



Annual Business Meeting
10/26/23
Marshall Corson
FYC RBAW Delegate



RECREATIONAL BOATING
ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON

The *Voice* of Northwest Boating:

Mission Pillars: Advocacy, Awareness & Preservation
and Growth of Boating Opportunities



RBAW Update 10/26/23 (1)

- FYC is currently one of 20 WA Yacht Clubs that have upgraded to Sustaining RBAW Club memberships, including 9 of the G14 Clubs. FYC has committed to pay \$20 annually for each of its members, next in February.
- Since July, RBAW's first Executive Director, Katie Bohocky, has been actively leading ongoing outreach efforts to other Yacht Clubs and pursuing potential corporate/contributing donors as well as additional Individual non-affiliated memberships.

EXPERT TAKE

INTERVIEW BY KATE CALAMUSA / PHOTOS COURTESY OF BBAW



Northwest Yachting, October 2023

RBAW Update 10/26/23 (2)

- Dialogue continues with WA Dept of Revenue to implement a market-based depreciation schedule for Watercraft Excise Tax calculation, in place of the current fixed 28% rate for craft owned ≥ 14 years.
- San Juan County recently introduced a Development Management Plan (SDMP) that will affect all residents and visitors, with the goal of commencing implementation in the next 2 years. Recreational boaters and RBAW have an important opportunity to advocate for support of boating-related infrastructure and maintenance, in proportion to proposed user fees.



SAN JUAN
ISLANDS

Destination Management Plan

(S D M P)
PRELIMINARY DRAFT - 2023

Goals & Objectives

The four goals and their corresponding objectives presented below were refined from the public engagement process of May 2022 to align with the shared values identified throughout previous surveys and other planning efforts. These goals and objectives are cross walked to specific actions outlined in the Cooperative Action Plan found in [Appendix I](#).



Goal 1. Protect and preserve nature to build climate resilience and a stewardship ethos.

- Increase resilience to climate change by adapting management approaches and infrastructure, calculating the carbon footprint of actions.
- Protect, conserve, and interconnect natural areas to ensure ecological functions, values, and cultural lifeways are maintained.
- Manage recreation on land and at sea to balance low impact use with protection of wildlife and their habitats.



Goal 3. Cultivate sustainable and authentic Island experiences that generate a sense of place.

- Enhance the quality of Island experiences for residents and visitors with sustainable destination improvements and alternative farm and art accommodations.
- Adapt existing infrastructure to effectively accommodate seasonal variations in use.
- Implement stewardship actions that reflect Island values and sensitivities through visitor and resident educational initiatives, business certifications, and other related incentives.
- Cultivate widespread positive relationship building opportunities between locals and visitors.



Goal 2. Maintain a thriving, Island-based rural lifestyle by promoting community well-being and diversity.

- Improve access to trails and bike lanes, marine facilities and local electrified mobility options to ensure multimodal transportation is accessible and affordable.
- Manage both housing and visitor accommodation stocks so they are well-regulated, diverse, accessible, and adequately affordable to residents.
- Foster year-round art, culture, and agricultural activities and events to promote well-being, collaboration, and learning for residents.














Goal 4. Grow a vibrant, year-round local economy that is balanced and supports local businesses in multiple sectors.

- Enhance the Islands' economy by strengthening the sustainability ethos, eco-friendly niche distinction, and resilience of local businesses.
- Support local ownership and collaborations of tourist and accommodation activities while discouraging off-Island businesses from capitalizing on Island benefits without investment.
- Work collaboratively to ensure the visitor economy continues to reinvest in infrastructure (such as seasonal worker housing, and indoor winter activity space) and activities in the community.

DISTRIBUTION OF ESTIMATED COSTS

A goal of this plan was to achieve balance in the actions. The table below summarizes the breakout of actions and their associated costs and reflects how the balance was achieved. *The funding listed are the additive costs of projects and activities identified in this planning process. Many actions and costs noted here have already been incorporated into other plans, such as the ROSS Plan.*

Objective	Strategy Type / # actions	Investment	Totals
 Accommodations	i Stay / 2	\$4,500,000	\$4,522,000
	m Stay / 5	\$22,000	
 Destination Improvement	i Play / 4	\$100,000	\$270,000
	m Play / 7	\$170,000	
 Biking	i Play / 3	\$4,000,000	\$4,055,000
	m Play / 4	\$55,000	
 Trails	i Play / 10	\$700,000	\$700,000
	m Play / 2	\$0	
 Marine Access	i Play / 4	\$200,000	\$450,000
	m Play / 2	\$250,000	
 Nature Preservation	i Care/Learn / 4	\$0	\$10,000
	m Care/Learn / 2	\$10,000	
 Vehicle Parking	i Move / 1	\$200,000	\$241,000
	m Move / 5	\$41,000	
 Vehicles	i Move / 1	\$1,000,000	\$1,120,000
	m Move / 3	\$120,000	
 Mobility	m Move / 7	\$1,055,000	\$1,055,000
 Stewardship	m Care / Learn / 6	\$300,000	\$300,000
 Capacity Tracking	m Monitor / 8	\$152,000	\$152,000
 Funding & Tracking	m Pay / 7	\$141,000	\$141,000
Totals		\$13,016,000	

i infrastructure **m** management



PLAY: Boating & Marine Access (cont.)

