

CLEARANCES	Initial	Date	Date Received in Council Office:	Agenda date	Assigned to:
Originator: Citizen			February 24, 1994	4/26/94	Council\Intro.
Division Head:				5/10/94	Council/hearing
Dept. Head: <i>Clerk</i>	<i>PR</i>				
Prosecutor:	<i>DG</i>	<i>4/5/94</i>			
Purchasing/Budget:					
Executive:					

**SUBJECT:**

Petition for creating a no-shooting zone in the South Baker Lake Region

**ATTACHMENTS:**

No-shooting zone petition, legal description, map of the region

**SUMMARY STATEMENT:**

*Please complete sections of box as appropriate & explain the item below.*

Related County contract #: n/a	Should Clerk schedule a hearing? NO / / YES /XXX/ Requested date: <i>5/10/94</i>
Amount budgeted for this item/project: n/a	Is it (or will it be) within budget? YES / / NO / / (Please explain below)
Budget line item number(s):	

A citizen has petitioned the Whatcom County Council for the formation of a no-shooting zone in the South Baker Lake Region. The legal description of the area follows: All those portions of sections 30 and 31, township 37 north, range 9 east of W.M., Whatcom County Washington, further described as follows;

The west one half of said section 31 and the west one half of the northeast quarter of said section 31, and the northwest quarter of the southeast quarter and the southeast quarter of the southwest quarter and the northeast quarter of the southwest quarter and government lots 4,9, and 10 of said section 30.

**ORIGINATOR'S RECOMMENDED ACTION:**

The petitioner recommends that the Council take the necessary steps to create a no-shooting zone in the South Baker Lake Region

**COMMITTEE ACTION TAKEN:**

**COUNCIL ACTION TAKEN:**

5/10/94: Council adopted the ordinance. 6-1, Imhof opposed

**Related File Numbers:**

**Ordinance or Resolution Number (this item only):** Ord 94-027

SPONSORED BY: Consent  
PROPOSED BY: Citizen Petition  
INTRODUCTION DATE: 4-26-94

ORDINANCE NO. 94-027

CREATING A NO-SHOOTING ZONE IN THE SOUTH BAKER LAKE REGION

WHEREAS, a citizen has petitioned the Whatcom County Council for the formation of a no-shooting zone in the established camping area known as the South Baker Lake Region; and

WHEREAS, the petitioner has submitted the following to the council: Signatures of at least sixty percent of persons owning property within the proposed boundaries of the zone; legal description of the proposed boundaries of the no-shooting zone; a map showing the proposed boundaries; cover letter explaining the reasons petitioner would like the no-shooting zone to be formed, a history of shooting violations in the area, the name, address, and phone numbers of a person who will act as liaison with the county council concerning the proposed zone; and

WHEREAS, the Whatcom County Council has in the past designated areas as no-shooting zones in the interest of public health, safety and welfare;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Whatcom County Council that a new section of the Whatcom County Code 9.32 be added to create a new no-shooting zone, described as follows:

A. No shooting zone number [*number to be assigned by Code revisor*] also is known as the South Baker Lake Region.



RECEIVED  
FEB 24 1994

Whatcom County Council  
1000 N. Forest St., Suite 203, Bellingham 98225

WHATCOM COUNTY  
COUNCIL

No Shooting Zone  
Citizen Petition Form Information

**If you want the County Council to create a no shooting zone, you should:**

1. Read this cover sheet,
2. Complete the attached two-page Petition Form (some signatures must be notarized, as indicated on the petition form), and the Petitioner Signature Sheet(s), and
3. Return the Petition Form, Petitioner Signature Sheet(s), and the required map, to the Council Office. You may attach additional materials if you think they will help.

**What is a no shooting zone?** It is an area within Whatcom County in which shooting is mostly prohibited. The Whatcom County Council has the authority to create no shooting zones if it believes it would be in the best interest of the public's health, safety and welfare. There are 18 no shooting zones in the County, some created as far back as the 1960s.

**Is shooting completely prohibited within a no shooting zone?** No. Within no shooting zones it is sometimes okay for firearms to be discharged (see Whatcom County Code 9.32.090). For example, no shooting zones do not apply to the following:

- \* The slaughter of cattle, sheep or swine, or the attempted destruction of predators, or the humane dispatch of diseased or injured animals.
- \* Discharge firearms by law officers while in the line of duty, or by citizens for self-defense, defense of others, or defense of their property.
- \* Shooting in the County park facility known as the Plantation Rifle Range.
- \* Shooting in the County park known as Tennant Lake (with permission of the County's parks director).
- \* Organized "black powder" events.
- \* Historically-hunted areas adjacent to shorelines of lakes, ponds, and streams (including the Nooksack River, Terrell Lake, Tennant Lake, Squalicum Lake, Mosquito Lake, Fazon Lake, Boundary Lake, Green Lake, Pangborn Lake). The council may define other "historically hunted areas" based on testimony at the public hearing.
- \* Competitions or events at any County park which are authorized by or sponsored by the County parks system.
- \* Covered ranges (defined in Whatcom County Code 9.32.010).
- \* The Bellingham Gun Club (Larson Road facility), and the Custer Sportsman Club (Custer and Lynden facilities).

