



Friends *of the* San Juans

Dear Liz,

If there's one idea that encompasses everything we do at Friends of the San Juans, everything we stand for, everything we live and breathe, it is to ***protect this place***. The islands, the sea around them, the wildlife, the plants, the people—all are uniquely and intricately interconnected. Threats to any of us threaten us all.

As a member of Friends, you share our deep commitment to protection, which we accomplish by bringing people and nature together. You honor the responsibility we all share by supporting our work to safeguard the San Juan Islands and Salish Sea through education, science, policy, and law.

You know how much is at stake with the many threats that loom large for this region's whales and rich web of wildlife, the shorelines and farms, the wetlands and woodlands. Year by year, a growing number of oil tankers and ultra-large container ships ply the waters around us on their way to and from the ports and refineries on the Salish Sea.

It's simple math. The more ships, the greater the risk that something goes wrong. It keeps me up at night. It emboldens me to act on behalf of island communities. What if a disaster like the Exxon Valdez oil spill happened here? Would struggling underwater forests of eelgrass and kelp completely vanish? Will sludge and slicks consume the beaches we have restored? Could Southern Resident killer whales and the many other threatened or endangered species in the Salish Sea survive?



We rely on friends like you
to protect this special place.

Through December 31,
every gift will be doubled,
up to \$75,000!

No other community organization keeps closer watch on marine vessel traffic in the Salish Sea than Friends of the San Juans.



We closely review and engage on port and refinery permit applications that would expand detrimental climate impacts and increase vessel traffic. We monitor shipping and oil transfer operations and use the data we gather to advocate for policies to prevent accidents and oil spills, ensuring that if a spill ever happens, the oil industry foots the bill.

Don't miss this opportunity to DOUBLE the impact of your gift with our year end match, Liz!

We share what we learn to keep members like you informed and empowered to take action as vigilant protectors of this uniquely interconnected place—today and for generations to come. This kind of watchful, steadfast advocacy is just one of the many impactful initiatives your membership supports. You also power positive change in our communities by helping us:

- **Safeguard island resources and communities**, to improve local climate resilience through policy, community engagement, and planning.
- **Protect and restore shoreline habitats** for birds, forage fish, marine mammals, and people like you, who treasure this place.
- **Leverage our voice to galvanize dozens of other environmental organizations** to engage in permitting processes and rulemakings.
- **Inspire young people through immersive educational programs** and mentorships, empowering the next generation of environmental changemakers.

Liz, please give today and join our 45-year legacy of protecting this place, as we work toward a future where the San Juans and the Salish Sea thrive as a sanctuary of biodiversity and sustainability.

Thank you for your support and for being a friend of Friends! **You are essential** to making all this critically important and interconnected work possible!

With gratitude for your partnership,



Eva Schulte, CAP®
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Protect this place.

The golden dirona is a beautiful and delicate sea slug found in local waters.