strategy	#	Action	Timeframe	Island	Cost	Funding Sources	Owner
i	M1	Assess environmental, cultural use and social conditions at popular bays and access points; set standards for each. Install public mooring buoys for rent (and eliminate anchoring in such areas) in order to support orderly, sustainable destination access while protecting environmental and cultural resources.	2026	All	See Ross Plan \$500000	Recreation Conservation Organization, PSP	Environmental Stewardship
i	M2	Upgrade marine facilities throughout the county with latest low impact designs.	2028	All	See Ross Plan \$1000000	Recreation Conservation Organization, Roads Fund (10K / year)	Public Works
i	M3	Create additional recreation access (kayak launch amenities) and restoration at Jackson Beach on County Public Works property. Remove creosote pilings and shoreline armor that currently degrade the site to improve the quality of the experience.	2025	San Juan	See Ross Plan \$600000	Recreation Conservation Organization	Environmental Stewardship
i	M4	Adjust moorings on Sucia and Stuart Islands based on mooring buoy condition analysis and carrying capacity around those Islands. Set fee structure to encourage moorage use and eventual elimination of anchoring in sensitive bays.	2026	Outer Islands	\$200,000	State Parks	WA State Parks
m	M5	Establish reservation system for public mooring buoys in popular locations at densities that preserve the environment and visitor experience. Develop and publicize overnight visiting boat counts as an indicator of this important accommodation sector.	2027	All	\$250,000	Recreation Conservation Organization, DNR	Environmental Stewardship
m	M6	Improve Park commercial kayak management. Enforce KELP training and standardize launch fee charges across ownerships.	2024	San Juan	See Ross Plan \$5000	Program Fund	All Parks

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PAY: Funding & Tracking (cont.)

strategy	#	Action	Timeframe	Island	Cost	Funding Sources	Owner
m	F1	Work with State legislators to establish a Salish Sea Marine Pass (along lines of Discovery Pass) whose proceeds would be used for the maintenance of marine facilities, moorings, and marine protection measures. Establish a Boating Sticker program, similar to one proposed for cars and bikes, as the mechanism for enforcement.	2027	All	\$20,000	Local Integrating Organization, NW Straits	Environmental Stewardship
m	F2	Require all cars to purchase and display an annual San Juan Islands Parking sticker. Permit must be displayed for each car on the Islands May through September.	2027	All	\$5,000*	N/A - Revenue Generating Proposal	County Auditors Office
m	F3	Require all marine vessels to purchase and display an annual San Juan Islands Boating sticker. Permit must be displayed for each boating vessel on the Islands.	2026	All	\$5,000*	N/A - Revenue Generating Proposal	County Auditors Office
m	F4	Require all bicyclists to purchase and display an annual San Juan Island Bike sticker.	2026	All	\$5,000*	N/A - Revenue Generating Proposal	County Auditors Office
m	F5	Open up an 'at-large' position for the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.	2023	All	\$1,000	Existing County Current	County Auditors Office
m	F6	Establish a business license system in the County.	2024	All	\$5,000*	Existing County Current	County Auditors Office
m	F7	Identify a coordinator to facilitate implementation and updating of the SDMP in partnership with others.	2024	All	\$100,000	LTAC/County Current	Environmental Stewardship

* program exploration/development

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How can FYC members provide input regarding the SDMP?

- Send an email to: tourism@sanjuanco.com by October 31st
- Key points:
- Agree that the DMP should guide County investment in Infrastructure and Management services, to enhance and preserve the Islands' experience for the present and future, as articulated the Plan's Goals and Objectives.
- Revenue generation through user stickers is expensive and poorly enforceable and instead should be derived from small broad-based fees on goods and services, such as ferries, marinas, lodging, restaurants, etc.
- Priorities specific for boaters may include: Increasing public mooring buoys in eco-friendly locations; Creating pre-registration/reservation systems for buoy use; Increasing transient moorage capacity at San Juan County marinas; Increasing access to additional desirable destinations, such as Eastsound, Olga, Orcas "Village", etc.

A scenic sunset over a body of water with mountains in the background. The sun is low on the horizon, casting a warm orange glow across the sky and water. The water is calm, reflecting the light from the sun. In the distance, there are silhouettes of mountains and hills. On the right side, there are dark silhouettes of trees. In the center of the water, there is a small structure or buoy. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and serene.

A Challenge to ALL FYC members:

Please support Fidalgo Yacht Club's commitment to
Sustaining Level RBAW Club Membership
by choosing an Individual RBAW membership
with your FYC renewal in December!