

29 November 2021

Orcas Aircraft LLC
PO Box 216
Orcas, Washington 98280-0216

Hello,

I hope this finds you well. I am writing on behalf of many Lummi Island residents who are greatly impacted by frequent small planes passing overhead. It appears that a plane owned by Orcas Aircraft LLC (N860BL) flew over the island late this morning at an estimated altitude of 784 feet, above an area more than 200 feet above sea level, on a flight from Friday Harbor to Bellingham. That put it just a bit more than 500 feet above structures.

Clearly, the center part of the island falls along one of the shortest routes between the San Juans and Bellingham and flight reference points are located on the island. Further, we know that pilots are required to fly at a minimum of 1,000 feet from structures, although there is some debate that the rural classification of Lummi requires only a 500-foot minimum. Unfortunately, we do not have our own port commission, such as Orcas or San Juan airports, that advocates for considerate flights over our little island. So, although small planes fly back and forth across the island and raise concerns, there is not a lot residents can do.

Nonetheless, we are hoping we can encourage you or your pilots to fly as high as safe and reasonable above the island, or to vary routes or go around the island if at all possible. We have only your good sense of good neighborliness, generosity, and consideration to rely upon, and the knowledge that we would be *most* grateful for your help!

Thank you for your time, and happy holidays!