

The following is a time-stamped transcript of the Jan. 26, 2021 Remote Special Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission meeting.

WEBVTT

1

00:00:12.660 --> 00:00:14.549

Steve Milner: Tell me when you think people are all.

2

00:00:15.570 --> 00:00:17.190

Steve Milner: And we should begin.

3

00:00:18.960 --> 00:00:22.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: yeah I think we'll give ourselves three or four minutes here.

4

00:00:48.930 --> 00:00:50.940

markobrown@comcast.net: Congratulations on your reappointment.

5

00:00:59.280 --> 00:01:00.720

Diana Perez (she/her/ella): Thank you, thank you.

6

00:01:59.790 --> 00:02:06.270

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Welcome, everyone will get started in just a minute or two here i'm seeing a few more folks.

7

00:02:07.980 --> 00:02:09.600

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Still signing on.

8

00:03:14.280 --> 00:03:18.870

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And for the folks that are joining on the phone today.

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00:03:20.100 --> 00:03:31.920

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: To good public comment, I just wanted to let you know that all of you have come in muted and that's all right that's as planned, so that we will be able to.

10

00:03:32.430 --> 00:03:42.660

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: go through and unmute folks I did see someone's hand raised so after the staff give their presentation will have time to walk through and.

11

00:03:44.820 --> 00:03:50.190

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: unmute folks and hear from all of our callers so never fear.

12

00:03:55.320 --> 00:04:03.720

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And I think looks like we've got 51 people out of our at Steve so i'm.

13

00:04:06.840 --> 00:04:08.190

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Getting pretty close here.

14

00:04:10.800 --> 00:04:14.880

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: don't want to want to be respectful of everybody's time.

15

00:04:36.060 --> 00:04:39.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: yeah I think I think we've got everybody let's get rolling.

16

00:04:39.960 --> 00:04:41.400

Steve Milner: Okay, good evening everyone.

17

00:04:42.510 --> 00:04:43.110

Cindy Whaley: In.

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00:04:43.470 --> 00:04:54.300

Steve Milner: In accordance with our CW 42 point 080 as the chair of this Commission, I call this special meeting of the Washington state parks and recreation commission to order.

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00:04:54.690 --> 00:05:05.790

Steve Milner: For the purpose of hearing Laurel public comments on the agenda item he one of the January 28 Commission meeting naval special operations, training and Washington state parks.

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00:05:07.230 --> 00:05:17.880

Steve Milner: This meeting is being conducted in both virtual Internet format and by a conference call hosted today at the Washington state parks and recreation Commission headquarters in Tom water Washington.

21

00:05:18.570 --> 00:05:27.360

Steve Milner: So now we begin with the call the role, my name is Steve milner i'm the chair and i've been chillin Washington.

22

00:05:32.160 --> 00:05:36.210

Michael Latimer: Good evening, my name is Mike latimer and i'm sure from yakima.

23

00:05:39.270 --> 00:05:46.710

markobrown@comcast.net: Good afternoon, everyone, my name is mark Brown and i'm in lacy Washington and a Member of the Commission for about nine and a half years.

24

00:05:58.950 --> 00:06:00.090

Steve Milner: Commissioner dannenberg.

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00:06:00.750 --> 00:06:10.200

Sophia Danenberg: Oh sorry I thought we usually went to Ken bounds medical i'm hi i'm Sofia dannenberg the newest Commissioner from Seattle Washington.

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00:06:11.160 --> 00:06:11.610

Steve Milner: Thank you.

27

00:06:12.390 --> 00:06:16.380

Ken Bounds: Good evening and can bounce from cl as well.

28

00:06:18.540 --> 00:06:23.040

Diana Perez (she/her/ella): Good evening everyone, my name is Diana business, and I am from Vancouver Washington.

29

00:06:24.870 --> 00:06:29.160

Cindy Whaley: Good evening, my name is Cindy wally and i'm from spokane Washington.

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00:06:30.420 --> 00:06:32.640

Steve Milner: director hoc, would you please introduce staff.

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00:06:33.060 --> 00:06:43.560

Don Hoch: Yes, thank you chair of Don Hawk your state park director and with us today is Mike stern back SR director assistant director Peter Herzog.

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00:06:44.640 --> 00:06:48.180

Don Hoch: Our executive assistant to the Commission and director.

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00:06:48.270 --> 00:06:49.170

Don Hoch: becky ellison.

34

00:06:50.580 --> 00:06:58.260

Don Hoch: Steve brand our real estate planning and partnership manager and Jessica Logan our Environmental Program manager.

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00:07:00.900 --> 00:07:07.920

Don Hoch: Thank you and me, and also that our legal counsel Andy whoo our Attorney General is present also.

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00:07:09.060 --> 00:07:17.250

Steve Milner: welcome all so the Commission is here today to hear oral argument and we look forward to hearing everything you have to say.

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00:07:18.870 --> 00:07:29.310

Steve Milner: And it the oral oral argument oral comment I should say item you one of the naval special operations training in Washington state parks and we ask that you.

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00:07:29.910 --> 00:07:42.180

Steve Milner: reserve your comments typically to that topic, the meeting is scheduled to conclude at 8pm public comment will be limited in time to up to two minutes per speaker.

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00:07:42.810 --> 00:07:54.990

Steve Milner: This is the only opportunity for verbal comment on this agenda item but we thank all of those who wrote their comments and submitted them by mail or by email, the Commission will vote.

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00:07:55.950 --> 00:08:04.350

Steve Milner: will vote on the item at their regularly scheduled Commission meeting on January 28 but the comment on the item will not be taken at that time.

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00:08:05.010 --> 00:08:22.740

Steve Milner: The Commission has received and reviewed all public comments submitted on this topic, since it first became before us over two years ago we had be advised that at times Commissioners video maybe turned off to conserve bandwidth, but they are indeed following the oral conversation.

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00:08:23.880 --> 00:08:33.150

Steve Milner: We now we'll hear a staff report from Steve brand real estate planning and partnerships manager and Jessica Logan who is our Environmental Program manager.

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00:08:33.630 --> 00:08:42.300

Steve Milner: After the staff report we will turn over the meeting to test when del with Ross strategic to run the public comment portion of the meeting.

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00:08:42.780 --> 00:08:57.750

Steve Milner: upon completion of the public comments we will adjourn the meeting Commission discussion and questions will be will take place on January 28 during our regularly scheduled meeting so with that i'll turn it over to Steve brand.

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00:08:59.850 --> 00:09:05.130

Steve Brand: And I will turn it over to JESSICA Logan to kick us off with.

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00:09:08.040 --> 00:09:21.450

Steve Brand: With introduction to our PowerPoint and kind of a brief overview of where we've been you should be seeing my screen with a PowerPoint presentation and, if so, JESSICA, please take it away Thank you Steve.

47

00:09:22.380 --> 00:09:29.250

Jessica Logan: Thank you, Commissioner milner good afternoon Commissioners director hawks and to all the members of the public listening in today.

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00:09:29.490 --> 00:09:34.830

Jessica Logan: Again, my name is JESSICA Logan and I am Environmental Program manager and SEPA responsible official for this proposal.

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00:09:35.280 --> 00:09:42.600

Jessica Logan: Stephen are going to try to keep our overview of this issue as short as possible this afternoon, so that we don't cut into the public's time to provide testimony.

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00:09:43.470 --> 00:09:51.960

Jessica Logan: So many of you looking for more background and what we will be talking about today, you can check out our web page, where we have all of the documentation associated with this issue as well as.

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00:09:52.350 --> 00:10:01.440

Jessica Logan: A recording from the november's Commission meeting, where we discussed the navy's proposal background information and the State environmental policy act or SEPA.

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00:10:01.890 --> 00:10:07.800

Jessica Logan: At that meeting, I explained what SEPA is the standard of review state parks applies and what the process looks like.

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00:10:08.370 --> 00:10:19.260

Jessica Logan: i'm not going to discuss what we've already covered, but I would like to provide an update on where we're at, and in light of the substantial amount of comment, we have received on this issue, I do have a few points I would like to clarify.

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00:10:20.250 --> 00:10:31.710

Jessica Logan: First SEPA is not in of itself a decision SEPA informs the decision, it is not the intent of SEPA to determine the appropriateness of an action.

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00:10:32.250 --> 00:10:40.740

Jessica Logan: Think of SEPA as a disclosure process and its purpose is to identify potential impacts of an action as it relates to certain elements of the environment.

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00:10:41.700 --> 00:10:51.300

Jessica Logan: And if sufficient mitigation cannot be identified, then it is the intent of SEPA to provide thorough analysis of these of those impacts, for the purposes of decision making.

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00:10:51.990 --> 00:10:58.650

Jessica Logan: So identify impacts mitigate if possible analyze if not that SEPA, why is this relevant.

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00:10:59.430 --> 00:11:12.480

Jessica Logan: we'll see but asks us to consider objectively the impact of human actions on the environment, not the membership of humans conducting those actions, so we look not at who but at what.

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00:11:13.320 --> 00:11:19.020

Jessica Logan: We have people who come to our park for many reasons, they enjoy our trails campsites and facilities.

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00:11:19.380 --> 00:11:29.670

Jessica Logan: In the comments in the comments people sharing stories of their love of beachcombing and open water swimming and wildlife and healing and stories of kayak journeys and building forts in the ones as kids.

61

00:11:30.360 --> 00:11:39.660

Jessica Logan: These are human activities that occur on the environment, these physical actions are essentially the same physical actions and navy has requested to do.

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00:11:40.350 --> 00:11:49.710

Jessica Logan: Objectively, it is the activities that we consider under SEPA not to not who's doing them so could this activity trample protected plants.

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00:11:50.340 --> 00:11:58.260

Jessica Logan: Not If we prohibit where it occurs couldn't flush protected burbs off their nuts, not if we limit when it can take place.

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00:11:58.650 --> 00:12:10.710

Jessica Logan: And yes, super includes a consideration for recreation as well it's question number 12 on the checklist actually it asks with the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses.

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00:12:11.250 --> 00:12:21.060

Jessica Logan: Objectively, the answer to this question is no at no time will the navy's use of State parks to plant or displace the public the public always had a priority.

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00:12:21.600 --> 00:12:28.770

Jessica Logan: But we understood the public concern over discovering a navy seal would be upsetting and potentially deter their use of State parks.

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00:12:29.280 --> 00:12:37.710

Jessica Logan: So we took special consideration with our mitigation and drafted additional conditions to ensure that at no time will, a member of the public come into contact with the training.

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00:12:38.340 --> 00:12:42.570

Jessica Logan: With the final preventative measure being the navy's own support staff to run intervention.

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00:12:43.500 --> 00:12:53.940

Jessica Logan: So know this action does not displays recreation, which is what Steve asked, but what SEPA doesn't ask is, how does the proposed action make people feel about recreation.

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00:12:54.570 --> 00:13:03.960

Jessica Logan: that's a subjective question and it's a question of appropriateness and we're not saying that isn't an incredibly important question to answer only that it's not.

71

00:13:04.410 --> 00:13:07.620

Jessica Logan: Question considered under steeper that's a question for the Commission.

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00:13:08.550 --> 00:13:20.790

Jessica Logan: So, after the last Commission meeting we concluded our cbre review having identified that this proposal has four areas that have left unmitigated could result in potential significant adverse environmental impacts.

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00:13:21.270 --> 00:13:27.390

Jessica Logan: We made this determination based off of numerous points of information, including information provided by the public.

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00:13:27.900 --> 00:13:34.650

Jessica Logan: And we use that information to draft mitigation measures to ensure this proposals actions would not impact our resources.

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00:13:35.370 --> 00:13:47.160

Jessica Logan: So in December 22 we issued a mitigated threshold determination of non significance, I comment period extended until last Friday, during which time we received a tremendous amount of public comments.

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00:13:47.670 --> 00:13:50.940

Jessica Logan: Both in support and opposition and this decision.

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00:13:51.420 --> 00:14:01.050

Jessica Logan: Specifically, we received several thoughtful comments from the public and from various organizations with questions and suggestions to amend our mitigation conditions and site criteria.

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00:14:01.380 --> 00:14:09.870

Jessica Logan: Some of them think we do provide some of them, we think, do you provide additional clarification and stronger language, and we are considering amending our DNS with them.

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00:14:10.410 --> 00:14:17.310

Jessica Logan: And we're looking forward to hearing the testimony provided tonight that may further influence any changes we make to our conditions.

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00:14:17.820 --> 00:14:27.360

Jessica Logan: So, for the rest of this presentation, I will turn it over to Steve to highlight some of the climate conditions and explain the modifications and restrictions, they would place on future permits.

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00:14:27.930 --> 00:14:34.170

Jessica Logan: All of these are mitigating conditions from SEPA or site criteria contained in our staff recommendation.

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00:14:34.590 --> 00:14:46.230

Jessica Logan: All of them are objective measures to ensure the protection of resources and the public, none of them address the question of appropriateness, which is what the Commission will decide upon this Thursday.

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00:14:47.430 --> 00:14:52.950

Steve Brand: Steve Thank you JESSICA so as just just said, these items are.

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00:14:53.820 --> 00:15:04.650

Steve Brand: These conditions and limitations can be found in Appendix to have the agenda item that will brief the Commission on more thoroughly on Thursday and.

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00:15:05.010 --> 00:15:15.060

Steve Brand: If anybody wants to look at the details there i'll be doing a brief overview tonight, but they're in their contained in Appendix to in more detail.

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00:15:15.840 --> 00:15:31.590

Steve Brand: So in if the Commission authorizes permits to be issued, and if we issue permits each one would be accompanied, with a map area allowed for training so mapped exclusionary is.

87

00:15:32.940 --> 00:15:41.790

Steve Brand: Each permit would require park staff notification tribal law enforcement notification notification of local jurisdiction, law enforcement.

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00:15:44.010 --> 00:15:51.210

Steve Brand: So contained within appendix to our medications and measures designed to.

89

00:15:52.380 --> 00:16:06.420

Steve Brand: to minimize any any possible effect on wildlife for plants and animals so by inclusion, here we include the navy's own best management practices.

90

00:16:07.650 --> 00:16:13.680

Steve Brand: We direct that they will avoid protected species and we'll do that with with exclusion areas.

91

00:16:15.360 --> 00:16:19.440

Steve Brand: We direct that they have weight steep slopes and feeder bluffs that are identified.

92

00:16:20.700 --> 00:16:29.580

Steve Brand: they're excluded from any active restoration sites where we may have ongoing environmental mitigation or restoration.

93

00:16:31.110 --> 00:16:39.420

Steve Brand: This may include seasonal exclusions or seasonal closures, for example during nesting seasons or or.

94

00:16:43.140 --> 00:16:45.750

Steve Brand: protected species activity and apart.

95

00:16:47.940 --> 00:17:08.400

Steve Brand: And then, in certain habitats that are identified per the navy's own expression that would restrict them to trail use only in certain areas, and then we'd also exclude activity from our designated natural area preserves, which is a land classification designated by the Commission.

96

00:17:12.180 --> 00:17:32.850

Steve Brand: With regard date mitigation measures for cultural culturally significant resources we require a monitoring plan be developed in conjunction with the State Department of archaeology in historic preservation our and our agency historic preservation manager or archaeologist.

97

00:17:33.990 --> 00:17:41.490

Steve Brand: We required in inadvertent discovery plan implementation so that, if some inadvertent discovery of.

98

00:17:42.720 --> 00:17:57.600

Steve Brand: something of significance happened, they would have a plan to follow, we would exclude certain cultural areas, areas of cultural sensitivity and work with tribes on identifying those and.

99

00:17:58.980 --> 00:18:16.410

Steve Brand: And we would prohibit digging in any sites to protect any potential archaeological sites and any general tribal activities tribally identified activities occurring in the in the training area would they would be required to avoid that.

100

00:18:18.720 --> 00:18:29.430

Steve Brand: were generally for the mitigation of any possible effects on recreation we're saying, right up front that surveillance of the public is prohibited so.

101

00:18:30.690 --> 00:18:48.810

Steve Brand: The navy says that's not happening and we're just clarifying that that's not happening here, we would design, we would include exclusionary is around overnight facilities so specifically campgrounds occasion housing, we have.

102

00:18:50.370 --> 00:18:56.520

Steve Brand: anticipated thousand feet buffer around all of the overnight facilities with.

103

00:18:58.770 --> 00:19:06.960

Steve Brand: With some limited exceptions to that, but essentially mapping 1000 feet around the overnight facilities i'll show an example of what that might look like.

104

00:19:07.920 --> 00:19:20.760

Steve Brand: limited exceptions where ingress and egress of observers and support staff require using the roadway into the park and that might require going within 1000 feet.

105

00:19:21.210 --> 00:19:34.080

Steve Brand: Specific things like boat launches and and in a couple of places we anticipate that that might occur within 1000 feet and then topography might also make a logical.

106

00:19:35.190 --> 00:19:47.160

Steve Brand: delineation that where we wouldn't allow any training in with in 500 feet, but we might narrow down the thousand feet in some certain specific.

107

00:19:48.240 --> 00:20:07.110

Steve Brand: Situations were prohibiting firearms so trainees will not be allowed to carry firearms and they may carry replica weapons designed to emulate the weight and feel of a of a typically carried weapon, but nothing that can actually launch projectile.

108

00:20:08.340 --> 00:20:27.990

Steve Brand: We would have measures to prevent trainee interaction with the public, so so that there is some consideration for observers and trainers to intervene if they're in the case of an inadvertent discovery or.

109

00:20:29.460 --> 00:20:32.370

Steve Brand: unintentional discovery by the public in.

110

00:20:33.750 --> 00:20:50.070

Steve Brand: In certain situations public is not to be displaced if somebody if the public is recreating an area the navy just won't go there and then for areas where the water, the coast guard rules would apply.

111

00:20:53.790 --> 00:21:12.540

Steve Brand: Other condition conditions that aren't specifically SEPA conditions, but could be considered as well in in events and permits would be just staff workload planned events in an area or other specific conditions identified by an area manager.

112

00:21:16.230 --> 00:21:38.670

Steve Brand: In order to monitor and be able to follow up on training activities we would require post event notification so so the navy would call us after an event and say, specifically, we were out there at this time and offer an opportunity for site staff to review the site with.

113

00:21:40.560 --> 00:21:47.880

Steve Brand: With the with somebody knows about the training or somebody knowledgeable with the training, so we can go to the specific site and verify that.

114

00:21:48.330 --> 00:22:00.840

Steve Brand: There are no observable impacts and then we would periodically report to the Commission, the level of training, the findings of any site reviews and so on.

115

00:22:02.610 --> 00:22:18.540

Steve Brand: So I mentioned we'd have some some specific examples of what this might look like so here i'm showing a draft of a potential map for blank island like island.

116

00:22:20.370 --> 00:22:39.360

Steve Brand: Pretty straightforward generally with the two overnight areas identified in the upper right and Upper left corners of the island, and so this the blue circles around those areas are the thousand foot buffer around that just map through J s.

117

00:22:40.380 --> 00:22:49.740

Steve Brand: So we would convey a map to the to the navy with any permit that we issued that showed specifically exclusionary is where they could not go.

118

00:22:50.520 --> 00:23:01.410

Steve Brand: Also on the map, are a couple of examples where we have potential biotic detection in the in the lower portion of the map the darker blue areas are areas where we would need to.

119

00:23:01.890 --> 00:23:20.520

Steve Brand: feel verify the biotic detection and and also potentially have exclusive exclusionary is there, seasonal if that's appropriate if there's a nesting season, or some other period where we simply need to identify that period for exclusion, we would.

120

00:23:21.660 --> 00:23:37.980

Steve Brand: And, and then other areas where you'll see here, there is another biotic exclusion where there would just be a requirement that they have to stay on a trail in that area, so and again field verification would be necessary, just to just to confirm this.

121

00:23:39.960 --> 00:23:55.890

Steve Brand: Now, on the screen is a map of Manchester state park demonstrating essentially the same thing with the red hat stereo being generally the area we would exclude it's not it's.

122

00:23:57.300 --> 00:24:00.900

Steve Brand: In the in the blue circles are the thousand foot.

123

00:24:01.920 --> 00:24:11.520

Steve Brand: exclusionary around overnight use areas which you'll notice that, here is an example of how we might modify the training area.

124

00:24:11.940 --> 00:24:21.270

Steve Brand: Where there's a natural geographic topographical break between an area that we call gold Hill and the area that is.

125

00:24:22.260 --> 00:24:29.850

Steve Brand: closer to the overnight area, the 500 foot circle is in this area, and so, at no point would we.

126

00:24:30.300 --> 00:24:45.570

Steve Brand: Would we permit training within 500 feet, but there's just a logical topographical approach this this isn't necessarily the final version of this, but I wanted to show a case where a different kind of buffer area might be applied.

127

00:24:47.640 --> 00:25:04.740

Steve Brand: And then, here we are looking at South would be state Park, which is a little different circumstance with with a steep unstable bluff feeder fear bluff that separates the main part from the.

128

00:25:06.360 --> 00:25:18.330

Steve Brand: From the beach area, so in that area we do tell the public to stay off that bluff we do ask it's it's unsafe we haven't been able to maintain a stairway down that down that bluff.

129

00:25:18.990 --> 00:25:36.210

Steve Brand: And so we're saying there that that upland property is effectively orphaned from the from the beach by the bluff area and so it's unlikely that this would be a candidate for training, certainly the upland areas would be excluded.

130

00:25:38.880 --> 00:25:55.290

Steve Brand: So with that and and Jessica summary I just like to leap to the staff recommendation, and we feel that, with the mitigation is described and we feel confident that we have a way to apply this and convey this to the navy.

131

00:25:56.460 --> 00:26:07.350

Steve Brand: Staff recommends that the Commission finds that with the proposed litigations the navy's request will not have adverse impacts, to the parks natural environment, cultural resources.

132

00:26:07.950 --> 00:26:27.720

Steve Brand: The public's ability to recreate public safety and we'd asked that they authorize the director to issue permits to the navy for the proposed training and, more specifically, the requested action that would be presented to the Commission, unless modified would read.

133

00:26:29.520 --> 00:26:39.090

Steve Brand: That we'd request that the Washington state parks and recreation Commission delegate to the director authority to issue permits to the US navy to allow proposed training.

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00:26:39.450 --> 00:26:52.320

Steve Brand: Activities consistent with the site criteria and conditions detailed in Appendix to direct staff to periodically report to the Commission on training activities and any issues that arise.

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00:26:54.060 --> 00:26:54.510

Steve Brand: So.

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00:26:55.590 --> 00:26:59.880

Steve Brand: So the next steps would be to consider what we hear tonight from the public.

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00:27:00.960 --> 00:27:02.370

Steve Brand: We may modify.

138

00:27:03.510 --> 00:27:05.580

Steve Brand: any or all of the requested action.

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00:27:07.380 --> 00:27:15.120

Steve Brand: We intend to present to the Commission on Thursday January 28 requested action for a decision.

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00:27:15.900 --> 00:27:29.100

Steve Brand: If permits are authorized the next step from there would be to finalize the site review confirm the commit conditions, primarily is speaking with area managers and Rangers about those conditions.

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00:27:29.850 --> 00:27:42.030

Steve Brand: And then, and then we would potentially issue permits for training activities and, of course, following up periodically with reports to the commission's on any activities.

142

00:27:43.350 --> 00:27:49.380

Steve Brand: So with that I conclude my discussion, and I think Commissioner milner we think we can.

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00:27:51.510 --> 00:27:53.220

Steve Brand: Go to the public testimony.

