

REFERENCES TO LUMMI ISLAND IN THE 2016 COMPREHENSIVE PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE PLAN (CPROSP)

(Extracts below. [Follow this link to read the whole document](#))

Needed improvements identified through the planning process include:

Boat launch and water access **Lummi Island**.

~~~

Work with all other public and private agencies, particularly the cities, Port of Bellingham, Washington State Departments of Fish & Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Transportation, and Whatcom County and **Lummi Island Land Trusts**, among others, to create an effective approach to the following regional conservation issues and proposals –

### **Natural Areas:**

Provide public access to environmentally sensitive areas and sites that are especially unique to Whatcom County – especially including Drayton Harbor, Bellingham Bay, Chuckanut Bay, and **Lummi** and Portage Islands.

~~~

Develop and maintain the following integrated system of regional trails

.. work with all other public and private agencies, particularly the cities, Port of Bellingham, Washington State Departments of Fish & Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Transportation, Washington State Parks & Recreation Commission, US Forest Service, and National Park Service.

a. Water trails – non-motorized craft

Incorporate and extend the **Cascade Marine Trail**, a saltwater trail network for hand-carry or cartop craft including canoes and kayaks, extending from British Columbia and through Puget Sound, with launch sites into Drayton Harbor, Birch, Lummi, Bellingham, and Chuckanut Bays, with access to **Lummi** and Portage Islands.

(DNR kayak-in campground exists, but offers no place to reprovision. Lummi Island Access Beach is public and shopping is available, but often the tides would not permit kayakers to launch there.)

~~~

### **On-road rural and scenic byways – vehicles and bicycle touring**

- a: Identify a countywide system of rural and backcountry scenic driving routes and byways that access and highlight the scenic, environmental, farmland, and historical attributes of Whatcom County – especially including Drayton Harbor and Birch Bay, **Lummi Island** and Bellingham Bay, Chuckanut, Lake Samish, and Lake Whatcom Drives, South Pass Road, SR-9 and the Mount Baker Highway. Integrate the county-wide system with other state and federal byways through the North Cascades, Skagit and Island Counties.
- b: Develop a series of roadside rest stops, viewpoints, interpretive exhibits, and byway signage systems that integrate the scenic routes with specific historical, cultural, environmental, and scenic points of interest – such as Semiahmoo Spit in Drayton Harbor, Sandy Point in Lummi Bay, **Lummi Island** and Chuckanut Island in Chuckanut Bay, among others.

~~~

Waterfront access and facilities

- a: Acquire and develop additional salt and freshwater shoreline access for waterfront fishing, beachcombing, wading, swimming, and other related recreational activities and pursuits – especially including sites on Drayton Harbor, Birch, **Lummi (Bay)**, and Bellingham Bays, Silver Lake, Lake Whatcom, Lake Samish, and the Nooksack River.
- b: Develop a mixture of salt and freshwater non-motorized and powerboat access opportunities – especially including additional sites and improvements to existing properties on Drayton Harbor, **Lummi Island**, Birch and Bellingham Bays, Lake Whatcom and Samish, and the Nooksack River.

~~~

### Picnicking and day-use activities

- a: Acquire and develop additional countywide picnic sites, shelters, and day-use group picnic grounds and camps at major resource parks and along major off-road trail corridors throughout Whatcom County – especially including sites on Point Roberts, Semiahmoo Spit, Birch Bay, Cherry Point, **Lummi Island**, Lake Whatcom and Samish, South Pass, and at intervals along the Nooksack River including Hovander Homestead Park.

*WCP&R stated in an update from 2021 ([go to webpage](#) then scroll through the presentation) as what looks like a completed project:*



**Lummi Island Beach Access**

The slide features three photographs: a wooden deck with a railing overlooking water, a set of concrete stairs with a metal railing leading down a hillside, and a large sign for 'LUMMI ISLAND BEACH ACCESS' with 'WHATCOM COUNTY PARKS & RECREATION' below it. A list of project details is provided in the bottom right corner.

- Beach access improvement
- Structural repairs
- Improved Park Signage
- Total improvement cost: \$91,000

~~~

Summary of general statements taken from all community workshops 2013

Water Access: Boat launch needed for Lummi Island residents. This was listed on the *Capital Improvements List – Major Acquisitions* (2/17/2014)

Lummi Island

- Assist community in acquisition of shore accesses and boat launch
LANE NOTES: Sunset Beach on the west side of Lummi Island was donated to WCP&R in 2008. This is a small area of public use with 800 feet of beach, but does not support boat access.

- Assist community in acquisition and development of former quarry site
LANE NOTES: Reference to Aiston Preserve which is early in its efforts to clean up an old quarry and protect native habitat and natural resources on this site.

From the current progress report: “Future public access for day-use, low impact, and passive recreation activities will be assessed and a final public use and safety plan will be developed”.

WCP&R stated in an update from 2021 ([go to webpage](#) then scroll through the presentation) as an action taken: “Acquired Aiston Public Preserve Public Access Easement in partnership with LIHT”.