



Quietskies

Over San Juan County

Update: March 8, 2018

ACTION ALERT:

Representative Rick Larsen's canceled January 20 visit to Lopez has been re-scheduled to:

Saturday, March 10, 2018

LOPEZ ISLAND

4:30 - 6 PM

Councilmember Jamie Stephen's home

315 Lopez Road, Lopez Island 98261

ORCAS ISLAND: Oddfellows Hall from 1:00-2:30

THIS IS A FUNDRAISER. If you made a donation for the January 20 visit that was canceled, your donation will count toward participation in this event. An invitation is attached below. The minimum donation is \$5. RSVP Marcie West at (360) 226-2201 or marcie@ricklarsen.org

THERE IS A LOT HAPPENING IN THE GROWLER WORLD and - even though Rep. Larsen has been willing to write off San Juan County and our entire region as collateral damage to the Growler mission - we need to keep holding him accountable and insisting that he begin to represent us and not just the Navy.

LARSEN NEEDS TO UNDERSTAND THAT:

1. WE DO NOT WANT TO LIVE IN A NAVY WAR TRAINING ZONE
2. 9,877 noise complaints have been entered on the San Juan County Noise Map since May 2014. See: <https://www.quietskies.info/county-website-data-summaries>
3. 47% more noise in the region - which the Navy predicts with the addition of 36 more Growlers - is not acceptable.
4. There is a viable way for Rep. Larsen to support us, his constituents, and the Navy: A possible transition plan from Growlers to unmanned aircraft is outlined below.(also attached)

QUESTIONS FOR REPRESENTATIVE LARSEN:

1. We have been told that the 36 Growlers - THAT DO NOT HAVE A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT (EIS) - are already sitting at NASWI. They may not have pilots - but they are there. TRUE OR FALSE?
 2. What is the status of the 40 additional Growlers that supposedly are all coming (WITHOUT AN EIS) and will be sitting at NASWI in "Preservation Status" (moth balls). When are they arriving? When will the "authorizing" EIS be started for these additional Growlers?
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A POSSIBLE TRANSITION PLAN - HOW TO MOVE FROM GROWLERS TO DRONES AND WHY:

HOW Larsen can HELP the NAVY AND HIS CONSTITUENTS throughout the region.

- According to former Navy Secretary Ray Maybus, "Unmanned systems, particularly autonomous ones, have to be the new normal in ever-increasing areas. For example, as good as it is ... the F-35 ... certainly will be, the last manned strike fighter aircraft the Department of the Navy will ever buy or fly..."

- Drones do not put a highly trained pilot at risk.

- Drones will be cheaper to purchase, operate and maintain.

- They will not need extended practice takeoffs and landings that disturb and pollute northern Puget Sound and the Salish Sea.

- The Navy is wasting money and resources deploying the existing 36 Growlers. There is a shortage of trained crews and maintenance backlogs are limiting readiness. It's unfathomable that they would purchase even more jets.

- Now is the time to begin the transition to unmanned aircraft. More information on the TRANSITION PLAN attached below.

Please consider attending Larsen's fundraiser and letting him know San Juan County is engaged and not ready to surrender our homes and this beautiful environment to the U.S. Navy.

MANY THANKS and keep the noise reports coming. <https://www.quietskies.info/contacts>

Hope to see you Saturday!

www.quietskies.info