144

00:28:20.850 --> 00:28:21.210

Steve Milner: Okay.

145

00:28:23.100 --> 00:28:23.550

Steve Milner: Thank you.

146

00:28:29.970 --> 00:28:31.110

Steve Milner: For your presentation.

147

00:28:51.390 --> 00:28:52.470

Steve Milner: Can you hear me now.

148

00:28:54.120 --> 00:28:57.390

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, without the ECHO that sounds better Steve.

149

00:28:57.900 --> 00:29:10.650

Steve Milner: Okay, good, so let me start over again and and thank Steve and Jessica for the presentation and before we turn the meeting over to test one del i'd like to.

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00:29:11.100 --> 00:29:21.540

Steve Milner: Review a couple of items for the public, so please be prepared to give your testimony your name will be up on the screen to show you the order so that you know when you're.

151

00:29:22.350 --> 00:29:31.920

Steve Milner: When you're next to come online to save time if the person ahead of us, already said what you will be saying, please agree with them and move on to the next item.

152

00:29:33.120 --> 00:29:38.100

Steve Milner: That will you'll be able to focus your time on your point of most strongest interesting.

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00:29:39.120 --> 00:29:45.240

Steve Milner: We Commissioners are voluntary our volunteers were pledged to represent the public's interest.

154

00:29:45.750 --> 00:29:52.230

Steve Milner: The process we're engaging in today is one method we use to acquire new insights and perspectives from the public.

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00:29:53.130 --> 00:30:01.560

Steve Milner: Though we are meeting in a virtual format, I suggest that you imagine we're conversing person to person in your most comfortable chair in your living room.

156

00:30:02.340 --> 00:30:19.440

Steve Milner: While I won't intervene at the use of inappropriate language I asked you to consider that how something is said, can be as impactful as the content of your message, so what you will do us, but we ask everyone to show respect for other petitioners and their comments.

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00:30:20.580 --> 00:30:25.470

Steve Milner: So after that I will turn it now over to test window.

158

00:30:27.300 --> 00:30:29.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much, Commissioner milner.

159

00:30:30.690 --> 00:30:32.400

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So I know that.

160

00:30:34.380 --> 00:30:41.220

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Most folks today have not necessarily provided public comment in a virtual space and.

161

00:30:42.630 --> 00:30:48.420

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: My colleagues, Melissa kristin and I are here to help facilitate that so.

162

00:30:49.620 --> 00:30:51.540

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You may have noticed when you came in.

163

00:30:52.560 --> 00:31:00.600

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That Unlike some other zoom meetings you've been in before you didn't have a mute button and you weren't able to talk.

164

00:31:02.730 --> 00:31:10.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: This platform allows us to unmute individuals one, at a time to make sure that we can hear everyone's testimony clearly.

165

00:31:13.140 --> 00:31:24.630

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I will have a list of everyone's names, who have signed up for public comment and i'll be reading the name of the person whose turn it is to provide comment and.

166

00:31:25.380 --> 00:31:43.470

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I will also be reading the name of the person who is next in lines they can prepare themselves, I know we have a couple folks on the phone who may not be tuned in to see the screen, so we will be providing cues both on our screen and Orly.

167

00:31:46.200 --> 00:31:59.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: One thing to note is once we say your name you'll get this dialog box that shows up asking you to unmute so you'll just want to make sure to hit that unmute button.

168

00:32:00.300 --> 00:32:15.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you've joined via the phone you'll hear a prompt asking you to unmute yourself and then you'll need to press star six on your phone again that was star six and will be providing that prompt as well, for those that we see who have joined by phone.

169

00:32:16.920 --> 00:32:21.000

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Like Commissioner milner said each person has two minutes to provide their comment.

170

00:32:22.140 --> 00:32:24.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: they'll note there's this timer on the screen.

171

00:32:25.980 --> 00:32:36.360

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: you'll be able to see how much time you have left if you're joining by phone, we will chime in to let you know you have 15 seconds left, and need to wrap up your comment.

172

00:32:38.100 --> 00:32:40.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We are not taking questions.

173

00:32:41.580 --> 00:32:58.050

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: For the Commission, at this time, so once your two minutes is up, we will be muting you and moving along to the next person we had 80 people sign up today so we're just want to make sure that we have time to hear from everybody.

174

00:32:59.220 --> 00:33:06.960

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you do find that you are unable to unmute yourself at the allotted time and are having technical difficulties.

175

00:33:08.790 --> 00:33:16.710

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead and use that raise hand feature, and we will troubleshoot with you and come back to you a little bit later in the queue.

176

00:33:18.270 --> 00:33:22.830

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: My colleague Christian grants her email is also available.

177

00:33:25.350 --> 00:33:27.990

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So we look forward to hearing from you.

178

00:33:29.010 --> 00:33:29.970

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: As you can see.

179

00:33:31.080 --> 00:33:40.680

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: On my screen now the first person in line for public comment today is Jen micah's followed by Michael failing.

180

00:33:42.600 --> 00:33:49.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So, Melissa if you can go ahead and unmute Jen and we'll begin.

181

00:33:53.640 --> 00:33:54.270

jan mikus: Hello.

182

00:33:55.980 --> 00:33:56.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: hi we can hear you.

183

00:33:57.300 --> 00:34:04.170

jan mikus: Okay, thank you, I just want to say, first, that it's good to see faces and thank you for serving to the Commissioners.

184

00:34:05.130 --> 00:34:11.040

jan mikus: i'm disappointed in the steepest staff, support for this proposal and I, I have to say I feel distressed of the finding.

185

00:34:11.790 --> 00:34:18.210

jan mikus: I want to read some words which which echo a letter I have written previously to the Commissioners on this topic.

186

00:34:19.020 --> 00:34:29.820

jan mikus: it's difficult for me to understand why their proposal is even for this class during training is even under discussion, because I see only downsides to the activity for citizens.

187

00:34:30.390 --> 00:34:37.620

jan mikus: For wildlife and for the environment, all of this downside is despite maybe assurances that they will do no damage.

188

00:34:38.340 --> 00:34:47.490

jan mikus: I live in an accord is, and I can attest that navy assurance of no damage from noise resulting from the whidbey island naval air station is a lie.

189

00:34:48.120 --> 00:34:56.730

jan mikus: it's also a separate topic so i'm going to leave that there but being a heavy user and i'm a very appreciative one of public parks and lands.

190

00:34:57.180 --> 00:35:10.050

jan mikus: And also being a senior citizen, I can tell you that, being on a cliff side hike and bumping into a navy training and full gear, with a realistic weapon might damage me and it might be the last time I get to appreciate the beauty.

191

00:35:11.070 --> 00:35:19.860

jan mikus: All of that plus it's really creepy and not in a Halloween tinkle my spine kind of a way, but in a really this is really creepy frightening kind of a way.

192

00:35:20.730 --> 00:35:29.580

jan mikus: The mission of the parks, is to connect us to diverse natural and cultural heritage and provide recreational and educational experiences to enhance our lives.

193

00:35:29.910 --> 00:35:39.030

jan mikus: So if we're terrorized in the parks by those exercises, where do we go for those memorable recreational and educational experiences.

194

00:35:39.360 --> 00:35:45.480

jan mikus: I say that military training is inappropriate in our parks in it at odds with the stated mission over the parks.

195

00:35:45.810 --> 00:35:54.840

jan mikus: I stay, I say that military surveillance of citizens brandishing weapons, even if they are real ones is the antithesis of this stated mission.

196

00:35:55.590 --> 00:36:06.240

jan mikus: And I say that military training and public parks LACE ground for confrontations and accidents waiting to happen, please deny navy proposal for military use of our precious parks, thank you.

197

00:36:08.730 --> 00:36:10.170

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Jan.

198

00:36:11.550 --> 00:36:15.780

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: next in line is Michael failing, followed by.

199

00:36:17.730 --> 00:36:19.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Mike spence.

200

00:36:20.940 --> 00:36:23.670

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Melissa Please go ahead and unmute Michael.

201

00:36:27.150 --> 00:36:34.320

Michael Thelen: Good afternoon, this is Mike the one I was born raised and live in Washington state of captain, a number of states coast one waterfront parts.

202

00:36:35.790 --> 00:36:37.380

Michael Thelen: Please do not approve this.

203

00:36:38.460 --> 00:36:40.290

Michael Thelen: Unfortunately, today, was the first.

204

00:36:41.310 --> 00:36:51.120

Michael Thelen: With my knowledge that SEPA does not evaluate who's using the park, but whether the park is going to be damaged or compromised in any way.

205

00:36:52.740 --> 00:36:55.170

Michael Thelen: covert operations is war gaming.

206

00:36:56.250 --> 00:36:59.370

Michael Thelen: by the military in a public park that supposed to be safe.

207

00:37:00.690 --> 00:37:01.830

Michael Thelen: to park visitors.

208

00:37:03.600 --> 00:37:11.310

Michael Thelen: there's 36 trainings per gram gram per year times 29 campgrounds that's over 1000 training exercises.

209

00:37:12.390 --> 00:37:19.560

Michael Thelen: With 20 soldiers and 64 support personnel that's over 87,000 military personnel per year.

210

00:37:20.730 --> 00:37:34.230

Michael Thelen: Using this area we have peeping Tom penal laws that say that covert training spying on civilians in our state parks falls under this it's not limited to sexual issues.

211

00:37:35.610 --> 00:37:40.380

Michael Thelen: visitors to the parks crisscross the areas on past and their own wanderings.

212

00:37:41.850 --> 00:37:45.330

Michael Thelen: They should not be limited as to where they get to go because.

213

00:37:46.770 --> 00:37:50.760

Michael Thelen: We have 1000 foot perimeter around their campsite.

214

00:37:52.500 --> 00:38:00.810

Michael Thelen: The training area is where the public already is, and then he wants people there to be spied on and maybe proposal makes no sense.

215

00:38:03.090 --> 00:38:09.690

Michael Thelen: Training proposed by the navy in this way does not support the mission or division of the Washington state parts period.

216

00:38:10.830 --> 00:38:17.520

Michael Thelen: and using them that way is wrong, it shouldn't be approved by book, you would say no, thank you.

217

00:38:22.440 --> 00:38:32.550

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much for your comment Mike and we're gonna move on to Mike spence followed by Steve bristow one thing I also wanted to note.

218

00:38:32.940 --> 00:38:46.170

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Is we do have a lot of folks providing comment, and this is a long meeting, so we are scheduling a quick 10 minute break between 626 30 I know some folks on the line.

219

00:38:47.250 --> 00:38:49.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: we're anxious to know about that so.

220

00:38:51.030 --> 00:38:53.400

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Mike spence Please go ahead.

221

00:38:57.000 --> 00:39:03.930

Mike Spence: Good afternoon i'm a big fan of Washington state parks and a very close neighbor of one of the parks that has been used by navy special warfare.

222

00:39:04.200 --> 00:39:08.010

Mike Spence: for training, I walked the park short lines and trails several times a week.

223

00:39:08.430 --> 00:39:17.820

Mike Spence: From my home, I have observed, what I believe to be navy special warfare boats and divers working in the waters adjacent to the park this activity is always taking place late in the evening.

224

00:39:18.120 --> 00:39:22.080

Mike Spence: Well, after dark and after the park has closed its gates and it's shoreline area.

225

00:39:22.410 --> 00:39:28.440

Mike Spence: In short, I am witness to the navy taking effective precautions to ensure there was no chance of public interaction.

226

00:39:28.740 --> 00:39:35.190

Mike Spence: In fact, without my knowledge of this CIF evaluation process, I would not have had an inkling of who or what I was observing.

227

00:39:35.790 --> 00:39:43.230

Mike Spence: The park staff has reviewed the proposal and certify that the navy has met at sequel obligations and is recommending you approve this action.

228

00:39:43.740 --> 00:39:50.040

Mike Spence: The staff is noted that there's never been a public complaint about navy personnel training in our state parts.

229

00:39:50.340 --> 00:39:58.470

Mike Spence: And effect the navy's long history of using five state parks was a proving ground for this expansion request and they passed with flying colors.

230

00:39:58.800 --> 00:40:04.980

Mike Spence: The navy has absolutely no incentive to abuse park rules or management restrictions or endanger the public in any way.

231

00:40:05.280 --> 00:40:11.490

Mike Spence: they've already shown they can conduct this trading safely in an environmentally friendly manner and without public impact.

232

00:40:11.760 --> 00:40:23.850

Mike Spence: and increase in the number of parts available for this training will not only provide a wider variety of terrain, but will increase the choices available to avoid environmental impact and also a small chance of public interaction.

233

00:40:24.570 --> 00:40:32.670

Mike Spence: I wholeheartedly urge the Commission to reject the generalized emotional arguments against the military that have nothing to do with the environmental impact.

234

00:40:33.030 --> 00:40:47.310

Mike Spence: approve the navy's request for expansion to 28 Washington state parts, the benefit to these courageous Americans will be significant while as they they have already proven the disruption to the public and the environment will be negligible Thank you.

235

00:40:50.190 --> 00:40:50.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Mike.

236

00:40:51.990 --> 00:40:59.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: i'm Steve bristow you're up next followed by Larry Salter Steve Please go ahead.

237

00:41:04.470 --> 00:41:18.540

Steve Bristow: Steve bristow with Herbert navy League and part of a national nonpartisan organization dedicated to informing the American people and the government about the importance of our C services, that is by informing you.

238

00:41:19.620 --> 00:41:27.900

Steve Bristow: i'm also a retired navy officer and combat veteran who knows over 20 people who died while on active duty, these are all real people.

239

00:41:28.620 --> 00:41:38.100

Steve Bristow: None were abstracts by extension the special forces who wish to train here are also all real people and the risks they will face are not abstract.

240

00:41:39.090 --> 00:41:49.230

Steve Bristow: You are under considerable pressure to reject the navy much of this pressure is by organized activists, they are the same or similar groups which opposed me.

241

00:41:49.950 --> 00:42:01.860

Steve Bristow: While I participated in Seattle see fair and portland rose festival, but I saw that the navy is supported by many, many, many thousands of people who are not part of any activism.

242

00:42:02.490 --> 00:42:08.610

Steve Bristow: You will hear the navy is a military is militarizing the region when actually many of the parks have military pedigree.

243

00:42:09.480 --> 00:42:18.120

Steve Bristow: Given the current use of the parks, I have seen across the state recently the seals, will be a significant improvement, you will hear the public is in danger.

244

00:42:18.720 --> 00:42:27.720

Steve Bristow: From our own military does this make sense to you in these uncertain times, no place can be safer than with our special forces presence.

245

00:42:28.830 --> 00:42:39.810

Steve Bristow: i've seen written multiple times that even our children will be traumatized by the seals i've been to many events both civilian and military and i've seen children traumatized by Santa.

246

00:42:40.590 --> 00:42:58.500

Steve Bristow: The Easter bunny and even a Coca Cola polar bear but i've never seen them traumatized by military special forces children no good guys and those who are trained at our parks are not just good guys, they are the best guys, please support them and approve this training, thank you.

247

00:43:03.000 --> 00:43:12.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Steve Larry Salter you're up next followed by carolyn Lancet Larry Please go ahead.

248

00:43:13.320 --> 00:43:18.330

Larry Salter: Commissioners, thank you very much for this opportunity to comment I highly recommend that the Commission okay.

249

00:43:18.840 --> 00:43:25.740

Larry Salter: It follow the recommendations of their staff and approve navy's application that meets all state environmental protection.

250

00:43:26.730 --> 00:43:36.000

Larry Salter: assessment criteria and i'd like to make note of debunk some of the emotional arguments against this training which have nothing to do with the SEPA.

251

00:43:36.810 --> 00:43:45.420

Larry Salter: let's look at a couple of those arguments, the creep factor of surveillance, the navy is explained, and I would point out that the Commission noted that they have put.

252

00:43:46.290 --> 00:43:58.980

Larry Salter: directories in place that the seals are surveilling members of their team they're not it's not a bunch of seals running through campgrounds spying on camper.

253

00:44:00.060 --> 00:44:10.200

Larry Salter: Another comment I heard was armed visitors suddenly coming upon seals and training, I would think our visitors and our parks are much bigger threat to park users and they would be to the seals.

254

00:44:11.460 --> 00:44:20.580

Larry Salter: You know the conflict conflict parks intended use, I mean the navy has been doing specialized training in the Washington state parks, for many years.

255

00:44:21.090 --> 00:44:28.980

Larry Salter: In theirs in those years have there been any complaints from the public, I don't think there have been but, honestly I don't have access to those records.

256

00:44:29.610 --> 00:44:42.210

Larry Salter: I don't think there have been seal training and parks intended use are not in conflict, most of the training is conducted at night in parks that are closed or in remote areas of the parks.

257

00:44:42.900 --> 00:44:50.100

Larry Salter: That might be open, but they're in the remote areas which significantly reduces the opportunity for interface with the public.

258

00:44:50.850 --> 00:45:01.620

Larry Salter: i'm a 30 year navy veteran we have a saying in the navy train, as you fight and fight, as you train realistic training in a variety of environments is critical to effective seal training.

259

00:45:02.460 --> 00:45:16.050

Larry Salter: i'm the Northwest region, President of the United States Navy League and I represent 963 puget sound members and 35,000 Members across the country who support the navy, thank you for your time.

260

00:45:20.220 --> 00:45:35.970

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Larry carolyn Lancet you're up next followed by Linda bainbridge and I just wanted to remind folks that you will not see a unmute button until we get to your name so.

261

00:45:37.770 --> 00:45:39.990

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Karen carolyn if you want to go ahead.

262

00:45:41.430 --> 00:45:49.260

Carolyn Lancet: Thank you, I listened to the parks Commission meeting last November to learn about the navy's request to use 28 of Washington state parks.

263

00:45:49.620 --> 00:45:55.140

Carolyn Lancet: For special operations, training, I was opposed to the request in and I remain opposed now.

264

00:45:55.620 --> 00:46:04.230

Carolyn Lancet: There are environmental issues, liability issues and public safety issues, and those are fully addressed in the written comments which at last count were 321 a post.

265

00:46:04.770 --> 00:46:08.760

Carolyn Lancet: i'm going to spend my two minutes on the facets of this request that bothered me the most.

266

00:46:09.660 --> 00:46:17.730

Carolyn Lancet: Back in November, Commissioner milner admitted that this request is not in alignment with the parks overall mission and vision which is, among other things.

267

00:46:18.060 --> 00:46:24.810

Carolyn Lancet: To provide memorable recreational experiences that enhance the lives of all Washingtonians and I agree it's not.

268

00:46:25.380 --> 00:46:31.710

Carolyn Lancet: The parks were created as cherish destinations not training grounds and it's important to everyone that they stay that way.

269

00:46:32.370 --> 00:46:38.220

Carolyn Lancet: I don't want to encounter trainees in the parks, nor do I wish to meet up with those who may come to the parks to try to find them.

270

00:46:39.180 --> 00:46:42.630

Carolyn Lancet: No one denies that to do anything well requires training and practice.

271

00:46:42.840 --> 00:46:57.150

Carolyn Lancet: And we all support the navy's efforts to provide that but to open the state parks to these exercises is the first step toward normalizing the practice of military personnel conducting covert surveillance of US civilians citizens in civilian settings.

272

00:46:57.510 --> 00:47:04.260

Carolyn Lancet: My primary objection to this request is that it opens the door that once open can never be shut.

273

00:47:04.800 --> 00:47:12.210

Carolyn Lancet: It sets a dangerous precedent, not just for Washington and not just for state parks, but for other states and other parks systems as well.

274

00:47:12.540 --> 00:47:20.130

Carolyn Lancet: If you think i'm overstating this remember that the first permit was for five parks and now the navy wants access to 28.

275

00:47:21.090 --> 00:47:35.940

Carolyn Lancet: I encourage the Commissioners to review the written comments from the last few months and just and to decide whether again in Commissioner milner's words you could look the public in the eye and say why no, there is no one spying on you probably know, one.

276

00:47:37.230 --> 00:47:44.160

Carolyn Lancet: My discover past comes up for renewal next month, please don't give me any reason to hesitate before doing so thank you.

277

00:47:49.110 --> 00:47:50.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much carolyn.

278

00:47:51.810 --> 00:47:59.910

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Linda bainbridge you are up next followed by amy gulick Linda Please go ahead.

279

00:48:00.630 --> 00:48:09.720

Linda Bainbridge: Okay, thank you i'm bird watcher and I frequently go to our Washington state parks to listen and look for birds and.

280

00:48:09.990 --> 00:48:18.960

Linda Bainbridge: For hiking and I appreciate the cell to that I can find there, so I am very much against allowing the navy to conduct a military training.

281

00:48:19.200 --> 00:48:28.110

Linda Bainbridge: In our state parks, which I thought were preserved for the people to enjoy and commune with nature, not for military exercises.

282

00:48:28.470 --> 00:48:37.620

Linda Bainbridge: I don't want to be hiking looking for birds listening for sounds of wildlife and wondering if there are soldiers nearby.

283

00:48:38.490 --> 00:48:43.800

Linda Bainbridge: it's just it's just not something that I go to a park to anticipate.

284

00:48:44.310 --> 00:48:54.840

Linda Bainbridge: And what if I should or someone else should inadvertently encounter soldier with is realistic looking good, I understand that that happened I forget the state now but.

285

00:48:55.170 --> 00:49:08.970

Linda Bainbridge: In any case, if it should happen in anything happened adversely I understand that the liability for any of the any damages would go to state or local jurisdictions the navy would not be liable.

286

00:49:10.140 --> 00:49:16.320

Linda Bainbridge: So My other point is that the navy already has 46 miles of coast to train on.

287

00:49:16.680 --> 00:49:32.790

Linda Bainbridge: Why do we need to open our state parks to them so ask you, please, do not allow the navy to train in our parks it's going to have a negative impact on the economy, the environment and park users, I don't want to bring my family and friends.

288

00:49:33.390 --> 00:49:45.450

Linda Bainbridge: who visit me on whidbey island to parks, knowing that there are military personnel somewhere that we might run into So please, I asked you to.

289

00:49:45.930 --> 00:50:04.830

Linda Bainbridge: do your job and protect our parks and preserve them for their intended purpose, which is to connect all Washingtonians to their diverse natural and cultural heritage and provide memorable recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives, thank you.

290

00:50:07.560 --> 00:50:09.030

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Linda.

291

00:50:10.740 --> 00:50:16.020

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: amy good luck you're up next followed by lori Taylor.

292

00:50:17.160 --> 00:50:18.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: amy go ahead.

293

00:50:30.060 --> 00:50:38.130

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And I do know it looked like we had amy on earlier but i'm not currently seen her in our attendee list so what we're going to do is.

294

00:50:39.480 --> 00:50:45.030

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: lori we're going to move on to you next for public comment and Peter morton.

295

00:50:46.170 --> 00:50:53.220

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: will come back and we'll see if amy has rejoined at another time lori Taylor Please go ahead.

296

00:50:57.690 --> 00:50:58.320

Lori Taylor: Can you hear me.

297

00:50:59.310 --> 00:51:00.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, thank you.

298

00:51:01.860 --> 00:51:11.490

Lori Taylor: This is lori Taylor and i'm a citizen of would be island and the navy, wife of 20 years, I support the navy's need to train and understand the importance of having well trained seals.

299

00:51:12.090 --> 00:51:22.590

Lori Taylor: I do find the navy's proposal cheese Washington state parks for training confusing it's easily verified that the Department of Defense owns over 400,000 acres of land in Washington state.

