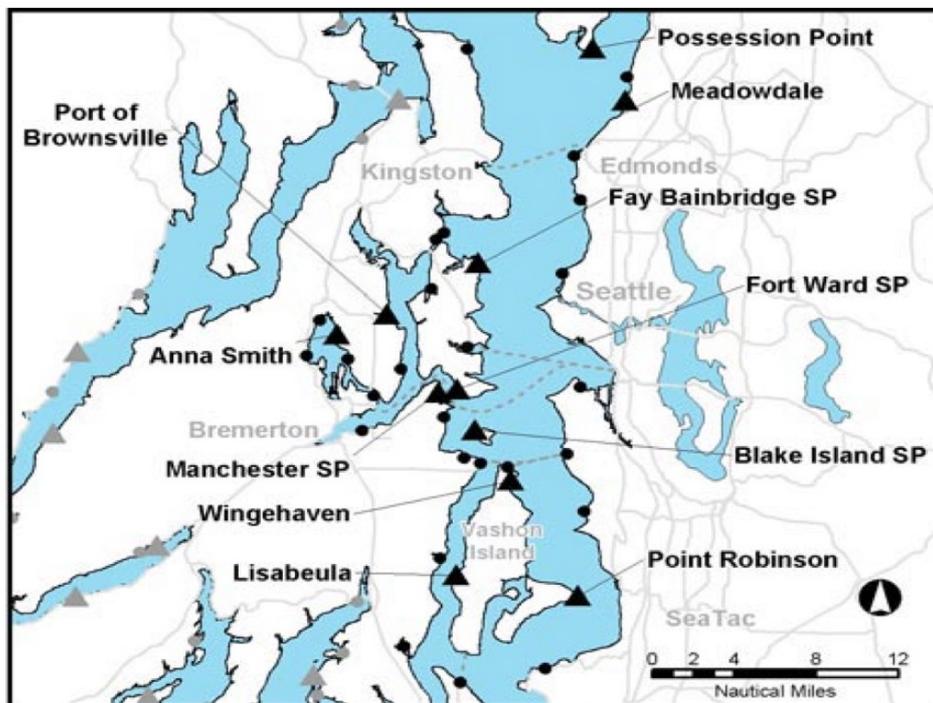
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206.545.9161

wwta@wwta.org

Mid Sound Section

Click on the site you would like more information about. A complete list of all the Mid Sound sites is available [below](#) the map.



[San Juan Islands](#) | [North Sound](#) | [Hood Canal](#) | [South Sound](#)

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Fruitful opportunities for collaboration on Key SMP Issues with community not-for profit organizations.



www.wwta.org

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Cascadia Marine Trail Development Issues

Preserving public access to pristine shores and creating environmentally-friendly facilities take time, care, and deliberation. Washington Water Trails Association works with public and private partners to create outstanding recreational opportunities for boaters in non-motorized craft. Some issues are defined by law and well defined; among these are:

- **Recreational immunity** in **Revised Code of Washington**
- **Shoreline Management Act**
- **Use of public funds** for water trail facilities on private lands
- **Public Trust Doctrine**

Worksheet for Campsite [[doc](#)]

Worksheet for Trailhead [[doc](#)]

WWTA encourages creative partnerships to preserve public access to the state's waters and shorelines. It is possible for private landowners to receive property tax relief for [conservation easements](#) while protecting land for future generations.

Contact WWTA – 206.545.9161 or email newcmtsites@wwta.org.

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RIVERS

[River Projects](#)

[More About Rivers](#)

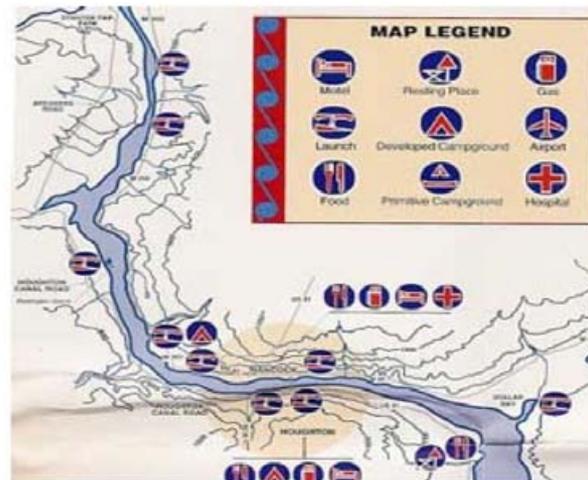
[Publications/Online Resources](#)

[Federal Partners](#)

[Nonprofit Partners](#)

[Rivers Home](#)

