

Course project proposal: Future development of Camano Island State Park

Due May 16

Talk

Your 10-minute (maximum) talk should sell the course of action your group has decided on. You should address your base of support (whatever you interpret that to be) and the Mission Statement of your group. You may want to try to pitch your idea to other groups (for instance, the Center for Wooden Boats, if you decide to provide additional boating access)

Report

No more than four pages of single-spaced text. You can include as much as one additional page of figures. The report should be geared towards an average citizen in Washington State. It also needs to stay true to your group's Mission Statement. The format of the report can be in the following form, but freedom is encouraged so long as the elements listed below are included. There is no minimum length to the report, but if you do not set forth a well supported, logical argument, you will not do well.

Introduction – Description of how Puget Sound beaches work, as your group perceives them. In short, this section should highlight what you have learned in class as it applies to your decision on the development plan. Use any information from the references given or from the public domain, but make sure you reference everything.

Decision – Within the context of your introductory remarks, you will then describe the course of action your group is going to advocate. An important part of the decision section will be how your proposed solution is paid for. Your group does not have to take financial responsibility, though one of the other groups will have to pick up responsibility (you can't say Paul Allen will pay for it). If you ask another group to pay for it, you need to appeal to that group's Mission Statement. You can also specify future revenue of some kind or other, but you'll need to be specific.

Data requested – This section is required and should ask for data or information/knowledge that you don't currently have about Puget Sound beaches and/or the Lowell Point site. You will acquire some of this data during the field trip. Any or all of this data can be used to support your decision. It can be economic data (e.g., how much will you take in from moorage rental) or ecological (e.g., how much eelgrass and beach will be lost to particular kind of development). You may ask me beforehand for information. I may provide some initially, but most likely I will ask you to propose what data you would like taken.

Possible alternatives – This is optional, but if you identify a possible alternative that you feel might be more appropriate to your group or more broadly acceptable, please mention it here. At this stage, you will still have to choose one of the options from the list below. However, I encourage you to come up with alternatives and intermediate (compromise) solutions – these will be important in the next stage of the project.

OPTIONS

Construct pier for Saratoga Passage ferry

Advantages

Large revenue potential from ferry service
Potential for a large number of tourists attracted to Camano Island State Park

Disadvantages

Some habitat destroyed, with other areas potentially affected

Cost

\$200,000 (also requires breakwater)

Construct marina

Advantages

Large revenue potential from moorage
Potential for a large number of tourists attracted to Camano Island State Park

Disadvantages

Some habitat destroyed, with other areas potentially affected

Cost

\$1,000,000 (also requires breakwater)

Build breakwater (required for pier or marina)

Advantages

Required for marina or ferry terminal

Disadvantages

Some habitat destroyed, with other areas potentially affected

Cost

\$200,000

Remove boat ramp

Advantages

Pleasing appearance of shoreline
Potential recovery of lost habitat

Disadvantages

Significant loss of future revenue from both State Parks and boating interests

Cost

\$50,000

Rehabilitate and nourish shoreline northwest of Lowell Point

Advantages

Pleasing appearance of shoreline
Potential recovery of lost habitat

Disadvantages

May not restore habitat, particularly in presence of other construction

Cost

\$100,000

Do nothing

Advantages

Free
No negative environmental impacts to existing habitat
Maintains popular public access to the Sound
Maintains revenue stream for State Parks

Disadvantages

Unattractive (may deter some visitors)

Boat ramp may require maintenance in the future

Loss of potential revenue from boaters and ferry users for State Parks

Cost

It's free!