300

00:51:23.190 --> 00:51:30.000

Lori Taylor: Why would the navy need to use state parks when it has its own apple and many of them adjacent to the very parks, they are asking to us.

301

00:51:30.420 --> 00:51:35.820

Lori Taylor: So I pose that question to the navy staff and the seals and their February 2018 open House no Carver.

302

00:51:36.450 --> 00:51:47.730

Lori Taylor: The answer I received is that the seals are looking for a more real world environment for training, one where they're unknowing and unwitting members of the public for them to practice their strategies around and their use of dummy weapons.

303

00:51:48.390 --> 00:51:57.510

Lori Taylor: So the navy does not need new lands what they need are new and unknowing practice targets and the easiest way to get that is to use the public recreating and state parks.

304

00:51:58.290 --> 00:52:01.020

Lori Taylor: In addition, contrary to your departments introduction.

305

00:52:01.470 --> 00:52:15.780

Lori Taylor: The navy's application does state that they plan to surveil the public, they do plan to use on our aircraft systems that is drones in area or 6781 which is protected military airspace over civilian lands in the coop filling greenbank areas on whidbey island.

306

00:52:16.260 --> 00:52:21.750

Lori Taylor: per their application these drones would carry quote cameras sensors and communication equipment, unquote.

307

00:52:22.620 --> 00:52:30.870

Lori Taylor: Maybe work games training is not an appropriate use of our state parks, I do not consent to being a knowing or unknowing participant in their military training.

308

00:52:31.110 --> 00:52:36.960

Lori Taylor: or their surveillance, they can use their own ample lands for these purposes or look into private lands.

309

00:52:37.410 --> 00:52:42.570

Lori Taylor: It is possible to support military training and support and reject this proposal.

310

00:52:42.900 --> 00:52:51.030

Lori Taylor: I am asking you to deny the navy's request to use parks for training and reject the jingoistic arguments that rejecting this proposal is a rejection of the military.

311

00:52:51.330 --> 00:52:59.130

Lori Taylor: We should not have to defend ourselves from our own military in our public recreation spaces, let them use their own lands for these purposes, thank you.

312

00:53:03.930 --> 00:53:05.310

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much lori.

313

00:53:08.940 --> 00:53:23.220

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: One thing that I did want to check in Peter morton i'm not seeing your name on the line, but the word couple folks who have joined us this evening by phone.

314

00:53:23.730 --> 00:53:36.660

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That didn't indicate on their registration that they might be joining by phone, so I don't have their phone number but Peter Martin, if you have joined by phone tonight, if you can go ahead and.

315

00:53:37.950 --> 00:53:43.770

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Press star nine on your phone that will raise your hand and now let us know that.

316

00:53:45.180 --> 00:53:49.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That set of numbers is you, and we will be able to get back to you.

317

00:53:50.880 --> 00:53:53.370

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: same goes for Judith aikens.

318

00:53:54.510 --> 00:54:00.810

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you are joined by phone Please go ahead and press star nine.

319

00:54:02.430 --> 00:54:13.380

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And we will move on to Cynthia camp bell next followed by angie humala so Cynthia.

320

00:54:14.910 --> 00:54:15.960

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead.

321

00:54:18.420 --> 00:54:25.620

Cynthia Campbell: hi Thank you, I would just like to reiterate everything that lori Taylor just said, I have no.

322

00:54:26.640 --> 00:54:35.730

Cynthia Campbell: The military is fantastic great for the military but same thing I don't want to be in the park and be an unwitting part of their war games.

323

00:54:36.030 --> 00:54:49.110

Cynthia Campbell: I don't want to be surveilled I don't want to take my grandchildren or my my children to the park and have them wonder who is creeping around in the bushes with seemingly real weapons I don't want them surveilled I don't want to be.

324

00:54:51.210 --> 00:55:05.220

Cynthia Campbell: unwilling participant to war games, even if they are not actual arms and as Laura mentioned, there is a ton of public land or land the military has that they can use for that.

325

00:55:05.790 --> 00:55:24.330

Cynthia Campbell: And it seems that they're they're wanting to go to the parks, specifically, so that they can use us as a part of their game and I forcefully reject that and I would like to be on the record as forcefully rejecting it and I hope that you will not let that happen.

326

00:55:27.990 --> 00:55:29.670

Cynthia Campbell: that's all I have to say thank you.

327

00:55:32.430 --> 00:55:33.840

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Cynthia.

328

00:55:35.970 --> 00:55:42.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next, on our list is angie humala followed by Steve erickson.

329

00:55:43.620 --> 00:55:46.170

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: hi angie Please go ahead.

330

00:55:46.950 --> 00:55:47.700

Angie Homola: Can you hear me.

331

00:55:48.150 --> 00:55:49.740

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, okay.

332

00:55:50.460 --> 00:55:57.180

Angie Homola: Thank you, Mr chair and members of this Commission, for your countless hours of volunteer service to protect our Washington state parks.

333

00:55:57.690 --> 00:56:08.040

Angie Homola: i'm a 39 year resident washingtonian and i'm a former island county Commissioner architect master of environmental law and policy, wife of enable 80 years retired type.

334

00:56:08.610 --> 00:56:17.280

Angie Homola: I believe that our military Members are committed to protecting Americans freedoms and independence, what people hold dear, and they do not want to damage to the very land.

335

00:56:17.670 --> 00:56:26.280

Angie Homola: and quality of life, to protect, we have the strongest military in the world and we have done this successfully without training and are revered public parks.

336

00:56:27.000 --> 00:56:37.410

Angie Homola: i've been involved in this specific issue for over a year and I can say without confidence that the vast majority of people who aren't even aware of this proposal are appalled and strongly opposed to it.

337

00:56:37.860 --> 00:56:43.740

Angie Homola: Based on the public records obtain from the Commission resolutions passed and petition signed to date.

338

00:56:44.010 --> 00:56:53.340

Angie Homola: Approximately 7000 people have responded three to one strongly opposed the Commission issuing permits for military training in Washington state parks.

339

00:56:53.820 --> 00:56:58.680

Angie Homola: There have been numerous opportunities from the military to engage with this condition over the past year.

340

00:56:59.070 --> 00:57:05.580

Angie Homola: The general public has not officially been notified until December 21 that there would be an opportunity to offer comment.

341

00:57:06.210 --> 00:57:19.050

Angie Homola: It is very disturbing to hear today before having held a single public hearing that this condition has already taken a position that with mitigation, you can somehow meet the needed environmental and recreational protections.

342

00:57:19.500 --> 00:57:28.080

Angie Homola: Because the navy has asked us areas of the parks, that they were in that they require secrecy it somehow specifically then alter.

343

00:57:28.650 --> 00:57:40.950

Angie Homola: competing with that very statement is quite confusing the argument that we've already used five parks, without somebody knowing about it means that we should be able to use 28 parks, is completely unfounded.

344

00:57:41.910 --> 00:57:57.570

Angie Homola: The idea that we can somehow go and mitigate a bunch of sensitive and environmentally delicate areas throughout all of these 20 parks doesn't seem practical, I urge you, please, do not allow these permits not today, not tomorrow, not ever.

345

00:57:58.620 --> 00:57:59.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you angie.

346

00:58:01.620 --> 00:58:11.160

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Our next person in line for public comment is Steve erickson followed by Mark westover.

347

00:58:12.390 --> 00:58:19.590

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I also just wanted to make a note about folks who have joined via phone as well if we weren't able to match up your name.

348

00:58:21.180 --> 00:58:22.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We will be getting to you.

349

00:58:24.120 --> 00:58:29.520

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We will have time for you in the program at the end as well and we'll be able to get you unmuted so.

350

00:58:30.780 --> 00:58:33.030

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Steve Please go ahead.

351

00:58:33.780 --> 00:58:39.210

Steve Erickson: Steve erickson for we'd be Environmental Action Network one of those dreaded activist.

352

00:58:39.630 --> 00:58:47.670

Steve Erickson: Granting is permit is a legal there's no dispute the proposals inconsistent with purpose and values of state parks Arc staff have acknowledged as much.

353

00:58:48.060 --> 00:58:58.590

Steve Erickson: Just so inconsistent with the purpose and values of state parks as be contrary to the Statute, there are two possible relevant sources of authority and our CW 79 a five.

354

00:58:59.100 --> 00:59:07.860

Steve Erickson: Six and 345 allows activities and uses for the purposes of storing and interpreting state parks scenic natural, cultural and recreational resources.

355

00:59:08.280 --> 00:59:15.930

Steve Erickson: The navy's proposal certainly doesn't fall in those section oh three old sub five provides authority for granting easements and concessions.

356

00:59:16.590 --> 00:59:27.390

Steve Erickson: The Commission make grant easements in each section oh seven oh sub five adds to that the Commission make grant eat franchises easements for any legitimate purpose.

357

00:59:28.170 --> 00:59:40.950

Steve Erickson: What is legitimate, the context here is the Statute is the purpose legitimate in terms of the purposes contained in the Statute, or is the purpose so contrary or inconsistent, it may not be countenanced.

358

00:59:41.610 --> 00:59:52.680

Steve Erickson: Parts purpose and policy or set forth in section 305 and I won't read that to you again i'm sure you're familiar with it, but it certainly doesn't include anything regarding covert military training.

359

00:59:53.670 --> 01:00:02.430

Steve Erickson: Maybe he's proposed that to these are so far beyond the statutory purposes for the state parks that they're simply illegitimate as far as the Statute and commissions authorities concern.

360

01:00:03.060 --> 01:00:11.340

Steve Erickson: As for parts of fall in the sea shore conservation area, the mandate by what's the Commission once manage these areas is clearly stated in section 600.

361

01:00:11.760 --> 01:00:20.580

Steve Erickson: I won't go over that but here again the navy's proposed activities are illegitimate and may not be permitted in the 90s permit, you should formally state as much.

362

01:00:22.020 --> 01:00:30.270

Steve Erickson: And I don't know how I can Telegraph it any louder but I will say you will be facing litigation, if you permit this, thank you.

363

01:00:33.960 --> 01:00:42.630

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Steve i'm up next we have mark westover followed by Larry Morel.

364

01:00:44.280 --> 01:00:46.740

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Mark Please go ahead.

365

01:01:01.650 --> 01:01:09.540

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And mark, I see you on there, but you are not unmuted yet on your end.

366

01:01:14.670 --> 01:01:15.090

Mark Westover: There we go.

367

01:01:15.810 --> 01:01:17.460

Mark Westover: Perfect sorry.

368

01:01:18.510 --> 01:01:21.750

Mark Westover: Thank you, Commissioners for hearing my testimony.

369

01:01:22.920 --> 01:01:30.180

Mark Westover: navy seals require training to complete their mission part of their mission is to come home safe and in one piece.

370

01:01:30.690 --> 01:01:39.660

Mark Westover: Therefore, it is imperative for their survivability to be able to train in the best possible way, and these parks, will serve that purpose.

371

01:01:40.320 --> 01:01:59.340

Mark Westover: I was born and raised in kits at county and have never heard of any complaints regarding selectivity in these parts also when I have used these parks, I have never seen them I if I ever did, it would be a small price to pay for their survivability.

372

01:02:00.780 --> 01:02:09.720

Mark Westover: As a professional civil engineer, with a master of science and environmental engineering I have reviewed many environmental documents in my 28 year career.

373

01:02:10.350 --> 01:02:30.780

Mark Westover: I have never seen a more complete and thorough environmental document as a navy has put together this document has reasonably addressed all rational environmental concerns, most of the criticisms of this document, I have read are based on emotion and not science.

374

01:02:31.800 --> 01:02:54.090

Mark Westover: This decision and mitigation measures could have larger ramifications, since it can be used as precedent for similar regional and national approvals, so please make your decisions that includes seal survivability environmental science and excludes irrational emotion, thank you.

375

01:02:57.600 --> 01:02:59.100

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, mark.

376

01:03:01.110 --> 01:03:09.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Larry morale you're up next followed by lori Sherman Larry Please go ahead.

377

01:03:10.740 --> 01:03:13.980

larry morrell: Thank you, Commissioners i'm Larry Morel from port Townsend.

378

01:03:15.030 --> 01:03:23.280

larry morrell: Tonight you're hearing many reasons why military training and state parks, is a bad idea, I agree, however, I want to point out that you, Commissioners.

379

01:03:23.700 --> 01:03:32.190

larry morrell: By not being decisive have caused the overworked park staff to do, weeks and weeks of work on a project that only benefits the military.

380

01:03:32.790 --> 01:03:46.800

larry morrell: has absolutely no benefit to the park system to the park going public to the plants, animals shorelines bluffs beaches trails campsites waterways and other amenities in your care no benefit at all.

381

01:03:48.180 --> 01:03:57.720

larry morrell: Staff has worked hard to create a mitigation plan to allow for military training in places never envisioned to be used for military training why.

382

01:03:58.890 --> 01:04:01.560

larry morrell: How did the campers hikers and kayakers benefit.

383

01:04:02.700 --> 01:04:12.480

larry morrell: Washington state parks, is not a branch of the military is not responsible for military training or providing any resources for the military at all.

384

01:04:13.770 --> 01:04:30.330

larry morrell: Commissioners should be providing priorities guidance and support not adding work that will benefit only the military and if granted would degrade the parks reputation and potentially cause damage that might only be discovered much later.

385

01:04:31.560 --> 01:04:36.570

larry morrell: Allowing military training and state parks does nothing to contribute to the future of the parks.

386

01:04:37.080 --> 01:04:45.540

larry morrell: and is causing a serious waste of time to attempt to accommodate a request that should have been denied months ago, you can do better Commissioners.

387

01:04:46.200 --> 01:04:53.490

larry morrell: The park staff is dedicated and committed and needs better support from the Commission to keep from wasting time and resources they don't have.

388

01:04:54.420 --> 01:05:11.850

larry morrell: The navy's claim of absolute necessity and whining that they don't have enough resources is not your fault, not your responsibility, the navy is trying to convince you it is focus on caring for the parks, not on training covert insurgents Thank you.

389

01:05:14.220 --> 01:05:15.150

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Larry.

390

01:05:16.470 --> 01:05:27.630

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have lori Sherman and Deborah miras was to go after lori but it doesn't look like i've got her signed on today, unless.

391

01:05:29.400 --> 01:05:44.070

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: deb if you've joined by phone Please go ahead and press star nine on your phone and we'll work to make sure you get unmuted lori Please go ahead with your comment.

392

01:05:45.300 --> 01:05:46.650

Laurie Sherman: I can you hear me okay.

393

01:05:47.040 --> 01:05:47.880

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You sound great.

394

01:05:48.120 --> 01:06:00.510

Laurie Sherman: Okay, thanks I live in anacortes I have lived here for 33 years our property is adjacent to the park, so this is the park, I am the most familiar with is deception past state park.

395

01:06:01.020 --> 01:06:07.620

Laurie Sherman: It is a destination state Park, often in number one in the nation with national park attendance.

396

01:06:08.010 --> 01:06:17.490

Laurie Sherman: It has many fragile and sensitive features title wetlands rocky bluff started with wild flowers kelp beds tide pools old growth.

397

01:06:17.910 --> 01:06:25.620

Laurie Sherman: And a National Park, the Pacific Northwest trail travels through this Park, as well as parks on would be.

398

01:06:26.490 --> 01:06:45.060

Laurie Sherman: Families are using the park more now than ever, even in midwinter the parking lots will be full most nice days night riding and running here and on our island has become very popular and people may or may not know that they should not be in some areas if they're running trails.

399

01:06:46.080 --> 01:06:57.240

Laurie Sherman: It doesn't take much traffic to cause long term impacts, as it was evidenced one day at rosarito beach tide pool when we lost about 95% of the marine life there.

400

01:06:58.020 --> 01:07:02.370

Laurie Sherman: With a bunch of field trips happening on the same day, we now scheduled them.

401

01:07:03.000 --> 01:07:11.970

Laurie Sherman: To avoid that it is not uncommon for rock and landslides to occur along the shoreline after a big rain without impact, you know, a person impacting.

402

01:07:12.630 --> 01:07:23.940

Laurie Sherman: And I know there are two mittens in the park as well, given the fragility of this area, it seems unwise to choose deception past and in the big picture, the direct conflict of state parks missions.

403

01:07:24.270 --> 01:07:33.600

Laurie Sherman: And navy training missions doesn't make sense, we, the people have more need than ever for our parks, we already have the best trained seals in the world.

404

01:07:33.930 --> 01:07:44.850

Laurie Sherman: let's not open the door to training in state parks, please I don't think that the parks gets that much benefit and the country gets that much benefit the navy has plenty of land already to train on.

405

01:07:45.420 --> 01:07:49.950

Laurie Sherman: Thank you for listening and for your volunteer ship all you, Commissioners appreciate it.

406

01:07:52.530 --> 01:07:54.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much lori.

407

01:07:56.310 --> 01:08:02.160

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: At this time I looks like amy do you look is.

408

01:08:04.050 --> 01:08:14.100

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Re joined us, and she was on earlier so i'd like to go to her before moving down to Craig.

409

01:08:16.530 --> 01:08:24.960

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Sir i'm think i'm butchering your last name but amy you're up for comment now followed by Craig.

410

01:08:27.840 --> 01:08:36.660

Amy Gulick: gorgeous day walking along the beach and went to Washington state stunning coastal parks waves lap for rocky shore calls we'll aloft and the salty breeze.

411

01:08:37.050 --> 01:08:44.490

Amy Gulick: The barks of sea lions a top of bobbing bell buoy ECHO across the water river otter scamper among the title rules looking for breakfast.

412

01:08:44.850 --> 01:08:56.340

Amy Gulick: I come here to reconnect with the real world, nature and arrived beautiful form guiding light for animals, plants of people I come here to reconnect with myself a reprieve from the man made stresses of the modern world.

413

01:08:56.850 --> 01:09:09.000

Amy Gulick: In the distance I spot dark forums and water sea lions work is the dark bodies and closer to shore and stand up right, I move on to the beach running toward me too fast, with weapons my heart beats rapidly.

414

01:09:09.330 --> 01:09:17.160

Amy Gulick: Who are these people are they angry white supremacist are they trigger happy vigilantes do I have time to find out for something goes terribly wrong.

415

01:09:17.610 --> 01:09:28.260

Amy Gulick: I hear gunshots and drop to the ground and paralyzed with fear polar shouting and running and it's the chaos I forced my legs to move and flee into the cover the forest more shout outs and other gunshot.

416

01:09:28.590 --> 01:09:33.870

Amy Gulick: who's shooting whom later from the safety of my home, I learned that the spooky militarized Ben.

417

01:09:34.200 --> 01:09:41.520

Amy Gulick: swarming the park speech for United States Navy soldiers training with fake weapons, but the gunshots for real and armed civilian walking on the.

418

01:09:41.880 --> 01:09:50.430

Amy Gulick: beach with his children, fearing for his family safety shot and killed two navy personnel running towards kids think this won't happen think again.

419

01:09:51.000 --> 01:09:59.160

Amy Gulick: Our beautiful coastal parts make Washington a great place to live it is unconscionable that we are even considering allowing some of them to be used for military training.

420

01:09:59.610 --> 01:10:03.840

Amy Gulick: parks or for peace, not war there for peace of mind that a violent state of being.

421

01:10:04.230 --> 01:10:14.130

Amy Gulick: You guys baby has its own military reservations for training purposes, they do not need to like terror and trauma peaceful civilians in parks designated for the enjoyment of the public.

422

01:10:14.910 --> 01:10:26.430

Amy Gulick: Please do your duty and uphold your mission to care for washington's most treasured lands waters and historic places that provide memorable experiences that enhance the lives of all Washingtonians Thank you very much.

423

01:10:30.360 --> 01:10:31.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you amy.

424

01:10:34.200 --> 01:10:51.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: deb ramirez just a reminder if you've logged in only by phone and not your computer Please go ahead and use star nine to raise your hand, otherwise we will go ahead and move to Craig Sir, followed by Sue Ellen white Craig Please go ahead.

425

01:10:59.220 --> 01:11:00.150

Craig Cyr: Are you able to hear me.

426

01:11:01.320 --> 01:11:02.520

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, loud and clear.

427

01:11:03.360 --> 01:11:04.260

Craig Cyr: Thank you very much.

428

01:11:05.460 --> 01:11:12.510

Craig Cyr: Good afternoon in Washington state perks Commissioners, my name is Craig here and i'm a Council member from the city of langley on whidbey island.

429

01:11:13.080 --> 01:11:21.270

Craig Cyr: and December 21 2020 Council member Peter morton and I introduced a resolution entitled prohibit military training and Washington state parks.

430

01:11:21.690 --> 01:11:29.400

Craig Cyr: The final clause of this detailed resolution states, therefore, we, the members of the city council langley Washington join other municipalities.

431

01:11:29.760 --> 01:11:38.130

Craig Cyr: jurisdictions and citizens and oppose the granting of any permits, allowing for military training and Washington state parks and we urge the Commission.

432

01:11:38.430 --> 01:11:47.370

Craig Cyr: To establish a policy prohibiting military training Contemporaneously with civilian recreation in the state parks and we urge the legislature.

433

01:11:47.760 --> 01:11:52.470

Craig Cyr: To amanda revised Code of Washington to prohibit military training and Washington state parks.

434

01:11:53.160 --> 01:12:00.630

Craig Cyr: The resolution was passed unanimously and signed by our mayor TIM coulson since that time, other municipalities, such as coo bill.

435

01:12:00.990 --> 01:12:11.370

Craig Cyr: or Townsend have passed their own similar resolutions, the marine resources, Committee of Jefferson county and the Jefferson county board of Commissioners also have it officially expressed opposition.

436

01:12:11.970 --> 01:12:21.600

Craig Cyr: This opposition is broad and deep the citizens, I represent, do not want to share some of our most treasured public spaces in this state.

437

01:12:22.110 --> 01:12:25.680

Craig Cyr: With US navy special forces who, by their own admission.

438

01:12:26.340 --> 01:12:35.430

Craig Cyr: At your last meeting have undercover officers interacting with the public, without the public's knowledge you'll recall the chief warrant officer from Hawaii.

439

01:12:35.850 --> 01:12:43.830

Craig Cyr: bragging that the woman, he was sitting next to on a park bench did not know that he was there participating in a training exercise.

440

01:12:44.610 --> 01:12:54.840

Craig Cyr: Indeed, when I am asked about language resolution citizens are absolutely shocked that it was even conceived of because of who, in their right mind would think to commingle.

441

01:12:55.140 --> 01:13:13.140

Craig Cyr: outdoor recreation and military special forces training in a state park@change.org petition to assist citizens and opposing this proposal has garnered 6500 plus signatures from all over the Northwest please vote no on January 28 thanks very much.

442

01:13:15.030 --> 01:13:22.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Craig next to testify is Sue Ellen white followed by hidey hole.

443

01:13:23.610 --> 01:13:25.110

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And so Sue Ellen.

444

01:13:26.220 --> 01:13:27.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead.

445

01:13:31.080 --> 01:13:31.860

Sue Ellen White: Can you hear me.

446

01:13:33.270 --> 01:13:37.950

Sue Ellen White: Thank you, I acknowledge, we are in the traditional land of the first people wherever we live.

447

01:13:38.400 --> 01:13:49.290

Sue Ellen White: This meeting is being hosted from the territory of the coast salish squawks and kaulitz into squali we acknowledge these people, past and present and honor with gratitude, the land itself and the tribes.