**Hints for completing the petition form:** Please complete the form carefully. If the Council approves of your request and a substantial error is later found, your no shooting zone could be challenged. In some cases you will need the assistance of county departments to complete a section. Sources of information or assistance are included on the form, for your convenience.

**What happens after the form is filed?** After the petition is filed with the Council, an ordinance (proposed new law) creating the zone will be written and a public hearing will be scheduled. The petitioner's representative will be notified of the date and time of the hearing. After the hearing the Council may either approve or deny the request to form a no shooting zone.

*If you have any questions about the no shooting zone process, please contact Ramona Reeves, Clerk of the County Council, at 676-6690 or 384-6637.*

Please complete both pages of this form, and use the attached Petitioner Signature Sheet (or copies of it) when seeking signatures of property owners. The information on this form will be public information. Thank you.

**DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED NO SHOOTING ZONE:** The general area sought to be designated as a no shooting zone is: (short description) South Baker Lake Camping area

The Whatcom County Engineering Division helped the petitioner(s) develop the following legal description of the boundaries of the proposed no shooting zone:

SEE ATTACHED

Signature of Engineering employee assisting the petitioner:

Sey Whitcomb 2-11-94  
Signature Date

**MAP ATTACHED:** A map on 8.5 x 11 white paper, prepared with the help of the Whatcom County Engineering Division, is attached, with the proposed boundaries clearly marked. Proposed boundaries are placed along established roadways whenever possible.

**GENERAL STATEMENT PROPOSING THE FORMATION OF A NO SHOOTING ZONE:**

The property owners who have signed this petition include at least 60 percent of the persons owning property within the boundaries of the proposed no shooting zone; such boundaries are detailed above and on the attached map. We understand that the Whatcom County Council will not consider anti-gun or anti-hunting sentiments as a reason for forming a no shooting zone. The reasons that the property owners who have signed this petition request that a no shooting zone be formed follow: The stated properties are currently used by the public for recreation such as camping, fishing and swimming. At times there are many people concentrated into a confined space. Much of the area already has private rules stating no shooting. An ordinance will give the Whatcom County Sheriff Dept. a tool to be able to use to help enforce such a rule.

The petitioners also offer, as support for their request, the following brief history of shooting violations in the area proposed as a no shooting zone: Discharging of weapons of all kinds from bows and arrows to small caliber handguns to automatic rifles has taken place in very close proximity to occupied campsites, creating an obvious safety hazard. Those firing such weapons seem to have no regard for those people around them. Posting a "No Shooting Zone" and referring to an ordinance will lend clout to the already in place no shooting rules.

**PETITIONERS' CONTACT PERSON:** The petitioners agree that the following person shall serve as their contact person in this matter. The County Council Office will rely upon this representative to relay any relevant information to the other petitioners, including (but not limited to) meeting dates and times.

Contact Person's Name (please print or type): Mark Carson For Puget Power

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 707

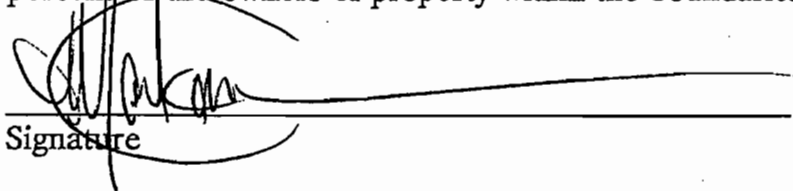
City, State and Zip Code: Concrete, Washington 98237

Daytime phone number or message phone: (206) 462 3425

The contact person is responsible for submitting this form to the County Council Office.

**SWORN STATEMENT BY PETITIONER'S CONTACT PERSON:**

I, Mark Carson For Puget Power, do hereby agree to act as the representative for the petitioners in this matter. I swear under penalty of perjury that the facts presented in support of this petition are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, and that the signatures attached as part of this petition represent the signatures of at least 60 percent of the owners of property within the boundaries of the proposed no shooting zone.

  
Signature

2-9-94  
Date

State of Washington,  
County of Whatcom

I certify that I know or have satisfactory evidence that Mark Carson signed this instrument, and did so voluntarily.

Dated this 9 day of Feb., 1994.

  
(Notary Public Signature)

Notary Public in and for the state  
of Washington, residing at Mt. Vernon WA

My notary commission expires 9-4-94



LEGAL DESCRIPTION

SOUTH BAKER LAKE REGION

NO SHOOTING ZONE

ALL THOSE PORTIONS OF SECTIONS 30 AND 31, TOWNSHIP 37 NORTH,  
RANGE 9 EAST OF W.M., WHATCOM COUNTY WASHINGTON, FURTHER DESCRIBED  
AS FOLLOWS;

THE WEST ONE HALF OF SAID SECTION 31 AND THE WEST ONE HALF OF THE  
NORTHEAST QUARTER OF SAID SECTION 31.

AND THE NORTHWEST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHEAST QUARTER AND THE  
SOUTHEAST QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER AND THE NORTHEAST  
QUARTER OF THE SOUTHWEST QUARTER AND GOVERNMENT LOTS 4, 9 AND 10 OF  
SAID SECTION 30.



Department of Public Works  
Division of Engineering

*Seyi* TY WHITCOMB  
Land Survey Supervisor

(206) 676-6730  
County 398-1666 or 398-1737  
SCAN 769-6730  
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284 W. Kellogg Road, Suite C • Bellingham, WA 98226

