

**PORT OF ILLAHEE**

P. O. BOX 2357  
BREMERTON, WA 98310

July 9, 2020

RE: Illahee Preserve Wildlife Habitat Grant

To Whom It May Concern:


The Port of Illahee strongly supports Kitsap County Parks plans to expand the Illahee Preserve.

In 2005, the Port obtained a \$268,000 Centennial Clean Water grant from the Department of Ecology to conduct a watershed study within the Port's geographical boundary. That study resulted in findings that support the County's plan to expand the Preserve with an Urban Wildlife Habitat grant.

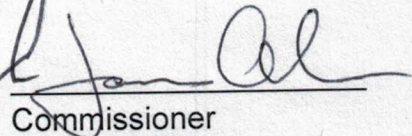
Specifically, the Port was interested in Illahee Creek as the source of storm water surges, during significant rain events, resulted in large sediment loads going out into the bay and around the Port's dock structure. The recommendations of the study noted that not only were more storm water detention facilities needed, but also that properties within the watershed should be preserved rather than be developed.

This grant proposal has, as its first priority, the acquisition of a South Fork property that would complete the control of the primary stream components of the Illahee Creek. Therefore, the Port of Illahee strongly endorses the project, and further supports the concept of wildlife corridor connections with Illahee State Park.

Sincerely,

  
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Commissioner

  
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Commissioner

  
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Commissioner