448

01:13:50.010 --> 01:13:56.100

Sue Ellen White: My name is Sue Ellen white i've served on for five years, on your boating programs Pal sports advisory committee.

449

01:13:57.060 --> 01:14:07.950

Sue Ellen White: author Mark can you noted, there are some wild places across our nation's public lands that physically move you creating a tightening in the chest, a loss of breath or tingling along the spine.

450

01:14:08.610 --> 01:14:18.240

Sue Ellen White: picture the wonder of a child seeing for the first time in the wild the undulating arc of a sea lion is it parts, the water, the large had rises then plunges followed by the back.

451

01:14:18.540 --> 01:14:28.620

Sue Ellen White: Finally, driven by a tri tip powerful tale or spotting the brilliant read CREST on a pileated woodpecker as pounds distinctive over holes and an old snag seeking a meal.

452

01:14:29.040 --> 01:14:34.500

Sue Ellen White: or going to bed, and the dwindling summer light with the tree shadows, playing on the thin fabric of a tent.

453

01:14:35.250 --> 01:14:43.710

Sue Ellen White: watching our children and our state parks, we see these things in new to so many in Washington, our state park reflects Kenyans expression of the wild.

454

01:14:44.310 --> 01:14:53.670

Sue Ellen White: Not all of us are mountain climbers expedition kayakers or thru hikers do you want to be the ones responsible for turning our state's crown jewels the public Commons.

455

01:14:53.970 --> 01:15:05.610

Sue Ellen White: handed down by those who first protected them over to covert infiltration practice on these children and their families or two others who are vulnerable older folks single women those with ptsd.

456

01:15:06.240 --> 01:15:17.400

Sue Ellen White: Just a few days ago, President Biden called on us to lead by the power of our example he asked, will we meet our obligations and pass along a new and better world for our children.

457

01:15:18.390 --> 01:15:28.770

Sue Ellen White: Will you meet this moment and say no to the navy and yes to the long stewardship was which you have been interested, I hope, so thank you and thank you for your volunteer work.

458

01:15:32.790 --> 01:15:33.960

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Sue Ellen.

459

01:15:34.980 --> 01:15:42.990

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up is Heidi holt teen followed by Susan sear Heidi.

460

01:15:43.650 --> 01:15:44.670

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead.

461

01:15:46.140 --> 01:15:47.220

Heidi Hoelting: hello, can you hear me.

462

01:15:47.550 --> 01:15:48.180

Yes.

463

01:15:49.590 --> 01:16:10.740

Heidi Hoelting: I apologize, I have never done this before and I didn't write up my comments ahead of time on Thank you everybody who expressed opposition to the military and our parks you express yourselves beautifully and with a lot of good background understanding.

464

01:16:13.200 --> 01:16:37.770

Heidi Hoelting: I have lived on South we'd be in the same House for 38 years I am an educator a writer a musician and a photographer as well as being a naturalist I studied mushrooms and other small organisms in the forest and going to the parks.

465

01:16:39.030 --> 01:16:46.920

Heidi Hoelting: affords me the opportunity to to study and photograph these incredible organisms and also see.

466

01:16:48.090 --> 01:16:49.950

Heidi Hoelting: views of the water.

467

01:16:51.120 --> 01:17:00.720

Heidi Hoelting: That, I am not able to be you know many of us don't have waterfront property and the people that decry emotion.

468

01:17:02.250 --> 01:17:15.510

Heidi Hoelting: As an argument for me emotion is is the argument when I go into the parks, I go there for emotional and spiritual rejuvenation to feel peaceful to.

469

01:17:16.050 --> 01:17:29.580

Heidi Hoelting: See beauty I don't want to have to be afraid and thinking about guns and soldiers that might be lurking, even if I never saw one just knowing that they might be there, damages.

470

01:17:31.530 --> 01:17:33.660

Heidi Hoelting: The whole reason that I am there.

471

01:17:35.400 --> 01:17:35.910

Thank you.

472

01:17:40.590 --> 01:17:42.150

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Heidi.

473

01:17:43.830 --> 01:17:48.900

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Now next up, we have Susan cirie and it looks like carrie Holland.

474

01:17:50.280 --> 01:18:00.480

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Has not joined us today, unless you are joined by phone and we didn't have your number from registration so please call if you are on the phone and.

475

01:18:01.290 --> 01:18:16.230

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: want to use star nine on your phone to indicate that one of those anonymous numbers is you, we will come find you so you can testify Susan you're up next followed by Rob Smith.

476

01:18:17.820 --> 01:18:21.180

Susan Cyr: Thank you Susan see car, yes, can you hear me.

477

01:18:21.690 --> 01:18:24.360

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, thank you Susan's here yeah Thank you.

478

01:18:25.440 --> 01:18:36.180

Susan Cyr: I love paying taxes, I love public expenditures for the common good schools decent roads clean water and food public lands for people.

479

01:18:36.510 --> 01:18:53.160

Susan Cyr: I'm an involved citizen I care about public policy sure we need a military, but this idea that the navy wants a new and expanded contract for their morally agreeable war games involving unwitting participants is an affront to my privacy.

480

01:18:53.760 --> 01:19:03.420

Susan Cyr: My husband Craig and I are bereaved parents, we lost our son we camp and height in Washington state parks for solace among the trees near the sea.

481

01:19:03.810 --> 01:19:13.500

Susan Cyr: We have always supported parks, but now it is vital, I am a Paul that the navy seal training went on for five years without my consent or knowledge.

482

01:19:13.770 --> 01:19:26.430

Susan Cyr: seals with toy guns spying on unsuspecting campers and park visitors that you as part Commissioners allowed it outrages me and now you're considering an expanded wargames contract.

483

01:19:27.270 --> 01:19:33.090

Susan Cyr: astonishing the navy already owns 46 miles of Washington Washington cosine.

484

01:19:33.780 --> 01:19:40.560

Susan Cyr: Please just let them play their gun games on their own land they can divide up into teams and spy on one another.

485

01:19:40.920 --> 01:19:53.160

Susan Cyr: But no, the navy expressly wants to spy on unsuspecting park visitors and that you think it is an acceptable way to regard your fellow Washingtonians makes you unfit to serve.

486

01:19:53.670 --> 01:20:02.790

Susan Cyr: Not only is this contract proposal sickening it's dangerous in a similar navy contract in North Carolina someone shot another person dead.

487

01:20:03.150 --> 01:20:16.380

Susan Cyr: The potential for further misunderstanding and deadly mishap is real and terrifying parks, must not be allowed to be militarized militarism in this nation is already gluttonous in proportion leave the parks alone.

488

01:20:17.040 --> 01:20:33.540

Susan Cyr: Like I said I love paying taxes, in fact, for years, we have proudly displayed state parks license plates on our vehicles, if you renew this contract with the navy, we will no longer do that and we will not visit the 28 coastal parks given over to navy war games period.

489

01:20:34.830 --> 01:20:37.800

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Susan your time is up.

490

01:20:40.500 --> 01:20:41.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: carrie Holland.

491

01:20:42.600 --> 01:20:50.850

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I see that you have joined us so we're going to go ahead and get you unmuted and rob Smith, you will follow carrie Holland.

492

01:20:53.970 --> 01:20:56.730

Kerry Holland: hello, thank you for Hello.

493

01:20:57.090 --> 01:20:58.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: hello, thank you.

494

01:20:58.800 --> 01:21:10.740

Kerry Holland: Thank you very much for taking our comments, thank you to all the previous speakers, I am here as a longtime South would be president who enjoys many of our.

495

01:21:11.580 --> 01:21:35.790

Kerry Holland: State parks, including South would be state park my son was almost 10 years old, his student at calyx Community arts school our students range in age from five to 11 and we we meet in the park, it is our school the parks are places that.

496

01:21:36.900 --> 01:21:43.140

Kerry Holland: adults and children go to learn, have an experience in nature and.

497

01:21:44.280 --> 01:21:47.820

Kerry Holland: Knowing that there will actually be.

498

01:21:49.260 --> 01:21:58.980

Kerry Holland: Military military people doing training in the parks, potentially, at the same time as schoolchildren are on the grounds.

499

01:22:00.750 --> 01:22:15.870

Kerry Holland: it's just completely completely unacceptable and anathema to everything that our state parks represent to most Washington residents, including my family, thank you very much.

500

01:22:18.390 --> 01:22:19.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Curie.

501

01:22:21.900 --> 01:22:28.050

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have rob Smith and i'm not seeing janice Larson on the line.

502

01:22:29.790 --> 01:22:35.310

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: janice if you are one of the couple phone numbers that we have joined in.

503

01:22:36.750 --> 01:22:48.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead and hit star nine on your phone to raise your hand otherwise after rob Smith, we will continue to Corinne Bailey rob go ahead.

504

01:22:49.440 --> 01:23:00.090

Rob Smith: JEREMY owner and members of the Commission, I appreciate this opportunity, my name is rob Smith, I live on bainbridge island and i'm the Northwest director for the national parks conservation association.

505

01:23:00.690 --> 01:23:06.810

Rob Smith: And PCA is a nonprofit citizen organization which has advocated for the national park system for more than 100 years.

506

01:23:07.260 --> 01:23:13.530

Rob Smith: We have more than 1.4 million members and supporters across the country, including 34,000 here in Washington.

507

01:23:14.100 --> 01:23:20.400

Rob Smith: Three of the State parks, which the navy proposes to use for warfare training are also within the national park system.

508

01:23:21.000 --> 01:23:27.810

Rob Smith: One is Cape disappointment, which is cooperatively managed as part of Lewis and Clark national and state historical parks.

509

01:23:28.230 --> 01:23:37.110

Rob Smith: Those multi state and national set of parks was established by Congress in 2004 to mark the bicentennial the voyage of discovery reaching the Pacific Ocean.

510

01:23:37.710 --> 01:23:49.290

Rob Smith: To others for Casey and for an EB are within the boundaries of these landing national historical reserve the reserve was established in 1978 to protect and historic rural landscape.

511

01:23:49.740 --> 01:24:01.770

Rob Smith: Is jointly managed by Washington state parks, the town of coop phil island county and the National Park service, in short, these parks are not solely within the jurisdiction of this Commission to permit navy training.

512

01:24:02.760 --> 01:24:12.630

Rob Smith: The navy has 46 miles of Washington shoreline they already own which they can use instead, for instance, immediately north of EBS land, the US naval air station would be island.

513

01:24:13.410 --> 01:24:22.530

Rob Smith: Next to Cape disappointment is the US coast guard restricted area for a lighthouse and just South along the Oregon coast is camp Riley armed forces training Center.

514

01:24:23.280 --> 01:24:31.350

Rob Smith: A decade ago the navy had no permits to us state parks in 2014 they gained permits for five now they request 28.

515

01:24:31.860 --> 01:24:43.590

Rob Smith: Our parks represent the highest form of protecting natural areas, recreation cultural sites for the future, it is simply not appropriate to use our parks for military exercises, which can be done elsewhere, thank you.

516

01:24:51.420 --> 01:24:54.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much um.

517

01:24:55.980 --> 01:24:58.470

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I just wanted to check in.

518

01:25:00.600 --> 01:25:02.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: To see if.

519

01:25:03.390 --> 01:25:04.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: janice Larson.

520

01:25:06.000 --> 01:25:08.040

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you are.

521

01:25:09.690 --> 01:25:10.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: with us.

522

01:25:11.700 --> 01:25:18.270

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Press star nine on the phone because i'm not seeing you on our list but curren.

523

01:25:19.290 --> 01:25:24.750

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You are up next followed by James Christie so crin.

524

01:25:25.890 --> 01:25:26.820

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead and.

525

01:25:28.980 --> 01:25:47.280

Corrine Bayley: That evening, my name is Corey Bailey and I'm on Whidbey Island. I speak in opposition to expanding naval OPS training in our state parks. I urge you to reject the proposal which may serve the navy, but I fail to see how it can possibly serve the parks.

526

01:25:48.360 --> 01:26:05.520

Corrine Bayley: From comments at the beginning of this webinar, it seems as if the horse is already out of the barn and you're just tweeting details like where it can step and how much damage it can do. I am dismayed that you open the door in the first place.

527

01:26:06.930 --> 01:26:12.720

Corrine Bayley: I see on your website that one of your core values is excellence in all we do.

528

01:26:15.060 --> 01:26:20.670

Corrine Bayley: What is excellent about allowing this disruption into our beautiful state parks?

529

01:26:21.780 --> 01:26:32.640

Corrine Bayley: Have you considered that this could be just the foot in the door to future excursions which by the way we already see with this expansion from five to 28 parks?

530

01:26:34.350 --> 01:26:42.390

Corrine Bayley: Your vision statement says that the parks will be cherished destinations that all Washingtonians can enjoy and proudly support.

531

01:26:43.980 --> 01:26:56.640

Corrine Bayley: I, for one cannot be a proud supporter if military exercises are allowed on this sacred land, as someone said earlier, this is the antithesis of the parks mission.

532

01:26:58.740 --> 01:27:07.440

Corrine Bayley: The navy has other options, I urge you to refuse them this option which will seriously alter the nature of our beautiful state parks.

533

01:27:09.000 --> 01:27:13.080

Corrine Bayley: Thank you for your consideration, please, and thank you for your service.

534

01:27:18.000 --> 01:27:19.410

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much.

535

01:27:21.660 --> 01:27:22.650

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up.

536

01:27:24.720 --> 01:27:30.750

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We have James Christie but not seen James or.

537

01:27:31.800 --> 01:27:49.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Diana doesn't look like they have logged in at this point, so we can circle around back and instead go to bill rick followed by Sarah Schmidt, one thing I do want to note is if you've got a question.

538

01:27:50.910 --> 01:27:58.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: about something do feel free to email my colleague kristin durant's.

539

01:27:59.640 --> 01:28:03.750

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you are looking at the list of Commissioners.

540

01:28:05.070 --> 01:28:10.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: and myself you'll also see that tech help is listed in there with Christians email so.

541

01:28:12.420 --> 01:28:15.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you do have any questions feel free to reach out to her.

542

01:28:17.970 --> 01:28:22.230

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: bill rick let's go ahead and hear from you, thank you.

543

01:28:23.310 --> 01:28:46.470

Bill Rick: Yes, thank you, my name is bill rick would be I also looked into how much acreage the Department of Defense has on island or actually Washington state it's about 4021 420 1000 acres, which is about four times the amount of state park.

544

01:28:47.580 --> 01:29:02.790

Bill Rick: We have if I did my numbers right and, interestingly enough, that does not include the survival training site, the air force acoustic survival training site which is listed in itself as 494,000 acres.

545

01:29:04.170 --> 01:29:18.120

Bill Rick: I am not interested in doing a psychological experiment with the grandkids when they're in parks and they come across some guy in a ghillie suit holding fake weapons.

546

01:29:19.050 --> 01:29:30.750

Bill Rick: kids don't necessarily know the good guys from the bad guys, especially when they see people in military style outfits storming the state or the.

547

01:29:32.040 --> 01:29:33.150

nation's capital.

548

01:29:35.010 --> 01:29:43.260

Bill Rick: they're not supposed to spy on us, however, they want to avoid detection and i'm reminded of.

549

01:29:44.550 --> 01:29:50.340

Bill Rick: What happened in Iraq, when a little boy came upon a recon team.

550

01:29:51.450 --> 01:29:56.970

Bill Rick: That was trying to be stealthy the little boy went and got his grandfather.

551

01:29:58.320 --> 01:30:17.220

Bill Rick: This they may not be spine, but they have to interact with the public um somebody also mentioned something that occurred to me the I couldn't I would think that the militia Members might find it very intriguing to see if they can play.

552

01:30:18.300 --> 01:30:20.610

Bill Rick: where's Waldo in the parks.

553

01:30:21.900 --> 01:30:31.170

Bill Rick: i'm really kind of surprised when I heard about this whole activity it's just one of those classics what could possibly go wrong scenario.

554

01:30:32.730 --> 01:30:36.690

Bill Rick: I don't really know why we're even bothering to bring this up.

555

01:30:37.950 --> 01:30:45.000

Bill Rick: i've learned a lot tonight, and I very much hope that this does not get approved Thank you.

556

01:30:48.540 --> 01:30:49.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you bill.

557

01:30:52.200 --> 01:30:55.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: next in line is Sarah Schmidt.

558

01:30:57.810 --> 01:31:04.470

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: dusty and Nora if you have joined by phone Please go ahead.

559

01:31:05.760 --> 01:31:15.540

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: and use that star nine because i'm not seeing you on our main attendee list here as being logged in right now so Sarah.

560

01:31:16.680 --> 01:31:17.910

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We will continue with you.

561

01:31:19.440 --> 01:31:20.460

Sarah Schmidt: Thank you, can you hear me.

562

01:31:22.380 --> 01:31:22.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes.

563

01:31:23.370 --> 01:31:37.530

Sarah Schmidt: Okay um well, thank you, Commissioners, for your service and for listening to us i've lived on whidbey island for over 20 years and we are very blessed to have a number of state parks on our island.

564

01:31:38.160 --> 01:31:48.960

Sarah Schmidt: I have read through the mission and vision and core values of Washington state parks and I don't see anywhere that this proposed activity coincides.

565

01:31:50.520 --> 01:31:59.220

Sarah Schmidt: I really appreciated what Craig seer said, who, in their right mind would think to commingle military training with civilian recreation in the state parks.

566

01:32:00.180 --> 01:32:14.490

Sarah Schmidt: kind of says it all, I feel like emotion, is why we visit state parks it's to feel serenity it's to feel happy and playful I go to state parks to restore my soul and to feel spiritual renewal.

567

01:32:16.950 --> 01:32:27.240

Sarah Schmidt: I one of the things that is a sacred activity for me is that every full moon eyes go outdoors to be out in the nature at night and.

568

01:32:28.020 --> 01:32:36.840

Sarah Schmidt: it's difficult to find public places outdoor spaces that are open at night, if I go camping and state parks, I am there.

569

01:32:37.740 --> 01:32:54.840

Sarah Schmidt: And it's one of the things I really love about state parks, a couple of years ago, I was at 40 db state park camping I went and stood on a bluff and was enjoying the beautiful peaceful evening and I suddenly remembered that i'd recently heard about the navy.

570

01:32:56.190 --> 01:33:04.710

Sarah Schmidt: doing the seal practice in the parks and it completely it shattered me physically I I began to shake and cry and just feel.

571

01:33:06.450 --> 01:33:09.030

Sarah Schmidt: devastated at the idea that that might be happening.

572

01:33:10.050 --> 01:33:13.140

Sarah Schmidt: I think there's no way to mitigate the.

573

01:33:14.400 --> 01:33:19.080

Sarah Schmidt: That sort of effect of allowing the state parks to be militarized Thank you for listening.

574

01:33:21.630 --> 01:33:22.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, Sarah.

575

01:33:25.110 --> 01:33:30.120

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up after Sarah we have Kathy whitmire.

576

01:33:31.350 --> 01:33:37.740

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: followed by Deborah right so Kathy Please go ahead with your comment.

577

01:33:51.900 --> 01:33:54.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And Kathy it looks like we've still got you.

578

01:33:55.680 --> 01:34:07.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: muted on your end if you want to look for that mute button and the left hand corner or perhaps if you've kind of muted somewhere else on your your.

579

01:34:08.430 --> 01:34:09.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Oh, there we go.

580

01:34:11.670 --> 01:34:23.100

Cathy Whitmire: you're Sarah we have Kathy whitmire yes all right so Kathy Please go ahead with your comment.

581

01:34:23.520 --> 01:34:25.230

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Kathy it sounds like you might have the.

582

01:34:25.230 --> 01:34:37.740

Cathy Whitmire: tesla hospital chaplain i'm aware that washington's Washingtonians US State parks part for spiritual refuge and renewal Washingtonians are sometimes described is not.

583

01:34:40.560 --> 01:34:41.580

Cathy Whitmire: you're not muted.

584

01:34:42.780 --> 01:34:43.350

Cathy Whitmire: Okay.

585

01:34:43.410 --> 01:34:44.370

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: you're you're not muted.

586

01:34:44.910 --> 01:34:48.780

Cathy Whitmire: But you have TV w going on in the background is what it sounds like.

587

01:34:51.150 --> 01:34:52.260

Or else on your.

588

01:34:53.820 --> 01:34:54.630

Cathy Whitmire: Oh, there we go.

589

01:35:01.290 --> 01:35:01.770

Cathy Whitmire: Yes.

590

01:35:14.910 --> 01:35:16.290

Cathy Whitmire: hi can you hear me.

591

01:35:18.180 --> 01:35:18.750

Cathy Whitmire: Hello.

592

01:35:18.780 --> 01:35:20.130

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, you sound great.

593

01:35:20.160 --> 01:35:25.740

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Your background noise has disappeared, so we are in really good shape now Kathy.

594

01:35:26.190 --> 01:35:27.540

Cathy Whitmire: hello, can you.

595

01:35:27.570 --> 01:35:29.310

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: hear me, yes, we can.

596

01:35:29.670 --> 01:35:32.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Hello Kathy we can hear you.

597

01:35:33.600 --> 01:35:34.200

Cathy Whitmire: Hello.

598

01:35:34.560 --> 01:35:37.680

Tech Help - kduration@rossstrategic.com: Yes, she's actually listening to the audio on TV.

599

01:35:37.680 --> 01:35:39.480

Cathy Whitmire: w Am I hearing you through the phone.

600

01:35:40.110 --> 01:35:41.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Hello gotcha.

601

01:35:42.900 --> 01:35:43.590

Hello.

602

01:35:44.820 --> 01:35:45.870

Cathy Whitmire: Chris can hear me.

603

01:35:45.900 --> 01:35:46.770

Tech Help - kduration@rossstrategic.com: But I messaged her.

604

01:35:48.900 --> 01:35:49.560

Tech Help - kduration@rossstrategic.com: and

605

01:35:54.210 --> 01:35:54.810

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks.

606

01:35:56.130 --> 01:36:02.340

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: for everybody i'm working through this together, we did have the TV w option.

607

01:36:04.200 --> 01:36:13.110

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Tonight for folks who didn't want to provide comment but we're interested in listening and I know some folks have that going on at the same time, so.

608

01:36:15.030 --> 01:36:21.750

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Deborah right you're up next followed by Paul Sherman Deborah Please go ahead.

609

01:36:29.760 --> 01:36:30.510

Deborah Wrightq: Can you hear me.

610

01:36:31.320 --> 01:36:32.100

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: loud and clear.

611

01:36:32.460 --> 01:36:42.990

Deborah Wrightq: Great Thank you, Commissioners, for the opportunity to speak i'm Deborah right living on whidbey island and I oppose the navy's training in the parks.

612

01:36:43.410 --> 01:36:56.310

Deborah Wrightq: I agree with angie humala Craig sear and rob Smith, well, I believe the navy seals little impact of the growlers flying over Olympic Peninsula and the Olympic National Park, I disagree.

613

01:36:57.540 --> 01:37:05.220

Deborah Wrightq: The parks are supposed to be kept serene for wildlife, as well as people who come to enjoy the beauty of nature.

614

01:37:06.810 --> 01:37:14.910

Deborah Wrightq: The National Park service employees cannot fly helicopters, or even use, chain saws within the park boundaries.

615

01:37:16.020 --> 01:37:21.270

Deborah Wrightq: How can you design rules that will not disturb wildlife.

616

01:37:22.320 --> 01:37:38.790

Deborah Wrightq: What is the track record of the navy following rules they don't always observe their flight pattern here in coatesville and they also fly low over a major highway number 20 in order to train for their touch and go events.