River Projects: Water Trails



From the RCO/IAC's Boating Facilities Website:
 Select any water body or county in the State of Washington for
 Launch Sites and Descriptions
www.rco.wa.gov/maps/boat.htm

Nisqually Delta-Luhrs Landing (WDFW)



Thurston County

Waterbody: Nisqually Delta
Site Manager: Fish & Wildlife Dept of
Nearest City:

Boat Launch Type

#	Type	Description
1	Launches	Ramp - concrete, plank

Facilities

#	Type	Description
1	Restrooms	Vault

Open Parking

#	Type	Description
10	Car Parking	Gravel

Trailer Parking

#	Type	Description
10	Trailer Parking	Gravel

Special Note:

Description:

Open to the public. The boat launch ramp was re-built in 2002. Restroom condition: fairly new, concrete structure, no major damage. Parking has been restriped. A Department of Fish and Wildlife vehicle use permit is required; a permit may be purchased where fishing and hunting licenses are sold, or directly from the Department.

Directions:

From I-5, Exit 114 (Nisqually); W on Martin Way NE for 1 mi; N on Meridian Rd. for 2.7 mi; E on 46th Ave NE for .25 mi; N on D'Milluhr Dr. to end.

Last Updated: 8/5/2004 8:42:03 AM





Welcome to Washington State Parks

- Home
- Reservations
- Park Information
- Rental Places
- Activities
- Agency Information
- Jobs
- Volunteering
- ADA Recreation
- Site Map & Search

Search

State Park Name	<input type="text" value="Please select one"/>	<input type="button" value="Find"/>
Body of Water	<input type="text" value="Please select one"/>	<input type="button" value="Find"/>
County	<input type="text" value="Please select one"/>	<input type="button" value="Find"/>
City	<input type="text" value="Please select one"/>	<input type="button" value="Find"/>

Washington State Parks provides launch site information on its website. Enter the name of the park, water body, county or city.

www.parks.wa.gov/launch/parks/

Map



[Back to Watercraft Launch Permits](#)

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Please review our [privacy policy](#).
[Contact us.](#)

Make sure to add water trail maps to your Shoreline Master Program

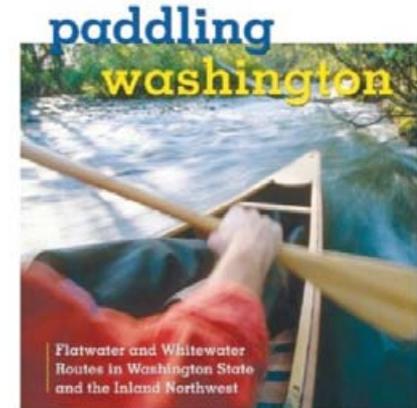


Source: NWOC (Northwest Outdoor Center) on Lake Union, Seattle

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Guide Books and Personal Accounts

- *Paddling Washington*
by Rich Landers and Dan Hensen (*Mountaineers: 2008*)
 - A guide book for ocean and inland water trails across WA
- *Kayaking Puget Sound, the San Juans and Gulf Island*
by Randle Washburne
 - *45 Trips on the Northwest's Inland Waters*
- *Homelands: Kayaking the Inside Passage*
by Byron Ricks, Illustrated by Maren Van Nostrand
 - Provides a first-hand account of 1,200 miles of shoreline from Seattle to Glacier Bay



Rich Landers, Dan Hansen,
Verne Hasec, and Douglass A. North



AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION:



British Columbia Sea Canoe Trip, 2005

Maren Van Nostrand

- Increases awareness, connection, and appreciation, which leads to environmental protection.
- Provides knowledge of the environment and the shoreline activities and uses that can impact it thereby aiding in shoreline management discussions and decision-making.
- Validates beyond what is on paper and on the 'Web'; places us in context and culture.
- Shows the value of that which is difficult to measure.
- Preserves a living tradition in the process of doing.



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Thank You



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City of Kirkland Boat Tour 2007



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Ferry Boat

- Organized tour with Argosy Cruises on the MV Kirkland
- 1924 ferryboat, listed on the National Register of Historic Places
- Vessel is moored at Kirkland City Dock
- Approximately 60-70 attendees were able to fit onto the boat, including some Council and Planning Commission members

Unique opportunity to gain public involvement.



Successful Trip



- ~1-2 hours on waterfront
- Provided handouts to go along with presentation material
- Had key maps from inventory available for review
- Attendees:
 - Mayor and Citizens
 - Department of Ecology
 - Deputy Planning Director
 - Consultants
- Saw key issues first-hand

Thank You!

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