



# Washington Native Plant Society

*Appreciate, Conserve, and Study Our Native Flora*

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August 6, 2004

Ms. Leslie Ryan-Connelly  
Project Manager  
Inter-Agency Committee for Outdoor Recreation  
Natural Resources Building, 2nd Floor  
P.O. Box 40917  
Olympia, WA 98504

Ms. Ryan-Connelly:

I write in behalf of the Washington Native Plant Society to express our support for the purchase of a conservation easement near the west coast of Lummi Island which will protect 80 acres within the Lummi Island Natural Area Preserve as designated by the Washington Natural Heritage Program. Timely purchase of this conservation easement by the Department of Fish and Wildlife will enable Lummi Island Heritage Trust to acquire a conservation easement on the an adjacent 355-acre parcel, restricting residential use to one single-family residence and only allowing selective logging. The 355-acre property is contiguous with the NAP, and the protection afforded will greatly augment the ecological value of both properties. A particularly important feature of the partner property is its shoreline, over 1 mile in length with extensive eelgrass beds.

The Washington Native Plant Society recognizes the unusual character of the vegetative communities represented in the area of the NAP, and will work to have them preserved. The 80 acre portion which is proposed for a WDFW conservation easement this year contains part of the Douglas-fir/baldhip rose-oceanspray community for which protection is sought.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely yours,

Michael Marsh  
Chair, Conservation Committee  
Washington Native Plant Society  
206-281-8976; [swamp@blarg.net](mailto:swamp@blarg.net)

cc: Dave Kershner, Lummi Island Heritage Trust