617

01:37:39.960 --> 01:37:46.950

Deborah Wrightq: Do we really want to run this treasure by the very loud grounder training routines and the.

618

01:37:48.390 --> 01:38:03.240

Deborah Wright: game playing the Olympic National Park, is not an appropriate site for these training routines, for that matter, military military training should not take place in any part where people recreate.

619

01:38:03.840 --> 01:38:22.770

Deborah Wright: I happen to support our armed forces and their efforts to be ready to visit to defend our country, I also know that this can be done while protecting our natural resources, train somewhere more appropriate, thank you.

620

01:38:27.420 --> 01:38:28.830

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Deborah.

621

01:38:30.780 --> 01:38:38.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Paul Sherman you're up next followed by Marianne E Dan Paul Please go ahead.

622

01:38:42.420 --> 01:38:50.730

Paul Sherman: um I have lived on South Fidel go island for 32 years and my property butts up against deception past state park.

623

01:38:52.920 --> 01:39:00.450

Paul Sherman: And I can tell you something you already know deception past state park is busy all day every day since coven.

624

01:39:01.110 --> 01:39:12.660

Paul Sherman: I regularly hiking around the park, as do many others, the bridge is a high volume destination spot in visitors can't help but be intrigued by the park and plan return visit to explore more.

625

01:39:13.800 --> 01:39:24.690

Paul Sherman: I also frequently experienced invasive deafening get noise, whether at home or on a walk so the navy already impacts our pristine forest in an unpleasant way.

626

01:39:25.620 --> 01:39:37.200

Paul Sherman: I agree completely with lori Taylor that the navy should use their own property for these kind of operations and leave our parks, for the rest of the population, thank you.

627

01:39:42.120 --> 01:39:43.770

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Paul.

628

01:39:44.940 --> 01:39:57.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Kathy I did want to let you know that my colleague kristin did just send you an email with a couple instructions related to a meeting, so we can get.

629

01:39:58.710 --> 01:40:00.120

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That squared away.

630

01:40:02.280 --> 01:40:04.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: we've got Marianne E den.

631

01:40:06.150 --> 01:40:31.830

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You Dan next and i'm not seeing Robert may burger logged in but Robert if you are joined by one of our couple phone numbers here and want to hit star nine to raise your hand will make sure to get you otherwise Michael Wilson, you are on deck so Marion Please go ahead.

632

01:40:42.630 --> 01:40:44.130

Marianne Edain: hello, am I now on.

633

01:40:45.270 --> 01:41:00.720

Marianne Edain: You are okay, my name is Marianne E Dane i'm speaking on behalf of would be Environmental Action Network and the last time we counted 6500 people who had signed the petition in opposition to.

634

01:41:01.620 --> 01:41:13.140

Marianne Edain: This proposal, I want to talk about the environmental and fiscal impact, so the proposal I think you've been hearing an awful lot about the quote creep factor.

635

01:41:14.310 --> 01:41:18.870

Marianne Edain: it's real and it will in fact depress attendance at the parks.

636

01:41:20.790 --> 01:41:27.900

Marianne Edain: The parks are dependent unfortunately on revenue from that attendance as our surrounding communities.

637

01:41:29.400 --> 01:41:41.880

Marianne Edain: That depressed attendance is going to harm the the park system fiscally the navy says it will pay all applicable fees, but if one looks a little bit more carefully, they are.

638

01:41:43.530 --> 01:42:01.740

Marianne Edain: exiting exempt from those fees so they're all applicable fees equals zero now this becomes a problem because there are a whole lot of things that are not mentioned in the DNS I did submit a painfully wordy 4000 word comment on the M DNS sorry about that JESSICA.

639

01:42:03.240 --> 01:42:12.000

Marianne Edain: But what is not mentioned, is that, in order to measure the adverse impacts, one needs a baseline in against which to measure.

640

01:42:12.870 --> 01:42:22.140

Marianne Edain: And that's very expensive and time consuming to create that baseline then one needs to monitor in order to measure against the baseline.

641

01:42:22.920 --> 01:42:34.140

Marianne Edain: If adverse impacts are detected when needs to correct them there is absolutely no enforcement mechanism so every one of those costs is going to fall on state parks.

642

01:42:34.590 --> 01:42:44.100

Marianne Edain: And that means us taxpayers we'd rather see that money spent on positive things that need to happen in our parks, please do not do this, thank you.

643

01:42:46.740 --> 01:42:48.060

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much.

644

01:42:50.520 --> 01:42:58.590

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: i'm going to move ahead to Michael Wilson, followed by Joe kunstler.

645

01:43:00.000 --> 01:43:00.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Michael.

646

01:43:02.010 --> 01:43:08.400

Michael Wilson: Good evening, thank you for your attention on my name is Pam Williams i'm speaking from Michael Wilson and.

647

01:43:09.480 --> 01:43:10.860

Michael Wilson: As soon as I come up with.

648

01:43:12.240 --> 01:43:13.380

Michael Wilson: My my speech here.

649

01:43:14.940 --> 01:43:19.020

Michael Wilson: We are strongly opposed to the navy using our state parks for military training.

650

01:43:20.100 --> 01:43:28.200

Michael Wilson: We live on whidbey island and use for case or four EB on an almost daily basis for hiking walking our dogs and bicycling.

651

01:43:28.830 --> 01:43:38.640

Michael Wilson: We are concerned, the damage will be done from off trail trampling on sensitive plants, the park rules are strict about staying on the trails, and why should the navy be exempt from those rules.

652

01:43:39.300 --> 01:43:44.820

Michael Wilson: parks or to be a place of peace and calm not having to worry about whether someone is lurking in the woods.

653

01:43:45.480 --> 01:43:55.260

Michael Wilson: I worried about the navy personnel themselves if a part Gore is carrying a gun and startled and start shooting or if a dog is startled and attacks trying to protect their people.

654

01:43:56.010 --> 01:44:05.550

Michael Wilson: Do we really want our public spaces militarized like some dictatorship countries as taxpayers, we already paid for plenty of other navy own land they could use.

655

01:44:06.000 --> 01:44:18.390

Michael Wilson: It will lead to people not wanting to use our parks, along with jet noise complaints, it will add the navy's lack of concern for its central would be neighbors, this is a ridiculous idea that should never happen, thank you.

656

01:44:23.310 --> 01:44:25.440

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much for your comment.

657

01:44:26.640 --> 01:44:41.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Joe kunstler we have next and we're going to go back Kathy to Kathy whitmire after Joe because hopefully we've got those the audio straightened out there, so Joe Please go ahead.

658

01:44:52.740 --> 01:44:56.580

Joe Kunzler: hi there, I hope, people can good people can hear me.

659

01:44:57.750 --> 01:45:09.300

Joe Kunzler: Joe console here I I speaking as a private citizen I reviewed the permit requirements, I watch and listen to the previous park Commission hearings before applying to testify.

660

01:45:11.010 --> 01:45:27.210

Joe Kunzler: i'm someone that enjoys our state parks, I also enjoy out like phil phil and get cerritos that complained about jet noise, in a word, unpatriotic you choose to live there it's on you That said, you know the state parks permitting it's a hard one.

661

01:45:28.860 --> 01:45:37.680

Joe Kunzler: it's one that should require that the navy stick to the permit requirements staff in the board struck a very good bargain, all things considered.

662

01:45:39.600 --> 01:45:45.840

Joe Kunzler: it's hard to know, you know as Steve bristow said the seals are real people they're not abstract.

663

01:45:46.950 --> 01:45:52.920

Joe Kunzler: You know, I have to train properly things can happen to them where they don't come back the same or not at all.

664

01:45:54.000 --> 01:46:02.940

Joe Kunzler: And that needs to be prioritized over, but to progressive agitators flipping and flopping around about Oh, they don't like the military well who got been on.

665

01:46:04.470 --> 01:46:08.280

Joe Kunzler: Some progressive or the navy seals, the navy seals Cup in London.

666

01:46:10.320 --> 01:46:17.970

Joe Kunzler: And I think we owe them that we owe them, you know, whatever we can do to help them out with also remember to electronic airborne attack kill provide.

667

01:46:18.810 --> 01:46:33.960

Joe Kunzler: Air cover to get those forces in and home safely so where we should be honored to provide that training and not complain, we should always smile, and we know Those are our guys and I, but I want to conclude with this thought of 20 seconds to go.

668

01:46:35.280 --> 01:46:42.240

Joe Kunzler: We live in a constitutional Republic, and that means that the military is subservient to the elected government.

669

01:46:43.890 --> 01:46:55.860

Joe Kunzler: And I really want to again applauded staff in the board for getting a strong to cut to ensure civilian control over the military and I hope you pass you agreement, thank you, thank you.

670

01:46:57.330 --> 01:47:07.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, Joe i'm Kathy whitmire let's hear from you and then we'll be going to Leah or lay a falcon hagen next.

671

01:47:09.390 --> 01:47:18.930

Cathy Whitmire: Thank you, as a retired hospital chaplain I am aware that Washingtonians used a parks for spiritual refuge and renewal.

672

01:47:20.490 --> 01:47:26.220

Cathy Whitmire: Washington residents are sometimes described as not being very spiritual because we have a low rate of church attendance.

673

01:47:26.790 --> 01:47:36.450

Cathy Whitmire: However, the large number of spiritual books purchased and spiritual retreats attended by Washington residents reveal that spirituality is an important part of our lives.

674

01:47:37.050 --> 01:47:44.940

Cathy Whitmire: Our church attendance may be low because many of us deepen our connection with a higher power by spending time outside in the natural world.

675

01:47:45.510 --> 01:47:55.620

Cathy Whitmire: So our state parks serve in part is natural sanctuaries where people go for spiritual renewal to meditate get married grieve and commune with nature.

676

01:47:56.310 --> 01:48:16.200

Cathy Whitmire: Knowing that wars being simulated in our parks will diminish most people's sense of privacy spiritual refuge and sanctuary there was a creepiness factor that comes from soldiers hiding in the woods that mitigates against the likelihood of people accessing the parks as natural sanctuaries.

677

01:48:18.360 --> 01:48:28.260

Cathy Whitmire: Here on whidbey island, the state parks are the spiritual heart of our island we hold birthday parties and reunions at Joseph would be.

678

01:48:28.650 --> 01:48:39.990

Cathy Whitmire: seek peace and refuge beneath the tall trees itself would be grieving spread ashes at ease landing and find hope and inspiration in the wide vistas of deception pass.

679

01:48:40.680 --> 01:48:49.680

Cathy Whitmire: It is said that Europe has its cathedrals, but the United States has its parks, we are asking us custodians for these sacred public lands.

680

01:48:50.100 --> 01:49:02.490

Cathy Whitmire: To make policy decisions that will maintain our state parks as spiritual sanctuaries now and for future generations, thank you for the work that you do, on behalf of our state parks.

681

01:49:05.790 --> 01:49:07.350

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Kathy.

682

01:49:08.430 --> 01:49:13.170

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Leah falcon Hagan, followed by.

683

01:49:14.520 --> 01:49:18.660

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: PETRA kerrigan so Leah Please go ahead.

684

01:49:22.140 --> 01:49:29.850

Lea Falkenhagen: The mission and vision of Washington state parks, is to provide all Washingtonians with recreational and educational experiences that enhance their lives.

685

01:49:30.270 --> 01:49:36.840

Lea Falkenhagen: navy navy seal trained seals trained for war which is neither recreational educational nor life, enhancing.

686

01:49:37.620 --> 01:49:47.790

Lea Falkenhagen: According to rear Admiral St barnett and a letter to park, Commissioner, Mr don hoke on December 4 2020 located on your website.

687

01:49:48.240 --> 01:49:57.570

Lea Falkenhagen: In the event that a training is discovered by the public, all trainees are provided PhD with a rehearse statement if such an incident occurs, I am I.

688

01:49:58.110 --> 01:50:09.840

Lea Falkenhagen: I am a US service Member in the navy conducting military training the safety person would then end the training and reiterate the same statement to the public disturbances to the public.

689

01:50:10.620 --> 01:50:20.460

Lea Falkenhagen: To the general public by navy seal trainees is at odds with Washington State law wac 35237095 disturbances.

690

01:50:20.910 --> 01:50:27.630

Lea Falkenhagen: which prohibits conduct the MPs or disturbs the general public and use an enjoyment of state park areas.

691

01:50:28.260 --> 01:50:37.680

Lea Falkenhagen: Given several accounts of members of the general public, including children, who reported being fearful coming into contact with navy seals in the port Townsend area.

692

01:50:38.160 --> 01:50:49.860

Lea Falkenhagen: With one incident reported within a mile of Fort Gordon state Park, it is foreseeable that contact with combat seals in recreational lands may cause fear for reasonable members of the general public.

693

01:50:50.730 --> 01:51:01.140

Lea Falkenhagen: And Washington State law wc 35232010 intimidate prohibits engaging and conduct in state parks quote, that would make a reasonable person fearful.

694

01:51:02.160 --> 01:51:14.850

Lea Falkenhagen: Therefore, be it resolved that military personnel, like all citizens are welcome to enjoy Washington state parks for peaceful recreational and life, enhancing purposes, consistent with the nature enroll of these parks.

695

01:51:15.330 --> 01:51:20.850

Lea Falkenhagen: Be at further resolve that in the navy combat training be prohibited and Washington state parks.

696

01:51:24.420 --> 01:51:49.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, your time is up, and we are going to go ahead and move on to PETRA kerrigan and Nicholas green had sent us a note that he is not able to join tonight so after Sarah Griffin is going to be Jay pine so PETRA Please go ahead.

697

01:51:49.950 --> 01:51:50.820

Petra Kerrigan: Am I unmuted.

698

01:51:51.420 --> 01:51:52.230

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, you are.

699

01:51:53.310 --> 01:52:01.440

Petra Kerrigan: Thank you, I would like to thank the condition for allowing me to submit my comments on the navy's proposal to use Washington state parks, for their training.

700

01:52:02.130 --> 01:52:08.760

Petra Kerrigan: As a 20 year army wife living in Olympia, let me start with a staging and emphatic note to the proposal.

701

01:52:09.180 --> 01:52:21.540

Petra Kerrigan: As we've seen in the past, if you give them, maybe an inch they will take them on the last request was for the usage of five state parks their current proposal is for using 28 or 29 state park.

702

01:52:22.410 --> 01:52:33.990

Petra Kerrigan: that's a six fold increase and a six fold increase in chances of encountering the navy has a total of approximately 32,000 acres of property on five faces in the puget sound area.

703

01:52:34.620 --> 01:52:45.420

Petra Kerrigan: Since some of these spaces are getting close proximity of the requested us parks, such as Joseph would be state park the time conditions and terrain are virtually the same.

704

01:52:46.290 --> 01:53:00.030

Petra Kerrigan: The navy mentioned being invisible to the public, yet also mentioned, safety of service and support staff and even the clothing, they will be wearing to be recognized as such by the public, this does not sound invisible to me.

705

01:53:01.590 --> 01:53:10.710

Petra Kerrigan: Some of the trails in the state parks are extremely narrow at Fort ED the proposal specifically mentioned using the trail from the peach to pon de la la.

706

01:53:12.390 --> 01:53:20.520

Petra Kerrigan: Several of the State parks are quite small the day and trailhead parking spaces are extremely limited and should be preserved for users with a discover pass.

707

01:53:21.450 --> 01:53:28.800

Petra Kerrigan: Not naval support staff limited parking is also concerned on the North side of deception pass this is a heavily used to area year round.

708

01:53:29.220 --> 01:53:35.220

Petra Kerrigan: The proposed rock climbing will add to the congestion, especially in the intended 15 man groupings.

709

01:53:36.180 --> 01:53:43.650

Petra Kerrigan: The navy also mentions training after hours and during low years experience that's when we retired folks like to use the parks.

710

01:53:44.340 --> 01:54:01.200

Petra Kerrigan: After hours in a campground when would that be, for instance swim based a park My point is that I don't want to be told, when and where to use my state parks potential presence with navy personnel take away my expectation of solitude during my recreational activity, thank you.

711

01:54:01.950 --> 01:54:02.820

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you PETRA.

712

01:54:04.350 --> 01:54:16.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Sarah Griffin followed by Jay pine and I also just wanted to remind folks that we will be doing a short break at.

713

01:54:18.570 --> 01:54:22.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: For 10 minutes and making sure that we've got.

714

01:54:24.360 --> 01:54:29.550

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Everybody here tonight is able to provide comment after that so Sarah Please go ahead.

715

01:54:31.290 --> 01:54:39.630

Sarah Griffin: Good evening, my name is Sarah Griffin and i'm commenting on behalf of the Seattle aquarium which has a mission of inspiring conservation of our marine environment.

716

01:54:40.680 --> 01:54:52.440

Sarah Griffin: The CEO aquarium is deeply concerned about the failure to failure to directly address the adverse impacts that the use of numerous additional state parks for navy training will have on southern resident orcas.

717

01:54:53.280 --> 01:55:02.160

Sarah Griffin: In 2016 the national marine fisheries service declare that the southern resident orcas are one of the marine species most at risk of extinction nationwide.

718

01:55:02.940 --> 01:55:09.030

Sarah Griffin: This team of the newly proposed training sites are within the endangered or because currently designated critical habitat.

719

01:55:09.840 --> 01:55:16.350

Sarah Griffin: If the critical habitat expansion proposed in 2019 by the national marine fisheries service is finalized.

720

01:55:16.800 --> 01:55:22.560

Sarah Griffin: Then all of the proposed state park training sites would overlap with the critical high appetite of the southern resident orcas.

721

01:55:23.520 --> 01:55:30.360

Sarah Griffin: Without additional mitigation measures, the navy's training activities in this critical habitat will have a detrimental effect on the orcas.

722

01:55:31.140 --> 01:55:39.900

Sarah Griffin: increase noise and disturbances from navy vessel will detract from orcas foraging time reducing their food intake when they're already struggling to find salmon.

723

01:55:41.370 --> 01:55:46.470

Sarah Griffin: We urge state parks to require the navy to add two additional and reasonable mitigation measures.

724

01:55:47.250 --> 01:55:54.810

Sarah Griffin: First, the navy should consider the seasonality of the southern resident orcas movements when selecting the timing of training at the new location.

725

01:55:55.320 --> 01:55:58.920

Sarah Griffin: and avoid times in the southern residents are most likely to be in the area.

726

01:55:59.850 --> 01:56:14.280

Sarah Griffin: Second, the navy should be required to utilize whale report alert systems and citing networks and adjust their activities based on real time information we submitted a comment letter with these requests joined by 14 other regional and national organization.

727

01:56:15.300 --> 01:56:28.560

Sarah Griffin: We must act urgently to reduce growing threats facing the endangered orchid orchid population, we strongly urge state parks to include the additional mitigation requirements before granting authorization, thank you for the opportunity to comment.

728

01:56:34.410 --> 01:56:35.760

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much.

729

01:56:37.080 --> 01:56:43.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Jay pine followed by Paula France ski.

730

01:56:46.140 --> 01:56:47.910

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: gear head yes.

731

01:56:48.870 --> 01:56:53.040

Jay Pine: Okay, thank you very much to the Commissioners and you also.

732

01:56:53.940 --> 01:57:12.330

Jay Pine: In December of 2020 the Defense department was denied the seizure of 1.7 million acres of public land in Nevada for bombing ranges 600,000 acres of that land was slated to go to the navy, and so this is a public land grab by the navy.

733

01:57:13.470 --> 01:57:15.060

Jay Pine: The navy has its own lands.

734

01:57:16.260 --> 01:57:27.120

Jay Pine: And to train on and the Olympic peninsula and island county anywhere in this area of the salish sea is bearing the brunt of military training in Washington.

735

01:57:27.600 --> 01:57:37.620

Jay Pine: With growlers creating hell for residents and visitors alike, our state parks are off limits for more military intrusion in our lives.

736

01:57:38.820 --> 01:57:44.340

Jay Pine: If the navy is allowed access to our parks, a precedent will be set, and we will never be rid of them.

737

01:57:45.240 --> 01:57:57.660

Jay Pine: US Commissioners have a historic moment to stand up for the intended purpose of state parks and deny the navy's attempt to work public will just say no, keep our parks, for the people.

738

01:57:58.140 --> 01:58:08.640

Jay Pine: And i'm going to read a quick poll we don't need seals in our parks in the light or after dark don't want seals here nor there we don't want them anywhere.

739

01:58:08.970 --> 01:58:18.540

Jay Pine: We don't want them in the trees, why can't you just let us be we don't like your company we like our parks navy seal free we like our pokes.

740

01:58:18.960 --> 01:58:32.160

Jay Pine: Nice and calm we don't need your peeping TOMS we don't like your crooked permission to conduct your secret missions we don't like your voyeurism it's not right it's not tourism.

741

01:58:32.970 --> 01:58:49.380

Jay Pine: We want the peace you don't bring summer winter fall and spring we don't want seals here nor there we don't want them anywhere, please take your seals far away and don't bring them back on any day a poem by wit deschanel.

742

01:58:52.980 --> 01:58:54.450

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Jay.

743

01:58:56.160 --> 01:59:04.470

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Polish of France ski you are up next, followed by a Leo waters Paula Please go ahead.

744

01:59:06.660 --> 01:59:12.150

Paula Shafransky: hi my name is polisher prensky I appreciate the time to make these comments to the Commissioners.

745

01:59:12.960 --> 01:59:19.890

Paula Shafransky: i've been a resident on whidbey island and now on the mainland for over 37 years and i've seen the navy.

746

01:59:20.490 --> 01:59:34.080

Paula Shafransky: Continually grow and to continually encroach upon our public spaces and i've also been at many meetings with the navy where their attitude is where the navy, we can do what we want.

747

01:59:34.950 --> 01:59:47.310

Paula Shafransky: And I know this isn't a time to talk about airplanes but the growlers of really diminished deception past state Park, one of the jewels of our state, I agree with.

748

01:59:48.480 --> 01:59:56.460

Paula Shafransky: comments by lori Taylor especially Sarah Griffin about the corpus angie houma mark westover and Craig sear.

749

01:59:57.000 --> 02:00:09.000

Paula Shafransky: I think this is an extremely bad idea, especially now during this pandemic time when people are looking for nature outside places to be quiet and to have some peace.

750

02:00:09.810 --> 02:00:29.100

Paula Shafransky: The navy needs to use the land that already has set aside for itself it's more than enough and I think the navy should concentrate maybe not so much on for tech foreign terrorism, but as a police, as we have seen on January six domestic terrorism, thank you.

751

02:00:32.490 --> 02:00:34.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Paula.

752

02:00:35.910 --> 02:00:44.790

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: It looks like a Leah is our layer waters is up next followed by Evelyn daily.

753

02:00:46.110 --> 02:00:48.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Elia aaliyah Please go ahead.

754

02:01:00.720 --> 02:01:02.130

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Oh, and.

755

02:01:03.180 --> 02:01:05.190

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: let's see here, it looks like.

756

02:01:06.030 --> 02:01:06.600

Alea Waters, RN: My on.

757

02:01:06.810 --> 02:01:08.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You are on perfect.

758

02:01:08.940 --> 02:01:15.030

Alea Waters, RN: Can you hear me Okay, yes, oh great thanks okay so.

759

02:01:16.530 --> 02:01:35.850

Alea Waters, RN: Leah waters i'm a registered nurse and naturalist a hiker camper wildlife observer audubon Member my grandfather was a pilot in World War Two i'm a 20 year resident almost of the Olympic peninsula and I want to thank our Washington state Park, Commissioner, for your services and.

