

# Issues in the Proposed Resource Management Plan (RMP)

## **Public Access to Sensitive Sites**

The Proposed RMP allows public access on 55 of the 65 sites it covers, including many small rocks and reefs and 10 state-designated marine mammal haulouts. Six of the accessible sites, in addition to the main South Lopez sites, allow pets. No sites allow pets off-leash. See table of sites attached.

## **Dispersed Camping**

The Proposed RMP would allow dispersed camping by permit on all sites that allow public access except for the four former ACEC sites on South Lopez (Iceberg Point, Chadwick Hill, Point Colville, Watmough Bay), the three State-Parks-Managed camping sites, and Trinka Rock. This includes all sites in the “Category A” and “Category B” (more sensitive) rock groups, including marine mammal haulouts, and include locations of 8 recorded cultural sites. See table of sites attached.

## **Shooting**

The Proposed RMP would allow use of firearms and bows during state-designated hunting season throughout the monument outside of the three designated campgrounds. This includes allowing target shooting during those periods. While the state limits the type of firearms that can be used in hunting, the RMP does not place such limits on target shooting.

## **Vegetation Management**

The Proposed RMP aims for a balance between now and pre-European contact. Concerns include the use of herbicides, the cumulative effect of treatments, and best management practices that go beyond water quality issues. BLM is taking a very broad approach to allow it many options. This can be beneficial, but BLM needs to adequately consider cumulative effects.

## **MAC Engagement**

Though the BLM is required by Presidential Proclamation and Federal Statute to consult the Monument Advisory Committee (MAC) in developing the plan, that has largely been blocked for nearly three years by BLM action (a moratorium on meetings for many months in 2017) and inaction (not making appointments to positions as MAC terms ended, leaving the MAC below the quorum needed to meet). The result is a MAC that has been unable to productively engage on key topics such as dispersed camping.

## **Contradictions**

This RMP will guide Monument management for 15-20 years. But it contains contradictions such as saying that Posey Island and Turn Point both will and won't be open to camping. How will a self-contradicting document be used to manage our Monument?

## **Other topics**

There are many other topics covered in the 904 pages BLM released. These include statements that the 23 sites judged to have “Wilderness Characteristics” don't have to be managed for those characteristics because “these characteristics are likely to persist for the life of the plan without specific management direction.” And the lack of group size limits. And we feel there should be no lands managed for VRM III. We encourage people to read the plan, or at least search it for topics of interest. **You can find the full plan, as well as more information on topics covered here at [www.SanJuanIslandsNM.org](http://www.SanJuanIslandsNM.org).**

Note: We expect individuals to find many personally relevant issues beyond this list. If you find errors in this handout, contradictions in the Proposed RMP, or other issues needing broad exposure, please send email to: [info@SanJuanIslandsNM.org](mailto:info@SanJuanIslandsNM.org). [last edited 11/30/2019]

### Recreation in the Proposed RMP

Site	Proposed RMA	Possesses Wilderness Characteristics	Marine Mammal Haulout	Pets allowed	Public Access	Dispersed Camping by Permit
Cape Saint Mary (Lopez Island)	Cape Saint Mary			No	Yes	Yes
Carter Point (Lummi Island)	Carter Point			No	Yes	Yes
East Sound Blind Island South	Category A Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Kanaka Bay Islands	Category A Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Massacre Bay Rocks	Category A Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Richardson Rocks (2 smaller rocks)	Category A Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Barnes Rocks	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Blind Bay Island Rock	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Carter Point Rocks	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Chuckanut Rocks	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Davis Bay Island and Rocks	Category B Rocks	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
East Sound Blink Island North	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
John's Island Rocks	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
John's Pass Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
King Islands	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Leo Reef	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Lovers Cove Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
MacKaye Harbor Rocks	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Mitchell Bay Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Oak Island Rock	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Outer Bay Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Picnic Point Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Prevost Harbor Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Reid Harbor Rock	Category B Rocks	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Reservation Bay Rocks	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Rock Island	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Satellite Island Rocks	Category B Rocks	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rock (Seal Rock)	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rock (WNW Kanaka Bay Island)	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Cone Island)	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Grandma's Cove)	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Iceberg Point Rocks)	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Jones Bay Rock)	Category B Rocks			No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Pear Point and Danger Rocks)	Category B Rocks		Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (Shaw Island)	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Unnamed Rocks (South Lopez)	Category B Rocks	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Cattle Point (San Juan Island)	Cattle Point			On Leash	Yes	Yes
Chadwick Hill (Lopez Island)	Chadwick Hill			On Leash	Yes	No
Eliza Point (Eliza Island)	Eliza Point			On Leash	Yes	Yes
Iceberg Point (Lopez Island)	Iceberg Point			On Leash	Yes	No
Blind Island	Islands		Yes	On Leash	Yes	Designated sites
Freeman Island	Islands	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes
Indian Island	Islands			No	Yes	Yes
Posey Island	Islands		Yes	No	Yes	Designated sites
Reads Bay Island	Islands	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Skull Island	Islands	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Trinka Rock	Islands			No	Yes	No
Victim Island	Islands	Yes		No	Yes	Yes
Kellett Bluff (Henry Island)	Kellett Bluff			No	Yes	Yes
Lopez Pass (Lopez Island)	Lopez Pass			No	Yes	Yes
Patos Island	Patos Island	Yes (east side)	Yes	On Leash	Yes	Designated sites
Point Colville (Lopez Island)	Point Colville			On Leash	Yes	No
President Channel (Orcas Island)	President Channel			On Leash	Yes	Yes
Turn Point (Stuart Island)	Turn Point			On Leash	Yes	Yes
Watumough Bay (Lopez Island)	Watumough Bay			On Leash	Yes	No
Fauntleroy Rock	Not in an RMA	Yes		No	No	No
Little Patos Island	Not in an RMA	Yes		No	No	No
Lummi Rocks	Not in an RMA	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
McConnell Rocks	Not in an RMA	Yes		No	No	No
Mud Island	Not in an RMA			No	No	No
Oak Island	Not in an RMA	Yes		No	No	No
Parks Bay Island	Not in an RMA	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Richardson Rocks (largest rock)	Not in an RMA			No	No	No
Toad Island	Not in an RMA			No	No	No
Twin Rocks	Not in an RMA	Yes	Yes	No	No	No

Note: If you find errors or omissions in this handout, please send email to: [info@SanJuanIslandsNM.org](mailto:info@SanJuanIslandsNM.org).  
 Marine Mammal Haulout site sources: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/sites/default/files/publications/00427/wdfw00427.pdf> and