

Port of Port Angeles

Port Angeles, Washington

Commissioners' Resolution No. 10-997

A RESOLUTION IN OPPOSITION TO THE WILD OLYMPICS CAMPAIGN

WHEREAS, The Port of Port Angeles has become aware of an effort through the Wild Olympics Campaign to expand the boundaries of Olympic National Park; and

WHEREAS, the proposed expansion as anticipated by the Wild Olympics Campaign would add approximately 37,000 acres of productive private and Department of Natural Resources forestlands to the Olympic National Park; as well as convert 145,000 acres of USDA Forest Service Olympic National Forest to Wilderness Designation; and create 200 additional miles of Wild and Scenic River Designation; and

WHEREAS, the loss of productive timberlands and increased restrictions to commercial forest activities that will be a result of this expansion effort, will severely hamper the local economy of the Olympic Peninsula through loss of timber supply and timber-related jobs; and

WHEREAS, the results of a successful Wild Olympics campaign will encumber access to many private timber lands resulting in additional road building and maintenance costs for those companies, tribes and agencies needing to develop alternative access to their lands; and

WHEREAS, future opportunities to develop biomass energy projects and alternative cogeneration plants will be adversely affected by the loss of a potentially viable resource supply from lands set aside as a result of the Wild Olympics Campaign; and

WHEREAS, additional adverse economic impact to local Native American tribes and communities through loss of fisheries and tourism activities will result; and

WHEREAS, the Port of Port Angeles is a leader in Economic Development, Strategic Partnerships and Environmental Stewardship on the Olympic Peninsula and is gravely concerned about the impacts of the Wild Olympics Campaign,

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NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Port Commission of the Port of Port Angeles opposes the Wild Olympics Campaign as it is currently proposed; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that it views any reduction of access to the natural resources that impact the economic vitality of the Port district and the Olympic Peninsula as a result of the Wild Olympics Campaign is not in the best interests of the Port and the public it serves.

ADOPTED this 14th day of June, 2010.

PORT OF PORT ANGELES
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS


George H. Schoenfeldt, President


Jim McEntire, Vice President


John M. Calhoun, Secretary