760

02:01:37.020 --> 02:01:58.740

Alea Waters, RN: talk a little bit about this proposal, which is, in my opinion, completely antithetical to the mission vision and goals of Washington state parks and so you know when I see the answer you know it's so antithetical to our mission, why are we talking about it.

761

02:02:00.090 --> 02:02:14.520

Alea Waters, RN: Anyway, so this is the season, I understand we're talking about the degradation of the flora and fauna that that's what's important to the SEPA thing, so the death, destruction and the degradation of the flora and fauna is easy to observe.

762

02:02:15.660 --> 02:02:26.220

Alea Waters, RN: How many of you who are listening in our Commissioners there and our employees have read my story entitled be octopus.

763

02:02:27.900 --> 02:02:34.890

Alea Waters, RN: Because quickly take my time nobody has read it okay see I see and raises there's.

764

02:02:37.080 --> 02:03:02.490

Alea Waters, RN: So yeah so that's the frederica team okay read Rica is the name of an octopus who beached herself for some unknown reason at low tide on the fort walton beach about I would say six years ago and they're about 40 people at least maybe 50 during the hours of time.

765

02:03:04.500 --> 02:03:19.680

Alea Waters, RN: came and visited we were in a circle around her, she was about four and a half feet from pentacle to tentacle and her head was a the size of your head okay.

766

02:03:20.100 --> 02:03:24.240

Alea Waters, RN: And she got stranded at low tide aaliyah just to note.

767

02:03:24.240 --> 02:03:27.120

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That you've reached the end of your time so.

768

02:03:27.450 --> 02:03:27.930

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Wait a minute.

769

02:03:28.170 --> 02:03:32.670

Alea Waters, RN: that's not come in at time climate that's not fair that's not coming you're wrong.

770

02:03:33.990 --> 02:03:38.610

Alea Waters, RN: No that's not come in as i'm sorry aaliyah timing and.

771

02:03:38.640 --> 02:03:41.040

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We can hear you so if you want to say one more.

772

02:03:42.990 --> 02:04:02.040

Alea Waters, RN: That that the destruction and degradation of her environment is absolutely not Okay, and it will happen with the navy seals crawling through in submersible craft and all that, why are you cutting me short i'm shocked i've had 35 seconds is what i've talked.

773

02:04:03.120 --> 02:04:05.850

Alea Waters, RN: i'm shocked, because you don't want to hear this, maybe.

774

02:04:07.020 --> 02:04:13.740

Alea Waters, RN: Is that the thing i'm the things is one minute and 28 I just I just hit reset aaliyah.

775

02:04:13.770 --> 02:04:15.300

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: On the timer so.

776

02:04:18.690 --> 02:04:19.200

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: you're.

777

02:04:19.440 --> 02:04:21.480

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: you've reached your two minute point.

778

02:04:21.540 --> 02:04:21.930

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I don't.

779

02:04:21.990 --> 02:04:27.510

Alea Waters, RN: Think so direct got a clock right in front of me with a second i'm i'm a registered nurse i've listened to heartbeats all my life.

780

02:04:28.650 --> 02:04:41.580

Alea Waters, RN: No, I have 30 seconds left, please go ahead Okay, so this this whole thing is why, why are you the staff of the park, who I employ with my tax money, why are you.

781

02:04:42.060 --> 02:04:56.880

Alea Waters, RN: Following up this is, this is an emperor's new clothes situation okay it's obvious that any military activity in the park is going to degrade the flora and fauna, and that means Frederick us environment.

782

02:04:57.360 --> 02:05:06.120

Alea Waters, RN: So what's behind it, I want an investigation of why this navy proposal is even being considered by park staff, I think that is absolutely.

783

02:05:06.870 --> 02:05:16.530

Alea Waters, RN: Not right when it is so antithetical to the very notion of a State park and why that park was supported by taxpayer money for decades.

784

02:05:17.100 --> 02:05:31.980

Alea Waters, RN: i'm the taxpayer my grandparents were the taxpayers, we are all taxpayers stamp is our employee do not do this, let us know why we need an investigation of why this is an issue that's all I have to say.

785

02:05:32.550 --> 02:05:33.660

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Leah.

786

02:05:34.500 --> 02:05:43.020

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Evelyn daily followed by Jeremy Cornish.

787

02:05:44.130 --> 02:05:46.410

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Evelyn Please go ahead.

788

02:05:58.560 --> 02:06:03.360

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And Evelyn it looks like we've still got you muted.

789

02:06:18.450 --> 02:06:19.260

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: All right.

790

02:06:20.340 --> 02:06:31.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Evelyn kristin will reach out and we'll make sure to get the audio figured out for you, here and in the meantime let's go over to JEREMY Cornish.

791

02:06:33.450 --> 02:06:35.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So don't worry of one we will come back to you.

792

02:06:37.290 --> 02:06:38.040

Jeremy Cornish: I can you hear me.

793

02:06:38.490 --> 02:06:39.330

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, I can.

794

02:06:39.600 --> 02:06:42.330

Jeremy Cornish: Oh great okay well thanks for having me and thanks for opening this up.

795

02:06:42.840 --> 02:06:51.900

Jeremy Cornish: i've heard good points on both sides, and I would say that there's been talk about emotional arguments, and I think it's good to note that both sides have emotions vested into this argument.

796

02:06:52.740 --> 02:06:58.500

Jeremy Cornish: You know there's obviously a lot more kind of poetic and artistic stuff coming from the opposite side, but even the.

797

02:06:59.460 --> 02:07:07.380

Jeremy Cornish: You know that the angle of the troops need training they're brave and you know we don't want them to die obviously Congress emotions, too, so we need to be.

798

02:07:07.920 --> 02:07:13.260

Jeremy Cornish: Equal and equanimity I don't know about that and make sure that we take the emotion out of it for both sides.

799

02:07:13.530 --> 02:07:25.440

Jeremy Cornish: I think everybody can agree on one thing is that we don't want our troops jeopardized and that military training is highly important and we already have you know quite a worldwide reputation with the seals they're like top of the line.

800

02:07:25.860 --> 02:07:32.550

Jeremy Cornish: People and they don't get that way on accident, I think the issue here is whether or not military training in the state parks is appropriate and I.

801

02:07:32.820 --> 02:07:37.650

Jeremy Cornish: feel like I agree enough with the people who have already spoken out against that, then I don't need to beat a dead horse.

802

02:07:38.100 --> 02:07:46.200

Jeremy Cornish: What I will say, though, is that two things one is that we need to consider second and third order consequences, which means the long term effects of any decision you make today.

803

02:07:46.890 --> 02:07:58.020

Jeremy Cornish: One is setting precedents, obviously, but another thing has to do with yes environmental impacts and tourism, people may be being squeamish about even visiting some of the State parks and all that but another is you know, really.

804

02:07:58.500 --> 02:08:06.360

Jeremy Cornish: Things that may seem far fetched like once you have open military trainings in places, you have the potential to attract bad guys who want to come and learn about that.

805

02:08:06.660 --> 02:08:09.720

Jeremy Cornish: And I know this sounds like a movie or something, but you need to think into the future.

806

02:08:10.110 --> 02:08:19.230

Jeremy Cornish: I think that's one, and you know if we were to reverse the roles, I like to I like to look at mushrooms in the state parks and if I were to go to the navy base and say hey I think you have.

807

02:08:19.710 --> 02:08:32.640

Jeremy Cornish: Wonderful mushrooms hear me i'd be allowed to come onto your base and walk around and look at those I don't think I would even get a hearing or any kind of audience at all, so I would like to vote no on this one, thank you.

808

02:08:37.950 --> 02:08:39.900

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much JEREMY.

809

02:08:42.390 --> 02:08:54.630

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: let's I don't think i'm seeing that Zoe hill David Adams Tom you will or vicki Robin have joined us tonight.

810

02:08:56.970 --> 02:09:04.170

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So we David Tom or vicki if you are one of the phone numbers that we have on here.

811

02:09:05.250 --> 02:09:22.770

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: That we didn't have connected to your registration info do go ahead and press star nine on the phone and we'll go ahead and get you unmuted and let's go to.

812

02:09:23.910 --> 02:09:29.220

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Forest schumer next followed by Lee redmen.

813

02:09:32.040 --> 02:09:36.480

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Forest Melissa if you can go ahead and get them unmuted.

814

02:09:46.410 --> 02:09:54.990

Forest Shomer: Commissioners, I speak as the founding President of friends at Fort Gordon almost 30 years ago one of the first two friends groups in the state.

815

02:09:55.860 --> 02:10:02.340

Forest Shomer: i've lived within walking distance of multiple state parks in your admiralty inlet for the past 40 plus years.

816

02:10:02.910 --> 02:10:13.050

Forest Shomer: I was one of the few citizens to appear before you live at the evergreen state fairgrounds and mineral five years ago, when a very similar proposal came up which you rejected.

817

02:10:13.950 --> 02:10:27.510

Forest Shomer: The current proposal again doesn't make the case that only these parks can offer training opportunities not already available among those 46 miles that we've referred to many speakers or shoreline the navy as.

818

02:10:28.260 --> 02:10:38.550

Forest Shomer: And the navy would never consider allowing public use of those restricted shores locally here in port Townsend Bay essentially all of Indian island is held by the navy.

819

02:10:39.120 --> 02:10:48.870

Forest Shomer: there's no conceivable difference between the shoreline of Indian island and any of the nearby parks flagler towns and warden and Casey.

820

02:10:49.440 --> 02:11:02.700

Forest Shomer: We know from experience that request for us between three and 36 times intends to maximize the permitted number three intentionally low balls the true intent is the proverbial camels nose under the tent.

821

02:11:03.780 --> 02:11:15.510

Forest Shomer: Among parks that are former military bases even earlier these locations were inhabited by native native people for millennia, who were preempted when the sites were taken for military use over 100 years ago.

822

02:11:16.560 --> 02:11:23.370

Forest Shomer: For many decades these parks have been returned to the public for recreation culture spiritual peaceable activities.

823

02:11:23.820 --> 02:11:30.690

Forest Shomer: We volunteers who have worked for decades to regain the natural qualities of these parks and bring them to their highest and best condition.

824

02:11:31.110 --> 02:11:47.490

Forest Shomer: In my case continuously every year, beginning in 1993 asked you to maintain protection against uses that could be tracked and lastly i'd like to mention that all the women who've spoken before me are opposed to this project, consider that Thank you.

825

02:11:50.940 --> 02:11:52.860

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, forest.

826

02:11:57.240 --> 02:12:00.360

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I am not seen the freshman.

827

02:12:02.580 --> 02:12:05.670

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Oh, there we go Leah's on fantastic.

828

02:12:07.650 --> 02:12:08.070

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Lee.

829

02:12:09.660 --> 02:12:15.060

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you would like to go ahead and unmute yourself and we'll hear from you followed by Craig plot.

830

02:12:16.110 --> 02:12:25.440

Lee Rebman: Okay, first of all I would like to congratulate the Commissioners there's many forms of courage and they're showing a form of courage by letting the navy train.

831

02:12:25.950 --> 02:12:40.110

Lee Rebman: One of the big benefits for the navy is to be able to have many different environments to train in and that's why the variety helps him greatly for the seal training also i'm very surprised by.

832

02:12:41.490 --> 02:12:43.650

Lee Rebman: i'm very surprised by.

833

02:12:44.670 --> 02:12:57.570

Lee Rebman: The very highly emotional and extremely selfish very self centered and theater at theatrical presentations that i've been listening to this evening.

834

02:12:58.080 --> 02:13:07.290

Lee Rebman: And it seems pretty obviously that there's a strong amount of anti military and also these people seem to be in their own virtual reality.

835

02:13:07.920 --> 02:13:21.150

Lee Rebman: i've heard a lot of lies and health half truths and it's nice if I had more time which I don't to be able to go and countermand a lot of things that i've been hearing this evening.

836

02:13:21.930 --> 02:13:34.170

Lee Rebman: But I especially wanted to compliment the staff because the staff studies seem to be based on a very rational basis and not emotion and.

837

02:13:34.800 --> 02:13:48.030

Lee Rebman: I just want to compliment staff on on that and what they did, and also that it seems fairly obvious that the same talking points are being told, over and over again.

838

02:13:48.570 --> 02:14:02.100

Lee Rebman: From groups like a would be environmental an Action Network I happened to be a resident of whidbey island also and I am very strongly in favor of the navy proposal.

839

02:14:02.640 --> 02:14:19.080

Lee Rebman: And that's all I really need to say yes only other thing to maybe add a little bit of humorous think somebody has been people have been going out the woods and eaten too many mushrooms so anyway that's all I had to say thank you very much for the opportunity to testify.

840

02:14:22.980 --> 02:14:24.390

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Lee.

841

02:14:26.040 --> 02:14:33.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up we've got Craig platt followed by Karen Anderson.

842

02:14:35.430 --> 02:14:35.910

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Craig.

843

02:14:37.200 --> 02:14:37.650

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Go ahead.

844

02:14:39.600 --> 02:14:40.200

Craig Platt: Can you hear me.

845

02:14:41.040 --> 02:14:48.270

Craig Platt: Yes, hi my name is Craig platt i'm a lawyer and coupe bill, and I support the navy.

846

02:14:49.740 --> 02:14:51.660

Craig Platt: But I pose this training.

847

02:14:52.860 --> 02:14:53.460

Craig Platt: Why.

848

02:14:54.660 --> 02:14:59.490

Craig Platt: i'm going to give the last caller is rational analysis.

849

02:15:00.570 --> 02:15:13.260

Craig Platt: let's look at the DNS from a legal point of view, it does not say what the commish Commission staff falsely claim, including the Commissioner, no offense read it.

850

02:15:13.890 --> 02:15:28.590

Craig Platt: you're relying on an incorrect analysis of language, the DNS provides no real controls or protections it doesn't say, do not or may not, it says avoid and mitigate.

851

02:15:29.850 --> 02:15:41.460

Craig Platt: avoid it's not a real thing and the law that's what they taught me at Stanford JESSICA talks about not who what huh I asked why.

852

02:15:42.510 --> 02:15:55.080

Craig Platt: Why do this at all that's the central question but back to the MDS there are there's no real time eyes on direct oversight none.

853

02:15:56.880 --> 02:16:03.450

Craig Platt: No prohibition only avoid and mitigate if you mess it up try to minimize that.

854

02:16:03.900 --> 02:16:18.090

Craig Platt: What if they don't avoid no punishment no sanction know before after inspection no way to check it no way to measure it therefore no real controls, before, during after avoids nothing.

855

02:16:18.630 --> 02:16:31.260

Craig Platt: The guidelines are worthless, but still why, if my neighbor wants to throw a party I don't do an environmental impact statement if he wants to throw it in my yard, I say use your yard.

856

02:16:31.860 --> 02:16:40.380

Craig Platt: I don't want the damage i'm not going to measure it the navy has the property, they should use their back here, thank you.

857

02:16:42.780 --> 02:16:49.230

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Craig and it looks like Tom he will do all his.

858

02:16:50.430 --> 02:17:01.410

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: logged in now so Tom if you would like to go ahead and provide your comment now and then we'll move on to Karen Anderson.

859

02:17:03.360 --> 02:17:03.810

Tom Ewell: again.

860

02:17:05.550 --> 02:17:09.690

Tom Ewell: Thank you very much for the opportunity for the public to address this issue.

861

02:17:10.620 --> 02:17:28.980

Tom Ewell: I have been following this issue for some time i've gone to a couple of hearings that the navy has provided and the Commissioners have provided and i'm not convinced that it's necessary at all that the navy have access to our borders, our state parks or public refuges.

862

02:17:30.000 --> 02:17:36.600

Tom Ewell: Where people enjoy recreational activities commune with nature we've spoken about those things so when we believe that the navy seals.

863

02:17:37.230 --> 02:17:54.300

Tom Ewell: arriving in boats and submersibles dressed in combat gear doing insertion extractions surveillance all those things are simply not a part of our spiritual sanctuary that people rely on for our state parks.

864

02:17:56.160 --> 02:18:06.240

Tom Ewell: The navy seals have a new 60 acre Pacific Ocean, complex and San Diego county that adds 1.5 million square feet of coastal development.

865

02:18:06.990 --> 02:18:28.050

Tom Ewell: They also have access to 29,820 9,819,492 acres of Department of Defense lands in the US that includes 430 8938 acres in Washington state and over 43 miles of Washington marine coastline.

866

02:18:29.310 --> 02:18:45.810

Tom Ewell: We no one has satisfactorily explained I don't believe the necessity of this, what do you get what we get in exchange and i'm opposed to allowing the seals access to our state parks in this area, thank you.

867

02:18:50.100 --> 02:18:51.690

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Tom.

868

02:18:53.850 --> 02:18:57.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: we've got Karen Anderson next.

869

02:18:58.560 --> 02:19:06.750

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And then we are going to have our 10 minute break and that resumes at 630 so.

870

02:19:07.830 --> 02:19:14.310

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Karen Please go ahead and we will work on making sure everyone gets their full time.

871

02:19:15.570 --> 02:19:18.180

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: After our break and after Karen so thank you Karen.

872

02:19:19.200 --> 02:19:19.740

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you.

873

02:19:20.580 --> 02:19:28.770

Karen Anderson: Commissioners, thank you for this opportunity to address you, my name is Karen Anderson and I live in port Townsend just four blocks walking distance from Fort worth and.

874

02:19:29.220 --> 02:19:37.770

Karen Anderson: As someone who uses this and other state parks, on a daily basis i'm strongly opposed to the use of public state lands for military training purposes.

875

02:19:38.280 --> 02:19:44.580

Karen Anderson: In addition to being a resident i'm also a professional planner and a member of the American Institute of certified planners.

876

02:19:44.910 --> 02:19:57.990

Karen Anderson: And I provided a letter detailing both the inaccuracy is contained in the navy SEPA checklist as well as the insufficiencies of the mitigation measures in the mtn as much as described by Mr platt previously.

877

02:19:58.890 --> 02:20:07.530

Karen Anderson: But I want to primarily focus on the policies of this Commission is there is expressed in the recently adopted 2021 31 strategic plan.

878

02:20:08.040 --> 02:20:15.330

Karen Anderson: Nowhere in the mission vision or strategies of this plan does it stay that state parks, should be used as military training facilities.

879

02:20:16.050 --> 02:20:25.680

Karen Anderson: I know that this Commission must rely on existing laws and policies to inform their decisions, and not just respond to public opposition to any given project.

880

02:20:26.310 --> 02:20:34.410

Karen Anderson: People are emotional about this, and understandably so, but you have apple statutory and policy reasons to deny this permit.

881

02:20:35.010 --> 02:20:40.290

Karen Anderson: Indeed, had I been staff recommending this project to you, I would have recommended denial.

882

02:20:40.980 --> 02:20:50.310

Karen Anderson: Given that this is the case, I do not see how you can in good conscience approve the navy's request as it is in direct conflict with your own strategic plan.

883

02:20:50.640 --> 02:21:09.780

Karen Anderson: And constitutes an incompatible land use, for purposes of SEPA I urge you to the denied the application for right of entry, I respect the navy's mission for training, but I wish the navy would respect your mission for providing peaceful places of recreation in the state parks, thank you.

884

02:21:14.910 --> 02:21:16.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Karen.

885

02:21:19.470 --> 02:21:27.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: As mentioned before, we will now pause for a 10 minute break let folks get.

886

02:21:28.140 --> 02:21:43.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: A quick bite for dinner, and we will resume public comment at 630 and when we come back at 630 we are going to have lori Riley followed by Lang Russell.

887

02:21:44.160 --> 02:21:44.670

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you.

888

02:30:57.600 --> 02:30:58.560

markobrown@comcast.net: Yes, can you hear me.

889

02:30:59.550 --> 02:31:00.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, I can.

890

02:31:01.440 --> 02:31:09.840

markobrown@comcast.net: i've got an email from somebody that's participating in this wanting to know if we're going to make any time available for.

891

02:31:09.840 --> 02:31:10.380

People.

892

02:31:11.490 --> 02:31:24.960

markobrown@comcast.net: who have not signed up to testify, if we are finished with the sign that the pre signed folks have before eight o'clock you might want to address that when we when we reconvene.

893

02:31:25.620 --> 02:31:29.220

Becki Ellison: Commissioner brown I responded to both you already said becky.

894

02:31:31.470 --> 02:31:32.250

Becki Ellison: Just as an fyi.

895

02:31:34.740 --> 02:31:44.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: yeah and unfortunately we did close registration, so it wouldn't really be fair, I am going to work to make sure that some of our folks on the phone.

896

02:31:46.080 --> 02:31:50.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If they aren't showing up with their name will make sure to get those guys in but.

897

02:31:51.300 --> 02:31:54.720

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: We did have a set sign up period for public comment.

898

02:31:55.740 --> 02:31:59.220

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And we are approaching the 630 hour.

899

02:32:01.590 --> 02:32:06.270

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So if Commissioners want to put their videos back on.

900

02:32:08.700 --> 02:32:09.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: and

901

02:32:10.770 --> 02:32:13.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: i'm gonna go ahead and.

902

02:32:15.270 --> 02:32:16.080

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Get back.

903

02:32:18.630 --> 02:32:28.920

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: To our list of folks where we have lori Riley up next and it doesn't look like.

904

02:32:29.190 --> 02:32:30.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Lang Russell.

905

02:32:31.470 --> 02:32:47.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: has joined laying if you are one of the couple phone numbers that we have here go ahead and use star nine to indicate one of those phone numbers otherwise after lori we will move on to an am so.

906

02:32:49.470 --> 02:32:52.350

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: lori Please go ahead with your comment.

907

02:32:53.310 --> 02:32:55.170

Laurie Riley: i'm lori Riley from port Townsend.

908

02:32:56.340 --> 02:33:02.760

Laurie Riley: Article one section 18 of the Washington state Constitution states.

909

02:33:04.200 --> 02:33:10.440

Laurie Riley: quote the military she'll be in strict subordination to the civil power quote.

910

02:33:11.460 --> 02:33:17.430

Laurie Riley: And I think that that should be paid attention to in your deliberations.

911

02:33:21.090 --> 02:33:34.080

Laurie Riley: The navy as it's been stated owns miles of shoreline in the puget sound, but it hasn't been mentioned that they also have use of privately owned shoreline properties on which they have permission to train.

912

02:33:35.730 --> 02:33:44.520

Laurie Riley: So, why would they need 28 state parks as well, even though the state park shoreline is identical to what they already have.

913

02:33:45.540 --> 02:33:54.780

Laurie Riley: Because the parks are where the public is and that's The only difference so even though you say you will be prohibiting surveillance of the public.

914

02:33:55.410 --> 02:34:01.920

Laurie Riley: A navy special OPS trainer at the navy's own event at the blue heron middle school in port Townsend stated.

915

02:34:02.640 --> 02:34:24.690

Laurie Riley: that the training is specifically for surveillance of the public as the surrogate enemy and that's the term he used and the parks quote the parks are where the people are unquote Furthermore, the navy's application states at I quote trainees would use observation techniques, unquote.

916

02:34:25.920 --> 02:34:28.020

Laurie Riley: So even if we were mistaken.

917

02:34:29.040 --> 02:34:41.100

Laurie Riley: The fear and emotion are real and valid and will negatively impact park usage and i'd also like to say that emotion is not stupidity.

918

02:34:43.170 --> 02:34:58.500

Laurie Riley: Previous regional commander admin grey and real barnett have both mentioned that the navy has trained covertly in the state parks for 30 years where was their application I don't think they're honest, we can't trust them say no, thank you.

919

02:35:02.880 --> 02:35:04.590

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much lori.

920

02:35:06.720 --> 02:35:12.180

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: let's go ahead and move to an linear.

921

02:35:13.500 --> 02:35:18.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: phil song i'm not seeing you on the list so.

922

02:35:19.440 --> 02:35:23.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If, for some reason you're one of those phone numbers do raise your hand and we will.

923

02:35:24.930 --> 02:35:29.910

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: probably end up moving to seth rollins next so, and please go ahead.

924

02:35:32.040 --> 02:35:33.420

Ann Linnea: Can you hear me all right.

925

02:35:34.110 --> 02:35:36.510

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, loud and clear okay.

926

02:35:38.340 --> 02:35:48.690

Ann Linnea: I agree with all of those who have spoken, that this proposal is completely incongruent with the stated mission of our Washington state parks.

927

02:35:49.980 --> 02:36:06.540

Ann Linnea: The often expressed creep factor about allowing navy soldiers to sneak around to practice non detection in our parks is not only in congruent with the parks commission's stated intention, it is dangerous for two reasons.

928

02:36:07.710 --> 02:36:16.590

Ann Linnea: One there are several extremist paramilitary practicing secretly on state lands maybe not state parks, but state lands we don't know.

929

02:36:17.520 --> 02:36:27.300

Ann Linnea: If we saw someone in fatigues How would we know the difference, some of your park users carry guns, what if they draw gun self Defense.

930

02:36:28.020 --> 02:36:49.140

Ann Linnea: This is potentially very dangerous in these turbulent times, secondly, and several people have spoken about this women always fear for our safety in the woods, with this in place, most of us would go into the woods, with a lot of added fear in our hearts if we would go and all.

931

02:36:50.460 --> 02:37:01.290

Ann Linnea: The idea that they would be undetected is ridiculous my little dog would absolutely know if someone is sneaking around within 100 foot radius of me.

932

02:37:02.580 --> 02:37:09.960

Ann Linnea: Finally, a story for you, that brings in emotion, which is very important to your park users.

933

02:37:11.010 --> 02:37:17.790

Ann Linnea: In 2019 We took our to Los Angeles grandchildren camping at Bowman based state park and August.

934

02:37:18.600 --> 02:37:25.920

Ann Linnea: We went down to the beach at 10 o'clock at night to see the bioluminescence it was absolutely magical.

935

02:37:26.640 --> 02:37:41.160

Ann Linnea: My la granddaughter is very afraid of the woods in the dark, this was a huge step for her, I would have to tell her that we could see soldiers soldiers sneaking around in the woods are coming out of the water she.

936

02:37:41.310 --> 02:37:42.840

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: began your time is up.

937

02:37:43.440 --> 02:37:43.980

Income.

938

02:37:45.480 --> 02:37:47.970

Ann Linnea: We would never go under those circumstances.

939

02:37:50.070 --> 02:37:59.700

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much and and we're going to move on to seth Roland followed by Marlene finley.

940

02:38:01.080 --> 02:38:14.850

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Again phil song i'm not seeing you, but if you are on via phone and we can't see your name on there, please go ahead and press star nine and we'll get you unmuted seth Please go ahead.

941

02:38:16.320 --> 02:38:25.650

Seth Rolland: Thank you all for serving on the parks Commission I know you do it because you love the parks, as much as I do, I look to the parks as a refuge in this crazy world.

942

02:38:26.550 --> 02:38:36.990

Seth Rolland: First i'd like to challenge the idea that 1000 foot exclusion zone around a campground is enough for 20 years of camp in state parks with groups of kids and we always go on hikes.

943

02:38:37.530 --> 02:38:50.310

Seth Rolland: it's a highlight of every trip 1000 feet is two tenths of a mile and most people can walk it in four minutes will campers be informed that if they wander more than four minutes from camp they might end up in a military incursion.

944

02:38:51.450 --> 02:39:04.560

Seth Rolland: I walk off trail frequently silently observing eagles other wildlife and campers wander the park at night there is not a time or place in our state parks, where the military can train and be guaranteed to be unseen and unheard.

945

02:39:05.670 --> 02:39:16.020

Seth Rolland: A CFO will show that a peeping Tom has no impact technically they take nothing, and if so little impact you don't even know they're there yet, the fear and creepiness they create are very real.

946

02:39:17.100 --> 02:39:22.380

Seth Rolland: The city navy says it won't surveil people, how can you promise to avoid people if you don't watch them.

947

02:39:23.460 --> 02:39:30.210

Seth Rolland: Many others have pointed out how much shoreline the military has and, obviously, that what they need from parks, is the people.

948

02:39:31.380 --> 02:39:45.360

Seth Rolland: there's a clear and simple solution the navy should open Indian island and its other lands to recreation on the days they want to train this isn't a flip it's flip it suggestion Indian island has often had a five K public around there.

949

02:39:46.440 --> 02:39:49.590

Seth Rolland: And people who go will not be surprised if they see armed soldiers.

950

02:39:50.820 --> 02:40:00.960

Seth Rolland: Fear in public enjoyment are incompatible, I appreciate that you're required to consider this request by the military, but also that you are not required to granted.

951

02:40:02.100 --> 02:40:06.360

Seth Rolland: Your state parks, Commissioners, please protect our parks, thank you.

952

02:40:10.230 --> 02:40:20.100

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much seth next up, we have Marlene finley followed by Carol borden Marlene Please go ahead.

953

02:40:24.210 --> 02:40:36.540

Marlene Finley: Good evening, my name is Marlene finley and I live in anacortes Washington tonight i'm speaking on behalf of evergreen islands, a nonprofit environmental organization and schedule county.

954

02:40:37.020 --> 02:40:47.580

Marlene Finley: evergreen islands is opposed to the navy conducting special operations training in Washington state parks, because it's in direct conflict with the parks systems mission and vision.

955

02:40:47.940 --> 02:40:53.760

Marlene Finley: In the commission's own words, these are the most treasured lands waters in historic places in our state.

956

02:40:54.660 --> 02:41:05.130

Marlene Finley: i'm retired after 35 years of US forest service and national park service and I worked on many special use permits during my career in public land management.

957

02:41:05.730 --> 02:41:21.270

Marlene Finley: What shocks me about this proposal is the scope and scale of the navy's request to conduct training and 28 parks, as much as 36 times a year with as many as 84 trainees and support staff on site at one time, according to the application.

958

02:41:22.110 --> 02:41:31.620

Marlene Finley: Part of the process and considering uses in parks is applying screening criteria, which includes determining whether or not to use can take place in areas outside of apart.

959

02:41:32.340 --> 02:41:42.930

Marlene Finley: This proposal should have been denied during screening because it's contrary to part mission, and it can be done outside of parks and it would have saved a lot of money and environmental assessments and SEPA.

960

02:41:43.680 --> 02:41:53.610

Marlene Finley: I live near deception past state park and often visit the park to hike kayak and take photographs it's a special place, I found to lift my spirits during the pandemic.

961

02:41:54.030 --> 02:42:04.170

Marlene Finley: Why, in the world, would you consider adding more military impacts in a Park, which is subject to growler jet noise on a regular basis, to the point where people pull up their tents and leave.

962

02:42:04.830 --> 02:42:13.440

Marlene Finley: At your November meeting JESSICA explained how each parks individual and that planners were considering exclusions, that is identifying.

963

02:42:14.100 --> 02:42:27.930

Marlene Finley: Certain parts and parts of parks, which would be off the table, because of existing high use levels within the parks that make them unsuitable is training grounds but I can't find the parks that were excluded in your document.

964

02:42:29.940 --> 02:42:37.440

Marlene Finley: In conclusion, this thing is not appropriate and state parks, please take care of our most cherished places, and thank you for listening.

965

02:42:38.700 --> 02:42:39.870

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you Marlene.

966

02:42:42.900 --> 02:42:55.620

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: I have not actually seen Carol in our attendee list so i'm going to move forward to George rehnquist followed by Charlene rehnquist so.

967

02:42:57.150 --> 02:43:00.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: let's go ahead and hear from George.

968

02:43:00.870 --> 02:43:11.490

George Renquist: Thank you, I support the navy's plans to expand locations for military exercises on Washington beaches and parks there in mind freedom is not free.

969

02:43:12.090 --> 02:43:24.180

George Renquist: My father flew on a B 17 and World War Two i'm a decorated combat marine who served this country in Vietnam, my son former marine corps helicopter pilot my son in law West point graduate.

970

02:43:24.990 --> 02:43:44.970

George Renquist: And a nephew, who is currently candidate for West point where you're for generations of military patriot, all of us, or mission successes and our survival to extensive training opposition statements site military training as an intrusive causing damage refuge slept on public property.

971

02:43:46.050 --> 02:43:54.840

George Renquist: For for Decker get dedicated so I decades, I have visited Washington state parks and public beaches sadly i've witnessed public trash.

972

02:43:55.140 --> 02:44:15.570

George Renquist: liquor bottles drug needles spent condoms and extensive vandalism for park personnel to have to clean up or repair in talking to those who have invited seals training on their private property, now the seals were far more respectful than the general public.

973

02:44:16.980 --> 02:44:33.210

George Renquist: In fact recounting their experience their property was so pristine after the seals left they didn't know that seals had come and gone, this issue is an excellent reminder to all American citizens and political parties.

974

02:44:34.710 --> 02:44:44.100

George Renquist: of how much the United States military navy contributes to our local communities with jobs revenues taxes growth school systems economies.

975

02:44:44.550 --> 02:44:56.760

George Renquist: and way of life, I express my wholehearted support back to the navy's request for personnel to engage in naval special OPS training at any additional locations within Washington state.

976

02:44:57.240 --> 02:45:09.480

George Renquist: My wife and I had previously offered our beachfront property in the San Juan islands, for a potential seals training that offer still stands, we may have been visited we never know it, these young people.

977

02:45:09.540 --> 02:45:11.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Men and I charge your time is up.

978

02:45:14.130 --> 02:45:15.930

George Renquist: The navy should be granted right upper.

979

02:45:15.990 --> 02:45:26.040

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And just so folks know Charlene and Georgia at the at the same line in case that wasn't obvious so Charlene please continue okay.

980

02:45:26.130 --> 02:45:36.060

George Renquist: The navy should be granted right a permit to continue training on state parks and public land, I am a local native American and an elder in life squamish tribe.

981

02:45:36.570 --> 02:45:41.370

George Renquist: I am not an uninformed indigenous person as inferred by a wing Member.

982

02:45:41.820 --> 02:45:50.910

George Renquist: I read the navy's public announcements emails with other tribal members and discuss this with some of our honored tribal veterans the squamish warriors.

983

02:45:51.300 --> 02:45:59.220

George Renquist: I attended the possible may 2017 meeting, which was about one of numerous navy public forums in the surrounding areas.

984

02:45:59.490 --> 02:46:08.040

George Renquist: I had the opportunity to personally meet seal members learn more about what it takes to become one of their elite and their unwavering dedication.

985

02:46:08.370 --> 02:46:25.590

George Renquist: This venue allowed factual dissemination regarding environmental impact studies procedures and the opportunity to voice any concerns also navy training would not be conducted on any tribal property without the explicit consent of the tribe.

986

02:46:26.130 --> 02:46:35.250

George Renquist: My father uncles and numerous cousins and all branches of the military served in World War Two Korean War, Vietnam and recently the Middle East.

987

02:46:35.490 --> 02:46:43.230

George Renquist: My grandfather benny George was one of the first applicants at the keyboard torpedo station and was assigned badge number 17.

988

02:46:43.590 --> 02:46:54.300

George Renquist: After military service several family members continued careers at Bremerton naval shipyard and Bangor sub base my husband was a combat marine and Vietnam.

989

02:46:54.660 --> 02:47:06.450

George Renquist: Additionally, I have a cousin whose name is engraved at the Pearl Harbor Arizona memorial as one so last that fateful day we are multi generations of responsible patriots.

990

02:47:06.960 --> 02:47:14.460

George Renquist: We enjoy all freedoms due to selfless dedication of these young SEAL men and women, their bravery is legendary.

991

02:47:14.730 --> 02:47:28.650

George Renquist: The very least, this Commission can do is to assist these heroes, by providing a venue to achieve their mission and protecting our freedoms. Thank you very much, Honorable persons.

992

02:47:30.180 --> 02:47:32.070

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Charlene.

993

02:47:33.300 --> 02:47:41.280

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Diana Law, and we are going to follow Diana up with Diana Lindsey.

994

02:47:42.390 --> 02:48:01.140

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Who was not logged in earlier but was listed earlier in our comment lineup so Diana law, followed by Diana Lindsay and then Peter Guerrero you'll be up next Diana law, please go ahead.

995

02:48:06.600 --> 02:48:18.720

Diana Law: And mute okay sorry I had to figure out how to unmute um my name is Diana law, I have worked on some native respiration projects here enough civic Northwest.

996

02:48:19.770 --> 02:48:30.540

Diana Law: With the beacon food forest with a wetland restoration and for faster university, I was the lead on a navy native habitat.

997

02:48:31.050 --> 02:48:36.810

Diana Law: restoration and I can say that those environments are fairly fragile so it's hard to understand how they could.

998

02:48:37.290 --> 02:48:44.370

Diana Law: Have troops clambering around off trail and not cause any environmental destruction that's one concern.

999

02:48:45.330 --> 02:48:52.380

Diana Law: I also don't understand how they would be responsible for any damage that they do it seems like they're not going to be responsible for that.

1000

02:48:53.310 --> 02:49:00.240

Diana Law: As well as a lot of things that other people have pointed out, like they have their own land, why do they need to be on the parks lance to do this.

1001

02:49:01.800 --> 02:49:19.170

Diana Law: As someone who really enjoys the outdoors, especially in this kind of stressful time so we've been having with endemic and all those things I like to go out in nature, one of the reasons I live in Washington is for the great natural resources that we have, and I would really.

1002

02:49:20.310 --> 02:49:28.230

Diana Law: Personally, and I can only imagine other people would be very uncomfortable knowing that someone might be sneaking around with things that look like guns.

1003

02:49:29.790 --> 02:49:39.930

Diana Law: If you happen to spot them that would just feel really stressful this as far as I can tell, so I want to thank you guys for letting the public have a voice in us and.

1004

02:49:41.700 --> 02:49:47.280

Diana Law: Hope you'll consider not permitting them and letting them use their own space, thank you.

1005

02:49:51.000 --> 02:49:55.080

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, Diana let's go ahead and.

1006

02:49:56.550 --> 02:50:02.400

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: unmute Diana Lindsay for her comment, followed by Peter Guerrero.

1007

02:50:03.780 --> 02:50:15.510

Diana Lindsay: Thank you very much for the opportunity to speak with you, I am a cancer patient in the south, would be state park was integral to my healing I walked in it every day.

1008

02:50:16.650 --> 02:50:24.240

Diana Lindsay: For 45 minutes and I, instead of having three months to live i've been alive for 15 years.

1009

02:50:25.170 --> 02:50:33.360

Diana Lindsay: We went on to form healing circles langley and in the process have done a lot of research on the health benefits of nature.

1010

02:50:33.870 --> 02:50:46.890

Diana Lindsay: And of course exercise in how not only cancer patients recover, but also depression and mental illness and i'm looking at a study right here one more high blood pressure.

1011

02:50:47.970 --> 02:51:09.630

Diana Lindsay: All of these require the ability to safely interact with nature, the immune system does not respond when it's in fight or flight, so I think it's really important to preserve these areas where those of us who are challenged in our health can recover, so I urge you to.

1012

02:51:10.830 --> 02:51:15.090

Diana Lindsay: not allow this incursion into the state parks, thank you very much.

1013

02:51:20.520 --> 02:51:28.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much, Diana let's go ahead and go to Peter Guerrero next.

1014

02:51:29.550 --> 02:51:32.130

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: followed by Mary Gallagher.

1015

02:51:33.210 --> 02:51:34.410

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Peter go ahead.

1016

02:51:35.550 --> 02:51:46.680

Peter Guerrero: i'm Peter Guerrero i'm with the North Olympic group of the Sierra club, the Washington state Sierra club is on record, on behalf of our hundred thousand members and supporters in the state.

1017

02:51:47.370 --> 02:51:54.810

Peter Guerrero: that the State park staffs recommendation a determination on significance is both flawed and kill time for the following reasons.

1018

02:51:55.290 --> 02:52:08.760

Peter Guerrero: First, as you heard the navy you've already owns miles of Washington sure, along with the walk training, second, the plan training exercises will restrict public access to parks and pose risk of injury to person's property and wildlife.

1019

02:52:10.020 --> 02:52:18.240

Peter Guerrero: third state parks determination non significance is contrary to its mission, as you have also heard from many of the previous speakers.

1020

02:52:18.960 --> 02:52:23.580

Peter Guerrero: For damage to our parks will be impossible to monitor and taxpayers will foot the bill.

1021

02:52:24.330 --> 02:52:36.330

Peter Guerrero: On this point, I would say the navy claims it will notify law enforcement and park management before any training exercise, but a public records request reveals that has never done so during the five years it has held a permit.

1022

02:52:37.110 --> 02:52:44.790

Peter Guerrero: This leaf state park staff on able to monitor such exercises and makes it more difficult to evaluate environmental impacts after the fact.

1023

02:52:45.630 --> 02:53:01.110

Peter Guerrero: The navy is furthers claim to accept no liability, I have to say that our state parks, as you will know, have been underfunded and are understaffed for years now, this will put those parks and.

1024

02:53:04.710 --> 02:53:14.610

Peter Guerrero: learn some situation very difficult time, a fifth a State parks determination non significance is based on a flawed, maybe finally environmental assessment.

1025

02:53:15.180 --> 02:53:23.220

Peter Guerrero: That fail to evaluate the effects of explosive devices sonar and other technologies on the region's critically endangered orchid and salmon populations.

1026

02:53:24.330 --> 02:53:30.690

Peter Guerrero: Sixth, and finally state parks, has failed to consider the impact on public health, in light of.

1027

02:53:32.430 --> 02:53:40.590

Peter Guerrero: Our parks are loved well attended during this time they're critical for our health and well being for all these reasons.

1028

02:53:41.820 --> 02:53:49.740

Peter Guerrero: Sierra club opposes the right of entry permit for the US navy and I think the Commissioners for your time and consideration of this matter.

1029

02:53:51.090 --> 02:53:52.530

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, Peter.

1030

02:53:54.270 --> 02:53:56.460

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Mary Gallagher.

1031

02:53:58.410 --> 02:54:03.570

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And after Mary Gallagher it looks like we have Carol borden who.

1032

02:54:05.370 --> 02:54:09.870

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: wasn't on just earlier here so we're going to get her slotted in.

1033

02:54:11.280 --> 02:54:13.110

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So Mary Please go ahead.

1034

02:54:13.950 --> 02:54:14.910

Mary Gallagher: Okay, can you hear me.

1035

02:54:15.930 --> 02:54:16.800

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, loud and clear.

1036

02:54:17.280 --> 02:54:27.870

Mary Gallagher: Okay, great hi my name is Mary Gallagher i'm live a mile from like wenatchee state park I buy a discover pass every summer and as snow park pass every year.

1037

02:54:29.760 --> 02:54:40.590

Mary Gallagher: Our state parks are cherries destinations, indeed, and I want to thank all the state park staff, I know how hard all of you work, especially our staff here at lake wenatchee.

1038

02:54:41.160 --> 02:54:55.650

Mary Gallagher: And I really want to appreciate all the volunteer Commissioners and your meeting one of Washington state parks core values by involving the public in policy development and decision making, so thank you for taking the time to hear public comments.

1039

02:54:56.820 --> 02:54:59.610

Mary Gallagher: Sometimes sitting down to write a letter just doesn't happen.

1040

02:55:00.660 --> 02:55:05.880

Mary Gallagher: So i'd ask you as the Commissioners, you have the task of deciding the appropriateness.

1041

02:55:06.630 --> 02:55:14.760

Mary Gallagher: Of the military, which we have a wonderful military i'm proud of our military and, yes, they need training, but really.

1042

02:55:15.390 --> 02:55:33.870

Mary Gallagher: Military conducting special operations and 28 of our Washington state parks cherish destinations core value is stewardship does this proposal, please each of you stop and ask yourself does this proposal fall within the mission of state parks.

1043

02:55:37.230 --> 02:55:42.840

Mary Gallagher: Well, this truly enhance the purpose of state parks, I think, as Commissioners, you need to decide.

1044

02:55:43.860 --> 02:55:48.840

Mary Gallagher: Are the actions you decide on do they enhance or do they infringe on the users.

1045

02:55:50.700 --> 02:55:53.610

Mary Gallagher: i'm opposed to military training in our state parks.

1046

02:55:55.170 --> 02:56:06.180

Mary Gallagher: And I hope that you take the consideration from everything you here tonight and what's in your heart about these cherished lands and who the true users should be Thank you.

1047

02:56:14.820 --> 02:56:16.800

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Mary Thank you very much um.

1048

02:56:18.600 --> 02:56:22.200

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Carol borden.

1049

02:56:23.430 --> 02:56:28.590

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: followed by Lee first so Carol Please go ahead.

1050

02:56:29.910 --> 02:56:33.450

Carol Bordin: Good evening, thank you, Commissioners for meeting this evening and allowing the.

1051

02:56:34.890 --> 02:56:44.100

Carol Bordin: Public will provide their comments I live here in anacortes and I am active and hiking and fishing birdwatching.

1052

02:56:44.730 --> 02:56:58.860

Carol Bordin: And also helping in the state parks and Washington park or city park and volunteering here and I certainly think that our state parks should be set aside continuously for.

1053

02:56:59.340 --> 02:57:07.410

Carol Bordin: The public, to enjoy recreation and that's why they were established, and so it seems to me that.

1054

02:57:07.920 --> 02:57:19.320

Carol Bordin: Military operations are you know it doesn't seem right to have these navy seals training in the state parks, I certainly wouldn't want to run into one.

1055

02:57:20.220 --> 02:57:28.710

Carol Bordin: I dated one for nine for six years and I know how they are, and you know they're intense and they leave no stone unturned.

1056

02:57:29.220 --> 02:57:41.400

Carol Bordin: And they're great guys and they do a great job out there, but I think that state parks is off limits, and I think that's important you know we have to have places to go to recreate and.

1057

02:57:41.910 --> 02:57:52.920

Carol Bordin: Like I say, and they will be vicious in the parks and they will be out there training to know, and so you know that comes with impacts to wildlife birds.

1058

02:57:53.580 --> 02:58:03.450

Carol Bordin: and also to the orcas and the salmon out there already are impacted so you have to make up your mind what you want to do this is from one.

1059

02:58:03.900 --> 02:58:14.940

Carol Bordin: person in the city here of anacortes that loves our park so onward and and hope you vote against it, thank you for allowing me to speak tonight have a good night.

1060

02:58:17.400 --> 02:58:18.960

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Carol.

1061

02:58:20.040 --> 02:58:27.180

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up for testifying is leave first and i'm not seeing JESSICA lawrenson.

1062

02:58:28.200 --> 02:58:30.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: On the meeting but.

1063

02:58:31.590 --> 02:58:39.240

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you are on as one of the anonymous phone numbers there, please go ahead and hit star nine and we'll get you.

1064

02:58:41.580 --> 02:58:50.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: unmuted and after Lee we will move to sheila ton so Lee Please go ahead.

1065

02:58:52.110 --> 02:58:58.320

Lee First: hello, Commissioners, my name is lead first, and I am a resident of rural grays harbor county.

1066

02:58:59.550 --> 02:59:07.320

Lee First: I frequent West haven westport light Gray island twin harbors and Cape disappointment state parks, as often as I can.

1067

02:59:08.370 --> 02:59:16.200

Lee First: Honestly, have a series of questions tonight, which I hope someone from the parks department will answer for me at some point.

1068

02:59:17.490 --> 02:59:35.310

Lee First: i'm worrying a pandemic, when I go to my local parks, I am faced with lots of signs telling me to social distance and wear a mask will the navy seals be wearing masks will all the support staff be wearing masks.

1069

02:59:37.110 --> 02:59:37.530

Lee First: On.

1070

02:59:39.510 --> 02:59:54.540

Lee First: The SEPA does not adequately explain how the public will be informed about military training exercises will there be signs or some kind of warning, what kind of communication will be offered to the public were camping or visiting.

1071

02:59:55.650 --> 03:00:01.890

Lee First: The SEPA is vague about exact steps that will be taken if the public enters an active training area.

1072

03:00:03.540 --> 03:00:27.060

Lee First: My overriding question is why conducting these military activities is inconsistent with the core values of the park systems trainees carrying realistic fake looking weapons will clearly conflict with park rules weapons are not allowed, why does the navy need these areas now.

1073

03:00:29.190 --> 03:00:32.400

Lee First: um there's a description of the proposed trainings.

1074

03:00:34.200 --> 03:00:46.380

Lee First: But it's not adequate and more specific information is needed, for example, small support vessels and small boats will be used, I have a feeling these aren't going to be so small.

1075

03:00:47.160 --> 03:00:56.220

Lee First: Exactly what kind of vessels and boats will be used and how large are they I see i'm out of time, so i'm going to sign up, thank you very much.

1076

03:00:57.750 --> 03:00:59.100

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Lee.

1077

03:01:01.020 --> 03:01:04.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have sheila ton.

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03:01:05.490 --> 03:01:07.050

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: followed by.

1079

03:01:08.700 --> 03:01:19.470

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Potentially lori Keith because I don't think i'm seeing Timothy or Joan on the line here so sheila let's go ahead.

1080

03:01:21.060 --> 03:01:26.250

Sheila Tonne: hi my name is sheila Tony and I thank you for this opportunity to speak.

1081

03:01:27.540 --> 03:01:34.470

Sheila Tonne: I am a i've been volunteering at Camp beach state park in the summer of 2019 we didn't do it last year.

1082

03:01:34.920 --> 03:01:47.280

Sheila Tonne: And I know that at the park that it's mostly a lot of families with young children who stayed at the cabins overnight and it's it's just a wonderful place to go and.

1083

03:01:47.880 --> 03:01:53.130

Sheila Tonne: I think a lot of people have said what I was going to say anyway, so I won't repeat it.

1084

03:01:54.060 --> 03:02:02.010

Sheila Tonne: But I just want to say I am very uneasy about the navy personnel practicing war games i'd like to keep that out of the parks.

1085

03:02:02.580 --> 03:02:14.880

Sheila Tonne: And I would like to say one thing to, we have to pay to get to in public has to pay to discover pass have \$30 a year or \$10 a day to go visit and.

1086

03:02:15.450 --> 03:02:24.120

Sheila Tonne: I don't I don't know if that's been addressed that that the navy is not paying as far as I can see they're not paying fees for this.

1087

03:02:24.510 --> 03:02:39.810

Sheila Tonne: And what about liability if someone does get heart harmed in the public so i'm just going to keep it real short and my closing comment is I like to see real seals and not navy seals in the state parks, thank you.

1088

03:02:43.230 --> 03:02:44.670

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much sheila.

1089

03:02:47.550 --> 03:02:58.290

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have lori Keith and I believe we missed dinah stinson earlier so after lori Keith.

1090

03:02:59.370 --> 03:03:02.850

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: will move to dinah stinson and again.

1091

03:03:03.960 --> 03:03:05.190

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Timothy or Joan.

1092

03:03:06.720 --> 03:03:08.370

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you're on the phone.

1093

03:03:09.390 --> 03:03:17.340

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And i'm not seeing your name just the number there, please go ahead and raise your hand star nine on the phone and we can get you unmuted so.

1094

03:03:18.360 --> 03:03:19.560

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: lori Please go ahead.

1095

03:03:20.820 --> 03:03:35.490

Laurie Keith: hi I came to Washington state over 30 years ago, precisely because of the natural beauty of these amazing parks and I consider wash South would be state park to be my gym my health spa and my church.

1096

03:03:36.300 --> 03:03:43.350

Laurie Keith: One out of I don't know the statistics i've heard is one out of five something like that women have had some kind of sexual abuse.

1097

03:03:43.920 --> 03:03:54.390

Laurie Keith: Most have experienced sexual harassment in many forms, I can accept that these seal trainees are highly trained it and not come after me but that doesn't matter to my nervous system.

1098

03:03:54.840 --> 03:04:10.530

Laurie Keith: or that of many people who have suffered trauma it's just the thought the perception of a threat that can send the nervous system into fight or flight the stress response, which is the bottom line factor in just about any kind of illness.

1099

03:04:11.550 --> 03:04:23.850

Laurie Keith: These days, people are focused so much on screen time technology self isolating indoors so more and more people are frequenting the parks, because they need it, it restores them.

1100

03:04:24.390 --> 03:04:29.250

Laurie Keith: Most of us can attest to how good we feel after a walk in the woods or along the beach.

1101

03:04:29.880 --> 03:04:36.690

Laurie Keith: There is science to support that the natural frequencies of the earth, the forest trees and the shoreline are coming.

1102

03:04:37.200 --> 03:04:43.260

Laurie Keith: To the overload of the techno electronically screen focus lives so many of us are leading these days.

1103

03:04:44.130 --> 03:04:54.450

Laurie Keith: I heard recently statistic that suicide hotlines are up some 600% people's mental illness and emotions are serious considerations.

1104

03:04:55.230 --> 03:05:19.410

Laurie Keith: We go to the parks to heal the idea of men hiding in the bushes trying not to be seen by me, is a trigger for my stress, even if they aren't there but might be, what if I want to change clothes and go for a dip maybe a skinny dip pee in the woods, one is around right or or.

1105

03:05:21.270 --> 03:05:39.690

Laurie Keith: Other taxpayer, all this time considering this matter management of the Shuar to come increased public outrage managing a lawsuit that has promised to come and the fact that local government will be liable for any mishaps that may happen.

1106

03:05:40.080 --> 03:05:41.430

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: lori your i'm isn't.

1107

03:05:42.180 --> 03:05:50.100

Laurie Keith: That want to share share Okay, thank you very much, please listen to your heart and will tear it up.

1108

03:05:53.400 --> 03:06:08.940

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much lori next we're going to move on to dynasty Benson who we missed earlier dinah or date, please correct me if i'm butchering your name go ahead, followed by Thomas Walker.

1109

03:06:09.390 --> 03:06:10.650

Dinah Stinson: For great Thank you TESS.

1110

03:06:11.730 --> 03:06:26.790

Dinah Stinson: Commissioners, one of the two statutory purposes of each national parks in the UK is to promote opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the parks.

1111

03:06:27.900 --> 03:06:37.320

Dinah Stinson: Surely that is also part of what was intended in the US in our setting aside of majestic natural wild land.

1112

03:06:38.010 --> 03:06:52.560

Dinah Stinson: Think of the last time you enjoyed yourself in a park that retains its wild nature, perhaps you felt a lightness in your body connection freedom and even peace with yourself and with creation peace.

1113

03:06:53.640 --> 03:07:08.220

Dinah Stinson: it's a life, enhancing state of being for all people, many of us believe that military practices in public parks compromise and subtract from that special quality a sense of peace.

1114

03:07:09.450 --> 03:07:29.010

Dinah Stinson: That which comes to us naturally from wild nature when park goes become rowdy and play loud music, we say they are disturbing the peace, likewise, should the parks commission of our military practices and our public places of restoration and rejuvenation.

1115

03:07:30.180 --> 03:07:44.340

Dinah Stinson: emotional and spiritual peace will likely for many people be disturbed the wild nature of our parks before it's far too many unique wellness benefits.

1116

03:07:45.090 --> 03:08:06.720

Dinah Stinson: For us to compromise their full range of gifts, by allowing cross purpose activities military activities seen or unseen please say a for ever know to military practices on public parklands I thank you.

1117

03:08:09.090 --> 03:08:10.380

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much.

1118

03:08:11.580 --> 03:08:19.650

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have Thomas Walker followed by joanie pencil naira.

1119

03:08:20.820 --> 03:08:29.340

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And the actually me I think i'm not seeing joanie on so it may actually be RON Richard so.

1120

03:08:30.360 --> 03:08:32.730

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thomas you may begin.

1121

03:08:33.420 --> 03:08:42.480

Thomas Walker: Thank you, Tom Walker with the island, one of my favorite trails is along the top of that bluff itself would be state park that you've know marked in blue.

1122

03:08:43.410 --> 03:08:53.910

Thomas Walker: My father in law is a retired navy officer i'm not against the military but folks I cannot imagine you would approve this proposal, if you paused and consider for a moment.

1123

03:08:54.360 --> 03:09:04.860

Thomas Walker: The immense stress, we have all been under this past year and the consequent dire need for peaceful recreation in nature, without looking over our shoulders.

1124

03:09:05.430 --> 03:09:15.090

Thomas Walker: cove it has kept us cooped up an isolated, many of us in grief from lost relatives and friends, many more unemployed or severely stressed financially.

1125

03:09:15.420 --> 03:09:20.640

Thomas Walker: Parents going nuts, with their children home and needing to get outside on public lands.

1126

03:09:21.180 --> 03:09:29.460

Thomas Walker: Healthcare and essential workers tired to the bone senior scared to go anywhere inside and yearning for the peaceful outdoors.

1127

03:09:29.850 --> 03:09:38.970

Thomas Walker: plus an election cycle that may have threatened our democracy on malicious openly promoting insurrection and you are seriously considering.

1128

03:09:39.660 --> 03:09:56.100

Thomas Walker: Allowing hidden military presence in our public parks it's unbelievable more than creepy it is unacceptably cruel to a public under severe stress and in need of recreation, more than ever don't allow it.

1129

03:09:56.550 --> 03:10:10.650

Thomas Walker: don't shrink our parks 2000 foot buffers with the rest for the navy, the military has plenty of space to practice war our public parks are supposed to be parks period, thank you.

1130

03:10:14.640 --> 03:10:16.350

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thanks very much Tom.

1131

03:10:17.460 --> 03:10:26.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next up, we have RON richards followed by Dave Anderson so RON Please go ahead.

1132

03:10:29.400 --> 03:10:30.180

Ron Richards: Can you hear me.

1133

03:10:32.100 --> 03:10:33.120

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Yes, loud and clear.

1134

03:10:34.260 --> 03:10:50.730

Ron Richards: Commissioners, thank you for this opportunity, the navy's proposal is totally inconsistent with the public park purposes for which are CW 7905 305 says, our state parks shall be acquired and managed.

1135

03:10:51.150 --> 03:10:57.630

Ron Richards: chief among them is to maintain and enhance ecological aesthetic and recreational purposes.

1136

03:10:58.260 --> 03:11:03.510

Ron Richards: I cringe when I look at all the effort that has gone into this request, all the staff time and all the resources.

1137

03:11:03.930 --> 03:11:21.510

Ron Richards: I cringe when I listened to the conditions that are proposed, and the staff time and resources that will be required to monitor compliance, if possible, with a permits in the future, none of this effort for others are mandated duties under our CW 79 a whole 5305.

1138

03:11:22.530 --> 03:11:29.550

Ron Richards: I cringe at all aspects of the navy's proposal that will harm and diminish our state parks, rather than maintain and enhance.

1139

03:11:30.450 --> 03:11:41.790

Ron Richards: Your own recommendations show very adverse events that could be caused by this proposal, such as allowing navy staff to delay people in boats offshore an event in progress.

1140

03:11:42.300 --> 03:11:59.430

Ron Richards: And even worse, requiring maybe offer has to intervene to prevent injury to a park user that condition admits the navy's activities could well result in a park user being detained, if not injure.

1141

03:12:00.780 --> 03:12:07.320

Ron Richards: A previous speaker has mentioned that our new President and commander in chief is attempting to rebuild trust in our government.

1142

03:12:07.890 --> 03:12:25.830

Ron Richards: i've heard them repeatedly say he will always tell us the truth issuing a permit so clearly at odds with our statutory authority as these requests permits would be would reduce trust in our government and would be both on your part, and the navy's tantamount to not telling us the truth.

1143

03:12:32.970 --> 03:12:34.410

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much RON.

1144

03:12:36.420 --> 03:12:46.320

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Next, we have Dave Anderson followed by David Jones and then i'm going to do one last sweep.

1145

03:12:47.400 --> 03:12:53.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: of our list, after that, just to make sure we don't have any other stragglers that had signed up previously so.

1146

03:12:55.290 --> 03:12:56.820

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Dave Please go ahead.

1147

03:12:57.810 --> 03:13:05.190

Dave Anderson: yeah good evening this Dave Anderson I live on South would be down here i'm going to take a little different tack from the rest of the people that have talked here.

1148

03:13:05.790 --> 03:13:16.920

Dave Anderson: My point is that I learned the hard way being in politics for a brief time perception is reality, think about that for a moment what's the perception.

1149

03:13:17.550 --> 03:13:24.570

Dave Anderson: With the military in the parks, what is the perception that we've got in our mind nowadays, especially after watching.

1150

03:13:25.140 --> 03:13:33.960

Dave Anderson: A lot of ex military and a lot of other guys who aren't like our military i'm not saying that, but the perception of of them charging up those steps.

1151

03:13:34.320 --> 03:13:45.030

Dave Anderson: They were there to do no good that is a perception now as as board members of the State parks your responsibility is to the parks and the viability of the parks.

1152

03:13:45.960 --> 03:13:56.100

Dave Anderson: Your your revenues are going to fall if if you approve this thing you're going to have reduced revenue you're going to have more staff time you're going to be challenged by Wayne and court they usually, when.

1153

03:13:57.210 --> 03:14:09.870

Dave Anderson: The perception of women is that there will be in more danger in the parks, the perception of like lori teeth and and Diana Lindsay goes there for her health reasons there's probably.

1154

03:14:10.770 --> 03:14:28.800

Dave Anderson: guys that have ptsd that might be walking around in the trails at night, trying to get some some solitude into their mind some meditation so forth, one of the terms that you used in your in your leading up to this was what is the appropriateness.

1155

03:14:29.820 --> 03:14:45.600

Dave Anderson: The appropriate asus is just not there, because of the perception that if those guys are in the parks, with their with their camouflage on and stuff over their face and everything that that you are in a certain kind of danger, whether it's true or not.

1156

03:14:46.650 --> 03:14:54.660

Dave Anderson: parks people might have done a great job on the mitigation I worked with them, and I was in the state legislature, as on the natural resources Committee I worked.

1157

03:14:55.200 --> 03:15:03.000

Dave Anderson: With them and I went to a number of things where the board members were there got a lot of respect for those people i'm sure they've done everything they can possibly do to try to.

1158

03:15:03.480 --> 03:15:08.640

Dave Anderson: mitigate the potential harmful effects and i'm not even sure those harmful effects are there, that much but.

1159

03:15:08.640 --> 03:15:09.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: hey Dave.

1160

03:15:09.240 --> 03:15:09.660

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: For your.

1161

03:15:09.720 --> 03:15:11.250

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Your your time on it.

1162

03:15:11.580 --> 03:15:13.080

Dave Anderson: I will politician, I can talk.

1163

03:15:14.550 --> 03:15:14.910

Dave Anderson: Thank you.

1164

03:15:15.390 --> 03:15:22.800

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you very much Dave all right, and next we have David Jones.

1165

03:15:24.120 --> 03:15:24.900

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please go ahead.

1166

03:15:29.010 --> 03:15:37.920

David Jones: Well Thank you and good evening Commissioners thanks to each of you for your service thanks for listening to my comments, especially after opening this meeting, more than three hours ago.

1167

03:15:38.580 --> 03:15:48.240

David Jones: on the side of a US naval career officer on the brother of a US naval career officer and then navy the neighbor of an amazing navy seal.

1168

03:15:48.690 --> 03:16:04.830

David Jones: And all three of those individuals have served under fire, I was raised as a navy brat and i've grown up here in Washington state, so perhaps more than most people testifying this evening I recognize I value the essential role of the US navy in today's world.

1169

03:16:06.120 --> 03:16:13.290

David Jones: My wife and I frequently visit our state parks, we go there to re Center and to be reminded of our very small place in nature.

1170

03:16:13.980 --> 03:16:23.460

David Jones: And we probably are exactly who Commissioner Iemer was referring to when he wrote the outdoors provides health and renewal for people of all ages.

1171

03:16:24.390 --> 03:16:32.310

David Jones: Because for us that health that renewal comes from entering into a natural environment that is far removed from the distractions of our day to day world.

1172

03:16:33.510 --> 03:16:43.590

David Jones: In her report this evening JESSICA reminded each one of you that only you not her separate review not other mitigation plans that have been prepared by your staff.

1173

03:16:43.980 --> 03:16:53.640

David Jones: can advise you how to protect what visitors feel when they visit one of our state parks, protecting that feeling that's your responsibility.

1174

03:16:54.840 --> 03:17:06.510

David Jones: Commissioner Milner think back to the feeling of solitude its president beautiful parks like Minnesota Boundary Waters, a place where you used to work and maybe where you caught that beautiful fish that's behind you there on the wall.

1175

03:17:07.590 --> 03:17:19.110

David Jones: I would ask you I'd ask your fellow Commissioners to vote to protect and preserve that feeling of solitude and all for every visitor, who comes into a Washington park.

1176

03:17:20.520 --> 03:17:30.240

David Jones: I know the navy has to continually trying to stay sharp but i'm concerned when I hear your staff working hard to make that kind of training possible in our state parks.

1177

03:17:30.990 --> 03:17:39.360

David Jones: Please deny this request, this is not a problem that you need to solve for the navy thanks for your service thanks for your volunteer time and for listening tonight.

1178

03:17:41.040 --> 03:17:42.060

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Thank you, David.

1179

03:17:43.260 --> 03:17:43.770

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: i'm.

1180

03:17:45.120 --> 03:17:51.600

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So we have gone through our full list of folks who signed up, we are not.

1181

03:17:53.550 --> 03:17:55.380

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: You know everyone here tonight.

1182

03:17:56.430 --> 03:18:11.490

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: signed up ahead of time and there was a registration period, but I do want to make sure, just because sometimes people have technical difficulties or got called away by kids and they had signed up, I am going to do one last name call.

1183

03:18:12.630 --> 03:18:13.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Through the list.

1184

03:18:15.330 --> 03:18:22.080

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Just to make sure we're not missing anybody before handing the meeting back over to Commissioner milner.

1185

03:18:23.340 --> 03:18:24.510

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: to adjourn so.

1186

03:18:26.070 --> 03:18:27.330

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: we'll do a little pause.

1187

03:18:29.190 --> 03:18:30.690

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Peter morton.

1188

03:18:31.950 --> 03:18:46.680

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: If you're here and i'm not seeing you in this list, but if you joined by phone go ahead and hit star nine and get that hand raised and we'll go ahead and get to you Judith aikens.

1189

03:18:49.770 --> 03:18:56.970

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: deb ramirez and i'm just going to go through this list if you hear your name and you're on.

1190

03:18:58.230 --> 03:18:59.280

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Please do.

1191

03:19:00.660 --> 03:19:16.080

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Go ahead and use star nine on your phone, I think we do have a couple folks who are kind of in on multiple devices, which is one of the reasons we're seeing some some duplicates here, but just want to make sure we don't miss anybody janice Larson.

1192

03:19:18.750 --> 03:19:20.610

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: James Christie.

1193

03:19:24.210 --> 03:19:25.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: dusty deal.

1194

03:19:29.790 --> 03:19:32.070

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Nora crumbling crumley.

1195

03:19:35.670 --> 03:19:37.650

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Robert may burger.

1196

03:19:40.470 --> 03:19:42.090

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Zoe hill.

1197

03:19:44.130 --> 03:19:45.840

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: David Adams.

1198

03:19:47.670 --> 03:19:49.380

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: vicki Robin.

1199

03:19:51.300 --> 03:19:53.010

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Lang Russell.

1200

03:19:54.570 --> 03:19:56.160

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: phil sawn.

1201

03:19:58.110 --> 03:19:59.760

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: JESSICA lawrenson.

1202

03:20:01.230 --> 03:20:02.580

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Timothy has elo.

1203

03:20:03.960 --> 03:20:05.700

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Joan go over Dar.

1204

03:20:07.290 --> 03:20:09.270

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And joanie punt Sierra.

1205

03:20:12.000 --> 03:20:26.430

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: So please go ahead if we have somehow missed you go ahead and press star nine or look for that hand raise button, I am looking for focus in the attendee list and i'm not seeing you logged in.

1206

03:20:27.840 --> 03:20:37.500

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: But we do really appreciate everyone coming in and providing comments tonight so i'm going to go ahead and hand this over to Commissioner milner.

1207

03:20:38.730 --> 03:20:39.960

Steve Milner: Thank you guys, can you hear me.

1208

03:20:40.590 --> 03:20:49.020

Steve Milner: I can hear you, I want to thank everyone for taking the time to make their thoughts known on this issue and assure them that.

1209

03:20:50.160 --> 03:20:53.040

Steve Milner: No one here, at least I can speak for myself.

1210

03:20:54.210 --> 03:20:57.060

Steve Milner: my mind, is still open on this matter and.

1211

03:20:58.320 --> 03:21:10.320

Steve Milner: I want to pass on to you a comment sent to me by former Commissioner path lance who writes incredibly well prepared and delivered comments I couldn't agree more, so thank you and.

1212

03:21:11.490 --> 03:21:12.990

Steve Milner: This meeting is adjourned.

1213

03:21:21.060 --> 03:21:24.780

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And I did just see what note that comes through and.

1214

03:21:27.240 --> 03:21:28.980

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Related to how many folks.

1215

03:21:29.040 --> 03:21:32.310

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: were registered, and we did have 80 people signed up.

1216

03:21:33.720 --> 03:21:43.350

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: And it looks like we had probably three quarters of those folks decide to login tonight so thanks again that's a lot of folks who care about this important issue.

1217

03:21:47.250 --> 03:21:47.730

Cindy Whaley: Thank you.

1218

03:21:48.660 --> 03:21:49.050

Thanks.

1219

03:21:50.130 --> 03:21:50.610

Nice job.

1220

03:21:51.930 --> 03:21:52.560

Thank you tonight.

1221

03:21:53.700 --> 03:21:54.960

Ken Bounds: Thank you good job guys.

1222

03:21:55.380 --> 03:21:57.840

markobrown@comcast.net: Are we, starting at nine o'clock tomorrow morning.

1223

03:21:59.880 --> 03:22:03.690

Becki Ellison: Yes, 9am webex with mahalo and I.

1224

03:22:08.730 --> 03:22:09.210

Tess Wendel | Ross Strategic: Get that.

1225

03:22:13.110 --> 03:22:14.040

Becki Ellison: will see all the morning.

1226

03:22:14.730 --> 03:22:17.010

Ken Bounds: bye hey get a good night's sleep.